



See page 10
Vanity Fair is more than fair

THECURRENTONLINE.COM

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI - ST. LOUIS

Police substation established on South Campus

BY PATRICIA LEE
Staff Writer

For the last few weeks, UM-St. Louis campus police have been setting up their new office on South Campus. The police substation officially opened on Sept. 7 and will normally be open Monday through Friday, from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Officials discussed the idea of having a satellite station near the residence halls for several years.

"We had been talking about having full-time residential life officers for a certain number of years, but because of manpower constraints and workload constraints until this year we've really not been able to realize our mission," Alfred Wirt, UM-St. Louis campus police lieutenant, said.

Chief of Police Bob Roeseler met with Vice Chancellor of Administrative Services Reinhard Schuster and Residential Life Director John Klein. They discussed the idea of having residential life officers. Klein provided the office space as well as the computers and office equipment.

"It's important that we provide service to them [students who live on campus], as well as to the rest of the community because they're here the entire time," Roeseler said. "They needed to have access to police services or if nothing more just someone to talk to if there was a problem getting things done."

Briaunna McConnell, freshman, nursing, lives in LeGras Hall. She said that having police officers on South Campus made her feel safer.

"It makes me feel a lot more at ease knowing that you have police that are available to us if we need them," McConnell said.

Roeseler did not expect the number of disturbances to go down with the presence of officers near the residence halls, but he expects the quality of the police service to improve.

"We may not have a reduction in crime, but what we will have is better quality of service," he said.

With the police stationed near the residential halls, it should take less time for officers to respond to emergencies.

"The response time is going to be extremely quick," Roeseler said.

Officers on duty at the satellite station will mainly respond to incidents involving residents. For emergencies, people should still call 5155 or 911. In cases where extra officers are needed, the main police station will serve as a back-up.

With officers designated as residential life officers, the police force hopes to improve communication and understanding with students.

"The goals are to improve that relationship, to get an input of ideas and to resolve issues in a manner that both sides are receiving the positive aspects of it," Roeseler said.

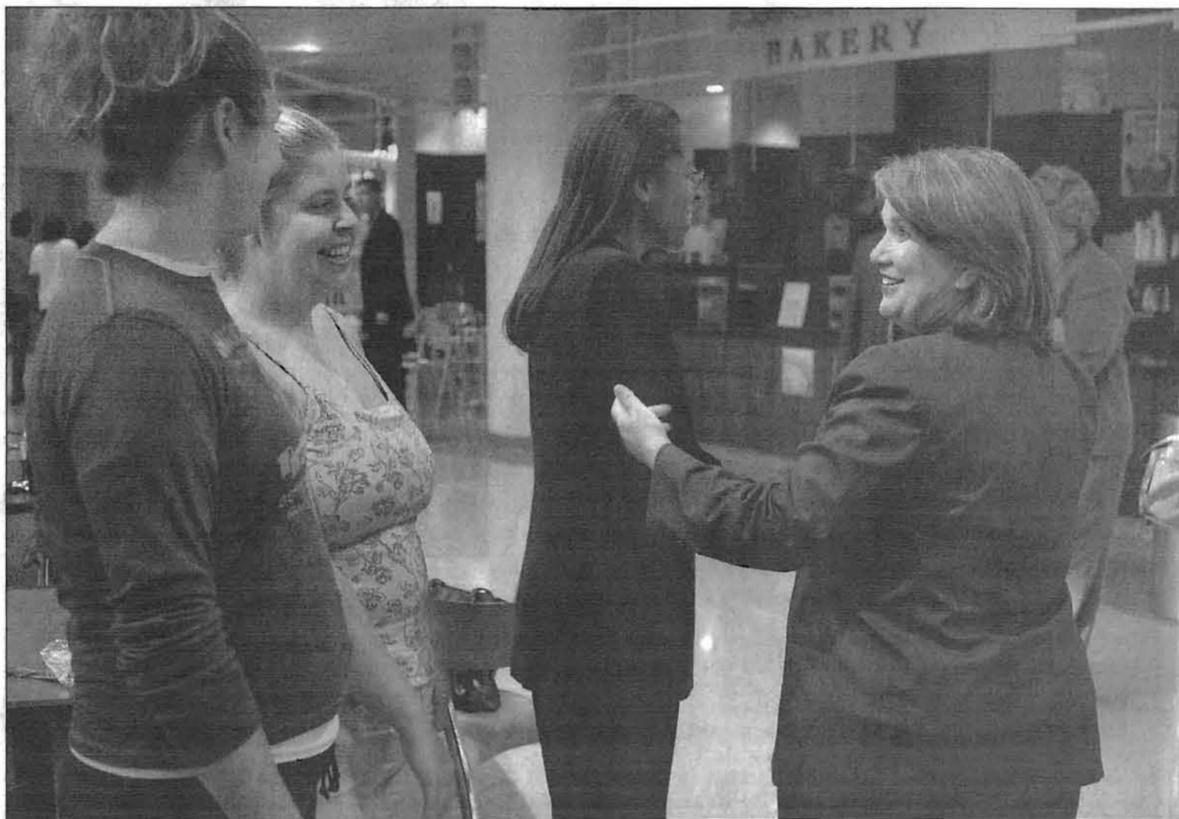
Wirt said that the new station is still a work in progress, and that the police are open to suggestions. The substation is located in Provincial House, where the residential life offices are located. Two police officers, Joseph Kane and Greg Bingham, staff it.

Kane joined the campus police in March. He had been a police officer for 35 years, and one of the reasons he was chosen to be a residential life officer was because he had prior experience with schools in Florissant.

see POLICE SUBSTATION, page 13

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Elizabeth Edwards brings presidential campaign to UMSL



Mike Sherwin/The Current

Elizabeth Edwards, wife of Democratic vice presidential candidate John Edwards, talks with students and staff members as she exits the Millennium Student Center on Thursday afternoon. A forum was held with Edwards, selected students, faculty and staff in Century Room A of the MSC.

Education, reform discussed at forum

BY WILL MELTON
News Editor

The rising costs of college education and problems in the public school system took center stage in a discussion with Elizabeth Edwards, wife of Vice-Presidential Candidate John Edwards, at UM-St. Louis campus on Sept. 2. Edwards demanded accountability and more rational policies that promote equality within the educational system.

In a point directly of interest to UM-St. Louis students, Edwards argued that student loans should be put up for competitive bid. Right now banks are given these contracts and profit greatly from them. Instead of letting banks reap financial gains, the policy should be geared towards making higher education as affordable as possible.

"I think she articulated the positions of the Kerry-Edwards ticket very well. I think that some of their plans will go a long way to advancing student interests," Ben DeClue, senior, political science, said. "I am really impressed with the student loan proposal. We hear all the time about letting the market run its will, but then we just let these banks run rough shot over student interests. Make them bid competitively. If I can get a competitive bid on my mortgage why can't I get a competitive bid on my educational loan?"

Edwards said she was passionate about education because, "I am a mom. I substitute taught. I taught a writing class at the law school, and I also started some after school programs, participated in the PTA and tried to work on programs to make things a little more equal."

Event attendance was restricted to invitation only, which concerned some students and staff. "I was disappointed," Nancy Gleason, assistant dean of the Honors College, said, "I was curious about



Mike Sherwin/The Current

Elizabeth Edwards answers questions from the audience during a forum Thursday afternoon in Century Room A of the Millennium Student Center. Edwards was joined on stage by several guests, including students Alex Kerford, Ashley Webber and David Powers.

the event and I would have liked to have attended it."

However, a large, ungoverned gathering would arguably have complicated the intimate dialogue of the event. This was not a typical campaign speech full of rhetoric. Instead, Edwards sat on stage with students, teachers and parents for a serious discussion of complicated issues and concerns.

Students and local teachers were given the opportunity to share their concerns and questions

with Edwards in front of a small, but diverse crowd representative of the UM-St. Louis community.

Mary Kunce, employed at the Early Childhood Center, with the Maplewood School District said she has seen "a family steeped in poverty, but the state says we can't help you."

see EDWARDS VISITS, page 3

Assembly chair of SGA resigns

In addition, election of election committee chair is deemed invalid

BY WILL MELTON
News Editor

Ben DeClue, senior, political science, resigned from his position as Student Government Association assembly chair not even a week after his reelection. After leaving the SGA meeting on Fri. Aug. 27, DeClue headed to a leadership event for the Associated Students of the University of Missouri. It was there that he was asked to serve as chair of the Committee on Reform.

The aforementioned committee intends on, "looking at the fiscal structure of ASUM and making some pretty substantial changes," DeClue said.

DeClue accepted the chair position of the ASUM committee and decided that it would require too much of his time and in turn inhibit his ability to perform the duties of assembly chair. He thought it best to step down.

However, DeClue's departure is not complete; he plans to remain an active force within the SGA. He said he would, "work vigorously on constitutional reform within the organization," as a member of the constitution and bylaws committee. DeClue also resigned as chair of this committee.

DeClue further stated that his role in the process of the proposed constitutional reform was another reason for his resignation from the position of assembly chair. He feared that it might have led to a conflict of interest or the perception of a power grab.

"In light of the proposed changes I'm going to be making to our constitution I didn't feel it would be right to place upon the position I was holding new powers or responsibilities while I was holding it," DeClue said. "By resigning from the leadership positions I held in SGA I am now just an at-large member. It is going to show my absolute dedication to the principles that I think are going to be reflected in the changes I propose for our constitution."



Ben DeClue
Resigned as SGA assembly chairman

see SGA CHANGES, page 3

Harvard scholar assesses the U.S. War on Terror

BY M.K. STALLINGS
Staff Writer

While President George Bush and Senator John Kerry vie for the swing vote and ultimately the presidency, each candidate's foreign policy agenda may be the deciding factor, according to Dr. Stephen M. Walt, professor of international affairs, John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

As Vice President Dick Cheney criticized the foreign policy record of Senator John Kerry at the Republican National Convention in New York, Walt critiqued the foreign policy of the Bush Administration during his lecture last Wednesday on UM St. Louis campus.

Walt expressed some "good news and bad news" during his one hour lecture entitled "America and the World in the Age of Terror".

Starting with the good news, Walt cited America's increased knowledge of terrorists, the global support from

the international community in the wake of Sept. 11 and that the American government has made it difficult for terrorists to operate.

As for the bad news, Walt noted that 25 percent of terrorist leadership is still at large since Sept. 11, al Qaeda is still in operation and terrorists are more decentralized and more resourceful.

"The terrorist attacks of September 11 cost \$500,000, while the recent subway bombing in Moscow cost \$10,000" Walt said.

Between many claims of non-partisanship and pro-America statements, Walt cited an international opinion poll and a series of news quotes from foreign press to paint a picture of how different nations view American foreign policy.

"Global support for the War on Terror may be waning," Walt said.

Walt then offered three reasons why there is a gap in perception.

"We are the 800-pound gorilla," Walt said. "Unchecked power makes others nervous."

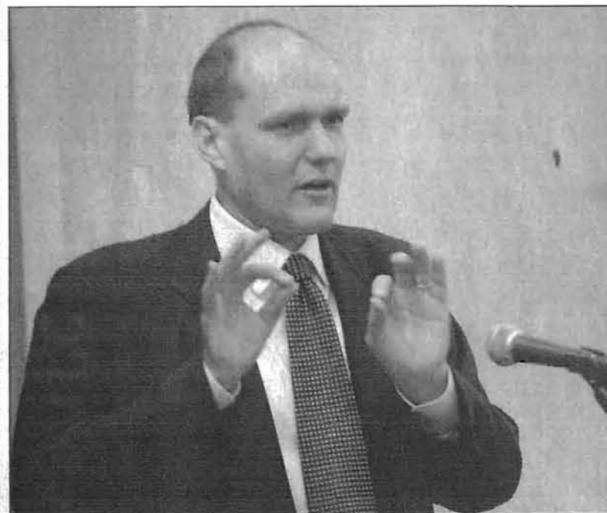
Walt explained that less powerful nations worry about the unintended consequences of American action. He then transitioned to his second point.

"It's not what we are but what we do," he said. According to Walt, countries that have expressed anti-American sentiment do so because of how the American government handles issues such as nuclear terrorism, not because of America's mainstream values.

Walt's third, and perhaps most controversial, reason was America's hypocrisy. To illustrate his point, Walt discussed how American government decries the development of nuclear arms by foreign countries, while continuing to develop its own. This third reason drew several questions from the audience after Walt's lecture.

"I don't think we are uniquely hypocritical. I think we are self-critical," Walt said. "However, we are more unpopular today than any other time."

see TERRORISM, page 12



Mike Sherwin/The Current

Harvard professor Stephen M. Walt speaks on 'America and the World in the Age of Terror' to a crowded Century Room B on Wednesday night.

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.

**Sept. 7-14
Litmag II**

Litmag II, a student organization dedicated to literary, fine and performing arts, will host a membership drive from Tues., Sept. 7 through Thurs., Sept. 9, 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., and Mon., Sept. 13 through Sept. 14, from 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. If you are interested in becoming a member or just curious, please come meet us and get more information. For more info call 314-583-4332 and ask for Katie.

Wed. Sept. 8

Volleyball and ice cream social

Join the Catholic Newman Center for an evening of sports and sundaes. The social will begin at 6:30 p.m. For more information, contact the Catholic Newman Center at 385-3455.

**Wed. Sept. 8
Motivation and goal-setting workshop**

Are you ready for a new year and a new semester? Learn how to set reasonable and achievable goals at the "Motivation and Goal Setting" workshop on Wednesday from 11-noon.

This one hour workshop is free, but please call to reserve a place. For more information, call 516-5711. Sponsored by Counseling Services, located in 126 MSC.

**Thurs. Sept. 9
WOMEN VOTE!**

WOMEN VOTE! Candace Gingrich will speak at 3:30 pm on "Your Vote is Your Voice-Use It or Lose it: Progressive Issues in Campaign 2004 and Why Your Vote Matters" (co-sponsored by the Pierre LaClede Honors College Student Association and IWGS). Location: 211 Clark Hall (with light refreshments)

Sept. 8-12

Sorority Recruitment

No Matter what the Letter, We're all Greek Together. Come meet the women of Alpha Xi Delta, Delta Zeta and Zeta Tau Alpha and find out more about Greek life on campus. For further info visit Office of Student Life in 366 MSC or call 516-5291.

9/8 7-8:30 p.m.
9/9 6:30-9 p.m.
9/10 4:30-8 p.m.
9/11 1:30-5:30p.m.
9/12 2 p.m.

All events held in the Pilot House.

**Fri. Sept. 17
WOMEN VOTE!**

Rachel Storch, candidate for the Missouri Assembly will answer YOUR questions about the issues from 12-1 pm, Clark 211 (drinks and dessert provided).

Fri. Sept. 24

WOMEN VOTE!

Denise Lieberman, Legal Director for the American Civil Liberties Union will take on the Patriot Act, 12 -1pm, Clark 211 (drinks and dessert provided). For the complete listing of speakers please call Nikki 516-5581.

