



'American Splendor' is splendid See page 10

Computer virus problems escalate

Computers hit hardest from Aug. 19 to Aug. 22

BY BECKY ROSNER
News Editor

Computer viruses have been circulating around campus, costing mostly loss of time. Many steps have and are being taken to control the problem.

A lot of monitoring was going on before the large virus hit the campus. The most serious virus infected computers Aug. 19 and lasted until Aug. 22. They still continue to travel around campus, however, but not as seriously.

About 600 computers could be patched ahead of time, but there were still several that were not and thus infected. The main loss from the virus was time.

“There are many companies, including Microsoft, that check computers for strange files and let users know what they can expect ahead of time”

“The biggest effect was the network performance,” Jerry Siegel, associate vice-chancellor for Information Technology, said.

Knowing that it was coming a few weeks before the virus hit was a main key in preventing its spreading. There are many companies, including Microsoft, that check computers for strange files and let users know what they can expect ahead of time.

The virus hit Columbia the worst and caused some problems with registration. All of the campuses are on the same network; however, UM-St. Louis was able to take several precautionary measures that the other campuses did not take.

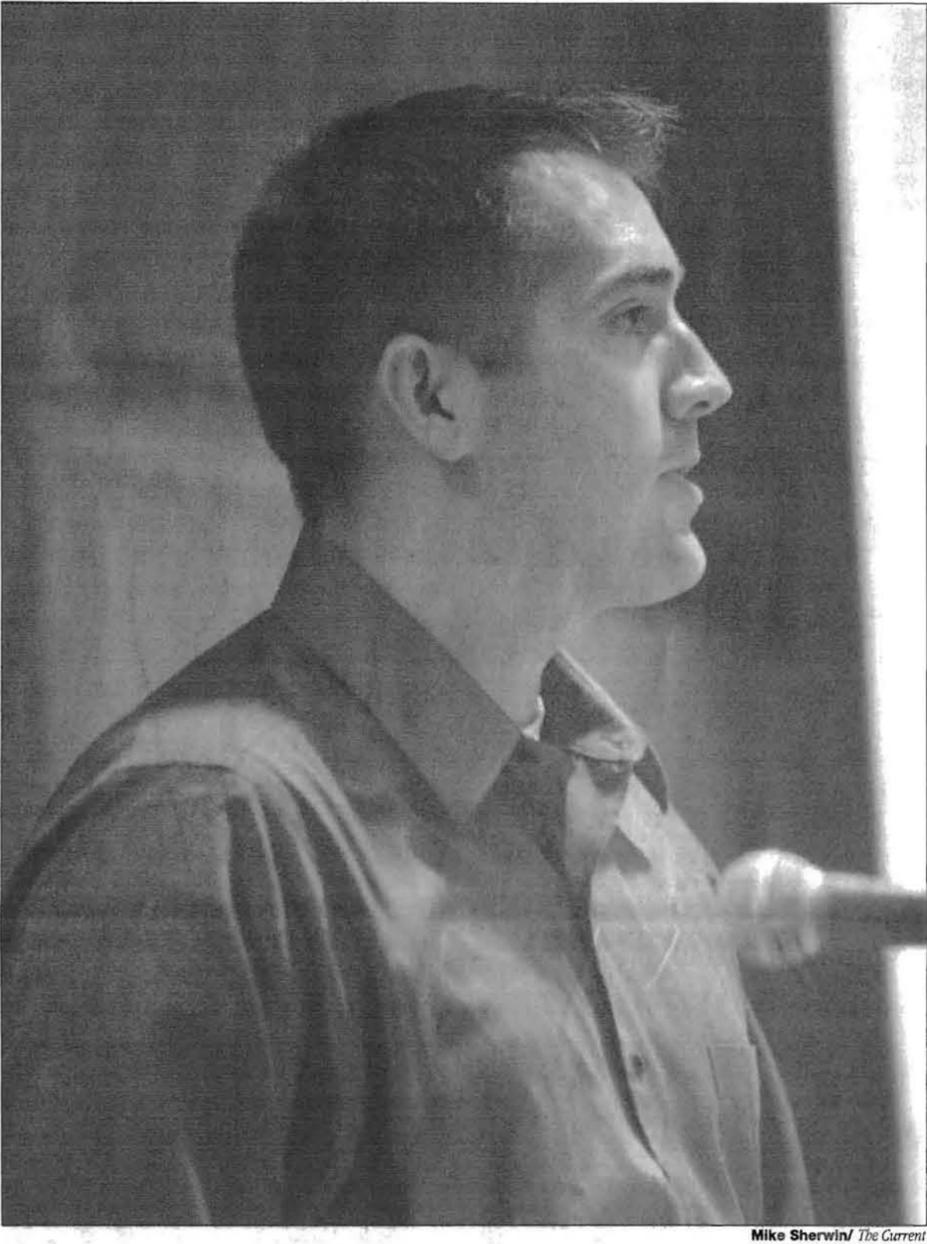
By studying a pattern, Information Technology has been trying to prevent anything serious from happening. The virus did hit some places worse than others, but there was no real way for preventing the pattern.

“Almost every department had some machines that were affected,” Siegel said. “If a computer begins to act up, a virus may be the cause for it. It may even sit on a machine for a while before it even goes off [affects it]. People should really analyze their files and look for anything suspicious that does not belong or that they have not seen before.”

see COMPUTER VIRUS, page 3

SGA elects officers

Dodd named SGA chairman, Schwadron elected vice-chair



David Dodd was elected to be SGA chairman at the SGA meeting Friday. Mike Sherwin/The Current

BY BECKY ROSNER
News Editor

The agenda of the first Student Government Association meeting, held on Friday, included nominating committee members and approving meeting times.

President Kristy Runde started off the meeting with an explanation of what put her into the president's seat. She explained how the Executive Committee chose to put her into the office after Adam Beumeler vacated the office of president. He was accused of

“There is at least one event during the week, every week, and sometimes during the weekends.”

—Orinthia Montague, director of the office of Student Life

and admitted to breaking some of the election rules.

“With that position being vacated,” Runde said, “it moved the vice-president up and then the vice-chair moved up to the vice-president's spot since we do not have a chair.”

Due to the promotion of Runde, the vice-president's seat was left vacant. The vice-chairman did not accept the promotion, so SGA will hold elections on Sept. 23 and 24. Applications are available in the Office of Student Life.

Chancellor Thomas George was present at the meeting. George has taken over as the advisor of SGA. Curt Coonrod, vice-chancellor for Student Affairs, will be the secondary advisor, and an advisor emeritus will be announced in the future.

Each of the other officers made a short speech about how their job is going. Joanne Bocci, associate vice-

chancellor for Student Affairs, had some words to say about the upcoming year. She emphasized that students should use their power to speak freely about anything on campus.

A guest speaker from Kids Voting Missouri presented a small speech to recruit students who want to be involved with her organization. She is looking for volunteers to help lead a discussion with the kids on public policy and current issues. Sandy Diamond, director of Kids Voting Missouri, can be reached at 516-6823 or by e-mail at sdiamond@umsl.edu.

Elections for executive offices started out with the nominations for the chairman. David Dodd was elected as the chairman. Adam Schwadron was next elected as the vice-chairman. Jen Fowler was elected as the secretary, and Andrew Schloss was chosen as treasurer. Two-year veteran Justin Kimble filled Sergeant at Arms position, and the last position, parliamentarian, was filled by newcomer M.K. Stones.

Meeting dates were discussed and will be kept on the third Friday of every month. They will begin at 1 p.m., and at least one member from every student organization is encouraged to attend.

Some groups presented their upcoming events to the other groups. In particular, Orinthia Montague, director of the Office of Student Life, told everyone about events that they are sponsoring this year. She also said that the Office of Student Life has a new website on which any events that groups may be sponsoring can be placed on. Students are encouraged to visit the site often to see what is happening.

Events for the year include a trip to Meremac Caverns, horseback riding in Babler State Park, rollerblading in Forest Park and a trip to Six Flags. Almost all of the events are free to students.

“There is at least one event during the week, every week and sometimes during the weekends,” Montague said.

The next SGA meeting will be held on Fri. Sept. 19 at 1 p.m., in the Student Government Chambers.

Driemeier bids farewell



Don Driemeier has a chuckle at his farewell reception Monday Aug. 25 as Paul Speck, assistant professor of marketing, regales the audience with humorous anecdotes from Driemeier's career at UM-St. Louis. Driemeier, who has served as interim chancellor since Blanche Touhill's retirement, was succeeded by Thomas George on Sept. 1.

Student cut in fight

BY BECKY ROSNER
News Editor

Last Monday, a student was cut in the hand with a knife in front of the loading dock at the Millennium Student Center. The incident followed a disagreement between two male students in line at the University Bookstore.

The two men, Denis Kuzelj and Nick Trifilette, exited the building via a door that led to the loading dock and continued arguing, according to Gloria Schultz, director of auxiliary services/manager of the University Bookstore. “They jumped off the dock and I went out there and tried to get them to stop so that nobody would get hurt,” she said.

During the confrontation, Kuzelj began to swing a knife and

eventually stabbed Trifilette in the left hand. Kuzelj then ran towards Parking Lot N, and was pursued by both Trifilette and a University employee. They were unable to catch Kuzelj.

“A short time later, the employee saw Kuzelj driving away in a black Pontiac and obtained a partial license number,” said Anthony Griemel, university police officer. The vehicle was later identified.

According to Griemel, Kuzelj was sighted and arrested on campus Wednesday morning. He was charged with assault in the second degree, a class C felony. His bond was set at \$12,000.

“I am just very sad that it was two of our students,” said Schultz. “It's just bad for the campus, and right at the beginning of the year, [it] can ruin a whole semester.”

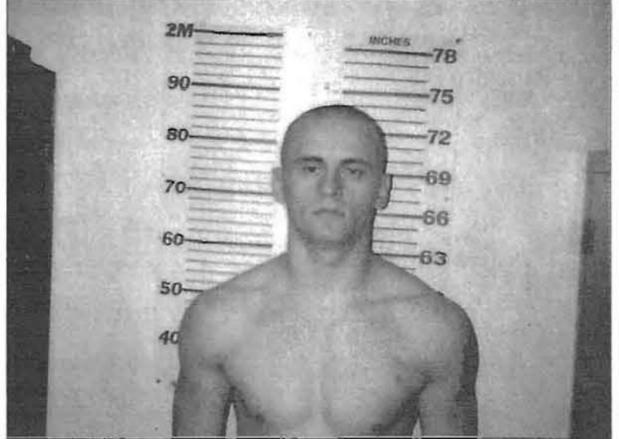


Photo courtesy UM-St. Louis Police Department
Denis Kuzelj allegedly cut Nick Trifilette in a fight outside the Millennium Student Center loading docks.

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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.umsl.edu
All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.

Tues 2 Rec Sports
Rec Sports' Spring Aerobics classes begin and run through Dec. 13. Two sessions are offered: Sept. 2 to Oct. 18 and Oct. 20 to Dec. 13. One fee allows participants to attend any class at any time. For a complete wellness schedule or to register, contact the Rec Sports Office, 203MT (516-5326) or check our web page - www.umsl.edu/services/recsport.

2 Career Services
A Resume Writing Skills Workshop is from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. in room 278 MSC. The workshop is free and open to students. Advanced registration is required. Call 516-5111 or enroll in person at Career Services.

2 Bible study
Christ Christian Center is holding a Bible study at 7:30 p.m. at Embassy Suites Hotel (Interstate 70 & Lindbergh). 11237 Lone Eagle Drive St. Louis, MO 63044 (314) 739-8929.

Wed 3 Library lecture
The St. Louis Mercantile Library Lunch & Lecture Series is from noon to 1:10 p.m. in MSC, Century Room A. The event is open to students and has a fee of \$15 for members and \$18 for non-members. The St. Louis Mercantile Library at UM-St. Louis kicks off the Fall Lecture Series with Louis Gerteis presenting "St. Louis Explored: The Virtual City Project." For more information, contact Laura Diel at 516-7242.

3 Career Services
A Resume Writing Skills Workshop is from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. in room 278 MSC. The workshop is free and open to students. Advanced registration is required. Call 516-5111 or enroll in person at Career Services.

3 Speech & Debate
The first Speech and Debate meeting of the year is today. The meeting is from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. in room 314 MSC. The meeting is free and open to all audiences. For more information, contact David Dodd at 516-7306.

Wed 3 (cont.) Anthropology
"Oak Grove: A Little Dixie Plantation in Saline County, MO," is presented by Tim Baumann, assistant professor in Anthropology. The presentation is from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. in room 132 of the Social Sciences Building. This presentation will cover the 2003 excavations of a two-room slave quarters at the Oak Grove plantation site in Saline County, MO. For more information, contact Tim Baumann at 516-6021.

3 Rec Sports
The entry deadline for these activities is today. **Coed Volleyball League** - Games are played on Monday & Wednesday nights beginning Sept. 8. **Bowling Doubles League** - Cost is only \$1.50 a week for 3 games. League is held on Wednesdays from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. at nearby North Oaks Bowl. **Coed Softball Tournament & BBQ** - Sunday, Sept. 14. Sign up in the Rec Sports Office (203 MT) by Wed. Sept. 3.

Fri 5 & Wed 10 Inline Hockey Tryout
Friday, Sept. 5 at 10 p.m. and Wednesday, Sept. 10 at 11:30. Both dates are mandatory. Bring \$20. For information, contact coach Tom Schneider at (314) 559-1452 or email at NHLORBUST1@aol.com.

Sat 6 Guaranteed 4.0 seminar/workshop
A Guaranteed 4.0 Seminar/Workshop is today. The seminar is from 10 a.m. to noon and the workshop is from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. in room 118 SSB. For more information, contact Linda Sharp at 516-6807. The seminar/workshop is sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Relations/Academic Affairs.

6 Pre-Optometry
A Pre-Optometry workshop for high school and undergraduates is from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in room 222 J.C. Penney. The event is free to students. Lunch for nonstudents is \$10 at the door. For more information, contact Dana Seipp at 516-6263.

Mon 8 ASUM
"Lunch with a Legislator" is from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Century Room C of the MSC. Senator Maida Coleman will be present. The event is free and open to UM-St. Louis only. For more information, call Beth at 516-7306.

Put it on the Board!

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

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The Campus Crimeline

The following criminal incidents were reported to the University of Missouri - St. Louis Police Department during the summer between August 14 and August 29. If readers have information that could assist the police investigation, they are urged to call 516-5155. Campus police as a public service to promote awareness provides this information. Remember-crime prevention is a community effort.

August 15 - Stealing under \$500
In room 326 of Stadler Hall, four textbooks

were taken from an office.

August 21 - Stealing under \$500
In room 312 of the Computer Center Building, books were taken from an office.

August 24 - Drug violation/alcohol violation
In Bellerive Hall, an R.A. reported a drug violation. A police investigation lead to 4 arrests: 2 adults and 2 juveniles. All subjects were suspected of smoking marijuana and were in possession of alcohol. The two adults are being referred to the Prosecuting Attorney's office

for warrants and the two juveniles are being referred to the Juvenile Court.

August 25 - Property damage
In room 328 Seton Hall, there was a delayed report of an unknown person scratching a dorm room door.

August 25 - Assault 1st degree
At the Millennium Student Center dock area, an altercation between two students occurred in which the victim was cut on his hand with a knife by the suspect. The suspect was later

arrested and warrants were issued in this incident.

August 25 - Disturbance
In the Normandie Residence Hall lobby, there was an argument between a boyfriend and girlfriend.

August 25 - Stealing over \$500
In the Social Sciences Building, the Pony Espresso bar had cash stolen from the register when the worker left the area unattended.

August 28 - Delayed report of deviant sexual assault

In the Social Sciences Building, two male subjects were engaged in a deviant sexual act.

Note: Beginning on Tuesday, Sept. 2 the Parking and Transportation Unit will begin full enforcement of all parking areas. All vehicles parked on campus must display some kind of valid parking permit. There is no parking allowed on West Drive along the curb in the bike lanes.

