



► **King of the Ring:** UM-St. Louisan Mark Bland hopes to enter the ranks of professional wrestling.

See page 5.



► **Box Office Dog:** 'Lost and Found' is a disastrous attempt at a romantic comedy.

See Page 8.

► **Fit To Be Tied:** The arrival of Spring means yet another opportunity to get bit by the fitness bug.

See Page 3.

NEWS FROM ALL OVER

Viral Jeopardy played at UNLV

(U-WIRE) LAS VEGAS — University of Nevada-Las Vegas students had the chance to try their luck on the Slots O' Latex and spin the Wheel of Misfortune, during the annual Sexually Transmitted Disease Awareness Day on the Pida Plaza Wednesday.

The event sponsored by the UNLV Biology 410/610 virology class, in conjunction with the Student Health Center, educated and informed students about the prevention of STDs with games, food and other activities.

Senior Jason Hoskin, a biology major in the virology class said entertainment allowed the class to educate students in a nonthreatening manner.

"That way we figured we'd be more likely to get people to stop [by]," said Hoskin. "Before you can teach people you have to get their attention."

Along with being a contestant on Viral Jeopardy, students could enter a raffle to win prizes such as shot-glasses with the logo, "no glove, no love," gift certificates and compact discs. Educational pamphlets and a plethora of flavored condoms were also provided.

Assistant professor of biology Marcie McClure, who teaches the virology class, said overall the event was a success. She also said she received some objection to the distribution of condoms.

"There was a gentleman who came up and said that the only way to protect yourself is through abstinence," said McClure. "That is true, but the reality is, people have sex."

McClure added that she was impressed with the work her biology students did to coordinate Wednesday's event.

"I don't want the information to be left in the classroom. We shouldn't keep our information to ourselves," said McClure. "We have an obligation to educate about this on our campus."

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Butler wins narrow victory

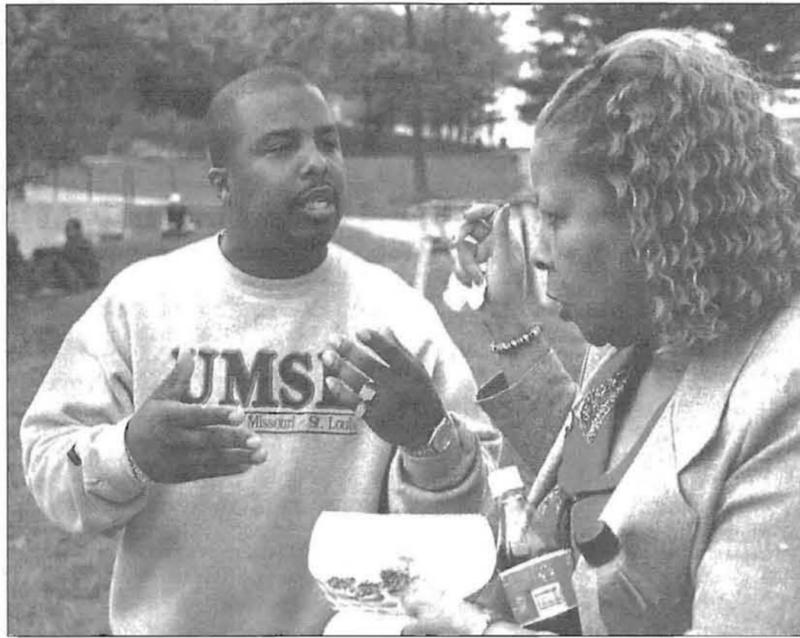
Students choose split ticket as Reformation slate takes other offices

11111111 BY JOE HARRIS senior editor

Darwin Butler became the Student Government Association President-elect on Friday after he edged out Reformation slate candidate Jacqueline Anderson 325 to 306 in the voting.

Butler said that he was happy with the results and that the victory means a lot to him.

"I was blessed, my prayers were answered," Butler said. "I really put my heart in it. The job means something to me... it may be a small thing to some people...



Stephanie Platt/The Current

Vice-President-elect files grievance over alleged confrontation

BY JOE HARRIS senior editor

Student Government Association vice-presidential candidate Carrie Mowen filed a grievance with the student court against SGA presidential candidate Darwin Butler, Monday.

Butler and Mowen were elected to their respective positions as president and vice-president in results announced Friday.

The grievance covers an alleged verbal confrontation between Mowen and Butler in The Underground earlier this month, as well as alleging several rules infractions regarding Butler's campaign.

"On Wednesday, April 14, 1999, SGA presidential candidate Darwin Butler and myself exchanged words. During our discussion, Mr. Butler informed me that he works in Human Resources for the University and could 'take my check,'" Mowen stated in the grievance.

The grievance said the discussion made Mowen feel threatened, so she told the other members of her Reformation slate.

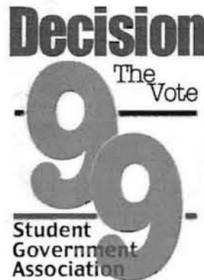
Reformation slate presidential candidate Jacqueline Anderson and Mowen had scheduled a barbecue to meet with voters on the following day, and Mowen said Butler, who heads an opposing slate, indicated that he was going to attend. Mowen said the decision was made by Anderson to not allow Butler into the barbecue because of the confrontation.

"If these words had not been spoken, if I did not feel personally threatened by [Butler], he would have been more than welcomed there and we would have greeted him like any other student," Mowen said. "Unfortunately due to the circumstances on Wednesday, not only did he make me feel uncomfortable, but he made the people I'm running with very uncomfortable also."

When Butler arrived at the barbecue, he was escorted out of the premises by the campus police.

Butler said there was a discussion between himself and Mowen on that Wednesday, but denies saying anything about taking her check.

see GRIEVANCE, page 7



Constitution gets approval from SGA Assembly, awaits vote from student body. See page 6.

Butler said that he is ready to get going and that one of his priorities will be parking. Butler said the parking issue raises a couple of questions that he wants answered.

"It may be one student paying \$10, but if you think over the whole student body or how many parking students there are, think of the percentages they may be paying - those numbers get larger," Butler said. "Now what is going on with the revenue? And is the revenue anticipated? Those are the questions I would like answered."

Butler will be joined in office by two members of Anderson's Reformation slate, Carrie Mowen and Bryan Shaw. Mowen

see ELECTION, page 6



Stephanie Platt/The Current

ABOVE: Darwin Butler campaigns at Mirthday, Wednesday, while talking to Janice Vails, coordinator of the African-American Scholars Retention Program

LEFT: Junior Aaron Kohrs casts his vote Wednesday afternoon at Mirthday. Balloting also took place Thursday during the late morning, early afternoon and evening.

ELECTION RESULTS

PRESIDENT

Darwin Butler.....325..51.2%
 Jacqueline Anderson...306..48.2%
 Write-ins.....4....0.6%

VICE-PRESIDENT

Carrie Mowen.....446..92.3%
 Write-ins/None.....37....7.7%

COMPTROLLER

Bryan Shaw.....310..54.6%
 Jana Johnson.....256..45.1%
 None.....2....0.4%

Winners Italicized.
 Source: SGA Election Committee

Mirthday provides fun, activities for students

BY ANNE PORTER staff associate

The red and white striped box of popcorn reads, "Delicious, Nutritious." The nutritious aspects of this air-light concoction are doubtful, but it worked as a good standby to cure relentless pangs of hunger while waiting in line at Mirthday.

The lines were the worst aspect of Mirthday, and even they were well worth the wait because there was always something most entertaining at the end of the line.

Mirthday, the annual carnival at UM-St. Louis, offered an activity to satisfy every palate.

For the outdoor enthusiasts, there were Human Darts, the Bubble Run, and Jousting. The idea that somehow the human body can be used as a dart on an enormous inflatable dart board could only be tried by the most valiant of students. For those of that degree of bravery, the jousting provided an equal, if not a greater, challenge. The Bubble Run provided unparalleled fun, without any real danger, except of course, the participants feeling like a hamster in one of those plastic running spheres.

For those seeking aesthetic entertainment, two caricaturists would give them their own take-home momento of a some-

what altered ego of themselves. The Indian Students Association was adorning many bodies with henna tattoos for additional art and beauty.

For those seeking entertainment of a higher level, palm readings, and tarot card readings were available.

Tanika Hale is a junior in business. "The palm reader was very close in some of the things she found. She told me where I was from, which was correct, and my major, which was correct, but some of the other things she said I'm not so sure about," Hale said.

Meanwhile, in the tarot card line, many wanted to find out about their futures.

Kris Chisolm is a sophomore in psychology.

"I hope to find out more about my career and love life. It's just to have fun, pretty much," Chisolm said.

The best aspect of Mirthday is arguably that everything is free, except of course, for the food, soda, beer, and wine.