**Through Sept. 24
The Art of Bronze**

The Mercantile Library, on level one of the Thomas Jefferson Library, is displaying an exhibition of bronze sculpture organized by the Wookcock Museum. The exhibition includes works depicting the American West by Charles M. Russell and Frederic Remington, realistic figures by Thomas Hart Benton and Ed Dwight, and abstract figural works by contemporary artist Larry Young. An ongoing slide show in the gallery illustrates the process of lost-wax casting.

Sat. Sept. 25

Trail Ride

Come out to Ace Stables for an afternoon of horseback riding. The event will take place from 10 a.m. until noon. Entries are due by Wednesday, Sept. 22. Contact Larry Coffin at 516-5124 for more information, or visit www.umsl.edu/services/tecsport.

**Tues. Sept. 28
Study Abroad Fair**

Learn about summer, semester and year-long study abroad opportunities in over 30 countries! Previous participants, exchange students and program leaders will be staffing tables to give out information about over 80 programs. Don't miss this once-a-year event! This event will take place from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. in Century Room C. For more information, call the Study Abroad Office at 516-6497 or visit 261 Millennium Student Center.

**Fri. Oct. 8
Drag contest**

PRIZM is in need of drag queens & kings for a campus event. Contestants be available for interviews, provide promo pictures and character biography.

This is a charity event, but contestants can-keep all tips. Refreshments will be provided. The contest will take place at 8 p.m. in the Pilot House. For more information, contact PRIZM's president, Sarah Miller, at 516-5013.

**Sundays
Newman Center**

The Catholic Newman Center will hold mass every Sunday night at 8:30 p.m. in the Bellerive residence hall chapel. All are welcome to attend. For more information, contact the Newman Center at 314-385-3455.

Put it on the board!
Have an upcoming event?
Call 516-5174 for info!

Put it on the Board! Call 516-5174 for details or email current@jinx.umsl.edu

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The Campus Crimeline

The following criminal incidents were reported to the University of Missouri-St. Louis Police Department between August 28, 2004 and September 3, 2004. 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 28th Property Damage- University Meadows
Various areas of the complex

had black spray-painted graffiti, including buildings and one vehicle.

August 30th Stealing Under \$500.00-Parking Lot S
A car stereo was stolen from a parked vehicle between 12:30pm. And 3:15 pm.

August 31st Stealing Under \$500.00-130 South Campus Classroom Building
During the course of the day, someone stole 7 department store type gift cards from the victim's

purse.

September 1st Harassing Phone Calls-Seton Hall

A student reported receiving repeating harassing phone calls from a subject she met and exchanged phone numbers with sometime earlier.

September 1st Property Damage-University Park Apartments, South Florissant road

An ex-husband of a student is believed to have caused damage to

the student's vehicle by flattening the tires on three separated occasions, and left a note.

September 2nd Assault Third-Seton Hall

A male student followed a female student into her dorm room. After a brief "horse playing" incident the male subject tossed her on the bed and when they got up he spanked her on her bottom. The female student did not want to press criminal charges, however a copy of the police report will be forwarded to Student Affairs for

disciplinary action.

September 3rd Arrest-University Meadows

A student was arrested for an Assault of a Police Officer, originally started over a parking violation.

****NOTE****

The Police Department operates 24 hours a day 7 days a week, and encourages anyone observing suspicious people or activity to report it to the Police immediately at ext 5155, or 911.

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Corrections

In issue 1124 (Aug. 23, 2004), a caption for the Sports story "Athletic department hires new coaches" said that Josh Lauer, the new women's volleyball interim head coach, was pictured. In fact, the picture showed the assistant coach, Travis Toy.

Would you read it on the net?

Would you read it with your pet?

www.thecurrentonline.com

**What do the readers think?
Results from the web poll:**

What's the best thing about college?

Making friends, getting drunk, learning, and then getting a degree	→	44%
Getting a degree	→	28%
Learning from talented faculty members	→	14%
Getting drunk	→	8%
Making friends	→	6%
Evading parking fees	→	0%

* Results via www.thecurrentonline.com This is not a scientific sampling.

INVITE YOU AND A GUEST TO A SPECIAL SCREENING

Stop by The Current offices at 388 Millennium Student Center to pick up a complimentary screening pass (admits 2) to see

WIMBLEDON

7:30 p.m.
Tuesday, September 14th

AMC West Olive
12657 Olive St.
St. Louis, MO 63141

KIRSTEN DUNST PAUL BETTANY
She's the golden girl. He's the longshot.
It's a match made in...

WIMBLEDON

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 language, sexuality and partial nudity.

IN THEATERS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17th

EDWARDS VISITS, from page 1



Mike Sherwin/The Current

Elizabeth Edwards, wife of Vice Presidential Candidate John Edwards, is interviewed by Kate Drolet, editor-in-chief of The Current, during Edwards' visit to campus Thursday afternoon.

Edwards offered her opinion on what she views as inequities in the current system. She recalled that on one occasion her son was assigned a project that required her to drive around town all afternoon and buy a certain kind of colored rock, which wound up costing around \$30. That experience got her thinking about those students whose parents were not able to spend the money or time to acquire the materials needed for the assignment.

"I started thinking about how our educational system was providing such different educational experience for kids sitting side by side," Edwards said. "I tried to find ways to solve that."

Dave Powers, elementary education major, and member of Sigma Pi fraternity, said that, "children as early as fourth grade decide to drop out of high-school." Powers was on the

panel with Edwards and spoke of his experiences working at an after school program for latch-key children.

Besides issues of affordability, Edwards mentioned that sometimes the complexity of the paperwork could be enough to dispare prospective students from entering college.

Talking about the paperwork a family needs to fill out to apply for college financial aid, she said that, "there are more questions for a \$5,000 loan on financial aid forms than there are for a 2 million dollar loan for a small business."

Edwards also discussed a plan that the Kerry-Edwards ticket is planning to implement if they are elected. The program would allow young people to serve 2 years of community service and, in return, earn tuition for four years of college.

"It's a reward for doing the right thing," Edwards said, "It makes them

better citizens too." Of course, any such program would have to be implemented and approved through the proper channels.

Edwards did not pass on opportunity to criticize President Bush's policies. She said the current administration promised to raise the cap on Pell Grants, but ultimately reneged on the promise. That same lack of priority comes with regards to other programs, such as GEAR UP.

The panel also touched on issues of taxes and foreign policy. She assured the audience that Senator Kerry would never fail to protect America when need be, but that "just because we will do that in the end is no reason why we should do that in the beginning." Edwards added that many of the troops serving in Iraq right now are college students who joined the military solely to be able to afford college.

NEWS BRIEFS

UM-Rolla chancellor to retire

Dr. Gary Thomas announced Wednesday that he will retire as chancellor of the University of Missouri-Rolla in September 2005.

"When I arrived at [UM-Rolla] in the fall of 2000, I planned to devote five years to help the campus improve its standing among the nation's best technological universities," Thomas said in a university press release. "I believe much has been accomplished over the past four years and more progress needs to take place in the future to assure that UMR takes its rightful place as one of the best technological universities in the nation."

Thomas was appointed chancellor of the UM-Rolla campus in July 2000 by then University of Missouri President Manuel T. Pacheco. Thomas, 67, came to the University of Missouri from the New Jersey Institute of Technology in Newark, where he had served as provost and professor of electrical and computer engineering.

Floyd announced that he would consult with faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends of UM-Rolla before appointing a search committee

in the coming weeks to begin a nationwide search for Thomas' successor.

Quartet announces programs

The Arianna String Quartet has announced both its 2004-2005 St. Louis concert series and a family concert series. The relaxed and interactive family series will begin on Sept. 18 at the Touhill Performing Arts Center. After the show, families are invited on the stage with the quartet and given the opportunity to play the instruments. The first of the St. Louis series will begin Sept. 19 and feature the works of Franz Joseph Haydn, Ross Bauer and Robert Schumann. To learn more about these or future events go to <http://www.ariannaquartet.com>.

Graduate School looks into electronic thesis

A joint effort by the Graduate School, University Libraries and Information Technology Services has been working on an innovative program that will allow for electronic submission on publishing for theses and dissertations. The first phase of the project is scheduled to be completed by the end of September 2004.

On-campus interviews

On Sept. 28, Walgreen's Co. will be offering on-campus interviews. Sherwin Williams will offer interview as well, on Sept. 29. All interviews are in the Career Services office, located at 278 MSC. However, all interested students must be registered with Career Services in order to participate. That includes having a resume in the office's Candidate Database. Students can visit the office or call 314-516-5111 to register. The deadline to register for Sherwin Williams is Sept. 8.

Stock Market for kids

The Center for Entrepreneurship and Economic Education has scheduled a stock market game workshop for fifth through twelfth graders on Sept. 15 at the J.C. Penney Conference Center. The workshop will prepare teachers interested in having their students participate in a stock market simulation game. Student teams will be given \$100,000 in fake money for a ten-week trading period. Call Susan Fitzsimmons at 314-516-5972 for more information.

SGA CHANGES, from page 1

Additionally, one event marred an otherwise efficient and productive SGA meeting.

Graduate MIS student Daniel Hollander's election to chair the election committee turned out to be invalid. The manner in which he was elected violated the constitution.

Apparently, there was confusion due to some constitutional inexactness complicated by conflicting by-laws. "A few things contributed to it," Bopp noted. "It is definitely an indicator that we need to revise the election policies and constitution for the sake of clarity."

A member of the assembly nomi-

nated Hollander, who then won an extremely close vote. However, the Constitution merely called for the formation of the election committee at the first convening of the SGA. The process by which the chair of the committee is selected is further defined in the election rules.

The rules state that the SGA president shall nominate a committee chair and that person shall be approved or declined by the assembly at the second session of the SGA. In order to bring things back to order Hollander relinquished his position. Bopp will present his nomination to the assembly at the next meeting.

As far as DeClue's position is concerned, assembly vice-chair D'Andre Braddix, sophomore, criminology has declined his right of ascendancy, citing previous commitments that will render him unable to fully perform the duties of assembly chair.

At the next session of the SGA, an election will be held to fill the post. Students interested in the position are encouraged to contact the executive committee in the SGA chamber located in the Office of Student Life.

"We want to make sure anybody with the interest in the position will be successful," Bopp said.

*** WOMEN VOTE ***



A recently released HBO movie, *Iron Jawed Angels*, offers the following graphic depiction of women's struggle for the right to vote in 1917:

The women were innocent and defenseless. And by the end of the night, they were barely alive. Forty prison guards wielding clubs and their warden's blessing went on a rampage against the 33 women wrongly convicted of "obstructing sidewalk traffic." They beat Lucy Burn, chained her hands to the cell bars above her head and left her hanging for the night, bleeding and gasping for air. They hurled Dora Lewis into a dark cell, smashed her head against an iron bed and knocked her out cold. Her cellmate, Alice Cosu, thought Lewis was dead and suffered a heart attack. Additional affidavits describe the guards grabbing, dragging, beating, choking, slamming, pinching, twisting and kicking the women. Thus unfolded the "Night of Terror" on Nov. 15, 1917, when the warden at the Occoquan Workhouse in Virginia ordered his guards to teach a lesson to the suffraglets imprisoned there because they dared to picket Woodrow Wilson's White House for the right to vote.

THIS IS WHAT OTHER AMERICAN WOMEN SUFFERED THROUGH IN ORDER TO SECURE YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE.

DON'T YOU THINK IT'S TIME YOU START USING IT?

Register to vote in 212 Clark.
Institute for Women's & Gender Studies

*** 2004 ***

04
05
SEASON

**BLANCHE M. TOUHILL
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-ST. LOUIS

SEPTEMBER EVENTS



THREE MO' TENORS
Friday, Sept. 10, 8 pm



THE ODD COUPLE
Starring Barbara Eden and Rita McKenzie
Friday, Sept. 17, 8 pm



Political Comedian
MARK RUSSELL
Saturday, Sept. 18, 8 pm



**FORBIDDEN BROADWAY
SHOOTS FOR THE STARS**
Sponsored by Yokohama Tires
Friday, Sept. 24, 8 pm
Saturday, Sept. 25, 5 & 9 pm
Sunday, Sept. 26, 2 & 7 pm

...and much, much more!

SINGLE TICKETS ON SALE NOW!!!

Call 314.516.4949, toll-free at 866.516.4949
for tickets and full season schedule! www.touhill.org

UMSL students, faculty and staff will receive a 10% discount on two tickets to these performances!

A \$1 Facility Operating Surcharge will be added to the price of each ticket. A \$3 processing fee will be added to all phone orders.

Flux*

*See page 13. You'll understand.

OPINION

OUR OPINION



Common sense fights crime

Sarah Choate walked outside to find her car gone. Floyd Mashek walked outside to an empty parking space as well. Matt Valkard noticed the dash board in his car was ripped open, and there was no stereo.

The list of recent car thefts and burglaries go on. Vehicle crimes are not the only crimes on campus, however. Last year the security guard at the Mark Twain Athletic Center allowed some neighborhood kids to play basketball (thinking he was being a nice guy) and paid for it by being assaulted while breaking up a fight in the gym.

Many crimes are borne of opportunity. Several robberies took place at the Mark Twain Athletic Center last semester because of this very reason. Even if the doors are locked, a glass window is a weak defense for the valuable wallet or purse in the front seat of a car.

Common sense is the best defense against crime. Here is a short list of the basics.

1. Know your surroundings. We live in St. Louis. Crime has generally decreased over the past decade in St. Louis, but it is still far from a Utopia. These neighborhoods, just like any others, can be dangerous at night. If you have to travel after dark, it is recommended not to do so on foot, especially up and down Natural Bridge Road and off the limits of campus. If you are walking around on campus at night, you are likely to be safer, but that is not a definite. Learn to recognize the emergency phones (they are large boxes with flashing blue lights on top), and walk in areas where they are easily-accessed.

Campuses with higher security than UM-St. Louis have fallen victim to crime. One example is Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas, which had a string of rapes during the late 1990s.

2. Do not leave valuable objects visible in unattended vehicles. Taking the face plate off of the CD player every single time you park may be a pain. However, to a thief, stealing a system without a face plate may be too much trouble. If you

know that your car may be a target for theft, invest in "The Club" to secure the steering wheel. Simple security measures make it too much work for a thief to do a quick hit and run.

3. Report suspicious persons on campus. It is ridiculous to think that the police can catch every bad guy; the University is too large and there are not enough officers to cover every area all the time.

Too often, random people wander through gated communities such as the Meadows, walk from the MetroLink station to the residence hall areas, and hang out on or around campus property. If just one student would alert strange behavior to the police, it would take away the "opportunity" part of the crime.

Any place that requires a campus ID card to enter, like the residence halls, is considered closed to the general public. People who linger around card-access doorways should not be let in the building without questioning. If you do not want to deal with the confrontation yourself, notify an authority in the building, such as a resident assistant or staff member, so that they can handle the situation.

4. Work together. Neighborhoods are safer when the citizens take on the responsibility to make them safer. Ordinary concerned citizens form night patrols, report suspicious persons and basically just keep their eyes open.

