

Yet another hole in the head See page 6

THECURRENTONLINE.COM

Holden threatens further cuts to higher education

Debate on tobacco securitization

BY JASON GRANGER
News Editor

Gov. Bob Holden is threatening to cut the higher education budget again if the state legislature does not pass a bill on tobacco securitization.

Tobacco securitization entails selling bonds against the tobacco settlement money the state won in its lawsuit against the major cigarette producers in the 1990s. Holden is proposing to sell bonds against this settlement to try to alleviate the budget shortfall the state is experiencing, a shortfall expected to reach \$1 billion.

Holden has said if tobacco securitization is not passed, education will suffer. As a whole, education would be facing a budget cut of \$350 million. \$259 million of the cut would be absorbed by K-12 education, whereas higher education would be facing a further \$91 million in cuts, according to a statement from Holden's office. If the cuts go through, they would be the first K-12 would receive in the recent budget crisis. Higher education has already taken close to \$300 million in budget cuts in the last year.

Holden's plan is meeting with speculation and doubt in Jefferson City, however. Democrats have said they will vote for the plan because it is the only plan that has been proposed, but they are reluctant to do so. Republicans have said they will not vote for the plan, which all but ensures that the bill, once proposed, will be defeated.

According to Nick Bowman, Associated Students for the University of Missouri (ASUM) lobbyist, securitization faces a long, uphill battle.

"There is a lot of negativity surrounding the proposed tobacco securitization bill," Bowman said. "But there isn't any other plan on the books."

How will this affect the state schools and universities? According to Bowman, within weeks of the bill's speculated defeat, Holden will cut close to \$45 million from higher education and a further \$46 million over the course of the fiscal year. K-12 education would receive similar cuts as the fiscal year progresses.

In 2002, the General Assembly voted to move towards tobacco securitization; however, that was before the republicans gained control of the House and the Senate.

TOP SECRET

Chancellor search

"Confidentiality" was the key word of the first chancellor's search committee meeting.

The 19-member committee appointed by Elson S. Floyd, president of the UM System, met on Tuesday, Jan. 28, to discuss the criteria for the new chancellor, the time phrase for the hiring process and the media relations.

The last search committee for a chancellor, which hired Chancellor Emeritus Blanche M. Touhill, who retired on Dec. 31, 2002, had one student. This new one has two.

Maria Curtis, English, sophomore, is one of two student appointed to the committee.

"I thought it was very important not to have just one," Curtis explained, "but to have two and even three or as many as possible student representatives because of the nature of this campus. We are very diverse. There are very many non-traditional students. And those students' viewpoints need to be represented. One student cannot do that sufficiently."

Sam Andemariam, president of SGA, is the other appointed student.

"It's my job; it's my duty," Andemariam said. "I represent the student body. I fully expected to be appointed. I expected a student to be appointed. Normally, historically, I knew that the logical choice was the president of Student Government."

According to a press release from the president's office, the other members of the committee are

UM—ST. LOUIS FACULTY

Lawrence "Lol" Barton, professor of chemistry and biochemistry

Vinita Henry, clinical associate professor of optometry

Ronald Munson, chairman and professor of philosophy

Terri A. Murray, clinical associate professor of nursing

Lois H. Pierce, chairwoman and professor of social work and Intercampus Faculty Council member

Van A. Reidhead, associate professor of anthropology

Patricia E. Simmons, professor of

lifelong learning in science at the Regional Institute for Science Education

L. Douglass Smith, professor of business administration and director of the Center for Business and Industrial Studies

STAFF AND ADMINISTRATION

Deborah J. Burris, interim director the Office of Equal Opportunity

Melissa Hatman, acting director of Admissions

John Hylton, dean of the College of Fine Arts and Communication

Dixie A. Kohn, vice chancellor of University Relations

ST. LOUIS COMMUNITY

James H. Buford, president and CEO of the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis, Inc.

Karen Carroll, recently resigned vice president and general manager of KMOX radio and president of the

Chancellor's Council

Richard C.D. Fleming, president and CEO of St. Louis RCGA

Jackie McBrady, president of the UM—St. Louis Alumni Association

Kenneth H. Suelthaus, partner of Suelthaus & Walsh, P.C.

Floyd has elected to use Academic Search Consultants as a search firm to direct all applications to the committee.

The firm, however, is not to prescreen any candidates. Jim Appleberry, a native of Waverly, Mo., is the president of the Washington D.C.-based firm.

More information about Academic Search Consultants is available at their website (<http://www.academic-search.org>).

The committee would prefer to have a chancellor with an earned



BY STANFORD A. GRIFFITH
Editor-in-Chief



CONFIDENTIAL

DO NOT DISCLOSE

Life, said. "And also, I would like see a chancellor who has a heart for the students, who is open to the students' opinions and what they students have to say."

"I understand that this University within the dynamics of the system is very unique—its history, how young it is, what's gotten it this far, what could get it to the next level," Andemariam said. "One of the key things I'll be looking for is someone with a great deal of experience and a tendency to be involved with the community, and not just the St. Louis community, but also the campus community, the student community, the various communities that make up this University. [The University needs] somebody to really tie all the needs and positives and negatives of each community in one vision."

"This job will require a lot of finesse, a lot of diplomacy, a lot of articulation, a lot of clarity. That takes a

weaknesses."

Most of Floyd's speech involved "confidentiality."

"It is absolutely essential that we keep the names of all the candidates expressing interest in this position confidential," Floyd said. "As we get closer to the end, of course, there will be heightened media interest associated with the search generally."

"To help with the confidentiality, we perhaps should have the interviews at the airport. The candidates can fly into the airport and then fly out. That is probably going to be most convenient, but also help with the confidentiality."

"And then secondly, we may identify a group of say three to five and we need to have on-campus interviews. Obviously, the confidentiality issue is going to be minimized at that point, but we do need to have an individual who can meet with various constituency groups."

Also on the search committee is Karen Carroll. At the time of the press release listing the members of the committee, she was the general manager and vice president of KMOX Radio. When asked via her voicemail box at KMOX about her role on the committee even though she is a member of the media, she said, "I have resigned from the media." Carroll noted, however, that she is "working as a consultant" for the radio station.

Barton, Pierce and Reidhead agreed to rewrite the job description for the chancellor's position and the description of UM—St. Louis.

Tabled until the next meeting were the placement of advertisements. The unanimous consensus of the committee, however, was to advertise wide and specifically in multicultural journals of higher education. Recommendations from committee members are to be presented at the next committee. Floyd believed that the committee would probably make its final recommendations from such a list.

The next meeting for the committee will be Tuesday, Feb. 4, 4 p.m., in the Board Room of J.C. Penney.

very crystal vision," Andemariam added. "This person is going to have to be a visionary."

Floyd instructed the committee that whoever they choose "should be able to function as a strong leader for UM—St. Louis and also function as a general officer for the University of Missouri System."

Applications are due on March 15, 2003, and the target date for a new chancellor is July 1, 2003. "About midway through the process, [the committee] should conduct preliminary interviews of 8 to 10 individuals," Floyd said. He wants the committee to "identify anywhere from three to five candidates for the position. And in that context, I would ask that you not rank that list of candidates, but instead write down their strengths and

doctoral-level degree. However, they realize that not all areas of studies have such terminal degrees. Many also expressed that they would be willing to consider a candidate who had great experience outside of the educational field.

The two students on the committee want a chancellor who can articulate a long-term goal for UM—St. Louis.

"I would like to see a vision for the campus, an idea as to where they want the campus to be in 15 years," Curtis, who works in the Office of Student

Garage troubles continue

UMSL in process of building garage

BY MELISSA MCCRARY
Staff Writer

For the last year, various parking garages on the UM-St. Louis campus have been shut down or closed for repairs. Students are beginning to wonder when all the garage repairs will be finished.

The main garages that have dealt

"The parking garage that is being constructed, next to the Metro-Link, will hold 600-900 more spaces. It is expected to be completed this October," Kochin said.

— Frank Kochin
Director of Facilities and Services

with problems over the last couple of months have been parking garages D and N. The two garages were built over 30 years ago with the intentions of lasting about 10 years until other construction plots could be made.

The problems of deterioration and rusting to the support beams have closed these two garages until repairs can be made.

Frank Kochin, director of facilities and services, reported that it should not be much longer for all the garages to be opened. The minimal repairs should only take a month to be fixed.

"They just finished another inspection, and we are just waiting for crews to come in and give a bid for the paint removal and to start the welding repairs," Kochin said.

While garage N has reopened, garage D is still causing a parking problem. People can park on the upper and lower levels, but the middle levels are closed off with construction tape.

UM-St. Louis is in the process of building another garage in the hope of solving the recent parking problems. The new garage being built will be similar to the Millennium Student Center Garage. The location of this new garage will be on East Campus Drive, across from the police station.

"The parking garage that is being constructed next to the Metro-Link will hold 600-900 more spaces. It is expected to be completed this October," Kochin said.

With garages being constantly closed, finding a parking spot hasn't been an easy job. Last semester seemed to be the most difficult in terms of finding an empty space. Most of the lots filled up quickly during the morning.

There are other garages where students can park, but their locations are not very convenient to most of the campus buildings.

More students have been trying to find good spots by arriving at school early. Others are carpooling or relying on the Metro-Link to get them to school.

Students are also expressing their opinions about the parking problems and the cost of parking on campus.

"People should not have to pay an expensive fee to park while most parking areas are under construction," said John Deckard, junior.



Photos by Sara Quiroz/ The Current

Above: Construction workers continue to work in the freezing temperatures in order to finish the new parking lot located across from the Millennium Student Center.

At left: As construction on parking lots continues, those that remain open have been more crowded than usual. While garage N has reopened, garage D is still causing a parking problem. People can park on the upper and lower levels, but the middle levels are closed off with construction tape.



see TOBACCO, page 3

INDEX

Bulletin Board	2
News	3
Opinions	4 & 5
Fare Thought	4
Science Column	5
Features	6 & 7
Sports	8 & 9
Arts & Entertainment	10 & 11
The Village Idiots	12
A Parrot Says	12
Classifieds	13

Bulletin Board

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 p.m., every Thursday before publication. Space consideration is given to student organizations and is on a first-come, first-serve basis. We suggest all postings be submitted at least one week prior to the event. Send submissions via mail at 388 MSC, Natural Bridge Rd., St. Louis, MO 63121, fax at 516-6811 or email at current@jinx.unsl.edu.
 All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.

The Current

Stanford Griffith • Editor-in-Chief
Anne Bauer • Managing Editor
Darren Woods • Ad Director
Mindaugas Adamonis • Business Manager
Judi Linville • Faculty Adviser

Jason Granger • News Editor/Prod. Associate
Mike Sherwin • Photo Director
Catherine Marquis-Homeyer • A&E Editor
Hank Burns • Sports Editor/Prod. Associate
Nichole LeClair • Features Editor
Elliott Reed • Cartoonist
Sara Porter • Features Associate
Adam Bodendieck • Copy Editor
Jamie Kerry • Proofreader
James Laury • Distrib. Manager
Shannon Hoppe • Prod. Manager
Rudy Scroggins • Cartoonist

Staff Writers

Charlie Bright,
 Kate Drollet, Rob Huesgen,
 Micah Issitt, Melissa McCrary,
 Becky Rosner, Bridgette Moore,
 Ashley Richmond

Staff Photographers

Emily Fishman, Kevin O'Leary,
 Sara Quiroz, Lishu Qu

388 Millennium Student Center
8001 Natural Bridge Road
St. Louis, Missouri 63124

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

campus

388 Millennium Student Center

email
current@jinx.unsl.edu

website

<http://www.thecurrentonline.com>

The Current is published weekly on Mondays. Advertising rates are available upon request; terms, conditions and restrictions apply. The Current, financed in part by student activities fees, is not an official publication of UMSL. The University is not responsible for the content of The Current and/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. The Current requests the courtesy of at least 24-hour advance notice for all events to be covered. Advertisements do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Current, its staff members or the University. All materials contained in each printed and online issue are property of The Current and may not be reprinted, reused or reproduced without the prior, expressed and written consent of The Current. First copy is free; all subsequent copies are 25 cents and are available at the offices of The Current.



February

Mon 3 Chemistry colloquia

"Attachment of Organic Molecules at Semiconductor Interfaces" will be the topic of the chemistry colloquia at 4 p.m. The event will take place in 451 Benton Hall and is open to all audiences. For more information call Zhi Xu at 516-5328.

Put it on the Board!

Place your event on The Board in our upcoming edition; restrictions apply. Call 516-5174 for information.

Wed 5 Student Life

Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About The Opposite Sex But Were Afraid To Ask is at 6 p.m. in the Pilot House. Bring all your friends, and ask the questions that have been plaguing you in a fun, and festive open forum!

5 Phi Alpha Delta

There will be a meeting at 6 p.m. in room 314 of the MSC. All are welcome.

5 College Democrats

There will be a meeting at 2 p.m. in room 314 of the MSC. All are welcome.

Wed 5 Student Life

The Hump Day Hoopla will be every Wednesday during lunch hour. It is a series of events which student organizations can sponsor. Organizations must provide volunteers at the event they sign up for. The event today will be Keg Racing. Organizations can sign up for an event free of charge at the Office of Student Life.

Thur 6 Student Life

Dr. Cornell West will speak on "Race Matters" at 7 p.m. in the MSC Century Rooms on the 3rd floor of the MSC. The noted scholar and head of Princeton's Afro-American Studies Department discusses issues affecting all people in the new millennium.

6 Center for International Studies

There will be a human rights lecture at 7 p.m. in the SGA Chamber on the 3rd floor of the MSC. Hurst Hannum, professor of international law at Tufts University in Boston will speak on Ethnic Civil Wars: Can We Stop the Global Epidemic?

Fri 7 (cont.) Homecoming

Anyone interested in planning Homecoming 2003, join the committee. The meeting is at 11 a.m. on the 3rd floor of the MSC. For more information, call Julie Clifford at 960-1374 or email julie_a_clifford@hotmail.com.

Fri 7 Alpha Xi Delta

An Alpha Xi Delta rush party will be held at 8 p.m. at T.G.I. Friday's at Lindberg and Highway 70. Contact Robyn Forster at 314-422-8568 for more information or if you wish to attend.

Sat 8 Student Life

A Black Media workshop will be held from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the SGA Chambers. The speakers will be Robin Smith and Johnny Little. The event is open to all students and is free. For more information, call the Office of Student Life at 516-5291.

The Campus Crimeline

The following crimes were reported to the University of Missouri-St. Louis Police Department between Jan. 17 and Jan. 30.

Jan. 17 - Property Damage

At the Weinman Building parking lot a vehicle parked on the lot had a window broken out.

Jan. 18 - Property Damage

On lot JJ a parked vehicle had its tires slashed.

Jan. 18 - Theft over \$500

At Clark Hall there was an attempt to steal a campus vehicle. The subject was arrested.

Jan. 20 - Theft under \$500

In the Social Sciences Building an unknown person entered an office and stole a rhinestone necklace.

Jan. 21 - Theft under \$500

On lot ZZ two license plate tabs were stolen from a parked vehicle.

Jan. 21 - Theft under \$500

In Woods Hall a doorknob was stolen from a door.

Jan. 21 - Theft over \$500

In Lucas Hall a wallet and contents from a desk were stolen.

Jan. 21 - Theft under \$500

In Clark Hall a purse and its contents were stolen.

Jan. 23 - Threatening Letter

Marillac Hall received a threatening letter in the mail.

Jan. 24 - Drug violation

In the Villa various drugs and paraphernalia were found in a room.

Jan. 25 - Burglary 1st degree

An unknown person attempted to break into a Mansion Hills apartment.

Jan. 25 - Peace disturbance

In Seton Hall there was a verbal argument between a male subject and a RA.

Jan. 26 - Disturbance

In Villa Hall there was a verbal argu-

ment between students.

Jan. 28 - Theft over \$500

In the Research Building a wallet was taken from an office.

Jan. 29 - Theft under \$500

In Bellerive Residence Hall items were taken from a residence.