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- Citi Mortgage
- Internal Revenue Service

for details, contact

Career Services
278 Millennium Student Center

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The Current

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Come by 388 MSC or call 516-6810 for details.

Correction

In issue 1091 of *The Current*, the article titled "Payment options abound for students" erroneously stated that meal packages can be purchased at both Residential Life and the Cashier's Office. Meal packages can not be purchased at the Cashier's office, though they can be purchased at Residential Life.

Need to advertise an event?

The Current is a great way for campus groups and organizations to inform the UM-St. Louis community.

Call The Current advertising department at 516-5316 for details.

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Mars brightens the night sky

Students view the 'Red Planet' from observatory

BY BECKY ROSNER
News Editor

Mars is currently at its closest point to Earth in nearly 60,000 years. The planet can be seen through a small telescope for the next couple of months.

Approximately every 15 to 17 years, Mars gets fairly close to Earth. In 1988, it was somewhere close to being this large; however, the Red Planet was still not as large as it appears in the sky tonight.

The planet will be in the sky all throughout September and will still be fairly visible in October. Appearing around sunset, it can be seen in the southeast sky.

"About the best time right now is to go out around 10 p.m.," Bruce Wilking, professor and chairman of the department of physics and astronomy, said. "It's pretty apparent because it has an orange color."

The orbits of Mars and Earth are slightly elliptical, causing the two planets to be closer to each other at different times. Once every two years, Mars comes closer to Earth than normal.

"It's the brightest object in the sky, next to the moon, and has a very distinctive orange color because it is covered with rust-colored rocks," Wilking said.

On Aug. 27, the Department of Physics and Astronomy sponsored a free, open viewing of Mars. At the Richard D. Schwartz Observatory on South Campus, the public was able to view the planet openly through telescopes.

The event was open to the public. Stools were provided for any children

who wanted to catch a glance. One telescope was located outside the observatory for people to use in addition to the one in the observatory.

About an hour a half wait was formed due to the large crowd of people that showed up for the event. People of all ages showed up to take a closer look at the Red Planet. Some members of the astronomy department were present to answer questions that people had while waiting.

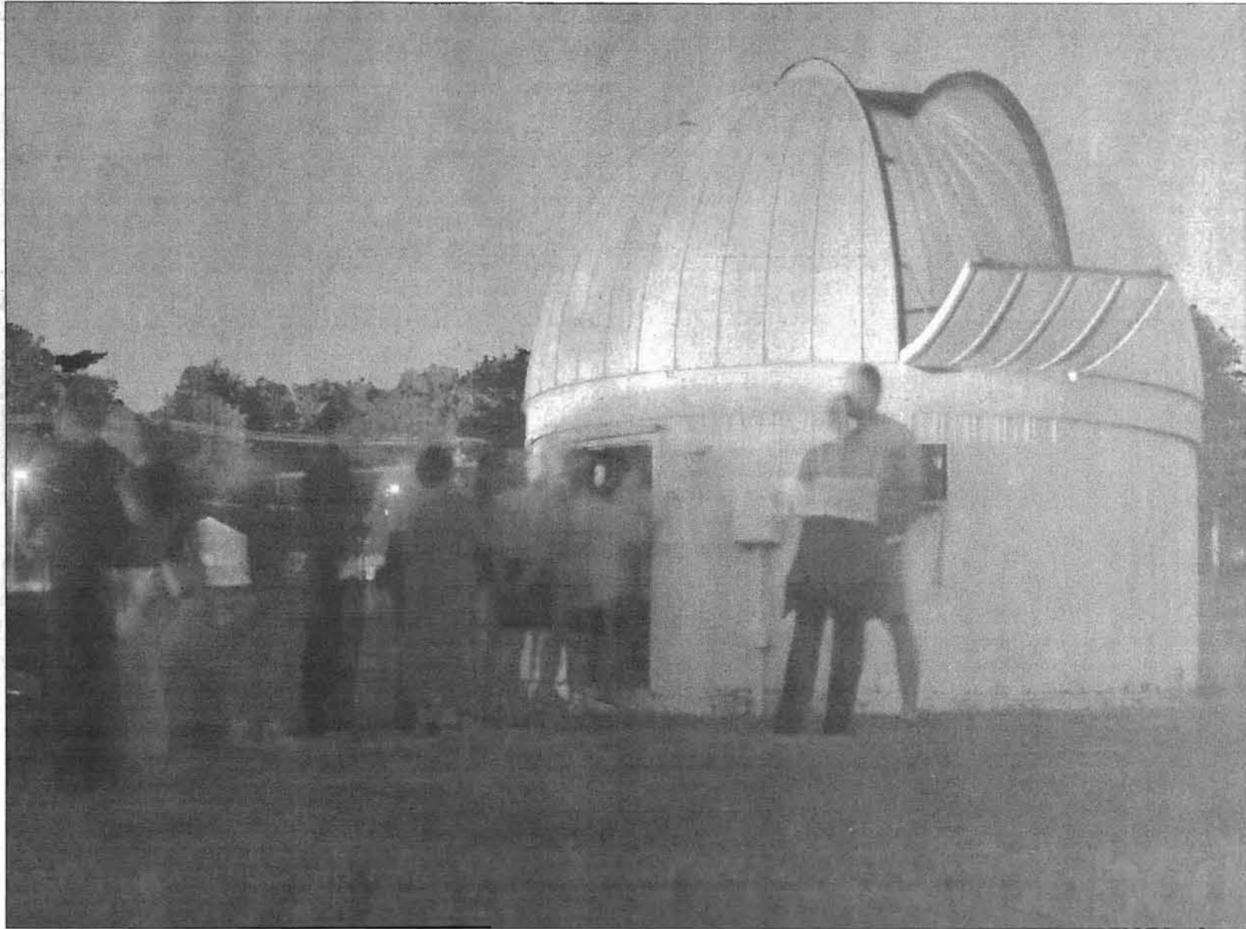
Although Mars is 34.6 million miles away from Earth, UM-St. Louis viewers were able to see some of the features of the Red Planet. Polar caps and some surface markings were visible through the telescopes.

Mars was even noticeable while viewers were just waiting in line to use the telescopes. It looked like a big, bright orange star in the sky. Many people could even see it from their backyard.

The planet that may reside even closer to Earth than Mars is Venus. At its closest approach, Mars is half the distance between the Earth and the sun. Venus should be about three-tenths the distance between the two, when the cycle returns here.

"The planet Venus, at times, is much brighter than Mars is now," Wilking said. "The problem is that Venus is always close to the sun so it is not visible during the night."

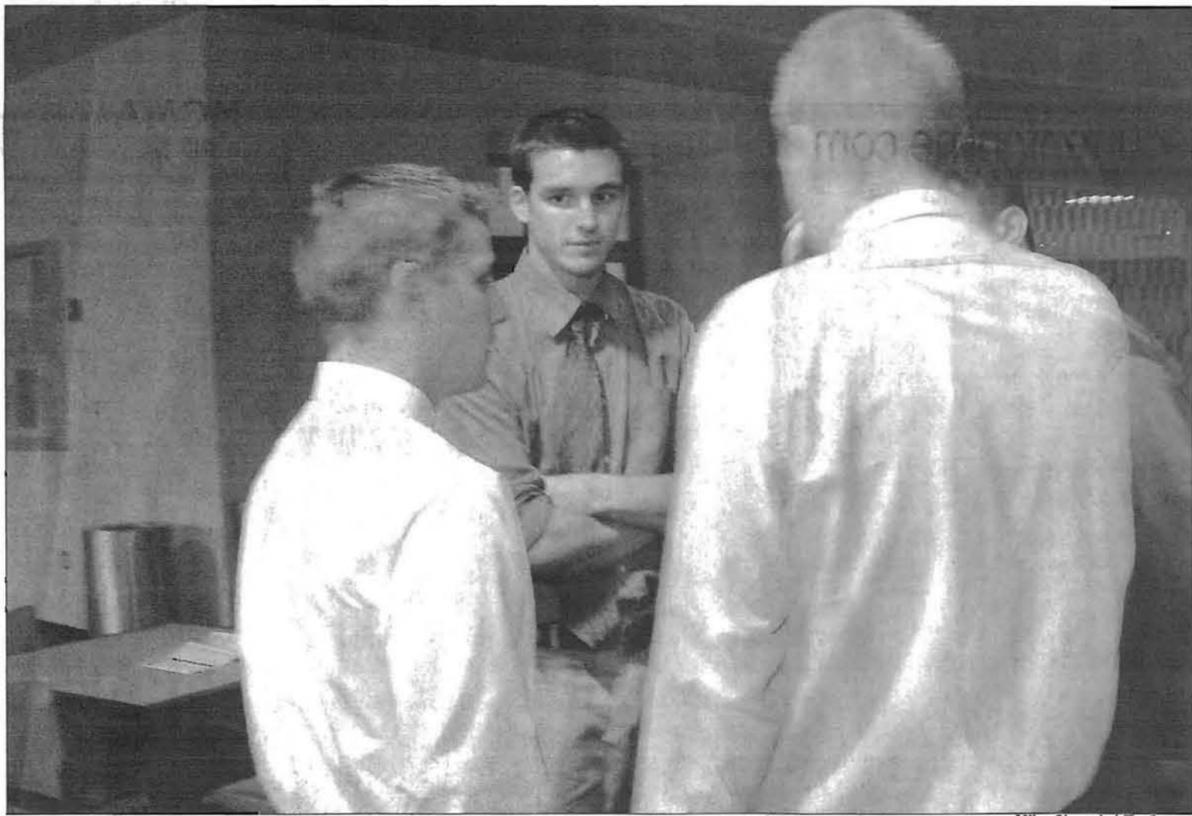
The planet will also be featured in the next two observatory open houses. On Sept. 6 at 8 p.m. and Oct. 4 at 7:30 p.m., anyone can catch a good glance at the Red Planet. For more information, call 516-5706 or visit <http://newton.umsl.edu/astro>.



A long exposure captures a blur of visitors waiting in line at the Richard D. Schwartz Observatory on South Campus Wednesday night to see Mars at its closest proximity to Earth in the last 60,000 years.

Mike Sherwin/The Current

The (formal) rush is on



Mike Sherwin/The Current

Sigma Pi fraternity members chat in the Nosh on Friday as they wait to hear the results on "Bid Day," the last day of formal recruitment week, when recruits make their choice of which fraternity to join. There are three recognized fraternities at UM-St. Louis: Sigma Pi, Phi Sigma Phi and Sigma Tau Gamma. Activities held during rush are intended to give recruits a chance to meet with members as well as giving them a glimpse and feel of fraternity life. As with the sorority recruitments, informal recruitments continue throughout the year and students can join without attending formal recruitment.

MANSION HILL, from page 1

Windows 2000 and Windows XP are two of the most frequently hit programs by the bug. CDs, floppy disks, e-mail and the Internet are all ways of contracting the virus on a computer.

"Almost always it will be a Windows computer [that is hit]," Siegel said, not a Macintosh.

Viruses act like diseases and spread throughout many computers after infecting just one. Some people may be more likely to get it than others, if perhaps they were looking on a web page that someone else might not have been on.

Measures are going to be taken to try to prevent something like this from happening again. One thing that will be done is that instead of depending on people to patch the machines, they will automatically be patched. Instead of having to install the patches, the machine will turn on and patch

itself.

For a long time, there have been virus scans on e-mail. They will be installing some more to help fix the problems.

"There are a lot of steps that we can take to prevent these things from happening," Siegel said.

Trying to get some protection on some of the student machines in the dorms and around campus is another priority that Information Technology will be dealing with. Siegel said that they suspect that some of the student machines may even still have the virus. There is not really a viable way of knowing.

By reading the newspaper and checking the Microsoft website, people can stay aware of the viruses.

"We are trying to be more proactive about it and look for you," Siegel said. "Just be aware and be vigilant."

Anti-virus protection

Norton Anti-virus:

Protects email, instant messages and other files by automatically removing viruses, worms and Trojan horses. New features also detect non-virus threats such as spyware and keystroke loggers. **Retails for \$49.95.**

McAfee Scan:

VirusScan protects your PC, files and email address book from high-risk viruses, worms and Trojans like Bugbear, Slammer, Code Red, Nimda, SirCam and Nicchello. **Retails for \$34.95 a year**

NEWS BRIEFS

UMSL wins landscaping award
UM-St. Louis' grounds crew was recognized last week by North County Inc. with a landscaping award. North County Inc. presents awards annually to businesses in North County that display landscaping excellence.

Business college opens career services office
The College of Business Administration will open its new Business Career Services Office Sept. 2. The office is located in room 469 of the Social Sciences Building. Call ext. 6109 for more information.

Rec Sports season to open with aerobics

Rec. sports will begin offering aerobics classes Sept. 2 through Dec. 13. There are two sessions. One will run through Oct. 18, and the other will begin on Oct. 20 and run through Dec. 13. A fee is required. Call ext. 5326 or visit <http://umsl.edu/services/recsport> for more information.

Seminar series in business and economics

On Friday, associate professor of Business Administration Paul Speck will discuss "The Looming Crisis in Academic Publication: A Case Study" in room 401 of the Social Sciences Building at 11 a.m. The lecture is free and open to the public. Call ext. 6142 for more information.

Dangers of ecstasy explored

in seminar

Lynn Smith will lead a lecture entitled "The Dangers of Ecstasy" at 6:30 p.m. in The Pilot House.

Smith became addicted to ecstasy while living in New York after graduating high school. She rarely ate or slept, she had pasty skin, a throbbing head and the beginnings of paranoia.

After a night of uncontrollable hallucinations, she checked into a hospital where her doctors performed a test that indicated severe damage to her brain.

Smith now speaks about her experiences with the hope she can help others. The lecture is free and open to the public. It is sponsored by the Office of Student Life. Call ext. 5291 for more information.

Pony Espresso robbed

More than \$500 taken from coffee stand in Social Science Building

BY NICHOLE LECLAIR
Managing Editor

More than \$500 in cash was stolen from the Pony Espresso in the Social Sciences Building on Aug. 25. The money was taken from an unlocked register.

At 7:45 p.m., a female employee, "went in the back to do her dishes and left the register unlocked," said Steve Miller, owner of the Pony Espresso. He chose not to disclose the employee's name. "It was only her fifth or sixth day on the job," he said.

When the employee returned to the register, she realized that the money had been taken. According to Miller, the incident could not have

taken more than ten seconds. He believes that the thief was a customer

give other details about the suspect, due to the ongoing investigation.

“
a female employee
‘went in the back to
do her dishes and
left the register
unlocked.”

— Steve Miller, Pony
Espresso owner

“
from earlier in the day who had waited for an opportunity. He declined to

The University Police declined to comment beyond their statement in the weekly crime report. "There is not really much information that we are going to be able to release at this time," said Sgt. Thomas McEwen. The Pony Espresso has maintained carts on the UM-St. Louis campus since 1995. They also maintain a cart at St. Louis University.

OPINION

OUR OPINION

So much land, so much inaction

Would you buy a \$400 article of clothing and not wear it? Would you buy a car if you didn't plan on driving it? The University has acquired a large area of land with the intent of enlarging the UM-St. Louis community. The purpose of owning random plots of land has yet to be revealed, as much of the property remains undeveloped. Land is not cheap, so why do we keep buying it if we aren't going to use it?

In the last few years, UM-St. Louis has expanded throughout the surrounding vicinity. The University has bought acres of land from South Florissant to Interstate 70, as well as purchasing an old Quick Trip and a hospital bordering south campus. The UM-St. Louis "Master Plan" for construction and expansion includes buying land all the way to Hanley.

To someone with unlimited resources and an urge to buy, this sounds like a smart investment. However, the dream of developing the area has not materialized. Unless students plan to frequent abandoned buildings, all of the University-purchased land will remain another city block.

