



First Shot: Women's basketball wins season opener 81-51. For details, see page 5.



Decking the Halls: The Missouri Botanical Garden has a holiday floral display to make you whistle Christmas carols. See page 3.

Watered Down: "The Waterboy" will put Sandler fans on cloud nine. See page 8.

NEWS FROM ALL OVER

Tier system provokes controversy at Florida A & M University

(U-WIRE) TAMPA — Despite explosive applause that erupted every time a Florida A&M University representative stood and railed against the classification system they called "legalized segregation and inequality," the Board of Regents passed it unanimously Thursday evening.

The tier plan, which divides the state's 10 public universities into three levels with corresponding educational missions, has been vehemently opposed by some universities that would fall in the third-tier.

"We've gained national recognition on our own," said FAMU Student Body President Kristin Tucker, who emphasized that FAMU supporters feel a classification system is not necessary because FAMU — an "underfunded and ignored" institution — has succeeded for 111 years as the state's only historically black university.

Some say the third-tier, or "Comprehensive" status, puts schools at a disadvantage for funding and growth.

UF, classified in the top "Research I" tier with two other schools, supports the plan that further boosts it to the top of national academic and research ranks. With the plan, UF, Florida State University and the University of South Florida will focus on research and graduate education.

The next tier, "Research II," will focus on graduate and undergraduate education.

Third-tier schools will focus on undergraduate education.

State University System Chancellor Adam Herbert modified FAMU's status Wednesday from comprehensive to "Comprehensive/doctoral."

The idea behind that change, Herbert said, is to ensure FAMU is not prevented from expanding the graduate programs it has begun to cultivate.

The Regents defended the plan by pointing out that "mission differentiation" is necessary because it requires each university to refine its major resources without spreading itself too thin over multiple goals.

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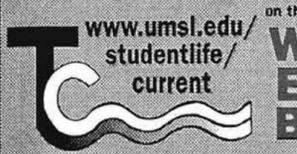
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Discrimination policy receives system hearing

Controversial UM rules criticized at meeting

BY JOSH RENAUD
staff assistant

Students gave an overwhelming number of speeches in favor of protecting sexual orientation under the University of Missouri System nondiscrimination policy at an open hearing in Columbia on Nov. 13, said Mike Rankins, vice-president of the UM-St. Louis Student Government Association.

According to Maurice Manring, spokesman for the UM system, the meeting was held in response to events that occurred on Oct. 16.

"At the last meeting of the full Board of Curators," Manring said, "the Curators had a breakfast meeting with student government representatives from all four campuses. One of the things on [the students'] agenda was asking the Curators to consider adding sexual orientation to the discrimination language. There was also a student protest at the Board meeting on the same topic. President [Theodore] Beckett appointed the executive committee of the Board to study the issue. The first thing they promised to do was to have some kind of meeting where people could make arguments for and against including [sexual orientation]."



Rankins

One of the students who spoke in favor of inclusion was Rankins, who represented UM-St. Louis.

"I gave a presentation in which I mentioned the resolution that was passed by SGA earlier this year," he said. "For the third year in a row, SGA unanimously passed a resolution petitioning the Board of Curators to include sexual orientation in their nondiscrimination policy. I mentioned that many students felt that was an important factor."

Of the 40 people who spoke, only three spoke against inclusion, Manring said.

"There were really some remarkable speeches given," Rankins said. "Student leaders from all four campuses were supportive of the inclusion."

Manring said that Executive Order Three was a topic that came up. President Mel George gave Executive Order Three in 1997 to address the issue of discrimination. The order declared that the University of Missouri was committed to providing a positive working and learning environment, where all individuals would be treated fairly and with respect, regardless of their status. It directed chancellors to provide programs that would help students develop healthy attitudes toward different kinds of people, and stated that employees would be treated on the basis of their contributions, not their personal characteristics.

"There was somewhat of an issue as to whether Executive Order Three was sufficient, and many of the speakers argued that it was not," Manring said.

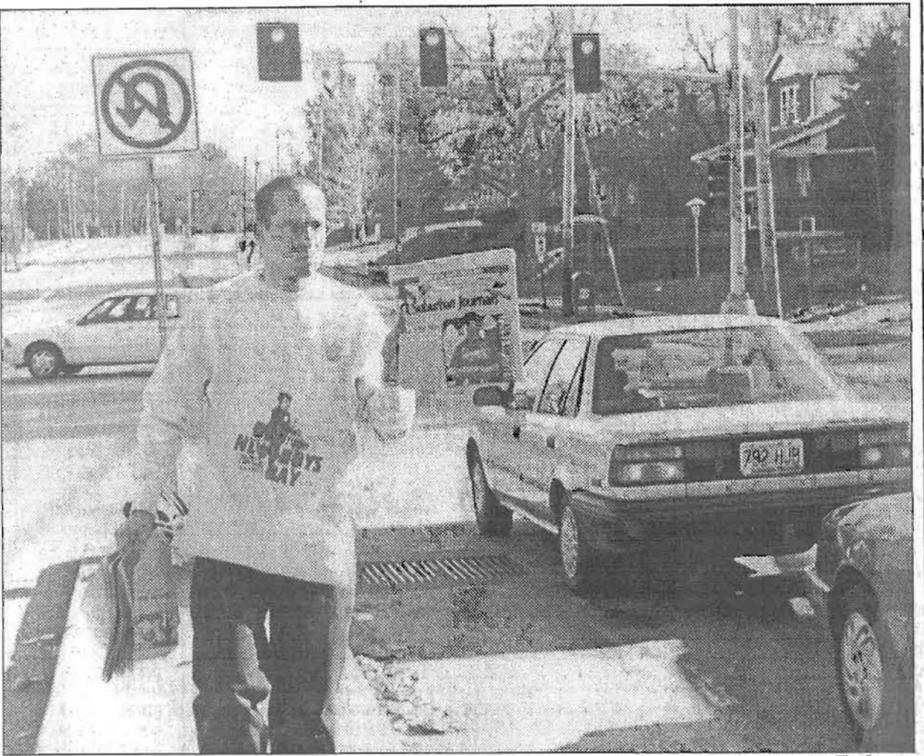
An impressive audience turned out to hear the different opinions. Curators Hugh Stephenson, Theodore Beckett, Mary Gillespie, and Paul T. Combs attended the hearing, as well as Sarah Welch, student representative to the Board, and UM system President Manuel Pacheco. Curator Malaika B. Horne listened to the speakers via phone conference.

"I really didn't know [how many people] to expect, because it's not a typical issue like budgeting," Manring said. "We had gotten the biggest auditorium we could get our hands on, just to be sure. You could say there was a pretty healthy attendance."

Because the hearing was only informational, no immediate action came out of it. Manring said the executive committee

see **Discrimination**, page 6

Good old boys



Stephanie Platt/ The Current

Tim Kleffner of Beta Alpha Psi sells newspapers, Nov. 19, in front of the University's main entrance for Old Newsboys Day. The event, sponsored by the Suburban Journals, helps raise money for area children's charities.

State representative remembered at Institute dedication ceremony

BY SHONTA DODSON
of the Current staff

The Sue Shear Institute for Women in Public Life was rededicated in a ceremony held Nov. 19 which was attended by Governor Mel Carnahan and members of the Shear family.

Shear, 80, a member of the Missouri House of Representatives, died from cancer Nov. 15 at her home in Clayton. The Institute, already in existence was renamed in Shear's honor.

Dedicating the Sue Shear Institute for Women in Public Life was bittersweet for several of the guests present. It was bitter because she was loved and will be missed by many. It was sweet, because she touched so many lives, and her ideals for equal treatment of women in politics and

every aspect of life will live on.

Born before women were given the right to vote, Sue Shear had her own ideas about a woman's place in the House - the House of Representatives that is.

