

Zebbras unite! The officials had their work cut out for them during the hockey Rivermen's vicious 9-1 victory Friday night.

◀ See page 5



http://www.umsl.edu/studentlife/current

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI - ST. LOUIS

What's Inside



Fit for a king: Excellent food and service, coupled with exotic decor make the King and I restaurant an excellent place to eat.

▲ See page 6

U-Wire News

Professor's son inspires study of sex differences

BY ELIZABETH VANDEN BOOM
The State News

(U-WIRE) EAST LANSING, Mich.— It was an observation of her son's disdain for plant-eating dinosaurs that led Pulitzer Prize-winning science writer Deborah Blum to write a book about the differences between the biology of men and women.

Blum, a journalism professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the mother of two boys, said one of her sons refused to wear a T-shirt that had a gentle, plant-eating dinosaur on it instead of an aggressive, meat-eating one.

"They behave like boys in a way that baffles me," she said, as she spoke Monday about her book, "Sex on the Brain: The Biological Differences Between Men and Women."

Blum's speech at the Michigan State University Communication Arts and Sciences Building highlighted findings she has come across in her career as a science writer, such as monogamous and polygamous relationships, genetic compatibility and testosterone levels.

"There is no such thing as a 100 percent faithful species," Blum said.

The most monogamous species is the California mouse, she said. In studies, when a male is separated from his partner and is put into a box with a female who tempts him, Blum said he often bites her, essentially telling her to back off.

Blum said only 3 percent of the world's species are monogamous. Humans are not included.

In a truly monogamous society, the male and female members of a species look exactly the same and have the same amount of testosterone, only differing in sex organs, she said.

Three hundred thousand years ago, human ancestor males were 50 percent larger than females, Blum said. Today, she said difference has decreased to 17 percent.

Blum said that decrease and the increasingly shared responsibilities and duties between men and women may mean a monogamous society for humans is in the future.

"That would suggest a slow, steady shift to monogamy," she said. "You're going to see a tension between monogamy and polygamy. You're going to see a push for partnership and resistance to it."

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Field of candidates for student curator narrowed to three

BY JOE HARRIS
senior editor

Three finalists were named in the process to choose the next student curator in a board of governors meeting at UM-Columbia on Oct. 30.

The three finalists are Christopher Benjamin, Jill Fleming, and Stephen Sugg. All three are students at UM-Columbia. The three names have been sent to Gov. Mel Carnahan who will decide between the three.

Steven Wolfe, interim SGA vice-president and acting president, attended the meeting representing UM-St. Louis. Wolfe said the selection committee was interested in the personal qualities of each candidate and how it would help them as student curator.

"Basically some of the questions we asked were personal qualities that

would make them fit in with the Board of Curators, what they knew about the campuses, and how they felt about diversity," Wolfe said.

Benjamin is a first year law student. He has chaired the Intercampus Student Council which he said has given him experience in working with all four University of Missouri campuses.

Benjamin has been a lobbyist for Associated Students of the University of Missouri as a legislative assistant for minority leadership in the House. Benjamin said one of his goals as student curator will be raising the amount



Fleming



Sugg



Benjamin

and quality of communication between the system's various groups.

Fleming, a freshman, is the youngest of all the finalists. She sees her freshman status as a plus because most UM students are undergraduates.

Fleming enrolled knowing that she wanted the position after her sister's experience as student curator at Southern Missouri State University.

Fleming was a member of a foreign-language curriculum committee while attending high school in Sedalia.

Sugg, a senior, is currently serving his third year as an ASUM lobbyist. Sugg has co-directed the Rockin' Against Multiple Sclerosis philanthropy and is a member of the FarmHouse fraternity.

Sugg said a goal of his would be to make UM schools more accessible to all income levels if he was named student curator.

UM-St. Louis almost didn't have a representative for the meeting. The

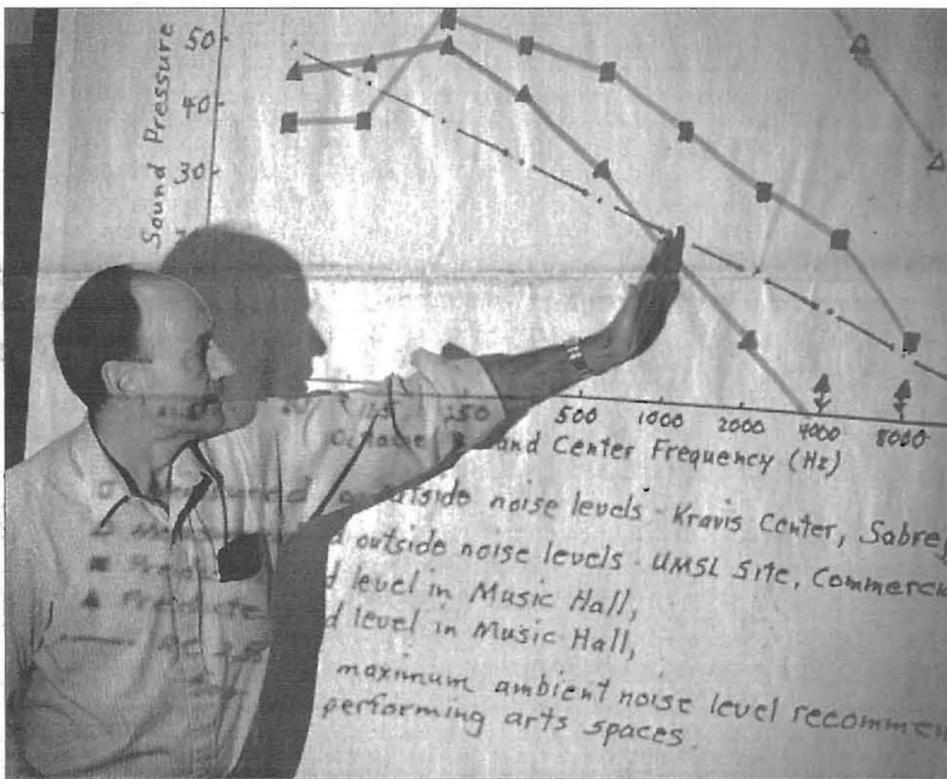
finalists were interviewed and voted on by a selection committee made up of UM student body presidents. SGA President Darwin Butler's recent troubles prevented him from attending.

In order for UM-St. Louis to send a representative, SGA called an emergency meeting and named Wolfe acting president.

"St. Louis is the second largest campus in the system," Sara Welsch, the current student curator and a UM-St. Louis student, said. "We deserve a voice in making a decision on those three names. Without St. Louis being there a huge piece of the puzzle would be missing."

Carnahan will interview all three candidates on Dec. 10. After the interviews, Carnahan will appoint one of the three the next student curator.

Performing Arts Center not soundproof, prof. says



Stephanie Platt/The Current

Dean Schwartz, chair of the physics and astronomy department, presents the findings of his study on noise levels in the proposed Performing Arts Center at the Faculty Council meeting, Nov. 4.

Acousticians plan to demonstrate airplane noise will not affect Performing Arts Center

BY SUE BRITT
staff editor

Richard Schwartz, chair of the physics and astronomy department, outlined concerns about aircraft noise levels at the future Performing Arts Center in a report presented Nov. 4 at the faculty council meeting.

Kirkegaard and Associates, the architectural acousticians participating in the design of the Performing Arts Center, will present an audio demonstration on campus, Friday Nov. 19 in answer to Schwartz's report. Edward Dugger of Kirkegaard and Associates said that the demonstration would help those without the technical knowledge of acoustical design better understand the levels of sound that would come from aircraft noise.

"What this sound demonstration does is let people listen to what these numbers mean," Dugger said. "The best thing you're going to be able to do is to come and listen."

Schwartz said the study that was conducted by Kirkegaard and Associates in West Palm Beach, Fla., involved the measurement of sound inside and outside of the Kravis Center, the performing arts center on which the UM-St. Louis Performing Arts Center was based.

Schwartz said that according to these figures, the sound levels in the Main Hall of the Performing Arts Center would be within acceptable ranges, but that the levels in the lobby and the Music Theater would not. The Music Theater is intended to be used by the students of the music department.

In a letter addressed to Dennis Judd, chair of the faculty council, Schwartz wrote, "Unlike the main auditorium which is separated from the outside world by two [six] inch layers of concrete, the Music Theater is planned to have a glass facade opening directly to the outside ... with essentially no additional sound attenuating material ... Performances of any kind in that venue would be subject to frequent disruption by overflying aircraft."

Schwartz recommended that one or more experts in soundproofing material be consulted and that an alternative campus site, such as South Campus, be considered.

Donald Driemeier, deputy to the Chancellor, addressed Schwartz's report in a letter sent to faculty council members Nov. 3. Driemeier wrote of "inappropriate notation" in the report and that Kirkegaard and Associates had problems with Schwartz's recommendation that 70 dB of attenuation would be need-

ed. Driemeier said that a lower attenuation would be needed.

Additionally, Driemeier wrote that Schwartz had not mentioned in his report an Oct. 5 letter that had stated, "[T]he Music Theater Hall would be separated from the outside world by two layers of glass—one of [one] inch laminate and one of a 3/4 inch laminate separated by a [six] foot airspace."

During the Nov. 9 Senate meeting Driemeier read from a letter sent by Kirkegaard and Associates. He said the correspondence showed the acousticians were continuing to work to ensure that everyone was happy with sound levels in the Performing Arts Center.

"Although our analysis of the current window construction is not yet complete, the tripling of airspace depth and the increased glass thickness would undoubtedly increase the transmission loss across the entire bandwidth, resulting in interior noise levels below those reported by Dr. Schwartz," Kirkegaard wrote. "The successful completion of the [UM-St. Louis] Performing Arts Center is something toward which we all are working. Failure to adequately isolate the Music and Theater Room would not only tarnish the reputation of the University, but that of our firm as well."

Chancellor answers critics in 'open report'

BY BRIAN DOUGLAS
of The Current staff

Chancellor Blanche Touhill responded to the allegations of the Select Committee on Fiscal Practices by issuing "An Open Report to the Campus Community" on Nov. 8.

The report is a response to the accusations by the committee that Touhill has created "a culture of secrecy" on the campus, has scavenged unit budgets for funds, and has fostered "an atmosphere of chronic fiscal crises."

Touhill organized her response in the report into three major sections: faculty involvement, the UM-St. Louis Budget, and the maintenance of "core" programs.

One of the committee's chief accusations was that Touhill had violated the campus governance procedures as set forth in the Collected Rules and Regulations, which states that "faculty must be meaningfully involved through regular on-going mechanisms with the total University situation."

Touhill says in the report "I not only have followed but also

exceeded all standards outlined for consulting with faculty in the budget decision-making process."

Touhill points to the fact that she has convened more than 140 meetings of the Budget and Planning Committee, and has provided reports of that committee's activities to the University Senate.

She outlined general and more specific instances where she consulted the faculty and other constituencies on campus, and insisted she has "adhered to both the spirit and letter of the Collected Rules and Regulations."

A system-level report prepared in response to the Select Committee's accusations found that appropriate structures for faculty involvement in budgetary planning were in place, but that the planning process was in some cases lacking.

The report recognized the frustration of some faculty members who feel that their advisory roles in the budget planning process are not taken seriously.

"As is the case at all universities, at times the Chancellor's

see CHANCELLOR, page 9

SGA uncertain about future of presidency

BY JOE HARRIS
senior editor

The Student Government Association presidency is still in limbo after SGA president Darwin Butler's court hearing Nov. 4.

Butler has been absent because of the revocation of his work release from the St. Louis County Jail. The Nov. 4 hearing was meant to clarify Butler's status. The case was continued because of a detainer in Butler's work release agreement by Nevada.

Interim SGA vice-president Steven Wolfe was named acting president in an emergency SGA meeting Oct. 28. Wolfe said he will remain the acting president until Butler's situation changes.