Jan. 29 - Harassment

A subject in University Meadows received threatening e-mails.

Jan. 30 - Theft under \$500

There was money stolen from a student's bank account at the ATM in the Millennium Student Building.

Corrections

In issue 1074 of *The Current*, the story entitled "Legacy of a legend" incorrectly stated that there was a 382-person boycott. The story should have read that there was a 382-day boycott.

In issue 1074 of *The Current*, the photo on the bottom of page 1 was incorrectly attributed to Mike Sherwin of *The Current*. Sara Quiroz of *The Current* took the photo.

In issue 1074 of *The Current*, the Martin Luther King, Jr. timeline said King gave his "I Have a Dream" speech twice. He only gave it in 1963.

In issue 1074 of *The Current*, the story entitled "Boys in Dresses" incorrectly stated that Laura Tobias was the coordinator of the Ms. RHA pageant. Heidi Monk was the coordinator of the event.

www.thecurrentonline.com

Speed Dating

For a romantic night filled with millions of possibilities.

A new way of meeting people for the fast passed college student.
 Have a dozen dates in one night.
 And maybe meet mister/misses right.

Registration begins at 6:00pm in the Pilot House
 Sign-up in the Office of Student Life -366 MSC by
 Monday, February 10th, 2003

Tuesday, February 11th, 2003

Staff Association Trivia Night
 saturday, march 15th
 register by friday, february 28, 2003
 in rec sports office (203 mark train 516-5226), accounting services (204 woods 516-5098), and student life (366 MSC 516-5291).

Trivia competition will consist of 10 rounds of 10 questions each. Each round will feature a different category such as History, Sports, Geography, Entertainment, etc. Teams will answer the questions within a given time and correct answers will be tallied for each round. The team with the highest point score at the end of the evening will win the trophy. Teams consist of eight (8) people (students, faculty, staff, and/or community members). This event is co-sponsored by UMSL, Louis Staff Association, Office of Student Life and Rec Sports to benefit the John Terry Staff Association.

\$80.00 per team (individuals also welcome ...\$10.00 in advance; \$15.00 at the door)

Credit cards may return to The Nosh

BY MELISSA MCCRARY
Staff Writer

Ten months after the Nosh stopped accepting credit cards, Chartwells Dining Service is now considering once again honoring plastic for food purchases.

In March of 2002, Chartwells and UM-St.Louis catering services stopped offering the choice of paying via credit cards.

The reason behind the decision was due to transactions being too time-consuming when run through the machines.

"We have no exact dates when the accepting of credit will go back into effect. We are looking into trying to get a faster system for our registers," said Food Service Director Carla Cassulo.

When credit cards were being used, the line was held up an extra 30-40 seconds per customer.

"Initially, the plan was to install more lines, but that was decided to be too expensive, so school officials are looking into a faster type of service," Student Government Comptroller Jeff Griesemer said.

It is in consideration to bring this payment method back because of the increasing amount of requests being made by students and faculty.

"I think that it would be a good idea and more convenient for people who do

an extra charge up to three dollars," Griesemer said.

Another factor in bringing this policy back is the transaction fees that UM-St. Louis must, in return, pay the credit card companies.

Some credit transaction companies will charge a business one to two percent of the cost of each transaction. Companies end up paying \$.25 - \$1 per card swiped.

Credit cards are becoming used at numerous merchants across the nation. Many fast food chains are beginning to offer this option to their customers.

Cassulo went on to say, "Though this idea may be beneficial to the spender, it will cost Chartwells more in the long run."

People are still being advised to take advantage of the Millennium Cash Plan as a way to use their credit cards and save money while doing so.

People can load \$25 or more onto their ID and receive a 5 to 15 percent discount when they buy their food.

For the time being, people who don't carry cash have the Millennium Cash Plan option along with the availability of the ATM machine (on the 2nd floor of the MSC).

“
Sure students can use the ATM machine, but sometimes it's broken.

— Jeff Griesemer
Student Government Association Comptroller

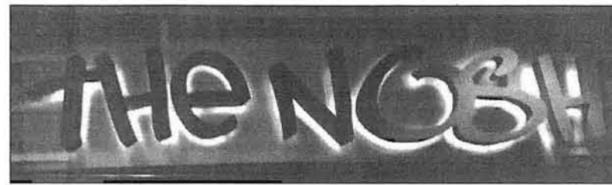
not always have cash and for students who do not live on campus to just charge their meals," Beverly Green, senior, political science, said.

"Sure, students can use the ATM machine, but sometimes it's broken. Or if a student does not belong to UM Bank, then they might be forced to pay



Photos by Lishu Qu/The Current

In March of 2002, Chartwells and UM-St.Louis catering services stopped offering the choice of paying via credit cards. Students are advised to take advantage of the Millennium Cash Plan.



TOBACCO, from page 1

With that change, tobacco securitization is meeting with stern opposition. "We are at a crossroads in this state," Holden said. "We can take the road of cuts in education that will lead

tobacco money to balance the budget, and he's put education in the cross-fire," Bowman said. "If the bill fails, education will suffer. I'm afraid that education may suffer because of the partisan politics."

Over the last year, higher education has endured close to \$300 million in cuts from Holden's office. Some schools have had to implement emergency procedures just to be able stay in operation. Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau is in a state of financial exigency, forcing them to cut programs and release tenured staff. At UM-St. Louis over the summer of 2002, a purchase freeze was enacted on office supply purchases.

According to Holden, the only way to save education from a new round of cuts is to ensure the success of tobacco securitization legislation.

"[I] urge you to talk with your legislators and impress upon them how imperative it is that they authorize [tobacco] securitization as soon as possible so we can protect our investment in education," Holden said.

“
Over the last year, higher education has endured close to \$300 million in cuts from Holden's office.

us backwards. Or we can take a better road by implementing tobacco securitization, which will lead us forward."

According to Holden's website, 12 other states have already implemented securitization plans, and five others are considering it.

According to Bowman, higher education has had to bail out the state in the current budget crisis.

"Holden's plan calls for the use of

NEWS BRIEFS

President outlines plans for war

President George W. Bush gave his annual State of the Union address. During his speech, Bush outlined his plans to revitalize the economy, improve the health care system and made his case to the country for military action in Iraq.

Bush laid out for the country exactly what he feels warrants a military incursion against Baghdad, saying Iraq has not disposed of its weapons of mass destruction programs and has hindered the United Nations inspectors in their search for weapons of mass destruction.

Baghdad has accused the United States, and specifically Bush, of start-

ing a war for the express purpose of acquiring Iraqi oil.

Bush called Iraq a serious threat to the security of not just America, but the world. Bush has said since his address that Iraq has "weeks, not months" to comply with UN inspections.

Several nations have announced solidarity with America, including Great Britain, Spain, Belgium, Australia, Poland and Italy. Noticeably missing from that list are Germany and France, who have both expressed skepticism about the reasoning behind a war with Iraq.

Carter, Mandela speak out against war

Nobel Peace Prize former winners Nelson Mandela and President Jimmy Carter have expressed their displeasure over the rhetoric coming out of Washington D.C. about the war with Iraq.

Mandela called the United States the only true "bullies" in the world, enforcing its views and policies on other countries.

Craftpersons demonstrate basketry techniques

St. Louis-area craftpersons Nancy Barnes and Sue Brown will demonstrate "Fiber Spinning and Reed Basketry" as part of the Monday Noon Series. The demonstration starts at 12:15 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 3 in 229 J.C. Penney Conference

Center. They will spin llama fibers and wool and teach basket construction techniques. The demonstration is free and open to the public. The Monday Noon Series is sponsored by the Center for the Humanities. Call 516-5699 or visit <http://www.umsl.edu/~cfh> for more information.

UMSL author to discuss book on K-12 education

J. Martin Rochester, political science, will discuss his new book "Class Warfare: Besieged Schools, Bewildered Parents, Betrayed Kids, and The Attack on Excellence" Tuesday, Feb. 4, at 2 p.m. in 316 Millennium Student Center. The talk is free and open to the public. It is

sponsored by the UMSL College Republicans. The University Bookstore will stock copies of "Class Warfare" for discussion. E-mail tata4@umsl.edu for more information.

Space shuttle Columbia explodes upon re-entry

The National Aeronautics and Space Association suffered a massive tragedy Saturday as the space shuttle Columbia exploded over north-east Texas, carrying a seven person crew.

Shuttle Commander Rick D. Husband; Pilot William C. McCool; Missions Specialists David M. Brown, Kaplan Chawla and Laurel Clark and Ilan Ramon, Israel's first astronaut, were killed when the ship broke up south of the

Texas panhandle. Family and friends of flight crew STS-107 were present in Cape Canaveral, Fla., for the landing.

Just hours after the accident, President George W. Bush addressed the nation, saying, "In the skies today we saw destruction and tragedy. Yet farther than we can see, there is comfort and hope."

In the wake of the accident, questions have been raised as to Columbia's effectiveness, since it was the oldest shuttle in NASA's fleet. Theories about why the shuttle exploded have begun to arise, including a faulty roll in space, allowing temperatures to increase dramatically; heat resistant tiles falling off, permitting heat to build inside the shuttle; and a fuel leak leading to an explosion.

Low temperatures cause pipes to freeze



The freezing temperatures that have been hitting St. Louis off and on recently caused the water pipes in the bridge of the Millennium Student Center to freeze, forcing workers to drain the water and fix the pipes.

Sarah Quiroz/The Current

ONE OF THE BEST FILMS OF THE YEAR!

MIRAMAX & Current

INVITE YOU AND A GUEST TO A SPECIAL SCREENING

Stop by The Current offices at 388 Millennium Student Center to pick up a complimentary screening pass for two to see THE QUIET AMERICAN

7:30 P.M.
Thursday, February 6th
Plaza Frontenac Theatre
210 Plaza Frontenac
St. Louis, MO 63131

No purchase necessary. While supplies last. Passes available on a first-come, first-served basis. Participating sponsors are ineligible. This movie is rated R for images of violence and some language.

Peter Travers, ROLLING STONE
"A TOWERING ACHIEVEMENT!
Michael Caine has never been better! Brendan Fraser is strikingly good!"

Roger Ebert & Richard Roeper, EBERT & ROEPER
"TWO THUMBS WAY UP!"



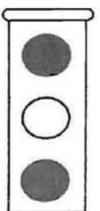
The highly acclaimed new thriller directed by Phillip Noyce.
THE QUIET AMERICAN
MICHAEL CAINE BRENDAN FRASER
Screenplay by Christopher Hampton and Robert Schenkkan

For listing issues, go to www.thecurrent.com

IN THEATERS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH!

Got a ticket?

First Defense
TRAFFIC LAW
314 849-ATTY



www.firstdefensetrafficlaw.com

131 Concord Plaza
St. Louis, Missouri 63128

OUR OPINION

Interviews in the airport do not a chancellor make

When President Elson S. Floyd was hired as the president of the UM System, he joined an institution full of history and tradition.

Now he is continuing the convention of secretive hiring practices for top university officials.

His mandate for the meetings of the search committee for the new chancellor for UM—St. Louis shows that he does not want to follow along with the words of Interim-Chancellor Donald Driemeier "There are no secrets in a university, and certainly not in a public university." Although such conflict of ideologies of the use of taxpayers' dollars is for Floyd and Driemeier to work out in private, several important points should be made public:

1.) The UM System and UM—St. Louis are both public institutions. Taxpaying citizens and tuition-paying students pay for the salaries of the employees of both entities. Thus, hiding the hiring procedures of a new chancellor is nothing less than a slap in the face to those who rightfully should be granted access to the hiring of someone they will, in a sense, employ.

2.) The UM System is not only the largest public university in the state, but it is the only public university in Missouri that hides its hiring practices from the public. All the other ones make the meetings public. In fact, they even make them in convenient places at convenient times—what a novel concept.

3.) This secrecy, known formally only to organizations such as the KGB, does not instill the public's trust within the System. At a time when Gov. Bob Holden is threatening to cut higher education's funding again (or what little he left from the previous cuts), UM—St. Louis and the System must go to the public for financial help. If the citizens do not trust the institution, they will not donate money. (This is the same reason that many people quit giving money to televangelists.) Thus, Floyd is doing a marvelous job of undercutting the entire UM System and its four campuses. The students who cannot afford the tuition and fees to attend UM—St. Louis and the faculty and staff who have been and will be laid off thank Floyd ever so insincerely.

4.) Hiding the hiring process and the names of those who apply only makes the University look as if it is trying to hide something. Quite frankly, maybe it is. Why else would Floyd want the candidates interviewed off campus at the airport immediately after they step off the plane and then flown back again the same day? Are the candidates going to

be required to wear a suit and tie and facemask?

5.) Floyd bluntly stated that while on-campus interviews are necessary, he does not like that they take away some of the "confidentiality." Is it not important for the new chancellor to at least know where the campus is prior to signing his or her name on the contract?

6.) While no one was surprised at the first meeting when Floyd made his proclamation of no media, several members of the committee stated that they did not want the meetings to be media free. At least some people in the UM System believe in the Sunshine Laws and right to press.

7.) Floyd had complete control over the members of the search committee. He does not want the media there. That being said, why did he appoint Karen Carroll, who at the time was the vice president and general manager of KMOX Radio and who still has the appearance of working there since she can be contacted through the station, still has voicemail there and has admitted to still work there as a "consultant"? Yes, she is the president of the Chancellor's Council. That distinction, however, is not what Floyd's office wanted noted. On the official press release from Jan. 13, 2003, Carroll's only title is "vice president and general manager of KMOX Radio." So does this mean that Floyd is discriminating against some of the media? Only time will tell.

8.) The confidentiality supposedly to protect those who apply for the position. Exactly, why is the University considering hiring someone who does not want his or her name associated with the UM System and with UM—St. Louis? Does that really instill the trust of the UM—St. Louis community in that person as a leader of the University? "We pledge allegiance to Mr. X, who does not want his name mentioned, and to the place, which we cannot say." Is the new chancellor going to walk around in sunglasses and a trench coat so no one can actually know who he or she is?

9.) If the applicants do not want their current employers to know that they are applying for jobs elsewhere, they are simply "shady." Should the University even be considering someone who has such low work ethics as that for any position, let alone one in Woods Hall? Not unless they need some shady someone to do some shady job.

Floyd needs to realize that his job is that of a state-paid employee. He also needs to realize that so is everyone else who works for any part of the UM System. Thus, everyone should be hired as a state employee should be—in the eye of the public that pays the salaries.

The issue

The search for the new chancellor is being suppressed from the press. This makes the University appear to be hiding something. The chancellor's salary is paid by the taxpayers; thus, the hiring process should be accessible to those same taxpayers.

We suggest

President Elson S. Floyd set the mandate against the media. He needs to reverse this decision. Also, his airport interviews do nothing other than make the University look bad in the eyes of, well, everyone.

So what do you think?

Tell us what you think! Drop us a line at the office, 388 MSC, or online at our Web site www.thecurrentonline.com.

'Go' to the safe drivers

You're driving home fully sober. The blackness of the road stretches before you unadulterated by any other car's lights.

Suddenly, red and blue lights are swirling behind you.

After fishing out your proof of insurance, driver's license and waiting for 45 minutes, you're finally handed a ticket for driving too fast.

While all of this is perfectly normal, a few odd things strike me about this common situation:

1.) If you're the only car on the road and you're perfectly sober, exactly why are you being stopped? Whom are you going to hit by speeding? No one.

2.) Most people get nervous when they see a police car. Most people cannot drive safely when they are nervous. Thus, stopping drivers for speeding when they are not endangering others does, in fact, put the drivers in a great amount of danger they were not in before the lights and sirens made them poor drivers.

3.) Following that same logic that most people drive poorly when they even see a highway authority's car, other drivers who happen along will also drive poorly when they see you pulled over. Again, the pointless stop creates yet another unsafe situation on the road.

4.) Aren't traffic laws, and most laws in general, supposed to protect citizens? Points one and two prove that this isn't always the case when humans are added into the mix.

