



'Tortilla Soup' is a spoonful of sugar

All the characters' stories blend together to make a stew that is funny, warm, and unexpected.

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THECURRENTONLINE.COM

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI - ST. LOUIS

INSIDE

New title reflects libraries' growth

Arnott's title changed to Dean of Libraries at UM-St. Louis



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Nurses Associations only computer is stolen

• Group may be without a computer for the rest of the year

BY RHASHAD PITTMAN
Staff Editor

A computer and a microwave were stolen from the Student Nurses Associations office sometime between Oct. 12 and Oct. 15, University Police said.

Detective Tony Grimmel of the UM-St. Louis Police Department said there were no suspects in the break-in.

The thefts may leave the organization and its nearly 40 members without a computer for the rest of the year, said Andrea Bergholtz, the organization's president.

"I doubt we'll get a new one," she said. "It's just not a secure environment anymore. I doubt we'll have anything of value in there again."

Linda Sherman, a clinical assistant professor in nursing and the organization's faculty advisor, said the computer is worth about \$4,000 and contains important information including budget data and contact lists. Sherman said she was not aware of any back-up copies of the information stored on the computer.

"We don't think it was anybody in the organization," she said. "We really don't have any idea who it is."

Bergholtz said the organization received extra funding last spring from the Student Association Budget Committee to purchase the computer.

"We don't know if we have to budget for next year," she said. "We really don't know what we're going to do at this point."

Bergholtz said members of the organization volunteer at local hospitals, participate in blood drives and help raise money for the poor.

"Everything we do is for good," she said. "They're taking away all the other things we could've done for other people."

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Ram speaks on behalf of Israel

Israeli official questions coalition against terrorism

BY DEYLE ROBBINS AND KELLI SOLT

Senior Writer and Staff Writer

The U.S. anti-terrorist coalition against Osama bin Laden will not eradicate global terrorism, an Israeli official said in a speech Oct. 22.

Moshe Ram, Consul General of Israel to the Midwest, was in St. Louis as part of a regular speaker series on Israel, sponsored in part by the UM-St. Louis Center for International Studies. He addressed a crowd of about 200 people at the Jewish Community Center in St. Louis County, relating Israel's dealings with terrorism.

Ram has been the Consul General to the Midwest since August. Before that, he served in the Israeli Consulate in Los Angeles and opened the first Israeli Consulate in China in 1994. He also served in the Israeli Embassies of Nepal and the Philippines. This was his first visit to St. Louis.

"The situation in the Middle East is complicated, and those looking for a solution must understand it is very, very difficult," Ram said. "The battle against terrorism is an endless confrontation with forces you don't always see," he said.

But Osama bin Laden is not the root of the problem, Ram said. "The problem lies mainly with some of the countries which harbor terror." He included Syria, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and even Egypt, calling into question their effectiveness as part of the anti-terrorist coalition that President Bush is attempting to build. Israel has been asked to be a silent partner in the coalition, he said.

"Coalition building is important," Ram said. "However, when the chips are down and someone should do the dirty work, it won't be Syria and it won't be Iran."

He said it is unreasonable to expect countries to fight terror when they have traditionally harbored terrorists.

Ram recognized that the Sept. 11 attacks here have changed American life. He reminded the audience that terror is something that Israel has been experiencing for the past 100 years. He said that over 1,000 people - Israelis and Palestinians - have lost their lives to violence in Israel during the past year.

Ram went on to blame poor leadership on the part of Yasser Arafat for the ongoing violence in Israel. Instead of going on with the peace process, Ram said, "Arafat thought by using terror, he could fulfill some of his political purposes, and this was exactly why he started a new wave of violence."

Ram denounced the idea of a "circle of violence" in Israel in which violence from one side leads to violence on the other.

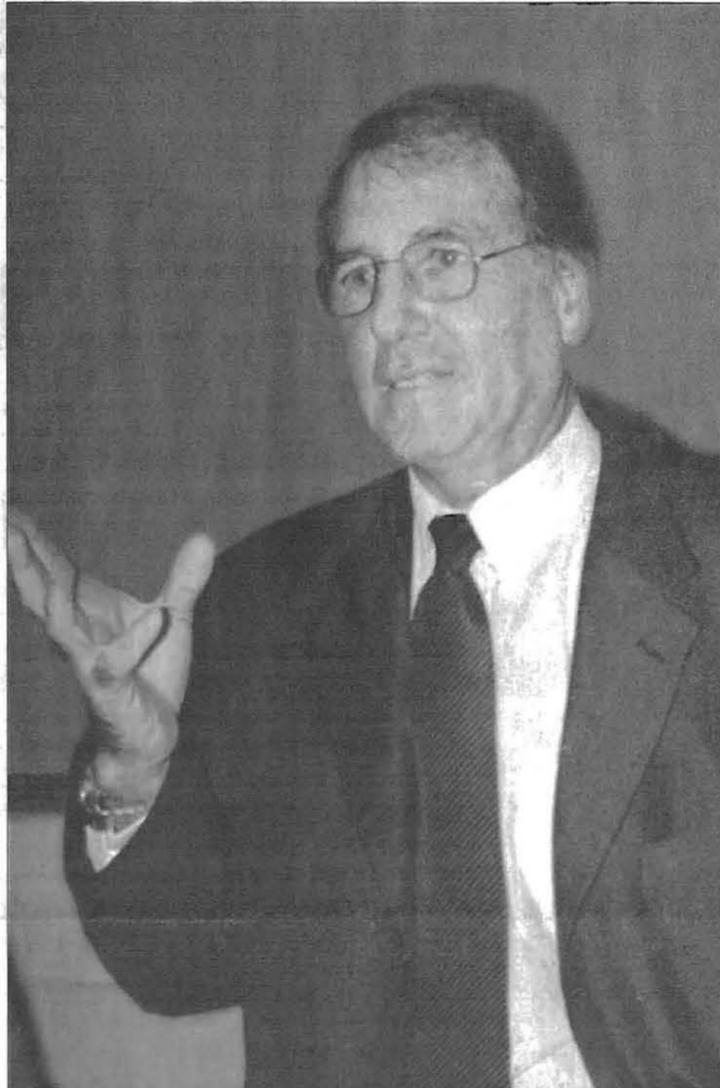
"I say there is no circle of violence," Ram said. "There is violence from one side and what we should do sometimes is retaliate."

Ram sees retaliation as part of the duty of the Israeli government to safeguard and secure the lives of the Israeli citizens. Although Israel is a democracy and cherishes human rights, he said the foremost goal is to defend the people.

"If we know that anywhere there is someone who is about to perpetrate an act of terror, we would go after him," Ram said. "I don't think we should apologize for this policy. This is something the government should do."

The recent assassination of the Israeli Minister of Tourism by a Palestinian organization gave rise to

see RAM, page 8



Moshe Ram, Consul General of Israel to the Midwest, was in St. Louis as part of a regular speaker series on Israel, sponsored in part by the UM-St. Louis Center for International Studies.

Musumil Igarashi/The Current

Dead man voting: fraud discussed at reform hearing

BY MAGGIE MATTHEWS
Staff Writer/Photographer

Fraud and inequalities in the election process were the topics of discussion at a Missouri election reform committee hearing held Monday at the Millennium Student Center.

Committee members Sen. Anita Yeckel, R-1, and Sen. John Loudon, R-7, heard testimony from US Senator Christopher "Kit" Bond, R-Mo., Rep. William Lacy Clay, D-St. Louis, and witnesses from St. Louis about problems in Missouri's election process.

"Reform is imperative," Bond said. "Fraud is real and it cannot be ignored any longer," he said.

Bond said the number of registered voters in St. Louis is about to exceed the number of people of eligible voting age in the city, citing that approximately 96% of St. Louis's population are registered voters.

Clay's argument was about inequalities in the election process. He talked about extended voting

times in Springfield, MO during the November 2000 election. Polls in Springfield stayed open an additional 3 hours, while polls in St. Louis stayed open for an additional 45 minutes.

Clay asked the reform committee to investigate the difference in polling times. He wanted to know if the committee was looking into the case.

Neither Yeckel or Loudon knew if the case was being investigated.

Jeffrey Boyd, a voting resident of St. Louis City was also a witness at the hearing. He gave testimony about inequalities he faced while working with the St. Louis Board of Elections.

Boyd approached the Board of Elections after residents in his voting district were "tricked" into having their names taken off the voter registration list. He said that in some instances residents were told that they were signing documents for a shopping mall. In other cases, large men went door-to-door asking for the residents' signatures. Boyd said there

are a large number of elderly residents in the area, and that they are easily intimidated or persuaded.

Boyd went to the Board of Elections to get copies of the affidavits signed by residents so that he could try to get the affidavits reversed. While dealing with the Board of Elections he was charged \$200, when an alderman received the copies free of charge.

"It became the policy of the day," said Boyd.

The reform committee's purpose is to discuss ways in which the election process can be improved to increase voter confidence. The committee focuses on voter fraud, voter registration, standardized vote counting, and disclosure laws for contributions to state officials.

The hope of the committee and those that testified is that eventually the state can make changes in the election process that will provide fair elections for all voters, which will in turn decrease voter apathy.



"Make it easier to vote and tougher to cheat," said Senator Christopher "Kit" Bond at an election reform hearing held Monday.

Maggie Matthews/The Current

SGA receives proposed fee increase from departments

• Proposal asks for slight student fee increase

BY RHASHAD PITTMAN
Staff Editor

Joanne Bocci stood in front of the 40 or so members of the Student Government Association and gave them two choices: Either they could approve a Student Activities fee increase or not, she said.

"We won't be offended either

way," said Bocci, the interim associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs. "All of the money will go to student organizations."

Bocci said the Student Activities fee increase from \$2.50 per credit hour to \$3.00 per credit hour would be used to fund new organizations and help out current student groups. Bocci said 14 new student organizations are looking for recognition from the University.

