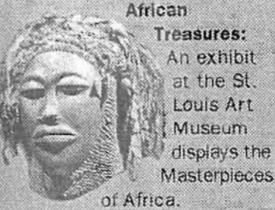




**▲ Losing their way:**  
Riverwomen drop two games in GLVC play.  
See page 5.



**African Treasures:**  
An exhibit at the St. Louis Art Museum displays the Masterpieces of Africa.  
See page 3.

**All Comers:** Administrators decide on no changes after considering a first-come, first-serve registration process.  
See page 8.

**NEWS FROM ALL OVER**

*Schools see drop in Asian enrollment*

(U-WIRE) ANN ARBOR, Mich. — Due to the financial crisis that is ravaging Asian economies, many U.S. colleges and universities are experiencing a decline in the number of students from those struggling countries.

Campus officials from U.S. schools said they expect a sharp decline of students from Indonesia, Malaysia, South Korea and Thailand this semester.

But University International Center Director Zahir Ahmed said he has not yet noticed a drop in Asian students.

"We attract some of the wealthier students," Ahmed said, adding that this year there are more undergraduate international students.

But Ahmed said there are a number of undergraduates enrolled who are experiencing financial problems.

Ahmed said international students are required to take full-time classes. But a recent policy will allow students experiencing financial trouble to take less credits. He added that the International Center also tries to help students with employment and loans to help pay for tuition.

Boston University is one of three institutions that in recent years has enrolled the highest amount of foreign students, said Colin Riley of Boston University, a public relations spokesperson. Riley said that although the figures will not be available until October, overall international student numbers are similar to last year's.

"We haven't really missed a lot," Riley said, adding that although there is a negligible decrease in the number of students enrolled from Asian countries.

"We make it up in other parts in the world," Riley said.

A year ago, Asian countries had their currencies affected, Riley said and the university was concerned that many foreign students would not be returning this semester.

"Students still value education and are willing to make the extra sacrifice to continue their education," Riley said.

**Index**

- BULLETIN BOARD..... 2
- FEATURES..... 3
- EDITORIAL..... 4
- SPORTS..... 5
- CLASSIFIEDS..... 9

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## UPB may face member shortage

### Director unsure of reason for apathy

BY ASHLEY COOK  
senior editor

The University Program Board appears to have lost most of last year's members.

At the end of August, 14 of the 15 positions on the board were filled. As of Friday, only seven of the spots were filled by active members, and six of those are newcomers to the board, according to Student Activities Coordinator Don McCarty.

"In the process of trying to set up the board meeting schedule, we were not getting the return from the past members," McCarty said.

McCarty said that at the beginning of the academic year, many of the members from the previous year said that they would continue occupying their positions on the board.

"We had seven members from last year's board that indicated last year that they wanted to return, and they were notified of the meetings and then we selected six new members," McCarty said.

UPB Director Carrie Mowen said that she was surprised that so many of last year's members have apparently decided not to return.

"There's a pretty extensive interview process that you have to go through to be part of the UPB, and in order for these people to take that much time out of their summer not only to fill out an application but to come onto campus...and to be here for interviews, that's a lot," Mowen said. "It amazes me that school has started and all the sudden we don't have anybody."

Mowen said that she was unsure as to why so many previous board members did not want to return.

"I don't know what's going on in terms of the past board



Mowen

see UPB, page 8

## Problems interrupt campus mail

### Delays occur after staffing dispute leads to resignation

BY DAVID BAUGHER  
senior editor

A dispute over staffing and personnel issues in the campus mail department has resulted in the resignation of the department's supervisor and delays in campus mail delivery.

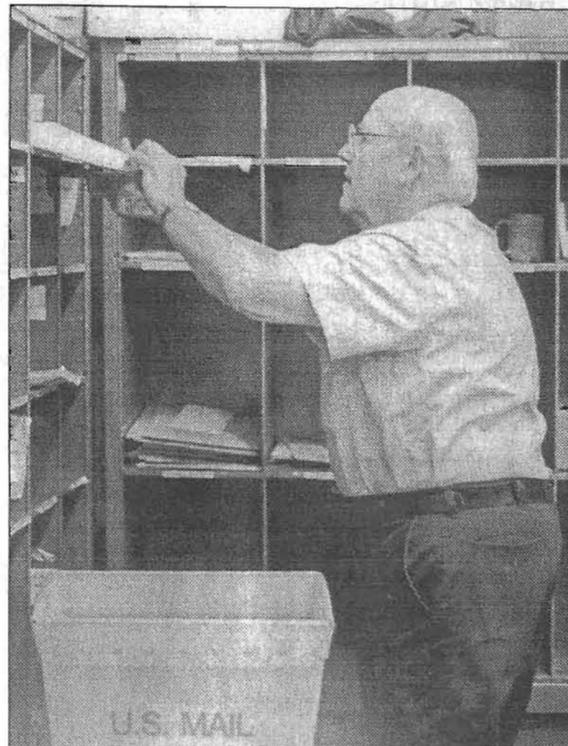
Mail Service Supervisor Beverly Bateman, who worked in the campus mail room for almost 18 years, announced her resignation in a brief letter to Vice-chancellor for Administrative Services Reinhard Schuster August 31.

According to a Sept. 21 memo from Schuster, the mail room experienced delays of three to four days the week of Sept. 7, and one to three days the next week. According to the memo, two departments logged complaints about delays in service during the period, while another talked of concerns about billing delays and bulk mail issues.

Though Bateman's resignation took effect Sept. 11, Schuster said she agreed to work on a part-time basis during the week of Sept. 14 in order to alleviate delays and keep the department running.

**The problems**

The conflict apparently started



Stephanie Platt/The Current

**Mailroom employee Vernon Dickerson sorts mail in the General Services Building, Wednesday. Some delays in mail service have been reported since the department's supervisor, Beverly Bateman, resigned earlier this semester over staffing issues.**

in June, when Bateman, the only full-time employee in the mail room, proposed that a full-time administrative assistant be hired in order to ease her job duties.

Schuster confirmed that he denied Bateman's request for a full-time assistant because he felt there was not a need for one.

see Mail, page 7

## Police arrest three in incident at 'Sexy Legs' contest

### UM-St. Louis students charged in disturbance

BY ASHLEY COOK  
senior editor

The Sigma Pi fraternity's 15th annual "Sexy Legs" contest, Sept. 12, did not occur without incident, as was earlier reported.

A report released by the Bel-Ridge police department states that officers from Bel-Ridge arrived at the Sigma Pi house at 12:23 a.m. on the morning of Sept. 13 in response to a disturbance, resulting in the arrest of three suspects.

The report said that a member of the fraternity said that the three suspects were "yelling and using profanity and when asked to leave refused to do so."

According to Paul Wydra, Sigma Pi rush chairman, the incident began with a can being thrown during the "Sexy Legs" contest.

"What happened was an aluminum can was thrown, and it hit somebody. It hit one of our brothers, and right away we

had concern for people at the party," Wydra said.

Wydra said that the risk management team handled the situation by removing the group associated with those who threw the can.

"They were confronted and asked to leave in a very calm manner," Wydra said.

The fraternity had help with security from two off-duty officers who are Sigma Pi alumni, said Sigma Pi President Justin Polette.

Polette said that the guests were escorted out the back gate of the fraternity by "the two off-duty officers, myself, and another brother."

Thomas Holt, vice president of Sigma Pi, said that the can did not hit anyone.

"The can just kinda went over the stage and landed," Holt said. "It was more of a distraction than anything."

Holt said that the contest continued uninterrupted, and that the incident was over quickly.

"It took a matter of minutes to get them out, and make sure that all of our guests were safe from any flying debris," Holt said.

Polette said that the incident involving the police was not related to Sigma Pi because it was not on their property, but that it took place in the parking lot of J.W.'s Coin Laundry next door.

"Once they were escorted off our property and taken to

see Arrests, page 8

## When I grow up



Stephanie Platt/The Current

**FBI agent Joe Murphy (left) talks with communication major Michael Rohrbacker, during the ninth annual Career Days event in the J.C. Penney Building. The event, sponsored by Career Services, took place here Wednesday and Thursday.**

## Vending machines vandalized, robbed

BY DAVID BAUGHER  
senior editor

Three vending machines and a change machine were vandalized late last month resulting in thousands of dollars in damage and the theft of more than \$400 in cash and goods.

According to Captain James Smalley of the campus police, the first incident was discovered the morning of August 24 by a security officer in the Mark Twain building.

Smalley said that the glass had been removed from a snack machine and about \$210 worth of snacks taken.

"There had also been an attempt to pry open the machine which had failed," Smalley said.

Two other machines had also been attacked. A change machine in the area had been robbed. Smalley said about \$160 was missing from the unit.

"The soda machine at the extreme west end of the hall had its plastic front removed and several pry marks were on it, however no entry was gained," Smalley

said.

Damage to the bill changer and coffee/snack machine totaled about \$3,100.

Smalley said the tools which were used in the incidents, a pry bar and wood chisel, were left behind. He said they were later identified as belonging to a construction company which had a crew working in the area on Aug. 23. He said the crew had no access to the hallway containing the machines and had not witnessed anything suspicious.

"They didn't even know their tools were missing until the officer started questioning them about it," Smalley said.

According to Smalley, a second incident of vandalism and theft was discovered August 27 when about \$50 in one dollar bills were stolen from a snack machine in the music building.

The machine's glass front had apparently been smashed with a concrete block left at the scene.

"The damage to the machine as provided by the vending company was approximately \$3,500," Smalley said.

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.

**Monday, Sept. 28**  
 • **Monday Noon Series "Death of a Salesman"** Arthur Miller's play will be examined in a discussion led by Steve Woolf, artistic director at the Rep, and two actors from the play. This event will start earlier at 11 a.m. and go until 1 p.m. in J.C. Penney. Contact: 5699 or TDD 5961.