"According to the constitution," Wolfe said, "I am still acting president and until either an impeachment proceeding needs to be brought up or [Butler] is declared no longer a student, he is still president."

Wolfe said that he is serving both as president and vice-president during Butler's absence. He said it would be up to officials in Woods Hall to declare Butler no longer a student, but he said he doesn't think that will happen.

"I don't think [the administrators] are going to do anything

because legal complications would happen if they try," Wolfe said.

Joanne Bocci, interim associate vice-chancellor for student affairs, said that a student can have their status revoked only if they have committed a major infraction of the conduct code warranting suspension or expulsion. Bocci said Butler's situation is not at that level.

Butler "would have to officially withdraw," Bocci said. "If he officially withdraws, then maybe he

can get some 'Y' grades. He would have to talk to each faculty member, but he would have to call and withdraw from classes, and until he does that he is still a student."

D. Mike Bauer, SGA chair, said he has tried to contact Butler, but was unsuccessful.

"When I called the lock-up in Clayton, I was told that any visitation would have to be initiated by the inmate," Bauer said.

Bauer said he wanted to find out Butler's intentions and he was going to try to talk Butler into resigning.

If Butler does not resign or withdraw and no impeachment proceedings are brought forth, Butler could remain SGA president until December.



Butler

Bulletin Board

Monday, Nov. 15

• **Hunger Awareness Week** running through the 17th. Information tables will be in the University center lobby. A soup line will be in the cafeteria from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information or to help contact Roger Jespersen at 385-3000 or Betty Chitwood at 385-3455.

p.m. and there will be opportunities to donate to hunger relief projects in Honduras through Karen House and Oxfam. For more information or to help contact Roger Jespersen at 385-3000 or Betty Chitwood at 385-3455.

Tuesday, Nov. 16

• **Mizzou Credit Union:** The campus office will be closed until Wednesday Dec. 12. Office hours are from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. For further information call 1-800-451-1477 in this time frame.

• **Weekly Prayer Group** at Newman Center (8200 Natural Bridge) at 7:30 p.m. Free pizza got Chris here. Free hot dogs got Ron connected. What does it take to bring you??? For more info call Betty at 385-3455.

Wednesday, Nov. 17

• **Hunger Awareness Banquet** will be in the Hawthorne Room from 12 to 1

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: Erin Stremmel, 7940 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis MO 63121 or fax 516-6811.

All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.

mation call 5105.

Friday, Nov. 19

• **Get Felt '99**, come and play billiards, ping-pong, darts and foosball in the Convocation Hall at the Pierre Laclède Honors College. There will be a cash bar, food buffet, live band and t-shirts all for \$5. Doors will open at 4 p.m., food will be ready at 5 p.m., the tournaments will begin at 6 p.m. and music will start at 7 p.m. For more information call 8645.

Sunday, Nov. 21

• **Catholic Mass** will be held every week at 6 p.m. at South Campus Residence Chapel.

Monday, Nov. 22

• "Climbing the God Tree" will be A Reading From a Novel in Stories by

Jamiee Wriston Colbert, distinguished visiting writer in the Department of English at UM-St. Louis. She will be reading from her recent book at 12 p.m. in 229 J. C. Penney Conference Center. For more information call 5699.

Monday, Nov. 29

• **Preview of a Renaissance Feast** by the Madrigal ensemble at UM-St. Louis. The group will give a preview of its annual holiday program featuring music and costumes of the Renaissance.

Tuesday, Nov. 30

• **College Bowl II** This Varsity Sport of the Mind pits two four member teams against each other in a battle of intellect and other useless trivia. Get your team together and register today.

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THE CAMPUS CRIMELINE

November 4, 1999

At 8 a.m., a computer network card and an adapter were reported stolen from 105 Computer Center Building.

A student reported that a Nokia cellular telephone was stolen from his backpack on Nov. 3 between 12 and 1:50 p.m. The phone was taken while the owner slept in the hallway outside of B104 Benton Hall. The cellular was found at Benton Hall by a friend of the owner.

November 6, 1999

At 1:07 a.m., University Police, while investigating a loud music complaint at University Meadows, arrested two

minors for possession of intoxicating liquor and giving false information to police. Warrants will be applied for at the St. Louis County Prosecutor's office.

At 1 a.m., University Police discovered that a wooden porch and stairs was missing from a classroom trailer at Fine Arts. The wooden porch and stairs were found to have been removed by Planning and Construction.

November 9, 1999

A student reported being assaulted by another student at 12:45 p.m. while in the Alumni Circle area. The incident resulted from an earlier incident that occurred off the campus.

A student residing at University Meadows reported that on Nov. 5 between 12:19 and 12:22 a.m. an unidentified person tried several keys in his apartment door. Entry into the apartment was not gained.

November 10, 1999

A student reported that sometime between Nov. 9 at 4 p.m. and Nov. 10 at 6 p.m. a woman's 22-inch bicycle was stolen from the bike rack at the Computer Center Building. The bicycle had been chained and padlocked to a stair railing.

A person was arrested at 8:40 p.m. on active warrants from the City of

Bel-Ridge.

The student parking permit reported as stolen was found to have been not stolen but given to an acquaintance who was also a student. The initial reporting student has been charged with filing a false police report.

November 11, 1999

A student residing at University Meadows was arrested at 12:35 p.m. for possession of a controlled substance and drug paraphernalia. Warrants will be applied for at the St. Louis County Prosecutor's office.

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

Pirates of Penzance

a UM-St. Louis
Opera Workshop
production



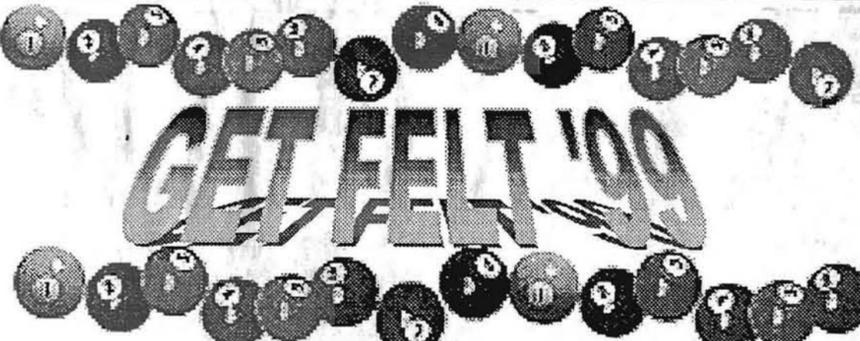
Auditions for the spring production of Gilbert & Sullivan's **PIRATES OF PENZANCE** will be held on **Tuesday, December 7** and **Wednesday, December 8**, in Room 205, Music Building. There may be additional callback auditions on Thursday afternoon, **December 9**. An accompanist will be provided.

A sign-up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board outside the music office. Audition pieces will be excerpted from the show. **Pick up copies of music from Dr. Haggans or Dr. Richards.** You may also be asked to do a script reading during the audition.

Audition Packets

AVAILABLE NOW.
See Dr. Haggans (Rm. 406) or
Dr. Richards (Rm. 316) to pick one up.

Questions? Call Dr. Haggans, 516.5343.



GET FELT '99

The Second Annual Billiards Tournament
Of the Pierre Laclède Honors College
Student Association!!!

Friday, November 19th
At The Honors College
(First 50 people get T-shirts!)

4pm-DOORS OPEN
5pm-FOOD IS SERVED
6pm-TOURNAMENTS BEGIN
7pm-LIVE MUSIC BEGINS

3 Skill Divisions
CO-SPONSORED BY UPB
AND
Ac Andersen Consulting
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Current





PLUS: FOOSBALL, DARTS, PING-PONG & MORE

All this great stuff for just \$5

8-BALL
9-BALL
3-BALL
6-BALL
14.1

Call 516-8645 for more Info

Tons of Food
Cash Bar



Over \$400 in Tournament Prizes!!!

Study

Center for East Asian studies sponsors film viewing, discussion

GROUP

BY CHARMANE MALONE
staff writer

"There's no place like home. There's no place like home." Dorothy had to travel to the great land of Oz to learn one important lesson, an appreciation for her home and family - home is where the heart is. Regge Life, an independent film maker, takes an in-depth look at African-Americans residing in Japan in his documentary "Struggle and Success" his first of a three-part series that examines the relationships between African-American and Japanese people.

The Joint Center for East Asian Studies of UM-St. Louis and Washington University's 1999-2000 colloquium series, The West and East Asia. On Nov. 11, a screening of "Struggle and Success" was held at UM-St. Louis. Life was available after the screening to discuss his film and questions. The event was well-attended with professors and students from both Washington University and UM-St. Louis.

"Struggle and Success" interviews a cross-section of African-Americans living in Japan for an extended amount of time. Life discussed the importance of identity and, as an African-American how culture outweighs race when identifying who he is. Most of the participants talked about a psychological freedom. For the first time in their lives they weren't forced to think about race. This is possible because in Japan all foreigners, regardless of race are viewed as outsiders, allowing their credentials and experience to be taken at face value. This is not to say that blacks do not have to deal with a form of racism in Japan. According to Life, Japanese people's knowledge of African-Americans have been funneled through white America. Stereotypes of African-Americans are old ones of black face, watermelon eating, big lips, and picaninny images of 19th and early 20th century America.

Upon their arrival to Japan, many African-Americans feel like outsiders,



Rafael Macias/ The Current

Participants conduct a discussion with filmmaker Regge Life on race, identity, and his film "Struggle and Success."

unless they have an affiliation with a company or organization. "You have to be part of something or someone to be accepted by the Japanese," said filmmaker Life.

Once settled in Japan, some African-Americans opt to develop relationships with the Japanese. Japanese/African-American marriages are common among African-Americans residing in Japan.

A common experience that many African-Americans have when returning to America, is a renewed strength in

knowing who they are and an appreciation for being an American that many did not have before living in Japan. It was because of these experiences, Life made his third film in the series, "After America After Japan."

Life's second film "Doubles," a film about biracial children and his other two films will be available on loan at the teaching library in the International Resource Library, which is located in room 249 of the Social Science Building. Kathy Cochrane, the coordi-

nator of community education, suggests calling in advance for the availability of the videos at 516-5805.

The next event for The West and East Asia colloquium series, "Financial Stabilization in Contemporary Korea After the IMF Bailout" with guest speaker Professor Seung Kim of St. Louis University, will be held Jan. 27 at Washington University. For more information, contact the center for East Asian

see STUDIES, page 8

AmeriCorps volunteers try to make difference

BY ANNE PORTER
staff associate

The Peace Corps may save the world, but AmeriCorps works to save America, especially America's youth.

St. Louis Partners AmeriCorps, a national service program, provides participants with money for education in return for a year or two of community service. In addition to the educational support, AmeriCorps offers a substantial stipend.

Areas that St. Louis Partners support are the St. Louis Public Schools, women's support and community services, and emergency response teams.

AmeriCorps' members tutor and mentor students in the St. Louis schools, work to revitalize neighborhoods, and clean up after natural disasters.

St. Louis AmeriCorps works with America's Promise.

Dawne Nasiruddin, an America's Promise Fellow in St. Louis Partners AmeriCorps, joined AmeriCorps to make a difference.

"The mission [of America's Promise] is to provide profitable resources for our youth," Nasiruddin said.

Habibah Hakeem, a recruitment specialist in St. Louis Partners AmeriCorps, originally joined to support her studies at UM-St. Louis.

"[America's Promise] has companies and businesses that are here in St. Louis that have made a commitment



Habibah Hakeem

to our children. America's Promise [takes the] responsibility to contact those particular companies and find out what resources they're willing to supply," Hakeem said.

AmeriCorps began in 1993.

"We consider ourselves a derivative of the PeaceCorps, but we are stateside and we deal with the issues of our children here in the United States," Hakeem said.

America's Promise originated at a Presidential Summit in 1997.

"All the living presidents and their wives got together to figure out what was the biggest threat as a nation and they came up with a threat to the youth," Nasiruddin said.

