



Oakland A's sign
UMSL player

See page 10

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI - ST. LOUIS

16 charged in thefts from sports store

BY MELISSA S. HAYDEN
News Editor

A former UM-St. Louis baseball player was charged with seven counts of felony stealing and eight counts of misdemeanor stealing. Fifteen others were charged for their involvement in the thefts. Seven were charged with one count each of felony stealing, and eight were charged with misdemeanors.

According to court documents from the St. Louis County Circuit Court, Mickey Jo Wallace, sophomore, elementary education, stole an estimated \$14,272 worth of merchandise and cash from the Dick's Sporting Goods at Westfield Shoppingtown's West County Mall in Des Peres.

The documents stated that the stealing incidents took place between Dec. 1, 2005 and Feb. 10, 2006. Wallace worked at the Des Peres location during that time.

He admitted to thefts and to ringing up false returns using debit cards to put money into his friends' accounts that were given to him.

Four other players were involved in the thefts. Ryan Grooms, senior, management information systems, and Michael Lantzy, senior, chem-

istry, have been charged with one count each of felony stealing.

Josh Morgan, alumnus, who majored in criminology and criminal justice, and Joseph Russo, junior, biology have been charged with misdemeanors.

The court documents state that Grooms was involved in a false return of \$800, after which he gave money to Wallace.

According to the documents, Lantzy was involved in merchandise thefts on two occasions. About \$717 worth of merchandise "for a ski trip" which he did not pay for was taken from the store. After the incidents, both Grooms and Lantzy gave money to Wallace.

Head Baseball Coach Jim Brady said Wallace was "gone" from the team before this season even started. Brady made the decision to suspend Wallace from the team after he found out Wallace was not attending classes.

Brady said the situations involving the other players were each unique and the decisions regarding them would rely on discussions with their attorneys. "Whatever needs to be done will be done," he said.

see **BASEBALL**, page 11

Criticism of Bush, Iraq war gets Clay boos from crowd

BY SEAN MICHAEL
Staff Writer

Rep. William "Lacy" Clay's commencement speech created a stir when he began to criticize President Bush and the war in Iraq.

Rep. Clay spoke at the commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 13 at the Mark Twain Building.



Rep. William 'Lacy' Clay, Jr.

Clay began his speech by telling the story of his own path through college at the University of Maryland at College Park.

After he was placed on academic probation for poor grades, his father stopped paying for school and Clay began working a part time job and paid for his own education.

He told the audience that after graduation he decided to turn down a good job in order to attend law school and then run for public office.

In the middle of his speech, after giving graduates quotes from the Dalai Lama on how to lead a happy and meaningful life, the audience became markedly hostile when Clay began criticizing President Bush

and the war in Iraq.

According to a transcript of the speech, Clay said, "When I visit a college campus, I feel a responsibility to give you the facts about this war and ask for your help in ending it."

Clay said, "President Bush took this country to war by choice; not because we had to fight, but because he wanted a fight."

Clay said the war had racked up a cost so far of almost \$400 billion, and the "much greater cost" of the lives of 2,428 soldiers and 39,000 innocent Iraqi civilians.

Many audience members booed the congressman.

Brandon Dempsey, who was awarded his bachelor's degree in communication at the ceremony, said he felt Rep. Clay's speech was inappropriate.

Dempsey said he felt the speech should have provided words of wisdom to support the students for the future. According to Dempsey, Clay used the commencement speech as a platform for his liberal agenda.

Graduate Becky Rosner, mass communications, said, "I felt shocked that Clay would bring his political views to a graduation ceremony."

see **CLAY SPEECH**, page 12

REMEMBERING DENNIS BOHNENKAMP 1945 - 2006



Mike Sherwin/ The Current

Robert Bliss, dean of the Pierre Laclède Honors College, speaks about retired associate dean Dennis Bohnenkamp at a memorial service on Sunday at the Provincial House chapel. More than 200 people attended the service.

Campus mourns loss of longtime professor

BY PAUL HACKBARTH
Staff Writer

Dennis Bohnenkamp, better known as the "Lord of Misrule," died June 1 following complications from heart surgery. He was 60.

Bohnenkamp, senior lecturer and retired associate dean for the Honors College, suffered from a heart attack in the early 1980s. He was having a heart valve replaced at Barnes-Jewish Hospital at the time of death.

Bohnenkamp was remembered at a memori-

al service Sunday afternoon in the Provincial House Chapel of the Honors College, where more than 200 people attended.

Among the attendants, Bohnenkamp's fiancée, Lucie Beaudet; his son, Max; and his sister, Lynn Elders, attended the service.

Max spoke about his father at the memorial. "I'm not normally at a loss of words about my dad," he said, trying to hold back tears.

"My father was and always will be the first and best friend, my first and best teacher, the one who taught me everything else," he said.

"The man whose enthusiasms was imparted to

me as to become my enthusiasms and the man whose annoyances was imparted to me as to become my annoyances."

Nancy Gleason, associate dean of the Honors College, described Bohnenkamp as one of her closest friends. "It's hard to describe how much fun he was," she said. "He was the kind of person who was once a friend, always a friend."

Before his involvement with the Honors College, he taught in the English department.

see **BOHNENKAMP**, page 9



Mike Sherwin/ The Current

A lone baseball is among the debris at the site of the former baseball field. A new field will be constructed on South Campus, on land where the observatory currently stands.

Baseball field's move will mean new home for UMSL observatory

BY BEN SWOFFORD
Staff Writer

The Physics and Astronomy departments of UM-St. Louis held an open house at the Richard D. Schwartz Observatory on June, aimed at exciting interest in astronomy for students and the public. However, students, faculty and the public may have to travel a greater distance to partake in the open observatory sessions.

The Astronomy Observatory will have to be moved to make way for the proposed baseball field on south campus.

"We will have to move eventually," said Bruce Wilking, physics professor and chair of the Department of Physics and Astronomy. "We will probably have until next summer."

Although no plans have been finalized, the baseball field will probably sit on or next to the Observatory site. The

University's administration is waiting on recommendations of the physics astronomy department of possible locations before moving forward, Jonathan Yordy, coordinator of Public Relations.

"We have had a student testing new sites and we have identified some possible sites on campus," Wilking said.

Two possible locations are by the Fine Arts Building and the softball field, and one that would be further south, by Incarnate Word Academy. He said a location on campus is not guaranteed.

The "ideal situation," according to him, would be to have the Observatory on campus with a dark sky location. "However, you will never have a place on campus where the sky is dark," he said.

see **OBSERVATORY**, page 1

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At Circus Flora

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Around the world with
Jean-Germain Gros

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Bulletin Board

Put it on the Board:
 The Current Events Bulletin Board is a service provided free of charge to all student organizations, University departments and divisions. Deadline for submissions to The Current Events Bulletin Board is 5 p.m. every Thursday before publication. Space consideration is given to student organizations and is on a first-come, first-serve basis. We suggest all postings be submitted at least one week prior to the event. Send submissions via mail at 388 MSC, One University Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63121, fax at 516-6811 or email at current@jinx.umsl.edu.
All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.

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

Fri. June 16 and Sat. June 17

Metropolitan Government Conference

A two-day conference will examine how metropolitan areas deal with governance versus government trade-off. Twelve different scholars will make presentations, including Terry Jones, political science professor at UM-St. Louis. The conference will be held in the J.C. Penney Conference Center starting at 9:30 a.m. Friday and 9 a.m. Saturday. The Public Policy Research Center is sponsoring the conference. Call 5827 for more information.

Sat. June 17

New Student Orientation

A new student orientation will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Millennium Student Center for incoming freshmen

enrolling in the College of Arts and Sciences, College of Fine Arts and Communication and undecided majors. For more information, call 5291.

Mon. June 19

Summer Music Workshop for Teachers Begins

A five-day workshop "Music! Words! Opera!" will be held from June 19 through Friday, June 23 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Music Building Room 205. Teachers in the St. Louis region can attend the workshop for a \$25 fee. Cost for other teachers is \$125. For more information, call 5974.

Basketball Camps Begin

Coach Chris Pilz, head of men's basketball at UM-St. Louis, will offer the first of three summer basketball camps starting June 19 through June 23. The camps are open to boys ages 5 to 15. The camps will meet in the

Mark Twain Athletics and Fitness Center from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Cost is \$150. The next two camps will run from July 10 to July 14 and July 31 to Aug. 4. Call 5638 for more information.

Thurs. June 22

Storytelling Course Begins

A seven-day course on developing storytelling skills will be offered beginning June 22 and will run through June 30. The course will be held from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. each day in 222 J.C. Penney Conference Center. The noncredit course fee costs \$285 or can be taken at undergraduate and graduate summer rates for credit. Call 5948 for more information.

Fri. June 23

New Student Orientation

A new student orientation will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Millennium Student

Center for incoming freshmen enrolling in the College of Business, College of Education, College of Nursing and the Joint Undergraduate Engineering Program. For more information, call 5291.

Sat. June 24

Ambassadors of Harmony at the Touhill PAC

The Ambassadors of Harmony, the international champion chorus headquartered in St. Charles, Mo., will be performing two shows at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. at the Touhill Performing Arts Center. Tickets are \$23, \$20 and \$17. Call 4949 or visit www.touhill.org for ticket information.

Announcements

Summer Movies/Concert in Ferguson Park

Free movies and a concert will be offered at the Bandshell in January-Wabash Park in

Ferguson on Thursdays throughout June and July. The first event on Thursday, June 15 will feature the movie, *March of the Penguins*, starting at 8:45 p.m. A concert featuring the band, Boeing Band, will play Wednesday, July 19. The park is located at 501 N. Florissant Road. For more information, call (314) 521-4661.

Host Families Needed

The Center for International Studies is looking for local families to host a group of visiting students from Rikkyo University in Tokyo, Japan. The students will be on campus from Aug. 1 through Aug. 20 attending classes. Host families are needed for the weekend of Aug. 4 through Aug. 6. Call 6838 for more information.

Put your event on the Bulletin Board by emailing information to current@jinx.umsl.edu

Campus Crimeline

The following incidents were reported to the UM-St. Louis police department between April 30, 2006 and June 10, 2006. Remember that crime prevention is a community effort, and anyone having information concerning these or any other incidents should contact the campus police at 516-5155.

May 3 and May 4 Property Damage - New Dorm Construction Site, South Campus

On the mornings of the May 4 and May 5, the construction workers at the new dormitory discovered property damage. The same damage was done on two separate days. The workers indicated that a large portable toilet used by the construction personnel on the fifth floor was apparently moved onto the construction elevator, then pushed from the fifth floor off of the building and crashing to the ground. On both mornings the remnants of the action were found in pieces in the dirt/mud. Each unit valued at over \$680.00 was completely destroyed as a result of this incident.

May 4, 2006 Stealing Over \$500 - 517 Clark Hall

A bag was left unsecured in an office area. The victim was in and out of the office during the day. At one time when she returned to the office, she discovered that the bag was left open and her wallet with cash and credit cards was stolen. According to witnesses in the area a suspicious subject was noted in the hallway, just before the occurrence.

May 6 Property Damage - Parking Lot Q

A window of a parked vehicle was broke out by some juvenile suspects who ran away from the area.

May 8 Property Damage - Millennium Student Center - Men's Restroom

Person(s) unknown spray painted some anti-homosexual words in one of the stalls in the bathroom.

May 9 Burglary Second Degree - University Meadows Apartments

The victim reported person(s) unknown entered his apartment and

stole 20 vinyl records from a box inside his bedroom. The victim's bedroom is one of four in the apartment, and the victim indicates that when he leaves he usually does not lock the door to his room.

May 10 Stealing Over \$500 - Tower Building

The victim left her laptop computer in the room unsecured and when she returned about an hour later the computer was gone.

May 12 Stealing Under \$500.00 - Parking Lot Q

A faculty member reported that sometime during the day, person(s) unknown removed the parking permit from his vehicle.

May 12 Stealing Under \$500 - Clark Hall

The victim reported that her cell phone was stolen from the office area.

May 13 Burglary Second Degree - University Meadows Apartments

The victim reported that he had left earlier in the night and when he returned to his apartment at about 3:00 am he found his front door open, his bedroom door open and someone sleeping in his bed. The victim did not know this person, however the roommate identified this person by first name only as a subject he knew, that was probably just sleeping off his state of intoxication. The roommates apparently allowed this subject to leave prior to the arrival of the police. The victim reported that he is missing a Sony Play Station 2, a Dell MP3 player and some cologne. It is unknown at this time if the person in the bed is the person responsible for stealing the items

May 16 Warrant Arrest - Daughters of Charity

A subject was arrested on an outstanding warrant from the City of Ferguson.

May 16 Stealing Under \$500 - Millennium Garage North

The victim reported that she left her car parked in the Millennium Garage North from March 30 while she was out of town. When she returned to her

car she discovered that the license plate tabs were missing from the car.

May 17 Drug violation - Normandy Trace Drive

While doing a scheduled safety and security check of the apartments, the personnel from the Mansion Hills discovered some marijuana drug paraphernalia in the apartment in plain view. The owner of the apartment was not home at the time, and the UM-SL Police responded and seized the illegal items. When the owner returns he will face charges for possession of drug paraphernalia.

May 18 Endangering the Welfare of children - Performing Arts Center circle drive.

A parked car was found by the UM-SL Police in the east circle of the Performing Arts Center with three small children inside. The vehicle was locked and the windows were rolled up. The children were jumping up and down in the backseat screaming.

May 18 Endangering the Welfare of children - Performing Arts Center circle drive.

A Sergeant from the police department arrived and managed to open the car door. The three children (twins age 2 and one female age 7) were able to tell officers that they were told by their mother to stay in the car while she went into the Performing Arts Center.

After making announcements for the owner of the car to come outside, the mother appeared outside and told officers that she had only gone inside for a few minutes to take pictures of a cousin who was graduating.

The mother was arrested for endangering the welfare of children and the three children were placed into emergency protective custody by the UM-SL Police Department. A hotline call was made on the situation and the children were later placed into a temporary foster care home. The mother is facing criminal charges of Endangering the Welfare of a Child.

May 19 Drug violation - Normandy Trace Drive

While doing a scheduled safety and security check of the apartments, the personnel from the mansion hills discovered some marijuana drug paraphernalia in the apartment in plain view. The owner of the apartment was

not home at the time, and the UM-SL Police responded and seized the illegal items. The owner returned and was given a summons for possession of drug paraphernalia.

May 25 Stealing Over \$500 - Normandy Trace Drive

The victim reported that a Play Station Game and a quilt were stolen from her apartment sometime overnight while she was gone.

May 25 Property Damage - Lot E

An outside rearview mirror on a parked car was damaged by unknown person(s).

May 26 Destruction of Property - Normandy Residence Hall - Conference Center

A staff member with the maintenance department reported that damage was done to a door that leads to a storage area. It appears that nothing was taken from inside.

May 25 Stealing Over \$500 - Mark Twain Building

Two victims reported that during their workout, person(s) unknown broke the locks off of two lockers in the men's locker room and stole the contents from inside. The theft included two cell phones, wallets, cash, credit cards and clothing. An article of clothing was later found and recovered on the North Metro Link platform, and still had the victim's keys in the pocket. The rest of the items were not located.

