

► **Drained:** Safety officials rule UM-St. Louis' field unplayable after an Indianapolis player stumbles on an outfield drain.

See page 5.

► **Funny Money:** Counterfeit bills are discovered at campus C-Store. For the full story, see Page 10.

► **Not Over the Hill:** Singer Lauryn Hill puts on an electrifying performance at the Fox Theatre.

See page 9.

NEWS FROM ALL OVER

'Star Wars' joke upsets students

(U-WIRE) LOS ANGELES, Calif. — Hundreds of University of Southern California students waiting in line for almost an hour Thursday to see a new "Star Wars" trailer were surprised to see a trailer of a whole different kind at noon in Hahn Plaza.

The Skull and Dagger Society, the oldest all-university honorary organization, announced its new student members, upsetting some and amusing others with a hoax.

The honor society had publicized an exclusive presentation at Bovard Auditorium of a special trailer and surprise guests for the "Star Wars Episode I: The Phantom Menace" movie in the Daily Trojan. The hoax even attracted outside media representatives from CNN and Newsweek, among others.

About 300 students lined up almost an hour early from Bovard Auditorium to VonKleinsmid Center after rumors spread that George Lucas was making a guest appearance.

At noon, the line was suddenly forced to break apart by a short but loud parade of cheering Skull and Dagger initiates in costumes inside a trailer driven by a Volvo down Trousdale Parkway. A poster on the side of the cart read, "Star Wars Trailer - Episode I."

The trailer stopped at Tommy Trojan as cheering seniors jumped out.

"We started [the prank] Wednesday with an advertisement in the Daily Trojan and a fake phone message," said Michael S. Carter, co-chairman of organizing the prank, a new member of the society and a senior majoring in history.

The phone number given in the ad was picked up by a phony automated voice from the made-up Office of Special Events at USC, Carter said.

The Skull and Dagger Society pulls a prank annually for its "informal initiation" of its new student members. The society selects students, faculty, staff, administrators, alumni and friends of USC who have brought fame and honor to the university. The society has selected more than 3,000 members since 1913.

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# The Current

THE AWARD-WINNING STUDENT VOICE OF UM-ST. LOUIS

April 19, 1999

The University of Missouri-St. Louis

Vol. 33 Issue 954

## SGA race heats up in final week

### Candidates for offices spar in open debate

BY SUE BRITT  
 staff associate

Candidates for the three executive offices of the Student Government Association held a debate Wednesday responding to questions posed by panelists and audience members.

Candidates for president are Jacqueline Anderson, a sophomore biology major and current SGA treasurer, and Darwin Butler Sr., a junior majoring in business administration and president of the Organization for Producing Successful Black Men and Women. Vice-presidential candidate, Carrie Mowen, University Program Board president and senior anthropology major, was running unopposed before the debate but was challenged by Steven Wolfe, a graduate student of UM-St. Louis, as a write-in candidate during the meeting. Running for the office of comptroller is Bryan Shaw, a senior majoring in accounting, finance, and management information systems and president of the Pierre Laclede Honors College Student Association, and Jana Johnson, also a senior majoring in accounting. Johnson, who is running on a slate with Butler, was unable to attend the debate.

Anderson, Mowen, and Shaw are running on the "Reformation" party slate. Anderson said that because of her experience in the last year in the SGA, she is aware of the things that went on that did not work well or help the SGA function as well as it could have. She said she wants the students of UM-St. Louis to feel like the SGA is available and accessible to them and will work attentively to represent their needs.

"I've also been able to see what hasn't worked well, what needs change," Anderson said.

She also addressed concerns about apathy within the SGA. Anderson said that she will be dedicated to attending all vital campus meetings so that she can express the concerns of the student body. She also believes she will be able to drum up new support for the SGA by making it more student-oriented. She wants to ensure the SGA office will be open to students.

"It would be very beneficial to get the word out, let everybody know, spark some interests, talk to people face-to-face . . . let them know that we want them to be a part of the University," she said.

A panelist asked about an SGA office located on South Campus and what Anderson thought of it.

"I think that is a . . . wonderful idea," Anderson said. "A lot of times South Campus feels excluded . . . It would let them feel that

see DEBATE, page 7



Stephanie Platt/The Current

SGA presidential candidate Darwin Butler, enjoys a hot dog at a campaign event for his opponents, the Reformation slate, Friday. Reformation presidential candidate Jacqueline Anderson (right) and vice-presidential candidate Carrie Mowen look on. The barbecue, held at the Honors College, took place one day after police removed Butler from a similar Reformation slate barbecue event at U Meadows.

## Police escort candidate from opposition campaign event

BY JOE HARRIS  
 senior editor

Campus police escorted Student Government Association presidential candidate Darwin Butler Sr. from the University Meadows on Thursday when he attempted to attend a campaign barbecue sponsored by his opponent Jacqueline Anderson.

Butler said he felt he was the victim of discrimination. "I feel that being the only black candidate, I've heard the word intimidate . . . I've heard that word kicked around a lot," Butler said. "But that shouldn't have any relevance. I mean, everybody else if they can attend, I don't understand why I can't attend."

Anderson denies Butler's allegations of discrimination.

"I had heard that he was planning on showing up at our barbecue," Anderson said. "There had been some incidents in the past, he had said a few words to my running-mate Carrie Mowen, so we really didn't want his presence there. We felt that it would be a little uncomfortable not only for us but for the people that attended to speak with us."

Butler said he had spoken with Mowen, the Reformation slate's vice-presidential candidate but said he was not confrontational with her.

Mowen said she is not sure why Butler is making the discrimination allegations.

"I don't know if he's trying to bully us or what he's trying to do or what he's trying to gain from it," Mowen said.

Butler said he learned of the barbecue on Wednesday when he received a flyer promoting the event. He said he decided to attend the barbecue as a student and not as a candidate.

However upon arriving at the Meadows, he was met by Meadows C.A. Sean Wittenberg who asked him to leave.

"I told him that I was a student, that I have tuition paid up until the semester and that I have every right to be here," Butler said. "That's when he informed me that that was private property and that he was asked by one of the residents, I don't know who it was, that if I showed up to make sure that I didn't get in and to escort me out of the place."

University Meadows officials were unavailable for comment, but Anderson said she was the one who asked that Butler be removed.

Anderson said there were a couple of reasons why she

see INCIDENT, page 7

## Mirthday events to include ska band 'The Urge'

BY JOSH RENAUD  
 staff assistant

This Thursday, expect all the annual merry festivities of Mirthday, say members of the University Program Board, with a big addition: The Urge.

UPB President Carrie Mowen and Secretary-Treasurer Jackie Anderson said they were excited and enthused that the popular local ska/funk/metal band agreed to play at UM-St. Louis, and they hope that students enjoy the opportunity.

"I hope [The Urge] will draw a large crowd," Anderson said. "The Urge is a band that many students have asked us to bring to campus, so I'm hoping the word gets out and draws people to the rest of Mirthday."

In addition to the live music, Mirthday will feature lots of activities for students to enjoy.

"[Mirthday] is kind of like a carnival," Anderson said. "It's just kind of a breather, to take a break from school, since finals are around the corner."

"We are doing a whole plethora of games, like the blow-up games we had at EXPO," Mowen said. "We'll be doing jousting, and we're having tarot card readers, palm readers, human darts, caricaturists, and even human-sized hamster wheels. All this stuff is free."

Students hoping to eat, drink, and be merry for free will be disappointed, though, because there will be a

see MIRTHDAY, page 7

## Just Call Him Coach. . .



Stephanie Platt/The Current

Mark Bernsen, assistant coach at the University of Idaho, receives a hat from Athletic Director Pat Dolan after being named head basketball coach at a press conference, Wednesday. Bernsen replaces Rich Meckfessel, who stepped down last month after 17 years as Rivermen head coach. For the full story, see page 5.

Named U.M.-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 for on campus events. 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, Apr. 19**  
 • **Monday Noon Series: The Fred Tompkins Poetry and Music Ensemble —A Performance** will take place in 229 J.C. Penney. Musicians David Black, Charlie Dent, and Fred Tompkins and poet Michael Castro of The Fred Tompkins Poetry and Music Ensemble present a variety of musical settings of poems by such writers as e.e. cummings, Emily Dickinson, Michael Castro, John Keats, and Samuel Taylor Coleridge.

**Wednesday, Apr. 21**  
 • **SGA Elections.** Voting is from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at various campus locations. Contact: The SGA office, 5105.

**Thursday, Apr. 22**  
 • **SGA Elections.** Voting is from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

at various campus locations. Contact: The SGA office, 5105.

**Friday, Apr. 23**  
 • **Casino Night '99** at the Pierre Laclède Honors College from 7 p.m. to ? See ad on page 13 for directions and more information. Contact: Todd, 8671.

**Sunday, Apr. 25**  
 • **Intramural Tennis Tournament at the UMSL Tennis Courts** from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Men's and women's A, B, and C singles will be offered to students, faculty, and staff. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

• **Coed Softball Tournament** and BarBQ at 12 p.m. Free food and fun for all. Teams consist of students, faculty, and/or staff. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

**Monday, Apr. 26**  
 • **Walking Clinic:** Learn how to make your walking workouts more effective for you. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

• **Monday Noon Series: Ring the Banjar!** Musicians provide a brief history and performance of the most American of stringed instruments, the banjo, in 229 J.C. Penney. The performance features banjo styles from Appalachian frailing to Dixieland and Jazzgrass. Contact: Karen Lucas, 5699.

**Wednesday, Apr. 28**  
 • **Memorial Service** for all faculty, staff, and students who have died in the past academic year at 4 p.m. in the Interfaith Chapel of the South Campus Residence Hall. A reception will follow. Those interested in attending are asked to contact Betty

Chitwood at 385-3455.

• **Spinning Clinic:** Introduction to the spinning classes. Learn proper form and discuss goals for beginners from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

• **Study Skills Seminar** in 100 Clark Hall from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

**Thursday, Apr. 29**  
 • **Mathclub Film Series: "Making a Difference: Education"** will be at 2 p.m. in 132 SSB.

**Monday, May 3**  
 • **Donut Day** at the Women's Center in 211 Clark Hall from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Come by for complimentary donuts and coffee and meet the staff that keeps the Women's Center going. Contact: The Women's Center, 5380.

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## Campus CrimeLine

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

**March 30, 1999**  
 A staff person at the Computer Center Building (CCB) reported receiving a threatening letter on March 26. The investigation continues.

**March 31, 1999**  
 A worker at the Student Center Construction Site reported that between 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. a bucket containing various hand tools was taken by an unknown person.

**April 2, 1999**  
 U-Meadows Management reported damage to a Fire Alarm box outside of Apartment 835. In addition, a light bulb and globe were missing from outside the building.

**April 4, 1999**  
 U-Meadows Management reported at 12:52 a.m. on April 4 that two lawn

chairs were damaged after being thrown into the complex swimming pool. In addition, the suspect reportedly was a passenger in a vehicle which drove in the parking lot recklessly.

