



**Nostalgia Trip:** The '80's are back with the new film "200 Cigarettes." For an exclusive interview and review, see page 6.

**Electronic Age:** A conference on the digital arts is set for this week at UM-St. Louis. See Page 3.

**Close, But...:** Westminster ruins Riverman baseball opener with a homerun in the final at-bat. See page 5.

NEWS FROM ALL OVER

Ohio State prof accused of stalking female student

(U-WIRE) COLUMBUS, Ohio - A female Ohio State student has accused a professor, whom she once dated, of stalking her.

Paul Ponomarev, an associate professor of mathematics at Ohio State for the past 24 years, is scheduled to appear in court March 17.

University Police arrested Ponomarev Feb. 19 charging him with menacing by stalking. The student filed a police report claiming the 54-year-old professor was harassing her.

Ponomarev pleaded innocent to the charges at his Feb. 20 arraignment.

University officials placed Ponomarev on paid administrative leave for the remainder of the Winter Quarter, said Peter March, chairman of the mathematics department. Spring is Ponomarev's off-duty quarter, March said.

"We presume that will be enough time for the case to be settled," March said.

Because she worked in the College of Math and Physical Sciences, the student saw Ponomarev often. She told police that in January 1998 she accepted one of Ponomarev's frequent requests to have coffee with him.

The two began dating and continued their relationship through the late summer 1998.

The student told police that in March 1998 the relationship began to get more serious. According to the police report, it was also about this time that she began to worry about Ponomarev being possessive of her.

She said that Ponomarev questioned her about her activities and whereabouts. She told Ponomarev that she wanted to "lighten" the relationship, but nothing changed.

The student told police she tried to end the relationship in August, and September, but Ponomarev continued to harass her.

She said Ponomarev followed her to her car and blocked her from getting into it in September 1998. She also reported that Ponomarev called her 13 times that night.

She said that the ordeal came to a head Feb. 10 when Ponomarev confronted her on the Oval and chased her into a classroom building on West 18th Avenue.

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The Current

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

March 8, 1999

The University of Missouri-St. Louis

Vol. 33 Issue 949

Bylaw dispute stirs dissent in SGA

BY DAVID BAUGHER
senior editor

Last week's announcement by Comptroller Ben Ash that he wished to expel more than two dozen groups from the SGA has touched off a wave of dissention and disagreement at the highest levels of student government.

SGA President Jim Avery said he will not sign off on Ash's plan to freeze the budgets of twenty-eight student organizations for poor attendance at SGA meetings because Ash failed to send letters warning the groups that their funding was in danger before their attendance warranted expulsion.

"I think that the intentions are right to enforce the rules, however, I think that SGA and Ben more specifically had an obligation to inform these people prior to their suspensions," Avery said. "I feel it would be unfair to these organizations to penalize them without any warning."

Both Rick Blanton, manager of Student Activities, and Don McCarty, SGA advisor, said the move to expel the organizations would require the president's approval. Blanton said he had taken such action several years ago, temporarily freezing the budgets of nine groups. Eight were reinstated after appeals.

SGA leaders square off over attendance clause, election timelines; Ash may take case to student court

Avery also expressed displeasure over the way in which Ash announced his action, saying that, other than a memo dated late last month, he had received no notification from Ash regarding the proposed expulsions.

"I read it in The Current. That's the first time I had actually been informed about it," Avery said. "He's never once left me a voice mail."

Ash said that he had tried to contact Avery but that Avery is "never in the office."

"I still haven't had a chance to get ahold of Mike [Rankins, SGA vice-president] or Jim," Ash said. "I've left notes for them explaining the constitution, showing the organizations that were in trouble, asking for them to get in touch with me. None of them have."

Ash also dismissed the idea of sending warnings to organizations saying he had gotten the attendance information late. He called the attendance clause "a general rule that everybody has known." Ash noted that while he does not have the

authority to "unilaterally" enforce the decision, he may plan future action on the matter, possibly through the student court.

"I will still have to talk to Jim first and Michael first and if I do not get a satisfactory answer and we cannot come to an amicable solution, I will take it upon myself to notify the court of a constitutional violation and at that point any number of things could happen," Ash said.

Blanton said he was not sure whether the court had the authority to overrule the president or not but that he hoped the disagreement could be resolved without the court's involvement.

"I'd certainly hope that we could get this settled internally inside the executive committee of the Student Government Association," Blanton said.

Representatives from two student organizations, Litmag

see SGA, page 8

Adult Day Services program will close at Mt. Providence

BY SUE BRITT
staff associate

The Adult Day Services program at Mt. Providence will close this summer. Options for saving the program were found to be infeasible. Clients are being referred to other centers for services.

Efforts made to transfer control of the program to the Red Cross fell through during legal negotiations. While these negotiations were taking place, the Mt. Providence Building, which houses the program, was in jeopardy due to Highway Department plans to straighten Interstate 70 in that area.

"We started negotiations last summer, and it worked very well until we got into the legal arena. The lawyers from the Red Cross were wanting assurances that we would find comparable space for them," said Wendell Smith, dean of Continuing Education and Outreach. "We just weren't prepared to say we could find comparable space and pay for the relocation, and if we didn't do that, I think they even had a penalty clause. So that deal fell through."

Marilyn Maguire, director of Adult Day Services said the negotiations between the University and the Red Cross lasted almost a year before closing.

"Mid-December we realized that that really wasn't going anywhere," Maguire said. "We had worked from March until December on that, and I was quite confident that that was going to go through, but once the attorneys got involved on both sides, it became very complicated."

Another problem the program faced was the possible impending loss of its current director.

"I have been interested in cutting back to part-time work and retiring," Maguire said. "Unfortunately, I didn't have someone in place to succeed me. The person who was the assistant director was older than I, and she ended up retiring before I did. So that was another complicating factor."

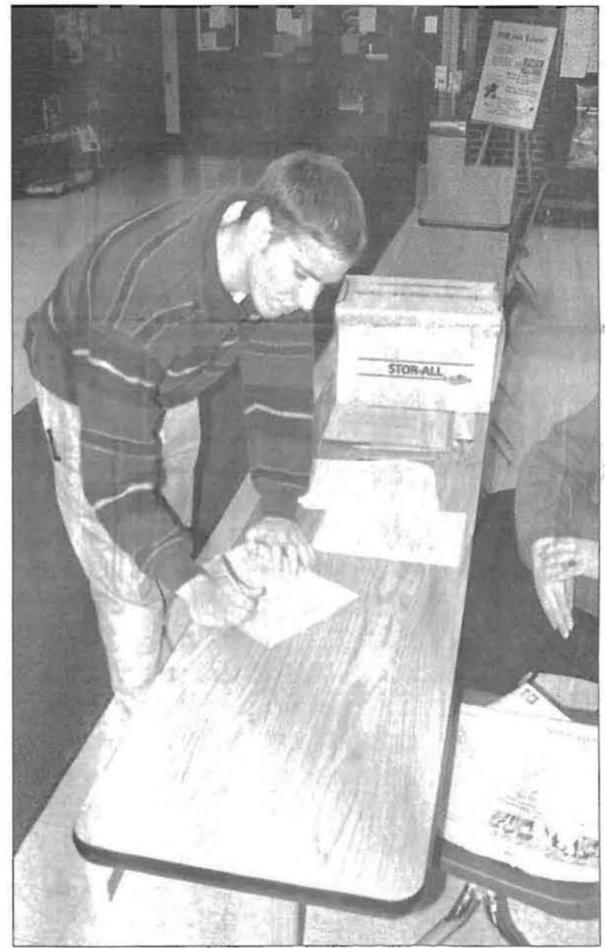
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The envelope, please . . .

And the senate winners are:

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Jodie A. Grass.....56

Only winners are listed.
Official results
Source: Senate Student Election Committee



Mark Lodes/ The Current

Student Brad Thompson fills out his ballot in the University Center, Friday. Thompson was one of forty-four candidates who vied for 25 student seats in the campus senate. Forty-two candidates ran in last year's election to complete the student contingent.

German diplomat speaks at UM-St. Louis

BY SUE BRITT
staff associate

The German Culture Center at UM-St. Louis sponsored a lecture Mar. 5 by Dr. Harald Braun. Braun is minister for political affairs at the German Embassy in Washington D.C.

Braun spoke of the importance of the influence of the European Union to the countries of Europe. He said that Germany is surrounded, in a 300 mile radius of its borders, by 18 countries in Europe, and that physical position creates a need for Germany to think of itself in terms of Europe.

"That is a geographical position that you have to take into consideration if you think about your country's foreign policy. I think Germany has made many mistakes in the course of this century in dealing with this geo-strategic position," Braun said, "and one lesson we believe that we have learned is that we have to

approach this in a much more European and joint way."

Braun spoke of the change in Germany brought on not only by reunification and new elections but by regulations in connection with being a member of the European Union. He spoke of the reputation that Germany has of being reluctant to change. He said being a member of the European Union challenges Germany and the other countries of Europe to conform to European demands while maintaining their identity.

