

The Current

November 27,
2006

www.thecurrentonline.com

VOLUME 40, ISSUE 1201

THIS WEEK

Debate to highlight GLBT issues

The Current will host a debate between Charles Stadlander, president of the Log Cabin Republicans of Greater St. Louis and Brian Rails, president of PRIZM at UM-St. Louis, Wednesday, Nov. 29 at 7 p.m. in the SGA chambers, on the third floor of the Millennium Student Center.

INSIDE



UMSL students dance with MADCo.

UM-St. Louis students joined a professional dance company on stage last week at the Touhill.

See page 8

'The Fountain' explores themes of immortality

See page 9

'The U' to host first benefit concert

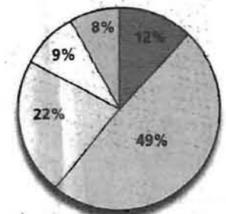
Tune into the UM-St. Louis student radio station for a benefit concert supporting student radio.

See page 6

ON THE WEB

The Current

Web poll results:
What do you think about the 2006 midterm election results?



- I'm still in shock.
- It's no big surprise the Democrats won so many races.
- The Republicans will come back in 2008.
- I didn't vote.
- There were elections?

This week's question:
How would you feel if the Metro pass program ended?

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Oak Hall renovations proceeding slowly

BY MELISSA S. HAYDEN
News Editor

Quick Read

Renovations to the dorms on the fifth and sixth floors of Oak Hall have been moving along at a slow, but steady pace. Residential Life Director John Klein said the building's reconstruction will be finished by January or February.

After flooding took place at Oak Hall three times since its opening this semester, the building's reconstruction is moving along despite a few more snags.

John Klein, director of Residential Life, said the construction contractor working on Oak Hall, Kozeny-Wagner, has replaced the plastic pipes that were determined to be the cause of flooding problems in September.

Klein said the plastic pipes have been replaced with iron pipes, but the process of construction, he said, has been going "pretty slow."

In September, Mark Simpson, press manager in charge of construction projects for Kozeny-Wagner, said the process of replacing those pipes was going to take "about a week" for completion; however, the

task was actually completed at the end of last month.

Klein said the construction process was looking like it will take a few months until completion now. "I think it's going to be done by like January or February," said Jonathan Lidgus, assistant director of Residential Life.

"They're continuing working on it, they're going to continue working on it until room by room, you know we make sure that this problem is definitely and safely solved," Lidgus said.

Despite the slow moving process, Klein said at least the ceilings did not need to be cut, which was originally thought, for the replacement. "They

did it all through the attic," he said.

According to Klein, the problem now is getting replacement carpet for the fourth, fifth and sixth floors because the company that Kozeny-Wagner ordered the original carpet from no longer makes the carpet pattern that was used in Oak Hall. He said the carpet is the right color, "it's just the pattern is not the same."

"Whatever they picked was supposed to be like a pattern that we for sure were going to be able to just get," he said, "but I guess that's not the case."

He said alternatives are being looked into, but the entire carpet may need to be replaced so the carpet installed can be replaced if necessary

later on.

Until the carpets have been replaced, he said replacement of base boarding is on hold and at this time walls are still being patched but have not been painted at this time.

Klein said another problem that has been "a little bit of an issue" at Oak Hall is a malfunction in the "black board system," the system that controls the building's locks. "It works on the floors, but it just doesn't work on our front door yet," he said.

He said the residents are getting tired of having to use a turnkey to unlock the door instead of using swipe card access like was originally planned. He also said some residents said they were upset that notice was not put out when the blackboard system began malfunctioning. "By the time it turned on it was too late to even put out notice," he said.

See RENOVATIONS, page 3

New winter intersession classes begin on Dec. 18

BY MELISSA S. HAYDEN
News Editor

This school year, the UM-St. Louis Division of Continuing Education is offering courses during the winter break from Dec. 18, 2006 until Jan. 13, 2007.

Open registration for the courses began on Nov. 20 and 12 courses are available, 11 of them for three credit hours each and one for two credit hours.

The two credit hour course, "Research Paper Writing for International Students" will take place Monday through Friday, Dec. 18 through Dec. 22 and Jan. 2 through Jan. 5, from 9 a.m. until 12:15 p.m.

The three credit hour courses include "Addictions: Assessment and Intervention in Social Work Practice," "Non-Western Music," "The History of St. Louis," "African Civilization Since 1800," and one online course, "Business Ethics."

These courses have varying schedules that can be found along with a complete list of available courses at <http://www.umsl.edu/divisions/cont-ed/intersession/courses.htm>.

According to the Winter Intersession home page, UM-St. Louis is offering these courses as a means to help lighten students' spring course loads and help them reach their educational goals faster.

Students can apply for financial aid to help cover the cost of the winter courses by either applying for a Free Application for Federal Student Aid online through a link provided at <http://www.umsl.edu/services/finaid/> or by applying in person at the Financial Aid Office located in room 327 of the Millennium Student Center.

Anyone interested in registering for these classes as a nondegree-seeking student, can register by visiting the intersession Web site and completing a Continuing Education credit registration form.

For more information or if you have any questions about the winter intersession, please call (314) 516-5911.

HOME SWEET HOME OPENER FOR RIVERMEN



Matt Johnson • Photo Editor

Stanley Boateng, guard for the Rivermen basketball team, tries to maneuver away from a Harris Stowe guard last Tuesday at the Mark Twain gymnasium during the team's first home game. The Rivermen won 92-68. For more coverage, see SPORTS, page 10.

Success story marked highlight of Transgender Awareness Week

BY PAUL HACKBARTH
Design Editor

When Debra Davis describes herself to others, she calls herself a parent, a teacher, a grandmother, "and oh yes, I'm also a transgender person."

Davis, who may be the only transgender person to make a successful transition, spoke at one of the events during PRIZM's first annual Transgender Awareness Week held Nov. 13 through Nov. 17. The week coincided with Transgender Day of Remembrance, celebrated on Nov. 20 each year.

PRIZM hosted a candle light vigil, a brown bag seminar, panel discussions and a night for many UM-St. Louis students to have their first encounter with a transgender person.

Davis, a former librarian at Southwest High School in Minneapolis, Minn., made the transition from male to female during one weekend in 1998.

"The role of man left me Friday, and by Monday, I took on the role of a woman," she said. "It hasn't happened successfully since, as far as I know."

On Tuesday, Nov. 14, Davis answered curious minds as to what it means to be transgendered, what life

is like as a transgender individual, how the transition occurred at high school and any other questions.

"I love interactive dialogue. The most fun for me is what questions the audience is going to ask," Davis said. The most frequent questions she gets are about reactions from her family and students.

Davis recalled one particular student's reaction that Monday morning. "A young lady came up to the counter and I was behind the counter. She put her elbows on the counter and chin in her hands, and she stared at me and stared at me. I noticed her and she told me, 'You know, you're the same person,' and I said, 'Yes, I am in fact the same person.' She thought for a moment and then said, 'You go girl.'"

Besides being one of the busiest days in the high school library, Davis said that Monday was the only day that year when not one student was suspended for behavior.

"So if schools want no more suspensions, the obvious thing to do is hire more transgender librarians," Davis joked.

Justin Riddler, sophomore, theatre and dance, attended Davis' lecture and said, "I learned a lot I didn't know. Before, I wasn't sure if I honestly knew a transgender, but now I can say I know a couple of transgen-

der people and as Debra Davis said, I may know some that I may not know about."

Riddler said the message he carried home most from Davis is that transgender people "have the same emotions and same life stories as everyone else, but they have a harder struggle."

Davis called herself lucky because her transition was successful.

"Most folks who are transgender have lots of shame and guilt. They lose absolutely everything, their friends, their jobs, their families," Davis said.

"It's a part of the community that's neglected," Riddler said, a lesson he learned in a discussion about the representation of transgender in the media.

"I learned that transgender people aren't portrayed that much. You see an occasional crossdresser or a transsexual but that's it," he said.

Riddler said he believes gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgenders are often "lumped together and it's not clear what's gay, what's lesbian, what's transgender."

PRIZM President Brian Rails said the fact that transgender individuals are usually not distinguished from gays and lesbians was the reason behind holding Transgender Awareness Week.



Carrie Fasiska • Associate Photo Editor

Debra Davis laughs during her lecture "Reading Rainbows: An Evening with Transgender High School Librarian Debra Davis." Davis travels to colleges and businesses around the Midwest helping people understand and accept transgenders.

CAMPUS CRIMELINE

FRIDAY, NOV. 10

STEALING UNDER \$500 • LUCAS HALL

The victim, a part-time instructor, reported her purse was lost or stolen from either the Millennium Student Center where she stopped for coffee, or from the room where she was teaching in Lucas Hall.

The victim indicated that she discovered her purse and wallet were missing when she was off campus, and it could have occurred anywhere. She did leave her purse unattended in the room where the class was in progress for a short break.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 15

STEALING OVER \$500 • TJ LIBRARY

A student reported that he left his laptop computer at a desk unattended in the Thomas Jefferson Library for 10 minutes. When he returned, the computer was gone. The computer was secured with a small device that was easily broken allowing the theft to occur.

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.

SINGING SHOSTAKOVICH



(From left to right) Paul Provencio, Susan Werner, and Katherine Laughton-Brown sing yiddish songs written by Dmitri Shostakovich in the Music Building on Friday, Nov. 17.

Carrie Fasiska • Associate Photo Editor

The Current

The University of Missouri—St. Louis
Student Newspaper Since 1966

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ON THE WEB

The Current

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the editor should be brief, and those not exceeding 250 words will be given preference. We edit letters for clarity and length, not for dialect, correctness, intent or grammar. All letters **must** be signed and must include a daytime phone number. Students **must** include their student ID numbers. Faculty and staff **must** include their title(s) and department(s). Editor-in-chief reserves the right to respond to letters. *The Current* reserves the right to deny letters.

ABOUT US

The Current is published weekly on Mondays. Advertising rates are available upon request; terms, conditions and restrictions apply.

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Unsigned editorials reflect the opinion of the majority of the Editorial Board. *The Current* requests the courtesy of at least 24-hour advance notice for all events to be covered. Advertisements do not necessarily reflect the opinion of *The Current*, its staff members or the University.

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ADVERTISING

All UM-St. Louis students, alumni, faculty and staff are entitled to free classified advertisements of 40 words or less.

The Current also offers display advertisements at a rate of \$8.75 per column inch for off campus advertisers and \$7.75 for on campus organizations and departments. Various discounts may apply. To receive an advertising rate card, contact our advertising or business staff or download a rate card from our Web site at www.thecurrentonline.com/adrates.

AFFILIATIONS



What's Current

Your weekly calendar of campus events

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27

Chemistry Colloquium

Tom Ellenberger, professor of biochemistry and molecular biophysics at Washington University in St. Louis, will discuss "Structural Enzymology of DNA End Joining" at 4 p.m. in 451 Benton Hall.

Coffee will be served at 3:45 p.m. The colloquium is free and open to the public. Call 5311 for more information.

Senior Recital at the Touhill

Senior music education majors Timothy Power and Betsy Seabaugh will perform their degree recital at 7 p.m. in the E. Desmond and Mary Ann Lee Theater at the Touhill Performing Arts Center.

They will play jazz music and works by Bach, Beethoven, Haydn, Brahms, Chopin, Schumann, Debussy and Rachmaninov. The recital is free and open to the public. Call 4198 for more information.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28

UMSL Ensembles to Perform

The UM-St. Louis Percussion Ensemble and Afro-Cuban Ensemble will perform at 7:30 p.m. at the Touhill playing selections by composers as well as arrangements of music.

This concert is free and open to the public. For more information call 7970.

'Art for AIDS 2006'

"Art for AIDS 2006" opens today and runs through Jan. 6 in Gallery Visio at 190 Millennium Student Center. An opening reception will be held from 4 to 7 p.m.

The fundraising exhibit features work by St. Louis-area artists. A portion of the proceeds from the sale of exhibited artwork will be donated to Camp Hope, a St. Louis-based weekend-long respite for children living with HIV and their families.

The exhibit is free and open to the public, and sponsored by Gallery Visio and PRIZM. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, and 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday. Call 7922 for more information.

Foreign Language Placement Testing

The Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures will offer placement examinations in French, German, and Spanish at 2 p.m. in 554 Clark Hall.

Students may obtain advanced placement or exemption by passing the placement exam.

Call 6240 for more information or to register for the exam.

Coed Soccer Tournament Deadline

Today is the deadline to register for the six-on-six coed soccer tournament which will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 29, at the Mark Twain/Athletic & Fitness Center.

Register at the Office of Campus Recreation, 203 Mark Twain or call 5326.

Weekly Lunch Shuttle

The Ferguson Citywalk lunch shuttle offers free weekly rides from UM-St. Louis to more than 20 local restaurants, with pickups every 15 minutes at Marillac Hall, the Millennium Student Center, and the science complex.

The shuttle runs from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Tuesdays. E-mail fsbd@swbell.net for more information.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

Tree Lighting Ceremony

Administrative Services will conduct the 12th annual UM-St. Louis Tree Lighting Ceremony at 4:30 p.m. at the Alumni Circle.

Carolers, hot chocolate, apple cider, and cookies will be provided.

disAbilities Awareness Day Movie Screening

The Students with disAbilities Association will observe disAbilities Awareness Day by showing the movie, "Murderball," at 12:30 p.m. in the Pilot House at the Millennium Student Center.

Donations collected will go to purchase a sports wheelchair for The Special Olympics, with matching funds available, so that donations equaling \$215 for one chair turns into two chairs.

Soda and popcorn will be provided, and the Cantina will offer a nacho special. E-mail macoker@umsl.edu for more information.

Japanese Pottery Discussion

Local potter Clinton Berry will discuss "Influences in Traditional Japanese Pottery" at 6 p.m. in the St. Louis Mercantile Library at the Thomas Jefferson Library.

The event is free and open to the public. Call 6740 for more information.

Graduate Student Council

The Graduate Student Council will hold a networking event from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Alumni Center, 7956 Natural Bridge Road.

The event will feature free refreshments, and is open to graduate students and faculty. E-mail atmzp5@umsl.edu for more information.

"What's Current" is a free service for all student organizations and campus departments. Deadline for submissions is 5 p.m. the Thursday before publication. Space consideration is given to student organizations and is on a first-come, first-served basis. We suggest all postings be submitted at least one week prior to the event. Email event listings to thecurrent@umsl.edu.

All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.



File Photo: Adam D. Wiseman • Editor-in-Chief

"Art for AIDS 2006" opens Tuesday, Nov. 28 and runs through Jan. 6 in Gallery Visio, 190 Millennium Student Center.

