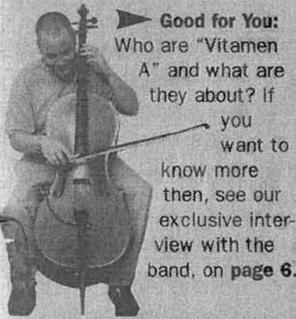




► **Turnabout:** Hockey Rivermen sweep Mizzou but are still denied a spot in the national tournament and the top ten. For the full story, see page 5.



► **Good for You:** Who are "Vitamen A" and what are they about? If you want to know more then, see our exclusive interview with the band, on page 6.

► **Virtual Classroom:** UM-St. Louis' latest expansion at the Jefferson County Community College hints at the on-line class of the future. See page 8.

NEWS FROM ALL OVER

**New study reports many lack interest in sexual relations**

(U-WIRE) LOS ANGELES, Calif. - A University of Chicago study released Tuesday found that more than 40 percent of women and 30 percent of men regularly have no interest in sex, can't have an orgasm or suffer from some other sexual dysfunction.

In what some call the most comprehensive U.S. sex survey since the 1948 Kinsey Report, the results are raising eyebrows.

The study's researchers said problems with sex can be attributed to anything from emotional and health problems to lack of time, job pressures and money trouble. But they said they aren't sure which comes first - stress or problems with sex.

The report's author, sociologist Edward Laumann, said, "It gives us a base for explaining why we had this enormous response to Viagra."

The study was published in Wednesday's Journal of the American Medical Association.

The researchers based their findings on the 1992 National Health and Social Life Survey, a compilation of interviews with about 1,700 women and 1,400 men.

The participants, ages 18 to 59, were asked if they had experienced sexual dysfunction over several months in the previous year. Sexual dysfunction was defined as a regular lack of interest in or pain during sex or persistent problems achieving lubrication, an erection or orgasm.

The study also found: Lack of interest in sex was the most common problem for women, with about one-third saying they regularly didn't want sex. Twenty-six percent said they regularly didn't have orgasms and 23 percent said sex wasn't pleasurable.

About one-third of men said they had persistent problems with climaxing too early, while 14 percent said they had no interest in sex and 8 percent said they consistently derived no pleasure from sex.

The higher the education level of the respondents, the less likely they were to report sexual problems.

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# The Current

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

February 15, 1999

The University of Missouri-St. Louis

Vol. 33 Issue 946

## Team recommends full U accreditation

BY JOE HARRIS  
senior editor

After a visit last week, the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools site team will recommend a full, ten-year accreditation with no follow up visits.

Dr. Douglas Wartzok, dean of the Graduate School and associate vice-chancellor for Academic Affairs, said that this is the best recommendation UM-St. Louis could get. This means that UM-St. Louis will not need another accreditation review for a decade.

"Worst case scenario is they can say, 'No, we'll only give you a provisional accreditation and we [are] going to come back in three years to look at things,'" Wartzok said. "They could do something provisional which would cause a great deal of concern, or what they could do is give you the ten years of accreditation but say, 'We're going to come back and have a focused visit on one particular issue.'"

Refusing accreditation outright was the most negative of the consequences, but that hardly ever happens, according to Wartzok.

"The best thing you can get is what we got which is no report, no revisit, just the full accreditation for the next ten years," Wartzok said.

The site team will now make a report to the NCA. The first draft of this report will be sent back to UM-St. Louis for review. University officials will look over the report and make comments or corrections on any factual errors. Then the corrected report will be sent back to the site team.

Once the report is received, the site team will turn in a final report along with the University's comments to the NCA for official approval. Wartzok expects the process to take a couple of months.

"Once the committee has said we're going to recommend this, there is no record that the [NCA] ever goes against the committee's recommendation," Wartzok said.

The committee's visit tried to cover all aspects of student life at UM-St. Louis. Student activities as well as the different schools were evaluated by the committee. There were also open meetings with the committee for students, faculty, and staff throughout the week.

UM-St. Louis has always received the NCA's full recommendation.

Wartzok said the NCA is starting to look at the assessment of student learning. As a result, UM-St. Louis geared their presentation around this area.

"We wrote a whole separate chapter [in the Self Study] on the assessment of student learning," Wartzok said. "We wanted to put forth the effort right at the beginning to show everything we are doing in that area rather than having them come back later and saying write us a special report on what you're

see NCA, page 6

## Anybody got an ark?



Stephanie Platt/The Current

Traffic slowly negotiates several inches of water on a flooded section of Natural Bridge Rd. in front of the University's main entrance. The brief flooding, which overwhelmed street drainage for several minutes, was caused by storms which rumbled through the area, Thursday afternoon bringing high winds and heavy rains.

## SGA leaders prepare to restart constitutional revision process

BY JOSH RENAUD  
staff assistant

Though shocked by Student Government Association Comptroller Benjamin Ash's decision to withdraw from the constitution revision process, SGA officers said the process was still a priority they would push forward.

SGA President Jim Avery, Vice-President Michael Rankins, and Student Court Chief Justice Steve Bartok all expressed regret over Ash's decision last week. His sudden exit introduced an element of uncertainty on how to proceed, with several options now open.

"One of my goals is to get this done before the end of the year and we run out of time," Avery said. "I think at the next [SGA assembly] meeting we should have [Ash's revised constitution] introduced. People can look at it and then come back with any revisions at the next meeting. By the April meeting, we could

### Student Government heads develop ideas on document

vote on it and maybe have a special election by the end of the year."

Last year, it was discovered that the 1993 revision of the constitution, which SGA had been operating under for several years, had never been ratified. Don McCarty, adviser to the SGA, explained why the effort to revise the constitution this year is so important.

"The constitution of the student government should reflect the needs of the students now," he said. "There have been

see SGA, page 8

## Mt. Providence scheduled for demolition

### Future of program remains uncertain

BY SUE BRITT  
staff associate

Mt. Providence, located at 8351 S. Florissant Rd., is planned to be demolished in the spring of next year, according to Marilyn Maguire, director of the Adult Day Services Center.

"[Mt. Providence] is going to be torn down in the first quarter of the year 2000," Maguire said. "So, it concerns us a great deal because the Adult Day Services Center has been here now for about 14 years. The building is going to be torn down this time next year and our center is either going to have to close or move to another location."

Maguire said the highway department needed an access road and originally intended to take only a section of the building, but the costs involved for a retaining wall were too high to justify saving the building.

"[Mt. Providence] was built in three stages. The north end was built way back in the 30's. The south section was built in the 40's and [the section which houses the center] was built in the 50's," Maguire said.



Stephanie Platt/The Current

The Mt. Providence building at 8351 South Florissant Rd. is scheduled to be torn down early next year. The fate of the Adult Day Services Center housed in the structure has yet to be determined.

"It's been ideal for us because of [its] location, close to the highway, and we really regret the fact that the building is going to be destroyed."

The center serves people who come mainly from the surrounding community and some from the students, faculty, and

see DEMOLITION, page 6

## Homecoming '99 events set for this week

BY SUE BRITT  
staff associate

A variety of events will mark the celebration of Homecoming this week. In addition, Lech Walesa, former president of Poland, will speak on campus, Thursday.

Walesa will be speaking in the J. C. Penney Building during the same time that the Homecoming basketball games are being played in the Mark Twain Building.

"[Having Walesa speak] is a big, big feather in our cap, being able to get him," said Don McCarty, the Student Services coordinator. "But, unfortunately, the only day he's available is Thursday, so we've accommodated that."

The week's events will include a ping-pong tournament and arresting tables. The winners of the ping-pong tournament will play an exhibition game during the Homecoming basketball games on Thursday. The arresting tables will be taking donations toward the mock arrests of individuals on North and South Campuses on Friday. Those arrested will be held in a jail built by Sigma Tau Gamma and located in the area in front of the library.

"Arresting day is a fund-raising activity," McCarty said. "The monies will be going to [UM-St. Louis'] scholarship program." Usually with arresting days someone is arrested and then they try and get people to post bail for them. Well, this works just the opposite. People, through the week, contribute money towards so-and-so being arrested."

McCarty said that originally the Homecoming committee wanted the arrests to be allowed for anyone on campus but were advised a better plan would be to get permission of the people to be arrested first.

"So there's a list of people that said they would be willing to do this and we

see HOMECOMING, page 6

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

# Bulletin Board

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

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**Monday, Feb. 15**  
 • **Homecoming Week Table Tennis Tournament.** Matches, scheduled according to player's skill level and availability, will be today through Saturday. Finalists win \$50 bookstore gift certificates and play during the half-time of the Homecoming game on Saturday. Sign up today. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

• **Fine Arts Exhibit "Witty City,"** an exhibit of humorous illustrations, cartoon art and sketches from the Collection of Bob Staake will be on display in Gallery FAB. A reception will be held at 6 p.m. Contact: 6967.

• **"Herbal Supplements, Remedies, and Women's Health"** will be discussed by Cynthia Fauser, registered dietitian and nutrition specialist with the University Extension, at 7 p.m. in 75 J.C. Penney. Contact: Debra Knox Deiermann, 432-3575.

• **Monday Noon Series Poetry Reading.** Donald Finkel, distinguished visiting writer in the UM-St. Louis English department's MFA program and author of numerous poetry volumes, reads from his work in 229 J.C. Penney. Contact: 5699.

• **"The Case for Social Empiricism"** will be discussed by Lynn Hankinson-Nelson, professor of philosophy, at 2 p.m. in 324 Lucas Hall as part of the Institute for Women's and Gender Studies' 1999 Colloquia Series. Contact: 5581.

• **Chemistry Colloquium "Ileal Bile Acid Transport Inhibitors: A New Class of Cholesterol Lowering Drugs"**

will be discussed by Samuel J. Tremont of Monsanto at 4 p.m. in 451 Benton Hall. Contact: 5311.

**Tuesday, Feb. 16**  
 • **The Sounds of Mardi Gras.** The UM-St. Louis Percussion Ensemble, under the direction of Dr. Don N. Parker will perform at 7:30 p.m. in the J.C. Penney Auditorium. Admission is free. Contact: The Department of Music.

• **Poetry Reading.** Jeff Friedman of Keene State College in New Hampshire will read from his works at 9:30 a.m. in 302 Lucas Hall. Contact: 5699.

**Wednesday, Feb. 17**  
 • **Interfaith Ash Wednesday Service of Ashes** at 12:05 p.m. in 72 J.C. Penney. Contact: 385-3455.