"There's been such an up-surge of interest in student organizations," she said.

Bocci's fee increase presentation at last Tuesday's SGA meeting was

part of a proposal by campus department heads to increase certain student fees, which make up the Student Facility, Student Activity Fee and Health fee.

Currently the fees total \$25.18 per credit hour. The SGA Assembly will vote on Nov. 20 whether or not to approve the proposed increase to \$27.22 per credit hour. The increase would mean a full-time student with 12 credit hours would pay \$326.64 each semester, an increase of about \$25.

The administrator of Student Health Services, Nancy Magnuson, said the 44.7 percent health services

fee increase her department is asking for will help with rising operation costs and provide more services. The increase, from \$1.23 to \$1.78, will also fund a new Facilitator/Educator position to deal with alcohol and drug abuse, she said.

If the proposed increase is approved the University Center fee will change from \$9.65 to \$10.26. The \$8.50 Athletic fee would become \$8.80 and the \$2.65 Recreational Facility fee would change to \$2.73.

In other business: The Student Court announced a student raffle starting today. The winner receives a free semester of park-

ing. Tickets are \$1. For more information call 516-5104.

*SGA President Ryan Connor said the Shell Space on the first floor of the Millennium Student Center will hold a sports bar and cafe, the office of Multi-Cultural Relations, and be used for storage. The Shell Space is scheduled to open in January, Connor said.

*Curt Conrad, now the acting vice chancellor for Student Affairs, said he plans to fill the positions of Director of Admissions and The Registrar. Conrad recently had taken over both positions.

Bulletin Board

Tuesday 30

UMSL Basketball

The men's and women's basketball teams are holding a preseason tip-off luncheon to allow the general public to meet the players and coaches at the Downtown Missouri Athletic Club at noon.

Wednesday 31

Crusade for Christ

Crusade for Christ is holding a Bible Study in room 316 of the Millennium Student Center at 1:00 p.m.

Mercantile Library

The Friends in Art exhibit chronicles the 40-year friendship between Thomas Hart Benton, a pre-eminent American regionalist, and Lyle Woodcock, Benton's friend and patron since the 1930s. It is free and open to the public. The exhibition will run from Oct. 30 to Jan. 15 during normal library hours. For more information call 516-7240.

Thursday 1

Distinguished Speaker

William F. Compton, president of TWA Airlines, will speak on the effects of the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11 on strategic management in the airline industry. The speech will be held at 11 a.m. in Room 132 of the Social Sciences and Business Building.

Friday 2

Physics Colloquium

Saibal Mitra, a professor of the department of physics and engineering at the University of Tulsa, will speak on the "Growth and Characterization of Thin Films of Novel Materials," at 3 p.m. in Room 451 Benton Hall. A coffee will be held at 2:30 p.m. in Room 516 of Benton Hall.

Put it on the Board:

The Current Events Bulletin Board is a service provided free of charge to all student organizations, University departments and divisions. Deadline for submissions to The Current Events Bulletin Board is 5:00 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 postings be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event. Send submissions to: Editor's Desk, 388 MSC, Natural Bridge Rd., St. Louis MO 63121 or fax 516-6811.

All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.

Sunday 4

Spanish Club

The Spanish Club is presenting a Dia de los Muertos dinner in Century Room A at 5 p.m. Tickets are \$5 and include an authentic Mexican dinner and a performance by Flamingo dancers. For more information call 516-6861.

Catholic Newman Center

The Catholic Newman Center is hosting Mass at the South Campus Residence Hall starting at 8:30 p.m. All students are welcome to attend. The hall is located across from the University Meadows apartment complex and next to the Optometry Building.

Busta Rymes CD Party

A party will be held in the Nosh from noon to 3 p.m. to celebrate the release of the Busta Rymes MTV CD. A raffle for a CD player and MTV merchandise will be held.

Saturday 3

Recreation Sports

A paintball game will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. A \$10 payment includes shuttle, paintball games and gear. For more information call 516-5326.

THE CAMPUS CRIMELINE

October 19, 2001

At 11:53 a.m. a staff person reported that her purse containing credit cards was stolen from 912 Social Science Tower. The theft occurred between 11:45 a.m. and 12:05 p.m.

At 1:35 p.m. a student reported that his Fall 2001 Parking Permit was stolen from his vehicle while it was parked in Lot "E."

October 22, 2001

A student reported that his Fall 2001 Parking Permit was stolen on 10/21/01 at noon while his vehicle was parked in Lot "E."

October 23, 2001

A staff member reported that his Faculty/Staff Parking Permit was stolen from his vehicle sometime between 4:30

p.m. and 8:05 p.m. The vehicle had been parked on the first floor of parking garage "N."

October 24, 2001

A counterfeit Fall Semester 2001 Student Parking Permit was found on a parked vehicle in Lot "JJ" on South Campus. The permit was confiscated, and the Student Affairs Office will be notified.

A student reported the theft of his Fall 2001 Parking Permit from his vehicle while it was parked in Lot "E" on 10/23/01 between 12:30 p.m. and 4 p.m.

A student reported that her Fall 2001 Parking Permit was stolen from her vehicle while it was parked in the Millennium Student Center Parking Garage between 12:15 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. on 10/19/01.

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

www.thecurrentonline.com

The Current

- Nick Bowman • Editor-in-Chief
- Steve Valko • Managing Editor
- Inshirah • Business Manager
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- Thuraya Al-Taai • Ad Representative
- Renee Umidon • Proofreader
- Jennifer Dodd • Features Associate
- Delyte Robbins • Copy Editor

Staff Writers/ Photographers:

- Sara Porter, Charlie Bright, Joan Henry, Delyte Robbins, Jason Meyer, Charles Bailey, Sara Sorrenson, Beth Grindstaff, Kelli Solt, Dawn Symington, Farika Rusli,

388 Millennium Student Center
8001 Natural Bridge Road
St. Louis, Missouri 63121

Newsroom • (314) 516-5174
Advertising • (314) 516-5316
Business • (314) 516-5175
Fax • (314) 516-6811

campus:

388 Millennium Student Center

email:

current@jinx.umsu.edu

website:

<http://www.thecurrentonline.com>

The Current is published weekly on Mondays. Advertising rates available upon request. Terms, conditions and restrictions apply. The Current, financed in part by student activities fees, is not an official publication of UM-St. Louis. The University is not responsible for the content of The Current or its policies. Commentary and columns reflect the opinion of the individual author. Unsigned editorials reflect the opinion of the majority of the editorial board. All material contained in each issue is property of The Current and may not be reprinted, reused or reproduced without the expressed, written consent of The Current. First copy free; all subsequent copies, 25 cents, available at the offices of The Current.



FLYING SAUCERS

HIDDEN HISTORY
11.3.2001

Four speakers will present to the public more credible information than has been disclosed in the past. The presenters will add knowledge about science, history, education, and the intelligence community. Our speakers are current published authors, whose books will be available at this one day event. Please join us for the beginning of a story "That must be told," regardless of the 1947 National Security Act.

- Press Conference
- Richard Dolan - UFO's and the National Security State
- Harold E. Burt - Flying Saucers 101
- Dr. Carol Rosin - The Future of Space and Extraterrestrial Intelligence
- Stanton T. Friedman - Putting The Pieces Back Together Again
- Special Speakers Panel

November 3, 2001
JCPenney Auditorium
9:00 a.m. - 9:15 p.m.
\$10 per session



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ATTENDANCE REQUIRED

Recognized Student Organizations
Applying for Student Fees for
2002-2003 Must Attend a:

SABC Budget Preparation Workshop

To request funds from the Student Activity Budget/Service Fees Committee for the 2002-2003 fiscal year, your organization must have a representative attend one of the following budget preparation training sessions:

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Monday, November 12 | 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. |
| Tuesday, November 13 | 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. |
| Wednesday, November 14 | 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. |
| Thursday, November 15 | 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. |
| Friday, November 16 | 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. |

Sign up in Student Activities
Room 366 Millennium Student Center by
Friday, November 9, 2001.

Questions or inquiries:
Call Chris in Student Activities at 516-5202

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"My goals for the coming year include increasing student and faculty awareness of library services," said Amy Arnott. Her title was changed recently to the Dean of libraries.



Mussumi Igarashi/The Current

New title reflects libraries' growth

• Arnott's title changed to Dean of Libraries at UM-St. Louis

BY FARIKA RUSLI
Staff Writer

UM-St. Louis Director of Libraries Amy Arnott's title was changed recently to the Dean of Libraries, which she said reflects a trend among academic libraries.

However there isn't any change in her job responsibilities. As the dean of Libraries, she runs the campus libraries, participates in the statewide-integrated library consortium, MOBIUS, and ensures that the libraries support the University's instructional and research mission.

"My goals for the coming year include increasing student and faculty awareness of library services, working closely with the Mercantile Library on development, as well as merging functions and collections," Arnott said.

Pam Spreen, the administrative associate of Libraries, said Arnott's title was more accurate.

"It is a trend that libraries are going to where their heads are equal to the colleague across the campus," Spreen said.

Arnott began her career at UM-St. Louis as a student library assistant in 1978. A year later she became the Reserve/Stacks supervisor. In 1999

Arnott was named Interim Associate Director and then Interim Director of Libraries in 2000.

Now after becoming the Dean of Libraries, Arnott admitted that she is still trying to figure out how to best divide her time after getting married this past June.

"I am active in community theater and have directed a number of productions for local area high schools, as well as many different theater groups," she said. "The position requires a good deal of time and attention beyond the traditional 40-hour week."

When asked about what she thought is the most important thing for librarians she said, "A major challenge for librarians in the 21st century is to successfully manage the 'hybrid library,'" Arnott said.

"We must fully support traditional resources while integrating electronic resources. We need to ensure that current and future generations of library users will be able to access all of the libraries' available resources."

"I have known Mrs. Arnott since I came to the university and started working here," Spreen said. "I think she is a wonderful person to work for."

