



Is David Copperfield the Devil?

Find out what Nolan has to say about it in this week's edition of The Nerd Table. Discover more of Nolan's zany outlook on life by reading previous Nerd Table cartoons on The Current Online.

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INSIDE

No surprises in SGA election

• Voters reelect SGA President Ryan Connor, pass both propositions on ballot

BY STEVE VALKO
staff writer

Three candidates running unopposed for 2001-2002 Student Government Association president, vice president, and comptroller were elected to office last week.

SGA President Ryan Connor was reelected. Joe Flees was elected vice president and Brian King was elected comptroller.

Two propositions on the ballot were also approved by a majority of

those voting. Proposition A said it would "reestablish The Cove over in the Millennium Student Center under the new name 'The Pilot House,' [and] give it a sports bar theme." Proposition B said it would "keep the library hours extended to parallel the hours at the MSC. By doing this it would give students more access to the library."

The propositions are recommendations to the University and will not officially become implemented, said Shaun O'Hara, SGA parliamentarian.

The polling place for North

Campus was located at the entrance to the bridge of the Student Center. Polls were open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., Tuesday and Wednesday, to accommodate students.

Some students Tuesday seemed surprised an election was going on, said Fr. Bill Kempf of the Newman Center, who manned the polls that day.

On Wednesday, the turnout was pretty good, but not everyone was happy, said poll worker Amy Schoenberger, a health educator in University Health Services.

"People were put off by the lack of candidates," said Schoenberger.

"[UMSL] needs to get more involved in the [recruiting] process," said Jennifer Arnold, a senior majoring in accounting.

Curt Conrod, president of the Staff Association, supervised the election. He said couldn't pinpoint the reason why so few candidates registered. Conrod said he didn't know of anyone who tried to run a write-in campaign.

see ELECTION, page 10



• Tony Rosas is UMSL's cooking and auto expert

If you've had a car problem on campus, or if you've gotten something to eat at The Nosh, then you probably know him. He's Tony Rosas. Besides serving the buffalo wings and cheesesticks in Food Services, Rosas moonlights for UM-St. Louis Emergency Services and acts as a one-man cheerleader for UMSL's athletic teams.

▲ See page 3

BRIEFS

Cubicles available for organizations

BY TIM THOMPSON
staff writer

The Millennium Student Center offers student organizations separate cubicles, equipped with computers that have full internet access, as well as word-processing capabilities through Microsoft Office.

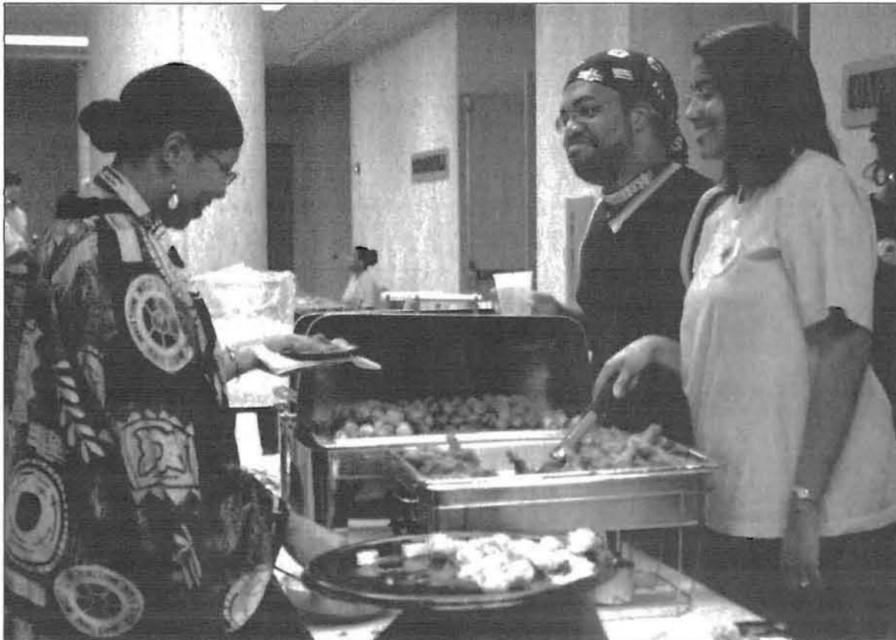
This program is brand new. Never before have student organizations at UMSL had the opportunity to acquire separate space with computer access. Located in MSC 375, the Student Organization Room, these cubicles are available to student organizations that pass the application process.

Denise Kiehl, administrative secretary for Student Activities, described this process.

"A memo was sent to all recognized student organization presidents along with the application," Kiehl said. "The application consists of five questions that the organizations must answer in detail."

Since there are only 19 cubicles, not every organization that applies is guaranteed a spot. Some are turned down. According to Kiehl, one of the main reasons an organization wouldn't receive a cubicle would be that they presently have access to office space somewhere else on campus. In addition, viability and visibility of the organization is also taken into consideration.

This latest program was initiated as a result of the acquisition of Student Organization space after the opening of the Millennium Student Center in November 2000.



Mutsumi Igarashi/The Current

Kareema Shaheed, president of the Ahmadi Muslim Association, is served some food by Chris Taylor of the Associated Black Collegians and Sheri Notaro from the Office of Multicultural Relations at Multicultural Awareness Day last Friday. The event is a celebration of the arts, featuring ethnic dance, music, art, and cuisine.

CELEBRATING DIVERSITY



Multicultural Awareness Day featured lots of ethnic dances like this Flamenco dance performed by a member of the St. Louis Flamenco Society. The event also featured Native American dancers from the American Indian Center and Polynesian dancers from Aloha Entertainment.

Mutsumi Igarashi/The Current

Wartzok confirms he's leaving UMSL

• Dean of graduate school will join Florida International University in July

BY RHASHAD PITTMAN
staff writer

It's been a little over a decade since Doug Wartzok took over as dean of the Graduate School and Research Administration department. Under his reign, UMSL has taken some major steps to expand the number of graduate programs offered, but it's still time for Wartzok to move on, he says.

Wartzok made the rumor of his resignation official through an e-mail sent out to campus faculty dated April 23.

"The rumor I know a number of

you have heard, that I will be taking a new position elsewhere, is correct," the e-mail states.

Wartzok says that he will begin working at Florida International University as "the vice provost for Academic Affairs, dean of the Graduate School, and professor of biology" beginning July 1.

The move was triggered mainly by three factors, he said during an interview with *The Current* last Friday: FIU's research classification, their Marine Biology program, and a need for both universities to have "fresh blood."

With an enrollment surpassing 32,000, FIU has more research and graduate programs than UMSL, Wartzok said, which in turn gives the university a "doctoral research extensive" classification and puts them in the same category as the University of

see WARTZOK, page 10

Reports about budget dominate meeting

• Assembly hears Chancellor's new 'workforce' strategy

BY JOSH RENAUD
senior editor

Discussion of UMSL's share of the UM System budget dominated the University Assembly meeting last Tuesday.

Assembly Chair Lawrence Barton detailed his most recent efforts on the issue and Chancellor Blanche Touhill gave a formal presentation on her new strategy to get more funding for UMSL.

Touhill's new approach to securing more funds for the campus centers

around UMSL's role in "workforce development." Touhill gave the Assembly members the same PowerPoint presentation she is using to sell the idea to area business leaders.

In the presentation, Touhill talked about the importance of maintaining a solid, well-educated workforce in order to create growth in the St. Louis economy. She then explained how, of the major universities in St. Louis, UMSL is best able to meet employers' labor needs, as the largest producer of college-educated workers in the region. Touhill described the University's quality programs in the fields of business and information technology, health and biotechnology, and education. She finished the presentation by discussing UMSL's financial situation and calling on business leaders to help

see ASSEMBLY, page 8

Panel discusses crime drop, new policing strategies

BY DAN GALLI
special to The Current

The recent declines in violent crime in St. Louis and new ideas about policing the streets and prosecuting criminals were the main themes discussed at a recent forum entitled, "Is St. Louis Safer?"

The event was held on April 23 in the Student Government Chambers in the Millennium Student Center. It featured Jennifer Joyce, circuit attorney for St. Louis City; Sgt. Robert Heimberger, special projects director for the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department; and Scott Decker, professor of criminology at UMSL.

Decker spoke about the recent drop in violent crime in St. Louis over the

past decade. He claimed the recent drop was "dramatic and unprecedented."

"St. Louis held the distinction of Murdertown USA in 1958. It had the highest per capita murder rate of cities with 100,000+ people," Decker said. "Since then it has held that distinction in more years than it hasn't."

In 1994 the homicide rate in St. Louis peaked at 260 murders. It has fallen sharply ever since and was down to 111 in 2000. That is a dramatic drop of around 60 percent.

Violent crime, or crimes against person and/or property, peaked in the mid '90s at around 65,000 total cases. In 2000 it was down to 50,000 cases.

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Bulletin Board

Tuesday, May 1

- **Looking for a Bible Study**
Non-denominational Bible Study meets in Room 313 of the Millennium Student Center, from 11 a.m. to noon. There is also a meeting on Wednesdays from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Bring your lunch. For details, call 516-6901.
- **Catholic Mass** will be held at the Catholic Newman Center at 7:30 p.m. at 8200 Natural Bridge Road, located across from the West Drive entrance to North Campus. For more information, call 385-3455.

Wednesday, May 2

- **Conversations About Teaching and Technology: "Ending the Semester: The Conundrum of**

Evaluating Courses and Students" will be held from noon to 1 p.m. in Century Room A at the Millennium Student Center. Free and open to faculty. For details, call 516-5308.

- **Black Unity Arts Exposé** opens today and features an exhibit of artwork by UMSL students, faculty and staff at the Millennium Student Center, 2nd floor. Call 516-4026 for more information.
- **Résumé Writing Workshop** will take place from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. at 327 Millennium Student Center. Free. Register in advance at 516-5111, Career Services.

Thursday, May 3

- **Interviewing Techniques Workshop** will take place from 11 a.m. to noon

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

All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.

at 327 Millennium Student Center. Advance registration required. Call Career Services at 516-5111.

Friday, May 4

- **Soup with Sister** 12:05 p.m. at the Catholic Newman Center, 8200 Natural Bridge, across from the West Drive entrance to North Campus. For more information, call 385-3455.
- **Intramural Medal Golf Tournament** will be held at St. Ann's Golf Course (4100 Ashby). Play 9-holes for \$9. Student and fac/staff categories with T-shirts awards. No advance registration is necessary. For more information, call Rec Sports at 516-5326.

Saturday, May 5

- **Black Unity Arts Exposé—A Culminating Affair** will be held at the Millennium Student Center, honoring local guest artist Walter L. McKinney. Free. Must RSVP at 516-4026 by May 1.
- **UMSL Black Collegiate Leadership Conference** will be held at Century Rooms A and B, Millennium Student Center, from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. To register, call 516-5731.

Sunday, May 6

- **Catholic Mass** will be held at the South Campus Residence Hall Chapel at 7:30 p.m.

THE CAMPUS CRIMELINE

April 21, 2001

At 4:14 a.m., University Police were called to the South Campus Residence Hall for an argument between boyfriend and girlfriend.

April 23, 2001

A faculty member reported that between 8:10 a.m. and 10 a.m., his briefcase was stolen from a chair in his office at 471 Lucas Hall. The briefcase was later found in the North stairwell

of Lucas Hall. Two checkbooks were missing from his briefcase.