**April 5, 1999**  
 A supervisor for K.C.I. Construction Company reported that between April 2 at 4 p.m. and April 5 at 7 a.m. unknown persons had stolen a 1991 Ford Pickup Truck from the Student Center Construction Site at parking lot "E".

**April 7, 1999**  
 At 11:15 a.m. University Police responded to a fight in progress at the fourth floor women's restroom at Woods Hall. A verbal and physical altercation had taken place between two students. The case will be pre-

sented to the St. Louis County Prosecutor's Office.

Two persons are suspected of stealing three jars of non-narcotic chemicals from a Chemistry Lab at 307 Research Building at 5:30 p.m. The suspects could not be located.

**April 8, 1999**  
 A student reported that between 10:20 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. she forgot her wallet and left it on a window ledge at the Thomas Jefferson Library entrance. On returning to the location, the wallet was gone.

**April 9, 1999**  
 A student who resides at U-Meadows reported that she discovered an unknown person looking into her bedroom window at 12:45 a.m. She observed the same suspect outside

her window on April 2. The suspect could not be located.

At 1:10 a.m. two Seton Hall visitors were reported for violating visitor rules by being on the upper floors after midnight. The visitors were escorted out of the building.

**April 10, 1999**  
 At 2:50 p.m. a person reported that items stored in a locker at the Mark Twain Men's Locker Room were taken.

**April 12, 1999**  
 A student reported that between 11:45 p.m. on April 11 and 9:05 a.m. on April 12 his CD player was stolen from his vehicle. The student is a resident of the U-Meadows and the vehicle was parked in the U-Meadows parking lot.

### Time To Cast Your Vote

# SGA Elections

Wednesday, April 21 & Thursday, April 22

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

## The Candidates Are:

### For President:

- Jacqueline Anderson
- Darwin R. Butler Sr.

### For Vice-President:

- Carrie Mowen

### For Comptroller:

- Jana Johnson
- Bryan Shaw

## Where To Vote:

Research Building  
 SSB

Underground/U. Center

Mark Twain

Lucas Hall

Marillac Hall

Mirthday Booth

Honors College

# FEATURES

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

## GET THIS

### Preservation of the planet should not be just a fad

Do you remember when recycling was "in"?

Remember when it was cool to carry groceries in those brown cloth bags instead of wasting paper and/or plastic? They had that nifty little emblem with the green tree and the circle thingy on the front.

Chevy Chase quipped, "Help conserve water - shower with a friend!"

It became hip to turn off the faucet while brushing your teeth. Simple trash cans transformed into segregated containers for paper, plastic and glass. The use of aerosol hairspray became a sin. Countless volunteers did everything from collecting aluminum cans in parks to rescuing sea turtles from oil spills on the beach. Schools held rallies and demonstrations to spread awareness. People were interested and concerned.

What the heck happened?



AMY LOMBARDO  
Features Editor

Thursday, Apr. 22, 1999, will mark the 29th anniversary of Earth Day. Back in 1970, 20 million people participated in different events and activities to educate others about the dangers of environmental deterioration.

Once a proud and noble effort, it seems the Earth Day tradition has now become one of those endangered species it fought so hard to protect.

Don't get me wrong, there are still valiant organizations out there fighting the good fight every day. A lot of good work is still being accomplished by caring volunteers.

Unfortunately, the majority of the nation has forgotten to pitch in. Environmental issues have fallen by the wayside, apparently because they don't qualify as the "cause of the season". Here's the thing, though - the health of the Earth is not a trend and should not be treated as one.

Bad things are happening to our ecosystem, right here in our own neighborhood.

American Rivers, a national river conservation organization, recently ranked the Missouri River second out of ten rivers facing the "most immediate, severe environmental degradation this year".

When Lewis and Clark explored the river, it was filled with channels, islands and sandbars. The banks made up a tremendous floodplain, rich with resources. Today, after being cut up by numerous dams and levees, the once-majestic water source has been reduced to nothing more than a barge canal.

The Missouri's length has been chopped by nearly 130 miles and, in some areas, its width is now one-third its original size. Almost one hundred wildlife species face a serious threat because of its demise.

I guess, in a weird way, there is a silver lining. Since the Missouri is in such horrific shape, organizations are beginning to take notice and correct some of the problems. It probably doesn't hurt that the Lewis and Clark bicentennial is approaching, also. (We wouldn't want to look bad for photo opportunities, now would we?)

But it shouldn't take a tragedy to spark some action. There are plenty of ways to contribute on a daily basis. The beauty of Earth Day is that it gave everyone suggestions about how to help the environment in our everyday routine. With just a few adjustments, we could all make a difference in the big scheme of things.

If you're not part of the solution, you're part of the problem.

# TELLING IT LIKE IT IS

BY ANNE PORTER  
staff associate

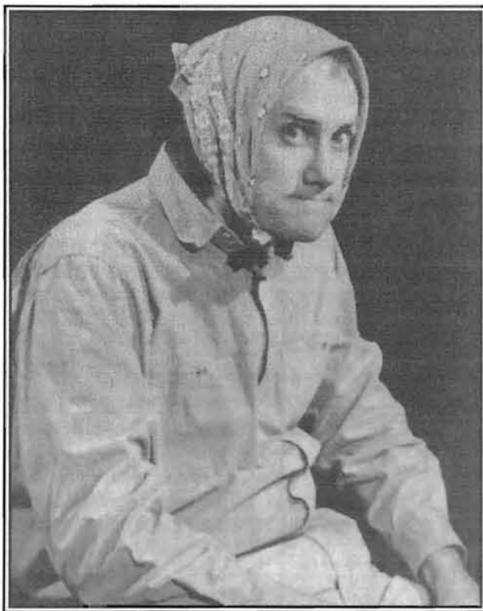
All that can be heard is the rhythm of a singular drum with the shaman's voice telling a story of the ancient people or some fable. All that can be seen is the glow of the fire. The family and the tribe are sitting and dancing around the fire, complete with the warmth and heat of the fire to the sensations of the skin.

This is one setting for storytelling, which is one of the oldest forms of communication.

The 20th annual St. Louis Storytelling Festival '99, "Sparks by the River," will be celebrated May 5 through May 8.

With a year and half of planning, and over 22,000 people working to bring this event to life, the St. Louis Storytelling Festival should be an event of monumental proportions.

Nan Kammann, the festival director, is also the director of Special Programs in the Office of Continuing Education and



## STORYTELLING FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS ANCIENT FORM OF COMMUNICATION

Outreach in the College of Arts and Sciences at UM-St. Louis.

"This event is a community that comes together. And that means people at the Missouri Botanical Garden, the national parks, the city and county parks, the city library, the Kirkwood library, [and] UM-St. Louis," Kammann said.

Approximately 20 years ago, Ron Turner, who is currently vice-president of the University of Missouri System, was assistant dean of Arts and Sciences at UM-St. Louis. Through the use of innovative funding for the development of new programs, Turner decided to establish a "free and fun for all" storytelling festival.

At the same time Lynn Rubright, returning from a national storytelling convention, had the same idea as Turner. Since Turner believed that the Arch was the most important and symbolic area in St. Louis, Turner and Rubright contacted the Arch. Hence, the first storytelling festival in St. Louis was created.

"People do that for each other every day of their lives, but there are some people who are very good at it and they become storytellers," Kammann said.

In recent years there has been a renaissance in the art of storytelling. The different types of storytellers include traditional, revival, and personal. Traditionalists tell conventional tales of morals and ideals that are important to society. Revivalists tell stories from other storytellers and literature. Personal storytellers tell stories of their own experiences.

The publicity of the St. Louis Storytelling Festival has been reported in such magazines as *T.W.A. Ambassador*. People from all around the country attend the festival.

"That is one of the hallmarks of our festival. We are the largest free storytelling festival, probably in the world," Kammann said.

The festival also visits those who cannot attend the festival, such as hospital patients, juvenile delinquents, and nursing home populations.



"Everyone responds to this, including the storytellers. They really like it that we are taking storytelling out into the community and to audiences that may not be able to come to any of the sites," Kammann said.

Storytelling is very much for adults as much as children. Children listen for the action and content of the story compared to adults who listen for the context or value of the tale.

"The caliber of storytellers that [are] coming this year is absolutely the best we've ever had," Kammann said.

Those attending include Ron Adams (teacher at Collinsville high school who has told myths over 30,000 times), Heather Forest (Jewish folklore storyteller), Dan Keding (bard and folklore purveyor), and Syd Lieberman (award-winning teacher and fairy tale storyteller.)

see STORIES, page 9

# UNDER THE CURRENT

compiled by Sam Kasle/staff photographer

## What improvement would you make at UMSL?

"Less construction; it's everywhere, you can't get anywhere."

-Jaimie Gendron  
Junior/Education



"A venue that would show current bands, kind of like the Blue Note in Columbia."

-Stephen Willis  
Senior/Political Science



"Show the international students more of St. Louis. I believe there is more to it than what we are seeing."

-Sekgomanyane "E-Frame" Seeletso  
Business/Finance major



"I'd like to feel like they'd stop wasting my money, by including such insignificant things in our surroundings like the grotesque waterfall in the Underground. That's the one thing that bothers me."

-Dominique Hill  
Sophomore/Spanish



## Banner exhibit displays art of metro area streets

BY ANNE PORTER  
staff associate

They are all around the streets of St. Louis. One only has to look to the tops of light poles and there they are. They are banners. Whether they are celebrating a season, event, place, or even identifying a city or municipality, banners add an emphasis to their surroundings.

On Monday, Mark Tranel, a senior research analyst with the Public Policy Research Centers, gave a lecture featuring his exhibition "Street Banners: Urban Identity and Information." The exhibition covers one year of research by Tranel, including visits to banner manufacturers and photos of banners around the St. Louis area. The exhibition focuses mainly on St. Louis and the surrounding rural areas.

"When I first proposed to do the show, what I was picturing was a show that would be all neighborhood banners, mostly city neighborhoods and some county municipalities," Tranel said. "But when I first got out taking pictures, I realized it's not community organizations and neighborhood groups that had these things, but universities, various private schools, places like the City Museum, the public library downtown," Tranel said.

Other places which display banners include Forest Park, business districts, and churches.

Because of all these places where banners are displayed, Tranel had to divide his exhibition into different areas like cities and neighborhoods, and businesses and parks.

Banners have been used for approximately 30 years in the St. Louis area.

The biggest expense in the banner system is the bracket hardware. Once the investment is made in the hardware, stock banners could be affordably purchased and used when no event or holiday season is occurring.

St. Louis differs from most areas in its use of banners because in the St. Louis area, banners are used mostly for identification.

St. Louis fits in with the majority of the areas where banners are typically used. Banners are used in inner urban, suburban, rural, older northeast, and Midwestern industrial areas.

About 75 to 100 years ago, St. Louis did not need banners because there were neighborhood stores like groceries and bakeries that used ethnic signs that identified a specific area.

As the nature of commerce has changed to national chain stores, that identification has been deleted, which is why banners are now used to identify an area.

Banner technology in the past 10 years has also greatly advanced to enhance the appearance. Now banners are silk-screened on vinyl instead of canvas.