Aside from Walgreens, Value Village and an assortment of greasy fast-food establishments, Natural Bridge Road does not house much student-oriented entertainment. This potential for commercial development is a resource that remains untapped. Instead of attempting to seize the entire Normandy, Bel-Nor and Bel-Ridge area, why not work on what we already have? Vendors who settled within walking distance of campus would benefit immensely, especially during non-Nosh operating hours.

When students plan a night out, hanging around the residence halls is rarely a consideration. Instead, those looking for something to do visit Laclede's Landing, Delmar Loop or Central West End. If someone wants to stay out late,

money is wasted on a cab ride home. Why let students spend their cash at other establishments? We've got all of these empty buildings, maybe it's time for a student-oriented hangout. Building a bar near Mansion Hill Apartments would give the over-21 crowd a place to hang out without leaving campus, thus drawing night life to UM-St. Louis.

Denny's sees a large group of starving college students on a nightly basis. Other than the occasional visit to the few restaurants on Natural Bridge, many students do not venture from the safety of the Nosh. Those without cars are forced to consume the same over-priced food day in and day out.

The U-Mart, located on south campus near the University Meadows and Bellerive Hall, serves as a convenience store to students on weekdays during daytime hours. The Nosh is also open Monday through Friday during daytime hours. Residents, who survive each weekend on Ramen and Easy-Mac, would flock to a place that offered decent food on a Sunday afternoon. Rather than continue to buy land, the University should provide more on-campus meal options. A coffee shop built in an empty lot would bring in much more revenue than another vacant building.

By building on land that we already own, the University could cultivate the weekend life by drawing in a crowd that normally takes off as soon as classes end. Residential Life has been trying to improve the weekend situation by arranging brunch buffets through Chartwells.

Building graduate student and teacher assistant housing was also part of the original plan, and one reason for purchasing acres of property. While living on campus is convenient, UM-St. Louis will continue to be a commuter campus if there is nothing for students to do. There has been a great

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Letters to the editor should be brief, and those not exceeding 200 words will be given preference. We edit letters for clarity and length, not for dialect, correctness, intent or grammar. 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).

Under Current

by Kevin Ottley
Staff Photographer

What are you doing to 'beat the heat'?



Denise Gruber
Junior
Psychology

Staying inside in the air conditioning.



Stacie Georgen
Senior
Anthropology

Not going outside, that's for damn sure!



Gregory McCue
Chef
Chartwells Dining Services

I'm a heat warrior, it don't bother me, it's part of my day!



Lance Bryant
Sophomore
Computer Engineering

Take a shower and then lay down.

Have a heart, professors

It never fails: Every semester, college students have that one professor who feels that A) Theirs is the only class that you are taking or B) Theirs is the only class you should focus on.

For students, there is nothing more frustrating than this because these are the teachers that assign you 80 pages of reading for the next class, while at the same time, you have thirty from another class, a paper to write, etc.

As editor-in-chief of the newspaper, a good deal of my time is occupied by work in the office. To give you an idea of what an average workweek for a newspaper editor looks like, I have to write a weekly column (which you are reading now), write stories when needed, hold weekly staff and executive committee meetings, go to any number of campus-related events and work on the production side of the paper as well. Now factor into that equation an attempt at having a social life, 80 pages of reading due on Tuesday, a paper due on Thursday, and life is a bit of a stretch.

The fact of the matter is, times have changed. When our professors were in college, parents paid their way. Mommy and Daddy handled tuition and sent an allowance. Now, students are working to get through school. They don't have the time anymore to do five or six hours of homework a night. It's a fact of life for the students of the new millennium.

Sometimes I think my professors are out of touch. They do not understand the stresses and rigors of a modern student. It would be very easy for them to sit down over coffee with a student and find out exactly what it is they go through. But unfortunately, this does not happen. I would love to sit down and have a friendly chat with

one, or all, of my professors so they can understand where I am coming from.

Now, I know that they have to teach their lessons the best way they know how. But there has to be a middle ground somewhere. Instead of assigning 80 pages, assign 50. A little leeway will go a long way towards earning the respect of the students. After all, students are here to learn.

They cannot learn if professors load them down with so much work; they cannot keep their assignments and classes straight.

There is a very simple formula to understand how much professors should assign per night. Say the average student takes 12 hours, a full class load. Under the UM-St. Louis schedule, they have most of their classes Monday through Thursday. Assume that each of their teachers assigns them 50 pages of reading, 100 questions or 5 pages of writing per day. This would factor into about five hours of homework per night. This is asking a lot of students who are working an average of 35 hours per week just to be able to afford the luxury of having five hours of homework per night. It comes down to students having to make serious sacrifices. Do we sacrifice our social life? Do we sacrifice work? Do we sacrifice our college careers? Do we sacrifice a good night's sleep? Unfortunately, the sleep is usually the one that takes the hit, which is why we are all so tired in class.

The solution is in the professor's hands. Seriously, if you just take the workload down 25 percent, that would lead to a much easier life for students, and a much livelier class session as well. Just something to *yawn* think about.



JASON GRANGER
Editor-in-Chief

The issue

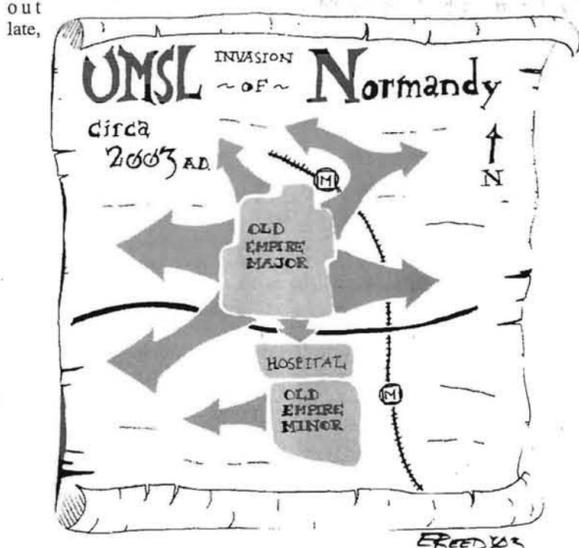
UM-St. Louis is buying more land, when it already has large amounts of land it has not used. In this era of budget cuts and rising tuition, why is the administration set on spending money on land?

We suggest

Before buying more land, the University should look at ways of using its existing lands to fulfill whatever goals they have in mind. They'll spare some money for other things, like lowering tuition.

So what do you think?

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Editor-in-chief on right track

Dear Editor:

I must say I like and agree with Jason Granger's recent columns on our Gov. Bob Holden. Holden proposed most of the cuts to UM-St. Louis and other public universities in Missouri, not the "evil Republican-controlled legislature." In fact, the Republican speaker Catherine Hanaway proposed restoring most if not all the cuts higher education had received, but Holden said "NO" to cover his behind. Holden proposed record tax hikes on the left-wingers favorite targets: smokers, the rich and big business. He proposed the same record tax hike on tobacco that was rejected by voters here in Missouri last November. It passed in

the St. Louis, Kansas City areas and Coombia but bombed out everywhere else. Kudos to the courageous Republican-led legislature who fought Holden's tax hikes in the regular session and special session. It's ironic when Republicans don't roll over or cave in to Democrat demands, they are called "petty" and "partisan."

Granger was absolutely correct when he said that the massive tuition increases under Holden are a big deal. Since 1992, Missouri's budget has more than doubled—larger than inflation had increased during that time. Where has the money gone during this era? Certainly not to higher education or improving Missouri roads—they are in the bottom five of worst roads in

the U.S.

It should be noted that the same people defending Holden by saying there are certain things beyond his control are the same ilk who started blaming President Bush for everything going "wrong" in the U.S. only MONTHS after he was sworn in as president. Talk about a bunch of hypocrites.

Jason Granger is off to a very great start as editor. Keep up the great work! P.S. We can't keep Holden on man!

Sincerely,

Kevin Hinostrza
UM-St. Louis Student

The best album that you've never heard

This week: Tom Cochrane's 'Mad, Mad World'

BY JASON GRANGER
Editor-in-Chief

Sometimes an artist will come along that predicts a sound long before that sound ever arrives. In the case of Tom Cochrane, he was able to predict the sounds of Blues Traveler and The Dave Matthews Band about four years before either hit it big.

Tom Cochrane started his career with the Canadian rock outfit Red Rider, but struck out on his own in 1991 and met with immediate success.

The first track on this album is the most popular of Cochrane's career, the fantastic driving song, "Life is a Highway." This is one of the five best put your top down and crank the volume songs of all time (the others being Stone Temple Pilots' "Interstate Love Song," The Eagles' "Life in the Fast Lane," Golden Earring's "Radar Love" and The Beatles' "Helter Skelter.") With great lines like "From Mozambique to those Memphis nights/The Caber Pass to Vancouver's lights/You're in my blood/I'm not a lonely man," added to a heavy guitar and charming harmonica, you have the making of a great road trip.

"No Regrets" is another great track with a raw, biting sound. It's somewhat surprising that this track was not picked up and played more by U.S. radio. Unfortunately, Cochrane fell victim to the stigma of Canadian rock-

ers: they just aren't as good as Americans (this is a somewhat egotistical viewpoint, as the best rock and rollers of all time came from Britain. See The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, The

Happened to You?" by The Offspring and "Gas Panic!" by Oasis.

What makes this song so special is not necessarily the music, which is great mind you, but the words. This song is told as a story. It has a plot, it has a setting and it has a climax. It tells the story of a man desperate for his lover to quit drugs, but also needs to be needed by her.

The song starts with the setting. Imagine a small apartment with clothes on the floor where a young man has his arm around a young, pale woman. Here is your setting. "I put you in the tub babe/With five big pounds of ice/If you don't get back up/I don't know what I'll do/I've walked around the room/Here nearly 37 times/Can you hear me now/And am I getting through?"

The plot is established with the first few lines of the song. "God I hate your needles/And your dirty little vial of pills/I guess I love the sweat you put me through/I know I love your body/Like I used to love your mind/But now your souls a slave/To all the things you use."

Finally, like all great stories, this song has an almost brutal climax, wherein Cochrane screams to this woman: "I feel like the walls/Are closing in get back up/You look like a China doll/So pale and so thin/Get back up and make me laugh/The way you used to do."

Do yourself a favor. Go and pick up this album and listen to it all the way through. You'll definitely find a lot of songs you'll like.



Photo courtesy Capitol Records

Kinks, The Who, Eric Clapton, Cream, Pink Floyd and The Clash et al). This is exclusivist mentality, as Brian Adams and the Guess Who have proven Canadians do know how to rock when they want to. So does Cochrane, who adeptly blends classic guitar riffs with bluesy rhythms.

By far, the best song on this album is Cochrane's plea to a lover with a drug problem. "Get Back Up" is one of the finest anti-drug songs of all time, on the same level as "That Smell" by Lynard Skynard, "What

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VEGETARIANS

Out of the norm

BY ANGELA ASHLEY
Staff Writer

Professors riding motorcycles into class. Coffins on hand for exams. Could these rumors possibly be true? "Guilty," replied Charles Granger, biology professor at UM-St. Louis.

Both the motorcycle and coffin are props used in his general biology course.

"The first unit in the course is about life," Granger said. "So I stage kind of a mock funeral when we have the exam to signify not only the end of life, but the end of the unit."

“
In addition to his award, Granger holds patents for two inventions. One is for demonstrating colorimetric procedures, and the other for demonstrating tropistic principles.

“The motorcycle [a 1972 Honda 350] is used for a unit on behavior,” Granger continued. “I ride in with one of my female teaching assistants on the back posing as my girlfriend. We ride up onto the stage where we,

along with other assistants, perform a skit to show various behavior patterns such as territoriality.”

“[Granger] made the class lively and exciting,” said Mindy McNabb, senior, business management. “The productions and experiments kept me interested and helped me to understand the material much better.”

Helping students understand has been the goal of Granger since he was an undergraduate student. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in botany and zoology from Iowa State University. After graduation, Granger taught high school science in his hometown of Tama, Iowa. After three years, he studied at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, where he earned two Master's degrees, one in biology and the other in science education. After graduate school, Granger returned to Iowa, where he attended the University of Iowa in Iowa City and earned his doctorate in plant physiology and science education.

Granger spent two years doing post-doctoral work at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. He made his final move in 1971, when he came to the University of Missouri-St. Louis as an assistant professor of biology and education. He continues to work for both departments.

In the fall, Granger works in the College of Arts and Sciences where he teaches general biology. He also supervises both graduate and under-

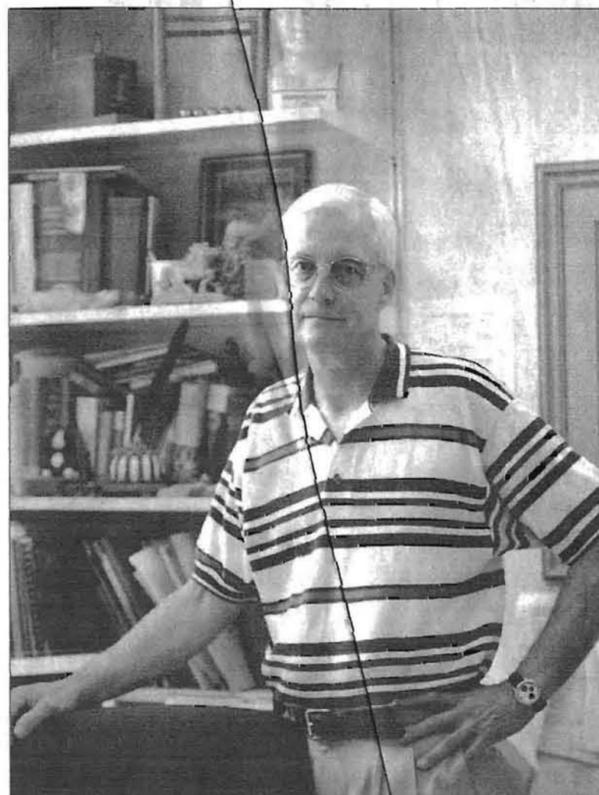
graduate research. In the spring, he supervises student teachers for the College of Education.

In addition to his teaching responsibilities, Granger has directed 39 programs, including the Junior Science and Humanities Symposium. He also has memberships to various professional and academic associations such as the Missouri Academy of Science and the Missouri Botanical Garden.

When asked what he does on a weekend off, Granger laughed and asked, “When might that be?” When he does have spare time, he enjoys restoring tractors and also collects antiques. However, though he is not required to do so by the university, he is found in his office working on most weekends.

All of his work has not gone unnoticed. Granger has been the recipient of over fifteen professional and institutional awards. Some of them were listed on Rolling Stone's National Top 10 Professors Honor Roll in 1991. That same year, he received the Presidential Award for outstanding Teaching from the University of Missouri system. The University of Missouri honored Granger in 1999 by naming him a University of Missouri Distinguished Teaching Professor.

In addition to his award, Granger holds patents for two inventions. One is for demonstrating colorimetric procedures, and the other for demonstrating tropistic principles. He has also



Lishu Qiu/The Current

Charles Granger, professor of biology, poses Wednesday afternoon in the Research Building.

been published over seventy times in publications such as “Missouri Science News” and “Journal of Thought.”

“If it wasn't for the students, it

would all be for naught,” said Granger. “I love working with kids of all ages. It's great to see them excited about learning. That's really what it's about.”



Mike Sherwin/The Current

Octavia Hollias from Admissions checks out the EXPO scene from third-floor window in the Millennium Student Center. At the expo, Chartwells Dining Service provided free hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, cookies and sodas, and the Office of Student Life handed out free snowcones.

Below: Donald Shell of Chartwell's grills hamburgers for the free lunch offered outside of the MSC during the EXPO celebration Wednesday.

EDITOR

KATE DROLET

Features Editor

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Alternate eating lifestyles at UM-St. Louis

BY KATE DROLET
Features Editor

Meat and potatoes have been replaced by tofu and hummus, and veggie burgers sizzle on the grill while steak sits on the sidelines.

The eating habits of society have changed, and vegetarianism and veganism have gained popularity at UM-St. Louis.