• **Visiting Scholar Reception and Address "Against All Odds: Black Women and Classics in the 19th Century"** from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in 75 J.C. Penney given by Shelley Haley. Contact: Nan Sweet, 6383 or Deborah Bowman, 5581.

• **Calling ALL organizations: Hunger Awareness Week** planning meeting at 1 p.m. at the Newman Center, 8200 Natural Bridge Rd. Contact: Betty, 385-3455.

**Tuesday, Sept. 29**  
 • **Guaranteed 4.0 Workshop/Seminar II** from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. in J.C. Penney Auditorium. Contact: Linda Sharp, 6807.

• **Tuesday Night MUSIC Club**, a fun evening of Many Unique Sports In Concert. Play badminton, shuffle

board, sepak takraw, pickleball and tetherball from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

• **Visiting Scholar, Shelley Haley, Brown Bag Colloquium "Placing Cleopatra: Women, Classics, and the Social Order"** from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in 331 SSB, McDonnell Conference Room. Contact: Nan Sweet, 6383 or Deborah Bowman, 5581.

• **Campus Fun Run**, choose the 1.5 or 3 mile course. T-shirts awarded to the fastest male/female times in student and faculty/staff divisions. To participate, meet at Mark Twain at 12:20 p.m. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

• **Student Social Work Association Meeting** from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the Lucas Hall Evening College Conference Room. Contact: Janice Black, 509-1388.

• **LitMags** will be sold for \$3.00 in the U-Center Lounge from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Thursday, Oct. 1**  
 • **SOUP AND SOUL FOOD** (free lunch and a time for prayer and meditation)

from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Normandy United Methodist Church at 8000 Natural Bridge Rd. Sponsored by the Wesley Foundation Campus Ministry. Everyone invited. Contact: Roger Jespersen, 385-3000.

• **LitMags** will be sold for \$3.00 outside between Lucas and Clark Halls and the U-Center.

**Friday, Oct. 2**  
 • **Opening and Rededication of St. Louis Mercantile Library** at levels 1 and 2 of Thomas Jefferson Library. Public Ceremony at 11 a.m. and an evening celebration requiring reservations at 6 p.m. Contact: 5442.

**Saturday, Oct. 3**  
 • **Rededication of the John W. Barriger III National Railroad Library** at the Mercantile Library in the TJ Library. Open to the public, program at 4 p.m. with a reception at 5 p.m.

**Monday, Oct. 5**  
 • **From Seneca Falls to Suffrage: Rethinking the "Master" Narrative of American Women's Activism.** Nancy Hewitt, professor of history, Rutgers University, overturns a central tenet of American history: that the Seneca

Falls Women's Rights Convention of 1848 was the birthplace of the American women's movement and that the Nineteenth Amendment was its greatest achievement.

**Tuesday, Oct. 6**  
 • **Annual Punt, Pass, and Kick Football Contest**, T-shirts will be awarded for the best scores in each event as well as overall total scores. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

**Thursday, Oct. 8**  
 • **SOUP AND SOUL FOOD** (free lunch and a time for prayer and meditation) from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Normandy United Methodist Church at 8000 Natural Bridge Rd. Sponsored by the Wesley Foundation Campus Ministry. Everyone invited. Contact: Roger Jespersen, 385-3000.

**Monday, Oct. 12**  
 • **Monday Noon Series: Corruption and Contraband: The Underside of Spanish Colonial History.** Mark Burkholder, professor of history, UM-St. Louis, discusses characteristic aspects of Spanish colonialism in 229 J.C. Penney. Contact: Karen Lucas, 5699.

## Campus CrimeLine

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

**August 27, 1998**  
 Music Building staff reported that between 8-26-98 and 8-27-98 at 7:10 a.m., a snack vending machine had been broken into and \$30.00 to \$50.00 in one dollar bills were taken. The snack machine was severely damaged.

A faculty member reported that at 2 p.m., he found that a bag of coins totalling five dollars was missing from a desk drawer in his office at 437 Marillac Hall. The office is believed to have been locked at the time the theft occurred.

**August 28, 1998**  
 At 8 p.m. a person wanted for outstanding warrants from the cities of Sycamore Hills and St. Louis was arrested on the campus.

**August 29, 1998**  
 At 12:30 a.m. a person wanted by the City of Pine Lawn on outstanding warrants was arrested on the campus.

**August 30, 1998**  
 A student reported being sexually abused while riding MetroLink in St. Louis City. The incident was reported to and investigated by St. Louis Police.

**August 31, 1998**  
 A faculty member reported that on 8-6-98, between 8 a.m. and 12 p.m., unknown persons took credit cards from her purse which was stored in a desk drawer. The office had been left open through the day.

A student reported that on 8-26-98 at 5:45 p.m., she saw a male standing in her classroom door rubbing his genital area through his clothing. The classroom was located at 334 SSB.

**September 1, 1998**  
 A student reported that between 12:20 a.m. and 2 p.m., her front license plate had been stolen while her car was parked at the University Meadows

Apartments.

**September 2, 1998**  
 A staff person reported that between 8-26-98 and 9-2-98, a Linden wall clock and a Rival electric heater were stolen from 346 Woods Hall.

**September 3, 1998**  
 A visitor to the Tele Community Center reported that between 7:10 p.m. to 7:25 p.m., unknown persons stole her checkbook, cash and credit cards from a counter top in the Women's restroom. The items were left unattended.

**September 5, 1998**  
 A Budget Rental Truck used by the University was found to have a broken passenger side window. Occurred between 9-4-98 and 9-5-98 at 9:30 a.m.

**September 9, 1998**  
 At 10:55 a.m., a visitor to the campus was assaulted by an unknown male after

getting off of a shuttle bus at University and Benton Drives. The suspect could not be located during a campus search.

A student reported that a bookbag was stolen from the University Center lobby.

**September 11, 1998**  
 A student reported that between 10:00 a.m. to 11:10 a.m., his cellular phone was stolen from his car while it was parked on South Campus, Lot "U". The passenger window had been left down.

**September 13, 1998**  
 At 3:20 a.m., University Police were notified of a disturbance at the Sigma Tau Gamma fraternity house. Several persons had received minor injuries.

At an earlier disturbance at the Sigma Pi fraternity house, three arrests were made by Bel Ridge Police.

ROBIN WILLIAMS CUBA GOODING, JR. ANNABELLA SCIORRA

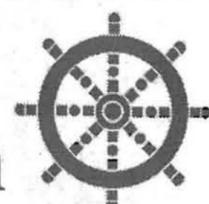
THIS FRIDAY, THE END IS JUST THE BEGINNING.

# WHAT DREAMS MAY COME



AFTER LIFE THERE IS MORE.

POLYGRAM FILMED ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS AN INTERSCOPE COMMUNICATIONS PRODUCTION AN INTERSCOPE COMMUNICATIONS FILM "WHAT DREAMS MAY COME" ANIMATED BY ANIMATED FILMS INC. DIRECTED BY VINCENT WARD. CASTING BY ROBIN WILLIAMS, CUBA GOODING, JR., ANNABELLA SCIORRA, MAX VON SYDOU, MICHAEL KAREN, YVONNE BLAKE, DAVID BRENNER, MAYQUE HOY, EUGENIO ZANEtti, EDUARDO SERA, RICHARD MATHESON, ALAN C. BLOOMQUIST, TED FIELD, SCOTT KROBY, ERICA HUGHES, HANNAH, STEPHEN SHADON, GABRIEL BAIN, BOB BASS, VINCENT WARD.



## Application

## Deadlines

for Student Activity Budget Committee is  
 Friday, October 2nd  
 5:00 P.M.

Applications may be turned in at

Student Activities

SGA

@ or

@ 262 U. Center

267 U. Center

# FEATURES

Amy Lombardo, Features Editor  
Phone 516-5174, Fax 516-6811

## Get This

### Concert gives opportunity for adventure

I haven't done anything really pointless just for the sake of doing something really pointless in quite some time. That is, up until last Wednesday night.

My friend, Jen, and I went to see Third Eye Blind back in February. Jen has a little bit of a crush on the lead singer, Steven Jenkins. It was a good time and we just happened to get backstage (because we just happened to hang around and talk to as many American Theater employees as we could find). The guys were very nice and hospitable, giving us free beverages to boot.

This past week, the band did yet another show in our very own beloved city. Although we didn't have tickets this time, we decided to go and try to see the members again. We arrived downtown about 10:30 p.m., too early for the show to be out, so we

AMY LOMBARDO decided to Features Editor step in to the nearest hole-in-the-wall bar and have a beer. At about 11:15 p.m., we left the establishment and made our journey to the theater.

We walked up to the front where a small crowd of people gathered and (uh-oh!) a metal barrier was blocking the sidewalk. This had not been here last time, and definitely presented a slight problem. We were undaunted, however, and proceeded to walk directly up to the two bouncers guarding the area and engage them in conversation.

As I scanned the small group of groupies I felt better. I knew that we still had a good chance of being asked to come back and meet the band before anyone else because, well, we weren't in high school. In retrospect, this probably should have made me feel worse, but I digress.

Eventually, after about a half-hour of chit-chat with the young girl next to me about how she "almost died!" when the band came on stage and how she would "just die" if she met them, Kevin the Guitarist walked up. As he signed autographs I caught him checking out Jen and I, and I thought that we had won the game.

He talked to me briefly, asked me a few questions, and then some random girl pulled up in a red car, and he left with her.

Another half-hour passed, we were both getting cold and really needed to find a bathroom (the beer was kicking in), but Jen was insistent that we stay "five more minutes."