'Dear Alice' is sincerely silly, strangely sexual

BY SARA PORTER
Senior Writer

If you are the type of person who loves the sexual humor found in movies like "There's Something About Mary" or the even more off-beat drug humor of Cheech and Chong, then you would probably enjoy Steven Ryniak's "Dear Alice: Rejected Letters to Advice Columnists from Completely Insane Idiots." But, if you have the sense of humor that can only handle those types of jokes for no longer than ten minutes, then you may find "Dear Alice" about 100 pages too long.



"Dear Alice" is a book of letters that were supposedly "compiled from over 2,000 different advice column rejection piles from more than 60,000 newspapers worldwide." In reality, however, they are fictional. Far be they from the hard-luck stories found in "Dear Abby" or "Ann Landers" about divorce, reconciliation, abuse, and other personal matters.

Instead, these letters could be written by guests of "The Jerry Springer Show." Most of the letters are just too

silly to be believed, such as the one written by a reader complaining that their cat took too much catnip and now "he's started wearing a Rastafarian hat all the time, has a goatee and dreadlocks, and he sleeps about twenty-two hours a day." Okay.

Ah, yes, the drug jokes. "Dear Alice" is full of them, as well as profanity, and while they are funny when used sporadically, they get really old after awhile. The book is like a fifth-grader who has finally learned what those words mean and now uses them just to annoy people.

Ryniak also makes some pop-culture references, in his 'letters' on "Star Wars,"

"Dungeons and Dragons," and fantasy novels. Some of them are pretty funny to fans, but not too many people on the outside would get them. He also takes such zings on pagan religions, animal lovers, scientists, and people with mental illnesses. Not too many people are safe from ridicule in this book.

While "Dear Alice" may amuse some people and offend others, it is mostly a book that is a simple diversion and easily forgettable.

October offers outrageous outlets and outings

BY CHARLIE BAILEY
Senior Writer

Fall is the time of the year when the trees become lifeless, the wind screams in your ears, and night seems to last forever. But in this season we celebrate some of the most enjoyable and creative pastimes of the year. One of the most celebrated months of fall is October and in this month one particular day, Oct. 31, Halloween.

Halloween is the one day of the year where it is acceptable to become someone you are not. The idea of hanging skeletons from your trees and placing fake corpses in your yard is deemed customary. And because Halloween is such a liberal holiday, scaring someone or being scared is traditional.

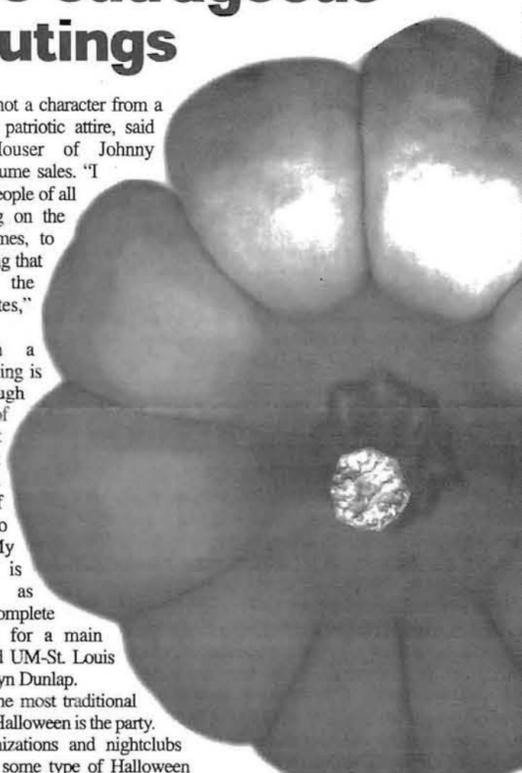
This ageless holiday has many perks, such as haunted houses. Missourians have the pleasure of hosting a plethora of them. From the Lemp Mansion in Soulard to the "Fright Fest" at Six Flags, the art of a good scare is in full effect.

This form of entertainment is one of the most popular and profitable varieties of leisure in the month of October, and especially around Halloween. Although a good scare is good for spirit during October, one of the most pleasurable experiences that people get is to become someone they are not. The art of disguise is mastered on Halloween. One of the most fashionable costumes

this year is not a character from a film, but is patriotic attire, said Melanie Houser of Johnny Brach's costume sales. "I am seeing people of all ages passing on the usual costumes, to get something that represents the United States," she said.

Although a patriotic feeling is going through the minds of many, most have not abandoned the idea of dressing to disgust. "My boyfriend is going as Hannibal, complete with brains for a main course," said UM-St. Louis junior Kathryn Dunlap.

One of the most traditional requests on Halloween is the party. Many organizations and nightclubs are offering some type of Halloween gathering. One area that celebrates Halloween in more of a traditional setting is Soulard. Because Soulard is similar to the French Quarter in New Orleans, Louisiana, they both celebrate the day of the dead the same - all out.



Although Halloween is only one day, the idea of doing things such as dressing up in some unfamiliar garb or scaring someone to death is a unique concept.

Education major speaks about Peace Corps teaching experiences overseas

BY PATRICA KLEIN
Special to the Current

In the fall of 1998, UM-St. Louis student Lisa Harmon found herself intentionally living among red poison centipedes, hairy wolf spiders, slugs, crab spiders, cave toads, bats, geckos and green tree frogs. In addition to the array of exotic wildlife, Harmon resided in a bamboo house, cooked with propane in an open-air thatched roof kitchen, washed her clothes in a river by hand, and used a toilet she described as a "glorified pit." All this Harmon experienced on the Solomon Islands, courtesy of the Peace Corps.

Harmon, 26, who is attending UM-St. Louis to earn her teaching certificate, spent nearly two years teaching as a Peace Corps volunteer on the Solomon Islands. Harmon grew up in the rural northwest Missouri farming community of Hopkins and later attended Drake University in Iowa to study biology.

In her freshman year at Drake, a Peace Corps recruiter visited the campus and explained the organization. Harmon was hooked.

"I want to do that," Harmon remembered. "I started structuring my whole time at Drake for doing something like the Peace Corps."

However, Harmon had another person to consider—future husband Luke Harmon.

"I think he wanted to do this just as much as me," Harmon said.

The Harmons started the process by applying to the Peace Corps in 1997 and were accepted shortly after that. To make sure they stayed together, Luke and Lisa were married in July 1998.

"We quickly had to get out the atlas," Harmon said, laughing. "We didn't know where the Solomon Islands were."

The Solomon Islands are a group of 992 isolated islands located in the South Pacific Ocean, slightly north-east of Australia. Today, the country is a member of the British Commonwealth. The Solomon Islands are known for their exquisite dive sites and untouched natural beauty. However, the Solomon Islands lack an up-to-date school system, and that need fits the Peace Corps' mission.

The Peace Corps is a volunteer organization dedicated to fighting hunger, disease, poverty and the lack of opportunity worldwide. The program was the 'brainchild' of President John F. Kennedy, who realized the potential to mobilize American expertise to fight the problems of the world. Since 1961, more than 163,000 Americans have answered President Kennedy's challenge, serving in over 135 countries around the globe.

The Harmons spent more than two months training before taking on their assignments on the Solomon Islands. After a nearly 40-hour flight, they arrived in Honiara, the capital of the Solomons, and then on to Santa Isabel

Island, their final destination.

Once they arrived on Santa Isabel Island, the Harmons were assigned to teach high school level science at Sir Dudley Tuti College, a boarding school run by the Anglican Church. In their first year, Harmon taught the equivalent of grades seven, eight, and nine.

She discovered that Sir Dudley Tuti College had one of the better-equipped science labs on the Solomon Islands. However, it still lacked the equipment found in an American high school science lab. Harmon used a little 'American ingenuity' to deal with this problem.

The Peace Corps allows volunteers to ship 20 pounds of books to their designated sites. Before leaving for the Solomons, Harmon went back to her high school in Hopkins, obtained out-of-date textbooks, and shipped them to the island. In addition, she persuaded a Missouri dentist to send toothbrushes for a section on dental care and Planned Parenthood to send information on teen sex education.

However, Santa Isabel Island itself proved to be the best science lab available to the students. There she taught conservation and ecology.

"We were located right in the center of a rain forest," Harmon explained. "We used things right in the environment."

Harmon learned that some items that are grounds for expulsion in

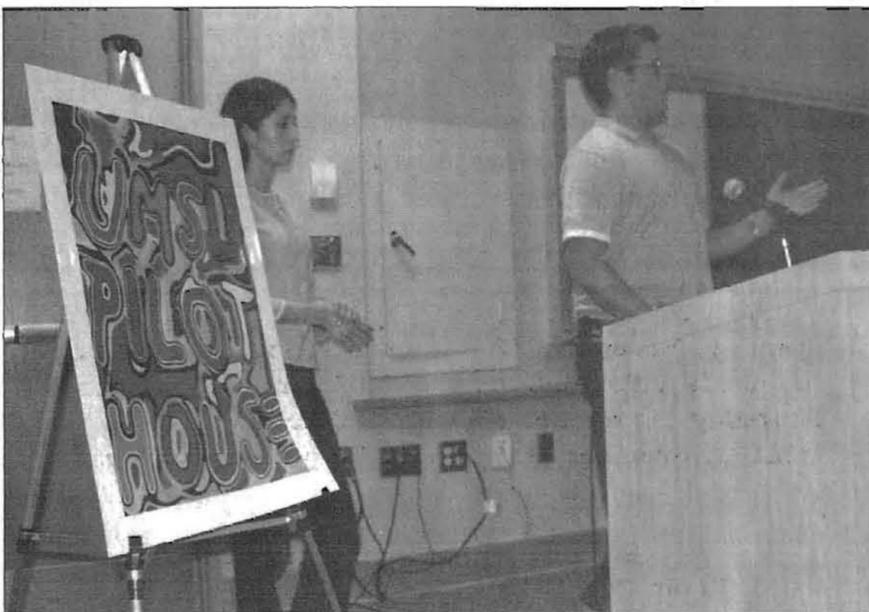
EMILY UMBRIGHT

EDITOR

EMILY UMBRIGHT
Features Editor

phone: 516-5174
fax: 516-6811

Coming soon...