When she was first approached by the Women's Political Caucus as a candidate for the Missouri House of Representatives, she barely hesitated. Even though she and others doubted that she would win a seat, she succeeded. Shear never liked the limitations set on women by society, and she passed those same ideas on to her daughters.

"As her first daughter, I was her hope and vessel for her dreams," said Kerry Shear.

see **Dedication**, page 6

Sexual assault reported on South Campus

BY ASHLEY COOK
senior editor

The UM-St. Louis police department received a report Nov. 18 of an assault that took place in the parking lot near the South Metrolink station, according to a memo released the following day by the Office of Student Affairs.

Bob Samples, director of University Communications, said Nov. 20 that the report was made Nov. 18 at 9:30 p.m., by a female student, and that the suspect is described as a "white male, 20-25 years old, six feet tall, and 170 pounds." Samples also said that the suspect was "wearing a long-sleeve shirt and blue jeans." Samples refused to comment on the nature of the assault.

Samples said that police were looking for any information from the campus community that might assist in the investigation.

"Essentially, the police are seeking assistance, because

that is a very active time between nine and ten because of classes that are ending at that time," Samples said. "They are seeking information about anybody who might fit that description, or anything that might be related."

Karl Beeler, associate vice-chancellor for Student Affairs, confirmed Nov. 20 that the assault was reported by the alleged victim as a sexual assault, but that the investigation was continuing into whether or not a sexual assault had happened.

"During the moments following an assault it is not always clear to the victim exactly what occurred, and so some of the ongoing efforts to establish what actually occurred naturally involve working with the victim," Beeler said.

According to the Missouri Criminal Code, sexual assault is a class C felony defined as when "a person com-

see **Assault**, page 6

Hunger Awareness Week arrives

BY SUE BRITT
staff associate

Hunger Awareness Week, Nov. 16-20, did not draw the numbers it did last year for the Hunger Banquet, Nov. 19, but there was still an opportunity to contribute. Donations were accepted throughout last week at the Underground.

Although there seemed to be little hope for much participation at the Hunger Banquet at its start, little by little participants arrived. As everyone gathered on the floor, Tekla Childress from Karen House gave a brief talk.

"[Karen House] is named after our first guest," Childress said. "We offer hospitality and shelter to women and children who are homeless for any reason."

Childress said that there were many people in our own city that are hungry each day. She said that a large percentage of St. Louis' population is on food stamps. She said that this means many people receiving food stamps are employed.

"I'm struck by this because what this means is they are

not making enough to live on even though they are working full or part time," Childress said, "At Karen House we share food with our neighbors who come to the door. We give away at least 100 sandwiches a day and often people beg for more food. Sometimes this might be the main meal for some of the people that come to our house."

Childress said that it may sometimes feel overwhelming to people as they watch the news and see all the tragedy around the world and that many people may feel they cannot help.

"It makes a radical difference what we do everyday. The small things, the large things. In terms of hunger, for instance, raising food or collecting food, working at Karen House offering food to the people who come to the door," Childress said. "It's a huge difference whether or not they will eat for one day and you can make a difference toward that."



Stephanie Platt/ The Current

see **Hunger**, page 6 Social Work senior Janice Black serves soup to Robert Brown for Hunger Awareness Week.

Named UM - St. Louis' 1998 Best Campus Community Building Program

Bulletin Board

Put it on the Board: The Current Events Bulletin Board is a service provided free of charge to all student organizations and University departments and divisions. Deadline for submissions to The Current Events Bulletin Board is 5 p.m. every Thursday before publication. Space consideration is given to student organizations and is on a first-come, first-served basis. We suggest all submissions be posted at least two weeks prior to the event. Send submissions to: Todd Appel, 7940 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis MO 63121 or fax 516-6811. All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.

<p>Monday, Nov. 30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday Noon Series: A Preview of a Renaissance Madrigal Feast. The UM-St. Louis Madrigal ensemble, with director John Hylton, professor of music, UM-St. Louis, performs seasonal Renaissance music in 229 J.C. Penney. Contact: Karen Lucas, 5699. "The Great Irish Famine, 1845-51: The cultural Requiem of the Traditional Music Maker." This lecture will be given by Gearoid O hAllmhurain, lecturer from the University of San Francisco. The lecture will be held from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in 126 J.C. Penney. This event is free. Contact: 5753. <p>Tuesday, Dec. 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Life in the Spirit Seminar from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. in the Newman House 	<p>at 8200 Natural Bridge Road. Contact: Betty or Dennis, 385-3455.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poetry reading by Steve Schreiner from 12:30 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. in 493 Lucas Hall. Contact: 5753. Taize Prayer—A quiet, meditative time for scripture, song and prayer. Contact: Roger Jespersen, 385-3000. Donut Day. The semester is almost over! Come relax in the Women's Center and enjoy complimentary donuts and coffee. <p>Wednesday, Dec. 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What Is It Like Living With AIDS? D.J. Thompson, who has been living with AIDS for 15 years, will talk about his experiences. This event will be held from 6:30 	<p>p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the U-Meadows Clubhouse and from 8:15 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Honors College Convocation Hall. Contact: Diane Mitchell, 5672.</p> <p>Thursday, Dec. 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poetry reading by Advanced Poetry Class Members from 12:30 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. in 493 Lucas Hall. Contact: 5753. <p>Friday, Dec. 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Madrigal Feast will be at 6:30 p.m. in the J.C. Penney Building. Reservations are required for the dining and music. Contact: The Music Department, 5980. <p>Saturday, Dec. 5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Madrigal Feast will be at 6:30 p.m. in the J.C. Penney Building. Reservations are required for the dining and music. Contact: The Music Department, 5980. 	<p>Sunday, Dec. 6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Madrigal Feast will be at 6:30 p.m. in the J.C. Penney Building. Reservations are required for the dining and music. Contact: The Music Department, 5980. <p>Monday, Dec. 7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic Fitness and Weight Loss Class. Learn the fundamentals of how to get fit and stay fit. The class meets from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326. IWGS Holiday Lunch and Governing Board Meeting. Contact: 5581 or 6383. <p>Tuesday, Dec. 8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taize Prayer—A quiet, meditative time for scripture, song and prayer. Contact: Roger Jespersen, 385-3000.
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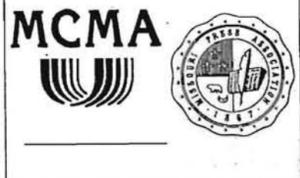
Campus CrimeLine

The Campus CrimeLine is a free service provided by the UM-St. Louis Police Department to promote safety through awareness.

<p>October 18 A student reported that \$50.00 in cash and a credit card were stolen from her wallet between 6:10 p.m. and 6:50 p.m. The wallet had been left on a table at the University Center.</p> <p>November 2 A student residing at the U-Meadows reported that on 10-25-98 she observed that a bedroom window screen at her apartment had been torn. The window was not broken. The damaged screen was reported to U-Meadows Management for replacement.</p>	<p>November 4 A faculty member reported that between 1:30 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. her wallet was stolen from her purse. The purse had been left unattended in her office at 445 Lucas Hall and the office door was left open.</p> <p>November 6 A student residing at the U-Meadows reported that between 8-24-98 and 10-28-98 a blank book of checks was stolen from his apartment which was shared by three others. An attempt</p>	<p>by an unknown person to cash two of the checks failed.</p> <p>November 9 A student reported that between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. her tape recorder was stolen from the third-floor Resource Center at the TJ Library.</p> <p>A student reported that between 7:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. unknown persons scratched the right front fender of his car by using a sharp object. The car was parked on the second level of parking garage "C" when the damage occurred.</p>	<p>November 10 A contractor working on the campus reported that between 11:15 a.m. and 12:45 p.m. three items were stolen from the bed of a pickup truck parked at the Lucas Hall Dock area. A hammer, hammer drill and extension cord were taken.</p> <p>November 12 A security officer working at the Mercantile Library reported that sometime between 1:30 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. her personal jacket was stolen from a chair at the security desk.</p>
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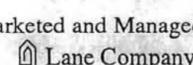
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FEATURES

Amy Lombardo, Features Editor
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Get This

Art of forgiveness: Nobody's perfect

You know what I think? I think that people expect too much from other people.