Vegetarianism has been practiced for years, and the vegan movement is picking up speed. While vegetarians avoid eating red meat, fish, chicken, pork and seafood, vegans do not consume any animal products. Some vegans even avoid honey and sugar. Both groups generally avoid wearing products yielded from animals, such as leather, wool and fur.

Those who decide to follow a vegetarian or vegan diet do so for a variety of reasons.

Daron Dierkes, junior, biology and physics, has been a vegan since October of 2002.

“I always thought I should be a vegetarian,” said Dierkes. “When my friend Matthew Trost decided to go vegan, I decided it would be easier if I did it with someone else. I joined him on his adventure, and I haven't regretted

Organizations recruit more students at Expo

BY MELISSA MCCRARY
Features Associate

UM-St. Louis gave students the opportunity to learn more about campus life at the annual Welcome Back “Expo” on Aug. 27.

Despite the cloudy and slightly wet beginning, the skies cleared up just in time for the event to begin.

Expo was held on the Millennium Student Center lawn, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Chris Telker-Harris, administrative assistant for the Office of Student Life, believed that the morning weather had no influence on the amount of students that attended.

“Some of the organization leaders got wet while setting up their booths, but the Expo did not get rained out,” Telker-Harris said.

With a variety of clubs, groups, games and free food, the day turned out to be a success.

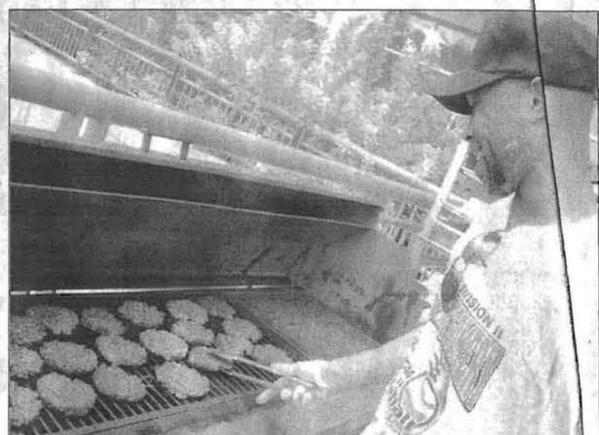
Chartwells Dining Service provided free hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, cookies and sodas, and the Office of Student Life handed out free snowcones.

Inside the MSC, students were able to ride and experience an interactive roller coaster ride called “The Screamer.”

Some of the organizations that attended were UM-St. Louis Health

Services, the International Business Club, the National Accounting Fraternity, Delta Sigma Theta, the University Meadows, the Student Government Association, Multicultural Relations, Academic Affairs, Zeta Phi Beta, Alpha Phi Omega, Student Social Work, Gallery Two Ten, the Newman Center, the Earth Club, Alpha Xi Delta, the Pre-Vet Club, the Center for International Studies, The Current and ASUM.

“We were able to supply information for students who are interested in becoming peer educators, and we received many health referrals,” said Kathy Castulik, health educator for University Health Services.



Mike Sherwin/The Current

Michelle Schmidt, another University Health Services coordinator, described some of the Health Services upcoming events.

“We are trying to promote more students to give blood on Sept. 17 from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m.,” Schmidt said.

Because more students are enrolled

in morning classes, Expo saw the largest crowd during the afternoon session.

Not only did the Expo give students information about how to become involved in organizations, it helped students learn more about the campus while having fun.

Career Services help students find jobs

BY MELISSA MCCRARY
Features Associate

Finding a job and even searching for an internship can be a daunting task for college students. The UM-St. Louis Career Services provides job search strategies and future career decisions for those planning the next step of their lives.

Many career specialists and career service directors make up the Career Services team and are ready to assist students with any questions relating to job-search strategies.

“Our services are separated amongst three different divisions,” said Emily McEneny, assistant director of Career Services. “These divisions include helping a student design

a résumé, portfolio, cover letters or [develop] interviewing skills.”

In addition to one-on-one counseling, Career Services also holds free weekly workshops for students.

Each semester a campus calendar displays dates for events and workshops. The Career Services workshop session dates can also be found on the online calendar on the UM-St. Louis website.

Career specialists also have the technology available to post a student's résumé on a web-based candidate database. Hundreds of employers who are looking for potential employees have access to this resource. The database lists postings for part-time and full-time work, as well as internship positions.

When the database results come back, a student can decide which company best suits his or her interests. Then the student can send a résumé directly to an employer.

In order to use the candidate database and computerized registration, students are required to pay a \$35 fee. There is no grade-level requirement to use this system.

“All of the career and employment services are designed to assist alumni and current students,” McEneny said. “A student is not required to be in a certain grade; but if they would like an internship job, it is best to have completed most of their basic courses.”

Career Services will hold Career Days on Sept. 9 and 10, from 10 a.m.

until 2 p.m. A variety of companies will attend this event. Those who go to Career Days will have the opportunity to speak with company representatives and receive employment information. Some attending companies include Boeing, Edward Jones, Citi Mortgage and Enterprise.

Career Services Director Teresa Balestreri advises students who are really serious about finding employment to attend Career Days.

“People that are interested in pursuing a career should dress professionally and bring plenty of résumés,” Balestreri said. “Other students who would just like information can come as they are.”

For more information about Career Services, call 516-5111 or visit

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In order to use the candidate database and computerized registration, students are required to pay a \$35 fee. There is no grade-level requirement to use this system.

“
the office located on the third floor of the Millennium Student Center. Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Navigating The Nosh: A student's guide to healthy eating

BY **CARRIE LEWIS**
Staff Writer

Walking into The Nosh, a student heads for the salad bar. The aromas from Trattoria and Origins erase all notions of a green lunch. By the time the student reaches her table, she has spent another six dollars on yet another greasy meal.

Spending too much money on an unhealthy meal is easy when navigating The Nosh.

Most students at UM-St. Louis think that the price for a quick lunch

“**Chartwells, not the faculty, set the prices, but similar sentiments are shared by most students. But there are several ways students can save money and still eat on campus.**”

is too high.

“It would be nice if faculty realized that the majority of us are ‘broke college students’ and lowered the prices of food,” said Crystal McZeal, senior, business.

Chartwells, not the faculty, set the prices, but similar sentiments are shared by most students. But there are several ways students can save money and still eat on campus.

An easy way to save some money is to buy 20-ounce bottled soda or water from vending machines. Vending refreshments only cost one dollar, while the same size drink costs \$1.09 at The Nosh.

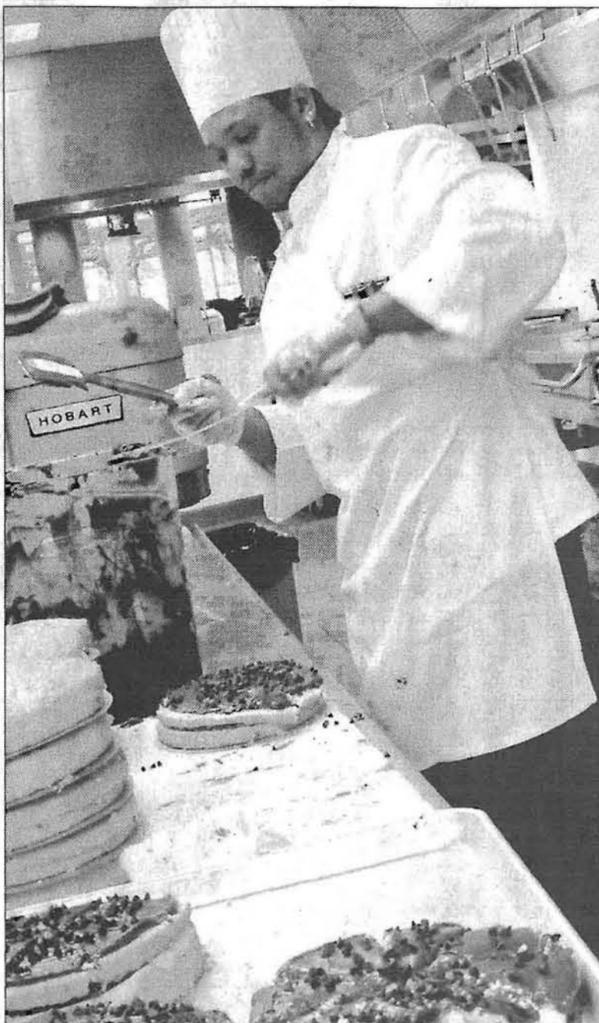
Many meals at The Nosh cost either \$4.25 or \$4.99. By choosing one of the cheaper items, students will save money. The less expensive meals can also be healthier than the platters. The Market Carvery offers side dishes such as vegetable medleys, potatoes and rice; all of which still contain huge amounts of fat as seasoning. Assuming a student eats at The Nosh each afternoon, five days a week, following these two tips can save \$66.40 by the end of the semester.

While many students enjoy the food at UM-St. Louis, a great deal of the selections lacks nutritional value.

Senior Tommy Lau says he would like to see more Chinese food on the menu. Jessica Myers, junior, nursing, says that she would appreciate a larger variety at the salad bar. Until these additions are made, students will work with what is provided.

Finding information about the calories in specific foods can help a person to maintain a balanced diet. According to www.caloriecounter-charts.com, choosing a regular hamburger over a cheeseburger can save 20 grams of fat and 280 calories. Satisfying hunger with a slice of cheese pizza that contains nine grams of fat and 290 calories is healthier than consuming ten onion rings with 25 grams of fat and 400 calories. When reaching for a roast beef plate, consider the 26 grams of fat and 315 calories that come with it. Eating one cup of spaghetti with cheese and tomato sauce will provide the carbohydrates needed for energy and only nine grams of fat and 260 calories.

Choosing from the large selection of foods from The Nosh can be overwhelming. Students should consider their options carefully to get the best nutrition for their money.



Roy Miller, with Chartwells, works to ice chocolate cakes in the kitchen of The Nosh.

VEGETARIANS, from page 6

Despite widespread belief, meat and other flesh-foods are not required to maintain a healthy diet. Eliminating meat products from a diet can actually improve a person's health. Dietary cholesterol, which can lead to heart disease, is only present in animal products. Protein, an essential component in healthy living, is present in many foods besides meat. Vegetarians and vegans obtain protein through a combination of beans, oatmeal, broccoli, mushrooms, peanuts and whole-wheat bread because no single non-animal product contains all of the 21 required amino acids.

Vitamin D, which helps the body absorb and use calcium, is found in cow's milk. Vegans can find vitamin D in fortified soy milk. Sunshine is also a source of vitamin D. Other vitamins, such as vitamins B2 and B12, and minerals, such as calcium, iron and zinc, are vital to a healthy diet. All can be found in vegetables, fruits, soy products and supplements.

Many people decide to live a vegetarian or vegan lifestyle because of ethical issues involving the manufacturing of animal products.

Semilla Bland, freshman, anthropology, is a lifelong vegetarian and has been a vegan for five years.

“Living in third world Jamaica,” Bland said, “I saw [what] chickens and goats [encountered]. That helped my parents keep our decision. I'm aware of what industrial livestock is facing. They're horrible conditions, and I didn't want to be a part of that.”

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) serves as one of the largest supporters of animal rights. PETA believes that “animals are not ours to eat, wear, experiment on or use for entertainment.”

The organization promotes animal welfare through activism such as protesting eating meat and advocating alternate eating lifestyles.

Living as a vegetarian or vegan can be challenging, especially in a college setting.

Lindsey Davis, freshman, political science, has been a vegetarian for two years.

“It's hard to find food [on campus]. Salads are expensive and veggie burg-

ers are cooked on the same grill as chicken.” Davis said.

Kat Wheeler, senior, English, agrees with Davis.

“I'm vegetarian because I'm sentimental,” Wheeler said. “Death is obviously something that happens in nature, but I don't want to be a part of it. [A vegetarian lifestyle] is difficult because they put chicken stock or some kind of meat stock in everything.”

Many vegetarians and vegans also believe that raising animals for food is a danger to the environment. According to www.goveg.com, one gallon of beef requires 5,200 gallons of water per pound to produce. Livestock raised for consumption are also given growth hormones, antibiotics and other medications. Scientific research shows that an overuse of antibiotics will lead to antibiotic-resistant strains of microorganisms, such as bacteria and viruses.

While living a life devoid of meat and animal products is a challenge, all of the UM-St. Louis students who practice vegetarianism or veganism feel that the effort is well worth it.

“I was born a vegetarian, but now I'm making my own decision, and I feel good,” said Travis Langley, freshman, tropical biology.

For more information about animal rights, visit www.peta.org. Other web sites, such as www.goveg.com and www.meatstinks.com, offer free vegetarian starter kits, recipes and other resources concerning alternate eating lifestyles.

Recipe for vegan pancakes

- 2/3 c. whole meal flour
- 2/3 c. soy or rice milk
- 1/2 banana
- 4 tsp. sugar (unbleached)
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 1 capful of vanilla

Mash banana to a thick liquid and mix all ingredients in a large bowl. Cook batter like regular pancakes.

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11:00 am		SPIN with Rae				
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Volleyball and tennis finish camps

BY STEVE HARRELL
Sports Editor

After long and strenuous training camps, both the volleyball team and the women's tennis team broke camp recently and opened their respective seasons this past weekend.

The volleyball squad, led by Head Coach Denise Silvester and Assistant Coach Erik Kaseorg, made a trip to Quincy University in Illinois to play in the first of two tournaments before opening conference play. The tournament took place on the 29 and 30, with the Riverwomen playing four matches. UM-St. Louis took on Saginaw Valley State and South Dakota on Friday and squared off against Lake Superior State and Northwest Missouri State on Saturday.

UM-St. Louis will be led into action this year by junior Daria Sak, who is coming off a 2002 campaign in which she won a spot on the Great Lakes Valley Conference first team, where she was named as a defensive specialist. The outside hitter is one of seven upper-classmen on the Riverwomen roster. UM-St. Louis also lists two under-classmen on their roster to round out the squad.

The Riverwomen are hoping to get off to a quick start much like they did last year. After beginning the year at 1-1, UM-St. Louis reeled off seven wins in a row before stumbling a bit in Arkansas.

On the bench, Silvester and Kaseorg have been a staple here at UM-St. Louis of almost two decades. This is the eighteenth season they have led the Riverwomen, earning a total of 489 wins. Once Silvester picks up number 500, she will be just the thirteenth active coach to reach that milestone.

The women's tennis team, coached by Rick Gyllenborg and Paula Gyllenborg, got to stay home this past weekend, as they played in the annual alumni match here in St. Louis. The match is a good warm-up for the women, who will play in nine regular season matches this year, all against conference opponents. Junior Devin Foy, who spent most of last year at the number one spot, is one of the women who will lead the Riverwomen into

battle. Foy is one of four juniors on the squad, accompanied by four sophomores.