The education component of AmeriCorps began six years ago. Since then, for the children tutored, there is an average increase in two letter grades. The program is offered in twelve different locations and at no

see AMERICORPS, page 8

Wonderful

'Westfield Works Wonders' to help charitable groups

BY MARY LINDSLEY
staff writer

Want to do something to help children? Go shopping.

This Sunday at five area Westfield malls, you can get an early start on your holiday shopping, save money on your purchases, get freebies, and help a UM-St. Louis children's organization, all at the same time. The event, called "Westfield Works Wonders," will boost the coffers of nearly 300 local charities and non-profit organizations. These groups will raise funds by selling tickets for after-hours admittance into the malls for shopping, entertainment, food and prizes.

One of the organizations participating in the event is the Kathy J. Weinman Children's Advocacy Centre (CAC), located on South Campus. Since its inception in 1997, the CAC has come to the aid of sexually-abused children and their families by providing a complete range of services within a single location, eliminating the need to bounce victims from one social service agency to another. Susan Scribner, associate director of the CAC, said the organization has 150 tickets available for "Westfield Works Wonders" at a

cost of \$5 each. The Centre will keep the proceeds from the tickets it sells.

Those purchasing tickets will be able to use them at any of the five local Westfield shopping centers: Northwest Plaza, Mid Rivers Mall, West County Center, Crestwood Plaza, and South County Center. The event runs from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 21, after the malls close to the general public. All stores within the mall will remain open, and most will offer discounts and attendance prizes. Free gift-wrapping, photos with Santa, hors d'oeuvres, and beverages will be available. Local celebrities and entertainment acts are also scheduled to appear at each location.

Scribner said the event has benefits beyond raising money.

"I would hope that we increase awareness of who we are," Scribner said. "A fund-raiser like this can help us meet our core service of helping sexually-abused children, but it can also give people the opportunity to have fun at the same time."

Tickets can be purchased from Susan Scribner by calling 516-6798. Children under 12 will be admitted for free.

FEATURES

AMY LOMBARDO
features editor

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fax: 516-6811

Thoughts for Today

"Nothing is really work unless you would rather be doing something else."

-James M. Barrie

Credit: Peter's Quotations: Ideas for Our Time

"There comes a time in every man's life and I've had many of them."

-Casey Stengel

Credit: 1,001 Cool Things to Say (members.advi.net/beharris)

"All marriages are happy. It's the living together afterward that causes all the trouble."

-Raymond Hull

Credit: Peter's Quotations: Ideas for Our Time

"A fanatic is one who can't change his mind and won't change the subject."

-Winston S. Churchill

Credit: Cole's Quotables (www2.xtdl.com/~scale/)

Small world: Is there anyone in St. Louis I haven't met?



OUTSIDE IN!

BECKY RICKARD

Would somebody please tell me where in St. Louis does a native St. Louisan go to meet new people? It's a simple question with an intricate response. Actually, the most common response to that question is, "Ummm, I don't know."

I know we are all only separated by degrees, six to be exact, but this is getting ridiculous. What is it with St. Louis? Why does everyone know everyone? And what chemical do they put in our drinking water that increases the capacity of the typical St. Louisan's memory?

St. Louis has an incestuous smog that blankets the city with whispering nods of approval or stern glances of

disapproval. If you think I'm exaggerating, take a group of your friends to a typical St. Louis bar or social gathering and try to meet somebody new. I'll bet a large amount of money that if you can actually meet people whom you don't already know, someone in your group knows them and knows at least half of the skeletons locked in their closets.

I believe we, as a whole and as individuals, should be held accountable for our actions, but why does a person's high school reputation seem to follow him or her everywhere? I realize that high schools are a great deal of interest to people in St. Louis, and I, too, am guilty of asking that

inane question. However, I'd like to think that the things I did at age 16 or 17 do not ultimately define who I am at age 24 or at age 44. I'm not necessarily ashamed of the person I was back then but... let's get real people!

High school is the designated time for a major identity crisis. People take on many different types of behaviors to decide who they really are. Should it matter that I didn't know to match my belt and shoes when I was in high school? I finally learned the science of matching colors, fabrics, accessories, and leathers in college. Should it matter that I was a late-80s-early-90s hair band junkie? I've learned to stop subject-

ing innocent bystanders to such ear pain by blaring Def Leppard and White Lion in my car on my daily commute home from work.

To take this a step further, I'd like to discuss getting your first job out of college. It is not easy getting a job after you graduate. The phrase "It's not what you know but whom you know" was coined for a reason and I'm convinced that phrase originated in St. Louis. Like most people, I used my small and pathetic network to get my first job. I got a few months of experience under my belt and decided to leave since my network at the company was slowly dwindling also. I decided to let my

resume and interviews do my talking for the next job. Believe it or not, I got the job. I thought this would wipe the slate clean, and I could get a brand new start. Yeah, right!

After a few weeks on the job, I noticed that many of the workers had the same last names, looked alike, and had pictures of each other on their desks. I walked into a corporate pool of nepotism, and I mean that in the best way possible because I love this job.

The St. Louis incestuous smog has its good and bad points. It's great for getting jobs and improving your

see RICKARD, page 8

OPINIONS

Editorial Board

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editor-in-chief

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managing editor

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

How to Respond

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Letters to the editor 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 phone number.

OUR OPINION

Latest identity crisis: UM-St. Louis vs. UMSL

The issue:

For years now, the University of Missouri - St. Louis has been referred to as "UM-St. Louis." That's because years ago the administration didn't felt the term UMSL gave a negative image of the university. Recently, though, the name UMSL has been appearing across campus on banners and even in reports from the Chancellor. Is the University having an identity crisis? Perhaps too many people already refer to us as UMSL and trying to change what people call us only confuses them.

We suggest:

The University should be proud of the "UMSL" nomenclature and embrace it not hide behind a facade.

So what do you think?

Write a letter to the editor about this issue or anything else that's on your mind.

As if UM-St. Louis did not have enough to worry about besides the Chancellor's and the Student Government Association's recent troubles, it now appears that the University itself has an identity crisis.

Since 1986, using the term UMSL to describe this University has been taboo. Former Chancellor Marguerite Barnett, banished the nomenclature because of a perceived negative connotation.

Instead of UMSL, the nomenclature was changed to UM-St. Louis.

Recently, there seems to have been a loosening of the use of "UMSL" to refer to this University. "UMSL" has been used instead of "UM-St. Louis" on banners outside of Mark Twain and most recently in Chancellor Touhill's "An Open Report to the Campus Community."

The Chancellor's Nov. 8 report refers to this University as "UMSL" six times on the first page alone. Though this may seem tedious, it is important to understand that such a reference would not have been permitted just a few years ago.

Bob Samples, director of University Communications, said a loosening of the nomenclature has taken place and that it is part of the new advertising campaign.

The move makes sense. UMSL has taken great strides toward improving its academic facilities and attracting top faculty, staff, and students from across the world. These steps ensure the University that by referring to itself as UMSL, nobody will mistake it for DUMSL or the University of Missouri for Slow Learners.

Furthermore, this University is known throughout the region and the rest of the country as UMSL. More often than not, if a person affiliated with UMSL refers to it as UM-St. Louis to someone else, that other person either doesn't recognize the name or confuses it with St. Louis University. However, when the affiliate says "UMSL" there is instant recognition by the recipient.

The University of Missouri Board of Curators, in fact, recognizes UMSL as the nomenclature for this University and frequently refers to all UM campuses by their initials in official documentation.

This is a good move by the administration. The new nomenclature represents a new era for this University.

Faculty, staff, alumni, and students all have a right to be proud of this institution. And they have a right to call it by its rightful name, UMSL.

LETTERS

Changes needed to mend SGA woes

As a student and a former member of the SGA, I must say that I am saddened and appalled by the problems of SGA, caused by President Butler. The scandal that Mr. Butler has brought to the SGA has caused great humiliation to the university and the student body and has paralyzed the SGA

Assembly making it unable to represent the needs of the student body. I believe that Mr. Butler should gracefully resign, but if he refuses he must be impeached. Then we must elect student representatives who are above reproach and who will fix the damage that has been done to the

integrity of SGA. Because I believe that I am one of those individuals, I am now announcing my candidacy for the vice-president of the Student Government Association.

-Robert I. Rath

GUEST COMMENTARY

Reviving spirit in UMSL athletics

Over the past several weeks, *The Current* has offered the campus community an opportunity to reflect on the relationship of students to their University. Several editions have examined the importance of student involvement. Last week's editorial page posed the question concerning the future of athletics at UM-St. Louis. As the guest commentator, I would like to provide some insight on what is, I believe the beginning of not only a new era in basketball, but a new era for student and alumni involvement.

Two years ago the Alumni Association established a task force on athletics. We worked with Athletics, Student Activities, Auxiliary Services and Admissions to develop and expand Homecoming, celebrated the 25th Anniversary of the 1973 Men's Soccer National Championship and participated in the interviews for head coach of the men's basketball team. A few weeks ago, an expanded Athletic Task Force, including former athletes, alums and members of the Alumni Association's Board of Directors, made a commitment to building excitement around the return of Coach Mark Bernsen (BS '72, MEd '75) and the beginning of Rivermen and Riverwomen 2000 Basketball season.

Collaboratively, the Alumni Association, Student Activities, Auxiliary Services and Athletics are

sponsoring a Welcome Back Rally for the Rivermen's Basketball home opener, Tuesday, Nov. 23, at Mark Twain. The Rally will begin at 6:30 p.m., followed by the Men's game at 7:30 p.m. Staff and faculty can stay after work and alumni can come by on their way home.

THIS FIRST GAME AND RALLY IS COMPLETELY FREE! In honor of Mark's return to UMSL, the Alumni Association has purchased the gate! While students are always free, staff, faculty and alumni can attend this home opener at no cost.

But that's not all! There will be music, FREE food and FREE prizes for those who attend. Auxiliary Services is supplying the food for the Rally - hot dogs, popcorn and refreshments. Athletics has T-shirts for students, and the Alumni Association will provide stadium cushions, with the home game schedule printed on the back. UMSL's great student Pep Band will be in the stands to get the crowd going, and I hear that our Riverettes Pom Squad will be there, too!

Of course, basketball is only the beginning. If the students, alumni, staff and faculty turn out in support of UMSL Basketball, other programs will benefit as we build ties to our alma mater.

See you at Mark Twain, Tuesday, November 23!



JOSEPH PORTER JR.
guest commentator



JOE HARRIS
editor-in-chief

Is Microsoft really a bad monopoly?

Last week, a federal judge declared Microsoft a monopoly. No decision has been made as to Microsoft's penalties yet, but the case caught my attention.

Over the years, I have heard both good and bad things about Microsoft's founder, Bill Gates. Though most of what I have heard has been on the negative side, I have never taken the time to think about the contributions that Microsoft, and the computer industry as a whole, have given to our society.

The computer industry, with Microsoft as its leader, has made today's society possible. Businesses, or universities for that matter, could not function as they do today without the Internet, e-mail or high-speed computers.

This is why this case affects us all.

It is hard for me to take a position for or against Microsoft. The company has produced wonderful, easy-to-use software that makes life easier for millions of Americans every day.

Furthermore, the American dream is predicated on hard work being rewarded, and business winners enjoying their monetary spoils. There is no doubt that Gates worked hard to build Microsoft into what it is today, and there is no doubt that Microsoft not only defeated but also destroyed most of its competition in the computer industry.

Microsoft indeed is enjoying its spoils. They are the largest grossing computer company in the world, and Gates himself takes home billions of dollars a year.

This would be fine if the American dream was a winner-take-all fantasy. However, there is a clause about fair competition in that

utopian ideal, and this is where the question lies.

Does Microsoft have an unfair advantage over its competition?

The answer, according to the judge's ruling, is yes.

Most of Microsoft's programs are spin-offs of other computer companies' innovations. A prime example would be Microsoft's Web Browser which competes directly with Netscape's Navigator.