"On the way here we spoke about England and you all know the saying, that in England everything that is not expressly prohibited is permitted. In Germany everything is prohibited unless expressly permitted. And there are people who say that in France everything that is expressly prohibited is permitted," Braun said. "And although in Germany

we have made some progress in the area of deregulation, we certainly don't want to change everything, nor can we. So have no fear. We won't give up our beer, our love of precision engineering cars, orderliness and . . . Munich's Oktoberfest."

Braun's lecture was a prelude to the formal opening of the German Culture Center of the Center for International Studies. The official opening for the German Culture Center will be held Tuesday, Mar. 16 at 7 p.m. and will feature Dr. Roland Mangold of the department of organizational and media psychology of the University of Saarbrücken. The center is located in the Southwestern Bell TeleCommunity Center. Joel Glassman, director of the Center for International Studies said the center will offer services beyond lectures.

"We are going to have a library,

One lesson that we have learned is that we have to approach [Germany's position] in a much more European and joint way.

-Harald Braun
Minister for political affairs at the German Embassy in Washington D.C.

German language videos and books; we are going to run cultural programs, German music, German theater, etcetera, etcetera. We are going to run programs for German language teachers and high schools, and we're going to have a reading room for people who want to read books, magazines, journals in German."

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

# Bulletin Board

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

## Monday, Mar. 8

• **Monday Noon Series: An Introduction to the Sitar.** Allyn Miner, lecturer in Indian music, South Asia Regional Studies at the University of Pennsylvania, performs on the sitar and discusses its history in 229 J.C. Penney. Contact: Karen Lucas, 5699.

## Tuesday, Mar. 9

• **African Studies Speaker Series: "Race, Rumor, and Violence in Colonial Zanzibar"** is a lecture given by Dr. Jonathan Glassman, Department of History from Northwestern University, in 331 SSB. Contact: Center for International Studies, 5753.

## Wednesday, Mar. 10

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

• **Taize Prayer**, from 12:15 p.m. to 12:45 p.m. in 156 U-Center, is a quiet, meditative time for scripture, music and prayer sponsored by campus ministries. Contact: Roger Jespersen, 385-3000.

• **"Stories of Hope."** Join the Women's Center in welcoming the women of the Let's Start program as they perform this play based on their efforts to turn their lives in a positive direction after facing legal problems. This event will be from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. in 100 Clark Hall. Contact: The Women's Center, 5380.

• **Introduction to Weight Training** from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

## Thursday, Mar. 11

• **Coed Wallyball 4-on-4 Tournament** open to students, faculty and staff will be from 6:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

at the Mark Twain Racquetball Courts. Each team should consist of 2 men and 2 women. A and B divisions offered. Win a T-shirt. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

## Friday, Mar. 12

**LETS TAKE YOUR BODY FAT:** Find out what your body fat is so that you can use it as a baseline to measure "real" progress! It only takes 1 minute. Meet at the Rec Sports office between 2:15 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

## Monday, Mar. 15

• **Monday Noon Series: The New Bauhaus—A Slide Talk.** Myron Kozman, a former student at UM-St. Louis, provides an overview of the efforts to transplant the pedagogical principles of the famous German art school to Chicago in 229 J.C. Penney. Contact: Karen Lucas, 5699.

## Tuesday, Mar. 16

• **"Living On Your Own."** Patrice Dollar of the University of Missouri's Extension Program will discuss how to set up your own living space within a budget from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Contact: The Women's Center, 5380.

## Wednesday, Mar. 17

• **Taize Prayer**, from 12:15 p.m. to 12:45 p.m. in 156 U-Center, is a quiet, meditative time for scripture, music and prayer sponsored by campus ministries. Contact: Roger Jespersen, 385-3000.

## BASIC FITNESS AND WEIGHT LOSS CLASS

from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

## Thursday Mar. 18

• **Mathclub Film Series: "Chances of a Lifetime: Probability"** will be at 2 p.m. in 132 SSB.

## Campus CrimeLine

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

### February 22, 1999

A student reported that between 11:45 a.m. and 1:05 p.m. a portable CD player, a radar detector and a wallet containing a number of credit cards and \$80.00 in cash were stolen from his auto. The auto had been parked on the top level of parking garage "C"

A student reported that her purse was stolen from atop a cafeteria table between 12:55 p.m. and 1:40 p.m. The student had forgotten the purse and on her return to the cafeteria the purse was missing.

### February 24, 1999

A visitor reported that at 9:15 a.m. his wallet was stolen from his jacket pocket by a pick pocket on the South Campus near the Kathy J. Weinman Building. The visitor and the suspect both had been on the MetroLink prior to the incident.

A faculty member reported that at 2 p.m., after teaching a class at Stadler Hall, an unknown male met her at her office. During a conversation between the two the unknown person became angry and stormed out of the office. A description was provided to the campus police.

### February 26, 1999

A staff person reported that sometime between 2:55 p.m. and 3:05 p.m. she received a threatening telephone call from an unknown person. The call was received at 308 Woods Hall.

### March 2, 1999

Sixty dollars was taken from a student during an armed robbery about 6:30 p.m. on the second level of Garage C. No one was injured. The student described the suspect as a black male, about 5' 10" - 6' tall, 170 lbs., wearing a red and black Chicago Bulls jacket.

LOOK FOR OUR SPRING ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT INSERT IN NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE OF THE CURRENT!

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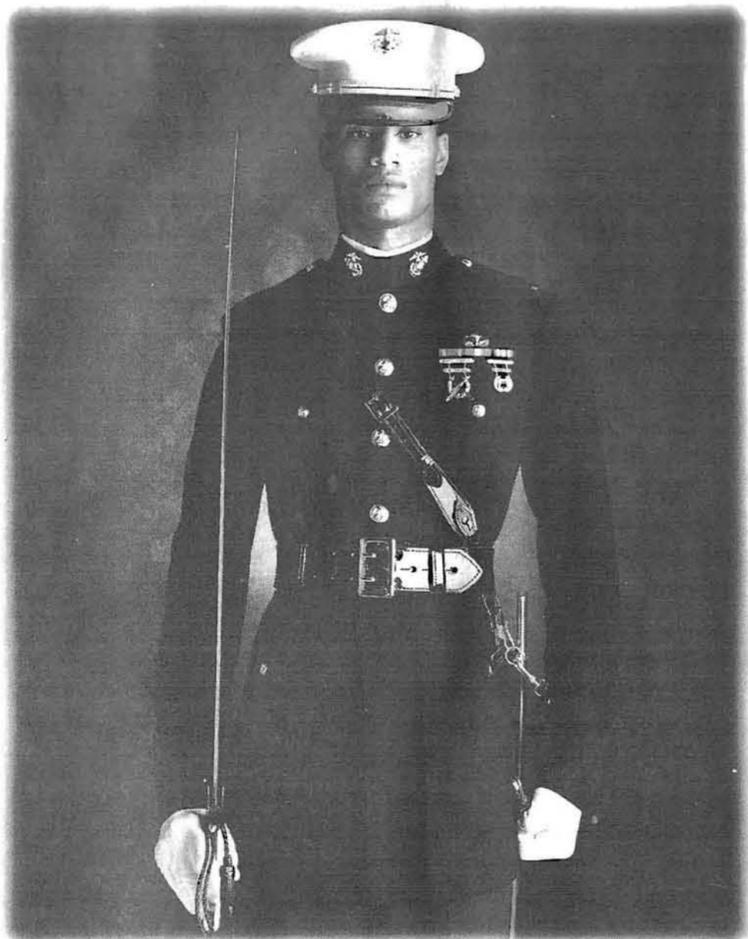
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# FEATURES

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

## GET THIS

### Politically correct society silences real conversation

I have to believe that the original intent behind political correctness was honorable.

From what I can gather, the idea was to protect the rights of all individuals and not discriminate against anyone based on religion, gender, race, sexual preference, physical disabilities, etc. Who could argue with this? It sounds pretty much like a no-brainer.

Here's the thing, though. I have found that instead of reaffirming that diversity is the key to an interesting society, it seems to have scared most people into silence.

Being a white girl, or should I say Caucasian female/woman (your choice), I have found myself in many situations where I have wondered what the heck was happening to our world. It seems that we are no longer allowed to discuss things like skin color, sex, or obvious physical differences. I, for one, find this discouraging.



AMY LOMBARDO  
Features Editor

I'm not blaming political correctness entirely, but it doesn't help that I feel that I have to censor my every comment because there may be a minute chance that I will offend someone. I think this limits the potential of intellectual discussion everywhere. If people are afraid to ask questions, how will anyone ever learn anything? For example, no matter how many books I read on African-Americans or transvestites, the best source of information would be from the actual individuals who are black or cross-dressers. In this particular circumstance, I could just call RuPaul.

Before I go any further, I would like to point out that the last sentence I just wrote caused me to pause and reflect. In fact, I felt the need to confer with one of my co-workers to make sure I should put that final thought in. I mean, it could possibly be considered offensive, right?

This is what I'm talking about, people! How sad is this, that I am conflicted by an innocent statement that is meant only to add depth and humor to my writing? ... okay, maybe just depth.

I think that we should all take a new attitude. If something sparks a question in your head, ask it. If you feel the need to comment on the unusual or unique, do it. From this point on, I am proud to be Pro-Conversation. I would not be offended if someone wanted to talk to me about my personal characteristics that may seem foreign to them. Just to clarify, I am not inviting random strangers to make lewd remarks about my body parts. Nor am I remotely promoting anything ridiculous like a comeback of racial slurs.