Basketball Contests

There will be a Free Throw Contest and Hot Shot Tourney from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. today through Dec. 1 in the Mark Twain Gym.

These fun basketball shooting competitions are free, and open to students, faculty, and staff. T-shirts will be awarded to the winners. No advance registration is needed.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30

Campus Rec Darts Tournament

Campus Rec will be holding a "high score" dart doubles tourney at Whalens Bar & Restaurant (at the corner of Bermuda and Florissant Rd.). On-site sign-up begins at 9:45 p.m. Call Campus Rec Office at 5326 for more information.

Women's Studies Colloquium

Sally Barr Ebest, professor of English and interim director of the Institute for Women's and Gender Studies at UM-St. Louis, will discuss "Where Have All the Feminists Gone? 21st Century Irish-American Women's Novels" at 3:30 p.m. in 211 Clark Hall.

The event is free and open to the public. Call 5581 for more information.

Basketball Court Dedication Ceremony

A men's and women's basketball doubleheader will feature the dedication of the new Chuck Smith Court at the Mark Twain/Athletics & Fitness Center.

The women's team will face the Greyhounds of the University of Indianapolis at 5:30 p.m. The men's game against Indianapolis will follow at 7:30 p.m.

In between games, a special ceremony will dedicate the new basketball court to former head coach and athletics director Chuck Smith.

Admission is free for UM-St. Louis students with identification.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1

MFA Student Readings

Seema Mukhi, Alison Carrick, Patti Jackson, Cynthia Webber and Maria Balogh, all graduating students in the Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing program will give readings of their fiction and poetry at 7:30 p.m. in Gallery 210.

A cash bar and snacks will be available. Call 6845 or e-mail marytroj@umsl.edu for more information.

Business and Economics Seminar

Dinesh Michandani, associate professor of management information systems at UM-St. Louis, will discuss "Does Culture Matter? An Examination of Information Systems Planning in the Subsidiaries of Multinational Firms" at 11 a.m. in room 401 of the Social Sciences & Business Building.

The event is free and is open to the public. Call 6142 or e-mail moehrle@umsl.edu for more information.

Physics and Astronomy Colloquium

Dante Chialve, research associate professor of physiology at Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill., will discuss "Critical Dynamics in Brain Function" at 3 p.m. in 328 Benton Hall.

Coffee will be served at 2:30 p.m. in 516 Benton Hall. The colloquium is free and open to the public. Call 4145 for more information.

CORRECTIONS

In the Nov. 13 issue of *The Current*, the following correction needs to be made:

Cassie Gross was misidentified in a caption for a front page photo as an SGA representative for the Political Science Academy.

Gross is actually the SGA representative for the Political Science Graduate Association.

The Current regrets that sometimes in our making of this publication, we make mistakes. What we do not regret is correcting our mistakes.

Please let us know of any corrections

that need to be made, and we will print them in next week's issue.

To report a correction, please contact *The Current* at 314-516-5174 or by email at thecurrent@umsl.edu.

ASUM ratifies 'sweeping' changes to constitution, STL board member says

UM campuses will receive equal representation in ASUM

By Jason Granger
Staff Writer

The University of Missouri's student lobbying group will be facing big changes starting next semester.

The Associated Students of the University of Missouri board have ratified sweeping changes to the organization's constitution according to board member and UM-St. Louis student David Dodd.

Dodd said the biggest change is all four UM campuses (St. Louis, Columbia, Kansas City, Rolla) will have equal representation of three voting members apiece. In the past, each campus had voting members based on campus populations. That system has now been discarded.

"From Mizzou to Rolla, everyone now has equal representation," Dodd said. Before the changes, "we actually had more voting members than non-voting members."

Non-voting members of the ASUM board include the Intercampus Student Council members, the student representative to the UM system's Board of Curators and the ASUM board chair.

Dodd said he has his concerns about the changes, not the least of which include possible conflicts over the budget.

"My biggest concern was Columbia getting fed up paying the vast majority of ASUM's operating costs, so we made changes," Dodd said.

"Of course, Columbia always gets more budgeted money than the rest of us. They're still going to get the lion's share. But is Columbia now going to say now that we have equal representation, let's reconfigure the spending. If they do, we're going to have some problems."

Part of the problem, according to Dodd, is the board did not spend enough time working through the issues.

"Even though we spent six months on the changes to the constitution, we still didn't give it the attention it needed," Dodd said. "I don't think we met enough to deal with the issues. I voiced my concerns from the first meeting to the last. Some people were anxious to get things hammered out."

Taz Hossain, senior, psychology, and an ASUM member, said she is

“
My biggest concern was Columbia getting fed up paying the vast majority of ASUM's operating costs, so we made changes.

— David Dodd,
ASUM Board Member

more optimistic about the changes than Dodd.

"I think they are the best compromise for the four campuses," she said. "In the long run, it'll be better for us. As the board, we made the right changes."

Hossain said students will benefit from the changes to ASUM because they will be more cost effective.

"It's always a concern for students where their money is going," Hossain said. "These changes will spend the money more wisely."

Dodd is not completely against the changes, and like Hossain, he said he sees some benefit in the

changes.

"I don't think what we have is completely unworkable," Dodd said.

Dodd said one of the driving factors he sees in the changes is relative instability at the UM-Columbia branch of ASUM.

"Where ASUM has always been on shaky ground at St. Louis, the constant has always been other campuses, especially Columbia, have been stable," Dodd said. "Now, St. Louis is on firm ground, and Columbia is somewhat shaky and that's helping to drive some of the changes."

Dodd and Hossain agree that students should understand that ASUM's goal is to help the student body of the entire UM System.

"At the UM System level, there's a lot of support to make ASUM [that] can be preserved in its current form," Dodd said.

Hossain also said just because a decision is not made by one of the campus administrators, does not mean it will not affect the University of Missouri and its students.

"Students should realize that all the things that affect the campus are not just decided by administration officials," Hossain said. "Decisions made in Jefferson City affect our students as well."

Questions surrounding ASUM have led to rumors that St. Louis' branch of ASUM may split from the other branches, a rumor Dodd has heard many times through his years in ASUM.

"Every year, there have been questions as to whether or not we should continue with ASUM," Dodd said. "As UMSL students, it seems to be a constant question. But I don't think anything is going to happen."

LUNCH WITH CLINT ZWEIFEL



Mike Sherwin • Managing Editor

Rep. Clint Zweifel speaks at SLA-ASUM's "Lunch with a Legislator" on Thursday, Nov. 16. Zweifel spoke about his undergraduate years at UM-St. Louis, working at *The Current*, and later running for and serving in student government. Zweifel represents North St. Louis County in District 78.

RENOVATIONS, from page 1

The front doors, Klein said, would be unlocked as was also the original plan for Oak Hall, but another malfunction with the inner doors has them remaining unlocked after a key has been used to unlock them.

"The inside door would just unlock, like your house, and so, there was no security because you could just walk right in," he said. "So we got that fixed, but fixing that, now you've got two sets of locks to go through."

The front doors are not the only problems with locks Klein has encountered at Oak Hall.

Although he said the fifth and sixth floors are closed off because of some construction, two students are living on the fifth floor, and one of those student's door was not

properly locking.

Klein said after UM-St. Louis's Police Department sent out officers to investigate an anonymous tip that someone was illegally living on the fifth floor of Oak Hall, he went to check the room in question and discovered the door was not locking properly.

He said the lock has been fixed, but he did not know how long the door lock had been malfunctioning and there was not really a way to determine that, but he said he did know for sure that the accusation that someone was living there that was not supposed to is not true. "It's not a secret, it's just where we could temporarily house people," he said.

The two students on the fifth floor are being temporarily housed there until the end of the semester

and Klein said they were put there in rooms individually because they made the move to Oak Hall after other people living four to a suite had already settled in. "It's kind of tough when you throw someone into the mix of like a four bedroom suite with people who have already been there because, now, they're the outsider," he said.

The students could not be housed on lower floors either, because, Klein said, there were no "decent" rooms available for them to move into because the other floors are full with the 268 non-temporary residents at Oak. Klein said there had been another 10 students living at Oak Hall, but two moved to another residence hall and eight moved out completely after the flooding.

Winter Intersession

January 2-13, 2007

Get into gear and accelerate!

The University of Missouri-St. Louis is introducing the new 2007 Winter Intersession to help you reach your educational goals faster. In just a few weeks, you can:

- Lighten your spring course load,
- Get on a faster track to graduation,
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The Winter Intersession courses are offered through the Division of Continuing Education, and individual course dates vary.

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- Counseling African-American Clients
- The History of St. Louis
- Listening & Speaking Skills*
- Non-Western Music I
- Research Paper Writing for International Students*

* These courses begin December 18.

"MAY JUST BE THE MOST FUN YOU'LL HAVE AT THE MOVIES THIS SUMMER!"

ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY

"MESMERIZING. CREATES A NEW DEFINITION OF COURAGE."

ROLLING STONE

"ROUSING." "ROCKING!" "ASTONISHING."

THE NEW YORK TIMES SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE WASH. POST/ABC NEWS

FEATURING MUSIC BY MINISTRY, WEIR, AND THE MOST PEACHES

MURDERBALL

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

DISABILITIES AWARENESS DAY

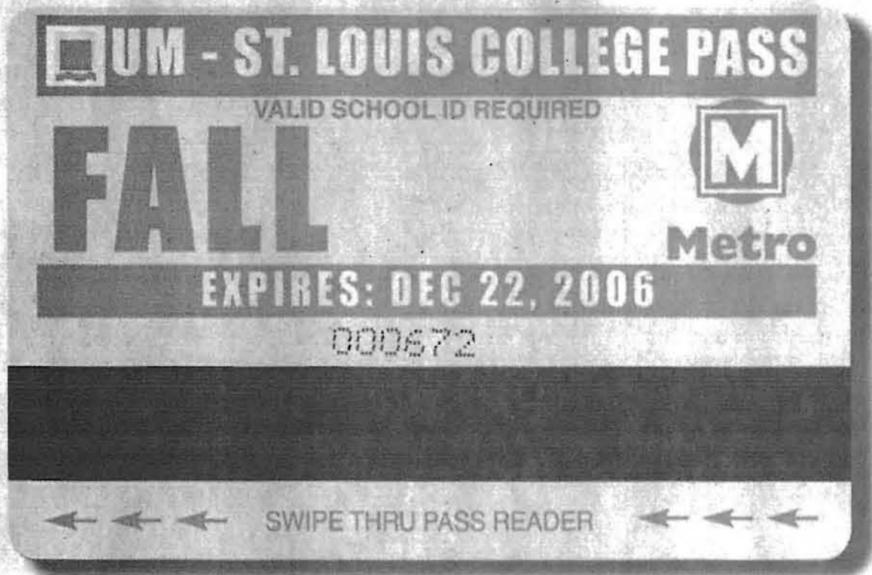
12:30 PM in the Pilot House

SPONSORED BY: SA ACCESS SERVICES TRIO

This movie is rated R and contains ADULT CONTENT * Free popcorn and soda while they last. Nacho special at La Cantina Loco.

OPINIONS

OUR OPINION



Is it the end of the line for the MetroLink pass?

With too few passes sold this semester, the program could end after this semester

It looks like the MetroLink pass program at UM-St. Louis may be nearing its end. After going from free to students in past years, to students paying up to \$45 for a pass, the program may be entirely ended by the start of winter semester, which would raise yet another barrier to students seeking a quality yet affordable education.

At mid-semester, only 2000 passes had been sold, 1300 short of breaking even.

Administrators were using this semester as an indicator of whether students would elect to pay additional money for passes, or if a lack of student participation would signal that the program was not feasible to continue.

So, while the MetroLink will still operate through the UMSL North and UMSL South stations, for the first time UMSL students won't be able to board with their trusty Metro pass and student

ID.

That's unfortunate.

The UMSL Metro pass is a prime example of what makes our campus great. It showed that in addition to reasonably priced education, we also provided free or cheap education from almost anywhere in the metro area.

While many of us take our cars for granted, anyone, no matter whether they owned or had access to an automobile, could hop a ride on a bus or the Metro and make it up to campus.

In addition, it showed how UM-St. Louis was indelibly interconnected with the St. Louis region.

The SGA will discuss the issue at its Dec. 1 meeting this week. Now may be the last time to speak up for keeping the passes, even if it requires a fee increase.

At its last meeting, the SGA approved a \$2 per credit hour fee increase for student activities.

While student activities can help and can enrich the lives of all UM-St. Louis students, the Metro pass could arguably affect more students, more directly.

In fact, that same \$2 per credit hour increase could essentially pay for the program's full cost of \$441,000.

We ask our student government representatives to talk to SGA leaders if they would like to see the program continued. And all students should let their voices be heard by calling or emailing our student leaders to let them know if you'd like the Metro pass program to end, or if you'd be willing to pay additional student fees to keep the program going. Time is running out, so let your opinions be known.

SGA President:
NicholasKoechig@umsl.edu
SGA Vice President:
ThomasHelton@umsl.edu

What's your opinion?

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

- MetroLink pass program
- Ed Bradley
- The future of the Democrats

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

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

STAFF VIEWPOINT

Ed Bradley's legacy should not be forgotten

News anchor Ed Bradley died on Nov. 9, 2006. In the wake of his death, Bradley will be remembered for his astounding work as an anchor for the television news program "60 Minutes." Bradley won several awards, including 19 Emmys, the Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Award and the Paul



By MYRON MCNEILL
Opinions Editor

White Award. Neither his work nor his legacy will be forgotten.

More importantly, we can and should remember the eloquence, charisma, and linguistic ability he possessed. As an anchorman, Bradley was not a man of just saying words and phrases that had a particular sound quality. Bradley upheld a standard of "integrity" with his manners, language and communication ability. It was not a show.

Bradley was much older than many of us who read this paper, but we can take bits and pieces of his skill set and utilize them as we enter the professional world.

One of Bradley's skills that we can work on and utilize is courage. Bradley was one of the first black Americans to challenge the system of racism in the media.

Not only was he an African-American journalist, he also entered into the network television news field

during the turmoil of racism and discrimination of the late '60s and early '70s. And he succeeded... uncompromisingly.

A few of Bradley's other skills were perseverance and sacrifice. Bradley began his career as a school teacher. Simultaneously, he worked for a radio station, covering minor stories, for free.

To get more direct training in journalism, he moved to Paris and lived off his savings. When he ran out of money, he became a stringer for CBS News.

In 1972, Bradley was transferred to Saigon to cover the Vietnam War. He also spent time in Phnom Penh covering the war in Cambodia. While covering the war, he was injured by a mortar round. He also had shrapnel wounds to his back and arm.

