



David Dodd



Jen Staggenborg



D'Andre Braddix

Candidates for SGA positions to debate

Voting will take place April 20-21

BY PAUL HACKBARTH
Co-News Editor

Before students vote for their Student Government Association officers for the 2005-2006 academic year on April 20-21, candidates will participate in a debate on Monday, April 11 at 1 p.m. in the SGA chambers.

Students will get a chance to meet the candidates and learn about them to make an informed decision when they vote for the president, vice president and comptroller of the SGA.

The president is responsible for presiding over the executive committee and during SGA meetings. The president also represents UM-St. Louis in the Board of Curators, the Intercampus Student Council and Associated Students of the University of Missouri.

Candidates for SGA president include: D'Andre Braddix, sophomore, criminology and criminal justice, David Dodd, junior, international business and Jennifer Staggenborg, senior, psychology.

Braddix is the vice chairperson of the SGA, president of Students Today Alumni Tomorrow, a Horizons peer educator, a new student orientation mentor and a junior achievement mentor.

Dodd served as the SGA chairperson in the fall semester of 2003. He is currently a member of ASUM, the Student Senate Organization, the speech and debate team and the international business club. He is also a Marines Reserve.

Staggenborg is a member of ASUM, University Bands and the St. Louis Philharmonic.

The vice president assumes the

duties and responsibilities of the president in the president's absence. The vice president coordinates all committees and boards and represents the SGA on the Homecoming Committee.

Candidates for vice president include Betsy Seabaugh, senior, music education, and Tanzeena Hossain, junior, psychology. Seabaugh is running with Staggenborg on the Staggenborg-Seabaugh slate, and Hossain is running with Braddix on the Action slate.

Seabaugh is a SGA representative and a member of the University Bands, Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Combo. She is also secretary for the Music Educators National Conference.

Hossain is the secretary of SGA and serves as the homecoming co-chair and one of the vice presidents of Zeta Tau Alpha. She is also a member of the Student Activities Budget Committee, Jete, Dance Repertory and the musical "Pippin."

The comptroller serves as chair of the SABC and oversees its staff and funding. While the president and vice president are nonvoting members, the comptroller is allowed to vote on issues.

Candidates for comptroller include Aaron Golchert, junior, business administration and Brian Rails, junior, marketing. Rails is running on the Action slate with Braddix and Hossain.

Golchert is the current SGA comptroller, the vice president of Pi Kappa Alpha, a member of the SABC and the international business club.

Rails serves as the SGA chairperson, homecoming co-chair and a member of the SABC.

Students will also vote to accept or decline Shawn Cooley, junior, physics, and Damien Johnson, junior, criminology and criminal justice, as SGA representatives.

SGA Debates

- President
- Vice president
- Comptroller

Monday, April 11
1 p.m. in the
SGA Chambers

Students present research to legislators at the Capitol

BY MELISSA MCCRARY
Features Editor

On Tuesday, April 4, five UM-St. Louis undergraduate students had the opportunity to visit the Missouri Capitol in Jefferson City and present research projects to state legislators, as part of the University of Missouri Research Day.

Each year, UM-Kansas City, UM-Rolla, UM-Columbia and UM-St. Louis selects students to participate in this program.

Teresa Thiel, Professor of Biology and Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, said that this program has existed for three years, but this is only the second year for UM-St. Louis to participate.

"The Research Day at the Capitol is done to understand the purpose for research in the state, for education purposes and to help the state move forward," Thiel said.

Research Day not only gives the students the chance to express their concerns about Missouri to state legislators, but it also helps to pro-

mote their studies from UM-St. Louis.

Thiel said that in the fall students receive announcements with information about Research Day, such as the requirements for students to take part in the day's events and the procedures for applying.

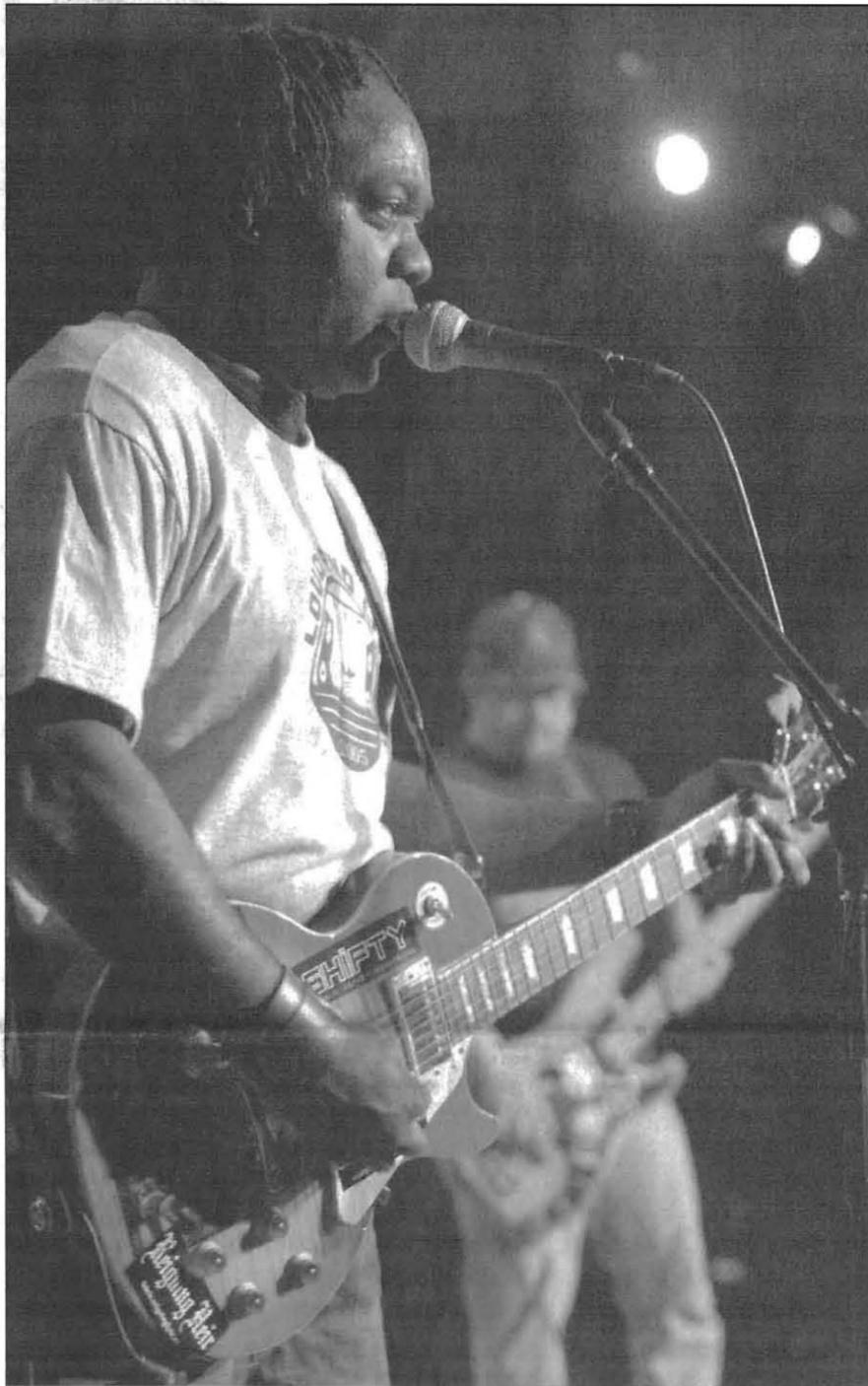
Students who are interested must write an abstract and submit it giving a brief idea about the various research that they have done and why they think that it needs to be shown and heard at the capitol. Students must also be nominated by a faculty mentor.

Those who apply and who are selected are then required to produce a poster entailing their research.

Thiel said that students are encouraged to design the posters to appeal to people of all ages and for those outside academia. All of the posters must present different topics and themes relevant to the state of Missouri.

see RESEARCH, page 10

Rockin' philanthropy



Erica Burrus/The Current

Moe of Scene of Irony, performs in the music festival held Saturday night at the Pilot House. The festival was held by Zeta Tau Alpha and Pi Kappa Alpha to raise money for a sober driving program. The purpose is to provide a free taxi service for students within a 15-mile radius of campus who need a sober driver.

Nuclear terrorism is greatest threat to global security, author asserts

BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER
Science Columnist

"Inevitable" and "preventable" were the key words from Graham Allison's "Nuclear Terrorism" lecture to a packed house on Thursday in the Century Room of the Millennium Student Center on the UM-St. Louis campus.

The lecture was the third annual Political Science Academy Lecture on Public Affairs, sponsored by the Political Science Department at UM-St. Louis.

Dr. Graham Allison was the founding dean of Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government and was instrumental in building that institution into the prestigious school it is today. He is now director of Harvard's Belter Center for Science and International Affairs and Douglas Dillon Professor of Government. He served under President Reagan and President Clinton. His latest book, "Nuclear Terrorism: The Ultimate Preventable Catastrophe," was the basis of his lecture.

Dr. Allison divided his book and his lecture into two parts: the dangers and the solution. He said he regularly cautioned people against reading only the first half of the book, which describes the threat. "Do not read just part one. You will be depressed," he said. Nonetheless, Allison described himself as an optimist about the situ-

ation because he believes a nuclear terrorist attack is preventable.

Allison spent the first part of the lecture describing the threat of nuclear terrorist attack. The U.N., in a report on global security released late last year, focused on the greater danger posed by nuclear bombs as compared to biological or chemical weapons threats, or even a "dirty bomb" made with radioactive materials. As Allison also noted, biological or chemical threats, or a radioactive "dirty bomb" could kill thousands in a single attack or may cause longer term disruption of government or commerce, as happened following the anthrax attacks after 9/11. However, a real nuclear bomb attack would kill millions, not thousands.

Other foreign policy and security experts have focused on the danger of unsecured nuclear power facilities or waste materials. Nuclear threats include unprotected nuclear power plants, where dropping a conventional bomb could trigger a nuclear explosion, in addition to concerns about waste materials. Nearly four years after 9/11, U.S. nuclear facilities remain unprotected from this danger. However, Allison focused only on

external sources for nuclear materials and only on the threat of actual nuclear bombs, not the far less deadly "dirty bomb."

Allison started the lecture by displaying a map of the campus with a big, multicolored bulls-eye target superimposed on it. Allison told the audience that the target represented the area that would be affected if a small 10 kiloton nuclear bomb, a bomb smaller than his podium, exploded in the MSC. In the inner ring of one-third mile radius, everything would be vaporized and at the outer ring of one mile radius, the area would look like a conventional bomb had been dropped. This was without considering the effect of the radioactive fallout.