After three 'five more minutes' passed an adorable, though rather large, groupie took an extreme liking to Jen and brought both of us back to the tour bus to meet the band... again. Unfortunately, it was their first time in this particular bus and no one could figure out how to flush the toilet. Jen and I had to sit there and make conversation while our bladders were about to explode. Finally, we excused ourselves and headed to the nearest club to use the ladies' room.

I suppose the moral of my tale is that it is fun to go out on a limb sometimes and do something simply because you can. However, I suppose if this experience is as wild and crazy as I've gotten lately, I should get out more often.

# Cure for the MONDAY AFTERNOON Blues

## Monday Noon Series showcases local talent

BY AMY LOMBARDO  
staff editor

Not many people automatically associate Monday afternoons with cultural growth. But for those of us who spend our lunch hour on the UM-St. Louis campus, we could easily do so.

The Monday Noon Series is a program presented by the Center of the Humanities at UM-St. Louis. It is a free cultural series which includes talks and performances from talents in various areas.

Karen Lucas, assistant director for the Center of the Humanities and a research associate in communications, has been the coordinator of the Monday Noon Series for the past three years.

"It's a series of programs every Monday from 12 noon until 1 p.m. They are free and open to the public," Lucas said. "Students are welcome, but we also have people come from off campus."

There are often programs designed to relate to the topics covered in courses at the University. Many professors bring their classes to sit in on lectures or presentations. One of the goals of the series is to be as diverse as possible and cover a number of different areas.

"We try to cover all the humanities. We have some Mondays that are devoted to things that are historical, sometimes anthropology, philosophy, art, music, drama," Lucas said. "I try to have the programming be diverse both in terms of content or subject matter, but also we try to be sure that we have men, women, and people from various ethnic and religious backgrounds."

The itinerary may include a performance from the St. Louis Symphony orchestra one week and a talk about current themes in politics or culture the next.

Artists bring slides of their work and tell why they chose their particular medium or why they decided to focus on a certain subject matter. Almost always the artist or performer will speak to the audience about their work and give an opportunity for questions at the end of the hour.

The Monday Noon Series maintains a level of intimacy by focusing mostly on local talent who may not have widespread fame.

"We try to find people in the St. Louis community more largely. Most of the time people don't realize that we have some great musicians and artists and so forth right here in St. Louis," Lucas said. "They are both from on and off campus. We have professors or other people on campus, including students."

A course titled the Monday Noon Cultural Seminar (listed as Interdisciplinary 160) started spring semester 1998. The participants attend the Monday events and meet on Wednesday to discuss them.

"Our hope is that once they are done with the course that this sets a foundation for their lives, that they will have a life that includes the arts," Lucas said. "Once people have [an] experience and enjoy it they might think, 'Well, I don't always have to watch TV or go to a bar.'"

The main idea is really to give more cultural exposure to people in the St. Louis area, especially the students at UM-St. Louis.

"There are a lot of students who have never been to a poetry reading, haven't heard a classical music string quartet, or have never heard bluegrass [music]," Lucas said. "I try to have something for everybody."



Stephanie Platt/The Current  
Geoff Seitz of ILL-MO Boys plays the violin at a Monday Noon Series presentation.

# UNDER THE CURRENT

compiled by Stephanie Platt/staff photographer

## If you could create a class at UMSL, what would it be?

<p>"How to make a million by 21!"</p> <p><b>-Janika Barnett</b> Junior/MIS/Finance</p> 	
<p>"Chemical Technology."</p> <p><b>-Ina Hammond</b> Junior/Biology/ Chemistry</p> 	
<p>"How to manage money."</p> <p><b>-Jaime Boykin</b> Junior/Business Marketing</p> 	
<p>"Underwater basket-weaving."</p> <p><b>-Angie Schmitt</b> Junior/Chemistry</p> 	
<p>"Class on common sense."</p> <p><b>-Rob Brill</b> Freshman/computer science</p> 	

## Art Museum highlights African masterpieces

BY ANNE PORTER  
special to the Current

The St. Louis Art Museum is only one stop for the Masterpieces of Central Africa. The tour began at the Canadian Museum of Civilization in Ottawa/Hull, Quebec in 1996 and will end in Barcelona at the Funacio Caixa de Catalunya in 1999. The 195 pieces are selections from the Royal Museum of Central Africa and are mostly of the Democratic Republic of Congo, formerly known as Zaire in the Belgian Congo region. John Nunley is the curator for the exhibit with the help of the assistant curator, Jackie Lewis Harris.

According to Nunley, the Masterpieces from Central Africa is, "The most powerful exhibit to ever tour the country... as each and every piece is a masterpiece, meaning a true masterpiece, not just an exhibit."

Nunley even recommended some feature pieces that truly reflect the heritage of the exhibit. The first of these is the white Congo masks, which Nunley describes as, "Very naturalistic." The white color on these masks represents different values in the different cultures of the Congo region.

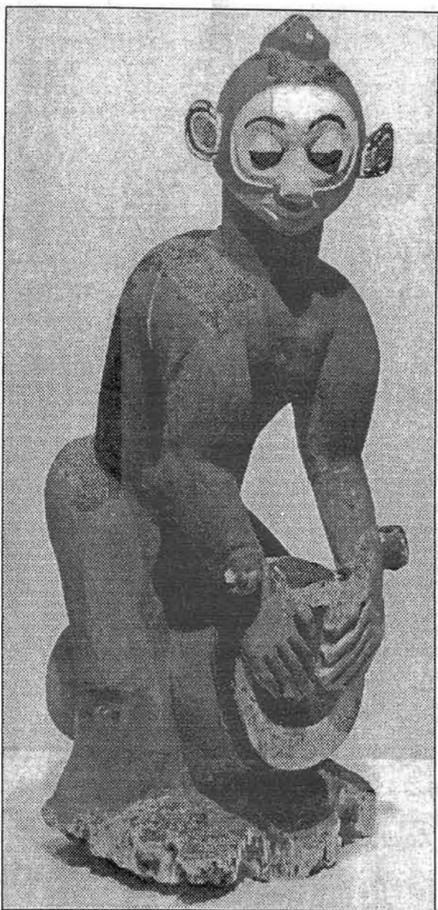
For example, in the Sonyge area the color white is a positive nourishment which is used for procreation. The Lulou believe white is viewed differently, used in anti-sorcery in healing and magic. One pair of masks is of the Kaseth village and was used for soul retrieval. They are very realistic as they bear a close human resemblance with teeth and beards.

Most of these Congo societies used drums extensively throughout the culture. Nunley said of the masterpieces in the exhibit that, "All works are festival art and for performing. Without drums, the mask would

not work." Essentially all these works must be together to create the ceremony in the drumming cultures. The Congo red colored drummers, recommended by Nunley, exemplify the importance of drumming and music in the ceremonies, just as the masks complete the scene for the dancing. The importance of women is shown in the queen and child figures. Rarely are women portrayed without a child, but in one instance a woman is used without a child. In this instance, she is a figure that would have sat on top of a staff for the leader of that culture.

The Ylesi helmet mask with the bird was used in ceremonies to fight sickness and infertility. Other notable pieces are the everyday use pieces like the combs and cups. These objects possess great workmanship and detail. One pipe was about three feet long and carved intricately in every detail. It would probably take two people just to hold the pipe in order to use it, which conveys just how much effort and time was used to create the pipe. Many of the pieces in this exhibit were used for the enthronement of new leaders and composed of leopard skins and ivory. The skins and elements were considered rare and therefore used in important ceremonies. The Kalin used sacred masks in their ceremonies for new leaders along with the use of palm wine and blood. This mixture is supposed to have spiritual powers and connect people of different worlds, meaning this world and the next. The objects and some of the copper staffheads show the European assimilation that occurred between the cultures of Africa and Europe.

The Masterpieces of Central Africa runs until Nov. 29, 1998. For more information, contact the St. Louis Art Museum, at (314) 721-0072.



Stephanie Platt/The Current  
An exhibit from the Masterpieces of Central Africa.

# Comments

**The Current**  
THE STUDENT VOICE OF UM-ST. LOUIS

## Editorial Board

**David Baugher**  
Editor in Chief

**Ashley Cook**  
Managing Editor &  
Editorial Page Editor

**Brian Douglas**  
News Editor

"Our Opinion" reflects the majority opinion of the editorial board

## 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.



### Mail

Letters to the editor  
7940 Natural Bridge Road  
St. Louis, MO 63121



### Fax

(314) 516-6811



### E-mail

current@jinx.umsi.edu



### Telephone

(314) 516-5174

## OUR OPINION

### UPB lacks member involvement needed to be successful

#### The Issue:

After starting off with almost a full board, the UPB is now operating with only half of the membership filled. Event planning may be jeopardized as members are overloaded.

#### We Suggest:

The remaining positions at UPB should be opened up now to the general student body instead of waiting any longer for last year's members to respond to requests for their participation.

#### So what do you think?

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

The University Program Board has had a challenge lately; getting members to participate.

The UPB is designed to have 15 members, with the director's duties ideally being to coordinate board members and their ideas while working with Student Activity administration to approve proposed event planning.

Unfortunately, lack of interest from last year's members and problems with scheduling have combined to reduce the number of board members currently in active participation.

Don McCarty, student services coordinator, said Friday that there are seven active members, one of whom was on the board last year. McCarty said that another returning member has indicated he will participate if he can work around scheduling conflicts.

Carrie Mowen, UPB director, said that even though she could fill the board quickly by seeking out people she knew well for applications, she wanted instead to have a fair representation of the student population with applicants from all areas of campus.

We applaud Mowen's efforts in seeking diversity, and encourage UPB to continue working towards that goal.

Since UPB is not actively recruiting at this time, we suggest that the seven positions remaining vacant be opened up to the general student body as soon as possible, without more delay in hopes that some of last year's members will return.