Deirdre Renay Gilkey is a communications major.

"I think that Mirthday is a great escape from the burden of writing papers and studying. Mirthday is a good celebration. I, myself, visited various booths... and I am actually going to have my palm read and maybe a caricature taken," Gilkey said.

Many student and University organizations constructed booths at Mirthday.

University Health Services gave away free bottled water for those thirsty and squeezable brains to strengthen those muscles, and hopefully through the increased blood circulation, strengthen the mind.

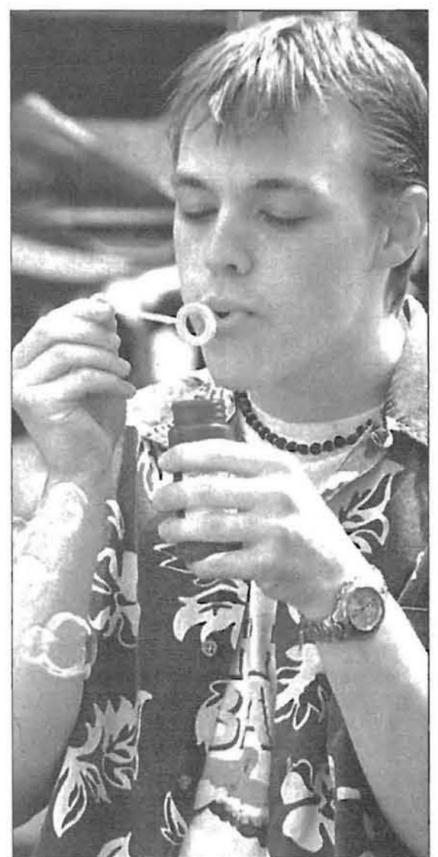
The Auxiliary Services booth gave away cotton candy and the chance to name the new University Center. Someone who is the lucky namer receives \$100 in gift certificates from University Bookstore and Food Service Consultants, Inc.

Student organizations were also giving away fun things. The International Student Organization decorated their booth with flags and would translate any name into Armenian or Russian.

The Japanese Student Association, Korean Student Organization, Chinese Student Association, and Chinese Student Association-Mainland also provided name translations for students and any other information students desired.

Various political organizations represented themselves, such as the Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance, the Reformation Slate, the Student Government Association, and the North County Young Democrats.

see MIRTHDAY, page 7



Stephanie Platt/The Current

Freshman Tom Grevlich blows bubbles during Wednesday's annual Mirthday celebration. For all the colorful sights of Mirthday 1999 check out our special photo spread on page 10.

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

Bulletin Board

Put it on the Board: The Current Events Bulletin Board is a service provided free of charge to all student organizations and University departments and divisions 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. 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.

• **Student Invited Speaker Series "Avian Song dialects: Assortative**

"Mating or Sexual Selection" will be given by Luis F. Baptista at 4 p.m. in 102 Benton Auditorium. Sponsored by the Biology Graduate Student Association.

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.

Campus CrimeLine

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

April 13, 1999

A student residing at the U-Meadows reported that between April 11 at 9 p.m. and April 12 at 1 a.m. a plaid shirt and a green jacket were stolen from his auto. The auto was parked at the U-Meadows.

April 14, 1999

A student residing at Seton Hall reported that between 11:45 p.m. on April 13 and 1:05 a.m. on April 14 the left front door glass on her vehicle was broken out. A Clarion AM/FM car

stereo, compact discs, a bookbag and a textbook were taken. The vehicle was parked at Seton.

A student residing at the South Campus Residence Hall reported that between April 13 at 11 p.m. and April 14 at 1 a.m. that the driver's door glass was broken out of his vehicle while it was parked on the lot. Taken from the vehicle was an OKI cellular phone.

A student residing at the U-Meadows

reported that her apartment had been burglarized. A Canon camera, an AT&T cordless phone, a cellular phone and charger and an Audiovox CD player were taken. Entry was gained through an insecure window between 9 a.m. and 12 p.m.

April 16

A woman reported that at 2:30 p.m. her ex-boyfriend attempted to strike her with his auto as she walked across University Drive. The case will be presented to the St. Louis

County Prosecutor's Office for review.

UPDATE

A juvenile was arrested as a suspect in the theft of three jars of chemicals from the Research Building.

The vehicle stolen from the new Student Center construction site was recovered at 4434 Randall Place in St. Louis City. The tailgate was missing.

Tired of passing out flyers?

Advertise in *The Current*, call 516-5316 for more information.

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Multicultural Awareness

World Fest '99

Sponsored by University of Missouri-St. Louis Multicultural Relations/Academic Affairs Office

Fri., April 30 - Sat., May 1, 1999

Friday, April 30

JC Penney Conference Center

Featuring:

Afro-Cuban Ensemble
 UM-St. Louis
 Music Department

The Honorable William Gray, III
 President, CEO - The College Fund/UNCF
 As head of America's oldest and most successful black higher education assistance organization, Mr. Gray has led the College Fund to new fundraising records while cutting costs, expanding programs and services.

Performances by
Ptah Williams and
Denise Thimes



Friday, April 30

JC Penney Conference Center

Featuring:

**Children
 Interactive Workshop**

Multicultural/Diversity Workshops:

- Hispanic/Latino Cultures
- African Presence in Mexico
- Asian American Cultures
- African Family History and Genealogy

Vendors/Cultural Booths

Entertainment:

- Joia (Brazilian)
- Unity (African Diaspora)
- Ragamuffin (World Music)
- The Boney Goat Band (Blue Grass)
- Dasoulinme (Hip-Hop)
- El Caribe Tropical (Latin Music)
- Folkloric Group Columbia (Columbia Dance)
- Dub Dis (Reggae)

This event is free and open to the public
 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

The Multicultural Relations Academic Affairs Office at (314) 516-6807, One World Inc. at (314) 330-9647,
 or visit our web site at www.site.yahoo.com/oneworldinc/
 e-mail address: oneworldinc@hotmail.com



FEATURES

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

GET THIS

Littleton killings have no answers

As if we didn't have enough to deal with already. There's the crisis in Kosovo, the total loss of morality in the Oval Office, the steadily expanding hole in the ozone layer, and the blatant disrespect of the sanctity of marriage, just to name a few. At least the banana wars have finally ended. But, now we have to worry about random shootings on school grounds.

I don't mean to make light of the subject. In fact, I haven't been this serious about an issue for some time. I'm just totally at my wit's end.

All of this crap is getting way out of hand. On one side of the globe, we have people killing each other in the name of God. On the other side, children are blasting away their peers with sawed off shotguns while onlookers blame the devil.

Why? That's a very good question.

Unfortunately, no one seems to know the answer. I've quit trying to understand why. It seems to me that it's like pondering the meaning of life. No one is ever going to figure it out. Oh, I know there will be theories and hypotheses and educated guesses. But does it really matter? It's not going to make a damn bit of difference. It's not going to stop any future dramas with the same plot from running their course.

What can we do about it? Also, a good question. I honestly do not think that we can do anything about it. It may be something that we cannot control, predict or correct. There's no quick-fix for this one, and I think people find that scary as hell.

You see, I was literally dumbfounded when I heard about the first incident. I continued to be shocked every time after that, until now. But then I thought, why is everyone so surprised? It makes perfect sense. Kids can be cruel, teachers can be tough. High school can be hell for those who don't "fit in." Student fantasies involving school bombs and massacres frighteningly similar to recent events are not exactly new. There have been "bullies" and "nerds" as long as I can remember. The storyline hasn't changed, only the props are different. What used to turn into a cafeteria fist fight has now evolved into fatal gunfire.

It's just progress, right? Government officials and big wigs everywhere continue to produce insane amounts of artillery and develop new and improved chemical weapons. Yet, society is confused when kids use guns and homemade bombs to kill unsuspecting bystanders.

How can it be acceptable to murder thousands of innocents in a far-away land but a national outrage when 15 lose their lives in Colorado? I'm sorry, but that perspective seems a little out-of-whack to me.

I hear people blame music and video games that are filled with violence for the mentality of the children who snap. Where do they think the artists and creators get their material from? Sure, they are creative folk, but they didn't pull it all out of thin air. It's based on reality.

It seems to me that the core of the problem runs much deeper than anyone wants to admit. Instead of focusing so much on why it happens or trying to place blame, all I can do is grieve for the loss of life and the tremendous turmoil of the survivors and the families.

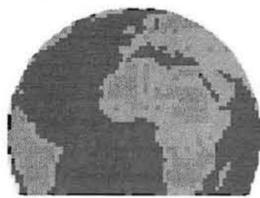
And, I can remember how precious my own life and the lives of my loved ones really are, and remember to appreciate that.