• **Rec Sports "HOMECOMING CELEBRATION" Day** in the J.C. Penney Lobby from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Join in such goofy contests and activities as the land glider game, shuffleboard shuffle, mini-aerobics and one-hole putt putt. Lots of free prizes. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

**Thursday, Feb. 18**  
 • **"The Numbers Game: Sports"** is part of the Math Club Film Series and will be shown at 2 p.m. in 132 SSB.

• **"Europe in the Twenty-First Century"** will be discussed by the Nobel Peace Prize winning former president of Poland at 8 p.m. in the J.C. Penney Auditorium with a reception to follow in the lobby of J.C. Penney. Contact: Student Activities,

5291.

**Friday, Feb. 19**  
 • **Business/Economics Seminar "SAP: A Tutorial"** will be conducted by Stephen Tracy, director of Business Services and the Business Research Bureau at the University of South Dakota, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. in 132 SSB. Contact: 5161.

• **HOMECOMING DANCE AT THE AMERICA'S CENTER AT 7:30 PM.**

**Saturday, Feb. 20**  
 • **Homecoming Table Tennis Tournament Championship Game** will be played at the half-time of the Homecoming basketball game. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

• **Alumni Family Day** in the Mark Twain Building beginning with the Women's Basketball Game at 1 p.m. and the Men's Basketball Game at 3 p.m. A buffet will be served starting at 1:30 p.m. Children under 12 receive a UM-St. Louis Fun Bag. Post-game alumni activities are planned. Contact: Robbyn Wahby at 5747.

**Monday, Feb. 22**  
 • **African American History Month Event "I Am A Man"** will be from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in 229 J.C. Penney. Contact: Center for the Humanities, 5699.

• **BASIC FITNESS AND WEIGHT LOSS CLASS** meets from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

**Tuesday, Feb. 23**  
 • **Greek Culture Lecture "Byzantium and the Orient"** will be discussed by

Speros Vryonis Jr., director of the Speros Basil Vryonis Center, at 7 p.m. in the Summit Lounge. Contact: 5753.

**Wednesday, Feb. 24**  
 • **SPINNING CLASS** from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Reservations are recommended. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

**Thursday, Feb. 25**  
 • **One-Night Coed 4-on-4 Basketball Tournament** in the Mark Twain Gym. Teams consist of 2 guys and 2 gals (students, faculty, and/or staff). Special coed rules are used. Team and individual sign-ups are welcomed. Sign up by Feb. 18. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

**Friday, Feb. 26**  
 • **African American History Month Culminating Event "Slave Narrative"** performed by the St. Louis Black Repertory Company. Also the UM-St. Louis Gospel Choir will be there. This event will be at 7:30 p.m. in the J.C. Penney Auditorium. Contact: Office of Equal Opportunity, 5695.

• **Scholarship Reception** to celebrate Lawrence Barton's nearly two decades of leadership in the chemistry department from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Alumni Center. RSVP required. Contact: Joann Jolly, 5311.

**Monday, Mar. 1**  
 • **Monday Noon Series Indigo Ink—Prose Readings.** Members of Indigo Ink, the St. Louis Association of African-American Writers, will present readings of some of their recent works in 229 J.C. Penney. Contact: 5699.

## Campus CrimeLine

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

January 21, 1999

A student reported that sometime between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., the license plate renewal tabs were stolen from both license plates while the vehicle was parked in Garage "D".

February 2, 1999

A student residing at the U-Meadows reported that after 4 a.m. she heard a noise outside her apartment. After looking out the window, she discovered a person trying to hide himself from her view. The student confronted the person who claimed to be looking for a friend. A description was provided to the University

Police.

February 4, 1999

A person parking his vehicle at the UM-St. Louis North MetroLink lot reported that between 9:25 a.m. and 11:30 a.m., his vehicle was stolen. The vehicle is described as a 1989 Buick.

**UPDATE:** On February 6, 1999 St. Louis Police arrested a suspect who was found driving the vehicle reported stolen on February 4, 1999 from the North MetroLink parking lot. Warrant to be applied for.

<b>GO</b> ➔	SELF ASSESSMENT	LIFE PRIORITIES	WORK PREFERENCES	<b>ROAD TO SUCCESS</b> ➔
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# SGA

## MEETING

# SGA

Thursday,  
February 18  
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SGA Reps**

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# FEATURES

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## GET THIS

### Taking it all off: Life on the strip

I've noticed a disturbing trend on television lately.

I've actually noticed a number of disturbing, and some downright scary, trends on the tube, but today I will be focusing on just one.

It seems to me that more and more often, there are an increasing number of business meetings/police investigations/afternoon tea parties being held in strip clubs.

Now, I've never even been to such a club, so I don't claim to have any direct knowledge of the goings-on at these establishments. Apparently it must be an enjoyable experience since all the prime-time characters seem to be frequenting them in their shows.

On "Party of Five" (there was nothing else on, I swear), I watched Bailey discussing business with three other gentlemen over lunch. In the background, scantily clad women danced around provocatively on a stage. While Bailey tried to talk about floor plans, his partner casually asked who was next for a lap dance.

As intriguing as that was, I quickly became bored with it and began channel surfing. I happily discovered "Law and Order" was on, even though it was not in its usual time slot.

My joy was somewhat diminished about fifteen minutes later when an investigation led my favorite detectives to—brace yourself—a strip joint. Not only that, but, judging from their obvious rapport with the owner, it was not their first time in the place.

It seems to me that this is a pretty acceptable and growing theme on television. A while ago, on "Friends," the girls took Chandler out to watch half-naked women dance around. Ross and Joey had prior commitments or something.

Is this the norm? Do respectable business men, police officers, long-time friends really find that strip clubs make an ideal place to mingle? I would think it would be distracting, and hinder the overall productivity of any work-related discussion.

I suppose I can understand that in certain lines of work, like law enforcement, circumstances may lead to exotic places such as these. And perhaps it would be a kick to check one out with some friends at one time or another.

I would just like to know when these places became so popular on a casual basis. I was aware that they existed, and that people went to them, but that's about it. I thought it was mostly on special occasions, like bachelor parties or birthdays. I never thought of it as a, "Hey, it's time for a midday snack, let's hit Pop's!" kind of thing.

But, to be perfectly honest, I don't see the appeal. Personally, I wouldn't want any virtually nude person—be it woman or man—serving me food or beverages, if only for the hygiene issues. It's probably completely sanitary, but the idea of someone dancing around, getting all sweaty and then bringing me a Caesar salad... it's a little unsettling.

I may just be strange and abnormal, though. Everyone on TV seems to be having a great time, so it must be true, right?

Maybe instead of making assumptions based on television, the highly reliable source that it is, I should go see what happens in these clubs myself.

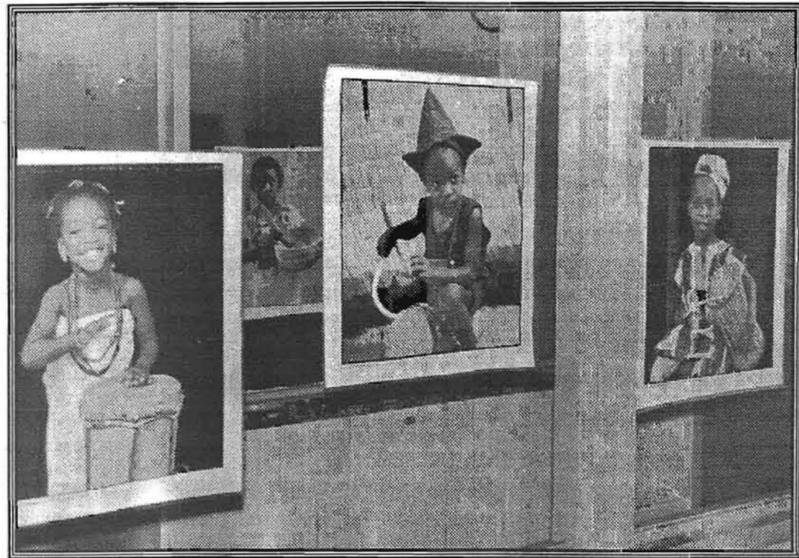
Or, maybe not.



AMY LOMBARDO  
Features Editor

# THE PAST COMES ALIVE

*A series of events will help recognize the long-ignored contributions of African-Americans to society's progress*



Artwork hangs in the Multicultural Office in Clark Hall. A series of events highlighting African-American contributions to society are scheduled to take place this month.

Photo by Mark Lodes/The Current

BY LISA M. PETTIS  
special to the Current

There was a time when people didn't want to hear about African-American history. Maybe it was because they didn't understand the experiences behind it. Never having been intelligently educated about slavery, segregation, or the civil rights movement, they were not made aware of the works of African-American writers, poets, artists, and ministers who fought to pursue their goals against all odds.

February is the month designated to remember the struggles and accomplishments of African-Americans. UM-St. Louis has gladly joined in on this celebration by sponsoring and co-sponsoring many events in the St. Louis area that will take place during African-American History Month and afterwards. Whether you are African-American or not, you will be inspired by the stories, presented in these events, to beat all odds.

The Women's Center is sponsoring "Hersphere-Movies of Hope for Women During Black History

Month." These movies will be shown every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 12 p.m. to 7 p.m. starting Feb. 8 and running through Feb. 18. For more information, call the Women's Center at (314) 516-5380.

The Center for the Humanities, the Chancellor's Office, and Continuing Education & Outreach at UM-St. Louis are sponsoring a Monday Noon Series. On Feb. 22 at 11:30 a.m. in the J.C. Penney Auditorium, a discussion of the play "I Am A Man," which depicts the issues and events that took place during the time when Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was supporting the African-American sanitation workers' strike in Memphis, leading up to Dr. King's assassination, will take place.

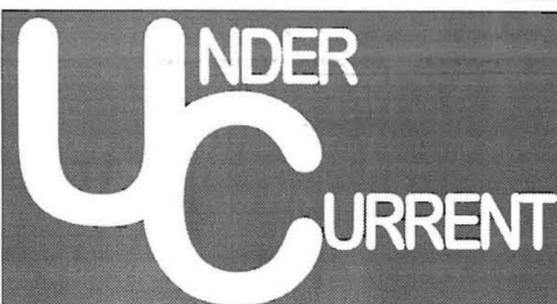
The Center for International Studies at UM-St. Louis and the African and Afro-American Studies Program at Washington University are sponsoring their 1998-99 African Studies Speaker Series. On Feb. 23, "Crowd, Machine and Whore-Some Motifs in the Music of Black South African Migrant Workers/Veit Earlmann, University of Texas, Austin" will be pre-

sented. For more information, call (314) 516-5753 at UM-St. Louis or (314) 935-5690 at Washington University.