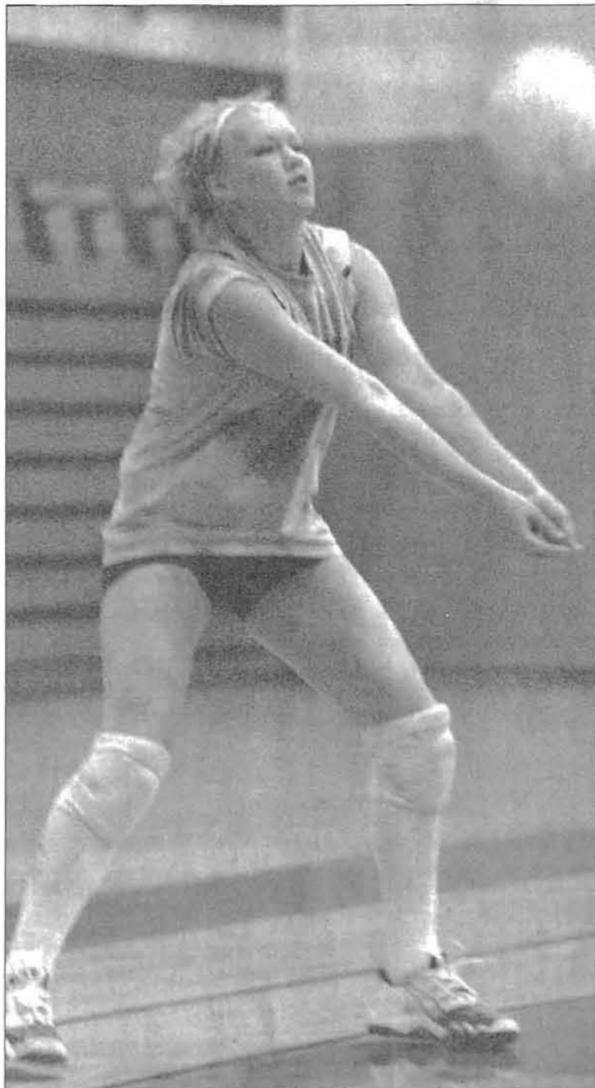
Last year was a rough one for the

went 7-6 while playing mostly at the five spot. The squad's doubles records were much better than their singles numbers, as six different teams fin-

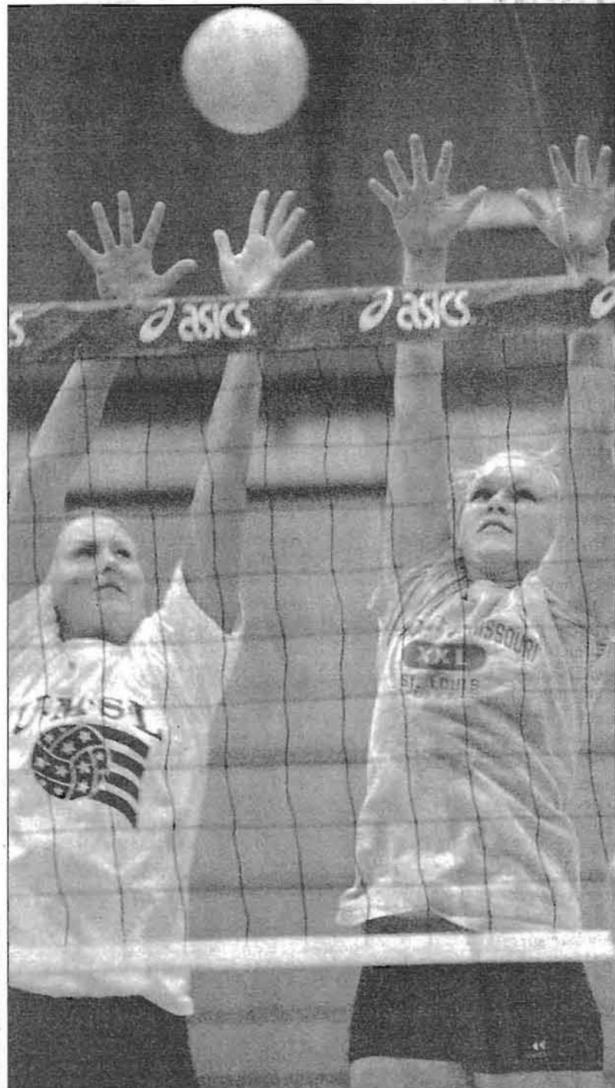
women played mostly at the three spot.

UM-St. Louis' toughest competition last season was the University of

in conference, and 7-13 overall. And now that the ladies have had a year of seasoning, they are looking to make a push towards the top of the GLVC.



Outside hitter Karen Creech practices with teammates at a practice Thursday.



Nikki Pagels, left and Karen Creech go up for a block during the Riverwomen volleyball practice Thursday afternoon in the Mark Twain Athletic Building.

women's tennis team, as only one player finished with a personal record above .500. That player, Katie Duffy,

ished above the Mason-Dixon line, including a 4-1 mark for Krissy Howard and Stephanie Bladen. The

Indianapolis, who steamrolled through the GLVC with a 9-0 conference record. UM-St. Louis finished at 3-6

Volleyball's first home match is Sept. 19, while the ladies tennis home opener is Sept. 9.

SPORTS

STEVE HARRELL

Sports Editor

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Questions or Comments?

Send me an e-mail: invincible_44@hotmail.com

WEB

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

UPCOMING

MEN'S SOCCER

Sept. 3

• at Lindenwood, 7 p.m.

Sept. 6

• vs. Benedictine at UM-St. Louis, 3 p.m.

Women's Soccer

Aug. 29

• vs. Ashland, at UM-St. Louis, 7 p.m. Results at right

Sept. 1

• at Ferris State, time t.b.a.

Sept. 5

• vs. Mercyhurst, at UM-St. Louis, 2 p.m.

Sept. 7

• at Missouri-Rolla, 2 p.m.

NFL Picks, Part II Superbowl: Miami takes on Atlanta



BY STEVE HARRELL
Sports Editor

ple are saying that this team isn't as good as it's been in recent years, but I still think they are one of the premier squads in the NFC. The biggest reason is that Donavon McNabb is approaching that short list of quarterbacks you NEVER bet against, a list that includes just two active QB's (we'll get to that later).

Washington stole half of the Jets roster, and Steve Spurrier is beginning to get his guys in place. Still no quarterback, but look at the guys he won with in Florida. It's the system, not the talent, but the jury is still out on whether or not the system works too well in the pros.

New York has a solid team, but I don't see them putting it together this year. Dallas has The Tuna at the helm this year, but they're a year or two away from being contenders again.

NFC North Prediction
Green Bay-Chicago-Detroit-Minnesota

Green Bay is definitely the class of this division. For years Espn.com's Bill Simmons has been saying don't ever bet against Brett Favre, and he's right. In Chicago, we'll have to see what Kordell Stewart does. Maybe a change of scenery will help Slash the schizophrenic. If not, Rex Grossman may be asked to step up. I was never a big fan of his in college, but he has a

strong arm and seems to be playing well so far the pre-season.

Steve Mariucci is the greatest thing that ever happened to the Lions. Mooch will help Joey Harrington become a star sooner instead of later. Matt Millen is building this team slowly, and they may have a shot as early as next year, but not in 2003.

You would expect a team that has two out of the five most talented players in the league not to suck, but then again we're talking about the Minnesota Vikings. The Culpepper-Moss combo is a great one, at least on paper. It's Moss and his off-field distractions that kill this team (along with lack of talent at other positions).

NFC South Prediction
Atlanta-Tampa Bay-New Orleans-Carolina

Mike Vick is a god. I will not argue about this. But even without Vick, the Falcons have a good team, and will be able to stay afloat while he's injured. After Vick comes back, watch out. This team has serious firepower (and the third "Guy You Never Bet Against No Matter What" in Vick).

The defending champs will have a chance to repeat, but they'll have to go through a hell of a schedule. And don't for one second think that Gruden won't get the job done.

New Orleans has a solid team; but

in this division, there's little chance they can finish higher than third. They may even find themselves in the cellar at the end of the year, considering Carolina's up and coming team. Also, somebody needs to tell Aaron Brooks that he is not Michael Vick or Donavon McNabb.

Apparently, Carolina's Jake Delhomme is the next big thing at quarterback, but I don't buy it. He is an upgrade from Rodney Peete, though. Stephan Davis will also help the offense. Mix that in with a killer defense, an improved o-line, and a last place schedule, and Carolina might sneak into the play-offs. While my heart is with them, I still have to put them in the cellar, but don't expect less than seven or eight wins.

NFC West Prediction
St. Louis-San Francisco-Seattle-Arizona

The Rams should return to glory this year, but only if Kurt Warner improves his play. At this point, the Rams could win with Kirk Farmer, the way he's been playing. Pace's status is still up in the air, but with the addition of Kyle Turley he won't be missed too much. The defense is improved, and the offense is still The Greatest Show On Turf. Let's just hope Warner doesn't screw it up again.

The 'Niners are in trouble without

Mooch at the helm. Jeff Garcia is still a very good quarterback, and Terrel Owens is a stud (and very entertaining), but I see this team being flat out of the gates. The may recover for a wildcard spot, but that's iffy.

Seattle and Arizona are used to losing, so their fans shouldn't be too disappointed. They each have a good running back (Emmit Smith and Shaun Alexander, respectively) but that's not nearly enough to get either of these teams to .500.

Play-off Prediction

We have Philly, the Pack, Atlanta in the Rams already in, and I'll take the Bucs and Bears for wildcards. I think Chicago will play like they did in '01: solid season, fold in the play-offs. The NFC is stacked, and there are about nine teams that could legitimately come out of here, but I think we'll see a January showdown between Atlanta and St. Louis. In what should be a shoot-out, I have to go with surprise-Atlanta (remember: don't EVER bet against Mike Vick).

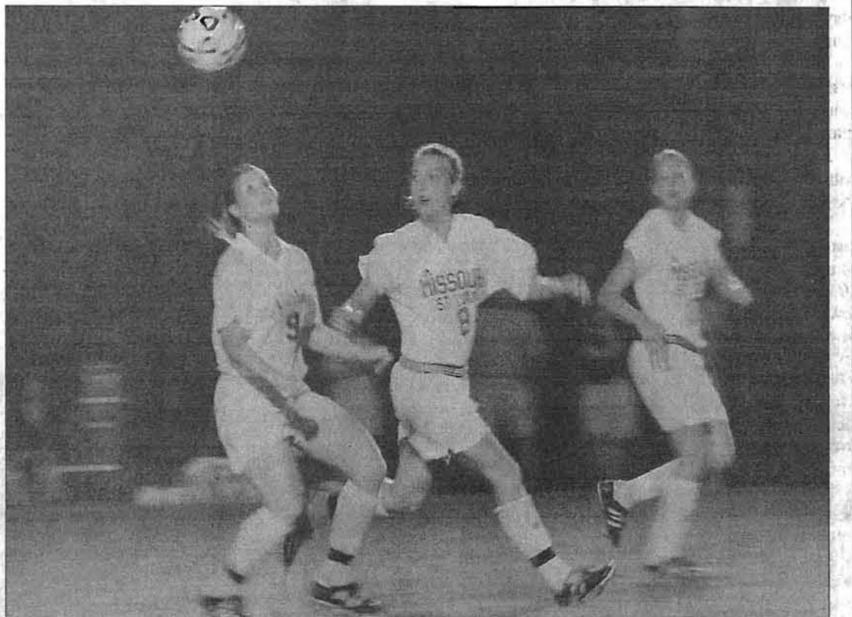
Super Bowl

If you remember from last week, I had the Dolphins coming out of the AFC, setting up a great offense vs. defense match-up. In the end, I think the difference maker will be Ricky Williams, as he runs for 150 yards. Miami over Atlanta, 30-17.

Soccer in full swing



Left: Jaime Drabek, a defender for the Riverwomen, hangs her head in the first period, during which Ashland led the game 2-0. Despite one goal in the second period by Mary Kate McDermott, the Riverwomen lost their season opener 3-1.



Right: Lindsay Shockley, a defender for the Riverwomen, sets her sights on an incoming ball during the game vs. Ashland on Friday night.

Mike Sherwin/The Current

Mike Sherwin/The Current

Golf squad looks to build on last years' strengths

BY STEVE HARRELL
Sports Editor

The UM-St. Louis golf team finished their 2002-2003 season on a bit of a sour note, finishing sixteenth out of 18 teams at the District 4 Tournament in Kentucky. That last performance did not mean the team had an unsuccessful season, though. Between their fall and spring seasons, the squad had one first place finish, as well as one individual first place finish.

UM-St. Louis competed in eight different tournaments, four in the fall and four in the spring. The squad's lone first place finish came in the fall season, as the team took first in the Pepsi Shootout in Quincy Illinois.

The team also had a second place finish in the fall, but failed to finish higher than fourth during the spring season.

Leading the way for the Rivermen in '02-'03 was Kyle Szczesniak, who led the team with a 74.75 average. Kyle competed in only four tournaments, all of which took place in the fall. Though he never won a tournament, Kyle did finish in second at the Southern Indiana Invitational and third at the Pepsi Shootout. Kyle also finished fifth at the Northern Kentucky Fall Invitational, as well as a sixty-second place finish at the NCAA Great Lakes Region Fall Tournament. That was Kyle's worst outing of the season, but he still shot a 160.

The only other UM-St. Louis golfer who did not compete in all eight tournaments was Drew Stephens, who hit the links just once this year. Drew shot a total of 243 over three rounds in the Great Lakes Valley Conference Tournament in April, good enough for a thirty-fifth place finish.

Of the six UM-St. Louis golfers this past year, four of them competed in all eight tournaments. Of those four, Scott Kirchoff had the lowest average, shooting a 77.70. During the fall, Scott's lowest two-round total was a 148, shot during the Southern Indiana Invitational. During the spring, Kirchoff's lowest score was a 151, which he shot during UM-St. Louis' own Rivermen Invitational. Kirchoff finished that tournament in a tie for eighth place, also his best performance of the spring.

Mark Rieke finished last year with an average of 79.00, less than two strokes behind Scott Kirchoff. Rieke had UM-St. Louis' low round of 68 this year, which came during the second round of the Pepsi Shootout. That 68 helped Rieke win the Pepsi Shootout in Quincy, Illinois, as it was preceded by a 73.

During the second half of the year, Rieke's top finish was an eighth place spot in the conference tournament. Rieke shot a 75-78-77 and finished seven strokes ahead of teammate Sam Wiles.

Speaking of Wiles, Sam finished with an 80.41 season average. He had the dubious distinction of finishing with the team's high round for the year, a 93 during the Rivermen Invitational. Wiles did have some high points, however, including a fifth place finish at the Pepsi Shootout. There Wiles shot a two round total of 145 and finished third on his team. In the spring, Wiles' best finish was a tenth place performance in the Bellarmine Intercollegiate Tournament. While in Louisville, Wiles led the team with a 163 total, six strokes ahead of the nearest Riverman.

The sixth and final member of last year's men's golf team was Pat Murillo. Murillo averaged just over 80, at 80.11. In the fall, Murillo's low round and high finish both came in the Pepsi Shootout. His 76-75 gave Murillo a fifteenth place finish in the event in Quincy. In the spring, Murillo's best finish was a seventeenth place mark, as he shot a 156 over the two rounds of the Riverman Invitational.

This year, only three golfers will be returning to the UM-St. Louis squad. Pat Murillo and Mark Rieke will be juniors this year, and Sam Wiles will serve as the lone sophomore. Head coach James Trittler will enter his third full season as coach this fall.

Rec sports has something for all

BY STEVE HARRELL
Sports Editor

Are you looking for a great way to meet people, have fun, and maybe even get in shape this year? If so, then rec sports are for you!

This semester alone, there will be 21 events, leagues, tournaments, and outings. You can play anything from volleyball to floor hockey to paintball, and everything in between.

One of the most exciting events in September is the one day softball tournament and bar-b-que. The co-ed slow-pitch tourney kicks off at noon on Sunday, September 14. Teams of ten face off in a fun, unique format. Don't feel like playing? Come on out, meet people, and eat some good food.

I know what you're saying: "I can't find nine of my friends that want to play!" No problem. You can sign up for a "free agent" team, and play that way.

How about a day on the links? On Monday, September 22 the rec sports office is putting on a golf scramble and bar-b-que at the Normandie Golf Course. The scramble is FREE to all UMSL students, and only \$20 dollars for faculty and staff. The scramble starts at 10:30.

Are you a sports fan that needs a job? Rec sports is looking for intramural officials for all their sports. Referees are paid between \$7.50 and \$10 per game. Contact Pam in the rec sports office for more information.

If sports are your thing, or if you just want to try something new, then sign up at the rec sports office in room 203 of the Mark Twain building. But watch your calendars; entries for the softball tournament, bowling league and the always popular co-ed volleyball league are due later this week.