AMY LOMBARDO
Features Editor

The Office of Multicultural Relations at UM-St. Louis is sponsoring World Fest '99, a week-end series of events and programs designed to bring the diversity of the planet to the campus' doorstep

World Fest '99



BY ANNE PORTER
staff associate

The UM-St. Louis Office of Multicultural Relations/Academic Affairs offers many programs and services, such as individual student consultations, academic workshops, network programs, test-taking seminars, and support service seminars.

In addition to all these services, this weekend Multicultural Relations/Academic Affairs will sponsor a Multicultural Awareness festival called "World Fest '99."

Gwendolyn DeLoach-Packnett is the director of Multicultural Relations/Academic Affairs.

"We've never brought in a nationally-known speaker, and we are bringing in William Gray III, who is president and CEO of the United Negro College Fund. He believes in a nation of diversity and its importance to our world," DeLoach-Packnett said.

Before Gray speaks, which will be from 7 p.m.-8 p.m. on Friday, the Afro-Cuban Ensemble of the UM-St. Louis Music Department will perform. After Gray speaks, Pta Williams, a locally known jazz artist, will perform with Denise Thimes, a talented blues singer.

"It will be an opportunity to meet William Gray and mingle with others. Community persons from diverse groups have been invited, as well, of course, as the campus community," DeLoach-Packnett said.

Saturday's activities will begin at 9 a.m. with a plenary session on multiculturalism and diversity.

After the plenary session, the workshops will begin. The workshops will cover topics such as Diversity in America, Hispanic/Latino Cultures, the African-American Presence in Mexico, Asian-American Cultures, and African-American History and Genealogy.

"These individuals came last year and did an outstanding job. From the evaluations, unanimously all of them were well-received, and we

thought we would have them back a second time," DeLoach-Packnett said.

From 9 a.m.-11 a.m., a Children's Interactive Workshop will entertain the children in attendance, which is led by the UM-St. Louis Center for Human Origin and Cultural Diversity.

The "Celebration of Diversity" will begin about 11 a.m. The "Celebration" consists of performances of Asian-American music, martial arts demonstrations, Ralph Bunch students, El Grupo Latinoamericano De San Luis, Inc., a Native American dance, and the Harambee Institute.

All of these events take place at the J.C. Penney Conference Center until 1:30 p.m. when attendance prize drawings will occur.

"Because this is an institute of higher learning, we wanted to present the academic side of things

Our hope is that hundreds will participate.

-Gwendolyn DeLoach-Packnett
director of the Office of Multicultural Relations/Academic Affairs

as well as the entertainment. So after the workshops, we will... have a celebration of diversity, entertainment, [and] various cultures," DeLoach-Packnett said.

The various entertainers, which will all perform every hour on the hour, offer a taste of all different kinds of music and culture. The performers include Joia (Brazilian), Unity (African Diaspora), Rragamuffin (World Music), and The Boney Goat Band (Bluegrass). Other performances include Dasoulinne (Hip-Hop), El Caribe Tropical (Latin music), Folkloric Group Columbia (Columbian dance), and Dub Dis (Reggae).

To offer another taste of the diverse cultures in

attendance, vendors will be selling wares, clothing, jewelry, and books all day at World Fest '99.

"The Office of Multicultural Relations wanted to say to the campus community, students and faculty alike, and as well, we wanted to share with the larger community the significance of diversity, and we can only share it by creating an atmosphere that will bring about a better understanding of various cultures," DeLoach-Packnett said.

Because the St. Louis community and the UM-St. Louis population continues to grow in diversity, a definite need for this understanding of different cultures exists.

About 150 people participated in the first Multicultural Festival.

"We are, therefore, wanting to enlarge it and expand. Our hope is that hundreds will participate," DeLoach-Packnett said.

In order to accomplish this, some aspects of the organization were approached differently. These include more publicity (in The Post Dispatch and The Riverfront Times), an all-day Saturday event, vendors, more outside groups participating, and the addition of a nationally-known speaker.

"We were pleased with the response of the student body last year, but it could be significantly better. This is primarily for our students. We want our students to be part of the entire experience," DeLoach-Packnett said.

If interested in volunteering for World Fest '99, please contact Linda Sharp in Multicultural Relations. All volunteers will receive a T-shirt and button to help identify them as volunteers at the festival.

"We are very excited. It has been a lot of work, but we believe in diversity, so it is well worth every effort," DeLoach-Packnett said.

World Fest '99 is free and open to the public. For more information, call the Multicultural Relations/Academic Affairs Office at (314) 516-6807.

UNDER THE CURRENT

compiled by Sam Kastle/staff photographer

Where do you like to hang out?

"I like to go to the Riverport. I like hanging on the lawn, it's a lot of fun. You can sit with a group of friends and enjoy the music. You can meet a lot of interesting people."



-Tracy Leebolt
Freshman/Chemistry



"I work at the Cheetah down on Washington. M.P. O'Reilly's has a laid back environment and it's nice because most people know each other."

-Greg Kilper
Senior/Physics

"The only thing I do is go to the movies. . . I'll watch any type of movies, except romance."



-Laila Al-Zakwani
Sophomore/Psychology



"In the summer I hang out in the Loop and like to meet people. I like the Loop because you see different kinds of people."

-Thebe Bagwasi
Senior/Biology

Spring marks time to keep resolutions, get in shape

BY SHAVON PERKINS
of The Current staff

As the barometer rises, so do hem lines, and most of us notice that winter's festivities (or lack thereof) added a few pounds. With spring comes a sense of renewal, a time to remember your New Year's resolutions and start taking better care of the body. In the back of our minds we know we are going to have to get into a swimsuit at some time, and so the pressure sets in. It's time to hit the gym!

For most of us, exercise is seen as a chore, something we should do but don't. In fact 60-80 percent of Americans are not exercising regularly. We all know it is good for us, a necessary component of good health, but still we drag our feet in this area.

A UM-St. Louis exercise physiologist says that the best type of physical exercise is "whole body, large muscle activity, things that work large muscle groups as rhythmically as possible." Bruce Clark, associate professor of physical education at UM-St. Louis offers many tips for the young and old alike.

"For optimum heart health, it is important to develop a lifestyle not focused around exercise and dieting, but rather developing healthy habits and incorporating them into your daily life," Clark said.

Clark is also director of the Active Adult Program at UM-St. Louis which offers Yoga, lifetime sports, and low-impact aerobics for older adults in the community. The average age in the program is around seventy. Clark points out that growing old doesn't mean that one should slow down.

"Half of changes which lead to declining health are related to lifestyle changes, and not the aging process," said Clark. He adds that "when older adults put their feet up to relax after retirement, the lack of exercise causes muscle loss." The American College of Sports Medicine supports this line of thought. The ACSM is made up of physicians, nurses, physical therapists, instructors, and exercise physiologists who are currently working to educate others about exercise for older adults. This should be a concern for all of us, young and old. In the next fifteen years, it is estimated that 70 million baby boomers will move into the older adults category. Keeping them healthy is quite a task, but exercise can help.

For example, Clark said that older adults with arthritis can benefit from the low impact exercises which help to loosen up joints. Exercise can also contribute to your moods with the help of endorphins, a chemical secreted by the brain which is

chemically similar to morphine. Exercise increases the output of endorphins and gives you a natural high.

"If you're having a bad day, exercise will elevate your mood," Clark notes.

But exercise is not a quick fix. It is important to maintain a healthy lifestyle throughout the years to avoid heart disease for us all.

There are two types of risk factors which contribute to heart disease, those which we have no control over, and those we can control. The four risk factors that are uncontrollable are gender, race, age, and heredity. Taking into consideration all the risk factors, Clark believes that exercise is the most important factor in avoiding cardiovascular disease.

"Of the risk factors you can control, all have a relationship to exercise," Clark said.

For example, high blood pressure can be moderated by exercise and the same can be said of body fat. Cholesterol, stress, and diabetes are also risk factors that exercise affects in a positive manner.

Most of us know this already, but we still avoid exercise like it were a never-ending term paper. So how does one get started on an exercise program that they will actually stick to?

Bruce Clark offers this advice: "Incorporate exercise in your life. For example, instead of saying 'let's do lunch' to a friend, try 'let's go for a walk.' Make it fun and rotate activities so that you don't get bored."

Being motivated is also key. Junior Robert McCulley, a business and criminal justice major works out seven days a week.

McCulley notes that "There is a guy at my gym who is 88 and still running. He's an inspiration for me."

Clark also adds that exercise does not have to mean going to the gym. Exercise should be convenient, so that you are more likely to do it. And that is not an easy task for most of us. Senior Sami Iqbal, a sociology major agrees.

"Last year I worked out three to four times a week, but this year with my schedule it is more of a chore. My ideal form of exercise is just playing sports with friends," he said.