"A Slave Narrative" will be performed by the St. Louis Black Repertory Company on Feb. 26 at 7:30 p.m. in the J. C. Penney Auditorium.

Various Monday Noon Series events in March will focus on aspects of different cultures. A prose reading by members of Indigo Ink, the St. Louis Association of African-American Writers will take place on Mar. 1. The history of the sitar, an Indian musical instrument, will be discussed and a performance given on Mar. 8, and the new Bauhaus style in art education will be presented in a slide talk on Mar. 15. For more information on the Monday Noon Series, call (314) 516-5699.

These events are free, and all races are welcome. Join in on the celebration by getting to know more about yourself or those around you. When you know, you grow. For more information on other events taking place during African-American History Month, call the Office of Equal Opportunity at (314) 516-5695.



compiled by Jeremy Pratte/staff photographer

**If you could live in any time period, what would it be?**

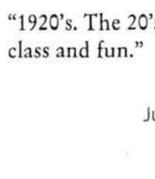
"The 60's because there were so many different ways to express yourself."

-Amanda Hall  
Junior/Math



"1200's - 1400's; Medieval Period."

-Quincy Pittmon  
Sophomore/Graphic Design



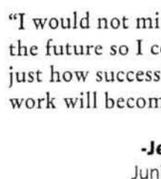
"1920's. The 20's was a decade of class and fun."

-Dan Limmer  
Junior/Photography



"The present - we have incredible access to information at our disposal and a wealth of opportunities to affect our world."

-Robert Miller  
Senior/Philosophy/Fine Arts



"I would not mind going into the future so I could see now just how successful my artwork will become."

-Jennifer Hayman  
Junior/Photography



## Choral festival to highlight UM-St. Louis music talent

BY ANNE PORTER  
staff associate

On Tuesday, a choral festival will take place which features the music of Robert Rey. Rey, the director of keyboarding at UM-St. Louis, will conduct the choral festival. Seven area high schools are participating in the festival. The choral ensembles included are from Central VPA, Cleveland, Lindbergh, Jennings, McCluer, Hazelwood East, Berkeley, and Normandy. The event is free to attend.

The choral festival is made possible by funding from the Whitaker and the E. Desmond Lee Music Education Collaboratives.

The Whitaker Collaborative was funded by the Whitaker Foundation. The collaboration, which began in 1996, created a working network between UM-St. Louis, St. Louis Symphony, and three area high schools. The collaboration will end in 1999. The purpose of the collaborative was to support music education in the St. Louis area. In the time of the collaborative's existence, over 300 in-school clinics and events have taken place—thanks to the members of the St. Louis Symphony and UM-St. Louis faculty.

The Desmond Lee Collaborative is currently operating at the same time as the Whitaker. In the fall of 1999, the Desmond Lee Collaborative will supply the services of both collaboratives. In addition to the previous participants in the collaborative, the Des Lee has added Opera St. Louis, Young Audiences, and the Center for Human

Origins and Cultural Diversity at UM-St. Louis, and seven more additional school districts. This addition raises the number of those participating in the collaborative to 10 school districts and 40 schools. Art educators from the St. Louis Art Museum, including an endowed professor in art education, will also work with the collaborative.

John Hylton, the chair of the music department at UM-St. Louis, described the music composed by Rey as multi-movement, gospel mass. By its multi-movement nature, the mass is performed by choirs, a soloist, and an instrumental combination of a piano, bass, and drums.

"He is quite gifted at teaching his music," Hylton said. "It'll be an exciting event. The students will be very enthusiastic."

Douglas Turin is the director of the Whitaker and Des Lee collaborative.

"He [Rey] has been all over the United States and done quite a lot musically," Turpin said.

Rey is a well known composer because of his musical style. Rey, in his music and his teaching of it, makes this choral festival not just a performance, but an educational opportunity for children. Not very often or in many cities is there a choral ensemble which joins the best of seven school districts.

"It is creating an opportunity for students who never had an opportunity to ordinarily work with music or its composer and affords them the opportunity to perform on stage at Powell Hall," Turpin said.

## Music Review

### Fatboy Slim has the moves

These days in the music industry, confusion reigns. Everyone is so busy arguing which genre is dead, that no one notices what is exploding. While most critics gave up on electronica as the next big thing, Fatboy Slim, a.k.a. Norman Cook, quietly began to take over the world.

The craze started rather slowly in 1997, with the release of "Better Living Through Chemistry," Fatboy's debut album. While big in Britain and Europe, Fatboy Slim was suffering the same illness as most techno artists in the U.S.; he simply couldn't get it to catch on. The soundtrack of the film *The Jackal* contained Fatboy Slim's "Going Out of My Head," and things slowly began to turn around for the inconspicuous Norman Cook. The track, along with "Everybody Needs a 303" from the same album, got airplay on more open-minded radio stations across the nation, namely KROQ in L.A.

In 1998, while discussions on the death of rock took the main stage, Fatboy Slim exploded. "The Rockafeller Skank" was put on MTV's "Amp 2" compilation, and it shone through an otherwise remarkably bland album.

After multiple MTV commercials, featuring the frighteningly catchy song and a hilarious video, had a chance to soak in, the United States finally caught on. "You've come a Long Way, Baby" was released, and while it hasn't yet outsold Prodigy's "The Fat of the Land" or the Chemical Brother's "Dig Your Own Hole," it is an unavoidable album. Just try going to a dance party anywhere (even in Cahoots plays Fatboy Slim in their commercial on 107.7) or watching MTV for 30 minutes without hearing Fatboy Slim—you'll see what I mean.

"You've Come a Long Way, Baby" is not a deep, intellectual experience, and Cook never intended for it to be. It is dance music—catchy, fun, and not something to find the meaning of life in. It is also one of the only albums out with at least three singles ("The Rockafeller Skank," "Gangster Tripping," and "Praise You") currently getting radio play and/or videos on MTV. As Norman Cook says himself in "Acid 8000," "If this don't make your booty move, your booty must be dead!"

-Cory Blackwood

# COMMENTARY

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

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**Joe Harris**  
Managing Editor &  
Editorial Page Editor

"Our Opinion" reflects the  
opinion of the editorial board

## How to Respond

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



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## OUR OPINION

# Constitution revision process in danger

### The Issue:

SGA comptroller Ben Ash decided to drop the effort to revise the SGA constitution because of a lack of student attendance at the scheduled meetings.

### We Suggest:

Hopefully, SGA can salvage something from the work already done and student organizations will participate more fully in the process.

### 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

SGA comptroller Ben Ash's removal of himself from the constitutional revision process may have stunned many, both in and out of SGA, but let's hope the surprise move does not prevent the Avery administration from finishing what should be the cornerstone of its term.

Already SGA leaders are coming up with plans to salvage the process and put together some version of a reformed document. Ash has said that he will withdraw from consideration the document he helped assemble over the summer.

While Ash's frustration with the process is understandable, hopefully he will change his mind and at least allow the SGA to work from his document rather than withdrawing it entirely from the floor. Even if he decides not to head the process, completely removing the document from consideration would only hamper the SGA during a difficult time and destroy virtually all the groundwork that Ash and others have spent months constructing. This would be an unfortunate waste and would almost guarantee the lack of any meaningful reform taking place this year.

If President Jim Avery's plan to use Ash's constitution falls through, Vice-President Michael Rankins has come up with a good stopgap measure. Rankins' suggestion that the SGA ratify the infa-

mous 1993 sections of the constitution, which were the focus of the original controversy last spring, would at least make the document more workable until the next assembly is able to start the process anew next semester.

Although SGA's leaders all seem to have different plans, it is at least a hopeful sign that they seem ready to try and piece together some type of blueprint for revision before the end of the term.

Most importantly, however, may be the lessons learned from this important experience. While not all will agree with Ash's decision, few can fail to understand his reasoning for dropping the project. Attendance at specially-scheduled revision meetings was not just dismal but truly embarrassing. The most crowded meeting featured representatives of only five of the 84 student organizations. While some unavoidable conflicts may prevent certain organizations from attending, a 94 percent absentee rate is simply unacceptable, even by the standards of an historically apathetic campus. It's this poor showing by UM-St. Louis student organizations which is to blame for creating yet another faltering SGA attempt at constitutional reform. Here's hoping something positive can come from this process. The clock is ticking.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# Why Avery should resign from Student Government

Top ten reasons why Jim Avery should resign his post as president of the Student Government Association:

- 10) He doesn't want the job, just the perks.
- 9) His comments in the January 25th edition of *The Current* confirmed what those who "cut [him] off" already knew.
- 8) The SGA presidency is prime time on this or any campus, and he's not a player.
- 7) He doesn't give a damn about students because if he did, he would fulfill his job duties.
- 6) He's recalcitrant.

- 5) He's a whiner.
- 4) "... Worrying about students and student government" isn't an objective, it's an anxiety attack.
- 3) He doesn't know that regular University business hours are Monday through Friday, 9-5.
- 2) His bitching and moaning is giving me a headache from way over here.
- 1) He needs to spend more time "worrying" about getting a clue!

-Rosaling Harris

# Critics are too quick to condemn Jim Avery

I believe that the current criticism of president Avery is both unfair and hypocritical. Absenteeism has been a problem for student government well before the Avery administration. In fact, this problem has become so serious in the University senate, that there is talk of excluding student members of that body because few make it to the meetings after being elected. So why pick on the president?

How many of the student senators and members of the SGA are

constantly missing meetings, yet they are the same ones who condemn Mr. Avery for missing a few meetings? Instead of singling out one member of student government for criticism, we should encourage all of our student representatives to faithfully meet the obligations of their office, and one of these obligations is the regular attendance of meetings.

-Robert I. Rath

# There's no misunderstanding about the Arts Center

Mr. Wombacher's latest letter to the editor in *The Current* (Feb. 1) claims to expose "a few fallacies" in my understanding of the Performing Arts Center. Upon reading the letter, I immediately took issue with it. Since he has obviously misunderstood me, I will make my points clearer.

In his assertion that the Arts Center is not being paid for by students, I would remind Mr. Wombacher that aside from a small percentage of private funds, the primary source of capital for the project is tax money that virtually everyone going to UM-St. Louis pays. I grant the fact that the money, had it not been dedicated to the Arts Center, might not have gone to UM-St. Louis. Then again, if the State of Missouri wanted to spend its revenue on the arts or education, there are many programs much more in need of funding than UM-St. Louis' performing arts department.