Remember the saying, "There is always someone watching?" That is a very literal statement, and many times that "someone" could be watching you. Taking personal responsibility for the safety of a community is more effective than hiring 100 police officers for one city block.

While this list is not all-inclusive, if we can follow these common sense rules, we can continue to watch the crime rate decrease on campus. UM-St. Louis does have one of the lowest crime rates in the University of Missouri-St. Louis system; however, it is important to remember that crime can happen anywhere. Keep watc and stay safe.

The Issue
 Crime happens, and UM-St. Louis is not immune to it. Carelessness often presents opportunities that invite crime.

We suggest
 One of the best ways to combat crime is common sense. The entire UM-St. Louis community should take responsibility for the safety of our campus.

So what do you think?
 Tell us what you think! Drop us a line at the office, 388 MSC, or online at our website www.thecurrentonline.com

Cell phone culture

Ten years ago, cell phones were a hot commodity for business people and the wealthy. Now a person cannot walk down the bridge in the MSC without catching snatches of one-sided conversations or hearing a digitalized version of "Big Pimpin'."

I have to laugh at the behaviors that have infiltrated our society by way of cell phone.

Public restroom stalls are supposed to be, in my mind anyway, a place of solace and minimal conversation. This quiet place has been violated by people who feel the need to do business while they do business. Pick one or the other, I want to tell them, either you break up with your boyfriend or you go to the bathroom. Your best friend would probably rather not hear flushing toilets, and I certainly do not want to hear about your Jello-wrestling adventures at that party last night.

It still freaks me out when I walk by people who mumble to themselves. For a while, I thought much of the UM-St. Louis population had completely lost it. Then I realized that the private chuckles were directed at someone via headset. I still have a problem recognizing this, so quite a few people have received a suspicious glance from me.

On the other hand, some people have a tendency to shout while talking on the phone. This is not much better than the mumbling, but I will admit, I am guilty of broadcasting a few discussions to a ten-mile radius. The problem is, I still find it hard to believe that a microphone the size of an ant nostril will accurately convey my message. (My apologies if you happen

to hear about my opinion of the state of cleanliness under my bed).

I felt like a giant clunky oaf with my old Nokia last year. People could tell that I was talking on a phone. It was embarrassing: my antenna showed, the ring tones were all generic and the only entertainment it offered was Snake. Size does matter, at least in the world of technology. Every time someone gets a new phone, we pull out our own and compare.

Who has done the "search for a signal" dance? It has become an art form. I do wonder what aliens would think of the human race if they watched us. We wander around, holding up the little box and squinting. Occasionally we yell at it, curse our phone company, and then stand on tiptoe in the middle of a parking lot shouting to the person on the other line.

Cell phones also serve as an extra appendage for some. I am somewhat impressed by people who hold in-depth relationship conversations while picking their noses, surfing through radio stations and driving with their knees. Of course, my awe usually turns to a mixture of annoyance and horror as they swerve down the highway during rush hour. Headsets are smart inventions, as are tissues.

These bizarre behaviors are all part of our adaptation to technology. As each advance is made available to the public, we find ourselves growing more and more attached to each other via electronics. Is this a bad thing? Maybe. But then, so are cheeseburgers and cartoons. If nothing else, it is entertaining.



KATE DROLET
 Editor-in-Chief

Awareness key to personal safety

In this world, there are too many people who are afraid of their surroundings. Most of the time, their reasons are justified by actions in the community. I have been learning more and more that it is very hard to trust strangers.

We all grow up learning not to talk to strangers. All through our lives parents, teachers and even law enforcement officers have told us to walk with a buddy and avoid conversing with anyone whom we are not familiar with. I always thought that the phrase was overrated. However, now that I am a 20-year-old female, I know that the concept is still important to remember.

Watching the news at night, I see many instances of young women being kidnapped, raped and carjacked. It makes me think about what our world is really coming to. I never thought that I would have to worry about walking to my front door at night. I have to admit, I have never been afraid of strangers or being alone, but today you are almost forced to be.

Now do not get me wrong, I am not afraid of the world. I honestly try not to think about the bad things that could happen. I have always had the attitude that if you worry too much, you can never substantially enjoy anything. I just hate to watch the news and see all the negative incidents happening in our world today.

A good friend of mine who works in a beauty salon was told that a large majority of women are abducted while leaving or going into a salon. The reason for this being that it is a place which primarily women are

going to and a majority of the time they are traveling alone. A police officer came into her salon and gave them all mace and told them about these statistics. Needless to say, the whole thing freaked her out.

The ordeal began when several vehicles were broken into at the salon. After several instances were cited, the police decided to come in and talk to the women. It is a good thing for anyone to be aware of what is going on around them. The women are all very cautious when walking to their cars now. The police officer also said that most women are assaulted while talking on their cell phones. People are often less aware of what is going on around them when they are concentrated on a conversation.

I think that it is a positive thing for women to be aware of what is going on around them. I have a friend who was driving down my street when a man tried to open her car door and get in. She drove away so fast that she was not able to comprehend what was happening. You should always drive with your car doors locked. You never know when an instance like this could happen to you.

My advice to all people is to stay aware of your surroundings. Driving while talking on a cell phone can distract you from the road and the people around you. At night, pay extra attention to what is going on. When you are at a bar, watch your drinks carefully. I would even suggest carrying pepper spray. If you are lucky, you will never have to use it, but if you ever do, you will be grateful that you have it.



BECKY ROSNER
 Managing Editor

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- MELISSA MCCRARY
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"Our opinion" reflects the majority opinion of the Editorial Board.

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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). Editor-in-chief reserves the right to respond to letters. The Current reserves the right to deny letters.

What's your opinion?

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

- Common sense fights crime
- Cell phone culture
- Awareness: key to safety

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

- Submit a letter to the editor
- Write a guest commentary
- Visit the online forums at TheCurrentOnline.com



Bill Keen
 Sophomore
 Computer Science

By staying focused on what I have to do.



Lindsey Molandel
 Junior
 Psychology

I'm trying to negotiate time between work, class, and time with friends and family.



Becca Lowrance
 Graduate Student
 School Counseling

My definition of being successful is graduating.



David Ritchie
 Sophomore
 Engineering

Studying and getting good grades.

Under Current

by Casey Ulrich
 Photography Director

How do you plan on being successful at UMSL?

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SENIOR BEAT

EDITOR MELISSA McCrARY Features Editor

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Don't let the semester drag you down: tips for success

BY CARRIE LEWIS Staff Writer

As a new semester begins, students find themselves vowing to make it to every class and complete all their assignments on time. By the time Thanksgiving rolls around these self-proclaimed promises are all but forgotten. Surprisingly, there are ways to make it through the next four months successfully. On the first day of class Dr. Paul Notaro, assistant psychology professor, emphasized the importance of his, and other teachers' syllabi. Dr. Notaro explained that understanding how to contact an instructor and what will be expected in the course, which is generally outlined in the syllabus, can minimize problems throughout the semester. A complaint that can be heard from many UM-St. Louis students is that they have too much to do and too little time to do it. Manuela Jackson, senior, social work, said that with her four children and one grandchild at home it is difficult to balance having a full-time job and being a full-time student. Time management can be difficult. The University at Buffalo, "Students First," website suggests keeping a journal of how time is spent each day.

Rap act 'Knights of the Round Table' has UMSL roots

The group is promoting its new album, 'They Came'

BY MELISSA McCrARY Features Editor

Four men, all with dreams, inspirations and many years of talent came together during the winter of 2000 and formed a fresh new musical group. Mike Jones (aka. Doeboy), senior, sociology major at UM-St. Louis is also an MC in his band KRT (Knights of the Round Table). The group has three emcees that spin turntables, mix beats and a DJ that combines rap with hip-hop elements. Shy, Doeboy and Jesta are all

three emcees and Benny B is the DJ. Although the group is still trying to gain popularity and get their name out, KRT has already entered the world of the music industry. Recently, they have recorded, produced and packaged their first compact disc titled "They Came." "We recorded the record at the studio and sent it to be reproduced," Doeboy said. "Now we are trying to sell it to all of our friends, family and everyone that we basically know, but other people can also buy it at some music stores. The album is available at all seven Slacker's, Vintage Vinyl, CD Reunion and Euclid Records." Not only has KRT produced and made their own record, but they have also performed at numerous nightclubs, bars and venues throughout St. Louis. Some of the places that they have performed at include: The Bottle Cap, Hi Pointe, SIUE, the Galaxy, Chinchilla's and the Red Sea.

"One of our biggest events was on July 3, 2004, when we opened for Two Live Crew at Tequila Wyld," Doeboy said. He went on to say how the album has helped the group meet other local artists. "Proof from the band D-12, Nelly, Ali, Snoop Dogg's road manager and Chingy's manager have all bought copies of our new album," he said. KRT will have its next upcoming shows on Sept. 30, at Sally T's in St. Charles and on Oct. 9 at Chinchillas. The group is independent and has not signed a contract with any other record company. They said that they are not looking for a recording contract, but are seeking help with distribution. "We don't want people with money telling us what to do," Doeboy said. Another group member, Shy, said how they want to try to be more than

just another typical group. "We want to eventually form our own label," Shy said. Doeboy has had much theater and stage experience since he was younger. He has been acting since the age of nine and performed at the St. Louis Muny as a child. Shy has also had a musical background throughout his life. Shy said that he has taken many music classes growing up, but he enjoys writing the lyrics and working with vocals the best. Besides having music and drama experience, Doeboy said that there have been many significant figures that have influenced and inspired them. "Artists like Michael Jackson, MC Hammer and Kurt Cobain have influenced us," Doeboy said. "Anyone who has struggled in the music business and who gets their art and talent out there are inspirations."

Shy went on to describe how the group came up with and created their name and their album title. "The name of our group KRT was created because it represents that everyone is equal and everyone is sitting at a round table," Shy said. The title of their first album "They Came" was created to show that they are new and that they achieved their goal. The group plans to call their next albums "They Fought" and "They Conquered." Their current album sells for \$10 and has 20 tracks, or people can purchase it off their website for \$12. KRT has also designed a website to give them even more recognition. At www.krtspot.tk, people can find out more about the group, the upcoming shows and download and listen to their music. "I see our band making a lot more noise throughout St. Louis as we continue," Doeboy said.



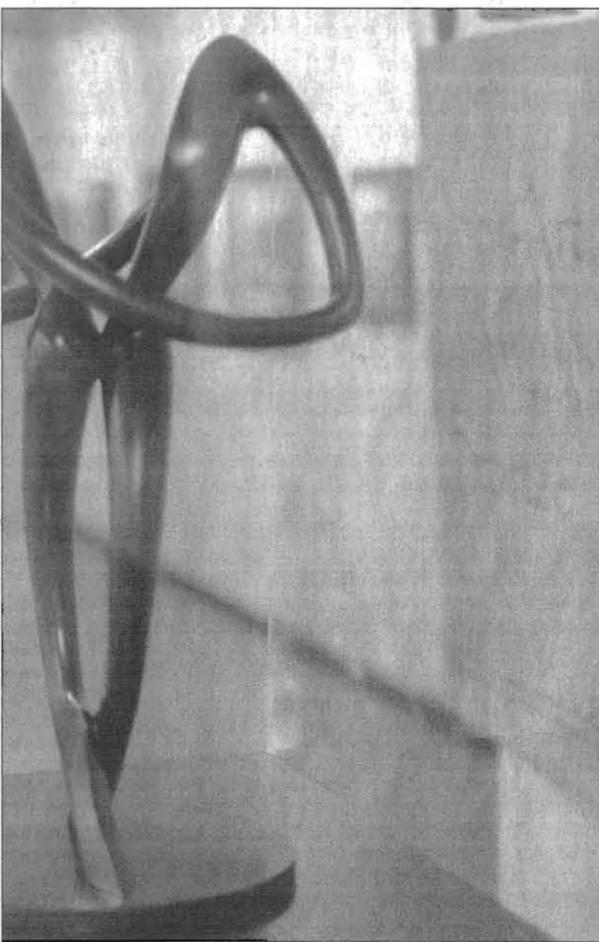
A variety of bronze sculptures are displayed in "The Art of Bronze" exhibit in the St. Louis Mercantile Library. This piece by Larry Young is titled "Venus".

Mercantile Library's bronze exhibit features classic and modern art

BY MELISSA McCrARY Features Editor

Sculptures of Greek goddesses, classical themes, mythological creatures, Indians of the American West and realistic human figures are some of the different works of art being displayed at the UM-St. Louis Mercantile Library's exhibit "The Art of Bronze." "The Art of Bronze" exhibit has over 50 pieces of art being displayed until Sept. 24, 2004. Most of the sculptures are owned by the Woodcock Foundation, which collaborated with the library to form the exhibit. The exhibition was done in memory of Aileen Woodcock. Woodcock had dreamed of combining all of the sculptures together in this collection. Federic Remington, Charles Marion Russell, Larry Young, Ed Dwight and Thomas Hart Benton are some of the artists who have created the sculptures and art in this exhibit. The sculptures are created by the artists forming each figure out of wax or clay. After the figures are molded, the artists fill the mold in with molten bronze. Once the mold is removed, a chemical treatment with fire is needed to capture the color of the final piece of work. St. Louis Mercantile Library Woodcock Curator of American Art Julie Dunn-Morton described what she likes the most about this exhibit. "I like that it introduces people to the materials of bronze and shows the ways that artists use it," Dunn-Morton said. She went on to say that many of the artists created the works of bronze because they knew that art on paper was starting to disappear and they wanted their art to last forever. On July 14, 2004, an artist's "Gallery Talk" was held. One of the

artists, Larry Young, attended the event and described the meanings about his sculptures. Altogether about 80 people came to the "Gallery Talk" and shared their interests of the exhibit. There are different realistic and abstract figures in which viewers can compare the connection and contrast between them. One figure "Ten Pound Hammer" created by Benton shows a hard working laborer. The figure also shows realism, the vertical and rigid lines that the artist focused on. Some of the figures capture dramatic compositions of cowboys, animals and the wildlife in the West, while others depict everyday life. Two of the famous works displayed by Young are "Pegasus and Bellerophon" and "Venus." In "Pegasus and Bellerophon," Young wanted people to recognize the unity of dramatic and diagonal lines. "Venus" is a five-foot sculpture of the goddess of love and beauty. Young focuses on curves, composition and form, while giving respect to classical themes and art. Dunn-Morton said that in many art exhibits, people are not allowed to touch the figures on display, but in this exhibit, viewers are able to touch a bronze paperweight sculpture. "People are given the opportunity to touch one of the figures to experience its texture without damaging all of the other major important works," she said. The Mercantile Library, Center for International Studies and the Elichi Shibusawa Memorial Foundation are sponsoring the next upcoming exhibit, "Different Lands/Shared Experiences: The Emergence of Modern Industrial Society in Japan and the United States." This exhibit will be held from Sept. 9 until Oct. 2, 2004.