Navigator was developed first and enjoyed early success with Internet users. Then Microsoft developed Web Browser and within two years, Web Browser had a substantially larger market share than Navigator.

Microsoft's power and size dominate the computer industry and have forced many smaller companies out of business. Now, even the larger companies are having trouble competing.

Competition breeds competition. If Microsoft is allowed to dominate the computer industry, then there will be no need for them to continually try to improve their software.

In the computer industry, competition leads to innovation. Innovation leads to better software and more productive programs. Without innovation, we might as well be still trying to drive an Edsel around.

Companies have been broken up before by the government for becoming monopolies. AT&T and Standard Oil are two examples of this.

Sometimes what's good for the whole outweighs what's good for the individual. This may be the case for the computer industry in its relation to Microsoft.

No use crying over a mannequin head

Once again the hyped-up, idiotic, nitpickers have struck again. This time, these so-called good people have attacked wrestler Al Snow's action figure.

In the past two weeks these people have gotten Wal-Mart to take the figures off the shelf. The reason? He has a female mannequin head with the words "em pleh" ("help me" written backward) written across its forehead. The backward "help me" message apparently was enough for these parents to protest and get the figure yanked off of the shelf.

My question is why? They say that these figures will provoke kids to violence. Against whom? Mannequin heads?

Wal-Mart pulled the figures off the shelf. So I decided to walk around and see how the mannequin head looked against other toys in Wal-Mart. For a store that banned Al Snow, they don't have much ground to stand on. Right next to their wrestling toy section is the GI Joe section. Guns, hand grenades and fatigues are surely more threatening than a mannequin head.

Right across from where Al Snow's figure would have resided is the Star Wars area. Everyone loves Star Wars, and who can blame them? I'm sure the Darth Maul character would really take it hard that a mannequin is looked at as more threatening than he is. He has a

lightsaber that slices people in half. How threatening is that? I mean come-on, he killed a guy with one swipe. All Head has been used for is to hit a few guys in the head. What's really the lesser evil of the two?

All the hype hasn't made people look at the evil of Al Snow and Head. It actually made them more popular. The figure is almost impossible to find, and the WWF is now using the ordeal in a wrestling storyline. What was intended to hurt the wrestler and the federation has given them tons of publicity. When will these protesters learn that nit-picking doesn't pay off. More often than not, it just gives a situation that didn't need attention a ton of publicity.

The same situation happened a few years ago with a Dick Tracy figure. "Dick Tracy" the movie was bombing. It was about as lame as a Mister Rogers rave party. Yet protesters got riled up at a figure from the movie, a homeless thief equipped with knife and trashcan lid. The figure was quickly attacked as being stereotypical of homeless people. The guy was a character in a movie; Dick had to arrest someone.

The hype soon had the figures flying off of the shelves while good old Dick and the gang sat destined for the clearance rack.

I'm in no way against any of these toys. They don't harm anyone. It's a mannequin head—get over it people.



KEN DUNKIN
managing editor

Under Current

by Rafael Macias
staff photographer

How has the recent construction on campus affected you?



Bryan May
Junior/MIS

"It hasn't bothered me at all. The guys need to do their job, although the heavy machinery is a little loud."



Amber Lanane
Freshman/Elementary Ed.

"I think it's a pain, especially in the Commons area when I'm trying to study."



Lesley Legens
Freshman/Elementary Ed.

"It's a pain navigating the cones hurrying from class to class."

Ice men remain perfect

Wins improve record to 9-0

BY NICK BOWMAN
staff associate

The Rivermen hockey team started Friday night's game sluggishly against Meramec. UM-St. Louis escaped the first period with a 1-0 lead, but couldn't escape head coach Derek Shaub's wrath at intermission.

After a stern talk in the locker room from Shaub and Gregg Gevers, the Rivermen assistant coach, UM-St. Louis came out shooting. Just three minutes in, freshman defenseman Rocky Alberti, with a feed from Matt Brinker, rifled a slapshot from just outside the blue line to raise the score to 2-0.

About five minutes later, freshman right wing Jon Figgemeier, after scoring on a slapshot from dead center, was taken to the training room with an apparent elbow injury. It was later discovered to be a dislocated shoulder, and he is expected to miss two to three weeks.

"He was hit just after releasing the shot," sophomore Ryan Craig said. "He was between two Meramec defenders, and right after the goal, they sandwiched him. It was unfortunate, but he should be fine. He took one for the team."

After this goal, Meramec benched its goalie due to his loss of composure. The move paid off as Meramec would score soon after, cutting the Rivermen lead to 3-1.

It would turn out to be Meramec's only goal as UM-St. Louis net-minder Shaun Kasten was solid in goal. He stopped 18 of the 19 shots that Meramec sent his way to earn his second victory in as many starts.

The UM-St. Louis defense, anchored by junior Craig Duffy, would allow only eight more shots to reach Kasten the rest of the game. Add to this a late goal by freshman Mike Carapella, and the Rivermen successfully squelched any hopes of a Meramec comeback.

Things got ugly just before the buzzer, as forward Matt Kinnel and a Meramec defender got into a skirmish. But Kinnel took his lumps, and that resulted in an game misconduct being dealt to the Meramec defender.

Coming out into the third period,

the Rivermen were just playing through the motions, having already developed a substantial lead. After an early offensive flurry, which featured goals from center Ben Gilbertson and forward Michael Goetz, UM-St. Louis let off of the trigger and relied on their defense to finish the game.

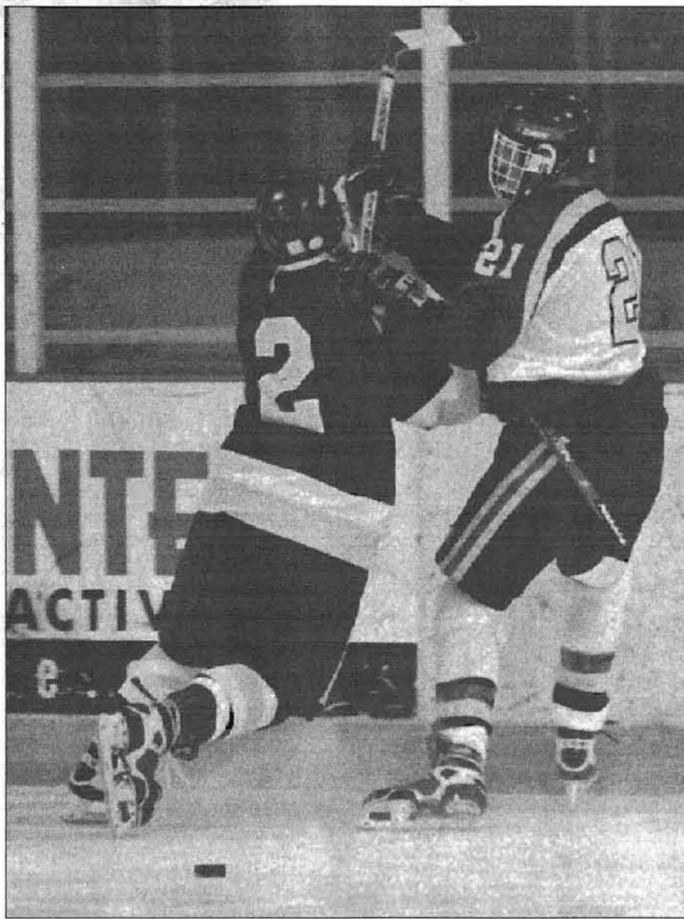
Although this strategy worked well, it resulted in numerous confrontations, namely involving Duffy, Matt Hessel, and Frost, who was tagged with a two minute roughing penalty about halfway through for punching a Meramec player in the head.

The 9-1 win pushed the Rivermen record to 8-0 and set up the next game with Meramec the following night.

The second game was much of the same, with the only substantial change being Frankenberger between the pipes in place of Kasten, a routine process for the Rivermen. They won the game 9-1.

Before their sweep of Meramec, the Rivermen received two forfeit victories against Triton College.

Triton was forced to forfeit both of its games due to an insufficient number of players. In accordance with the American Collegiate Hockey Association (ACHA), UM-St. Louis will be awarded two 1-0 victories, but no points in the conference standings.



Top: Riverman Jason Hessel (2) gets a face full of stick from a Meramec defender while going after the puck in Friday Night's 9-1 Rivermen victory.

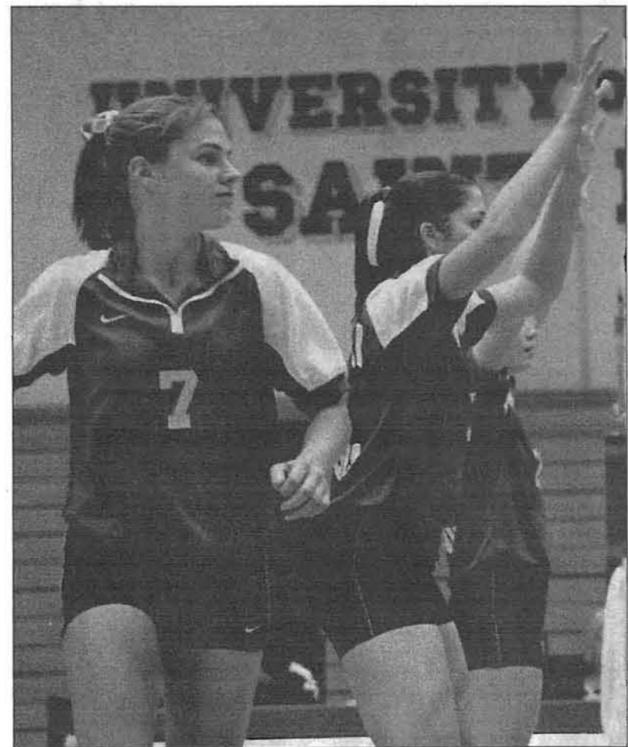
Bottom Left: Rivermen head coach Derek Shaub makes his presence known to the officials.

Bottom Right: Freshman Jon Figgemeier is carted into an ambulance after dislocating his shoulder. He was hit after scoring the Rivermen's third goal against Meramec Friday. Figgemeier is expected to miss two to three weeks with the injury.

Photos by
Stephanie Platt



V-ball's disappointing season ends



Stephanie Platt/The Current

Janae Paas (7) patrols the net during a Riverwomen volleyball match earlier this season.

BY RACHAEL QUIGLEY
staff associate

The UM-St. Louis volleyball team endured a tough season. Much was expected of the team, who had hoped to improve on its 16-10 record of last year. But, it was not to be for the Riverwomen as they struggled to find a winning combination throughout the season.

The last two regular matches of the season were played at home and ended with mixed results. The Riverwomen then traveled to Kentucky to compete in the Great Lakes Valley Conference and lost in the first round.

The first match of the homestand had UM-St. Louis facing a tough conference opponent, SIU-Edwardsville, they stood 11-3 in the GLVC. The Riverwomen lost in three sets, 15-10, 15-4, and 15-12.

Gearing up for the conference tournament, the Riverwomen then faced Indianapolis in their last regular season game.

The outcome was much better for UM-St. Louis as they beat Indianapolis in four sets, 15-10, 12-15, 15-11, 15-9.

UM-St. Louis attacked Indianapolis fiercely, recording 71

see VOLLEYBALL, page 10

Men's Basketball Preview . . . New coach brings optimism

BY DAVE KINWORTHY
staff editor

The men's basketball team looks to rebound this season under Mark Bernsen, the first-year head coach, and turn around a slumping program.

With Bernsen at the helm, the Rivermen look to be more exciting during the '99-'00 season with a disciplined team that likes to excite the fans with running and gunning.

"If things aren't very good, you

change parts of the thing," Bernsen said. "We have a brand new group of guys with 9 new guys out of the 12 man squad. Hopefully, we can get together and be on the same page in terms of offensively and defensively. We are just to working really hard now."