The introduction of the scanner has also changed the type of designs that can be placed on banners. In the past, simple lettering with a background was the most that could be created.

Now complicated designs like a picture of the Pope can be scanned and applied through screening to the fabric. These scanned images have much shading and detail that could not be previously made. When viewed closely these pictures have a dot matrix appearance.

The most recent development is the scanner-to-material process, which eliminates the need to for a silk-screen.

Because of urban sprawl in St. Louis, the population has remained the same over the last 30 years, but the geographic area continues to expand. Due to this sprawl, areas have changed and grown in number, which leads to a loss of identification for individual cities.

"One of the things I found out from the manufacturers is that in most cases, people using banners have developed some other kind of marketing promotion to maintain an identity and are just using banners for reinforcement," Tranel said.

Those forms of marketing could be radio, newspapers, and newsletters.

"It represents the fact that there is somebody here that cares about this place. This is a viable area. It can be used to send a message," Tranel said.

He compared the use of banners to decorating a room with pictures to give the area an aesthetic appeal.

Some concerns can arise when using banners. "A certain risk . . . [is] on one hand the ability to send a message, the use of color and design. There is a risk in that not everybody likes the same color and not everybody likes the same design," Tranel said.

Another concern is that manufacturers have to make certain of the quality of the appearance of a banner from a distance. The color, clarity, and design must be uniform in design and present an effective appearance.

"Street Banners: Urban Identity and Information" will be on display until June 30, in room 362 of SSB. For more information, call the Public Policy Research Centers at (314) 516-5273.

# COMMENTARY

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

## Editorial Board

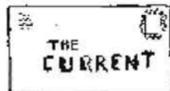
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**Joe Harris**  
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## How to Respond

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

# Reformation slate gets endorsement

## The Issue:

The elections this year may be a contest of ideas vs. experience.

## We Suggest:

The Current has chosen to endorse the Reformation slate: Jackie Anderson, Carrie Mowen, and Bryan Shaw.

## So what do you think?

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

current@jinx.umsl.edu

Election day is upon us again. Indeed it is time once more to cast your ballot for SGA president.

It is perhaps regrettable that only two have decided to throw their hats in the ring for the student body's top office this time around. Given the tumultuous year and present state of the student government, students might do well with a larger selection of candidates, but, alas, only five souls registered for the three executive offices of the SGA—president, vice-president, and comptroller. None of the group is an incumbent.

The two candidates for president both have their respective strengths and weaknesses. Darwin Butler is a senior business major and president of the Organization for Producing Successful Black Men and Women, a group he founded. Butler comes awash in fresh ideas about which he is clearly passionate. His drive and determination are probably his most attractive attributes. By his very nature as an outsider his enthusiastic "get things done" attitude appears to offer a way to invigorate a faltering student government.

Unfortunately, freshness comes with a price. While Butler's suggestions on increasing diversity at events, SGA election reform, and strengthening student voice are certainly worth a second look, his proposals, especially on parking and other issues, appeared at Wednesday's debate as somewhat unrealistic and lacking in specificity. Further, Butler's time as a student senator at his previous school aside, his lack of knowledge and experience of this campus and its SGA were evident at the debate and would appear to put him at a severe disadvantage.

The other campaign for president, that of Jackie Anderson, a sophomore biology major, comes with its own set of weaknesses. Wednesday's debate exposed an almost disturbing lack of vision and ideas on the part of

Anderson's slate. Anderson made almost no specific proposals for the 1999-2000 student government, other than to be responsive to student concerns. This reveals good intentions but is a questionable basis for leading campus governance.

Despite this, however, Anderson's record may be her saving grace. Extensive experience within SGA, presently as its treasurer, as well as her ties to the University Program Board, of which she is also treasurer, give her a strong history with the organization. She also has the advantage of running with a full slate of candidates—Butler does not have a vice-presidential nominee—and she seems to have a good working relationship with Carrie Mowen, her running mate and probable winner in the vice-presidential race, running with only a write-in opponent. While both Butler and Mowen seemed sincere in their pledges to work with one another should the students elect a split ticket, the danger of a divided SGA seems to loom if a split slate is brought to power. The divisiveness of this year's student government should be avoided at all costs. For these reasons, *The Current* endorses the entire Reformation slate of Jackie Anderson for president, Carrie Mowen for vice-president, and Bryan Shaw for comptroller. The other candidate for comptroller, Jana Johnson, a member of Butler's slate, was unable to appear at the debate and could not be reached for comment.

No matter who wins, however, let's hope that they understand that the job ahead of them is a daunting one. Ideally, this year's winner will try to incorporate the other candidate's ideas and suggestions into his or her own governance. The SGA needs all of the involved, interested participants it can get. Rebuilding the student government will not be easy. It may be an occupation bigger than either Anderson or Butler can handle alone.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# Success of 'La Mancha' justifies PAC

A couple of weekends ago, nearly 1,200 people attended the Music Department's musical production, *Man of La Mancha*, presented in J.C. Penney Auditorium. The production was completely sold out on Friday and Saturday nights, and nearly so on Thursday. It involved students and faculty in the cast, and students, faculty, and community people in the crew.

Dr. Madsen, Mr. Zoth, Dr. Richards and the rest of the participants are to be congratulated on presenting an excellent production, enthusiastically received by the audience. This particular show was carefully selected because it uses only one set, and could be produced effectively within the extremely limited space of Penney Auditorium. It is a tribute to the technical staff of the show that it was presented with excellence. This production also illustrates several things regarding the arts at UM-St. Louis:

- A step has been taken toward the re-establishment of theatre on campus.
- The public will come to the campus for high quality, well-promoted artistic events.
- The production of the show was an outgrowth of the Music Department's Opera Workshop, an academic course and a part of what

has been referred to as the "academic core" of the campus. The arts are not a frill.

• Performance space on campus is desperately needed. J.C. Penney Auditorium was occupied by the Music Department for six weeks, as the set was constructed and the play was rehearsed. During this time, many events sponsored by other campus organizations had to be rescheduled in other less suitable campus locations since this is the only space on campus where a musical show could be presented successfully.

The construction of the Performing Arts Center with ample space, lighting, and the other technical assets, will provide a facility where students and faculty can present musical and theatrical events in a high quality venue with adequate technical support.

Thank you to everyone on campus who helped to promote and produce the first dramatic production presented on campus in more than a decade.

-John Hylton,  
Professor and Chair, Department of Music

## GUEST COMMENTARY

# Don't deny us our constitutional rights

Last week, in an article I wrote about Proposition B, I searched long and hard to find students who voted in favor of the proposition. Finding those who voted against the proposition was overwhelmingly easy, and I thought it my responsibility to get the opinion of the other side. This was much more time consuming than I had anticipated. While interviewing students on campus throughout the day, I must have asked 25 to 30 students who voted before I found someone who voted for the measure. I felt, after that, I had a decent idea about the pulse of the student body. I wrote the article in light of that. I also included a quote made flippantly by one of my sources.

Because of the nature of my audience, the students of UM-St. Louis, I included the quote. Maybe I should not have in this instance. But it was a funny quote, and it was not taken out of context. Any thoughtful reader who had read the article in its entirety could have distinguished that this quote was an argument against the logic of a broad issue and not of a specific campaign.

However, shortly after the issue hit the stands my source received a



SUE BRITT  
Guest Commentary

phone call that was subtly threatening in verbiage and in tone.

This is disturbing beyond the threat to the individual source. The caller who clearly believes so wholeheartedly in the right to bear arms seemed to dismiss the rights of freedom of speech and of the press. It is these such threats that subdue true freedom of speech and of the press. If no one wants to offer an opinion on record about a controversial topic, freedom of the press suffers. If my sources are mindful of such threats and will not speak freely, the article, and subsequently the debate, suffers. If the debate suffers, so does our ability to be informed voters; ultimately, our democracy suffers.

I think those who are concerned about our right to bear arms should step back and think of the bigger picture before making subtle threats to those expressing their constitutionally protected right to freely express themselves. They may be chipping away at freedoms that could lead to the degradation of the very democratic system that protects the rights they so adamantly want to defend.

# Does anyone out there really care?

The following is a test. This is a test of the emergency column system. This is only a test. If this were an actual column, you'd be entertained, informed or angered by now. This is only a test...

Is anybody out there? Seriously. I often wonder if anybody actually reads this column into which I pour my heart and soul every week. On an historically apathetic campus such as ours this is a genuine concern for a column writer. Does anyone care? Does anyone even notice? HELLO!!!!?????

The interesting thing is that I have heard other folks from *The Current* express much the same feelings. Marty Johnson (he does the lovely cartoons on the Classifieds page) has been increasingly desperate for input on his work. Rarely a week goes by that he doesn't place a desperate post on our interactive forum begging for someone to love or hate his contribution to the paper. So far only staff members and former staff members have responded. (Being an UM-St. Louis alumnus Marty is not an actual staff member but he plays one on TV. We just let him hang around us so he can pretend he's cool.)

Actually, with rare exception, no one but staff members or *Current* alumni have posted to the forum despite the good work done by our two web folks, Josh and Jeremy. The forum should be a place for an open free-for-all over important campus issues of the day.

Due to lack of participation, however, it is primarily a place for staffers to debate the merits of *Star Trek* vs. *Star Wars*.

Sometimes we get angry feedback. But not often enough. Joe Harris, whose column appears right below mine managed a couple of weeks ago to set this year's high for letters received on one issue for his column on Proposition B. That record, which will likely stand for the rest of the semester, was two. (That ties Amy Lombardo, whose column can be seen every week on the previous page, who received two angry letters in a whole year's worth of columns.)

Unfortunately, I have not received an angry letter yet. I have not received anything yet save a couple of offhand comments (both positive) and one angry phone call. (I was out of the office when it came in.) On a campus of 16,000+ this seems oddly unimpressive. C'mon, I had to have ticked somebody off.

There is no doubt that a great many folks read *The Current*. We are not a poorly circulated newspaper by any means. I see copies in student's hands and discarded issues on tables and in classes. But where's the feedback? Where's the response? Do the world (or at least a rag-tag group of overworked students) a favor. Tell us what you think.

After all, we're not just here for the glory.

# Can one new coach help the University?

Athletically speaking, this University just does not seem to be able to get it right.

A couple of weeks ago an editorial appeared in this publication questioning not only the athletic department on recent decisions, but the University administration's commitment to winning as well. The editorial raised some serious questions about UM-St. Louis' commitment to athletics and most notably student athletes.

The questions needed to be asked. UM-St. Louis has lost a couple of quality coaches who took off for greener pastures in recent years. The basketball team has floundered, and the school seemed to be dead in the water while looking for a replacement for Basketball Coach Rich Meckfessel.

Wednesday could have changed that. On this day at 11:00 a.m. UM-St. Louis announced Mark Bernsen as its new head basketball coach.

It was a great decision. Bernsen is an ex-Rivermen player and assistant coach.

Plus, the guy's a winner. He won 20 games in his first year of coaching high school basketball. He won 20 in his first year at the junior college level. And he won 20 in his first year at Division I.

The messiah has arrived. Happy days are here again...