What I'm saying is that we should start talking to each other instead of avoiding issues. The only reason that these subjects seem so ominous and scary is because we make them that way. They can be important and serious, but not threatening.

Wasn't it Franklin D. Roosevelt (or at least his speechwriter) who said, "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself!"

I couldn't have put it better. Once, a white woman told me that she does not "see color," in reference to race. I assume that she meant this in a positive way, that a person's skin tone did not reflect her opinion of his or her character. But I don't like the implication that somehow seeing color is somehow a bad thing. It's not. Some people are brown, some are tan. Some have reddish undertones, some yellow. Today I'm a rather unappealing pasty pale because I have a cold.

My point is differences exist. Let them, talk about them ... learn to enjoy them.

# Spinning

## Rec Sports offers classes in the latest exercise craze

BY LISA M. PETTIS  
of the Current staff

A new fitness technique has arrived on the UM-St. Louis campus. Spinning is a workout program performed on a stationary bike, designed to work cardiovascular muscles. Larry Coffin, manager of Recreation Sports at UM-St. Louis is responsible for bringing this new fitness trend to the University.

"We wanted to offer something new to the students," Coffin said. "It was popular in St. Louis, and we like to keep up with the times, the current trends."

For years, cycling had only been known as an outdoors sport, but in 1987, Johnny G. Spinner began developing Spinning as an indoor workout program. However, the bikes that had been used at the beginning of Johnny's program broke down due to the intensity of the cycling movements performed on them. Because of this, Johnny invented the Spinner, which allowed for the strenuous movements of the cyclist.

"It is a tremendous workout because you do it with a trainer," Coffin said.

In some respects, spinning is similar to an aerobics class. Diane Rabe, fitness coordinator for Recreation Sports at UM-St. Louis, describes spinning.

"It's such a good individual workout, but in a class setting," Rabe said. "It's kind of like an aerobics class, but you don't have the 4, 3, 2, 1 like you do in the aerobics class."

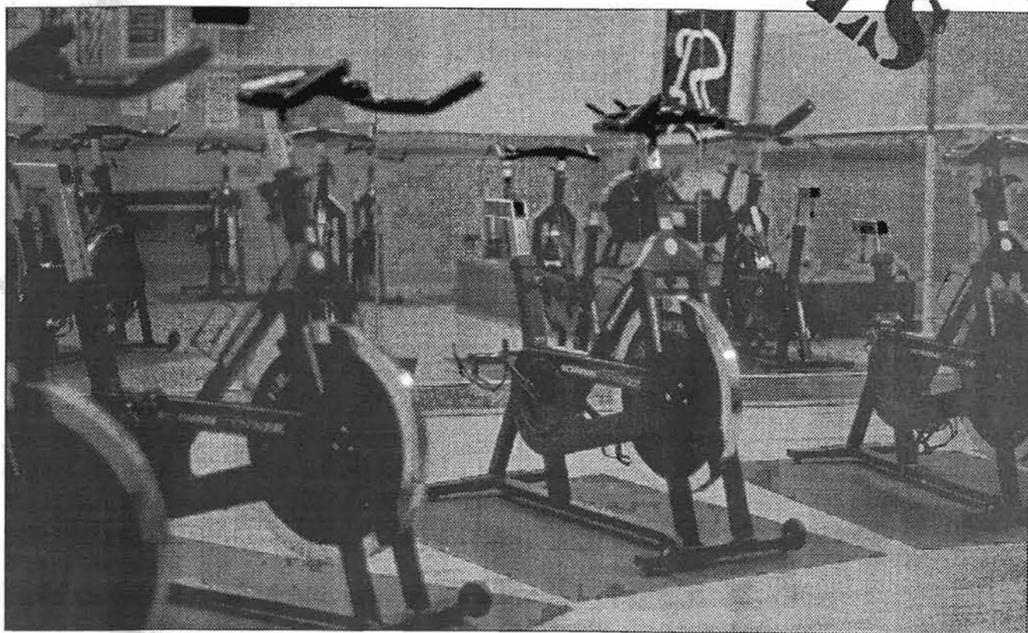
According to Rabe, spinning came to St. Louis about three years ago. At that time, she was asked by an acquaintance in the fitness industry to be certified as a spinning instructor.

But what about the people who like to walk or run outdoors?

"Spinning is my most favorite cardiovascular workout," Rabe said. "But I would never tell anyone to drop everything else and do only spinning."

Rabe said she likes to jog herself and believes in cross training, yet does spinning also.

"You know how the weather is here in St. Louis," Rabe said. "Spinning is good when you have to be indoors, and you can keep up the same intensity of running or walking



Stephanie Platt/The Current

Stationary bicycles like these in the Mark Twain Building are used in the latest fitness craze: spinning. Rec Sports is offering classes in spinning.

while you spin."

Rabe said for people who have had knee surgery or for other reasons cannot jog or have any strain on their knees or ankles, spinning is a good solution because it's "biomechanically safe."

"You can have a low impact workout by staying seated while cycling, keeping the pressure off of your knees or ankles," Rabe said. "You don't have to stand up if you don't want to."

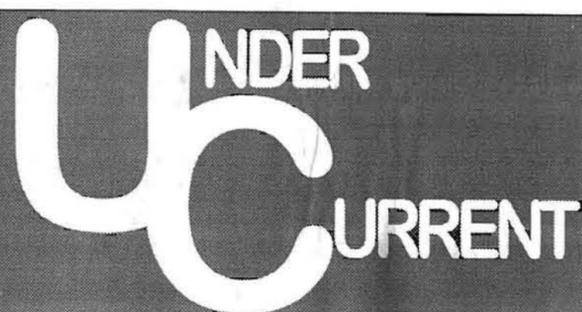
"You can feed off of each other's energy," Rabe said. "Also, the lights are dimmed, and you can close your eyes and get into yourself, your mind."

Although Rabe has been a fitness instructor for ten

years, there are no prerequisites for becoming a spinning instructor; however, there are three phases one must go through in order to teach the advanced classes.

"In the first phase, one learns safety procedures and teaching techniques," Rabe said. "During the next two phases, the instructor will continue to teach and do research, keeping up on the new information on spinning."

Recreation Sports is offering a group rate for \$25.00, which includes "11 cycles, an instructor, and a spinning time of 45 minutes." The cost for an individual is only \$3.00 per spin for students. For more information on spinning, contact Larry Coffin at 516-5326, or Diane Rabe at 920-6350.



compiled by Jeremy Pratte/staff photographer

With all the amazing things they're doing on the Internet these days, what would you like to see next?

"They should have movies over the net."

-Steve Lichtenberg  
Freshman/Engineering



"Interactive tutorials for computer programs such as games and art programs."

-Mike Canavan  
Junior/Graphic Design

"Virtual reality cartoons and be able to watch from the police cameras 24/7."

-Kristin Weinkauff  
Junior/Graphic Design



"Live executions."

-Eric Thomas  
Senior/Communications

## Electro-notes!

# Conference looks at world of digital music

BY ANNE PORTER  
staff associate

Almost every piece of music that is heard today is digitized, from the music that one hears in a surround-sound theater, to the music that one hears on the radio. Most people own digitized music in the form of CDs, although seldom is the music thought of in this way.

The "Art, Design, and Music in the Electronic Age Conference" at UM-St. Louis decided to place emphasis in digitized music and art.

Diane Touliatos is the director of the Center of Humanities and a professor of music at UM-St. Louis.

"Our goal is to show what has happened and predict what the future will bring because of digital arts," Touliatos said.

Last year, UM-St. Louis premiered the electronic conference with "Printed Culture in the Electronic Age: The Fade of Books."

"Where does it go from here?" This is something that no one else has covered. We are the first, cutting edge interdisciplinary conference. Our campus should be proud that people are following what we are doing," Touliatos said.

The conference kicks off Wednesday at 8 p.m. with the Machu Picchu/Sacred Light Concert. This concert combines electronic music with imagery and movement and is presented by Rich O'Donnell of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra.

Morton Subotnick will talk on Thursday about how technology and interactive applications offer new outlets for creativity. Subotnick is a very prominent composer working in the

United States in interactive and computer music involving instruments.

Eve Beglarian, a composer and performance artist, will be performing with Kathleen Supove, a keyboardist, on Thursday at 1:30 p.m.

"Most, not all, of what [Beglarian] performs are her own compositions. I've only heard how spectacular they are," Touliatos said.

Beglarian's and Supove's performance is called Twisted Tutu and combines composition, singing, stage movement, improvisation, and sound design to describe the preoccupations of the 90's.

Max Mathews, a professor of music at the Center for Computer Research in Music and Acoustics at Stanford University, will be performing Friday.

"Max Mathews is the grandfather of digital music," Touliatos said.

The movie 2001: A Space Odyssey tributes Mathews; that is how respected and known he is.

"The talk will describe the beginnings of computer music and include playing recordings of many of the early compositions. Computers then were very expensive, so the pieces tended to be short. I'm looking forward to the visit, and I am delighted that the planning committee thought of me as a speaker," Mathews said.