A faculty member from the Music Department reported that a keyboard had been stolen from the South Campus Villa Building between March 23 and April 23.

April 24, 2001

A staff person reported that a Winter 2001 parking permit was stolen from his

vehicle, while it was parked at Garage "C."

A staff person at 347 Social Sciences and Business Building reported that between 10 a.m. and 10:45 a.m., a wallet was stolen containing cash, cards and an Olympus digital camera with a black carrying case.

At 7:10 p.m., a counterfeit student parking permit was found to be dis-

played on a vehicle parked at the new West Drive Garage. The permit was confiscated, and the incident will be referred to the Student Affairs Office.

April 25, 2001

A student reported that her Winter 2001 parking permit was stolen from the windshield of her vehicle, between 10:10 a.m. and 11 a.m., on 4/20/01. The vehicle was parked on the 3rd level of Garage "D."

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

www.thecurrentonline.com

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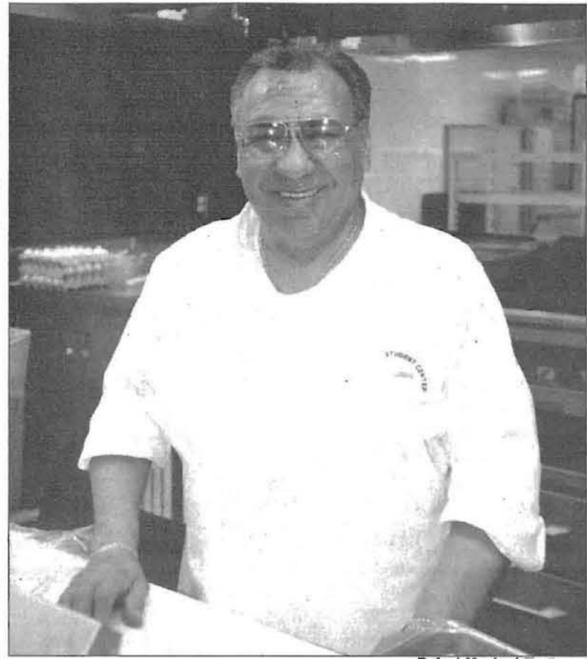
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Tony Rosas, UMSL's cooking and auto expert



Tony Rosas, a multi-talented tradesman, takes a brief moment in his busy day to get his picture taken.

BY JENIFER DODD
staff writer

It is 9 p.m. on a blustery Thursday night. Susan, a junior, gets out of her world history night class and starts up her burgundy 1990 Toyota Corolla. Susan makes her way out of the Millennium Center parking lot, and then kaput: The car just dies. Susan moans with exasperation. "I hate this stupid car. It is freezing cold outside and I am just too stressed out to deal with another problem." She sits in the car for about five minutes deciding what to do, and suddenly there is a tap on the driver's side window.

Susan panics for a minute, but as she gets a closer look, she sees that the man is in his early to mid-fifties with dark hair and a nice smile. "Ma'am, I'm with Emergency Services at UMSL. Can I assist you with your car problem?" he says. Susan gets out of her car, and the man jumps her car and tells her she needs a new battery—and to hurry home. Susan drives off into the night, happy that someone came to her rescue in a matter of minutes on a cold St. Louis night.

The kind man who helped Susan was Tony Rosas, who has worked for the UMSL community for four years. Rosas decided to apply for a job in Food Services because his wife of 28 years, Glenda,

works here. "George hired me on the spot. I really enjoy working here and socializing with the kids today. I really enjoy helping them out as well," commented Rosas.

Rosas was born in Mexico City and was an only child. His dad's two youngest siblings are each one year older and one week older than him. "My dad was an extremely hard worker, and he worked 110 percent. He really instilled a work ethic in me," commented Rosas.

Besides working amongst the buffalo wings and cheesesticks in Food Services, Rosas also moonlights as an employee for UMSL's Emergency Services. "This is a great service that the school offers. If students lock their keys in the car, have a flat tire, need a jump-start, or run out of gas, we can help them and there is no charge. Although there is charge for the gasoline, but we can bill them later," said Rosas. The reason Tony works with car problems is because he was a mechanic by trade in the Army for 33 years. "I am still in the Army Reserves, but I tore my rotary cap, so there is some pain in my body," commented Rosas.

The fact that Tony is sidelined with an injury doesn't stop him from becoming a one-man cheerleader for UMSL's athletic teams. "I go to all the basketball games. I really enjoy them and try to back up the

team. I also try to support the soccer, baseball and softball teams' games and cheer them on to victory," said Rosas.

Since Tony is around the UMSL community so much, he notices some of the issues that are going around campus. "I think the administration needs to have better communication with the kids. For example, the parking garage situation. A lot of the students ask me about the construction going on, they thought it was another parking garage. It turns out that the construction mess is getting turned into a Performing Arts Center. The administration needs to let the students know what's going on, instead of leaving them in the dark," commented Rosas.

Tony is also quick to point out the good parts of the UMSL community. "This new Millennium [Student] Center is a great building. There is so much to do there," said Rosas.

Tony spends a lot of his waking hours at UMSL, and you would think that he would get sick of giving so much of himself to the UMSL community. "No, I don't get tired of giving myself to the kids, because I really do enjoy you guys. I am so proud of you, that you are willing to educate yourselves, and improve yourself. You kids are working with your head instead of your back, like me," concluded Rosas.

New organization unites the pure-hearted with music

BY EMILY UMBRIGHT
staff writer

Thoughtful and creative people join together, to make music and reach out to local charities in a newly organized student interest group called "Music for Charity."

The brainchild of student Wil Smith, "Music for Charity" seeks to utilize the bonding power of music to bring people together, and support local artists who play for various charities.

"We want to showcase up and coming talent, as well as people who just want to play," said co-founder Travis DeRousse.

Smith became inspired after organizing a musical charity event at Truman, where he used to attend school. Once he came back to St. Louis, he saw that resources were available to create a steady organization.

"We have a lot of talented people here," said Smith, "and can do the same thing here."

"Music for Charity" is not just about donating money to charities. While the organization does do benefits, it also hosts free awareness concerts, and music showcases.

This Friday, "Music for Charity" will bring together Melatonin, All Those Pretending, and Nervous Pudding to the Hi-Pointe for a benefit show.

All Those Pretending frontman and former UMSL student Joshua Hamer likes the concept of "Music for Charity."

"Hopefully, it shows that the local scene cares about the community," he said, "it's not just about getting up on stage a breaking our equipment."

All Those Pretending's involvement began when they were asked by Somnia to play a show for charity. ATP played shows with Somnia in the past under their former name Johnny Action Figure.

Since the name and line-up change, Hamer said that his band is "free to do a lot more. We've thrown in an acoustic guitar,

and I've gotten into playing keyboards, which adds an interesting element."

Recently the band played a 105.7 showcase at the Spotlight Cafe with Mesh. Involvement in "Music for Charity" can only help local bands like All Those Pretending get recognized.

Smith realized that motivation increases involvement in local music. He said that people who attend, as well as artists who play, "need some overarching goal, something that motivates them. So I said, 'Let's do it for charity.'"

With the intentions of helping others, the organization has found people inside UMSL willing to help out. Recently the UMSL Pre-Med Society hosted an open mike night, in which the proceeds went to patients with muscular dystrophy and "Music for Charity's" presence was felt. Smith contacted artists he knew who would want to play for the open mike night, and the response was overwhelmingly positive.

"We found people doing the same thing on campus," Smith said, "we just weren't getting in touch with each other."

"Music for Charity" opens its arms to other UMSL organizations wanting to participate.

"If there's any student organization looking to put something together," DeRousse said, "we're all for it."

The organization has high hopes of making a difference in St. Louis. It plans on hosting more on-campus concerts, newsletters, and eventually a compilation CD.

"We need manpower," said Smith. "I'd like to see this extend beyond campus."

A student run organization like "Music for Charity" presents an opportunity for students to work together in a fun environment doing something positive for the community.

"Music for Charity" is currently recruiting local musicians and fans willing to volunteer their support. Jump on the bandwagon and email them at music4charity@hotmail.com for more information or visit their website at www.umsl.edu/~s978708/M4C.

Storytelling Festival continues its tradition in the St. Louis area

BY SARA PORTER
staff writer

May 2-5 marks the 22nd annual Storytellers Festival and to mark that event, storytellers both local and national will spin yarns from the Gateway Arch and the Botanical Gardens to Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital and Aesop's Cafe.

"It is the largest free cultural event in the St. Louis area," said Angeline Anapolous, Manager of Marketing & Information Continuing Education & Outreach at UMSL and media contact for the festival.

The festival consists of seven featured storytellers and sixty-five local tellers who will be performing throughout the week, including classes, sessions, and the stories themselves, which are geared for children, families and adults.

Each segment will appeal to both adults and children and will space throughout the week culminating in a "grand finale" on May 5 at 7 p.m. in the theater beneath the Gateway Arch. The Missouri Historical Society will present Storytelling for Adults, a session taught by teacher/storyteller Lynn Rubright, in which she will demonstrate how life experiences can be related in stories.

UMSL will present Storytelling Programs for the Deaf on Thursday, May 3 at 7 p.m. "Storytellers Billy Seago, Ella Ekins, Linda Wiggins, Sharon Schwarz, and Donna Jodkowski will tell stories through sign language, with an interpreter, with a microphone translating them for our hearing audience," Anapolous said.

Besides the stories for children that will be held at the Old Courthouse, Botanical Garden, Historical Society, and Blanchette Park during the day throughout the week, Aesop's Cafe, Black Ink, Borders in Clayton, Cafe Samahi (Pony Express), Coffee with the Stars Cafe, and Souldard Garden Coffee House will present stories for adults on Thursday from 7-9 p.m. Anapolous said that the aim is to provide stories for kids as well as adults. "Children love stories, and many of the stories are told by grade level," Anapolous said. "But



Nyla Ching-Fujii, pictured above, is a featured storyteller in the 22nd annual Storytellers Festival.

they appeal to adults too in their performance and style."

There will also be programs, Anapolous said, that will help people who are unable to go to the festival. "We will have storytellers come to Cardinal Glennon, The Nazareth Living Center, St. Louis Traditional Hope House, both retirement communities, the juvenile detention center, and there will be a lot of outreach programs for adults," Anapolous said.

For those that are interested in learning the art of storytelling, the festival will present sessions and classes on the subject. On May 3 at the Historical Society there will be a workshop, "Shake it Up: Tales from Around the World," in which featured teller, Margaret Read MacDonald, will present and teach four stories from Sierra Leone, Chile, Thailand, and Siberia with demonstrations on how to perform them.

From June 21-22 and 25-29, UMSL will

offer a storytelling credit course taught by Rubright. "This course will appeal to primary and secondary teachers, as well as librarians, counselors, parents, clergy, and anyone interested in telling stories," Anapolous said.

The festival has met with great success in past years, with 25,000 people in attendance throughout the week last year. Anapolous said that this is based on the delight in the oral tradition. "Storytelling is one of the oldest forms of communication," Anapolous said. "Despite the electronic and printed media, it has reemerged as a more personal means of communication and entertainment."