5.) What if you had been driving

too slowly? Would you have been stopped? Almost certainly not. It seems that drivers who break the law by going much too slowly and impeding the flow of traffic aren't noticed by the authorities. Slow-moving cars that make other drivers slam on their breaks and stop suddenly are okay, but fast-moving cars that can safely maneuver through traffic without causing problems get ticketed. Something there is way off kilter.

6.) In many places, including along busy I-70, traffic is forced to swerve away from a police car parked angularly across the shoulder and the right-most lane. Making cars suddenly move out of the way to avoid hitting a police car creates another dangerous situation.

Please believe me that I'm not against the police; they perform a necessary job. Some drivers are going way too fast and need to be informed of that when they are obviously endangering the general public. Drunk drivers certainly need to be taken off the road—as do those who fail to signal properly (not that that ever happens).

But often, they simply stop speeding vehicles needlessly. While the theories on why this happens run from inflated egos to mandates to bonuses, the why isn't so important. What is vital is that the highway authorities realize that not every traffic stop is necessary or even helpful. Often stopping one safe driver who just doesn't fit a defined mold creates a dangerous situation for countless others.



STANFORD GRIFFITH
Editor-in-Chief

'Anytime' classes do little for motivation

Self-motivation is a hard thing to accomplish sometimes. When it comes to my courses, I need a little push to get me going.

I consider myself a good student who consistently makes "above average" grades, but the less work I have to do, the better. Some people motivate themselves better than others when it comes to classes, but when there are no tests and no class meetings during the semester, it can be hard to stay on track.

I have found that even though I don't always enjoy attending a class Monday through Friday, listening and discussing a subject five days a week keeps me hooked into what is going on in the class. Plus, the repetition helps me memorize what I need to know. But when there is no teacher to speak of, it leaves all teaching and learning to the student. This is why until this semester I have never registered for an on-line class.

When I received my schedule for this semester it read that I had a class on Wednesday evenings, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:10 p.m. I expected this evening course because I registered for it. I had already come to grips with the fact that I was going to be on campus for 10 hours every Wednesday (because of other courses I have on Wednesdays and my meetings for the paper).

The first day of the semester I logged onto MyGateway to see if any notes had been posted by my professors, such as things I would need to

know for the first week of class, or maybe, just maybe, there were some class session cancellations I should be aware of. Instead, I found out that this Wednesday-night course was not actually an evening class – it was an anytime class.

The class is never scheduled to meet during the semester. Instead, it is work-at-your-own-pace, and class discussions are replaced with on-line communication through the discussion board on MyGateway. There are not even specific dates that the assignments are due on. Instead, everything is due at least by the last day of classes for the semester.

I was disappointed, at first, when I realized that this was an on-line course. Most students would find it as a pleasant surprise, because they wouldn't have to sit through another class, especially in the evening. Instead, I saw the class as another thing I had to remember to do and another thing that I had to put some self-motivating time into in order to complete the course.

So how am I going to do self-motivating myself this semester? Well, so far, all I have done for the class is turn in a form to the professor that I had to sign as a "course agreement." I guess I will have to set aside some time every week to work on the assignments for the class and read chapters out of the book. I have scheduled a time for this Wednesday to work on the class, but we will see what comes up. More than likely, I will be very stressed the first week in May.



ANNE BAUER
Managing Editor

STANFORD GRIFFITH

EDITORIAL BOARD

- STANFORD GRIFFITH
- ANNE BAUER
- JASON GRANGER
- CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER

"Our Opinion" reflects the majority opinion of the Editorial Board.

LETTERS

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

FAX
(314) 516-6811

E-MAIL
info@thecurrentonline.com

Letters to the editor should be brief, and those not exceeding 200 words will be given preference. We edit letters for clarity and length, not for dialect, correctness or intent. All letters must be signed and must include a daytime phone number. Students must include their student ID numbers. Faculty and staff must include their title(s) and department(s).

What's your opinion?

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

- The Chancellor search
- Speeding Tickets
- On-line classes

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



Lai Doan
Junior
MIS

Basic Marketing; we learn about making commercials and advertisements.



Jhanah Haynes-Mark
Sophomore
Psychology

My Introduction to Criminology and Criminal Justice professor is so goofy, but in a cool way.



Deepak Pillai
Junior
Business Administration

International Marketing because my professor really gives us a broad perspective, and he is really good.



Brooke Carnes
Junior
History

My U.S. History class is my favorite just because it's my major.

Under Current

by Kevin Ottley
Staff Photographer

What is your favorite course this semester?

What time is it?

Given its perceived importance in our daily lives, it's fitting that we often wonder about the nature of time. The idea of time may mean different things to different people, depending on their perspectives or other variables of circumstance, but it still puzzles us to wonder, what exactly are we talking about when we ask about the nature of time?



BY MICAH L. ISSITT
Science Columnist

When someone asks, "What is time?" they are referring to the word as if it denotes some entity or natural dimension of our physical universe. Is time really such a thing, or is it more properly thought of as some sort of purely mental construct?

To the physicist, time is a dimension of the universe. It takes place next to the dimensions of length, depth and height to create a geometry in which our physical universe takes place. Therefore, physicists often view time as a physical phenomenon related to the thermodynamic laws of our universe. It seems however that the time we experience is, in many ways, a fundamentally different thing from the physicist's time.

Our lives seem to take place in the perpetual present. Life can be viewed as a dynamic activity that disappears as it happens, and therefore, there is literally no time like the present. As a matter of fact, there is no present at all, merely the memory of one. In the course of our lives we invent the past as a source of the now. We invent time

as a background in which the past, present and predicted future take place.

Time, therefore, exists at least partially within the context of our cognition. As such, we might find some illumination regarding the nature of time by turning to the philosophy of mind. Humberto Maturana is a philosopher who has spent his career trying to understand the nature of language and cognition. To Maturana, time is best understood by contemplating how humans live within the context of language.

Maturana describes humans as "linguaging" beings. What he means is that human cognition is completely dependent on our language. This does not mean a specific language like Chinese, Spanish or English, but rather on the cognitive relations that we refer to as language.

In Maturana's own words, because we exist in language, "We cannot speak about what is outside it, not even imagine anything outside language in a way that would make any sense. We can imagine something as if it existed outside language, but as we attempt to refer to it, it arises in language characterized with the elements, concepts, and notions that arise through what we do in our languaging."

If we accept and reflect on this proposed role for language, we begin to see that the very idea of "reality" is just an explanatory assumption that we use to explain our experience, as if it exists independently of what we do. Reality is basically a linguistic figure that we use to explain the origin of our experiences.

As we become aware that our perceived "reality" is nothing more than an explanatory assumption, we may realize that we use experiences to

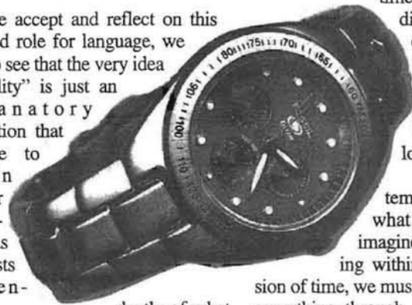
explain our experiences. Therefore, when we use the word "time," we are not actually (or even capable of) referring to something external to our experience, like a physical temporal dimension. Rather, we are using our experiences, labeled as time, to explain our experiences.

Accepting all of this, it becomes clear that time depends on the biology of the being that is living, and not on the existence of some independent physical dimension or entity. In other words, we experience and understand time only because our biological functions are organized in such a way that we recognize successive processes in our experiences.

Time arises as a primary abstraction of the flow of experiences, and so it travels in only one direction and is not reversible. We can imagine reversible time only as a further abstraction to this notion of time that follows the flow of our experience.

So, as people exist within the flow of their experience, time is an explanatory principle that we use to communicate our observation that one experience follows another. Our experience arises spontaneously, out of nothingness, from a domain about which we can say nothing. Any discussion of time is, therefore, a discussion of the order or sequence of our experience, which is itself an abstraction of our biological processes.

Although it is tempting and somewhat romantic to imagine ourselves existing within a large dimension of time, we must ultimately know everything through our own experiences—that is, through the senses that we use and the consensual communications that we engage in. Time, life and reality are not so much things as they are domains of experience, or ways in which we observe (or experience) our own experience.



Fare Thoughts

BY STANFORD A. GRIFFITH

Editor-in-Chief

While most people relieve stress by punching a wall, drinking or paying a therapist to listen to them drone on, I prefer to spend my pent-up stress by working in the kitchen. Baking is a great form of tension release. I turn up the radio and the oven, pull out my fresh ingredients and begin to feel my worries melt away.

I prefer baking to cooking when I need to escape reality for a bit. Baking requires me to work with my hands; as I knead and shape the dough, my mind clears. When baking, my hands literally transfer the built-up pressure into the food and release the tension from my shoulders and neck. It's sort of like playing with one of those stress-relief balls that you can eat later.

For therapy, tactile recipes work best. If you don't enjoy baking and want something quick to mix into a dough-like form, I suggest play dough. The store-bought kind will work, if for nothing else than to make coils and balls. Making your own, however, is much cheaper:

PLAY DOUGH

- 1 c. flour
- 1 c. salt
- 1/2 c. water
- food coloring (optional)
- lavender essence (optional)

Mix the above into a smooth ball. Add food coloring if you want. Also, add a few drops of lavender essence (found in any health store, pharmacy or Bath and Body Works). The aromatherapy from the play dough will help soothe nerves. Store in a tightly sealed plastic bag.

For those who actually want to eat what they prepare, cookies and breads are perfect because many require being kneaded and worked, but few are so difficult that they cause additional stress. Chocolate is a known aphrodisiac, but it is also calming. Thus, combining chocolate and baking are the perfect recipe for relaxation.

Double-chocolate walnut biscotti (*biscotti* meaning twice-baked in Italian) are an easy recipe to make to relieve stress.

DOUBLE-CHOCOLATE WALNUT BISCUOTTI

Makes about 30 cookies

- 2 c. all-purpose flour
- 1/2 c. unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1 tsp. baking soda
- 1 tsp. salt

- 3/4 stick (6 TBSP) unsalted butter, softened
- 1 c. granulated sugar
- 2 large eggs
- 1 c. walnuts, chopped
- 3/4 c. semisweet chocolate chips

1 TBSP confectioners' sugar

Preheat oven to 350°F, and butter and flour a large baking sheet.

In a bowl whisk together flour, cocoa powder, baking soda and salt. In another bowl with an electric mixer beat together butter and granulated sugar until light and fluffy. Add eggs and beat until combined well. Stir in flour mixture to form a stiff dough. Stir in walnuts and chocolate chips.

On prepared baking sheet, with floured hands form dough into two slightly flattened logs, each 12 inches long and 2 inches wide, and sprinkle each with confectioners' sugar. Bake logs 35 minutes, or until slightly firm to the touch. Cool biscotti on baking sheet 5 minutes.

On a cutting board, cut biscotti diagonally into 3/4-inch slices. The biscotti, although only once baked now, can be eaten as is.

To make true biscotti, however, arrange the slices, cut sides down, on baking sheet and bake until crisp, about 5 to 10 minutes, depending on how crunchy you want them. Cool the biscotti on a rack.

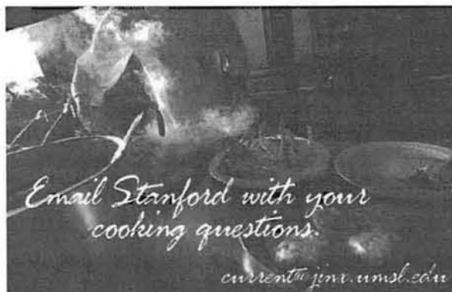
Serve the biscotti with coffee, hot chocolate or dessert wine.

Biscotti keep in airtight containers for up to one week or freeze them for one month.

Crushed hazelnuts, chopped pistachios or dry-roasted peanuts can be substituted for the walnuts.

Source: Gourmet, Dec. 1994

I hope these and some soft music will help ease your stressed nerves over the rest of the semester.



GUEST COLUMN

Don't let the state short the students

Greetings UMSL community,

My name is Nick Bowman, and I work as a lobbyist for the Associated Students of the University of Missouri, or, quite simply, you.

I've been hearing a lot of misinformation and confusion around the community about how the University's budget works.

As a lobbyist who is dedicated to the student interests and the UM System as a whole, I think that it's very important that we all understand how funds are distributed, and how the system works.

In the state of Missouri, there are currently public institutions that receive 12.9 percent of the state's expenditures. Of these funds, the UM system gets about half of that.

The Board of Curators funnels this money to the four campuses, namely Rolla, Kansas City, Columbia and St. Louis. However, the majority of this money is earmarked for certain projects, such as construction, capital improvements, specific programs and grants. This money cannot be reallocated to other parts of the system.

Besides the state, private donations and gifts are also raised by the four campuses for various projects. However, contrary to popular belief, most of these funds are also earmarked for a specific project i.e. private scholarships, that have specific guidelines for their distribution.

So, where's the money? Well, according to the Missouri state Constitution, the state budget must be

balanced. Well, in these tough economic times, the state has been coming up short; this year, the gap is expected to be almost \$1 billion.

When this happens, the Governor, as well as the legislature, only has two options; they can either raise taxes or they can cut the budget.

We already gave our opinion on raising taxes last November; the cigarette tax was turned down.

This gives them one option, to cut the budget.

In recent years, the state of Missouri has turned to us; it has decreased funding for higher education by over \$400 million, and we may face another \$90 to \$175 million in cuts this session. Of the total budget cuts last session, higher education was cut 25 percent, even though it only makes up 13 percent of the state budget.

From being out here these past weeks, it doesn't seem that either party necessarily wants to cut higher education, but the money has to come from somewhere. Unfortunately for us, last session the prevailing opinion was that college students are apathetic; we don't care. They never hear from us.

Well, we can change that. Talk to our Governor and state leadership. They have to know that the 17,000 students here at UMSL will not stand for another cut; we cannot afford it. We will not let the state sell us short.

Sincerely,
Nick Bowman
Lobbyist, ASUM

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

PAC is 'bothersome'

Dear Editor:

The Performing Arts Center has bothered me for months because UMSL really can't afford it. UMSL has a duty to sustain its established organizations and departments and to further their growth. PAC's funding should have gone instead toward established campus groups. Further, if those involved in PAC's inception were so concerned about the arts, why didn't they funnel that money into UMSL arts organizations? And if PAC's \$52 million price tag was not shocking enough, two extra PAC fees were tacked onto our student fees list. UMSL fired PAC's first director because it could not afford him, and now UMSL forces us to shoulder some of PAC's cost. The tim-

ing of this project in the face of massive budget cuts seems to fly in the face of prudent financial management.

Until recently, the art history department was part of the College of Arts and Sciences. When the PAC was built, the art history department was incorporated into the newly created College of Fine Arts and Communications, which also included the newly created drama department. (At least, the drama department was a plan until UMSL decided to rent out the building.) What sense does it make to have a performing arts center when you don't have a drama department to justify its existence?

Sarah Weinman
Student

Point / Counterpoint

From the left From the right

POLITICAL COMMENTARY

In the first issue of *The Current* this year, there was the suggestion for a recurring series of political debates. At that time, the College Democrats were inactive, but the suggestion planted a seed in many minds.

In the last few months, students, led by Cynthia Wilson, president, have reformed the College Democrats, and it is now stronger than ever.

As one of the mandates of our organization is to encourage political awareness, we are thrilled to embark on this new project. As such, several times a month we will present a position on an important political debate.

This column is designed to encourage UM-St. Louis students to carefully consider the issues of the day, what they have to offer to their community and country and consider ACTION. We do not claim to provide an answer that fits every student, but rather we hope to spark thought and deed.

Every year students are viewed as uninformed and uninterested, and the College Democrats, alongside the College Republicans, hope to change that perception.

The United States was founded upon the concept and hope of an informed and educated citizenry. The founding fathers (and mothers) did not shrink from education and intellectual debate, but rather reveled in it. They remain the most literate nation of revolutionaries in history.