What is more at stake, however, are the expenses of operating the Arts Center, which, as of yet, Touhill has not guaranteed to backstop. This means that the costs for everything from the building's maintenance to the staff to run it may well be added to the students' tuition or taken from the already drained resources of UM-St. Louis' central departments and services. How many more cuts can the mailroom take before it collapses? How long will our central departments be able

to stand out without the funds they have seen in the past?

Furthermore, Mr. Wombacher narrowly avoids his own fallacy of saying that the Performing Arts Center will draw UM-St. Louis students by just stating that "people" will come to the building's events. It is good that he made this distinction because as numerous sources, including *The Current's* own editors, have said, the Arts Center will not come close to filling half of its 1,600 seats with students. Who the "people" that Mr. Wombacher refers to are is a mystery except for that they certainly aren't UM-St. Louis students. To the faculty's appeals to build a smaller fine arts venue that would cost less and fit the campus and students' needs better, our beloved Touhill has emphatically refused.

This issue isn't about being for or against the arts or any other field of interest. This issue is about the fiscal irresponsibility of this administration and the resulting, detrimental effects on the core of this University. Mr. Wombacher suggests we "have some faith" that the Performing Arts Center will turn out as well as he dreams it might. As a Catholic, though, I can say that faith alone doesn't save souls and that it won't save the Performing Arts Center either.

-Jake Parker

# Random thoughts on modern education

I was sitting in film class watching *The Trial* recently when I came up with the solution to all the problems of modern education. *The Trial*, for those of you who haven't received a liberal arts education, is a movie based on the the Franz Kafka classic of the same name, "the terrifying tale of Joseph K.", "a hauntingly believable story" that "stands out as one of the great novels of our time." At least I guess it is. I am quoting from the back cover of the book, which I did not read a word of. I did see the movie, or most of it anyway, (I ducked out for chili dogs somewhere in the middle.) I didn't get a lot out of it however because the sound system in the auditorium had something wrong with it which caused all the dialogue in the film to sound like the teacher in the old Charlie Brown cartoons ("MUH! MUM! MMMUHM!")

Fortunately, I don't think a lack of audio clarity hurt the plot any. I hate to say this about a film based on "one of the great novels of our time," but I didn't get it. Not a bit of it. While I'm certain others were amazed and awed by this classic of modern literature which "gives the chilling truth as it foreshadows the excesses of modern bureaucracy," to me the picture looked like a two-hour, black-and-white version of a Calvin Klein's "Obsession" commercial.



DAVID BAUGHER  
Editor-in-Chief

I am not saying, of course that Kafka (or Calvin Klein, for that matter) isn't a vitally important part of Western culture who exposes deep truths, only that many of these truths are too deep for most of us to comprehend. Take the introduction to the novel, by someone named George Steiner who begins by saying, "The thought that there is anything fresh to be said of Franz Kafka's *The Trial* is implausible." He then spends the next 15 pages explaining what he means. Anyone who can fill 15 pages saying why there's nothing new to say has got to be smarter than the average college student.

Which brings me to my solution for all the problems of modern education, which involves Henry James, a nineteenth-century American writer. I was introduced to James in my American lit class some semesters ago and I can testify that he is unquestionably the most boring writer I've ever read. The Jamesian pattern for story construction always seemed to revolve around the plot which he pioneered in his classic *Daisy Miller*: characters are introduced, characters talk endlessly about nothing, characters look like they might have sex but don't, one of the characters dies. The end. This would take anywhere from 30-90 pages, depending on the story. One peruse of *Daisy Miller* and students would be thrilled to read Kafka -- or a phone book for that matter.

Anyway, before I get angry letters from professors telling me that I'm an idiot, I'll freely admit the fact. It is only a sign of my literary myopia that I never gave Kafka a fair chance. Some day, perhaps I'll read *The Trial*. I'll have to. After all, it's a classic.

# Olympic committee must look for reform

The International Olympic Committee is currently involved in a major bribery scandal. Several high ranking officers have been removed for allegedly accepting money and gifts from the organizers of the Salt Lake City games in exchange for their votes.

Should this be any surprise? Unfortunately, no.

The Olympics started with the best intentions. It provided a forum for amateur athletes to shine and excel in the sports they loved, devoid of any monetary gain.

Headed by the IOC, the Olympics tried to appeal to the sports purists. But as the advertising money got bigger and bigger, the purity got smaller and smaller.

The deterioration started on the Olympic playing surface itself. The U.S. dream team is a prime example. For the past four Olympics, professional basketball players for the U.S. have obliterated the competition.

While benefitting the U.S., does it really benefit the fans? Is Michael Jordan verses Joe Schmo from a newly-formed European country fair? Does it truly fit the original intent of Olympic competition? No.

Numerous drug scandals marred other events, most notably track and field, along with swimming. And who can forget the Nancy Kerrigan/Tonya Harding saga? (Insert your own Gillooly joke here.)

The sad thing is that hosting the Olympics is often more trouble than it is worth for a city. Often cities lose money rather than make money. Montreal is still trying to recover financially from its Olympic disaster in 1976.

Sadly, Salt Lake City will probably end up like another Montreal. The scandal has already hurt interest in these games across the board and Salt Lake City doesn't have the financial resources to recover any more than a bigger city like New York does.

What will Salt Lake City do with all of the buildings that have been built for these games? Unlike Atlanta, they don't have a major league baseball team waiting to move into any of its facilities after the games nor will they get one.

These buildings will sit and rot, while costing the people of Salt Lake City millions of tax dollars to collect dust after the games. They will be grand monuments to greed and inefficiency.

Besides the damage to Salt Lake City, what about the damage to the IOC and the Olympic games as a whole?

The games have withstood countless steroid suspensions, athletes getting slaughtered because of political and religious affiliations, boycotts by the superpowers, and Tonya Harding (insert your own Gillooly joke here). But this type of scandal is the most serious.

The IOC has effectively ripped the heart out of the Olympic games. No purity, heart, or love of competition. These ideals have been replaced by the catch words: money, greed, and power.

The IOC can either kill itself and the Olympics totally by allowing itself to wallow in hypocrisy or they can give themselves a heart transplant and bring the purity back to the games.

Will the IOC be Dr. Kevorkian or Doogie Howser? Time will tell.



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# SPORTS

## Ice men sweep toothless Tigers

*Hockey team falls short of national tourney despite strong finish*

BY DAVE KINWORTHY  
 staff associate

The Rivermen's ice hockey team swept the University of Missouri last weekend to improve its overall record to 15-7-3.

In the first game, the Rivermen defeated the Tigers 4-3. Scott Bokal led the Rivermen's charge, tallying two goals while Jason Hessel and Ryan Craig notched the others.

In the second game, UM-St. Louis defeated Mizzou 2-1 in a close game where Bokal scored both Rivermen goals.

Bokal had four goals in the Rivermen's two wins over Mizzou and earned the praise of his teammates.

"Scottie just had a great weekend for us," team captain Hessel said. "He played extremely well when we needed him the most."

Hessel also thought that the Rivermen's goaltending was outstanding during this heated rivalry.

"We were outshot in both games, but [Chris Perkins and Nate Frankenberger] came up big for us," Hessel said.

Although the Rivermen have had an impressive season, the selection committee of Division II hockey has decided not to choose UM-St. Louis as a potential candidate to participate in the national tournament.

Hessel along with his teammates are confused and frustrated for not being invited to the tournament.

"The top four go to the national tourna-



Stephanie Platt/The Current

**Rivermen team captain Jason Hessel (15) strips the puck from a Missouri Tiger forward in a game earlier this year. Despite having a 15-7-3 record and beating the Tigers three out of four games, the Rivermen were left out of the national tournament and were ranked behind the Tigers.**

ment in our region," Hessel said. "We lost three games in early October, but since then we have beaten the seventh, ninth, and tenth ranked teams and we are not even in the top ten. We also tied the number one seeded SLU."

One of the teams ranked ahead of the Rivermen was none other than the Tigers of Missouri, a team UM-St. Louis defeated three out of four games.

The Rivermen might have been snubbed from a national tournament bid due to some complications, but in Hessel's mind, they

were well deserving of the opportunity.

"The ranking situation will not happen again next season, and we will be in the mix of things," Hessel said. "We worked hard, and we deserve to at least get something out of it. Not many people are leaving, and we should be a great team next year."

Although the Rivermen were overlooked, the season was a success.

"It is such a good feeling, tournament or not, to take an average team of players into a style where we did everything we could to go to the national tournament," Hessel said.

### LATEST SCOOP

## Hockey team's snubbing can't be explained

I am not one to complain in my columns, but this week I have to.

It is not one of those things where I am in a bad mood or anything like that, it is just I would like to comment a little bit about stupidity.

The Rivermen's hockey team has been outstanding this season. They are always open to interviews, they have had a great season at 15-7-3, and here is the kicker—they did not make the national tournament.

I have had long conversations with Jason Hessel, the team captain of the Rivermen, and I am miffed if you will. He explained to me the situation with their squad, and I just do not understand.

The National Tournament Selection Committee, headed by Dan Blevins, has overlooked the possibility of inviting the Rivermen to the Division II National Tournament.



DAVE KINWORTHY  
 sports associate

I even attempted to call Blevins and finally got a hold of him after repeated answering machine greetings.

I explained to him who I was and then proceeded to ask a few questions.

These questions were not too tough for the ordinary John Doe to answer, but for Blevins, it seemed nearly impossible.

The comment I continued to get back from him was, "Our ranking committee has their job to do. I have trust in them to do their job."

He explained the whole committee has things to look at in each team before they are awarded an invitation. These things are games played and schedule strength.

If the Rivermen's schedule was weak, I could understand why they were overlooked, but their schedule is comparable to number one ranked St. Louis University. On top of that, the Rivermen have played a surplus of games this season. Thus, both criteria have been met.

The Rivermen do not deserve this kind of disrespect. They are not even ranked in the top ten in their region.

Now explain to me if this makes any sense at all: a team is not ranked in the top ten of a bracket, but yet they somehow have beaten the tenth ranked team three out of four games, tied the number one ranked team and have defeated the seventh and ninth ranked teams.

This committee has overlooked UM-St. Louis for a reason only God knows. This team has a rejuvenated look compared to last season.

It was this time last season when I talked to Jason Hessel about how the season went and the attitude was miserable.

The new attitude is upbeat due to the astounding season UM-St. Louis is having.

This is a huge slap in the face to a team that is more than worthy of a tournament bid.

How can justice be served? The only way to make things right for now is for the Rivermen to continue their winning ways and to prove Mr. Blevins and his committee wrong.