Let's face it, we're all human, right? At least, I'm assuming as much but I guess these days it's better not to assume anything.

Well, for those of us who are human, and I'm hoping that's the majority of my reading audience, I just want to say that it is OK to make mistakes. I know that's a pretty bold statement to make in this society that strives so hard to achieve perfection, but, I've got news for y'all: It ain't gonna happen.

Maybe that sounds pessimistic, although I prefer the term "optimistically-impaired," but it's actually more like reality. Now, before all you Type-A people (who, by the way, die early from heart problems... coincidence?) out there get your pants in a bunch, I'm not saying that we should all curl up in the fetal position and stop trying to achieve any goals whatsoever. I don't want you to misunderstand. I'm just thinking that if we could all accept the idea that people can and do make mistakes, and that it's okay to do so, we would be so much happier. At least I would.

It's easy to interpret this as a cop-out attitude or the philosophy of a deadbeat slacker (neither of which I deny or confirm having), but it could just as easily be seen as a tremendous stress-release method. If it's okay to mistakes, the perfection issue becomes irrelevant, and then you are free to succeed without pressure.

But I think this idea becomes even more useful when dealing with others. Now, I don't want to preach peace and love, man, or encourage everyone to join hands and start singing "We Are the World," but it seems we've all become a tad judgmental lately. I'm just saying that it would be nice to take the good with the bad. Think about the people that you care about - I mean really care about, and all their funny little quirks that give them character. Those are imperfections. Those could even be considered 'mistakes' in a very wild stretch-of-the-imagination way, and those are the best parts. (I know, I've seen "Good Will Hunting" one too many times.) Mistakes are good! Mistakes are our friends!

Let me put it another way, because this is going a little far, don't you think? Take a TV show, for lack of a better example. "The Simpsons" is a great show but, every once in a while, there's an episode that's not so hot. But that doesn't mean you stop watching the show, right? Of course not, that would be silly.

It's the same with people. Let's say you know this really great person who happens to accidentally wreck your car. This qualifies as a mistake, right? But are you going to stop being that person's friend? Of course not. Again, that would be silly.

What I'm trying to say is that if we practice forgiveness and tolerance, we'll feel better ourselves. So if you won't do it for others, do it for you. There's no better reason than a selfish one.



AMY LOMBARDO
Features Editor

BOUGHS OF HOLLY

The Botanical Garden's floral exhibition is intended to put visitors in the holiday spirit

BY ANNE PORTER
staff associate

It seems that every year the holiday season begins earlier and earlier. Planning and designing for this season began months ago, and now all that work is coming together. Christmas is not that far away.

At last count there were only 35 shopping days until Christmas. In the midst of all this hustle and bustle, fun still must be had. Some of that fun should be spent enjoying the colors and foliage of the season. There is no better place to do that than The Missouri Botanical Garden.

"Picture You, Picture Me" is the theme of the annual holiday floral exhibition that runs until Jan. 3. This theme reminds everyone of a childhood Christmas spent window shopping and looking at all the windowfronts downtown.

Jim Kalkbrenner is the Public Events Coordinator at the garden.

"Every year we have a flower show [that] highlights flowers that are in bloom in December," Kalkbrenner said.

He gave examples such as poinsettias, cyclamen, begonias, gloxinia, chenille plants, and flowering maple.

The title "Picture You, Picture Me" comes in because there are various scenes created for picture-taking. These vignettes create backdrops for photographs such as, "Twas the Night Before Christmas," "Jolly Snowmen," "Toyland," "Puppies' Sleighride," "Winter Wonderland," and "Winter Garden Scene."

For the children and everyone else, there are

four interactive cut-out scenes that they can pose in. Those scenes are "Holiday Plant Factory," "Pillow Fight," "Candyland," and "Victorian Carolers."

With a little evening Christmas magic at the Garden on Dec. 3-4, there will be candlelight walks with carolers which will highlight the Victorian aspect of Christmas. Many caroling groups will entertain at the Garden from high school to employee groups such as Anheuser-Busch and brass musical groups. The same night, candlelight tours of Tower Grove House will be given. As the founder of the Garden, Henry Shaw was a Victorian St. Louisian, and the Garden chose to honor this and make the overall theme for this year a Victorian Christmas. Shaw gained his wealth through a hardware store he managed, but retired to the area that is now the Garden.

To celebrate Hanukkah, the Garden will have a show on Dec. 13 that details what the holiday is about through cooking demonstrations and storytelling. This show will also focus on the music and menorah lighting during Hanukkah.

Kwanzaa, the Festival of the First Fruits, will be celebrated at the Garden on Dec. 26. In this festival, there will be Kwanzaa stories and cooking demonstrations of African cuisine.

The children are not forgotten in all the fun because there will be games and crafts for them. If Christmas shopping, Kalkbrenner suggested the Garden gift shop to "find really unique things like plants," and, there are craft items available as well. "Winter is still a beautiful time and several plants are thriving," Kalkbrenner said.



Stephanie Platt/The Current

Warren Hummert of the General Services Maintenance Division gets help from Jill Dowd in hanging wreaths donated to The Missouri Botanical Garden by local florists. The Garden is staging a show of holiday flowers until Jan. 3.

Annual Madrigal Feast to provide Elizabethan charm

BY ANNE PORTER
staff associate

Deborah Larson, a professor at UM-St. Louis, offers a class called "Elizabethan Poetry and Prose," which tells of the literature of the Elizabethan period. There is an easier way to discover what the Elizabethan period was like; by attending the Elizabethan Madrigal Feast which will take place Dec. 4-6.

John Hylton is the director of the Madrigal Ensemble.

"This will be our 15th year doing it [and we are] quite often sold out; usually sold out," Hylton said.

Seating is limited to 160 guests per evening, so purchasing tickets soon would be advised.

Hylton, before his years at UM-St. Louis, took part in the madrigal festival at Penn State and afterwards he combined his efforts with Robert Schmalfeld, a former director of the University Center at UM-St. Louis to bring a Madrigal Feast here. The Madrigal Feast is held in the J.C. Penney Building and transforms the building to a court setting in a castle, being basically a recreation of an evening in the Renaissance.

The feast begins with the guests' coats being checked and from there the guest is given a Christmas ornament. What really makes the participant feel as if they are guest in the Renaissance is when they are given the title of Lord or Lady. After the announcement, the guest meets the Lord and Lady of the manor.

All this occurs in the Wassail Bowl at 6:30 p.m., and is complete with musicians with recorders. Recorders are considered the predecessors to the flute, but are made of wood. A jester mingles with the guests and amuses them with mischief and delight. For fanfare, a brass ensemble plays. At the Great Hall, the guest is welcomed to the feast during the five-course meal of either roast pheasant or prime rib. A harpsichord is played and not just any harpsichord - this one was built especially for the Madrigal Ensemble. During dinner, scrolls are passed to the guests by members of the ensemble. These scrolls are made for each guest with personal messages. After dinner, the Madrigal Ensemble entertains with seasonal songs of England and other European countries. The Madrigal choir not only performs at feasts, but they travel to elementary schools, elder care centers, and they will also be performing at the Judivine Foundation for Autism. They have made four trips recently to Europe. Perhaps the most interesting aspect of the ensemble is that there is no conductor. Singers are assigned to lead and to stop the rest of the ensemble. Madrigal choirs in the Elizabethan period were mainly in the same format as the UM-St. Louis Madrigal Choir. The Madrigals are used for after-dinner entertainment in courts and at dinner affairs, similar to the way poetry and sonnets were read for entertainment at banquets. This is truly a unique opportunity to enjoy holiday festivities.