May 31 Property Damage - Parking Lot JJ

A Visitor to campus, and part of the M-FUGE program found damage to her car. The victim indicated that sometime overnight person(s) unknown squirted some sort of hand lotion on the car windows, tore off the left outside rear view mirror, and also stole the vehicle gas cap. No other cars on the lot had damage, and the victim does not know who may have done this.

June 1 Trespassing Second Degree/Warrant Arrest - Millennium Student Center

A person was found by Police in the Millennium Student Center after hours,

and after a check revealed he had outstanding warrants for his arrest. This subject was arrested on the outstanding warrants, and also faces charges of Trespassing.

June 4-Warrant Arrest - Daughters of Charity-Food Service Area

An employee for Chartwells Dining Service was arrested on an outstanding warrant from Maryland Heights Police Department.

June 6-Warrant Arrest for Assault First Degree-University Circle at Natural Bridge

A motorist (not related to the University) was stopped on a traffic violation, and police determined the subject to be wanted for assault-first degree out of the St. Louis City Police Department. The female subject was arrested and later picked up by detectives with the St. Louis City police.

June 8-Stealing Under \$500 - Millennium Student Center

A victim left her bicycle in the Millennium Student Center Building near the Bridge area. She left it unattended and not secured for a few minutes. When she went back, the bicycle was gone.

June 9-Stealing Under \$500 - Marillac Hall-Optometry Clinic

The clinic reported that \$100 in cash was taken from the clinic. The clinic was opened for business at the time, however, nothing suspicious was observed by the employees.

June 9-Stealing Under \$500-West Drive Garage

The victim reported that person(s) unknown forcibly entered his parked truck and stole numerous items from inside. The theft occurred between 9:30 a.m. and 1:10 p.m. The victim indicated that the items included a laundry basket full of clothes, a backpack with books, an MP3 player, and a remote control. The entry was gained by prying a small hole in the door near the handle and disabling the locking mechanism.

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PRIZM targeted by graffiti found in campus restrooms

BY MELISSA S. HAYDEN
News Editor

Anti-gay statements and swastikas were found in restrooms on campus. One of the restrooms had graffiti in it aimed, specifically at PRIZM, UM-St. Louis' gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender student organization.

The phrase "PRIZM=fags" was found in a men's restroom on the third floor of the Millennium Student Center.

Brian Rails, vice president of

PRIZM, who will become PRIZM's president this fall, said he was out-of-town when the graffiti was found in the MSC restroom, but he received a phone call upon discovery.

"It's disheartening, but it's a reality," Rails said. "If you're going to be openly gay and be proud of who you are, it's something that your going to have to face."

He said PRIZM members who were in town went through the "proper channels" to get the problem resolved. Orinthia Montague McGhee, assis-

tant vice provost of Student Affairs, said in an e-mail that Student Affairs is aware that some graffiti was found in on of the MSC's restrooms.

To her understanding, the University police were called and responded to the matter.

Montague McGhee also stated there is "very little" that Student Affairs can do because the individual or individuals involved have not been identified.

Deborah Burris, director of the Office of Equal Opportunity, said she

received a call from Mike Rankins, GLBT diversity coordinator of Student Life and PRIZM's

faculty adviser, three weeks ago concerning the issue, but that no students have filed a formal complaint.

More graffiti was found in a men's restroom on the first floor of the Social Sciences Building. This graffiti included swastikas, the words "burn all the prisons" and an anti-gay poem that stated, "Roses are red, violets are blue, if you are gay, then you will die, too."

Under the poem, someone wrote,

"Your father didn't love you, did he?" Malaika Horne, director of the Diversity Task Force, said incidents were not addressed until the end of the task force's last meeting.

"We were almost out the door before (it was) brought up," Horne said.

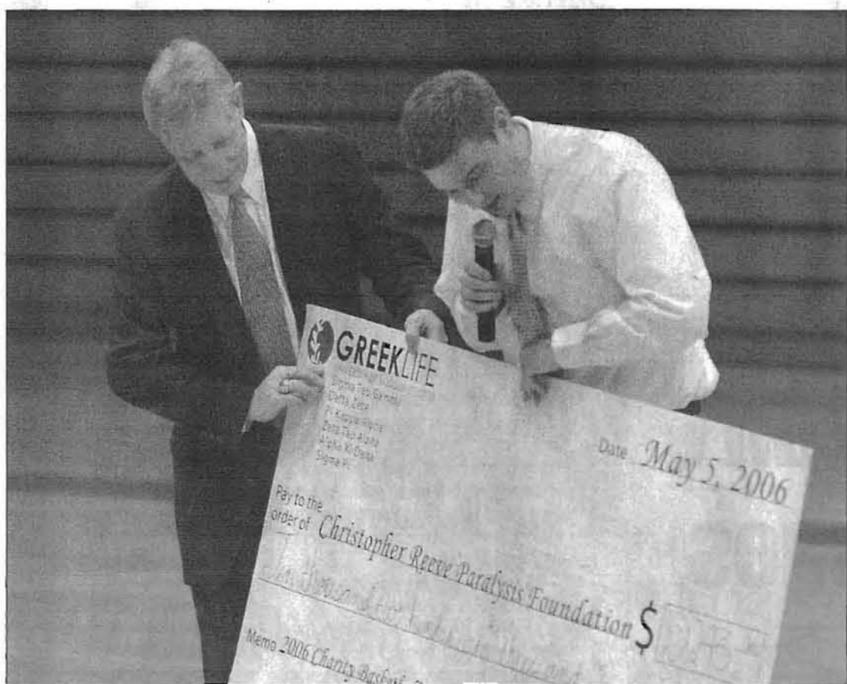
She said the task force has not had an opportunity to address this issue because organization's next meeting will not be held until the fall. However, she said she plans to continue to help the task force address the issue.

"Racism, anti-Semitism and homophobia and all biases that can't be tolerated," she said. "Bias against any group cannot be tolerated. This is unacceptable; nobody should be subjected to this kind of hatred."

Student Government Association President D'Andre Braddix said he thought the graffiti was "rather immature, to say the least" and he wants to see the person or persons involved to be found and disciplined.

The graffiti has since been removed from the restroom walls.

Greeks hold fundraiser



Mike Sherwin/The Current

John Waterhouse, senior, electrical engineering, presents a ceremonial check to a representative of the Christopher Reeve Paralysis Foundation for \$10,243 last month. UM-St. Louis Greek Life organized a charity basketball fundraiser for the organization.

UMSL chemistry professor discovers potential treatment for cervical cancer

BY SEAN MICHAEL
Staff Writer

A UM-St. Louis professor and his research partner recently discovered a new possibility for treatment of the virus which causes cervical cancer.

James Bashkin, associate research professor in chemistry and biochemistry, and biologist Chris Fisher presented their research findings at the International Conference for Antiviral Research in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Bashkin and Fisher founded NanoVir, a biotechnology company based in Kalamazoo, Mich. The collaborative effort of the two scientists is funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

According to Bashkin, there are many strands of human papillomavirus (HPV). "Our treatment is for HPV16, but with over 200 types there has only recently been a discovery of a treatment for HPV31," he said.

HPV16 is a sexually transmitted viral disease. "Not all HPV is sexually transmitted, but this particular type is the second leading cancer-based death of women worldwide," Bashkin said. "This disease is a major health issue and women's health issues have not always received the attention they deserve," he said.

Bashkin said that the HPV virus has been hard to work with over the years and the testing has been a difficult process.

"We had to look at the DNA sequence of the virus and design compounds to recognize the particular sequence we needed," Fisher explained.

Fisher and Bashkin utilized their skills to combine the DNA in a certain

manner. "The compounds are designed for what is called the Origin of Replication," Fisher said.

The compound used to treat the virus is a cream-like substance applied to the area directly affected by the infection. "We were able to avoid the complications of a drug entering the patient's bloodstream by applying the substance to the surface of the patient's skin," Bashkin said. "We have no reason to believe that there is any toxicity in the compound and it works to fight the virus."

Fisher said that the testing proved the compounds reduce the viral DNA content of the treated cells by 95 percent. "It's always a crapshoot when testing compounds," he said.

Researchers encountered difficulties when coming up with the proper treatment for HPV16. "We were required to make building blocks which were individual pieces of the compound and then connect them together through chemical reactions," Bashkin said.

He said that the efficiency of coupling the different building blocks together is not as high as it should have been, as some of the building blocks couple better than others.

"It's a difficult process to synthesize the compounds and then identify among the compounds that have been synthesized the ones that have the viral activity," Fisher said.

Bashkin thinks the compound has a potential high success rate. "We're 100 percent sure it works in a cell culture, but human cells are the only models for HPV," he said.

Bashkin and Fisher tested the treatment on human skin cells, called human keratinocytes.

"These represent real cells affected by the virus," Bashkin said. "In cells

we're sure of capabilities; we just have to test in human cellular systems and clinical studies," Fischer said.

Testing on more complex cellular systems in animals or in humans has not yet been done.

Bashkin estimates testing on humans will not take place for another three years.

"We will need to seek approval from the FDA in order to carry out clinical trials," he said. In addition, the compound must be purified in order to supply high purity chemicals for testing.

"We've studied side effects of treatment and we haven't noticed any, but our studies have not been comprehensive yet," Fischer said. "We must pass certain toxicity tests to make sure the compound is not harmful, and we'll have to demonstrate that with the FDA."

According to Fisher, a vaccine was created to provide immunity from HPV and keep people from contracting the virus. He added that the vaccine, called Merck, will probably be approved by early June.

"We don't work with the vaccine, but I hope that it will fight other forms of HPV because we're still testing how broad the activity of our particular drug is against other forms of viruses," he said.

The Merck Vaccine will not help people who are already infected by the virus, Fisher said.

According to Bashkin, the vaccine must be administered to children before they become sexually active. "There may be lots of parents who won't take their children to get the vaccine," he said.

Bashkin added that the Merck vaccine and the treatment for HPV16 will not be in conflict with each other.

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News Briefs

Express Scripts update

The partnership between UM-St. Louis and Express Scripts is providing summer internships to over twenty students.

"That's a pretty tangible benefit to our students and they (Express Scripts) are not even here yet," said Jonathan Yordy, coordinator of Public Relations.

Yordy said the construction is on schedule and it is expected to be completed in Mar. or April, 2007.

West drive closed

West Drive is closed for the construction of a new road, University Place Drive, which is being built to provide access to the Express Scripts building.

The new drive will connect Florissant Road to West Drive and is scheduled for completion by the fall semester.

Office of the Registrar gets a new location

The Office of the Registrar will join Admissions and Financial Aid on the third floor of the MSC.

The move is based in part on feedback gathered by Noel-Levitz, a consulting firm.

John Kundel, associate vice provost of Student Affairs, said the move will provide a better service for students because the offices will "all be within eyeshot of each other."

Kundel also said that he and other staff members of various UM-St. Louis offices are looking to create a "student welfare action team." He said this would help take care of students' "multi-faceted" problems more efficiently.

PRIZM will change its slogan

According to Brian Rails, vice president of PRIZM, a new slogan will change PRIZM's slogan "UMSL's GLBT Social Organization" to "UMSL's Queer/Straight Student Association."

Rails said that although he was in favor of the name change, some people are not happy with it. "Some people won't like the change and some people will; you can't really please everyone."

He said that other colleges use the word "queer" because it is an academic term and he didn't want "GBLT" to make non-normative heterosexual students or anyone else feel excluded from joining

PRIZM. The slogan is slated to change before the start of the fall semester.

UMSL awards \$497,179 in extra scholarship money

The scholarship amounts ranged from \$50 to \$2,500 and were awarded to 814 students.

According to Tony Georges, director of Student Financial Aid, the scholarships were distributed through a need-based process.

"These are students who have exhausted all other traditional sources of financial aid; students loans, alternative loans and in many cases (the student's) Mom and Dad are unable to help," Georges said.

John Kundel, associate vice provost of Student Affairs, said it was a normal process that all financial aid offices go through. Financial aid and accounting "folks" look to see what funds are left to give out as scholarships.

Kundel said it was Georges' idea to give out the money to students who owed the University money.

He said it was a rewarding process to be able to help the students who received the scholarships.

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Our Opinion



Commencement addresses shouldn't ignore tough issues

The controversy over Rep. William 'Lacy' Clay, Jr.'s commencement address in May

It is doubtful that anyone expected such an uproar over the commencement address in May by Rep. William 'Lacy' Clay, Jr.

Boos and jeers at a graduation ceremony?

At UM-St. Louis, that's practically unheard of.

Many students and some parents complained at the ceremony and afterwards that the legislator inappropriately drew the focus away from students' success and instead made the appearance into a divisive, political sounding board, spreading liberal rhetoric.

Did the Clay's criticism of President Bush and the war in Iraq step over the line?

Not at all. Commencement addresses have traditionally provided the basis for numerous politically-charged speeches, many of which are still remembered today.

Rep. Clay followed in the footsteps of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, John F. Kennedy, and even George W. Bush in using the commencement podium to make a political statement.

It is not the job of commencement speakers to limit remarks to congratulatory odes or optimistic words of wisdom for graduates to follow.

Commencement speakers should be encouraged to speak bluntly about the challenges the

ON THE WEB:

- Read the transcript of Rep. Clay's commencement speech

www.thecurrentonline.com

The first half, if not more, of the speech tells Clay's own tale as an undergrad at the University of Maryland at College Park and imparts wisdom from the Dalai Lama on living a full and rewarding life.

Clay did shift gears, questioning the wisdom of the war in Iraq, and asking students to help end it.

However, is the war not a valid concern for graduates?

As Clay noted, over \$400 billion has been spent on the war so far, and over 2,400 soldiers have been killed.

Whether students support the war in Iraq or not, this is a major issue that students should ponder.

Commencement speakers should not shy away from challenging students with real world concerns. If college prepares us for anything, it should give us a healthy curiosity for debate and discussion of pertinent state, national and international affairs.

The University should encourage speakers to challenge students with commencement addresses. We don't simply need pandering self-congratulations and chicken soup wisdom for the future.

"We need to hear about the real-world concerns we'll face as (educated) citizens of our cities, states, country and the world as a whole.

graduates, as citizens of the U.S. and the world, will face.

College is meant to challenge students to think about tough questions and when appropriate, to act.

Rep. Clay felt that graduates needed to hear that he sees the war in Iraq as a major issue that students should think about.

Does this differ from President Bush's commencement address on May 6 at the University of Oklahoma where he told graduates that they should use science to "protect human dignity," in reference to cloning and stem-cell use?

During the Vietnam-era, commencement addresses frequently asked listeners to question the validity of the war, and urged action to end the conflict.

Let's not forget, either, that Clay's speech wasn't completely a political attack on the Bush administration's handling of the war in Iraq.

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Editors' Viewpoints

Haditha gives fuel for Anti-American hatred

It is 7:15 in the morning. Your family is woken up by a large explosion outside. It came from the street right in front your house. You walk out of your bedroom to check on your family. In the living room, your 76-year-old blind grandfather is talking with your grandmother. The rest of the family is starting to gather. Your parents, uncles and aunts seem alarmed.