Hold on, overly optimistic sports fan. This could have been the turning point in UM-St. Louis' struggling athletic department—"could have" being the key term here.

An incident happened last Sunday that not only gave the University's reputation a black eye, it could have given them a fatal blow as far as their reputation is concerned in both St. Louis and around the country.

During pregame warm-ups before the Rivermen baseball team took on the Indianapolis Greyhounds, a Greyhound player injured his ankle when his foot got caught in a drainage ditch in the field. The field was ruled unplayable and the game was rescheduled for May 3.

It is unfortunate that it took this incident for officials to act. They chose to wait until Greyhound backers from Indianapolis drove up from Indianapolis only to be turned away because UM-St. Louis' field was too dangerous.

Now the University has to totally renovate the entire baseball field over the summer, along with being the laughingstock of the Great Lakes Valley Conference.

It's a shame if you think about it. The UM-St. Louis administration is in the middle of a wonderfully orchestrated long term public relations campaign promoting the University in the St. Louis community. The academics are wonderful, there are plenty of student organizations to join, and businesses really look to this University for quality graduates.

Unfortunately, the University is overlooking one important aspect of campus life - athletics.

Athletics is a common bond that can thread the entire University and like most schools, UM-St. Louis is judged by many others on athletic reputation. An incident like Sunday's only reinforces the old UM-St. Louis stereotypes not only to the St. Louis community, but to the country as a whole. Word spreads and events like this are hard to live down.

If this type of thing continues, no PR campaign or new coach will change people's minds. It's time for this University as a whole to live up to its new reputation. That includes the athletic department.



DAVID BAUGHER  
Editor-in-Chief



JOE HARRIS  
Managing Editor

# SPORTS

Ken Dunkin, sports editor  
phone: 871-2192 fax: 516-6811  
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## LATEST SCOOP

### Media should quit obsessing over homeruns

The 1999 baseball season has finally begun, and all I hear about is the homerun chase. Is there a chase to see who will beat 70? Nope.

Who cares about the home-run record of 1998? The chase is over, and I am sick of hearing comparisons from the previous record setting year.

Let the new year of baseball bring its surprises, but those surprises better not be the media talking about the home-run chase all season long. For the love of humanity it is only the middle of April and not even the All-Star break, let alone any time close to the end of the regular season.

I will admit that Big Mac had achieved a great record last season, but when I start hearing statistics

about McGwire being on pace to hit 140 home runs, it is so far-fetched and unrealistic that I **DAVE KINWORTHY** laugh. **sports associate**



If there is one thing I am glad people are doing this season is ripping on Sammy "the one year deal" Sosa. His challenge to McGwire was good for baseball, but you will never see the same Sammy again. It was his best year and now the slide will follow. If I had a phrase for him, it would be the "one year wonder."

So instead of the focus going on the Cardinal team this year, the fans have shown more interest in Big Mac's assault on his own record.

I do not, under any circumstances, care if Mac breaks the record this season. The only thing that I, along with the rest of the true Cardinal fans, care about is seeing them have a good season and hopefully making it into the postseason.

Wouldn't that be a thrill to see McGwire play in his first National League playoff game? Well, he cannot do that unless his team does good. That means that this game is a total team effort. Who would have thought that after last season?

Without McGwire, the Redbirds do not have the home-run king of the Major Leagues. But without the Redbirds, McGwire is another "Joe Blow" who would be sitting in his office trying to bring home food to support his son.

Does anybody get what I am talking about? Without a team, there is no McGwire. Without McGwire, there is no home run record. Hence, it all comes back to the team, and that is where I stand.

Baseball is a team sport, and until these idiotic people who are counting the number of home runs McGwire is on pace for realize that this is a group effort, baseball will suffer.

The Cardinals organization made outstanding moves during the off-season to strengthen the ballclub, and I applaud their efforts.

Time will only tell whether these acquisitions will pay off, but until then, lay off the McGwire heroics and look at the game in a new perspective—a team effort. McGwire is not the team, but baseball made him out to be.

Now the season has begun, and there are still eight other players on the field.

# Bernsen named new basketball coach

### New coach looks to open up the offense, press on defense

BY JOE HARRIS  
senior editor

And the winner is... Mark Bernsen. Bernsen was named UM-St. Louis' head basketball coach in a press conference at Mark Twain on Wednesday. It is a homecoming for Bernsen who earned his bachelors and masters degrees from UM-St. Louis and was both a player and a coach for the Rivermen in the late sixties and seventies.

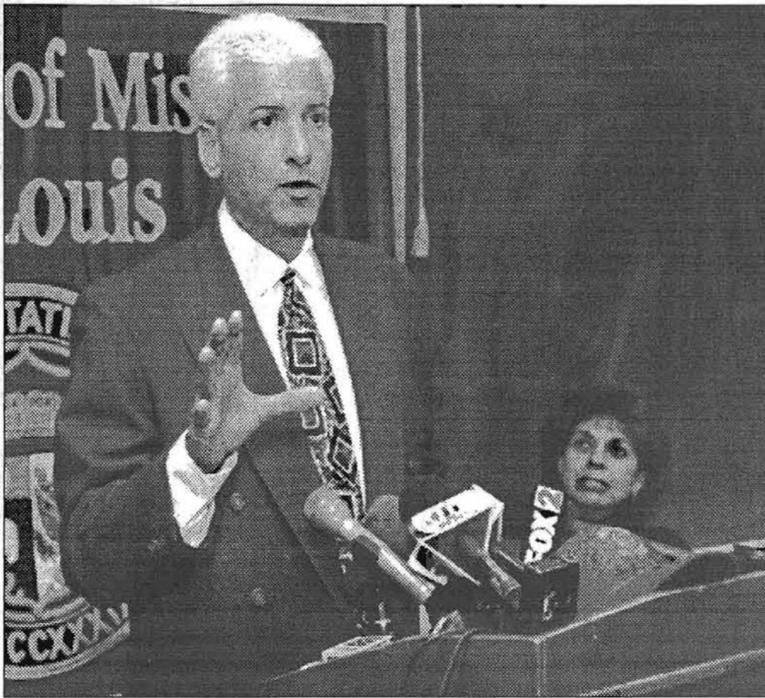
"It's a very, very happy day for me," Bernsen said. "It's coming home. It's reestablishing ties and friendships with many people not only here on campus but with many people in the community."

UM-St. Louis Athletic Director Pat Dolan said Bernsen's contract is indefinite and is structured much like the contracts that the state of Missouri has.

Dolan said that Bernsen's St. Louis ties were the deciding factor.

"I really think it came down to how important to this University is the St. Louis ties, and I think if athletics is going to make a statement in this city which I think it can and represent the University in a positive fashion, then that tie to St. Louis was just incredibly important," Dolan said.

Bernsen plans to open up the offense and to mix up the defenses. Look for the Rivermen to strike quickly on offense before the defense gets set. Defensively, the Rivermen will rotate from a full court pressure defense to half court man and half court zone



Stephanie Platt/The Current

New Rivermen Head Basketball Coach Mark Bernsen speaks to reporters at the press conference announcing his hiring on Wednesday. His wife, Cindy, looks on from the background.

defenses. Bernsen spoke with his players a couple of days before the press conference. During the meeting, Bernsen stressed to his players the importance of going to class.

"If you do not go to class, you can not play for me... if they don't go to class, then they can't get on the practice court, and if they can't get on the practice court, they can't get into any games," Bernsen said. "We're going to graduate student athletes and we're going

to win games—in that order."

Bernsen said that rebuilding is not an option.

"I don't have a three to five year plan. That would not be fair to Greg Ross, Michael Coleman, Durrell Robinson, those kids that are involved now. In three to five years, hopefully they've graduated. I've got a one year plan, and we'll get after it right away," Bernsen

see COACH, page 12

### Players anxious to meet new coach's high expectations

BY KEN DUNKIN  
staff editor

When the basketball season wrapped up, many players were down after a disappointing season. Their hopes were brought up last week as Mark Bernsen was hired as the new coach.

The great reaction from the hiring began in the players initial meeting with Bernsen.

"He knew everyone by name," Terrell Alexander said. "He even knew the graduating players. That really showed everyone a lot about what kind of coach he is going to be. I think everyone is looking forward to getting things going."

High expectations were something many of the players feel was missing the past few seasons. Quite often after a losing season the attitudes didn't always point towards the happy side.

"There is a completely different feeling for everyone, not only on the basketball team," Riverman Gene Stewart said. "Everyone is walking around a little more happy. The effect has really spread. The enthusiasm is already building."

A great deal of the enthusiasm comes from high expectations. Players are expected to attend class on a regular basis. If a player doesn't attend class he will not practice. If a player doesn't practice he will not play in games.

see PLAYERS, page 12

## Erosion makes baseball field unfit for play

BY KEN DUNKIN AND STEPHANIE PLATT  
staff writers

It all went downhill when an Indianapolis player stepped in a hole at the UM-St. Louis baseball field.

The player fell into a hole created due to erosion around a grate that had been covered with mats. The mats blocked rain water from getting into the hole so it eroded the soil away leaving a hole in the outfield.

"It was first noticed when the kid came walking in with mud all over his leg," Rivermen Head Coach Jim Brady said. "I knew our infield was dry so I knew something had to have happened."

Brady said the player mildly twisted his ankle in the

hole which caused the Indianapolis coach to bring the problem to the attention of the home plate umpire.

The umpire surveyed the field and deemed it unfit for play.

"It was an embarrassment to the University," said John O'Keefe, father of Rivermen pitcher Don O'Keefe. "It shouldn't have come to an injury for the situation to be fixed."

The situation could have been quickly solved if a second field would have been found immediately. But Brady would have then needed to get approval from officials for the teams to play at a second site.

"We could have went to another site but I don't want the responsibility of a player getting hurt and me being responsible because I didn't go through the proper channels," Brady said.

The holes were filled with dirt and brought to level with the grass last week.

They were then inspected and found to be fit for play temporarily.

"Risk management gave us two different scenarios," Dolan said. "The short was to fill the hole and to throw mats over the grate during games. The long term was to find a more suitable situation for the drainage system."

When the problem was brought to the attention of the University risk squad, they found several other hazards.

They found screws pushing through the markers in the outfield where over time the screws had pushed through the wood.

Problems were also found concerning the outfield fence. The bottom of the fence has curled towards the field over years of pressure.

To get the field playable, the outfield markers were taken down and put up with plastic ties. Ties were also placed on the bottom of the outfield fence to wrap the fence back under as to not have players injured due to fence sticking out.

"If there is one benefit of having this game canceled it is that the problems were taken care of," Brady said. "There could have been a very serious injury and someone could have been seriously hurt had things not been taken care of."

The make-up game against Indianapolis will be played May 3 at the Rivermen baseball field.



Stephanie Platt/The Current

An Indianapolis player injured himself after falling into a hole around this grate Apr. 11. The hole, which was caused by soil erosion forced umpires to rule the field unplayable.

## Baseball field to get complete makeover

BY KEN DUNKIN  
staff editor

The baseball field is going to get several changes this summer due to UM-St. Louis risk management finding several problems with the facilities.