Music Review

Caedmon's Call displays 'real life'

Caedmon's Call
"Caedmon's Call"
Warner Alliance
Folk / Acoustic Rock

Do you like guitars? If so, you'll love Caedmon's Call. Do you like first-person lyrics that deal with everyday life? If so, you'll love Caedmon's Call. Do you like strong male and female lead vocals, with fantastic harmonies? If so, you'll love Caedmon's Call.

It's probably safe to say that most students here have not heard of Caedmon's Call. Their earthy, infectious, and sometimes melancholy music is definitely worth looking into, if you haven't before.

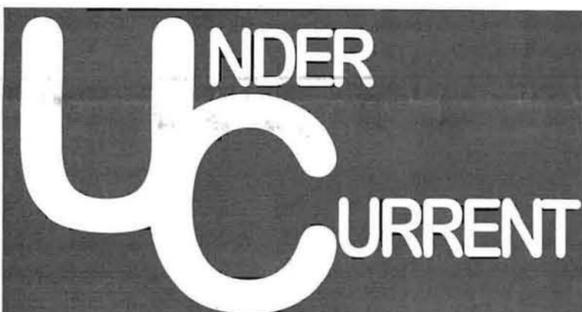
Caedmon's Call plays folk music, with a generous helping of pop and a little rock. The songs on their self-titled CD are almost completely acoustic, with ear-pleasing percussion work. The musicianship is terrific. While there's nothing here to bang your head to, I found this album a welcome change of pace. The music seems to move at the speed of life: slow sometimes, fast occasionally, but usually somewhere in the

middle. The vocals are good, as well. Three members of the band take turns leading, often working together to blend their voices into rich harmonies. There's enough variety that you never get bothered or bored by one particular singing style.

The lyrics are very thoughtful. If you are a college student, then you will probably find a lot to like here. Caedmon's Call is a Christian band, so some of the songs deal with issues that young Christians face. All the songs are honest and first-person, making it easy to relate to most of them. "Lead of Love" talks about coming to terms with the necessity of "walking the rocks" to reach the place where you can see the "mountain view." "Center Aisle" is a very gripping song, written in response to the suicide of one of the songwriter's friends.

Caedmon's Call has managed to craft a melodic musical marvel, and I highly recommend it to anyone looking for music about real life.

-Josh Renaud



compiled by Jeremy Pratte/of the Current staff

What is your favorite hang-out place?

"MPO Reillys, ladies drink free on Saturday."

-Alisha Marzette
Senior/Social Work



"The Sig Tau House."

-Brad Thompson
Junior/Biology

"The coolest place to hang out is the Loop."

-Joanne Eddington
Sophomore/Business Administration/Marketing



"My favorite hang out is the Sigma Pi House."

-Matt Schaeffer
Junior/MIS

"My favorite hangout is the back porch at my dad's. He doesn't care how many friends come over and he hands out the sodies."

-Nate Rustemeyer
Sophomore/English



Comments

The Current
THE STUDENT VOICE OF UM-ST. LOUIS

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How to Respond

Your response is an important part of the weekly debate on this page. Letters should be brief and those not exceeding 200 words will be given preference. We edit letters for clarity, length and grammar. All letters must be signed and include a daytime telephone number.



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OUR OPINION

Action should be louder than words on UM anti-discrimination policy

The Issue:

A meeting Nov. 13 in Columbia showed much support for the inclusion of sexual orientation in the UM system's anti-discrimination policy

We Suggest:

The Board of Curators should take action to change the policy to reflect the students' wishes as soon as possible.

So what do you think?

Let us hear from you on this or any issue in a letter to the editor.

The meeting Nov. 13 on the system's controversial anti-discrimination policy is a good first step in the process but it should be followed up by action and not more words.

The policy, long the target of criticism from UM-St. Louis' SGA and campus senate, does not include the phrase sexual orientation in its list of protections. The Nov. 13 gathering in Columbia showed an outpouring of support for the addition of the sexual orientation language. If any were needed, this is further proof that the system's guidelines are out-of-date and out-of-line with the opinions of students.

The system should be commended for holding this meeting however any unnecessary delay in the policy's amendment would undermine the good that has been accomplished. Was the forum really intended as an honest sharing of ideas

and gauge of student opinion or merely an attempt at good public relations and tired lip service? Only time will tell. According to a spokesman, action could be taken on the policy as soon as January. Hopefully the system will resolve this issue then but if it does not, we encourage this campus' SGA and senate to continue to pass resolutions pressuring the University of Missouri to change its policy to include protections for sexual orientation in its guidelines. True, the SGA has already passed such a resolution three times and the senate has already sent a copy of its previous resolution to the system but these methods of getting one's point across are more effective than the use of student protests such as the one at the Oct. 16 Board meeting. Here's hoping that both the senate and SGA continue to fight the good fight.

Volunteers can stop Homecoming apathy

The call for volunteers has once again trumpeted at UM-St. Louis. Who will be there to answer it?

After severe problems with last year's Homecoming celebration, due to lack of participation and planning, a committee was formed to make the logistics and planning process smoother and more centralized. The committee has already made some innovative changes such as moving the event to February in an effort to boost student interest.

Now the committee is asking the campus community to show its support by recruiting volunteers to help with various aspects of the celebration. The success or failure of the February event may hinge on the volunteer spirit of UM-St. Louisians today.

There is no excuse for not doing one's part. Whether assisting with the food drive or making preparations for the big dance - the only successful event last year - or simply helping to spread the word, there is a variety of jobs to suit everyone.

Whether the committee's work will come to fruition or not, only time will tell but they seem at least to be making a genuine effort to improve the process and this is something that we can all get behind. If the committee's labor is rewarded with a wellspring of support then perhaps a successful Homecoming will forever banish the spirit of indifference that has plagued this campus for so long. If however the result of the committee's efforts is another lackluster Homecoming that generates little interest then why not cancel the event altogether?

A committee, no matter how dedicated, can do only so much. What's needed now is support from the campus community.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Performing Arts Center provokes strong feelings from students and faculty alike

I may only be a lowly undergrad student at UMSL so I realize that the Blanchellor may not care to hear my humble opinion, but maybe some of those students who fall into a category similar to mine (the vast majority of UMSL students) might. When looking at the Performing Arts Center, about all I can see is a prestige building stepping stone for Blanche Touhill that benefits the few at the expense of the many.

The number of UMSL students involved in music is very low, especially in comparison to those involved in History, Education, English, etc. Despite this, our great chancellor decides to build a large and expensive building that won't pay for itself and that could not be filled by anyone who might speak or perform there. High-quality speakers will go to better venues and low quality ones won't draw a tenth of the Center's capacity.

Meanwhile, the average UMSL student looks at dwindling resources and faculty allocated to their departments. This is an insane way to do things.

Unfortunately, it doesn't look like things will improve. The Center will be built despite the arguments of those few who are not so apathetic as to simply say "whatever." UMSL is being promoted more and more, yet the ones already here cannot be taken care of. The problems that the campus has had with the mail room, e-mail and parking will undoubtedly plague the Performing Arts Center as well, making it that much more inefficient. Unless the leadership of this campus gets its head out of the clouds and down to the reality of the situation and faces the responsibility it had, UMSL will continue its downward spiral.

-Jake Parker

I have just finished reading your article "Arts Center focus of Council debate" in the 16 Nov '98 issue. Rarely have I seen coverage so one-sided.