The exhibit "The Art of Bronze" is currently showing in the St. Louis Mercantile Library at UM-St. Louis. The exhibit opened on April 28 and goes until Sept. 24.

The collection will include numerous Japanese artifacts, wood block prints, photographs, two-dimensional objects, advertisements and maps. The purpose of this exhibit is to show modernization and urbanization between Japan and the United States. Some objects on display include woodcrafts, tools, a spinning wheel, a Japanese paper measuring cup and a Japanese desk, which sits on the floor. "All of displays and artifacts are based on six different themes and ideas, such as, daily life, transition of craft to industry and Japan at the World's Fair," Dunn-Morton said.

Navigator program launched to boost enrollment

BY WILL MELTON News Editor

UM-St. Louis office of admissions has launched the Navigator program to boost recruitment and enrollment in accordance with the Chancellor's vision for improving the first-year experience. Admission representatives Ryan Connor and Abby Kozeliski coordinate the program. "The UM-St. Louis Navigators is a student recruitment team comprised of elite UMSL students who are dedicated to assisting with the admissions process," Connor said. "Some are paid, others unpaid depending on the level of involvement within the organization. We hope that this organization will bring a level of fun and excitement to the task of recruiting prospective students." Students involved with the Navigator program will work as office assistants, give tours, contribute to student panels, or serve as tele-counselors. The program is excited about, "any current students we can get to help out with hose efforts," Kozeliski noted. Tele-counselors are responsible for making time sensitive phone calls when the recruitment team is scheduled to visit high schools to ensure that every interested student knows UM-St. Louis will be visiting their school. The Navigator program will also offer internships for interested students. Though offering internships is not new for the office of admissions the type of work these interns will be doing as and the opportunities afford to them by the position will undergo a change. "These positions will emphasize public speaking skills, presentations and working on websites," Kozeliski said. "They will get to perform actual tasks." The Navigator program has yet to launch any formal recruitment sessions but have planned to begin them very soon. Students can already come to the office of admissions if they are interested and receive more information. They have planned a broad advertising campaign as well. "We will definitely be publicized throughout the entire Millennium Student Center," Kozeliski said. Potential navigators should be prepared for a combination of hard work and fun. "Through social events like movie nights, bowling days, etc, we think this is a chance to do some great work and have a lot of fun," Connor said. Erin Abraham, junior, sociology, has worked in the office of admissions since Dec. of 2003 said, "It has been a rewarding experience." She noted that her experiences as a tour guide have been particularly rewarding. "At the beginning of my tours you can just tell that some of these students were drug here by their parents and would rather be anywhere else," Abraham said. "Then by the end of the tour I've had many of those same students completely excited about coming here." see NAVIGATORS, page 12

That caffeine boost can have a downside

BY MELISSA MCCRARY
Features Editor



Casey Ulrich/The Current

Miki Kobayashi, junior, communication and Sachiko Sasaki, junior, anthropology, sit in front of Aroma's Bakery for a cup of coffee.

Getting out of bed, getting dressed, eating breakfast and going to school might seem challenging to some. Many students at UM-St. Louis turn towards caffeine beverages and energy drinks to give them a boost each day.

Erica Brown, sophomore, communication says that although she does not drink coffee, she drinks soda almost everyday.

"I drink about two cans of soda each day," Brown said.

Another student Michael Daniels, senior, mass communication shared how he believes coffee can become an addiction if people drink it everyday.

"I drink more than the average person. I usually have about three to four large cups of coffee per day," Daniels said. "I would get headaches if I didn't drink it and it's what gets me going each morning."

Not only are some students turning towards caffeine to help motivate them in the morning but also to fight against exhaustion when studying for exams or help them go from school to work.

"I think that many college students turn to this each day to keep them stable or focused in their busy lives," Brown said.

Other new popular high caffeinated beverages used by many college students are energy drinks.

Although energy drinks like Red Bull, Rock Star, Rush, Monster and Hype might contain some nutritional vitamins and supplements, many contain other ingredients that are not necessarily good for you.

Sucrose, Glucose, Citric Acid, Sodium Chloride, Asorbic Acid,

Ephedrine, Ginseng and Caffeine are just a few potentially harmful ingredients.

An 8.3-ounce serving can of Red Bull contains 110 calories, 200 milligrams of sodium and 27 grams of sugar.

Duc Le, senior, business described how these energy drinks have become a big trend.

"Many of my friends and people who go to my gym, often drink a can of Red Bull before they work out," Le said.

Energy drinks are being sold just

about everywhere- grocery stores, gas stations, convenient marts and even bars. Some mixed drinks and shots like Jager Bombs combine energy drinks with alcohol.

"Mixing powerful stimulants contained in some energy drinks with depressants in alcohol could cause cardiopulmonary or cardiovascular failures," David Pearson, a researcher in the Human Performance Laboratory at Ball State University said.

Although all of the negative effects on the body caused from energy drinks has not been completely proven, there

are places and organizations that have banned these drinks to people. The NCAA and other professional sports leagues have prohibited the use of these drinks to athletes.

The first coffee bean plants have said to been discovered over a thousand of years ago in East Africa. The beans were first used as a food, then grated into wine and finally grind into a hot coffee beverage many years later.

Many negative health effects from the use of caffeine can be found at www.antibiotic-alternatives.com/soda.htm. Some of

the health risks listed include increased incidence of bladder, stomach cancer, raised blood pressure, increased heart rate, dementia, could cause anxiety, could aggravate people with diabetes, could damage the lining of the stomach and could cause birth defects in children.

Starbucks, Gloria Jeans, Mountain Mudd, St. Louis Bread Company, Cuppajo Coffee Roastery and Borders Cafe are a few favorite St. Louis coffee shops.

At www.starbucks.com, people can view a nutrition information comparison chart for all of the coffee beverages at Starbucks. A café latte has 260 calories, 14 grams of fat, 200 milligrams of sodium and 19 grams of sugars. A café vanilla Frappuccino contains 470 calories, 16 grams of fat, 270 milligrams of sodium and 65 grams of sugar.

Joey Sanders a Campus C-Store employee at UM-St. Louis described the busiest time of the day for students purchasing caffeine beverages.

"The busiest time, when students buy soda and coffee is between 10 a.m. to noon," Sanders said.

A large line of students buying coffee can be seen as early as 7 a.m. at Aroma's Bakery.

Mountain Dew, Coca-Cola, Mr. Pibb and Mello Yellow are some drinks that also have high amounts of caffeine.

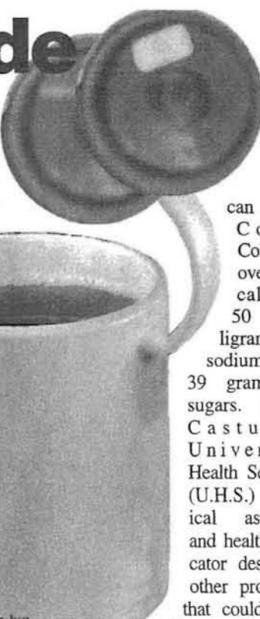


Illustration by: Kristina Kellerman/The Current

One can of Coca-Cola has over 140 calories, 50 milligrams of sodium and 39 grams of sugars. Kathy Castulik, University Health Services (U.H.S.) medical assistant and health educator described other problems that could arise from caffeine.

"Caffeine gives people a false high and then drops real quick which can effect moods, increase all vital signs, cause respiration problems, make people more hyper and have irregular sleep patterns," Castulik said.

Other caffeine stimulants can be bought as over-the-counter drugs. Products such as Nodoz has over 100 milligrams of caffeine per tablet. The drug Vivarin also has 200 milligrams of caffeine per pill. Dexatrim, Excedrin and Sinarest are some other drugs that have caffeine as a primary ingredient.

"Students should learn to drink caffeine wisely, reduce the amounts of intake, develop better study habits and work on time management to help reduce the risks of potential caffeine problems," Castulik said.

TIPS FOR SUCCESS, from page 6

Students can use that journal to make a weekly schedule and then, most importantly, stick to it. It is also helpful to fill in monthly calendars with important dates such as test days, making it easier to work around them.

Adla Vilza, junior, math/MIS, said that the semesters in which she studied the most were when she got the best grades. This may seem obvious to some, but there are ways to do well in school without

studying excessively.

The "Giving Away the Keys," website at www.giving-awaythekeys.com, recommends getting to class on time, keeping all graded assignments until the end of the semester and communicating with the instructor. Following these steps should make it more likely that students will understand what to focus on when they study.

To be successful it is important to minimize stress, despite all that

is expected of college students. This can be accomplished by avoiding unnecessary competition, exercising, eating well and setting realistic goals.

Another tip for being successful in college is to actually go to class, pay attention and take notes. For more time management resources and tips to success contact the UM-St. Louis Counseling Services at 516-5711.

Have a great idea for a features story?

Email the editor at: current@jinx.umsl.edu



Photo submitted by Dolores Kane

The UM-St. Louis Senior Theater company performs at a local library, presenting Dylan Thomas' 'Under Milk Wood,' a tribute to the 50th anniversary of its publication.

Young at heart: seniors take love of acting to the stage

BY ASHLEY RICHMOND
Staff Writer

With someone in the United States turning 50 years old every 20 minutes, UM-St. Louis has joined a movement to cater to this growing population.

UM-St. Louis is the second university in the United States to offer a senior theater organization.

The University of Nevada at Las Vegas is the other college that first offered senior theater.

With 400 companies strong, Senior Theater invites the senior citizens of the area to not only express their own creative side, but to entertain their peers.

The director of UM-St. Louis' program, Dolores Kane said, "What they get out of it is an outlet for creativity and a venue to pursue an interest that they maybe couldn't because of time and family."

Kane also said that this type of opportunity allows its participants who are between the ages of 50 and 80 to socialize with people of like mind and stimulate their thinking and memory.

"Besides," Kane said, "almost everyone secretly wants to act."

John E. LaGrome, a retired Spanish teacher, has begun his second year with the program because he says that it gives him a chance to stay active and try some new experiences.

LaGrome has no trouble getting on stage with his background of teaching and having previous experience in school plays and church activities.

Kane, however, admits that some people in the group are not as immediately comfortable with being on stage. Because some might experience stage fright, the group is very performance oriented with several opportunities to practice.

Senior Theater gives performances at the JC Penney Conference Building

on campus, local libraries, retirement centers and cities in rural Missouri.

Last year, during its first year in existence, the group was invited to perform at the Harrah's Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas at the 2004 Festival and Conference of the Senior Theatre League of America.

According to Kane, the group loved the traveling experience so much that she has scheduled "optional" field trips for this academic year to Chicago in January and to the "Humana Festival" held in Louisville, Kent, during March 31 until April 3, 2005.

One of the group's upcoming performances will be at the Deutsch Country Days in Marthasville, Mo. During the weekend of Oct. 16 and 17, the city will celebrate its 150-year anniversary of theater and Kane said that the UM-St. Louis' Senior Theater would be the first group of performers.

Kane said that this was a very exciting opportunity to be apart of and added that the group is practicing a prologue from a German play, a puppet show, and beer-drinking sing-alongs, two in German and two in English.

LaGrome said, "Ms. Kane is very good at getting us roles that will fit us." According to LaGrome, his favorite role was when he played Montgomery Blair in historical sketches of St. Louis. He said he has enjoyed learning the history of St. Louis and its surrounding communities.

However, LaGrome said, "The group needs an audience to hear these stories."

The first opportunity on campus to watch the Senior Theater will be Oct. 31, 2004, with a performance of "The Legends of October" that will include sketches from "Legend of Sleepy Hollow" and "Casey at the Bat."

The group's performances will also broadcast on channel 26 at 5 p.m. on Sundays and Tuesdays.

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Rivermen soccer off to rough start

Season begins with two losses in California trip, and a 8-0 shutout at the hands of 4th ranked SLU

BY JAMES DAUGHERTY
Sports Editor

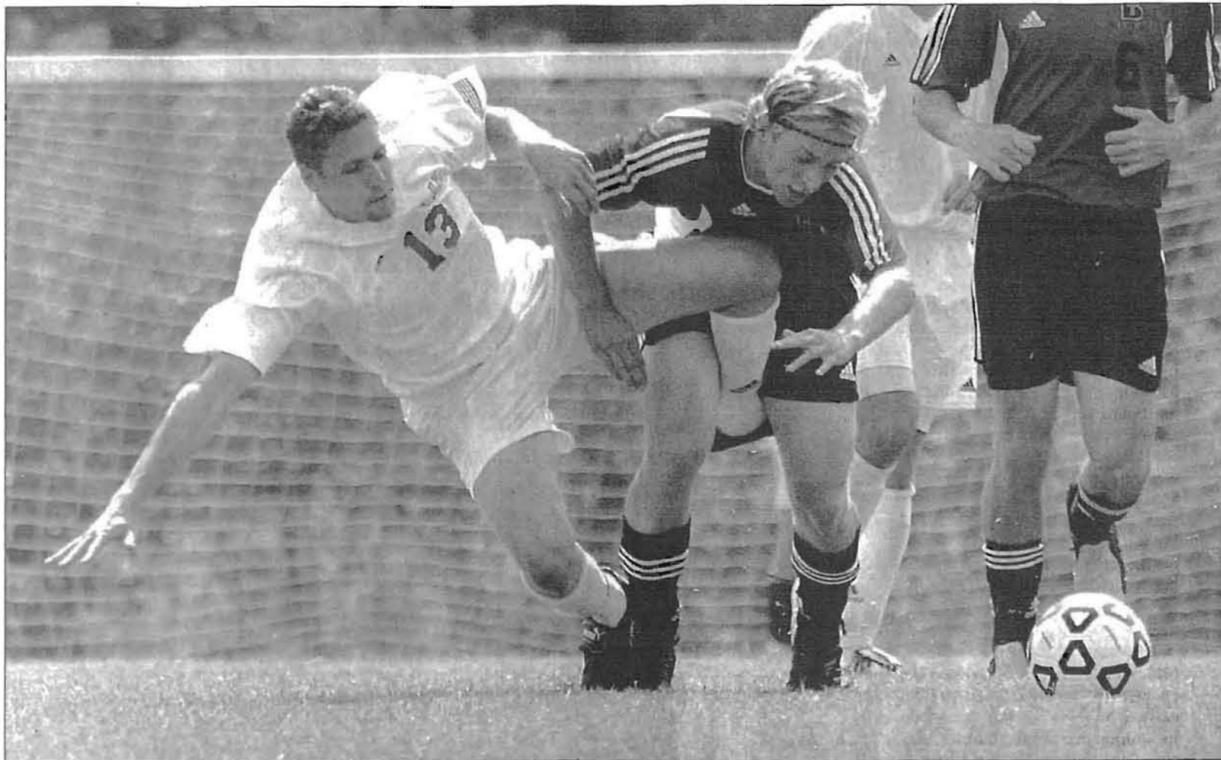
The UM-St. Louis men's soccer team has started this season with tough losses. The team began play Aug. 28 with two games in San Francisco, Calif. The first game was a close loss to San Francisco State, 2-1. The Rivermen started with the lead when David Walters scored the first goal of the season in the 21st minute. San Francisco State came back strong in the second half, scoring in the first ten minutes and then again in the 71st minute.