Allison told the crowd that shortly after 9/11 an intelligence report from a source called "Dragonfire" reported that al-Qaeda had a nuclear bomb of just this size, obtained from the former Soviet Union, in the U.S. that they intended to detonate. The report led to the evacuation of Vice President Dick Cheney and a "shadow government" of officials to a secure location, where they remained for weeks. The report turned out to be false but it underscores the reality of the threat.

Building a bomb with nuclear materials is surprisingly easy but obtaining or creating the fissile nuclear materials is not.

see TERRORISM, page 10

Twista will headline 'Mirthday'

BY BEN SWOFFORD
Staff Writer

On April 20, the University Program Board and Student Life will host the UM-St. Louis Mirthday. The free event will include festival rides, festival foods, booths, games and free concerts.

"Everything is good to go, we are just hoping for good weather," Jill Henke, vice-president of the University Program Board, said.

Mirthday will be an outdoor event, taking place by the lakes outside the Millennium Student Center from noon until seven, with rides and games.

If it rains the Pilot House can handle the concerts but can fit only 250 people.

Headlining the event will be a free concert given by international rap star Twista at 8 p.m. The concert will be a culmination of a day's worth of fun in a festival atmosphere.

Local bands Lojic and SLU Crew, along with Aloha of American Idol fame, will be the opening acts starting at six in the evening. From noon until 2 p.m., Z107.7 will broadcast live from Mirthday and will be handing out prizes and t-shirts. DJ Charlie Chan of the old Q95.5 and local club fame will deejay the event from 2 p.m. until the opening acts.

Mirthday is supposed to be a big carnival and day of fun for students and the community. 35-40 student organizations, along with faculty from 15 UM-St. Louis departments, will man booths which must offer free games and prizes to the public.

Silt walkers, face painters and balloon artists will also be doing their crafts free to all at the event. Archway Carnival will be providing five free festival rides all day.

Booths will receive prizes for best decorations, best prizes and best games.

"Organizations really get into this one; people like Mirthday," Henke said.

see MIRTHDAY, page 5

The Current hopes to gain direct funding

BY KATE DROLET
Editor-in-Chief

After two consecutive years of conflict with the Student Activities Budget Committee, The Current student newspaper decided to reevaluate its funding mechanism. On April 20, students will have the opportunity to vote for the paper's requested \$1.25 per semester fee.

The fee, if collected, would generate approximately \$40,000 for The Current, the total annual cost of printing. The new system would take effect on July 1, 2006, the beginning of the fiscal year.

Executive members of The Current, along with representatives from the Chancellor's office and student government leaders, formed a committee in May 2003 after The Current received \$18,000 of the \$40,170 requested from SABC.

see CURRENT, page 5

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Bulletin Board

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

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.

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Corrections

• In the April 4, 2005 issue, there were several errors in the 'Downfall' movie review:
- 'DerUntergang' translates to 'the downfall,' not 'the bunker.'
- Traudl Junge's name was misspelled.
- The film 'Nowhere in Africa' was misspelled.

• The NCAA YES story on page 8 was not continued on the next page, as written. The full article can be read at www.thecurrentonline.com, under 'Archives.'

Mon. April 11

Prison Art
Art Work of Men and Women in Prison presented by Phyllis Kornfeld at 12:15 p.m. in the J.C.Penney Building. Sponsored by Center for the Humanities.

Tues. April 12

Social Justice Week
Capital Punishment Day - Join Amnesty International and us for a speaker on the death penalty at 7 p.m. in the Pilot House, followed by a viewing of the movie "Dead Man Walking" - FREE food! Contact the Catholic Newman Center at 385-3455 or cnsumsl@aol.com for more info.

Tues. April 12

"Politicizing Food: European and American Responses to Biotechnology and Food Safety" lecture

Gabriele Abels, visiting professor in the Center for International Studies at the University of Missouri-St. Louis from the Institute for Science and Technology Studies at Bielefeld University in Germany. The lecture will take place from 2 to 3:15 p.m. April 12 at 331 Social Sciences & Business Building, UMSL. Sponsored by the Center for International Studies at UMSL. Free and open to the public. For more info call 516-6495.

Wed. April 13

Social Justice Week
Environmental Day

Campus Clean-Up: Help your fellow UMSL students as we work to clean up our campus from 2-4 p.m.! Contact the Catholic Newman Center at 385-3455 or cnsumsl@aol.com to sign up.

Wed. April 13

Women in Film
Women in Film Series: "Daughters of the Dust." Julie Dash, Director. Film will be shown at Gallery 210 at 3 p.m.

Wed. April 13

Women Composers
Classical Women Composers Chamber Concert by Martines, Reichardt, Savage & Billington at 7:30 p.m. in the Touhill PAC.

Wed. April 13

"Ceramic Sculpture and Works on Paper"
"Ceramic Sculpture and Works on Paper," an exhibit of the work of local artist and educator Catharine Magel, opens today in Gallery Visio in the Millennium Student Center and runs through May 13. The opening reception for the artist will be held today at 4 p.m. Call 7922 for more information. For Info: Gallery Visio at 516-7922

Wed. April 13

Rosamund Purcell
Rosamund Purcell, photographer, artist and essayist, will discuss "Natural History and the Importance of Junk: The Museum and Scrap Metal Yard as Sources of Inspiration," a lecture on her work, at 7 p.m. in the auditorium at Gallery 210 in the

Telecommunity Center. The lecture is free and open to the public, and sponsored by the College of Fine Arts and Communication at UMSL, Center for the Humanities at UMSL and Des Lee Collaborative Vision. Call 516-6967 for more information. For Info: College of Fine Arts and Communication at 516-6967

Thurs. April 14

"Clickers" Lecture
Professors Susan Feigenbaum (economics) and Jennifer Siciliani (psychology) will discuss their experiences using "clickers" (EInstruction's "Classroom Performance System," <http://www.einstruction.com/>) in the classroom during WS 2005. Please join us for a demonstration of this system, an overview of its use, as well as a discussion of both instructor and student perspectives on its utility in the classroom. Takes place at 104 Stadler Hall from 2-3:30pm. For Info call Susan Feigenbaum and Jennifer Siciliani at 516-6538.

Thurs. April 14

Litmag "An Odyssey"
IT'S HERE! The 2005 edition of Litmag titled, "An Odyssey" is here and we want you to help us celebrate! You're invited Thursday, April 14, at 7 p.m., when Litmag launches its newly arrived magazine. Of course, there will be food, drink, and plenty of great entertainment. Litmag contributors will be reading their poetry or short story pieces. Guest speaker, Rick Skwiot will speak to us about being a working writer. We look forward to seeing you there. Thanks to all involved in this year's publication.

Thurs. April 14

East Wind Ensemble
East Wind Ensemble by Shakuhachi and the Koto in the Touhill PAC at 7:30 p.m.

Thurs. April 14

Social Justice Week
Homelessness and Poverty Day

Come listen to speakers from the St. Patrick Center at 7 p.m. in the SGA Chamber. Free food! At 8 p.m., sleep outside in cardboard boxes on the MSC lawn during our annual Shantytown to raise awareness for the homeless. Contact the Catholic Newman Center at 385-3455 or cnsumsl@aol.com for more info, or to sign up for the Shantytown.

Sat. April 16

Arianna String Quartet
Arianna Family Concert. The concert will take place at 2 p.m. at UMSL in the PAC, Lee.

Sat. April 16

Conference on Greek Women
Conference on Greek and Greek-American Women in the arts featuring Academy Award Winning Actress Olympia Dukakis. It will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Millennium Student Center, Century Rooms. For more info call Michael Cosmopoulos at 516-6241.

Sun. April 17

"Porgy and Bess"
The production "Porgy and Bess" will be held at the Touhill Performing

Arts Center at 7 p.m. April 17. Tickets for the fundraiser will be \$125 per person and will include the show and a post-show reception. All proceeds from this event will go to a new Marian Oldham scholarship. For more information on the event or to order tickets, call (314) 516-5442.

Mon. April 18

Arianna String Quartet
Arianna String Quartet with guest Gabriela Lena Frank, Latin American Composer. Sponsored by the Center for the Humanities at 12:15pm at 229 J.C.Penney Bldg. For more info call Karen Lucasat 516-5699.

Tues. April 19

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- Dr. Richard Middleton (faculty)
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Business roundtable highlights importance of ethics

BY PAUL HACKBARTH
Co-News Editor

After the scandals at Enron and WorldCom, business ethics seem contradictory, but as four business ethics speakers visiting UM-St. Louis agreed, ethics are crucial when students enter the workforce.

The College of Business Administration sponsored a roundtable discussion panel Thursday that included Mary Kullman, chief governance officer at Laclede Gas, Alice Conway, assistant general council for global business conduct at Monsanto, David Otto, general principal and director of research at Edward Jones and Samuel Jenkins, vice president of ethics and integrated defense systems at Boeing.

Media reports have labeled businesses as unethical after such lapses, which occurred at Enron and WorldCom, and companies can be tarnished by one employee, even

though he or she may not accurately represent the ethics of the whole company.

Because of this, the panelists' message to a predominantly student audience preparing to become part of the business world was that understanding a particular company's ethics was important in succeeding in a job.

Kullman started the discussion focusing on ethical issues that students might encounter at various companies, especially new standards of what is and is not appropriate in the office.

"One of the critical things for when you enter the workforce is to learn the ethical environment of where you're at, learn the code of conduct and the policies they have because different companies have different tolerance levels of what they will and they won't accept," she said.

Kullman cited examples of employees getting fired for violating a company's ethics code. At Laclede Gas, Kullman shared stories of work-

ers getting caught for inappropriate use of the Internet and e-mail.

At Edward Jones, Otto shared a similar story involving 15 employees involved in sharing pornographic images. The panelists also spoke about theft, including stealing company property or pursuing personal agendas on company time.

Lapses in ethical judgment like these can hurt a person's reputation forever. "It takes years to build a good reputation, and it takes seconds to destroy it," Otto said.

Most businesses take ethics seriously since it affects not only the company's image, but its customers as well. Conway said Monsanto is "extremely concerned about ethics, not just the reality of our ethics but the appearance of our ethics."

Conway said, "If people don't trust us, if they think that we're unethical in any respect, then we're not someone they're going to want to do business with."

Conway proposed hypothetical sit-

uations to students and asked them to explain how to handle ethical dilemmas in the workplace, including accepting gifts, choosing family members for contracts and meeting customers in uncomfortable settings. Conway emphasized that students entering the work force need courage.

An ethical courage is important for students, employees and family members to have in making the right choices. Jenkins views an ethical dilemma as a "choice between two or more rights."

He went on to say, "Understanding the implications associated with going through those doors...knowing the business, knowing the rules, knowing the culture will help guide you to make the better choice."