Has anyone at *The Current* bothered to ask why there are faculty on this campus upset with the proposed finances of this project?

Has anyone on *The Current* ever bothered to examine the fiscal record of this administration?

Has anyone on *The Current* ever bothered to investigate what the effect of 7 years of Operating Budget shortfalls, basically due to the administration's inability to project enrollment and therefore costs, has done to the Academic and Educational core of this University?

Has anyone on *The Current* bothered to note the difference between real money (Operating Budget money) and the projected

budget for the Performing Arts Center by AMS, the consulting firm that created the document the Chancellor consistently references.

Does anyone on *The Current* know the difference between Real (operating Budget monies) and the AMS budget, which has little basis in reality?

As long as *The Current*, and other public information and public relations organs on this campus continue to present such a one-sided view, the real issues and dangers presented by building a Performing Arts Center as presently planned to the fiscal and economic integrity of this University as an educational institution will never be considered. Good job *Current*. I would expect your budget for the next few years is secure.

-Dominic J. Zerbolio,
Ph.D

Monicagate: Private lives, public scandal

My household, like so many homes, businesses and organizations across the country has been on twenty-four-hour Monica watch for days now. Conversation seems to center on Monica much of the time now. I could not use the phone for one entire evening because our computer was downloading audio transcripts of Monica tapes from the Internet. Non-Monica television viewing (to the extent that such a thing exists) has been relegated to my upstairs TV. The downstairs sets are both tuned to Monicagate almost all the time.

Poor Monica. Yes, she just signed a multimillion-dollar book deal. Yes, she has become a household name (if only in a rather infamous way.) Yes, she has an interesting (if somewhat X-rated) story to relate to her descendants. ("Grandma, Grandma, tell us again about the time you indirectly brought down the government. . .") But what a price to pay. To have your private telephone conversations recorded by your best friend for rebroadcast to millions of people like . . . well, like, uh, . . . me. How many zeros on a royalty check does it take to compensate someone for having their most personal thoughts and intimate feelings become fodder for journalist roundtable debates on the Fox News Channel?

I would be lying if I said I wasn't as interested in the whole mess as anyone else. Yes, I am as big a hypocrite as anyone, busily defending Monica's right to privacy while wallowing in the sordid aspects of her personal life. And why not? There is always something horribly fascinating about the lurid details of other people's lives. Tonya and Nancy. The Menendez brothers. Lorena Bobbitt. OJ.

I used to believe that the concentration of media interest in cases like these comes from our national excess of touchy-feely empathy. Too much emotion makes us take a sympathetic interest in those whose displays of human frailty or run-ins with tragedy, put them before the public eye. But increasingly, I've moved away from that theory. Nope it's simple voyeurism, after all. We are a nation of gawkers who love Jerry Springer, Court TV and slowing down for car wrecks on the side of the road.

I once heard somebody say that minor problems are simply major tragedies that happen to somebody else. Maybe we take such an unnatural interest in the foibles of others because it helps to take our minds off our own failures and embarrassments for awhile. I've often found that other people's problems are much easier to deal with than mine are, mainly owing to the fact that I don't have to solve them.

That however should not be an excuse for losing our human ability to empathize. We should remember that we could end up in the same mess as many of those who become, through chance or circumstance, the butts of pop culture's dirtiest jokes. Yes, the people at the center of our daily scandal du jour may be public spectacles but they are still people - even Monica.

Doorway debacle leaves men confused

I've been asked by a few friends of mine lately what my opinion is of men opening doors for me. "Do you like it or not?" is the most-asked form of the question.

People seem shocked when I reply, "Yes, I actually expect it." Now, how's that for opening up a can of worms?

One person was very suprised at my answer, telling me that it was unusual, coming from a woman who is so strong in her beliefs and so forthcoming with her opinions.

I can see how he would have arrived at that conclusion, but it's all in how you look at it.

Having been raised the majority of my life in the South, it isn't unusual that I expect a man to open the door for me. Growing up, I came to view it as a sign of respect, and not a belittling or condescending act.

After I was first married and was attending Texas A&M, I was charmed by the custom on the student shuttles (it was a LONG way in from the parking lots) for no women to be left standing while a man remained seated.

For men, modern times can be confusing. Do you open the door or don't you? My husband, who was also raised in the South, was verbally attacked when we were at the University of Iowa for holding the door open for a woman. He says that the few times he hasn't stood aside and held the door for a woman, he's been given some mighty caustic looks.

My friend Jim says that he avoids the entire issue by holding the door open for everyone, man or woman. That's a polite idea, but from what I've seen, sometimes it takes him quite awhile to get into a building. I never have known him to be in a hurry to get anywhere, and I guess that's a good thing.

Short of women wearing signs that say, "Thanks for holding the door," or "Don't you dare hold that door," I guess guys are left to figure it out for themselves.

As for me, I'm getting to the point where I'm just thankful when the person walking into the building ahead of me doesn't let the door half-crush me as I'm trying to catch it before it closes. Anyone notice how heavy those Thomas Jefferson doors are? If you catch those in mid-close, you'd better be able to bench-press 100 lbs., or you're going to get squished.

Personally, after going through a door I always hold it open momentarily - you never know if the person behind you might need that extra bit of help, and this would be a better world if we could all think about someone besides ourselves.



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Latest Scoop

Cardinals need to remember pitching staff

The world of baseball has been active as of late with all of the latest free agent signings.

The Cardinals picked up one crucial addition to their staff when they signed outfielder Eric Davis to a three-year contract.

With the addition of Davis, the Cardinals have solidified their outfield with three prominent stars: JD Drew, Ray Lankford and Eric Davis.

Though the addition of Davis was a necessary one, the Cardinals ultimately gave up on one of their best players in Brian Jordan.

Jordan recently signed a \$40 million, five-year deal with the Atlanta Braves adding another punch to their lineup.

With the signing of Jordan and second base-

man Bret

Boone from the

Cincinnati

Reds, the

Braves have

solidified

their lineup

with a

punch to

back up

their already feared pitching staff.

Jordan will be sorely missed by the Cardinals staff. He brought heart and character to the Cardinals squad. He was the upside of a two-year Cardinals slump.

The Cardinals have acquired Eric Davis, but the main concern the Redbirds should focus on is the pitching staff.

We already know that the Cardinals can produce runs, but the question is how many runs does that same pitching staff need to keep its club in the game?

The Cardinals finally got rid of Jeff Brantley. It was a relief to see such a terrible closer go out the door. Brantley did have fifteen saves on the season, but had blown eight saves also. It seemed as if every time the Cardinals brought him in to close out a game, I was saying to myself "here we go again."

The pitching staff is quite slim with only Matt Morris coming off even close to a decent year. You can never depend upon Donovan Osborne to give you quality work because every time you look back, he is always hurt. Alan Benes is a good pitcher, but can he recover from his off-season surgery?

The Cardinals need starting pitching and that is the bottom line.

Free agents like Kevin Brown from the San Diego Padres and even Andy Benes from the Arizona Diamondbacks would look good in a Cardinals' uniform.

The key to getting these players is simple: show them how much the fans care. Mark McGwire even said himself that the fans won him over to the city of St. Louis.

These fans in St. Louis do care about the Cardinals and their players. They come out each and every game to support their team even if they are not in contention for a playoff berth.

In short, if the Cardinals management wishes to continue the strong fan support, then all they have to do is reward the fans with the best squad they can. Money should not be a concern at all, for what is really important is the fans and they are the ones who pay the salaries.



DAVE KINWORTHY
sports associate

Women's b-ball earns win in season-opener

Riverwomen send Lincoln packing with 81-51 score

BY KEN DUNKIN
staff editor

It didn't take long for the Riverwomen basketball team to dispose of Lincoln in their first game of the season. The team held a 35-21 lead at the end of the first quarter.