Lief Brush is a professor of art at the University of Minnesota, Duluth.

Brush's talk will cover questions concerning changes to the human experience through electronic communication and concerning the participants and creators.

Professors from UM-St. Louis will also be participating in the conference. Some of these are Tom Patton, professor of art; Dan Younger, assistant professor of art; and Marian Amies, assistant professor of art.

The "Art, Design, and Music in the Electronic Age" conference is free and open to the public. For more information and reservations, call (314) 516-5974.



# COMMENTARY

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

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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

# SGA has trouble determining priorities

## The Issue:

The SGA leaders are spending time arguing over whether or not almost 30 student organizations should be expelled from SGA. Meanwhile, elections are approaching and little has been done to prepare.

## We Suggest:

The SGA elections should take priority this year. The attendance requirement for SGA groups should be enforced next year.

## So what do you think?

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

Riven with controversy and disagreement among its leaders SGA seems destined to continue its slide toward disintegration. One symptom of this mess is the present dispute between Comptroller Ben Ash and President Jim Avery over whether to expel almost thirty student groups from the assembly thus freezing their budgets for the remainder of the semester.

Ash contends that the expulsions are necessary for the survival of the rule of law in the SGA. If, after all, the student government doesn't follow its own constitution why should it bother to have one at all? What is the purpose in bylaws that are not adhered to?

Avery however says that funding freezes would be unfair to organizations if groups who had missed a couple of meetings were not at least warned before one absence too many caused the ax to fall on their funding. In this case, no prior warnings were given, hence Avery has refused to sign off on the deal.

While Ash's futile attempt to enforce the attendance bylaws is noble it also seems sudden and poorly-planned. The attendance clause was not well-publicized by Ash or anyone else in SGA nor was fair warning given to affected organizations. Ash himself admits he only began his crusade after finding the obscure bylaws while organizing his computer. This hardly seems like a firm basis for freezing thousands of dollars in budgets and putting almost one-third of the SGA in financial limbo.

However, the best argument for simply dropping the issue may be that SGA has bigger problems at the moment. For one thing, with the SGA elections only

weeks away there appears to have been little or no action taken to begin the process of selecting the next student body president. Ash is right in complaining that no forms have been made available and no timelines set. There are vague rumors that an election committee is in operation but neither Avery nor Ash nor most anyone else seems to know who is on it or what it is doing. According to Vice-President Michael Rankins a chair was appointed to the committee only late Friday.

At this point the SGA leadership's first priority should be to begin the election process by making registration forms available to candidates and setting applicable deadlines. This is a basic step that should have been taken long ago.

As for the future, Ash makes good points. Next year, the attendance requirement should be announced, publicized and enforced. The SABC, of which Ash is the student head, can even punish organizations in their upcoming budget allocations, since campus participation is a valid criteria for evaluating budget requests.

Ash also makes excellent points about the SGA's severe communication problems. While Ash and Avery seem at odds over who is or isn't returning one another's phone calls, who is to blame should be a minor issue. The fact is that by both's admission, SGA's executive committee seems to be communicating more through angry exchanges on the front page of *The Current* than with each other. This may make great fodder for the paper but probably does not portend well for the SGA.

# A few suggestions for campus senate

Twenty-five new student senators were elected Friday and I am proud to say that I am one of them. At least I think I'm proud. It's hard to be proud about being a student senator after last year's dismal student attendance at meetings. Some faculty members even suggested reducing or removing student seats on the senate due to poor attendance.

Oddly, in a body so obsessed with issues of who shows up and who doesn't, attendance is not taken in the senate. This is not a mere oversight. A move to take attendance at meetings and post the results was defeated in November of last year, surprisingly not by students, who allegedly have the most to fear from a head count, but by angry faculty who seemed distinctly frightened by the prospect of a little accountability.

The attendance proposal clearly should have been passed. The fact that it wasn't makes me wonder as much about faculty attendance as it does student absenteeism. But a recent controversy in SGA gave me an idea to take the attendance proposal even further. Attendance should not just be taken but required.

You heard me. The senate should pass a resolution that after a reasonable number of absences, say three, a senator should be expelled from the body. This would apply to students and faculty alike. No exceptions, though proxies would be allowed.

Truth be told I am probably cutting my own throat as far as student representation is concerned. I am proud to say that while I attended all but one of last year's meetings as a senator, most of my tuition-paying colleagues would probably have been dropped before the end of the year. Yes, it will mean less representation for students, but how good is representation that never shows up anyway?

Will this proposal be implemented? Nope. It smacks too much of accountability, a concept that neither students nor faculty at UM-St. Louis have been all that enamored of this year.

Even if such a policy were in place it wouldn't solve some of the more basic problems with the student election process. Other than their majors, students listed on the ballot include virtually no information next to their names, making the election a contest of name recognition more than anything else.

It's facts like these that make it hard to be proud of being a member of the senate. But I'll try anyway, or at least I'll show up.



DAVID BAUGHER  
Editor-in-Chief

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# Evening College prevented from voting

This is an official grievance regarding the lack of a voting booth during evening hours in the recent Homecoming Court elections. These students, both at the undergraduate and graduate levels, make up a sizable percentage of the student body. They were denied the right to vote for Homecoming Court 1999, just like they were in 1997. Their student activities dollars help pay for such events, but they are not allowed to participate in the process.

These evening students get to vote for student senators for the University Senate as well as Student Government Association officers and representatives. This unfair procedure must be changed.

-Steven M. Wolfe

# An open letter from the SGA President

I would like to address a few concerns recently brought to my attention. These understandable concerns focus on my absence from a number of meetings, including my first emergency absence from an SGA meeting in my two years of presidency. While I openly admit that I have missed various meetings, and I apologize for any inconvenience or concern which my lack of visibility has caused, there has been some exaggeration and sensationalism of my errors. However, it is important for the students to understand, despite what you have heard, I remain committed to my role as President of the student body. While some suggest that I no longer care about the students nothing could be further from the truth.

Like many non-traditional students who work, my availability during the day is limited, as is my ability to travel to meetings in other cities. While this is in some ways unfortunate, it has allowed me to be available to evening students and nighttime events. I had hoped that voice mail would have made me more available to daytime students. While I have been seriously over committed, my eagerness to make positive changes in the lives of others has been the catalyst in creating this situation. These include being a part-time teacher, high school basketball coach, and a biology assistant on this campus. I realize that the end result to the students was still unfair; I had only the best of intentions. I have rearranged my schedule to maximize the time I have available for the students.

After the last SGA meeting, I realized how upset some students have become. While I am happy to have an accurate picture of student's concerns about my job performance, I remain concerned that students do not have an accurate picture of my performance. There are many projects of which I am proud. Our continued efforts to retain the present University Center, and to maximize the size and quality of student space in the new center,

have progressed well. These projects collectively entail more than \$45,000,000 of exclusively student money, I can hardly think of a better goal to have worked on.

The Homecoming dance was an overwhelming success. My countless thanks to Ryan Metcalf and the others on the Homecoming Committee for continuing the revitalization of this tradition, which I resurrected from near death during my first term. Also, the combined efforts of SGA and the Student Activities office have increased student involvement. While I am confused by the difficulties we have encountered, and while I admit that I was bitterly disappointed by this University's refusal to work with me on occasion (such as when my six months of work to bring the Grammy-award winning "Barenaked Ladies" to campus was suddenly dismissed because no one would reschedule a single volleyball game), I am still committed to serving the students.

I will attend Senate meetings and report when appropriate. Despite the fact that there has been only one weekly scheduled Chancellor's cabinet meeting this calendar year, I will increase my attendance at other appropriate meetings, although my attendance in some forums is not and never has been appropriate.

While I am glad that students have brought to my attention that I was in error, I want to provide a more accurate portrayal of my presidency rather than one skewed and exaggerated by individuals who simply do not like me personally. I also want to convey that I have regained focus, and my representation of students and service to them will improve. Together we will continue to build upon the gains we have already achieved, and create for all students a better educational experience.

-Jim Avery

# A story about the poorest of rich men

I have met some pretty interesting people while at a bar. One of the most interesting was a guy named John (name has been changed to protect the innocent).

It turned out that John was from South Africa and was a computer analyst for a company in the U.S. He was an excellent conversationalist. We talked politics (especially those of his native country), sports, literature, and music.

John was buying round after round of drinks for everybody. Then he bought cigars for everybody, followed by more drinks. He was spending so much that my friends and I started to get worried. It's one thing to buy one round of drinks, but to buy three or four rounds, along with cigars, for a group of eight guys is another. The bill was well over \$100.

When my friends and I offered to help with the tab, though, John refused. He just threw a couple one-hundred dollar bills on the bar and told the bartender to keep the rest.

John then explained that his company was paying him six figures a year, as well as picking up all of his living expenses. Since he had no bills, John said most of the six figures went to partying and drinking.

After last call, John abruptly stood up and announced to the rest of the bar that there's never a last call at his place and that everybody was invited there. Then he went over to some of the waitresses and gave them a personal invitation to his place.

Of course, it was decided that we would go over to John's place for a nightcap.

Trying to keep up with him as he drove 70 miles per hour down Olive Street was a hair-raising experience. As we approached his complex, he slammed on his brakes and his car did a 180 as it squealed to a stop. When the dust settled, he casually pulled into his complex like nothing had happened.