These are just a few of Bradley's many skills. This shows that he was not only a man of distinct words. He was a man of distinct action. He persevered and made several sacrifices to obtain success.

Therefore, let us remember Bradley for his accomplishments in journalism, and let us remember him for his outstanding skills as a consummate professional.

STAFF VIEWPOINT

The Democrats were given a chance, but will they take it?

The Democrats in this country have been handed a golden opportunity with the recent defeat they handed the Republicans.

The Democrats not only took both the United States House of Representatives and the Senate on Nov. 7, they also garnered a majority of the governorships in the country.

Now the Democrats must prove they are worthy of this "vote of confidence."

Lately, talk has run rampant (especially on conservative talk radio shows such as Sean Hannity's, Rush Limbaugh's and Laura Ingram's) that the Democrats did not win, but the Republicans lost. Many say they blew it with the recent scandals surrounding disgraced lobbyist Jack Abramhoff and former Senator Mark Foley.

Maybe they are trying to convince themselves, or maybe they actually believe it. Either way, a loss is a loss is a loss.

Democrats now have the chance to produce some real change in this country after the disastrous policies put in place by the Republican congress and the current regime in the White House.

The first step they must take is to give some tax relief to the middle class. Republicans tout the success of the tax cuts to the rich, a group of people who can do without a tax cut,

while ignoring the middle class. Revoke the tax cuts immediately and aid the middle class.

They also must raise the minimum wage. In Missouri, it is on the rise after Proposition B passed easily on Nov. 7. However, it needs to go up nationwide.

Those of us fortunate enough to either have or be working on a college degree can look forward to decent pay.

However, those without the opportunities afforded to us should not be left by the wayside. They too have families to feed and bills to pay. The government should do whatever it can to ensure their lives will be made a little easier.

In this world, there are many countries that offer free health care to their citizens, including Canada and Sweden.

So why can't America, the richest nation in the world, start to get on the bandwagon? Of course, this is not something that can happen overnight, but it can transpire in stages.

The Democrats need to get the ball rolling. Democratic National Committee Chair Howard Dean has a good proposal, one worth seriously considering.

Dean's proposal is to guarantee healthcare to everyone under 25, and it could work.

See DEMOCRATS, page 14

EDITORIAL BOARD

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

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

As a forum for public expression on campus, *The Current* welcomes letters to the editor and guest commentaries from students, faculty, staff members and others concerned with issues relevant to the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

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

Guest commentaries are typically longer (generally 400-600 words) on a specific topic of interest to readers. If you are interested in writing a guest commentary, please contact *The Current's* editor-in-chief.

CONTACT US

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UNDERCURRENT

By Carrie Fasiska • Associate Photo Editor

Do you feel that you are represented by the Student Government Association?



Kara Kinzel
Senior
Chemistry

"I'm in Chemistry Club and I feel my SGA rep does a good job representing me."



Peter Chang
Senior
Chemistry

"The SGA votes for its best interests, which I can't blame them, but their interests aren't necessarily the student's interests as a whole."



Gabriel Santos
Sophomore
International Business

"As an SGA rep, we try to promote IBC's wishes and our activities. As president of IBC, I represent them and SGA represents the University."



Jeff Donahay
Freshman
English

"I don't really feel informed enough to comment on that. I wasn't even aware of what the SGA is or what they do."



Brandon Myers
Junior
Marketing

"It's not balanced. I'm not currently in an organization, therefore, I don't feel I'm represented by the SGA."

What do you think? Send your own response to thecurrent@umsl.edu. The person who submits the best response each week wins a free T-shirt.

STAFF VIEWPOINT

Take a lesson from Kramer: just say no to the n-word

I never really liked the show "Seinfeld." I saw a couple of episodes, but I never really found it funny or entertaining. I know that Jerry Seinfeld also performs stand-up comedy routines but I did not know that other comedians did stand up as well.



BY LAQUAN FUSE

Sports Editor

tant.

In the case of Richards, he used the word to degrade, humiliate and hurt people who paid to see him perform. That is not cool on any level.

Richards also said, "All right you see? This shocks you, it shocks you to see what's buried beneath you stupid motherf****ers."

Michael Richards, also known as Kramer, made a complete ass out of himself during a standup performance at The Laugh Factory in Hollywood. Instead of telling jokes, Richards decided to verbally assault two members of the audience.

"Fifty years ago we'd have you upside down with a f****ing fork up your ass," said Richards. "Throw his ass out, he's a nigger! He's a nigger! He's a nigger! A nigger! Look there's a nigger!"

Not funny. I know that the use of the notorious N-words frowned upon in certain social settings. I also know that African-American entertainers use it consistently in music and in movies. I can not speak for my entire race and please do not ask me to, but if entertainers put the word out there it is just another word, people other races can use it too.

Is there a difference when a white person says it to a black person and when a black person says it to another? Yes, unfortunately there is. It may not be right, but how many times in this country are right when comes to race?

I do not personally have a problem when I hear a white person say the N-word, but there is a difference between saying a word and calling someone the word. When and how the word is used is also very impor-

And this guy says he is not a racist, he was just angry. Yeah, right. If that is what is buried beneath, this guy needs some serious help.

But that is not the worst thing Richards said that night. I did not think things could get too much worse, but they did.

"That's what happens when you interrupt the white man, don't you know?" said Richards.

Damn. Seriously, that is what happens when you interrupt the white man? Well, let's see, that might be true if you were ... what's the word? Oh yeah, racist!

Richards spent his next few days trying to apologize, but what is done is done. I do not blame all white people for the actions of one man, I blame that man. But this should serve as a lesson to anyone who tries to use the N-word, just do not do it. Nothing good will come from it.

Unless your ancestors were beaten, bought and sold, do not use it. Even if you are an African American who uses the N-word in regular conversation, think about what you are saying before it comes out of your mouth.

If it were "just a word," then what is the big deal? If it is something to protest about, then let's start protesting. Either way it is just a word, depending on who is using it.

SCIENCE COLUMN

When galaxies collide, supernovas appear

Supernovas are rare events in most galaxies, but one galaxy seems to be a hotbed for these explosions.

For the average large galaxy, there are perhaps three supernovas in a century. For galaxy NGC 1316, there have been four in the past 26 years, with two in the last five months. This has astronomers wondering what is different about this galaxy.

Galaxy NGC 1316 is relatively close, at 80 millions light years away. The two recent supernovas appear side by side in an image from NASA's Swift satellite. Astronomers found the unusual phenomenon using data from the satellite, launched two years ago.

The first of the most recent supernovas was discovered June 19 and the second on Nov. 5 this year. Both were discovered by an amateur astronomer

in South Africa, Berto Monard.

NGC 1316 is a massive, elliptical galaxy. Recently, it merged with a spiral galaxy and such collisions are known to generate supernovas. However, all of the recent supernovas have been of type Ia, not a type associated with the formation of massive new stars that die quickly, as typically seen when galaxies collide.

Instead, this type of supernova is associated with white dwarf stars. While colliding galaxies can lead to the formation of massive stars that



BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER

Science Columnist

live fast and die young as supernovas, stars often take several billion years to become white dwarfs. When a star eventually becomes a white dwarf, it can steal material from nearby stars, and when it has accumulated enough mass, it explodes as a type Ia super-

nova.

However, the supernovas in galaxy NGC 1316 are still likely linked to the merging of the galaxies, according to Stefan Immler of NASA's Goddard Space Flight

Center.

Other astrophysicists have suggested an answer to the puzzle. Mark Sullivan of the University of Toronto suggested in an article in Science News that the collision of galaxies might speed up the process.

Recent studies by Sullivan and others show that some type Ia supernovas take less than half a billion years to occur. An examination of data on other elliptical galaxies that had recently merged with another galaxy also found more than the expected number of type Ia supernovas.

When galaxies collide, supernovas show up but astrophysicists are still trying to determine why all the type Ia supernovas pop up in galaxy NGC 1316 and what it may mean.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Economist Milton Friedman inspired many in his life

BY JEREMY LOSCHIEDER

Guest Commentator

The passing of Economist Milton Friedman on Nov. 16, 2006 is a loss that touches all within the economics profession. Indeed Friedman's contribution to the field is so formidable, and his writings so prolific, that this small memorial cannot do justice to his lifetime of work, although Eamonn Butler's 1985 biography provides a respectable summary.

Friedman was a recipient of the John Bates Clark Medal, the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel, the National Medal of Science and the Presidential Medal of Freedom. He learned from an enviable list of economic minds: George Stigler, Jacob Viner, Frank Knight and Simon Kuznets. He worked alongside F.A. Hayek, for whom the UMSL Economics Department's endowed chair is named. He mentored Nobel laureate Gary Becker and distinguished economist Thomas Sowell.

His death feels personal to me. Though I've never met Dr. Friedman, he has long been a part of my education. My high school econ teacher, Mr. Chasey, kept a photo of Friedman in the front of the classroom and referred to him as "Uncle Milt." Chasey bragged about his famous

economist trading card autographed by Friedman. As an undergrad, I studied Friedman's theory alongside that of his ideological rival, John Maynard Keynes. But what I admire most about Friedman was that he was a rebel.

So intensely successful was Friedman's rebellion that his school of thought, Monetarism or the Chicago School, came to replace the then-prevailing standard Keynesianism. At the time Friedman was beginning his career, the Keynesian view of an actively interventionist government prevailed: the Phillips Curve explained high inflation as a trade-off for low unemployment and government should cut or increase spending in order to keep both in check. The impact of money was often mitigated to a constant or ignored.

Friedman rejected the idea of an interventionist government as well as the trade-off implied by the Phillips Curve. He emphasized the importance of money and monetary policy, arguing that inflation was chiefly due to the money supply growing too rapidly. He considered government intervention as more likely to cause problems than to solve them, indeed blamed a backwards monetary policy for exacerbating the Great Depression (or Great Contraction, as he called it).

He believed in the power of the laissez-faire market and feared government for its bureaucratic inefficien-

cies and its tendency to leverage authority to gain ever-increasing power.

This is an over-simplification of his ideas, but the point is that Friedman was diametrically opposed to the status quo, and actively promoted his opposition. Economics can be technical and highly complex, but Friedman made his work accessible to the masses. He and his wife penned several easy-to-read tomes, including *Free to Choose*, produced a PBS miniseries to accompany it, and wrote a regular column in *Newsweek* to share his views with a wide audience. He was vociferous in his criticism of the powers-that-be and their decisions.

As a result, his message transcended economics and spread beyond economists. He inspired conservatives such as Ronald Reagan as much as Keynes inspired JFK. He believed in the individual and considered each person a free agent in charge of his or her destiny. Underlying Friedman's economic arguments were the moral determinations that people — consumers and owners of capital alike — were rational beings, intelligent and informed, who worked best when the controls were removed so that they could enter voluntarily into agreements for the betterment of one another.

He advocated the privatization of most public institutions, from schools to hospitals, and championed the abil-

ity of markets to address problems as diverse as hunger and racial discrimination. Through works such as *Capitalism and Freedom*, Friedman tied the market as a requisite for the existence of a free and democratic society.

Friedman was not without his critics. There were those who thought academics should not take on such overtly political overtones in their research, and those who felt Friedman overemphasized the ability of the market to solve so many problems. Some said he ignored the potential for market failures or information asymmetries, and his uncausal explanation for inflation as a monetary phenomenon was as simplistic as considering the American Civil War to be caused by slavery.

Despite his critics, Friedman's work changed the direction of economics and economic policy for decades. Issues of how to control monetary growth, and even whether the government should attempt to control it at all, became hot topics of discussion. The Chicago School, of which Friedman was a vanguard, became and remains a formidable intellectual force in the field. And econ students find inspiration in the Nobel laureate who waited tables and worked retail in order to finance his education.

God Bless you, Uncle Milt, and thanks for everything.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Student fee increase

I am writing to *The Current* because of my picture being on the front page of this week's issue. I feel like Holly and I have received a relatively large (and perhaps undue) amount of negative attention for being on the front page of article that talks about the fee increase. It's as if students think that we alone approved the fee.

Honestly, I voted for it because it would give my organization more opportunity to put on more quality events, and had only good intentions for the extra money we could possibly receive.

Obviously, many value their money more, and have put Holly and I in an awkward position, with students giving us cutting glances to outright harassing us.

So please, *Current*, if you insist on putting a picture about a controversial issue within SGA on the current front page, please do not single anyone out.

I gave information for the picture thinking it might be one of several options, and only then as a small black and white on the inside. Instead, I take up a third of the page, and I am forced to put up with harassment from the student body.

JB Carroll
Junior
Chemistry

SGA concerns

In the most recent issue of *The Current*, there was a feature article which claimed that "a lack of feedback from students" may be keeping the Student Government Association "from moving forward and causing students to feel their concerns are not being addressed." I was quoted in this article in regard to some concerns that I, as a first year SGA Representative, have with the entire system of representation. Since my concerns are far-reaching, I will attempt to be brief. I believe the rest of the student body will share my concerns once they are aware of the manner in which SGA and the budgetary committee are operating.

• My first concern is the selection process for the Student Allocation Budget Committee, SABC. For those who are not aware, SABC has a huge responsibility in that it is the group of individuals deciding where over 700,000 dollars in student activity fees are allocated. Who decides who is on this committee? One person: the SGA comptroller, Shanna Carpenter. I do not wish to challenge Ms. Carpenter's credentials or credibility, but am simply arguing that this cannot be the best selection process for such a powerful committee. From my vantage point, this is a serious matter. SGA president, Nick Koechig, seems to disagree, as he is quoted as saying that this type of selection is "perhaps" the best method since there is a fear that representatives may simply choose their friends.

• While the fear of representatives "choosing their friends" may be justified, should we not also be afraid of SGA leadership placing their friends on the committee as well? Patronage systems are not an anomaly of American society, so why should we expect that this sub-system would be devoid of patronage? My concern is further supported upon close examination of the SGA October 27, 2006 meeting minutes. Those representatives in attendance will recall a discussion pertaining to SABC during the meeting (there was also a discussion of the 5% recommended budget decrease for clubs/organizations whose representatives missed meetings). Neither of these items was listed within the minutes. This is exceptional because the minutes are normally very detailed, thus, the absence of any mention of the SABC discussion was particularly glaring. However, the following citation was within the minutes, "More student say in what comes to Touhill." Those in attendance know that the Touhill was not a significant discussion item. What is the point of omitting two crucial discussion items from the meeting minutes? Such questions do not induce strong feelings of trust and confidence in the current leadership. Meeting minutes should exist as concrete records of what occurred at the meeting, and thus, should record every topic of discussion.