In these times of national crisis and impending war, it is to their legacy that Americans must turn. While there are many critiques to be made of our nation's founders, one thing that we may be quite proud of is their unquestioning belief in political debate.

It will be in this spirit that the UM-St. Louis College Democrats will approach the leading political issues. While our aim is not to offend anyone, there may be times that students will take issue with our positions. At those moments, please consider writing back to us, voicing your opinion, taking action and being a part of the legacy of political debate.

If you have questions, comments or would like to join The College Democrats, email us at UMSLCollegeDems@hotmail.com.

Cynthia Wilson
President
MO State President
of College Democrats
Regional Organizer
of College Democrats

Shayla Turner
Programming Director

Matt Voorhees
Treasurer

Courtney Stirrat
Communications Director

Aaron Gilman
Secretary

POLITICAL COMMENTARY

Over the course of the semester, there will be a new column in *The Current*. The staff has decided to let the UM-St. Louis College Republicans and College Democrats have space to conduct a bi-monthly forum. We will be discussing the pertinent political issues of our times. This will allow each organization to express its party's views on the subject and allow you, the reader, to decide for yourself which point of view is more reasonable. It may turn out that you do not relate to either party, or maybe you agree with parts of each. The main point is to create political awareness on campus and motivate the student body to become actively involved in campus, local, state and national politics.

For this first column we will be saying hello and letting you get to know us. We are The UM-St. Louis College Republicans—your faithful elephant riders. We exist to promote the ideas of independence, responsibility, morality and liberation that this country was founded on and that have made it the greatest nation in the world.

The Republican oath:
I believe that the proper function of government is to do for the people those things that have to be done but cannot be done, or cannot be done as well by individuals, and that the most effective government is government closest to the people.

I believe that good government is based on the individual and that each person's ability, dignity, freedom and responsibility must be honored and rec-

ognized. I believe that free enterprise and the encouragement of individual initiative and incentive have given this nation an economic system second to none.

I believe that sound money policy should be our goal.

I believe in equal rights, equal justice and equal opportunity for all, regardless of race, creed, age, sex or national origin. I believe that persons with disabilities should be afforded equal rights, equal justice and equal opportunity as well.

I believe we must retain those principles worth retaining, yet always be receptive to new ideas with an outlook broad enough to accommodate thoughtful change and varying points of view.

I believe that Americans value and should preserve their feeling of national strength and pride, and at the same time share with people everywhere a desire for peace and freedom and the extension of human rights throughout the world.

Finally, I believe that the Republican Party is the best vehicle for translating these ideals into positive and successful principles of government.

If you are currently or at any time throughout the course of the semester interested in learning more about our organization, feel free to come to one of our meetings, which are held every Tuesday at 2 p.m. in the Millennium Student Center. You can also contact us at (314) 516-4034 and speak to James Rawlings, president, or Will Melton, vice president. And remember, the government that governs best governs least. As Thomas Jefferson said, "No more good must be attempted than the people

In memoriam

The staff of *The Current* offers its sincerest condolences to the families and friends of the space shuttle Columbia.

"We will never forget them, nor the last time we saw them...as they prepared for the journey and waved goodbye and 'slipped the surly bonds of earth' to 'touch the face of God.'"

-Ronald Reagan

TEATIMES

EDITOR

NICOLE LeCLAIR
Features Editor

phone: 516-4886
fax: 516-6811

APO hosts meet and greet

BY ROB HUESGEN
Staff Writer

With their first year as a recognized organization on campus nearly behind them the UM St. Louis chapter of Alpha Phi Omega (APO) is looking forward to another great year of service projects, and conferences.

APO will host a "Meet and Greet" Thursday Feb. 6th at 7:30p.m. designed to inform prospective members about the benefits of joining the nation's "largest service fraternity." This event will take place in the Community Center of the University Meadows Condominiums. Pizza and beverages will be provided.

This includes the APO Sectional Conference they are scheduled to host this spring. Created over 75 years ago, APO is a coed service fraternity that focuses its efforts on "the betterment of man," as written by APO founder Frank Horton. Instead of hosting social gatherings every Friday night the members of APO are probably busy hanging grocery bags on neighborhood doors for canned food donations, or off shopping at a local mall.

see APO, page 7

Like another hole in the head

BY KATE DROLET
Staff Writer

Twenty years ago, popular fashion included big hair and bright colors. Today's trends have expanded and include more than clothes and hair. Piercings have become a common addition to American society and the fashion world.

In many cultures, body piercing is an ancient ritual. Roman soldiers pierced their nipples as a symbol of manhood. Mayan and Aztec shamans and high priests pierced their tongues as a ritual part of communicating with gods. In some cultures, nose piercing denoted the caste, or social standing, of the wearer. The piercing trend reached the United States and, in the last 40 years, has evolved into a societal norm.

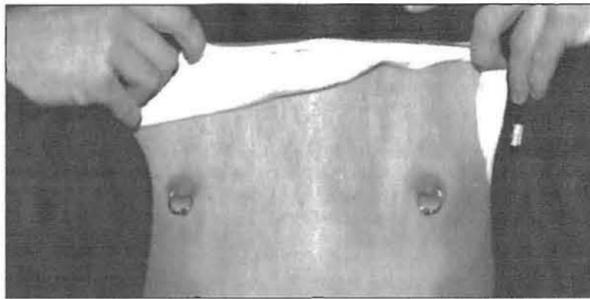
The acceptance of different styles of piercing has evolved as well. Mark Andrews, owner of Iron Age Tattoo, a popular establishment located on the Delmar Loop, commented, "Things have really changed in the last six to nine years. Navel piercing has become just as popular as ear piercing was to the previous generation. Facial piercing is gaining more acceptance as well." Some body jewelry, such as tongue rings, once had sexual implications. That stigma has faded as tongue piercings have joined the realm of style.

Many UM-St. Louis students take part in this cultural revolution and sport their own body jewelry. Tyler Cross, freshman, displays several piercings, with two in each ear and one in his labret (the area right below the bottom



Kevin Ottley/The Current

Freshman Russell Cohoon demonstrates the escape from the traditional ear piercing with his level bar near the apex of his ear and a hole in his lobe large enough to fit a pencil.



Kevin Ottley/The Current

Mark Thenhaus proudly presents his pretty pair of nipple piercings (say that ten times fast).

lip). Russ Cohoon, freshman, has six different piercings located in his ears, tongue, cartilage and frenum. "I got [the frenum piercing] mostly for the shock value. It's fun to see the look on people's faces when I tell them what I

have pierced," Cohoon admitted. Sarah T. Clark, graduate student, has a tiny diamond stud in her nose.

Most piercings cost \$35 plus the necessary jewelry, but the price can vary anywhere from \$20 to \$60. The



Kevin Ottley/The Current

UMSL Student and active member of the Sigma Pi fraternity, Mark Thenhaus, demonstrates the versatility of his ear piercing.

price of jewelry generally ranges from \$10 to \$35 but may cost more depending on the size and type purchased.

Sanitation is the most important part of caring for and maintaining a piercing. The healing process varies with each location. Tongue piercings generally heal within four weeks, while a bellybutton piercing can take as long as a year to fully heal. Those who have dealt with navel piercings understand that the risk of infection is high if the area is not fastidiously cared for.

Shanna Carpenter, sophomore, has a bellybutton ring. "The actual piercing part only hurt a little bit. I would recommend getting [a navel piercing], but

you have to be careful because they get infected very easily. I'd also suggest getting one in the summertime, then less clothes have the chance of irritating your piercing," Carpenter advises.

For those considering joining the millions of people who proudly display body piercings, finding the best establishment to get the job done is important. St. Louis offers many reputable businesses, including: Iron Age Tattoo located on Delmar Loop, All American Tattoo at Newhalls Ferry off of I-270 and the Enchanted Dragon in Arnold.

All tattoo and piercing facilities should use sterilized equipment and take safety precautions.

Student filmmaker Zalutski seeks funding

BY SARA PORTER
Features Associate

Last year, Pavel "Pasha" Zalutski's film, "You Are the Coolest Girl in the USA," was a hit, according to reviews in both The Current and St. Louis Post Dispatch, as well as several people attending the premiere. Yet Zalutski's latest film project, "Lie Down," is having financial difficulty.

Zalutski, a senior and filmmaking major, has appealed to various organizations, clubs and individuals in support of his film. "The people who will automatically support the creative spirit at UMSL," he said.

"Lie Down" will deal with the relationship of a mother, Lina, and her son, Andrez, who still holds on to his childhood, though he is 23 years old.

"Lie Down" is about the complexities of a mother-son relationship," said Zalutski.

Like the previous film, "You Are the Coolest Girl in the USA," the project will be filmed at UM-St. Louis as well as locations around St. Louis. Zalutski believes this film will contribute to the university's "creativity."

"UMSL reminds me of just a set of concrete buildings," he said. "Students come, go to class and then leave. That is why we hope that 'Lie Down' will speak to the creative spirit at UM-St. Louis."



Sara Quiroz/The Current

Pasha Zalutski, UM-St. Louis student and noted filmmaker, has a new piece of celluloid in the works. His previous film, "You Are the Coolest Girl in the U.S.A." will be shown in the Pilot House as a fundraiser for his upcoming film.

Zalutski believes that UM-St. Louis doesn't concentrate enough on entertainment events.

"The premiere [of 'Coolest Girl'] showed how hungry UMSL is for events such as these," Zalutski said. "We have a new Performing Arts Center to match our creative activities with a bunch of other artistic activities."

"Lie Down" may evoke comparisons to his previous movie, but

Zalutski says that "Lie Down" is a better project, both technologically and in content.

"The filming on this one will be celluloid film instead of a video camera," he says. "The budget will be bigger. 'Coolest Girl' was \$50.00 and 'Lie Down' will be over \$35,000—and I have changed."

"I want better execution and better technology," Zalutski said. "I want to move from the jerky technological

images to a more beautiful film, but the meaning of 'Lie Down' remains the same: the main objectives are still about the human spirit."

Zalutski says that both films are based on experiences in his home life. "The filmmaker draws from his own life and experiences," he said. "What he does is he exaggerates them, transforms them and sometimes distorts them."

If cast and crew get the money

they need, Zalutski is hopeful that "Lie Down" will premiere in September. He is also appealing to organizations to support this film.

"Their organization will be mentioned in the credits," said Zalutski.

A Belarus native, Zalutski said that his first love was theatre. He had dreams of being a theatrical director until he saw the film "All About My Mother" by Pedro Almodovar.

"All About My Mother" became my inspiration," he said. "It showed me my own soul."

Though Zalutski was interested in filmmaking, but, according to Zalutski, "The dictatorship [in Belarus] is against the arts." He had to travel to America to pursue his filmmaking interests. Though there was dissension from his home government, Zalutski had support from his dentist father and his engineer mother. "They are one-hundred percent supportive," he said. "Sometimes, I wish they would be more critical."

For the future, Zalutski intends to bring "Lie Down" to national and international recognition. He plans on having it featured at festivals such as the St. Louis International Film Festival and NYU International Film Festival, among others.

"Lie Down" is a leap forward," said Zalutski. "The film is going to different festivals and events. It will help bring tremendous fame to UMSL."

University choir is 'Town and Gown'

BY SARA PORTER
Features Associate

On Tuesday nights in Villa Hall in South Campus, the University Chorus meets and rehearses. It's a relaxed atmosphere of fun and general humor from a multi-generational group, but when it comes time to rehearse, they jump to start the two-hour session. They are led with enthusiasm and experience by Professor Robert Ray of the music department.

"The University Chorus is for people with some singing background and [who] wish to continue," Ray said. "We call it a 'Town and Gown' choir because we invite members of the community as well as UMSL students. The only requirement is you have to love to sing."

Ray said that he enjoys the bond that he and the chorus share. "We have a member who just turned 80. We have people who are still students all the way up to 80," Ray said. "We are one big happy family. We are friends with each other; sometimes we tease each other. One girl said it was like singing with her grandma."

And the rest of the Chorus members also appreciate the unique bond that they share.

"It's a wonderful atmosphere," said Carol Bechtel, a retired member of Kelly Temp. "We have such a wonderful time together."

Other members agree, such as computer programmer Don DeFreeze. "It's a break from the day to day hysteria," DeFreeze said. "My bosses know that for two hours on Tuesday

nights this time is mine."

The University Chorus travels to churches and schools around the area. They give two yearly performances, one in December and one in the spring. The chorus also takes a tour of Europe every other year to perform and sightsee. This year they will be traveling to Germany, Austria, Southern France and Switzerland.

"It's two weeks of touring and sightseeing," Ray said. "The group is really excited about it, and so am I."

Besides leading the University Chorus, Ray teaches keyboarding and Introduction to African American Music, which teaches about the development of African music from its early roots, to slave music from the Colonial era, to work songs and spirituals. It ends at the start of the 20th century with early jazz and African Americans' involvement in classical music.

"William Grant Still was the first African American classical music [composer], and Robert Nathaniel Dett was well known for his large compositions," Ray said. "There are a large number of African American composers with different styles."

Despite his love for music, Ray did not grow up in a musical family. However, his father, a factory worker turned custodian, and his mother, a nurse, raised him with an appreciation of music.

"We listened to a lot of different music," Ray said. "The record player worked overtime. We also went to the symphony a lot."

Ray began taking piano lessons at age ten, practiced until he was 17, and

earned a scholarship to Northwestern (now Truman State) University.

"I loved it," Ray said about his piano lessons. "I put a lot of energy into it."

Ray graduated with a bachelor's degree in piano from Northwestern. He began teaching at University of Illinois-Champaign Urbana in 1963 and didn't return to St. Louis until 1981. He joined the UM-St. Louis staff in 1993.

"I'm from St. Louis," Ray said. "So this area is very special to me."

Ray said that because of the different styles of music, he doesn't have a favorite. "Usually, I am involved in different styles," Ray said. "Classical music, keyboarding, chorus, African American music - I am always involved with different types of music or I get bored. There is always something new to do."

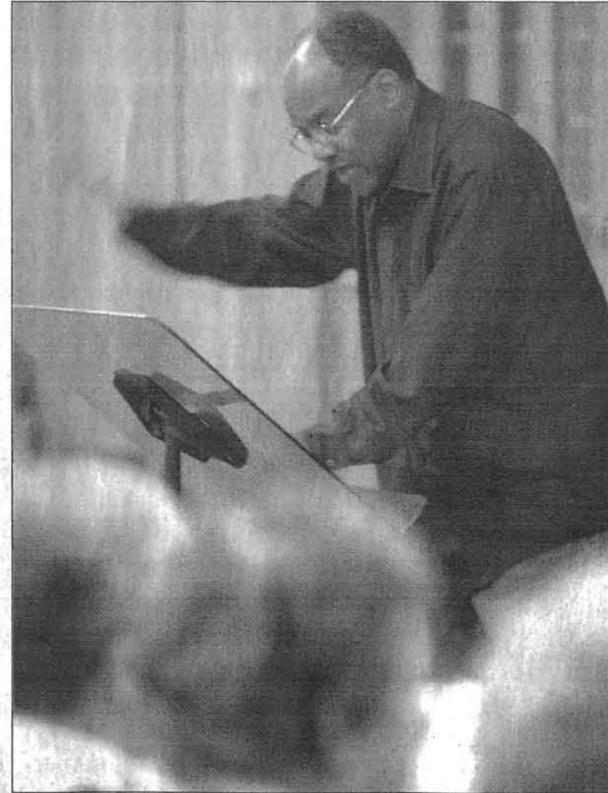
Ray himself is an accomplished composer. His compositions include "The Gospel Mass" and "Magnificat." His wife Sylvia is a professional gospel singer, and his daughter Nia is an attorney in Jefferson City.

Ray also leads a St. Louis choir called "In Unison," which consists of members from various churches united with the St. Louis Symphony.

Ray said that the best thing about his duties teaching and directing is the students.

"I enjoy being a catalyst, teaching them African American music and watching the learning light up," Ray said. "And as for the choirs, I watch them grow and put together a finished project."

And the students share a mutual



Mike Sherwin/The Current

Professor of Music Robert Ray leads his University Chorus class Tuesday night at the Villa building on South Campus.

love for their instructor.