ADAM D. WISEMAN Editor-in-Chief

Your father looks out the window and sees men with guns walking toward the house. He turns to you and your cousins and says, "get in the bedroom now!" As soon as you turn you hear gunshots and the door being broken down. More gunshots fired. You crawl under the bed and you peer out as your father runs in to the room. He gets on his knees and starts to pray.

More gunshots fired. The door opens and you watch your father's body fall to the floor, limp, from a gun shot to the head. The men leave without finding you. Of the 11 in your house, you are one of the four that survived. Gathering strength, you walk back out, hoping to see any of your loved ones. As tears clear from your face, you realize that what you are looking at is the body of your grandfather.

He was blind! He was in a wheelchair! He was 76-years-old!

On Nov. 19, 2005, it is alleged that after a roadside bomb killed a U.S. Marine in Haditha, Iraq, several other Marines went on a killing rampage. The event concluded with 24 Iraqi civilians dead, which included men, women, children and two elderly people, one of whom was blind and in a wheelchair.

Some witnesses say that in the bloody massacre, the women and men of one house were separated and the men were killed execution style. One of the men that was killed had a

young boy who saw his father killed and afterwards said, "This is my father! God will take my revenge!" The incident in Haditha, Iraq is still under investigation.

Did the 24 people that were killed that day plant the roadside bomb that killed the American soldier? Were the 24 people that were killed part of an uprising against the soldiers after the roadside bomb went off? Did the Marines that allegedly killed young girls see them holding guns? Is the stress of war wearing on our military? Is the army's excuse "We don't know the enemy, because they all look the same," still OK to use?

If you watch FOX News, they will tell you that the Marines were just doing the job of "protecting America."

If you watch MSNBC, they will tell you that the Marines should be charged for their atrocities.

Here is what I will tell you. Death is forever, no matter how you perceive it. The event in Haditha happened. It is horrible. Will it make us as Americans sleep better at night to know that the blind grandfather was pointing a gun at the soldiers, and that is why he was shot in the stomach and face with a high-powered assault rifle?

The war in Iraq is becoming more and more a quagmire of destruction and death. The young boy who watched his father being killed is going to remember this event long after our society has moved on to the next conversation.

He will remember that Americans killed his father. He won't care if his father was in a terror/insurgent organization, or just a citizen trying to live his life.

What he will care about is that a man wearing the American flag on his shoulder ended his father's life.

Staff Viewpoint

Congress seeks balance on immigration issue

Being an American is about balance.

While most would say that it is first about liberty, security or stability, about equality, justice or compassion, the truth is that it is about a balance of all of those things - and balance is never easy.

Anyone who questions that need only look to the eye of the most recent political storm. While the National Weather Service may not issue it a name, the uproar caused by illegal immigration has kicked up the winds of controversy.

The migration of people into America without the sanction of Americans, especially by way of the southern border, is nothing new.

From the implementation of the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, the federal government has limited the nationality, ideology and number of people who are allowed to live within our borders.

These limitations, specifically after being strengthened to restrict the

entry of other citizens of the Western Hemisphere by the Immigration Act of 1965, motivated those who were excluded to cross border illegally. We have been struggling for a solution ever since.

Like many debates in our two-party system, this one has two distinct sides, one represented by a bill passed in December in the House

of Representatives, and the other by a bill passed in the Senate just last month.

The focus of the House bill is on thwarting the influx of immigrants who will potentially enter the country in the future.

It calls for increased fencing along the U.S.-Mexico Border and stronger penalties for employers who hire those managing to evade it.

The emphasis of the bill, and of our Representatives, is on securing our country and protecting its citizens, and that appeals to the part of me that longs for a tangible solution.



JENNIFER BRAKE Staff Writer

see IMMIGRATION, page 11

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Under Current

by Valerie Breshears Staff Photographer

If you could put words of advice on 1 million fortune cookies, what would they be?



Kelly Wolverine Senior, Nursing

When in doubt, Look up!



Aldisana Milaka Freshman, Nursing

Never give up.



Lex Herbert Sophomore, Physics

Don't join the army.



Ron Yonker Sophomore, Biology

Stop reading fortune cookies for your advice.

Science Column

What should we do about extra carbon dioxide?

People might start talking more about global warming, with the release of the new documentary film "An Inconvenient Truth." Global warming is a problem we need to stop ignoring and take action on instead, and everyone ought to see the film.

This column is not about global warming itself, a topic well covered in the excellent film, but about one of the solutions the film mentions but does not define, carbon capture and sequestration.

So what is this anyway? If we stop releasing so much carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, we are taking the most important step in dealing with global warming.

But to speed up progress towards a lower level of greenhouse gases, we can also eliminate some of the excessive carbon dioxide already in our atmosphere or keep it from being released. Carbon capture and sequestration is one way to do this.

However, it should be noted that removing excess carbon dioxide in the air is no license to continue fossil fuel burning and releasing greenhouse gases. Both reduction in emissions and removal of excesses greenhouse gases must take place.

Carbon capture and sequestration, also called geologic carbon sequestration, is the removal or isolation of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and long-term storage of the greenhouse gases in underground geologic structures.

The technique involves three steps: removal, transportation and storage. The removal of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere or isolation of it before it can be released to the atmosphere, is a first step, but a better, more energy-efficient approach is pre-combustion fuel separation, or de-carbonization.



BY CATE MARQUIS
Science Columnist

Not only is it more energy efficient but de-carbonization produces hydrogen in the process, which can then be used as an energy source that does not emit greenhouse gases. The carbon dioxide is then compressed into a liquid form for transport, best done by pipelines, or it is possible to immediately re-inject the gases into an on-site long-term storage structure.

Appropriate underground storage structures include depleted natural gas or oil structures or deep coal beds. So, in a way, the carbon is being returned to its source, where it was being stored away from the atmosphere until we came along. Long-term storage has to be in underground geologic structures of known stability and character.

This is a new technological solution that is still being developed, although it looks very promising. There are some potential problems, such as if geologic storage structures are of unknown stability, or if it is just seen as a way to keep using fossil fuels.

More research is needed to explore the best, safest, and most energy efficient way to use the technique. It is also the kind of technique that will likely become more affordable on a larger scale.

You can read more about carbon capture and sequestration and some issues surrounding it on the website, www.ucsusa.org, for the Union of Concerned Scientists, an international group of scientists and citizens who are, well, concerned about a number of science related issues. They have a number of resources and linked that can allow you to explore the topic in depth.

But don't forget to see that movie too.

Staff Viewpoint

Summer school: The vacation of choice

The only vacation that can bring about a good deal of joy in my life is summer vacation. Not that I don't enjoy the holiday break in December; it is often just too bitter-sweet for me to really enjoy. By the time I have my brain adjusted to sleeping late and listening to the many variations of "Silent Night", it is time to return for Winter semester. For summer vacation you get three fairly decent months of no classes, lots of sun, and if you are lucky like me, your birthday falls somewhere in those three months and you get presents.

However, this summer I question my luck because I am taking the dreaded summer classes. Ah yes, those mentally frustrating 2-3 hour long lectures that require you to shove five months of material into one month, making every night an all-night cram session. What is not to love? Missing yet another Tuesday trip to Six Flags with your friends, random Monday afternoon movie marathon, or Friday's football in the park picnic, is not all bad, right?

On the up side, there are the wonderful parking opportunities never known to those strictly fall or spring

students. Each morning I pull into my very own personal space without any of the trepidation and nail-biting that comes with fall and spring semester parking. It is always there, as if waiting for me specifically. Well maybe not "waiting" necessarily, but hey, it makes me feel better and should anyone think about taking it they can count on at least two bird "accidents" on their windshield; I have connections.

Leaving my car, I can leisurely stroll to class, enjoying the ponds and landscape that I would normally curse on any other semester. I casually ponder why the eastern pond's fountains operate and half the height of the western pond. I steadily kick a pine cone down the path, shake the last sleep from my still slightly groggy brain, and prepare myself for another intense day of learning.

Another upside is the potential for early graduation. Well, that does not



BY NAKENYA SHUMATE
Staff Writer

really apply to me but it is still a good solid reason to go to summer school. Switch your major twice and after six, okay seven, years of school, you will want to take summer classes to finally graduate too. If you include the summer sessions, you can pace yourself and spread out upper-level difficult classes

into the summer instead of taking them concurrently. Then again there is nothing quite like the feeling of taking physics, college algebra, and macroeconomics all at once. The last two benefits especially touch my heart. Summer classes are bums but they beat Saturday classes with a wooden stick. During the summer you can at least still make up friends and family time on the weekends. Saturday classes suck the very life and soul from your limbs leaving you a limp mass of nuclei and cytoplasm. That is a bit harsh but after missing Mardi Gras, my friend's bridal shower, a weekend

road trip to Tennessee, and my annual March of Dimes walk-a-thon, I am a little bitter and I would recommend signing up for summer classes any day. Lastly, as a senior this summer is my last semester and barring any unfortunate occurrences between now and August, I will graduate. Graduating in the summer is an especially pleasing idea since UM-St. Louis stopped holding graduation ceremonies at the Savvis Center and moved them to Mark Twain. Something about the idea of walking across a makeshift stage in a chlorine and sweat scented, formerly asbestos ridden building with hundreds of my not-so-closest peers and their families, did not thrill me. However, summer graduates, since there are so few of us, will enjoy the modern Touhill Performing Arts Center as our graduation headquarters.

So looking on the bright side of things my glass is half full and I suggest giving summer school a try. Start out with easy classes first and work your way up. Just a tip; do the homework daily and allow yourself plenty of time for studying and sleeping. Which reminds me, it's getting late and I have class in the morning.

Letters to the Editor

Parent upset with Clay's commencement address

Dear Chancellor, I am writing you to express my opinion of the remarks made by Congressman William Lacy Clay at the above referenced commencement exercises.

I am the father of one of the graduates. What had started out as an exciting day that we had all looked forward to for many years was certainly turned into a day that will be long remembered, not just for the graduation of our daughter but also as a day that Congressman Clay was allowed to turn the commencement into a forum for his own political agenda. I was totally shocked at his remarks concerning the President of the United States and the war in Iraq. Congressman Clay was an embarrassment for UMSL and for those in attendance.

Please understand that I believe in free speech and everyone is entitled to their own opinion. What I am not in

favor of is turning the occasion of joy and excitement of the graduates and their family and friends into an arena to make political statements. There is a time and place for everything and this certainly was an inappropriate place and occasion for Congressman Clay and his remarks.

I was further appalled when neither you, nor anyone else made any effort to bring his remarks to a close before he finished. It would seem that as the leader of the University of Missouri - St. Louis it would have been appropriate to step in and thank him for his presentation and move on to the ceremonies.

It should make no difference of Congressman Clay's title or standing in the community. It should make no difference that a building is named after his father. What should make a difference is taking control of a bad situation and moving forward to the reason everyone was there.

I would hope that in the future you would have an opportunity to review everyone's remarks prior to the occasion and if that doesn't work, then at least have the courage to put a stop to it before it goes on for any length of time. I would have had a lot more respect for you and the university if that had taken place on Saturday, May 13.

I would look forward to your response. My contact information is below.

Sincerely,
Charles E. Wallace
Falls Church, VA

White privilege conference irks political science professor

Dear Editor: I wish to reply to your editorial praising the White Privilege Conference held on the UMSL campus. I agree that it is important to discuss matters of racial discrimination.

However, the WPC, which I attended out of curiosity, was a poor vehicle for doing so, for the following reasons: (1) There was no "diversity" of viewpoints encouraged, as no competing perspectives were presented on the extent of racism in America. (2) Indeed, there was racial profiling, stereotyping, and labeling of entire ethnic groups (in particular, whites) as being racist, which seemed to contra-

dict the theme of eliminating racism. (3) The seriousness of the conference as an academic event was undermined by repeated use of the f-word and other obscenities uttered by speakers and performers, as well as the light-weight credentials of the speakers (e.g. the opening "keynote" speaker was a 22 year old college student, with almost no credentials, who said her vision for America was "a socialist rebellion"). (4) By using overblown, polemical, in-your-face language as the theme of the conference -- namely "white privilege and oppression" -- the organizers could only hope to preach to the choir, that is, to the far left, rather than reach out and attract a wider audience, so that the conference did little to improve race relations as opposed to further polarize them. In an age when the last two persons entrusted with primary responsibility for the national security of the United States, as Secretary of State, have been African-Americans, the claim of "white oppression" seems quite silly and far-fetched and hardly likely to be the basis for a broad, serious dialogue that racial issues deserve on this campus and beyond.

J. Martin Rochester
Distinguished Teaching
Professor of Political Science

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WHAT'S

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The Current prints letters from students, faculty and other readers on topics of campus, local, state, national and international interest. Whether it is parking, customer service, politics, or plain old complaints about your student newspaper, we accept (and print) letters of all kinds.

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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.

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Submit commentary ideas to the editor with a brief synopsis of what you would like to write.

Commentary pieces are generally between 350 words and 600 words.

We edit submissions for clarity and length, not for dialect, correctness, intent or grammar.

FEATURES

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MABEL SUEN
Features Editor

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the week's
best bets

New Student
Orientations

Two new student orientations will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, June 17 and Friday, June 23 in the Millennium Student Center for incoming freshmen and transfer students. For more information, call the Office of Student Life at 5291.

Storytelling Course

A weeklong course on storytelling will be offered between June 22 and June 30. The course will be held from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. each day in 222 J.C. Penney Conference Center. Call 5948 for more information.

Around the world with Jean-Germain Gros

Political science professor reaches beyond international barriers

BY MABEL SUEN
Features Editor

After being a UM-St. Louis political science faculty member for nearly 12 years, Dr. Jean-Germain Gros offers the same bit of advice to his students at the end of every semester - travel.