The Rivermen return the core of their team next season, but with a season like the Rivermen have had, there are no excuses. They should have made the national tournament.

*Coach miffed about polling committee's lack of respect*

BY JOE HARRIS  
 senior editor

Greg Gevers, head coach of the Rivermen ice hockey team, was upset not about his team's exclusion from the national tournament, but their exclusion from the regional top ten.

"I don't think we should've gone to the national tournament," Gevers said, "but not to be in the top ten is a slap in the face. I would have no problem being ranked sixth."

Gevers pointed out that his team's impressive record over their opponents in the top ten warranted the Rivermen a spot.

Plus the team only lost one game since Nov. 17.

John Bosch, head coach of the St. Louis University ice hockey team and chair of the selection committee, said that UM-St. Louis' scores were not turned into his committee. He said if all of the scores would have been turned in, UM-St. Louis would have probably been either sixth or seventh in the top ten.

Gevers is afraid of what not being ranked will do to his recruiting, but mostly would like to see a standard system established regarding reporting game results to the Division II hockey office.

"This has left a bad taste in my mouth," Gevers said. "I don't want to see it happen to anyone else next year."

## Riverwomen split pair of games

BY KEN DUNKIN  
 staff editor

It was a week of highs and lows for the Riverwomen basketball team as they played the worst and the best that the Great Lakes Valley Conference has to offer.

The Riverwomen played perennial GLVC bottom-feeder Quincy last Tuesday. They came away with an 83-78 victory. Quincy has only two victories in conference play.

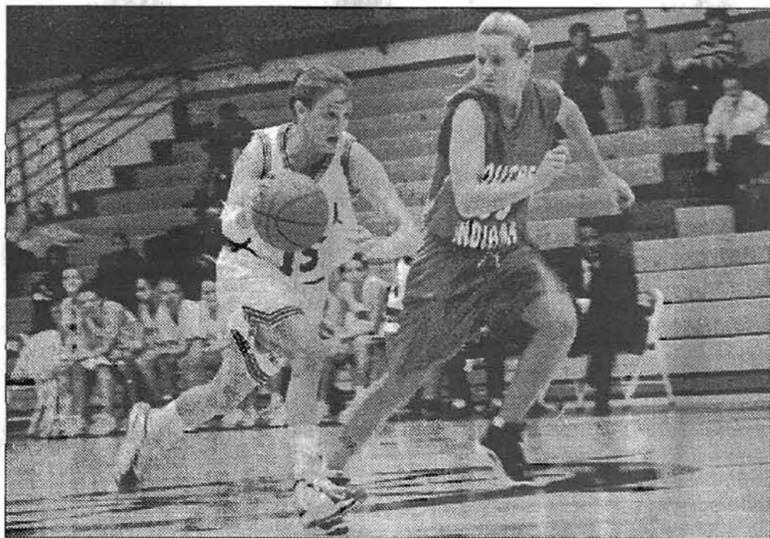
Tawanda Daniel led the team with 20 points. Amanda Wentzel pitched in with 17 points.

Thursday was not a good day for the UM-St. Louis team. They lost to SIU-

Edwardsville 73-53. The Riverwomen had a tough time shooting against the Cougars as they shot a dismal 37 percent for the game. Worst of all was the shooting from 3-point range, the team was 1-11 overall from the three point arc.

The bright-spots for the team was the play of Daniel and Jennifer Littleton. Daniel led the team with 13 points and 8 rebounds. Littleton shot 5-7 for 12 points, she also had 4 rebounds in 13 minutes of play.

The loss dropped the Riverwomen to 13-10 overall and 12-7 in the GLVC. SIU-Edwardsville continued to roll as they went to 15-4 in the GLVC and 17-5 overall.



Stephanie Platt/The Current

**Riverwoman Sara Mauck (15) drives to the hoop in a game earlier this year.**

## Rolling with the changes...

## Bokal gives coaches, teammates credit for his on-ice success

BY DAVE KINWORTHY  
 staff associate

Scott Bokal, a forward for the Rivermen's hockey squad, has had his ups and downs in his career, but this season Bokal has risen to the occasion by helping the Rivermen to a 15-7-3 record.

"This team is a really tight knit group," Bokal said. "This year, everyone is for each other. We don't have the cliques we use to have."

Bokal grew up knowing only one thing: how to play goalie, which began his love for the game.

Bokal attended DeSmet and then moved on to Parkway Central where he shined in the nets for the Colts.

He then moved on to Meremac and now presently attends UM-St. Louis.

Transferring from Meremac was an easy decision for Bokal.

"[UM-St. Louis] was a good university in town," Bokal said. "I liked the program they had to offer. Coach [Greg] Gevers talked me into coming to UM-St. Louis and got me started on my way."

When Bokal first arrived to play for the Rivermen, there was one conflict: there were six other goalies on the team.

Bokal was a goalie ever since he could lace up his skates at the age of three, but Gevers convinced Bokal the game did not just revolve around playing goalie.

"I ended up playing forward for the first

time," Bokal said.

Ever since then, Bokal has had no regrets. "If I knew then what I know now, I would have started off playing forward," Bokal said. "My heart is in the net, but I have never had so much fun playing forward with hitting people and scoring goals."

Bokal's past experiences with the game of hockey are numerous.

He has played for a junior hockey team in Niagara Falls, Ontario, played for the St. Louis Vipers roller hockey team for four years and was an alternate for the Team USA In-Line team.

Over this past summer Bokal, as experienced in the game of hockey as he was, worked out with the St. Louis Blues.

"It was unbelievable," Bokal said. "I've been in the game all but three years of my existence and I was just amazed at what I saw and learned."

As the Rivermen's season wraps up, Bokal has nothing but praise for the Rivermen coaching staff.

"I owe all of my success to Gevers, Derek Schaub, and Jason Hessel," Bokal said. "The progress I have experienced is a direct result of their confidence."

With the strides the Rivermen have taken this season, Bokal just shoots words of gratitude to this youthful team.

"I just want to say thanks to Jason Hessel and all of my teammates for making this season a success."

## GLVC B-Ball Standings

	Men	Overall
#Kent. Wesleyan	17-2	24-2
#S. Indiana	16-3	20-3
#Lewis	14-5	17-6
#Indianapolis	12-6	14-8
#N. Kentucky	11-8	14-9
#SIUE	10-9	11-12
#Quincy	9-9	11-11
Bellarmine	7-12	10-15
St. Joseph's	7-12	8-15
IUPU-Ft. Wayne	5-14	8-15
UM-St. Louis	4-15	6-17
UW-Parkside	1-18	2-21

	Women	Overall
#N. Kentucky	17-2	21-2
#SIUE	15-4	17-5
#Bellarmine	15-4	17-6
#S. Indiana	14-5	16-10
#UM-St. Louis	12-7	13-10
#Lewis	11-8	14-9
#St. Joseph's	11-8	14-9
#Kent. Wesleyan	9-10	13-10
UW-Parkside	3-16	4-19
Indianapolis	2-16	6-17
Quincy	2-16	3-19
IUPU-Ft. Wayne	2-17	2-21

# clinched berth in GLVC Tournament

### THIS WEEK IN SPORTS

<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>20</b>

Men	vs Indianapolis 7:30 p.m.	vs Northern Kentucky 3:00 p.m.
Women	vs Indianapolis 5:30 p.m.	vs Northern Kentucky 1:00 p.m.

Contact the Athletic Department about these and other events.

## Rivermen win one, lose one in roller coaster week

BY DAVE KINWORTHY  
 staff associate

The men's basketball team continued its roller coaster season as the Rivermen emerged victorious against Quincy 70-67 on Tuesday.

This victory made UM-St. Louis only the second team to defeat Quincy on their own court. The other team was Kentucky-Wesleyan, the number one ranked team in Division II.

The game featured Dwon Kelly scoring 20 points, hitting 6-9 from 3-point range.

Head Coach Rich Meckfessel was impressed with his team's performance.

"We got behind early, but we got excellent contributions off the bench from [Jeremiah] Fouts and Kelly," Meckfessel said. "We played hard and got back into the game and led the rest of the game."

To go along with Kelly's 20 points, guard Greg Ross and forward Durrell Robinson each added 11 points of their own.

The Rivermen then traveled to SIU-Edwardsville on Thursday and were defeated 62-59.

UM-St. Louis led at halftime 39-27, but SIUE mounted a comeback and outscored the Rivermen in the second half 35-20.

"We got off to a great start," Meckfessel said.

"We got some good looks in the second half, but just couldn't make shots."

The Rivermen were paced by Ross who had 13 points, while Kelly added 11 and Fouts scored ten.

UM-St. Louis will host both Indianapolis on Thursday and Northern Kentucky this Saturday to close out the season.

Music Interview

# Crowd energy key to 'Vitamen A'

About once a week, a band called Vitamen A practices in a little white house off Sunshine Dr. in Festus, Mo. I made the long drive out Highway 55 last week to interview the six members of this talented rock/funk/jazz band.

The band members are; Tony Vrooman, vocals and guitar, Tracy Lowe, vocals and lead guitar, Andy Barnes, bass, Jake Brookman, cello, Mike Clement, vocals and keyboards, and Mike Garret, drums and percussion. They are currently working on recording an album. They will be performing at the Firehouse on Saturday.

I was half an hour late arriving, but I was still there before half the band. Inside, a commotion was brewing over speakers that were bought "out of a van down by the river." Vrooman said he knew he got suckered when he handed over the money, but at least he has more inspiration for his music.

As soon as they had all arrived, the six musicians gathered around on the floor and shared their ideas and philosophies about inspiration, being a musician, and performing.

**TC:** What do you try to achieve when you write your songs?

**Tracy Lowe:** Not to be cheesy. The hardest thing for me is to write down words and not think they're stupid.

**TC:** What is your inspiration?

**TL:** Not being around people. Living out in the country. Everything.

**Tony Vrooman:** For me it's just experience. Going through day by day. Buying speakers from a guy in a van.

**Mike Clement:** Down by the river.

**TC:** What is the story behind the speakers?

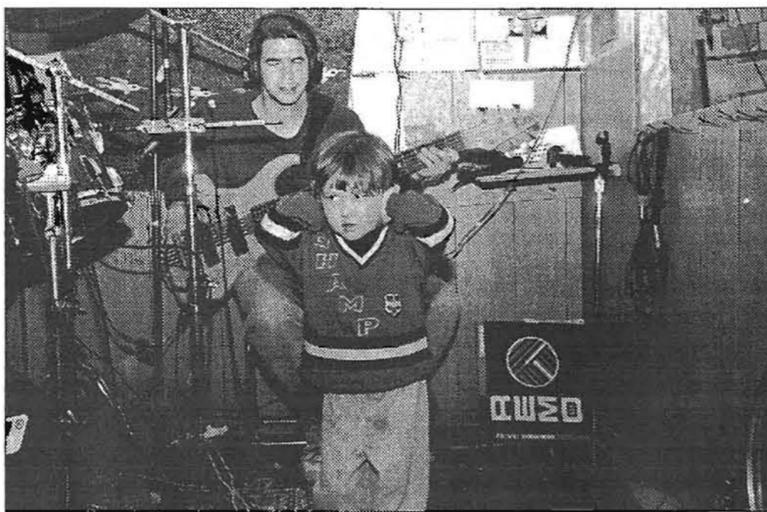
**TV:** I was on my lunch break and I ran into this guy that was selling speakers from a van. It was a huge elaborate scam with color brochures and everything. I knew it was a scam as soon as I bought them, it must have been a long week or something.