Maggie Matthews/The Current

Art students Abril Borrego and Luke Schulte spoke at the SGA meeting on Tuesday about the Pilot House. They encouraged student organizations to submit artwork that will be displayed in a mural in the Pilot House. Organizations and students can pick up applications at the customer service desk in the University Bookstore.

The Pilot House will be a new dining alterna-

tive for students and staff. It is scheduled to open in January 2002 and will be located on the first floor of the Millennium Student Center.

Borrego and Schulte also announced that a student art gallery will open in January. The name is yet to be determined, but the location will also be on the first floor of the Millennium Student Center.

OPINIONS

OUR OPINION

This Halloween mask your fears

Halloween, the season that officially marks the transition from the somewhat balmy weather of fall to the grim reality of a St. Louis autumn. As this change approached us, a feeling of confusion has begun to set into the minds of many. In light of the terrorists attacks that have scarred our nation's soil, many have felt that celebration is in bad taste.

However, we at *The Current* disagree. It is not healthy nor fair to condemn those who wish to mask their fears of the terrorists.

Where is the harm in a relaxation? While reflection is a wonderful way to reconcile emotions, and indeed is a healthy means by which to deal with tragedy, there is something to be said of 'cutting loose.'

For many, wearing a silly costume and taking on a separate persona is a way of shielding ourselves from the real world. On what other day would it be acceptable to don a plastic knife and pumpkin head and scream at little children? Although this may sound

extremely trivial to most, to many this is a way of escape. It is these trivial things that seem to soothe even the most high-strung individuals.

Right now, our very persons have been violently shaken, and we are becoming more and more disconnected with every passing day. As the harsh realities of war begin to set in, a feeling of helplessness and shame begins to take us all over, and we hide. This is not the answer.

Enjoy one of the last truly American holidays. Granted, the essence of October 31 may be lost to most, but the tradition of trick or treating and pumpkin carving and candy corn should not die, indeed these are our own things. We shouldn't let feelings of anxiety and weariness take us over. The bombings may have stopped us for an instant, but our lives shall not be put on indefinite hold.

We suggest that, especially in the face of the September 11 tragedies, Americans show their resilience and celebrate All Hollows Eve.

The issue:

With the Halloween holiday among us, many people will still be in a less-than-festive mood due to the military mode that so many of our governing officials have now shifted into. Celebration has been looked at as unpatriotic and as an insult to those affected by the terrorists attacks.

We suggest:

All people should use this Halloween as a way to forget about the current state of the world, albeit for just a few hours, and relax. Many of our colleagues are very fatigued, and are showing signs of wear.

So what do you think?

Tell us what you think! Drop us a line at the office, 388 MSC or online at:

thecurrentonline.com

The greatest classroom

Have you ever had an epiphany, the type of 'eureka' moment that spreads the horizons of your comprehension further than ever before?

Remember back to your first steps. As a child, a lack of mobility was a great hindrance. The cookie jar was always five stumbles and two feet too far away. Stretching and falling, you continued to claim your prize, until one time, you just walked. Walked and grabbed the cookies. And that was an epiphany.

Over this past week, I spent the better half of four days in the 'Big Easy' attending a seminar for collegiate journalists. My staff and I, albeit separate, attended a multitude of seminars about proper writing technique and design protocol and so on. Although these professional vignettes were helpful and insightful, the real learning, I feel, took place outside.

I spent most of my nights down on Bourbon Street reflecting, whether it be over a tall draft, a long walk, or a short female. Unlike most, I use travel as a classroom. A new setting allows for new thoughts and hopefully new revelations, and this adventure did not lack in those aspects.

For starters, I learned the art of the seamster, those characters that seem to know their way around every alley, street and bouncer in the district. 'Personality-Plus', as some refer to, can get you many things. Style can be a great tool, but like a balloon, there has to be something more to it; there has to be some substance.

I also learned, as most of us have learned time and time before, the fick-

leness of the female. I had met a lady on the second night of our retreat, and after a few drinks we had become quite friendly. After the last bar turned out the lights, it was time to go home. The idea arose that perhaps we should share a bed, rather than wake up our long-lost colleagues in travel, but being the gentleman, I declined, tabling the offer for another day. We exchanged phone numbers, and I was off on my merry way. The next day, I ran into the same female in the convention hotel, and we picked up our conversation seamlessly. Plans were made to meet up later that night, as that was our last night in town, and again we halted the relationship for a later time. We did meet later that evening, only to find another man for this lady to form with, and that was the end of that. I did exact revenge, however, as, being the man, I carried with me her belonging, including a cellular phone and wallet, which I misplaced later that night in the calvacade of bars and clubs that I did attend.

Thirdly, I realized that some people that you tend to push away can be your greatest assets. After the aforementioned incident, I really could have used a support base, but having alienated myself from the group, I brought upon myself a newfound misery and feeling of emptiness. Luckily, most things can be salvaged, and even the best leaders and managers do so by example and inclusion, with a touch of humility.

I gained a better working knowledge of the world, and that is the greatest classroom lesson I could ever learn.



NICK BOWMAN
Editor-in-Chief

GUEST COMMENTARY

Memories of Halloween past, trick or treat in college too

(U-WIRE) BOSTON - The days are getting shorter, the leaves are changing colors and I've already lost interest in all my classes. That can only mean it's October.

I love October, because to me it's synonymous with my favorite non-present-based, non-feast-based holiday: Halloween. What can I say? Presents and feasts kick ass, but Halloween kicks ass too. That's why, despite all my friends, family and social instincts telling me not to - I plan on going trick-or-treating this year.

You remember trick-or-treating, don't you? The brisk night air. The costumes. The thrill of running around after dark with your friends. The thrill of getting chased by bigger kids with shaving cream cans. The thrill of growing up, being rich and famous and seeing those same shaving cream kids offer you a shoeshine at a bus stop. All of these thrills made Halloween fun. But they simply can't hold a candle to the candy.

Candy is delicious. No one's going to argue that with me. The only hassle about candy is having to pay for it. If only there was some way to get candy for free. Oh, why can't there be some way - oh wait, there is. It's called trick-or-treating. I think all you naysayers who scoff at me for wanting to go trick-or-treating this year should pause for a moment and reflect on that concept. Free candy. Is there ever an age where you outgrow free candy? Maybe when you're 70 - maybe not. I rest my case.

That said, your senior year of col-

lege is probably the last time you can go trick-or-treating without it being just plain sad. That's why I have to go this year. Before I came to college, I had never missed a year of trick-or-treating. Even the year when the only person who would go with me was my one lame friend. No, really, she was lame. She had broken her ankle getting off the school bus. But we still went trick-or-treating, with me pulling her around the neighborhood in a wagon. I was dressed as an apple seller and she was an apple.

However, when I came to college, I found people's priorities had changed. No one seemed to want to go trick-or-treating. So I did something I will regret for the rest of my life: I skipped a year. I didn't go. The world that night was divided into the free-candyful and the free-candyless, and I belonged to the latter. The next year, however, I was able to rally a group of my friends to go. Even I was amazed by the response we got as we made our way through our Brookline neighborhood. Only one person said, "Aren't you a little old for this?" The lady at the first house we went to even said she hoped her children were still trick-or-treating when they were our age. It was a great time, until my friends started setting themselves on fire on people's lawns.

You see, trick-or-treating is too often confused in people's minds with vandalism. The popular opinion goes that once you reach a certain age, you graduate from getting candy to knocking over trash cans, pouring liquid latex in car locks and holding up old people for their OxyContin. But

where's the fun in that? Any night of the year you can put toilet paper in someone's tree. But I defy you to ring someone's doorbell in June and ask him or her for candy. They just won't give it to you - even if you're wearing a hockey mask.

This is why Halloween is special and sacred and that's why I have to go. Sure, you'll find some religious types saying that it's immoral to dress up as demons and witches, but it's untrue. The real monsters of Halloween are the people who give out pennies, or bags of popcorn, or, god forbid, Mary Janes. Those people are sick. And don't even get me started on the people who turn out their lights and pretend to not be home. Who do you think you're fooling? If I were the egging type, you'd be the first against the wall.

Hey, doesn't all this talk of eggings and disgusting, vaguely peanut-based candy make you long for your own bygone days of trick-or-treating? Then indulge that feeling! Trick-or-treat this year. What's the worst that can happen? OK, there's a lot that could go wrong - from getting arrested to getting hit by a car to public humiliation in front of everyone you hold dear. But isn't it worth it for free candy? No? Well, more for me then. I may look ridiculous come Halloween night, but I'll have a sack full of smiles. And another sack full of candy. Mwa-ha-ha!

-Justin Aclin, Editor
The Daily Free Press
Boston University

The 'Machismo' factor in us all

A couple of years ago, my best friend Joe and I were driving in West County. He drove in the left lane of a two-lane road. We passed a sign that said that drivers in the left hand lane would have to turn left, which was a problem since we wanted to go straight. My friend put on his blinker to turn right. The car in the right hand lane sped up and didn't allow us to get in front of him, much to Joe's chagrin. I remember telling Joe I would have done the same thing as the other driver. Joe asked why.

I rubbed my fingers together and said one word, "Machismo."

Ever since I got my driver's license seven years ago, I have driven with a purpose: To get to my destination as quickly as possible. And one of the biggest problems that I encounter is drivers trying to cut in front of me.

Why do I dislike people cutting in front of me? That question belongs right up there with why does your nose run and feet smell. I just take it as an insult when people cut in front of me. There's something that happens to me when I get in my car. I feel tough. Brash. Cocky. I get a power kick behind the wheel, and no one is going to ruin my fun. You want to get in front of me? Well there's plenty of room behind me, buddy.