Most of the events are free and open to the public, but please call (314) 516-5948 before May 2 and (314) 516-6677 from May 2-5 or go online at <http://www.umsl.edu/~conted/storyfes.htm> for more information.

Pages of student art hang in Gallery 210

BY EMILY UMBRIGHT
staff writer

Gallery 210, located on the second floor of Lucas Hall, is really just a satellite spin-off trying to snag students into the ever-growing artist community at UMSL. Access to their headquarters can be obtained by going underneath the MetroLink Bridge, turning right from Florissant Road, and traveling up a steep hill. Surprise! We have an art department!

Spectators and participants gathered, gazed, and gawked during the 2001 Juried Student Art Exhibit, which opened Thursday, April 19 at Gallery 210. The opportunity to see and share in the thoughts, ideas, and visions of fellow students is an interesting way to get involved in various UMSL programs. The exhibit that will continue through May 3 also gives art students a chance to come together and show off some of their work for one final soiree before the semester closes.

As Robyn Samples, Graphic

Design/Photography student, put it, "It makes you feel like you're not going to school for nothing."

Samples, who had two pieces in the exhibit, said that she was ecstatic when she learned that her works were chosen for the gallery.

"I was going to be a communications major, but I had always really liked art," she said. "It lets you be more relaxed and creative, and you don't have to write papers."

Her two digital photography compositions consist of softly romantic images taken from Bell Fountain Cemetery. She chose to focus on the statues rather than tombstones, sprinkled around the grounds.

"You'd think it's morbid," she laughs, "but it's neat to see the way people dedicate sculpture to the dead."

Photography has always opened up different vantage points. One student who experienced a creative rebirth by experimenting with photography and the computer was fellow photography major Chris Harris.

"I've always done my work in the darkroom," Harris started out saying. "Then something happened to me. Tom Patton showed me how to work with computers, and I instantly loved the process."

For someone who felt his passion waning until discovery rekindled it, Harris is obviously delighted to have the opportunity to display his exploration to the student body. He has three works in the gallery, all of which convey a sense of science fiction-like experimentation.

"I kept working on flipping images," he said, describing how he made something that looks real unreal. His photographs, taken from urban sites, distort reality to the point at which the viewing becomes a quest to figure out what the original image is.

Another artist whose work toys with the conventions of reality is graphic design major Adam Trautt. Like Harris and Samples, Trautt has delved into the photographic sphere, but his studies emphasize graphic arts.

"I was strong in illustrating," Trautt said.

"I didn't really get into graphic design until this year."

Surprisingly, it is not a graphic design piece or photo that the Gallery is housing, but rather a sculpture. The rustic piece, entitled "Arbol," came from a single 2x4 wooden plank.

"I had to see how I could divide it, and make something cool out of it," he said about the spiky object made in his design class.

Currently, Trautt works for Gallery 210 and helped hang the work for the exhibit, which he said took about six days of preparation.

"We have so many pieces of work," he said, "and we had to figure out a way to make it visually stimulating."

Articulate visual presentation may have had something to do with the level of quality shown at the exhibit, but it was art alone that earned senior Derek Simmons a third-place victory in his third-year attempt at recognition.

"I am a painter by trade," Simmons

begin, "but I also do photography and drawing."

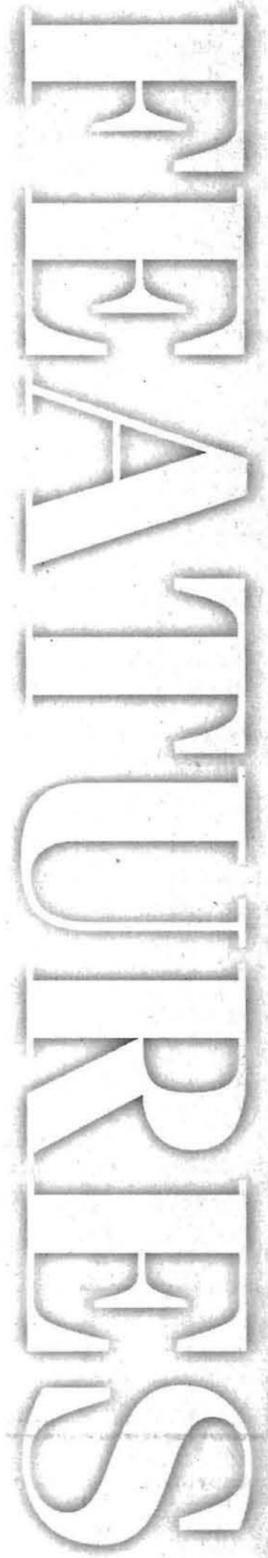
He has known since he was three that he would be an artist. His figural renderings are created with oil sticks, turpentine, pencil, and other random things he said he can find in his art box. These dramatic figures capture natural beauty the way that he sees it.

"I've always worked really fast," he said. "I always know what it's going to look like before it's done."

Simmons, who is not like the conventional artist, cranked out his hanging work during a two-hour class.

"I'm not a marketable artist," Simmons said. "I'm in art to get a book basically." Simmons's statement sums up the desire for recognition, fame, and art crafting shared by all the participants in the exhibit. Pages of their future books can be found at Gallery 210 from now until May 3, Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

If it leaves you wanting to see more localized talent, "Fin," the senior exhibit, runs until May 7 in the Fine Arts building.



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EVENTS

May

1

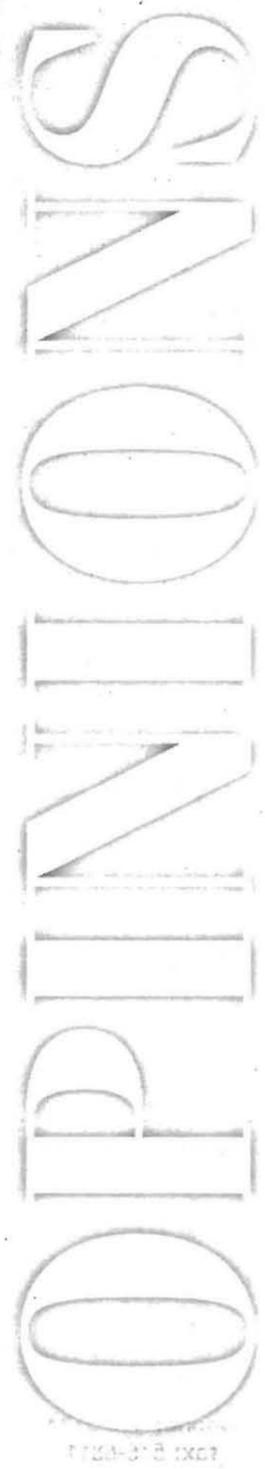
The Center For International Studies sponsors a lecture "Towards the United States of Europe" by Christian Civardi at 3 p.m. in Room 331 of the Social Sciences Building. Free. RSVP by calling 516-7299

3

Annual St. Louis Storytelling Festival presents a Storytelling Program for the Deaf, stories interpreted for the hearing and the deaf. 7 p.m. at the J.C. Penney Conference Center. Free. Call 516-5948 before May 2, call 516-6677 on or after May 2.

4

Ragnarok end-of-semester dance party sponsored by the Residence Hall Association and University Program Board 5 p.m. to midnight at the Millennium Student Center. \$2, includes food and soda; must have student ID or be a guest of a student. Call 516-8651 for details.



OUR OPINION

Exodus of administrators hurts entire University

Douglas Wartzok, associate vice chancellor for Academic Affairs and dean of the Graduate School, recently confirmed rumors of his resignation through an e-mail sent to UMSL faculty on campus.

Wartzok's resignation is just the latest example of a disturbing trend that has occurred at UMSL during the past few years, especially this year. Administrators in high positions are leaving at alarming rates.

This year alone, three UMSL administrators—Wartzok; David Young, dean of the College of Arts and Science; and Jack Nelson, former vice chancellor for Academic Affairs—have left, tried to leave, or will be leaving soon.

Other positions have been vacant for quite some time, like vice chancellor for University Relations, associate vice chancellor for Student Affairs, director of libraries and registrar.

Some of these openings have come from retirements, like Norman Seay's early retirement as a director of the Office of Equal Opportunity, and the retirement of Rick Blanton, director of the office of Student Activities.

So why are all of these people leaving?

Could it be budget shortfalls and reallocations? It must be maddening to work at an institution that is forced to practice budget cannibalism, constantly cutting from some departments to fund others.

Maybe it's dissatisfaction with Chancellor Blanche Touhill. Her fiscal policies were the ire of many faculty last year.

There might be a sense that UMSL is a second-rate institution. Certainly we're treated that way within the UM

System. Maybe UMSL is just a career stepping stone for some academic and administrative officers.

Or perhaps there's just a dismal administrative climate on campus.

While we don't know the answer, we think this is a question that needs to be addressed soon. These are vital positions that directly affect students. And when prospective new hires take a good look at the University and see that two of the vice chancellor positions are vacant, that casts a bad light on the University.

Lawrence Barton, chair of the Faculty Senate, made some interesting comments on the situation at the meeting last week.

"I know—as you all do, I'm sure—that we have an increasing number of vacancies among the administration here," Barton said. "I don't think we should panic. I don't think the ship is sinking. It might be listing a little bit. Those of us who have made the commitment to stay here and to work for the institution need to work to right the ship and steam ahead."

We agree that something needs to be done to right the ship. We suggest that UMSL form a committee to investigate why there are so many top administrators leaving. They could conduct post interviews with them and find out their reasons for leaving. From there, we could work on changing the elements of the campus working environment that are making people leave.

As the University hires new people to fill these positions, the new hires should be of high quality—individuals who will commit to staying here for the long haul—and they need to be hired quickly. If not, the students and the University will continue to suffer.

The issue:

Doug Wartzok's recent announcement that he is taking a new job in Florida is only the most recent in a flight of administrative and academic officers from our campus. This trend weakens the entire campus by leaving many top jobs vacant or, worse, forcing the administrators left behind to pick up the slack and juggle several jobs at once.

We suggest:

The University should form a committee to look into why so many administrators are leaving. It could then formulate suggestions on how to change the climate on campus and stop the problem. Also, quality replacements need to be hired soon.

So what do you think?

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

There's hope for even the hotheaded among us

This weekend I watched my friend and former boss Joe Harris get baptized.

Joe, as some will remember, was my predecessor as the editor-in-chief of *The Current*. Seeing him take this step was amazing, especially when I think back to when I first really got to know Joe.

Joe has never been known for being shy. Last year, and by his own admission, Joe was known as something of a hothead.

Now Joe is a nice guy. But apply enough pressure, and he will boil over. I can recall many frustrating incidents that would make Joe curse up a storm, or go out to the back porch so he could shout until his head was clear.

I wasn't usually on the receiving end of Joe's anger, but I do remember one incident I started with Tom, our ad director. He and I were downstairs doing something stupid. Joe had gotten worked up about it and asked us to stop. We told him to hold his horses. He was upstairs having a meeting in his office. Tom and I, believing Joe was being just a little too uptight, decided we would give Joe a ring on his office telephone. When he picked up, we neighed like a horse and then hung up. Within moments, Joe stormed downstairs and blew his stack, and then he went back up. Tom and I looked at each other, our grins withered.

Any editor will tell you that this job has more than its share of frustrations. In fact, Joe told me

numerous times that taking the editorship had actually gotten him praying again, asking for God's help when he felt helpless.