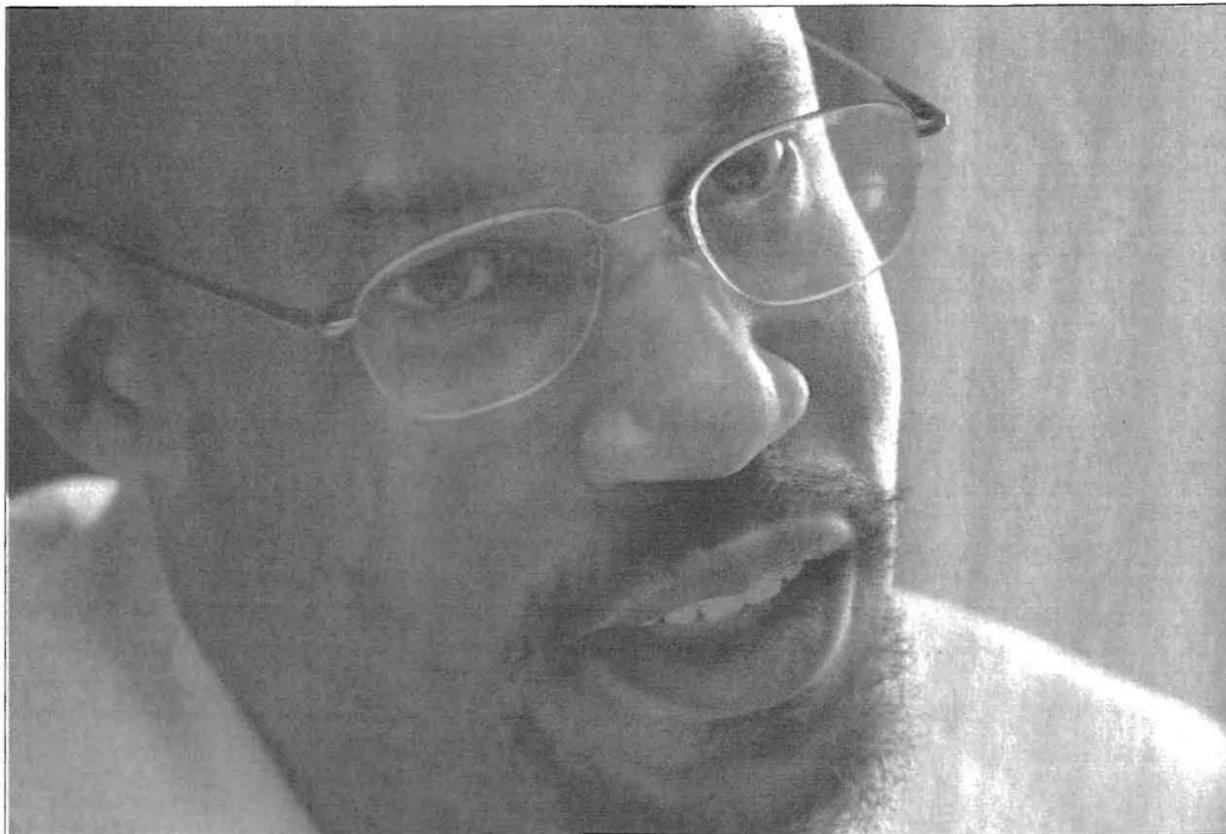
"I think what I see my job as being here is a kind of prep to sensitize students to the fact that there is a world beyond the United States" Gros said.

"The importance of the kind of courses that I teach is to alert students to the fact that there is a world out there that is very different from the one we live in and that we cannot ignore, but at the end of the day, they have to go out and experience it themselves," he added.

A native of Haiti, Gros moved to New York at the age of 13 where he worked his way toward a doctoral degree in political science after years of study at institutions on both coasts.

After obtaining his doctorate at the University of California at Berkeley, he completed one year of post-doctoral work at MIT and became a part of the UM-St. Louis faculty in 1994.

Currently teaching courses that involve international economics and politics such as Comparative Politics, African Politics and Comparing Different Worlds, Gros



Mike Sherwin/ The Current

Professor of political science Jean-Germain Gros talks with a reporter in his office, in the Tower Building on Thursday.

spends as much time as he can teaching, researching, writing and doing field work in countries such as China, Ghana and Haiti.

His article on China-Africa relations written after his travels to China in 2002 was translated into Chinese earlier this year.

"I travel at every opportunity that I get. I try to go out of the US at least once a year," said Gros, whose research interests lie in topics such as economic development in develop-

ing countries, democratization, state collapse and reconstruction, north-south relations and health care issues.

"Ultimately, to know the world, you must go out and see it and be a part of it," Gros said.

"One of my recommendations at the end of every semester is always to encourage students to travel, take advantage of exchange programs, to interact with people of different cultures and backgrounds and to appre-

ciate the diversity that exists in the world," he said.

Though he is a supporter of absorbing and experiencing different cultures, Gros still maintains a strong loyalty to his Haitian roots, and is currently working on a book called "State and Underdevelopment" about his home country, which he hopes to visit next month.

"By the time an individual reaches the age of 12, his or her personality is already formed and so the early

experience is formative in the individual's life," Gros said. "In my case, I think that Haiti's experience has imbued me with some values having to do with how I work, appreciation for what I have and determination to share what I have accomplished with others and to make a difference in some way - whether it is through my research or through helping people."

see GROS, page 11

Summer brings out nontraditional classes

BY MELISSA MCCRARY
Staff Writer

UM-St. Louis students can spend the summer making extra money by working, volunteering, visiting many St. Louis attractions or traveling to adventurous destinations, while still being able to take summer classes.

There are over 60 different summer courses being conducted as online or video courses. Video courses began at UM-St. Louis in 1988 as a convenient way for busy students to fulfill their degree requirements.

The Departments of Accounting, Anthropology, Biology, Communications, Criminology, Economics, Education, Psychology, English, Geography, Media Studies, Philosophy and Sociology are some of the sectors that offer nontraditional classes this summer.

With many video courses, students are required to purchase a telecourse packet from the bookstore that outlines all of the course programs and assignments. These courses are conducted through St. Louis Higher Education broadcast programs,

KETC Channel 9 programs or specially recorded video and audio lessons.

HEC is a cable station that reaches viewers from St. Louis City and St. Louis County. Students who do not live within the programming area can check out telecourse tapes from the Thomas Jefferson and Ward E. Barnes Libraries on campus. Some video and audio lessons can also be rented or purchased from the University Bookstore.

Since the creation of MyGateway, numerous professors have been using online options and resources for their classes.

Classes like Intro to Mass Media, Argumentation and Intercultural Communication and Alcohol, Drugs and Society are courses that are conducted primarily through the Internet.

Virtual courses differ from taking classes in traditional classroom settings. There is less face-to-face interaction and often more writing and typing involved. All forms of communication and work are submitted electronically.

“People learn in different manners. It all depends on the student and how they learn the best.”

-Mary Rosenthal
Biology Professor



Illustration by Rudy Scoggins/ The Current

Online communication courses often require students to create a homepage to introduce themselves to others, to participate in group forums or discussions and to submit all assignments through the digital drop box system.

Robert Keel, professor of sociology, has been teaching video instruction program courses at UM-St. Louis for 10 years and has been offering internet-based courses for three years.

Keel said that he has used MyGateway, Centra and Wimba Live Classroom technologies with his

courses.

"With the technologies available today, I think that instructors can design a course in ways that makes it work well for students," Keel said. "With Centra or Wimba Live Classroom, students can log on and 'attend' a class presentation from remote locations, and class sessions are recorded so that any student can access and review archived sessions of a class. The additional communication utilities available through MyGateway allow communication between students and between students and instructors, virtually 24

hours a day and seven days a week."

Although online courses offer benefits like time management to students, Keel said that these courses require students to be more knowledgeable about different online programs, to feel comfortable working in an online environment and to have the self discipline to get their studies done.

Mary Rosenthal, professor of biology, has been teaching General Biology as a video course for the last two semesters.

see NONTRADITIONAL, page 11

Students are turning in beach blankets for backpacks this summer

BY STEPHANIE SOLETA
Staff Writer

The weather is warm, the sun is sizzling and the pool is perfect. Summer is upon us, and for most people that means going home, hanging out with old friends, abandoning textbooks and enjoying a little rest and relaxation before the fall semester begins.

However, this is not true for all students at UM-St. Louis. Some students think their time is better spent in

There are many different reasons why students opt to take classes during the summer in addition to the classes they take during the fall and winter semesters. Elizabeth Yee, senior, secondary education, is taking summer classes in order to receive her teacher certification.

Sean Walter, junior, secondary education, is also taking classes this summer because his degree requires the courses, and the summer semester is the only time UM-St. Louis offers the courses he needs.

cult than classes taken during a regular semester, Walter said. "Summer classes are more difficult simply because they are more condensed. I'm not sure if the material is harder."

"The classes themselves are difficult, but it could be because of the material," said Yee. Despite the difficulty of the classes, both Walter and Yee said that, if given the opportunity, they would take another summer class.

"Students are both interesting and hardworking, and the faculty really

would take more summer classes because it would make the fall semester easier."

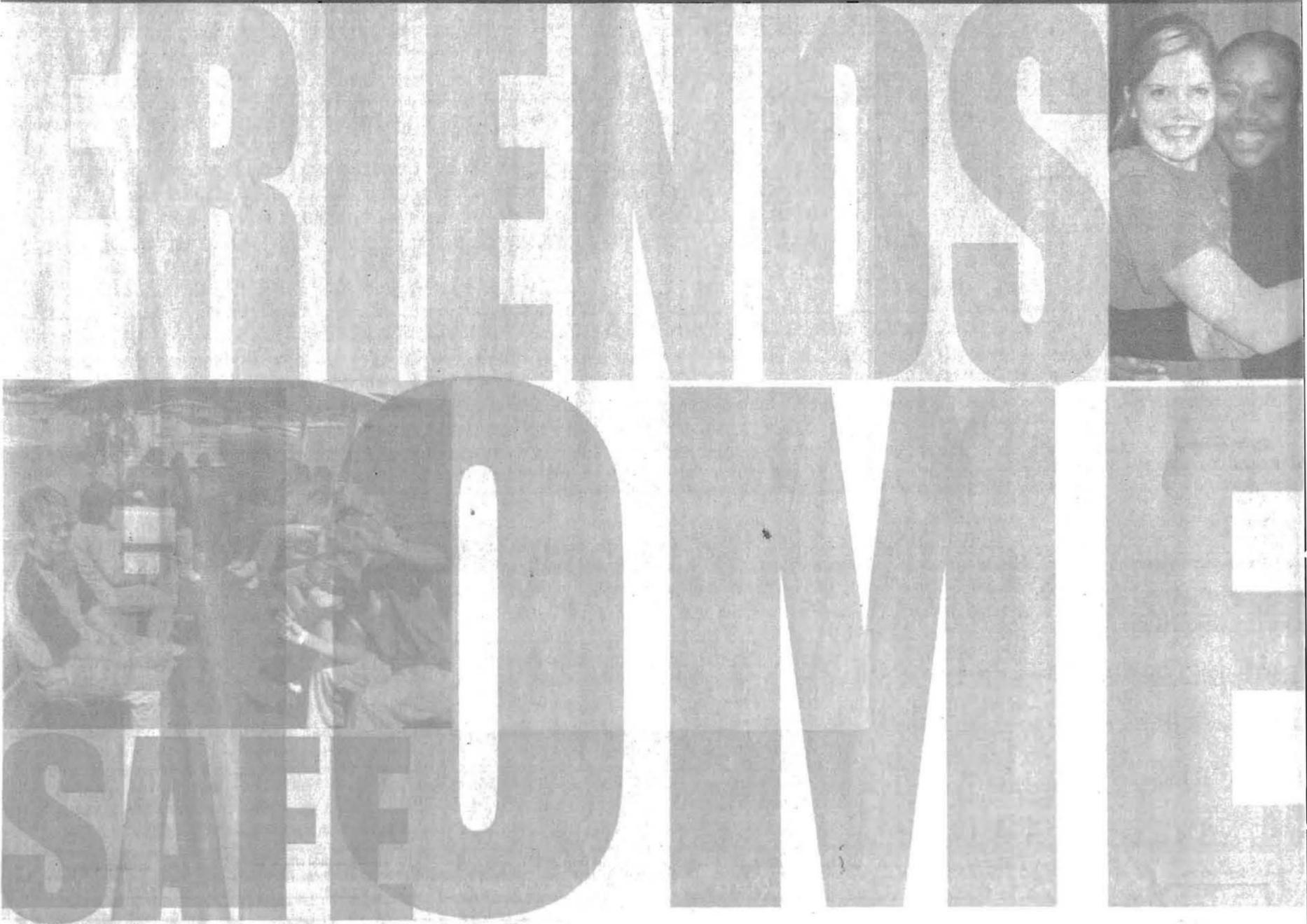
Just because Yee and Walter are taking classes this summer does not mean that they are not going to have a good time. Besides going to class, Walter will be working and Yee is going to do some traveling. "I'm planning on visiting family on the East Coast," said Yee.

However, there are some students who decided that school and summer do not make for a good time. Chelsea

before. Instead, she has other plans this summer, neither of which involve sitting in a classroom while the sun is shining. When asked what she will do instead of taking classes this summer, Miles replied, "I am going to do lots of traveling and work."

Some students are spending time in the classroom this summer. Yet others are spending time relaxing before the beginning of fall semester. There are others who are doing both. All in all, UM-St. Louis students seem to have at least one thing in

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CD Review

Trampled by Turtles will change folk stereotype

BY ZACH MEYER
Music Critic

The folk and blue grass genre has a certain reputation of being fested with shoeless and unthatched hippies toting banjos and acoustic guitars. However, as all genres eventually make the leap from traditional to modern, the band from Duluth, Minn., and their band Trampled By Turtles are ready to rid the folk community of its negative stereotypes. In fact, the band adamantly is based on the idea that it is indeed a folk band, and for this, guitarist Dave Simonett gives three reasons. "We don't wear suits, we use more than one microphone, and we sit down when we play," Simonett said.

Trampled by Turtles' live for folk-driven music comes in numerous guises. For one, the members consider Trampled by Turtles to be their job. Besides, the band members: Simonett, Erik Berry (guitar and mandolin), Dave Carroll (banjo) and Jim Saxhaug (bass, vocals) have other day jobs.

By crossing the indie-rock attitude with classic bluegrass melodies, Trampled By Turtles have been called the folk version of The Ramones. Playing simple but catchy riffs, this holds particularly true, especially in tunes such as Silver and Gold and the rendition of Bob Dylan's Outlaw Blues. More precisely, Trampled by Turtles sounds like Johnny Cash after a handful of crack cocaine and a bottle of Jack Daniels.