The Riverwomen disposed of Lincoln 81-51. They were led in scoring by Jennifer Littleton with 15 points. Returning forward Krystal Logan led the team with 7 rebounds.

"It was good to get our first victory out of the way. We didn't really play well though," Head Coach Shelly Ethridge said. "We didn't really do well with our free throws, or rebounding and turnovers. Our shot selection wasn't the greatest throughout the game also."

Some of the troubles may have come from first-half jitters. In the second half the team seemed to play better. The Riverwomen poured in 46 points in the second half.

"Our turnovers were a problem the whole game," Ethridge said. "That might

have come from being a little nervous. In the second half we settled down and showed a little of the potential that this team has."

One of the biggest bonuses of the game was the team's cohesiveness. The team played well together. The down side was the 18 team turnovers.

"Some of the problems may have come for getting used to playing with all the new players," Ethridge said. "We have been practicing since October 15. Hopefully by late December, we will be playing well together and by January we will be playing as a solid unit."

The game was also won on the board where the difference between the two teams was shown greatly. The Riverwomen out-rebounded Lincoln 24-9. The Riverwomen pulled down every board on their defensive end muscling up the smaller Lincoln squad.

"Those stats might be a little deceiving," Ethridge said. "Lincoln got quite a few second and third opportunities. We can't let teams do that to us."



Senior Melanie Marcey (right) presses downcourt in a recent game versus Lincoln. The Riverwomen beat Lincoln 81-51.

V-ball ends season with tourney loss to Ft. Wayne

BY JOE HARRIS
of the Current staff

The Riverwomen volleyball team's season ended last week with a heartbreaking loss to Fort Wayne.

The 13-15, 15-6, 9-15, 11-15 loss came in the first round of the Great Lakes Valley Conference tournament on Fort Wayne's home floor.

"We played well enough to win and that says a lot," Head Coach Denise Silvester said. "We went into their home court against a big home-court advantage and played well."

Mistakes at the end cost the Riverwomen the match, but Silvester hopes the team can learn from them.

"You always hope to build on both the good and bad," Silvester said. "I think this team will learn from this for next year."

The Riverwomen had their backs to the wall entering the tournament. As the fourth seed from the GLVC's Green Division, the Riverwomen were forced to play the GLVC's Blue Division No. 1 seed which happened to be Fort Wayne, who happened to be hosting the tournament.

Even with the loss, the Riverwomen took several positives from the match including the play of freshman Holly Zrout. Zrout had her best game of the season against Fort Wayne.

Zrout had 13 kills with 20 digs in the losing

effort.

"It's a culmination over her play and her confidence throughout the year," Silvester said.

Susan Kleinschnitz led the Riverwomen with 15 kills. Michelle Hochstatter had 13 kills and Yorhena Panama added 12 kills. Nichole Wall led the Riverwomen with 22 digs.

The Riverwomen are already looking ahead to next year. Silvester would like to see some of her players selected to the All-Conference team, but most of all she would like the team to advance past the first round of the GLVC tournament.

"I expect a lot more from next year's team because we know what we have to do," Silvester said.

The combination of Susan Kleinschnitz and Nicole Wall looks to fill the leadership void left by departing seniors Kristen Brugnara and Leslie Armstrong.

"Susan [Kleinschnitz] always has a positive attitude and tries to encourage all around her to be better," Silvester said. "Nicole [Wall]

has been our defensive leader all year and we need defense to win."

Silvester said that next year, fans can expect fast-paced volleyball, a team that always works hard, and a team that will put themselves in a position to win every match.

With the loss, the Riverwomen finish at 16-10 overall, 9-8 in GLVC play.



Stephanie Platt/The Current
Middle hitter Michelle Hochstatter (left) jumps to return the volley to two Truman players during a November 8 match.

Sports Opinion

Former Mizzou student notes spirit returning to Columbia

The Norman Conquest 77-0, the Texas Chainsaw Massacre 73-0, the 5th down play - all of these have come to symbolize Missouri Tigers football in recent years.

Unfortunately, all of these results were losses for the hapless Tigers who played patsy to the likes of Oklahoma, Texas A&M, and Colorado (let's not mention Nebraska, okay?).

Things change though. Hey, even the Berlin Wall came down after 50 or so years, but it is still hard to consider Missouri a football power.

But there it is, right in front of my face week after week. The Tigers aren't talking about moral victories anymore; they are talking about victories plain and simple.

It is not good enough to walk out of Nebraska and feel good that you didn't have your spleen handed to you - the Tigers are expected to win those games.

The Tigers have led at half-time in every game so far this year. Impressive when you consider that they have played the No. 1 team in the nation on the road, two more top-ten teams on the road, and two more top-twenty-five teams during the course of the year.

It doesn't get any easier for the Tigers. I've been a Mizzou fan all of my life; I bleed black and gold, and I guess I've been conditioned to losing. I went to Mizzou for a couple of years (I am now one of the many Mizzou refugees settled in the UM-St. Louis community), and during that time, they never won a home

game.

We went anyway because nothing beats the atmosphere of college football. Win or lose (it's better if they win) it is always an experience.

The popcorn, the mascots, the student section - it is one of the things this campus misses most.

This winning is something new. Scariest yet, the expecting to win is new as well.

The attitude change is remarkable. Now when I go to Columbia to watch a game I'm cramped in with a bunch of strangers. It's no longer pick-your-own-seat day-it's great.

There's tailgating, tiger tails on the backs of cars, and little kids running around in Tiger jerseys.

The roar has been restored.

Even with the loss to Kansas State, the Tigers are going to a bowl. If they would have won they could have gone to a bigger bowl - most likely the Cotton Bowl. With the loss they will probably go to the Holiday Bowl.

They are the best 7-4 team in the country. Going to the Holiday Bowl is a major disappointment for many Tiger fans.

Disappointment?

Ask any of those fans about going to the Holiday Bowl during those 70-plus point drubbings and they would think it would be heaven.

My how times have changed.

-Joe Harris

New York Times reporter visits campus; shares experiences of a career in news

Journalist discusses the press' agenda-setting role

BY SUE BRITT
staff associate

Although Howard French, reporter for *The New York Times*, was advertised to be speaking about the issue of agenda-setting, his talk Nov. 16 on the UM-St. Louis campus focused largely on his experiences reporting in Africa.

"I was a little bit surprised, not unpleasantly, but surprised none the less to see the title of the presentation which had to do with the agenda-setting nature of *The New York Times* and I noticed with some trepidation that some of you came armed with copies of *The New York Times*," French said. "I have to say that my station at *The New York Times* is, if prestigious, is none the less still a fairly humble one. . . . If *The New York Times* sets an agenda I don't have much of a role in setting *The New York Times'* agenda."

As far as anyone's questions about the agenda of *The New York Times* French mainly described the nature of his job, how he is not involved in any decisions in that regard, and that he is not quite certain there is even anything so ominous as an agenda.

"People look at a big institution like *The New York Times* and . . . agenda is a word that often comes up," French said, "I don't have any greater sense of *The New York Times* than you do and I get my sense of its agenda by reading the newspaper. Nobody has ever briefed me about, 'OK, this is what our agenda is, and French we're sending you to Japan, and listen there's some important security issues.' for example or, 'Here are our commercial interests. Go out and protect them.' I mean I've never had even anything remotely so crude as a conversation [about the agenda]."

French began his journalism career in Africa after being invited to fill in for a friend, Leon Dash, of *The Washington Post*. Before that French had worked as a translator and taught at the University of Ivory Coast. His family was still in West Africa and his interest was in Africa.