And his prayers were answered. The second semester of his year, Joe experienced much better results. It was as if all the right pieces suddenly fell into place.

This year, I've kept in touch with Joe and other former *Current* staffers through our weekly bowling night. Over the last year, I've seen Joe take other steps. He's going back to church, and he seems like a new person. He seems to have a peace now that he didn't have before.

It's something I've experienced myself. This job has tasked me like nothing else I've ever done. Through some of the hardest times, God has extended the grace I needed to make it through.

When I get honest with myself, I know I've neglected some important spiritual things. I know that many times I make choices with the wrong motives at heart. To my amazement, God continues to take care of me in spite of my shortcomings.

So Sunday, as I sat and watched Joe get baptized—symbolic of the "old nature" passing away and the transformed "new man" rising up—I marvelled.

If God worked in our lives and got us through our trying circumstances, I wonder what He could do for you.



JOSH RENAUD
editor-in-chief

EDITORIAL BOARD

- JOSH RENAUD
- ANNE PORTER
- ERIK BUSCHARDT
- RHASHAD PITTMAN

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

LETTERS

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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.

LETTERS

SGA deserves more credit

I think *The Current* has been too hard on the current SGA and inflicts its political agenda on the student body instead of simply reporting the news. The SGA has been in office for a limited time and has achieved much more than has been accomplished in a long time. It certainly is a welcome change, and by coming off so negative, *The Current* influences student opinion. *The Current* should report and let the readers decide.

--Tim Forsythe

UMSL janitors make campus friendlier

I think that a story should be done on the janitors and custodians at this University.

I always see them doing a wonderful job. They are constantly keeping the buildings very clean, and picking up the litter that some inconsiderate person has thrown on the ground outside, not to mention the cigarette butts always left behind.

Not only are they great at what they do in their jobs, but they go beyond the call of duty. I see many of them holding doors open for students, picking up a book someone may have dropped and even making someone's day better by saying "Hello," or "How are you doing today?"

This is my first semester here, and I have never been on any university campus that has such friendly and helpful janitors working for them, so I give many thanks to the men and women who keep this school clean and go beyond the call of duty. Keep up the good work!

--Nicole M. Beseda

What's your opinion?

How do you feel about the topics we've written about?

- Top administrators leaving UMSL
- The achievements of the SGA
- Custodians' good work

You can make *your* voice heard in a variety of ways!

- Submit a Letter to the Editor
- Write a Guest Commentary
- Visit the Campus Issues forum on thecurrentonline.com

Whatever happened to good customer service?

Some companies seem to have grown so big that they forget who customers are and how they became so large in the first place. This trend basically makes all people faceless and abstract, except of course for their money, which always has faces that companies want.

My story begins in a popular coffee cafe chain.

I ordered a sandwich and a bowl of soup, which both tasted excellent, although the sandwich could have been more carefully constructed. There was horseradish sauce smeared all over on half of the bread, but the other had no sauce.

That part of the lunch was acceptable.

I ordered iced cafe mocha to drink with my meal. I know how quickly I just want to gulp them down so I controlled myself, waiting to savor it after I ate the rest of the soup and sandwich.

On the way out, I placed the tray on the trash bin when I realized this separation system was somewhat complicated. First there is a dish tray on a level directly below where you are supposed to put the tray. Then the trash can lies below both those.

Knowing this was too much to do one-handed, I placed my drink next to me as I put the dishes in the bin, took the tray liner off the tray, placed the tray on the tray stand.

I didn't realize that my drink was in the path of my elbow and boom, there went my \$4 coffee drink.

The drink was almost full; I lamented as I saw it spread across the

tiles. I walked up to the counter where three workers stood. I told them about the spill. No, one made any attempt to grab a mop or towels or anything. In fact, I didn't feel like I was acknowledged at all.

So I said again, "There's a clean-up here."

I went back to where it was and thought about cleaning it up myself, but there were no cloths or anything adequate.

So I thought, "Hey, this isn't my job. Why am I standing here again?"

I really wanted my coffee drink, so I again walked to the counter and said, "I guess I need to order a new coffee drink since I just spilled my other on the floor."

And the clerk said, "I guess so," and took the \$4 I held out to him.

I have two points. First, exactly how long should it take a slow restaurant with about six people standing around to clean up one spill and why didn't they even offer to refill my other drink when I told someone about it?

The first is self-explanatory. The second: I know it is my fault that I spilled my drink, but shouldn't good customer service mean something?

If they had given me a refill I probably would have told 10 people what a great place this was. Instead, I wrote a column about their lack of customer service and they are made an example of the fading of good customer care. I will not return there to eat anytime soon.

AND THE POINT IS...



ANNE PORTER
managing editor

Under Current

by Mutsumi Igarashi
staff photographer



Neil Adrian
Sophomore / Computer Science



Kendra Ballard
Senior / Mass Communication



Mark Klingner
Junior / Aerospace Engineering



Miwako Otake
Senior / Sociology

What is your plan for the summer?

I plan on working and going to school in the summer.

My plan is to attend summer school to finish my degree. I plan on graduating in January 2002.

Have fun.

I am going to graduate in May, so I'll go to California for 2 weeks and then go home.

Rivermen heat up as season nears end

BY DAVE KINWORTHY
staff editor

The Rivermen's baseball team has won five of its last six games, improving their overall record to 26-15 and 13-8 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference.

Two weekends ago, the Rivermen won three out of four conference games against IUPU-Fort Wayne and St. Joseph's.

In the St. Joseph's doubleheader, the Rivermen won the first game 7-4, led by a four-run third inning, keyed by two runs batted in by Dave Simokaitis and an RBI single by firstbaseman Nick Post.

The Panthers came out hot in the second game as St. Joseph's put up six runs in the first two innings. The Rivermen rallied late with three runs in the seventh inning, but fell short to the Pumas in the nightcap 7-6.

"Every single game seems like it is crucial at this point," Head Coach Jim Brady said. "I think we felt that the second game against St. Joseph's went through our fingers a little bit. We battled back and came within an eye lash of tying the game."

UMSL then played host to IUPU-Fort Wayne in which the Rivermen swept the doubleheader 6-0 and 11-2. Matt Robinson went the distance for UMSL in the first game, only allowing six hits in seven innings. In the later game, Greg Bierling went seven innings, only allowing two runs on three hits, while striking out four batters.

Brady praised the team for rebounding off of the nightcap loss to St. Joseph's to come back and sweep IUPU-Fort Wayne the next day.

"We came back Sunday and put ourselves in this position," Brady said. "We were hoping to take four out of four to really knock the lead by Edwardsville down to two games. Every game is important."

The Rivermen then took on Truman State in a non-conference game this past week, where the UMSL players could use the aluminum bat for a change.

UMSL took advantage of the bats as the Rivermen slugged out a season-high 17 runs on 18 hits.

"We came out of the box swinging," Brady said. "We swung the bats well, and then we allowed them to get back in the game. We felt that we were just going to continue to hit the ball. We seem to step it up a little bit with the aluminum. The aluminum bat is quite a weapon. We have had to really restructure their offensive discipline using wood. It is a lot tougher of a transition."

Truman State kept the game close, but outfielder Jason Meyer hit his first homerun of the year in the sixth inning to end the rally.

"He is the unsung hero of this team," Brady said. "He has been one of those guys that you just tip your cap off to. He just comes to play every game. He gets the most of his ability. He is a hard-nosed, scrappy baseball player."

Over this past weekend, the Rivermen played three games against conference leader SIU-Edwardsville, a series that Brady emphasized the Rivermen must come out focused for.

"The team that is immediately ahead of us and in first place in the standings and we have a chance to really control our destiny," Brady said. "There is nothing better than to do it against a team that is a little bit

see **BASEBALL**, page 8

Team finishes with honors



Darren Brune/The Current

Rivermen look back on season's highlights

BY NICK BOWMAN
staff writer

Since taking over the men's tennis squad in 1995, Head Coach Rick Gyllenberg has continued to climb up the proverbial ladder, taking a program that had been the laughing-stock of collegiate tennis to a perennial winner in the Great Lakes Valley Conference.

This season, by virtue of an 11-5 overall record and a 7-2 GLVC mark, UMSL finished in the NCAA Division II top 25. The Rivermen were given the 21st seed by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association. This is the highest ranking for the Rivermen in recent history, and the highest under Gyllenberg.

In addition to the overall honors, two were named to the GLVC All-Conference first team: Minh Phan and Josh Heape. Freshman Matt Valkhard captured the freshman-of-the-year honors for the Rivermen as well as he filled the slots of No. 1 singles and No. 1 doubles all year long. He finished the season with a 13-8 record at the No. 1 singles spot, while winning 11 of 21 at the No. 1 doubles spot.

Phan finished the year with a 15-2 overall record, mainly at the No. 3 spot, while Heape racked up 14 wins at the No. 2 spot. Heape also teamed with senior Eric Schrupf in No. 2 doubles play to compile a 8-3 record. Phan too was successful in doubles action, going 16-4 in the pairings.

An UMSL Riverman leans into a serve at one of this season's matches. The Rivermen placed third in the Great Lakes Valley Conference Tournament and many received special recognition.

Riverwomen undefeated in Showdown Tournament

BY TOM WEATHERSBY
staff writer

The UM-St. Louis women's softball team had a huge weekend at the GLIAC/GLVC Showdown Tournament by going 5-0 in the tournament, and it was the only team to finish the tournament without a loss, due to strong pitching and all around great play.

The Riverwomen got things started against Findlay. Allison Maurer pitched a complete game, giving up one run on nine hits in seven innings, while striking out three to lead the team to an 8-1 rout.

Maurer picked up her eighth win on the season. Kelly Jackson went 3 for 3 with three RBIs and Andrea Wirkus went 2 for 3, scoring three runs and adding a solo home run.

In the second game of the day, UMSL beat regionally ranked Wayne State. Trailing 3-0 after three innings, UMSL put up two runs in the fourth inning and tied

the game in the sixth inning. The Riverwomen rallied for three more runs in the seventh and went on to win 6-3.

Kelly Jackson was the starting pitcher and went the distance, giving up three runs on four hits and striking out three for a complete game. Andrea Wirkus was the spark at the plate again going 2 for 4, scoring a run, three RBIs, a triple and a home run. Wirkus leads the GLVC with seven triples on the year. Jackson also helped herself by hitting her fourth homerun of the year. She went 1 for 3, scored a run and collected two RBIs. Cassey Attebery also homered, her first of the year.

In the third game, the Riverwomen faced Mercyhurst. Cassey Attebery had another strong performance on the mound. Attebery pitched a complete game shutout giving up just two hits, striking out six and helped her own cause by going 2 for 2 at the plate.

see **SOFTBALL**, page 8

Recent Riverwoman Victories

Opponent	Score	Overall Record	GLVC Record
Findlay	8-1	15-22	
Wayne State	6-3	16-22	
Mercyhurst	3-0	17-22	
Saginaw Valley St.	7-0	18-22	
Northwood	10-3	19-22	
Quincy*	4-2	20-22	7-10
Quincy*	5-4	21-22	8-10

* GLVC Tournament Games
Information acquired from UMSL athletics website

Kelly Jackson named GLVC Player of Week

BY TOM WEATHERSBY
staff writer

University of Missouri-St. Louis junior Kelly Jackson was named Player of the Week by the Great Lakes Valley Conference. Jackson helped the Riverwomen's softball program go 6-1 last week and stay undefeated through the GLVC/GLIAC Showdown Tournament.