We were even more amazed when we entered his apartment. He had a wide selection of beer, liquor, and port wines. He played music from other cultures in a state-of-the-art stereo system. John talked about the two years he served for the South African army, about all the women he had been with, and about clever ways to ask a woman out.

Unfortunately, the next day my friends and I found out that nobody bothered to get John's phone number. Since then, we have frequented the same bar we met him at, but he's never there.

As I look back on that night, I have feelings of both happiness and sadness. Happy, because it was a great time and we were exposed to some different views and attitudes. Sad, because there was something missing in John.

John reminds me of the main character from F. Scott Fitzgerald's novel "The Great Gatsby." He's a man with tremendous financial backing, but seems to have no true friends.

The experience has awakened me, and though I'm not the richest guy in the world, I'm certainly not the poorest.



JOE HARRIS  
Managing Editor

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# SPORTS

## Riverwomen go 1-3 in Central Arkansas

### Team leaves with several positives despite poor results

BY JOE HARRIS  
 senior editor

The Riverwomen softball team had a rough start to the 1999 season as they won only one out of four in the Central Arkansas Invitational.

The Riverwomen lost 3-0, 1-0, and 8-3, to UM-Rolla, Southern Arkansas, and Cameron University respectively. Their lone win was a 4-3 victory over Delta State. Despite the slow start, Riverwomen Head Coach Charlie Kennedy isn't worried.

"We played well," Kennedy said. "The fact that we hadn't played on dirt [before the tournament] and the fact that we haven't seen the ball come out of the pitcher's hand everyday hurt us."

Kennedy said he was impressed with his pitching staff, especially in the win over Delta State.

"Kori Allison really kept [Delta State] off stride. She throws a lot of breaking balls which results in a lot of flyball outs," Kennedy said. "She pitched well for five innings."

Kathleen Rogoz came on with the tying run on second base in the sixth. Even though Delta State tied the game, Rogoz shut the

door and the Riverwomen scored in the next inning to earn their first win of the season.

Kennedy wishes they could have played immediately afterward.

"When you're playing well, you want to keep playing," Kennedy said. "Unfortunately we had a couple of hours between games. If we would have played right after [Delta State], I think our momentum would have carried us through the next game."

The win over Delta State was impressive considering that they entered their contest against the Riverwomen with a 4-1 record and they had already knocked off fifteenth-ranked Alabama-Huntsville, who the Riverwomen were scheduled to have played Saturday in the St. Louis Invitational.

The Riverwomen will enter the invitational with several positives from this past weekend. The performances from Allison and Rogoz have provided a foundation from the mound and the offensive production from newcomers Sybil Wall and Sara Downey have been pluses for the Riverwomen.

Downey, having to overcome an injured thumb, went 3-9 for a .333 average and had a walk. Wall batted .500, with a walk, and was

one of only four Riverwomen to have played in all four games without making an error.

Wall also denied Southern Arkansas of a homerun by making a spectacular catch.

Andrea Sczurko and Andrea Wirkus also added to the Riverwomen offensive totals. Sczurko batted .429 with two doubles and three RBI's. Wirkus batted .357, scored two runs, and had two RBI's.

Kennedy said he wants the team to improve defensively. The Riverwomen committed ten errors in their four games last weekend.

"We're a better defensive team than that," Kennedy said. "There are no excuses. Some of those errors occurred at crucial times in those ball games. We have to be better defensively, especially with our competition this weekend."

The competition does get tougher this weekend. Besides taking on Alabama-Huntsville, the Riverwomen also face perennial powers Wayne State and Central Missouri State in the St. Louis Invitational.

The Riverwomen are also scheduled to face McKendree in a doubleheader Tuesday at 3 p.m. at their new softball complex.

### Weekend at a glance

	R	H	E
UM-St. Louis	0	2	3
UM-Rolla	3	5	0
UM-St. Louis	4	10	1
Delta State	3	8	0
UM-St. Louis	3	11	4
Cameron Univ.	8	6	1
UM-St. Louis	0	5	2
Southern Ark.	1	2	1

The Riverwomen are 1-3 overall, 0-0 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference

### Up next...

McKendree, 3:00 p.m., at the UM-St. Louis softball complex, weather permitting

### OFF THE WALL

#### Rodman's one-man show will be welcomed in L.A.

Sometimes acting a little crazy can be good for you. Just ask basketball superstar Dennis Rodman.

Rodman is one of the most brilliant minds in sports today. He has cross-marketed himself so well that he has pretty much set himself up with jobs for the rest of his life.

There was a time when the man with the multi-colored hair wasn't quite so nuts. He was your standard run-of-the-mill hard-working NBA player. He won a few championships and just played hard for the Detroit Pistons.

It was at that time that something clicked in his head. Being a quiet, laid back player will not secure long term fans. He had to do something different.

Sure, his antics are sometimes a bit foul. The promotion where he showed up in a wedding dress to promote his book was very odd. Kicking photographers isn't very cool either. Ripping off his jersey after his numerous ejections is also very different. Add all these antics together and you get the compete Rodman package.

The idea that he can create an image and give himself a career for life - how brilliant is that? If I could get tattoos all over my body, dye my hair, act insane, and guarantee myself a career of money and fame, I would do it in a second.

Rodman realizes he has the luxury of living his life on television. From MTV to ESPN, everything he does is recorded. Every time he throws in a little theatrics, it gets him more press and adds quite a bit of money to his bank account. The man is brilliant.

Say what you will about him, Rodman is a winner. He is one of the major reasons the Bulls were so dominant. His tenacious defense is a bonus to any team. He also picks up rebounds like a greedy child picks up candy in a corner store.

The combination of Los Angeles and Rodman is a perfect fit. Where else could the former defensive player of the year find his round-the-clock parties? Where else can he go from a movie set straight to practice?

Only in L.A. can he get everything that he wants all in one town, and the Lakers need someone with the work ethic of Rodman.

Don't believe the hype; Rodman had one of the best work rates in the business. One needs to look no further than his rebounding titles to see how hard he works game after game.

The one-man circus has taken his show to another town. L.A. is his to conquer and provides new fans to amaze.

Rodman is the best in the business at what he does.

Under all the hair dye, the tattoos, and the attitude is a person who knows what it takes to stay in the public eye.

For that I will respect Rodman until he decides it is time for the on-camera Rodman to retire. He is a real-life movie for all to watch.

I, for one, am enjoying the show.



KEN DUNKIN  
 sports editor

## Rivermen have heartbreaking start to '99 season with 6-5 loss

BY DAVE KINWORTHY  
 staff associate

The men's baseball team lost a heartbreaker against Westminster 6-5 to begin its season.

The Rivermen were up at one point 4-0, but Westminster rallied late, capped off by a homerun to finish the contest.

"You could almost see us playing, trying not to lose," Head Coach Jim Brady said. "Baseball is a funny game. We just didn't do the things that we are capable of doing."

The Rivermen did not come out of the gate as Brady anticipated, but there is always something to learn from such a loss.

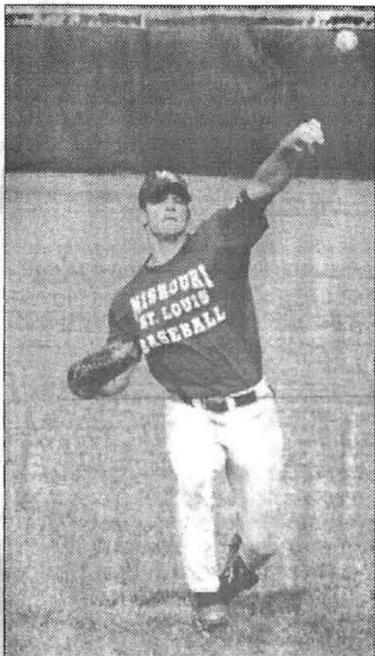
"We have to learn to relax, and that will come with game experience," Brady said. "Our expectations are very high and the kids are every bit as disappointed about it as I am. The players were dejected. They knew that we were the better team, but baseball has a way of humbling you."

As far as the game winning homerun by Westminster, Coach Brady does not fault any person for the loss.

"Mark Winfield made a good pitch, being one strike away from winning the ballgame, and the guy reached down and golfed it out of the ballpark," Brady said. "It is kind of a hard lesson to swallow winning the entire game and letting it get away from us at the end, but we just need to go out there and play."

With the experience that the Rivermen boast, Brady sees them bouncing back quickly.

"It is one of those things that rarely happens, but it happened," Brady said.



Stephanie Platt/The Current

**A Riverman player throws in practice. The Rivermen lost their first game of the season on a ninth inning homerun against Westminster, 6-5.**

"Sometimes it is better that it happen early rather than late."

The Rivermen open up their GLVC season against St. Joseph's, the number ten team in Division II, on Saturday.

## Men's tennis starts off 1-3

BY DAVE KINWORTHY  
 staff associate

The men's tennis team have played four matches this season, posting a record of 1-3.

UM-St. Louis played against the University of Arkansas and lost 7-0.

With the Rivermen playing a Division I team like Arkansas in Fayetteville, the loss was only a mere tune-up for the season to come.