The most glaring change will be the addition of bleachers and lights. Both projects are tentatively set for completion by fall.

"We had been waiting to get the results of the MO-DOT renovations before we made any changes to the baseball field," Athletic Director Pat Dolan said.

The MO-DOT renovations would have put a road directly behind the baseball field causing the field to be shifted forward or changed to a different location.

"It didn't really make sense to pour a lot of money [into it] if we were going to have to tear it up at a later date," Dolan said.

The current proposal has the road being built at a different location on campus, not directly interfering with the growth of the baseball field.

Also included in the renovation process will be a new outfield fence and a new drainage system.

The current outfield fence will be torn out as the chain link is curling at the bottom causing a safety hazard.

The drainage system caused two games to be cancelled Apr. 11. After the season the system will be moved behind the outfield fence.

A warning track will also likely accompany the new fence

## Softball rides roller coaster, goes 3-5

BY DAVE KINWORTHY  
staff associate

The Riverwomen are 22-16 overall and 10-6 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference with only five games remaining before the GLIAC vs. GLVC tournament.

UM-St. Louis squared off against SIU-Edwardsville and split a pair between the two, winning 3-2 and then falling in the latter 1-10.

"Their bat woke up in the second game and ours didn't," Head Coach Charlie Kennedy said. "Pitching wise, their kids were a little more determined than ours. They had a lot of composure sitting in the box waiting for their pitch. They are a very good hitting team. They lead the conference in several offensive categories."

Kathleen Rogoz was a force in the first game dominating SIU-Edwardsville and their lethal bats.

"She has a good number of pitches to offset good hitting," Kennedy said. "She had them offstride a bit on her pitches, and Andrea Wirkus called a nice game behind the plate."

The combination of Rogoz and Wirkus seems to be click-

see SOFTBALL, page 12

## THIS WEEK IN SPORTS

Contact the Athletic Department for information about these and other events.	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Saturday	Sunday
	20	21	22	24	25
Men	vs Truman St. (2) 1:00 p.m.			at Wisc. Parkside (2) noon	vs Lewis (2) noon
Women		vs Mc Kendree 5:00 p.m.	at Lincoln (2) 5:00 p.m.	GLIAC vs. GLVC Tournament Battle Creek, Mich.	GLIAC vs. GLVC Tournament Battle Creek, Mich.

# VOTER'S GUIDE

## Decision

The  
Vote

# 99

Student  
Government  
Association

## Comptroller

NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

### Jana

### Johnson

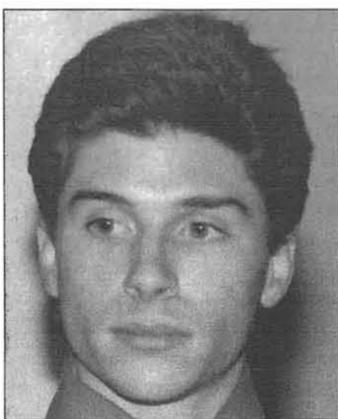
**Major:** Senior/Accounting

**Slate:** Butler/Johnson

**Organizations:** N/A

**Qualifications:** 1990-91  
Associated Student Body-Secretary/  
Compton Community College.

**Goals:** To improve student, faculty  
and board relations, obtain valuable  
information, become well-rounded in  
business etiquette



### Bryan Shaw

**Major:** Senior/Accounting/  
Man. Info. Sys./  
Finance

**Slate:** Reformation

**Organizations:** Pierre Laclède  
Honors College Student Association,  
Student Investment Trust, University  
Instrumental Ensemble, Beta Alpha  
Psi, Beta Sigma Gamma, Accounting  
Club

**Qualifications:** President/  
Pierre Laclède Honors College  
Student Association, Treasurer/  
Student Investment Trust

**Goals:** Campus Involvement  
(this is the easiest to list & the  
hardest to pursue), co-sponsorship,  
pride & honor, strong work ethic,  
involvement in the arts, recreation

## President



### Jacqueline R. Anderson

**MAJOR:** Biology

**YEAR:** Sophomore

**AGE:** 19

**SLATE:** Reformation

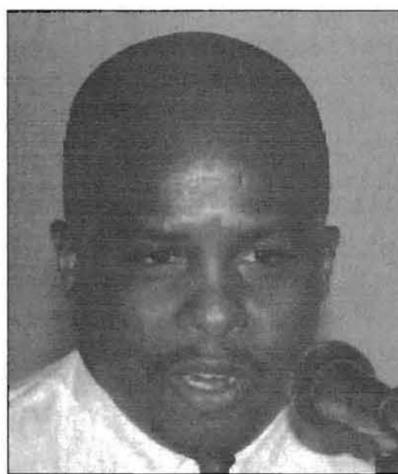
**ORGANIZATIONS:**

Treasurer/University Program Board,  
Treasurer/Student Government  
Association; member/ Newman Center

**QUALIFICATIONS:** My  
experience with the Student  
Government Association consists of  
almost two years of service to the  
assembly. I served as the executive  
secretary for the '97-'98 term and  
currently serve as the administrative  
secretary and treasurer.

**REASONS FOR RUNNING:** The students want a president  
who will be there for them to listen to  
and help solve issues important to the  
student body. Because of my prior expe-  
rience in SGA, I know how the UM sys-  
tem operates and will be able to use this  
knowledge to benefit the students. I  
believe, if given the opportunity, I could  
effectively interact with both students  
and staff in order to voice student  
issues.

**GOALS AND IMPROVEMENTS:** Our  
campus should be more involved in  
the surrounding neighborhoods to  
support the nearby communities and  
promote UM-St. Louis. There should  
also be more interaction with the stu-  
dents in order to promote student  
involvement and campus unity.



### Darwin R. Butler, Sr.

**MAJOR:** Business Admin.

**YEAR:** Junior

**AGE:** Not Given

**SLATE:** Butler/Johnson

**ORGANIZATIONS:**

President/Organization for  
Producing Successful Black Men  
and Women

**QUALIFICATIONS:** 1996-  
1997 Student Government Senator at  
the Community College of Southern  
Nevada

**REASONS FOR RUNNING:** The Student Government  
should be vocal and visual in the repre-  
sentation of the students. I don't see  
that in the current administration. I  
want the students of this University  
first to be heard. I want serious gov-  
ernment, and accountability of stu-  
dents' costs. I believe I can provide  
those things for the students here at  
UMSL.

**GOALS AND IMPROVEMENTS:**

1. Improvements in the fee struc-  
ture here at UMSL.
2. Improvements or changes in  
parking regulations
3. Improvements in club's and  
organization's attendance and  
focus
  - 1) Goal to make University more  
"user (student) friendly"
  - 2) Goal to make campus more  
exciting.
  - 3) Goal to make University more  
visual and vocal in community.

## Rep. Seats

### Arts & Sciences

(6 seats)

• **David Baugher**

Junior/Communication

**Organizations:** NOT GIVEN

**Goals:** NOT GIVEN

• **Roby N. Bracy III\***

Sophomore/CCJ

**Organizations:** RHA, University  
Program Board, Senator Committee

**Goals:** Make the school more resi-  
dential and less commuter, more  
activities for the students, set up sug-  
gestion box for students, surrounding  
community projects, more programs  
for students during the day

• **Kas'Quri K. Lovan**

Junior/Social Work

**Organizations:** University  
Program Board

**Goals:** NOT GIVEN

• **Robert J. Miller**

Senior/Fine Art/Philosophy

**Organizations:** UMSL  
Shotokan Karate Club, Golden Key

**Goals:** NOT GIVEN

### Graduate/Professional

(4 seats)

• **Michael Rankins\***

Counseling

**Organizations:** SGA

**Goals:** Greater involvement of the  
grad. school in UMSL's activity

• **Steven M. Wolfe**

Educ.-Sec. and Reading

**Organizations:** Kappa Delta Pi,  
UMSL Rec Sports participant, UMSL  
Shotokan Karate Club, UMSL  
Riverman (unofficial Athletics mas-  
cot), UMSL Homecoming Court 1999

**Goals:** SGA meetings on Sundays  
so more nontraditional students/  
groups can make [meetings]. The abol-  
ishment of mandatory attendance  
requirements. To create a better  
image of UM-St. Louis.

### Business

(3 seats)

• **Jennifer L. O'Neal**

Sophomore/Man. Info. Sys.

**Organizations:** NOT GIVEN

**Goals:** More student involvement,  
more student activities, "Getting to  
Know You" programs

\* Denotes "Reformation" slate candidate

## Vice-President



### Carrie Mowen

**Major:** Senior/Anthropology

**Slate:** Reformation

**Organizations:** University Program  
Board, Executive Forum, Books for Kids  
Committee, Homecoming Committee

**Qualifications:** SGA representa-  
tive, president/University Program Board

**Goals:** I would post & make sure all  
students/student organizations know all  
rules & regulations concerning atten-  
dance policies for SGA meetings. Make  
sure all committees are running at the  
start of fall semester.

Information for all candidates taken from application forms filed by applicants for office.

**DEBATE, FROM PAGE 1**

we do care and we are concerned with what they believe and what they want." Mowen also said involving the students more in the student government is vital to the success and effectiveness of the organization. She said the commuter college aspect of the campus contributes to the problem of lack of student involvement.

"Word of mouth is the best way [to get students involved]," Mowen said. "Target the freshmen." Shaw also addressed the goals of his "Reformation" party slate such as increasing student and organizational involvement. He said that his experience as the president of the student association at the Honors College taught him how to market programs in innovative ways.

"I strongly desire to be a member of a team where we work as a team, where everybody supports each other," Shaw said. "[W]e can raise each other up together rather than everybody striving to push their own interests."

Presidential candidate Butler raised concerns about mandatory fees for the students of UM-St. Louis. He is concerned that UM-St. Louis parking fees are high compared to the other colleges in the area and that parking is in short supply. Butler said he wants to know if the ticketing of students is anticipated revenue by the University. He suggests that a flat rate for parking may better serve the needs of the students.

"We have 11,286 students currently enrolled. We have 3,562 student parking spaces. So obviously there is a dilemma."

He also is interested in exploring options for student activity fees and computing fees wherein those fees could be made optional or put on a per-use

**S**ometimes conflict is good . . . We pay our tuition now. We pay for parking now. We want change now.

-Darwin Butler

basis. He said that tuition is also very high when compared to the area community colleges.

"We don't want to wait for change," Butler said. "Sometimes conflict is good . . . We pay our tuition now. We pay for parking now. We want change now."

**I**t would be very beneficial to get the word out . . . let everybody know, spark some interests, let them know that we want them to be a part of the University.

-Jacqueline Anderson

Butler said that the leader of the SGA should be concerned with the diversity issues of UM-St. Louis. He said that the band that will be playing at the Mirthday celebration, The Urge, is one that he has never heard of and suggests a more diverse selection of bands would benefit the University. He said that there should be diverse bands at every campus event.

"Diversity has got to be dealt with on this campus. That's something that needs to be dealt with," Butler said, "diversity and the self-centeredness of the [SGA]."

Butler was asked by the panel if he would continue to petition the Board of Curators for inclusion of sexual orientation in the anti-discrimination policy. Both he and Anderson said they supported the change.