"He really works with you on reading music," said Carl Weingold, a retired worker for Boeing. "You learn a lot from him."

"[Ray] is an excellent director," said Tracy Phillips, a full-time mom and part-time junior and music education major. "He's very enthusiastic, nice, funny and a great professor."

"Free" software: the choice of a GNU generation

BY ELLIOTT REED
Staff Writer

“
When the recording industry brought Napster to its metaphorical knees over copyright violations, the server-based file-swapping community gave way to peer-to-peer (P2P) file sharing.
”

within a matter of days.

In the interest of fair play in the competitive software market, a large number of commonly used PC programs have GNU equivalents available for download.

Gaim is the GNU equivalent of Trillian, a multi-platform Instant Messenger (IM). If you frequently message friends or family online using AIM, ICQ, MSN or Yahoo, you may appreciate what Gaim has to offer: an ad-free menu and IM versatility. The graphic user interface (GUI) is very simple and supports the standard emoticons often used in these services. For the typographically challenged, Gaim has an automatic spellcheck that runs as you type.

Unfortunately, Gaim is rarely able to log-in on the first try. Once connected, customizing Gaim to suit your needs is an exercise in trial and error. If you frequently chat with more than one individual, you may want to change the default setting to have all dialogues in the same message window, otherwise you'll have to keep flipping through the tabs to find the person you want to message.

New messages take precedence; if you're typing, your text will appear in the new message window, not the one you started typing in. Further on the downside, only one messaging service may be used at a time; if you have friends using another service, you will have to run that IM separately.

Don't look for file sharing, video conferencing or Yahoo's IMVironments, because you won't be able to use them. Gaim also has noticeable difficulty displaying some fonts and colors that results in an annoying DOS error message screen that must be minimized to maintain screen space and sanity (closing it closes the program).

The only other bonus of Gaim is that it doesn't support the ad banners that have sprung up in IMs lately. If you don't mind the quirks and if basic, ad-free messaging is all you want, Gaim delivers. (Grade: D+, available at <http://sourceforge.net/projects/gaim/>)

CDex is one of the most straightforward .mp3 and .wav file extracting utilities available on the web. The GUI is simple and easy enough for any Windows user. You may extract ("rip") an entire CD or take only selected tracks you want for your play list. CDex supports variable bitrates from 56 up though 320, including the commonly used 128 (the default setting). Tracks may also be extracted directly to .wav format if you're planning on burning a CD. Id3 tags, which can be read by any mp3 player, are automatically added if you labeled the tracks (Grade: A+, available at <http://sourceforge.net/projects/cdex-os/>)

Those of you who frequently make and edit PostScript and .pdf files may be pleased to know that Adobe does not have a monopoly on the market, thanks to GSview and Ghostscript. These two programs are separate but work in tandem; Ghostscript contains

all the technical data for file assembly and presentation, while GSview provides an Adobe-like GUI for viewing, modifying or creating file documents. The AFPL version of Ghostscript contains an opening nag screen asking you to register the program to the tune of \$40, but registration isn't required.

One caveat: saved files are saved only as "files." You'll have to manually change the file extension to .pdf on your own, so label carefully. If you only view PostScript and .pdf files you'll do well sticking with Adobe's free Acrobat Reader, since it tends to load a little faster. On the other hand, if you'd like to make your own .pdf files but don't care for the \$250 price tag of Adobe's full-version software, you may want to give Ghostscript a look. (Grade: B+, available at <http://www.cs.wisc.edu/~ghost/>)

If there's an oxymoron in GNU software, it's the fortunately inappropriately named GIMP (Graphic Image Manipulation Program). This useful image-editing program has most of the basic and common tools you'll find in far more expensive programs offered by Adobe and Corel, including layers, brushes, effects and filters. The GIMP supports common Windows graphic file types, as well as Linux-based file types.

The Achilles' heel of the GIMP is the lack of an "undo" button. Knowing this in advance means you can easily save your image before you make further changes, but this quickly becomes a tiresome, if not downright complicated, procedure when first getting accustomed to the program.

There are a number of plugins

available online that add useful features to the GIMP, and there are helpful FAQs and tutorials in lieu of an accompanying user's manual. If you've thought about trying your hand at digital imaging but found the cost of such programs prohibitive, the GIMP could be a good first step on your path to digital artistry. (Grade: A-, available at <http://www.gimp.org>)

When the recording industry brought Napster to its metaphorical knees over copyright violations, the server-based file-swapping community gave way to peer-to-peer (P2P) file sharing. Gnuceus, based on the Gnutella file sharing system, is perhaps the simplest and most useful GPL software available; simply install the approximately 1-megabyte program, connect to the Internet, click on the icon and you're ready to go.

If you're concerned about annoying ads or privacy issues, have no fear. Unlike P2P competitors such as Kazaa and Morpheus, there's no tracking software (a.k.a. "spyware") bundled into the program. You are only logged in through your computer's IP address; no personal information is required or exchanged.

Gnuceus is a growing community, but it is still small enough to make finding some rare songs or files difficult. However, if you're looking for something you heard on the radio or something released on a major label over the past ten years, the odds are good that you'll find what you're looking for.

The only real problem with Gnuceus is that you never know when a file will begin to transfer, if at all. But Gnuceus keeps a list of files you're looking for and will look for these files first as it connects. If a connection is lost, Gnuceus will also keep what you have of the file and resume downloading once a clone of that file is found.

(Grade: A, available at <http://www.gnuceus.com>)

Mozilla may be the panacea for Internet browsing woes. An open-source project from the people who designed Netscape, Mozilla is a customizable browser that excels where Internet Explorer 6 fails. Among its attributes, Mozilla's appearance is customizable from a list of themes available from the Mozilla homepage. Mozilla comes with two themes: classic and modern. (Netscape users will be familiar with the "classic" look.) If neither of those tickles your fancy, there are other options available; just make sure the theme you select is compatible with your build of Mozilla. (Version 1.3a is the latest.)

Tired of incessant pop-up and "pop under" ads? In Mozilla's menu there's a preferences list where you can block unrequested windows from appearing; only the links you click on will open a new window. Stability and security issues are constantly fixed, updated and incorporated into the latest versions of Mozilla. Mozilla also includes a number of chat and email plugins which expand the functionality of your online experience.

The tricky bit is getting Mozilla to work with the Java 2 runtime environment that will have to be downloaded and installed separately for Java-based websites to work properly (available at <http://java.sun.com/downloads/>). If you have an incompatible version of the Java runtime, you will have to completely uninstall and remove any and all traces of the old version before installing the new version. Once you've cleared this technical hurdle, though, the rest is smooth surfing. (Grade: A, available at <http://www.mozilla.org/start/>.)

Quick quiz: What's the difference between the latest incarnations of Windows and Linux? The answer could be as much as \$100 and countless additional pages of license agreements, restrictions and legal jargon (that the author is willing to bet you didn't read thoroughly upon installation).

While the vast majority of casual PC users are hardly ready for the jump to the technical know-how and command line prompts used in Linux, a handful of useful, Unix-based projects have found their way to PC compatibility. These projects not only give computer users a choice in software, but also restore personal freedom to the user's hard drive.

In 1989, well before Microsoft became a household name, the idea of proprietary software was dis-turbing

enough for a small group of independent computer programmers to form the Free Software Foundation (FSF). Based in Boston, the FSF established what is known as a General Public License (GPL); this license not only insures free distribution of a program but also gives the possessor of a given program the legal right to reverse engineer (disassemble or modify) the program as well.

In most cases, a GPL program's source code is also available for interested users to tinker with. The positive end of this license means that reported bugs and fixes are often taken care of

nies Chemotherapy. APO works in conjunction with "many local volunteer organizations," according to V.P. of Fellowship Kira Fraser. Another project that the members of APO are looking forward to involves the renovation of area houses. Beyond Housing

relies on the help of organizations such as APO to transform run-down buildings into homes for local families. "Our group is very motivated and eager to donate their time," Fraser said.

For more information on APO, visit their national website at www.apo.org

APO, from page 6

www.thecurrentonline.com

It's more productive than surfing for porn.

(and cleaner)

A Journey Through Time Homecoming 2003



Monday, February 17th

Philanthropy (blood drive/can food)
8am to 5pm
Banner Wars
Table Tennis 6pm to 9pm

Tuesday, February 18th

Powder Puff Football 3pm to 4pm
Penny Wars
Election for Court
11am to 1pm; 6pm to 8pm

Wednesday, February 19th

Rec Sports 11am to 1pm
Big Man on Campus 1pm to 3pm
Bonfire/Pep Rally 6pm
Elections for Court
11am to 1pm; 6pm to 8pm

Thursday, February 20th

Mini Parade 12pm to 1pm
Basketball Game
Women's vs Lewis at 5:30
Men's vs. Lewis at 7:45
Court Introductions
intermission of men's game
Ping-Pong Championships
intermission of women's game

Friday, February 21st

Dance
Cocktails with Alumni at 6pm
Dance 7pm
King and Queen Crowned
Spirit Competition Winners
Announced

Saturday, February 22nd

Homecoming Basketball Game
Women's vs. SIUE at 5:30pm
Men's vs. SIUE at 7:45
Spirit Competition Winners
Announced
men's intermission
Alumni Family Day

SPORTS

R-men drop 10 straight

UM-St. Louis Rivermen Basketball

BY HANK BURNS
Sports Editor

Double-digit scoring from Rivermen guards Sherome Cole, Jonathan Griffin and Ronnie Banks wasn't enough to give UM-St. Louis a victory over Quincy on Thursday, Jan. 30. The Rivermen suffered a loss to seventh-place Quincy 68-57 and remain in last place in the Great Lakes Valley Conference. The team has now lost 10 straight games.

According to Rivermen Head Coach Mark Bersen, turnovers were a problem for the UM-St. Louis squad in the game against Quincy.

"Early in the game, in the first half, we had 12 turnovers, and that's where they got some of their transition baskets," Bersen said. "In the second half, we only had five, and the game got close, and we had a chance there. In any sport, turnovers will get you beat, and we dug ourselves a hole by turning the ball over."

Bersen said that turning over the basketball is not the only offensive problem the Rivermen have.

"I think turnovers and free throw shooting are things that you have to take care of and that you can take care of. Are some of the turnovers forced? Yes, but you need to take care of the basketball. That's the most important thing on the floor and you have to be able to not turn it over."

"And then on the other end, on the offensive end, when you do get fouled you need to make them pay," Bersen continued. "We were 8-17 from the line, so I think turnovers and not shooting the ball from the free-throw line really caused our demise." Despite some problems, Bersen

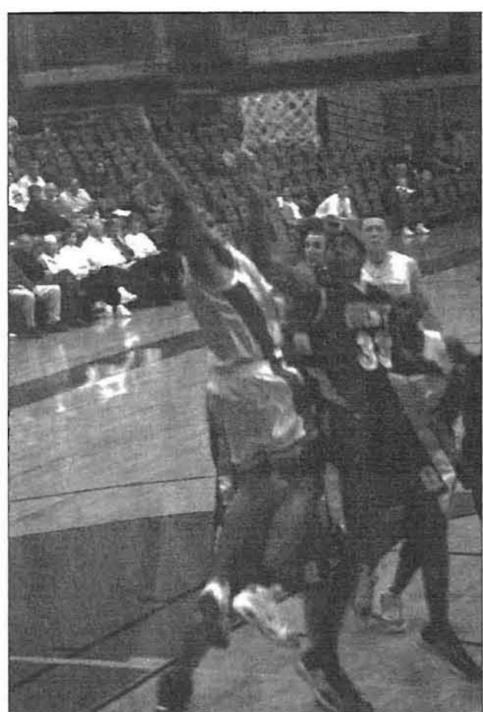
said that the freshmen played an important role in the game and are showing improvement.

"I was really happy with the play of our freshmen, both Jonathan Griffin and Sherome Cole, who hadn't been playing very much," Bersen said. "Sherome's had some injuries, [including] a separated shoulder the second game of the season, and sat out the first part of the semester. He had the stomach flu earlier last week, and he's had a somewhat typical freshman year. The first time they go away from home they find all kinds of things that happen that they're not used to. He came off the bench and did a nice job."

GREAT LAKES VALLEY Conference Standings

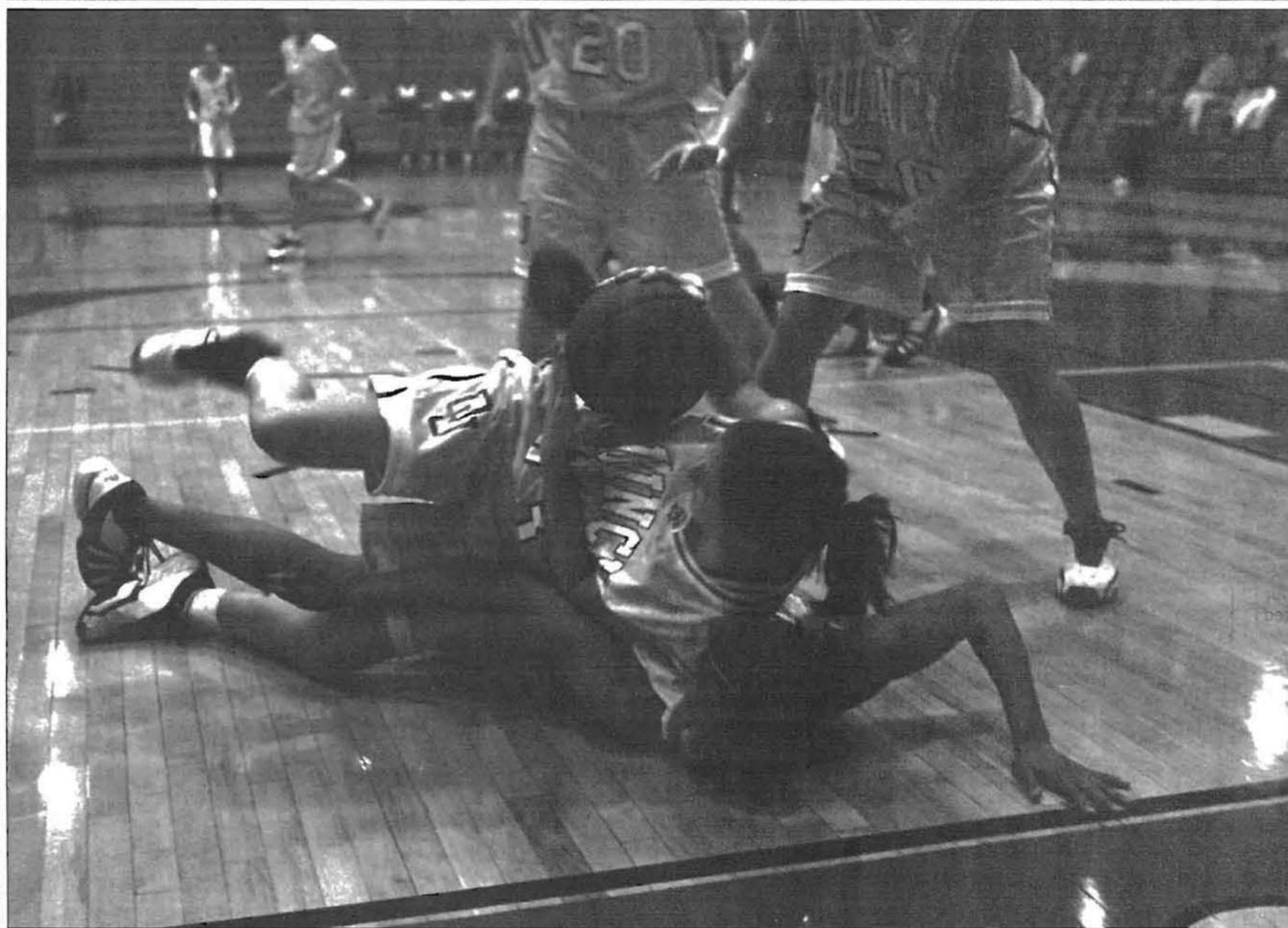
Men's basketball through Feb. 1, 2003

	GLVC	Overall
1. Northern Kentucky	10-2, 833	16-3, 842
2. Kentucky Wesleyan	9-2, 818	16-2, 889
3. Southern Indiana	9-3, 750	14-4, 833
4. Indianapolis	8-3, 727	13-5, 722
5. Lewis	8-4, 667	15-4, 722
6. Wisconsin-Parkside	5-7, 417	10-9, 556
7. Quincy	4-8, 333	10-9, 444
8. Saint Joseph's	4-8, 333	8-11, 412
9. SIU-Edwardsville	3-8, 273	7-11, 500
10. Bellarmine	3-9, 250	8-13, 350
11. UM-St. Louis	2-11, 154	5-13, 294



UM-St. Louis Guard Jonathan Griffin soars over the Hawk's stiff defense with this layup, adding 2 more points to his game high 11.