• SGA leadership stated in the article that they are not getting enough feedback from SGA Representatives

currently, yet my email regarding a transportation concern has not yet received a response. Further, my email requesting confirmation of the receipt of my SABC application has also not received a response. At this point, it has been a week without a response on both issues. Clearly, I am reaching out to the leadership and expressing my concerns, but I cannot say that I have seen any reciprocity. I take it as my responsibility as a Teaching Assistant to respond to my students' concerns in a prompt manner, within 24 hours. Is it too much to ask for paid officers, (yes, SGA officers receive salaries) to respond to concerns? They are portraying the problem as a lack of communication on the part of the SGA Representatives, are they not? I believe they should be more responsive when SGA Representatives attempt to communicate their concerns.

The SGA officers would do well to remember that they are elected representatives, serving in a supposedly democratic student organization. From my perspective, this experience has been a case study of elitism at its best, or rather worst. I, therefore, urge all students to call for a truly democratic and representative system where our concerns are actually addressed. It is time that SGA actually represented our needs, rather than serving as a rubber stamp.

Cassie Gross
Graduate Student
Political Science

See your name in print.



The Current is looking for **staff writers, photographers and advertising representatives** for the 2006-2007 school year. If you are interested drop us a line. Experience is a plus, but not necessary. We're looking for intelligent, inquisitive students with a willingness to get involved and learn about journalism and business.

Email thecurrent@umsl.edu
Or call 516-5174 for more info.

Something on your mind? Write a letter to the editor. Email: thecurrent@umsl.edu

FEATURES

TOP 10

Activities to do during the cold winter months

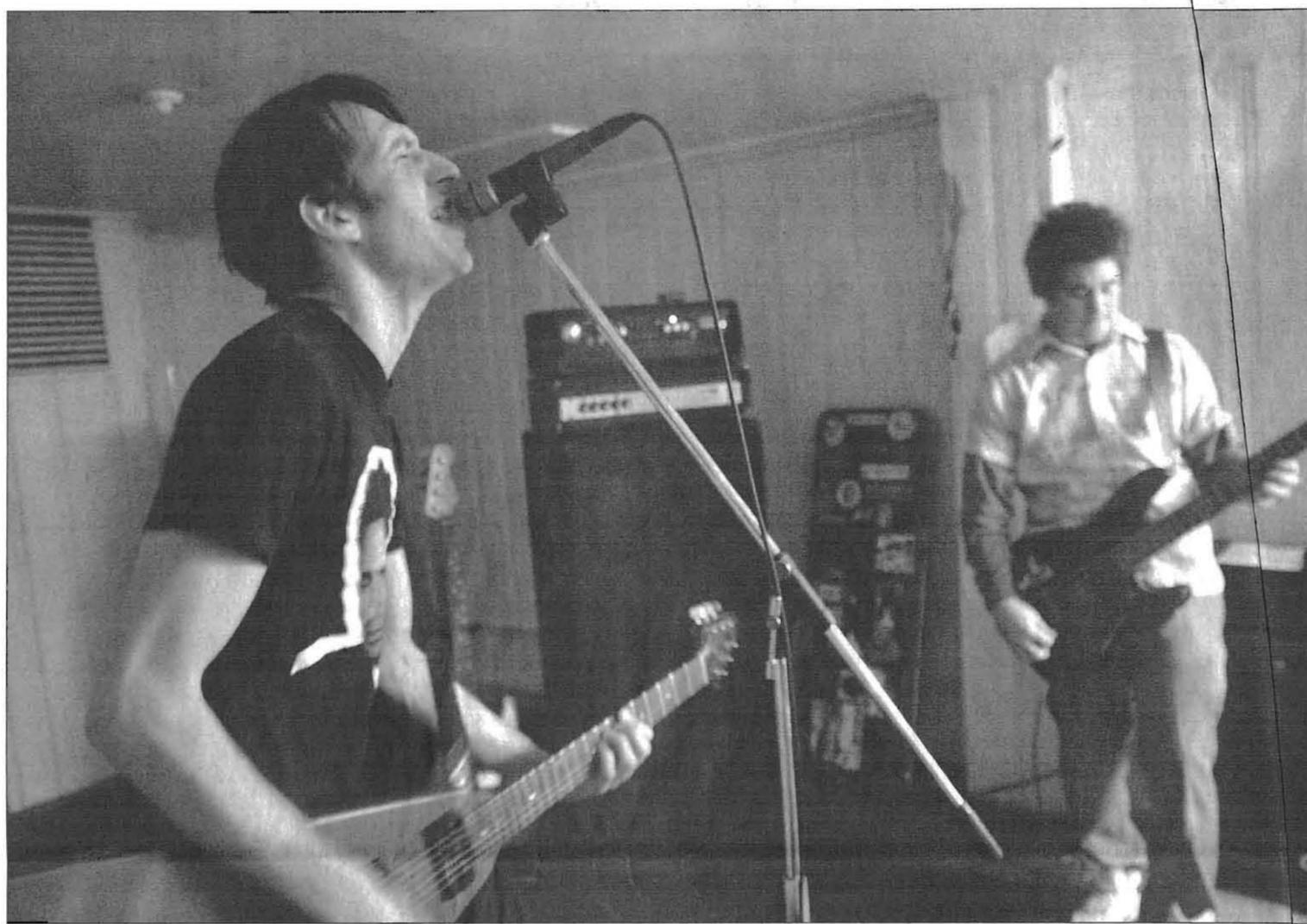
1. Rent a movie and snuggle on your couch in a warm blanket.
2. Go to a Blues game. The tickets are easy to come by, and even though they may lose, it is still a good time.
3. Check out a concert at one of the many cool venues around St. Louis.
4. Go on the Anheuser Busch brewery tour. It is a great experience, not to mention the free beer at the end of the journey.
5. Drive around the different neighborhoods and look at the holiday decorations.
6. Visit your family. Take some hot cocoa and sit around and tell them all the wonderful things you are doing at UMSL.
7. When it snows, take a sled and some friends to Art Hill in Forest Park. The hill may not be the fastest but it is still a good time.
8. Go to a spa. The cold weather can get you down, so take a break and let go of the stress.
9. Take a vacation. Go on a cruise or fly to a tropical destination. The warmth is something you will really appreciate.
10. Follow the Men's and Women's Basketball teams. The court is new and they are ready to warm UMSL fans.

Send your top ten idea idea to us:
thecurrent@umsl.edu



FAR LEFT:
Jared Konersman, frontman for Runnerup, plays earlier this month in the Pilot House. The band will appear on Dec. 5 at the "Support Student Radio" benefit show.

LEFT:
Local indie/rap group The Frozen Food Section will perform in the Pilot House on Dec. 5.



Mario Viele, guitarist and vocalist, will perform with his band, the Sex Robots, at the "Support Student Radio" benefit concert in the Pilot House on Dec. 5.

Schoolhouse Rock ■ 'The U' holds local music showcase to benefit the American Cancer Society

STORY BY MABEL SUEN • FEATURES EDITOR

Take a breather and catch some bands before you crack open those books for finals week. In an effort to promote local music, "The U" student radio station will play host to their first concert event, co-sponsored by University Program Board and UM-St. Louis auxiliary services.

"Support Student Radio" will take place from 3-10 p.m. on Dec. 5 in the Millennium Student Center Pilot House, and will feature eight local performing groups of various genres and "The U" DJs announcing live over the air and on the Web between sets.

The price of the event is \$5 and is inclusive of refreshments, a chance to win door prizes and a free T-shirt for the first 50 guests. All proceeds will be directed toward the American Cancer Society. For additional information, visit www.myspace.com/supportstudentradio.

Bird Baker

Genre: experimental/acoustic
Web: myspace.com/brandonbaker

Bird Baker is its own breed of bird. Recently, the acoustic and electric experimental musicians expanded their lineup to include a drummer. Besides Baker's soulful vocals, their uniqueness is attributed to a constantly expanding collection of salvaged sound toys and rare instruments.

Formerly citing influences including Billie Holiday and Devendra Banhart, the group hopes to combine ideas like intricate hip-hop type production, abrasive and psychedelic noise, and traditional gospel-like chanting to create what guitarist and vocalist Brandon Baker said "stays away from anything that someone can pigeon-hole."

With their first full-length album due out sometime next year, it's only a matter of time before their musical career takes to the air.

Support Student Radio benefit concert at UMSL

Takes place Dec. 5 from 3-10 p.m. in the Pilot House. Cover is \$5.

The Ottomen

Genre: rock
Web: myspace.com/ottomen, www.ottomen.com

The Ottomen have been keeping it silly since 1995 when the bare bones of the group began recording tunes influenced by the Pixies and They Might Be Giants during early college years.

With catchy tunes consisting of simplistic chord structures likened to those used by groups such as Weezer and Nirvana, The Ottomen croon lyrics about old '80s TV cartoons like Heman and Transformers in addition to light-hearted libretto about other playful endeavors.

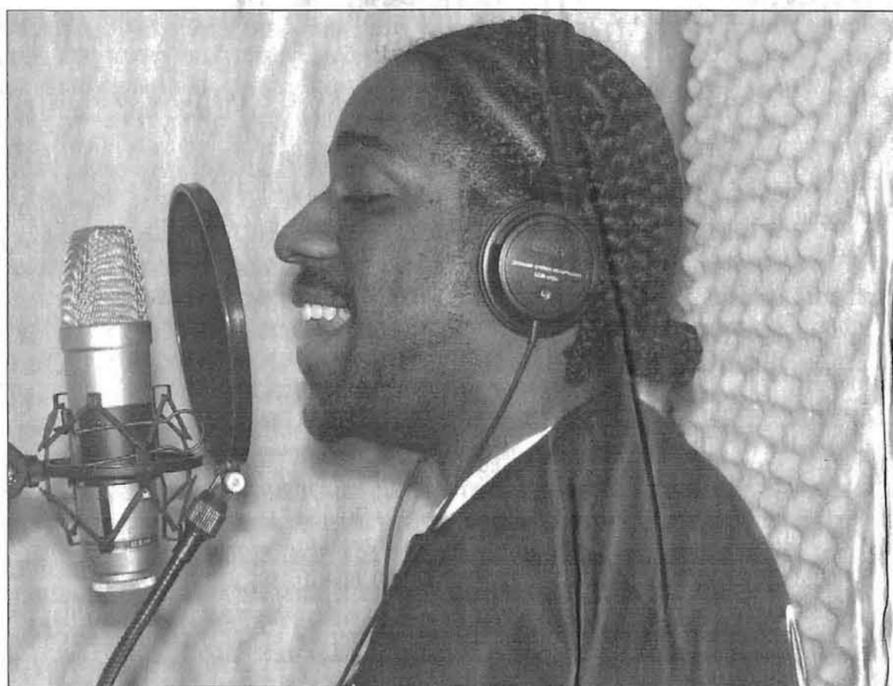
The group, whose name was adapted from The Dead Milkmen song "I Tripped Over the Ottoman," has since expanded into an "Ottomen Empire" of sorts due to its multiplicity of members. Be on the lookout for a compilation of all their hit songs entitled, "Back to the Past" in the near future.

Runnerup

Genre: pop-punk
Web: myspace.com/runnerupmusic

Influenced by bands including Brand New, Less Than Jake and Poison the Well, Runnerup "parties way too much" frontman Jared Konersman said. The do-it-yourself pop-punk group has been on the go since last January, frequenting local clubs around town.

With Warped Tour in mind and a self-produced music video in the works, the three-piece ensemble keeps busy while providing high-energy happy to hardcore to happy again song structures designed to show audiences



Carrie Fasiska • Associate Photo Editor

UM-St. Louis graduate Mike Jones sings in the studio he and the other members of the group Knights of the Round Table built to record their albums in.

a good time.

The Frozen Food Section feat. Jonathan Toth from Hoth and Tucker Booth

Genre: hip-hop/indie
Web: frozenfoodsection.com, myspace.com/thefrozenfoodsection

In the rap game, everyone wants to be hot shit, and we figured it would be cooler to be cold as hell," Jonathan Toth from Hoth said. "Frozen Food Section is a collaboration of goods that happen to be cold."

Proclaimed as a company in 1999, FFS has put out 12 albums from a collective of St. Louis-based artists. With influences including Run DMC, Kanye West, James Brown, The Beatles, Bob Dylan and "a halo of vultures," DJ Helias said, it is easy to see FFS makes

music that covers the entire spectrum, blurring the lines between genres like rap, rock, folk, soul and reggae.

Stating his goals with FFS, founder J Toth said he wanted to "push creativity in music to new levels that the world has never seen. Do it in a way that is not bubblegum, not silliness, no capitalizing off bullshit, but actual genuine excitement in music and creativity."

Knights of the Round Table

Genre: hip-hop/rap
Web: krtpot.tk, myspace.com/krtpot

From recording radio spots for local business Slacker's CDs and Games and doing soundtracks for adult film companies to sowing their musical seed in the Midwest and mistakenly promoting

their shows in gay bars, Knights of the Round Table is doing everything in its power to get heard.

With influences including De La Soul and Tupac, Doeboy of KRT said, "A lot of people make music that other people can jump around, chant and get wasted to, but that's not the type of hip-hop music we bring. It's not what we were brought up on." The St. Charles-based rapper's attitude is, "It is what it is. Just live life. Don't pretend."

Concerning the group's third release, expected in May 2007, he said, "You're going to see a lot of hustle, a lot of growth, a lot of clarity and a lot of different styles. We're still doing our thing, and that's the bottom line."



Carrie Fasiska • Associate Photo Editor

Grand Prix Speedways offers thrill-seekers the chance to experience a cross between go-karts and NASCAR. The electric-powered cars go from zero to 40 mph in three seconds. Grand Prix Speedways is located at I-70 and Earth City Expressway.

Think go-karts are just for kids? Think again

By ADAM D. WISEMAN
Editor-in-Chief

Putting the one-piece jumpsuit and the helmet on starts to change your perception of what go carting used to be. Grand Prix Speedways does not pretend to be the real thing; it steps beyond your run of the mill carting occurrence and becomes a real racing experience. From the moment you walk in and see the real racing cars and high end luxury cars in the lobby that most people dream of, you realize you have been teleported into a place that craves about the experience of its customers.