The change in coaching styles from former coach Rich Meckfessel to Bernsen signals the change of eras to a new generation of ideas to bene-

see RIVERMEN, page 10

Women's Basketball Preview . . . Returners' confidence a key

BY DAVE KINWORTHY
staff editor

The Riverwomen's basketball squad looks to improve upon its 15-13 record and sixth place finish and strong showing in the Great Lakes Valley Conference Tournament.

The team lost key players in Melanie Marcy and Krystal Logan, but the team looks to rebound from the losses by having players step up when called upon.

"We have seven seniors, ten returners, and only three newcomers

coming in," said Shelly Ethridge, the team's head coach. "We certainly bring a lot of experience in. The three newcomers that we brought in are certainly not missing a step right now. Losing Melanie Marcy and Krystal Logan underneath, that is two big shoes that we have to fill. With a year of experience, that will be very beneficial."

During the off-season, junior guard Tanisha Albert gave birth to a baby and now is back ready to ded-

see RIVERWOMEN, page 10

New coach, recruits make Mizzou basketball interesting



LATEST SCOOP

DAVE KINWORTHY

Amidst an average season as far as wins and losses are concerned for the Missouri Tigers football team, a new era has already begun.

The University of Missouri basketball program looks primed and ready to take on the best in the nation.

What can you say about these Tigers after the Norm Stewart era is nothing but positive and bright for the future of hoops.

The University of Missouri is expecting two written agreements by players out of the Detroit area who are ranked in the top 100 high school players in the nation.

Mix these players into a crop of

wonderful youth and enthusiasm from underclassmen Keyon Dooling and Clarence Gilbert, and you have a nucleus for a national championship run.

But can the Tigers compete this year in a Big 12 conference that has some of the most prolific big men in collegiate hoops?

The Tigers may not have the biggest men in the conference, but the dominance of Kansas University and the Oklahomas was finally come to an end.

Whether it is the great energy that Quin Snyder displays with this team or it is the simple change from a set offense to a run-and-gun style

of play, Missouri will not back down from anyone.

The Tigers still have Jeff Hafer with his aggressive style of play and his sporadic dunks that liven any audience. Webster Groves native Johnny Parker will finally see some time because Stewart has departed. Look for Parker to contribute largely in the Missouri offense.

While Parker was at Webster Groves High School, he was one of the areas most dominant players next to Larry Hughes of CBC, who has since moved on to play with the Philadelphia 76ers. Parker will emerge as the dominant player who

can overpower any small forward just as he did in high school.

Then you look at the talented sophomores—Dooling and Gilbert—who will run the show at the shooting guard position. These two Florida natives will excite Mizzou fans and even force the Antlers to have something to cheer about.

Brian Grawer is the most stable point guard for Mizzou. The Pattonville graduate is steady with the ball and knows when and where to distribute the ball. The offense will be in good hands with Grawer.

All in all, the Tigers will not win the Big 12 this season, but in the

future, look for Mizzou to be consistently ranked in the top 10 in the nation and dominant just like Snyder's former school, Duke University.

The Blue Devils have not become a nationally ranked team overnight. It took the time and dedication to get the best players in the nation to come to the university and realize that they had a chance to win.

Mizzou may not produce Grant Hill, currently on the Detroit Pistons or even a Bobby Hurley of the Sacramento Kings, but with time, it will produce a winner.

SPORTS

DAVE KINWORTHY

sports editor

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Upcoming Games

Men's Basketball

vs Team Reebok
7:30 p.m. Sat., Nov. 20

vs Harris-Stowe
7:30 p.m. Tues., Nov. 23

Women's Basketball

at Panhandle State
Tip-Off Classic
tba, Nov. 19-20

Hockey

vs Mizzou
11 p.m., Fri., Nov. 19

vs Mizzou
10:15 p.m., Sat., Nov. 20

vs Palmer
10:15 p.m., Fri., Dec. 3

Next Week In Sports

Hockey
Men's/Women's
Basketball
Kinworthy's column

A&E

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Upcoming Concerts

November

20

Primus w/ Incubus
American Theatre

Painface
Creepy Crawl

21

Phunk Junkeez w/
Locash
Galaxy

24

The Samples
Mississippi Nights

P.O.D.

The Side Door

25

Fragile Porcelain Mice
Mississippi Nights

27

Vargas Swing
Blueberry Hill

December

9

Shyheim & U-God
Karma

Buckcherry
Mississippi Nights

10

MU330 CD release party
The Firehouse



Stephanie Platt/ The Current



ABOVE: Thai art, like this religious festival mask, decorates the King and I Restaurant.

LEFT: Bartenders Tassanai Kleebkaew (left) and Kitchrat Kontain wait to fill orders at the Thai restaurant King and I.

A meal fit for a King

BY AMY LOMBARDO
staff editor

There are few eateries in St. Louis that combine quality food, service and ambience together into an all-around enjoyable eating experience.

Fortunately, King and I Restaurant is one of those.

This establishment has been dishing out Thai food from its two-story nook on South Grand Boulevard for years. From the outside, it could be mistaken for an average place, but inside it is hard to miss the rich colors of authentic Oriental fabrics, furniture, and decorations. Don't let the classy look scare you away; everyone is welcome whether they are in casual or dress wear.

The food is, at the risk of sounding overly enthusiastic, fantastic. All I can say is, "Try it, you'll like it."

For those who aren't familiar with Thai food, there's enough variety for everyone. There's unique choices that feature those Thai staples—cilantro, curry and lemon grass. The seafood selections include shrimps, mussels, crab, catfish, steak fish, white promfret, and even squid. There's beef, chicken, and pork for those individuals who easily become 'sea sick.' Vegetarians also have more than 10 meat-free picks to choose from. You can have appetizers, noodles, fried rice, soup, and salad. The menu is split up into organized sections, and the

dishes are numbered in the typical Asian-restaurant way for easy-ordering. I recommend the 'Pan Spicy' which is prepared with your choice of meat (chicken, pork, beef, or shrimp), bell pepper, basil leaves with a touch of ground chili, garlic, and wine. Thai food is known for its spice, and the customer picks the desired level of fire—mild, medium, or hot. I had 'medium' and, believe me, it was plenty hot.

As if this were not enough to make King and I a new local favorite, the prices are reasonable and the service was great. The appetizers were on the table in no time, and the main course arrived right as the last crab ragoon was finished. Plus, the staff is polite and friendly.

One thing I did not enjoy was the blaring of "Happy Birthday" for a patron over the speaker system. It seemed rather crude and out of place in an otherwise quiet, relaxed atmosphere. The slice of cake with a lit candle was nice enough by itself.

I was also slightly puzzled by the absence of chopsticks with the meals. Perhaps only using forks (no knives or spoons, either) is a sign of Americanization.

On the whole, it was as near to perfect as a dinner can come. There is little chance that anyone would regret checking it out.

MUSIC REVIEW

Stone Temple Pilots' 'No. 4' pales against its previous albums

BY CORY BLACKWOOD
staff editor

The Stone Temple Pilots have had a rough few years. Crooner and frontman Scott Weiland placed heroin as a bigger priority than the band, so the other members subsequently booted him from STP. Remaining members of STP got the singer from joke band 10-Inch Men and named themselves Talk Show.

Talk Show faltered without Scott Weiland, but Scott Weiland took the time to come out with his best music ever in "12 Bar Blues," a solo album. Between visits to jail and rehab, Stone Temple Pilots regrouped and recorded its fourth album, aptly titled, "No. 4."

After Weiland's solo success, Stone Temple Pilots has been dubbed one of the bands with the ability to save rock (along with Nine Inch Nails, Foo Fighters, and Rage Against The Machine) by the press. Sadly enough, "No. 4" perpetuates boring rock riffs rather than saving anything. Being released in the same month as strong albums from Rage and the Foo Fighters and just before a highly anticipated Beck offering can't help, but even

'No. 4'

Artist: Stone Temple Pilots
Label: Atlantic Records
Our opinion: ★★

compared to their own work, STP doesn't shine this time around.

The strongest endeavors on "No. 4" are no better than average songs from "Purple" or "Tiny Music..." "Heaven & Hot Rods" is a high point on the album, but it doesn't compare to "Big Bang Baby," "Trippin' On a Hole in a Paper Heart," and isn't anywhere near "Purple." "Down," the album's opener, starts off angrier than it should and feels like just another grunge group lamenting the loss of their careers.

STP is better than this; they have proven that from the first 10 seconds of "Core," their 1992 debut. Weiland would definitely be better off releasing his own solo work (when not incarcerated) and the rest of Stone Temple Pilots could make do if they found another charismatic singer that they could work with a little better.



FILM REVIEW

Fresh premise of 'Being John Malkovich' is key to success

BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER
staff editor

Ever wish you were someone else? Now you can be!

This is the tag line thought up by two people hoping to exploit their discovery—a portal that puts you inside the head of actor John Malkovich for 15 minutes. This comic fantasy will leave those with a taste for the bizarre delighted and those with more concrete and conventional tastes puzzled.

The basic premise of the story is this: unemployed puppeteer Craig Schwartz (John Cusack), bitter that his serious puppetry (viewed as the '90s equivalent of '70s street mime) is not honored as great art, finally sets out to find any job to make ends meet. He and his wife Lotte (Cameron Diaz) look like a pair of hippies caught in a historical backwash from the late '60s/early '70s, and live in a basement filled with exotic animals that Lotte brings home to nurture from her job at a pet shop. Craig finds a job as a filing clerk at a strange company located between floors in an old office building. All the ceilings are extremely low and the workers scurry around half bent over. Almost immediately, two things happen: Craig meets and falls for a coworker, Maxine (Catherine Keener) who has no interest in him and he makes a discovery when he moves a filing cabinet to retrieve a dropped file—a small sealed doorway. Behind the doorway is a passageway that takes one into the being of another person—John Malkovich.



John Cusack stars as unemployed puppeteer Craig Schwartz in "Being John Malkovich."

'Being John Malkovich'

Length: 112 min.
Rated: R
Our opinion: ★★ ★★

Does this sound dreamlike, even nightmarish? Well, the film is very much like many dreams; strange things happen, yet everyone around acts as if they are perfectly ordinary. The whole film is done in a matter-of-fact way that heightens its bizarreness. In a time when so many movies are based on recycled ideas, the concept for this film is wholly original, fresh and very creative. Both the characters and the story are so complex and unusual that you're always wondering what will happen

next. All these strange and even unpleasant characters have an idea of how they want to use poor Mr. Malkovich once they experience a ride in his head.

Casting against type, the actors are as unexpected as the story. Both John Cusack and Cameron Diaz, attractive performers who usually play romantic leading roles, are so disheveled, nerdy and unattractive they are nearly unrecognizable. Just seeing these stars made up this way brings an initial laugh, like a good-looking friend dressed like a nerd for a costume party. More bizarre characters appear, again often against type, and the film is peppered with star cameos to play the roles of John Malkovich's friends. One of the running jokes in the film is

see BEING, page 7

Listening to bad music and fending off rabid reps - all in a day's work



RANT & ROLL

CORY BLACKWOOD

I review CDs and concerts; that is my job. Good work if you can get it, but there are drawbacks, and a lot of them. I know, many music fans would kick me for saying that this job is anything but perfect, but hear me out.

First off, there are high points to reviewing CDs. I have gotten to meet many musicians, from Citizen King to Cibo Matto, Misfits to Moby. I do get free tickets to concerts, and I have learned about many bands I would not otherwise be aware of.

Free CDs also get sent my way, sometimes a few a week. This is a great thing. I have even gotten CDs

before they are released. I have the Ani Difrancio CD "To The Teeth" in my possession, which doesn't come out until the day after this is published, and I have had it for a week. This really accomplishes nothing other than bragging rights, and I do enjoy holding that over the heads of any devout Ani fanatics I might know.