One spot on the board is being held open for an international student to fill, but McCarty said that

UPB has at present received no applications for the position.

Mowen said that with only half a board, she cannot operate the directorship as intended because she is having to make up so much work caused by vacant positions.

Mowen also said that student workers are helping out with Experience St. Louis because none of the present board members are interested in positions to assist with it.

UPB should seek assistance from the student body in filling vacancies. With a third of the semester already passed, time is growing short to fill the board in time to function adequately without overloading existing members.

With Welcome Week over, it appears that no major UPB events are in the works anytime soon for this semester. While it would be optimum for UPB to return as many experienced members as possible, and though it is a nice gesture to give those members every opportunity to respond to inquiries about their status on the board, time is passing while the board struggles to function at a level that meets the needs of the student body.

The UPB application process is long and requires much consideration by the administration and director alike. This is as it should be. Given that knowledge, Student Activities needs to give the student body an opportunity to show its interest, and the UPB a chance to provide this campus with some knockout programming for the fall semester.

### Communication may prevent mail mess

Neither rain nor snow nor dark of night...

The recent resignation of the mail services supervisor over staffing concerns has created a predictable firestorm of debate. While some have suggested administrative incompetence may be to blame, the more likely culprit is a plain, simple lack of communication. One thing that seems obvious in the mess over the mail is that one side failed to communicate or the other side didn't hear that a serious situation was developing in the mail room, one that required prompt attention.

As with most situations that explode after brewing for months, it's impossible to tell exactly who was in the right and who was wrong. Probably both sides deserve some of the blame. But the important part of the process is not to find who is at fault but rather to fix the problem and ensure that it doesn't happen again.

A good place to start would be with the chain of command. Supervisor Beverly Bateman said that she has served under 14 bosses in 18 years. She says that position is now vacant. An effective communicator in that role would go far to relieving misunderstandings that could arise by relaying problems to the vice-chancellor's office before they become unmanageable and lead to feelings of neglect and bitterness.

It is certainly understandable that snafus such as this may occur from time to time but as the old saying goes an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Vice-chancellor Reinhard Schuster has suggested that an outside consultant may be brought in to examine mail services and possibly come up with a plan to restructure the department. This seems to be a constructive first step in the process. Let's hope it's not the last.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Y2K: Millenium of a million headaches

I can assure you the Y2K problem is real. It will cause millions of problems in thousands of industries. There may be programmers hiding out in the woods somewhere but the majority of them are laughing all the way to the bank.

It seems the programmers of old may not have been short-sighted as they seem. The people who originally programmed the computers, mainly the mainframes, did so in languages now termed ancient. Programmers of COBOL, FORTRAN, and even a little PASCAL are now finding themselves the hottest commodity in the computer industry. They are commanding two to three times or more the pay that your top of the line C++ and Java programmers are. They come out of retirement and are instantly promoted to project manager status and get all of the frills that go with that job.

Before the government and doomsday announcers get all riled up, I think a few things should be set straight. The power companies (nuclear, boiling water, fossil fuels, solar, etc.) are not going to blow up if the Y2K problem is not resolved.

The world will not shut down because every computer is not working right. Life will go on and the computers will be right there with us. However, many things that you are used to may cease to function. The student aid check you get from the government may not come anymore. The good grades you got in school may not be "in the system" anymore. There may not even be a "system"! Air traffic controllers may find planes disappearing off of the radar only to have them appear in the morning news in a ball of flame.

It is too late to catch every embedded system (all the microprocessors) and every CPU. There just isn't enough time and a lot of companies aren't acting like their business depends on it (it does!). The government has started working on it, but they are notorious for missing deadlines, and this time, the deadline is hard and fast approaching. The best thing right now is to continue the work on fixing the bug and to get more people working on contingency planning (what will happen when we don't

get it all fixed). A good plan today is better than no plan tomorrow.

I work for a company that handles Y2K work for the nuclear power industry. I have seen and heard CEOs of Fortune 500 companies actually say, "The Y2K bug won't affect my company" and then wonder why the engineers were laughing. I have seen middle management say that they will "definitely fix all the Y2K issues and no contingency plan is required." I have also seen engineers and plant workers say, "There is no way we will ever fix all of this."

Yes, the Y2K bug is real. Yes, the Y2K bug will affect you. Yes, the Y2K bug will shut down parts of government and close many business. No, the Y2K bug will not signal the end of the computer age or the end of civilization. The dark ages are not returning. Chaos will not reign (any more than it does today). But if you see a lot of programmers disappearing from the face of the earth, you may want to head for the hills...

-Barry W. Colebank, Jr.

### Parking miles from nowhere

Last year I wrote about the parking situation. Well, guess what? It hasn't gotten any better. I said then what the school needs to do is to build a large garage for staff and faculty, and create a shuttle system for them. The students pay to go here and the staff is paid, so why do the students have to walk upwards to a mile to get to class? Yesterday I had to park by the Mark Twain building to attend class next to the pond. And because of time constraints I walked through the construction area. A real mess but if I were to go around I would have missed 20 min. of class.

WAKE UP people! We the students pay to go to school here and all we are asking is for some DECENT PARKING.

-Bill Doyle

## Your ad here...

After I watched the tape of Mark McGwire's 62nd homerun for the umpteenth time, I began to think about more than just the homerun, more than just the record, more than the way in which McGwire and Sammy Sosa have helped to unite baseball in one of the most exciting homerun chases in memory. No, when I saw that tape, I thought about Konica.

Konica, a copier machine company, had the good fortune of having placed their advertisement down the left field line at Busch Stadium—directly above where Big Mac cranked his record-breaking shot. Thus, Konica has assured itself of a kind of promotional immortality. As a sidelight to what is sure to be one of the most overplayed pieces of video footage of all time, Konica's image will forever be emblazoned on the American psyche providing the backdrop for one of the most famous events in baseball history. An advertiser's dream come true.

Of course you may think that Konica just got lucky, a case of being in the right place at the right time. But as true as that may be, the proliferation of advertising at Busch, or any major league park, made it inevitable that McGwire's Maris-passing round-tripper would make some advertiser very happy. I've noticed in fact that hardly an inch of the stadium is free from from some company hawking something. From the tarpulin to the scoreboard to the outfield wall it's always time for a word from your sponsor.

This trend of course shows no end in sight. Now even the most mundane act in a baseball game has been reserved for advertising space. At the game I attended, when the Cardinals changed pitchers the P.A. system cheerfully announced that "this call to the bullpen was brought to you by Ameritech." While it was certainly nice of Ameritech to "bring" me a pitching change, I have to say that I figure Tony LaRussa probably would have taken his reliever out whether the cell phone company liked it or not.

Actually, Ameritech seems to have a lock on the whole pitching concept. Their ads always play on the scoreboard anytime they display the new hurler's stats and the company has advertising placed over both bullpens. Well, I guess I can recognize a theme when I see one but I'm still not sure what relief pitching has to do with the quality of my mobile phone reception.

One way or the other however it seems we will have to live with advertising as an everyday part of our lives and yes even a part of our most cherished national moments. And anyway what's wrong with that. There's no reason why ads can't be as integral a part of our lives as any other aspect of American culture. And remember this column has been brought to you by (your ad here).

### Falling temperature raises school spirits

As I was sitting at a stoplight Tuesday, preparing to pull onto campus, I heard a loud voice droning a tune to the muffled strains of "If you want my body, and you think I'm sexy, c'mon baby let me know..." I was pretty sure that the guy sharing his monotone gift with the world was the first victim of fall fever I'd spotted this season.

Other signs of the approaching epidemic surfaced as I walked to my first class. Students were dozing on benches or in the grass, while others were hanging around outside in large numbers, joking around and generally acting like it was a national holiday.

The initial wave of fall fever normally hits with the first major cooldown in temperature. Tuesday was almost crisp, with no humidity, and the day saw the first sign of students wearing sweatshirts to class, later tying them around their waists as it warmed up just enough for shirt-sleeves.

What is it about fall weather that makes people feel so lighthearted? I myself get the urge to shut down the office and head for a playground as soon as that first rush of cool air hits. Something about that first chilly breeze makes me feel like I'm about 10 years old and that I've got to start figuring out what costume to wear for Halloween this year.

Fall has got to be one of the greatest times of the year. Nothing can beat the gorgeous scenery of first the leaves changing and then the snow falling. Every month after September has a big celebration that you're either busy decorating, planning, or partying for.

At press time, the weather was heading back towards a summer-like atmosphere with humidity and temps near the 90-degree mark. I guess those stricken with fall fever will temporarily have their symptoms abate. The campus won't be quite as upbeat as it was this past week, with people generally seeming less stressed as the cool weather lent itself to cases of fall fever.

Wouldn't it be nice if we could all hold on to some of that fever-induced happiness until the next wave of Canadian air arrives?



DAVID BAUGHER  
Editor in Chief



ASHLEY COOK  
Managing Editor

# SPORTS

**Ken Dunkin, sports editor**  
 phone: 871-2192 fax: 516-6811  
 e-mail: kdunkin@rocketmail.com

## Latest Scoop

### Arena holds memories of childhood

The Smurfs on Ice, the wonderful Sesame Street shows, and the old St. Louis Blues playing in the Arena are images that have stuck with me for a lifetime.

The sad part is that the Barn will be torn down soon and that leaves me with a feeling of hopelessness and anger.

The Arena, which marked its 69th anniversary last Wednesday, is a monumental building that should not be torn down. People say that memories last a lifetime, but if the Arena is torn down, then those memories become even more distorted and eventually fade away like the rubble that would remain if the building is torn down.

I just cannot get over the fact that contractors would want to destroy a building that so many people have come to love.