The difference in the game was offense. San Francisco State had 21 shots, while UM-St. Louis had only seven. The Rivermen defense played a tough game to keep it close, and goalie Zach Hoette had nine saves. Coach Dan King saw some bright spots in the game.

"For the first game of the year we played well. We took things to the field that we had been practicing, and Zach Hoette played well," said King.

The second game played by the Rivermen was an ugly 7-1 loss against Sonoma State. There was only one goal in the first half, scored by the Seawolves on a header off a corner kick in the 21st minute. The second half is where things fell apart.

After the first three minutes of the second half the Seawolves got a break away for a one-on-one with goalie



Mike Sherwin/The Current

Midfielder Adam Bimslager (13) takes a tumble during the Rivermen's first victory of the season against Benedictine College on Saturday afternoon. Bimslager scored the second goal in the team's 2-0 victory. The Rivermen are now 1-3 for the season.

Hoette. Hoette left the box to stop the play and fouled the oncoming forward outside of the box, resulting in a free kick. There was some confusion directly after the play and the Seawolves took advantage of the situation to kick the ball into the goal when Hoette was outside of the box, putting the Seawolves up 2-0.

At that point, frustration set in on the Rivermen's part and before the game was over, they had accrued seven yellow cards and two red cards. The majority of the second half, the Rivermen played two men down due to ejections, and the Seawolves ran the score up to finish with seven goals. In all, the Seawolves took 36 shots to the

Rivermen's five. The only highlight of the game was David Walter's second goal of the season for the Rivermen. King said the team was not at its best. "We came out flat and did not put our best foot forward from the start of the game. We were put in situations we should have handled better," King said.

UM-St. Louis then played Sept. 1 against Saint Louis University. It was a much-anticipated game for SLU, who had 1,445 fans attended. The Billikens controlled the game from the opening whistle and finished with an 8-0 win.

The Rivermen will be in action again here at home on Sept. 8.

SPORTS

JAMES DAUGHERTY

Sports Editor

phone: 516-5174
fax: 516-6811

Questions
or
Comments?

Send me an e-mail
current@jinx.ums.edu

UPCOMING

Women's Soccer
Sept. 10

• at Ashland
2 p.m.

Sept. 11

• vs. Mercyhurst at Ashland
11 a.m.

Men's Soccer

Sept. 8

• vs. UM-Rolla
7 p.m.

Sept. 14

• at Hannibal-LaGrange
4 p.m.

Volleyball

Sept. 10-11

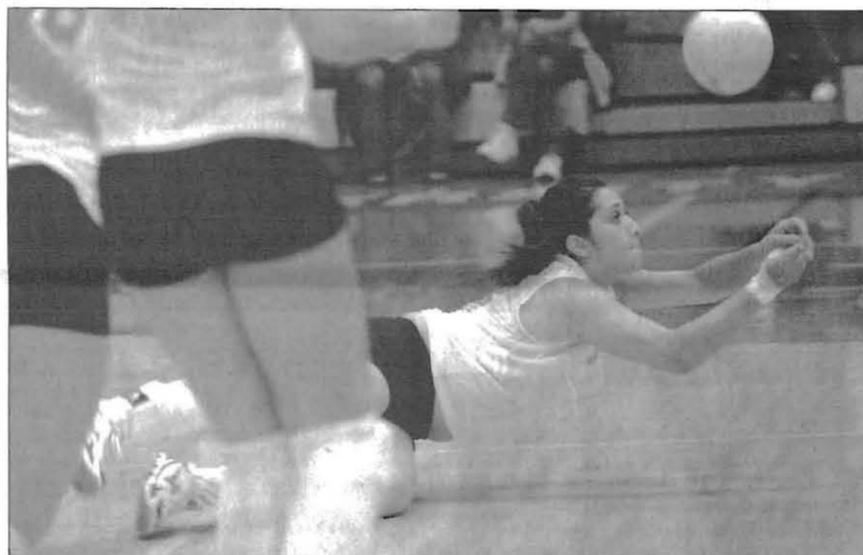
at St. Xavier Tournament

Women's Tennis

Sept. 7

vs. Quincy
3 p.m.

* Admission to all games held at UM-St. Louis is free for all students with their school ID.



Photos by Mike Sherwin/The Current

Volleyball is 3-2 at start of season

TOP: Claudia Medina, a freshman outside hitter for the Riverwomen, goes to the floor to dig out an attack during the game Wednesday night against the Harris Stowe Hornets.

RIGHT: Women's volleyball head coach Josh Lauer advises his team during the match against the Harris Stowe Hornets on Wednesday night. Lauer has led the team to a 3-2 record so far this season. The Riverwomen had a 2-1 record at the Quincy-McDonald's Invitational Aug. 27-28 in Quincy, Ill. After the victory against Harris Stowe, the team was defeated 3-0 at Drury University. The Riverwomen play four matches next weekend at the St. Xavier Tournament in Chicago.



EDITOR'S VIEW

Who needs a new gym? We've got one already

BY JAMES DAUGHERTY
Sports Editor

It is no secret that UM-St. Louis has plans to build a new wellness center. Many students and faculty members are very excited about the center, and the response from the University as a whole has been great. There are many positive aspects to having a wellness center. For students, it is a more state-of-the-art gym. For the athletic department, it is a way to finally separate school athletics from recreational activities.

What is amazing about the whole situation with the wellness center is that many students think that it will be the first time we have a gym on this campus. I cannot count how many

times I have heard someone show up at the existing gym (the Mark Twain Athletic Center) and say, "I had no idea this place even existed!"

Well the gym does exist, and it is not a bad facility, either. It is located just north of the Performing Arts Center (known as the Touhill Building), within easy walking distance of the Millennium Center. Education classes are held on the main floor, but the rest of the building is completely dedicated to athletics.

For starters, a full size gym with eight basketball goals is open to students until 10 p.m. most days. It is only off limits when the basketball and volleyball teams hold practices or games. If basketball is not your thing, never fear, the gym can be used for indoor soccer, badminton, pickle ball

“ I cannot count how many times I have heard someone show up at the existing gym and say, 'I had no idea this place even existed!' ”

and volleyball.

Underneath the gym on the first floor is where most of the workout areas are located. There is a fitness center with treadmills, weight machines and workout bikes. The entrance to the six-lane pool is also on

this floor, as well as an aerobics room (which can be used for anything from martial arts to pilates) and locker rooms. One more floor down you will find the free-weight room and four racquet ball courts.

Outside of the building there are six tennis courts and a soccer field. None of these workout areas are ever crowded. On a rare occasion the fitness center and the weight room will be full; however, most of the time the building has a lot of empty space.

Considering that the Mark Twain Athletic Center is so underused, despite being an adequate facility, I have to ask myself if the new wellness center will meet the same fate. Those that want to exercise are going to exercise. After all, a 25-pound dumbbell made of diamonds will not make you

any stronger than a 25-pound dumbbell made of iron.

So, if the problem is not the gym itself, here are some other ideas. If you do not want to work out because you do not like to alone, then bring a guest. Students are allowed to bring one guest at no charge. If you do not like working out at night, then work out in the morning. The gym opens at 6:30 a.m. and closes at 10 p.m. If parking is your problem, it should not be; the gym has some of the best parking on campus.

The purpose of the new wellness center is to give students a nicer facility to work out in. I am not against building the wellness center, but it would be nice to use the amenities that we already have. We are paying for it in student fees either way.

COACH'S CORNER

Coach Ashby's tip for golf: simplify for success

BY DUSTIN ASHBY

UM-St. Louis Men's Golf Head Coach

The game of golf has long been considered a difficult game to learn. The terminology and complexity with which the game is discussed has much to do with this perception. However, once better understood, the motion of the golf swing is actually quite similar to motions more often referenced in sports like baseball, softball or tennis.

To play good golf, it is imperative that the fundamental motion of the golf swing be a natural motion. In order for this to happen, we must simplify what is actually taking place in a good golf swing.

The fundamentals of grip, posture and alignment are all very important to a quality golf swing. However, the first tip that we will discuss relates to the actual motion of the body during the golf swing.

Visualize the swinging of a baseball bat. Notice the connection between the arms and the body. To easily convert a similar motion into a good golf swing, merely change the angle of your upper body. By bending over from the waist slightly, you are changing the "plane" or path of your arms as they swing around your upper body.

The key is to maintain the angle of your upper body throughout the swing. Players have a tendency to stand more erect as they swing their arms behind them and again as they swing their arms around.

The player should swing the club around his body, similar to swinging a baseball bat. The player then changes the angle of his torso, creating a different path for the club, while making the same "around the body" motion.

For more information on this tip or to get help on another aspect of your golf game, contact dashby@winghavenc.com.

Dustin Ashby is the Men's Golf Coach and General Manager of the Nicklaus Design, WingHaven Country Club in O'Fallon, Missouri.

Editor's note: This is the first installment in a new feature for readers of *The Current*. We will periodically ask our UM-St. Louis coaches to share their expertise and advice. Readers with questions regarding sports strategy, technique or training are encouraged to email them to current@jinx.ums.edu

Riverwomen claim two wins, one loss in opening games

COMPILED FROM RELEASES
Courtesy Sports Information Office

The Riverwomen have had a strong start to the season with a 2-1 record so far.

In their season opener, on Aug. 27, UM-St. Louis women's soccer shutout the UM-Rolla, 3-0. Senior Sonya Hauan scored two goals during the game and junior Mandy Meendering put another point on the board for UM-St. Louis in the season opener.

The game started with a bang when Laura Fredrickson (St. Louis, Mo./Nerinx Hall) cleared the ball from midfield up to Hauan, allowing her to bury the ball in the back of the net. UM-St. Louis dominated the remainder of the half as well, taking nine shots throughout the period.

The second period started with back and forth action as the ball changed possessions many times early. UM-St. Louis started to show its dominance again, putting pressure on the UM-Rolla defense. Hauan, off a pass from Emily Worley, out maneuvered the Rolla goalie to dump the ball into the net. With 20 minutes remaining in the half, Meendering, unassisted, put UM-St. Louis on top 3-0. Danielle

Troha tallied her first career shutout at UM-St. Louis.

Hauan, with her goal, moved into the UM-St. Louis top ten all time career goals sitting in the No. 9 position with 32 career goals.

August 29, UM-St. Louis took the pitch against No. 11 Minnesota State University-Mankato. In the first half MSU put an early goal on the board to take a 1-0 lead, which was enough to win the game.

Minnesota State-Mankato took the lead within 10 minutes on a break away shot that was drilled into the net. The rest of the half was run by tight defense on both ends of the field. UM-St. Louis was allowed no shots on goal while allowing Minnesota State-Mankato to only have two shots on goal.

In the second half, UM-St. Louis came out strong, applying pressure to the MSU defense. UM-St. Louis was able to get four shots on goal throughout the half, but the Mavericks' goalie proved too much for the Riverwomen's attempts.

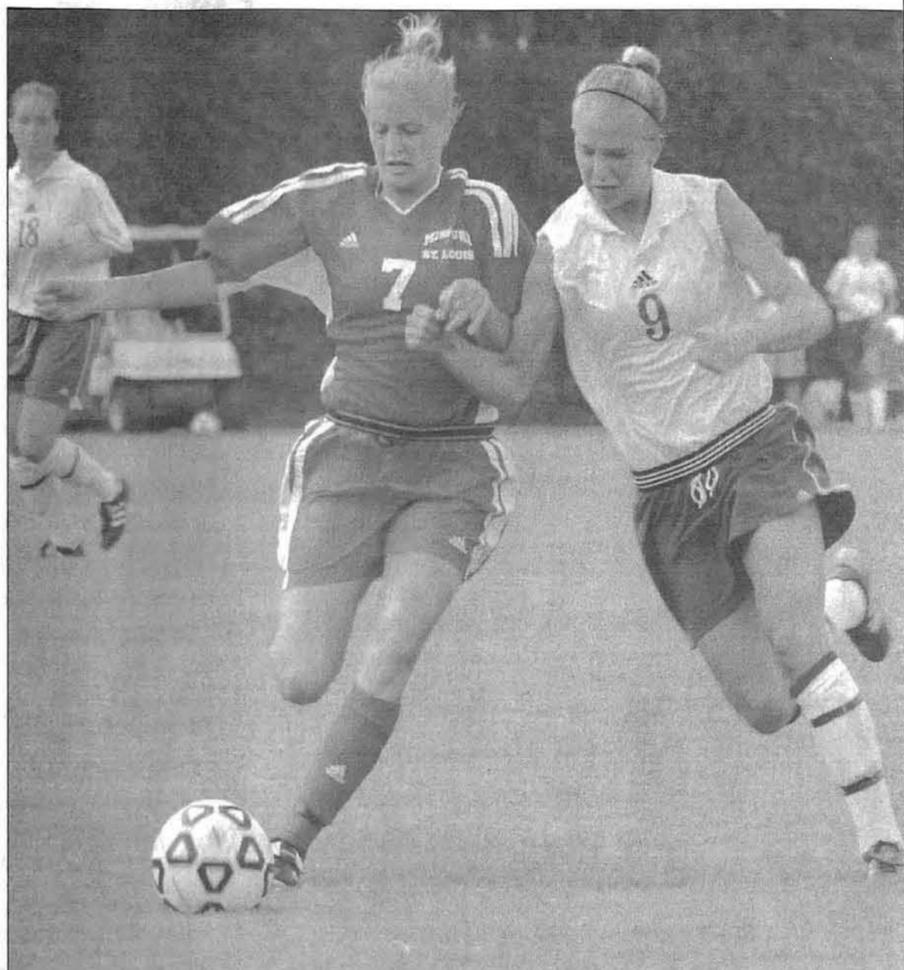
On Friday, the UM-St. Louis women's soccer team came back from the MSU defeat to overpower 10th-ranked Grand Valley State, getting two second-half goals to overcome a one-goal deficit and secure the victory. UM-St. Louis trailed 1-0 at the half, but got a goal from Hauan to tie the game, and Amie Jones scored the game-win-

ning goal for the 2-1 victory.

Grand Valley State got on the board in the first half, getting a goal from Mirela Tutundzic who took a pass on the right side of the box and found the far post for a 1-0 lead. UM-St. Louis managed five shots in that first half, but missed their mark each time. UM-St. Louis goalkeeper Troha kept the game close with four saves in the half.

In the second half, the Riverwomen continued to play tough and broke through on the scoreboard in the 62nd minute as Hauan scored her third goal of the season from 15 yards out off a pass from Blair Schuppan to tie the game at 1-1. UM-St. Louis then took the lead less than four minutes later as Hauan crossed the ball from the right side and Jones used her left foot to kick it past the keeper and found the back of the net for a 2-1 lead. Minutes later, Jones again took a pass from Hauan and kicked it past the keeper, but a Grand Valley State defender deflected the shot just in front of the goal line to prevent another UM-St. Louis goal. Troha prevented the Lakers from scoring in the second half and finished the game with six saves.