The Rivermen then faced Northwest Missouri State University and emerged victorious 6-2.

In singles, Scott Goodyear at number one, David Crowell at number two, and Mario Gruden at number four, won their matches.

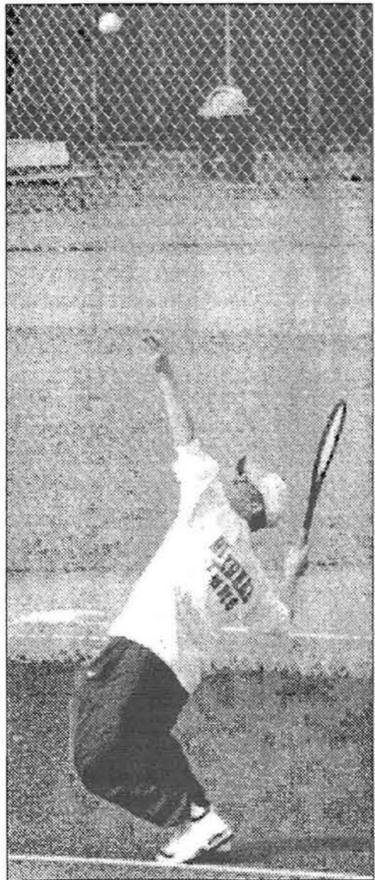
UM-St. Louis swept the doubles competition, winning all three matches.

The Rivermen then hosted McKendree College.

The matches were close, but McKendree came out on top 5-4.

Townsend Morris won his match at number three singles, T.J. Schaefer won at number six singles, and the doubles teams of Goodyear/Ryan Trela and Andy Coon/Andy Forinash decisively won.

**Right: A UM-St. Louis tennis player serves in a match against McKendree. The Rivermen lost the meet 5-4, dropping to 1-3 on the season. The team's lone win this year came against Northwest Missouri State.**



Sam Kasle/The Current

## A year to remember...

### Women's B-Ball finishes successful season with high hopes for the future

BY KEN DUNKIN  
 staff editor

It was a season of highs and lows for the Riverwomen basketball team. They finished on a high note as they won one game in their conference tournament.

One of the toughest obstacles for the team was the influx of new players into the program. Only three players returned from last season. Forward Melanie Marcy, center Krystal Logan, and guard Lindsay Brefeld returned from last season's 14-12 team.

The team suffered two huge losses with the ending of the season. Logan and Marcy have exhausted their eligibility.

Logan ends a four-year career at UM-St. Louis that saw her average 5.2 points her senior year. Logan also averaged 4.4 rebounds per game.

Marcy ends a two year run in which she put up 12.4 points and 6.8 rebounds per game during her senior season.

"I am very proud of the way [Marcy] and [Logan] played in the tournament," Ethridge said. "I am very proud of the way they played

all season. They really gave it their all."

Guard play was one of the keys to success for the Riverwomen. Transfers Amanda Wentzel and Sara Mauck played key roles in the Riverwomen games. Wentzel led the team in scoring with a 13.3 points per game average. Mauck played the most minutes on the team. She averaged 33 minutes per game while dishing out 106 assists and scoring 6.7 points per game.

Both of the guards played well in the season finale for the Riverwomen. The season ended with a 64-62 loss in the Great Lakes Valley Conference Tournament semifinals. Mauck played all 40 minutes against Bellarmine. Wentzel scored 18 points.

The team advanced to the second round after a 69-68 victory over SIU-Edwardsville. It marked the first time in school history that a Riverwomen team had won a conference tournament game.

The team finished the season 15-13 overall and 13-9 in the GLVC. The team finished the season ranked sixth in the conference standings.

### Sports Opinion

## NCAA Tourney is wide open this year

The NCAA tournament is almost underway, and there is no clear cut favorite to win the championship.

Some teams like Utah, headed by highly-touted point guard Andre Miller, and others like Kansas have had their ups and downs this season.

The University of Connecticut looks to be strong in postseason play, but can their players like Khalid El-Amin and Ricky Moore sustain any more injuries?

Michigan State looks to be on a role as they breezed through the Big Ten this season. Can Cleaves and company do the job in the postseason though?

My pick for the championship goes to the Duke Blue Devils. They have a chemistry that not too many teams have. The foundation built around Trajan Langdon and Elton Brand is experienced and hungry. St. Louisan Chris Carrawell, a graduate of Cardinal Ritter, is also a solid contributor off the bench for the Blue Devils.

One of the teams shaping up well towards the end of this season is the Missouri Tigers. They have an abundance of talent and seem to have found their niche as a worthy competitor.

They have the guards in Keyon Dooling, Clarence Gilbert, and Brian Grawer that can play with any team in the nation.

Dooling will not be voted top

freshman of the year due to his injury which sidelined him for three games, but he has the talent to be a potential lottery pick next year.

Grawer, a Pattonville graduate, has been nothing but steady and consistent in his play at the point this season. His play has improved on the offensive end, along with being a fierce defender.

At the forward position, the Tigers can substitute in and out as they please. They have a surplus of depth in Johnnie Parker—a Webster Groves graduate, Albert White, Jeff Hafer, and John Woods.

White finished the season averaging 17 points and grabbing eight rebounds per game. He has proven that he is one of the most versatile forwards in college basketball.

Teams like Kansas, Big Eight champs Texas, and even Oklahoma will cause problems for Mizzou in the conference championship, but the Tigers should be up to the challenge coming into the conference tournament with a number two ranking.

With the Tigers only graduating Woods and Monte Hardge, their team already looks strong for next season.

Whether the Tigers do well or not, time will only tell this season, but as far as the future is concerned, it offers nothing but positive vibes for the Tigers.

-Dave Kinworthy

Movie Review/Interview

# Movie revisits New Year's Eve 1981

BY STEPHANIE PLATT  
staff editor

The film, *200 Cigarettes* is the latest movie that will make you want to pull out your oversized T-shirt and stretch leggings, don four pairs of socks, and spike your bangs, just for nostalgia's sake.

The film traces the lives of various couples and friends through New York's East Village on New Year's Eve 1981. All of the characters end up at a party in a downtown loft hosted by Martha Plimpton's character Monica.

At the age of 28, Plimpton has starred in over 30 films including *I Shot Andy Warhol*, *Running on Empty*, *Parenthood*, *Eye of God*, and *Goonies*. In a phone interview, Plimpton spoke about the character she plays in *200 Cigarettes*, her past accomplishments, and what she wants to do in the future.

**The Current:** What attracted you to starring in this movie?

**Martha Plimpton:** It was a week of work in New York, and I'm always happy to work in my hometown. I wanted to do another comedy. It had a lot of actors in it that were doing some good work right now.

**TC:** How did you get involved in the production?

**MP:** I seem to remember auditioning.

**TC:** Being such a large ensemble of actors, how many people did you actually get to work with?

**MP:** That was the thing, it wasn't really an ensemble. All of the scenes were shot separately. The actors each shot their own story line and then left. I really only worked with the actors I have scenes with.

**TC:** Do you have any nostalgia for the '80s, could you relate to it?

**MP:** Not really, I was only 10 in 1981. I could relate to the music. Some of the most awful music in our history was made in the '80s. But some great things grew out of that music.

**TC:** What do you think is the significance of the movie being set in the 1980's? There seems to be a trend going on.

**MP:** Isn't that always the way? This was the height of the Me Generation. Most of the characters are very fixated on themselves. But the film is not about the onset of Reaganomics or anything like that.

**TC:** How would you describe your character?

**MP:** I don't know. I would describe her as desperate. She is very self-absorbed as all the characters are, in their own way. Very dejected, because her party seems to be ignored by her friends.

**TC:** In the production notes, you said "Only in the end is there a transformation, and an understanding of real friendship." Does your character experience this?

**MP:** No. My character doesn't experience that. I think that's true but I miss out on it like I said, I get drunk and pass out and miss the whole party. I miss out on Elvis Castello coming to the party. And everyone else gets laid and I don't.

**TC:** What do look for in a job?

**MP:** It has to be well-written, and so many things aren't. I have a career as an actor that I have to maintain, but I also have my dreams and wishes. These two things are living in very different, compartmentalized worlds right now.

**TC:** Do you think your characters have grown as you have grown as an actor?

**MP:** Sometimes, yes. I did a movie a couple of years ago that nobody saw called *Eye of God*. I was incredibly proud of that movie. It was probably my best film work.

**TC:** What is your dream role?

**MP:** I want to do a Western and a dark crime film.



Left to right: Guillermo Diaz, Gaby Hoffman, Christina Ricci and Casey Affleck star in "200 Cigarettes."

## 'Cigarettes' is '80's nostalgia trip

**"200 Cigarettes"**  
Now Playing  
Rated R

Watching the film *200 Cigarettes* is a lot like reading a John Irving novel. Irving creates some of the most eccentric characters in American literature, who, on the outset, appear so different from one another that the reader is kept guessing how they will ever interact with each other. This film, an entertaining tribute to the 1980s, comically interweaves 14 vastly different characters into the main plot.

Boasting a line-up of Hollywood's rising young stars, *200 Cigarettes* takes place in New York City on New Year's Eve 1981. The film chronicles a night in the lives of seven different couples, all trying to attend the same New Year's Eve party.