"Everybody deserves equal representation," Anderson said. "You started the program, [and] the Board of Curators keeps turning you down; maybe you need to change the way you package that program. Maybe we need a little bit more force behind the program . . . You sometimes can't just knock on the door to get something done—sometimes you have to kick it in. You can't sugarcoat all issues."

Elections to choose SGA officers will be held Wednesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at various locations around campus.

**MIRTHDAY, FROM PAGE 1**

cost for food.

"The prices for lunches will be around the same as the Underground prices," Mowen explained.

Student organizations will have booths set up, and intrepid students might be able to mooch free food and other goodies while perusing the booths, Mowen said. In addition, students will be able to vote in the Student Government Association elections by visiting the voting booth.

"They'll all be handing out free to stuff to try and recruit new members or win students' votes," she said.

The student organization booths and most of the rest of the Mirthday activities will be taking place in the area near Parking Garage C and the University Center loading docks, Anderson said.

"The stage will be in the

area near the loading docks," she said, "and the booths will be in the patch of grass near Parking Garage C. There will also be a sand volleyball tournament in that same general area."

Mirthday begins at 10 a.m. when ska band Fat Cactus, winner of the recent UM-St. Louis Battle of the Bands competition, takes the stage. Fat Cactus will play until noon. The Urge will play from noon until 2 p.m., when the festivities will wind down for two hours. Mirthday will come back to life from 4 p.m. until 6 p.m. so evening students can join in.

"We've worked hard this semester to make Mirthday a success," Mowen said, "and I hope people enjoy what we've put together and take the time to come out, meet other students, and have a good time."

**INCIDENT, FROM PAGE 1**

asked that Butler be removed. One, was the alleged confrontation between Mowen and Butler. The other was that she said Butler's actions were impolite.

"It's impolite to show up at your opposition's campaign party . . . I am a resident of the University Meadows. It is private property, and so I'm allowed to ask him to leave," Anderson said.

The University Meadows policy regarding the use of the clubhouse, where the barbecue took place, states that only members of the University Meadows community can reserve the clubhouse. Anderson lives in the Meadows, but did not reserve the room.

Marsha Nored reserved the room. Nored, who lives in the Meadows, is a friend to both Anderson and Mowen. Though Nored said she was not present when Butler arrived, she said that Meadows inhabitants have a right to request unwanted guests to leave because the University does not run the Meadows.

"The University owns the University Meadows property, but it will not come under University control for another 20 years . . . it is now controlled by the University Meadows management," Nored said.

Anderson said that the barbecues, another one of which was held Friday, were sponsored entirely by the Reformation slate for which she is the SGA presidential candidate. Both Anderson and Mowen said that all costs associated with the barbecues were paid for by their slate and that Mowen has all of the receipts to back it up.

Butler said he is not concerned with how the barbecues were funded. He said he was only concerned about his exclusion.

Thursday's events did not stop Butler from attending the Reformation slate's Friday barbecue. This time Butler was not escorted out because the barbecue was held at the Honors College.

"[The Reformation Slate] was posting this as an open event which means that there is no exclusion," said Lisa Grubbs, Director of Residential Life. "If there is inappropriate conduct from our guests, then we can ask them to leave."

Though Butler came and left without incident Friday, he said that he should have had the right to attend Thursday's barbecue.

"This is America," Butler said. "We have a right to go wherever we choose

and do whatever we want to do as long as it don't infringe on other folk's rights. The right to exclude is not a right in America . . . the 1964 Civil Rights Act gave everyone the right to do and attend everything equally."

However, Anderson said she disagrees with Butler's assertions. Instead, she said there was no discrimination at either event.

Anderson said that the wide variety of people who showed up and were welcomed shows that Butler was not racially discriminated against.

"There were so many ethnicities that showed up at our barbecue and we didn't discriminate against one of them," Anderson said. "So there is no racial discrimination involved."

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*Musical chairs*

# New music annex placed in old Bonanza restaurant building

BY SUE BRITT  
staff associate

The new music annex on Florissant Road has been renovated and has provided the UM-St. Louis instrumental group the ability to accommodate the growing program.

William Richardson, assistant professor of music, said that the instrumental program has grown in the past few years and the area provided for them in the music building was no longer sufficient. He said they now have a symphonic band, a wind ensemble, a brass ensemble, a woodwind ensemble, a bassoon quartet, two percussion groups, a pep band, and a couple of combos that have all been added since he came to UM-St. Louis in 1995.

"There are several components that happened [to increase the program]," Richardson said. "Number one, the Chancellor has taken a tremendous interest in the arts, and through her efforts and endeavors the department has been the recipient of funds, of collaborative funds."

Richardson also attributed the growth of the program to recruitment and scholarships.

"I have been very very, very active in recruiting and setting up a recruiting mechanism both through personal visits to schools, [and] I spend at least an hour and a half a week in the evenings placing calls to prospective students and parents explaining the . . . positive attributes of the University," Richardson said. "The fact [is] that not only do we have a strong music program that's building, but we also have renowned programs in several other departments."

Richardson does clinics with high school bands in the area and visits community colleges to help expose the UM-St. Louis music program that now also includes a graduate program.

Richardson did a study at the beginning of this year to determine what the effects of the band practicing in such a small area were. He borrowed a decibel meter from the physics department and measured the effects of the band at the quietest possible volume to the loudest that it would play. He found the band at its quietest was about 70 decibels. The loudest ranged from 105 to 115.

"Sustained levels over 75 for any particular period of time can cause permanent damage [to hearing]," Richardson said, "and when you get up to 115 that would equate to the amount of impact on the ears comparable to standing at the end of a runway at St. Louis International Airport. Just explaining that to the administration, funds were secured to renovate the old Ponderosa Building, a [former] Bonanza [Restaurant] Building on the other side of campus."

Richardson is expecting the instrumental music program to continue to grow and to double within the next five years.

"Within the next five years, we have a possibility of a performing arts center being open, and with our renovation, of course we're beginning to look at space needs now. And what we'll have to do [is] project our enrollment . . . seven to ten years from now to look at what we would actually need in space in the renovated facilities that will adjoin the performing arts center," Richardson said. "It's a very exciting time. . . We're the best deal in the state."



Photos by  
Stephanie  
Platt

LEFT: James Richards, music professor, conducts students at the new music annex on Florissant Road. The annex was built to accommodate the ever-growing music program at UM-St. Louis.

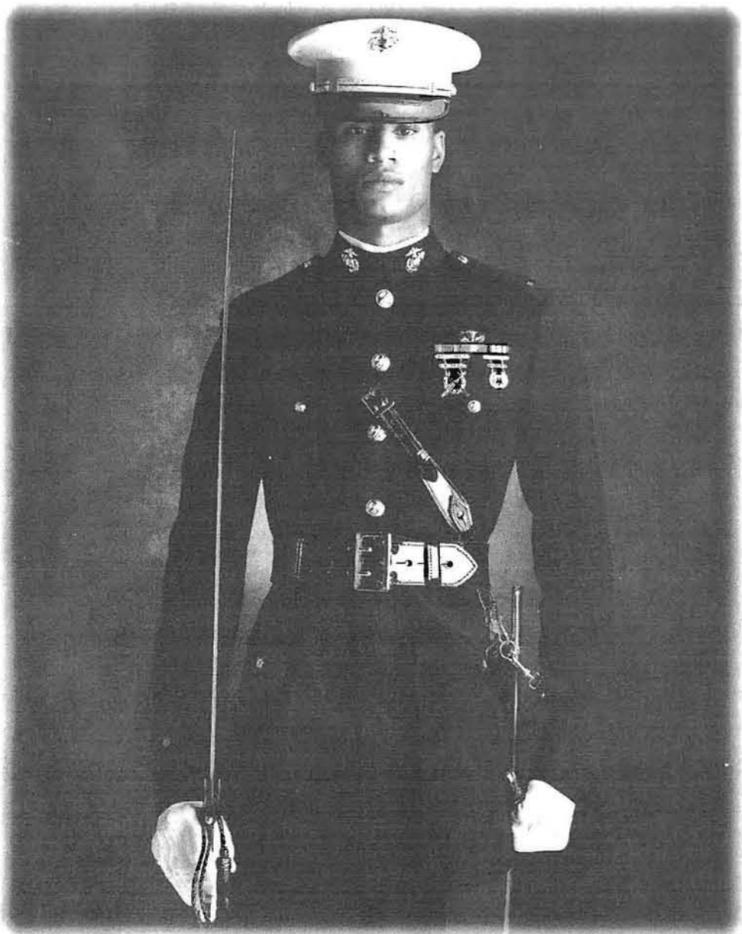
RIGHT: A student practices in the annex late last month.



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Music Review

# Lauryn Hill and Outkast provide rousing performance for fans

Lauryn Hill / Outkast  
The Fox Theatre  
April 5

The audience at the filled-to-capacity Fox Theatre was moving like never before on Apr. 5. The reason? Lauryn Hill and Outkast, of course. Having been postponed from Feb. 22 for illness, the crowd was eagerly awaiting Lauryn Hill's first solo stop in St. Louis, especially after her sweep at the Grammy's for her album, *The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill*.

First was the Atlanta-based rap duo Outkast, exploding onstage with as much energy as could be put in a rap show (no thrown mic stands; save that for rock). The un-gangster rap feel of Outkast was refreshing, as was their apparent excitement on stage. Their 40 minute set hardly slowed to take a breath, and for a moment, I feared the foundation of the Fox itself would shake loose during their current hit single, *Rosa Parks*. Outkast had more than enough energy and talent to headline their own tour, but they were there to pump the crowd up for Miss Hill, and they knew it.

Most rap is performed with only a few people onstage: the performer, a DJ, usually an MC, and some-

times a drummer. Lauryn Hill, on the other hand, had sixteen people backing her up, enough to fill up the Fox stage, an impressive feat indeed. The ex-Fugee singer had no trouble getting the crowd into the show. Just hearing her voice sent the audience into a near frenzy.

Lauryn Hill did exactly the opposite as expected, by playing old Fugees songs as well as songs from her Grammy-winning solo album. Bob Marley, not surprisingly, was honored with a song, *Lost Ones*, a new single, was a hit with the crowd, but the real crowd pleaser came when Lauryn left the stage for a break. DJ Spring, turntablist for Hill, showed his savvy by mixing and scratching songs by DMX, Busta Rhymes, and other modern rappers. The drummer also had about five minutes to show off, and proved himself to be one of the better live drummers in the industry.

Both Lauryn Hill and Outkast demonstrated that they were not only amazing recording artists, but phenomenal live performers as well. The Fox has never moved like it did that Monday evening, and may not again until Lauryn Hill returns.

-Cory Blackwood

Concert Review

# Oscar winner Elliot Smith plays at Karma, shows he's worth the hype

Elliot Smith  
Karma  
April 7

Elliot Smith played Karma on Apr. 7. For anyone who has heard even 15 minutes of his music, that says it all. Either you were there and you thought he was incredible, or you missed and you had a very good excuse. However, for the uninitiated or the rare passive fan, a review might be nice.