People think, "Woo-hoo! Music critic, free CDs, free concerts, no work, yay!" Problem is, that isn't how it works. I get free CDs; however, I don't get to pick what free CDs I get. That means I have as good a chance of getting the new Stereolab CD as I do the next

Matchbox 20 rip-off band on the scene. I have absolutely no chance of getting any releases by larger, more well known bands, like Beck or Rage Against the Machine, because they don't need the press from a college newspaper. So in a week of free CDs, sometimes, and only sometimes, one or two will be good, or even tolerable.

The publicity people can be a pain as well. Sometimes a disc simply isn't good, or you don't want to interview the band, but the publicity people don't want to hear that, and they usually won't take no for an answer, at least without a fight. To any of the wonderful reps that I

work with, this is not directed toward you, of course, but the other reps I work with that you don't know.

Many of the CDs I choose to listen to were bought by me. This goes for concerts as well, mind you. In one week, I could possibly go to a concert that I paid for to review, while reviewing a disc that I bought with my money. Of course you think that I am pointlessly griping, but remember that this is my job. When I delivered pizzas, this would be like having to buy the pizza and then deliver it to the customer, which is not a profitable enterprise. My job now is not a profitable enter-

prise, either. There are weeks where I spend more on this page than I make doing it.

This job doesn't really pay well, requires a lot of legwork, and causes me to listen to a lot of very bad music. Sometimes, I end up going to very bad concerts, or interviewing bands with nothing to say. Frequently, I cannot think of a column to write (that is pretty obvious, don't you think?), and I sometimes don't know how to make one bad CD sound different from another bad CD in a review. But would I trade this job for any other? Probably not.

FILM REVIEW



'Following' is the brilliant creation of writer, director, editor, and cinematographer Christopher Nolan.

Though not in theaters now, 'Following' is worth waiting for

BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER
staff editor

The delightful little suspense film, "Following," was featured at the St. Louis International Film Festival and is sure to return here at a future date. When it does, you want to be sure to catch this winner of several film festivals. This tight little story is one of the most impressive suspense films I've seen in recent years.

The movie begins with a would-be writer who has developed a habit of following people around London. At first he tells himself that he's doing research for characters, but it soon becomes clear that it has become an obsession. One day, his quarry turns and confronts him, and this draws him into an experience of deceit that changes everything. To say more would spoil the suspense and surprise, but the film is about who we are, who we appear to be, self-denial, desires and obsession.

'Following'

Length: 70 min.
Rated: NR, probably PG-13
Our opinion: ★★★★★

The story is told in an unusual format with different times in the story appearing concurrently, until all becomes clear at the end. While it sounds confusing, the effect in the film is actually intriguing and suspenseful. This creative approach, along with a very tight and powerful script, builds the tension for the film perfectly. In fact, this film is as perfectly constructed as could be. No shot is unnecessary and no shot is missing to tell its story.

The surprising thing about this film, and something that will hamper its distribution, is that the film is barely more than one hour long. One is unaware of this length when watching the film—the film is as full and complete as any

feature length film. It doesn't seem short or abrupt in any way. It is probably the most flawless one-hour film I've ever seen, yet the fact that most feature films are two hours, even the shortest comedies are 1 1/2 hours, means that it won't fit into most theaters' showing schedules. Stark black-and-white photography, creative use of hand-held and unusual camera angles, and excellent acting support writer/director/editor/cinematographer Christopher Nolan's tour de force. That Nolan could make such a powerful, fully realized film in his spare time with no budget while juggling so many filmmaking roles is a sure mark of genius. Hopefully, we will see great things from him in the future. Meanwhile, when this film returns to our area, everyone with an interest in good film should take the opportunity to see it.

(Shown at the St. Louis International Film Festival)

FILM REVIEW

'The Insider' is all smoke, no buzz

FROM STAFF REPORTS
Yale Daily News

(U-WIRE) NEW HAVEN, Conn. — Even before its release, "The Insider" was the subject of intense controversy. The 160-minute film describes how "60 Minutes" producer Lowell Bergman (Al Pacino) obtained an interview with tobacco whistleblower Jeffrey Wigand (Russell Crowe), which included devastating revelations about the tobacco industry.

Fearing a lawsuit from Wigand's former employer, Brown and Williamson Tobacco CO., CBS executives pressured "60 Minutes" executive producer Don Hewitt (Phillip Baker Hall) and Mike Wallace (Christopher Plummer) into agreeing not to air the interview.

Full of weighty themes and directorial flourishes, "The Insider" lacks neither style nor substance. Rather, its problems stem from the fact that the two don't seem to have anything to do with each other.

Although the plot is compelling, director Michael Mann seems to believe that the drama is insufficient to hold the audience's interest. As a result, he constantly strains to enliv-

en it with the flamboyant visuals that have characterized his earlier films, which include "Heat" and "The Last of the Mohicans."

Unfortunately, Mann's imagery seems jarringly out of touch with the story he is attempting to tell. Often spectacular shots add dramatic emphasis where none is needed.

Still worse are moments where Mann tries to make "The Insider" seem like a conventional conspiracy thriller. He tries to compensate for the story's lack of violence with ominous music and constant use of handheld cameras.

This actually produces the opposite effect: we are lead to expect action, but the film is unable to deliver any. As a result, scenes that are both well-written and well-acted come to feel both silly

and dull. Christopher Plummer is excellent as the rather petulant Mike Wallace.

The film derives its greatest strength, however, from Russell Crowe's riveting yet subtle performance as Wigand. Crowe, taking advantage of the most fully developed role in Mann and Eric Roth's script, expertly captures the interaction of moral principles and almost childish indignation that drives Wigand to betray his former employers.

Given the caliber of its cast and the skills of its director, it is not at all surprising that the film provides many powerful moments. But such moments serve to remind the viewer that with direction more suited to the narrative, "The Insider" might have been equal to the sum of its parts.

BEING, from page 6

Malkovich is. When they ask, the person explains that he's one of the most respected actors in Hollywood, but is unable to name one of his movies.

Overall, the film is wonderfully strange and creative, with an underlying comment on human nature and desires. It is a marvelously-acted, subtle comedy. For the viewer who is open to this kind of fantasy, the film will be thoroughly enjoyable. For the viewer who prefers a more realistic movie, this film will probably be too weird. If you're not sure where you fall on this scale, I suggest you give this one a try—after all, it's only comedy.

(Now playing at the Tivoli)

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'Art St. Louis XV' presents showcase of talent

BY ANNE PORTER
staff associate

Thousands of local artists labored many hours to submit their work to "Art St. Louis, The Exhibition." The fate of these artists is controlled by one man who will select the works to be used. This process produces a juried show.

"Art St. Louis XV, The Exhibition," the largest of the juried showcases presented by "Art St. Louis," offers a wide array of art in all media forms without any particular theme. "The Exhibition" premieres on Nov. 13 and will be on display through Dec. 30.

Tobi Kahn, a professor of art at the School of Visual Arts in New York, decided pieces for The Exhibition. Kahn's work is currently touring the

United States in an exhibit curated by Peter Selz.

Robin Hirsch, the associate director of "Art St. Louis," explained that Kahn was nominated by a program committee. Kahn selected 39 works from 32 artists out of the several hundred that were submitted.

Kahn is "a well-known New York-based painter and sculptor," Hirsch said. "The Exhibition" represents the 15th year of a juried show without a theme.

"The main thing we hope to achieve is to bring recognition to St. Louis regional artists within the community," Hirsch said.

"Art St. Louis" also provides more than notoriety for local artists.

"Artists have gained recognition [and] major gallery representation. Their works have been sold through the exhibition to corporations, sponsors, and individuals who are art collectors as well as people who just fell in love with a piece of work and want to own it,"

Hirsch said.

Tom Patton, a professor of art and art history at UM-St. Louis, submitted some of his work to "The Exhibition." One piece of his work in digital photography was accepted. Patton's digital photography appears to be a straight photo, but what Patton did was take a normal black and white photo, scanned it, and then made the corrections on a computer.

"[Digital photography] will add some new and less traditional technology," Patton said.

Patton has participated in four other shows at Art St. Louis, but he particularly wanted to be in this show.

"[The Exhibition] is very well attended, particularly the opening," Patton said.

Patton began as a printmaker, but through the use of stencils became interested in photography. The digital method has become popular in the last 5-to-10 years due to the influence of

commercialism and University implementation.

"I use photography, not only to learn about myself, but to learn about the world around me," Patton said.

Through his work, Patton discovers the history, the social role, and the cultural context of the objects he pictures.

Patton greatly respects "Art St. Louis" because of its non-commercial nature which makes them available to any artist.

"It's probably the best of various artist collectives here in St. Louis. It's a mixture of professional and amateur artists. But the quality of the work in 'Art St. Louis, The Exhibition,' in the past has really been quite good and that is one of the reasons I wanted to participate," Patton said.

Barbara Savan graduated from UM-St. Louis with a Bachelor's in Fine Arts in 1998, and since then has been working on her series, "Grandma's Kitchen."

One of her works from that series

was selected by Kahn for "The Exhibition." That piece, entitled "Protections," depicts a kitchen scene focusing on women.

"I'm very grateful to get in [to 'The Exhibition']," Savan said. "This is the biggest show of the year."

"Grandma's Kitchen," biographical in nature, shows the experiences of Savan's childhood.

One of the main themes was the importance of the kitchen to the family.

"Everything happened in the kitchen— meals [were] done in the kitchen, babies were bathed in the kitchen, all family problems were discussed in the kitchen," Savan said.

Savan's work was also displayed in 1993 in the "Windows and Doors" exhibition.

"I go to a lot of the openings [at 'Art St. Louis'] or if I don't make the opening, I do see the shows because they are really great shows," Savan said. For more information on "Art St. Louis The

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AMERICORPS, from page 3

cost.

Not only does the program benefit children, but it also offers many opportunities for its members.

"For a number of students who don't know exactly how they are going to finish their education, it's such a wonderful opportunity," Nasiruddin said.

Besides the monetary support, AmeriCorps provides a chance to do practicums and try new activities.

"I had a marketing background, and I changed it to non-profit management seeing the need for business to be actively involved," Nasiruddin said.

"It can also help your focus and get the extra confidence you need," Hakeem said.

Kareema Shaheed, vice-president of the Ahmadi Muslim Student

Association, is in the process of joining AmeriCorps.

"I try to give of my time when I could and if I couldn't help directly I'd help indirectly. AmeriCorps will give me an opportunity to have a stipend each month and still go to school," Shaheed said.

"There's nothing more powerful than seeing people going into a community and without a lot of rhetoric making a change. The only obstacles are those we set for ourselves," Nasiruddin said.

In addition, AmeriCorps trains its members in conflict resolution, out-

door adventure, and community problem solving.

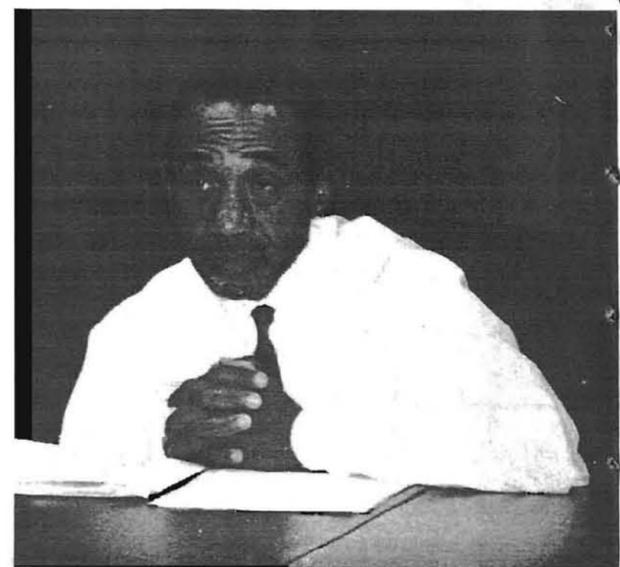
"It's one of those jobs where you wake up and you want to go to work," Hakeem said.

For more information on St. Louis Partners AmeriCorps, please call (314) 772-9002.