BEGINS	INTRAMURAL	DIVISION	DAYS	TIMES	DEADLINES
Sep 8	Coed Volleyball	Coed	M/W	7-10pm	Sep 3
Sep 10	Bowling Doubles	Doubles	Wednesdays	3-4:30pm	Sep 3
Sep 14	Tennis Tourney	M,W	Sunday	9am-2pm	Sep 10
Sep 14	Softball & BBQ	Coed	Sunday	12-5pm	Sep 5
Sep 16	Flag Football	M,W	Tuesdays	1:30-5pm	Sep 10
Sep TBA	Bike Ride Rec Trek	Open	Saturday	9am-4pm	TBA
Sep 22	Golf Scramble	Open	Monday	10:30am	Sep 10
Sep 23	Fun Run	M,W	Tuesday	12:30pm	Just Be There
Sep 29	Soccer	M,W	Mondays	1:30-5pm	Sep 24
Sep 30	Punt, Pass, Kick	M,W	Tuesday	1-4pm	Just Drop In
Oct 7	40 Yard Dash	M,W	Tuesday	1-4pm	Just Drop In
Oct 15	Volleyball	M,W	Wednesday	7-10pm	Oct 14
TBA	Horse Ride	Open	TBA	TBA	TBA
Oct 20	Floor Hocky	M,W	Mondays	7-10pm	Oct 14
Oct 21	Volleyball	Coed	Tuesdays	7-10pm	Oct 14
Oct 22	Indoor Soccer	M,W	Wednesdays	7-10pm	Oct 14
Nov 4	Raquetball	M,W	Monday	TBA	Oct 30
Nov 11	Basketball	M,W	Tuesday	11am-1pm	Just Drop In
Nov 20	Wallyball	Coed	Thursday	6-10pm	Nov 18
TBA	Paintball Rec Trek	Open	Saturday	9am-4pm	Nov 22

Find out more information at [HTTP://www.umsl.edu/services/recsport/03-04/im/imschedulefs03.html](http://www.umsl.edu/services/recsport/03-04/im/imschedulefs03.html)

Dear student body,

We are in need of a distribution manager. If any of you would like to make some extra cash, let us know!

Love, *The Current*

Look for a return of the "Beyond Natural Bridge" section first seen in the Orientation Issue. Inside, you will find info on goings on around St. Louis.

If you have any tips, please let us know at:

current@jinx.umsl.edu.

ask listen solve



Banking, borrowing, and buying pizza made easy.

Okay, let's be honest. Sure you're in college to study, but you're not going to spend every minute with your head in a book.

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A&E

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A&E Calendar

Movies

*Film openings are subject to change.

Week of Sept. 5

Dickie Roberts: Former Child Star - David Spade stars as a former child star trying to make it big again by reliving his childhood.

The Order - Heath Ledger stars as a priest investigating a mysterious death. He soon finds himself embroiled in a life-and-death struggle with rogue priests.

Carnage - After a bull is killed in a Spanish bullfight, its remains make their way across Europe in various forms, and this drama tells the stories of various people whose lives are somehow connected by it.

Homeroom - Tale of a school recovering from a teenager who goes on a murderous rampage and then kills himself.

Party Monster - This biographical film tells the story of 1980s/1990s New York City nightclub promoter and party organizer Michael Alig (played by Macaulay Culkin) whose life changed when his relationship with his drug dealer became violent.

Continuing

Freddy vs. Jason - Battle royale between to horror icons, Jason Voorhees and Freddy Kreuger. Surprise hit of the summer should surpass \$100 million this week.

They're called Mest for a reason

'Killed punk' band lacking in originality, creativity

BY ELLIOTT REED
Staff Writer

Just when you thought that the popularity of boy bands and the manipulation of radio stations by major labels to play particular artists for money had brought new lows to the music industry, the bar drops another notch. The latest addition to the tired and overcrowded genre of "killed punk" comes in the form of Mest's self-titled album, their third release from Maverick Records.

Though band mates Tony and Matt Lovato are cousins, they won't be drawing any favorable comparisons to say, the Van Halen brothers. The creative process stopped for Mest the day they named their band back in 1995 (by replacing the "B" from Milwaukee's Best beer with the "M" from Milwaukee). After three times through the 45 minutes of stale, three-chord melodies and whiny, nonspecific lyrics, I still found it difficult to tell if Mest is trying to imitate the sounds of Sum 41 and Blink 182 or simply rehash songs from the early 1990's. Unfortunately, they excel at none of the above.

The opening track, "Until I Met You," is a decent punk rock number with only one major problem: it was recorded ten years ago by Bad Religion, who called it "Don't Pray On Me". Compounding this faux pas, Mest replaced Greg Gaffin's poignant lyrics with "I [expletive] hate the way I'm feeling/ Because this [expletive]

life's not changing". My qualm with their use of such words is that when whined, they lose any emphatic bite. This is proved on the opening track, which quickly becomes lifeless.

"Jaded (these years)" is the hit single on the album, according to the sticker on the album. But like half the fourteen tracks on the album (counting the hidden track, which I wish had stayed as such), "Jaded" wasn't entirely written or composed by Mest. While the song does feature Good Charlotte's Benji Madden, who gets artistic credit on both lyrics and music, the song hearkens to a cheap simulation of Green Day's "Time of Your Life".

The rest of the album is an annoying tirade of tonal monotony; the songs are fraught with half-hearted, bawling lyrics right out of the loser entry in Encyclopedia Generica.

If there's a bright spot to be found here, it has to be the fact that this album wouldn't even be possible without the skilled handiwork of Goldfinger frontman, John Feldmann.

Not surprisingly, Mest's third major label release also marks the third time Feldmann's talents have been employed both behind and in front of the soundboard. With good reason, Feldmann appears first or near first on the acknowledgements of all three albums. He lends his guitar, vocal or writing talents to over half the songs on "Mest".

Even with Feldmann's noble

efforts to make "Mest" a laudable album, additional engineering was nonetheless required, courtesy of Mark Blewett. The album also employs the now commonplace gimmick of including enhanced video content. The eight-minute video features live show clips, beer guzzling (and vomiting), feeble attempts by the band to tune their instruments and some footage of the band on the road, reminiscent of MTV's "Jackass" series. Band member interviews are scattered throughout the largely childish antics, most of which are peppered by slurred, monosyllabic grammatical fragments about how successful and happy they are because their last album went gold in Japan (where 150,000 sales meets the criteria for gold). According to singer/guitarist Tony Lovato, "It's just about being a complete [expletive], [that's what] it's about, and I'm proud of that". In that respect, and that respect only, the album successfully upholds



Mest's third, self-titled album is as bad as their first two. They blend unoriginal music with uninspired lyrics.

their promised style. But for anyone who has ever paid five bucks to see Fugazi, the latest offering from Mest is unoriginal and mediocre. The odds

are pretty good that even "killed punk" enthusiasts already own better versions of the fourteen songs included here.

Forever Changed

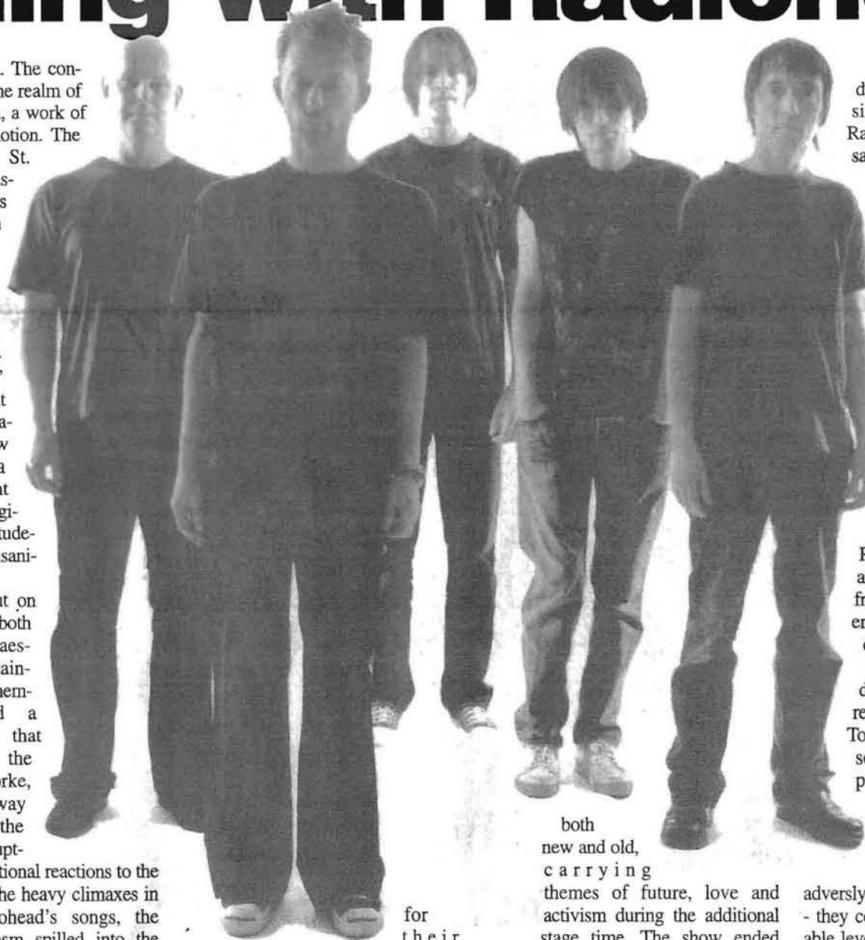
An evening with Radiohead

BY AMY GONWA
Music Critic

From the depths of the nearly sold-out UMB stage, a man emerges, small in stature but transcending in talent. Thom Yorke, the delightfully melodramatic front man of Radiohead, introduced the night with a raging energy-one that would continue for the rest of the performance. The group opened with tracks from their latest album, "Hail to the Thief". St. Louis was the band's eighth stop of a

zone of euphoria. The concert was within the realm of artistic exhibition, a work of modern art in motion. The group showed St. Louis fans the history, transitions and evolution that led to the recent release of "Hail to the Thief." Several tracks from Radiohead's popular "Kid A" were played, but with strong variation. "Talk Show Host" took on a much different tone than it's original romantic attitude-one of melodic insanity.

Radiohead put on a show that was both musically and aesthetically entertaining. Individual members possessed a unique quality that complemented the music. Yorke, O'Brien, Selway and the Greenwoods erupted with real emotional reactions to the music. During the heavy climaxes in many of Radiohead's songs, the groups' enthusiasm spilled into the audience, who became equally involved in the roaring sound. Fans seemed to share Radiohead's passion



both new and old, carrying themes of future, love and activism during the additional stage time. The show ended with "Everything in its Right Place" and the word "forever" streaming across the stage.

Though complicated to produce and watch, the show was simple to understand. Radiohead's lyrics were universal in theme and fit perfectly with their sound. From upright pianos to sharp electric guitars, the duality of Radiohead's music scaled mountains of rhythm and seeps into valleys of soft sound.

It is clear that the five members of Radiohead were playing their music to challenge their listeners to question their world and shake the structure that holds it up. "Hail to the Thief" was an evident statement in defiance of today's political systems. Radiohead, one of the biggest arena acts in the world, confronts the many voids in modern society and tears them down.

Radiohead has matured divinely since their debut release, "Pablo Honey" in 1993. Today the complexity of their sound has heightened, and prospective buyers of Radiohead tickets have reached immense numbers. Popularity, criticism and internal change has not adversely affected the group in any way - they continue to rock with unthinkable levels of band cohesion. Luckily for us, Radiohead brought their music to our town, and proved their sound is forever.

“
The night of August 24 brought some wildly enchanting music into our town. Radiohead possesses the ability to transcend outside of the musical norm, forcing their audience into a
”

U.S./Canadian tour aimed at getting their new songs out to their listeners.

The night of August 24 brought some wildly enchanting music into our town. Radiohead possesses the ability to transcend outside of the musical norm, forcing their audience into a

'American Splendor' is just splendid

BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER
Film Critic

"Ordinary life is pretty complex stuff," says Harvey Pekar, author of the underground comic "American Splendor." Pekar's autobiographical comic, with his biting wit and poetic view of the commonplace, was the inspiration for the film. And what a splendid film it is. "American Splendor" won this year's Sundance film festival Grand Jury Prize by doing what too few documentaries do: making their project into a wonderful piece of filmmaking. The film retains artistic merit while remaining funny and entertaining.

First, a bit about the subject: Cleveland native and working class poet Harvey Pekar originated the autobiographical comic genre, which is based on a person's real life, in 1976. Started as an exploration of the literary limits of ordinary life as a narrative, "American Splendor" gained a loyal following, earned an American Book Award in 1987, and spawned a whole sub genre of autobiographical comics, but never earned enough

money for its author to give up his day job as a V.A. file clerk. The original issue was illustrated by the great underground comic artist Robert Crumb but has since been drawn by a series of comic artists. Pekar's personality and poetic leanings color his honest and philosophical comments on the mundane things in life. Pekar's working-class job as a file clerk, failed marriages and quirky friends are brought to vibrant life by his biting wit and ability to see the beautiful or philosophical in the everyday.

Combining techniques of documentary and narrative, the film allows for exploration of Harvey's life itself. As befits a film inspired by a comic, the film opens with a series of comic panels and animation, panels that next come to life by transforming into real actors. Paul Giamatti as Harvey struggles with dark thoughts, a world of people who don't get it and a failing marriage before deciding to try his hand at writing. Typical of its slice-of-life style, Harvey ponders the best strategy of choosing the right line at the grocery checkout and the pitfalls of

getting behind an old lady who is sure to argue about a price. Becoming intrigued with the idea of

“
Combining techniques of documentary and narrative, the film allows for exploration of Harvey's life itself. As befits a film inspired by a comic, the film opens with a series of comic panels and animation, panels that next come to life by transforming into real actors. Paul Giamatti as Harvey struggles with dark thoughts, a world of people who don't get it and a failing marriage before deciding to try his hand at writing. Typical of its slice-of-life style, Harvey ponders the best strategy of choosing the right line at the grocery checkout and the pitfalls of
”

the complex nature of everyday life, Harvey strives to turn this idea into a written form. When he shares his writing project with friend and fellow old-record collector, artist Robert Crumb, Crumb excitedly asks if he can illustrate the story, thus launching the comic.

Though difficult to portray in a visual medium like film, Harvey's internal dialog, central to the comic, comes across well thanks to Giamatti's excellent acting. As the tale of the comic and Harvey's life unfolds, we get a sense of who he is and meet some of the equally unique people in his life and comic: his wife Joyce Brabner (Hope Davis), his co-worker and self-described nerd Toby Radloff (Judah Friedlander), and artist R. Crumb (James Urbaniak). Every actor is well cast for his or her role and the performances are funny, charming and affecting. Hope Davis deserves special praise along with Giamatti for her portrayal of Harvey's plainspoken wife and collaborator Joyce. However, the performance that got the most attention at the Sundance festival was Judah Friedlander's turn as Harvey's co-worker Toby, which took a complete transformation by the actor.

The blurring of lines between the actors in the film and the real-life people, between filmmaker and subject, produces a uniquely satisfying and original approach to this biographical subject. Though not con-

fusing, the film's technique is so startling appropriate and refreshingly unexpected that you may gasp at the effect. Scenes where events from the comic are played out by Giamatti and Davis as Harvey and Joyce, while the real Harvey and Joyce watch the reenactment of events from their own lives are nearly surreal. There is an endless reality loop when we remember that behind what we see on the screen is yet another camera and crew filming that shot. Through its unusual visual approach, the film "American Splendor" faithfully conveys the comic's depiction of the sublime in the mundane. One can't help but sing the praises of both the filmmakers and the file clerk.

Anyone who enjoys either documentary or the art of storytelling through film should see this film. Even the website devoted to the project www.americansplendormovie.com, is wonderfully creative, a highly animated and comic supplement to the film. Reportedly, Harvey Pekar himself is pleased with the film, and well he should be. It is an excellent adaptation to the screen.

In 'Le Divorce' French men behave badly

BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER
Film Critic

In the new Merchant Ivory film "Le Divorce," we find two Americans in Paris — sisters involved with French men behaving badly. Or so it seems by American standards.