Although the building has been vacant since the Kiel Center opened up, the old Barn still remains a fixture near Forest Park.

I know, a giant aquarium would not do the building justice, but it was a possibility for investors. It would draw huge crowds and people would come just to see the building off of I-40.

But realistically, the building is not stable. How could a giant aquarium be put inside the Arena? It could leak and cause even more damage to the trademark building.

I just cannot face the reality of seeing the building I grew up in being torn down before my very eyes.

It seems like just the other day that I went to see the beautiful Smurfette and Papa Smurf on the ice parading around for their youthful audience. I remember that everytime I went by the Arena with my parents, I always use to say that that was the building where the Smurfs live.

The last and final time that I was in the Arena was when the Blues played the Chicago Blackhawks. I will never forget that game.

The game was an intense meeting between the two. The Blackhawks featured now present Dallas Stars goalie Eddie Belfour.

The Blues broke the game open early and never looked back. By the time I saw the fourth goal scored, I looked down and saw Belfour slamming his goalie stick against the cross-bar in frustration and anguish. Everyone laughed at the cocky goalie and ridiculed him. It was a sight to see.

I guess all of these are just memories. To face the reality of all this, I just am amazed that my childhood memories of the Arena are going to be crushed by a construction company.

You can have all of the activists that you want to try to save a deserted building, but the Barn must come down. I hate to admit it but the building which formerly was packed every night, is now unstable and unsafe for spectators.

Whether it be the Smurfs, Sesame Street or even the St. Louis Blues playing a division rival in front of a sold out crowd, the Arena is truly a building that will live in St. Louis history as one of a kind.



**DAVE KINWORTHY**  
sports associate

## Women's soccer falls in two games during conference play

### Riverwomen's record falls to 1-5 overall, defense slips yield 1-3 and 0-2 losses

BY DAVE KINWORTHY  
staff associate

The UM-St. Louis women's soccer team lowered their record to 1-5 overall as they lost two conference games.

The Riverwomen lost to Southern Indiana 1-3 with the lone goal coming from Amber Godfrey.

The Riverwomen's defense collapsed on all three goals and allowed all three goals to be scored on breakaways.

"We just got stripped out of the backfield and our defense lost the ball at midfield and we could not recover," Head Coach Beth Goetz said.

The Riverwomen outshot Southern Indiana, but could not capitalize on its opportunities according to Goetz.

"We had a few more shots than Southern Indiana, but we could not finish," Goetz said.

The Riverwomen then took on St. Joseph, a team currently ranked 5th in Division II women's soccer.

The Riverwomen started off slow and due to a weather delay were never able to recapture the momentum.

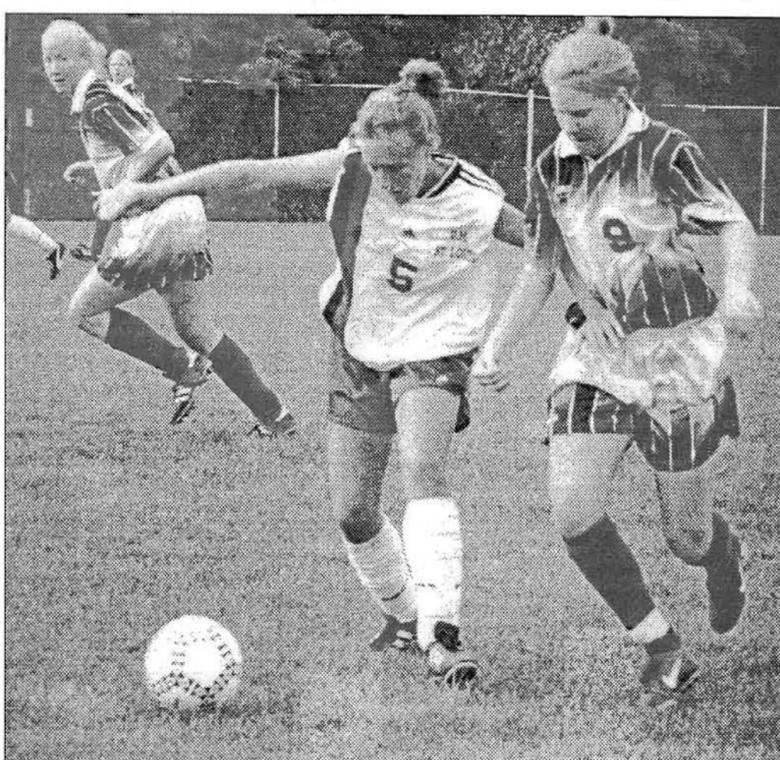
UM-St. Louis gave up a breakaway goal with 5 minutes left in the first half and eventually lost 0-2.

Although the Riverwomen's record may not show it, Goetz believes that her players are working and playing extremely hard.

"They realize they are playing well and there is no one to blame," Goetz said. "We just need to take some quality shots and equalize. Their play does not reflect the record. They still know that there is a lot of season left."

To assist the Riverwomen in their scoring slump, Goetz has been running shooting drills and she believes it is working.

"We have been working on shooting and penetrating the defense in practice," Goetz said. "They are building confidence and feeling more comfortable taking the shot now."



Senior Shannon Humphrey (center) advances the ball against UM-Rolla in a game on September 9th.

## Women's soccer coach looks to promising future

BY DAVE KINWORTHY  
staff associate

Imagine if you will, a coach taking over a legendary coach's job. The pressure, the pain, the blood, sweat and tears are all a part of it.

The coach has responsibilities to the team as well as herself.

First year women's soccer Head Coach Beth Goetz has passed all of these roadblocks.

Goetz, a native St. Louisian, attended Hazelwood Central High School and then moved on two years later to play at Clemson University.

This past year, Goetz was officially named the head coach of the women's soccer team. This marks the first time that the women's soccer team has had a full-time coach. Even the legendary Ken Hudson was only a part-time coach for the Riverwomen.

"Being full time has helped a lot," Goetz said. "It allows me to recruit more players and be choosy about who I select."

Goetz is quick to point out though that this team is not officially hers quite yet.

"You have to look at this job as a three-year plan," Goetz said. "This team is still part of Kenny's team. I would never exclude him, but I just want to build on the foundation that he has laid down."

Initially, Goetz was all about business when she heard the good news that she was hired as the head coach.

"My first thought was that I had a lot to do," Goetz said. "I was excited because it was a long-awaited year."

Going from a powerhouse Division I school to UM-St. Louis, a Division II college, Goetz was a little surprised by the differences.

"They have completely different atmospheres," Goetz said. "Clemson was so much bigger and athletically-oriented. There is a lot of pride in athletics at Clemson and we are taking strides with this team to get to that level of competition."

Goetz was a bit concerned with her future after Clemson as she searched for the next step in her life.

"Coming out of Clemson, I had planned to coach at a club level," Goetz said. "I wanted to go to graduate school, but fortunately Kenny needed an assistant. I knew I would always be involved to some degree, but never thought that I would jump into college coaching so quickly."

Coach Hudson helped Goetz turn into the tactical and strategic coach that she is today. Goetz was pleased to here Hudson congratulate her when she was first hired as an interim last year.

"He showed me the ropes here at UM-St. Louis," Goetz said. "He was very supportive and when I got the job as an interim, he was really pulling for me."

As Coach Goetz looks at the broad spectrum of things, she said she can only imagine better things to come from the women's soccer team. She says her typical player is "a team player, has a great work ethic in the classroom and as well as on the field and plays the game of soccer for the love of the game."

Goetz fills a void in the women's soccer program that only she can take to the next level. Her hard work and dedication to the sport of soccer is only fitting as she is now the UM-St. Louis women's soccer head coach.



Goetz

## Sports Opinion

### Too much of a good thing

When McGwire fever hit St. Louis I got sick.

The fever often found me turning off my television, radio and ears. Any mention of McGwire made me sick.

It seemed like everywhere I went I either saw something about Mark McGwire or heard people talking about him. It drove me crazy.

Don't get me wrong I don't discount his achievement. Breaking the record is something very amazing and the publicity he has gotten has been just. But there is such thing as overkill.

I could barely escape from "the chase" hype. Even my own sports page was invaded with McGwire hype. The hype has gotten a little out of hand.

Articles declared "where were you when 62 happened?" As if this event was more exciting than say a world series victory or the moon walk.

This even was played up more than Pete Rose breaking the all-time hit record in the mid-'80's. Hit 4192 is by far a better record in my eyes. Compared to that the home run record means almost nothing!

The biggest travesty has been the overshadowing of Cal Ripken Jr. ending his games played streak. Ripken's record will likely never be broken. He ended the streak several weeks ago at well over 2,000 games strait. Considering some players have a tough time player a full season, say for example McGwire, it is even more of a crowning achievement. The press received has been very little.

So where was I when the record happened? I was in the Jamestown library setting up a display of baseball memorabilia. I didn't even see the homer live. I could have really cared less. I saw the highlights a few hours later. It took a patron telling me for me to know.

McGwire was once my favorite player. Even the year that he hit .201! After the hype I can barely stand to see his face. In my display I had a special section each year dedicated to McGwire. It was my Starting Lineup figure, several old cards, a few magazines, and other various items. In the past this section of the display was often gawked at, quite often.

I had no idea things would get this crazy when he was traded here a little over a year ago.

Special newspapers, cut-in broadcast, extra columns when will it stop? Finally, today it is over.

Now maybe the media will talk/write about some stories they had neglected all summer. The Blues, the Rams, the Billikins, and high school sports have gotten the shaft with all the up to the moment news flowing with the baseball hype.

Maybe down the line I will appreciate having been so close to the streak. I could be proud someday that I watched most of the home runs on TV and had the chance to see a few in person. I doubt it though.