First the stats: He played electric with two guys backing him from one of the many affiliated Portland bands (not Slater Kenney, though such a line-up is not uncommon); his set lasted approximately one hour and 45 minutes, including a very gracious third encore; there was a good mix of songs from his first two albums as well as ample material from *Good Will Hunting* and *XO*, his two latest releases.

Smith's style is smooth by recent indie standards, almost pop-ish, though he would never be described that way to people looking for pop. All the same, his melodies and rhythms are beyond catchy; you find yourself humming them and not contemplating

suicide as a result. His lyrics have something for everyone. If you pride yourself on being perpetually depressed, indifferent, and lost, this guy will make you feel more like yourself. If you find the beauty in everything and can't wait for each day, you'll be humming on your way to class. And if you are somewhere in between (where you should be), then you'll get the point and you have my permission to come to the next concert.

If all it took to sell a million records were critical acclaim, then Elliot Smith would have been playing the Trans World dome instead of Karma. He was nominated for an Oscar for his work on the *Good Will Hunting* soundtrack, and both Spin and Rolling Stone ranked *XO* as the second best album of the year behind *The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill*. He's in the vanguard of what would have been called "alternative" before that genre was co-opted six years ago. Find the album and give it a listen, but please don't download the MP3's or burn it from a friend, because this guy deserves the royalties.

-Mark Lyons

STORIES, FROM PAGE 3

(award-winning teacher and fairy tale storyteller.)

Others include Pat McKissack (author of children's literature), David Novak (Shakespearean storyteller), and Rubright (godmother of St. Louis storytellers.)

New this year is the addition of three workshops. The Deaf Storytelling Workshop, "Let's Tell an ASL Story," includes both deaf and non-deaf participants. "Strengthening the Family Through Storytelling" and "Strengthening the Community Through Storytelling" also will be helpful to the community and families.

Some must-attend events are the opening "Dawn-to-Dusk Storytelling" which initiates the fes-

tival with the Cherokee Morning Song performed by Gayle Ross, a storyteller and Cherokee chief descendant. The closing ceremony will include storytelling and square-dancing in the lobby of the Gateway Arch.

"We hope that a lot of people will come to it because even though there are a lot of children who participate in this festival—storytelling is very much for adults," Kammann said.

For more information, please call the UM-St. Louis Office of Continuing Education and Outreach at (314) 516-5948, or on the web at <http://www.umsl.edu/~conted/storyfes.htm>.

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**Thursday, April 22:**  
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**Friday, April 23:**  
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Mark Twain Building

**Saturday, April 24:**  
International Banquet  
6 p.m.  
South Residence hall

# International Week '99 April 19-24

# Counterfeit bills discovered at campus C-Store

## Secret Service confiscates notes for inspection after deposit

BY SHAVON PERKINS  
special to The Current

Recently three allegedly counterfeit bills were detected by employees at the United Missouri Bank located in the University Center. On two occasions in early March three fake bills were found in separate deposits from University vendors. Two suspected bills could have possibly come from Food Service or the Bookstore. At least one fake bill came from the C-Store on the South Campus.

The fake bills consisted of one ten dollar bill and two twenty dollar bills.

C-Store manager Jill Fletcher was notified by the bank that a bill in the Mar. 10 deposit was questionable.

"I am still waiting for verification that it was a counterfeit bill; until then we are twenty dollars short," Fletcher said.

The fake bills were not hard to detect.

UMB employee Joan Cleveland said, "Our tellers handle money so frequently

that the fake bills were easy to spot because they had a different texture."

For verification, a special pen was used that changes color on different qualities of paper. If there is still doubt as to the condition of the bill, the Secret Service is called to verify the serial number. All of the suspected counterfeit bills in this

case have been turned in to the Secret Service.

At this point it is unclear exactly where the fake bills originated from.

"It is possible that someone could have received it as change from a local store and then used it on campus. Most counterfeit bills we receive are found in deposits from local businesses, which means that someone used it to buy goods," Cleveland said.

If the bills are found to be counterfeit, they will be filed for tracing by the Secret Service. If they are in fact legitimate, they will be returned to the bank and credited to the deposits from which they originated.

**Our tellers handle money so frequently that the fake bills were easy to spot because they had a different texture.**

-Joan Cleveland  
UMB employee

### Music Review

# 'Matrix' soundtrack has nothing new for veteran pop aficionados

Soundtracks have been in high demand for the better part of this decade, simply because one soundtrack contains a wide enough range of music to appeal to many consumers. Soundtracks have even been the initiator in certain trends, like melding rock and rap, (*Judgment Night*) and rock and electronica, (*Spawn*).

The soundtrack to *The Matrix* isn't trying to set any trends, or to even put a bunch of new songs on the album. Many soundtracks, like *The Crow*, have had all new songs, but *The Matrix* only has one completely original song. Sure, there are the obligatory remixes, but Ministry's *Bad Blood* is the one new song, and it will be appearing on the forthcoming Ministry album.

With that said, the goal of *The Matrix* soundtrack is to create a hard-hitting album, something to match the feel of the movie. The first song and single, *Rock is Dead* by Marilyn Manson, sets the tone perfectly. Glam rock, with a techno vibe, run through with the cold sarcasm and angst Manson is known for lead the way for the rest of the album. The legendary industrial flavor of Ministry is probably the highlight of the album, partly because the last Ministry release worth buying was seven years ago. The Deftones and Rage Against the Machine add a popular side to the metal portions of the

album, and though the songs aren't new, they are still great songs.

The electronica songs on the album are all good, with remixed Propellerheads and Rob D songs, and a great track by Hive, called *Ultrasonic Sound*. Tracks by Prodigy and Lunatic Calm can be found on soundtracks like *The Jackal*, various video game soundtracks (yes, they really do exist), and countless techno compilations. Rob Zombie's *Dragula* gets reworked by Hot Rod Herman, creating a danceable song about the Munsters' race car.

The low points of the album can be found in *Look to Your Orb for the Warning* by trailer park head-bangers Monster Magnet who were so busy acting like rock stars that they forgot all about talent. Not to be outdone, Rammstein (named after an Air Force base in Germany, how threatening!) contribute their laughably dumb *Du Hast*. Be thankful it is sung in German, because translated, it is as intelligent and repetitive as a Teletubbies show.

Overall, *The Matrix* is a decent soundtrack, especially for those without a deep CD collection. For those with a sizable hard rock and techno collection, there really isn't much of a point in buying *The Matrix* soundtrack.

-Cory Blackwood

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J L WEBB

# Baseball wins four in a row, despite field problems

BY DAVE KINWORTHY  
staff associate

The Rivermen baseball team has hit a four game winning streak as it goes into the homestretch of the season.

The Rivermen have posted victories over Lincoln University 6-1 and 23-3, along with wins against division foe Northern Kentucky 7-6 and 6-2.

For the past week, the Rivermen have been kept dormant due to the treacherous conditions bestowed by mother nature.

This lack of playing could make a hot team as cold as the weather, but Head Coach Jim Brady looks at it another way.

"You have to be flexible," Brady said. "Some of the nagging injuries have had some time to heal. It gives our pitchers like Don O'Keefe some more time to recover. Our pitching is what we will count on down the stretch, and this time off helps."

UM-St. Louis attempted to play against Indianapolis, but due to a drain grate eroding the ground around it by the amount rain, the umpire ruled the field was unfit to be played upon.

"The situation on Sunday was somewhat embarrassing," Brady said. "The team was very disappointed. Unfortunately, the field conditions were unfit to be played upon. The decision was turned over to the umpire, and they made a decision that we didn't like, but we understood."

With a lack of ballgames being played, the Rivermen have still stood confident with their claim of making the

Division II World Series.

"They are a resilient bunch," Brady said. "They have overcome obstacles in their way. They have had some bumps in the road, but I have confidence in this group. They are special kids. They have to quit feeling that the pressure of the world is on their shoulders. When you are ranked in the top 20, you know you have a target on your back. We have to go out and execute the fundamentals."

The game against Northern Kentucky when the Rivermen battled back showed Brady how his team will come through in the end.

"We were down, and it went into extra innings," Brady said. "Brian Payne and Joe Christian, the two leaders, really stepped up when we needed them to come through. We have to just focus on every pitch of every inning. If we can be consistent and play the game the way it is made to be played, we can go far. It has been a good year so far, but it can be a great year. These next three weeks, we just need to go out and execute."

The next few weeks will determine whether the Rivermen make the playoffs or not, and Brady is confident his team has all the tools to be a contender.

"There is no team that can run better," Brady said. "There is no team with pitching that is better, and there is no team's defense that is better than ours. Defense and pitching wins championships."

The Rivermen currently stand at 18-8-1 overall and 6-5-1 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference.

UM-St. Louis hosts Truman State April 20 and then takes on Lewis in a conference doubleheader April 25.

## Sports Opinion

# Bernsen brings change, hope to struggling basketball program

Short of promising a National Championship, new Rivermen Basketball Coach Mark Bernsen couldn't have made more of an impression.

In a press conference filled with a St. Louis media that hadn't been in the Mark Twain Gym in years, he wooed all with his up-front approach style.

Not only did he say he would win 20 games next season, he went on to say that he is ecstatic to be back at UM-St. Louis.

The players were excited for a change. There have been six or seven players practicing in the gym every day since the hiring. This is quite a change from the past.

In the past many players wanted to get out of the gym as quickly as possible in an attempt to forget the losing season. So far, there has been a different air not only with the players but with everyone.

It seems that the good vibes from the press conference last Wednesday have carried over to everyone. Bernsen has already made a huge difference.

Bernsen's history at UM-St. Louis is impeccable. He scored the first basket in the Mark Twain Gym in a game against the University of Arkansas. He returned several years later as an assistant coach

under Chuck Smith. And as of last Wednesday he became the head coach.

It didn't come as a surprise to him. He had been following the team for several seasons, never losing touch with the program with which he once achieved so much success.

Possibly the greatest benefit about Bernsen is his up-front attitude. He is making both his goals and expectations known. Players will know what is expected from them both in the classroom and on the court. The team has responded well to the notion so far.

Though it will be different having a coach that will seem tough at times, it will pay off for everyone in the long run. No knock on Meckfessel, but the team seemed to lose enthusiasm at times.

After some games they needed a swift kick in the pants, and it wasn't there for the taking. That wasn't Meckfessel's style.

Bernsen, on the other hand, will be up-front and let the players know what is going right or wrong. The program is definitely going in a strong direction.

Ladies and gentleman, the Mark Bernsen era has begun. Success will soon follow.

-Ken Dunkin



Riverman Mark Masesso (33) slides under the tag of the Southern Indiana catcher in a game earlier this season. The Rivermen won the game 6-5.