Otto said that in many business ethical dilemmas, "there's no black and white, easy, yes-or-no, right answer." The panelists agreed that analyzing situations would help eliminate the gray.

Otto's advice to students was,

"Know your culture. Know what the rules are and remember, you may have to defend it someday on the front page of the Wall Street Journal."

Students, like Dana Heggs, sophomore, business, found the panelists informative and helpful. "Being a business major, they spoke about what is needed ethically in the workplace," she said.

Wayne Winter, lecturer in business law at UM-St. Louis, moderated the discussion. He shared his reaction to the panelists afterwards.

"The four guests had wonderful insights," he said. "The people up on this platform are very experienced with ethical issues. We wanted the speakers to tell the audience what would affect them when they got to the workplace."

All four panelists stressed the importance of recognizing ethical environments in the workplace. As Kullman said, "It's a different world, and you need to make sure you understand the rules and environment."

NEWS BRIEF: UMSL criminology program ranked 4th in nation

U.S. News & World Report ranked the criminology department at UM-St. Louis fourth in "America's Best Graduate Schools of 2006." The faculty members of the department have received numerous awards, including being ranked second for publishing the most literature by *The Journal of Criminal Justice*.

The UM-St. Louis criminology department is the only program in the nation to boast three faculty members who have received the Young Scholar Award from the American Society of Criminology and two former editors of research journals.

Criminology doctoral students from UM-St. Louis have held prestigious positions at universities and federal agencies, as well as competing for dissertation grants and publishing in scholarly journals.

The program at UM-St. Louis came in fourth behind criminology programs at University of Maryland, State University of New York and University of Cincinnati.

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Next editor selected for *The Current*

BY PAUL HACKBARTH
Co-News Editor

Mike Sherwin, senior, history, who is often seen around campus with a camera around his neck, was approved as the new editor-in-chief of *The Current* newspaper for the 2005-2006 academic year by both staff and the Student Publications Committee.

Sherwin started with *The Current* in the spring semester of 2002 as a staff photographer and staff writer. During the two years he worked for the newspaper, Sherwin also became photo director and is currently the production manager and web designer. Sherwin has served as a member of the executive committee and the editorial board of the newspaper.

Because he has worked in several different positions, Sherwin felt confident he could take on the role of editor-in-chief. "I've worked in a variety of positions at *The Current*, and I wanted an opportunity to lead the staff," Sherwin said.

Kate Drolet, current editor-in-chief, said Sherwin's experience qualifies

him as an excellent candidate for the position. "I have no doubt that Mike's dedication and talent will allow him to act as an outstanding leader for *The Current*," Drolet said. "His knowledge of journalism and strong ethics will only benefit the paper."

Besides winning numerous awards for writing and layout design, Sherwin's passion for photography has won him a special award. "My biggest accomplishment was receiving the photojournalist of the year award through the Missouri Press Association and the Missouri College Media Association," he said.

As editor-in-chief, Sherwin said he will continue taking photos and working with the layout design of the newspaper. "There's no reason to stop doing any facets of *The Current*," he said.

Drolet explained that Sherwin's involvement has helped her lead the newspaper this year. "Mike's contributions this year as web editor, production manager, photographer and trusted confidante have helped me during my time as editor," Drolet said.

Sherwin named some of his goals and plans for the newspaper for next year. Besides improving coverage, writing, photography and the design of the paper, Sherwin said, "One of my goals is to improve staff training."

Sherwin expressed interest in inviting alumni back to staff meetings. "I want to use alumni as a tool for energizing the staff and improving and broadcasting our horizons."

Sherwin called the newspaper a "great opportunity to get involved with the campus and a great way to get to know the University." He said, "With every article I complete, I feel like I know another facet of the University."

"Mike's ability to connect with people makes him an excellent reporter," Drolet said. "His willingness to teach makes him an effective manager and his objectivity will allow him to bring a sense of balance to *The Current's* fast-paced environment."

The Student Publications Committee voted to approve Sherwin, the only candidate to apply for the position, on Tuesday, March 29. He will begin his position this summer.

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MOBIUS

OUR OPINION

Library cuts will hurt higher ed



Blunt instrument

Libraries are the ultimate equal opportunity institution. With a library card, all students have the opportunity to educate themselves on topics that aren't limited to their current coursework. The MOBIUS Common Library Platform system extends that access to millions of volumes beyond that student's college library.

Last month, Gov. Matt Blunt recommended completely eliminating state funding for MOBIUS Common Library Platform system. If the legislature approves the cuts, Missouri colleges and universities, including UM-St. Louis, would lose more than \$649,000 in state funding and would be forced to pay an additional 40 percent to keep MOBIUS functional.

Blunt said that he wanted to be known as a governor who supports education, and he wants to increase funding for public schools. What happened to this platform? Has the governor forgotten that education does not end after high school? In the past few years, Missouri has already cut state funding for higher education, including UM-St. Louis.

For students looking for a reasonably-priced but high quality education, one of the preeminent tools available to students even at the

least expensive community college is the MOBIUS system, providing the same access to the latest books and the expansive collections of the most expensive private universities.

A cut in state funding would severely hurt libraries and limit Missourians' access to a quality education. In the past few years, the state has already decreased funds for higher education, forcing universities to make cuts and raise the cost of tuition.

Cutting money for colleges and universities saves money in the short run, but down the road it could eventually hurt the state as Missourians become unable to afford the rising costs of a college education. In order to retain a high quality, well-educated citizenry, we must not make capricious cuts that will harm the quality of Missouri's colleges and universities.

Gov. Blunt should reconsider the proposed cuts to MOBIUS, as they will disproportionately affect the smaller universities and colleges without the money to constantly update their library collections. The state's contribution is a worthwhile investment in educating our future workforce, and in providing equal access to information no matter the cost of your education.

The Issue
Missouri Gov. Matt Blunt recently proposed cutting funding for MOBIUS, a library resource that enables students to locate otherwise inaccessible materials.

We suggest
Blunt should withdraw this proposal and figure out another way to save money. Higher education will seriously suffer if MOBIUS loses funding.

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

The Current cleans house

Shameless bragging has its place in the world, and after *The Current's* weekend in Kansas City, the newspaper staff deserves a column full of praise.

Ten staff members and an adviser represented UM-St. Louis and our paper at the annual Missouri College Media Association convention. After caravanning (quite literally) across the state, we had a chance to socialize with newspaper nerds like ourselves and attend lecture sessions given by media professionals.

At *The Current*, when we aren't researching, reporting, entertaining strange conversations or typing our little fingers to the bone, we spend most of the year waiting for the highly anticipated MCMA awards banquet. Like everyone else, we do enjoy a nice ego booster now and then, but the award ceremony means much more than just a fancy piece of paper.

Sixteen of our 32 entries won top honors, five more than we took home last year. I'm like that overexcited proud parent who hangs all of her kid's "art" on the refrigerator. The awards we received give us an extra feeling of validation in regards to our choice of work. The certificates represent the quality of the paper, which must be attributed to the caliber of the students who work at *The Current*.

Paul Hackbarth, the paper's co-news editor, took first place in the news writing category. UM-St. Louis falls under the Division 1 judging class. This means that Paul, whose total newspaper experience spans about one year, beat out journalists from Mizzou, Washington University,

CMU, UMKC, SMSU and St. Louis University. This is the man who helps lead *The Current's* news section.

Mike Sherwin, known around UM-St. Louis as a photographer, reporter, page designer, webmaster and next year's editor-in-chief, received an outstanding seven awards.

His top recognition came for a photo of former UM-St. Louis Lecturer Sid Savan, photo pages of a University dance rehearsal and a poetry slam event, and other aspects of the paper.

MCMA judges also honored Tana Rogers, Gary Sohn, Rudy Scoggins, Elliot Reed and Becky Rosner individually. The Current and UM-St. Louis took home some major bragging rights, as we received the second most awards in our division, beating our friendly rivals at Mizzou. The newspaper also placed fourth in the best overall competition.

Our success in Kansas City reflects both the pure talent and dedicated coaching and advising that we have at *The Current*. It displays the story opportunities that exist on campus. While UM-St. Louis may at times enjoy a redheaded stepchild status when it comes to UM System funding, this University has much to brag about.

Serving as a member of *The Current* staff means belonging to a legacy. This weekend the staff earned personal recognition and contributed to a long-standing reputation. For their accomplishments, recognized publicly or not, I am extremely proud of my staff. I know they don't do it for the awards, but it sure feels good to win.



KATE DROLET
Editor-in-Chief

'Tis the season for weddings

Throughout the past year I have attended three weddings of young couples. Several of my friends have also become engaged. This year alone I have four total weddings to attend, in one of which I am a bridesmaid. It must be the season for weddings.

I find it funny that I went 21 years without attending a wedding I remember. Now, I feel like everyone around me decided to get married at the exact same time. I guess it is good for me that I have a while before deciding to tie the knot with anyone; things are too busy with other people now. As well as being a busy time, it is also an expensive time.

After you start college and your friends begin to graduate, they also decide to settle down. All my closest friends are in the same boat. They are either engaged or will be engaged in the near future. This is a time when I sit back and think that I really am growing up. Being the youngest of all my friends, I will watch them settle down before I pull the plug on the college life.

As I said before, this is not a cheap time to encounter. Planning and buying for showers and bachelorette parties can run you dry. If you are in a wedding, save your money because by the time you buy everything needed and plan all the festivities, you will be broke. In fact, according to *The Kansas City Star*, the cost of a typical U.S. wedding is now more than \$26,000.

It also seems like while some people are still getting married young, many are waiting until they are both financially and mentally prepared for marriage. According to divorcemag.com, in 2002 the median age at first marriage for men was 26.9. The median age for women was 25.3. The median age for divorce in 2002 for males was 30.5 and for females was 29. It is a scary thought that these people are only married for around five

years. Not surprisingly, many couples today live together before getting married. While some people feel it is against their beliefs, it is a good opportunity for two people to really get to know each other before making a life-long commitment. *The Kansas City Star* said that 64 percent of couples today live together before marriage. Times have changed and many couples even have children together before getting married.

I think that in general people need to consider marriage further before making the commitment. All too often I feel like people get married for the wrong reasons. Some women get so excited about the thought of a wedding that they do not fully understand the commitment they are making. It is also important to think about the costs of the wedding prior to engagement. Today, wedding costs are closing in on 60 percent of annual family income, according to *The Kansas City Star*.

In general, I think careers need to be established before anyone considers marriage. Be sure you talk about your future and agree on major issues such as children and career choice. Anyone who is not responsible enough to hold a steady job or take care of the children may be too young for marriage. Four out of five brides are employed, said *The Kansas City Star*. Set your lifetime goals before making life long commitments.