The Riverwomen are now 2-1 in the season and will play their next game Sept. 10 in Ashland, Ohio at 2 p.m.



Erica Burrus/The Current

Riverwoman Laura Fredrickson is locked on the ball as her opponent attempts to gain control of Friday night's game. The Riverwomen's strength and skill led to a victorious 2-1 win against the Grand Valley State Lakers.

Women's golf team takes third place in first tournament of the season

SPORTS RELEASE

Courtesy Sports Information Office

The UM-St. Louis women's golf team opened up their season with a third-place finish at the Illinois College Invitational in Jacksonville, Ill. The tournament was held at The Links Golf Club as UM-St. Louis shot a team score of 359, just three strokes away from second place in the seven-team field.

Lauren Glenn led the way for UM-St. Louis, as she tied for third place individually with an 85. Ashley Vincent shot an 89 to tie for eighth place and Nichole Voss was two strokes back in 11th place with a 91. Shannon Vallowe shot a 94 to tie for 17th place and Whitney Novack shot a 103 to place 38th.

Team Scores

Place	Team	Total
1	Carthage College	343
2	Illinois College	356
3	UM-St. Louis	359
4	Knox College	368
5	St. Francis (Ill.)	385
6	Augustana College	388
7	Monmouth College	417

UM-St. Louis Players

Place	Player	Total
Tie 3rd	Lauren Glenn	85
Tie 8th	Ashley Vincent	89
11th	Nichole Voss	91
Tie 17th	Shannon Vallowe	94
38th	Whitney Novak	103



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WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR :
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RESIDENT EVIL: Apocalypse

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IN THEATERS SEPTEMBER 10

'Hero' delivers action and stylized visuals

BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER
Movie Critic

"Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" paved the way with American audiences for this film but the cinematic gem "Hero" would have broken that barrier on its own. The film by the great Chinese director Zhang Yimou retells the ancient, mythic and historic tale of China's beginning, wrapped in an exquisite visual package that dazzles and delights the audience.

The story is set in ancient China, as the warlord of Qin (Chen Daoming) is trying to unite the country by conquering the other six provinces to become the first emperor. An unknown minor official without a name (Jet Li) comes to the palace, claiming that he has killed the three legendary assassins the emperor most feared, Broken Sword (Tony Leung), Flying Snow (Maggie Cheung) and Sky (Donnie Chen). The nameless man recounts his astounding

feat to the emperor through a series of shifting, Rashoman-like flashbacks.

This ancient tale of the first emperor is a historic favorite, retold in recent years in various ways by several Chinese filmmakers. Zhang's version tells the story in yet another way, with a flashback retelling by a hero out of nowhere, a tale told through the lens of color and balletic grace.

The film has martial arts action but is stylized into mythic fantasy, so that it becomes more like dance than combat. It uses the same kind of wirework and surreal action as "Crouching Tiger," so fans of Hong Kong action films may be disappointed that the fights are more ballet than battle. However, in this film, all the action takes place in the retelling of the tale, hence in the imagination of the listener, so the story tale framing may make the transition to magical flying warriors more palatable to audiences.

see HERO, page 12

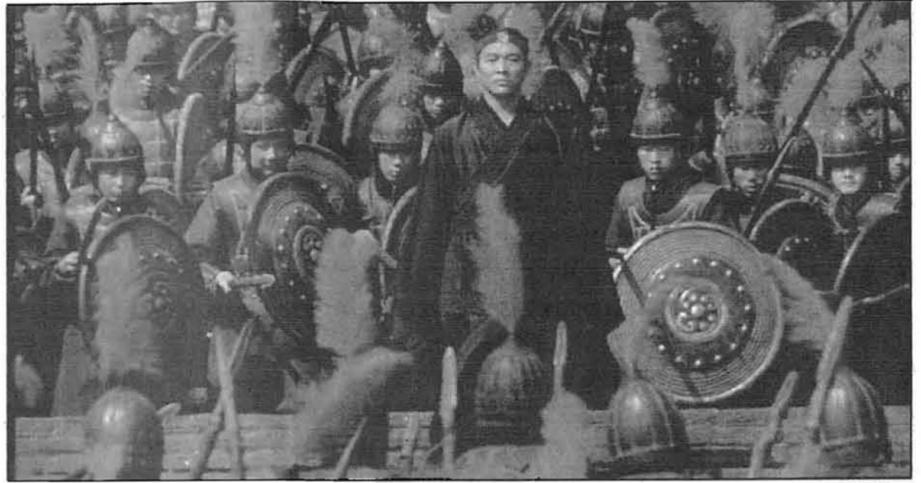


Photo courtesy Miramax

Jet Li plays an unknown minor official without a name who comes to a palace, claiming that he has slain three legendary assassins. 'Hero,' which is set in Ancient China, tells the story of the country's beginning.

MOVIE REVIEW



Photo courtesy Focus Features

'Vanity Fair' is part Hollywood, part Bollywood

BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER
Film Critic

With a British all-star cast and lavish period costumes, "Vanity Fair" sweeps across the screen like a "Masterpiece Theater" production that occasionally morphs into a colorful singing and dancing Bollywood production. As odd as it sounds, the film, which stars the sunny Reese Witherspoon, works a lively, even comic, piece of entertainment.

Yet literary types, and students hoping to use the film in place of Cliff Notes, need be warned: this "Vanity Fair" is more a tale inspired by the book than a faithful adaptation of William Makepeace Thackeray's famous novel.

Director Mira Nair's follow up to her success with "Monsoon Wedding" is an adaptation of a classic British novel featuring American actress Reese Witherspoon plays Becky Sharp, the novel's scheming social climber.

Growing up as the child of a French actress and a starving painter in lower class London in the early nineteenth century, the penniless Becky (Witherspoon) finds herself eventually orphaned and sent off to work in the charge of a grim Miss Pinkerton (Ruth Sheen). Despite her background, the ambitious Becky sets out to climb the social class ladder, using the tools she has available: her looks, her social instincts and charm, and her brains and resourcefulness. Young Becky befriends another girl, Amelia Sedley (Romola Garai) and through Amelia's middle class family connections, secures a job as a governess for an old aristocratic family. On her way to the new position, Amelia arranges for Becky to stay with her family for a few days, so she can meet Amelia's brother Joseph (Tony Maudsley) who is on a

visit from his home in India. It is Amelia and Becky's plan to spark a romance between the working class Becky and the oddball, colorfully dressed but socially shy Joseph, who is too enamored of Indian clothes and culture to find much acceptance with British ladies of his own class. It is not just Joseph that Becky is introduced to but a range of characters that run throughout the film, including Amelia's arrogant fiancé George Osborne (Jonathon Rhys-Meyers) and George's shy and sweet best friend William Dobbins (Rhys Ifans).

Deviating from the classic novel, this Becky Sharp has been changed into a more sympathetic, Dickens like character, beset by challenges but plucky in her resolve, rather than the iconic anti-heroine of this book about class and ambition in the early nineteenth century. Reinterpreting this character's motives and drive to climb society's ladder during a time of rigid class divisions and the restrictions placed on women for the modern views of class and feminism is admirable but along the way, the character also lost her devious, ruthless personality. Becky still trades on her good looks, brains and charm but her cunning is now more harmless and sunny in the form of the bubbly Reese Witherspoon.

The movie version of "Vanity Fair" is Becky's story, from her point of view rather than the tale of both friends. Whether a kinder, gentler Becky Sharp is really an improvement is another matter.

Diluting the serious aspects of the novel makes this into an enjoyable but not particularly noteworthy film. However, the film may gain more acceptance for Witherspoon in period roles than did her turn in "The Importance of Being Earnest."

see VANITY FAIR, page 12

RESTAURANT REVIEW

Campus dining serves up affordable eats

BY MONICA MARTIN
Staff Writer

Tired of eating candy bars and potato chips but lack the time to leave campus and go to a real restaurant? Then check out the different places on campus where you can grab a quick bite.

There are several places on North Campus to satisfy your hunger fix. First up is the Nosh, the largest eatery, located on the bottom floor of the Millennium Student Center. They serve breakfast as well as lunch and have a large variety of food including pizza, sandwiches, hamburgers, cereal and Krispy Kreme Donuts. The average lunch is anywhere between five and ten dollars, depending on what is ordered. Seating can be found in the dining room right outside of the Nosh. Smokers may prefer to eat at the tables outside the MSC.

Another eatery in the MSC is Aroma's Bakery on the second floor. This little cafe offers cakes, muffins, donuts and coffee. The price is affordable: the average amount spent is around five dollars.

The Campus C-Store is located in the MSC. They offer sweets, chips and bottled drinks, as well as personal care items.

Another place to check out is the smaller Pony Espresso located just inside the main doors of the Social Science Building. They offer bottled drinks, coffees and espressos, muffins, salads, fruits and cheeses. Because the Pony Espresso is a small stand, their treats have to be eaten before class on a bench or outside in the quad. Their prices are reasonable as well, around the same as Aroma's Bakery, described above. A Pony Espresso can also be found on the first floor of Benton Hall.

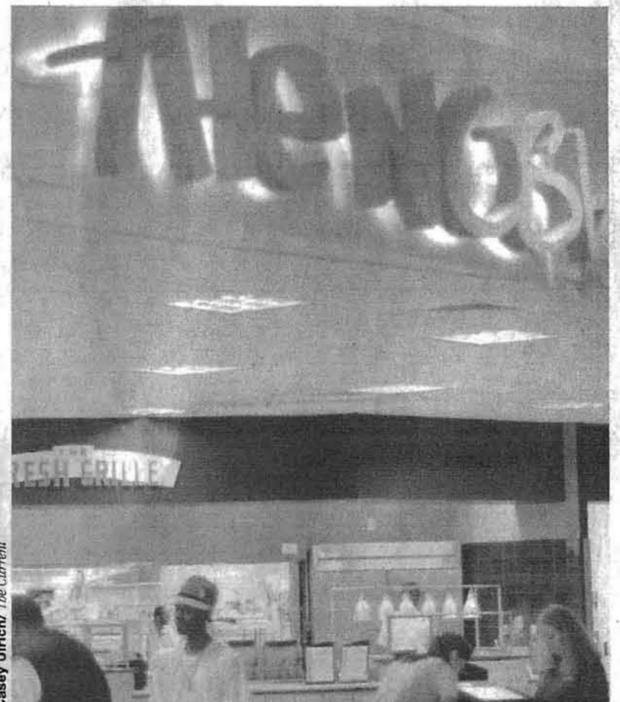
Also located in SSB is the Red & Gold Lounge, located on the second floor, across from rooms 224 and 225. This lounge has tables and booths to sit at but only offers vending machine goodies. The interior matches the name, with red and gold tables, yellow walls and red and gold floor tiles. It is still a nice place to sit between classes and nibble or do homework. The amount spent varies depending on which snacks a student chooses.

If you have classes on South Campus, you can head over to the Flamingo Cafe. Located in the South Campus Classrooms Building on the first floor, the Flamingo Cafe is similar to the Red & Gold Lounge in regards to seating and food. The prices are the same there as well. The interior is that of an old diner, with black and white tile, booths and tables. The windows are covered with cutouts of flamingos.

On the ground floor of Marillac Hall is the U-MART and U-LOUNGE. The U-MART offers fresh salads and sandwiches daily, as well as a variety of other treats, including grocery items. Seating can be found in the U-LOUNGE right outside the mart. The U-LOUNGE has groups of comfortable chairs and tables that seat at least four.

For a place to calm your hunger craving between classes, head to one of these eateries on campus.

RIGHT: The Nosh, located on the lower floor of the MSC, offers a variety of meal options for those looking to eat on campus.



Casey Ulrich/The Current

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UMSL fosters Greek culture

BY GARY SOHN
Features Associate

The UM-St. Louis community welcomes international students from around the globe, maintains a variety of foreign language curriculum and hosts cultural events every year. This year, the University has added Greek to its list of studies.

Greek studies at UM-St. Louis are growing in size. The department will open a new Greek Culture Center located at 210 Lucas Hall, as well a lecture series and a trip to Greece in 2005.

UM-St. Louis' Center for International Studies set up a booth at the Greek Festival in order to promote the University's new Greek Culture Center and courses.

"We are trying to bring a wider community to UMSL," Vassiliki Rapti, lecturer in Modern Greek studies, said. "We have many courses to offer in language, culture, music and archeology."

The Greek Culture Center will soon feature permanent collections of Greek art, an historical archive of the Greek-American community in St. Louis, newspapers and magazines from and about Greece, computers with access to the Greek cyber world, movies, music and Greek frappe (iced coffee drink).

The UM-St. Louis Hellenic Government-Karakas Foundation Professorship in Greek Studies will host some events in the coming weeks. On Sept. 11, Professor Alexander Kitroeff will speak on Greece and the 1904 St. Louis Olympics, at the Missouri History Museum from 3:30 to 4:15 p.m. The lecture is free and open to the public.

The Greek Professorships of UM-St. Louis are also offering a summer program in 2005. The program will be held in Greece. Students will get the opportunity to participate in real archaeological fieldwork, travel to major archaeological sites and attend lectures on Greek history and culture.

The summer trip to Olympia, also known as the cradle of the Olympic Games, will include tours of the ancient stadiums installations, lectures and seminars on the Olympic games and a real race in the ancient track.

Those interested in learning more about Greek studies at UM-St. Louis can visit www.greekstud.org.

"The Greek Festival is the taste of popular American culture, but we hope people who are exposed to the food and music will take a stronger interest in Greek culture—which they satisfy here at UMSL," Rapti said.

For more information about recent Greek events, see page 14.

BOOK REVIEW

'Broke Diaries' laughs in the face of financial distress

BY MELIQUEICA MEADOWS
Staff Writer

Textbooks: \$478.29. Student Health and Activity Fee: \$329.20. Parking sticker: \$270.00. Life as a college student: priceless.

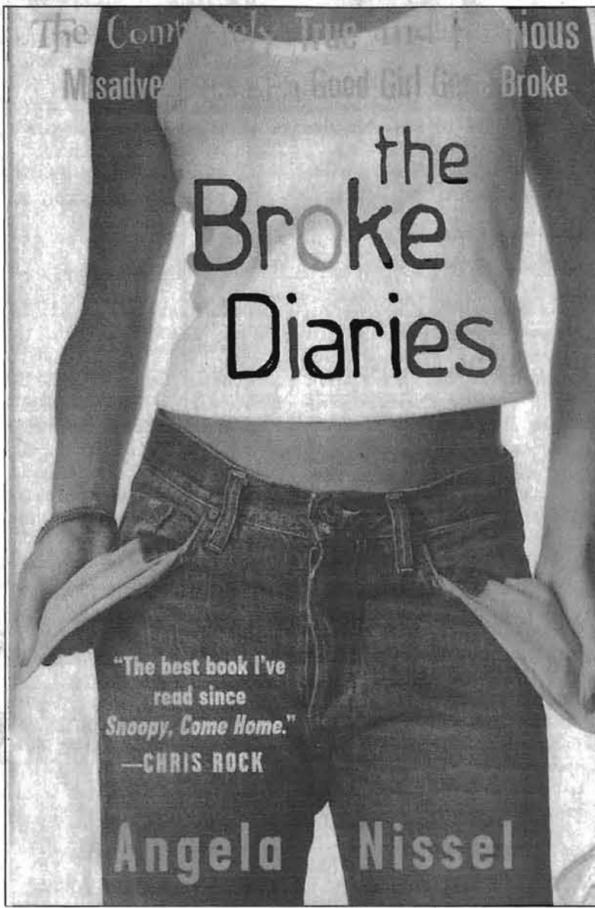
Actually, the life of most college students is not exactly priceless, which is why so many undergraduates and even graduate students are broke. Not poor: broke.