Photo by  
Sam  
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News Writing	David Baugher	Honorable Mention
Sports Writing	Joe Harris	Third Place
In-Depth News Reporting	David Baugher, Ashley Cook, Brian Douglas, Doug Harrison, Bill Rolfes	First Place
Investigative Reporting	Doug Harrison Mary Lindsley	First Place
Regular Column	David Baugher	Third Place
Sports Photography	Stephanie Platt	Second Place
Advertising	Mary Lindsley Tom Wombacher	First Place Second Place
Best Photo Page	David Baugher Stephanie Platt Anne Porter	Third Place
Feature Page	David Baugher	Honorable Mention
Special Section	Stephanie Platt	Third Place
Best Overall Newspaper	<i>The Current</i>	Third Place

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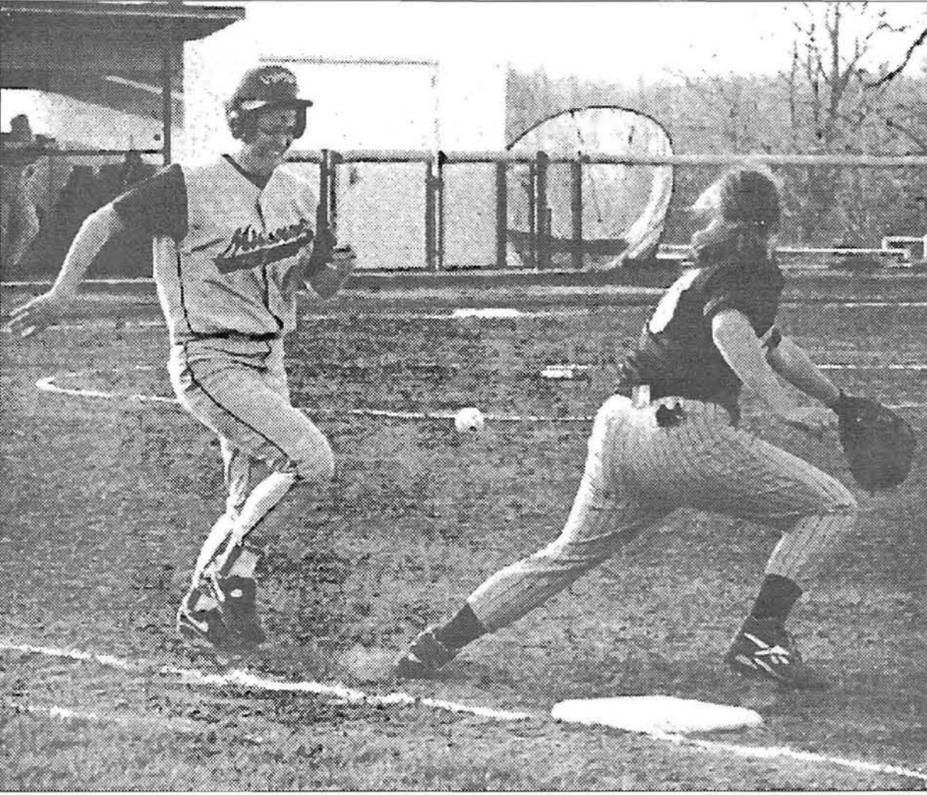
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Stephanie Platt/The Current

Riverwoman Sara Downey (6) hustles down the line to beat out an infield hit in a game against Oakland City on March 30. The Riverwomen are 10-6 in GLVC play as they head into the GLIAC vs GLVC Tournament in Battle Creek, Mich.

COACH, FROM PAGE 5

said. Bernsen said recruiting is top priority now. He plans to sell players on the school, the chance for success, and the opportunity to play in a great conference.

"I consider the Great Lakes Valley Conference to be the ACC of Division II," Bernsen said. "If you can win the conference, you can win the national championship, and I think that's been proven."

Bernsen played and coached for legendary UM-St. Louis coach Chuck Smith. It was under Smith where he learned the foundation for his offensive and defensive strategies.

Smith was present at the press conference and said he was thrilled that Bernsen is getting the chance to come back to the University.

"He'll give each and every individual player the opportunity to show what he can do," Smith said. "If they're good one-on-one players, he'll let them go one-on-one. If not, and a team concept is the best to win, that's what he'll do."

Adversity, and how to deal with it, is one lesson Bernsen said he hopes to teach his players.

"You don't always win the games. You don't always get an A in the classroom," Bernsen said.

"Dealing with adversity is something that I think, as a coach, really is probably more important than dealing with success."

Adversity is something this Rivermen team is accustomed to. They went 7-19 last season and have gone 19-60 the past three seasons.

Dolan said she's not concerned about the past, and

that Bernsen will give the program just what they need. "When you bring in a great basketball coach like this, he's going to want more, but that's what we need," Dolan said. "We need that kind of excitement and energy generated because it's contagious. It's a cancer to the positive."

Bernsen said he's been a winner everywhere else he's been, so he is not daunted by the Rivermen's past performances.

"I will not fail. I will not let the program go anywhere but forward and upward," Bernsen said.

Bernsen becomes only the fourth coach in UM-St. Louis history. He replaces Rich Meckfessel, who coached the Rivermen for 17 seasons and is the winningest coach in school history.

Bernsen said he has high expectations of his team and that his team should have high expectations of himself.

"My first year [coaching] high school we won 20... my first year in junior college we won 20, and my first year in Division I, we won 20," Bernsen said. "Do you think Durrell Robinson, who's going to be a senior, is worried about what we're doing two years from now? No. He's worried about next year. If he's going to do what he's supposed to do and go to class, if Gene Stewart does what he's supposed to do and goes to class, then I'm going to do what I'm supposed to do and help them win 20."

“Dealing with adversity is something that . . . is probably more important than dealing with success.”

-Mark Bernsen, new Rivermen head basketball coach

SOFTBALL, FROM PAGE 5

ing this year as the season nears an end.

"The fact that they are working well together compliments the fact that they are doing a nice job and looking at the next hitter and whether they can hurt us or not," Kennedy said. "We are very fortunate with them this year."

The Riverwomen then traveled to take on McKendree on the road.

UM-St. Louis lost both games, 0-7 and 2-3, in non-conference action.

"They went to the NAIA championships last year, but I don't think that they are better than us," Kennedy said. "I think we played pretty poorly that day, and it showed. We didn't hit the ball well or play good defense."

In the second game, the Riverwomen were leading going into the seventh inning 2-1, but McKendree came back to answer with a lead-off homerun and then their third hitter went yard to win the game for McKendree.

Although the field at McKendree is quite a bit smaller than the usual fields that the Riverwomen play on, Kennedy had no complaints about the size.

"It was a tough loss on a small field," Kennedy said. "You can't make excuses because they left the yard more than we did."

UM-St. Louis then took on Wisconsin-Parkside and swept a doubleheader, 2-0 and 6-5.

"[Rogoz] pitched a great game in the first," Kennedy said. "She shutout teams around the conference, but had a nice performance here."

In the second game, the Riverwomen were down 5-2 at one point, but UM-St. Louis rallied late on a Megan Kuebler homerun in the sixth and then in the bottom of the seventh, scored three to claim victory.

The Riverwomen then took on Lewis University at home and lost the pair 0-2 and 3-4.

"It is tough to play a team that you haven't had a lot of success with," Kennedy said. "Their pitcher pitched a nice game in the first. It was probably the two best pitchers in our league going at it in the first game. It was a tough, close game."

On a side note, Rogoz was named co-player of the week in the GLVC with pitcher Sarah Van Gorp from Lewis. Rogoz and Van Gorp faced each other earlier in the week.

"I thought she had earned it the week before when she went 3-0. This is the first time in my three years that we have had a player honored as conference player of the week," Kennedy said. "It is outstanding that we had a player receive this honor."

PLAYERS, FROM PAGE 5

"Coach is going to expect a lot out of us," Stewart said. "You can take away what he is going to do for us on the court and in school. The greatest thing about him is he wants to make us better people. He seems to really want to help us grow into great adults."

"He is trying to make us better," Riverman Michael Coleman said. "I am really excited."

If things go as planned, the excitement will spill over onto the court. Bernsen set a goal of 20 victories next season which may seem a little far-fetched. The Rivermen have won 19 games over the past three seasons.

"I don't think 20 victories was all that unreasonable of a goal," Stewart said. "If we would have had a center we would have won five more games this season."

One of the things the players said they liked most was Bernsen's changing of the offensive game. The offense will focus on attacking early using the team's athletic

ability. Riverman Jason Frillman said it is a circle offense.

"He is going to let the guys run," Frillman said. "It is going to give us an opportunity to do a lot more things with the talent that we have on the team."

Athletic Director Pat Dolan said it comes as no surprise to her that Bernsen plans on making the most of next season. Bernsen plans on doing as well as they can for the benefit of the current players.

"Sometimes when a new coach comes in they forget about the players that were already there," Dolan said. "They institute a four or five year plan and by the time that plan comes to happening the current players are gone. Coach Bernsen realizes this and he wants to do as well as he can now and not forget about the players today. That is the sort of things we saw early in him. He is not only a great basketball coach, but he really cares about the players. He looks at the team as an extended family."

GLVC Baseball/Softball Standings

Baseball			Softball		
	GLVC	Overall		GLVC	Overall
<b>North Division</b>					
#21 Indianapolis	10-5	27-12-1	SIU-Edwardsville	13-3	23-14
Saint Joseph's	9-8	26-11-1	Lewis	11-4-1	24-10-1
Wisc.-Parkside	6-11	19-25	#17 S. Indiana	11-5	27-8
18-14			<b>UM-St. Louis</b>	<b>10-6</b>	<b>22-18</b>
Lewis	6-11	19-25	Wisc.-Parkside	7-9	15-20
IUPU-Ft. Wayne	5-11	19-17	Quincy	7-9	18-17
Northern Kentucky	1-15	18-20	Northern Kentucky	6-8	14-11
			Bellarmine	5-7	20-19
<b>South Division</b>					
#6 Quincy	13-0-1	27-5-1	Saint Joseph's	5-8-1	6-25-1
#10 SIU-Edwardsville	14-3	30-12	Indianapolis	4-12	12-17
Southern Indiana	11-5	28-13-1	IUPU-Ft. Wayne	2-12	7-17
<b>#25 UM-St. Louis</b>	<b>6-5-1</b>	<b>18-8-1</b>			
Bellarmine	7-9	21-23			
Kentucky-Wesleyan	6-11	17-23			

\*Standings as of April 16

\*Standings as of April 12

The University Program Board and Spanish Club Presents

The 1st Annual Outdoor Movie Night

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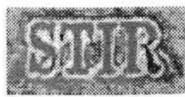
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### Misc

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A memorial service for faculty, staff and students who died this school year is scheduled for 4 p.m. Wed., April 28, in the Interfaith Chapel of the South Campus Residence Hall. Reception follows. Call Betty: 385-3455.

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### Personals

SWM, UMSL student, seeks correspondence/friendship with single Indian female exchange student who also attends UMSL. Please write to: SWM, 475 Raven Lane, Florissant, MO 63031-2129

### MY LIFE IN SYNDICATION BY: MARY JOHNSON



### THE NERD TABLE BY: MARY JOHNSON



## Readers!

Through the end of April, The Current will be displaying 2 cartoons.

Visit The Current web forum to vote for your favorite along with any other comments you might have.

[www.umsl.edu/studentlife/current/forum1.htm](http://www.umsl.edu/studentlife/current/forum1.htm)

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