One of the things that is pure joy is finding a stretch of highway where the speed limit increases. Going Westbound on 70 is a trip to the dentist's office, especially around the airport. The traffic is always seems

backed up from construction, which means you have to go the speed limit. (Even worse, the speed limit in construction zones is only 45 MPH). But after the construction, the highway opens up into three lanes. The speed limit is back to 60, and all is well in this world.

I try to hold my driving to a few simple rules. I try not to go exceed the speed limit by five miles per hour. I'm always looking in my mirrors for cops.

My best friend Joe has helped me calm down since my younger days by helping me watch my speed when driving the streets. "There are cops everywhere", he always tells me. It's now gotten to the point that his reminder haunts me even when I'm not driving with him.

There is one source of Kryptonite that combats my Superman persona while driving, my Mother. Ever since she took me out for my first driving lesson, she has always been a "Nervous Nellie". We drove

down Creve Coeur Mill Road, and she was afraid I was going to run into the cars going the other way. I remember her doing this with any car that passed. On those rare occasions that I drive her these days, she always reminds me of the finer points of driving (for instance, two hands on the wheel, go the speed limit, eyes on the road). But she's my Mom, and it's terrific that she's concerned for my well being.

So if I pass you on the highway, don't be mad. I'm just on a binge of Machismo.



STEVE VALKO
Managing Editor

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The Current
388 Millennium Student Center
8001 Natural Bridge Road
St. Louis, MO 63121

FAX
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E-MAIL
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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. Students should also include their student ID number.

What's your opinion?

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

- Trick or Treat?
- Realizations in your life
- Machismo in society

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

- Submit a Letter to the Editor
- Write a Guest Commentary
- Visit the Online Forums at thecurrentonline.com

Under Current

by Maggie Matthews
staff photographer



Kelly Stokes
Junior / Computer Engineering

"I'm probably going to dress up for the student activities pumpkin contest."



Paul Owens
Sophomore / History

"I don't have any."



Jane Hughes
Junior / Elementary Education

"It's my brother's birthday, so I don't really get to do anything."



Chris Cyr
Senior / Accounting

"I'm going to hand out candy to the neighborhood kids so they don't egg my house."

What are your plans for Halloween?

Women's soccer earns no. 3 seed in GLVC post-season

BY DAVE KINWORTHY
Staff Editor

The Riverwomen's soccer team defeated Bellarmine University 3-0 in the last Great Lakes Valley Conference game of the regular season for UM-St. Louis.

In the contest, the Riverwomen struck first at the 39:59 mark when Lindsey Siemens scored unassisted to give UM-St. Louis a lead going into halftime.

In the second half, UM-St. Louis dominated as the Riverwomen held Bellarmine to only five shots on goal and recorded two goals on eight shots to emerge victorious.

The two goals of the second half were scored by Melissa Timpe on a pass from Melissa Papa off a free kick and the third was registered by Regan Dyro as she finished a rebound off a shot that hit the goal post.

With the victory, the Riverwomen earned a third place seed for the GLVC Tournament that will begin Oct. 31 when UM-St. Louis hosts SIU-Edwardsville in the first round of the tournament. The winner of the game will advance to the semifinals

to play the winner of the Quincy University/Wisconsin Parkside match.

Previously, the Riverwomen defeated SIU-Edwardsville in a heated rivalry at home 2-1 in September.

All of the scoring was done in the first half for both teams as Siemens and Lindsay Jones scored for the Riverwomen in the victory. The Riverwomen's defense also held SIU-Edwardsville down in that game as SIU-Edwardsville was limited to only seven shots for the entire contest.

The Riverwomen heading into the tournament are 12-4-1 overall and boast a 7-2-1 record within the conference.

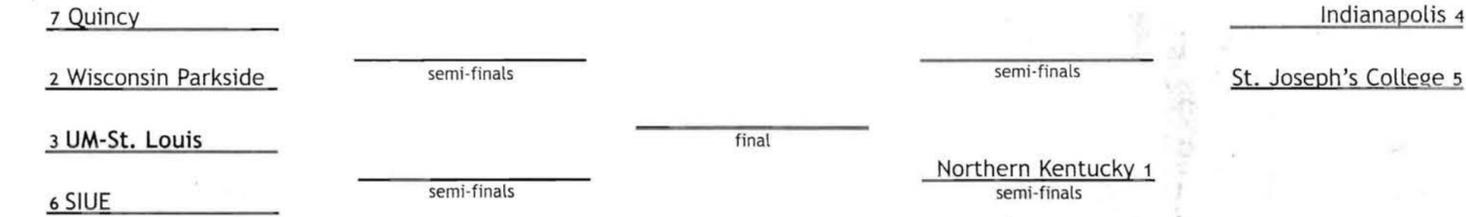
Aside from their no. 3 ranking in the GLVC, the Riverwomen also received recognition outside of their conference. They are currently ranked in the top five teams within the Great Lakes Valley region. Teams ahead of the Riverwomen are No. 1 nationally ranked Northern Kentucky, Ashland University, GLVC foe Wisconsin Parkside and Mercyhurst (Pa.) College.



Senior Riverwomen Alania O'Donnell uses her head against the Northern Kentucky offense.

Photos by Sara Sorrenson The Current

2001 Great Lakes Valley Conference Women's Soccer Tournament



BY NICK BOWMAN
Senior Editor

Morse to take on former program

Former UMSL coach returns home, but not as a Riverwoman

bilities for the Billikens will primarily include recruiting, scouting opponents and working with post players.

Morse, who coached UM-St. Louis from 1989 to 1993, returns to the city after serving as an assistant coach at the University of Rhode Island for the past two seasons.

"I'm excited to be able to bring Bobbi back to the city of St. Louis," Pizzotti said. "She has a wealth of experience both in recruiting and coaching. She has maintained her contacts in the Midwest, and is familiar with the recruits in this area. Bobbi is a hard worker, and we are fortunate to have someone with her vast experience on the staff."

After working in the college ranks for nearly a decade, Morse served as the only assistant coach under Angela Beck with the American Basketball

League's San Jose Lasers for two seasons, helping guide the team to the second round of the 1997-98 ABL playoffs. Among the players she worked with was two-time Olympian and former Stanford All-American Jennifer Azzi.

Prior to joining the San Jose coaching staff, Morse spent eight years in the college ranks where she coached six current WNBA players. Even more impressive, her players achieved a 100 percent graduation rate. As an assistant coach on Beck's staff at Nebraska, Morse helped lead the Huskers to a 22-8 finish and reached the NCAA Tournament in 1995-96. Nebraska finished 19-11 in the 1996-97 season, narrowly missing a second consecutive NCAA berth.

Recognized as an outstanding recruiter, Morse oversaw Nebraska's

recruiting efforts and played a major role in signing one of the best recruiting classes in school history in 1996. She also handled scheduling and compliance duties in addition to her coaching responsibilities.

Morse has been a head coach for seven seasons compiling a 111-92 slate. She served as head coach at Kaskaskia (Ill.) Junior College from 1986-1989, where she posted a 70-25 mark, including a 30-4 mark during her final campaign. She then took the head position at the University of Missouri-St. Louis for four seasons, recording 41 wins before moving onto UMKC as an assistant coach in 1993.

Morse's collegiate playing career began at Wabash Valley College, where she is still the school's all-time leading scorer and rebounder. She was the captain of the women's basketball



team at Eastern Michigan, where received a bachelor's degree in business in 1986. A native of Shelburn, Ind., Morse earned a master's degree in sports administration from the United States Sports Academy in 1991.

Morse and the Lady Billikens will take on the Riverwomen on Friday at the Savvis Center.

Rivermen soccer out of gas, post-season

BY DAVE KINWORTHY
Staff Editor

The Rivermen's soccer team dropped its third game in a row, this time losing to Bellarmine University 3-0 and eliminated themselves from inclusion to the Great Lakes Valley Conference Tournament at the same time.

With a win, UMSL would have taken the last seed in the tournament, but it was not meant to be as Bellarmine University defeated the Rivermen and clinched the final seed in the tournament.

Bellarmine University recorded the first goal of the contest at the 35:35 mark of the first half. They then recorded two more goals in the second half to clinch the tournament berth and send the Rivermen to tenth place in the GLVC standings.

Bellarmine University outshot UM-St. Louis 13-10, but made the

most of their shots on goalkeeper Adam Barnstead.

With the loss, the Rivermen's record fell to 4-9-2 on the season and 1-7-2 in the GLVC.

Previously, the Rivermen dropped a pair of conference games on the road to Northern Kentucky and Indianapolis.

In the Northern Kentucky match-up, the Rivermen came out and tallied two first half goals on only four shots. The first goal came off the foot of Adam Bimslager on an assist from Kyende Bormentor. The second goal came less than seven minutes later as junior college transfer Jake Hopson scored on an assist from Bimslager.

Northern Kentucky would then rally in the second half and record three goals in less than 16 minutes to defeat the Rivermen and goalkeeper Barnstead. The final game-winning goal was scored with only two seconds remaining in regulation. For the

game, Northern Kentucky outshot the Rivermen 17-7, as they limited UM-St. Louis to only three-second half shots compared to Northern Kentucky's 10.

In the second game of the road trip, UM-St. Louis traveled to Indianapolis and were defeated 5-2 to drop their second road game in a row.

Indianapolis actually trailed twice in the game as the Rivermen scored the first and the third goals of the game. The first for the Rivermen was scored by Kirt Spencer and the second was by Alex Kerford on an assist from Spencer. But Indianapolis would rally behind four second half goals to defeat the Rivermen. In the game, Indianapolis outshot the Rivermen 26-9.

The Rivermen played two games over this past weekend to finish up their season against Truman State and Lincoln University.