-Ken Dunkin

## THIS WEEK IN SPORTS

Contact the Athletic Department for information about these and other events.	Wednesday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	30	2	3	4
Men			vs. Bellarmine 12:30 p.m. EDT away	vs. Kentucky-Wes. TBA away
Women	vs. Rockhurst 4 p.m. away		vs. Bellarmine 3 p.m. away	vs. Kentucky-Wes. 3 p.m. away
Women		vs. St. Joseph's Coll. 7 p.m. home	vs. IUPUI-Ft. Wayne 1 p.m. home	

## Volleyball 9-2 overall after 2 wins

BY JOE HARRIS  
of the Current staff

The Riverwomen volleyball team continued rampaging through its schedule with two more wins over Kentucky Wesleyan and Southern Indiana this week.

The wins moved the Riverwomen record to 9-2 overall and 3-1 in Great Lakes Valley Conference play.

The first victory was Kentucky Wesleyan. Yorchena Panama and Kristen Brugnara led the

Riverwomen to the 15-9, 15-2, 15-9 victory.

"Reyna [Panama] had six or seven straight kills and Kristen Brugnara set very well for us," head coach Denise Silvester said.

Nichole Wall led the Riverwomen with ten digs, while middle hitters Michelle Hochstatter and Susan Kleinschnitz killed eight of eleven attempts for a lofty .636 hitting percentage.

The Riverwomen also out-blocked Kentucky Wesleyan 7-1.

See VOLLEYBALL, page 6

**VOLLEYBALL, FROM PAGE 5**

"Our confidence is growing, but we're still having trouble delivering the knock-out punch," Silvester said. "We have to want to dominate and the more you win the more you want to dominate. We're still emerging as a winning team."

Going into the match, the Riverwomen's goal was to keep it short because of the Southern Indiana match the next day.

"We felt that we were going to be in a dogfight the next day," Silvester said. "We didn't keep it as short as we would like because we let them back in a couple of times after getting a big lead."

Southern Indiana loomed next on the Riverwomen's hit list. Southern Indiana beat the Riverwomen twice last year so UM-St. Louis was looking for a little revenge.

Susan Clagget led the way with ten kills and only two errors as the Riverwomen posted a 15-11, 15-10, 15-7 win.

"Susan [Clagget] was definitely our comeback player of the game," Silvester said.

Clagget was helped by Kleinschnitz's seven kills and the serving of Leslie Armstrong.

"Leslie's serving was terrific," Silvester said. "We won 16 or 17 points off of her serve alone."

The two middle hitters,

Kleinschnitz and Hochstatter, continue to improve in their sophomore years. This week they combined for 28 kills with only five errors and combined for 6 solo blocks and 14 block assists.

"Sometimes [Kleinschnitz and Hochstatter] look brilliant and sometimes they look like sophomores," Silvester said. "But there's no question that their blocking has gotten better and that helps our overall team strategy."

Silvester also said that newcomer Holly Zrout is starting to make some strides and is starting to make the adjustment to the college game. Zrout had five digs and a solo block against Southern Indiana.

The early success does not mean that the Riverwomen will stop working hard.

"Winning breeds complacency," Silvester said. "In practice we have highly competitive one-on-one drills. That way the players can't just come in, punch the timecard, and then go home."

The schedule doesn't get any easier for the Riverwomen. This week the Riverwomen take on Lewis and Wisconsin-Parkside. Both teams are highly-rated conference foes.

"We're hoping to go 2-0 this week," Silvester said, "but we're going to have to play some great volleyball."

**Corrections**

In Issue 929, the music review for 'Korn' gave an incorrect date for their Oct. 23 concert. Issues of Litmag will be sold on Sept. 29, not Sept. 30 as stated previously. We regret any confusion these errors may have caused.

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Sports Opinion

**Umpires should give Mac a break**

Umpires are a special breed of individuals; a fraternity of sorts. Their work is unique. There aren't many jobs that put you on national television and in front of 50,000 screaming fans on a regular basis.

Furthermore, the only time the individuals get any recognition whatsoever is when they blow a call or a manager or player verbally degrades them for a perceived blown call.

Naturally umpires stick together. They are the only ones who understand what they go through. They are each other's company on the road and they stick by one another when somebody blows a call.

I believe that's exactly what Bob Davidson did last Sunday when he took away Mark McGwire's 66th home run because he determined that a fan interfered with it. So of course his fellow umpires rushed to his side.

If fellow umpire Don Denkinger had written Davidson a letter after the incident, here's what I think it would have said.

Dear Bob-

Thank you for taking me off the hook in St. Louis. You're going to find out that they have great memories there.

Heck, they still remember that little mistake I made in '85. Do you remember? So I missed a pivotal call in the ninth inning of game six in the world series that changed the entire momentum and basically cost the Cardinals the pennant.

We're all allowed to make some mistakes, right?

Well the people in St. Louis didn't see it that way, but man what you did even topped mine. I only gave the Royals a world series, but you may have changed the course of history!

Can you imagine if Sosa beats McGwire by one?

Since you're a National League umpire, you'll have to go back to St.

Louis soon. I was lucky, as an American League umpire I was able to avoid the area for a few years.

How does it feel to be the most despised man in the best baseball city in the country?

Be prepared for the onslaught of boos, flying tomatoes, and the occasional cold adult beverage that will be hurled toward your direction. Better yet, you might consider a police escort around town. You know how those bleacher bums get after a few frosty brews.

Thanks again for taking me off the hook.

Don

This mock letter exemplifies the situation well. To overturn Mac's 66th is ridiculous.

Earlier this year I thanked baseball for not dropping the ball on the home run race. I take it back. By not overturning the call or disciplining Davidson, especially when it was obviously a home run, baseball has made a costly error. I could understand if it was an ordinary home run with no implications, or if major blown calls happened rarely.

But they don't. This call may have changed the course of baseball history, just as Denkinger's '85 call changed that world series. Nevertheless, baseball stands blindly behind its umpires.

What's next? More blown world series? A blown All-Star game? No one knows for sure.

The only thing certain is that Major League Baseball would screw up a free lunch.

- Joe Harris



**Pulliam Journalism Fellowships**

Graduating college seniors are invited to apply for the 26th annual Pulliam Journalism Fellowships. We will grant 10-week summer internships to 20 journalism or liberal arts majors in the August 1998-June 1999 graduating classes.

Previous internship or part-time experience at a newspaper is desired. Winners will receive a \$5,250 stipend and will work at either *The Indianapolis Star* and *The Indianapolis News* or *The Arizona Republic*.

Early-admissions application postmark deadline is Nov. 15, 1998. By Dec. 15, 1998, up to five early-admissions winners will be notified. All other entries must be postmarked by March 1, 1999.

To request an application packet, write: Russell B. Pulliam, Fellowships Director, The Indianapolis News, P.O. Box 145, Indianapolis, IN 46206-0145

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# Peru '98 brings Latin culture to St. Louis

BY VICTORIA HELLERMAN  
Special to the Current

Think Latin America can only be expressed in fiesta, dance and song? Think again. Peru '98 in St. Louis, a cultural event taking place throughout the month of October in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, exposes St. Louisans to other, lesser known aspects of Latin American culture. Archeology, literature and ethno-botany include some of the topics that will be addressed. In addition, speakers from institutions such as Harvard University and UNICEF will conduct seminars and workshops.

Susana Hamilton is the president of Arts & Treasures from Latin America, one of the primary organizers of the event. Hamilton, a native Peruvian, has lived in the United States for 19 years and is the owner of several small businesses. She considers the event to be a labor of love.

"I want to promote and preserve our native art and culture in the United States because I am very proud of where I come from..." Hamilton said. "But that's not all. I have invested a lot of energy, time, and money in this project because I believe it helps to cre-

ate a bond of shared humanity. It is a channel of communication, a way to reach people. I want to help promote self-identity, to awaken a curiosity in others to discover their own heritage."

Peru '98 is the first in what will be an annual series of events. Each year will focus on a different Latin American country and will promote both academic and scientific topics. Efforts are already underway for Mexico '99.

By strengthening the regional ties between the countries of Latin America, Hamilton hopes to foster a spirit of communication and collaboration between the Latin American community. In addition, she and her organization are working towards fostering permanent lines of communication and understanding between Latin America and the United States. In a relationship that has often been marked with considerable mistrust and tension, Hamilton contends that understanding and awareness between the two cultures is crucial to positive development on both sides.

"By promoting Peru '98 and other cultural exchanges we are working towards our mutual benefit," Hamilton said. "It makes us stronger when we help each other."

## MAIL, FROM PAGE 1

"If she acted truly as a supervisor, I believe myself that she had enough time to do the job that she was required to do," Schuster said.

According to Bateman, in July problems worsened when a mail room employee was fired and she submitted paperwork to have the employee replaced. Bateman said the paperwork was never posted in the employment opportunities flyer that went out to the campus each week, despite her making repeated calls and visits to Schuster's office.

"I've requested several times, once written, and three times that I know of that I can remember verbally asking for help and it just was not happening," Bateman said.

Bateman said she was put off by Schuster's office and told the paperwork was being processed. She says she spoke to Schuster personally at least once.

"I know that I went up to the office twice almost in tears begging," Bateman said.

She said two more employees left over the summer, leaving the mail room severely understaffed. Bateman said that she did not submit paperwork on those employees.

"When they're not signing for the initial paperwork why should I bother?" Bateman said.

Schuster said that he did receive Bateman's paperwork but said that he did not act on her request to replace the terminated part-timer because Bateman never discussed with him the needs of her department.

"I usually don't sign anything unless the manager comes and makes a case," Schuster said. "How do I know that they need that person?"

Schuster said Bateman never made him aware that

there was a serious staffing problem in the mailroom. He said he did not recall her visiting his office and he said Bateman never spoke up at a series of meetings of unit heads over late July and August.