Martha Plimpton stars as the neurotic host,

who becomes so paranoid about throwing a dull party that she becomes inebriated before the celebration begins. Paul Rudd (*Object of My Affection*) and Hole guitarist Courtney Love play best friends contemplating sleeping together, while comedian Dave Chapelle is a cab driver dispensing his opinions about love in a very Barry White fashion.

Christina Ricci (*Object of My Affection*) and Gaby Hoffman (*Everyone Says I Love You*) play Long Island teens roaming the streets of New York, relentlessly searching for Plimpton's party. They meet up with Casey Affleck (*Good Will Hunting*), a well-mannered punk rocker. What made these scenes unbelievable, and virtually intolerable, were Ricci and Hoffman's overexaggerated accents. It was like being forced to spend an evening with Fran Drescher from *The Nanny*.

Although *200 Cigarettes* is an ensemble piece, some of the funniest scenes in the film were played by newcomer, Kate Hudson. Hudson, also known as Goldie Hawn's daughter, turned in an exceptional comedic performance as a naive and perpetually clueless valley girl.

Overall, *200 Cigarettes* is a relatively entertaining movie, even though most of the truly funny moments are shown on the trailers. Perhaps if a few of the storylines had been cut on the editing room floor, then the film would have flowed well. However, watching the conclusion of each character's fate was worth the wait. If not for the performances themselves, check out *200 Cigarettes* for its nostalgic fashion and music.

-Courtney Irwin

## Music Review

### 'Supertones' latest release a solid blend of Christian ska

**"Chase the Sun"**  
The Orange County Supertones  
BEC Recordings

Suntan lotion at the beginning of March? Yep, you're gonna need it, because The Orange County Supertones' latest disc is a scorcher.

"Chase the Sun" is the third album this Christian ska band has produced, and it is arguably their best. The Supertones have been known for their surf-influenced variety of ska, with big, bold guitar hooks and booming horns. But on this album, they have consciously made an effort to grow in new directions.

The songs on "Chase the Sun" are a great blend of rock and ska. What makes them different are the pinches of reggae, rap, hip-hop, and pop that the Supertones have used to add flavor to the mix.

The title track is probably the biggest surprise on the album, because it is essentially just a rap song with a chorus and some horns thrown in at the end. Matt Morginsky, the lead singer, has always been heavily influenced by rap and hip-hop, and his skill shines through on "Chase the Sun." His vocals have improved, and on this album he really sings from the gut.

Morginsky's lyrics are definitely worth the price of admission. The band makes no bones about being Christian, and their songs reflect that. Morginsky has penned introspective songs examining life and the choices we make, as well as songs that are meant to send a message to the audience. In the song "Health and Wealth," he compares American and Chinese Christians, the former living in the lap of luxury while barely lifting a hand to help the rest of the world, while the latter are impoverished and persecuted, but sincere in their faith.

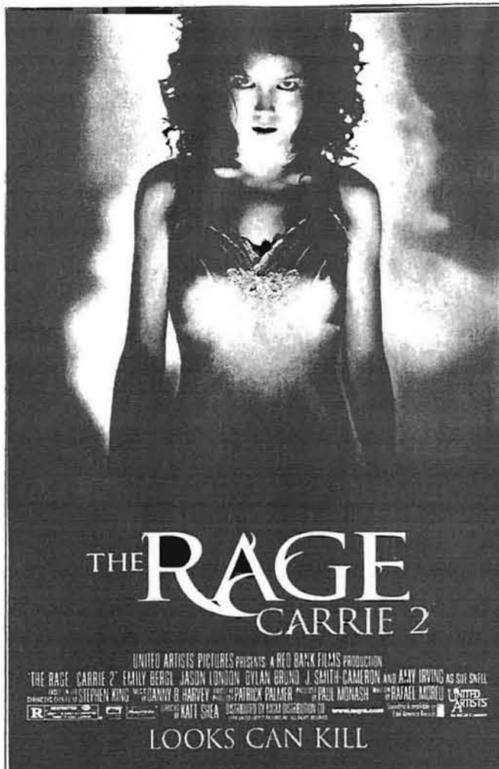
Ska music naturally makes you want to sing and dance, so this album also has its share of fun and shout-out-loud praise songs. One such

song you might recognize is "Away From You" which the Supertones played during the Papal Youth Rally in January. KMOV-TV televised much of the Supertones' performance live, including that song.

The powerful message in these songs is hard to miss because they are pounded home with some awesome drum and guitar work. The Supertones depend less on their brass section for this album than they have in the past, but the horns are great where they are played.

All in all, "Chase the Sun" is a lot of fun to listen to. Even if you aren't a huge ska fan, this album is for you. The massive influence of rock, rap, hip-hop, and reggae will heat up the speakers and make you want to get up and groove.

-Josh Renaud



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## Movie Review

### 'Analyze This' is comedic goldmine

**Analyze This (rated R)**  
Opened: Mar. 5

Hey, you! Analyze THIS.

This would be the perfect way to say the title of this hilarious satire of Mafioso and psychoanalytical conventions. Jokes based on these two subjects have abounded for years, and both have even been the subject of previous comedies, such as the pop-psychology based *What About Bob?* and the Godfather-inspired *The Freshman*. Despite the unexpected combination, this parody of *The Godfather* meets *Good Will Hunting* is a terrifically funny movie and the combination of the two topics provide a wealth of comic material.

The story begins when a Mafia gangster (Robert DeNiro), who is facing a pivotal meeting of the crime bosses, becomes concerned that his depressed and emotional state will leave him vulnerable to his enemies. So he decides to seek out a "shrink" - surreptitiously, of course. A chance encounter brings him to a psychoanalyst (Billy Crystal), who recognizes him and does his best to avoid treating him. But you know about those offers you can't refuse!

Robert DeNiro and Billy Crystal make a great comedy team, with DeNiro doing a lot of the comedy while Crystal reacts to DeNiro's outrageous behavior in a nicely-underplayed fashion. The comedy is

done with enough control and deadpan seriousness to make the most of the marvelous material. The plot serves mostly to take the audience from one funny bit to the next. It works effectively in this, although it is a bit rambling.

This combination provides a surprising comic goldmine, and director/writer Harold Ramis doesn't miss a shot, in routines and jokes executed masterfully by DeNiro and Crystal. This film offers a welcome break from brain-dead style comedy while still retaining plenty of slapstick in some wonderfully timed sight-gags. It's what a Hollywood comedy ought to be.

-Catherine Marquis-Homeyer

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# Schnuck's president addresses campus

BY JOE HARRIS  
senior editor

Scott Schnuck, president and chief operating officer for Schnucks Markets Inc., gave a speech titled "Retail Food Industry Trends-Fighting for the Share of Stomach" to a diverse crowd Thursday night in the Summit Lounge.

In the speech, Schnuck listed several threats and trends that are affecting the supermarket industry as a whole, and Schnucks Markets in particular. Then Schnuck listed several strategies Schnucks Markets are taking to insure future prosperity.

Schnuck said that the food industry is experiencing dramatic consolidation and that market share and slow growth are fueling this trend.

"With the low rate of inflation, which is less than one percent annually, and a high growth of retail square footage compared to population growth, consolidation is more advantageous than the high cost of building from the ground up in an already over-stored industry," Schnuck said.

Schnuck said consolidation has created several concerns for Schnucks Markets, the biggest of which is the growth of the supercenters.

Supercenters are a discount store with a food store added on to it. Schnuck said that Wal-Mart has become a major player in the supercenter expansion. Schnuck said Wal-Mart currently has 550 supercenters.

"Of interest to us is their expansion into food with their supercenter format," Schnuck said. "Supercenters have several advantages over supermarket operators. Supercenters are committed to maintaining a very, very low price. They will price their foods out of their store well below what a conventional supermarket can maintain."

Schnuck said supercenters often enjoy more business for their non-food items, that they can draw customers from farther distances, and that they have more buying power because of their resources.

Schnuck said that his markets have responded to this threat by creating a combination food and drug store. These stores are a supermarket with a drugstore built in. Schnuck said that these stores have several advantages to the supercenters.

"Supercenters are too big to shop, our parking lots allow for easier access, our front-end operations are faster, we do a better job with our fresh departments-produce, meat, bakery, deli; our size allows us to cultivate friendlier employees, location is still a major factor, and

## Speaker talks about the future of food retailing

perishable departments next to the tire department somehow just doesn't work for some people," Schnuck said.

Schnuck said the pharmacy system is the fastest growing part of Schnucks Markets. He said they currently have 78 pharmacies and they are growing by a rate of five per year.

Schnuck said Schnucks Markets achieved their market share through 60 years of smart acquisitions and new store growth. Schnuck pointed to the recent buyout of National as an example.

"With the shrinking market and the increase in competition from multiple fronts, it was obvious that there was going to be some eventual shake-out in the St. Louis market," Schnuck said.

Schnuck said he didn't want his markets to be the odd store out. In 1994, Schnucks Markets started negotiations to buy-out National Markets. In 1995, the deal was completed, securing Schnucks Market's place in the St. Louis area.

Another problem facing Schnuck Markets is that more people are eating out. To combat this problem, Schnuck said his stores are offering more prepared and hot meals. This includes the salad and hot food bars found in Schnucks stores.