Kevin Ottley / The Current



UM-St. Louis Point Guard, Ebonie Halliburton, forces Quincy's Tracy Grapenthin to battle for ball possession as the two go crashing to the floor.

The Riverwomen lost to the Quincy Lady Hawks, 60-56. UM-St. Louis is now 8-10 overall and 3-10 in the conference.

Kevin Ottley / The Current

EDITOR

HANK BURNS
Sports Editor

phone: 516-5174
fax: 516-6811

COMING UP

Basketball

Feb. 3

• Men - 7:30 p.m. at Lincoln

6

• Women - 5:30 p.m. vs. Kentucky-Wesleyan

• Men - 7:45 p.m. vs. Kentucky-Wesleyan

8

• Women - 1 p.m. vs. Bellarmine

• Men - 3:15 p.m. vs. Bellarmine

13

• Women - 5:30 p.m. at Indianapolis

• Men - 7:30 p.m. at Indianapolis

15

• Women - 1 p.m. at St. Joseph's

• Men - 3:15 p.m. at St. Joseph's

20

• Women - 5:30 p.m. vs. Lewis

• Men - 7:45 p.m. vs. Lewis

22

• Women - 5:30 p.m. vs. SIU-Edwardsville

• Men - 7:45 p.m. vs. SIU-Edwardsville

R-women fall to Quincy in overtime

UM-St. Louis Riverwomen Basketball

The UM-St. Louis women's basketball team fought hard until the end of overtime, but the Quincy Lady Hawks came out with the win, 60-56. UM-St. Louis falls to 8-10 overall and 3-10 in the conference.

In overtime, the Quincy Lady Hawks scored the first bucket on a jumper by Lindsay Anderson. UM-St. Louis then fouled Quincy, and Jill Unnerstall hit both free throws to help the Lady Hawks to a four-point lead.

The Riverwomen were then fouled, and Sarah Hyslop hit both from the line to get UM-St. Louis within two with 49 seconds left in overtime.

The Riverwomen fouled Quincy's Unnerstall, who hit both free throws to make the score 58-54. The Riverwomen were fouled twice in the last 30 seconds, but only hit two of their last four free throws and Quincy would claim the 60-56 victory.

In the first half, the Riverwomen scored the first two points after the half within ten seconds by Sophia Ruffin. The Lady Hawks tied it up on the next bucket. Quincy then sparked a 5-0 run to lead by five points at the 17:25 mark. Riverwoman Tameka Carter ended the run on a jumper, but the Lady Hawks hit another 7-0 run to lead by nine. Both

teams hit a dry spell for over four minutes until Hyslop made a layup.

Quincy went up by seven with 5:44 remaining. Hyslop helped UM-St. Louis start a 4-0 run to get within one point with 48 seconds left in the half. Quincy's Courtney VonderHaar hit a jumper; then the Lady Hawks fouled, and Riverwoman Simone Benion hit both from the line, and the Riverwomen trailed by one point at the half.

UM-St. Louis went up by one point and led Quincy with 15:45 left in regulation on a layup by Jessica Woods. Quincy then went on an 8-0 run to lead the Riverwomen 37-30.

UM-St. Louis got within one point of Quincy on a 5-0 run, ending on a three-pointer by Christy Lane with 5:35 left. Quincy then hit an 8-0 run to lead by seven points. The Riverwomen chipped away at the score and trailed by one point with 1:34 remaining in regulation.

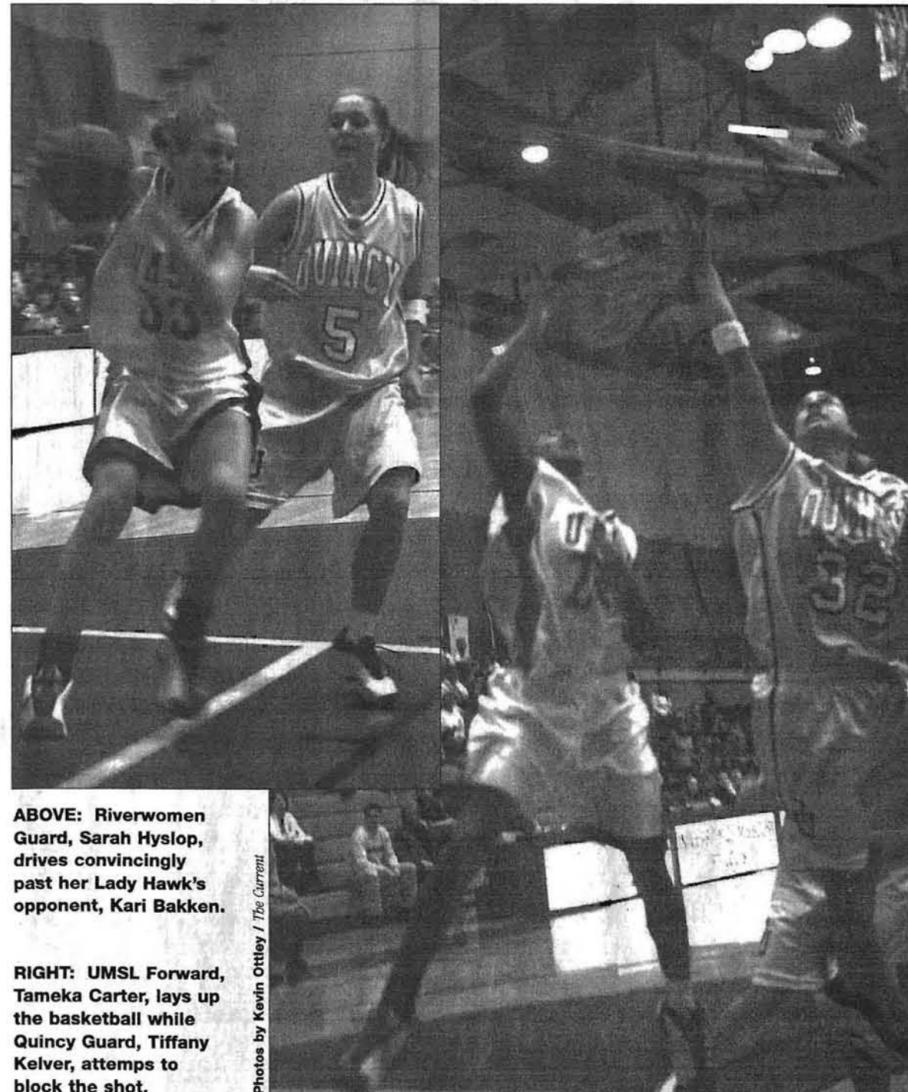
Quincy then went up by four points with 46 seconds left, but Riverwoman Ebonie Halliburton got the Riverwomen within two points with 24 seconds on the clock. The Lady Hawks then turned the ball over and Lane hit the layup to tie the game at 52-52 to send the game into overtime.

UM-St. Louis was led by Sarah Hyslop with 12 points, and she grabbed seven rebounds. Ebonie Halliburton led in rebounds with eight, six assists and eight steals. Halliburton also added 11 points on the night, and Jessica Woods had 11 points and seven rebounds.

GREAT LAKES VALLEY Conference Standings

Women's basketball through Feb. 1, 2003

	GLVC	Overall
1. Northern Kentucky	10-2, 833	14-3, 824
2. Indianapolis	9-2, 818	16-2, 889
3. Quincy	9-3, 750	15-4, 789
4. Bellarmine	8-4, 667	13-6, 684
5. Saint Joseph's	7-5, 583	10-9, 526
6. SIU-Edwardsville	5-6, 455	9-9, 500
7. Wisconsin-Parkside	5-7, 417	9-10, 474
8. Southern Indiana	4-8, 333	6-13, 316
9. Lewis	3-9, 250	7-12, 368
10. UM-St. Louis	3-10, 231	8-10, 444
11. Kentucky Wesleyan	2-9, 182	5-13, 278



ABOVE: Riverwomen Guard, Sarah Hyslop, drives convincingly past her Lady Hawk's opponent, Kari Bakken.

RIGHT: UM-St. Louis Forward, Tameka Carter, lays up the basketball while Quincy Guard, Tiffany Kelter, attempts to block the shot.

Photos by Kevin Ottley / The Current

WEB

Check out the R-men and R-women sports at www.umsl-sports.com

A&E

EDITOR

CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER

A&E Editor
phone: 516-4886
fax: 516-6811

A&E Calendar

Movies

Film openings are subject to change

FEB. 4
Special: Webster University Film Series' Human Rights Watch International Film Festival. Showing of various human rights-themed films, through Mar. 4.

FEB. 5
Special: Casablanca - the 1942 classic with Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman; one of the most popular and romantic films of all time. One night only at Beatnik Bob's in the downtown City Museum, 7:30 p.m.

FEB. 7
Talk to Her - wonderful Spanish film about a friendship that develops between two men whose girlfriends are in comas. A hard-to-describe story for a film that is delightful and unexpected; a top Oscar contender.

Shanghai Knights - sequel to Shanghai Noon; the comedy team from the Old American West, Jackie Chan and Owen Wilson are now in London.

Deliver Us From Eva - a charming romantic comedy that is more on the comedy side, about three men involved with three sisters whose acid-tongued fourth sister is making them miserable and their plan to take her off their hands; stars LL Cool J, Gabrielle Union.

How to Lose a Guy in Ten Days - another romantic comedy, this one about competing bets - a woman determined to lose the guy and the guy trying to hang on; stars Kate Hudson, Matthew McConaughey.

Special: Beauty and the Beast - not the Disney animated one but a new restored copy of the 1946 surrealist classic film by French director Jean Cocteau. The live-action film that inspired the Disney version. Feb. 7-9 only, in French, with subtitles, at Webster University's Moore Auditorium.

MOVIE REVIEW

'Talk to Her' speaks a universal language

BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER
A&E Editor

"Talk to Her," which opens locally this Friday, will be one of the best films at theaters right now, even with 2002's year-end glut of great films still lingering on local screens. This unusual and wonderful Spanish film made many critics' top ten lists, including mine. "Talk to Her" is already a Golden Globe winner and is likely to be an Oscar contender as well.

"Talk to Her" is both two love stories and a story of friendship, personal growth, and life, all in one visually beautiful film.



Photo courtesy Sony Pictures
Rosario Flores as Lydia and Adolfo Fernandez as Nino de Valencia in Pedro Almodovar's "Talk to Her."

But this film has more than just popular appeal. Director Pedro Almodovar's newest film is easily his best. In fact, "Talk to Her" is likely his masterpiece.

Pedro Almodovar, who had great success with last year's "All About My Mother," has been making indie film favorites for years, often films with heavy doses of comedy in a soap opera-like, campy style that people either love or hate. At the same time, elements of his films, especially in "All About My Mother" showed great dramatic power and an eye for beauty, and all showed his sure hand as a director. Taking the best of what he had developed over the years, all the skills that had been hinted at in aspects of his earlier films, Almodovar finally brings all

the parts together in perfect balance in "Talk to Her."

In this film, the soap-opera humor is toned down and the dramatic elements are more effectively woven in. The plot of "Talk to Her" is hard to sum up effectively in a few words. The story of a friendship that grows between two men whose girlfriends are in comas sounds either too weird, too sad, or too boring. But there is nothing boring and less sadness than you would think in this unexpected tale, and the weird aspects are transformed into either humor or magical moments. Beyond the story, the imagery of the film is glorious, filled with beautiful, graceful scenes and magical visions of dancers

and bullfighters, among other things. Largely a drama, it has a surprising dose of humor and a great deal of cinematic beauty. The film is unpredictable, charming, comic, romantic, moving, introspective, dramatic, and has more movement, action, twists and surprises than you'd ever expect from a film with that one-sentence description.

"Talk to Her" is both two love stories and a story of friendship, personal growth, and life, all in one visually beautiful film. Benigno (Javier Camara) and Marco (Dario Grandinetti) meet at the hospital but both stories start before that point. Benigno is a nurse who spent his childhood caring for his mother. Now that

his mother is dead, he spends his nights caring for the comatose Alicia (Leonor Watling), a beautiful young dancer. When journalist Marco comes into the hospital with his bullfighter girlfriend Lydia (Rosario Flores), now in a coma, Benigno takes the grieving Marco under his wing, counseling him to talk to Lydia, as a way to encourage her to wake up. Some of the story unfolds in linear fashion, but then more details are filled in through flashback as the two men wait for the women to awaken. The film has anticipation and a sense of suspended animation, as the men seem to be as suspended in time as the women are. For Benigno, the wait is comfortable, even preferred to his life

before, but the suspense is more painful for Marco. Both men find comfort and companionship in sharing their situation.

Almodovar does a marvelous job moving back and forth between elements in his film. The unwavering direction, the haunting and gorgeous look of the film, the intriguing plot, and the compelling acting all deserve praise. The film is a dance of elements, an ensemble piece rather than a showcase for a single performance. "Talk to Her" is very visual and very beautiful, with lyrical modern dance sequences, the dressing of the bullfighter in her suit of lights, and a haunting scene from a silent film.

All the principle actors are wonderful in their roles. The director often uses Dario Grandinetti's expressive face in emotional scenes to raise our curiosity and as Marco, he seems to carry much of the center of the film. Javier Camara, as the pudgy, patient Benigno, is both funny and touching in a role that could have easily been mis-handled by the wrong actor. Geraldine Chaplin as Alicia's dance teacher is delightfully elegant and protective of her student, and Leonor Watling is delicate and appealing as Alicia. Rosario Flores as the female bullfighter is a wonderful combination of feminine and masculine aspects, stern and fearless one moment and gracefully womanly the next. Every performance melds perfectly with the other.

"Talk to Her" was first shown here at last fall's St. Louis International Film Festival, and it is delightfully to see it back. Every aspect of this film was marvelous, and the story tends to linger with you, along with the luminous images. Almodovar deserves the praise he received at the Golden Globes and the Oscar he's likely to get.

CD REVIEW

Girls head toward stardom

BY MELISSA MCCRARY
Staff Writer

With a style similar to the light sounds of Grammy Award winner Toni Braxton and a fresh look similar to that of new artists such as Ashanti and Aaliyah, Pam and Dodi are already off to a great start in their music career.

From the minute I popped their 12-track disc into my CD player to the

"We're able to carry one another. We both can sing high; we both can sing low; we sing all the harmony notes. That's the great thing," singer Dodi Alexander said.

The girls first became noticed by recording producers after they performed together in a talent showcase in 1999.

After sending demo tapes to many production studios, all of their hopes and dreams came true after receiving a call from MCA Music Company.

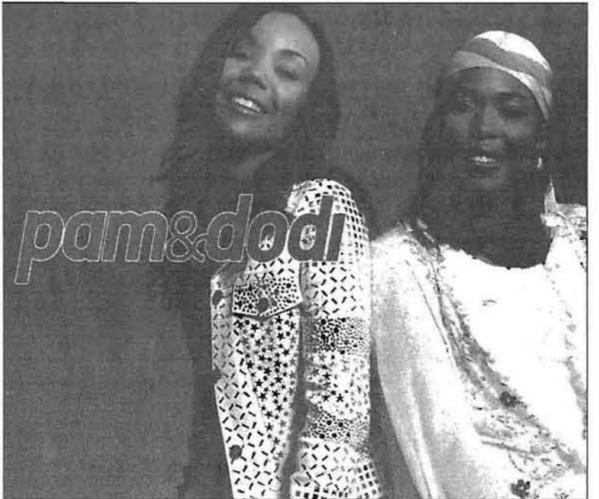


Photo courtesy MCA Records

very last minute, I enjoyed every tune that came out of my speakers.