UMSL Basketball Luncheon

St. Louis, MO - The UM-St. Louis men's and women's basketball team will hold a pre-season luncheon on Tuesday, October 30, at 12 noon, at the Downtown Missouri Athletic Club.

Men's head coach Mark Bernsen and women's head coach Shelly Ethridge will both be in attendance at the event, which is open to the public. Reservations for the event are required and can be made by contacting Donna Carothers in the UM-St. Louis Alumni Relations Office at x6453. Tickets for the event are \$20 per person and \$15 for members of the UM-St. Louis Alumni Association.

The men's team finished last season with a 14-13 record, the first winning season and most wins for the program since the 1995-96 season. After a 12-15 season in his first year as head coach, Mark Bernsen hopes to continue the improvement the team showed last year, and do so with a new cast of players on the roster. The Rivermen will again rely on team defense as one

of its strengths, after finishing first in the Great Lakes Valley Conference in team defense last season, holding opponents to just 67.9 points per game, including a 63-62 win over national champion Kentucky Wesleyan on the Rivermen's home floor.

The women's team is coming off its third consecutive winning season, the first time in the school's history the program has had that many winning seasons in a row. Head coach Shelly Ethridge returns six letterwinners, including four starters, from last year's squad that went 14-13 and finished sixth in the Great Lakes Valley Conference. With some added new players filling key roles on the team, the Riverwomen look to improve on that finish and make a return trip to the NCAA Tournament after qualifying in the 1999-2000 season.

(release courtesy of Todd Addington, UM-St. Louis SID))

Rivermen soccer much better than record

With the men's soccer team failing to advance to the Great Lakes Valley Conference tournament this season, people seem to question the character and heart of the Rivermen. With a horrible season last year, I applaud the effort that Dan King and his coaching staff have done over the course of the year.

It would have been really easy to be content with only a few wins like a year ago, and just not care going into the season, but King and the Rivermen's soccer team have done everything that I did not see done last season. They play with true tenacity and a heart to win.

The Rivermen's record currently is 4-9-2 overall, but those four wins and the two ties alone tell a story. Last season, those games would have been losses without question. The team did

not care about themselves as a whole, rather as individuals trying to boost their own statistics.

When King arrived, he rebuilt this team into a unit that actually produced offensively. The last time I saw such thunderous goals was when Tom Redmond was at the helm of the Rivermen's soccer team and they were headed into their second straight conference tournament championship game. King has brought in quality recruits like Dave Seckman and Adam Bimslager, two names you will hear quite often next season and in seasons to come.

It may seem like I despise former head coach Hannibal Najaar for the recruits that he brought in last season, but Najaar did everything in his power to work with what he could. He was not given the time, preparation

and financial backing to enable the Rivermen to succeed this season. The same goes for current head coach King, though. I cannot imagine what kind of recruiting spree King could actually go on if he was allowed an entire off-season to get the players he needs to make a contender.

Prior to the season, I thought there was no way that this year's Rivermen would have any chance of winning games. King and the Rivermen proved me wrong. They came out and were aggressive offensively and produced some excitement in another rebuilding year for the men's soccer program. Once this men's team becomes established - which hopefully will occur next season - they will begin to form the basis of the future generations of players who arrive at Mark Twain. Just like the National

Championship team of 1973 the team has to show it is capable before it can begin to build a dynasty.

Look at what Lewis University has done, for example. They have built their men's soccer team into the No. 1 nationally-ranked team. Let alone being the Great Lakes Valley Conference champions, the Lewis men have established themselves. They did what the Northern Kentucky women's soccer teams of past have done. They got good recruiting and built a basis for future players to go by. They don't want to lose, and neither does King and the Rivermen's staff.

I applaud the Rivermen's efforts for this season. The future looks bright, and the team is finally heading in the right direction.
BASEBALL!!!



LATEST SCOOP

DAVE KINWORTHY

SPORTS

EDITOR

DAVE KINWORTHY
Sports Editor

phone: 516-5174
fax: 516-6811

THIS WEEK

Basketball

2
SLU
at Savvis Center
Women 5:30 p.m.

Soccer

GLVC TOUR
31
SIUE
Women 7 p.m.

Volleyball

30
at Quincy
7 p.m.

2
Bellarmine
7 p.m.

3
Kentucky Wesleyan
1 p.m.

Oops!

In last week's edition of The Current, two members of the men's basketball team, Matt Scherder and Derrick Reed, were omitted. Both players were late additions to the squad.

WEB

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A&E

EDITOR

CATHERINE
MARQUIS-HOMEYER
A&E Editor

phone: 516-5174
fax: 516-6811

A&E
Campus
Calendar

EVENTS

November

1-2

The Seventh Annual "What is a City: Presenting Urban Life" lectures will be held in room 126 of the J.C. Penny Building from 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. on Nov. 1 and from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. on Nov. 2. Admission is free and open to the public. The event is sponsored by the Center for Humanities and the UM-St. Louis Continuing Education and Outreach program.

5

Monday Noon Series.

Sculptor Arnold Nadler will give a lecture about his work, displayed in Gallery 210, at noon in room 229 of the J.C. Penny Building. The event is free. The Monday Noon Series is sponsored by the Center for Humanities.

8

A Jazz Ensemble Concert will take place in Room 205 of the Music Building at noon. The event is free.

MOVIE MARQUEE



CATHERINE
MARQUIS-HOMEYER

'Tortilla Soup' is a spoonful of sugar

BY CATHERINE
MARQUIS-HOMEYER
Staff Editor

The film "Tortilla Soup" is an appetizing film in several ways. The film opens with gorgeous mouth-watering photography of the preparation of a gourmet Mexican meal, shot in the most vivid and appealing way, piquing your appetite for more and laying the table for the feast to come. Sequences focused on cooking and splendid meals pepper this tale of a chef and his three daughters. And the tale is as appealing as the food.

The three daughters all live under the roof of their father's house and somewhat under his traditionalist thumb. Gathering around the dinner table for Dad's Sunday feast is a family ritual, and sometimes it is the occasion for announcements and confrontations.

The dynamic of the relationships between the daughters (and of each daughter with their widower father) is as spicy as the food laid deliciously before them. The oldest daughter, Leticia (Elizabeth Pena), is a dour and tightly-wound teacher who is very involved with her new-found religion. Her rigid manner is a sharp contrast to the middle daughter Carmen (Jacqueline Obradors), a successful and beautiful businesswoman who lives a much more fast-paced life. The youngest daughter is teenager Maribel (Tamara Mello), who often tries to persuade her warring sisters and emotional father to just keep things light. The center of this boiling pot is their father, Martin Naranjo (Hector Elizondo), who sometimes simmers things down - and sometimes stirs them up.

This English-language film is really a remake of "Eat Drink Man Woman," the successful Chinese-language film by director Ang Lee, who also directed "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon." Lee is not the director here, but he gets some credit for the script in the movie credits. Often



Leticia (Elizabeth Pena), Carmen (Jacqueline Obradors) and Maribel (Tamara Mello) share a sister bonding moment in 'Tortilla Soup.'

when a film is remade in English, generally to appeal to American audiences, much of the beauty or strength of the original is lost, but that is not the case here. For "Tortilla Soup," director Maria Ripoli recast the tale with an American Hispanic family in the U.S. and the story was re-written into a lighter, more comic vein. Surprisingly, the resulting film is actually more appealing than the original in many ways.

The acting is marvelous, and the story is full of surprises. The ensemble acting of the family group is great, and each character sparkles in turn as the focus of the story shifts from father to each daughter and back. All the characters' stories blend together to make a stew that is funny, warm, and unex-

pected. Elizabeth Pena is especially appealing as the repressed Leticia, who's life is turned upside down by the events that unfold, as is Hector Elizondo who watches over his daughters like the pots in his kitchen, while his own issues simmer beneath the surface.

Besides the excellent lead players, there are standout supporting actors. Raquel Welch is just splendid as Hortensia, the neighbor's mother who comes to visit. Welsh, who really is partially Hispanic, must have relished playing this middle-aged seductress, since she plays her with such verve and broad comedy. Equally comic and charming in an offbeat way is Paul Rodriguez, as Orlando, the baseball coach at Leticia's school. Another

sparkler is Nikolai Kinski, son of the great German actor Klaus Kinski, who plays Andy, Maribel's Argentinean boyfriend.

And then there's the food. Not only is this a good story with strong characters, but every few scenes, you are treated to the most exquisite photography of kitchen technique and appealing ingredients, which reinforces what they say in the food industry: that the eye-appeal of the food is the most important thing in stimulating the appetite. Just watching these beautiful platters being prepared and laid out on the table is a sensory feast that makes this film enjoyable on its own. Just be sure you buy that big popcorn when you go see it, 'cause you're going to get hungry.

Jack the Ripper visits 'From Hell'

BY CATHERINE
MARQUIS-HOMEYER
Staff Editor

The stylish mystery "From Hell" resurrects the ghost of Jack the Ripper just in time for Halloween, in a film that has a dark, gorgeous, haunting look and the atmospheric presence of a London fog. The film is mysterious and generally entertaining, with a look at the times that is both dark and eerie.

In 1888, the 'Jack the Ripper' mystery filled the newspapers and gripped the public with terror as this serial killer gruesomely executed five London prostitutes and finally eluded capture, leaving a mystery that remains unsolved and an imprint on the popular psyche. Johnny Depp plays London police inspector Fredrick Abberline, assigned to the case of Jack the Ripper.

Abberline is a man with his own set of problems, including an acquaintance with opium and strange, prophetic dreams. Discovery of the first murder makes clear to the inspector and his assistant Peter Godley (Robbie Coltrane) that they are not dealing with the usual local thugs and pimps. Yet when the lower-class inspector tries to bring this detail to the attention of his upper-class superior, he is met with a wall of non-cooperation and class prejudice.

The inspector's investigation brings him into contact with a group of prostitutes who were friends of the first victim, including a striking redhead named Mary Kelly (Heather Graham). Since they are unaware of the details of her death, they tell Abberline that this is no ordinary murder, they share a belief that a local group of thugs are behind the killing.