Schnuck said that his markets are also going on-line to make shopping easy on customers. For a delivery fee, customers can grocery shop from home. Schnuck said that the delivery fee can be offset by the special discounts only offered to internet customers.

Schnucks Market's progress is vital to the St. Louis area. With over 17,000 employees they are the fourth largest employer in the St. Louis area.

Despite the changing competition, Schnuck said he's confident with where Schnucks Markets are going.

"We can effectively compete against the lions of the industry as long as we continue to improve upon the niche we created and seize opportunities left behind by larger, less responsive chains," Schnuck said.

## Art on the Move



Sam Kasle/The Current

Kelly Coalier, adjunct professor of fine art stands next to his heavily decorated truck in front of the Fine Arts Building, last week. Coalier said that he has been adding decorations to his vehicle for several years.

## Administrator receives award

BY JOSH RENAUD  
staff assistant

Kathy Osborn, vice chancellor for University Relations, was awarded the UM Presidential Citation Award for Alumni Service in Jefferson City on Feb. 24 by UM System President Manuel Pacheco.

Osborn was nominated for the award by some alumni in the Alumni Association, including Dave Adam, the president.

"Kathy has been a pioneer in helping to develop a modern urban University through [these] programs," Adam said. "This is a high honor, and she is a very deserving recipient."

Adam said that Osborn developed a very effective alumni association during her tenure as director of Alumni Relations, and continued to foster partnerships between the University and important community institutions.

"I came 13 years ago, and at the time we were looking to reorganize and develop a new plan for the Alumni Association," Osborn explained. "I had a tremendous opportunity to come in when they were looking for change and have the support of the campus leadership."

"It was really exciting to see how many alums would come forward to participate and help," she said. "It was lots of work, with many evening meetings, but we did it."

A UM-St. Louis graduate herself, Osborn said she enjoyed her years as a student, and never expected to be employed by the

University later in life. Her experiences as a student, she said, paved the way for working in Alumni Relations.

"I had the tenured faculty members at UMSL," she said. "I thought the teaching staff was fabulous. It was an exciting time when the people were building the campus and construction was going on everywhere. I was part of something very special. When I came to do the alumni job, I had all that experience... and I felt like I was really able to connect with the alumni I worked with."

One of Osborn's objectives during her time in Alumni Relations, she said, was to inject life into an organization that was lacking involvement. She developed a variety of programs and events designed to interest alumni. In addition, Osborn was proud of her efforts to encourage diversity in the Alumni Association, particularly by reaching out to minorities.

"I felt that our strength as a campus is in our diversity, and I particularly felt we needed to reach out to African-Americans and women and other minorities," she said. "If you look at all our alumni boards, there is a great diversity in them and the leadership."

When several members of the Alumni Association told Osborn they planned to nominate her for the award, she said she initially told them no, but they insisted on it.

"In former years, I was always recommending other people [for the award] because we have had a lot of people that deserve it," she said. "So it was meaningful to me that so many people came together and said I deserved this."

## PROGRAM, FROM PAGE 1

With the questions of the fate of and ultimate decision to raze Mt. Providence, the application process for grants provided to the center were not followed through on. The deadline for the major grant received by the center is due Friday.

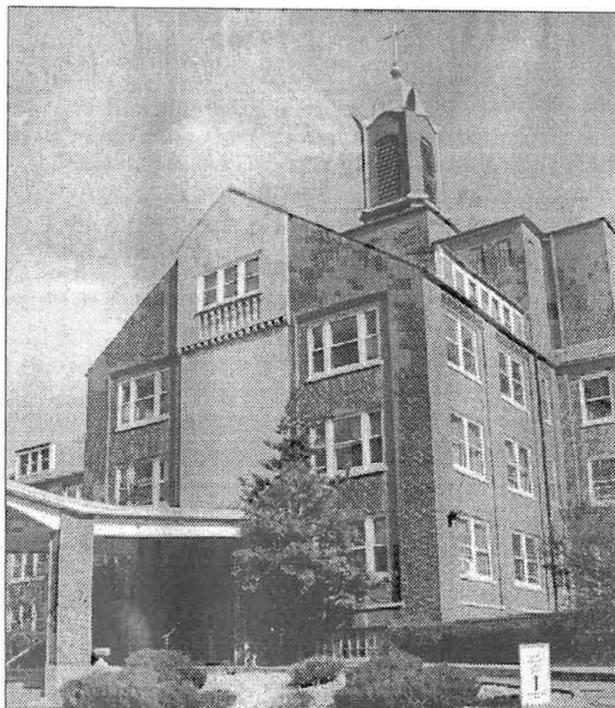
"The grant, the major one, is with the Mid-East [Area] Agency on Aging. The grant was due [this] month, and we hated to enter another grant cycle and have to disrupt it midway through when the building's torn down next January," Smith said. "So we made a very difficult decision [that] it's really better if we announce now to the clients that we are going to be closing the center and offer to help them relocate."

Prospective plans that the center could be relocated to Marillac Provincial House, recently purchased by the University from the Sisters of the Daughters of Charity, were fruitless. Maguire and Smith cited the lack of visibility so far off Natural Bridge Road as a disadvantage to moving the center there.

"The accessibility is kind of a key issue. So that was an unknown factor, whether or not we would be able to hold our own financially, which we've done up to this point. We didn't know if we would be able to do that being located back in the Marillac complex."

The ground floor of an area of Marillac called The Villa that was formerly used to accommodate the elderly nuns had been thought to be a good alternative for the center by Maguire. But the facility that currently exists at Marillac would require work in order to fulfill all the needs of the Adult Day Services Center.

"We would have needed to do some renovations of the bathrooms, a new entrance way, [and] they would have probably had to have done something about the access," Maguire said. "It's a very nice facility that they have set up 15 years ago for the elderly Sisters. It's very nice. But the bathrooms had curtains between



Stephanie Platt/The Current

The Mt. Providence building on the east side of Florissant Road is slated for demolition next year. The Adult Day Services program it houses is set to close this summer.

them, between the toilets, and they were not raised toilets. The bathrooms needed work. A suitable entry way needed to be built... We could have gotten by just moving in. But in order to stay there we really would have needed - I would say there was probably a minimum of \$50,000 worth of renovation work that needed to be done... There's no question it was a nice space, and we certainly could have moved in there but it's just, things didn't fall in place. I think the chancellor has another program in mind for that space... I've heard the Honors College."

Donald Driemeier, deputy to the chancellor, said there are no firm plans for the building at this stage. He said the Sisters have been allowed occupancy for up to three more years. Driemeier said that they

were mainly concerned with their geriatric residents at the time of negotiating the sale and have since built a facility for them near DePaul Hospital.

"Plans for Marillac are still in a state of flux," Driemeier said. "We're still planning about what might go in that building. A number of things have been mentioned, including the Honors College. But it's not a certainty."

Joan Hashimi, department chairperson of social work, said the Adult Day Services Center will be missed by social work students who have done practicums there.

"It will be a loss, and I regret it," Hashimi said. "It's a shame. It was convenient to have something that handy available to students. It was a good resource to have. I really regret that nothing could be done."

## SGA, FROM PAGE 1

and the Student NEA, said they were wrongly put on the lists of poorly attending organizations. SGA Treasurer Jacqueline Anderson confirmed that both organizations had adequate attendance and should not have been listed.

Ash also expressed disgust with other aspects of the SGA, including what he alleged to be constitutional violations in the timelines for this year's elections calling the process "another thing we've done poorly this year." Ash said that, to his knowledge, forms had not yet been distributed for candidate registration.

"I would just say let's start the election now because of the number of grievances that are germane to this," Ash said. "We might as well not even have an election because we haven't followed any of [our] rules."

Avery said that he did not know of any constitutional timeline violations on the election process and that Ash never communicated his concerns. He called the comptroller's actions "a little bit counterproductive."

"I think Ben should have let me know about it," Avery said. "I think he has a certain obligation to inform me about such items. I can't read people's minds."

McCarty said that he was not aware that any election timelines existed in the constitution. Avery, Ash, and McCarty all said they were under the impression that an SGA election committee did exist but none could name the chair or any of the members. Rankins said that a

committee did exist and said that Avery had named student Gail Rimkus as chair late Friday. Avery was not available to confirm this as of press time.

Ash called this year's SGA "just awful" and said that scheduling and communication problems were to blame.

"I think that the fact that the president hasn't been around much this year and hasn't been able to be there for consulting is an issue," Ash said.

"I'm tired of these games that are being played. I came into SGA to do my job and it seems like I've been doing the job of three people. I'd like to see some more accountability take place."

Avery said it was Ash, not he, who hadn't been around the office much.

"I don't see Ben at all," Avery said. "I see Michael. I see the secretaries, but I never see Ben up here."

Avery said he felt Ash should contact him personally about concerns rather than going to the media.

"I don't know if he's running for office or whatever but it seems to me that he is," Avery said. "He's been trying to get in the paper a lot lately."

Ash said he had "no political ambitions" but that he was "leaving every option open."

"I would rather not be in this," he said. "But if this is the way that this SGA is going to show itself then there needs to be a change."

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See ya there!