The two singers became best friends five years ago while living in Detroit. Both girls had the desire to sing since they were young.

Pam was practicing her talent by singing in her church choir, while Dodi was entering herself in many talent contests. The two girls met out of coincidence after Pam heard her future partner singing at a local talent show. From that point on, the girls became a duo.

Their music intertwines the sounds of smooth R&B with Gospel. Their music is about the realities that people face in society and how to overcome troubles by having a strong belief in God.

Their lyrics are soft and sweet, not like most new artists who promote violence, sex and hatred in their music. The two girls sing on key, combining their vocals to produce an outstanding harmony. Because their words have an uplifting, positive outlook on life, they can be favored by people of all ages.

"Dodi and I bring in a freshness; we bring a uniqueness and take it to another level by being encouraging and making you feel good," singer Pamela Taylor said.

The girls are able to work together so well because they share a bonding, sister-like connection.

The production company agreed to sign them to a contract, and their debut album was released on Jan. 8, 2002.

The executive producers of their self-titled album include Tanya Heidelberg-Yopp, Roger Yopp, Steve Corbin and Randy Jackson (from the television show "American Idol").

The song "Don't Have To" is about not having to worry about life's troubles and the struggles to make a living. Track four, "Love Me Like You Do," is an emotional song dedicated to an important person in their lives who has made a difference to them. "Nobody," featuring artists K-Ci & Jo Jo, honors a true love between a couple. Other songs on their album deal with problems in relationships like abuse and how to walk away from those types of terrible things in life and still feel like a great person.

Not only are these girls heading towards stardom, but they are also being offered deals from other well-known singers, beginning to perform on tours and making appearances on the television network BET.

Pam and Dodi can be checked out at their new website www.pamanddodi.com.

While visiting the site, people can view their discography and biographies, listen to songs and interact in forums.

GAME REVIEW

Get your console pierced

BY CHARLIE BRIGHT
Senior Writer

When the music starts in and the little iris wiggles onto Bond, James Bond, turning to shoot the camera, you'll think somebody made a mistake and accidentally put a new DVD in your game case. But don't be shaken (or stirred); it's a game, and it's just the game you're looking for. "James Bond 007: Nightfire" is the latest way to play as the world's most famous spy. It might not be the sharpest shooter on the block, but like its protagonist, the game more than makes up for it with unmatched style.

Let's ignore, for a moment, how cool it is to be James Bond, and how the sharply animated (Lara Croft-esque) girls leap into his bed like salmon swimming upstream. Let's ignore the interesting variety of weapons and gadgets that make "Nightfire" stand out from its contemporaries. Let's even ignore the great soundtrack and eerily accurate Pierce Brosnan game model the developers injected to give the game the feel of a movie. What do we have left? In multiplayer, with more options than Bond's watch and car combined, "Nightfire" will rock your ass.

What's that, you say? You breezed through the single-player campaign and the bots aren't tough enough? Try them at 300% health, with perfect accuracy. Now switch the weapon set to sniper rifles and see how long you last. And whether it's just because they're toying with you or because the game balance is truly amazing, you still feel like you're doing well (even though you're losing 40 to 3). It's one hell of an achievement to take out three guys on that setting.

The multiplayer game has mini-helicopters, mini-tanks and twelve different modes, from Capture the Flag to

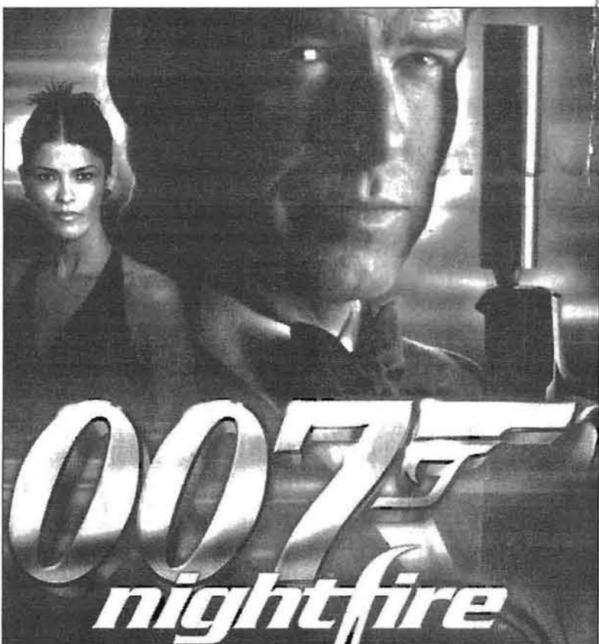


Photo courtesy EA games

Team King of the Hill, with a healthy bit of deathmatch in between. The selection of weapons and bots is largely customizable, with a few of the more lethal gadgets thrown in for good measure.

Not to be outdone, the single-player campaign lets you drive the Aston Martin Vanquish, a car almost as cool as James himself. Unlike many games with multiple different types of gameplay (first-person shooter and driving games, for example), "Nightfire" does an admirable job of doing both, though the driving scenes could be a bit longer. This is indicative of a problem that is true of the whole single-player game, a complaint that the legendary James Bond probably doesn't hear very often:

it's just too short.

My only gripe with the \$50 "Nightfire" was that many of the cooler multiplayer options had to be painstakingly unlocked in the single-player campaign, but this is easily remedied by inputting the personal passwords GAMEROOM and PASSPORT, which open up most of the modes for your character. These should work for all three of the major consoles and lead to hours of nonstop fun. On PC, this game has a few multiplayer bugs that make players long for a controller, an Xbox and a friend. Of course, if you're playing against 300% health super-snipers, your friend will be insufficient. In a few short minutes, you'll probably be crying for mommy.

BOOK REVIEW

Book preys upon fear

BY SARA PORTER
Features Associate

Fear is a powerful motivator. It can move people to run from it, fight it and in some cases, nearly die from it. If someone can trap someone else by his or her worst fears, that person could be defenseless and at the other person's mercy.

That is the premise behind Jonathan Nasaw's thriller/suspense novel, "Fear Itself," and an intriguing premise breeds an intriguing book with twists and turns and psychological motives behind the character.

The novel's protagonist, E. L. Pender, a soon-to-be-retired FBI special agent, is investigating the mysterious deaths of various people with different backgrounds, different social sta-

tuses and one thing in common: they were all killed by their phobias. A man with a fear of birds was practically eaten alive by a flight of them. A woman with a fear of snakes was crushed by a python. A woman afraid of masks was held captive by a stranger in a Kabuki style mask and so on.

Pender investigates the case after discovering that all of these people attended the same phobia convention. So, with computer expert Linda Abruzzi and his contact Dorie Bell, he plays a deadly game of cat and mouse with the killer, who is aware that Pender is right behind him and tries to stay ahead of what he calls "the Fear Game."



Photo courtesy Atria Books



LEFT:

Artist Sue Eisler chats with gallery patrons at the opening reception of her show "Ongoing Permutations" at Gallery 210. Eisler's pieces combine non-traditional materials, such as shoe designs, wire, leather and tubing. The exhibition runs until March 1 and is free and open to the public.

The artist and her work



Photos by Mike Sherwin/ The Current

ABOVE: A detail from an untitled work at Gallery 210 illustrates the artist's use of shoe patterns as an artistic medium.

Book, from page 10

The book is filled with marvelous twists and turns, but is in reality a psychological journey into the mind of a killer and his victims. Through the many perspectives we are given, we go into the characters' minds to find out what they are afraid of and how it has impacted their adult lives.

To his credit, Nasaw does a good job in making both the protagonist and the antagonist intriguing. Pender is a weathered FBI agent who has a few demons and fears of his own that he would rather keep buried. But he is able to proceed after the killer because he is determined to catch him. It almost becomes a chess game between the two as Pender tries to catch up to the killer and concentrate on his next move before he claims another victim.

The identity of the killer is revealed early on in the book, but that doesn't matter since Nasaw gives a dramatic portrayal of a three-dimensional antagonist. The killer is shown as a one-time frightened child, a caretaker of his dwindling family and a madman who gets his excitement out of watching people suffer through their fears.

The two female characters, Dorie and Abruzzi, also present differing characteristics as Pender's foils. Dorie is a woman who has stayed inside most of her life to avoid her fears, whereas Abruzzi has chosen to mask her fears while getting involved in the FBI and being more interested in her job. The two prove excellent partners to Pender while helping him with his case.

"Fear Itself" is a great book about the identity of fear personified by one man. It's a good book to read, but watch out. Your worst fears may be multiplied by ten.

www.thecurrentonline.com
www.thecurrentonline.com
www.thecurrentonline.com
www.thecurrentonline.com

· FREE TEST, with immediate results, detects pregnancy 10 days after it begins.
· PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING & ASSISTANCE.
All services are free and confidential.

You Are Not Alone.

Brentwood... (314) 962-5300 St. Charles..... (636) 724-1200
Ballwin..... (636) 227-2266 South City (314) 962-3653
Bridgeton (636) 227-8775 Midtown (636) 946-4900

All Toll Free Numbers (After Hours: 1-800-550-4900)

www.birthrightstlouis.org

W O J O U I N R
B O N D

WWW.PHISIGUMSL.ORG

BECOME A FOUNDING FATHER

For more info., call the PHI SIG LINE - (314) 706-8890
Epsilon Theta Colony • Phi Sigma Phi National Fraternity, Inc.

W O J O U I N R
B O N D

Advertise in The Current!

and reach thousands of UMSL students and the community

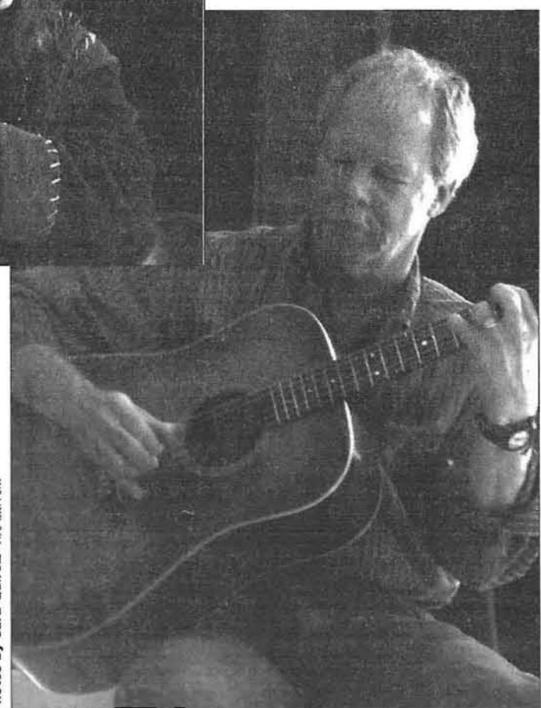
Call 516-5316 for more information.

Irish music duo

Bernie and Barbara McDonald, a husband-and-wife Irish music duo, performed Thursday at the Music Building as one of the Irish music performances held throughout the year by the Center for International Studies, the Department of Music and St. Louis Irish Arts.



Barbara McDonald plays her wooden Boehm-system flute Thursday at the Music Building. The next Irish concert will be February 27, when Robbie O'Connell, an Irish songwriter and singer, performs.



Bernie McDonald, a finger-style guitarist and singer, performs traditional Irish music and original compositions Thursday afternoon.

Photos by Sara Quiroz/ The Current

LSAT
GMAT
GRE
MCAT
DAT
TOEFL

How would you score?

Take a FREE practice test at Kaplan's Test Drive and find out.

University of Missouri St. Louis
February 23, 2003
10 A.M.
Sponsored by UMSL
Pre-Law and Medical Societies

To register, call or visit us online today!

Seating is limited!

KAPLAN

1-800-KAP-TEST
kaptest.com/testdrive

*Test names are registered trademarks of their respective owners.

THE VILLAGE IDIOTS

Jason Granger Adam Bodendieck

First things first—Apparently there was some scandal, controversy and general confusion surrounding last week's column, and we wouldn't be the paragons of virtue that we so totally are if we didn't attempt to address and rectify the situations.

Dearest Village Idiots,
First of all, I want to tell you that I am one of your biggest fans.

In fact, my friends and I are in the process of establishing a Fan Club for Adam (We'll send you a t-shirt when we get them made). Anyway, the purpose of this letter is to let you know that I was highly disappointed with

"Befuddled's" letter in the last issue. As I read the question, I realized that I was reading an episode of "Friends". It is the one where Joey and Chandler get porn for free and vow not to turn it off because they don't want to be the guys who turned off free porn. Then Joey realizes that ordering a pizza will not get him laid - It is a very funny episode.

In the end, they turn it off and within thirty seconds turn it back on only to find that the porn still lives. They jump up and down and get excited and all is good. What I want to know is who wrote this rip-off? They should be ashamed!

-Love, Fired Up

Dear Fired Up,
We're not quite sure what's scari-er: That someone ripped off "Friends" or that someone else actually got upset enough to write a letter about it...Either way, Fired Up, you make a very valid point, and you're not the only one who brought this to our attention. And we agree with you; whoever wrote that letter should be ashamed! Not necessarily for plagiarizing, but rather for plagiarizing "Friends" of all things. C'mon, people! We have standards here! If you're going to plagiarize, at least make it something worthwhile (anything from the English literary canon would be acceptable...) People must just have too much time on their hands. Can't you be like us and, instead of watching television and realizing someone ripped off a show, drink your lives away in useless pursuits of happiness and fulfillment? After all, doesn't television kill more brain cells than booze anyway?

We're truly sorry that such a tragedy occurred in the column, and we're sorry that we didn't catch it before going to print. Unfortunately, we're both contemporary pop-culture retards (If it was made after 1976, we won't know it) and have watched maybe a grand total of two episodes of "Friends" in our entire lives (and not necessarily by choice). However, any future plagiarists should be forewarned: Try ripping off Huggy Bear, Vinnie Barbarino or The Fonz (Heyyyyy!), and we'll nail you! [Jason's note: I would just like it known that whomever sent us this great letter also referred to me as the "Cute one," but Adam edited it out. I think he is jealous. Bastard. It's about damn time someone realized I'm cute.]

-Love, Jason and Adam (who is eagerly awaiting his t-shirt)

Dear Village Idiots,
Usually I don't have to think too hard when reading your column, but something from last week has me a tad befuddled: What exactly is a "ridiculously fake idea"? Just won-

dering...
-Love, An Astute Reader

Dear Astute Reader,
"Ridiculously fake idea" is what "ridiculously fake I.D." looks like to Adam when he's trying to write a column late on a Friday night after a couple pints of Guinness. God bless him for trying, though...

And we're glad to hear that you usually don't have to think too hard when reading the column because—this is going to come as quite a shock to a lot of people—we don't usually have to think all too hard when writing it, and we'd hate to think that our readers are putting in more effort than we are. Seriously, the last thing we need is someone to start reading messages in our stuff. We'd really hate to be the ones who inspired the next Charles Manson, we didn't write "Helter Skelter" after all. Hope that clears everything up!

-Love, Jason and Adam

Dear Village Idiots,
I need to apply for what "the man" terms a real job (apparently, whoring myself out for \$10 a pop isn't considered legit). Anyhow, I need help. At my last interview the following exchange took place:

Boss: "Are you a self starter, and do you consider yourself an integral part of a company?"

Me: "Sir, I'm going to do such a good job you're going to beg me to sleep with YOUR wife."

I didn't get the job, and I think Pizza Hut is the worse for it, but I really need to get some cash flow! Any ideas?