"Leon knew that I loved writing, that I was interested in traveling broadly in Africa, and asked me and asked *The Post* if it wouldn't be possible to work out a relationship with me whereby I could be the freelance journalist. . . covering his region," French said, "I thought that a terrific idea. . . I started traveling for *The Post* and began having the time of my life. Going all over Africa, being paid by someone else to go all over Africa. Eventually, I quit teaching at the University of Ivory Coast."

French spoke of his passion for the continent of Africa and his disappointment that it is viewed by the American media and government in a sort of secondhand nature.

"I don't have any greater sense of *The New York Times* than you do and I get my sense of its agenda by reading the newspaper."

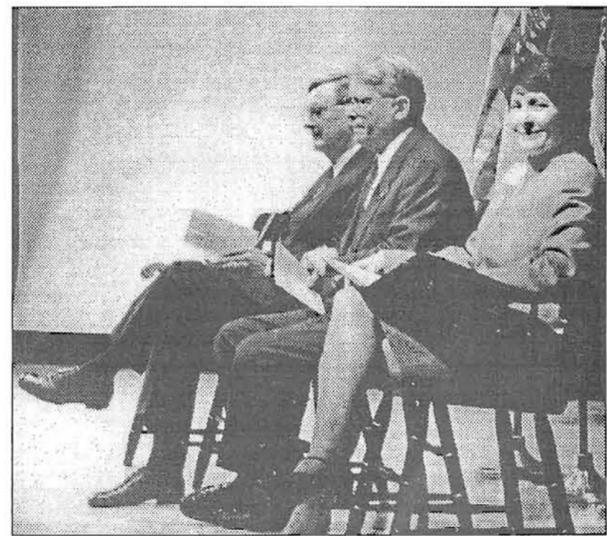
-Howard French
New York Times reporter

French went to Africa having advantages over his colleagues. Knowing two of the languages and being married to a woman from the continent, he felt he could cover Africa differently and not on a crisis-by-crisis basis as was usually the typical coverage. He wanted to do what he could to change the way Africa was covered.

"Africa has been perceived as the continent of disaster. . . I'm going to find other things to say about Africa," French said, "I'm not going to sit around waiting for disasters to happen. Africa has as full and broad a range of subjects of interest as any other place in the world."

French has moved on to a new assignment for *The New York Times* - covering Asia. He is currently taking courses in Hawaii to prepare for his new assignment, including learning a sixth language, Japanese.

DEDICATION, FROM PAGE 1



Stephanie Platt/The Current

From left to right: Missouri Governor Mel Carnahan, UM-System President Manuel Pacheco, and Institute Director Vivian Eveloff attend the dedication Nov. 19 of the Institute for Women in Public Life. The Institute was renamed in honor of State Representative Sue Shear, who died Nov. 15.

On her first day going into the legislature, Shear was denied entrance to the House by the doorman, but she didn't let that stop her. She continued to fight for what she believed in.

"She stood up for her principles when they were popular, and unpopular," said younger daughter Katherine Shear.

She went on to introduce the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA), as one of her first acts as a legislator. She wanted to ensure that the rights of women were protected under state law.

Shear believed strongly in women getting involved in politics but she did not only fight for women's rights. She also fought for the rights of children, the elderly, and the mentally ill.

It was because of her continued service and her commitment to seeing young women getting involved in politics that UM-St. Louis granted Shear an honorary doctor of law degree on May 16.

The Institute for Women in Public Life is the first of its kind dedicated to a woman.

HUNGER, FROM PAGE 1

Childress said there are structural reasons that people are not getting enough food. She said that the fact that we are giving working people food stamps is in a sense subsidizing employers who are not paying their employees enough to live. She said that there are ways of helping the hungry not only by working in shelters or collecting food but also by demanding livable income for all people throughout the world.

"If we all believe that we can make a difference," Childress concluded, "then it will be a different world."

When the banquet began some knew the routine, but some, new to the Hunger Banquet and that were assigned to the Third World, seemed quite surprised to be seated on the floor, having to serve themselves plain rice that they had to eat with their fingers. The

Second World people had utensils and even beans with their rice. Those randomly selected to be served as First World ate salad, meatloaf, broccoli and a roll with iced tea and cheesecake.

"If we all believe that we can make a difference then it will be a different world."

-Teka Childress
of Karen House

As the participants of the banquet had their meal, many statistics were read regarding the hungry of the world. People from each of the groups seemed affected by the demonstration which was meant to represent the true distribution of food in the world.

"It does feel a little goofy seeing [the people in the Third World assignment] eating rice with their hands [while I] have people serve food for me," said Joe Edmonson, a sophomore majoring in Foreign Language. "It's a good illustration."

ASSAULT, FROM PAGE 1

mits the crime of sexual assault in if (s)he has sexual intercourse with another person knowing that (s)he does so without that person's consent."

Beeler advised members of the campus community to use the same amount of caution when walking at night on campus that should be used anywhere else.

"Use as much preventative common sense as you can," Beeler said. "Ways to do that might include always walking in lighted areas, or being with another person if at all possible, and basically trying to anticipate problems that might occur in your path."

Beeler also recommended that students take advantage of the safety escorts offered by the UM-St. Louis police department. Escorts can be requested by dialing 5155 from any on-campus phone.

"If [students] are coming back and forth in cars or on the Metrolink late at night, they might contact the police department for an escort, since they provide that service," Beeler said.

Beeler advised that anyone who has been the victim of any kind of physical assault, including a sexual one, contact the University Police immediately for the safety of themselves and the rest of the community.

"The ability of detectives and others to establish the facts and try to apprehend a perpetrator hinges on a quick response," Beeler said.

Beeler also said that it was important for victims to get further assistance beyond that received immediately after a crime has been reported.

"There are many other things that a victim can and should do to deal with the trauma, both physical and emotional," Beeler said. "We contact the victim confidentially to offer counseling and support."

Captain James Smalley, assistant director of Institutional Safety, said that it is vital that the victim contact the police as soon as possible after an assault has taken place.

"At all costs, contact the police," Smalley said. "The sooner the person contacts us, the sooner we can take action. To delay in reporting. . . only holds up the investigation."

Smalley said that the University Police can be reached in an emergency by dialing 911.

According to campus crime statistics released by the University Police department, there were no rapes reported from 1994 - October of 1998.

The statistics state that one sexual assault was reported in 1994, one in 1996, and one in 1997, in addition to Wednesday's reported assault.

DISCRIMINATION, FROM PAGE 1

would probably make a recommendation on the issue at the January meeting of the Board of Curators.

"At this moment, I remain cautiously optimistic," Rankins said. "We are waiting to see what their response will be. In the face of this overwhelming support, we would assume that if [the Board of Curators] is really taking into account the views that were expressed, then they will be forced

to take action on this."

"I would consider [the hearing] a success because the students' voices were heard," Rankins said. "Whether the Board chooses to listen is their prerogative."