You can make small changes in your daily routine to increase activity. For example, take the stairs instead of the elevator. Don't circle the mall looking for the best parking spot; rather, park farther away and walk.

There is something for everyone, young and old. Whether it is dancing, gardening, biking, or walking the dog, everyone can benefit from more exercise.

COMMENTARY

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THE STUDENT VOICE OF UM-ST. LOUIS

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OUR OPINION

Campus department sets shining example

The Issue:

Auxiliary Services gave students the chance to name the new U. Center at their booth during Mirthday. They also had a beam for students to sign their name to which will be placed in the Center.

We Suggest:

This was a good idea because it got the students involved and more campus departments should model that.

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

Life, they say, is in the little things, so it is all the more important that small gestures mean a lot. Two of those gestures were evident last week when Auxiliary Services made a couple of small but important offerings to the cause of student involvement.

The department's Mirthday booth allowed students to suggest a name for the new Student Center now under construction on the North Campus. The idea of taking suggestions was announced at an SGA meeting months ago when it was suggested that student representatives contact their organizations and then come up with possible names for the Center.

Eventually, it was decided to give the student body as a whole the chance to voice their opinion. This was definitely a better idea since it truly represents an effort to take the pulse of the entire student body, rather than just those students that are active in organizations.

Auxiliary Services also came up with a second idea to promote involvement with the new U Center. For posterity's sake, they allowed students the opportunity to sign their names to a beam that will later be placed in the center's structure.

Both ideas show the kind of student-oriented thinking that others on this campus would do well to emulate and that students should do more to demand. It is fitting that the new Student Center bear a name on which students have had input and that a beam in the Center should be marked with some evidence of the student body which helped the project come to fruition.

In this case, Auxiliary Services has displayed the sort of attitude that some other parts of this campus have sorely lacked in the past. For this, the department should be congratulated.

Mirthday dies for two hours

Why must the mirth be interrupted yet again?

An otherwise stellar Mirthday has again been marred by the inexplicable two-hour gap between two and four p.m. that plagues it every year. The event which begins at 10 a.m. is always a campus affair to be proud of but its closure at two often drives away crowds and booth-keepers alike. Inevitably, by the time the event reopens at four most of the folks have gone away. The crowds dissipate and those manning the organizations' booths must either pack their wares back to their quarters only to haul them back two hours later or be forced to stand at a dormant booth waiting patiently for the early afternoon masses to return. They never do.

It is not surprising then that most organizations decide to simply go home after the first session, leaving late-arrivers to meander abandoned booths amongst the deserted aisles. The four-to-six reopening may attract a few hardy souls but most don't think it worth the bother.

Some would say the mass exodus would happen anyway, even if the party were scheduled to continue through the two dead hours. This may be true, but we owe it to the campus to try to bring the mirth back. Maybe next year UM-St. Louis could try a continuous 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Mirthday. Perhaps the continuity would keep at least few students around for an extra helping of cotton candy at one of the campus' most anticipated annual events.

Earning karma at the grocery store

I met Elmer at the Shop 'n Save meat freezer, right in front of the sausage section. He recommended the maple-flavored sausage.

I liked sausage about as much as I enjoyed talking to Elmer, which is to say not very much. Have you ever been trapped by a lonely elderly person who suddenly feels the inexplicable need to converse with you on pretty well any and every subject under the sun. That was Elmer. You try to walk away. You try to look occupied. You try all the subtle and some of the not so subtle signals to indicate that you did not budget this much time in your schedule for pleasantries in the freezer aisle with total strangers and you must get on with your life now. It does no good. Elmer is immune to the social graces. He feels the need to talk and you feel the horrible responsibility to listen.

I told Elmer that I did not care for sausage because of the cholesterol. This proved to be a tactical mistake on my part because it turned out that Elmer had a great many opinions on the subject of cholesterol. Elmer informed me that he was 79 years old and he had eaten sausage all his life and it hadn't hurt him any. "Well, doctors say—" I tried weakly. "DOCTORS . . .!!!" Elmer began what promised to be another extensive exposition of his views.

Elmer told me that he was 79 and that he had had the same doctor for thirty years. Elmer said he had very little use for doctors. Elmer seemed to have very little use for many things, doctors, the Food and Drug Administration, television, Democrats . . .

By the way, had I seen that girl on TV who alleged Bill Clinton had raped her? What did I think? "Umm, well, I dunno . . ." I began, edging away.

Elmer interrupted and told me he was 79 years old and had never seen such a disgraceful president. How dreadful, and the government was in a terrible state. All those bureaucrats, and the FDA, and those television doctors who scare everybody over perfectly good sausage . . . Why, if those doctors knew anything they'd hang out a shingle instead of being on TV . . . What is the world coming to? In all his 79 years it seemed Elmer had never seen the planet in such a sorry state.

I don't remember how I finally escaped Elmer's clutches, though I recall it was not easy. Then again, what does it matter? Okay, so he took ten minutes of my life that I will never see again. I'm still young, I can spare it. Elmer, after all, was not a bad guy, just a talkative one. Anyway, perhaps a chance to earn karma in the grocery store isn't such an awful thing. Who knows, someday, I may need it. Maybe around the year 2055, when some yet-to-be-born twenty-three-year-old college student, is forced to listen politely to the opinionated meanderings of another old coot, while wishing he was somewhere else . . .



DAVID BAUGHER
Editor-in-Chief

Hockey bids farewell to 'The Great One'

Very few athletes ever rise above their sport, let alone transcend the whole sports world. When one of these special athletes comes along, fans flock to them, the media flock to them, and nobody ever seems to be able to let go.

Wayne Gretzky was one of these special athletes. He, like Michael Jordan in basketball, raised his sport to another level. Unfortunately, sports fans now have to say goodbye to Gretzky as they did to Jordan just three months before.

Dubbed "The Great One" at age nine, Gretzky burst on the scene as a 17-year-old phenom for the Edmonton Oilers. He scored 51 goals and recorded 86 assists in 80 games as a rookie, but the best was yet to come.

He would go on to lead the Oilers to four Stanley Cups, and he scored over 200 points in four out of five seasons from 1981-1986. During that span, he averaged over 207 points a season. No other player in the history of sports has put up those kinds of numbers, and no other player in NHL history has ever scored 200 points in a season. This would be like Jordan averaging over 50 points per game during a five-year span.

He was traded (sold) to the Los Angeles Kings prior to the 1988 season.

Gretzky brought hockey from the snow belt of Canada to the sun belt of the United States. His popularity made it possible for teams to be successful in markets such as Anaheim, Phoenix, Dallas, Tampa Bay, Miami, and Nashville.

Before Gretzky moved to Los Angeles, who would have ever thought of the possibility of a heated rivalry between Dallas and Phoenix?

In 1993, Gretzky guided the Kings to the Stanley Cup finals where they would lose to the Montreal Canadiens. Along the way, Gretzky played what is arguably his best game in the Western Conference finals against the Toronto Maple Leafs. It was game seven in a packed Maple Leaf Gardens, when Gretzky silenced the crowd with a hat trick and willed his Kings into the finals.

In 1997, Gretzky and Mark Messier (one of his old Edmonton teammates) led the Rangers into the Eastern Conference finals. It would be the last time Gretzky would see the playoffs.

Gretzky played in 1,485 regular season games. He scored 894 goals and recorded 1,962 assists. Not only does he hold the record for most goals ever scored in the NHL, he has more assists than any other player in the history of hockey has points.

Gretzky was also an exceptional playoff performer. In 208 playoff games he scored 122 goals and had 260 assists for 382 playoff points. Aside from the four Stanley Cup titles with Edmonton, Gretzky also won the Conn Smythe Trophy (Stanley Cup playoffs MVP) twice.

However, Gretzky is more than just a player who achieved greatness through awards and championships. Some of his records may never be broken, and the memories he has given a generation will never be forgotten.

No hockey fan will ever forget where they were when they saw him break Gordie Howe's goal scoring record or his unforgettable performance at this year's All-Star game when he took MVP honors.

In retirement Gretzky is more than just a superstar. He is Mr. Hockey.



JOE HARRIS
Managing Editor

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Facing the problems of UM-St. Louis

Why is it that UM-St. Louis:

—Likes to demolish attractive, older buildings (i.e., Mt. Providence)?

—Continues to partially support a radio station which is not for student use (KWMU)?

—Is one of the few major St. Louis higher educational institutions without a presence in Downtown or Midtown St. Louis?

—Builds a new University Center with so much administrative and retail space?

—Hopes to encourage living on campus yet provides no weekend meal service?

—Wants to discourage driving from place-to-place on campus but has inconvenient shuttle service?

These are just a few questions that still trouble me. I admit every institution has problems. Overall, I like UM—St. Louis—but it certainly is not a perfect institution.