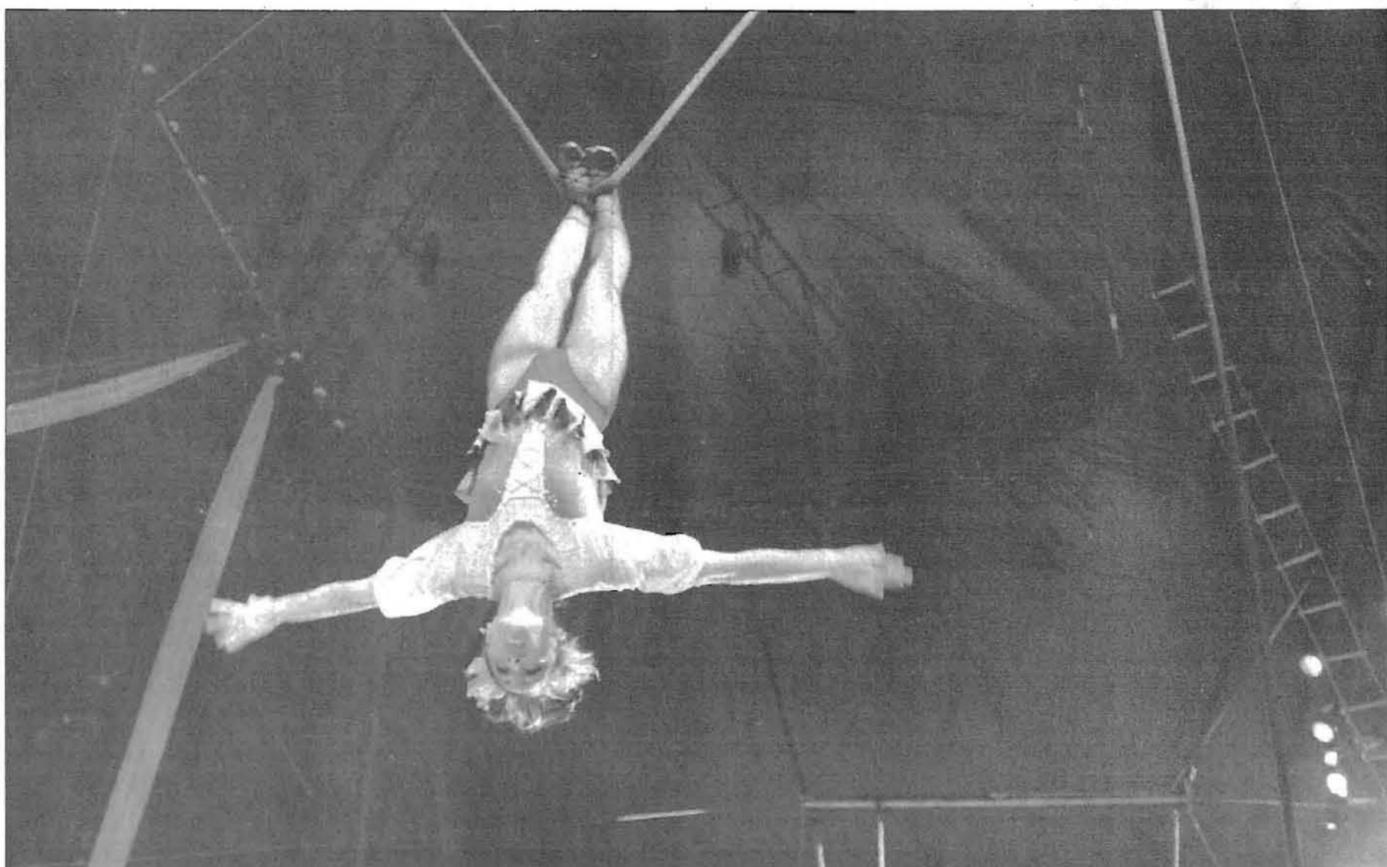
Of course, this rock 'n' roll cross with folk music is not all that surprising when one looks at recent mainstream acts such as Kings of Leon, Beck or Kanye West, who all mix in a bluesy/folk flavor into their music.

By jumping on the bandwagon of folk-fused rock, Trampled by Turtles is at the vanguard of fame. Already the band has played over 150 shows in the past year and is soon to embark on yet another tour to promote their latest effort entitled Live at Luce.



Trampled by Turtles

"Live at Luce"



Mike Sherwin/The Current

Aurelia Wallenda Zoppe performs at Circus Flora on opening night Friday. The one-ring circus is performing its latest show, "Homage," until June 25. Circus Flora is located in Grand Center in midtown St. Louis.

Feel like a kid again

■ Circus Flora delights audiences with clowns, jugglers and acrobats

BY CATE MARQUIS
A&E Editor

Circus Flora's advertising campaign this year was inspired, entreating "joyless broccoli eaters" to come to Circus Flora and get their cotton candy. Now is the time to put down that broccoli and answer that siren call.

Circus Flora, the St. Louis-based, one-ring, small traditional-style circus, has set up their tent and will be performing under the Big Top nightly between now and June 25, except Mondays, with matinees on Saturdays and Sundays. Show times are 7:00 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, Saturday matinee at 2:00 p.m., and Sunday shows at 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.

The Big Top is set up in the parking lot next to Powell Symphony Hall, corner of Grand and Sam Shepard Dr., in Grand Center. Tickets are \$15 to \$30. This year is the twentieth anniversary for Circus Flora.

If you have never been to Circus Flora, you owe yourself a trip to this wonderful show, even if you think you do not like circuses. The experience is totally different from big three-ring circuses like Ringling Brothers. Under Circus Flora's Big Top tent, you are remarkably close to the performers, which heightens the suspense and sense of danger, when high wire stunts are performed hovering almost over your head. Circus Flora's small,



Mike Sherwin/The Current

Andre Markov performs a juggling act at Circus Flora on Friday night.

European-style, theatrical version of old-fashioned circus also combines elements from vaudeville and new circus techniques. Performer's feats are all the more amazing when they are this close, because it is much

more personal and more real. Of course, in this cozy space, there is not a bad seat in the house, either. Despite all the emphasis on preserving traditional circus arts, the tent is also air-conditioned, so no worries about your sno-cone

melting too fast.

Circus Flora is nothing if not creative. We in the St. Louis are so lucky to have this unique artistic institution. Year after year, Circus Flora brings us amazing, first-rate circus performances, acrobats, high wire acts, bareback riders, aerialists, clowns and more, framed by a little story and presented with a bohemian, theatrical flourish.

The show has a new theme every year and new acts and new routines are added but a core of regulars and favorites who return to delight us every year.

This year's show, titled "Homage," is particularly good, with the return of a few favorite routines from the past and some new tricks for old acts. Last year's show was Wild West but this year's theme features the Baldini circus family on an ocean voyage to America aboard a sailing ship, and their struggle for acceptance in a new land. The circus acts are integrated into the framing story, with a little narration by Yo-Yo, an elegant European style clown in white face played by theatre director Cecil MacKinnon.

Circus Flora has several world-class acts, including the world-famous Flying Wallendas high wire act, whose daring seven-person pyramid on the high wire was the show's finale.

see CIRCUS FLORA, page 14

Film Review

'An Inconvenient Truth' presents facts some do not want to face

BY CATE MARQUIS
Film Critic

Here is the surprise: Al Gore is neither stiff nor boring in his film on global warming, "An Inconvenient Truth." Instead, Gore is relaxed and often funny as well as informative. Where was this guy when he ran for President? The film's information is neither dumbed-down or overly technical. The film is enlightening, educational and, well, even entertaining.

Far from being all about Al, "An Inconvenient Truth" focuses its attention on the facts and issues surrounding global warming in a compelling and non-partisan way. Gore shows us why politicians of both political parties would rather not face facts on the topic. The heart of the film is Gore's slide show on global warming, something he has been talking about for many years and which he has presented around the world. The slide show covers some basics of what global warming is, including a funny cartoon version from "Simpsons" creator Matt Groening. Gore presents the science supporting the facts of what is happening, the scope of the threat posed by global warming and the consequences of doing nothing. Then he offers some solutions.

The film does cover some of Gore's personal life but focuses mostly on why he feels so strongly compelled to speak on the topic of global warming. As the film so clearly shows us, global warming is well supported

role in the causes, despite the impression you might get in some news reports. There is no scientific disagreement on this, just as there is no scientific disagreement on evolution. The debate is a sociopolitical one, not a scientific one.

He also explores the how and why of people who do not want you to think about global warming. This film points out that just as tobacco companies tried to raise doubts about the link between smoking and cancer, special interests that benefit from the energy status quo and some ideologues are motivated to make the facts on global

An Inconvenient Truth

Directed by:
Davis Guggenheim

warming look fuzzy, even though they are not. Oil companies may be concerned about profits since many alternate energy solutions, like biodiesel, wind power, and solar, are decentralized power sources that almost anyone can use. A combination of resources, rather than one single substitute for oil, like the technically-distant hydrogen fuel cell, is the options now available and they are options anyone can use. Oil companies stand to lose both money and their status as big centralized controllers of energy. Instead, someone else may make money from new technologies, new products and new markets. Remember the computer boom, and

that Microsoft Company come from?

Global warming deniers and entrenched energy interests would prefer you do nothing about global warming, so if they can't convince you it is not real, or a danger, they prefer you to throw up your hands in despair. Fortunately, the film covers not only the consequences of choosing to do nothing about global warming but the many things that individuals and communities can do to help. Many nations, cities, states, communities and individuals are already moving forward and actually all the technical solutions we need are available. There is no need to wait for hydrogen fuel cell cars, drive a hybrid, take public transportation or ride your bike. Maybe some entrepreneur will bring back the electric car. No need to wait for the Feds to act. Gore points out that the present danger that global warming poses requires us to recognize the facts, no matter how inconvenient, and to realize it is a moral issue that we act, for the sake of future generations.

The film is well-reasoned and persuasive. Some cynics will see this film as a political campaign move for Gore, although it did not seem like one to me. Ironically, some of the folks who would most benefit from the information, those who think global warming is a "hoax," are unlikely to tear themselves away from Fox News and go to the theater. Individuals who think that the science on global warming is unclear, or that the problem is either distant or intractable need to see

CD Review

Edwin McCain still sounds great on "Lost in America"

BY NAKENYA SHUMATE
Staff Writer

Long ago Edwin McCain stepped into the music scene delighting fans and gaining criticism from those who credit his success entirely to Hootie and the Blowfish. McCain stood well on his own producing hits "I'll Be" and "I Could Not Ask for More" in 1997 and 1999. McCain and band released their latest album, titled "Lost in America," this spring and while his lyrics have not been jamming the radio airwaves, this album is another winner.

Lost in America begins smooth and captivating with their first track "Gramercy Park Hotel" and ends in true rock fashion with "Babylon". While his composition is classified as rock, McCain's warm and soulful vocals mostly resemble a mixture of blues, rock and pop, similar to Shawn Mullins' reflective lyrics in "Shimmer". McCain's lyrics take control of your ears and will easily have your head bobbing. However, what really moves your body is guitarist Larry Chaney's extraordinary talent with the electric guitar, rami-



Edwin McCain
"Lost in America"

"Change Your Mind". Chaney's skilled solos are the type that just might have you scooting around your floor in your socks practicing your air guitar.

Aside from McCain and Chaney, the remainder of the six member band holds up to the merit we expect after ten years. With plenty of solo moments, saxophonist Craig Shields' solo in "My Mystery" is worth honorable mention.

This album does well because each track is delightfully familiar and true to McCain's style as opposed to the "been there done that" feeling that some multi-album artist fall prey to. It is easily a "road-trip", "clean your dorm or apartment", "iPod companion", or "test the limits of your car's factory speakers" album. Most of the tracks on the album are entertaining, fitting a multitude of moods and personalities.

Often the case with new albums is that we really like only two or three top songs and the rest is filler. This album makes an exception with many of the ten toe-tapping tracks delighting their listeners. The only exception to this might be "Losing Tonight", where it seems like McCain got bored, drunk or both when he wrote this song.

Anyone who has any qualms about McCain's talent should listen to his truly powerful lyrics in "Truly Believe".

Theater Review

Shakespeare Fest's 'Julius Caesar' sends a timely message of politics

BY CATE MARQUIS
A&E Editor

William Shakespeare's "Julius Caesar" has always been political but a drama about politics seems especially appropriate now, as the play's characters struggle with their changing political landscape.

Set at a pivotal moment in history, as Rome is on the cusp of shifting from a Republic to Empire, "Julius Caesar" is one of the most powerful of Shakespeare's dramas and shot through with famous, oft quoted lines.

In the play, the popular Julius Caesar (Raphael Nash Thompson) returns to Rome, poised ascend to the position of Emperor and supplant the influence of the Roman Senate with a single, strong leader. There is unease in the Senate about whether Caesar will accept a crown being offered by an adoring public and his supporters, like Marc Antony (Jim Butz).

With mounting worries about the fading of the Republic, whispers begin in the Senate. Cassius (Mark Mineart) is convinced that Caesar is ambitious to become Emperor but he and his supporters are convinced he must be stopped by any means. However, they need to recruit a man whose motives cannot be questioned, so no one can accuse the plotters of their own selfish political motives. So they seek out and convince Caesar's high-minded, principled friend Brutus (David Andrew Macdonald) to help them.

What action is justified to preserve the Republic? Can anyone stop the march to empire? Is it fate or humanity that makes the choice?

Political ideals, political ambitions and a fickle public all come together to make this plot thicken.

There are different ways to "Julius Caesar" and this version really focuses in the noble Brutus. The play is set in ancient Rome, with the traditional

Roman attire and the action takes place on a wonderful stage of arches, viaducts, and doorways that serves as both indoor and outdoor locales.

As played by Thompson, Caesar is a big ego, and supremely confident, even when a soothsayer (Thomasina Clarke) tries to warn him to "beware the ides of March." Caesar's larger than life personality leaves Cassius resentful and alarmed that he might take on the role of Emperor.

Desperate times, calling for desperate measures and Cassius plots political assassination, to save the Republic. The conspirators, which grow to include Casca (James Beaman), Decius (Reginald Metcalf), and Cinna (Jason Cannon), need a fellow conspirator who is above reproach and whose motives cannot be questioned. Cassius sets out to convince Caesar's nobly ethical friend Brutus of the danger to the Republic and recruit him to the plot.

The plot of intrigues is fraught with dangers for the high-minded and ethical. Is there a time that calls for political assassination? Would losing Hitler have stopped the Nazis? Politics and ethical questions form the heart of this play, which is also filled with famous lines.

Director Joe Discher explores some of the thorniest, and rather than focus on the political intriguing, seems to lay rather more weight on Brutus's wish to save the Republic and crossing the moral minefield between what is or is not a necessary evil. Brutus' intentions may be pure but will the Roman people see it that way? And not all the characters are operating on Brutus' higher-minded plane, either.

This is the kind of intellectual meat that Shakespeare fans feed on, and "Julius Caesar" offers a good chunk to chew on. While Brutus' character is often the center of this version. His co-conspirator Cassius is less a schemer in this version, than an end-justifies the

means man. He is a savvy politician than Brutus but may be just as sincere about saving the Republic. This version's Marc Antony is more boldly cunning, less the simple soldier avenging his friend, as he has been portrayed in other versions.