The divorce rates are ever-increasing, so be sure you are absolutely ready for the commitment before marriage. It is the wedding season; so many people are feeling the pressure when everyone around them is getting married. Nearly 2.4 million weddings are performed every year in the U.S. Marriage is a beautiful thing once you find the right companion and reasons. Enjoy all the weddings you may be attending this year.



BECKY ROSNER
Managing Editor

What's your opinion?

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

- MOBIUS cut bad for higher ed
- The Current cleans house
- 'Tis the season for weddings

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

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

LETTERS

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Letters to the editor should be brief, and those not exceeding 200 words will be given preference. We edit letters for clarity 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.

Under Current

by Kevin Ottley
Photography Associate

What characteristics should the next Pope possess?



Maya Scruggs
Graduate Student
Communications

He should be unbiased and accepting of other people's views and values.



Kim Martin
Graduate Student
Criminology

I think it should be considered that the next person be a reflection of the majority of the Catholic faith and not just another Italian or European.



Christiana Gyang
Sophomore
Biology

I think he should be a caring and Christian person, a man of the people and and who loves the people. He should also be able to deal with volatile situations.



Amanda Swaller
Junior
Biology

He should be more liberal with women in the church.

SCIENCE COLUMN

American and European agrobusiness debates genetic modification



BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER
Science Columnist

their real objections.

What does this phrase have to do with science? This potentially inflammatory language is part of the title of a lecture on campus this week. "Politicizing Food: European and American responses to biotechnology and food safety." The emphasis of the lecture seems to be on whether European reluctance to accept American genetically modified foods is actually motivated by economic issues rather than real concerns about food safety.

A long history shows that Europeans and Americans see food differently, but it has only recently become a point of contention. To the Europeans, this might actually be about food and not about money.

Europeans have very different attitudes about foods than we do in the U.S. They have always been more conscious of what they eat, pickier about their foods, demanding that nothing be added or changed. Here that might sound snobby, but there the attitude is normal and expected. Europeans have had a preference for purer, traditional and more natural foods, while American farmers

were more focused on higher yields and bigger produce. Americans like unmarked, "perfect" looking, large fruit. Europeans tolerate superficial irregularities, but are more interested in flavor and more aware of varieties and regional specialties. Americans want tomatoes year-round, while Europeans would rather wait for the season to get the best taste.

While American growers loaded produce with pesticides in the '60s and beyond, Europeans remained more skeptical and hesitant about the safety of chemicals on food. Europe had much stricter labeling requirements and limits on what would be allowed in foods, because native consumers preferred this.

These are completely legitimate cultural differences, not a matter of who is right.

Europeans have long turned up their noses at American produce, but these differences went largely unnoticed until globalization and the introduction of genetically modified foods.

Some debate and resistance occurred in America about genetically modified food. Europeans, already suspicious of American agricultural practices, dubbed American GM foods as "Frankenfoods."

Genetically modified products introduce something new into foods and the diet of consumers. Much like introducing a new species into an area, there can be risks. Sometimes the result is beneficial; look at honey-bees here and tomatoes in Europe. Sometimes genetic modification has a neutral effect. History has also shown that introducing an unknown sometimes has unintended consequences, not all of which are good. Think kudzu in the South. Until the problem is there, you can't understand its effects.

Genetic modification changes the nature of foods. Proponents of the biotechnology insist the procedure does not yield harmful results. But the reverse is equally true: until they have been consumed by people for several years, we don't know if they are safe either, because no longer term studies have been conducted. Until we study the long-term effects of GM foods, no proof exists either way.

American agribusiness has decided to assume the crops are safe and put them into our food supply. Unless you eat only organic foods, that means we are all part of the big experiment. If problems arise, the products can be pulled from market, but the producers

feel confident that this will not happen. In Europe, where they have more conservative attitudes about food, they are taking a wait-and-see approach, watching to see what happens to American consumers. "Neither method is wrong," rather they are different.

But then there's a catch. American agribusiness wants Europe to participate in the experiment, too. If they stay out of it, profits will be lost in the global market. Prior to putting GM foods on the market here, American growers negotiated to be sure the products would not be labeled as genetically modified. In fact, companies are forbidden to do so. Organic foods are not genetically modified but proponents of natural foods had to fight hard to exclude GM foods from this category. The concern of producers was that if the foods were labeled, they would be "stigmatized" and people would either be reluctant to buy them or only buy them if they were cheaper. Forbidding labeling meant that consumers could not have a bias against them, since there was no way to distinguish the GM products, and profit would be preserved.

Having successfully placed GM foods in the American marketplace, American agribusiness set its sights on

breaking down barriers in Europe. By phrasing the different attitude in Europe toward GM food as a trade dispute with political overtones, U.S. producers have reframed the argument. They argue that in the past, foodstuffs called "safe" in one country were considered "safe" in another country, and that European countries should be forced to accept GM foods. With its argument, U.S. agribusiness seeks to wipe away issue of the novelty of the GM food situation and replace it with simple marketplace struggle between European and American producers.

This attitude dismisses the concerns and long standing attitudes about food of European consumers.

The ones left out of the debate are the consumers both in Europe and here. If you had been asked if you would have preferred that GM foods be labeled, how would you have responded? Many consumers here would have said yes to labeling, but no one asked them. For Europe's more food-conscious culture, the answer to that would be a more resounding yes.

So the question is: what happened to consumer choice in the marketplace? If consumers get a choice and the answer is no, did they politicize the issue?

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Reader reacts to Human Life Alliance insert

I would like to thank the Human Life Alliance for working so hard to protect women from themselves. Over the last 30 or so years, the so-called "right" to physical autonomy has been, in fact, a terrible burden in the lives of American women. Fortunately, as the HLA's recent insert in the Current communicated so expensively, there are still many people who are willing to fight for women's right to have the most important decisions of their lives made by the United States govern-

ment. Clearly such groups as the National Life Alliance are America's true feminists, for it seems that only they are sensitive to the incalculable damage that occurs when women are prevented from exercising their right to external bodily restriction. It is my deepest hope that the National Life Alliance will continue to work on behalf of women, even after the rights of the pre-owned-sorry, I meant to say pre-born-are well-secured. I cannot speak

for all women, of course, but I do believe that there are many others like me who dream of the day when all women can once again live secure in the knowledge that their futures will be determined by complete strangers.

In the name of the pre-born, the pre-pre-born, and those pathetic future zygotes whose parents have not yet even started dating, I sign this letter,

Rebecca P. Jeyes

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Reader shares idea for new UMSL mascot

What is the situation with our not-so beloved mascot, the Riverman? It seems like every year, there is talk of changing it to something else but this never seems to happen. I have a suggestion that I

think is both unique and gender-neutral: The Riverfoam. I think that we would be the only college in the country with this mascot, and I would like to have a mascot that is as eccentric and witty as many of

the students and faculty.

Mike Jakse

P.S. - This year's issue of The Stagnant was hilarious.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Hockey player upset with paper's coverage

I would like to say that I'm disappointed with your coverage of the UMSL Inline Hockey team. The team went 9-2-1 in the regular season and 22-4-3 overall, including coming in third in a tournament which was comprised almost wholly of D1 teams. The team also has the nation-wide DII leader in scoring, James Wetton, with 83 points, and the nation's top goaltender in Thomas Ames (me), who leads in every stat category for DII. Where's the coverage?

The entirety of The Current's publications on the inline team consist of sporadic articles and a few pictures. We have the last "article" consisting of two pictures and captions, an article saying we're going to regionals, an article acting astounded that we have national championships on campus, and before that we have to look at an article from Gretchen Moore from 2/23/04. Even more surprising is the number of mistakes in a number of these articles, be it name misspellings or just outright wrong information.

My point isn't to "diss" your publication, but to question why more isn't said about the team if you're always looking for good news to report. And further, why so little is said when something is said at all.

I was looking forward to an article perhaps this week that would tell the "UMSL public" that the inline team was

heading to the national championship tournament in Ft. Collins, Colo. next week, to compete from April 13 through the 17, to defend their national championship. And perhaps something would be said about how well they've done this year, and maybe, just maybe some quotes from some of the players and the coach. I think they deserve it. But this hasn't been done.

Nothing has been said. And I'm left wondering if there will be an article next week, or the week after, or, if we win the national championship again, three months down the line. That's not news reporting, that's negligence.

For more information on the Inline hockey team, visit: www.ncrha.org/championships www.greatplainsinlinehockey.com

Thomas Ames, UMSL Goaltender

CURRENT, from page 1

The newspaper's appeal for funding was denied, and the funding committee sought to eliminate any future conflict.

After meeting with the committee several times and discussing several options, The Current decided to propose a referendum that, if passed, would directly seek the organization's printing bill from students. The Associated Students of the University of Missouri currently utilize a similar funding method.

Michael Pelikan, business manager for The Current, took part in the yearlong discussion concerning the future of the newspaper's finances.

"In the past, The Current has had to request our yearly printing budget through the Student Activities Budget Committee allocation process," he said. "SABC doles out funds to student organizations from a pool of money gained through the student activity fee. With one less student organization requesting funds, there will be more money available for the other organizations."

Pelikan explained that the direct

request would "allow The Current to budget more effectively for the following year." He said that the newspaper would be able to more accurately forecast business expenses because the staff could depend on an assured amount of funding each year.

"[The direct fee] will ensure the continued production of our paper without fear of massive cuts," he said.

The University Senate Publications Committee recently approved Mike Sherwin to serve as the 2005-2006 editor-in-chief of The Current.

"A direct fee would provide consistent funding mechanism to ensure a vibrant student newspaper for the future and every four years students will maintain the right to renew or do away with the direct subsidy. The student newspaper should be here to stay, and a direct fee will help ensure that," he said.

Sherwin noted that The Current serves several functions at UM-St. Louis.

"For a University without a jour-

nalism school, we act as a journalism laboratory on campus where students can get a taste of the varied fields media can offer," he said.

Student Government Association President Scott Bopp explained the process of a student referendum. He said the SGA votes whether or not to send certain issues to a student vote.

"Once it [passes through SGA] assembly, students vote online," he said.

Referendums come about for a variety of reasons, and Bopp said in general, issues that go to a student ballot revolve around "things that directly affect students or programs oriented towards students."

Past referendums include one for students to fund the Millennium Student Center construction and, more recently, one for students to fund a new wellness center. Students are also required to approve any changes to the SGA constitution.

Bopp emphasized that even after students approve a referendum, the Board of Curators must consent to any changes in policy or funding.

MIRTHDAY, from page 1

Rec Sports will be hosting informal volleyball games all day long. Student Life will sell Mirthday T-shirts with all proceeds going to a local charity.

Organizers say Mirthday is for the community as much as it is for students. They are trying to bring in a lot of the community through advertisements in an attempt to promote UM-St. Louis.