LIFE, from page 3

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Filmmaker Regge Life sits during a discussion of his film "Struggle and Success."

RICKARD, from page 3

career. It's really bad if you are single and want to meet new people. I don't plan on moving any time soon, especially since I found this job. However, I am combing the airport for new arrivals that look like out-of-towners that need new friends.

And that's my view from the outside in.

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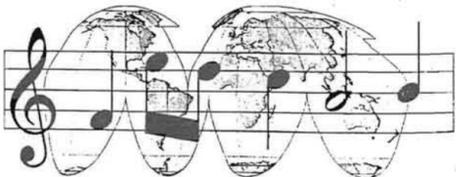
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CHANCELLOR, from page 1

decisions are a direct result of the advice provided by the faculty, either through the academic units or through participation on the Senate Budget and Planning Committee, and at times her decisions are not," the system report said. "However, many faculty and administrators do not perceive a connection between the advice that is given and the decisions that are made."

The system's review team concluded that while there were problems with the decision-making process, there was "no pattern of intent to directly violate the planning and governance process as stipulated in the University of Missouri's Collected Rules and Regulations, Section 140.020."

Dennis Judd, presiding officer of the Faculty Council, applauded the system report for being "remarkably frank on many points." Judd said he felt the administration did not adequately consider the advice of the faculty, and was particularly concerned that large planning initiatives had taken place outside the planning structures.

"The reason why our committee was so concerned about the fact that so much of what happens on campus is done outside of consultation and planning, and that so many initiatives are taken without consultation is that over time it's had a fiscal impact on the campus," Judd said.

The system report recognized that a number of large projects, such as the Barnes College of Nursing and the Mercantile Library, have been undertaken without any prior notice to the Senate Budget and Planning Committee.

The Chancellor defended her budgetary policies in section two of her report. She described her use of discretionary funds and her plans for funding the Performing Arts Center.

The system report described Touhill's use of these funds as appropriate.

"All financial reserves under the discretionary control of the Chancellor have been used for appro-

priate purposes, which support the mission and the goals of the campus," the system report said. "The review team found no misuse of resources entrusted to the administration of Chancellor Touhill."

But the system report was critical of what it described as overly optimistic budget projections.

"The annual general-operating budget is consistently developed on overly optimistic revenue estimates, which when unrealized, necessitate reductions in authorized expenditures. This practice is not a generally accepted operating norm in college and university budgeting," the system report said.

Touhill in her report said the optimistic budget projections were a result of the enrollment situation in the fall of 1992, when student enrollments fell due to fee increases.

"When this happened, I discussed with Academic Officers and the Budget and Planning Committee whether to take rate (permanent) cuts or cost (one-time) cuts to cover this revenue drop," Touhill said in her report. "After reviewing demographic data which suggests enrollments will increase over time, both the Academic Officers and Budget and Planning Committee recommended taking cost cuts in the hope the students would return."

Touhill said it was this policy of making "aggressive" projections of student enrollment that necessitated a string of one-time cuts to the budget. She said she had discussed this policy with Manuel Pacheco, president of the UM System, who agreed the cost cuts could continue a little longer, but felt permanent cuts would be necessary if enrollments did not increase.

Judd did not accept the Chancellor's explanation.

"She's been saying that for years," Judd said.

Judd said there was plenty of evidence available that would have suggested the budgetary projections were unrealistic.

Touhill maintained that the basic academic programs of the university,

the "core" programs, had not been hurt by her policy of pursuing new initiatives, but had instead benefited.

"New programs have helped to keep long-existing programs afloat by attracting new students and new revenue," Touhill's report said.

Touhill pointed out that student enrollment levels in some of the major existing programs has declined in recent years while enrollment levels in new programs have grown.

Judd said he did not trust the financial data provided in the Chancellor's report, citing different interpretations of what the real Equipment and Expenses budgets of various departments actually are. Paul Roth, chair of the philosophy department, said the report's figure of \$51,113 for the philosophy department's Equipment and Expenses budget was "ridiculous."

"I don't know how they arrived at that number," Roth said.

Roth said the actual figure for funds available for him to spend was around \$11,000.

Gordon Anderson, chair of the chemistry department, said the Chancellor's Equipment and Expense figures also included other things, like computer resources and phone services. Gordon said he did not doubt the figures could be calculated legitimately, but that they were misleading.

Judd said the questions raised about the data in the Chancellor's report made meaningful discussion of its budgetary implications difficult or impossible. He disagreed with the system report's level of concern over Touhill's policies of reallocations. Judd set forth a number of nightmare scenarios for the campus, such as a potential enrollment shortfall which could result when the campus tries to tighten its policy on student debts, or the loss of faculty members in the college of arts and sciences.

Judd said reforms might be possible, but in his opinion the faculty's mistrust of the Chancellor had grown too deep, and that a change in leadership was necessary.

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Stephanie Platt/The Current

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Men's Soccer Wrap-up . . .

Rivermen's sluggish season ends with bang

BY NICK BOWMAN
staff associate

The UM-St. Louis Rivermen's soccer team wrapped up their season with a spectacular playoff run that resulted in a heart-breaking loss to Indiana-Purdue University of Fort Wayne in the Great Lakes Valley Conference Championship match.

Their final record of 9-11 (5-6 GLVC) may not look all that spectacular, but take into consideration that of those 11 losses, all but three were by one goal.

Of the six games at home this season, UM-St. Louis posted a 5-1 record, but the Rivermen had to travel 13 times, losing 10 of these contests, mainly due to UM-St. Louis being the only team in the GLVC located in Missouri.

This was the fourth year that UM-St. Louis has been affiliated with the GLVC, and the fourth consecutive post-season appearance for the Rivermen. For the second year in a row, the Rivermen advanced to the finals, but lost to tough conference opponents.

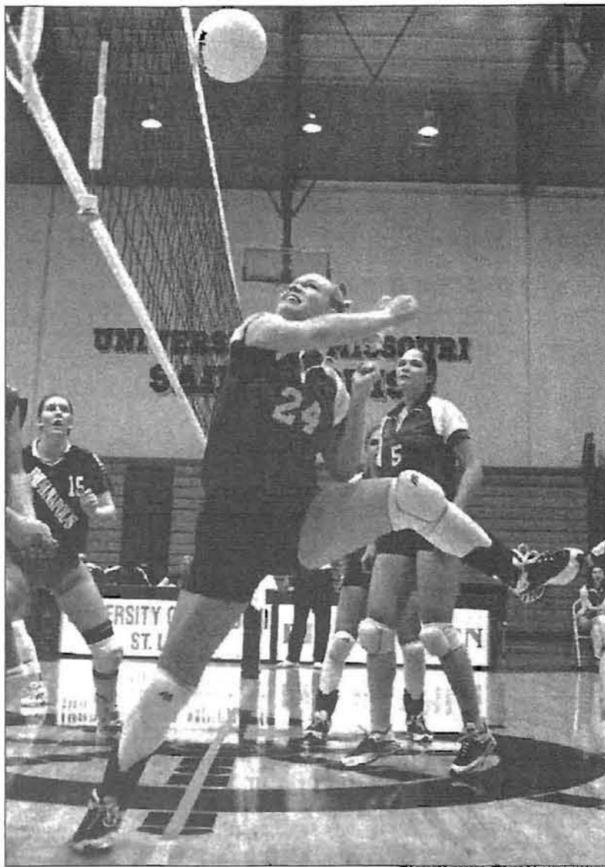
"Although our record does not show it, this team accomplished many things above and beyond all expectations," said Tom Redmond, the Rivermen's head coach. "I am especially proud of our seniors, namely

captain Scott Luczek, midfielders Derick Kaspar and Bobby Carter, forward Mark Mendenhall, and defenseman Kevin Pierce, who have been with the program all four years, and who have had the opportunity to participate in the post-season tournament every season in their collegiate careers. Also, Ryan Inkley, who transferred from Central Methodist in 1997, and Eric Wilson, who transferred from a successful Florissant Valley program in 1998."

Luczek had a very successful senior campaign, registering 6 goals and an assist for 13 points. Carter was the only Riverman to start all 20 games of the season, scoring two goals for four points, and posting one of the higher shots-on-goal percentages.

The strong conference showing should help UM-St. Louis attract prospective freshman to our campus next year, which should really help fill the holes left by the graduating seniors.

"This year, we stand to lose about half of our starting line-up due to graduation," Redmond said. "However, our playoff runs in the past four years should really help attract prospective freshman to this campus, and we have a dedicated group of men who are willing to step up next season."



Nicole Wall (24) stretches out for the ball in an earlier match.

VOLLEYBALL, from page 5

total kills. The Riverwomen's blocking also held up as they held Indianapolis to 54 kills, while recording 13.5 total team blocks.

Winning four of their last five matches, UM-St. Louis traveled to Kentucky with increased confidence to face their first round opponent, SIU-Edwardsville.

SIU-Edwardsville again proved to be too tough as they beat UM-St. Louis in four sets, 6-15, 16-14, 11-15, and 8-15.

UM-St. Louis blocked well with 11 team blocks while holding SIU-Edwardsville to just 4 team blocks.

SIU-Edwardsville proved their dominance with the attack, posting 66 kills to UM-St. Louis' 52.

"I give the girls tremendous credit," said Denise Silvester, the Riverwomen's head coach. "We were so banged up, and the scores were close. We just did not have enough power."

The loss to SIU-Edwardsville put the Riverwomen at 11-16 overall for the season, a disappointing record for such a talented group of players.

The Riverwomen will lose four key seniors this season in Nicole Wall, Susan Claggett, Yorfiena Panama, and Anne McCord due to graduation.

"They brought us into the GLVC," Silvester said. "We have done very well with them, and now it is time to turn the leash over to the other players."

RIVERMEN, from page 5

fit UM-St. Louis in the long-run.

"You want to execute offensively and commit as few errors as possible," Bernsen said. "We talk about turnovers a lot. We don't want to turn the ball over. We would like to go fast, like to run, get easy baskets, and put pressure on the defense. When you do that, your risk for turnovers increases. We have to find that happy medium that your team and your players have with running and not turning the ball over. We don't want to give up easy baskets."

Bernsen believes the Rivermen of

this year have the same capabilities of those Division I programs.

"This team has some athletic ability, some mental toughness, and it just remains to be seen how much we can grow and improve in those areas," Bernsen said. "To compete in this league, you have to be one of those types of teams that can play at that lower Division I level. I think that the Northern Kentucky's, the Kentucky-Wesleyan's, and the Southern Indiana's are all like that. Those are things that we try to strive for."

RIVERWOMEN, from page 5

icate her time to the Riverwomen.

"She is doing really well. She came from Three Rivers Junior College and is expected to make an immediate impact at a wing position," Ethridge said. "We need to get her into a little bit better shape, but she will definitely see a lot of playing time."

With better conditioning, the Riverwomen look to make a large impact in the GLVC this season.

"From the conference tournament and the meetings this year, the league is going to be stronger," Ethridge said. "There have been so many new coaches, and with new coaches come new players. We are not taking anybody or

anything for granted this year."

Ethridge looks to guard Sara Mauck and Jennifer Littleton to step their games up this season as seniors and be leaders on the court. But along with Mauck and Littleton, Ethridge believes the whole team should be leaders with experience.

"All of the returners with getting to the conference tournament, I expect them to have their game up a whole lot. They know what they are working for, and with that experience comes a lot of intelligence on the floor. They are confident day-in and day-out in practice."