Jackson hit .440 during the week, going 11 for 25, scoring nine runs and tallying ten RBIs. She also had a double and a home run for a .600 slugging percentage for the week. "I'm honored," Jackson said. "I saw a lot of faster pitches this week and in the tournament."

Jackson's week started against Lincoln when she went 3 for 4, knocking in two RBIs and helping

UMSL to a 13-3 win.

At the GLVC/GLIAC Tournament, she went 3 for 3 with three RBIs and scoring once against Quincy University to pull into a tie with Indianapolis for the seventh-place ranking in the conference. More importantly, with the Quincy sweep, the Riverwomen have pulled to 21-22 on the season, the closest since March 26 when the Riverwomen split a pair of games against Missouri Western to pull to .500 on the season at 9-9.

Pitcher and slugger Kelly Jackson was honored last week as the GLVC women's softball player of the week. Jackson has been the Riverwomen's leader all year, and the award does not

just two earned runs and sat down 12 batters on strikeouts.

This season, Jackson is hitting .346, good for third on the team.

"I hit the faster stuff better," Jackson said.

She is also ranked fourth in the GLVC in runs batted in with 32. Jackson is also third on the team with a .400 on base percentage.



EDITOR

DAVE KINWORTHY
sports editor

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GAMES

Baseball

at Missouri Western (DH)
2:00 p.m., Tues., May 1

at UMSL (DH)
12:00 p.m., Sat and Sun., May 5-6

Softball

at Missouri-Rolla (DH)
5:00 p.m., Tue., May 1

GLVC Tournament
Fri., Sat. and Sun., May 4-6

Tennis

Look for a wrap-up of the Tennis season next week.

Visit the UMSL athletics website at

www.umsll.edu/services/athletics/athletics.html

UMSL sports coming back strong in tournaments



LATEST SCOOP

DAVE KINWORTHY

The spring sports are in the closing stages of the year for baseball and softball, while tennis has already ended its season, but these spring sports have shown a willingness to persevere towards the end.

The men's baseball team has won five out of six games going into this past weekend's contest against conference leader SIU-Edwardsville and has hit their full stride going into the final week of the Great Lakes Valley Conference regular season.

Firstbaseman Nick Post, who got off to a slow start this season, has come on as of late and really produced the offensive power that the Rivermen

need. Buddy Simon should not be left out of this category either, as Simon has broken out of a mid-season slump to produce timely runs for the Rivermen.

The injuries that plague the Rivermen right now could be costly, but UMSL looks to be in good shape going into a potential tournament berth. Pitchers Greg Bierling and Lance Wilson are both suffering from arm problems, but Scott Johnson and Matt Robinson are hitting their peak of the season and will pick both pitchers up.

The Riverwomen's softball team has definitely turned around as they

swept the GLVC/GLIAC tournament, defeating regionally-ranked Wayne State, as well as sweeping a pair from Quincy University to pull into a tie with Indianapolis for the seventh-place ranking in the conference. More importantly, with the Quincy sweep, the Riverwomen have pulled to 21-22 on the season, the closest since March 26 when the Riverwomen split a pair of games against Missouri Western to pull to .500 on the season at 9-9.

Pitcher and slugger Kelly Jackson was honored last week as the GLVC women's softball player of the week. Jackson has been the Riverwomen's leader all year, and the award does not

signify her worth to the team as it nears another GLVC tournament berth.

The Rivermen's tennis season may be over, but they keep racking up the awards, as No. 1 singles player Matt Valkhard was honored the conference's freshman of the year. Two other Rivermen, Josh Heape and Minh Phan, were also all-conference selections for the Rivermen. Heape, Phan and Eric Schrupf will graduate this year.

UMSL's tennis program was also honored as the 21st nationally-ranked team in NCAA Division II Men's Tennis. This marks the highest ranking for the Rivermen's tennis program in

history. The Rivermen also finished third in the GLVC conference for the second consecutive year.

Through all the roller coasters the spring sports have ridden this season, the one thing the programs can say is that they persevere as tournament time comes. The baseball and softball programs have hit their stride going into the Southern Indiana matchups this weekend, and the Rivermen's tennis program has done nothing but bring honor and pride to UMSL athletics. The spring season has been great thus far, but the baseball and softball teams hope to finish the same way the tennis team finished: a winner.

Bright new album from Frank Black

BY CHARLIE BRIGHT
staff writer

The last year has been a busy one for Frank Black and the Catholics, a rock group with strong roots and widespread influence. Black's new album *Dog in the Sand* sounds like somebody threw David Bowie in a recording studio with the Rolling Stones and forced them to play. The great thing about Frank Black is that if you like Bowie or the Stones, you'll love this album. Black's even coming to The Galaxy (this Tuesday, May 1), promoting the CD, so if you do like it, you can hear it live.

Black hails from a band called the Pixies, which helped to create the grunge format in the early '90s, inspiring other artists in addition to its own efforts in the Pop revolution. Kurt Cobain once said that *Smells Like Teen Spirit* was a rip off from the Pixies, and listening to *Dog in the Sand*, it is apparent that he was fairly faithful to the original sound.

Now, almost a decade since his first solo release, Black is still rocking with the neo-classic combination that made him famous. The first song on the new album, "Blast Off," runs over seven minutes. I am immediately skeptical of any song longer than "Bohemian Rhapsody," but this one managed to keep my interest throughout. That's pretty much the prevailing attitude throughout the CD. It's experimental and seems strange at first, but it will grow on you.

The fifth and sixth tracks of the album are good examples of what Black does right. In "Stupid Me," there isn't much of a deep message (remember, he inspired Kurt Cobain), but there is a refrain so catchy that I almost had to get it surgically



Frank Black and the Catholics

removed from my brain. "Bullet," track six, is not nearly as catchy, but the talk of revolution and vivid imagery of weaponry preparation is so powerful that it can inspire thoroughly vivid nightmares.

Black likes to write songs about disasters and death, like some musicians write about love. In "Hermaphrodites," Black sings "I got a mouthful, of suicidal drugs." The

song begins with a beat and chord progression so familiar that I went looking through some Stones albums to try and find where he got it. The beat is Black's own, but it reflects his roots so clearly that it's like getting a few tracks of some better-known '60s and '70s artists for free.

Track 11 is a Beatles song. Not really, but it sure sounds like one for the first minute or so. Even the title

sounds like a Beatles song—"If it Takes All Night"—and the refrain is "every day of the week... I got to go and see my baby." While not entirely an original sentiment, it is superbly executed, and Black seems to flaunt its similarities to other works.

Though the lyrics are in the inside cover, I still have no clue what the title track is about. There seems to be a "Dog in the Sand," but I'm not sure

how it relates to the earlier line "kill it with your shoe, if your heart is sad." Maybe, in the age-old tradition of rock stars, Black wrote the song while stoned out of his mind. In any case, the music is good, even if the lyrics are confusing.

If you like Frank Black or classic rock in general, check out *Dog in the Sand*, an album that does everything right.

AS
&
A

EDITOR

CATHERINE
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a&e editor

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MUSIC

May

1
Frank Black and the
Catholics with House of
Large Sizes
The Galaxy
9 p.m.

2
Keller Williams
Mississippi Nights
9 p.m.

3
Vertical Horizon
The Pageant

4
Colony
Mississippi Nights

Del McCoury Band
The Sheldon
8 p.m.

John Pizzarelli Trio
The Sheldon
8 p.m.

Sheldon All-Star
Swing Band
The Sheldon
11 a.m.

5
Carla Cook
The Sheldon
8 p.m.

7
Trebzor Tichenor and the
St. Louis Ragtimers
The Sheldon
10 a.m.

9
G. Love and Special
Sauce
The Pageant

11
Lionheart
The Sheldon
8 p.m.

LOCAL MUSIC CONCERT PREVIEW

Failing English makes the grade

BY EMILY UMBRIGHT
staff writer

Perhaps you have seen the name Failing English before. The band might as well invest in Kinko's stock for the amount of money they spend printing off flyers, and if the flyers do not grab your attention, maybe a stunt like the one they did on campus a few weeks ago involving sidewalk chalk will.

Pat McCurren says that after band practice one night, "we bought two boxes of sidewalk chalk and went to campus with the intent to write." Chuckling, he adds, "I don't think it really helped."

Failing English is a loosely defined pop-punk band that formed in St. Louis about a year ago. The four-piece group consists of McCurren on guitar/vocals and Rick Addis on bass, who are both UMSL students, as well as lead singer Chris Schott and drummer Gabe Pecher. A few of these names may sound familiar to local music followers, as Pecher used to be in the now disbanded Locash, and McCurren played in Fat Cactus, a band that opened for the Urge when they played Mirth Day two years ago.

Despite Failing English's punk-rock roots, the band tries to stay pretty open to a firm definition, ranging from fast, poppier music to softer emo-inspired sounds.

"You throw punk rock into Weezer," McCurren started to say, but realizing the description could not completely explain their sound, sighed and concluded with, "I honestly think that we're mainstream enough that anybody could like us."

It is difficult to describe original music. It is almost as difficult as convincing complete strangers to go



Pat McCurren, Gabe Pecher and Rick Addis of Failing English

out and see a show of a band they have never heard of before. McCurren understands the lack of motivation.

"We used to go to punk shows because they were punk shows," he said. "Now, we're poor, we're broke, and we're lazy."

Laziness has not gotten in the way of McCurren's songwriting. He jokes that some of their songs are sappy girl songs, but admits to writing most of the songs.

"I'll come up with a riff, and a line," he said, emphasizing the "a," "and write a song."

Being a management and information systems major, McCurren sees that working in a band is like working for a business. You have to sell your music, which is why the band offers free mp3s and contests on their website. These bonuses also play into the fact that Failing English makes music to have fun.

"We have this game we play at practice, where anybody who messes up owes the band a taco," McCurren laughs, admitting to taking the name

Failing English from a Simpson's episode in which Ralph failed English.

Despite their underachieving name, the guys work hard at what they do, playing with local act Conscious Youth, and bigger bands like The Blue Meanies, Diffuser and The Gadgets.

"Right now, we're on a show-a-week thing, to try to tighten up a bit so we can be ready to record," McCurren said, hoping to complete a demo/EP by the end of the summer.

McCurren invites everyone to come down and check the band out.

He promises that, "No matter what kind of music you like, you will find something you like in our songs."

You can catch sound bytes before the demo comes out as the band plays Wednesday, May 2, at Creepy Crawl for \$6 and Saturday, May 5, at Ramp Riders Skate Park. The May 5 show begins at 2 p.m. and is free. More information is posted on the Failing English website at <http://failingenglish.tripod.com>.

RESTAURANT REVIEW

Kaldi's: perfect for students, movie stars and more

BY STEFANIE ELLIS
staff writer

Kaldi's

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Do you remember your first blind date? You're not told much about the person and have a great deal of apprehension. When you approach the individual, you never really prepare yourself for a positive outcome. Instead, you just hold your breath and quickly open your eyes. Imagine doing that only to find Tom Cruise or his female equivalent standing before you. You'd certainly be surprised, wouldn't you? "That's a nice, unexpected turn of events," you'd think to yourself. Sometimes, it's the same way when going to a new place to eat—you relinquish your comfort zone and make yourself vulnerable to a new experience. One of your friends might say, "I'll meet you here," and you timidly agree, thinking all the while that you'd better eat something before you go, just in case. You never really expect a restaurant to bowl you over with surprise. It's difficult to imagine that it could even resemble a "Tom Cruise experience." But sometimes, that's exactly what happens. The "blind eating" experience you initially dreaded can end up opening your eyes to something new.