Chartwells will be selling food at the event. Some booths will be offering cotton candy and funnel cakes. The University Program Board will provide

snow cones.

The University Program Board and Student Life had originally wanted to hold the concerts at the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center. This created controversy since the Touhill claimed they were ill equipped to hold a rap concert.

"We like it outside. One reason we wanted to use the Touhill is we thought we would be helping it get more involved with students, and they could help with security but when it became

clear they were not equipped to handle such a concert, our reasons for wanting to use it were gone," Shanna Carpenter said.

Touhill personnel have said that many of the Touhill ushers and security, most of them volunteers, are aging and not up to the task of a rap or rock concert.

The budget for the event was \$43,000 and is so far under budget. Funding for the event comes from student activity fees.

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THEATRE

EDITOR

MELISSA McCRARY

Features Editor

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fax: 516-6811

the week's
**best
bets**

Mon. April 11
Prison Art
Exhibit

Phyllis Kornfield will present artwork created by prison inmates. This event will take place at 12:15 in the J.C. Penney Building and is sponsored by the Center for Humanities.

Wed. April 13
Ceramic Sculpture and
Works on Paper"

Catherine Magel, a local artist and educator, will display her work at Gallerio Visio in the Millennium Student Center. The exhibit will run through May 13. The opening reception will be held at 4 p.m. For more information about this event, contact Gallerio Visio at 516-7922.

Engel recounts accident that left him blind

BY MAEGHAN BROWN
Staff Writer

On Wednesday April 6, students gathered in the MSC Century Rooms A and B to listen to Marcus Engel speak about his life changing experience, in the presentation called "In the Blink of an Eye."

Escorted by his seeing-eye dog, Carson, Engel grabbed the audience's attention by cracking a few blind jokes. He travels around the country sharing his story to college students and perceptive audiences.

Raised in a small town in Missouri, Engel had many friends and family that knew him well. Most of all, they knew that he loved sports and played four years of football in high school. After high school, he decided to continue his education at Southwest Missouri State University.

As a freshman Engel became homesick only after six weeks at Southwest Missouri State. He decided to go home for the weekend to catch up on old high school friends, and it just so happened to be his high school's homecoming that weekend. Engel called up his old friend Tom to hang out and ended up at his front door. When Tom greeted Engel at his front door, he surprised him with four St. Louis Blues hockey tickets.

Engel, Tom, and two other friends, Kim and Vince, were coming back from the Blues game when Tom stopped at an intersection at South Hampton and Chippewa. Engel was riding shotgun; when he turned to look out his window all he saw was a black vehicle's headlights only inches away from him.

A drunk driver had run a red light and plowed into Tom's car. Engel suffered the most serious injuries. The drunk driver had three counts of second degree assault against him, but served only 120 days in prison.

While lying in his hospital bed, Tom tasted the bile from his stomach being pumped and felt immense pain from even the slightest movement. Engel remembered what had happened the night of the accident. He blacked out ten seconds after the other car hit him. Engel woke up face down on the road. He screamed as blood and teeth rolled out of his mouth while his left jaw hung off the hinge. His leg was broken and all of the bones in his face were fractured.

All Engel knew after the car accident was that he was in the hospital. He could not speak because his jaw was broken and he could not see because his eyes were so swollen. His father had called his aunt, a nurse, to come. She brought a pen and paper for Engel to write his questions down.

One of the things he wanted to know was, "How are my friends?" His aunt replied, "No one is dead and you were hurt the worst."

When the plastic surgeons finally went to reconstruct his face, they asked Engel's parents for an old photo so that they knew what he had looked like prior to the accident. Other doctors came to see Engel, specifically two ophthalmologists. The two doctors sat next to Engel and told him they could not save his sight. He would remain blind for the rest of his life.

However, Engel was determined to get back into college. He said that he had three options lying in that hospital bed: he could die or commit suicide, have someone wait on him hand and foot for the rest of his life or get on with his life.

"If there was one thing I could control, it was my attitude," Engel said. "No one could control that but me."

After returning home, Engel went to Colorado to a special school for the blind. He wanted to learn how to interact with the rest of the world. He saw being blind not as a disability, but as a disadvantage. He graduated from the school only after five months. Usually it takes 18 to 24 months to complete, but Engel was determined to finish his education.

"It's the things that you don't do that impress people the most," he said.

Going back to college was not as positive of an experience as it had seemed. Engel became very depressed. Then a close friend of his asked him to go to camp and be a counselor one summer. At first Engel thought he would be no help there, but his friend insisted he go. He wanted to show everyone that people with a disability can still contribute to others. Engel agreed to work at the camp.

At the end of the summer, a mother wrote a letter saying how her son did not enjoy the camp experience because fellow campers made fun of his weight. But, she said, the little boy did enjoy Engel because Engel did not know what the boy looked like and thus treated him equally. Engel knew then that he could make a difference.

Stefanie Struckhoff, freshman, nursing, attended the event on Wednesday.

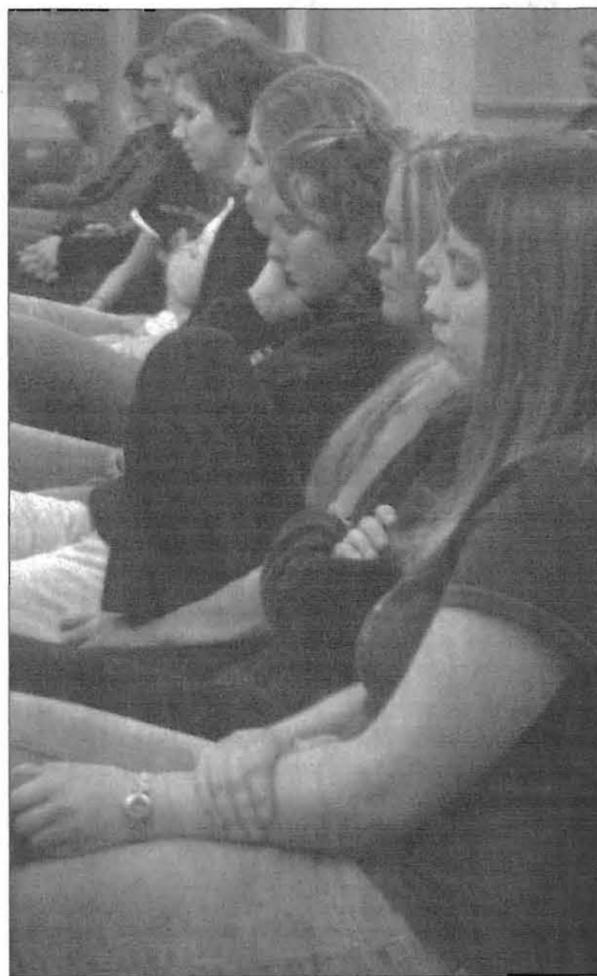
"Marcus Engel's story was very uplifting," she said. "I think it's cool he lets the world know that you can still achieve anything if you are determined."

Engel said he does not really think about the drunk driver, and that he thinks how he can improve and better himself everyday.

"Change the things you can, and don't worry about the things you can't," he said.



Mark Engel



Tenaz Shirazian/ The Current

As he shared his story, Engel asked the audience to close their eyes and imagine themselves in his situation. A car accident blinded him during his freshman year of college at SMSU.

Gallery Visio salutes women's rights pioneer



Erica Burrus/ The Current

Leslie and Tapei Cheng speak Thursday evening with Carola Veccio, daughter of Emily Hahn. The event ended the "Women on the Move" exhibition and highlighted the life of the writer, engineer, and women liberationist Emily Hahn.

'Feminine Mystique' puts talent to the mic

BY SHANTE DAVIS
Staff Writer

Words were poetically spoken, notes were beautifully sung and instruments were genuinely played as artists freely expressed themselves at the Chain of Arts Artists' Jam held on Thursday, March 31, in the Pilot House.

This event showcased the performance talents of a host of UM-St. Louis students as they performed in the celebration of Women's History month.

To set the tone for the event Kristina Thomas, junior, marketing, played a piano piece that she followed up with a spoken word piece entitled "Behind Closed Doors." Thomas was accompanied on stage by Andrea Richardson, freshman, English, and Pat Johnson, a graduate student working on her BFA in Studio Art, as they each took turns reciting original pieces of poetry.

Behind the performing artists was a slide show presentation high-

lighting and acknowledging inspirational campus women such as Judi Linville, communication professor and advisor for *The Current*, Nancy Gleason, assistant dean at the Honors College, and others.

A total of seven women performed including Olivia Ayes, senior, English, Fanita Caldwell, who is currently working on her bachelor's degree in Spanish and Annette Crymes, a student of the written word.

After inspirational and heartfelt poetry readings from the women, the mic was open to the audience. Cozene Watson was one of the few audience members who took advantage of the opportunity, with his rendition of The Commodores classic "Brick House."

"I first heard this song when I was a little boy about four or five years old," Watson said. "I wanted this to be my anthem for all of the beautiful women at UMSL."

After Watson mesmerized the audience with his high energy and soulful voice, the event went into intermission, allowing people to

mingle with the performers, enjoy the food, or stroll down the hall to Gallery Visio to view their art displays.

The night reconvened with the sweet and harmonic sounds of Geoff Koch, a song writer and guitarist, who performed a 45-minute set of original music including his song "Never Be Alone" where he says "The shooting stars are out from the galaxies/ Take this pain and wash it, wash it away."

Other performers included John Maxfield, also a song writer and guitarist and Alma Mater, a full band. After the show, the audience praised the performers and had the opportunity to purchase their CDs and t-shirts.

"I thought the event was incredible. I was exposed to a wide variety of expression all in one night," Jasimia Farmer, a prospective UM-St. Louis student, said.

For those who missed this Artists' Jam, Chain of Arts will be hosting another upcoming Jam on April 28, from 7 p.m. until 10 p.m. in the Pilot House.

Yale grad's new TV show focuses on cheap college cuisine

BY MAEGHAN BROWN
Staff Writer

Many UM-St. Louis students have budgets that they must stick to during college. Within their budgets they must find a way to get to class, sleep and eat. For most, ramen noodle soup is what suits their wallets and their busy schedules; but not for Dave Lieberman, who managed to eat well on a tight budget while at Yale University. Now he wants all college students to learn preparing a not so difficult meal.

Born in Philadelphia, Penn., Lieberman grew up watching his father cook. He soon learned to cook and this passion grew into his teenage years while he worked as a chef at a variety of restaurants throughout Philadelphia.

Lieberman started his own local cooking show at Yale University his senior year. He recruited a few of his friends to help produce the show. The show, "Campus Cuisine," was a huge hit for many students.

When Amanda Hesser from *The New York Times* discovered him, she put him on the front page.