**TC:** What is your procedure for recording?

**TL:** First we get a good base and drum track. Then Tony and I will come back and until we have a perfect vocal we'll play it over and over again.

**TV:** One of the things people don't realize about the creation [of] a CD is they're like "why don't you have it done yet." You come down and you start working on it and you want it to be right and you want it to be good, so you spend a lot of time on it.

**TL:** We have total control over recording this time. The only thing it takes now is getting away from the TV long enough to record. This next



Stephanie Platt/The Current  
Sidney Lowe, 3, son of Tracy Lowe, listens to band member Andy Barnes practice.

[album] should be really good because everyone has put a lot of effort into it.

**TC:** What was your attraction to being in a band, to being a musician?

**TL:** Music was the first thing that ever altered my conscience. The first time I ever put on a set of headphones, the music was running through my ears, and it altered my consciousness. The power to make people see and feel things with music.

**Andy Barnes:** For me it's the thrill of performance, to be a part of an intangible thing.

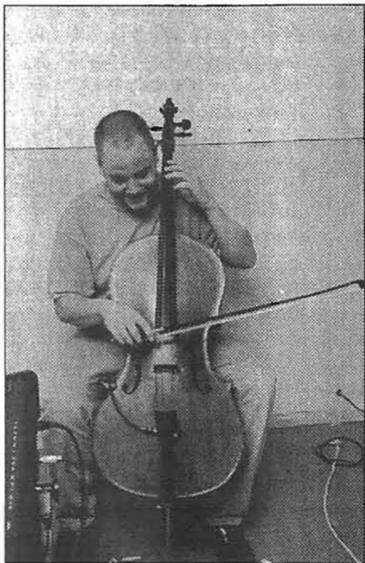
**MC:** No matter what anyone tells you, it's all about the music. The ability to make people smile and forget about their problems for three hours.

**TV:** There is nothing quite like being in front of a ton of people and driving the music and getting people involved in what you're doing. There is honestly nothing in this world that compares to the high you get from playing music.

**Jake Brookman:** There is an energy on stage that is being created between you and the people in the crowd.

**MC:** That's the best when they're hanging on every word you say and they react with the band.

**TC:** Who is your inspiration?



Stephanie Platt/The Current  
Band member Jake Brookman practices on the cello.

**Mike Garret:** My little brother is 17 and plays the drums. He is amazing. He puts so much effort into it. Honestly, if there is any inspiration in my life right now it's my little brother.

**TC:** What kind of crowds do you attract?

**MC:** We attract all different types of people. We attract fun. It's a fun atmosphere.

-Stephanie Platt

Movie Review

## 'Central Station' combines both humor and tragedy

"Central Station" (rating PG 13)  
Running Time: 115 minutes  
Playing at Plaza Frontenac

*Central Station* is a moving, dramatic film that mixes elements of both humor and tragedy to produce a story that is thought-provoking on many levels.

The story begins with Dora (Fernanda Montenegro), a retired teacher who supplements her meager retirement income by writing letters for the illiterate at Rio de Janeiro's Central Station. Dora is a feisty character who sometimes writes what she's told and sometimes what she thinks should be said and, unbeknownst to her customers, may or may not mail the letter, depending on what she thinks of the letter's sender. The tale revolves around Dora's reluctant befriending of a homeless boy, Josue (Vinicius de Oliveira) and the trip they take together, a journey that is also about life. The contrast and sometime clashing between their different personalities and their uneasy friendship as well as the difficulties of the trip, give the film lots of opportunities for humor and dramatic tension, and keep the audience from guessing what will happen next.

The acting is superb throughout, and is supported by marvelous photography that lends a magical look to the most mundane or shabby settings. Fernanda Montenegro, considered to be Brazil's greatest actress, was nominated for an Academy Award for this performance, and this film was one of the hits of last fall's St. Louis Film Festival. The story is original and effective, dealing with friendship and self-discovery, while subtly commenting on life in the modern world. This excellent Brazilian movie is well worth having to read subtitles, and I even became unaware of reading them as the story developed, so effectively did it draw me in.

-Catherine Marquis-Homeyer

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E-mail: [pulliam@starnews.com](mailto:pulliam@starnews.com)

## NCA, FROM PAGE 1

doing in that area." Self Study is the name of a paper prepared by the University and given to the committee. It lists every area of the UM-St. Louis campus, describes it, and analyzes both the good and bad points in each area.

Wartzok said the committee was impressed by the faculty and strong community support. He also said that the large student turnout for its open meeting with the committee last Monday counted in UM-St. Louis' favor. Wartzok estimates that about 50 students attended the meeting.

"I was over there just before the meeting started and people were bringing in chairs from other rooms just to have a place to sit," Wartzok said.

## DEMOLITION, FROM PAGE 1

staff of the University. Among the staff at the center are a nurse, a recreational therapist, a social worker, an activities coordinator, and a program assistant. The center has also served UM-St. Louis as a clinical site for students from various disciplines including nursing, gerontology, social work, optometry, and behavioral studies.

"We are working with about 50 families and averaging approxi-

mately 28 people a day, and their age range is 25 to 94," Maguire said. "These are not-well elderly. These are all people that need supervision during the daytime. Some of them are quite frail and would otherwise be in a nursing home if it were not for the center."

Maguire said that the meeting she had scheduled with the chancellor Feb. 3 had to be cancelled due to illness. She still awaits a

## HOMEcoming, FROM PAGE 1

will have those names out," McCarty said, "and then individuals can contribute money [toward their arrest]."

Other events include Rec Sports Day where students can participate in various athletic games for prizes on Wednesday, a bonfire at which a pep rally for both teams will be held, an alumni happy hour preceding the homecoming dance and Alumni Family Day, Saturday, following the dance.

The Homecoming dance will begin at 7:30 pm at America's Center on

Friday. The theme of the Homecoming dance is "Through the Looking Glass."

"The idea was to look kind of retrospectively at [UM-St. Louis]," McCarty said, "Probably the main decoration at the dance is going to be pictures of individuals, buildings, and events that have happened in the history of [UM-St. Louis]."

Tickets for the dance are available for purchase in Student Activities in the University Center at \$10 for a single, \$17 for a couple, and \$75 for a table of 10.

decision about the fate of the center.

"The University recently purchased Marillac Provincial House from the Sisters of the Daughters of Charity, and there is a spot on the north end of that building; there's an area called The Villa, where the elderly sisters were cared for," Maguire said. "The ground floor of The Villa would make a very nice spot for the cen-

ter if the chancellor thinks that's suitable. As far as I know, that space has not been allocated. So, that's what I'll be discussing with her."

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## Misc

**Volunteer help needed!** The Missouri NASA Space Grant's Science Mentors are looking for volunteers to do hands-on astronomy activities with younger students at local schools. Prior science teaching experience is great, but not necessary. Contact Brandie at 972-9020 for details.

**WANT TO HAVE A SAY IN CAMPUS ISSUES?** You can! Apply now as a candidate for student senator on the University Senate. Deadline for applications is Feb. 25 at 10 a.m. Forms are available in the Student Activities Office, 267 U. Center. Call 516-6769 for more info.

Interfaith Ash Wednesday Service - we begin a holy season of fasting, prayer and sacrifice. We grow in our understanding of daily embracing the cross. Wed., Feb. 17th, JC Penney, Room 72, 12:05. Campus Ministries, 385-3455.

**Dual Spring Break Alternative**, week of March 21st. Christian Appalachia Project to work on housing for the poor or stay in St. Louis and work with Habitat /other service projects. Next meeting: Newman House, Tues. March 2nd, 3:30 p.m. Call Betty at 385-3455.

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# KWMU director helps injured man by phone



Stephanie Platt/The Current  
Program Director Robert Peterson sits at his microphone in the offices of KWMU.

BY JOE HARRIS  
senior editor

KWMU Program Director Robert Peterson's job got a little exciting a couple of weeks ago, when he had to help an injured listener over the telephone.

"I was talking to this person on the phone about a story idea he had for us," Peterson said. "During the first part of our conversation, he fell and could not get back up."

Peterson's next step was to find out the extent of the injury. Once he figured out the man was unable to get help, Peterson dialed 911 from another line. Then he stayed on the line with the man until help arrived.

The last time Peterson spoke with the man, he was in the hospital receiving treatment.

"I told him that I would do a follow-up a week or two later to see how he is doing," Peterson said. "At the time I talked to him, the doctors still were trying to figure out what was wrong."

Peterson knows the man's name, but didn't want to identify him until he knows the extent of the injuries. Peterson plans to follow-up sometime this week.

Though Peterson has only been with KWMU for three years, he has been in the radio business for a total of 18 years. This also was not Peterson's only unique incident involving a listener.

When Peterson was working in Orlando, Florida, a listener speed dialed his radio station while hiding in their closet. At the time they thought someone was trying to break into their house. Peterson said he handled that situation similar to this latest one.

Through it all, Peterson still doesn't consider himself a hero.

"He needed help, and I was going to help," he said. "There's no standard procedure set by the radio station when dealing with someone. When something like this happens, I just try to help them like any other human being."

# New office expands UM-St. Louis distance learning facilities in Jefferson County

BY SUE BRITT  
staff associate

An office opened at Jefferson County Community College on Jan. 20, which was an addition to services for the electronic commuter student of UM-St. Louis at JCCC.

"For the past [three] years UM-St. Louis has offered upper level course work at Jefferson County College," said Dr. Greg Adkins, president of Jefferson County Community College. "Chancellor Touhill will dedicate an office site for students wishing to transfer to UM-St. Louis, with admissions and advising," he said.