Le divorce, l'amour, a crime of passion, scandal, greed, poetry, art, silk scarves, and a fabulous red purse fill this comedy of manners. Cultural differences drive both the comedy and the heartache of this unexpected film by the British filmmaking team of Merchant Ivory. "Le Divorce" is a tale of two American sisters, as well as a tale of two cultures.

The opening of the film will surely give a thrill to fans of the '50s, with period-style drawings of stylish women, cafes and lipsticks and a French jazz soundtrack. The introduction, which evokes 1959 Parisian style, says feminine, light, romantic and French. With this frothy introduction setting the tone, we find ourselves nonetheless in modern Paris. Isabel (Kate Hudson) arrives to stay with her sister Roxy (Naomi Watts), who is pregnant with her second child. But just as Isabel arrives, Roxy's French husband Charles-Henri (Melvil Poupaud) walks out on her without explanation. His departure is so sudden that Roxy hardly knows what to say, and knows she'll have to face the weekly Sunday brunch with the in-laws without an idea how to explain her husband's absence. When it becomes apparent that Charles-Henri wants "le divorce," his family set their eyes on Roxy's family heirloom, a painting of St. Ursula, which they hope to get in the property settlement. With the pregnant Roxy nearly crumbling under the weight of the situation, Isabel stays on in Paris to do every-

thing she can for her sister.

If this had been a Hollywood movie, at this point the story would take on the earmarks of a revenge farce, with comic stereotypes of good and bad people. However, "Le Divorce" takes a more complex and rewarding path, mixing the comic and the poignant, in what becomes a sometimes light, thoughtful and engrossing ensemble piece. Instead of broad farce or grim drama, the film opts for something more like real life, which is messier and more complicated than you expect. Isabel finds romance in Paris despite her sister's situation and Roxy's parents, played by Sam Waterson and Stockard Channing, come to Paris in her defense. Roxy's mother-in-law Leslie Caron looks out for her family's interests while condemning her son's behavior, but Charles-Henri's uncle Edgar (Thierry Lhermitte) is drawn to the young, blond Isabel despite the complicated family situation. There are indeed some people behaving badly here but of course, the families on both sides think they are doing the right thing. Even the wayward husband thinks he is not a villain, just following his heart and doing the right thing by his terms. Like in real life, everyone sees himself or herself as the hero of the story.

The Merchant Ivory filmmaking team might know something about cross-cultural differences. As most serious film fans know, Merchant Ivory is really a British and Indian trio, made up of director James Ivory, producer Ismail Merchant and screenwriter Ruth Prawer Jhabvala. Noted for splendid, thought-provoking period films like "Howard's End" and "Room with a View," Merchant Ivory has long had a reputation for films that featured female central characters. Their string of historic films established a reputation for

quality "women's films," meatier fare than the simple romantic "chick flick." Many of their films focus on the concerns of women and their place in society, using the historic time period to make modern audiences think about what has changed and what has not. In more recent years, they have often taken themes based on clashes of cultures or at least cross-cultural misunderstandings. "Le Divorce" combines these trends.

The supporting characters are effective in highlighting cultural differences, particularly Glen Close in a wonderful role as a long-time American ex-patriot writer who hires Isabel to help her organize her papers in preparation for her at-long-last move back to the U.S. On the French side of the gap is Leslie Caron, marvelous as the French mother-in-law, both puzzled and put off by the behavior of her American in-laws. Overall, the acting is very strong, with the talented Watts masterfully conveying the heartbreak and mood swings of the resilient, pregnant American without resorting to curtain-chewing melodrama. Kate Hudson, who has appeared in a string of very light romantic comedies that offered little chance to stretch as an actress, is well-cast in this role and turns in a fine performance as the more naive sister. Other smaller roles are handled well by Bebe Neuwirth as an art appraiser from the Getty Museum and Mathew Modine as the rejected husband of Charles-Henri's lover.

This is not to say this is a serious, weighty film — far from it. "Le Divorce" often comes across as quite funny and charming, and although sad or grim things sometimes happen, the film's ending takes the edge off. It is an intelligent, enjoyable film.

Continuity, dependability serves Jason's restaurant well

BY CASEY SCHACHER
A&E Editor

Snuggling up in a comfy chair, watching the rain marinate the world with a soft sheen, I reflect upon my life thus far. The summer brought so many changes that I feel paralyzed by all that I must ponder as August gives way to September. Was it Mars being so close that made the demons and angels of my universe switch masks so abruptly? Friends have become enemies and enemies, friends and through it all my eyes have sought out the familiar and unchanging.

Is there anything steady and dependable in this world?

The answer to this question came to me under the strangest of circumstances. Naturally, during my search for the familiar, I found myself frequenting a restaurant that I consider my favorite spot, Jason's. I do not own this restaurant nor do I claim any great connection to it. Yet, after dozens of visits, I realized that the place had become a sanctuary for me, an environment where I feel comfortable dining by myself or with friends. How many revelations had I come to while sitting in the same, always-inviting booth? That booth,

slightly dilapidated after years of steady use, is now like a favorite chair at home. It was in that booth that Jason's restaurant co-owner and manager, Steve Rosenblum, answered my question. Yes, there are things that are steady and dependable in this life.

"We've been here since the beginning. We've seen lots of change," Steve began when asked to relate the history of his family's small diner. Originally named Village Inn Pancake House, Jason's became the first full-service restaurant in Ferguson when Steve's father, Jerrold Rosenblum, opened it in 1962. With beaming eyes, Steve spoke briefly about how the restaurant has remained pretty much the same even as Ferguson went through a coming-of-age around it. The staff, many of which have worked at Jason's for decades, provides the familiar faces I have come to look forward to. Jason's has placed its 6,000 plus eggs-a-week order with the same local egg company for over 20 years. Even the very '60s interior has been preserved. Perhaps the most significant factor in retaining the frozen-in-time feel of the place is the extensive, seven page menu that remains much the same as when the

restaurant opened. "We haven't had many menu changes in years," explains Steve. "We like to stick to what we do well."

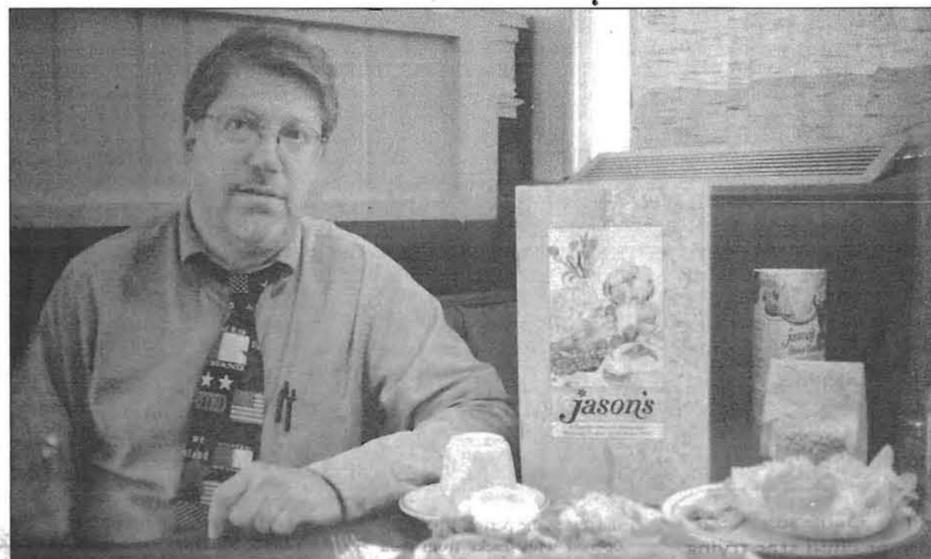
And what is it that Jason's does well? Some would say breakfast foods, namely the thick and fluffy pancakes, best showcase the restaurant's talent for cuisine. Others would swear that the hand-breaded, made-to-order fried chicken and catfish are the centerpieces of the menu. Indeed, it could be any of the 100 plus menu items that steal the show. To me, however, Jason's serves up much more than just food. When Steve Rosenblum looked at me with all of the insight of a telepathic and said, "everyone runs into negative stuff; sometimes you just have to persevere. You gotta be a survivor," I realized that my visit to Jason's had yielded more than the best side-salad I've ever eaten. What I received was an understanding that what remains constant is the human ability to relate to each other's experiences. Thanks S t e v e .

Jason's operates 7 days a week, opening at 6 a.m. and closing at 10 p.m. on weekdays and 11 pm on weekends. Jason's is located at 9300 W. Florissant. Call (314) 868-5000 for more information.



Photo courtesy Fox Searchlight Productions

Kate Hudson and Naomi Watts play two American sisters abroad in Paris in "Le Divorce". Photo courtesy of Fox Searchlight Pictures.



Casey Schacher/The Current

Steve Rosenblum, co-owner and manager of Jason's Restaurant, located at 9300 W. Florissant, serves up home-style cooking.

D A V I D S P A D E

50 million people used to watch him on TV.
Now he washes their cars.

PARAMOUNT PICTURES PRESENTS A HAPPY MADISON PRODUCTION A SAM WEISMAN FILM DAVID SPADE "DICKIE ROBERTS: FORMER CHILD STAR" MARY MCCORMACK JON LOVITZ CRAIG BIERKO ALYSSA MILANO AND ROB REINER MUSIC BY CHRISTOPHE BECK AND WADDY WACHTEL
MUSIC SUPERVISOR MICHAEL OILBECK EXECUTIVE PRODUCER PRODUCED BY ADAM SANDLER & JACK GIARRAPUTO WRITTEN BY FRED WOLF & DAVID SPADE
PG-13 PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED
Some Material May Be Inappropriate for Children Under 13
CRUDE & SEX RELATED HUMOR, LANGUAGE & DRUG REFERENCES
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IN THEATRES SEPT. 5

The Current
Your source for campus news and information

You can read it anywhere!

Let us know where you read The Current!
e-mail us at current@jinx.umsl.edu!

September 19

INVITE YOU AND A GUEST TO A SPECIAL ADVANCE SCREENING

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

The Fighting Temptations

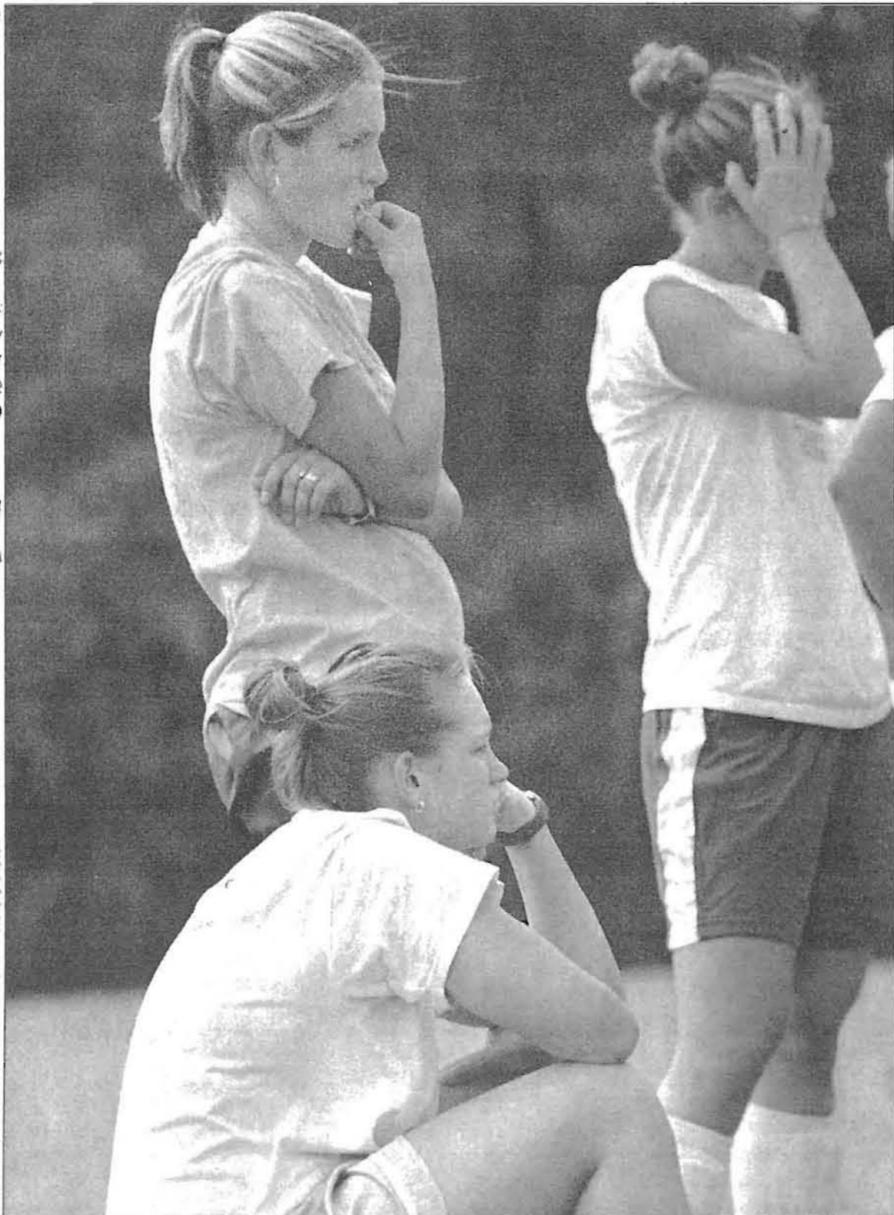
7:30 p.m.
Thursday, September 10th

AMC Esquire
6706 Clayton Rd
St. Louis, Mo 63117

No purchase necessary. While supplies last. Passes available on a first-come, first-served basis. Participating sponsors are ineligible.
This movie is rated PG-13 for some sexual references.

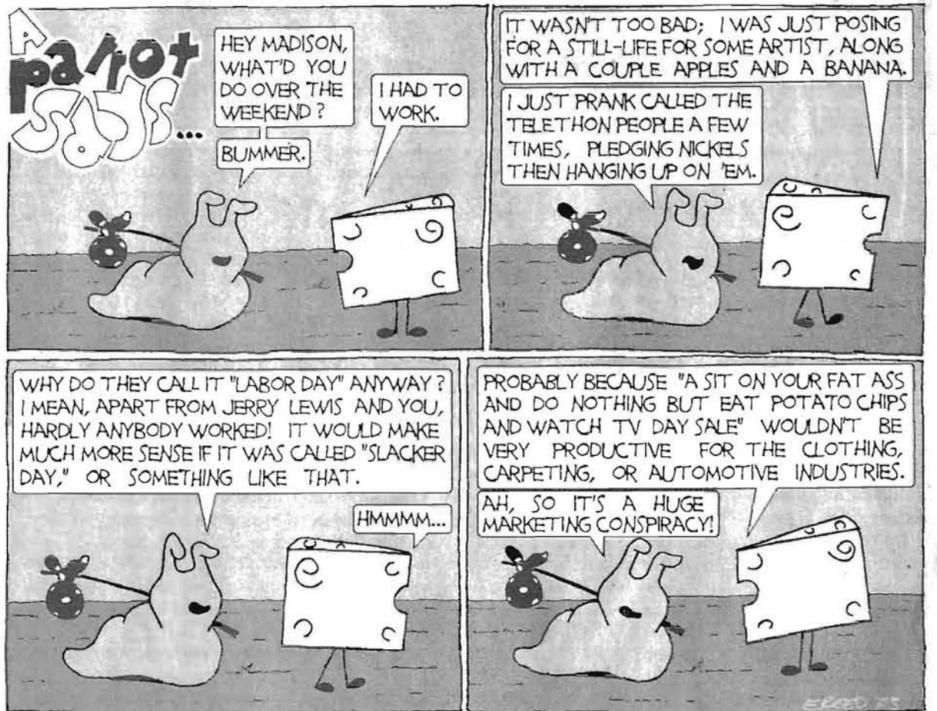
OPENS NATIONWIDE SEPTEMBER 19TH!