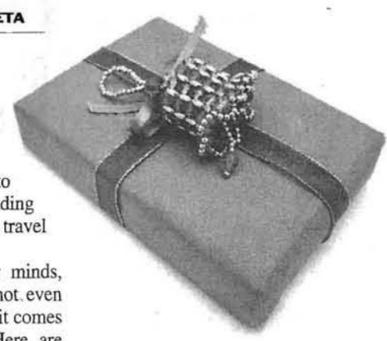
After a short registration, and signing of a waiver you are on your way to race training. It might seem odd to listen to a person telling you how to not brake and just let off the gas when taking a turn, or to not bang into your racing opponents while on the track. The training and safety instructor wants you to feel the speed of the car, wants you to take full advantage of your time. Once the short training session is over, you scurry off into the locker rooms to change into your one-piece racing suit. The sizes can accommodate the smallest and the largest individual for the race, and they are easy to find. Included in your outfit are a helmet, neck roll and a balaclava (a

form of headgear covering the whole head, exposing only the face). This outfit fits over your clothes that you come in with, and it gives you the feeling of a real racecar driver. Once seated in the vehicle you are given some time to adjust and get comfortable, but no time is wasted to get you on the track. The track is a quarter mile long and has several turns that will be rather tricky on first attempt. The speed of the vehicle propels you through the course and you are tested not only on fear of putting the pedal to the medal but also tested on your ability to not crash into the wall and other racers.

The races are not races where you want to finish first, but rather finish first on timed laps. Since this is the style of racing, Grand Prix Speedways spares no expense by giving each racer at the end of the race a print out that details speed, time and position for each lap. While the racing is fun and the whole experience is a window into real racecar driving, the price is high. One-race costs \$24.95 for non-members and if you buy five races it is \$112.95 or \$22.59 per race for non-members. The racing experience is what you are paying for at Grand Prix Speedways, and it is well worth it if you can spare the cash.

Searching for the perfect holiday gift?

By STEPHANIE SOLETA
Staff Writer



The holidays are stressful for everyone, especially college students. On top of the usual holiday madness, college students have to worry about finals and finding enough time (and energy) to travel home for the holidays. With so much on their minds, many college students do not even know where to begin when it comes to buying holiday gifts. Here are some ideas that can help even the busiest college student satisfy everyone on their holiday gift list.

Parents:

Middle-aged adults seem to be some of the hardest people to buy for because they seem to have everything they want (after working years to earn it all).

For Mom:

A gift set from Bath and Body Works with luxurious bath salts, body wash, and body lotion would be ideal. No matter what age she is, Mom is always busy trying to pull everything together for the holidays, and she deserves to treat herself to a calming bath when it's all over.

For Dad:

Think practical. A new tool kit or some nice stationery would please any sensible father.

Siblings:

Unless they have requested something specific, a good gift for siblings would be cash or gift cards. Young people change tastes so quickly these days. What they liked last year might be what they detest this year. By giving cash or gift cards, each sibling can buy whatever he or she desires. Gift cards can be a more personal gift because they can be good at their favorite store. Cash is good no matter what.

Roommates:

Roommate gift shopping can either be extremely easy or extremely difficult. It really depends on how well one knows their roommate.

For the roommates who are like best friends, get something personal. Maybe they have been talking about how much they would like a new purse or wallet. Surprise them and get it for them!

For the roommates who are not around much, get them something for their rooms. A poster, pillow, or a towel set always makes a nice gift, and they are things that everyone will find useful.

The persons you feel obligated to buy for:

Everyone has that one person they feel obligated to buy for, like the overly-friendly neighbor. Food baskets are good for these types of people. The smaller baskets are pretty cheap and are available at local grocery stores and other convenient locations. Many varieties are available to choose from, so it is sure to please even the pickiest person.

Still stumped about what to buy those remaining people on your list? Several Web sites specialize in finding gifts for everyone. Two such sites are www.FindGift.com and www.gifts.com. Just answer a few simple questions and a list of possible gifts will be given. This should make the holidays easier and more enjoyable!

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A&E ON CAMPUS

Dancing with the stars of MADCo, UMSL

Fall concert gave dance students chance to showcase talents

BY MELISSA GODAR

Staff Writer

UM-St. Louis dancers showcased their potential, side by side with a national professional dance company during the fall UM-St. Louis dance concert. The show was an interesting and rare chance to see a personal performance of professionals in the making.

The concert took place at the Touhill Performing Arts Center on Nov. 17 and 18.

Act I consisted of seven pieces by UM-St. Louis student dancers. Act II contained four pieces performed by the Modern American Dance Company (MADCo), which was born in St. Louis 30 years ago.

The UM-St. Louis dance pieces

(LEFT) Arica Brown, junior, dance, performs at the UMSL Dance Concert at the Touhill PAC on Saturday, Nov. 18. Brown helped choreograph some of the dances.

Matt Johnson • Photo Editor

were modern, choreographed by the student dancers with assistance from Rob Scoggins, assistant professor of dance.

The stage was filled with intertwining, scattered bodies moving in unison at times, but mostly with bodies freely expressing their own points of view. The dancers took their turns doing splits and twirls, lifting each other or using others as props.

The UM-St. Louis dancers delivered a stripped-down performance with minimal attention going to lighting, music and costume. The movement was clearly the star of the show, and it worked well.

The number of dancers on stage constantly fluctuated. Their faces were blank, as if unaware of the audience most of the time.

It was as if they were not dancing for the audience. They were dancing for something unseen.

The dancers seemed distant despite the intimate setting of one of the Touhill's side stages. They danced barefoot, and one could hear the movements across the stage.

Many different dances were going on at the same time, which could be

overwhelming, but the dancers all had their place. They weaved in and out with impressive awareness of each other while moving as if they did not know others were on stage.

MADCo took the stage after a short intermission. They danced in rounds, much the way UM-St. Louis dancers did.

They danced around each other, over and under, next to and after each other. They danced on the floor a lot and other times they floated.

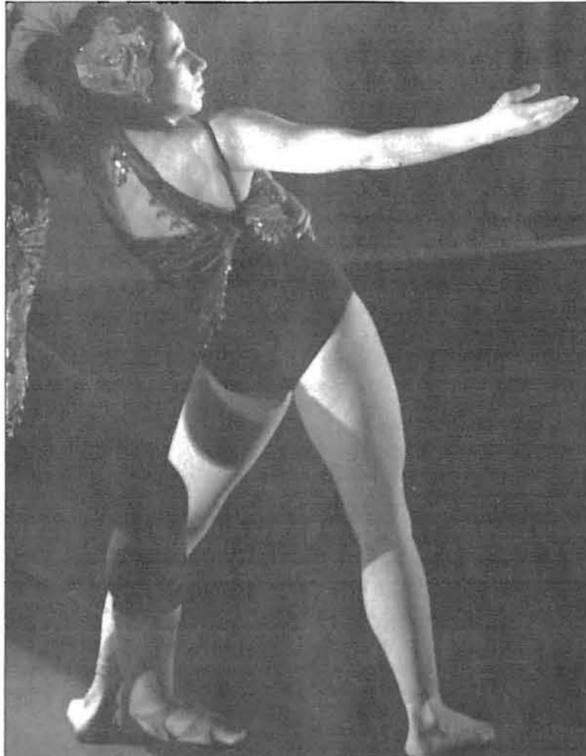
MADCo used a number of interesting and effective props. They used white bars to hang, carry, and allow dancers to crawl on them in the air.

They also used umbrellas during their performance of a piece titled "Rain."

Everything seemed to be more than what it was, or less. The dancers expressed something that had no words, but they were not dancers, just movements, ideas and thoughts.

The audience forgot about the dancers themselves and was taken with their motions.

Those interested in learning more about MADCo can visit its Web site at www.madcodance.com.



A&E ON CAMPUS

Nov. 27: Powers and Seabaugh student recital free concert at 7 p.m. in the Lee Theater at Touhill

Nov. 28: Opening reception for "Art for AIDS 2006" fundraising exhibit at Gallery Visio from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Exhibit runs through Jan. 6.

Nov. 28: UMSL Percussion Ensemble and Afro-Cuban Ensemble free concert at 7:30 p.m. in Lee Theater at Touhill.

Nov. 29: The movie "Murderball" will be shown at 12:30 p.m. in the Pilot House of the MSC to mark disAbilities Awareness Day. Donations will go to purchase sports wheelchair for Special Olympics.

Nov. 29: Local potter Clinton Berry discusses exhibit "Influences in Traditional Japanese Pottery" at 6 p.m. in the St. Louis Mercantile Library. Exhibit continues through Nov. 30.

Nov. 30: Student Chamber Recital free concert at 7:30 p.m. at the Touhill.

Dec. 1: UMSL Jazz Combo free concert at 7:30 p.m. in Lee Theater at the Touhill

Dec. 2: "Ebony Fashion Fair" fashion show at 8 p.m. in Anheuser-Busch Theater at Touhill

Dec. 3: "Great Russian Nutcracker" ballet at noon and 4 p.m. in Anheuser-Busch Theater at Touhill. Tickets are \$20 to \$45.

TOP iTunes DOWNLOADS

1. Irreplaceable - Beyoncé

2. I Wanna Love You - Akon featuring Snoop Doggy Dogg



3. Wind It Up - Gwen Stefani

4. My Love (Single Version) - Justin Timberlake featuring T.I.

5. Smack That (Dirty) - Akon

6. It Ends Tonight - The All-American Rejects

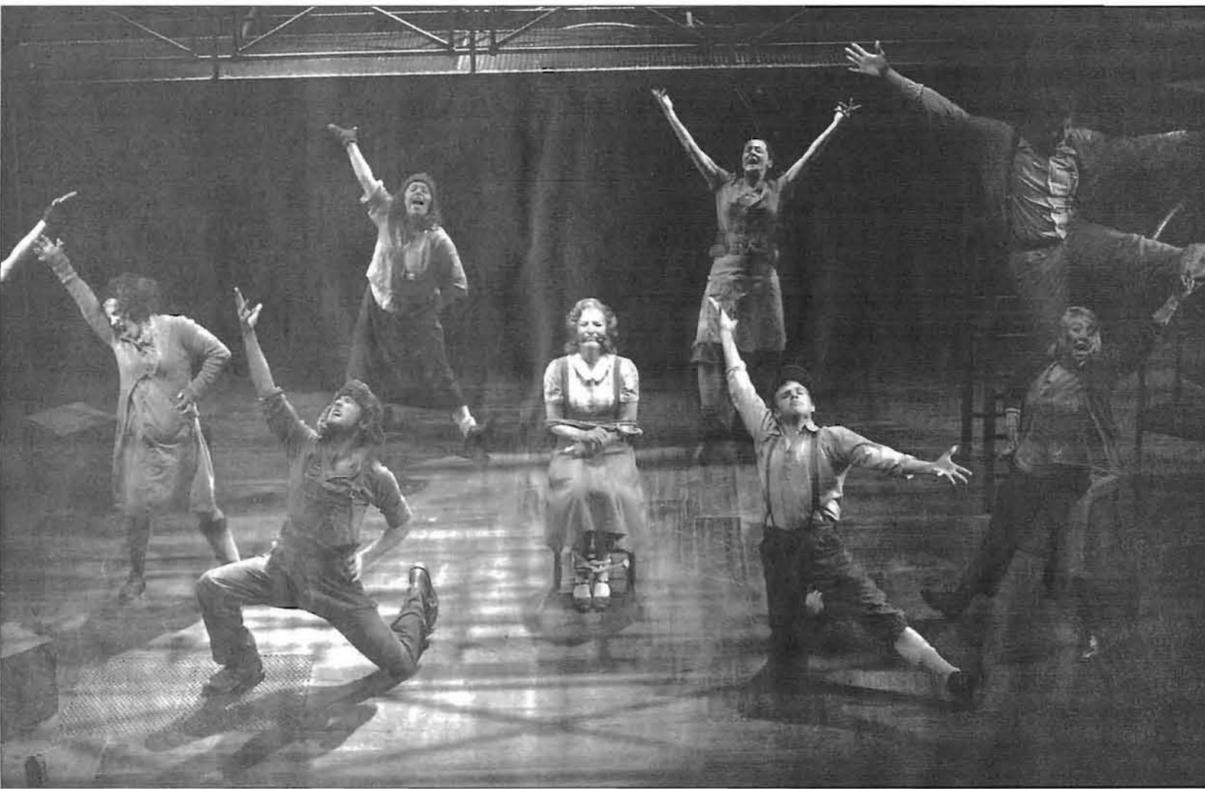
7. How to Save a Life - The Fray

8. Chasing Cars - Snow Patrol

9. I Wanna Love You - Akon featuring Snoop Doggy Dogg

10. Smack That - Akon

THEATER REVIEW



Courtesy Repertory Theater of St. Louis

'Urinetown: The Musical,' which runs through Dec. 10, is part of the St. Louis Repertory Theater's Off Ramp Series. The musical spoof is directed by Rob Ruggiero and stars Jayne Paterson as Hope Cladwell (center).

Hilarious 'Urinetown' spoofs musicals

BY CATE MARQUIS

A&E Editor

If you want to make fun of musicals and give that parody play the worst name you could think of, could you think of a worst name than "Urinetown"?

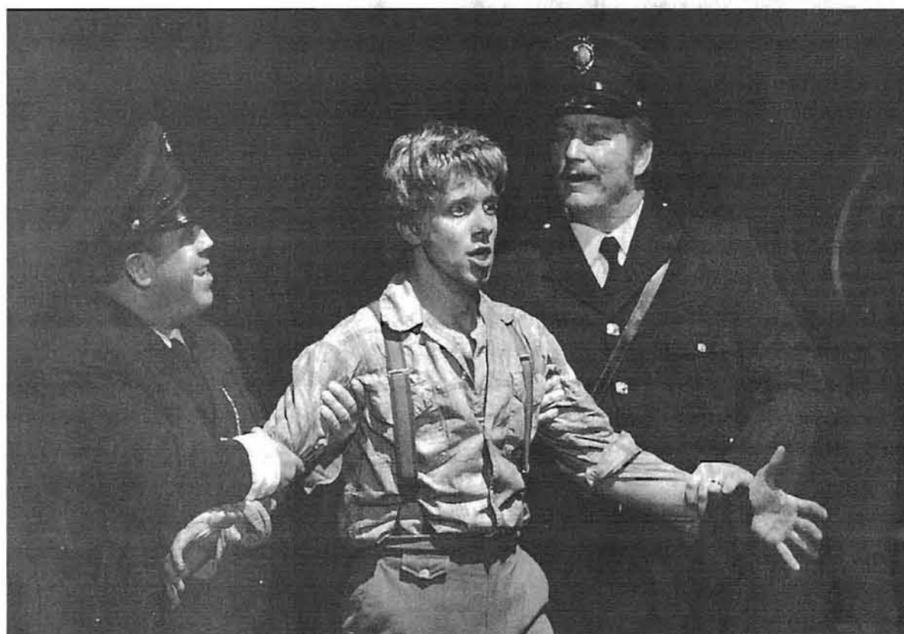
Don't let the name fool you: this is the funniest, most insightful play of the season.