—Joe Frank

GUEST COMMENTARY

A few thoughts on the Littleton incident

I graduated from Lafayette High School in 1995. When I attended high school, there were many groups who could be considered dangerous like the "Trenchcoat Mafia," and I have no doubt that other people could attest to the fact that their high schools had the same "dangerous" groups. The reason for that suspicion is that these people have talked about gangs and fights between various gangs. Even when I was growing up in the St. Louis area, I remember hearing stories on the 10 p.m. news about shootings at local malls.

What I do not remember is being completely sickened by shootings of students and teachers at high schools, places where learning should be taking place.

Since 1997, seven major shooting sprees have been committed at schools.

October 1, 1997—A Pearl, Miss. 16-year-old male was sentenced to life in prison after being accused of killing his mother, then going to school and shooting nine students, two fatally.

December 1, 1997—A West Paducah, Ky. 14-year-old at Heath High School killed three students and wounded five others, leaving one female student paralyzed. The student is serving life in prison after pleading guilty due to mental illness.

March 24, 1998—Two males, ages 13 and 11, shot firearms from a wooded area, wounded ten people, and fatally shot four females and a teacher at a Jonesboro, Ark. middle school.

As both subjects have been convicted of murder in the juvenile courts, they can be held up to age 21.

April 24, 1998—An Edinboro, Pa. 14-year-old is waiting for a trial after allegedly shooting to death a science teacher at an eighth-grade dance in the banquet room before other students.

May 19, 1998—An 18-year-old student, three days before graduating, allegedly began shooting in the parking lot of a Fayetteville, Tenn. school. The student was accused of fatally shooting a student who was dating his ex-girlfriend and is currently awaiting trial.

May 21, 1998—A Springfield, Ore. 15-year-old is awaiting trial after allegedly fatally shooting two students and twenty other people at a high school. His parents were later found killed at their home.

Then there is the culmination to all these shootings which happened Thursday, April 20, 1999. Two students, 18 and 17, fatally shot 12 students and a teacher at Columbine High School, then turned the guns on themselves.

These shootings, may have been, in the beginning, isolated incidences, but as their numbers grow and their results become more deadly, society needs to take a second look at what is causing these shootings.

Is it that parents and teachers are inattentive to students? Is it the acceptance of violence in our American society? Is it the belief that pulling a trigger will solve the problems when the world turns upside down?

Only one certain deduction can be drawn from these shootings and that is far too many teenagers have access to guns. That, I doubt, will be eliminated soon.

What I suggest is that everyone should take a look into their neighborhoods and their families. Look not for messages that someone is going to go out on a shooting spree, but for support and understanding and help in dealing with matters that turn worlds upside down.

By turning to family and friends, maybe Columbine will be the last of the shooting sprees.



ANNE PORTER
Guest Commentary

SPORTS

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OFF THE WALL

Grudge against Clark simply won't go away

I am a person who can hold a grudge for years. In some cases a grudge can last forever. I have such a grudge. It is against former St. Louis Cardinal and current River City Rascals manager Jack Clark.

Clark was once to the Cardinals what Mark McGwire currently is to the team—the big bat in the middle who can put one over the fence in key situations.

When it came to the Cardinals' stretch runs in 1985 and 1987, Clark helped put them in the playoffs both seasons.

Clark was the x-factor and put up MVP numbers in his time with the Cards.

To put it lightly, I hate Jack Clark.

It all started late in the 1987 season. The Cardinals were playing the Padres, and I had been looking forward to the game from the moment my uncle Jim had asked me to go.

We got to the game early as getting autographs was the coolest thing in the world to me.

We walked around the stadium, first getting Lance Johnson's autograph, then Padres Dave Leiper and Bruce Bochy. Being a young kid, though, I wanted Cardinals autographs. They were, after all, my favorite team in the world.

We went over by the left field fence by the Cardinals' batting cage. Then he walked out, Jack "The Ripper" Clark, from behind the wall. He was walking with Steve Lake towards the dugout.

It was several hours before the game, and the two didn't seem to be in any hurry to get to the dugout. So I asked politely, "Mr. Clark, could you please sign my glove?"

I was ecstatic when he stopped and looked in my direction. After a few seconds, they began walking back towards the dugout ignoring any plea that I had. People around me were astounded. Why wouldn't he sign the autograph?

I couldn't quite understand it. It wasn't as if I was an adult looking to pawn off my autograph for quick cash. I was a nine year old kid wanting to get an autograph of the player that I had looked up to for years.

I later understood why Clark didn't sign the autograph. Quite simply, he is a jerk.

He later feuded with Tony Gwynn—one of the nicest baseball players that I've ever had the pleasure of meeting. Clark would be run out of San Diego as a result of his problems with Gwynn. Ozzie Smith wrote in his book that he and Clark had feuded several times during their Cardinal years.

All of this culminated when Clark was named the manager of the River City Rascals. The team will play five miles from my house, ironically in Ozzie Smith Stadium.

I don't think that I can ever attend a Rascals game with Clark as manager. I just can't cheer for a team managed by a guy that wouldn't take the time to sign an autograph for a kid.

Not that I hold a grudge, though.



KEN DUNKIN
 sports editor

Learning the ropes . . .

UM-St. Louisan Bland looks to make his Mark in pro wrestling

BY DAVE KINWORTHY
 staff associate

One of the most exciting new forms of sports entertainment today is professional wrestling. The wars between the NWO and the rest of WCW or even the Corporate Team against the WWF make for thrillers.

Mark Bland, a communication major at UM-St. Louis, hopes to be competing with these superstars one day.

Bland began his wrestling career due to an unfortunate incident in his life.

"The deal was that my best friend and I were going to do it and hopefully be a tag team," Bland said. "I had some minor wrestling background, but what happened was my best friend Jason got killed. I went into a depression for awhile. I was sitting at home one day, and I said, 'Look, I have to do this. This is something we had planned on doing.'"

"Liquid Ice," as Bland is called, is still at the beginning of his wrestling career, but remains persistent and optimistic.

"Right now, I am still considered a rookie in wrestling," Bland said. "Most rookies are rookies for their first two or three years. It is a hard way to go. As far as titles go, I am a former tag team champion, and I just got done wrestling for the junior light heavyweight [title] the past two months in a row."

Through his experience, Bland has met some big-time stars in the wrestling business.

"I have worked out with a lot of big names before," Bland said. "I have worked out with Cowboy Bob Orton and Hunter Hearst Helmsley."

This profession would seem an easy one for some, but Bland said it is a tough way to



UM-St. Louis student Mark Bland puts an armlock on fellow wrestler Chris Knight in practice at the South Broadway gym last week.

Stephanie Platt/The Current

myself in condition so that I can possibly get looked at by somebody in the future." It may appear as if the road to success is a dead end for Bland, but he believes otherwise. "Actually I am a lot better off than a lot of guys are," Bland said. "I am training with some guys who have a chance to go to some

high level places. I am really holding off right now to get more fluid in my moves before I move up."

With some of the trademark moves that today's wrestlers have, Bland has one that some might have heard of.

"My trademark move is the stunner, like Stone Cold Steve Austin," Bland said. "In my organization where I started off, nobody uses that move. That is my move. One of my favorite moves is a crucifix roll-up. You catch the guy off guard and swing around all over his body without touching him, really, and end up pinning him."

Bland has had many a career move in his stint at UM-St. Louis.

"When I started off in college here, the first thing I was going to be was a police officer," Bland said.

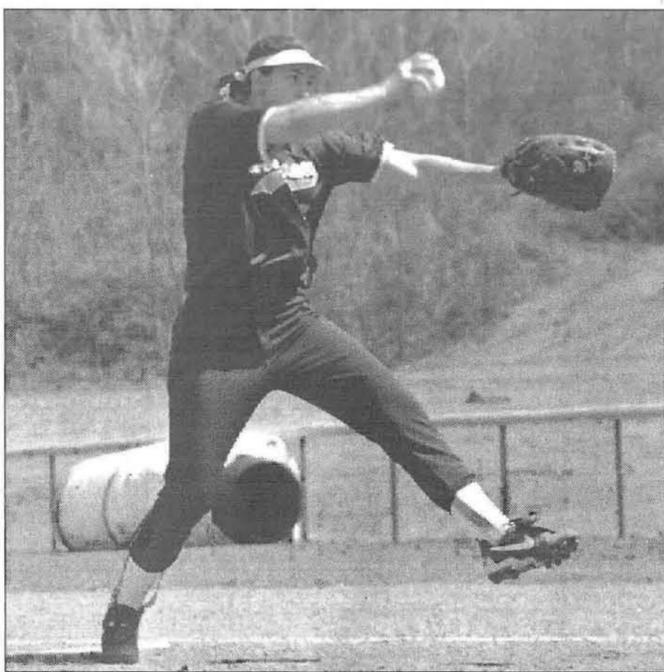
"From there I went into mathematics and did that for about two years and figured out really quickly that there was a lot more to do. I then went over to mass communication and with the major, it has helped me in the wrestling business. A lot of guys do not have a high position in their organization because the manager does not want them to say the wrong thing to the media."