Adkins said the addition of a full-time staffed office expands the services of UM-St. Louis to Jefferson County. Adkins said the demand for services is much needed for the students on that campus.

"As the president of Jefferson County College, I'm very excited they are taking this additional measure for on-site services," Adkins said.

Wendell Smith, dean of Continuing Education and Outreach and associate vice-chancellor of Academic Affairs at UM-St. Louis said that this new office is part of an expansive program of cooperation with many colleges in the outlying areas of Missouri, including Mineral Area Community College, St. Francis County, East Central College, and St. Charles County Community Colleges. The office site at Jefferson County Community college will also be assisting these campuses.

"Not all of the courses are at the Hillsboro campus of the community college," Smith said. "We offer quite a few courses at Fox High School. It's an evening center for the people of north Jefferson County."

Smith said another innovation introduced to the Jefferson County campus was a desktop system that includes the use of two-way video.

"We demonstrated a desktop system, the ISDN. It works off a Pentium computer system," Smith said. "If we have a student come in, for instance, with a financial aid question or if a professor wants a conference with a student, they can have a face-to-face meeting."

Smith said UM-St. Louis also offers course work for students of other campuses through video interaction. The hub of this "video campus" is located in the basement of Lucas Hall.

"We've been using that system for 12 years," Smith said. "That's another way we can eliminate some of the driving."

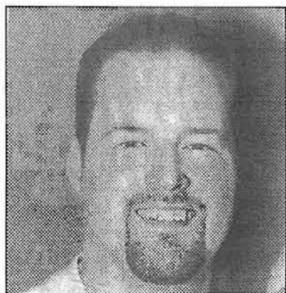
Dr. Donald Boehnker, director of the Instructional Technology Center at UM-St. Louis, said that the technology is continuing to expand all over the nation, linking campuses with each other. He said that the state universities in California are all linked so that students at any of their campuses can take courses from any other sites for their degrees. That system is called California Virtual University.

"What's happening is the technology," Boehnker said, "and, when I say technology, I mean video and computer - is increasing the access for people that can't for various reasons come to the main campus."

Boehnker said that with the addition of video the possibilities are wide, and the expansion throughout Missouri is slowly headed toward that of those West Coast universities and secondary educational facilities.

"Is it the wave of the future?" Boehnker said, "Yes."

## SGA, FROM PAGE 1



"The only thing we need to do [to finish ratifying the 1993 document] is get the approval of the vice-chancellor for Student Affairs and the chancellor, so it's only two steps away."

-Michael Rankins  
SGA Vice-President

changes, amendments, and additions to the bylaws that for one reason or another have never made it from the assembly into the written document . . . That indicates that it needs to be revised and updated."

Rankins offered an alternative plan to "buy some time" for the revising process. He suggested ratifying the 1993 constitution, so that the SGA would have a more up-to-date document while students took time to "review and rewrite the constitution at their leisure."

"We need to get this done before a new [SGA] administration comes in," he said. "The only thing we need to do [to finish ratifying the 1993 document] is get the approval of the vice-chancellor for Student Affairs and the chancellor, so it's only two steps away."

With all the choices that the SGA officers are facing, Bartok

said he believes Ash missed his chance to shine.

"[Hypothetically, let's say Ash] was to walk into a class and the instructor was to tell Ben and the five people sitting next to him that they need to compose a concerto and it's due at the end of the semester," Bartok explained. "If he got into this group and he was the only one doing work in the group, do you really think he would throw the work away and not get a grade? I don't think he would."

Avery, Rankins, and Bartok all said they understood Ash's frustration over the lack of interest in the project.

"It seems that very few [people] came through with what they promised him," Rankins said. "I'm still disappointed that we lost his contributions, but I don't think it was because he was an unprofessional person or he didn't care."



"One of my goals is to get this done before the end of the year and we run out of time. I think at the next [SGA assembly] meeting we should have [Ash's revised constitution introduced]."

-Jim Avery  
SGA President



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**Correction**  
In Issue 944, Becki Ehrhard was misidentified in the UnderCurrent. We regret any confusion this error may have caused.

## Go for it.

The Current is now accepting applications for its Editor-in-Chief for 1999-2000.

**To qualify students must:**

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**IN THEATRES THIS FEBRUARY**

# Homecoming Court

## 1999

The time has come for UM-St. Louis students to cast their votes for 1999 Homecoming King and Queen. So, who are the candidates? What are their accomplishments and aspirations?

**'I'm the king of the world!'**

**Roby Bracy III** is a sophomore majoring in criminal justice. He is a recent transfer and a member of the Residence Hall Association (RHA). After graduation, he plans to become an Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) agent or a Drug Enforcement Agent (DEA).

"For the brief time I have been at UM-St. Louis, I have come to like the people and staff in Missouri," Bracy said. "This would be a way for me to meet more people and support my school."

**Denny Lees** is a freshman majoring in business. He is a member of the UM-St. Louis golf team and was Great Lakes Valley Conference (GLVC) freshman player of the year. After graduation, he plans to start his own company involving the stock market.

"I want to be more involved in campus life by being a member of the Homecoming Court," Lees said. "I feel that this will increase my school spirit even more than it already is."

**Ryan Metcalf** is a senior majoring in economics and MIS. He is a member of Sigma Tau Gamma (fall 1997-winter 1999), Student Government Association (SGA) Representative (fall 1997-winter 1998), student senate (fall 1998-winter 1999), UM-St. Louis Budget and Planning Committee and Homecoming Chairman (1999). He plans to attend graduate school and earn an MBA in sports administration.

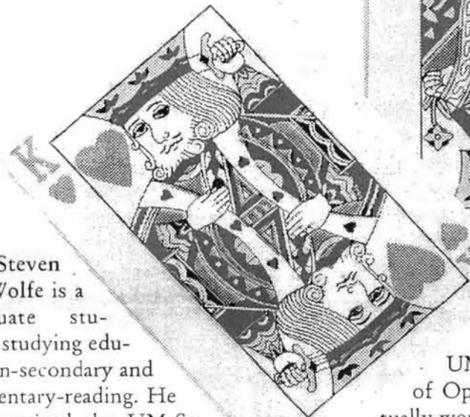
"I am a very involved student and I feel I exceed the average student involvement on this campus. I care about this University having a 'college life' atmosphere," Metcalf said. "By being on court, I hope that people can see what I have done and it will inspire others to do more."

**Steven M. Wolfe** is a graduate student studying education-secondary and elementary-reading. He has received the UM-St. Louis Student Affairs award (1987,1988), the Show Me State Games Medal (1985-present), and has been in Who's Who in American College and Universities (1987). Wolfe is on the SGA and the UM-St. Louis University senate. He plans to go into teaching after finishing his education.

"I want to be a member of the UM-St. Louis Homecoming Court in order [to see] that the court represents the wide diversity of students that attend UM-St. Louis," Wolfe said.

**'Long live the queen!'**

**Jackie Anderson** is a sophomore majoring in biology. She has received the Curator's Scholarship (1997-99), the Honors College Scholarship (1997-99), the Missouri Bright Flight Scholarship (1997-99), and an outstanding service award from the SGA (1997-98). Anderson is part of SGA (1997-99) and the Newman House (1997-99), a University Meadows Association Member (1998-99), a PLHCSA member (1998-99), University Program Board secretary and treasurer (1998-99), Riverettes secretary and photographer (1997-98), and Pierre Laclède Honors College



Association member (1997-98). She plans to attend the UM-St. Louis School of Optometry, and eventually work in a small clinic.

"To me, the Homecoming Court represents those individuals who love and support UM-St. Louis. They want to make their campus the best, and strive to make it so by playing an active role on campus," Anderson said. "I would like to be a part of this court to show my love and support for our school."

**Joanne Eddington** is a sophomore majoring in business administration/marketing. She is the risk manager/social chair of the Delta Zeta sorority, and was publicity chairwoman during Hunger Awareness and Alcohol Awareness week. She has volunteered at St. Joseph's Institute for the Speech and Hearing Impaired. After graduation, she plans to work for a major service company and eventually start her own marketing company.

"I believe that I would bring a positive addition to the UM-St. Louis [Homecoming] Court, and I considered it a great honor when Amy McCord told me that she had nominated me, so I would do my best to be a good representative," Eddington said.

**Carrie Mowen**, a transfer student, is a senior majoring in anthropology and Spanish. She is the pres-

ident of the University Program Board, an Executive Forum member, and has served on the committees for 'Books for Kids' and homecoming (all 1998-99). She is in the Pierre Laclède Honors College program. After graduation, Mowen wants to join the Peace Corps or go to graduate school.