It was like that the first time I dined at Kaldi's. I didn't even know where it was, but soon lost my apprehension when I discovered that it was tucked away in a beautiful forested area across the street from Concordia Seminary. There were a number of little tables arranged on the front walk and birds were flitting around, grabbing crumbs left behind by former diners. Kaldi's was thronged by dread-

lock-clad individuals, students with their noses buried in books, families with children and couples enjoying their afternoon together. When the door opened, my nose was hypnotized by the gentle aroma of coffee beans. There is a delightful display of desserts in the glass case and a multi-colored chalk menu board above, listing all of the day's menu items—all of which are vegetarian. You can choose from salads, soups, pizzas, burritos, vegetable sandwiches and veggie burgers. Kaldi's also has a wide selection of teas and, of course, coffee. They roast their own beans, and you can be sure that whatever you get is very fresh and very flavorful.

This is the perfect hangout for students. You can eat well for next to nothing, and you've got your choice of sweets, entrées and great beverages. On my last excursion there, I tried a few new things. My companion ordered the vegetarian burrito (\$5.50), which is chock-full of carrots, rice, beans, cheese and corn. It comes with salsa, but guacamole is \$.75 extra and sour cream is \$.50, so don't order them if you don't usually eat them on your burrito. The burrito was large and fresh, but lacked a certain oomph. Nonetheless, we both gobbled it up. I ordered the veggie burger (\$5), which never fails to delight. It's a homemade bean and red pepper patty, stuffed

see KALDI'S, page 7

Meramec Classic Film Festival celebrates great films

This is a great time for fans of classic films. The Fabulous Fox Theatre just ran the classic silent 1925 film "Ben-Hur," which has a chariot race and sea battle that far outstrips the better-known 1959 version, and on June 18, the historic Lincoln Theater in Belleville, Ill. will host a showing of the Buster Keaton 1927 classic "The General," one of the ten greatest films of all time. And in between, we have the Fourth Meramec Classic Film Festival, which runs May 4 and 5 at the Meramec Theater on the Meramec Community College campus at 11333 Big Bend Road in Kirkwood. The two-day festival is free and open to the

public, and features different programs of films on Friday night, Saturday afternoon and Saturday night.

The Meramec Classic Film Festival takes place every two years on the campus of the St. Louis Community College at Meramec, but it is more than a festival for that school alone. The festival offers films from the silent era and other great classic films, including short subjects and cartoons, presenting a wonderful opportunity to see some of the best films ever made. The festival also provides a showcase for budding filmmakers, since a showing of short films made by Meramec film students pre-

cedes every program in the festival.

The festival will open Friday, May 4, at 7:30 p.m. with a night of great silent films. The program features the Buster Keaton 1921 short comedy, "One Week," the first film he wrote and directed as well as starred in. This is followed up "My Best Girl," a 1927 romantic comedy starring Mary Pickford in the last silent film she made. Both films are shown with live musical accompaniment by Robert Sallier. Even if you've never seen a silent film, these two gems, which were big hits in their day, are sure to please and are a nice introduction to silent comedies.

On Saturday, May 5, the theme is

"A Century of Animation." Starting at 1:30 p.m., this program includes short animated films from nearly every decade of the twentieth century, from the 1906 "Humorous Phases of Funny Faces" to the 1982 "Vincent." This amazing retrospective of animation offers a quick view of the history of this type of film, and is sure to please any film fan. This year, the festival is using a foreign language film theme for their culminating Saturday evening program. The program, entitled "An International Night of Film," begins Saturday, May 5, at 7:30 p.m. In keeping with the animation theme of the afternoon, a Mighty Mouse cartoon in Spanish, "Law and Order,"

precedes the evening's feature. The feature film is the 1930 German film "Blue Angel," in German with English subtitles. The film stars Marlene Dietrich in her most famous role, along with the great German actor Emil Jannings.

Refreshments will be offered with each showing, as well as introductions to the films being shown, and an award will be given to a student filmmaker. Besides offering a chance to see great classic films, the festival also provides information on film preservation organizations, who are attempting to restore or save classic films. For more information on the festival, call 314-984-7537.



MARQUEE RAMBLINGS

CATHERINE
MARQUIS-HOMEYER

CONCERT REVIEW

University Singers, Arianna String Quartet triumph in concert together

BY SARA PORTER
staff writer

What other concert would consist of such variety as Renaissance motets, classical pieces by Bach and Brahms, religious music, a spiritual, a South American nature cry, and three American folk songs and have the performers pull each one of them with success? The University Singers and Arianna String Quartet's Annual Spring Concert of course.

The evening started off with the Singers performing "Sicut Cervus," a piece written by Palestrina, master of the Latin motet genre. It was the perfect music for the setting, South Campus's Provincial Chapel. The Singers added a nice touch to the song by singing it as they entered, perhaps emulating monks entering a cathedral.

Despite the double billing, the Arianna Quartet was used for only three numbers and given just one of their own: Mozart's "Adagio and Fugue, K. 546," performed quite well while alternating between playing it slowly and sadly, then faster as the piece continued. It stood out, being the only purely instrumental piece in the production.

In a previous interview with University Singer's director, Alan McClung, he said that "Bach's 'Lobet den Herrn alle Heiden' [was] a high musical accomplishment for any musical group to perform." Listening to it, I can believe it. The singers and the quartet performed the song, which is 12 minutes of non-stop music, with such energy and vivacity that it was over as quickly as it had begun. Also, each person had the unusual task of sounding like they were singing their own thing, yet they blended their voices into one.

The "Easter Reflections" songs presented three alternate views of Easter. The first two, "Crucifixus" and "In the Darkness of the Night," were practically contiguous, without much break between them; I actually thought they were one song. The third song in the trilogy—a spiritual titled "Ride On King Jesus"—was a beautiful song, made more pleasurable by a male soloist. The soloist's singing, combined with the backup of the rest of the choir, gave a nice effect to the song. The Night Music trilogy was just as good, using Brahms's "Abendstandchen," James Fritschel's "Soft are the Soles" and Imant Raminish's "In the Night We Shall Go In"—three poetic songs honoring the night. The final song was especially effective with a solo performance by cellist Kurt Baldwin.

"Kasar Mie La Gaji," a tribal-sounding song performed in observation of Earth Day, was the audience's favorite. Based on an African tribal expression meaning "the earth is tired," the song's chant was done quite well by the singers with rhythmic precision, a vivid musical enactment of the earth agony.

A selection that was kind of odd, yet effective somehow, was a trilogy of folk tunes: two country square dance tunes, "Cripple Creek" and "Bile them Cabbage Down," and the popular folk song "Shenandoah." "Shenandoah" was fine and beautifully sung, but the other two were different. It was odd to hear voices more belonging to a church choir in a hoedown style. But it was a bit more relaxed than the previous numbers, ending the concert on a happy note.

The Spring Concert was an excellent endeavor from those involved. I'm definitely looking forward to the next one.

CONCERT REVIEW

DiFranco covers short concert with diversity

BY KATIE STUCKENSCHNEIDER
special to The Current

Ani DiFranco summed up the true meaning of positive vibes during her appearance at the Pageant on April 21. Not only DiFranco's energy, but also the band's, could be felt from miles away.

The show was indeed just an appearance. DiFranco played for only about 75 minutes and left concert goers in awe as she disappeared before our eyes in one short encore.

DiFranco, upon coming on stage, added confidence and a light to the room as her and the band broke into "The Diner." The trumpeter, Shane Endsley, and the saxophonist Hans Teuber brought energy filled influences to some of her old songs like "As Is."

The audience was a bit too loud, maybe that is because I was sitting in the bar section and there were too many drunkards. It made it hard to hear DiFranco's voice at times.

A highlight of the evening was when DiFranco and Julie Wolf, keyboards, took their shirts off right before they sang "Angry Anymore" by themselves. When it was time for the next song, the rest of the band ran out with bras on, men and women. DiFranco told the audience to take their shirts off. It was liberty at its best.

While most musicians focus on their latest albums during concerts, DiFranco, despite her new release *Revelling/Reckoning*, graced the audience with a greatest hits concert.

DiFranco concluded the show by turning it into an open-mic night and busting out into free verse about the church and state that transcended into "Shameless."

Two thumbs up to Ani DiFranco and crew, but two thumbs down to the venue. Congratulations to those that at one time saw DiFranco jamming the local coffee shops, for those were the days.

MUSICAL PREVIEW

Aida depicts story of Egyptian romance

BY KIMBERLY SILVER
special to The Current

The award winning musical, "Aida" will play at the Fox Theatre through May 6th of this week. Ticket prices will range from a very reasonable \$17.00 to \$67.00 for this production. If you enjoyed Disney's "Lion King," you will be delightfully entertained by this award-winning play. This new Disney musical won four Tony Awards and a Grammy Award for "Best Musical Show Album."

"Aida" is a story of love that flourished in a time of hate. The compelling tragedy tells the story of two princesses (played by Kelli Fournier and Simone) who fall in

love with the same man. Radames, played by Patrick Cassidy is the Egyptian soldier who is the object of this duo of affection. The characters are faced with life or death decisions that become exceedingly difficult to make because of the passion envelops their lives.

This dynamic production delivers the struggles of war and romance directly to the stage with artistic precision.

The lyrics for "Aida" will feature new music and lyrics by John and Tim Rice. They have created their pieces based upon the opera by Giuseppe Verdi. Choreography is by the talented Wayne Cilento. The show will be under the direction of Robert Falls.

KALDI'S, from page 6

inside sourdough bread, then grilled to perfection. Vermont Cheddar is optional (\$.25), but I'd definitely recommend it. It makes the burger that much better. The burger comes with a side of multi-colored corn chips and is the perfect sized meal.

We also had a cup of corn chowder (\$2.75), one of the daily specials. While I normally love corn chowder, this one was a bit too southwestern for my taste. It was made with red peppers, onions and had a very salsa-based flavor. I like my corn chowder to be chicken-stock based, concentrating fully on bringing out the flavor of the corn. In this one, the corn got lost and the pungent combination of tomatoes, onions and cream overwhelmed the taste buds. We topped off our meal with a spinach, artichoke and mozzarella covered focaccia (\$2.75). Incredible! The toppings are fresh and if you ask for it to be toasted, you have a warm and delicious treat. Definitely a Kaldi's signature piece!

For dessert we ordered a chocolate brownie and an almond-coconut bar. The brownie was moist and offered a rich, chocolate taste, the way a brownie should be. Even better was the almond-coconut bar. It was slathered in marzipan (almond paste), which gave it its incredible taste. There was melted chocolate on top and while on the sweet side, it was perfect. The cappuccinos with hazelnut syrup are always brimming over with subtle sweetness and just-right flavor.