"Every two weeks we have unit meetings where the managers all sit around and go over the news of the past two weeks...and then I go around the table and say 'How are things in your unit? Are there problems?...' She never took the opportunity to say anything," Schuster said.

Bateman said she spoke about needing a replacement at one of the meetings in the first week of July but never mentioned it at later meetings because she did not feel it would do any good.

"I did it on [July 8] and to continue doing so would have been irrelevant," Bateman said.

Schuster said the resignation came as a surprise to him since Bateman never talked "about being unhappy or overworked."

"It's kind of hard to believe that there were all those problems and that's why she quit," Schuster said. "She never communicated that to me."

### The e-mail

The mail delays and controversy have created unhappiness in some quarters.

Political science professor Dennis Judd circulated an e-mail to faculty last week detailing what he termed "a disastrous situation."

Judd's e-mail, obtained by The Current, says that he visited the mail room on Sept. 18 and "counted more than thirty boxes piled up in one corner, plus a large cart full of unprocessed mail as well." He also faults the

administration for not informing the campus of problems earlier, saying that he did not learn of the extent of the difficulties until talking to Schuster, whom he said advised him to use the U. S. mail.

"I am sending you this information now in an attempt to foil any effort by the administration to cover this mess up," the e-mail said. "More importantly, I am asking you to come to the aid of a loyal university employee who is being scapegoated for administrators' failures."

In an interview, Judd said that much of the mail he sends out as a journal editor is very "time-sensitive."

"All last week, members of the campus community were still putting in mail to a post office that wasn't sending it out and not being advised of this," Judd said.

He said he did not wish to "inflammate the situation" but felt the administration had not done a good job.

"The one responsibility of administrators is to provide an environment within which all of us can do our work. If that isn't what they're delivering...they don't really have a purpose," Judd said.

Judd, who is head of the Faculty Council, said he will present information about the mail delivery situation to the Council at its Oct. 1 meeting. He said that although he had received encouragement from many other faculty, the e-mail represented only his opinions and he could not speak for the Council until after the meeting.

## Music Review

# 'System' is a blend of styles

System of A Down

This band opened for Clutch and Slayer on their recent small club tour. They are definitely derivative in one way, but unique in another. They borrow heavily and directly from a few sources, but do a fantastic job of mixing up the influences, even in the same song.

For example, on track one, "Suite-Pee," the vocalist switches between a Jello Biafra falsetto sprint to a choppy shouting straight from Mike Patton. Then he changes gear to a slow growl, a la Barney Greenway of Napalm Death, then back to Jello.

Musically, they imitate directly the Deftones and early Faith No More. One song will have the minor-keyed slow metal of the Deftones, then lurch into a carnival circus oompa-oompa reminiscent of Faith No More and even Mr. Bungle a little. Then back to the churning Deftones style, then a switch to more traditional metal, ala Slayer,

for a moment.

There is even one song where each word of the chorus is said in a different vocal style. This rapid switching between styles really detracts from the music when overused as it is on a few songs; however, it works beautifully on others when not overused.

Each style is derivative, so after hearing each for a minute it starts to get boring. Before that can happen, however, they've switched tempos, rhythms, and styles, so you don't lose interest.

The early and late songs on the album do this the best. The middle five or six stay planted in Deftones territory. I liked the first few and last five tracks. I know these sounds have been used before, but never in such a patchwork collage way. System of A Down is interesting, derivative, yet fun and powerful at times.

-Gene Marshall

### The delays

Schuster said that the problems with mail service were "exaggerated." He said that while delays of three to four days are "a little unusual," there are often backlogs.

"It was not unusual to have backups even when the mail room ran properly," Schuster said. "They usually did not work on Saturdays so you'd have a big buildup for Monday morning."

Schuster also disputed Judd's complaint that he had been late in warning the campus of problems. Schuster said that he issued a memo Sept. 17 in response to the first complaints he had received. He said there had been no complaints of late mail prior to September.

Schuster said temps are now working in the department, which has temporarily eliminated its billing service in an effort to minimize delays.

"Until the new people come on board, until they're familiar with the system, what we're going to do is rather than the individual units...paying for the mail, we'll absorb that cost," Schuster said. "This should eliminate almost all the delays immediately so we're on a normal schedule."

Four part-time jobs in the department have already been posted and Schuster said that the list of candidates for the supervisor's job have been narrowed to two. He said the position would be filled very shortly.

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# Registration process remains unchanged

*Move from seniority to first-come, first-serve delayed after consideration*

BY GENE MARSHALL  
special to the Current

The administration has been considering a change in the registration process from one determined by seniority to a first-come, first-serve system.

Currently, seniors register first, followed by juniors, and so on, allowing upperclassmen to get first choice for the classes they need to graduate. The proposed system would open registration to everyone on the same day. According to Mimi Lamarca, registrar, 11,525 students enrolled at UM-St. Louis last semester, including 8,671 undergraduate students. Lamarca said that this semester, enrollment is higher.

Due to a miscommunication, some of the advisors and chairs were unaware of the possible policy change, while others thought the new policy was already in effect.

"Registration for the Winter 1999 semester will begin November 2. All students can register on that date (there will be no pre-registration times as there were in the past)," documentation sent prematurely to business students last week by the School of Business Administration said.

There are mixed feelings concerning the possible change among the faculty and advisors.

"We are sensitive to the needs of graduating seniors," Jack Rushing, chair of Art and Art History, said. "If we manage course rotation and give careful advising, [the policy change] wouldn't put us in a crisis situation."

"In the chemistry department, we have a strict system of prerequisites," Gordon Anderson, chair of that department, said. "Underclassmen can't get into the upper-level courses that graduating seniors need. . . I don't think this will be much of a problem in the sciences. It might be more of a problem where students need to pick up lower-level electives in other areas."

Other faculty members were not as supportive of the possible change in policy.

"It is possible that seniors would be closed out of non-major requirements. Our students are likely to take a general requirement as a senior or as a freshman. That may cause problems," Joan Hashimi, chair of Social Work, said. "I can imagine everyone trying to get in first and overburdening the system. It's a silly approach to it."

One adviser pointed out that in most situations, if a large wait list forms for a class, new sections are opened. In situations such as Management Information Systems, however, where computers are a limited resource, only so many sections can be made available.

According to Lamarca, the administration discussed the new registration process in the academic adviser's staff meeting on enrollment last Friday.

When asked if there had been any student input on this issue, Lamarca said "there is no student involvement at this point."

Lamarca said the meeting was attended by Gary Grace, vice-chancellor for Student Affairs, Lamarca, and the heads of advising for the College of Arts and Sciences, the School of Business Administration, and the School of Education, among others.

Grace said that those who planned the change in the registration process did not realize its ramifications. He said that when they were made aware of the full effect the change would have, they decided not to change anything for the winter term.

## UPB, FROM PAGE 1

members are just not interested anymore, or if there are issues of loyalty to the former UPB director," Mowen said. "I don't know if it is in terms of scheduling. I can't accommodate everybody's needs even though I try to, so it's been relatively difficult."

McCarty said that although several of last year's board members had been contacted, few had responded, and that UPB was going to have to act soon to make their spaces available.

"Because the majority of our members are new this year, we want to tap into that resource [of past members], but at the same time if by their actions they're showing no interest, we need to let them go," McCarty said.

McCarty said that there was no deadline for former members to contact the board by, but that the positions wouldn't be held open indefinitely.

"We're trying to give them the benefit of the doubt," McCarty said. "We're playing it by ear because we really want to use those past members."

According to McCarty, the UPB does have guidelines about meeting attendance, but those are not being enforced at this time.

"There is some guideline like that in the constitution," McCarty said. "If they miss more than I think three meetings, then their membership can be questioned by the board. We are being a little lenient right now because we had hoped to be able to start with a full board and not go through the recruitment process as heavily."

McCarty said that the decision to send out letters to absent board members informing them of their removal might happen soon.

"We will make an official 'you're no longer part of the board' letter," McCarty said. "I'm assuming that it will have to happen in the next week or so."

McCarty said that two returning board members had indicated their interest to continue participating, including former Director Sharone Hopkins.

McCarty said that although Hopkins was working with Mowen and him to continue what had been started last year, that Hopkins was having difficulty making the meetings.

"Because he is working with us and showing us that he wants to do it, and it's just a scheduling conflict, we decided to maintain his membership on the board even though he isn't technically meeting the attendance qualification," McCarty said. "He wants to work."

Hopkins said that he had always had plans to continue on the board, and that his goals for this year include representing balance and acting as an adviser to others.

Hopkins said that last year's board was a very cohesive group that "got the job done" for students.

"I hope [Mowen] can continue in that same atmosphere," Hopkins said.

McCarty said that a few people stopped by the UPB booth at EXPO on Sept. 9, interested in the board, but that most who were interested wanted to be on committees or to help out in some other way.

"We got two or three from that process that were interested in being board members," McCarty said.

The board spot presently being held open for an international student may have to be added back into the general spots by the end of the month, McCarty said.

"If we don't see any interest from there soon, we're going to have to add that slot to the list we're going to fill," McCarty said.

Mowen said that UPB was not openly seeking applicants for the board at this time.

"We will be accepting applications on a continuous basis, but we will not be actively recruiting," Mowen said.

Mowen said that she had completed this semester's programming for Experience St. Louis, where tickets and transportation to community events are offered to students, but that few board members were participating.

"I'm getting help from Student Activities directly," Mowen said. "Because I don't have any of the board members interested in positions."

McCarty said that the board's active members currently include six new members, including Jacqueline R. Anderson, Joy Edwards, Tim Peacock, Todd Appel, Brian Reed, and Carrie Mowen. McCarty said also included in active membership are returning members Barbara Nelson and Sharone Hopkins.