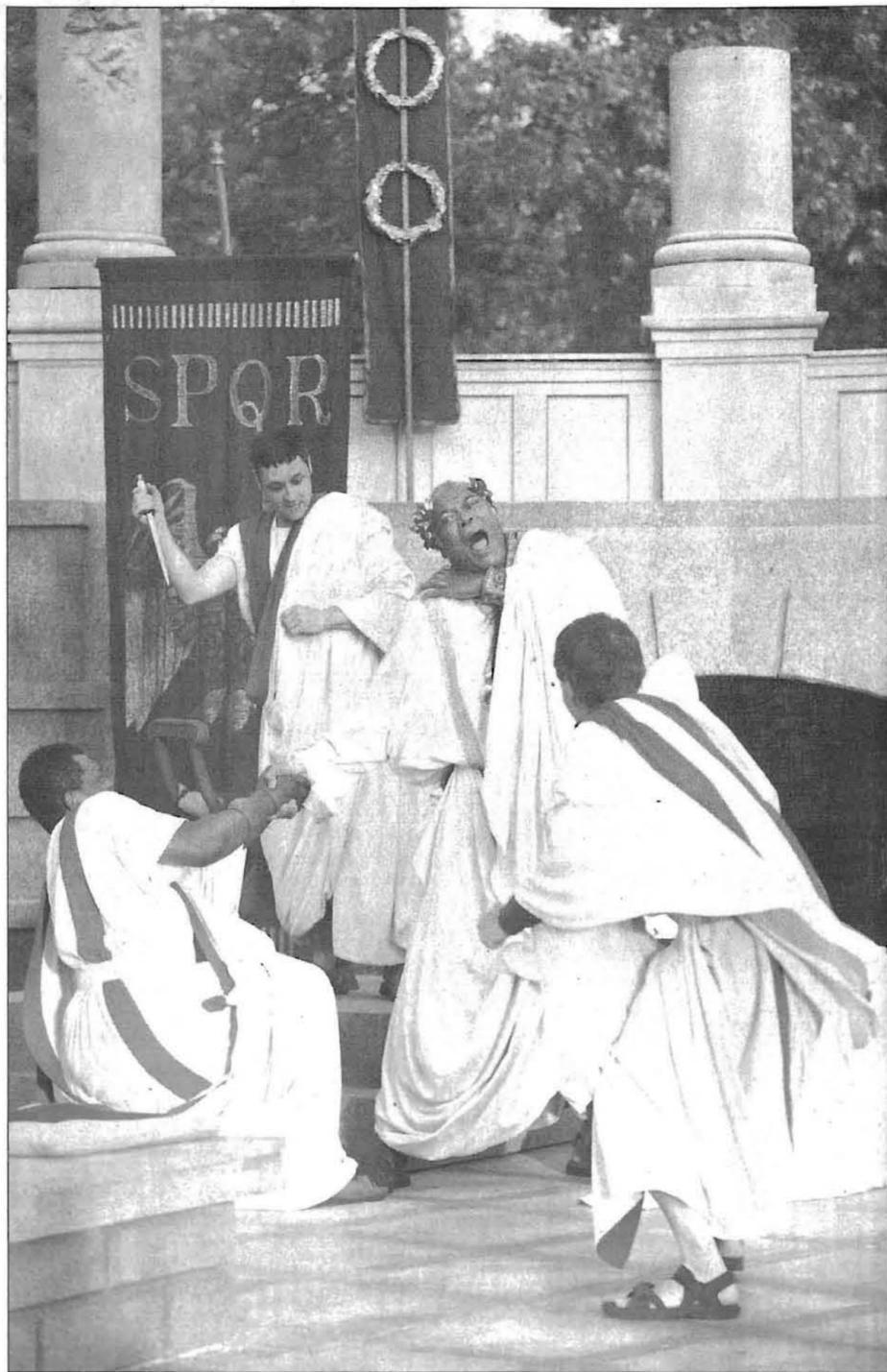
Part of the fun of Shakespeare is all the layers and possibilities for interpretations. The actors all do a fine job in this production but Discher's direction gives the play a kind of foreboding from the start. Thompson's Caesar seems more arrogant, and less likely to be the public charmer the character usually is.

The sets are often half-lit and smoky, adding to the eeriness. The fickleness of the crowd, so easily swayed this way and that, gives that play a feeling of currents of history that no actions or good intentions can turn. Since it is such a dark version of the play, the audience seemed a bit subdued at the conclusion, but not because of any lack on the performers' part.

Dark story or not, a trip to the Shakespeare Festival is always a delight. It is free and you can picnic before hand and lie on blankets, bring chairs or rent one. You can bring food of buy it there. The festival runs nightly at 8:00 p.m., except Tuesdays, through June 18. For more info, visit www.sfstl.com.

Reginald Metcalf as Decius Brutus, James Beaman as Casca, Raphael Nash Thompson as Julius Caesar, and Gary Glasgow as Caius Ligarius in the Shakespeare Festival of St. Louis' production of Julius Caesar.

Photo courtesy J. David Levy





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BOHNENKAMP, from page 1

"He had a unique perspective of English and writing, and he enjoyed off the beaten path literature," Gleason said.

Bohnenkamp started at UM-St. Louis in 1971 as a part-time professor in English. He left to finish his post-graduate work and returned full time in 1982. He started teaching in the Honors College in 1989 and moved there permanently in the mid-1990s.

Besides off beat literature, he taught off beat class topics, like Cyber Culture and Beat Generation. "His classes were the quickest to fill always," Honors College Dean Robert Bliss said.

"In fact, this summer, a popular course of the students, Beat Generation, had to be cancelled. The dean and I decided not to try to replace him," Gleason said.

He had a tremendous impact on students, Gleason said. She, alone, received more than 400 e-mails from

students, friends and fellow faculty members following his death.

One of those students, Elizabeth Lee, alumna, went to Bohnenkamp for advising. "The first time I visited him as a freshman, I was all concerned I wouldn't graduate in four years. He knew from the start I wouldn't stick with my original major, chemistry," she said. Lee went on to pursue a degree in accounting.

Bliss said while it was hard to say how many students he touched, he estimated the number at 7,000. "He had a remarkable memory of names, faces, majors, families, triumphs and letdowns," Bliss said.

Bliss described Bohnenkamp as the involved and devoted type, attending Honors College pool and poker tournaments.

"He was loyal to the college. It was his life," he said.

In fact, the Honor College's first endowed scholarship was named after Bohnenkamp. The endowment

scholarship is given to students whose work focuses on humanities, although it remains open to students of all majors.

Additionally, Bohnenkamp became famous for his weekly quote in the "Brain Stew," a publication of the Honors College.

"Students in his classes were under instruction to bring incriminating things Dennis said back to the 'Brain Stew,'" Bliss said.

A collection of his quotes can be found at www.cannedwisdom.com, a Web site created by one of his former students, Thompson Knox.

Bliss named Bohnenkamp associate dean of the college in Fall 1998. "It was a decision I never regretted," he said.

Previously, in Summer 1997, Bohnenkamp was interim dean. Bliss said he enjoyed being dean.

"I haven't met many teachers that measure up to Dennis' standard," Bliss said.

Below are some of the memorable quotes from Dennis Bohnenkamp published in the Brain Stew, the publication of the Honors College.

- If you've bitten off more than you can chew. . . .chew faster (1993)
- I've been intimate with this machine for many years but I've never seen it do that before. (1998)
- It's an interesting, two-headed thing. (2000)
- Don't put this in The Brain Stew. (2001)
- I would rather have gone to prison than into the military: they had cooler tattoos." (1994)
- It'd be better to eat off your toilet seat than your kitchen counter. (1999)
- When I was in college, that was the big thing: Moonshine. (2001)
- Poetry makes certain noises, but it doesn't necessarily mean anything. (1996)
- When I go into court, I'm usually just wearing handcuffs. (2000)
- I don't have a problem with bicycles as a matter of principle.(2001)

EDWIN McCAIN, from page 8

McCain goes far beyond his former hit "I'll Be" in this track. McCain's continuous passion for writing inspiring lyrics is shown throughout this album.

His voice is not pretty nor is it extremely catchy but it is constant and that is what makes this album

great to listen to repeatedly.

If you enjoy Counting Crows, Sister Hazel, and Dave Matthews Band then "Lost in America" is definitely worth your interest, time and money.

This album does not need to have "hit" written all over it or be fea-

tured on MTV's TRL to gain followers, it does great on its own. Perhaps it is McCain's busy touring schedule that accumulates album publicity.

Here is a tip- see McCain live, enjoy his show, and purchase this album- in that order.

TRAMPLED, from page 8

The album, recorded entirely live at Pizza Luce in the band's hometown, is a collaboration of a three day concert in which the band recorded especially high-energized live songs.

The result is a thrilling collage of simple, foot stomping folk-rock.

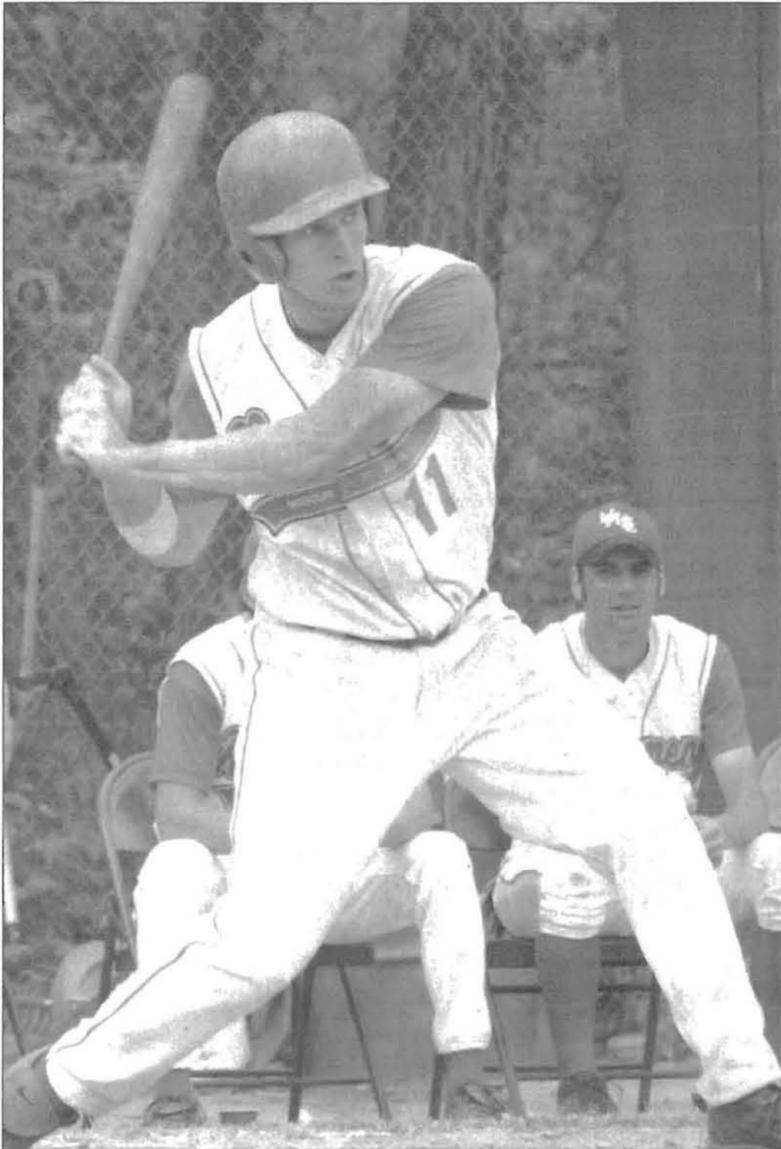
However, the album simplicity gives it an extremely short shelf life.

Of course, this repetition in sound is perhaps a flaw with the folk genre itself. The same open-chord flutter of guitars and banjos gets down-right annoying after four or five listens. Yet, this minor flaw will be easily overlooked by hardcore folk and blue grass lovers, and will be temporarily endearing to those who are new to the

genre. Think of Trampled By Turtles as marijuana: Some people absolutely love it, some people tinker around with it here and there, and only the super up-tight completely hate it.

Trampled by Turtles are on tour now and will perform in St. Louis on July 25 at Off Broadway.

Oakland A's draft pitcher Josh Morgan



BY **LAGUAN FUSE**
Sports Editor

After completing his senior year, Josh Morgan, pitcher/outfielder for the UM-St. Louis Rivermen, was drafted by the Oakland Athletics on day two of the 2006 MLB player draft. Morgan was drafted in the 30th round and was the 908th selection overall.

"I was at my apartment. My roommate actually just happened to look to see what round they were in. The next thing I know, he said I was drafted by the A's," said Morgan.

This is the second consecutive year that Morgan was selected in the MLB draft. Last season, Morgan was drafted by the New York Yankees in the 27th round. Morgan decided not to sign with the Yankees and instead return to UMSL to finish his senior year.

"I had my senior year left and we just didn't come to an offer that made me want to skip my senior year. And now looking back on it, I don't think I was ready then. I've gotten a lot better and learned a lot more about the game. I got myself ready to go play pro ball," said Morgan.

Morgan said he had no contact with the A's before being drafted in the 30th round. "They came to watch me pitch in the last game of the season that I pitched, but I didn't talk to them. I'm excited about getting drafted," said Morgan.

The last game that Morgan pitched for the Rivermen was a 3-1 loss against SIUE on May 7. Morgan pitched seven innings and gave up three runs on four hits. He walked three batters and struck out five. Morgan went 0-3 at the plate.

"I got drafted as a pitcher, but the scout asked me what I would rather do and I told him I'd rather play the field. It's not like I dislike pitching, I just prefer playing in the field

Josh Morgan, former pitcher and outfielder for the Rivermen, was drafted by the Oakland Athletics in the 30th round. Last summer, the New York Yankees chose Morgan in the draft, but he and the team could not reach an agreement.

File Photo/ The Current

because it's what I've done all my life. They said as of now, they haven't ruled anything out. If I become a pitcher, I'll be a pitcher," said Morgan.

Morgan led the Rivermen and the Great Lakes Valley Conference in several stat categories. He led the team in hitting with a .344 season batting average, and scored 30 total runs. Morgan led the Rivermen with six home runs and 18 stolen bases. He also led the team with a .574 slugging percentage and a .460 on-base percentage.

Morgan ranked first in the GLVC in slugging percentage as well as on-base percentage. His batting average ranked fourth and he was tied for second in the GLVC with six home runs.

Morgan ranked second in the GLVC with a .167 opposing batting average during the season. Morgan also allowed the fewest hits in the GLVC, giving up only 27 during the season. Morgan came in second in runs allowed, with 12.

Morgan's senior year earned him the honor of being named GLVC Player of the Year as well as a first-team all-conference selection. Morgan becomes the second player in school history to be named GLVC player of the year. The last UMSL player to earn the title was Jim Reiter in 2003.

There were a total of four players from the GLVC that were selected in the 2006 MLB player draft. Brad Stone (Quincy) was selected by the Florida Marlins in the 12th round, Paul David Patterson (Northern Kentucky) was selected by the New York Yankees in the 16th round and Clay Zavada (SIUE) was selected by the Arizona Diamondbacks in the 30th round.

"I'm actually real good friends with Brad Stone. I played ball with him one year and I've known him ever since," said Morgan. "It was the summer before I came to UMSL."

Morgan leaves St. Louis on Monday night to head to Vancouver to sign his minor league A contract with The Vancouver Canadians. Morgan said the team is set to start workouts on Tuesday. The Canadians' first game of the season is a home game on June 19 against the Yakima Bears, a minor league affiliate of the Arizona Diamondbacks.

Baseball, softball teams overcame many obstacles during last season

BY **MOLLY BUYAT**
Staff Writer

The obvious characteristics that make a team successful are athleticism, knowledge of the game, talent and, of course, heart.

One thing that the softball and baseball teams at UM-St. Louis have that helps them succeed is good teamwork.

Both of these teams had a somewhat difficult start to their seasons and were able to overcome their struggle to achieve a positive outcome.

For the softball team, there was the resignation of the head coach Nicky Durmin who didn't exactly derail the team's momentum but caused a slow start to their season.

As for the baseball team, they had to deal with the press and headlines of a theft scandal that created a negative attitude towards the program and the loss of important players. None of these problems slowed down the teams' drive to have respectable seasons.

The UM-St. Louis softball team did not have the winning season they had all hoped for but they have high hopes for next year's season.

Casey Moran, one of the Riverwomen's starting pitchers had



File Photo/ The Current

The UM-St. Louis softball team finished the season with 13 wins and 33 losses.

to red shirt this past season because of a shoulder problem that resulted in surgery. She is expected to be back in the rotation for the next season.

The Riverwomen did not make it to the Great Lakes Valley Conference Tournament but still finished out the season with an overall record of 13-33 and GLVC record of 4-20.