Soccer players feel the burn



Mike Sherwin/The Current

Alaina O'Donnell (seated), a trainer for the Riverwomen soccer team, and Lyndsay Bryant, assistant coach, sweat out the high-90s heat at a practice Thursday afternoon at the Mark Twain Building.



House for Sale or Lease Come Take a Look!



We want to sell or lease our lovingly renovated 4-bedrm, 2-bath Victorian home.

The house sits on a large landscaped lot, just minutes from the UM-St. Louis campus and two MetroLink stations.

- Wrap-around porch
- Brand new deck
- 4 Bedrooms
- 2 New bathrooms
- Jenn-Aire stove and vent
- Butler's pantry

- Marble countertop
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- Fireplace
- Full walk-out basement

Call us to schedule a visit – Patrick or Angela Green – 385-7822
You'll be pleasantly surprised!

The Lucas & Hunt and Natural Bridge License Office is Now Open!

(Located at North Oaks Plaza #1F – Next Door to the Deal\$ Store)

Business Hours:

Monday & Tuesday	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Wednesday	9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Thursday and Friday	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturday	9 a.m. to 12 noon
Sunday	Closed

Our Office Issues:

- License Plate Renewals
- Motor Vehicle Registration
- Missouri State ID's
- Driver's License Renewals
- Watercraft Registrations
- Motorcycle Registration

For Information Call 314.389.5300

Funds from this Office will support Operation Excel, Inc., a non for profit youth program and subsidiary of the Housing Authority of St. Louis County.

Wireless Internet Access

is now available in the Millennium Student Center & the Thomas Jefferson Library

You will need:
A valid UM-St. Louis Gateway ID and a laptop with a wireless network card

wireless i nternet

UM-ST. LOUIS

If you meet the above requirements, open your browser to begin

For more information
<http://www.umsl.edu/technology/wireless>

CLASSIFIEDS

with 40 words or fewer
are free to
students, faculty and staff

All classifieds are due via email by 5 p.m. on the Thursday before the publication date. In addition to the name(s) of the advertiser, each classified submitted must contain a student number or faculty/staff department and title(s) prior to publication.

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

Help Wanted

LIFEGUARDS

CERTIFIED LIFEGUARDS needed for UMSL Indoor Swimming Pool. Afternoon, evening & weekend hours available. Pay is \$6.30 per hour. Apply in the Rec Sports Office, 203 Mark Twain. Call 516-5326 for more information.

Interns and volunteers needed

Earn 40 hours of community service in as little as 9 weeks. If you are interested in the following areas: tutoring, research, writing, and community relations; and/or video taping, editing, and production. Call (314) 741-4215 and leave your contact information (name, number, and best time to reach you) as well as the positions which interest you most. Orientation and training provided. Visit our website at educationfourall.com to learn more about our organization EDUCATION 4 ALL, INC.

Help wanted

TestMasters is hiring LSAT instructors. \$30 per hour. Positions are currently available for summer LSAT courses. 99th percentile score on an actual LSAT required. 1-800-696-5728. jobs@testmasters180.com.

Graders/tutors wanted

A west county Mathematics and reading learning center is hiring part-time graders/tutors helping children ages 3 to 15. We offer flexible schedule, fun and rewarding working environment. Interested candidates please call 636-537-5522. E-mail: jwchan@earthlink.net.

Bartender Trainees Needed.

\$250 a day potential. Local positions. 1-800-293-3985 ext. 144.

SPORTS OFFICIALS

REC SPORTS OFFICIALS needed for intramural flag football, soccer, floor hockey, & volleyball this semester. Afternoon and evening games. Pays \$7.50-\$10.00 per game. Knowledge and interest in the sport is required. Apply in the Rec Office, 203 MT, 516-5326.

Catering Services

Chartwells Dining Services looking for catering help. Apply in person at the Nosh.

Babysitter needed

Looking for afternoon babysitter for 2 boys (pre-school and grade-school age), area of Hwy 40 and Speed, 20-25 hours/week between 12 and 6 p.m., \$9-10/hr depending on experience. Must have own car and good driving record. 314-454-8472 (days); 314-692-0311 (evenings).

Communications Director

ASUM is looking for a student to work 10 hours per week. Duties include Public Relations and Advertising. Please submit resume and cover letter to 381 MSC. Call 516-7306 for more information.

Touhill Performing Arts Center

The Touhill Performing Arts Center is looking for students to work as Valet Parking Attendants. Please contact Jim Runyan at 516-4100 for more information.

Goalkeeper needed

Do you think you can play soccer at the college level? Now's your chance! Training camp is over, but Coach King is still looking for another goalkeeper. If you think you can cut it, give him a call at 516-7027. Remember, goalkeepers only.

Housing

1-bedroom apartment

One-bedroom apartment available in June for a lease takeover. Located in the Central West End. If you are interested or know anyone who is, please call me at 314-454-3836.

Seeking roommate

UM-St. Louis student, black female, early 20s, smoker, quiet, studious, keeps to self, serious minded. Seeking female roommate to share two-bdrm. apartment, expenses approximately \$400 monthly max. Must have the finance to pay own share. If you are interested, please call and/or leave a message at 348-8109. The apartment is Kensington Square Apartments, 2100 N. New Florissant, Florissant, MO 63033.

Room for rent

Room for rent - nice home in Ferguson, females only, safe neighborhood, convenient to University/stores, french doors, lots of windows, nice yard, storage space, kitch./LR shared, cable tv, laundry, phone and utilities included. \$380.00/month, deposit required (314) 229-7641.

Room for rent

Nice home in area with room for rent, females only, serious student non-smoker, convenient to UMSL, public transportation, kitchen shared, windows, nice yard, cable, bathroom, laundry, off-street parking, phone and utilities included. \$350.00/month, deposit required. Call (314) 521-3120.

House for rent

4 bedroom house, eat-in kitchen, lg. family room. Across from UMSL. Very spacious house. \$1200/month. Craig (314) 495-8788.

Basement apt. for rent

Furnished basement apt. for rent in Ferguson area. Convenient to UMSL campus. Must share kitchen. Laundry, phone & utilities included. \$300/month. 314-521-0815.

Housing

Seeking roommate

Roommate wanted for two-story St. Ann home. You get upstairs-two private bedrooms and bathroom. I am a teacher and grad student. All utilities included. Prefer grad student or professional. \$400 per month. Please call Scot at 314-733-0948.

Seeking female roommate

Seeking female roommate to share beautiful West St. Louis County home with current roommates. Kitchen, washer/dryer, safe, quiet neighborhood by Creve Coeur park. \$350 a month including utilities. (314) 275-8852 (leave message for Anita).

Seeking roommate

Share the rent. Female grad student looking for another to split rent on a 2-bedroom apartment, house or duplex. Quiet, responsible, serious student. Call Mary (314) 647-2673.

Historic flat for rent

A historic one bedroom flat for rent. Occupancy for two persons. Benton Park west near the brewer and Venice Cafe. Central air, refinished wood floors, washer/dryer hook up. First floor, garden, garage negotiable. \$520 plus utilities. Also, furnished flat available for short term rental. Weekly or monthly. (314) 918-7189.

Housing

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 at 521-7330.

Normandy house for rent

Normandy house for rent 2 miles from UMSL. Prefer 2 female students who are non-smokers and non-drug users. \$275.00 each to share the rent. If interested please call Ms. S. Anderson at (314) 383-3423.

Furnished home for rent

Furnished home for rent. Living rm, dining rm, sun porch, 2 bedrooms, fireplace, garage, fenced yard. It is less than one mile from UMSL. It is one block off Normandy Dr. from the golf course. Call Thomas or Carrie. (314) 727-4873.

Female roommate wanted

\$232.50. Walking distance from UMSL. 2 bedrooms, kitchen, living room, bathroom, central A/C, hardwood floors. Call Sam (314) 382-1382 sup50c@studentmail.umsl.edu.

Two-bedroom home to share

Wanted: Male graduate student to share two-bedroom home. Short walk to "Millennium Center." Leave a message at 516-5046.

Members needed

Studio recording organization members are needed to start a new studio recording organization on campus. If interested, please call Henry St. James at (314) 863-6659 or (314) 368-8447.

Business for sale

Need an extra \$36,000.00? Need an extra \$36,000.00 a year? Vending route for sale. Cost \$6500.00 Help find missing children. 1-800-568-1392 or www.vendingthatworks.com

Ice Hockey

UMSL Ice Hockey players needed

If you are interested in playing for UMSL's Ice Hockey Club, contact Mike at either mwinkler18@yahoo.com or call (314) 276-9527.

Misc.

Book signing

Dennise Kelly, author of "In Case of Fire Use Stairs", will appear at Cultural Essentials, 2127 S. Jefferson, August 29, 2003 at 7:30 p.m. For more information, call (314) 869-2127.

Personals

LIKE TO BOWL?

Join our Intramural League (Sept. 10 - Nov. 19) Wednesdays 3- 4:30 p.m. at North Oaks Bowl. Only \$1.50/week for 3 games. 2 guys and/or gals per team. Register in the Rec Office 203 Mark Twain by Sept. 11.

REC SPORTS FUN

INTRAMURAL Softball, Coed Volleyball, Tennis, Bowling & Flag Football. Open to students, fac & staff. TO PLAY, sign-up in the Rec Office, 203 MT, 516-5326. Deadline is Wed., Sept. 3.

Send classified ads to current@jinx.umsl.edu. Call 516-5174 for more information.

For sale

'96 Navy blue camaro, V6 3.8 Liter, Aut., Rear Wheel Drive, Air Cond., 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-whl), 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.

TREK 7100 bike

2003 TREK 7100 hybrid road bike, 20" Ridden on Katy Trail a few times. Asking \$200. Call (314) 664-8710.

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Spring Break 2004

Travel with STS, America's #1 Student Tour operator to Jamaica, Cancun, Acapulco, Bahamas and Florida. Now hiring on-campus reps. Call for group discounts. Information/reservations 1-800-648-4849 or www.ststravel.com.

#1 Spring Break Vacations!

Cancun, Jamaica, Acapulco, Bahamas, Mazatlan, Florida, SPadre. 110% Best Prices! Book Now and get Free Parties & Meals! Group Discounts. now hiring Campus Reps! 1-800-234-7007 endlesssummertours.com

Spring Break '04 with StudentCity.com and Maxim Magazine!

Get hooked up with Free Trips, Cash, and VIP Status as a Campus Rep! Choose from 15 of the hottest destinations. Book early for FREE MEALS, FREE DRINKS and 150% Lowest Price Guarantee! To reserve online or view our Photo Gallery, visit www.studentcity.com or Call 1-888-SPRINGBREAK!

Help wanted

Marketing Coordinator

Business major preferred. Flexible hours, transportation needed to develop local store marketing programs for St. Louis area Sonic restaurants. Call (636) 978-6410, or fax resume to (636) 978-6343. EOE.

Shift & Assistant Managers

For Sonic locations in Florissant, Cool Valley, Breckenridge Hills, and Overland. Call (636) 978-6410, or fax resume to (636) 978-6343. EOE.

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Make your MARK while making the grades. Become a MARK representative! Call Denise @ (314) 477-7562 or e-mail: meet_mark_2003@yahoo.com.

Great Opportunity!

Flexible outside sales position available in the wireless industry. Over 10 years in the business. Work at your own pace - Sell to students, friends, and family. Call Allen at Dial A Page 314-531-5300 x. 0

Subjects w/ color deficiency

Subjects with red-green color deficiency are needed to participate in a study being conducted at the College of Optometry, UMSL. Subjects will be reimbursed for their time and participation. For more information, call Jessie @ 314 516-6655 or email - js7c9@studentmail.umsl.edu.

For sale

For sale

10-speed bike for sale. Recently tuned and in great condition. \$50. Please call (314) 521-0815.

'90 Honda Civic

Automatic, 4-door, power windows, AM/FM, disc stereo, good body, runs great. \$1000. Call 636-346-8466.

'91 Oldsmobile Ninety-Eight

'91 Oldsmobile Ninety-Eight Regency Elite 93,xxx miles, adult owner, all maintenance records, exc. condition, luxurious & reliable (314) 773-4207. Asking \$5000.

'86 Oldsmobile for sale

1986 Oldsmobile 98 grande for sale. New engine with only 15k miles. Leather, power, sony cd, one owner, good condition. \$1800 OBO. (314) 583-1297 selling fast...

Fast & Furious

1995 Mitsubishi Eclipse, 103k miles, emerald green metallic, 5-speed manual, dual airbags, excellent condition, very well maintained, garage kept. Very sporty, reliable and economic. For sale: \$3,900 obo. Please call (314) 516-7995 or (314) 458-8384.

For sale

Romance books for sale

Romance books for sale at 50 cents each. Hard backs as well as paperback. Silhouette, Harlequin, multi-story novels, and other brands. E-mail tineri09@yahoo.com for inquiries.

Alto Saxophone for sale!

Model: Bundy II
Condition: New/Barely used
Price: \$600
Call Erica (314) 516-7791

Almost new workout equipment

YUKON: Leg Press \$95, adjustable bench w/peacher curl \$60; Iron Plates: 6x 50lbs \$9 each; Dumbbells: 1 set of each 25lbs, 40lbs, 45lbs, 50lbs, \$16 each set. (314) 544-5202.

Send classified ads to current@jinx.umsl.edu.

Call 516-5174

for more information.

HOUSING

Four Leaf Property
Need an affordable place to rent near campus?
Four Leaf Properties has 2 and 3 bedroom homes for \$550 and \$650 located half a mile from campus.
Visit us at www.fourleafproperty.com or call (314) 614-7933

Send classifieds to: current@jinx.umsl.edu

For sale

'99 Honda Civic EX

71,000 miles, 2dr, 5 spd, loaded with performance, \$7000 OBO. If interested, please call (314) 324-9199 or (314) 849-1213.

'92 Ford Tempo

RELIABLE transportation! Five speed, 81,000 miles, taupe, two door, gently used, A/C, AM/FM, one owner. This one will go! \$1700. 725-6834.

Personals

FREE GOLF •18 HOLES

Enter our Intramural GOLF SCRAMBLE & BBQ Monday, Sept. 22, Normandie Golf Course, 10:30 a.m. shotgun start. Free to students; only \$20 for fac/staff/alumni. Four golfers per team. Sign up in the Rec Office 203MT by Sept. 10.

For hire

English skills coach

English skills coach for improving speaking, pronunciation, and comprehension of English. Contact Debby Giles at 522-1570. \$25 per hour.

Need to advertise an event?

The Current is a great way for campus groups to inform the UM-St. Louis community.

Call The Current advertising department at 516-5316 for details.

Staff writers needed at The Current!

For more information, call 516-6810.

Ask for Nichole.

SHEKINAH MUSICAL RECORDING LABS
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 - Quality CD replication / CD manufacturing, CD duplication for corporations, music labels, and the software industry
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A Tribute to Gregory Hines
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**SAVION GLOVER WITH
GEORGE WALLACE**, Sept. 27

Contemporary Productions:
**TRIBUTE TO MAYNARD
FERGUSON WITH ARTURO
SANDOVAL**, Oct. 3

The politically incorrect
BILL MAHER, Oct. 5

**SAINT LOUIS SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA**, Oct. 5

Teatro Lirico d'Europa
presents Mozart's **DON
GIOVANNI** in Italian with
orchestra and supertitles,
Oct. 9

90.7 KWMU presents
"WHAD'YA KNOW?"
WITH MICHAEL FELDMAN,
Oct. 11

Cole Porter's Tony Award-
winning **KISS ME KATE**,
Oct. 18

**MELISSA MANCHESTER
& PAUL WILLIAMS**,
Oct. 28

Mezzo-Soprano
**FREDERICA
VON STADE**, Nov. 1

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Solstice Tour featuring*
**WILL ACKERMAN,
LIZ STORY & SAMITE**,
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