With the wrestling business continuing to grow, Bland's hopes for the future remain high along with his goals.

"Possibly a run at the WWF heavyweight title," Bland said. "I really would like to get my hands on that title. I have a fake one hanging in my room at my house."

"I have a note above it that points down and says someday I will replace it with the real one."

Throwing strikes . . .



Stephanie Platt/The Current

Riverwomen pitcher Megan Kuebler delivers a fastball in a game against Lewis on Apr. 11. The Riverwomen will face Wisconsin-Parkside in the first round of the Great Lakes Valley Conference tournament this Friday. The Riverwomen enter the tournament as the fourth seed with a 12-6 record in GLVC play.

Streak buoys R-men's World Series hopes

BY KEN DUNKIN
 staff editor

With their post-season hopes in the air, the baseball team has responded by going on a nine-game winning streak.

The Rivermen continued their streak with a three game sweep of Bellarmine. The games were close, 6-0, 6-4, and 2-1. The team then defeated Southern Indiana 1-0 on Monday. Then they romped Truman State 15-11 on Wednesday.

The surge is much needed for the Rivermen. They are currently third in the south division of the Great Lakes Valley Conference. Only the top two teams in the division will go to post-season play. Quincy leads the division with a 16-0-1 record. SIU-Edwardsville stands at 14-6

in second. The Rivermen are in third at 10-5-1.

The Rivermen will have a chance to catch both squads. They have a double header to play against Quincy. They will also have a make-up game against north division leader Indianapolis.

"We will be there in the end," Rivermen first baseman Mark Masesso said. "We have to be. We worked too hard to not make it."

The final ten conference games will decide whether the team makes it. They will also have an easier final few games than most teams. Eight of the eleven conference games come against teams that have sub-.500 winning percentages in conference.

The fate of the no. 22 ranked Rivermen should be decided by May 3 when they will take on GLVC leader Indianapolis.

Tennis finishes strong in GLVC tournament

BY DAVE KINWORTHY
 staff associate

Going into the Great Lakes Valley Conference tournament, the Rivermen were seeded fourth and faced Northern Kentucky in the first round.

The Rivermen defeated Northern Kentucky 5-3 in a battle which was much closer than at first glance.

"We played very well," Head Coach Rick Gyllenberg said. "It was hard fought. We won two out of three doubles and then during singles, Scott Goodyear was in control and we lost at two singles and three singles. Four, five, and six singles went to three sets to add to the drama. Five and six singles came back to win the third set to put us ahead 5-3. It was not only close and nerve-racking, but it was good tennis."

UM-St. Louis then took on Southern Indiana an hour later and were defeated in second round play 5-0.

"Once we got [fourth in] conference and played Southern Indiana in the second round, it was unfortunately evident that we were not going to beat them," Gyllenberg said. "They were really tough and went through us pretty quickly in doubles. They never really allowed us to get out of the starting blocks."

In the third place match between UM-St. Louis and SIU-Edwardsville, the Rivermen kept it close, but SIU-Edwardsville eventually was victorious.

"We were all a little bit disappointed,"

Gyllenberg said. "We really felt and still feel that we can play with them talent-wise. The guys had the desire to place third, but they just did not play well."

With the Rivermen placing fourth in the GLVC, Gyllenberg is satisfied, but knows his team will be a force to reckon with in the future.

"Fourth is fine and a very satisfying year," Gyllenberg said. "We think we are better than that. I think we are challenging for the two or three spot. Right now Southern Indiana is the best. I do not know how well we would have to play to beat them. [We] would have to play miraculously to beat them."

The men's tennis program has come from a sub-.500 team a few years ago to a team that contends for the GLVC title, and Gyllenberg is anxious to see what his team can do next year when they lose nobody from this year's squad.

"The neatest thing about this team was on the way home, and after we got home in the parking lot," Gyllenberg said, "they were already talking about conference 2000. I have never had that in a group. The leadership is there, the desire is there, the motivation is there."

"I have six seniors coming back and wanting to set some goals for conference already. I have already got guys working out and talking about next year. They are a good group of guys who have high, but realistic goals set for the year 2000."

Golf team struggles early, shows some improvement

BY BRIAN ORTBALS
 special to The Current

UM-St. Louis' golf team began their season five weeks ago, and so far have just finished up their fourth tournament.

The team has gotten off to a shaky start losing their first four invitationals, but are showing improvement.

"We have been having some trouble early on in the season, but there are still a few invitationals left and I think that we will be continuously improving all season," Freshman Denny Lees said.

They played first this season at the NCAA District Invitational where they

unable to come away with a win. The next invitational was at Central Missouri State University, but UM-St. Louis couldn't close out that one either, and lost once again.

On April 10-11, the golfers traveled to Kentucky-Wesleyan, but were still unable to outperform their opponent, although Lees said the team was starting to play much better by that tournament.

Hopefully they can turn this season around and go from a bad start to ending on a good note. With any luck, the team will have a chance to prove themselves strong in the Great Lakes Valley Conference this season, and bring home a few wins along the

SGA constitution passes Assembly

Special election set for this week

BY SUE BRITT
staff associate

The Student Government Association approved the new SGA constitution at Thursday's meeting, after a brief debate about whether there should be an elected comptroller. The members of the SGA voted to keep the elected position.

Jim Avery, SGA president, said a vote by the student body to ratify the constitution will be held on campus, Thursday. The document was drafted primarily by Comptroller Ben Ash, who withdrew the document from consideration earlier this semester after becoming disillusioned by low attendance at meetings held to revise it. Ash agreed last month to allow the document's consideration.

D. Mike Bauer, assembly chair, addressed the SGA with a resolution to remove the office of comptroller from the SGA constitution as a position entirely.

"While I completely agree . . . that the University needs a Student Activities Budget Committee, and we need a person to chair that committee who should be a student . . . I do not think that that person needs to be an officer of the Student Government Association," Bauer said. "I'm not saying get rid of the Student Activities Budget Committee or get rid of the student chair of that committee. I'm just saying that that person doesn't need to be an officer of the Student Government Association. It doesn't seem to serve any purpose . . . to the Student Government Association to have that person as an [officer]."

SGA Vice-President Michael Rankins supported the existence of the office by saying that the comptroller is the only member of the

SABC that is elected by the entire student body and therefore the only member of that committee that directly represents the student voice. Questions of redundancy between the office of treasurer and of comptroller were addressed by current comptroller, Ben Ash. He explained the treasurer was responsible for the budget of the SGA while the comptroller was responsible for overseeing the committee allocating the budgets of every student organization on campus. Rankins added another point of reason endorsing the necessity of the office.

"I think that you need to be aware of the magnitude of this responsibility," Rankins said. "As a comptroller, this elected person draws a salary, although it is a very small salary. The rationale behind that [is] if you pay somebody and you have a paycheck to hold over their head, hopefully that will be an incentive for them to show up and do their job, although that doesn't always work," Rankins said.

Joe Flees, assembly representative, said the role of comptroller, since it is a position that oversees budgets of student organizations, could be handled by a non-elected person. He said that student organizations are not responsible for campuswide events. But Rankins did not agree.

"Student activities fees are becoming ever more volatile an issue on this campus," Rankins said. "If you want to be responsible for taking the only direct link that students really have to what they are paying out of their pockets, you're going to be responsible for it, because I'm not going to be and I wouldn't want to be."

ELECTION, FROM PAGE 1

REPRESENTATIVE SEATS

A & S (6 seats)	
Roby Bracy III.....	283
Kas'Quri Lovan.....	195
David Baugher.....	182
Robert Miller.....	139
four write-ins.....	10
Business (3 seats)	
Jennifer L. O'Neal.....	371
three write-ins.....	7
Education (2 seats)	
four write-ins.....	8
Engineering (1 seat)	
two write-ins.....	4
Evening (3 seats)	
twenty write-ins.....	22
Graduate/Prof. (4 seats)	
Michael Rankins.....	266
Steve Wolfe.....	198
eight write-ins.....	8
Honors (1 seat)	
three write-ins.....	19
Nursing (1 seat)	
two write-ins.....	6
Optometry (1 seat)	
eighteen write-ins.....	18
Only the highest write-in candidates are included in the totals. Winners italicized. Source: SGA Election Committee	

won the SGA vice-presidential race with 446 votes. Her nearest competitor was Steven Wolfe who had 27 write-in votes. Shaw won the SGA Comptroller seat after he beat Jana Johnson 310 to 256.

Butler said he isn't worried about the differences in working with Mowen and Shaw.