Angela Nissel, author of "The Broke Diaries," is broke. As a coed at an ivy-league university, Nissel is barely able to make ends meet. Her student loans cover the pricey cost of tuition but leave little money for books and living expenses. Sound familiar?

"The Broke Diaries" is an actual journal of the inventive ways Nissel survives on her meager work-study paycheck. From beginning to end, this page-turner will bring to mind the staples of broke college students lives: Long lines in financial aid, expensive textbooks and yes, Ramen noodles.

Most college students are forced, due to their lack of cash, to subsist on Ramen noodles at some point. Since they are one of the cheapest items in any grocery store, Ramen noodles are a major food group for students. However, Nissel is so broke that she describes a time when she could not even afford one package of the inexpensive noodles. An excerpt from "The Broke Diaries" recalls the embarrassing episode that occurred when Nissel did not have enough cash for even Ramen noodles.

Nissel writes, "I remembered that the corner store Jenny's Vegetables or Peggy's Fruit (depending on which window you're looking into) sells Top Ramen for thirty-five cents a pack. I only had thirty-three cents. I (please don't laugh) put the money on the counter and quickly attempted to dash out the door with my chicken-flavored salty noodles. The store guy called me back! I told him I thought the sign said thirty-three cents yesterday so that's all I brought with me. Could he wait while I run home and get the two cents? I



'The Broke Diaries' chronicles the adventures of a college student on a small budget.

showed him my student ID to let him know I was not a thief." What makes the story so funny is that Nissel does not even have two pennies to pay for her noodles.

Life with no money for basic necessities like food and clean clothing is no laughing matter. Yet, there are times when things are so bad that you just have to laugh to keep yourself from crying. "The Broke Diaries" is a perfect book for such a time. The only

tears shed will be tears of joy as this laugh-out-loud book brings back not too distant memories or current experiences of financially strapped college life.

"The Broke Diaries" is Angela Nissel's first book and is available at most bookstores or online at www.thebrokeidiaries.com. It retails for around ten dollars and if you have that much change under your sofa cushions, it is worth the investment.

CD REVIEW

Age plays no factor in JoJo's vocal quality

BY TANA ROGERS
Staff Writer

Just by listening to her strong voice, no one would be able to tell that singer JoJo is only a thirteen-year-old. At the time when most teenagers are getting dropped off at the mall, JoJo is touring arenas around the country to promote her new self-titled album.

This young artist has been improving her voice for more than ten years. At only two years old, JoJo recalls,

"I would sing nursery rhymes. I would do riffs on them and make them jazzy." Her hard work has paid off because JoJo boasts something that even some successful music artists lack: a strong singing voice.

JoJo's hit single "Leave (Get Out)" teases listeners because it does not showcase her voice like some songs on her album. "Breezy" is just as catchy but centers around the vocals more than the other release does. In this song, JoJo sings, "you're just the jump-off, I'm his breezy." Apparently, that's how a girl can tell the others to stay away from her man. Even with JoJo's voice, "Leave" and "Breezy" have a younger sound because they have a more pop sound in comparison with the rest of the CD.

Of the fourteen tracks, a few songs surpass the others. Not only does "Keep On Keepin' On" sound the most soulful but surprisingly, the young singer wrote the song herself. She refers to her life growing up in a one-bedroom apartment



Also outstanding are "Not That Kinda Girl" and the slower "Never Say Goodbye." These songs are both soulful and groovy, showing off JoJo's sassiness. They stand out because JoJo seems to be singing music that she sounds the best singing. With influences like Aretha Franklin and Whitney Houston, it's no surprise that these songs sound like traditional R&B, with the unique style of the artist's voice.

On her album, JoJo sings her version of SWV's 1992 hit "Weak." It sounds fresh and new, especially with JoJo's personal touches after the final verse. Most, if not all, R&B aficionados would describe the original as an R&B classic. Still, SWV themselves would most likely appreciate JoJo's version of the song because she captures the soulfulness SWV initially produced.

For emotional and expressive sounds reminiscent of SWV, play "City Lights" or "Sunshine."

The latter has the melodic sound over an upbeat song. JoJo sings "get on the floor, Dee-jay play my song" but the beat definitely is not upbeat enough to get your whole body moving. During the even slower "Sunshine," JoJo uses her powerful voice to produce a song that could rival one of Monica's.

With such a compelling voice, JoJo's first album is worth a listen. There is no doubt that this cute teen will have more albums in the future.

with her mother. Even when she ate "water in her cereal," JoJo kept her head up. This inspirational song best presents her vocal prowess.

The second song of the album, "Baby It's You," stands out with an almost Caribbean beat. The song reminds the listener of J-Lo's "Love Don't Cost a Thing" but JoJo's ad-libs throughout the song alone are stronger than Lopez's voice.

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SCIENCE COLUMN

A new political science Science becomes election issue

Usually science and politics are two very different fields. On the one hand, we have the mental image of the unworldly scientist in her or his lab. On the other hand, there is the image of the cagey politician, attuned to the nuances of those shifting winds as the scientists are oblivious to them.

There hardly seems to be any area of overlap. While science plays a role in policy and business, usually it is not an issue in political campaigns.

Science used to seem politically neutral, but not this year. These issues range from debates about stem cell research to genetically modified food. Some of these issues can be debated endlessly, others will have more immediate effects the world, if not addressed.

Last week, this column discussed stem cell research. Some of these science issues hinge on moral views. In some ways, the stem cell issue mirrors the debate on abortion but the research potential for curing what is now incurable makes voters think about weighing the benefits. On the other side are the moral questions and the knowledge that research potential is not the same as a guarantee to find a cure.

Another issue is global warming. When the current administration took office, one of the first things the new follow up with an assertion that there was not enough evidence of global warming. However, in the past four years, the scientific evidence has built up, and most skeptical scientists now accept global warming. Even to make that statement is treated as a political assertion by some. In late spring of this year, a report that acknowledged the reality of global warming was sent to the U.N., only to be later retracted by the Bush administration. Yet in August, U.S. government scientists again issued a report acknowledging the reality of global warming. This time, no retraction was issued.

Other debates depend on whether you want to take the short-term or the long-term view. This is often the crux of the matter when you are talking about conservation issues. How much we should save for future generations is generally the pivotal point with those favoring business interests, who are concerned that conservationists who favor the environment over people's livelihoods. Arguments generally

enue over whether slowing the consumption of natural resources will preserve an industry by allowing the resource to reach a sustainable level or whether both resources and their abili-



BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER
Science Columnist

ty to rebound are being underestimated.

Do you believe the science that says a resource is running out or endangered, or do you think that scientists exaggerate. This suspicion of the motives of scientists matches the suspicion that the left-wing might have of business claims to want to preserve resources for the future.

Yet, the big science issue is one that scientists themselves are speaking out on: efforts by the present administration to alter how government science is done.

According to these scientists, including Nobel Prize winners, sound, valid government research is being suppressed or manipulated when it does not agree with the administration's biases or agenda. Furthermore, they say environmental and public health policies are being re-written away from the public eye. These kinds of actions threaten the integrity of government-sponsored science. Several organizations of scientists are trying to bring these concerns to the public.

Up to now, regardless of which party is in power, science has been viewed as a tool to gain information

for governments to use, whether to promote economic interests or to manage resources. Administrations have differed on what areas of science they wanted to fund, if at all.

Regardless of the party in charge, science was a source of information, to be used or not. The only constant was that the information needed to be scientifically valid. Everyone agreed that other respected scientists in that field were the ones best able to judge the quality of the scientific information.

Now, segments of society regard science, not as this neutral tool, but as a viewpoint that aims to drag down business.

Some people feel that a debate of a scientific topic is not balanced without the participation of business. This assumption comes as a surprise to many scientists working in the business world.

New policies on governmental research created by the current administration have raised concerns among scientists about the quality of scientific information released to the public.

Scientists have grown concerned enough to raise their concerns in public forum and for at least the scientific community and some parts of the voting public these concerns may become an election issue.

It seems clear and self-evident that scientific research should be evaluated for quality by other scientists in the field, not by business interests or political officeholders. Bringing non-scientists risks introducing biases, when all you need to determine is the factual validity. Making scientific results meet a certain political viewpoint seems pointless, a waste of time and money spent on the research. Just changing the words in a report does not make them factually true. The idea of the research is to have factual information on which to base decisions. An administration is free to ignore the information but false information looks like propaganda. Concealing information paid for by tax dollars hardly looks like the action of the government of a free society. Shockingly, at least to scientists, this seems to be what is happening.

see POLITICAL SCIENCE, page 13

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Online classes benefit students

I am taking multiple online courses and it is not to save money on parking. The person that wrote this article should have done a little more research.

Through our homepages and online discussions we probably end up knowing each other better than students who meet in class. Also we have just as many, if not more, deadlines than students in classrooms. Online professors can set deadlines for any day not just days when the classes meet, like Monday/Wednesday, Tuesday/Thursday. Plus there are

online meeting rooms and digital drop boxes involved here. In some online course you are actually required to be online at a certain time. This is not guesswork where we hope our classmates will be online whenever we are.

Additionally, the IT Fee is actually \$10.60/credit hour. As far as staying focused, most students probably focus better alone at his/her computer instead of next to a friend in class. The communication field is usually the trend setting field, i.e. advertising. Since the communication field is always ahead of the curve, it's proba-

bly best that the UMSL communication department leads the way by having so many online courses this semester.

I appreciate the online courses and think that each one was well thought with syllabi that include objectives and plans. These professors are working hard with this new idea of online learning. Not to mention, it reaches people that literally may not be able to go to the classrooms.

Elizabeth Toon
UM-St. Louis student

HERO, from page 10

Watching this film is like watching a gorgeous painting spring to life. It is a masterpiece of color and movement. The film is visually astonishing, but the director shows as much skill in his storytelling. The cinematic appeal alone is reason enough to see this film but Zhang also unfolds a tale as full of the unexpected as it is lyrically moving.

This is a film of intense photographic beauty. Zhang frames each shot with care, treating us to a series of painting-like set pieces where the action unfolds.

An example near the start of the film is the shot of the royal courtyard of the Forbidden City. When the nameless hero enters the courtyard, he is surrounded by a sea of red-clad officials and soldiers in black armor, moving in unison like at massive machine. He enters the dark, stark, colorless royal hall, which is lit only by the light streaming in through the massive doorways and a bank of small votive candles that line the steps in front of the emperor. The bank of lights pulse and flicker hypnotically with the interplay between the king and the official as the tale unfolds.

The use of colors for meaning and the interplay of dark and light in shots is breathtaking. As Nameless tells his tale, the costumes of the characters shift to different hues in each flashback.

In an early fight scene, swordsmen face off in a rain drenched courtyard of a gaming house where chess is played. In slow motion, rain falls in luminous drops on the stones of the courtyard, the glistening swords of the black-clad warriors, splashing in the wooden buckets and dripping from the eaves. It splashes sensuously up from

puddles like a living thing as they fight, and flies in fat droplets as they twirl and leap through their martial arts ballet. Color and contrast are used to great effect throughout the film, painting the meaning under scenes. In another fight scene, two women warriors face off in a forest filled with bright yellow leaves. As their fight reaches its conclusion, the leaves shift from cheery yellow to blood red.

Beautiful as it is, the film is also a well-drawn dramatic story with fine

emotional and philosophical heart of the film in a sensitive performance that is especially moving. Tony Leung and Maggie Cheung portray warring lovers and fellow warriors as Flying Snow (Cheung), the daughter of a fallen king, and Broken Sword, once a wandering swordsman. They provide both a romantic, star-crossed lovers aspect to the tale and opposing sides of a philosophical divide.

Leung and Cheung have their martial arts fight scenes as well but it is their acting that carries the bulk of the emotional and dramatic heart of the film, a task they complete with great skill. Cheung and Leung, who have often played opposite each other in Asian films, both bring a soulful passion to the tale with their dramatic turns.

The young actress Ziyi Zhang, who also starred in "Crouching Tiger," strengthens the dramatic



Photo courtesy www.rottentomatoes.com

Flying Snow (Maggie Cheung) is one of the assassins who attempts to kill Wu Ming, meaning 'Nameless,' (Jet Li) in 'Hero.'

dramatic action.

The story is simple but not straightforward. Involving only a few characters, it may seem more like a mystery than an historic epic. The big epic quality comes in the visual aspect, as the story uses epic landscapes for its telling. The story has both dramatic weight and philosophic depth, touching on moral dilemmas of the greater good.

Zhang wisely divides the focus of the story between characters rather than having all aspects fall to a single role. Martial arts star Jet Li, in the role of the heroic underdog facing the famous warriors, handles the best fight scenes with all the steely strength and courage the part demands. Most of the more challenging dramatic acting falls to Tony Leung, who brings out the

aspect, with her fine supporting performance as Broken Sword's assistant Moon.

The director's decision to play to each cast member's strength, rather than invest all aspects of a protagonist in a single character and actor, clearly amplifies the entire quality of the film.

The film is a cinematic visual banquet with a moving dramatic tale, further proof of director Zhang Yimou's great talent. Only fans of straightforward action are likely to be disappointed, as the action is all done in the stylized, fantasy wireworks fashion of "Crouching Tiger" rather than in a more realistic way. Unlike previous attempts that Jet Li has made to connect with a big American audience, this one may succeed, and may even do the same for actor Tony Leung.

NAVIGATORS, from page 6

Abraham also served as a guide for the New Student Orientation. She said some of her fondest memories come from this event.

"On one day of NSO alone I had four students come up to me who took a tour with me come and tell me that

they decided to come here because of how much they liked the tour," Abraham said. "I can't begin to describe how great it feels when they tell me that and even remember my name from the tour I gave."

However, she struggled during her

first days as an admissions worker. Abraham said that there was no formal training program and she felt as if she had just been thrown into the middle of things. "I didn't know what to do," Abraham said. "This Navigator program will give students that training."

VANITY FAIR, from page 10

This tale of blond ambition follows Becky's ups and down on her drive to move up the social ladder. The tone of the first half of the film is decidedly light, even comic, as we follow Becky's triumphs and setbacks. References to India and the colorful song and dance style of Bollywood, runs like an underlying motif through the film, popping up periodically as a sharp contrast to the stiff world of English social conventions. When Becky's and Amelia's husbands face battle with Napoleon's army, the starts a turn to a darker side and the structure of the film wavers under the shift in tone.