The awful name is part of the joke of this hilarious, award-winning comedy. The interesting thing about "Urinetown" is that not only does it make merciless fun of the world of musicals, but it is also a darn fine piece of theater.

The premise of this sublimely funny yet meaningful play is a futuristic world where drought has led to extreme measures.

To cope with the water shortage crisis, the government has banned private bathrooms and given a private company a monopoly on public pay toilets. In this pay-to-pee world, things are very grim for the poorest of the poor who can barely scrape up the daily fee and also get to clean the toilets.

Those who break the rules are exiled to the shadowy "Urinetown." Of course, the name is a pun as well



Ben Nordstrom plays Bobby Strong who leads a group of revolutionaries to take down the corrupt Caldwell B. Cladwell after the government of a local town privatizes restrooms in an effort to save water during a drought in 'Urinetown: The Musical.'

on "you're in town," and bathroom jokes and potty humor abound. However, the bathroom humor is much milder and less graphic than you might expect, and the play is unexpectedly family friendly. However, the play pokes fun relentlessly at its own name and the basic concepts of musicals.

While it offers delightfully funny satire and spot-on parodies of a number of musicals, from "Les Miserables" and "Big River" to "West

Side Story" and "Fiddler on the Roof," it also offers some real social commentary and even terrific songs. As absurd as the story's premise sounds, there really was an attempt to privatize all water in one South American town.

The multinational concern declared that they own all water rights in the town and attempted to charge the town's people for water they drew from the river or their wells, and even the rainwater they collected. The town

revolted and put an end to the scheme but the privatization-gone-wild plot made a point.

Officer Lockstock (Steve Isom) serves as narrator, and along with his chats with cute little street urchin Little Sally (Sandie Rosa) explains the play's setup and moves the story along with darkly comic, ironic exchanges and the occasional song and dance.

Off-Ramp series at Rep Theater shows an edgier side of theater

BY CATE MARQUIS

A&E Editor

The Repertory Theater of St. Louis's Off-Ramp series of plays are edgier productions presented at the Grandel Theater, in Grand Center near the Fox, that the Rep produces along with their premier Mainstage and simpler Studio programs at Webster University.

The Off-Ramp material can be called edgier but it is also fresher and even higher quality than some of the Rep's recent Mainstage productions, which seem to be sinking into lighter, more tired topics in recent years.

Once, the Rep's season opener was such challenging stuff as "Six Degrees Of Separation," then fresh off the East Coast and even more recently, it was the lyrical "Metamorphosis."

No more. Now we get tired dinner theater puff like "Ace" and other musicals, to add to that already saturated pool.

The 2006 Off-Ramp Series started with a wonderful if surreal play called "Pillow Man."

This theatrical jewel used Grimm's fairytale type stories by a writer who is imprisoned in a totalitarian country to explore the relationship between art and the state, as well as issues of personal responsibility.

Alternating between recreations of his bizarre and disturbing tales and scenes of the prisoner and his interrogators, the story unfolds both the man's past, the drive to create, the responsibility of the artist for the effects of their art and the role of government faced with art it may not like.

Despite what seems like very weighty material, the play is also suffused with dark humor and sparkling performances.

The dream-like, often nightmarish world of "Pillow Man," presented in October, could not have been a more perfect Halloween choice for serious theater fans.

The acting was as good as the material itself, and the production was aided by an imaginative set that looked like sculptures come to life and original, effective staging.

As if that play were not enough of a breath of fresh air, the Off-Ramp Series followed that up with "Shakespeare's R & J," a retelling of Romeo and Juliet as acted out by students late at night in a boarding school.

While the play is imagined for a bare set, the Off-Ramp presentation adds a layer to the story by using a set that looks like a church attic, to which chairs and a trunk full of props are added to aid viewers in visualizing the story.

See URINETOWN, page 12

See OFF SEASON, page 12

MOVIE REVIEW

'The Fountain' searches for immortality across centuries

By CATE MARQUIS

AGE Editor

Darren Aronofsky's first film "Pi" was a low-budget hit, a mathematical mystery thriller that pitted a Hasidic kabalistic sect against a Wall Street firm seeking to predict the stock market in a struggle to obtain a mathematical formula of the universe developed by a reclusive mathematician named Max Cohen secretly working with a massive computer in his apartment.

The writer/director's latest film "The Fountain" is equally imaginative but a different kind of story.

"The Fountain" is a visual banquet but the story is a puzzle-box tale about love and the quest for eternal life that spans three time periods.

The title is a reference to the mythical Fountain of Youth, and a 16th century conquistador on that quest is one of the storylines.

The conquistador Tomas (Hugh Jackman) is dispatched by Queen Isabel (Rachel Weisz) on this quest, one of three story lines that run concurrently in the film.

However, it is not eternal youth but the theme of eternal life that ties the three stories together.

The other storylines concern a modern day medical researcher and his wife Izzi, and a 26th century astronaut/Buddhist monk, on a journey to a unique star cluster. How the stories are connected is best

revealed in the film.

Hugh Jackman plays the lead character Tomas/Tom in all three stories, along with Rachel Weisz as Isabel/Izzi as his love interest. Actually, the British-born Rachel Weisz is director Aronofsky's fiancée. Aronofsky's father, a retired chemistry teacher, also appears in the film as a lab tech.

Since the film is both a mystery and a romance, we will not spoil the story by revealing too much of the plot.

While the central story is a romance, it touches on themes of spirituality, life and death.

The current day story is the pivot point for the whole tale. In the modern day story, Ellen Burstyn delivers a nice turn as Dr. Lillian Guzetti, both the head of the lab where Tom Creo works as a top researcher and the Creos' friend.

Hugh Jackman and Rachel Weisz work well as the star-crossed lovers through time, although Jackman has the heavier acting load, especially in the last portion of the story, for which he shaved his head.

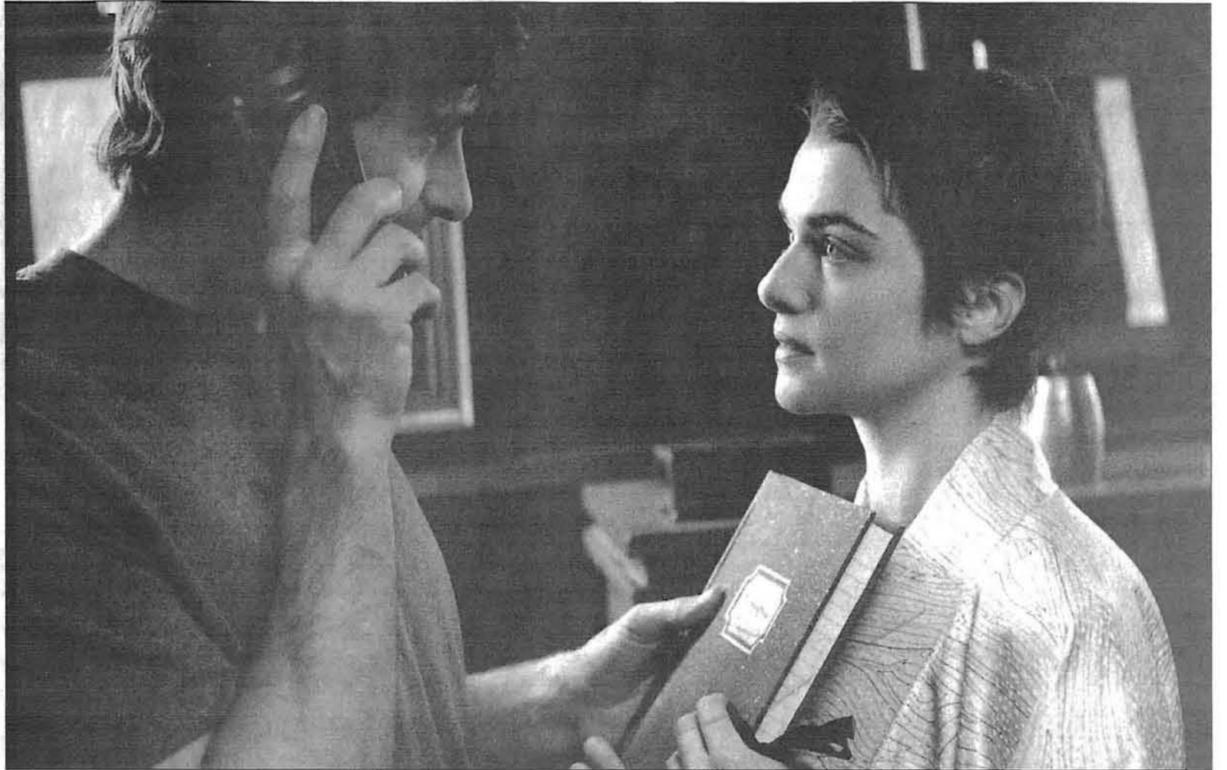
Although the writer/director originally cast Brad Pitt and Cate Blanchett in the roles and re-cast both roles after Pitt left over creative differences, it is hard to imagine better performances for the two leads.

Aronofsky also cast favorites Sean Gullette and Mark Margolis, who appeared in his debut film "Pi," in supporting roles.

The acting is fine but the real appeal is the film's lush visual aspect. "The Fountain" is such a delight for the eyes that it hardly matters if some audience members might find the storyline a bit hard to follow.

The lush, gorgeous imagery is entertaining and breathtaking in itself, a signature of Aronofsky's work in both the low-budget "Pi" and his first big-budget film "Requiem For A Dream," but taken to a new level for this one.

In the 16th century story, we get glowing, bejeweled costumes in the Spanish court paired with the lush dark jungles and pyramids of the



Mayans' world.

The visuals for the 26th century voyage through space are the most gracefully surreal and symbolic but even the visual images from the contemporary portion of the story are hauntingly beautiful.

One of the beautiful, surreal images that fill the film is a golden star cluster that is a Maya symbol of life and death, which Aronofsky created by using microphotography of chemical reactions in a petri dish.

One can easily feel transported into the film's lovely, glittering, fantasy world.

The film's mystical tone is supported by a score performed by the Kronos Quartet and the Scottish rock band Mogwai.

If you like visual filmmaking and are willing to just relax and enjoy the ride, "The Fountain" is a cinematic trip worth taking.



(ABOVE) Hugh Jackman and Rachel Weisz star in director and writer Darren Aronofsky's film, 'The Fountain.' Weisz plays Jackman's love interest in three different storylines.

(LEFT) Jackman plays Tomas/Tom and Weisz plays Isabel/Izzi in three tales about a conquistador and Queen Isabel, a modern day medical researcher and his wife and a 26th century astronaut/Buddhist monk.

Courtesy Warner Brothers

CONCERT REVIEW

Be Your Own Pet incites spastic frenzy at Creepy Crawl

By MICHAEL BRANCH

Staff Writer

Oh the luck of the boys and girls in attendance of the Creepy Crawl last Thursday.

We were all witness to a promising exhibit of new youth pulling on the punk roots planted by rambunctious youths before their time.

By the way, we are not talking about your clean-toned sing-along, shiny faced punkedy-pop - "oh he is sooo cute" tripe.

This is dirty screechy guitar playing while a million cymbal crashes per minute pound you into oblivion

punk that recalls the early stages of the genre.

The first of three bands to play that night was composed of a group of high school students from Chesterfield who called themselves The Overtones.

The band was a light-hearted affair compared to the madness that would take the stage later.

The bands average age of sixteen was really showed off by their lack of a stage presence other than that of singer Ben who occasionally played a short game of swing the mic.

The songs themselves were very catchy and obviously inspired by popular garage bands of recent years such as The Strokes and the distorted

pop of "Just Too Old" sounded reminiscent of late eighties Sonic Youth.

They closed their fun set with a cover of "Seven Nation Army" by The White Stripes. These young bloods show much promise and with time and experience are very capable of being huge in the Midwest.

Next up was the slightly disheveled Awesome Color. These guys rocked out hard with a squealing take no prisoners vivid sound that could be described as a combination between The Stooges, early Nirvana (circa Bleach) and Sonic Youth.

Awesome Color's shrieking guitar tones are matched by the energetic stage show they put on most notably drummer Allison Busch who slams at

her cymbals as her hair sways back in forth in front of her face concealing a glowing smile.

Her untamed behavior behind the set reminds one of Animal from "The Muppet Show." On songs like "Free Man" the influence of The Stooges is unmistakable as singer and guitarist Derek Stanton grinds away at his guitar in a fuzzy blues fashion.

For the last song of the night Stanton requested to the sound guy, "Can you turn everything up?" and bassist Michael Troutman adds, "Be Your Own Pet is up next."

"You guys should start punching each other in the stomach to be ready for it," in such a tone that it was hard to tell whether or not the suggestion

was a joke. At the end of the set Stanton lays his guitar screaming with feedback on the floor and proceeds to play it with bare feet. Although they were not the headliners they were the most entertaining band of the night in performance and pure musical depth.

Finally Be Your Own Pet took the stage. Uh oh, it seems someone has replaced their Ritalin with MDMA; these teens were practically bouncing off the walls with an unrivaled liveliness.

Within the first song bass player Nathan Vasquez took two trips into the audience. The frenzied performance unsurprisingly began the first mosh pit of the night in no time.

The music here is very traditional late 70s style punk. It almost sounds like Wire's debut album in that the songs ditch the typical verse-chorus-verse structure in favor of a more unpredictable style.

Although they played the same amount of songs of the other two bands (if not more), their set ended up being the shortest due to the incredibly short length of each number generally clocking in at one and a half minutes each.

The culmination of the show was a fast-paced thirty second ruckus that left the crowd in an absolute daze.

It was an intense spectacle that could only be pulled with the unbridled energy of youth.

CD REVIEW

Cursive's latest release 'Happy Hollow' takes on small town, USA ideology

By MICHAEL BRANCH

Staff Writer

Cursive's latest release, "Happy Hollow," is a thoroughly ambitious concept album centered in the imaginary town that shares the same name as the title of the release.

The town represents small town America and all the troubles, unfortunate disasters, and personal beliefs and debate that take place within.

The album is ripe with references to evolution and creationism and traditional "family values." Also various allusions to Dorothy from "The Wizard of Oz" pop up here and there. Song titles such as "Big Bang" and "At Conception" let the listener know that there are harsh winds a-blowin' ahead.

If you are used to the self-reflective lyrics of vocalist Tim Kasher, this is a whole different game.

Throughout "Happy Hollow," Kasher's focus is on the thoughts and concerns of the world around him.

From the very first track "Opening the Hymnal/ Babies" he wastes no time delving head first into the big issues, "Maybe you've been given to this world to make a difference/ Such illusions we all struggle with/ But the beautiful truth of it is.../ This is all we are, we simply exist."