"My interpretation of working together is first and foremost we're going to have to do this by policy and procedure," Butler said.

Butler said there's a hierarchy in place, and that this administration needs to follow it. Butler said once the positions and responsibilities are clearly defined, things will run smoothly.

"[I'm not] going to step out of bounds, I'm not going to be imposing . . . wills, [I'm] no tyrant," Butler said. "I don't operate like that. This is business."

Butler said that he wants to learn more about the issues affecting the current SGA administration and the student body as a whole so that he can organize the new administration.

"Right now, I just want to scratch the surface and get all the doors open so that I can use my comrades, Miss Mowen and Mr. Shaw, so I can use these people . . . as a force," Butler said.

Butler said that it is important to get student feedback on issues affecting the students. Otherwise, he said, the UM-St. Louis administration will get their way.

"[The Administration] can't do anything but benefit if we don't get any feedback from the students . . . they can impose their will on us. We have to push back," Butler said.

Mowen refused to comment on her position with Butler's administration or on her plans for the upcoming year. Shaw, Johnson and Anderson were all unavailable for comment.

The Reformation slate's Roby Bracy was elected as an SGA Representative for Arts and Sciences with 283 votes. Also representing Arts and Sciences will be Kas'Quri K. Lovan with 195 votes, David Baugher with 182 votes, and Robert Miller with 139 votes.

Jennifer O'Neal was elected representative for the Business school with 371 votes and the Reformation slate's Michael Rankins and Wolfe will represent the Graduate/Professional school with 266 and 198 votes respectively. Numerous write-ins were present in the race for representative seats.

Correction

In Issue 954, an incorrect date was given for Wednesday's Mirthday celebration. We regret any confusion the error may have caused.

What's he high on now?

Support

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Thursday, April 29

Booths will be located at:

University Center Lobby

T.J. Library

South Campus Marillac Hall

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

'World' highlights many fashions



Stephanie Platt/The Current
Junior Syerey Zainel (left) helps freshman Traci Presley try on a Sarong Batik, a native dress of Malaysia.

BY LISA M. PETTIS
of The Current staff
"Around the World in Six Days" was presented by the International Student Organization during International Week '99, Apr. 19-24.
Chris Sullivan, International Student and Scholar Advisor, said that this third annual festival began with a fashion show on Monday on the University Center Patio.
"About 20 students from 10-12 countries modeled traditional clothing from their countries," Sullivan said.
The cultural performance presentation followed on Tuesday on the University Center Patio. Music, dance, and martial arts were performed by students from various international student associations.
On Mirthday, the International Student Organization set up booths displaying arts, crafts, and posters from their countries.
"Last year, we had four or five booths; this year we have eight booths," Sullivan said.
Vikash Macherla, a junior in biology, and a member of the Indian Students Association, displayed traditional mats and a tablecloth at their

booth. Temporary tattoos were also being applied to the hands of students who came to the booth. Macherla said that Henna paste was used to tattoo the hands of brides and bridesmaids as a tradition for weddings.
"Now they [tattoos] have become a fashion trend," Macherla said.
Mona Patel, a junior in MIS, had a Henna design on her hand.
Li-Ching, a graduate student in business administration, displayed the national flag of Taiwan, decorative fans, and more. Students who stopped at this were asked questions about Taiwan. If the students answered correctly, they received a gift.
Eihab Abourobkhab, a graduate student in education, passed out flyers showing the many Arabian countries and flags. In addition, for the students who came to the booth, Abourobkhab wrote their names in Arabic.
The Malaysian Student Association had their table decorated with bright pink and pastel green weaved baskets. Hairul Muhamad, a junior in business, and Syerey Zainel, a junior in mass communications, explained how in their country these

baskets are sometimes made of coconut. The baskets are filled with rice and placed in boiling water to cook, giving the rice the flavor of the coconut.
Vicky Ho, a senior in graphic design and a member of the Korean Student Association, wrote students' names in Korean on a Korean tape name tag.
The events for Thursday and Friday consisted of showing tourist videos and playing non-traditional sports. On Thursday, there were five to six videos produced by the National Tourism Boards, which showed the exciting tourist sites to visit in various countries. Friday's event entailed the playing of sports that are enjoyed in many countries. There was volleyball, table tennis, racquetball, and a soccer game.
According to Sullivan, International Week culminated with a dinner on Saturday on South Campus with "authentic" dishes from many countries. The members of the International Student Organization prepared dishes from their countries.
For more information on the next International Week, contact International Student Services at 516-5229.

MIRTHDAY, FROM PAGE 1

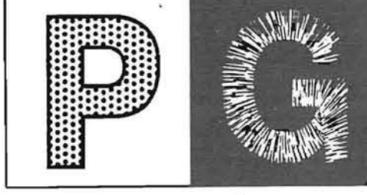
Organizations more designed for fellowship - fraternities and sororities - represented themselves with Delta Zeta, Zeta Tau Alpha, Alpha Xi Delta, and Sigma Pi participating.
Tony Rosas is a grill cook in The Underground.
"I thought it was great. It was very informative. They greeted me and gave me some information about what they do," Rosas said.

Vikash Macherla is a biology major and the Indian Students Association president.
"It was great. The weather was beautiful. [It] started out slow, but ended very cheerful," Macherla said about operating a booth at Mirthday.
Make sure to plan to attend Mirthday next year at UM-St. Louis and partake in all the freebies and fun that one person can possibly endure.

GRIEVANCE, FROM PAGE 1

"I work in a student capacity [at Human Resources]," Butler said. "[Mowen] kept going into her program board positions and everything and I just said that I work on campus too, at Human Resources . . . I don't have the power to [take her check]. I work in a work-study capacity."
Mowen said the grievance also includes Butler's campaign flyers. Mowen alleges that the flyers do not contain the source of their funding which she said is required by the election rules.
Butler said that the problem with the flyers was just a typographical error.
Mowen also alleges in the grievance that Butler addressed classes without the formal paperwork required and that Butler had a comic at Saturday's comedy jam endorse him on stage without the formal paperwork required.
"I said a few things to my classmates, I'll put it that way," Butler said. "I don't even know whether she did or not. What's the ramification of this? Do you honestly think that you are going to dismiss me over some allegations?"
Butler said that the comedy jam endorsement was unintentional. He said he knew the comic previously and through a conversation before the comedian's performance, Butler indicated that he was running for SGA president.
However, Butler said that he never told the comedian to endorse him or to say anything on his behalf.

Chief Justice of the Student Court Steven Bartok has set up an open hearing on the matter for 3:00 p.m. Tuesday at 229 J.C. Penney.
"It will basically be your typical appeals hearing," Bartok said. "All of the parties will appear; Carrie Mowen and Darwin Butler have to be there since they are the two that are specifically named in the complaint."
Bartok said Mowen will be given a chance to state her case, and then the judges will be given a chance to ask any questions of her or any witnesses she has and to examine any evidence brought forth. Then Butler will have a chance to state his case, and the same procedure will follow.
Bartok said a simple majority is needed from the judges to make a ruling, and that a ruling must be issued within seven days of the hearing.
Bartok indicated that the court may have the power to nullify the elections.
"I believe we can say that the elections need to be reheld; if we feel that [the infraction] is severe enough that the elections have been affected, we can set a time to hold another election," Bartok said.



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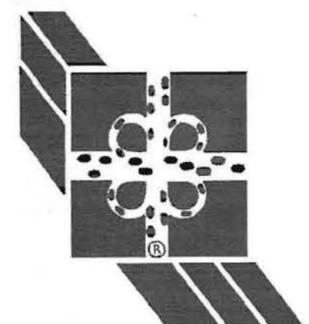
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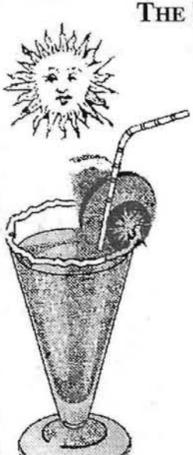
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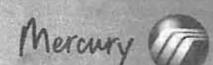
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'Lost and Found' isn't worth doggie stuff

"Lost and Found" (rated PG-13)
Now Playing at Galleria and other theaters
Running Time: 1 hr. 40 min.

I see these films, so you don't have to.

This is as bad a comedy as I've seen in awhile. "Excretable" is a word that springs to mind, in light of the number of jokes that are centered on doggie droppings.