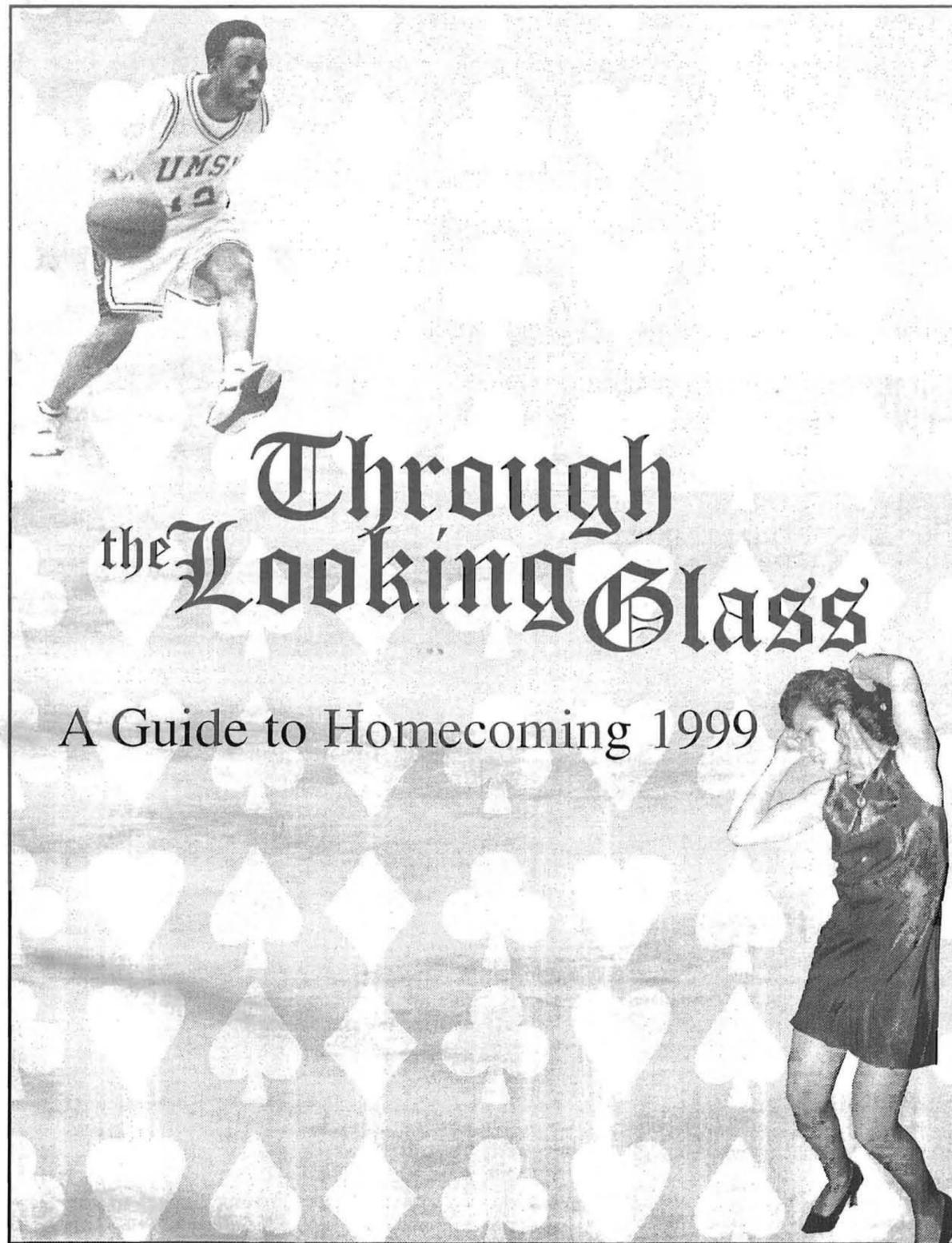
"I feel that the members of Homecoming Court should represent hard work and dedication that many students put in to the University on a daily basis. I also feel that Homecoming itself is a way to create campus community, something I think UM-St. Louis is lacking," Mowen said. "But over the past month, working with the Homecoming Committee, I have been very fortunate to meet some very enthusiastic students who are very dedicated to making UM-St. Louis a better place, not only to go to school, but a place to have some fun and socialize."

**Sara Mueller** is a freshman majoring in nursing. She plans to go to medical school at St. Louis University and become a pediatrician. She is a Delta Zeta new initiate and publicity chairwoman. She has volunteered at Alcohol Awareness and Hunger Awareness weeks and at St. Joseph's Institute for Speech and Hearing Impaired.

"In high school I always was too shy to run for any courts or elections. When I was asked to run, I said 'yes' because it would be a big learning experience and a lot of fun," Mueller said.

**Kim Schweiss** is a sophomore majoring in psychology. She wants to pursue her masters in psychology at UM-St. Louis. She is the social chair for the Alpha Xi Delta sorority and panhellenic delegate for the Panhellenic Association.

"I have been at UM-St. Louis two years and plan to continue my education here," Schweiss said. "I'm proud to be a part of UM-St. Louis and I believe I could represent UM-St. Louis in a positive way."



## Through the Looking Glass

### A Guide to Homecoming 1999



## Dear UM-St. Louis,

I am about to make a radical statement. Please, sit down and take a deep breath, so that you will be comfortable when you read the next sentence. **THE WEEK OF HOMECOMING HAS FINALLY ARRIVED.**

Like many of our textbooks do, I want to break down this statement so that you have a better understanding of what this really means. First, I feel it is important for you to realize UM-St. Louis actually has a **HOMECOMING**. Since the beginning of this semester, I have found only a small portion of students know this event takes place. Well, it does, and even more surprisingly it has been an annual event since the birth of this campus. Second, this year's **HOMECOMING** is a **WEEK OF** events. For the past few years **HOMECOMING** has consisted of little more than an athletic game and a dance. This year's **HOMECOMING** is important; it will be new beginning, a rebirth of some old traditions, and the creation of some new traditions. Most importantly, you have the opportunity to not only participate, but also to make this week a success. As you read this **HOMECOMING** insert you will find the committee has attempted to have a little something for everyone. I encourage you to attend everything you possibly can; you will not be disappointed. Third, it has **FINALLY ARRIVED**. The last **HOMECOMING** was in the fall of 1997. In June of 1998 the committee decided to move the athletic focus from soccer to basketball. One

benefit of this move is that we have had several extra months to plan. As a result we are expanding **HOMECOMING** to a full week. You have gone more than a year without a dance, and now you are getting much more.

Many students and faculty organizations have come together to pull this off. All the events this week will be sponsored in some way by the following: the Athletic Department, Student Activities, the University Programming Board, The Current, the Alumni Association, the Greeks, several independent students, and generous funding from the Student Government Association. As you can see this is truly a campus-wide effort. Now it is your turn to make this a student-wide success.

Yes, the theme of **HOMECOMING** is a look back on the past 35 years of UM-St. Louis, but let's all come together to make this a fun and exciting time that will start a new tradition of **HOMECOMINGS** that will be experienced and talked about, instead of rumored about.

We have put our best effort forward for you, the UM-St. Louis students and faculty. Now put your best effort forward and make this a memorable week for everybody.

Sincerely,  
 Ryan M. Metcalf  
 UM-St. Louis Homecoming Chairman,  
 1999

## Looking Sharp Homecoming Night

Homecoming is one of those rare occasions that students and faculty can get a little fancy in their apparel. Unfortunately, cash flow can sometimes be a problem. It's only one night, so there's no reason to blow a lot of bread on brand new duds. But it's not hard to glam up a little with what you probably already have... or can get inexpensively.

Women can spice up an old dress by investing in some new hair and body jewelry. For even less

money, girls can skip the jewels altogether and go for the simple yet sexy option of body glitter. It's perfect for strapless and backless alternatives.

The little black dress is perfect for any night out on the town. The problem is, almost everyone will be wearing one.

If a woman wants something different, an intelligent suggestion would be to shop around at thrift shops or second hand stores. It may involve a little more

time and some careful digging, but the price is right. Plus, it's a virtual guarantee that no one else will be wearing the same outfit.

Men have it relatively easy when it comes to dress-up events. It's not easy, however, to stand out and be noticed in a sea of black suits. The most obvious way for males to make a fashion statement is with the accessories. Wearing a solid-colored silk tie with a matching pocket handkerchief is a smart look and subtle

enough to not be gaudy. A man who wants to make a more obvious change can trade in his white dress shirt for a nice grey or blue one.

Don't forget, for ladies and gentlemen, one of the most important accessories is not a visible one. The right perfume or cologne adds the necessary finishing touch to every ensemble. Remember, studies prove that scent is one of the most important things when dealing with human attraction.

# HOMECOMING WEEK

### Monday, Feb. 15

Visit the Homecoming information table from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the U Center Lobby  
 Tickets available for Homecoming Dance

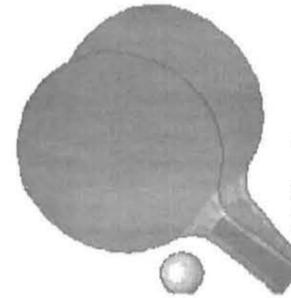
### Tuesday, Feb. 16

**Cast Your Vote for King and Queen** - tables set up in U Center and Marillac lobbies. 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

**Arresting Day** donation tables in U Center and Marillac lobbies. 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Faculty members and students are eligible to be arrested through donations accumulated Tuesday through Thursday. All proceeds will go towards UM—St. Louis student scholarships of the arrestee's choice. The actual arrests will occur on Friday.

**Ping Pong Tourney** in Mark Twain. See Athletic Dept. (516-5661) for sign-up and times. Bracketed ping pong games will be played Tuesday and Wednesday. Championship game will be held Thursday during half-time at the men's basketball game.



### Wednesday, Feb. 17

Arresting tables open, same time and location

Voting tables open, same time and location

Ping-Pong Tourney continues in Mark Twain

**Rec Sports Day** - 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. - JC Penney Building

Various team and individual athletic games — putting greens, dart games, hockey corners — that students can participate in and receive prizes.

**Bonfire** 6:00 p.m., by C/D garages - pep rally for Homecoming basketball games, will include both teams, pep-band, hot chocolate and roasting marshmallows. All students and faculty welcome to come show their school spirit and warm up by the fire.



### Thursday, Feb. 18

Arresting tables open, same time and location. Voting tables open, same time and location.

**Speaker, Lech Walesa** at JC Penney at 8:00 p.m. (SOLD OUT)

Walesa received the Noble Peace Prize in 1983. In 1990, he became the first democratically elected president of Poland. Walesa will speak on "Europe in the 21st Century".

**Basketball Games** in Mark Twain at 5:30 p.m. - includes championship game of Ping Pong Tourney, recognizing Homecoming Court and attendance prizes; selection of three students to shoot three points for \$1000 payoff



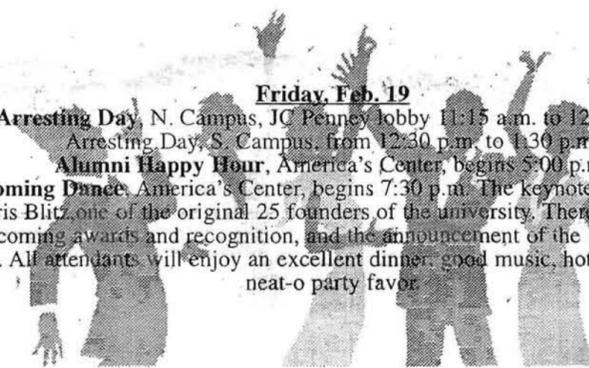
### Friday, Feb. 19

**Arresting Day**, N. Campus, JC Penney lobby 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

**Arresting Day**, S. Campus, from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

**Alumni Happy Hour**, America's Center, begins 5:00 p.m.

**Homecoming Dance**, America's Center, begins 7:30 p.m. The keynote speaker will be Morris Blitz, one of the original 25 founders of the university. There will also be Homecoming awards and recognition, and the announcement of the 1999 King and Queen. All attendants will enjoy an excellent dinner, good music, hot dancing and a neat-o party favor.



### Saturday, Feb. 20

**Alumni Family Day** and basketball games, begins 1:00 p.m.

**LAST YEAR'S HOMECOMING WAS SOLD OUT - DON'T MISS YOUR CHANCE AGAIN THIS YEAR!**

**Dance Tickets available in Student Activities - 267 U Center**

**1 person = \$10, Couple = \$17, Table (10) = \$75**

**Call 516-5291 for questions**