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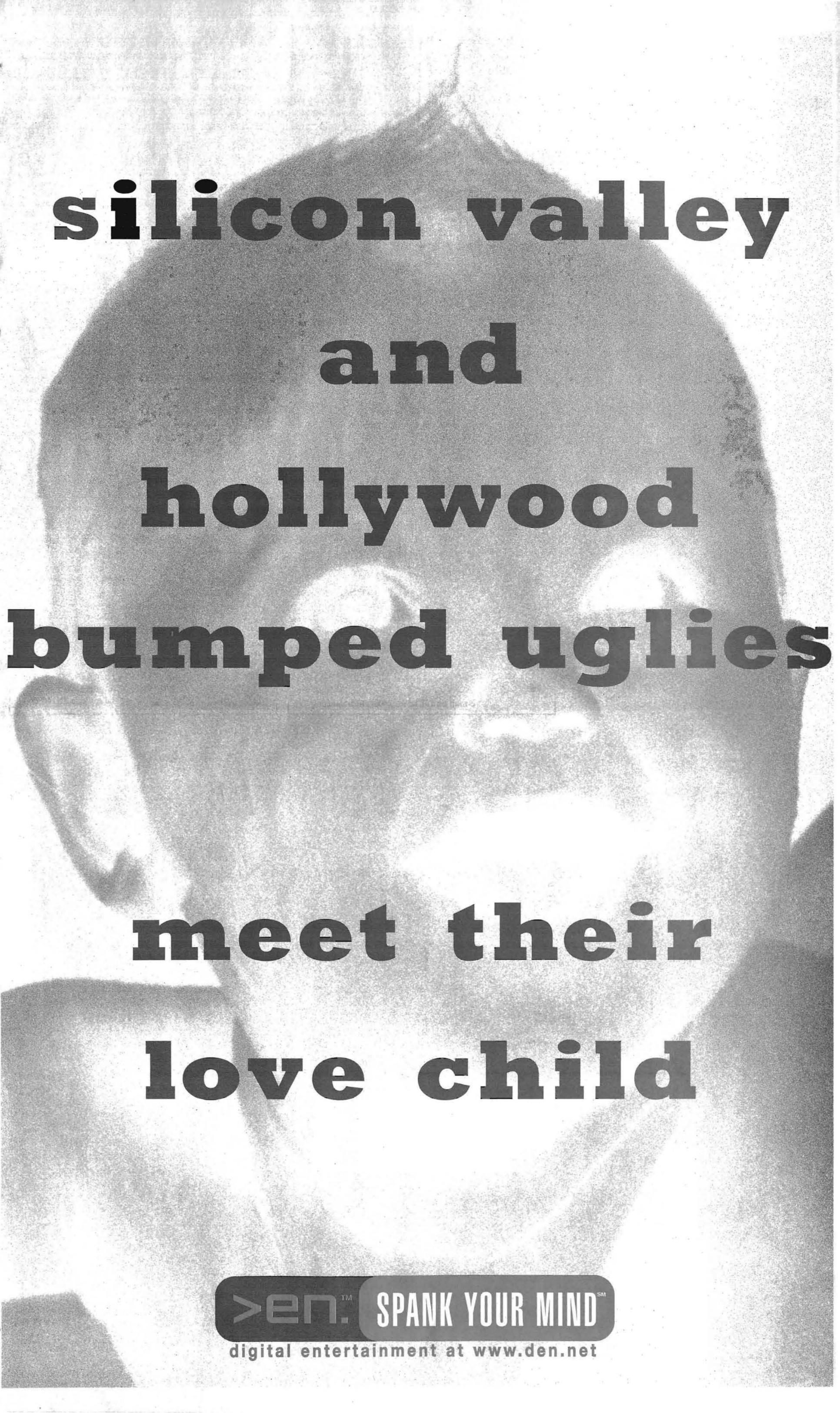
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1999-2000 Basketball Schedule

Sat., Nov. 20	7:30 p.m.	Mon., Jan. 17	7:30 p.m.
Tues., Nov. 23	7:30 p.m.	Tues., Jan. 25	7:00 p.m.
Thurs., Dec. 2	5:30 p.m.	Thurs., Jan. 27	5:30 p.m.
and	7:30 p.m.	and	7:30 p.m.
Sat., Dec. 4	1:00 p.m.	Sat., Jan. 29	1:00 p.m.
and	3:00 p.m.	and	3:00 p.m.
Sat., Dec. 11	5:30 p.m.	Thurs., Feb. 10	5:30 p.m.
and	7:30 p.m.	and	7:30 p.m.
Sat., Dec. 18	5:30 p.m.	Sat., Feb. 12	5:30 p.m.
and	7:30 p.m.	and	7:30 p.m.
Mon., Dec. 20	5:30 p.m.	*Thurs., Feb. 17	5:30 p.m.
Tues., Dec. 21	7:30 p.m.	and	7:30 p.m.
Mon., Jan. 3	7:30 p.m.	*Sat., Feb. 19	1:00 p.m.
Thurs., Jan. 6	5:30 p.m.	and	3:00 p.m.
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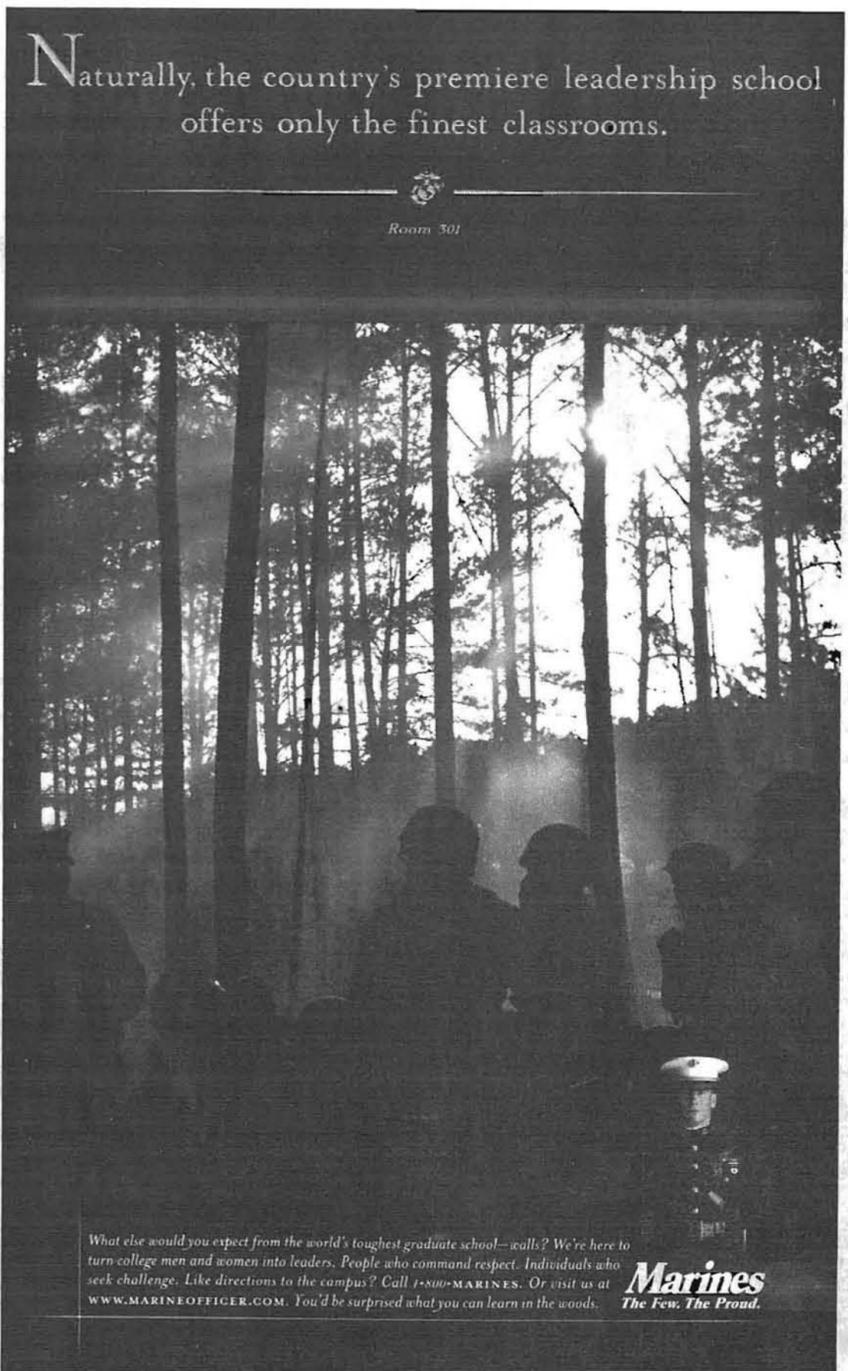


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Wine bottles from Stone Hill Winery wait to be poured at the Winemakers' Dinner.

GOLDEN MEMORIES

BY BRIAN DOUGLAS
of The Current staff

KWMU 90.7 presented the law firm of Suelthaus and Walsh, P.C., and UM-St. Louis Chancellor Blanche Touhill with Golden Microphone awards for their contributions to the station.

The presentation of the awards took place at the fourth annual Winemakers' Dinner on Wednesday, which featured the wines of Stone Hill.

Patricia Bennett, director of KWMU, described the awards as a way to recognize outstanding contributions to the station.

"The golden microphone awards were something that KWMU created because there were significant contributors along the way of its growth and development that need to be recognized for outstanding investments to the station for future growth," Bennett said.

The first award went to the law firm of Suelthaus and Walsh, P.C., which was the first corporation to underwrite the station. Kenneth Suelthaus, present to receive the award, described the firm's involvement with KWMU as a rewarding experience and said that many of the firm's clients have expressed their appreciation of its sponsorship of the station.

"In general, we're very proud to have been involved and intend to continue to be involved with KWMU because we think it's a worthwhile part of the St. Louis community,"

Suelthaus said.

Bennet emphasized the importance of Suelthaus and Walsh's support at a time when the station was quite young.

"...By their standing by [the station], 10 years later we have over 200 clients for about a half a million dollars now when they 12 years ago believed in us," Bennett said. "That really meant something very significant to the station."

The second golden microphone award went to Blanche Touhill, chancellor of UM-St. Louis, for her support of the station when it refused to accept a financial gift from the Ku Klux Klan.

"That has impacted all of public broadcasting all over the country," Bennett said. "That's a significant thing, to know that a licensee of a radio station or facility will stand up for the honor and integrity but also for the editorial discretion of a radio facility or a television facility to be able to make their own decision on what they do, and so that's very important to recognize."

Touhill expressed her gratitude for the award and support for the station.

"I'm very pleased to get this award because I do think KWMU is one of the quality operations of the University of Missouri, St. Louis, and that I have worked with them on a number of matters, and they just are a wonderful organization, and that its sort of fun to win the golden microphone award," Touhill said.

Touhill described KWMU as an important part of the community, and spoke highly of Bennets' work at the station, saying "Patty [Bennett] really

came in and built such a quality program that everywhere I go, people say 'Oh, you're the place that has KWMU.'"

Donald Driemeier, deputy to the chancellor, who helped write the university's initial grant to the station, commented on how KWMU had grown over the years and taken on unforeseen roles in education.

"The idea was to use it primarily in continuing education [for the] public of St. Louis and to provide at that time a fine arts radio station since there really wasn't anybody else broadcasting in stereo," Driemeier said. "... That was the rationale behind the first grant. And now we're doing education, but of a totally different type from what we thought we'd originally do. We're educating the general populace, we're educating you and me and everybody else every day with the in depth news which really gives people an understanding of what's going on around the world."

Jim Held, head of the Stone Hill Winery which helped sponsor the event, said he felt fortunate to be one of the friends of KWMU, and that he and his family frequently listen to the station.

"We just like the programming that they have now the last several years. I think its superior to what has been prepared before and we're just very happy with KWMU," Held said.

This year's Golden Microphone Awards ceremony was the first of what KWMU plans to make an annual event.



All photos by Stephanie Platt/The Current

Robert Thurman, the marketing and outreach assistant for KWMU, helps Chancellor Blanche Touhill pin on her corsage. Touhill was there to receive a golden microphone award.



LEFT: Robert McCabe, a radio producer at KWMU, discusses the menu for the Winemakers' Dinner Wednesday.

ABOVE: Joe Touhill examines the golden microphone award his wife received Wednesday night.

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