-Sincerely Scouring the Couch Cushions for Coins

Dear Scouring,
Not exactly the brightest crayon in the box, are you? Never mind, forget we asked...Of course we'll help you. However, we need to make something perfectly clear first: We've never worked an honest day in our lives, instead being fortunately able to sleep our way to the top of the newspaper industry. [Note: By "top," we mean "slightly lower than the bottom."] But the fact of the matter is that we've never sold out to corporate America and neither should you. Maybe one of the following positions will appeal to you: Distributing porn on the Internet is a viable option, and who wouldn't want to be known worldwide as a porn czar? Can you imagine all the chicks you'd get when you introduced yourself at dinner parties as "The world's number one supplier of sheep and midget-themed adult entertainment"? The ladies so totally go for those guys!

Another option is selling vital organs on the Black Market (No, not your own—put down the scissors, Einstein). All you need to do is wait for one of your friends to pass out, and then you can cash in; a kidney alone goes for about \$3,000, and if you can score a relatively well-working heart, you'll be walking on easy street. [Adam's Note: If you happen to find a good liver, I call first dibs. Thanks.] We would like to add, that while still radical at the time, brain transplants have come a long way, and Jason is still waiting on his.... We'd be most grateful to anyone willing to help Jason in his quest. It seems that all the concussions, are catching up to him. Just yesterday, he came to school with no pants on and a tea cozy on his head.

-Love, Adam and Jason (duhhh....sheeps is funny)

Dear Village Idiots,
I go to a major state school (U of Illinois), and it has come to my attention that here, among other places, people act really fake. White guys act like thugged out gangstas while wearing Polo shirts and khakis, skinny guys act like hard-asses and my roommate dresses like a woman. Unfortunately, I'm not exempt from my critique. I watch TRL on MTV whenever I can and attempt to use whatever that Carson Daley guy says in everyday conversation...I'm such a tool.

-Lamely, Unable to Admit Faults

Dear Unable,
To answer your question, people are just inherently fake. For example, Jason tells people that girls talk to him at parties when they really just say one of two things: 1) "No means no" and 2) "Seriously, according to the restraining order, you can't be within 100 feet of me!" Deep down Adam doesn't want people to know that he's really little more than a dirty alcoholic, so he's managed to convince himself (and a few others) that Jack Daniels is an actual person and a great friend, to boot. Everyone is insecure with themselves, but the trick is to look within and find the good that you possess and enlighten the world with your positive energy [Note: We're reading this off of one of those damn feel-good posters that has a picture of a rainbow on it]. What the hell? Where did that come from? Good god, we have to go watch "Taxi Driver" before we start spouting "Chicken Soup for the Advice Columnist's Soul."

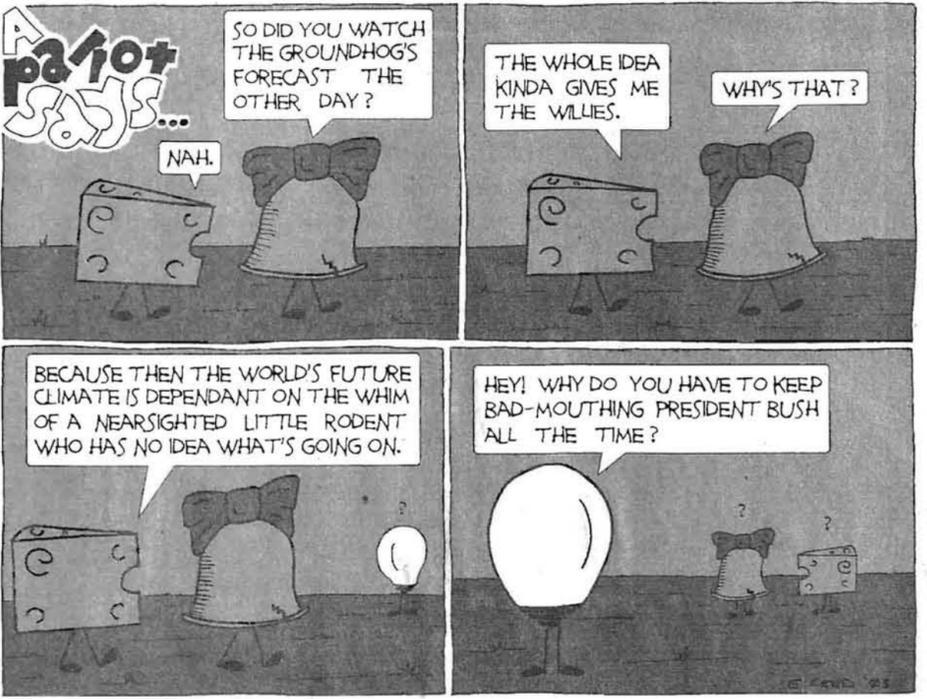
But Unable, don't be too hard on yourself: we think you're great. [Note: We figured we better include this last part in case Unable meant to write to a real advice column but wrote to us by mistake. For all we know, he's seriously contemplating suicide or something...and if he is, he should talk to Scouring (see above); it would be a shame for all of those valuable organs to go to waste...] We are totally sure that you have a lot to offer to the world. Stories to tell and recipes to share and all that.

We would like to address the issue of your roommate as well. Tell us this: is your roommate a man or woman? Seriously, if you have a female roommate and you have issues with her dressing like a woman, then you may be the one with the problem. If he/she/it is a male, then hey, you can be a good friend and buy the Nair for him.

-Love, Jason and Adam

If you have a question, send us an e-mail: VillageldiotsJA@yahoo.com. If you don't like e-mail, you can bring a question to us on the third floor of the MSC, room 388.

!!!DISCLAIMER!!!
Adam Bodendieck and Jason Granger are by no means qualified to dispense advice. They are a couple of stupid college guys. Please do not send them serious questions. It will be assumed that if you send them questions, they are in jest and open to Adam and Jason's own particular brand of humor. This column is intended to be read as parody.
-The Management



WHAT WILL YOU BE DOING THIS SUMMER?

11 SUMMER PROGRAMS AVAILABLE!

STUDY ABROAD WITH IES THIS SUMMER AND SEE THE WORLD.

IES ABROAD

800.995.2300 WWW.IESABROAD.ORG/GO-SUMMER.HTM

Advertise in The Current and reach thousands of UMSL students

Call 516-5316 for more information.

FREE CAKE!

NOW THAT I GOT YOUR ATTENTION

Celebrate February Birthdays In The Nosh With Free Cake On February 6th

Small Soup for \$1.25 With Purchase an Origin's Daily Special and a 20 oz soda.

with coupon--expires 2/7/03

Have a Traffic Ticket?

314.729.2833

Offering personal and convenient service at affordable rates, Call 24/7. FEES STARTING AT \$45

A. Rothert, Attorney at Law, PO Box 2484, St. Louis, MO 63032

**UM-St. Louis students, faculty and staff:
Classifieds are FREE!!**

**CLASSIFIED
RATES**



**(314)
516-5316**

Otherwise, classified advertising is \$10 for 40 words or fewer in straight text format. Bold and CAPS letters are free. All classifieds must be prepaid by check, money order or credit card. Deadline is 3 p.m. on the Thursday prior to publication.

<http://thecurrentonline.com> current@jinx.umsl.edu

Help Wanted

Have Fun! Make Money!

Around your schedule. P/T, F/T. Own your own dot com! Start your own business in the growing communications industry
www.excelonmars.com/skdreams
CONTACT US TODAY FOR AN INTERVIEW! 314-579-4992

ASUM now hiring

ASUM, the student lobbyist organization, is hiring part-time communication assistants. Duties include public affairs, public relations, advertising and event planning. 10-15 hrs/wk. \$7/hr. Call 516-5835 for more info.

Calling all artists!!

UMSL Spanish club is having a mural contest with a \$600 cash prize. Deadline is Feb. 14. Submit an 8.5x11 in. preliminary sketch to UMSL Mural Contest, 4430 Normandy Trace Drive, Apt. B, St. Louis, MO 63121.

Readers/Writers/Test Assistants

These paid positions are needed for Students With Disabilities and are available for the Winter Semester 2003. Contact Marilyn Ditto-Pemell with Disability Access Services at 516-5228 or visit 144 MSC for more information.

Two Free Black Labs

One male and one female. They must stay together since they have been raised together. Almost full-blooded. Very playful, energetic, loving. Call Britany • (314) 223-

Phi Sigma Phi Fraternity

The Epsilon Theta Colony of Phi Sigma Phi Fraternity is looking for new members. (314) 706-8890

Help Wanted

Student Assistant Needed

for Web Development, 10-25 hrs./week. Candidate will assist with development/maintenance of PPRC website. **Candidate must be able to compose webpages using Cascading Style Sheet.** Proficiency in Dreamweaver, Fireworks, and Adobe PageMaker/Illustrator desirable. Very competitive wage, flexible schedule. Call Rebecca, 516-5277, email Rebecca@umsl.edu, or visit <http://pprc.umsl.edu>.

For sale

Hunter green sofa bed, one year old, in excellent new condition; perfect for dorm or apartment. \$200. Please contact Shane or Holli @ (314) 805-6571.

Notebook computer: HP model ze5170, Intel P4-2.0 GHZ, 512 MB DDR SDRAM, 40 GB ATA100 HD, DVD-Rom + CD-RW combo, ATI 32 MB video, 15" XGA-TFT screen, 10/100 NIC, 56K modem, Windows XP Home + tons of bundled software, 3 yr. ext. warranty, only 4 months old, \$1,700 firm. 516-6941.

96 Navy blue camaro, V6

3.8 Liter, Automatic, Rear Wheel Drive, Air Conditioning, Power Steering, Power Windows, Power Door Locks, Tilt Wheel, Cruise Control, AM/FM stereo, compact disc system, CD Changer/Stacker, Dual Front Airbags, ABS (4-wheel), inside black leather, power seat, t-bar roof. Inside & outside excellent condition, four new tires, excellent mechanical and clean engine. \$8,500. Call 603-1545.

Housing

3BD House for rent

Large family room and eat-in kitchen. 1-car garage. Within walking distance to UM-St. Louis. \$1,150.00 a month. Utilities not included. Optional 3rd story. Contact Craig at 314-495-8788.

University Meadows apt. available.

Looking for someone to take over lease for spring semester. January rent paid. Room is in 4 bedroom apt. with 3 other guys. Call 314-892-2448. Ask for Tyson.

Seeking roommate

Seeking roommate to share large 4 bedroom house 2 miles from campus. \$300/month includes everything. DirecTV, DSL, and voicemail box. Call Tripp 521-7330.

For sale

FINCHES

Zebra & Bengalese Finches @ 5 dollars each. Excellent pets, cages also available. Please contact Juan Martinez at 516-6256 or mimodes@jinx.umsl.edu.

Misc.

PMS or Menopause got you down?

Don't worry; relief is on the way. Call Hen's at 1-800-305-1620.

Send classified ads to current@jinx.umsl.edu

STUDENT TRAVEL

midterms, finals, **spring break**



565 Melville (314) 721.7779



www.statravel.com

STA TRAVEL

ONLINE ON THE PHONE ON CAMPUS ON THE STREET

RED LOBSTER

We are looking for some fun, energetic bartenders and servers to join our crew. We offer you a fun atmosphere, flexible schedules, thorough training, and a caring management team that values your input.

Apply in person M-F, 12-4, with a smile at 11088 New Halls Ferry in Florissant.

**Attention UMSL Students!
The Traffic Stop**

The One Stop For All Your Traffic Needs!

Tickets - DUI - DWI - Suspensions

Just drop it off on your way to or from school!

David M. Hocking, Attorney At Law

8509 Natural Bridge (Just East of North Hanley)

(314) 428-NOGO (314) 423-4LAW

(314) 423-4515 Fax

Just Look For The Big Red Stop Sign!

*Ask About Our Student Special with Valid I.D.



"Coffee with Curt"
(a forum for students)

Questions, concerns, opinions?

Come and share them with the
Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs

"Curt Coonrod"

Wednesday, February 5

1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Room 314

Millennium Student Center



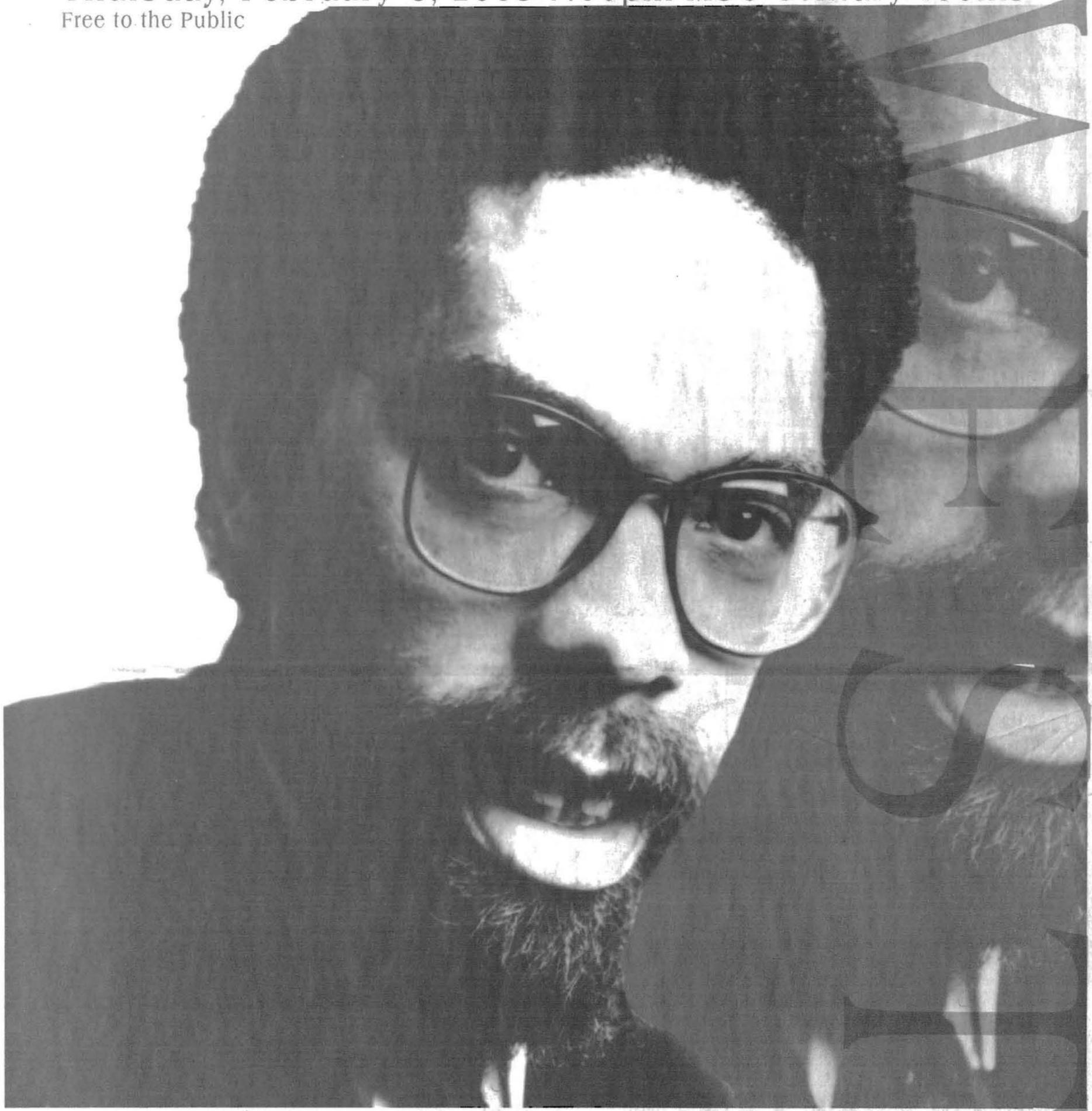
Call Student Life @ 5291 to register

Shaolin
monks

February 11th, 2003 at the Fox Theatre

Show begins at 8:00pm.
Tickets \$20.00 - now available
in the Office of Student Life
Sponsored by UPB

Thursday, February 6, 2003 7:00pm MSC Century rooms
Free to the Public



UM-ST. LOUIS WORLD LECTURE SERIES
dr. cornel west