The new head coach, Chuck Sosnowski, who was the assistant coach for the past two seasons, could not be reached for comment but seems to be fitting into his new position as head coach very comfortably. He has already made the first step into making next season more successful by hiring a new assistant coach Carrie Tanner.

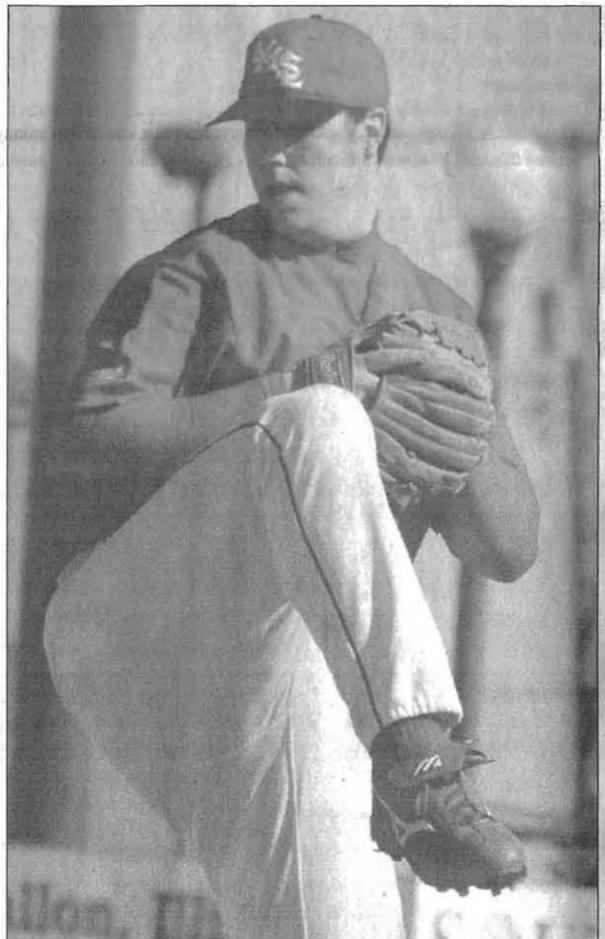
As for the UM-St. Louis baseball team, their season was more successful. They finished up with an overall record of 20-26 and a GLVC record of 19-24.

Not only is that a very respectable end to the season, but it is also a promising start for the next one. There were also a few standout players for the Rivermen.

Senior Josh Morgan is one of the top competitors in the GLVC. He was named GLVC Player of the Year and was a First Team-All Region selection. He was also drafted by the Oakland Athletics in the 30th round.

Joining Morgan with honors is sophomore Scott Lavelock who was named an ESPN the Magazine Academic All-District Second Team Selection.

After all of the challenges that these two teams have had to overcome, they both remain solid and eager to return to the field.



File Photo/ The Current

The UM-St. Louis baseball team completed the year with 20 wins and 26 losses.

Short Fuse

Clemens, Pujols and Cincinnati make NL Central race interesting



BY **LAGUAN FUSE**
Sports Editor

Roger Clemens is finally back in Houston. Albert Pujols is on the disabled list for the St. Louis. Cincinnati has been playing great so far this season. So it seems to me that the NL Central is up for grabs.

Let's start with Clemens. This guy is a seven-time Cy Young winner and he has his sights set on getting the Astros back to the World Series. Clemens has two more minor league starts before he makes his grand return to Minute Maid Park to face the Minnesota Twins on June 22. Clemens, who wears number 22, signed a one-year contract worth \$22 million.

Just think if he wore number 99 instead. I know \$22 million seems

like a lot, but this guy is worth it. Last season, Clemens led the majors with a 1.87 ERA and helped the Astros get to the World Series for the first time in franchise history.

His presence alone will give the Houston locker room a morale boost and, trust me, they have plenty of time to turn things around in the NL Central.

Pujols is the heart of the Cardinals' offense. Yeah, they can win without him, but while he is on the DL, his numbers will certainly be missed.

I admit this guy is a great player and he has a great future ahead of him, but he needs to stay healthy. There is not one single person in the

Cardinal's clubhouse who can match what Pujols has done this season.

If the Cardinals really want to make an impact and improve on their lackluster playoff performances, they will need to find a way to keep their star healthy.

The Cincinnati Reds have really surprised me this season. Last season, the Reds finished with a record of 73-89 and were 27 games behind the Cardinals.

Now I'm not saying they won't choke and fall in the standings, but for right now the Reds are making the NL Central a more competitive division. I doubt they will win the division but watching them beat up on the Cardinals last week was a lot of fun.

In fact, I was impressed to see the Reds win eight straight division games. If they keep this up it will be a long season for the Cards as well as the rest of the NL Central.

The best thing to happen to the NL Central will occur when Clemens takes the mound on June 22. This may be the last season for Clemens.

The Astros have gone without their star player up until now. I know Clemens will go out there and deliver one his best seasons yet.

In fact, I predict Clemens will be the reason why Houston wins the NL Central. That's right, the Cards will have to settle for the wildcard—unless the Reds are hungry enough to fight for it.

SPORTS EDITOR

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Q&
with
Jim Brady

BY **LAGUAN FUSE**
Sports Editor

(The Current sat down and talked with Head Baseball Coach Jim Brady about the advantages and disadvantages of the new proposed baseball field.)

The Current: What is proposed for the first phase of the stadium?

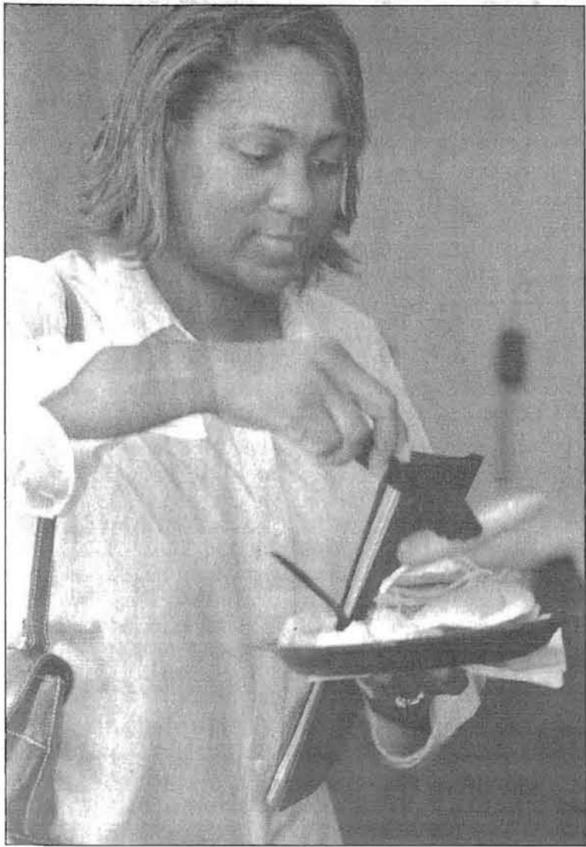
Brady: A field, firstbase, second, third, home and a pitcher's mound. They say, 'Oh well, you'll have dugouts and a press box.'

The Current: Have you been given a date of when the first and second phases of the field will be completed?

Brady: There will never be a second phase. The second phase is going to involve lights, restrooms, parking and permanent stands. I want an outline with a timeline of every single thing that we need. A promise that they will obey those timelines. I guarantee you, they'll never give that to you or me or anybody else.

The Current: Do you think the students were involved in the decision to move the baseball field?

Alumni Celebration



Valerie Breshears/The Current

Carletta Washington, 1997 education administration graduate, enjoys the food at the beach themed annual Alumni Celebration last Wednesday.

IMMIGRATION, from page 4

It also satisfies my desire to see justice served, which I believe requires those who have committed crimes to be subject to appropriate consequences.

Set on supporting this enforcement-first, tough on immigration policy, I settled in to see what the Senate had to offer. One speech later, I flip-flopped. The pictures of the hardworking men, women and children, longing only for a better life, reminded me that my ancestors were likely in the same position. Whether fleeing from religious, social or economic persecution, most Americans are here because someone wanted a better life for them and was willing to sacrifice to make it happen.

Details of the Senate bill are much softer than those of their House counterpart. It calls for a guest worker program and for a path to citizenship for most people who currently reside here unlawfully. It attempts to re-vamp the legal immigration policy in part by increasing the number of

people allowed in annually. In short it says that America should accept those who are here already, and then start over, making improvements to the system that will discourage the problem in the future. My heart filled with compassion, I forgot my earlier defiance.

The reality is that I do not envy any of the elected leaders on this one. They must grapple not only with what to do with our borders, and with the estimated 12 million people who are here illegally, but in doing so must demonstrate what it means to be an American. They must preserve the integrity of our laws and ensure that the American dream remains viable. They must allow the Statue of Liberty to continue to serve as a beacon of hope for those who aspire for the success that is unattainable in their homelands, but must do so without jeopardizing the security of their constituents. They must strike the perfect balance – and that will not be easy.

BASEBALL, from page 1

Section 6 of the Student-Athlete Conduct Code states, "Players charged or convicted of a misdemeanor can also be suspended from play or dismissed."

"We certainly don't want criminals on our teams," Dolan said. "A felony is a major thing. That's not some kid thing."

She said the team is in the middle of recruiting players at this time, and Brady said the recruiting effort is going "extremely well."

Brady said the situation is much easier to deal with now because the team is able to get players. When it first came to his attention in February, the team was "locked in" with the players it had.

"I'm glad that we can finally put it behind us. It was a distraction. We had to play the season with only 13 players," he said. "For us to have done what we did, it's a very good testament for the guys who got through the season."

GROS, from page 6

In addition to teaching at both UM-St. Louis and as a visiting professor internationally, Gros has been involved in a number of development organizations, non-governmental organizations and grassroots organizations worldwide.

However, his most rewarding experiences come from his duties as an educator. He said one of his most memorable experiences in higher education came from teaching in Ghana.

"Teaching is a reciprocal process. They worked hard and I worked hard to reach them...I think that in developing countries, particularly those of Africa, students realized that they are part of a privileged few. They take their studies more seriously because not many Ghanaians or other nationalities in Africa get to attend higher education, so when you have that chance, you tend to value it more," Gros said.

"In Ghana, it's not unusual for a senior level class in political science

to have 2,000 students. I taught a course in the fall of 2004 called Comparative Public Administration that was a senior level course which at UM-St. Louis would attract, if I'm lucky, maybe 10 students. It was quite an enriching experience," he added.

Through his silver-tongued French accent spoken with passion and eloquence, Gros offered his best piece of advice for students.

"Students should appreciate what they have here. Very few Americans, I think, have any serious notion of scarcity. I think my advice to students would be to learn to appreciate what they have, to learn how to take advantage of their youth and secondly, to be humble," he said.

"Once you have acquired what it is that you are looking for in life, don't look down on others who are not so lucky but instead, try to help them. In the process, you will be not only a citizen of the US but basically a citizen of the world," he said.

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NONTRADITIONAL, from page 6

Rosenthal said the quality of non-traditional courses depends on who is teaching them and the students taking them.

"People learn in different manners. Video application is good for some people. It all depends on the student and how they learn the best," Rosenthal said.

Keel believes that there are some courses such as laboratory or studio courses that could be more difficult to manage in an online or video environ-

ment, but thinks that many courses can be taught with the new technologies and applications.

"Clearly, face-to-face interactions are the model for all course design, and when it is possible, direct in-class interaction would be the best way for most students to learn," Keel said. "However, the reality of life in modern (post-modern) society is that we do not always have that sort of opportunity."

Cliff Holland, junior, business, agrees with Keel that online courses

require students to have more self discipline.

"I think that online courses are great for students who work full-time or people who have other time commitments," Holland said. "With online classes, students can work at their own pace, set their own times for study and can become more efficient with planning and organization."

Although students have the freedom to complete their work at any time and can do their assignments in

the comfort of their own homes, others still feel that traditional classes are the way to go.

"I would rather go to class with a professor because I like the live social interaction better and I enjoy seeing and meeting other classmates," said Valeria Oblitas, senior, business.

A student can choose to do their studies in their pajamas, on the beach or on the road this summer—or they can wake up early and go to a traditional class.

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CLAY SPEECH, from page 1

Rosner felt the speech was at the wrong place, at the wrong time. "Everyone's open to their own opinions and that's fine, but people were trapped; they weren't going to walk out because they still had to walk the stage to receive their degrees," she said.

Aimee Pomeroy, who graduated with a bachelor's of science degree in nursing, said she appreciated Clay's opinions about President Bush and the War in Iraq. "The content wasn't anything we hadn't heard before, but I felt he took the speech as a chance to express his viewpoints on the War in Iraq," she explained.

D'Andre Braddix, president of the Student Government Association, said he felt uncomfortable by the reaction of the audience.

"Never before have I heard an audience boo at a commencement speech."

Braddix said that overall he enjoyed the speech. "I felt the speech was moving to say the least," he continued.

Other students were not as lenient when it came to discussing Clay's speech. "People began booing and yelling," Dempsey said, "I began screaming at the top of my lungs for Clay to get off the stage, that he was not wanted here."

Dempsey explained that the place erupted into a riot. "He told every one to shut up and listen to him," he said.

Rosner said she felt the graduation ceremony was supposed to be a happy time and Clay's speech put a damper on the proceedings. "I felt the worst part of his speech was when he said that he was holding the microphone and everyone better listen to his words," she explained.

Executive Director of Quality Service Contractors Charles Wallace, parent, wrote a letter to Chancellor Thomas George indicating his disapproval of Clay's commencement speech. "I was totally shocked he decided to go that way; he was bashing the president and republicans and anybody who voted for the war and specifically the president," he said.

In his letter Wallace wrote, "I believe in freedom of speech, and everyone is entitled to their own opinion, but I am not in favor of turning the occasion of joy and excitement of the graduates and their parents and friends into an arena to make political statements."

Wallace explained that he was booing as much as anybody in the audience. "I don't feel he had a right to express his political view in that setting," he added.

He felt that the speech detracted from the purpose that everybody was there. "In all my years of attending these commencements this is the first time that something like this has happened."

Wallace said he hopes that in the

future UM-St. Louis will be more selective about who they choose to speak and what topics they will have.

Dempsey said he was disappointed Chancellor George did not stop Clay from ruining his graduation. "I was embarrassed that Clay represented me in that light, and I was physically sick by his speech," he added.

The students were happy once the speech was over, according to Pomeroy. "I wasn't upset with his viewpoints, just the arena in which he chose to express them," she said.

Pomeroy said that during the speech she thought her graduation would be ruined. "Once I got on stage, it didn't seem to matter as much," she added.

Director of University Communications Bob Samples said that a political official like Clay speaking is not unique. "There were several people who were receptive to Clay's message and others who were not; it was a mixed reception," he added.

Braddix said he thought most people were not really upset with Clay after the speech was finished. "During the speech the reaction was split; a lot of people were booing and a lot were yelling," he continued.

Braddix said that he felt that UM-St. Louis would not take any precautions when picking another speaker because this was a one-time occurrence.

OBSERVATORY, from page 1

Another option the Physics and Astronomy Department is looking into is having the Observatory built in the country, away from city lights. This would allow it to be on a true dark sky location.