The UPB's next meeting is scheduled for today at 3:45 p.m. in room 266 of the University Center.

## ARRESTS, FROM PAGE 1

the parking lot, all the brothers went back inside. . ." Polette said. "What started the police incident was when they began to verbally assault the two off-duty police officers; now that makes it a police issue, not a Sig Pi issue."

Polette said that the two alumni weren't acting as Sigma Pi's, but were "acting as law enforcement officers."

Bel-Ridge Police Department Detective Thomas F. Henry said Thursday that the arrests stemmed from the original peace disturbance at the fraternity house when the suspects were asked to leave.

Henry said that the alleged third-degree assault was against one of the off-duty police officers, and that the alleged assault occurred in the porch area in front of the Sigma Pi house.

"[The suspect] refused to leave and so at which time he was under arrest for failure to comply, and peace disturbance," Henry said. "[The suspect] was the one that had also pushed the officer. Apparently he pushed him up on the porch."

Sigma Pi vice president Thomas Holt said that he wasn't aware of any incident that took place on the porch.

"I can tell you from where I was situated on the back porch, nothing that I know of took place on the front porch," Holt said.

Detective Henry said that he didn't think any of the suspects were actually connected with the fraternity house, and that each fraternity house was supposed to "police [its] own actions."

"For most cases we find that most of the problems we have with these fraternity houses are not caused by members of the frats but are caused by outsiders," Henry said.

Henry said that Bel-Ridge police officers stop by fraternity parties that are open to the public about every hour to observe the activity and to make their presence known.

"The effect is generally good, because if they see that we're going to stop and walk through,

then they are less likely to have a problem," Henry said.

Henry said that an officer had walked through the Sexy Legs party before the assault took place.

"There had just been a walk-through done at Sigma Pi that night about 45 minutes to an hour earlier before the assault," Henry said.

Henry said that when fraternity houses were not located on campus that it caused difficulty.

"When you have houses off of the campus, they start creating problems for the community and the college both," Henry said.

Sigma Pi President Polette said that the fraternity aided risk management by tightening up door security.

"We had a stricter door policy this year and enforced it more, so we didn't let as many people in," Polette said. "We opened two entrances last year; we kept it to one entrance this year."

Polette said that the numbers of non - UM-St. Louis students attending the party this year appeared to be much lower than had attended last year.

"We had a lot more non - UMSt. peo-

ple last year. This year it seemed like by far the majority were UMSt. students," Polette said.

The police report stated that all three suspects were taken into custody, all having been charged with peace disturbance; the third suspect also being charged with assaulting a police officer and failure to comply.

According to the report, Steven Stamm, 21, was charged with peace disturbance; Mark Haglund, 21, was charged with peace disturbance; Curtis Salata, 22, was charged with peace disturbance, third-degree assault on a police officer, and failure to comply.

The Registrar's office confirmed Friday that Stamm and Haglund are currently enrolled at UM-St. Louis.



Ashley Cook/The Current

The Sigma Pi House sits behind a nearby laundry. Police arrested three in a disturbance at the house Sept. 12.

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1. Based on \$236 billion in assets and management, 2. Standard & Poor's Insurance Rating Analysis, 1998. Lipper Analytical Services, Inc., Lipper-Directions Analytical Data 1998 (quarterly). 3. Of the 4,829 variable annuities tracked by Morningstar, the average fund had total fees combining annual expenses of 0.82% plus an insurance expense of 1.27%. Source: Morningstar, Inc., for periods ending 7/31/98. 4. Source: Morningstar Principia Variable Annuities/Life 4/30/98.

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Music Review

# 'Dishwalla' shows potential



Dishwalla

**Dishwalla**  
**"And You Think You Know What Life's About"**  
**A&M Records**  
**Alternative / Rock**

Dishwalla's sophomore endeavor is quite an accomplishment. Their new album "And You Think You Know What Life's About" on A&M Records contains the same strength and passion as their debut album "Pet Your Friends" (A&M Records, 1995). The album is extremely passionate. The promoted single, "Once in a While," is better musically and lyrically than their award-winning single, "Counting Blue Cars (Tell Me All Your Thoughts on God)" from their first album. They show the strength of a band that works well together and has successfully toured together.

Their latest album has been described as a soul-searching, inner-reflection album. It

does contain a lot of powerful emotion and depth, but unlike some other soul-searching albums, the listener is actually entertained by the music.

One of the most interesting aspects of Dishwalla's new album is that they packaged their music on an enhanced CD. Besides music, the enhanced CD features a sequencer, behind the scene footage, a screen saver, and a direct link to their home page. The CD contains a lot of bonuses for the computer-savvy listener. It could be characterized as a completely capitalistic mass-marketing endeavor if it wasn't for the fact that the music was actually decent.

Dishwalla has a lot of potential. The album "And You Think You Know What Life's About" proves that Dishwalla is not just another one-hit wonder.

-Ken Dunkin

Movie Review

# 'Permanent Midnight' visits dark side

**Permanent Midnight**  
**Rated R**

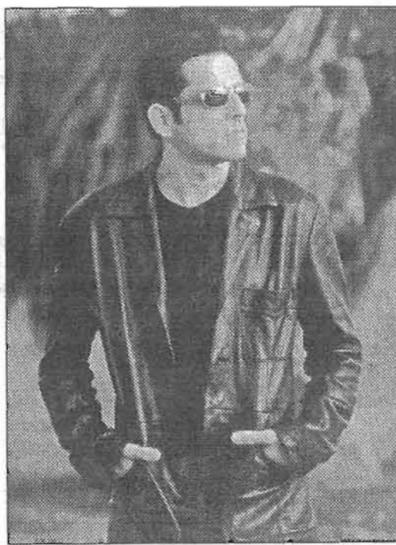
Let's face it: we love movies about addicts. Even though it may not be politically correct to admit such a thing, it's hard to deny the fact that Hollywood would have stopped cranking out movies like *Dazed and Confused*, *When a Man Loves a Woman* and *Trainspotting* a long time ago if we didn't have some deep-seated, almost perverse attraction to them. Although we may find the characters and their behavior to be reprehensible at times, these films still manage to draw us in because they allow us a glimpse into a way of life we would never dream of experiencing ourselves.

*Permanent Midnight* is the latest addition to the addiction genre, adapted from Jerry Stahl's 1995 autobiography of the same name. Although Stahl's name may not ring a bell, you may be familiar with his work. Stahl was a successful television writer in the 1980s, penning episodes of shows such as "ALF," "Moonlighting" and "Twin Peaks."

The movie begins with Stahl (Ben Stiller) nearing the end of a stint in rehab, recalling the path to his rock-bottom existence during a fling with a fellow recovering junkie (Maria Bello) at a Phoenix motel. Through flashbacks, we watch Stahl ascend as a writer, marrying a British television executive (Elizabeth Hurley) to help her obtain a green card as he becomes increasingly steeped in the seedier side of Hollywood's drug culture. He eventually reaches a point at which he cannot function with or without

drugs. He becomes unemployable, and he fails at fatherhood literally from the moment of his daughter's birth (he's shooting up in the bathroom at the hospital while his wife is in the delivery room).

Although *Permanent Midnight* holds its own in a sea of substance abuse movies, it doesn't offer anything we haven't seen in these kinds of movies before: the protagonist gets addicted to drugs and/or alcohol, does a lot of horrible things to the people closest to him/her and hits rock bottom before seeking help/dropping dead. The film also makes the mistake of hinting at the reason behind Stahl's addiction (a dysfunctional childhood) without exploring it in enough depth to give us a real understanding of him.



Ben Stiller in *Permanent Midnight*

Despite this, the movie works. Director David Veloz (who also wrote the screenplay) allows Stahl's personality to come out through the script's dry, sometimes twisted sense of humor. The film also benefits from solid performances by its stars; it is the perfect vehicle for Stiller to

stretch his dramatic range while using the same comedic skills he's been so adept at using in his past work (*There's Something About Mary*).

While not innovative, *Permanent Midnight* will satisfy that little urge inside those of us who, like commuters driving by a car wreck, can't help but peer into the darker side of life on the big screen.

-Mary Lindsley

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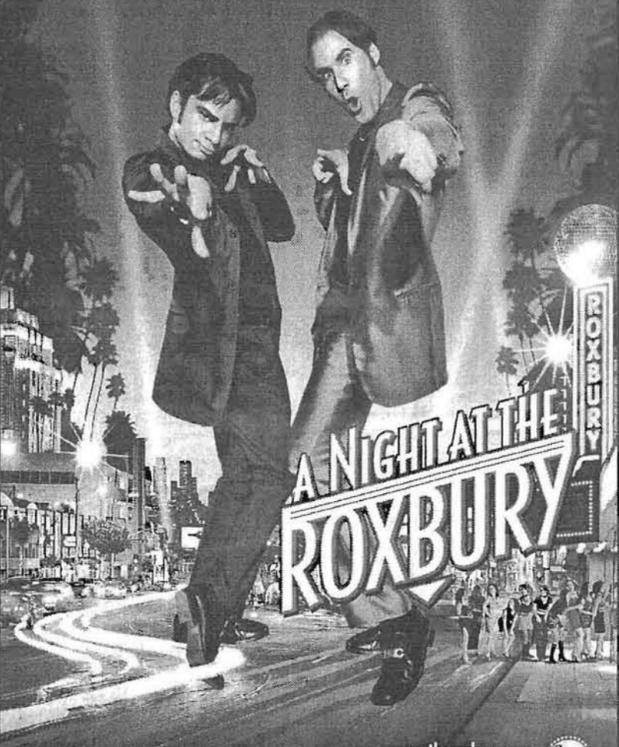
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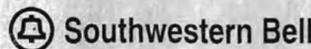
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