It doesn't matter if you're a Clayton resident, a college student, or a Rastafarian, Kaldi's will offer you a mix of people and a mix of good food and drink. It's worth your while to venture over into the "forested" neighborhood where Kaldi's is located. There's a beautiful park across the street and you can sit on the grass sipping your beverage of choice. It doesn't get any better than that. Well...maybe if Tom Cruise were there, too.

CORRECTIONS

In issue 1019 in an article about the connection between North and South Campus, a statement that read "...the Child Center's offers were far more than what appraisers thought the property was worth" was incorrect. The statement should have read "...the University's offers to the Child Center were far more than what appraisers thought the property was worth".

In issue 1020 in an article about Mirthday, the sponsor of the "Be True To Yourself" Volkswagen Bug was misidentified. Planned Parenthood was the sponsor of the Bug.

We regret any confusion these errors may have caused.

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SOFTBALL, from page 5

leading the way to a 3-0 win. Chrissy Griefe collected two RBIs and scored two of the three runs in the game.

In day two of the tournament, the Riverwomen faced Saginaw Valley. Allison Maurer got the start and had another strong outing. She pitched seven shutout innings, giving up four hits and struck out two. The Riverwomen got three runs in the first inning and scored two more in the fifth and seventh innings, going on to win 7-0.

"I felt like I was getting stronger as the game went on," Maurer said.

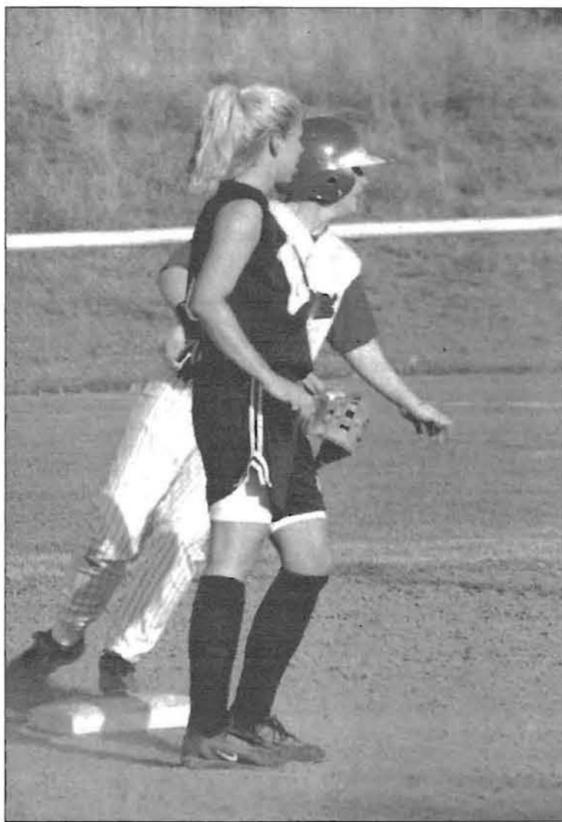
Maurer and Kelley Jackson each knocked in two runs. Christine Langenbacher scored three times.

Head Coach Lisa Boneé was pleased with Langenbacher's play.

"Christine's short game, oh my God, she was hot this weekend," Boneé said. "She did a great job slap hitting and bunting."

In their last game against Northwood, the Riverwomen opened the first inning by scoring Wirkus on a single by Jackson. In the fourth, Griefe got on base on a throwing error and advanced to second on an Andrea Sczurko sacrifice. Brandy Winters stepped to the plate and singled in Wirkus to make it 2-0 UMSL. In the fifth, the Riverwomen blew the game wide open on an Allison Maurer grand slam, putting UMSL up 6-0. Maurer finished the game with four RBIs and going 2 for 3 at the plate. Brandy Winters went 3 for 4 scoring twice and a RBI. The Riverwomen pounded eighteen hits, defeating Northwood 10-3.

"We played more enthusiastic," Boneé said. "I think they had fun. They were more talkative, we hit the ball and they were having fun and scoring runs. We need to stay hot." Boneé attributes the success in the tournament to the Riverwomen being able to capitalize on errors



An UMSL Riverwoman reaches second base at a recent softball game. The Riverwomen went 5-0 in the recent Showdown Tournament and won the following two games against Quincy, boosting their overall record to 21-22 overall and 8-10 in conference play.

made by opposing teams.

"We had good base running," Boneé said.

Boneé also praised the play of Kelly Jackson and Andrea Wirkus.

"Wirkus had an unbelievable

weekend," Boneé said. "She had three homeruns and almost hit for the cycle. Wirkus and K.J. both deserved Player of the Week. Too bad they don't have a Co-Player of the Week."

BASEBALL, from page 5

ahead of you. We can make a pretty strong statement to everyone if we can go into this weekend and play well. I just hope that we go in there and play well, and I will let the chips land where they may. I feel pretty confident that we can come out successfully."

The Rivermen play host to

Southern Indiana May 5-6, a team that trails the Rivermen in the standings, but is still in the hunt for a playoff berth.

"They are right behind us and kind of in the same situation as we are right now looking at Edwardsville," Brady said. "It is not going to be easy. We are going

to bite, scratch and claw for everything that we got. The one thing that I love and admire about them is that there is no quit in them. We have gotten better as the year has progressed, and that is always encouraging because you want to be playing your best baseball down the stretch."

Senate meeting proves faculty pay raise still prickly issue

BY JOSH RENAUD
senior editor

The issue of faculty pay raises generated discussion at last Tuesday's Faculty Senate meeting.

Lawrence Barton, Senate chair, said the Budget and Planning Committee had decided to recommend to Chancellor Blanche Touhill that the mandated 4 percent faculty salary increase be reduced to 3 percent, to reduce the pressure to reallocate funds from undergraduate programs.

Barton then related the comments of Manuel Pacheco, UM System president, and Stephen Lemkuhle, System vice president for Academic Affairs, on the same topic. Lemkuhle, he said, suggested there will be a 40 percent turnover in faculty on the four UM campuses over the next three years.

"[Lemkuhle] reminded us how tight the market is in many areas," Barton said, "and when we begin to

recruit those faculty we need to remain competitive in the salaries we offer, otherwise we won't be able to replace those faculty members we lose."

Pacheco made a different point, Barton said. Pacheco was fixed on rewarding faculty with the 4 percent salary increase after a lackluster increase two years ago and also because the UM System has begun asking more from faculty, with new post-tenure review rules in place and talk of raising performance standards.

One senator expressed his dismay with the UM System administrators, suggesting they were out of touch with the situation, since they made significantly more money.

"Three percent is barely inflationary, even at the current record lows," he said. "One of my colleagues [received an offer from] Florida State that was a 40 percent increase over what he was currently making. This is not untypical of what other universities are prepared to offer."

Other business:

• Faculty senators discussed confusion over interim tenure policies. The interim policy was developed by Jack Nelson, former vice chancellor for Academic Affairs, two years ago when it was discovered that UMSL's policies were out of compliance with Executive Order 6A. A committee had been formed to address the issue and develop a permanent set of policies. Some senators debated whether the document must be approved by the entire faculty or if it could be approved by the Faculty Senate or the Steering Committee. Barton said he would try to call another Senate before the year was over to bring closure to this and other issues.

• The Senate approved numerous course changes at its meeting last week. Most of the changes were "housekeeping" changes. One of the more significant changes, though, was the creation of emphasis areas in the M.B.A. program.

ASSEMBLY, from page 1

the University obtain more support.

Taking this message to area business leaders is a new tactic, Touhill said. In the past, she has tried using the "equity argument" with System officials and state leaders.

"For years we have pleaded '30 percent of the students, [but only] 12 percent of the budget,'" she said. "[Now] I'm trying to go around to the business community in St. Louis and say, 'I can help you, you can help us.'"

Touhill said she is meeting with one or two business people every day to discuss "workforce development." She said she is also trying to work on the newest University of Missouri curators and is preparing to speak about underfunding with a three-person committee from the state legislature which will visit here this summer.

Asked how UM System President Manuel Pacheco has responded to her efforts, Touhill said he didn't want to move money from one campus to another.

"He has said he will work with me in adding new programs and getting money for these programs," she said. "In essence, he's saying old money is hard to move from campus to campus. But new money, he'll try to help us with as we develop."

Touhill said the business community has responded well to her efforts so far and that area employers tell her they like UMSL graduates.

"I was with a gentleman this morning. He said he needed 1,000 technology people 'right now,'" she said. "Keep in mind we had 1,100 people on a waiting list in September to get into 3 different programs: computer science, MIS, and graphic arts and web design. We were able to find places for 92 of them."

In his report, Lawrence Barton, chair of the University Assembly, described his own recent efforts to try and bolster support for the University.

At the March Assembly meeting, Barton shared statistics he had gathered that compared UMSL's state financial support with other Missouri institutions. He told the Assembly at last week's meeting that he had mailed the information to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch twice, but hadn't heard much back. He said he also shared the materials with Pacheco and curator and UMSL alumna Connie Silverstein.

Barton said the administration in Columbia had recently told him that their numbers differed from his.

"Our numbers were taken from the CBHE website and the UM System

website," he said. "Our numbers are correct if the numbers on the website are correct."

Other Assembly business:

• The Assembly voted unanimously to pass a revised "Acceptable Use Policy" developed by the Computing and Instructional Technology Committee. Fred Willman, professor of music, presented the policy, which would apply to campus computers and networks.

• Ryan Connor, president of the Student Government Association, talked about the SGA's successes this year and predicted that next year would be better, since the incoming SGA officers would have a full year and could begin planning during the summer.

• Pat Dolan, director of athletics, gave a detailed overview of the Athletics department. She said her goals were to have all UMSL teams finish in the top half of their conference and to increase UMSL's visibility in the St. Louis sports market.

• Touhill gave a report for the Budget and Planning Committee and urged the campus community to come to an open meeting on the University's strategic plan, to be held May 1.

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President Truman faced his toughest challenges head-on

The state of Missouri has left a prominent imprint upon United States history. Many legendary individuals have called the state home over the years. One of the most famous is, undoubtedly, Harry S. Truman. Therefore, I dedicate this week's history column to his memory.

"Give 'em hell Harry," as he came to be known, was born in Lamar, Mo. in 1884. His parents were Martha Ellen Young Truman and John Anderson Truman. Contrary to popular myth, he did not have a middle name. The S. was given to him to placate two uncles whose names started with that letter.

When Harry was just six years old, his parents moved to Independence, Mo., where he began attending the Presbyterian Church Sunday School. Incredibly, it was at this church where the young boy first met five year-old Elizabeth Virginia (Bess) Wallace, his future wife.

When young Harry began his formal academic career at the age of eight, two distinct interests emerged: music and reading.

He loved music so much that he would actually go to the local music teacher twice a week and get up at five each morning to practice the piano.

In addition, young Harry developed a passion for history. In fact, he would read four or five history books each week, acquiring an exhaustive knowledge of decisive military campaigns as well as the incredible lives of many of the world's greatest heroes.

In 1901, when Truman graduated from high school, his future was uncertain. A college education was out of the question because of his family's financial situation, and his poor eyesight prevented him from achieving an appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point.

After working a series of odd jobs in the Kansas City area, which included a mail clerk position at the Kansas City Star, Truman moved back to Independence to run his grandmother's farm. For the next decade, he became a successful farmer.

When the United States hurled itself into WWI in April of 1917, Truman immediately enlisted in the army. After basic training, he returned to his home town where he was elected First Lieutenant by the men of the Missouri Second Field Artillery.