"If we go to the trouble of relocating, we need to look long term before we make a decision about where to go," said Wilking.

A relocation of the Observatory will depend upon which of the five proposed sites the baseball field is chosen. They were proposed by Hastings and Chivetta, an outside consulting firm brought in by Chancellor Thomas George to study sites for the relocation of the baseball field.

The site informally recommended by the firm would put the baseball field on the north campus, sandwiched between Florissant Road, the Touhill Performing Arts Center and the Mark Twain Athletics and Fitness Center.

Yordy said that the firm was hired to study feasible options, not to make recommendations.

The plan currently chosen would put the field on South Campus close to the Observatory. Yordy said that several reasons influenced UM-St. Louis' decision to go with this plan. Sasaki and Associates, the architecture firm responsible for the UM-St. Louis' Master Plan, pointed out sev-

eral problems with a North Campus location.

One problem would be the cost of the two North Campus locations. Each would cost around \$2 million more than a South Campus location. A large part of that money would go to solving elevation problems.

Another foreseeable problem with a North Campus field would be that it would go against the current Master Plan proposal of moving all campus athletics to South Campus and turning the Mark Twain into a wellness center.

"We can try to locate all athletics together," Yordy said. "We have an opportunity here to do it, but it's a long term opportunity."

Head Baseball Coach Jim Brady said, "The latest travesty in Athletics at UMSL was the deception used in getting the campus to accept the Master Plan mirage."

"You can say big picture all you want, but to me it's one more step in the continuous cycle of meddling in mediocrity," Brady said.

He said that facilities on the South Campus would not be in place to handle games and that the structures on North Campus could just be upgraded.

"Where's the visiting team going to dress? Where are we going to dress? What happens in inclemental weather?" said Brady.

The current plans are to renovate buildings already standing on South Campus to be used for office space and to provide dressing rooms and restrooms. Trailers may also be used for concessions and amenities.

Brady said he did not know where the funds for moving athletics to South Campus would come from. "They ram-rodged it through without a great deal of thought," he said.

According to Wilking, the planners were not even aware that the Observatory would need to be moved because of the proposed field location. "They were very open to having it moved; they have been very helpful about it," Wilking said.

The Athletics Committee voted on April 7, unanimously in favor of a South Campus location for the baseball field.

A statement released by Susan Brownell, Chair of the Athletics Committee states, "The Committee is confident that it has made the best decision, based on the available information, for the future of baseball, athletics, and the university, and that due democratic process has been observed in arriving at this decision."

In the mean time, the baseball team will continue to play at Grizzly Stadium in Sauget, Ill. and the Observatory will continue to hold open houses. The baseball field is scheduled to open by spring 2008.

Q&A WITH HEAD BASEBALL COACH JIM BRADY, from page 1

Brady: No, none were given full and complete info. They use this policy to say they have the support of the student advisory committee, but they never shared with them the minutes from this meeting that we had with Hastings and Chivetta. That was the firm that we picked to be a consultant on this project.

The Current: So then how could the new field have been approved?

Brady: Because it's pretty simple. They don't care about the students and the players. They're not important to the big picture they're looking at. They look at Express Scripts as the savior. And anything that gets in their way is something that they are going to remove.

The Current: What would it take for the new baseball field to be successful?

Brady: First off, all it would need

the proper location. Real estate is all about location, location, location. If you look at any school, almost all of the athletic facilities are going to be in the same area. SIUE is an example. They're building all their fields. I guess it would be on the west edge of campus. And now they're talking about moving the basketball arena into the same area so they'll have everything in the same spot. We've already got everything here in the same spot. It's already here. Why spend \$100 million to go build it someplace else? It's going to cost that amount, minimum, to move the rest of these things over there. First of all, where are you going to get the money? And secondly, it's as far fetched as building an Arch right here for the entrance to campus.

The Current: What were some of the conveniences of the having the

field next to the Mark Twain building?

Brady: You can't put a number on convenience as far as the players being able to walk from this building onto the field.



Jim Brady
Head Baseball Coach

That's the one nice thing that we had. When we were here, our field was not the best, it was crappy. We did have the experience of being able to walk from our building onto the field. And now we run into this logistical nightmare that we're got to drive to our practice field and our game park everyday and so how much more are you going to stretch the trainers

too? They've got to be here at the gym. They've got to be over at softball and they've got to be all the way on the other side of the campus. Do you really care about the players? Do you really care? Because if you did, you'll be cognitive of the fact that this is going to override and put more strain on the athletic department because we're going to be stretched thin from a medical standpoint as well.

The Current: What will be some of the disadvantages of moving the field to South Campus?

Brady: Now what you're going to run into over there, another big can of worms that hasn't been discussed are the neighbors who are going to complain about the lights and the noise. If we have lights over there and we need to use it for summer, they're going to squawk. So the neighbors squawk,

sorry baseball, no lights. In this first phase there's not going to be lights. Then why do it? Then why do it? SIUE has lights.

The Current: Will the new field actually host NCAA tournament games?

Brady: We would be he laughing stock of college baseball, once again, by thinking, by even considering that this would meet NCAA standards for regional games. First of all, you don't have lights. That's the first thing that's going to be rejected. How are you going to be able to accommodate people if you don't have stands for the people that are going to come and places to go to the bathroom and park? First of all, they don't get it. And secondly, once they do see the light they don't care, the bottom line is they don't care to get it. It's not important. We are nothing more than a gnat on

the rear end of an elephant. And they're going to take their tail and swat it away. We're not important.

The Current: Do you think that athletics in general are being overlooked or just the baseball team?

Brady: The baseball team. The athletic coaches don't care. They're not affected by it. The people that aren't affected, they don't care. Would they like to see us have what we want? Yeah, they probably would, but if it's not affecting them, they don't care. If it had an adverse effect on their programs, I guarantee they'd be squawking. We're the one's being victimized.

The Current: If you had to choose one word to describe the entire issue dealing with the University, Express Scripts and the baseball team, what would it be?

Brady: Deception.

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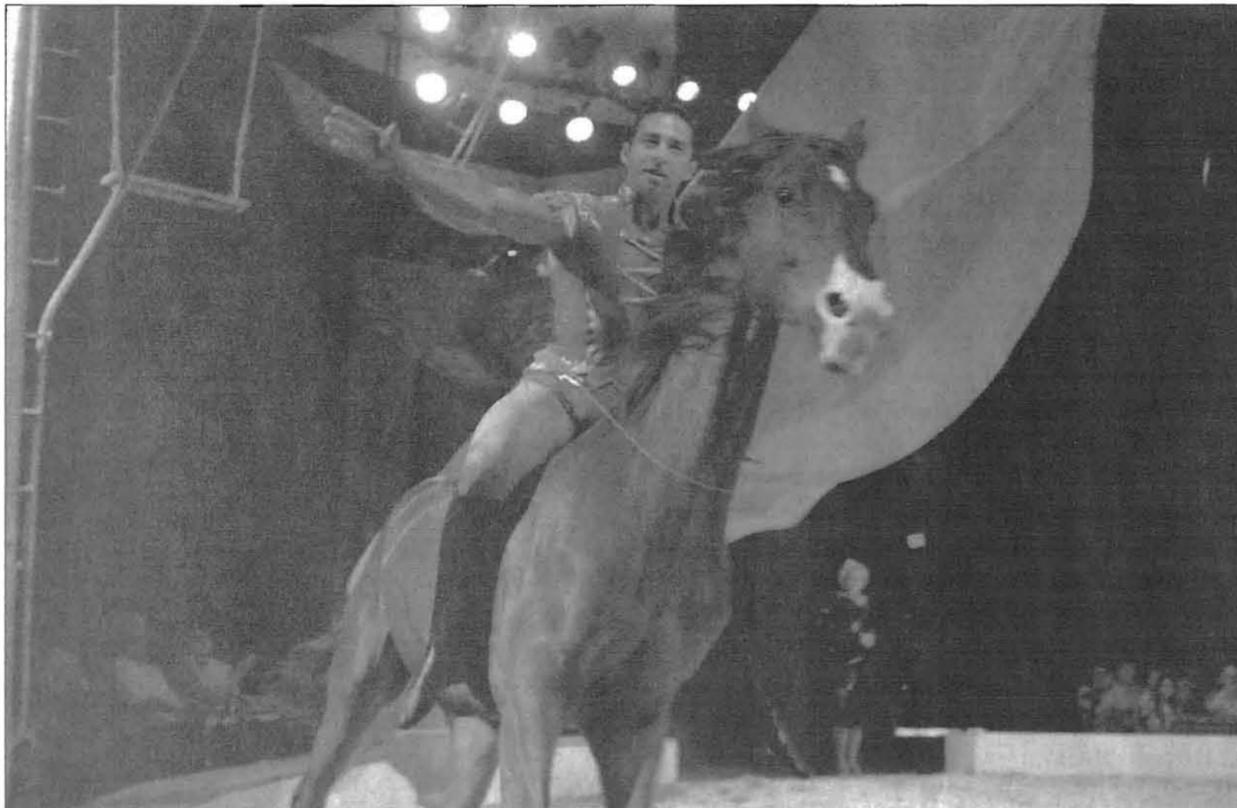
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Sasha Alexandre Nevidonski performs a bareback horse routine at Circus Flora on Friday.

Photos by Mike Sherwin/ The Current



ABOVE: Families enjoy the Flying Cortes of Circus Flora on Friday.

BELOW: Live musicians are part of the action at Circus Flora.



CIRCUS FLORA, from page 8

The framing story is about a circus family, but circus really does run in families. Some 60 percent of Circus Flora is related by blood or marriage, with many multi-generation circus families. One of the show's highlights was young Aurelia Wallenda, who is the daughter of Tino Wallenda of the world-famous Flying Wallendas and a Circus Flora performer from age three, and Sacha Pavlata, one of the circus' founders, who performed a gracefully beautiful trapeze act called the Cloud Swing. The St. Louis Arches, a group of child acrobats,

performed their crowd-pleasing routine of amazing flips, tumbles and pyramids, but then returned to introduce a new routine perform more stunts on horse back.

Circus Flora's star clown, Nino, is a delight, whose amazing, athletic physical comedy has rivaled Buster Keaton and Jackie Chan, and whose playful, childlike persona has won the hearts of Circus Flora fans from the start. Nino is played by Giovanni Zoppe, a sixth generation circus performer, the youngest clown ever inducted into the Clown Hall of

Fame, and a performer who has also been honored for his role in rescuing other performers in the ring. For this year's show, Nino brought back an amazing comic trapeze act he done in the early days of Circus Flora, and it was just as dazzling and entertaining now as then.

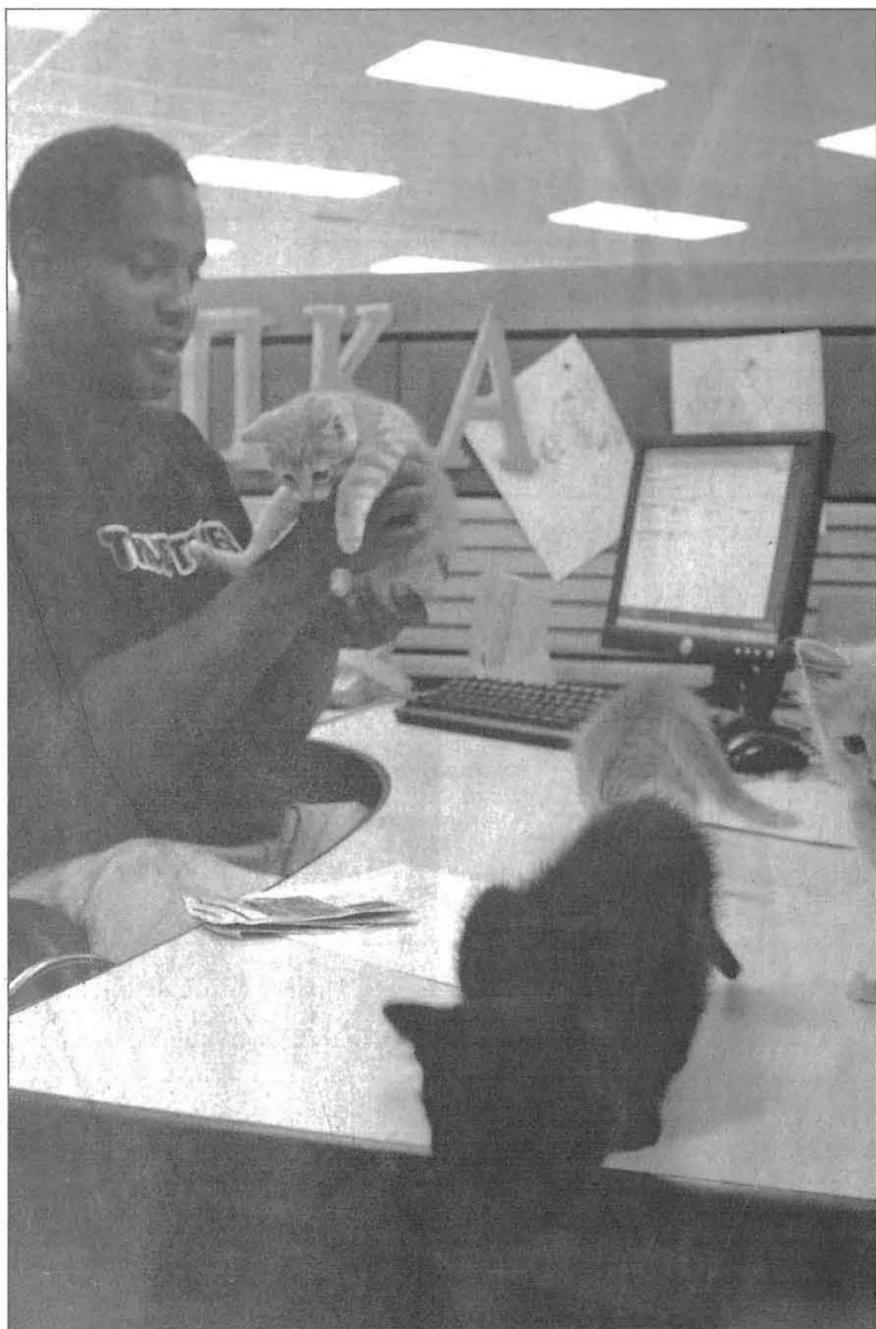
One of the new acts was Fratelli Zoppe, Olissio and Gino Zoppe, who presented a high energy equestrian acrobatic act. Another new equestrian act from Sasha Alexandre Nevidonski, combined bareback riding and aerial routines, in a graceful,

beautiful performance.

Markov's Captivating Juggling Canines must felt like they had to join the horsy set. They got big laughs presenting a hilarious comic routine with the dogs dressed as circus horses and performing standard equestrian routines.

As always there was juggling, joking, pratfalls and pranks, as Circus Flora presented their combination of daring stunts and rollicking comedy. You don't have to be a kid to enjoy this stuff, but you sure will feel like a kid again if you do.

Making furry friends at UMSL ...



Adam D. Wiseman/ The Current

Muhammad LaMotte, junior, social work, entertains four of five kittens at the Pi Kappa Alpha cubicle in the Office of Student Life.

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