The track serves as a rollicking beginning to the album with a variety of styles displayed in its short two and a half minute duration.

The next track is the fast paced "Dorothy at Forty" which was chosen for the first single off the album.

The distortion crunch of guitarist Ted Stevens draws attentions as he veers into hyper-swing mode.

Kasher's knack for writing catchy yet meaningful lyrics is apparent here

(and throughout the album) as he takes on the American dream, "Dorothy I know you had amazing dreams/ We can't go chasing down each golden street/...We're not in dreamland anymore."

You will not hear that on the latest from Fall Out Boy or Hinder. However his goal is not to harshly criticize as many recent bands' politically-motivated banter but rather to sympathize.

Ewww, listen to that closing horn solo as Kasher pleads, "Dorothy wake up it's time for work!"

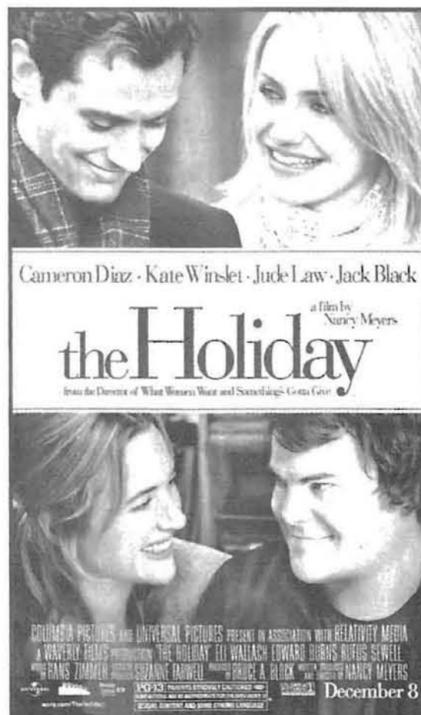
On the track "Big Bang" the band begins with start-stop dynamics with explosions of horns that chug along slowly and joyously before Kasher starts in with more lecture.

He laments that "We need a purpose in life, a survival guide/ We need explanations for how we arrived," before concluding, "There was this big bang once, now we're aimlessly drifting in space."



Cursive "Happy Hollow" ★★★★★

See CURSIVE, page 14



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Passes are available on a first-come, first-served basis. No purchase necessary. While supplies last. Employees of all promotional partners and their agencies are not eligible. One pass per person. This film is rated PG-13 for sexual content and some strong language.

IN THEATERS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8TH!

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SPORTS

Home opener proves to be winner for R-men

Troy Slaten, Octavious Hawkins lead men's basketball team to victory over Harris Stowe

BY LAGUAN FUSE
Sports Editor

The UM-St. Louis Rivermen were victorious 92-68 in the home opener against Harris Stowe last Tuesday night. Troy Slaten led the Rivermen with 25 points and Octavious Hawkins led the team with 18 rebounds.

Melvin Martin, guard for the Hornets, scored the first jumper of the game but Brett Ledbetter answered back with a layup for the Rivermen. After that the game was all UM-St. Louis. Hawkins was the first Riverman to dunk at home this season, giving UM-St. Louis the lead 20-9 with 13:16 left in the half.

The Rivermen's biggest lead in the half was 15 points after a three pointer by Ledbetter with 11:11 left in the half.

The first half ended with UM-St. Louis leading Harris Stowe 45-33. UM-St. Louis finished the first half shooting 51 percent and a team total of 20 rebounds, 10 of which were grabbed by Hawkins.

The Rivermen came out in the second half strong and went up by 22 after a 3-pointer by Slaten and then another by Whittaker.

The biggest lead of the game came after Ward was fouled making a lay-up. Ward hit the free throw putting the Rivermen ahead by 31.

UM-St. Louis finished the game shooting 55 percent and 48 percent



Stanley Boateng takes a shot just inside the three-point arc on Tuesday night. The Rivermen beat Harris Stowe on opening night at the Mark Twain gym by a score of 92-68.

game with three assists and shot 9-15 from the field.

Ledbetter also scored a career high 22 points in the game. Ledbetter shot 8-14 from the field and shot 3-9 from behind the arc. He finished the game with four rebounds and four assists.

Hawkins finished the game leading the Rivermen in rebounds with 18, and assist with five. Hawkins pulled down seven offensive rebounds and 11 defensive. He shot 4-9 from the field and had two steals.

David Ward finished the game with 14 points and six rebounds. Ward also had two assists and one steal in the game.

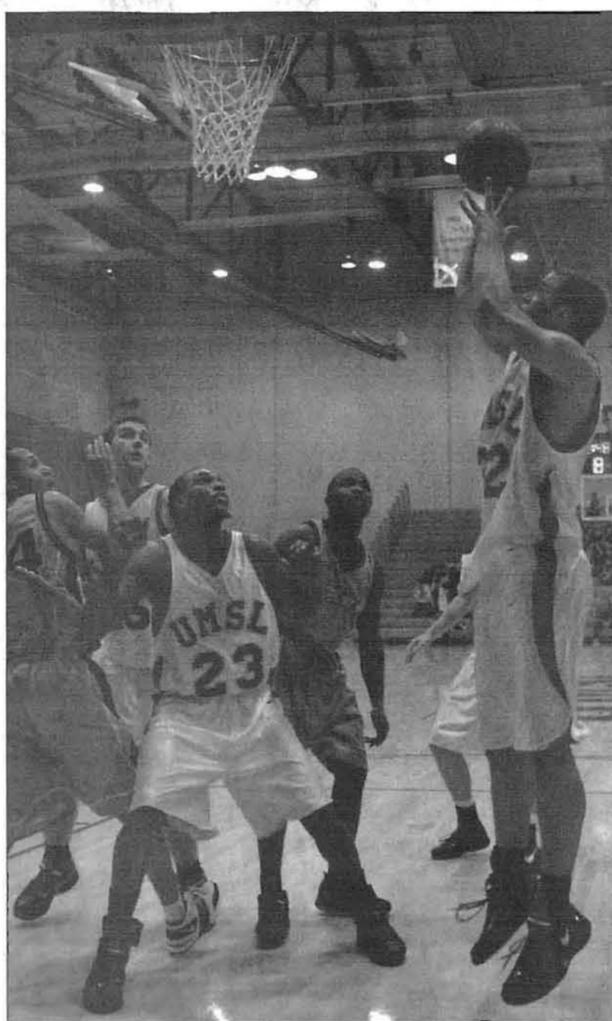
Stanley Boateng scored 12 points against Harris Stowe and had two steals. Boateng shot 5-9 from the field and 2-3 from behind the arc. He also ended the game with five turnovers.

Nathan Whittaker shot 3-6 in the game, hitting two three pointers. Whittaker also had four assists in the game.

Pilz said he believes the adversity that the team faced in regards to not having an available home gym will only make the team stronger.

(RIGHT) Troy Slaten takes a shot while Octavious Hawkins boxes out the Harris Stowe players during the men's team victory of Harris Stowe. The Rivermen's record is now 2-2.

Photos by: Matt Johnson • Photo Editor



ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



Troy Slaten

Slaten is a senior guard for the Rivermen basketball team and has played with the men's team since 2004.

Slaten helped lead the Rivermen to a victory over Harris Stowe College in last Tuesday's home opener at the Mark Twain gym.

Slaten recorded 25 points against Harris Stowe. Fifteen of those points came from three-pointers. Slaten also had three assists in the game.

In the Rivermen game against Central Bible College on Friday, Slaten scored a total of 16 points and five assists.

SPORTS BRIEF

Two soccer players receive honors

Men's soccer player Zach Hoette and women's soccer player Krisie Muesenfechter were named Daktronics Great Lakes Region Second Team selections for the 2006 season. The award is given to players for outstanding performance by student athletes in Division II.

UPCOMING GAMES

Men's Basketball

Nov. 30 vs. Indianapolis 7:30 p.m.

Dec. 2 vs. St. Joseph's 3 p.m.

Women's Basketball

Nov. 30 vs. Indianapolis 5:30 p.m.

Dec. 2 vs. St. Joseph's 1 p.m.



Photos by: Matt Johnson • Photo Editor

Megan Alberts drives to the basket in a 75-68 loss to McKendree on Tuesday's home opener for the Riverwomen basketball team.

Women's comeback falls short in game against McKendree

BY LAGUAN FUSE
Sports Editor

The University of Missouri-St. Louis Riverwomen were defeated 75-68 in the home opener against McKendree last Tuesday.

McKendree and UM-St. Louis exchanged baskets for the first few minutes of the game. McKendree started to pull away with the lead with 6:16 left in the first half going up by 13.

UM-St. Louis battled back but was not able to defensively shut McKendree.

At the end of the first half, the Riverwomen trailed McKendree 34-25. UM-St. Louis shot 10-30 from the field 3-6 from behind the arc.

McKendree held on to the lead for the start of the second half and went up by 15 before UM-St. Louis started to close the gap.

A major change in The Riverwomen's offense was getting the ball down in the key to Jennifer Martin. Martin scored 19 of her 23 points during the second half.

"We try to be an inside-outside team," said Head Coach Lee

Buchanan. "We tried too hard in the first half to get the ball inside."

UM-St. Louis came back to within one point after a jumper by Nichole Helfrich with 5:19 left in the game. McKendree started to pull away again after going on an 8-4 run.

With under a minute in the game, the Riverwomen started to foul, hoping for a late-game comeback. McKendree shot 8-10 from the free-throw line in the last minute and was able to pull out the victory 75-68.

"We had opportunities, we just didn't capitalize," said Martin.

Martin shot 11-18 from the field and ended the game with 23 total points. Martin also finished the game with nine rebounds, two blocks and two assists.

Watts ended the game shooting 7-15 from the field and 3-5 from behind the three-point arc. Watts had three assists and four turnovers in the game.

Leslie Ricker grabbed a team high 10 rebounds in the game. Ricker had six points and four assists against McKendree.

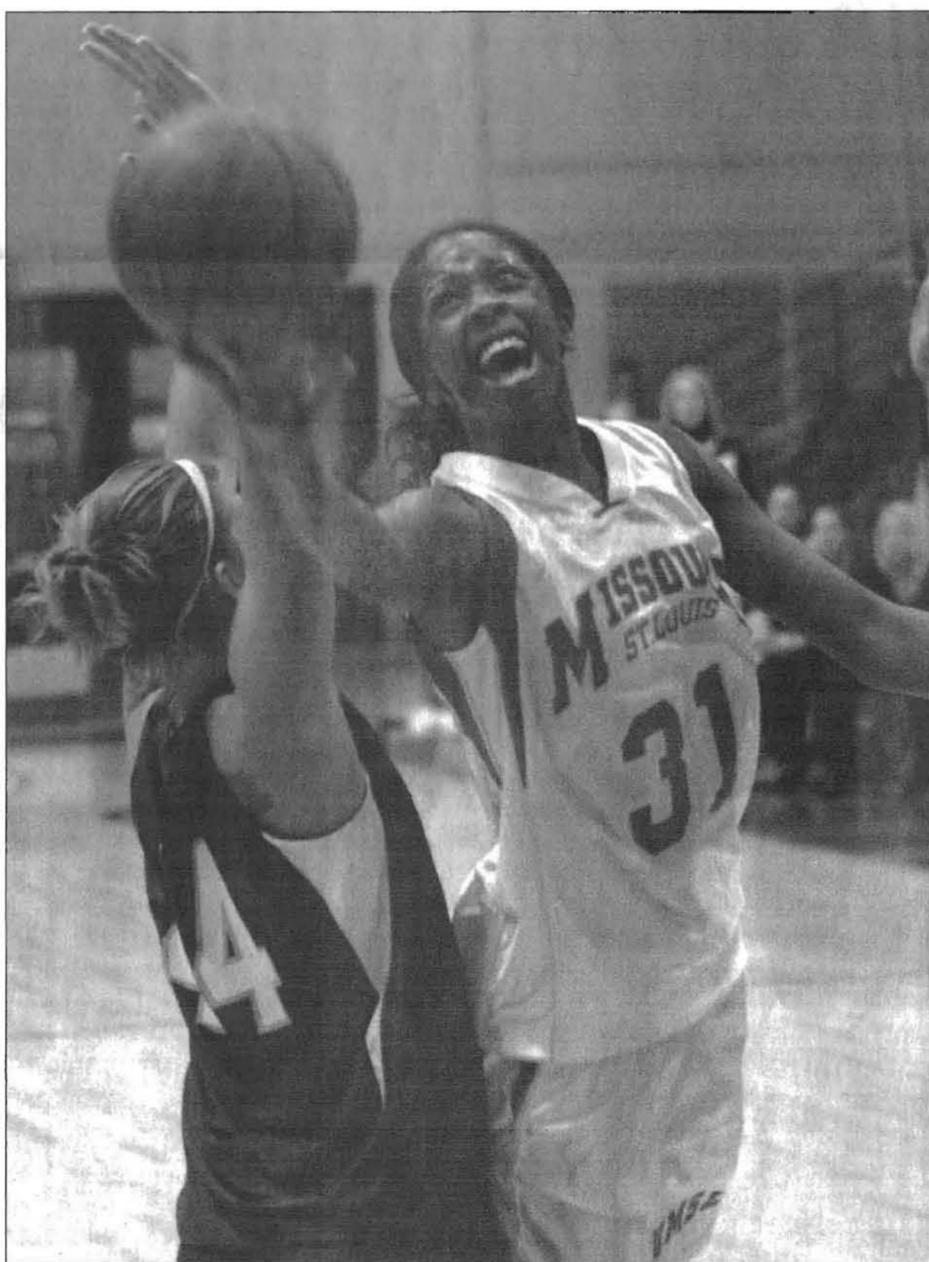
Helfrich pulled down nine rebounds and shot 2-4 from the field. Taylor Gagliano ended the game with four steals and eight points.

"We were really flat in the first half," said Buchanan. "We played nervous, scared or whatever adjective you want to call it. We dug ourselves a hole early."

The Riverwomen's next home game is Nov. 30 against Indianapolis and it is the first conference game of the season.



Leslie Ricker
Riverwomen guard had team high of 10 rebounds during home opener



(ABOVE) Jennifer Martin attempts to get a shot off during the game Tuesday against McKendree. Martin had a total of 23 points, nine rebounds, two blocks and two assists in the Riverwomen's home opener.



(LEFT) Courtney Watts drives to the hoop against a McKendree guard during Tuesday's game. Watts recorded three assists and four turnovers Tuesday night.

SHORT FUSE

When will UMSL's football team lose its first game?

The T-shirts are in, but where is the football team?