It was in WWI where Truman's leadership abilities were vividly displayed. He was promoted to Captain and placed in charge of a rambunctious group of troops known as the Dizzy D. The outfit was considered to be an unmanageable collection of misfits. However, within a few weeks, Truman had succeeded in training them and during the Battle of the Argonne Forest in 1918, the Dizzy D fought with extreme distinction.

When the war ended, Truman returned home and on June 28, 1919, he married Bess Wallace.

Trying to make ends meet, he and a friend opened a modest clothing store the following November. Within

a couple of months, the store would begin to do booming business thanks to many patrons from the Dizzy D outfit. Everything seemed to be going wonderfully in his life. It would not last, however. Beginning in 1920, farm prices in the States would plummet. Within two years the store would go out of business.

Truman was desperate. He needed to make money, and fast.

As a result, he turned to the Pendergasts, old friends of his father. They operated a political machine in the state of Missouri.

With a little help from them, he was able to win an election to a Jackson County judgeship. His job was to supervise county roads and buildings. Truman proved to be an outstanding financial operator. Within two years, he cut a 1 million dollar budget deficit literally in half.

In 1926, he was elected to the first of two four-year terms as the Presiding County Judge of Jackson County. During his tenure, he insisted upon honesty for county officials. In fact, he cleaned house by firing anyone who was proven to be taking kickbacks. In addition, Truman appointed an independent road commission, hired workers of high moral standards, secured out-of-state bank loans at low interest rates, and ended graft in building contracts.

Truman impressed so many people with his many accomplishments as Jackson County Judge that he was able to defeat a powerful Republican incumbent for U.S. Senator in the off-year election of 1934.

During his two terms in the Senate, Truman served on many committees. The most powerful of these was an oversight committee he chaired while conducting investigations into fraudulent military contracts.

Truman's efforts uncovered a considerable number of wrongdoings in 1942 that ended up saving the American taxpayer some 1.1 billion dollars. This vaulted him into national prominence. As a result, he would become Franklin Delano Roosevelt's vice president in 1944.

Harry S. Truman became the 33rd president of the United States following FDR's death on April 12, 1945. In his two terms, he reshaped the course of American and world history.

Domestically, he desegregated the Armed Forces and tried to extend some of the programs of the New Deal with his Fair Deal.

On the foreign policy side of the coin, he gave the final order to drop the atomic bomb on Japan after warning them several weeks ahead of time, and issued his famous Truman Doctrine, which stipulated that the United States would come to the aid of free peoples battling tyranny anywhere in Europe.

Harry Truman was a special kind of leader. Unlike many politicians today, he didn't run from a challenge. He faced them head on. Whether dealing with corrupt commissioners, stubborn enemies, or expansionist-minded Soviets, he made them all realize that "the buck stopped" with him.



TIM THOMPSON
history columnist

CRIME, from page 1

Decker showed trends for a variety of neighborhoods such as St. Louis Hills, the Central West End, and College Hill. In almost all areas violent crime dropped and in only a few it remained constant. None of the areas shown experienced an increase in violent crime over the last few years.

Heimberger spoke of the need for the police department to change its way of policing and become more community oriented.

He said the current strategy of policing which was developed in the 1920's and 30's has three main components. This is random patrol, follow-up investigation and rapid response.

Random patrol, which is the idea of frightening criminals by being omnipresent doesn't work well according to a study he showed. In Kansas City three different areas were tested. One had normal random patrol, the second had no random patrol, and the third had three times the normal random patrol. The number of crimes were the same in each district as they had been before the

study. It did not matter how many police patrolled the area.

Rapid response, the idea of getting to a call fast really has little effect either since only 6 percent of calls are for a crime-in-progress. The average response time in St. Louis is 4 minutes.

"They measure us not by cases solved, but by how quickly we get there. It has nothing to do with the idea of catching the bad guy," said Heimberger. "We are instructed to gather the minimal amount of information needed for a report in order to get out there fast and keep the response time low."

He suggests the idea of community oriented policing in which we look and underlying problems and try to solve them. He says that in St. Louis that 10 percent of the offenders

represented 55 percent of the crimes and 10 percent of locations represent 60 percent of the calls received. In one instance police were called to a single location 240 times last year.

At a downtown 7-11, 6pks of beer kept getting stolen from a huge beer

display. Police were called out there 47 times in a three-month period. Each time the traditional report was made and nothing happened. The police left and were soon called again. Eventually the police suggested moving the display but the owner refused because the beer company rented the space for around \$500 a month. After more calls the idea finally came to fill the display with empty beer cans. The problem was solved and the police aren't called there anymore.

Heimberger suggests police and citizens in high crime areas need to work together more to develop ideas and solutions instead of merely writing reports and coming to the same places over and over.

Joyce, the current Circuit Attorney who prosecuted serial rapist Dennis Rabbitt, suggests involving the community more in prosecution efforts.

Most people don't participate as victims or witnesses to a crime when it comes to prosecuting a defendant. People fear retribution or feel that they have been inconvenienced

enough already. She urges people to do this more however.

She also acknowledged that though jury duty is a "tremendous hardship" with little pay, it is tremendously important for a cross-section of society to sit on a jury. It would be "very scary" if people volunteered for juries since the same people would do it over and over again.

She also urged victims to send impact letters to judges and for cities to have more community input at bail hearings since at the time judges have only about 5 percent of the total information on even the most repeat offenders.

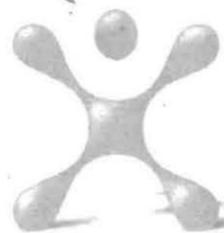
"In the courtroom, the 'squeaky wheel gets the grease' unfortunately," Joyce said.

Citizens need to make themselves as well-known as possible in order for the worst members of a community to be sentenced to longer prison terms. She urged everyone to pay more attention to what judges do and to contact local aldermen. She really hopes more communities get involved in the prosecution of repeat criminals.

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ELECTION, from page 1

SPRING 2001 SGA ELECTION RESULTS

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Richard Stanton
Keith Tyhurst

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Andy 2
Eric Eccher 2
Frederick Eccher 2
Jenny Seim 2
2 tied 1

Business

Julie Clifford
Eric Eccher
Jeff Griesemer
Greg Ritchie

Education

Jonathan Frost
Lathon Jones
Karen Jones

VICE-PRESIDENT

Joe Flees 156

Write-ins

Alex Bub 1
Brian Finnerty 1
Mickey Mouse 1
Sarah Reed 1

Engineering

Jeremy Koenig

Evening College

Agnes Grucela
Brian Silverman

COMPTROLLER

Brian King 144

Graduate School

Barbara Brown
Tim Forsythe
Michael Rankins
Tomo Yamada

Write-ins

Tim Thompson 4
5 tied 1

Honors College

Erin McMillan

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Arts & Science

Elana Bailey
Jason Bromberger
Soraya Farmarzi
Liza Foehner
Robert Miller

Nursing

Sara Banks

Outreach

Tom Ace

Information provided by the Student Government Association



Rafael Macias/The Current

Pre-med student Brian Silverman casts his vote during the SGA elections Wednesday in the Millennium Student Center.

paign. "There may be some [write-in candidates], but I haven't heard," said Coonrod.

Coonrod also said that the turnout was somewhat light as of Wednesday afternoon.

"There have been a fair amount of students," said Coonrod.

SGA adviser Rick Blanton said he thinks that UMSL students take a blasé approach to the SGA because of the way their lives are prioritized.

"The top three priorities [in students' lives] are going to be family, academics and work in some order. Somewhere after them would be the participation in non-academic participation. It's way down the line before a student's priority would be taking care of

social development," said Blanton.

Blanton thinks there would be good reason for students to be more involved in the SGA.

"The students are given such a huge responsibility to represent themselves through their elected leadership that I'm surprised that there isn't a groundswell of people who want to be president," said Blanton.

Blanton also noted that the SGA president is paid an annual \$5,000 stipend, or a \$5,000 grant to spend towards his educational fees.

"Maybe, if we made [the stipend] the focal point, instead of the service to the University, we'd get more people interested," said Blanton.

Students give Bi-State bus ecological paint job

BY RHASHAD PITTMAN
staff writer

UMSL graduate students from the International Center for Tropical Ecology reached out to the community for Mother Nature's sake on April 22 at a massive Earth Day celebration in Forest Park.

About 20 students gathered late that Sunday morning until early that evening painting both sides of a 30-foot-long bus, which will be on the street in full use within the next few days.

Patrick Osborne, ICTE executive director, said that the purpose of the first-time event was primarily to draw attention to the world's natural necessities.

"It's basically raising awareness in the community about the importance of the environment," Osborne said.

In the preliminary planning stages of the bus painting, Osborne contacted Scott Lindsten, fine arts professor of graphic design, for input on the design. Lindsten said that the request turned

into an idea of making it an assignment for the 16 students of his "Advanced Problems in Graphic Design 2" to work on.

"I was tremendously excited because it sounded like a fun, worthwhile project, plus it occurred to me that it would make a fantastic student project," Lindsten said.

Chris Draper, a graphic design major, won the contest with his design, "EarthLinks in Bloom," which attempted to show the role of water and oxygen in the environment, Lindsten said.

One side of the bus, he says, was covered with red paint and various shades of yellows and oranges to "represent the energy of the sun, photosynthesis, and the production of oxygen."

"The other side of the bus is cool, with greens and blues, and addresses water and its environmental cycle," Lindsten said.

The design was capped off with a tagline that read "the source of us all," he said, referring to society's dependence on natural resources, Lindsten said.

WARTZOK, from page 1

Missouri-Columbia and Washington University. The classification means that each of those universities has at least 50 doctoral students graduating each year and at least 15 different areas of study where a graduate degree is offered, he added.

FIU has about 100 students receiving doctoral degrees per year with 25 doctoral degree programs, Wartzok said, while UMSL, is classified as "doctoral research intensive," has about 35 students with doctoral degrees graduating annually and 11 doctoral degree programs. Both classifications are new and were put into effect this year, he noted, to replace the doctoral I, doctoral II, research I, and research II categories that were used prior to the change in classifications.

When he takes over at Florida International this summer, Wartzok will be focusing primarily on research and administrative duties, he said, including increasing graduate enrollment/funding and instituting a doctoral program in telecommunications. He will also continue his research on artic seals and manatees, which are marine mammals also known as "sea cows."

As dean of the graduate school/research administration at UMSL for the past ten years, Wartzok said that UMSL has acquired seven master programs and five doctoral programs, including a masters in computer science and doctorates in applied mathematics, nursing, and education. The amount of "external funding" has quadrupled from \$5 million to \$20 million as well, he said.

"You're happy with the things you're successful with, but you're also disappointed that you didn't accomplish more," he said.

Getting a doctoral degree program in UMSL's history department was one of those goals that didn't get accomplished, he said.

"The statewide coordinating board thinks that UMSL should offer more practical application degrees," Wartzok said. "The faculty here and the administration all disagree with them on that."

Wartzok says that he would like UMSL to offer degree programs in all areas "that would satisfy the intellectual growth and not just for the ones that would allow someone to make more money."

Campus Connections is coming!

Campus Connections, the UMSL student phone directory, will be published this fall. If you wish to have your number kept out of the directory, please be sure to call the Office of the Registrar to have it removed.

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