After gaining some recognition and popularity, Lieberman published a book, "Young and Hungry: Making the Most of Fresh and Affordable Food." Food Network also wanted his fresh new cuisine and offered him a show. "Good Deals with Dave Lieberman" will premiere April 16 at 12:30 p.m. on the Food Network.

Beth Nold senior, graphic design, said, "I cook all the time and would love to watch Dave Lieberman's new show."

His new show keeps cooking quick, easy and affordable. One of his goals for college students is to help them learn how to prepare a fabulous meal on a low budget. Whether it is a meal for friends or a romantic evening for two, Lieberman will put the unwilling student in the mood to prepare the cuisine.

Natisha Paige, junior, business administration, said, "If I could cook a meal in short time I would; now I just cook when I have time."

Lieberman's main mission is for young people to learn how to live, entertain and eat like royalty, all on a tight budget.

'Good Deals with David Lieberman'

New TV show on stretching a college budget and making great low-budget meals.

Premiers on
Food Network
April 16, 12:30 p.m.

Sloppy Rigatoni

Needed: 1 box Rigatoni noodles (or pasta of choice)
1 box frozen, chopped spinach
16 ounce carton of ricotta cheese
A hearty shake of parmesan cheese
Red pasta sauce
Dash of nutmeg

Directions: Cook noodles. Drain. Combine spinach, ricotta cheese, parmesan cheese and nutmeg in a bowl. Mix. In a casserole dish, layer noodles, cheese mix, noodles, then pasta sauce. Bake at 375 degrees for 30 to 40 minutes. Serves five people or three hungry college students.

Bowling, Bubble Tea and Blueberry Hill

St. Louis' Delmar Loop is a trendy hangout and historic avenue

Photo by Erica Burrus • Story by Chrystal Holmes

Take a walk through St. Louis' Walk of Fame, dine and enjoy live rock n' roll, jazz and blues at Blueberry Hill; knock over pins in style at Pin-Up Bowl or just stop to enjoy a chewy, frothy Bubble Tea in St. Louis' Delmar Loop.

Blueberry Hill, located at 6504 Delmar, features the finest local and national bands in its Elvis Room and Duck Room. Once a month, the legendary Chuck Berry performs. Artists such as Sara McLachlan and John Mayall have also performed at Blueberry Hill.

Blueberry Hill is famous for not only its entertainment value, but also its food, especially their five or seven ounce hamburgers. There are over 20 sandwich selections, jerk chicken, homemade chili and soups. Blueberry Hill's menu also features vegetarian specials and a distinguished selection of imported and domestic beers.

Those who visit Blueberry Hill have the opportunity to purchase postcards, T-shirts, sweatshirts, bumper-stickers, magnets, pint glasses, shot glasses, CDs, baseball caps and other things.

After experiencing the blues, soul, reggae and rock and roll, stroll down to Pin-Up Bowl, located at 6191 Delmar between Blueberry

Hill and The Pageant.

Pin-Up Bowl is St. Louis' original bowling alley and martini lounge which features eight bowling lanes and a full bar. Visitors to Pin-Up Bowl will find walk-in rates that do not exceed \$5 per game Monday through Sunday. Shoe rental for bowlers over 12 years of age averages \$3, but those 12 and under can rent shoes for \$1.50. Pin-Up Bowl also features a pool hall where pool tables can be rented Monday through Sunday at a consistent rate of \$8 per hour. On Friday and Saturday rates are \$12 per hour.

Matt Johnson, senior, communication, said that Pin-Up is a great place to hang out with your friends and have a drink.

After bowling on Pin-Up's lanes, take a walk down memory lane on St. Louis' Walk of Fame.

The St. Louis Walk of fame immortalizes a series of 100 stars from today and yesterday in plaques that are set in the sidewalks along Delmar Boulevard. The Walk of Fame honors those born in St. Louis or who have spent their formative or creative years in the St. Louis area. A wide variety of inductees ranges from Maya Angelou to Redd Foxx.

Those who become thirsty while

visiting the Walk of Fame can stop for a refreshment at St. Louis Bubble Tea.

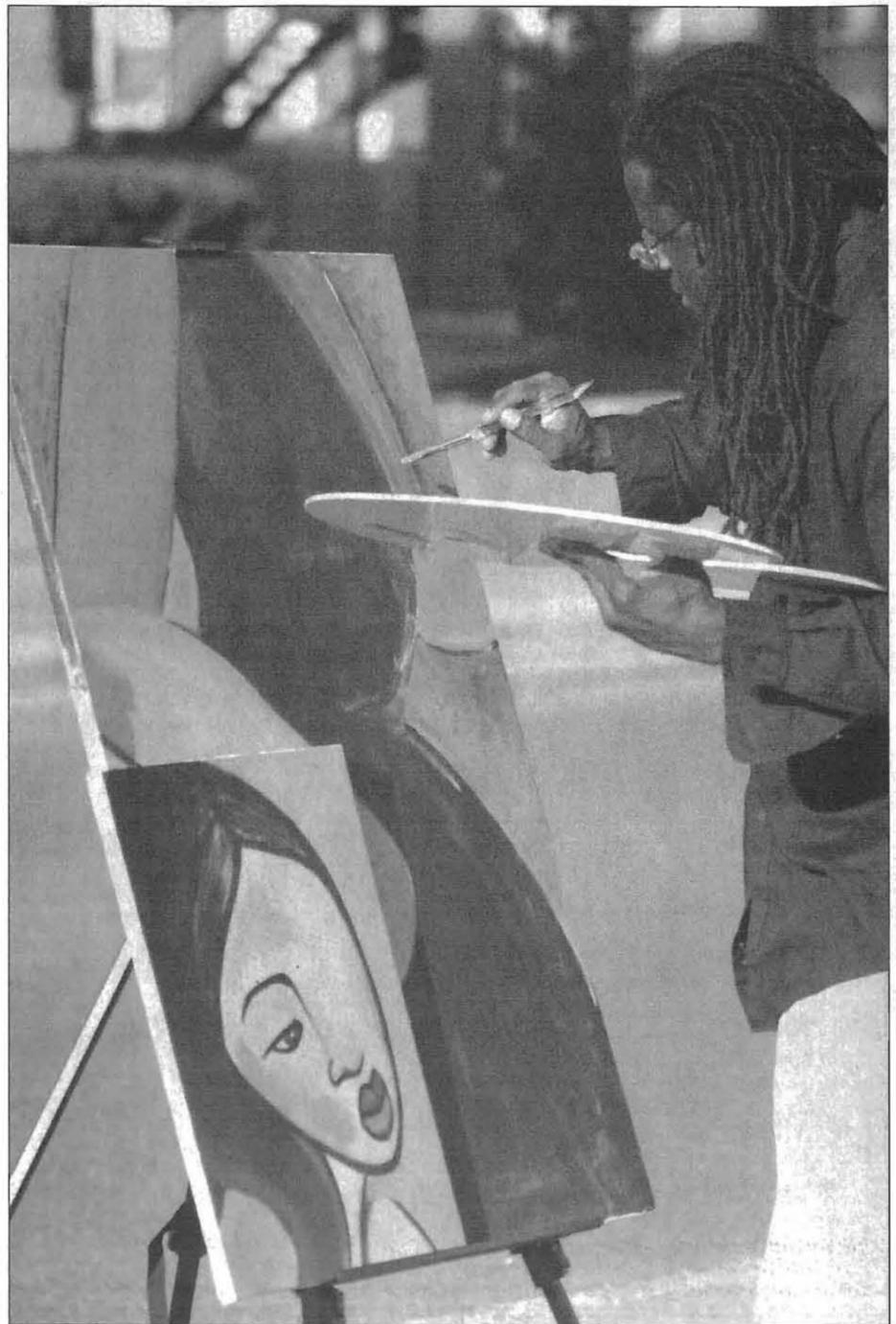
St. Louis Bubble Tea, located at 6677 Delmar Boulevard, is one of the newest additions to the Delmar Loop area. The beverage shop features drinks that are popular in Asia. The boba milk tea is made from tea, milk, sugar and marble-sized tapioca balls that are often referred to as boba. Drinks can be served hot or cold and come in a variety of flavors.

Michelle Albin, senior, communication, shared her experience visiting Bubble Tea.

"To get the full Bubble Tea experience I would recommend the boba and milk tea; it comes with the basic bubble tea milk tea with the boba in it," she said. "My personal favorite is boba milk tea with milk pudding."

Albin said that the boba is what makes Bubble tea different from other places.

No matter if you're in the mood for music, fine dining or history, the Delmar Loop area guarantees an exciting and new approach to all that the area has to offer. No matter how diverse the area's activities are, the degree of fun and excitement remains constant.



Erica Burrus/The Current

Painter Billy Williams, works on his latest piece on a sidewalk in University City near the Delmar Loop. Billy has shown his art at Gallery Visio in the past, but his work can now be seen at artjunkiesgallery.com.

RN Graduates



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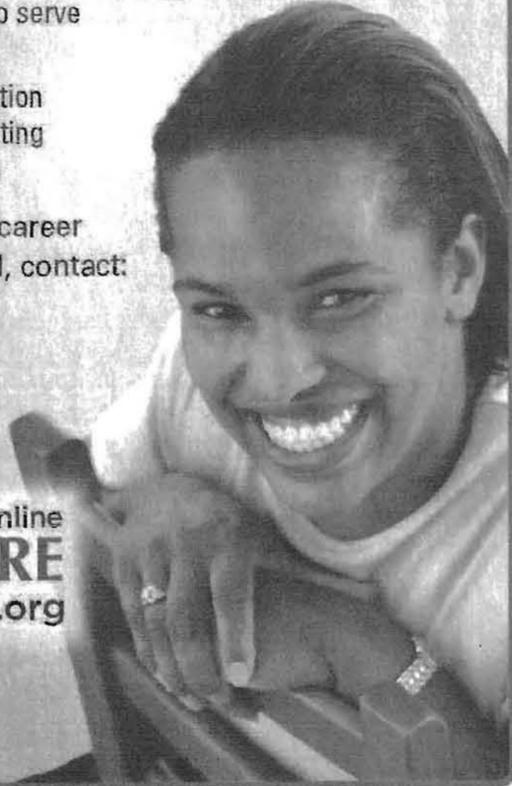
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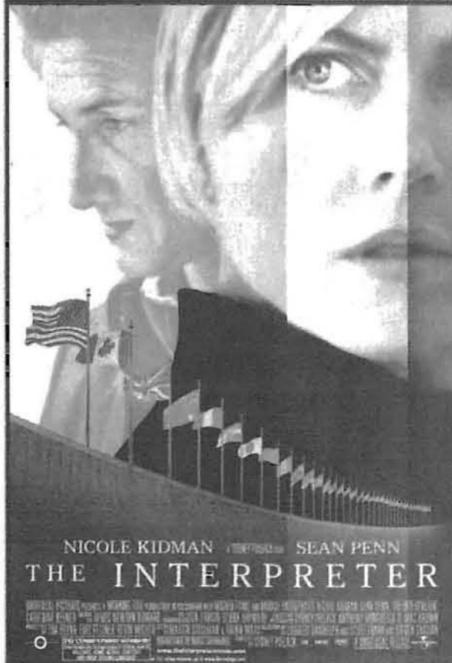


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SPORTS



Jesse Gater/The Current

Kim Kulaitis, Senior/3b, slides to beat the play at the plate against Bellarmine as the Riverwomen split the doubleheader on Saturday, April 9th.