Pulliam

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To request an application packet, write: Russell B. Pulliam
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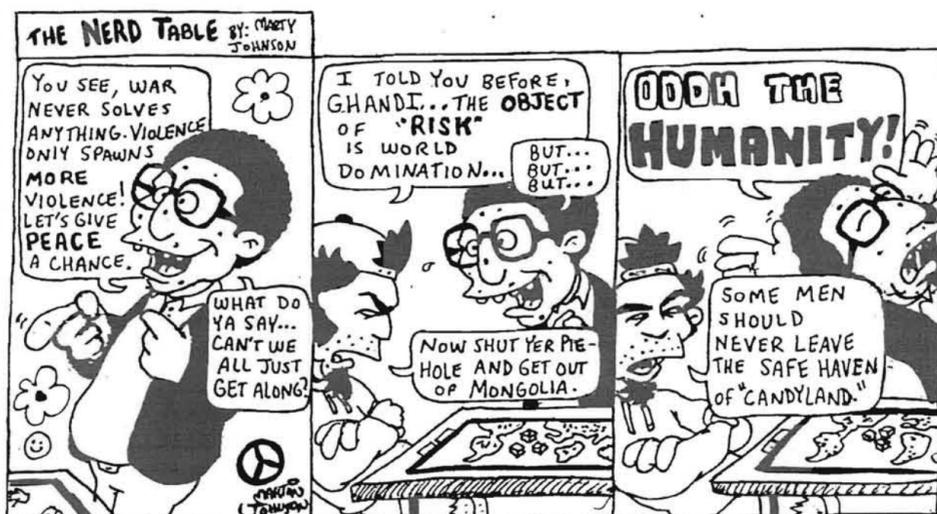
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- **Communication** - get the word out about all the fun to be had during the week's activities.
- **Booths** - help sign up volunteers needed for all these committees, sell tickets and help get the word out.

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Movie Review

Adam Sandler fans will love 'The Waterboy'

The Waterboy
Rated: PG-13
Now Playing

The Waterboy is a movie about a man, 31-year old Bobby Boucher (played by Adam Sandler), who was home-schooled and still lives with his overprotective mother, Mama Boucher (Kathy Bates) on a Louisiana bayou.

His sole career is to bring water to all the football players on the best university team in the league, the Cougars. This is a fitting title for this aggressive team. Boucher (pronounced Booshay) has that job for many years until one day he gets fired by Coach Red Beaulieu (Jerry Reed).

Once fired, Bobby starts looking for another waterboy job since he has no other skills. But he has no luck. One day Bobby goes to another college in Louisiana that has a grossly underfunded football team called the Mud Dogs, which is another fitting name.

Coach Klein of the Mud Dogs informs Bobby that the team has no money to pay him for his services but Bobby takes the job anyway.

One day Bobby Boucher tackles a team member and Coach Klein sees this raw talent of the waterboy. Coach Klein gets him a uniform and has Bobby practice with the team immediately because they are in dire need of

someone who can tackle.

In order to play college football Bobby has to go to college but he had not graduated from high school since he was home schooled. Coach Klein, played by Henry Winkler, makes up some phony transcripts so Bobby can play. This was against Mama's wishes so Bobby went behind Mama's back and became an educated football star.

To get the rest of the story you need to go see *The Waterboy* which is perhaps one of Sandler's most dramatic roles. Yes, it is a typical Sandler movie with slapstick comedy and full of outrageous scenes, but I think that this movie has a lot more drama in it than the typical Sandler comedy. This is perhaps Sandler's best performance. It is an extremely hilarious movie mixed with just enough of a serious undertone of real life issues to make it a worthwhile movie to blow your cash on and see at the theater.

If you are not an Adam Sandler fan then stay home and don't see it so that I don't have to hear you say how stupid you thought it was. It is not intended to be an award winning movie, it is merely meant to be brain candy. If you like Adam Sandler, then it is a must-see movie. Without the help of a magnificent cast this comedy would have been too cheesy to even rent for a dollar.

-Todd Appel



Adam Sandler (right) and Henry Winkler in 'The Waterboy.'

Event Review

A thousand bottles of beer on the wall. . .

Glass is half-full for KWMU's second annual beer tasting

The lower level of Embassy Suites on Laclede's Landing was transformed into a heaven on earth for beer lovers on Nov. 12.

That's where UM-St. Louis' own KWMU 90.7 FM hosted the Second Annual International Beer Tasting event.

Participants walked in and were immediately handed a program and a complimentary oversized shot glass. The glass was for the tasting, and the program was cleverly designed so the tasters could check off each sampled beverage.

And, boy, were the beverages abundant. The variety ranged from very light to very dark, and included ciders, ales, stouts, porters, lagers, and wheats. There were classics like Guinness and Bass, along with brand-new

brews like Cobblestone Steam and Golden Pilsner from the Morgan Street Brewery.

Tables had been set up along the perimeter of the banquet room, and each had its own specialty. The groupings were Griesedieck Imports (a selection of 10 different drinks), Major Brands (12), Morgan Street Brewery (3), Miller Brewing Company (5), Trailhead Brewing Company (4), Paramount Liquor Company (15) and St. Louis Sales (5).

There was also plenty of food available, and a table providing fresh, hot coffee. (The cafe latte was very good.) Both were a very good idea with all that consumption of alcoholic beverages happening.

The samples were relatively small, usually about one-third of the glass,

depending on who poured it, but just the right size to get a good idea of the flavor without getting too filled up. Hence the word "tasting."

The turnout was large. There seemed to be a constant crowd at every table. Fortunately the workers were fast, friendly and efficient so there was rarely an empty glass in the house.

As if the mere idea of this beer tasting party were not enough, it benefited a good cause as well. Food items were donated by the attendants to help Operation Food Search.

If you didn't make it to this year's function, I highly recommend checking it out next time.

-Amy Lombardo

Concert Review

Orchestra gives flawless performance

Chamber Orchestra Kremlin
Sheldon Concert Hall
Concert Review - Classical

The words to describe the Chamber Orchestra Kremlin's performance on Nov. 15 are sophisticated, touching, and flawless.

The Chamber Orchestra Kremlin is one of Russia's most talented chamber groups. It was founded in 1991 by the very accomplished Misha Rachlevsky. Rachlevsky continues to conduct the group and improve the quality of their performance. The group is composed of young musicians that have graduated from the Moscow Conservatory and the Russian Academy of Music.

Their performance on Sunday included "Divertimento in F Major, K. 138" by Mozart, "Verklaerte Nacht, Op. 4" by Schoenberg, and the four movements of Tchaikovsky's "Serenade for Strings, Op. 48." The performance was received so well that it was followed by three encore pieces.

The opening piece was a light introduction to a fabulous concert. Written in 1772, the "Divertimento" is a light, bubbly piece that was probably composed to be played at garden parties. In the program notes, Rachlevsky said, "In most cases I schedule this piece at the opening of the concert - as if offering a glass of champagne when guests arrive."

The "Verklaerte Nacht" was probably the best piece of the performance. The piece was first created as a string sextet written in 1899. It is based on a poem by the same title written by Richard Dehmel. The poem is about a man and woman walking through the woods. The woman is pregnant, but not by the man she walks with. After explaining her grief to the man, the man tells her that he still accepts her and loves her. He explains that the child she bears will be his. The orchestra did an excellent job of capturing every emotion of this piece. It is a wonderful piece that evokes beautiful visuals. The Chamber Orchestra Kremlin success-

fully accomplished this. The crowd responded with a standing ovation. Rarely does a crowd respond with a standing ovation in the middle of a program. This performance deserved it.

The "Serenade for Strings" is one of Tchaikovsky's best compositions. It was one of the few works that didn't undergo numerous revisions. The Chamber Orchestra Kremlin's performance was the best performance of the "Serenade" by an orchestra group in St. Louis. It is no wonder that it was followed by unstopable applause.

The group takes their performances very seriously. Rachlevsky, wanting the "Verklaerte Nacht" to be perfect, actually started the piece over again when the beginning note was not perfect. The Chamber Orchestra Kremlin has been touring in the United States since Oct. 2 and it still had two three hour practices before their performance on Nov. 15. The orchestra maintains a very extensive international touring schedule. They

were scheduled to leave the U. S. last week.

The orchestra's performance in St. Louis was sponsored by University of Missouri - St. Louis Premiere Performances held at the Sheldon Concert Hall. It was part of a tour of all four University of Missouri campuses (St. Louis, Rolla, Kansas City, and Columbia). For more information on upcoming Premiere Performances and tickets call 516-5818.

-Stephanie M. Platt

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