Lost and Found is about a restaurant owner who devel-

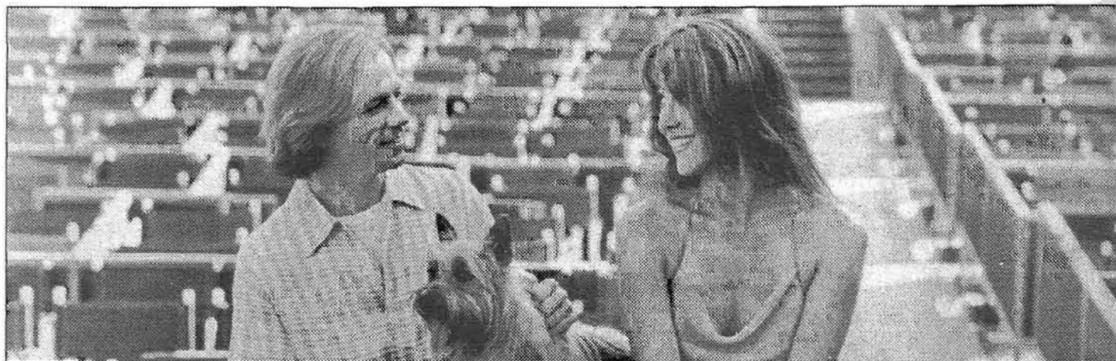
ops an infatuation with his beautiful new neighbor, and decides that kidnapping her dog (which has a habit of escaping the apartment and disappearing for extended periods of time) is the best way to get to spend some time with her, while they search for her "lost" dog.

This story of obsessive love, with crude jokes and a small fuzzy dog, is clearly designed to put audiences in mind of *There's Something About Mary*, but this film is nowhere near as funny.

Grossness that isn't funny and illogical plotting are what this film is really about. While it is clear that David Spade can deliver well-timed, funny lines, since what humor is found is generally in his comebacks and patter, it is equally clear that perhaps someone else should write his material, as he is one of the authors of this turkey.

Actually, there is one really funny part in this film, and that is the out-take segment at the end of the film.

Movie Review



David Spade and Sophie Marceau in 'Lost and Found'

I would recommend that you buy a ticket for another movie being shown at the same theater as *Lost and Found*, see that other film, and then duck in for the last five minutes of this one.

These last few minutes are the best of the film, really funny, and you'll be spared the rest of the movie!

-Catherine Marquis-Homeyer

Movie Review

Touching, humorous 'Children' offers view of Iran

Children of Heaven (rated PG)
Running Time: 91 min.

The St. Louis area doesn't get a lot of foreign films, but when we do get them, they tend to be the best. *Children of Heaven* is an Iranian film nominated for Best Foreign Film at the Oscars and the winner of Best Picture at the Montreal Film Festival (considered to be one of the best film festivals).

The story concerns two children, a brother and sister, living in poverty in an unnamed Iranian city. The boy, running errands for the family, picks up his sister's newly repaired shoes from the cobbler but loses them on the way home. Returning home without them, he tells only his sister what happened, and they conceal the missing shoes from their parents, who can't afford to replace the shoes anyway. They decide to share his tennis shoes, since the missing shoes were her only pair for school, while he continues his search for the shoes. Fortunately, she goes to school in the morning, and he goes in the afternoon (since this is fundamentalist Muslim Iran, where boys and girls do not go to school together), so this trade-off of shoes is just possible. This sets up a dilem-

ma and a delightful comedy as they struggle to keep the missing shoes a secret while they find or replace them.

This film is essentially a comedy but also gives a picture of life and poverty in Iran. Due to censorship, filmmakers cannot directly comment on conditions in Iran, so all references to that must be oblique and embedded in the background of the film. This film succeeds in doing that, offering images of family life,

the different roles for girls and boys, glimpses of families in even greater poverty, and finally a startling view of a family living in great wealth. These images combine to give an intriguing view of Iran as it is now, while not overwhelming the comedy.

The photography is excellent, especially the intercutting of shots as the children race back and forth to school for the shoe exchange in a comic relay race. The children are

charming and believable, the well-structured story builds effectively in tension and humor, and the resolution of the dilemma is both dramatic and funny. The film has subtitles, but much of the story and humor is visual and dialogue is minimal. I would recommend this sweet, funny film with its unique glimpse into life in Iran.

-Catherine Marquis-Homeyer

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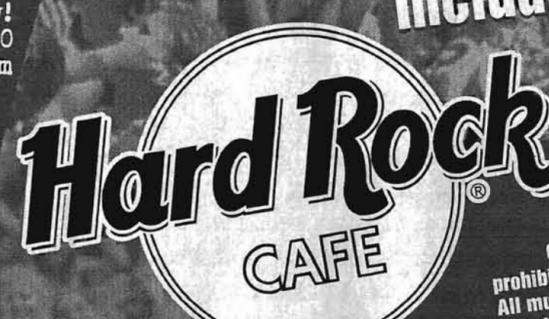
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Misc

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.

Personals

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

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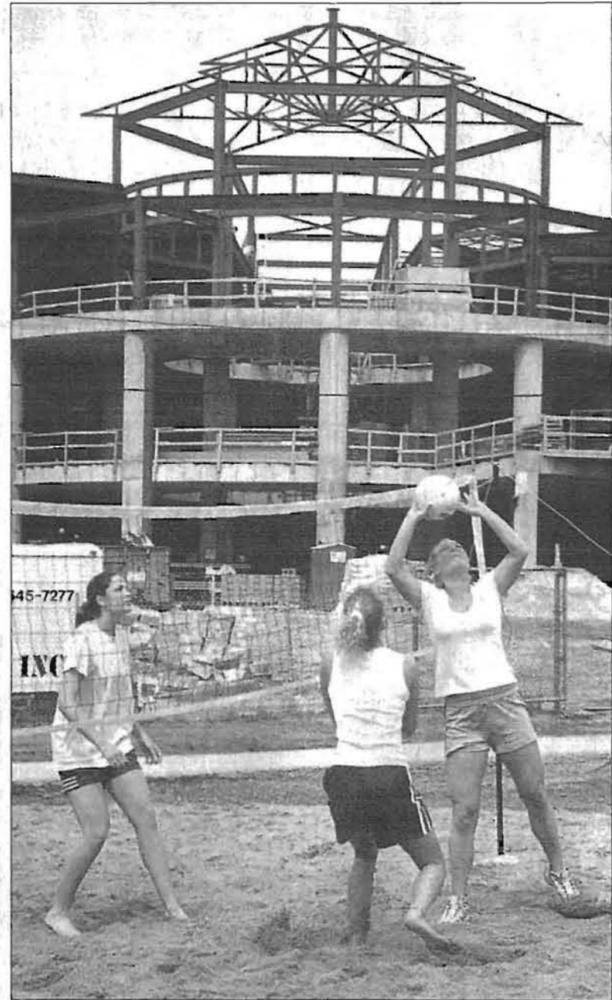
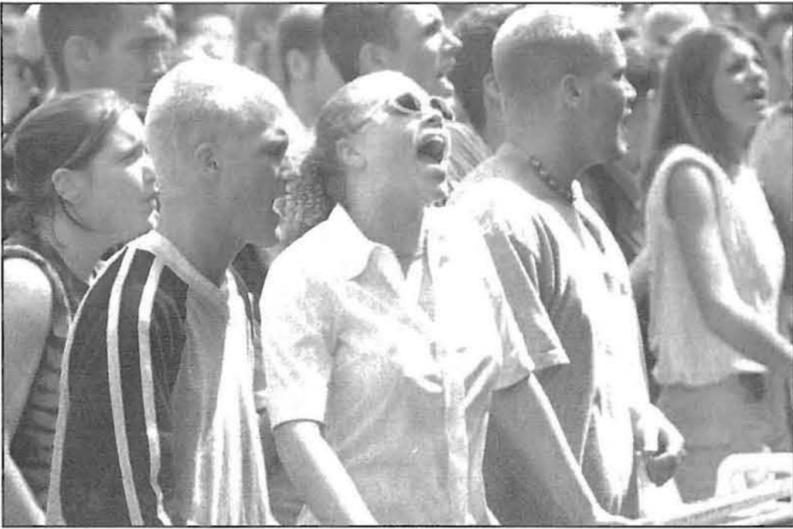
AT THEATRES SOON



Vocalist Steve Ewing of The Urge sings at Mirthday. Hundreds of students packed the area near parking garages "C" and "D" to see the band perform for about an hour and a half.

Mirthday 1999

UM-St. Louisans enjoy a day out as the campus' Mirthday '99 presents activities and music



ABOVE LEFT: (From left to right) Bryan Cori, Lindsay Kestner, and Jason Cori listen to The Urge.

ABOVE: Junior Amanda Hall enjoys a brew in the beer garden.

ABOVE RIGHT: Nicole Wall sets the ball in a game of sand vol-

leyball.

LEFT: A student receives a henna tattoo during Mirthday.

RIGHT: A paper dragon hangs from the Chinese Student Association's booth.

BELOW: Tabitha Miller rides above the crowd during the Urge concert.

Photos by
Stephanie
Platt