Softball splits against Bellarmine

BY DAVE SECKMAN
Staff Writer

After a quick start to the season the Riverwomen softball team as of late has been having trouble getting back to the winning ways that they had. Going into the match-up against Bellarmine University the Riverwomen had only won two out of their last ten games, only averaging just under three runs a game in that span.

As the double-header started it looked as if the Riverwomen were ready to erase any doubts people may be having as they quickly moved runner into scoring position during the bottom half of the first inning. As the inning moved on, the Riverwomen were not able to capitalize and it would come back to haunt them as it has all season. Over the next five innings the Riverwomen would be outscored by a score of 5-0 by Bellarmine and they would not be

able to overcome the deficit.

The Riverwomen would go on to lose the game after they could only muster up a small but deflated comeback, as they eventually fell by the score of 6-3. For the game the Riverwomen got out-hit by a margin of 10-6 as they have now been out-hit in seven of their last ten games, in which one of those games they were shut out for a no-hitter.

Sophomore Emily Wagoner commented on the first game of the dou-

ble-header. "We have definitely played much better this year. We have had trouble finding a rhythm in the first few innings over the last few games and it has come back to hurt us in the end," said Wagoner.

In the second game of the double-header, the Riverwomen were finally able to get off to the start that they wanted as they came out led by the tough pitching of Jessica Coffey, as she allowed only 3 hits for the game in the winning effort 1-0. The

Riverwomen would have to work hard for the win as they waited until the bottom of the sixth inning to get the only run that they needed for the win off of a Corie Jones hit.

With the win the Riverwomen earned their first conference victory of the season and moved their overall record to 10-16 on the season. The team will next be in action on April 12 as they play host to Truman State University in a highly anticipated match-up.

EDITOR

JAMES DAUGHERTY
Sports Editor

phone: 516-5174
fax: 516-6811

UPCOMING

Inline Hockey
National Championships
in Fort Collins, Colorado

April 13 -17

• Get updates at NCRHA.org
or greatplainshockey.com

Baseball

April 12

• vs. SIU-E
2 p.m.

April 16

• vs. Northern Kentucky (DH)
Noon

April 17

• vs. Northern Kentucky (DH)
Noon

April 20

• vs. Quincy
Noon

Softball

April 12

• vs. Truman State
3:00 p.m.

Baseball struggles to get on base

BY JAMES DAUGHERTY
Sports Editor

As of late the men's baseball team have lost a bit of their starting momentum, as they have now dropped an unheard of six straight games. For the first time in the past five seasons the team has dropped more than four games in a row and the streak doesn't look as if it is going to heal itself anytime soon.

In the first rough double header of three in a row now for the Rivermen, they took on Kentucky Wesleyan for the second time this season. As they took the field for the first game they had no idea what they were in for on the day. In the first game, for the first time this season they were shut out losing 10-0. Kentucky Wesleyan jumped out quickly, getting three runs in the second inning and five runs in the third off of several errors by the Rivermen infield. The Panthers then added two runs in the fifth inning as the Rivermen were held to just one hit in the game, and were struck out nine times.

The second game started off looking much more promising as the team got the first run of the game in the opening inning off of an RBI double by Colby Hughes. It was not to be for the Rivermen though, as Wesleyan would take a lead in the second innings with two runs, and would never look back as they cruised to hand the Rivermen yet another disappointing 9-5 loss.

Junior Matt Rose commented on the games. "Both games we played awful, we could not get any offense for the life of us and they took advantage of it, we just need to start hitting a little better and we should be able to get back on track," said Rose.

After the poor performance against Wesleyan the Rivermen traveled to play Southern Indiana, a team that the Rivermen have not lost often to in the past four seasons. The Rivermen were held scoreless in the opener, managing just one hit in the game. Southern Indiana came out firing and rightfully so seeing that the Rivermen have handled them in the past few years. After a leadoff walk in the top of the first, 15 straight

Rivermen hitters were retired before another leadoff walk in the sixth inning, followed by the only hit of the day for the Rivermen as they eventually lost 5-0.

Things would not get any better in the second game though the Rivermen would keep it close throughout most of the game. The lead changed two times between the teams during the first few innings of the game, and as the game progressed into the sixth inning the Rivermen looked as if they would have a shot to pull it out, but it was not their day as they would surrender four runs in the next two innings and would eventually fall by the close score of 4-3. This handed the Rivermen their fourth straight loss in the conference for the first time in two years.

Senior Blake Burnside commented on the games. "We were slow from the get go. Every time we thought we could get something going they just started something of their own, it just wasn't our day, I guess," said Burnside.

In the next two games the



Mike Sherwin/The Current

A UM-St. Louis baseball player slides into base. The Rivermen have recently fought to maintain their early-season momentum.

Rivermen came in with clear heads and a different attitude but ended up getting the same results as they took on perennial rival Bellarmine University. In the opener, the Rivermen managed just one hit, a single in the top of the first, and were held scoreless and hitless for the remainder of the game in a 2-0 loss. The second game proved to be the best that the Rivermen have played in last

seven games or so as they took the game into extra innings before falling in a hard-fought battle 8-7.

In the next few weeks the team will be playing the core remaining conference games as they hope to get back on track with some key wins. Come support the team as they will be hosting Southern Illinois-Edwardsville in a double-header on April 12.

Off-season is the crucial time for coaches' recruiting efforts

BY BRYAN BOEDECKER
Staff Writer

The main thing that separates collegiate athletics from all other levels is recruiting. A collegiate player can only play his or her sport for four years and it is up to the coaching staff to continually find new players to bring into the program.

Recruiting is arguably the most important aspect of a college coach's job because the players ultimately win the games. Even the greatest coaches would have difficulty winning without a certain amount of talent. Recruiting is a daunting year-round process that is

undoubtedly vital to a program's success.

The two basketball coaches here at UM-St. Louis are in the midst of their off-season recruiting right now. The basketball season ended over a month ago for both teams, but this is still one of the most important times of the year with signing day approaching next Wednesday.

"The most important time for a Division II program is probably after the signing day, from about April to June," said Chris Pilz, head men's basketball coach. "That's when a lot of kids who thought they might be Division I prospects and don't get scholarship offers from those schools start to

become more interested in a program like ours."

Finding the right player is the most daunting task of the recruiting process. With so many high school and junior college players to choose from it is obvious that a coach does not have the time to look over them all. "Coaching is a networking business," said Lee Buchanan, head women's basketball coach. "You get phone calls from coaches of high school teams and AAU coaches, telling you to check out a certain player. You also get calls from parents and prospective players as well as getting sent videotapes of player's games."

After a coach identifies a player that might fit with their program

the next step is to watch them play. "Going out and watching kids play is the best way to get a feel for them and how they would fit in with our team," Coach Pilz said. However, the realities of a Division II program are such that some limitations are often put on who they will go see play. "We try to keep within a five or six hour radius. That's what has worked best for us," Coach Buchanan said.

Once you see a prospective player in person the coaches then try to make contact with them. Both basketball coaches stated that they get "about one in every 25 that they talk to." So how many people a coach will recruit depends heavily on how many players they need

for the upcoming season.

The final and most crucial part of recruiting is selling the school to the recruit. Where they are going to be spending the next four years of their life is obviously an important decision in the life of high school graduates. So what do you say to 18-year-old kids who are ready to embark on a new way of life? "The first thing I talk to a recruit about is getting their degree and education because as a Division II student-athlete that is an even more important part of a player's decision," Coach Pilz said. "I also stress that we play in the top Division II conference in the country and they have a good chance to play winning basketball here."

Men's tennis gets two more wins

BY JAMES DAUGHERTY
Sports Editor

The UM-St. Louis Men's Tennis Team returned to their winning ways with victories over McKendree College and conference rival Bellarmine University. The Rivermen defeated McKendree 5-4 in a very closely contested match, then followed up by sweeping Bellarmine 8-0.

On April 5 the Rivermen were tied 4-4 with McKendree with only one match left on the court - number one player Francis Lam. Lam, who was recently named March Athlete of the Month for the University, overcame stiff competition to defeat his opponent 6-4, 3-6, 6-4 and clench the win for the Rivermen. It was a fitting end for the sophomore, who has seen more success at the top position than was expected.

The match got underway with the Rivermen taking two out of three doubles matches. Mike Schaaf and Stephen Pobst won at number one

doubles 8-4, while Max Bugner and Ryan Burgdorfer lost at two doubles 8-1. Lam and Raj Saini played a spot lower at three, due to Saini having severe shin splints. They won their match despite the setback, 8-1.

McKendree came back in singles and gave the Rivermen a run for their money. Schaaf lost at two 6-3, 6-4; Pobst lost at three 6-0, 6-3; and Bugner lost at five 6-4, 6-1. Although McKendree had a few easy singles matches, so did the Rivermen. Bugner, playing two positions higher than normal, defeated his opponent 6-1, 6-2 and Saini won at six with an easy 6-1, 6-1. With the match tied at 4-4 Lam got the close win to seal McKendree out 5-4. "It was good for team morale to get a close win after our losses. I think it gave us some confidence going into the Bellarmine match," Lam said.

The McKendree win must have helped, because the Rivermen had no problems with Bellarmine University, a team that defeated them last season. In doubles the Rivermen got the 3-0

sweep without much difficulty at all. Schaaf and Pobst won at one 8-2; Lam and Saini won 8-3 after starting the match up 5-0, and at three Bugner and Burgdorfer overcame an early break to get an 8-5 win.

After doubles UM-St. Louis picked up where they left off with their singles matches. Pobst and Saini won the most convincingly, as neither one dropped a game in their 6-0, 6-0 wins at three and six, respectively. Pobst was pleased with his performance. "It was nice to go out and play better today than I have been. He was a pretty good player, so it felt good to be on top of my game and get a win," Pobst said. He and Saini were soon followed by Lam with a 6-2, 6-0 win at one, Burgdorfer with a 6-1, 6-3 win at four, and Bugner with a 6-2, 6-4 win at five. The closest match on the day was Schaaf's, a 6-0, 7-6 (2) win at two.