Johnny Depp stars in 'From Hell'

Although her friends are unwilling to cooperate with the police, Mary Kelly agrees to work with the inspector. He is also helped by a retired surgeon, Sir William Gull (Ian Holmes), as they uncover clues in the case.

The film is directed by brothers Allen and Albert Hughes, whose previous works include "Menace II Society" and "Dead Presidents." Their

previous work in gritty urban realism infuses this Victorian tale with an unblinking look at the poverty and class divisions of the era. Yet this is a stylish rather than a realistic film, and the urban squalor is couched in terms of half-lit red and black sets and some haunting digital graphic effects that permeate the violence in the story. The haunting look of the film will certainly raise the visibility of this already well-regarded directing team.

Johnny Depp handles the London lower-class accent well, and turns in a nicely poignant performance as the troubled inspector. Heather Graham is adequate as Mary Kelly. Comedian Robbie Coltrane, (in a rare dramatic role that he still infuses with a biting wit) gives a really head-turning performance. The gifted Ian Holm, as Dr. Gull, is outstanding, as always.

The story is adapted from the exhaustively researched graphic novel by Alan Moore, which concludes with his own take on who the Ripper really was. Boiling down the long detailed novel to a two-hour movie is huge task, and the Hughes brothers aren't entirely successful in this transition. There is a change in tone - the novel is much grittier than this film, but the lush look of the film complements the attractiveness of its stars without undermining the mystery.

Most of this film is really good but things fall apart towards the end, making it a near miss instead of a great film. The film has been compared to other mysteries like "Seven," and that is a valid comparison, although this film deals with the violence in a more symbolic rather than graphic manner. While it is an entertaining film, the near-miss for greatness is a shame.

THEATER REVIEW



Michael Milligan as Edgar and Joneal Joplin as Lear in King Lear at the Repertory Theater of St. Louis.

'King Lear' rules the stage

BY CATHERINE
MARQUIS-HOMEYER
Staff Editor

The newest play to open at the Repertory Theater of St. Louis, in Webster Groves, is surely the jewel of the season: Shakespeare's "King Lear." Often regarded as Shakespeare's greatest drama, the tragic and violent tale stars the incomparable Joneal Joplin as Lear.

The story is one of arrogance and foolishness in old age, as King Lear decides to divide his kingdom among his three daughters and step down from the throne to a life of comfort in the houses of his devoted daughters. The imperious king commands his daughters to declare their love for him and two of them, Regan and Goneril, shower him with superlatives which he deludes himself into taking at face value.

When the third daughter, his favorite Cordelia, balks at this false show and answers truthfully, he banishes her as an ungrateful child, setting the stage for tragedy and the voyage of self-discovery that follows.

The Rep's production is one of their best I've seen. The lines of this play are remarkable and timeless, and the range demanded of the actors by the roles is exhausting, but the Rep's casting matches the material.

In the play, Lear goes on a physical and a psychological journey, from heaven to purgatory and back. As he does, Lear's (Joplin's) physical appearance and body language transform. The character goes from haughty confidence to madness to clarity, done by Joplin with grace and style.

Even though the focus is on Joplin's Lear, every role has a beauty,

see KING LEAR, page 8

Halloween comes with plenty of appealing spooky sweets

Well, Halloween is here, and I know I'm not the only one who counts it as a favorite holiday. Maybe it's the theater of the costumes, as the trees also wrap themselves in vivid colors, and the chance to appear as something completely different from yourself, just as nature's showy fall garb is totally different from the restful green of summer.

Besides the usual haunted houses and costume parties, there are Halloween-themed treats at the theaters, and on stage.

The top Halloween film has to be the current retelling of the Jack the

Ripper tale, "From Hell." This film, starring Johnny Depp, has a stylish look and Gothic feel that makes it just right for the season of ghouls, and is an entertaining tale along with the seasonal look. Another dark and forbidding tale is the mysterious "Mulholland Drive," a dark and beautiful film that will please and challenge serious film fans. Fans of both writer/director David Lynch's "Twin Peaks" and this year's film "Memento" will especially enjoy this haunting tale. On stage the Repertory Theater of St. Louis offers the Shakespearean tragedy "King Lear," a marvelous production that

also suits the season.

Just around the corner from Halloween, the St. Louis International Film Festival is set to arrive in early November, bringing more treats after the candy corn is all gone.

Fall is probably a good time to start to look back at the year's films. For a year that started out so poorly for movies, things are now looking better. The strikingly original "Memento" and weirdly charming "Moulin Rouge" have been joined by a number of good films. Among these films, (some still at theaters) are the marvelous darkly comic "Ghost World,"

the psychological thriller "The Deep End," and the comic and strangely poignant "Hedwig and the Angry Inch," a film likely to remind you of the cult film "Rocky Horror." Clearly, the independent films are dominating here, as the mainstream blockbusters like "Pearl Harbor" and "Planet of the Apes" have largely fallen flat. Recently, the array of excellent films has expanded to include the mysterious "Mulholland Drive" and the elegant thriller "From Hell."

Despite a few shortcomings, "From Hell" is the one mainstream film in this group, a tribute to its filmmakers.

Late season comedies have yielded some successful results in the silly but funny "Zoolander" and the equally silly and funny "Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back." The mainstream seems to do better in the realm of comedy, if you can call Kevin Smith and Ben Stiller mainstream.

Now we're getting into the period of the serious big films, as studios release their holiday Oscar contenders. Locally, we also have the St. Louis Film Festival with its feast of films to savor. We'll see if the mainstream movies can catch up to this year's late crop of awesome indie films.

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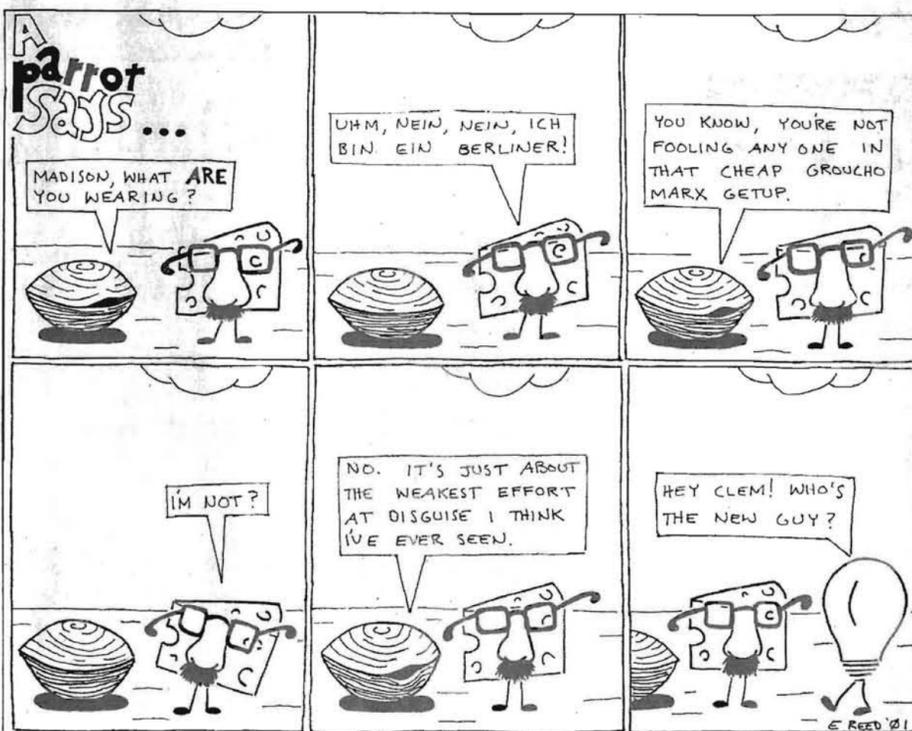
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Personals

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Remedy brings good news and sound to Jitters

BY KELLI SOLT
Staff Writer

Remedy, a Christian rock group, jammed at Jitters, the new south campus coffee shop Oct. 19. Preaching the gospel rock 'n' roll style, the Zachs have strengthened their family ties touring Midwest cities.

The Zachs, Omaha natives, are more than a group - they are family. They are four talented brothers: Daniel, 23, on drums; David, 22, on lead electric guitar and keyboard; Philip, 20, on bass; and Paul, 17, on guitar. They have been performing for six years and have two self-titled releases. Their sister Barbara, 25, is the sound tech, and Elizabeth, 15, is a stagehand.

Vocals were loud, soul driven, and harmonious, all the brothers sang except for Daniel - he was singing, too; he just didn't have a microphone.

The lyrics are what drive this group and the words cut to the soul. The lyrics are poetically intertwined with biblical verses, and the main character is Jesus. Songs titled "Desert Flood," "Behind the Skies," and "Martyr Song," carried a deeper message than typical garage grunge or pop rock. "Fire in Our Eyes" was powerful and well versed with hard-core lyrical delivery about confronting sin: "For there's a flame that's in my eye and so I'll stand / They overcame and so can I by the blood of the Lamb."

David writes most of the lyrics, but Philip wrote "Cleft," a song about the glory of Christ and his power to change people: "I want to live for you so change me like you do so they can see your glory."

“Music is just a tool to get across a message, we are to preach the Gospel and music is the way we do it.”

Philip said the words are the only reason they play at all. When asked if he felt a calling to form the band he answered "Music is just a tool to get across a message, we are to preach the Gospel and music is the way we do it." It was solidified in his heart to use music as the medium at age 13 but "If God said not to play music tomorrow I would just stop," he said.

In addition to a powerful message the band showcased their ability to jam. Each bro had a chance to show his stuff during long music interludes. Their music carried a deep, fast beat thanks to quick rhythms on the kit by Daniel, and funky bass lines by Philip. David's lead electric carried the melody and after a string broke on his first guitar his second one in line added distortion to the mix. He interchanged with keyboard and skillfully pounded out rapid rolls of rock chords. The (youngest and barefoot) Paul played solid and added a "Spanish" scale run during one fill-in.