Witherspoon has played serious roles well before, notably in "Election," another film about ambition that may have suggested her for this role. However, she often seems overwhelmed, or miscast, by the strong supporting cast of great British

actors.

The film is peppered with good performances in supporting roles. Jonathon Rhys-Meyers is fabulous as the strutting, impulsive George, who is egged on by his ruthlessly ambitious father, played splendidly by Jim Broadbent, who is using his son to do his own social climbing. Bob Hoskins is wonderful as Sir Pitt Crawley, the slovenly, degenerate head of an impoverished old aristocratic family as is Meg Wynn Owen as his wealthy spinster sister, who is taken with Becky and full of egalitarian statements until Becky sets her sights on her favorite nephew Rawdon Crawley (James Purefoy). Purefoy himself is splendid as the gambling Rawdon. Gabriel Byrne plays the Marquess of Steyne, the coolly self-assured aristocrat who becomes Becky's mysterious patron and entry into the top social layer. Apart from

Witherspoon, the only other role that seems miscast is oddball comic actor Rhys Ifans, who was less convincing as the loyal, unassertive William.

Of course, the sets and costumes are gorgeous. As a visual delight the film cannot be faulted. As an entertainment film, it generally works and the bright exotic Indian-themed song and dance numbers add a fresh and delightful dash to the film. But the emotional tone is uneven and as it turns darker towards the end, Reese Witherspoon is less convincing when called on to bring out a less sunny side of Becky.

However, just as long as you don't expect much literary value or depth, you can enjoy what the film offers. Basically, what you think of this film will depend to a great degree on your fondness for the novel and to a lesser extent on your fondness for Reese Witherspoon.

TERRORISM, from page 1

Scott Bopp, president of the Student Government Association, was impressed by the fairness of Walt's presentation but disagreed with a comparison the lector made between America's foreign policy and parenting.

"His analogy about a father and his children assumes there is a shared culture and there is not a shared culture around the world. It's diverse," Bopp

said.

Before Walt presented his analysis on the Bush Administration's war on terror, Joel Glassman, director of the Center for International Studies, began the evening paying homage to his deceased colleague.

"If Fedder was here today, he would make humorous observations about the Republican National Convention," Glassman said.

Fedder's widow, Ruth Fedder, was pleased with last Wednesday's lecture.

"He is a natural teacher," Fedder said referring to Walt. "Every year the speakers have been excellent."

The annual lecture is named in honor of the late Dr. Edwin Fedder, former UM-St. Louis Political Science faculty member who founded the Center of International Studies.



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POLICE SUBSTATION, from page 1

"He has a long history as a school resource officer with the city of Florissant," Roeseler said. "He has an excellent record and a great reputation among the students he had before."

Prior to joining campus police two years ago, Bingham served as a police officer in Florida.

There were several things Kane wanted to work on as a residential life

officer.

"I'd like to do a school survey... to determine to where people feel safe. Maybe I could address that issue by more lighting or more patrols," said Kane.

Kane also planned to focus on crisis intervention. "It's a bit of prevention and 'what happens if,'" he said. This would include counseling and an emergency plan. One of the things

Kane would like to do is number all the rooms so that if there were an emergency, it would be easier for emergency crews to locate the place on a corresponding map.

McConnell thinks that numbering the rooms would make response time quicker.

"If there's an emergency, people would know where to go right away," she said.

POLITICAL SCIENCE, from page 12

When our government sets policy regulating drinking water or air quality, the public assumes that valid science backs up those policies. To not use valid science as a basis raises serious questions about the intentions of government.

Under the old Soviet Union, water or air quality might be declared "safe" by government scientists, because it was the politically convenient thing to do, even if there was no evidence that it was safe. There may have been arguments about what was not measured but we had confidence in the published results. Now, that may be changing, as many well-respected scientists have made cited research that has been altered or suppressed, to suit a political or an ideological agenda.

To business, the future is now. This is most pointed in the area of environmental concerns. The need to beat the competition is more important to logging, fishing or even energy companies, who often express skepticism at scientists' warnings about shrinking forests or fisheries.

Many political conservatives sympathetic to business interests feel that scientific concerns are exaggerated, if not unfounded. These conservatives are optimistic that new resources will be found. Ironically, these "conservatives" are urging us to splurge while

The Current is no longer accepting applications for staff writer positions, except for news writers and music critic. Thanks to everyone who applied!

"liberals" are cautioning for restraint, the opposite of what those terms, conservative and liberal, imply.

Many on the right seem to often confuse environmental activists, who may exaggerate in their emotional pleas, with actual biologists, who carefully cite scientific findings and are far more measured in their warnings and pronouncements.

Some times business acts as if scientific findings are bad theater reviews, and like the impresarios of the past, they want to pick out

parts that they like to quote in the ads, and discard the rest. But science does not exist to hinder business; it exists to discover the facts of our world.

The real difference between the views of science and business are

often really between the short-term and the long-term. Once businesses had long-term plans, but the business paradigm changed in the 1980s. Now, long-term can mean months, instead of years or decades.

Flexibility, not planning and foresight, are the key words of business now, because in the modern business climate change is the only certainty. Return on investment must be immediate, for no business now feels it can afford to wait for profits down the line. You may be waiting for a future that never comes, if the competition beats you to the resources.

This kind of business environment drives businesses to swim or die, in the effort to be the first to use resources and markets. The short term is the only term they can see in many cases.

Right now, science is making great advances rapidly but it is the nature of science to reflect, to assess, to look at all the information as it comes in, to extract the true facts from what is being learned.

The short-term verses long term is at the heart of some of these conflicts. For others the heart of the matter is whether the few decide for the many or if the many overrules the wishes of the few.

Can you find the hidden word?

Somewhere in this issue, we randomly placed the word

FLUX

which means "Liquefy."

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OPA!

Annual festival showcases Greek culture

Story by Gary Sohn • Photos by Jesse Gater

What started off as a simple parish picnic soon became the largest ethnic festival in St. Louis with over 20,000 in attendance on a warm Labor Day Weekend. The Greek Festival, located at the St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church on Forest Park at Kingshighway, took place September 4 through the 6.

The Greek Festival was free to the public, which offered imported Greek novelties like jewelry, and gifts, authentic Greek foods and pastries, native Greek dances and music and a church tour.

Socrates Dendrinelis, host, was handing out programs of the Greek festival and made sure everyone entering the event was greeted. He says that he has been a part of the Greek Festival from its early beginning.

"I can't remember when I didn't come to Greek Festival. I'm 78 years old and I've been coming to this event for 78 years," Dendrinelis said.

Dendrinelis says that what makes

this event so popular is its location and activities.

"You get Greek culture, Greek food, Greek Dancing, which all of it is located in the Central West End where we get a lot walk-ins," Dendrinelis said.

Walk-ins are what turned the Greek Festival from a small parish picnic to the largest ethnic festival in St. Louis says Nick Tharenos, chairman of the event. He says that the festival had humble beginnings before it became such a phenomenon.

"The Greek Festival started off as a parish picnic. Someone would dig big pits and roast lamb, and women would bring baklava. Well, people up the street could smell the aroma of the food and would stop by and ask if they could buy some. It wasn't until up to 1965 that it was just a parish picnic," Tharenos said.

Tharenos said that in 1965 two parishioners from Dallas, Texas suggested the idea of a Greek Festival,

which was done where they were from, and could probably be done at St. Nicholas Church in St. Louis.

Tharenos said, "The two parishioners had said that they have a Greek Festival that generates money for their church and is well attended. So we thought, why can't we try to have one ourselves?"

The festival has generated hundreds of thousands of dollar since 1965 according to Tharenos. He said that a third of the proceeds go to local, national, and international charities. One of the charities that might receive a donation, Tharenos said, was "some Greek orthodox church that was damaged by hurricanes in Florida."

RIGHT AND ABOVE: The Greek Festival, held last weekend at the St. Nicholas Church in the Central West End, featured great food, great music, a lot of dancing and a chance to enjoy Greek culture.



Circle dancing joins past and present



Dancers at the Greek Festival performed the Circle dance, which is part of a great Greek tradition that dates back to the ancient Byzantine period. The dance unites Greeks with one another, Greek inlanders and abroad.

Beginners and experts can dance together, as no basic step is too complicated for anyone to learn with a little effort, while every dance provides the effort with opportunities for complex movements if desired.

The Circle dance is supposed to unite Greeks with their past and, hopefully, with their future. The Circle dance has been performed in Greece since ancient Byzantine.

The women dancers wear coins on their gar-

ment that was done in ancient Greece. Roxana Conteranis, volunteer, says that the coins are like a diary.

"The Gold coins are like a diary. This would show how expensive she was to her suitor. It is part of a tradition. The fathers of the daughters would have to provide women diaries while men's fathers were farmers who provided cows and goats for the wedding," Conteranis said.

Lisa Kurrel Meyer, Interpreter for the hearing impaired at UM-St. Louis, has been a dancer for the Greek Festival for six years. She said that she is not Greek but enjoys Circle dancing because, "it is very traditional, good exercise, and there is a story behind every dance."

A short, sweet taste of Baklava's history

The Greek Festival offered many great traditional foods. There were lamb shanks that are roasted and then simmered in a tomato based "zupa." There were spanakopitas that are sheets of fillo dough alternately layered with spinach and cheese filling. And then there was baklava, to name just a few.

Baklava is a classic Grecian pastry that many visitors to the festivities enjoy. Even though baklava pastries are associated with Greek cuisine, it actually has Assyrian origins according to some scholars.

Around the 8th century B.C. Assyrians baked a few layers of dough with chopped nuts in between those layers, poured honey over it, and baked it on their primitive wood burning ovens.

This treat was baked only on special occasions because usually only the rich could afford such a luxury. In Turkey, even to this day, it is said that one can hear a common expression often used by the poor, say, "I am not rich enough to eat baklava and boerek every day."

It was not until Greek seamen and merchants traveling east to Mesopotamia that soon Baklava would be discovered as a Grecian pastry. They were mesmerized by the taste of Baklava and brought back the recipe to Athens.

The Greeks' major contribution to the development of this pastry was the creation of a dough technique that made it possible to roll it as thin as a leaf, compared to the rough, bread-like texture of the Assyrian dough. In fact, Greeks coined the name "Phyllo," which means, "leaf" in the Greek language.

So for those who had not had a chance to try the Greeks' version of Baklava, here is one recipe that will surely give your taste buds an idea as to why the Greek seamen had to bring the recipe from Mesopotamia to their native homeland. Bon appetit.

Recipe for Baklava

- Ingredients:**
 2 cups honey
 1 cup sugar
 1 cup water
 1 tablespoon grated orange rind
 1 tablespoon cinnamon
 14 phyllo (fillo) pastry sheets
 1 cup butter, melted
 2 cups toasted and/or roasted nuts (almonds, pecans, walnuts, pistachios), chopped fine

Bring honey, sugar, water, orange rind, and cinnamon to a boil. Continue boiling over low heat for 10 minutes. Remove from heat and save 1 cup for later use.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.

Grease a shallow baking pan and line with 4 pastry sheets, brushing each one with butter (to keep phyllo sheets from drying out place a damp, clean dishtowel over them until they are ready to use).

Then extend the sheets over the rims of the pan. Spread 1/2 cup mixed nuts evenly over sheets. Sprinkle them with some of the syrup and melted butter. Cover with 2 sheets, brushing each with butter. Repeat this procedure 3 times. Cover the last layer of nuts, syrup and butter with the last 4 sheets brushing each with butter.

Press the pastry sheets firmly against the rim of the pan and trim with a sharp knife if needed. Cut through the top layer of phyllo diagonally to make 24 equal diamond shapes.

Bake for 30 minutes, then increase the heat to 400 degrees F. and bake an additional 15 minutes or until golden brown.

Pour the cooled syrup on top and let cool. Slice all the way through previous cuts to make 24 diamond-shaped bars. Brush the top with the remaining butter.

This treat will keep for up to 3 weeks in a cool dry place.

'Philosophers' Forum' searches for meaning

■ New student group bills itself as an outlet for intelligent discussion

BY GARY SOHN
 Staff Writer

The famous philosopher Socrates once said, "True wisdom comes to each of us when we realize how little we understand about life, ourselves and the world around us." The Philosophers' Forum, a new organization on campus, is an outlet for students doing just that—studying "how little we understand about life, ourselves and the world around us."

Philosophers' Forum came about by a group of students interested in talking about philosophy outside the classroom.

Krisanna Scheiter, president of the Philosophers' Forum, said, "The idea for a club evolved from when I started philosophy. I couldn't stop talking about it and no one else except philosophy students were interested. So, I wanted to create an environment where students could talk about philosophy with other people as passionate as they are outside of the classroom."

For those interested in discussing philosophy, the Philosophers' Forum is

open to all levels of people who have no philosophy background to people who are going to make it their profession. The organization will have monthly lectures, group discussions and a newsletter on their website, which will include an advice column.

Thomas Ames, junior, philosophy, is the network administrator and design editor for the Philosophers' Forum website. Ames says that anyone is welcomed to join the club and it is a good way for students to get help with their philosophy courses.

Ames said, "I think it will bring a lot to the philosophy department because currently students can only go to professors for help but coming to an entire group of philosophy students may give them a more well-rounded approach to their problems."

Some of these problems can be answered on the website in the advice column. Scheiter describes the advice column like one you would find in a newspaper, except it focuses on philosophy.

"You would send in a question like you would for a 'Dear Abby' column but instead it would be 'Dear Socrates.' The questions could be

about how to study for philosophy, what jobs are available for philosophers and what exactly is philosophy," Scheiter said.

Philosophy Forum will also have its first lecturer this month. Dr. Eric Wiland will be presenting a paper of his that is being published called, "Trusting Advice and Weakness of Will." The paper will be about bad desires, and why people choose to do things they should not do over what they should do.

Wiland said that he agreed to do this lecture because he thinks, "It is important for them to see what philosophy professors do outside the classroom so they have a better picture of what they are pursuing."

Graduate students will also get a chance to present lectures on their papers that they have been working on called a W.I.P. (work in progress). Scheiter said that this is important to graduate students who have W.I.P.s because, "It gives the other students a chance to see what their colleagues are working on and gives graduate students feedback in a comfortable setting to talk about their work."

The Philosophers' Forum posts all



Krisanna Scheiter, graduate student, philosophy leads a meeting of a new group, the Philosophers' Forum, in Lucas Hall on Wednesday morning.

events and newsletters on their website, which can be found on the Department of Philosophy's home page at www.umsl.edu/%7Ephilo/.

Philosophy goes back thousands of years with people who have similar

academic interests. Scheiter says that with philosophy one has to talk about it to stir ideas or clarify ones ideas. She says that the Philosophers' Forum will give students who are interested in talking about philosophy a chance to

talk about their ageless passion—philosophy.

"Philosophy is a constant learning process. We are all still learning. It is a search of developing ideas that relates to everyday life," Scheiter said.