The wins put the Rivermen at 8-4 on the season. They will be in action again against Vincennes Junior College on April 12 and Washington University on April 13.

Pot-Luck...



Kevin Ottley/The Current

Sigma Pi active member Brandon Bassler collects a big pot win during his fraternity's fund-raising Texas Hold 'Em poker tournament. The event took place last month in the Pilot House and boasted prizes such as a \$100 Visa Card, a brand new mountain bike and a 9" Television/CD Player/AMFM Stereo.

Lam, Neukirch get 'Athlete of the Month'

BY BRYAN BOEDEKER
Staff Writer

Men's tennis player Francis Lam and Softball's Lisa Neukirch were named student athletes of the month for March by the UM-St. Louis Athletics Department. The award was the first for both Lam and Neukirch.

Neukirch is the everyday catcher for the Riverwomen softball team. She led the team with a .375 batting average during the month of March. She also paced the team with 15 hits, four doubles and seven RBIs. She is also, along with infielder Jennifer Thomas, one of only Riverwomen to hit a homerun this season. Neukirch has been difficult to strikeout as well, fanning in only five of her 72 at-bats, the fewest strikeouts of any player with

more than 10 at-bats.

Neukirch is a sophomore, business administration major, out of Notre Dame High School in St. Louis. Teammate, fellow sophomore and frequent battery-mate, Emily Wagoner has taken notice of Neukirch's hot play and its importance to the team. "One thing that Lisa does a great job of is protecting the plate. And obviously she is leading us offensively right now. I am really looking forward to seeing what she'll accomplish over the next few years." This season the Riverwomen softball team has a 10-16 record overall and a 1-5 mark in the GLVC.

Sophomore tennis player Francis Lam finished the month of March with a 5-1 record in singles play, while playing at the number one singles spot. He was a perfect 4-0 in conference

matches and his only loss during March came at the hands of a Division I opponent, St. Louis University. All of Lam's five singles wins in March came in straight sets. Lam also has a 5-1 record over the past month in doubles play with his partner Raj Saini. The duo's only loss also came in the match with St. Louis University.

"It's nice to be recognized individually," Lam said. "But the important thing is winning and doing well as a team. Hopefully we will continue to do that with the conference tournament coming up.

Lam is a math major who originally hails from Kettering, England. Overall this season Lam posts a 9-1 record in number one spot matches and a 6-1 conference mark. As a team the Rivermen have an 8-5 overall record and are 5-3 in the GLVC.

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Board Seat Elections

Friday, April 15 during SGA Meeting

The Board of Directors is the governing body of ASUM. The board decides what issues the ASUM will advocate and oppose. Students from each of the four campuses of the UM system comprise the board. Members of the board are elected by each campus's student government. The board meets monthly to discuss various legislative issues facing the students of the state. The Board of Directors also works with the ASUM legislative staff to develop ASUM's national policy and track issues before Congress.



The purpose of the Associated Students of the University of Missouri shall be to educate students about the political process; to increase political awareness, concern, and participation among students; to provide the public with information concerning student interests; and to channel student energy and interest in the government process.



Monday Noon Series features UMSL author

Mary Troy reads from her latest, 'Cookie Lily'

BY MELIQUEICA MEADOWS
Staff Writer

Award winning author and UM-St. Louis associate professor Mary Troy read from her critically acclaimed book, "Cookie Lily," at last week's Monday Noon Series.

Released in 2004, the book contains several short stories including "The Most Beautiful Girls in the World" which she read to the audience. The story is told through the eyes of Shelly, a 30-something woman from a large family of beautiful women. Her cousin, Bev, is a disabled woman of the same age who is marginalized from the main society because of her disability and her inner anger. Shelly is an eternal optimist always willing herself to look on the bright side of things.

"She's automatically on the fringes of a lot, especially in her own mind," Troy said, describing the character of Bev. "Shelly is also marginalized but Shelly is the determined optimist who would never think that to herself because then she would think she wouldn't be as good and she would have to try to be all that much more positive."

"The thing about these two women, Bev and Shelly, what I like about them is they're so opposite," Troy said. "They're opposite as two women who are of the same age, who are of the same nationality and the same ethnicity and the same family can be. They represent different poles to me and that's why I like to use

them." In fact, Troy has used both characters in several of her writings including "Alibi Café and Other Stories" which is set in a fictitious South St. Louis eatery. However, the setting for "The Most Beautiful Girls in the World" is Hawaii.

"In my novel, Bev is not quite so mean. She has a real nurturing side," Troy said. "I kind of like that about her too but I like her anger and I like her cynicism. Shelly is based on an awful lot on my own mother who would swear up and down she had never been unhappy in her whole life. There's this sort of determined upbeat-ness that I sort of like."



Mary Troy
Associate professor of English at UM-St. Louis and author of 'Cookie Lily,' which is available in the bookstore.

"Cookie Lily" is a critically acclaimed collection of nine short stories and one novella all set in Hawaii. The stories included in the collection are "Luau," "The Most Beautiful Girls in the World," "Island Entertainment," "Group Home," "Happy Birthday Gerald Meatloaf," "Beach Dogs," "Falling in Love," "Fantasy," "Talk Story" and "Cookie Lily."

Mary Troy is an associate professor of English at UM-St. Louis and is also the author of "Joe Baker is Dead" and "The Alibi Cafe." Her work has been published in *The Chicago Tribune*, *The American Literary Review* and *The Greensboro Review*. She has won numerous awards, including the Nelson Green Award from *The Chicago Tribune*. "Cookie Lily" is available for purchase in the UM-St. Louis bookstore.

TERRORISM, from page 1

A nuclear bomb requires highly enriched uranium or plutonium, both of which do not occur naturally and are difficult to produce.

However, the greatest threats come from the former Soviet Union, where there are many already-built nuclear weapons, some small and portable, and poor security coupled with wide-spread economic incentives and corruption.

Small portable nuclear bombs have the greatest appeal to terrorists. Allison told the audience that both the U.S. and the former Soviet Union produced small nuclear bombs, some small enough to fit in a briefcase, and there were a number of them in the

Soviet Union. "We are living on borrowed time," Allison said. Right now, he asserted, a nuclear terrorist attack on the U.S. is inevitable. "If our government, and Israeli and European governments continue to do what they are doing now, it is more likely than not, maybe fifty-one percent, that a nuclear attack will happen," said Allison. But, he adds, we can reduce this possibility to "almost zero" if we "take simple, do-able steps now."

He said that the key to this was for governments to act now, in advance of an attack and to use his three "No's." Allison's three "No's" were: no loose nukes, no new nukes and no

new nuclear states. For his "no loose nukes" step, he said that the world needs to cooperate to secure in place, or move to a safe place, all nuclear bombs and bomb-making materials.

Next, "no new nukes" would mean stopping the creation of facilities that have nuclear fuel production capacity. The already-nuclear nations could supply this fuel material to nuclear power plants in other nations, rather than having each nation produce its own. This step would be more difficult and would require that we promise not to attack nations on the verge of nuclear weapons, like Iran.

For the last step of "no new nuclear states," Allison recommended that we make this the only priority in negotiating with a nation like North Korea, setting aside all other goals. He recommended that we offer a combination of "carrots and sticks," but with more carrots, to entice a nation like North Korea to comply.

Graham Allison's talk to the packed room provided a wide ranging and accessible look at a looming danger that all Americans need to be talking about, especially with their elected officials who are in a position to put these simple, direct steps into action, before another 9/11 takes us by surprise.

RESEARCH, from page 1

Increasing jobs, providing additional funding for schools, social welfare and health care are examples of some of the past topics that have been presented.

The posters are displayed by the students in the rotunda of the capitol along with those from other colleges. After exhibiting their work, they are introduced to the House, the Senate and different state Legislators.

Thiel said that usually they are allowed to take up to 10 to 12 students, but this year five students along with four projects took part in this year's Research Day.

The students who participated included Kathleen Naes, Kerry McKinney, Gretchen Haupt, Maksymilian Szostalo and Allison Miller.

Kerri McKinney, senior, social work and psychology and Kathleen Naes, senior, social work presented their project entitled "Fire Death and Injury among Low-Income Children."

Working under the direction of Dr. Margaret Sherraden in the School of Social Welfare, McKinney and Naes completed research examining the causes of fire injury and death among

young children from low-income households. Along with reading numerous studies, reviews and newspaper clippings, their research also consisted of conducting numerous interviews with fire chiefs, building commissioners, human service directors, hospitals and other St. Louis health officials.

Some of the headlines for their project read, "Two children, ages 3 and 5, die in apartment fire, cause unknown" and "Family trapped in burning home, bars on doors and windows."

Gretchen Haupt, senior, anthropology presented her research "Perceptions of Race According to Skin Color."

Haupt described the basis of her research.

"I wanted to reiterate the fact there are no biological foundations to the concept of separate human races, but rather that it is purely a social construction," Haupt said. "I wanted to avoid the stereotypical categorization of people by facial features and attire, so I obtained paint samples in various shades of brown to represent skin colors."

Haupt used her paint and color

samples to conduct a survey by UM-St. Louis students from the Honors College. Those who participated in the study were asked to organize the color chips from lightest to darkest, and to indicate which colors were mostly related to different ethnicities.

The main purpose of her research was to show how people often misjudge other's race by their skin colors.

Haupt said that her interest in this subject grew out of a term paper from a Human Diversity class she had taken, taught by Donna Hart in the Department of Anthropology.

"It is my plan to pursue this topic for my undergraduate thesis work and to hopefully continue my studies post graduate," Haupt said

Born in Poland, during the fall of communism, Szostalo, senior, history, completed a project that consisted of translating the German edition of "The Mysteries of New Orleans" by Baron Ludwig von Reizenstein.

After translating the book's original language from Fraktur to English, Szostalo's final draft became published, restoring a form of the German language, which existed over 100 years ago and allowing more people to be able to read the novel.

Assisting with the designing of a survey for the Missouri Small Business Assistance Center, now located on the UM-St. Louis campus and hosted by the College of Business Administration and Continuing Education and Outreach, Miller, graduate, marketing student was able to determine whether the center's services were helpful and beneficial to the community.

At the Capitol, all five students were able to show off their hard work, while promoting their education from UM-St. Louis.

Thiel said that the group left on Tuesday at 5 a.m. and did not return until about 5 p.m.

"The students had a great time and enjoyed showcasing their research," Thiel said.

With the dedication and determination with supplying their research, all five students hope that their work might make a difference to the state or raise awareness surrounding some concerning topics.

For those interested in participating in next year's undergraduate Research Day at the capitol, or would like to find out information about the program call 516-5501.

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