The band was on in its first stop headed to Chicago, Bloomington, and Champaign to finish the weekend tour playing in other coffee shop settings. The two CDs are available from the email addy remedycd@hotmail.com.

During a break in the performance, UM-St. Louis student Christine Klemp shared her testimony about life filled with no discipline or guidance that led her down a path to near destruction. Overcoming drugs, alcohol, and a life with no direction, she credits her ability to attend UM-St. Louis this year to the work that God is doing in her life.

Business student Jake Linquist read from the Bible about Jesus' birth, death, and power that comes from the cross. He said "I have never been happier in my life since I began to follow Jesus." He also stressed that in the times we are living it is important to confess and accept Jesus as your personal savior.

The basement of Bellerive Hall, where the event was held, was not the best spot for acoustics, but the all-ages audience of about thirty did not seem to mind. The event was sponsored by Bible Study, which is held on campus on Wednesdays. Shara, R.A. of Bellerive, helped find space for the event with assistance from Residential Life director Kimberly Allen.

SCIENCE COLUMN

A single human is not human at all



MICAH ISSITT
Science Columnist

Compared to most mammals, humans are highly social. We have evolved to be social creatures and our culture has formed around our tendency to congregate and live in tight-knit societies.

A few weeks ago I wrote an article for this column called "The Science of Love," discussing the research of Chilean biologist Humberto Maturana which states that human society is based on love. Maturana believes that love is what allows us to form social relationships and therefore is what has enabled us to develop our complex society.

One of the most controversial of Maturana's conclusions was his definition of intelligence. Maturana claimed that human intelligence is primarily defined as the ability to form relationships, or rather a person's ability to perform activities that lead to the formation of social bonds.

Maturana believes that people have the same basic level of intelligence when it comes to the formation of social relationships. This intelligence allows us to coordinate our behaviors with others and to coordinate our language into what we call conversations. This ability for coordination allows us to form social relationships with other humans.

Most people believe that intelligence varies widely between people, but this refers to "problem-solving intelligence," like the ability to solve math problems or recall a piece of trivia for a certain question. Maturana believes that problem-solving ability should be considered a minor facet of intelligence and that the major determinant of intelligence is the ability to coordinate behavior with others in social behavior.

Maturana believes that social behavior is the origin of all intelli-

gence, even the ability to solve problems, which is highly valued in society. Some of Maturana's critics argue that he is not crediting people for their individual accomplishments, such as scientific discoveries.

An interesting thought experiment may explain Maturana's position; imagine a human born alone without social interaction and communication with others. What could this human learn? Assuming that this creature survives the dangers in his or her world and survives to maturity, what kind of mind would this person have? It is easy to imagine that this person would learn the basics of survival, but not much more, since there would be no guidance with which to filter experiences in their environment.

Humans are fast learners because we watch other people encounter their environments and we learn from our observations as well as from our own experiences. The development of a person raised without interaction would be severely limited, and we might expect them to formulate unreliable assumptions about nature based on their gut reactions and limited experiential environment.

What do people learn without the influence of others? There are not many examples of true self-learning. Even reading is a form of time-delayed communication, in which we learn from the past thoughts of other people. If we were to completely isolate ourselves from the influence of others, we would not even be able to read. Almost everything we learn comes from our interactions, or from reading or hearing the thoughts of others. There is almost always a social component to learning that increases our ability to absorb and understand new information. In the history of the human species, our social behavior may have been the most important factor in developing our culture. Communication enabled us to build relationships, and coordinate our behavior so that we could create complex societies.

The way that humans usually behave is rooted in the way that behavior changes through social interactions. A human who had never

been around others would not behave in the way that we expect humans to behave. This person would not seem to be human at all, but would act more like a solitary primate, reacting with fear to most aspects of human society. Speaking about ant sociality, Harvard entomologist Edward O. Wilson once stated that a single ant is

A human who had never been around others would not behave in the way that we expect humans to behave. This person would not seem to be human at all, but would act more like a solitary primate, reacting with fear to most aspects of human society.

really no ant at all. What he meant was that when an ant is alone it doesn't act like an ant in the colony. Sometimes single ants won't even gather food for themselves or attempt to keep themselves alive without influence from other ants. For a single ant, there is no life outside the colony.

This is similar to human behavior. Humans raised in isolation have died simply from lack of interaction and love, even when they receive all the nutrients and calories needed. Even adult humans who are raised in a normal manner often develop severe physical or psychological disorders in the absence of regular interaction. It seems that a single human is not real-

ly human at all, like a single ant is not really an ant. A single human cannot behave in a normal way without social interaction. In a profound way, human behavior is social behavior. The accomplishments of human culture are the accomplishments of social behavior. The documentation of human history in books and papers reflects the accomplishment of humans using their minds collectively to attain a common goal. Ideas like religions and scientific theories gather believers and become a kind of "thought collective."

The entire human population is built of these thought collectives, and the activity of the world's thought collectives creates a global network that encompasses the whole of humanity as one collective mind. The power of the human mind does not lie in the cognitive capacity of a single human, or even the thoughts of "great" thinkers. People famed for their remarkable intellects and abilities to think in creative ways did not act alone in their discoveries.

The mental constructs created by these thinkers were built on the thoughts of others, all the way back to when bands of hunter-gatherers came together to share stories of their experiences, and created the first human culture and philosophy.

Some believe that human beings are responsible for great discoveries, but even when a single person is responsible for the most complete formulation of an idea,

that person did not create the idea on his own. Without the benefit of sociality the great discoveries would never have been made. The power of human society lies in our collective activity, not in the activity of single human brains. Each human is just as much a part of the fabric of humanity as they are single organisms. We are as much like cells in a gigantic brain as each of our brains are complete in their own thoughts. If we accept this aspect of our culture, we may find ways to appreciate more fully how much we rely on each other as much as we appreciate how each of us can be responsible for greatness in our own lives.

EDUCATION, from page 3

required to bring a 22-inch long bush knife. The students used the knives for everything from clearing out a path in the rain forest to sharpening their pencils.

"Every kid would bring his knife and we'd check them off," Harmon explained. "They'd have them underneath their desks for the rest of the day."

The Harmons found a peaceful existence on Santa Isabel Island. Each island in the Solomon chain has a distinct culture and customs. However, ethnic tensions flared between the nearby islands of

Guadalcanal and Malaita. Although the Harmons felt safe on Santa Isabel Island, their letters home reveal the dangers going on nearby.

"We heard there was some major damage done to a secondary school which was evacuated, lots of houses being burned and a few deaths," Harmon wrote during the conflict.

At the same time, she attempted to reassure her family that she and her husband were safe.

"We are far from that conflict here on our little island, so do not fret too much," she writes later. "Our Peace Corps director is very concerned with

our safety, so if anything threatening occurs here in the Solomons, he will get us out of here in no time."

By June 2000, the conflict proved to be too dangerous for the volunteers to remain on the Solomons. While assessing the danger, Peace Corps officials evacuated Harmon and the other volunteers to Papua, New Guinea. After two weeks, they sent the volunteers home. Despite the close ties they had developed with the people of Santa Isabel Island, the Harmons were not allowed to tell the islanders they were leaving.

Although her time with the Peace

Corps ended abruptly, Harmon values the experience.

"It's the yardstick by which you measure the rest of your life," Harmon said, paraphrasing another volunteer.

In addition, Harmon can see a time where she might become a Peace Corps volunteer again, perhaps later in life, working to train other volunteers.

"I definitely would do it again," she said. "I think it would be a totally different experience at that point. It would be fun to kind of come around."

RAM, from page 1

ground action in six Palestinian towns, Ram said. He stressed the need for the United States and the world to realize that the fight against terrorism is an ongoing battle.

Ram pledged Israeli support for U.S. efforts to fight terrorism, including sharing expertise on security systems and policies.

Regarding Israel, Ram said, "Eventually, the main goal is to arrive at a peaceful solution. We are fighting for peace."

The next speaker in the Israel series, which is in its third year, will be Dr. Peter Raven, who will present a program on the ecology of Israel on

March 14.

Terry Williams, who is the senior coordinator of the E. Desmond Lee Global Ethnic Collaborative at UM-St. Louis, said that the series has been very successful in the past and has fostered a good relationship between the university and the Jewish community of St. Louis. He said that, given the size of the Jewish community in St. Louis and its interest in education, it is a natural partnership.

The Center for International Studies sponsors other cultural series, including Irish, Mexican and Greek. A listing of upcoming events is featured on their web site.

LEAR, from page 6

from Dale Hodges as the Fool to Todd Cerveris as the treacherous and sarcastic Oswald to Pamela Nyberg as the swaggering Goneril, to mention only a few of the wonderful performances. Additionally, the staging of the action is gripping and done on the grandest scale.

The Rep's curtainless thrust stage requires a set that can serve many purposes. Instead of the bare-stage approach that so many cost-conscious theaters take, the Rep consistently offers a setting that is visually stunning, remarkably creative, and surprisingly flexible. "King Lear" is no exception to this. The stage surface is covered with dirt, and illuminated by lighting filtered through a looming wall of large windowpanes at the back of the stage. The manipulation of lighting and fog, and the use of some pyrotechnics, create the transitions from interior to exterior, from clear day to stormy night.

The faintly Central-Asian look of the costumes and the bare dirt of the stage suggest to us the Medieval steppes of Russia, but the references to British-place names undermines this sense of place. Although the tale is about a man dividing his kingdom among his children, the lack of specific place and time makes it as easy to see this kingdom as a modern family business as it is to see as a medieval fiefdom.

This production of King Lear is so perfect that no fan of theater, no matter how casual, and no student with even the slightest interest in literature, should miss it. As for fans of Shakespeare, this experience is sublime.



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