The best part of covering sports for UM-St. Louis is watching the undefeated streak of our football team continue week after week. These guys are great! I can't imagine what the University would be without them out there on the field.

Okay, joke's over. Even though it would be cool to have a football team, it just won't happen. The undefeated streak is guaranteed to continue growing because we won't ever have the money for a football team. Hey, we don't even have the money for a baseball field.

But just because we don't have a football team doesn't mean that we don't have football players. I'm sure there are a dozen or so students who would love to go out there and play in UM-St. Louis's inaugural football season.

If not, we could just get all of the intramural flag football players in helmets and jerseys and tell them to start showing some school spirit.

That makes me think about the sports that we do have, which some people still overlook. We have 11

NCAA sports here at our University, but for some that still isn't enough. Adding one more team would even out the sports—six for women, and with football, six for men. But since football would take the most money a few of our current sports might get left in the locker room.

It all comes back to money. A football team could make money, but it will cost money as well. Money this University just doesn't have.

Have you ever just sat back and thought about what it would take to just start a football team? Well I have, and let me tell you that it is not an easy task.

I smiled when I saw the undefeated football T-shirts that the University is starting to sell. Someone somewhere thought it would be a good idea to make shirts about a team we don't have instead of adding that support to the teams we do have. But it was still funny, and I think that was the point. If we don't laugh at ourselves who will?

Did anyone know that our water polo team is still having a great year? All of the members of our lacrosse team are gearing up and ready to go. The men's gymnastics team even has a few new players.

Okay I'll stop before I start confusing people. We don't have any of those teams but we do have two basketball teams who are just starting their season. I think it's about time that we focus on what we have and forget about what we think we should have. Go UM-St. Louis!

BY LAGUAN FUSE

Sports Editor

BREAKIN' THE ICE



Matt Johnson • Photo Editor

Adam Clarke skates the puck down the rink against Missouri State on Saturday. Clarke recorded two goals and an assist against Missouri State. Clarke was an All-American last season and finished the season with 73 points.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Men's basketball splits Thanksgiving games

The Rivermen's record currently stands at 2-2 after splitting games in the UM-St. Louis Thanksgiving classic.

UM-St. Louis defeated Central Bible College 85-61 on Friday. Brett Ledbetter led the team with 18 points. Octavius Hawkins led UM-St. Louis with 10 rebounds and seven assists.

Troy Slaten ended the game with 16 points and six rebounds. David Ward scored 15 points in the game and grabbed eight rebounds.

UM-St. Louis finished the game

shooting 47 percent and grabbed a team total of 42 rebounds. The Rivermen finished the game with 21 assists and 12 steals.

UM-St. Louis lost the second game of the UM-St. Louis Thanksgiving classic to Grand Valley State 86-57.

Ward led the team in points with 14 and in rebounds with eight. Slaten finished the game with 13 points and four rebounds.

The Rivermen were cold from the field shooting 35 percent in the game. Grand Valley State was able to capitalize and score 34 points on UM-St. Louis's 23 turnovers.

The Rivermen's next game is Nov. 30 against Indianapolis and it is the first conference game of the season.

New gym floor to be dedicated Thursday

The dedication ceremony for the new gym floor will take place on Nov. 30 before the men's basketball game against the University of Indiana. The women's team will host Indianapolis at 5:30 pm, and the men's game will follow at 7:30 pm. The dedication ceremony will take place in between the two games.

The floor had to be replaced after severe storms damaged the roof which led to water damage on the floor.

The gym floor will be named in honor of Chuck Smith, the first ath-

letic director and men's basketball coach at UM-St. Louis.

Smith was the first men's basketball coach at UM-St. Louis, starting the basketball program in 1966. He led the Rivermen for 13 years, compiling a 171-143 career record during that time. He led the 1968-69 team to a 19-7 record and claimed the NAIA District 16 title. In 1971-72, he led the team to the quarterfinals of the NCAA Division II National Tournament. During his tenure, he coached three All-American players and four members of the UM-St. Louis Sports Hall of Fame.

In 1991, Smith led the movement to renovate the Mark Twain Building for both athletic and recreational use.

STATS CORNER

MEN'S BASKETBALL

GLVC standings:

Team	Overall	W	L
West Division			
Southern Indiana	7	0	
Quincy	5	0	
Drury	3	0	
Rockhurst	4	1	
UM-Rolla	2	2	
UM-St. Louis	2	2	
SIUE	2	2	

East Division

Kentucky Wesleyan	3	0	
UW-Parkside	5	1	
Lewis	3	1	
Northern Kentucky	3	1	
Bellarmine	2	1	
Saint Joseph's	2	1	
Indianapolis	1	1	

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

GLVC standings:

Team	W	L
West Division		
SIUE	3	0
UM-Rolla	3	1
Quincy	2	1
UM-St. Louis	2	2
Southern Indiana	1	1
Drury	1	2
Rockhurst	1	2

East Division

Kentucky Wesleyan	5	0
Bellarmine	3	0
Northern Kentucky	2	0
Lewis	4	1
UW-Parkside	4	1
Indianapolis	2	1
Saint Joseph's	0	3

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Box Scores:

November 21	1	2	F
McKendree (W)	35	41	75
UM-St. Louis	25	43	68
November 25	1	2	F
UM-St. Louis (W)	40	34	74
Oakland City	35	33	68

MEN'S BASKETBALL

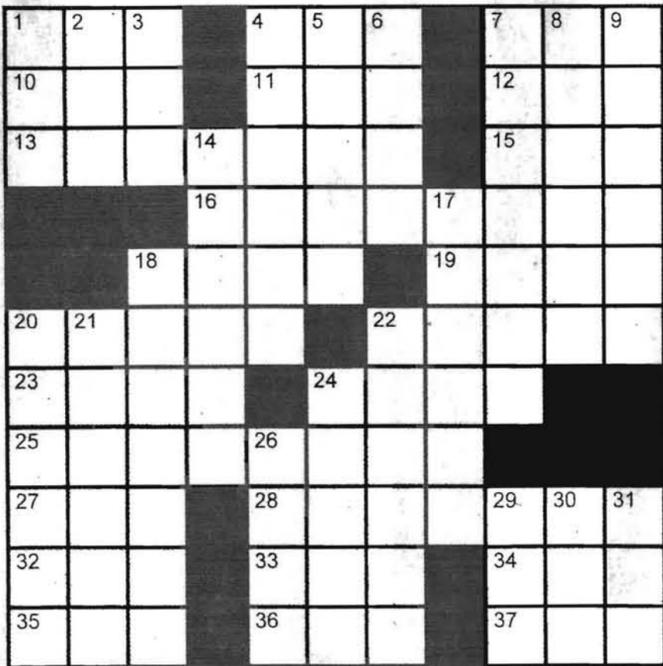
Box Scores:

November 24	1	2	F
Central Bible	26	35	61
UM-St. Louis (W)	45	40	85
November 25	1	2	F
Grand Valley St. (W)	38	48	86
UM-St. Louis	27	30	57

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ACROSS

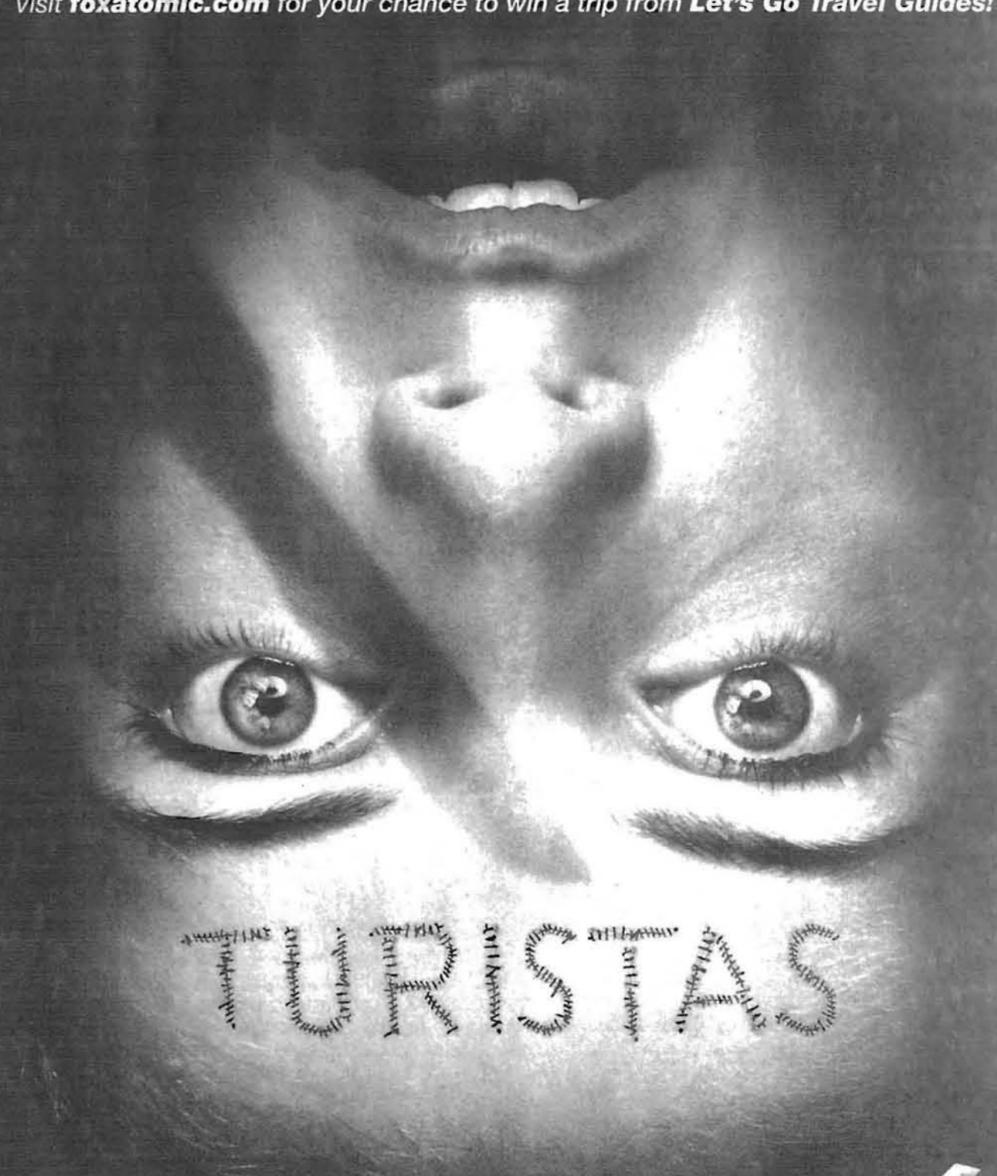
- "Raiders of the Lost _____"
- Actor Kilmer
- MTV afternoon fare
- Fruit filled dessert
- Small bill
- Wide shoe specification
- Brazilian soccer Superstar who was the All-Time World Cup goal scorer
- Quantity: Abbr.
- Fox Atomic horror movie opening Dec. 1st, starring 28-across and 18-down
- Clue, Sorry or Monopoly
- Math Class
- Pilot Light
- Food additive that'll cut down on gas
- "Que, _____ what-ever will be, will be"

DOWN

- Earth Day mo.
- Setting for 16-Across
- Author Kesey
- iPod setting
- Netman Agassi
- Sainted Pope from 440 to 461 (2 words)
- Server with a pot, milk & sugar cubes (2 words)
- Stick around
- Big names in Travel Guides (2 words)
- "2 Young People Laughing _____" (Goya painting, 3 words)
- Belgian beer _____Artois
- Actor Beau, star of 16 across
- "The Great Gatsby" author _____ Fitzgerald
- Deceive (2 words)
- Popular Brazilian beer
- Small egg
- Sports drinks
- Methods
- Pitcher's stat
- August person, most likely

Go to foxatomic.com for the solution to the puzzle!

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LET'S GO



IN THEATRES
12 · 1 · 2006

2006

FOX ATOMIC

CONCERT REVIEW

Chatting with Cory Brandan on the Radio Rebellion Tour



Cory Brandan is lead singer of Norma Jean, the headline band for the Radio Rebellion Tour held Nov. 18 at Mississippi Nights.

By Sarah O'Brien

Staff Writer

With a title such as the 'Radio Rebellion Tour,' one expects a concert that is a little more than just sounds strangely similar not only to the music that is played on the radio but to the other bands playing the concert.

However, the Radio Rebellion Tour concert at Mississippi Nights on Friday, Nov. 18 was much less than a rebellion against the radio. In fact, due to the crashing instrumentals and stony-voiced lead singers, I would say that the music is a rebellion against easy-listening radio, and not much else.

Headlining Radio Rebellion is Norma Jean, a band (mostly) from the gorgeous state of Georgia, except the lead singer, whom I had the, well, let's say "pleasure" of interviewing before the concert:

The Current: So you're the bassist, right?

Cory Brandan: No...I'm the lead singer, Jake plays the bass.

Current: Oh. They told me I was going to be meeting the bassist, I guess I got lucky. Is there any 'lead

singer,' main-man tension between you and the rest of the band?

CB: Well, anything can happen when there are five guys stuck on a bus together for weeks on end.

Current: I can imagine. Is there a close bond between you? Many bands consider themselves families. Do you?

CB: Totally. We have to at least try to get along.

Current: I know most of you are married. How does living the life of a musician affect your family life?

CB: Our families come first. It's always nice to be able to spend some time in between recording and touring at home.

Current: Now, Norma Jean is very out front with your religious views; you're all Christians. How does that affect your music?

CB: It doesn't affect how we sound. You know there are some parents or other people who label our sound as evil or satanic but a sound can't be good or evil, Christian or not. We're not different in that way than any band in the world.

Current: But there is that whole Christian band genre. Do you ever

bring your religion into your music?

CB: Very often. Naturally we want to sing about our faith.

Current: Wasn't there a Christian rock band tour called like Cornerstone or something?

CB: It's just one show.

Current: I see. Wasn't MxPx there?

(Insert offended look here)

CB: No, we would never play with them.

(Shocked look)

Current: Why not?

CB: Because, our fans would hate them, and their fans would probably hate us.

Current: So because of sub-genre differences, that makes sense. There's a lot of tension between sub-genres of rock music, like the punk kids hate the emo kids, the emo kids hate everything...

CB: Yea, that tension is sucky but it's caused by the fans just as much as the bands

Current: Speaking of genre, how would you classify Norma Jean?

CB: To classify us would mean that we were constantly sounding the

same. Each of our albums are totally different.

Current: You guys just recently released a new album, "Redeemer." Are you pleased with it?

CB: Always. It's different than the other one, more spontaneous and natural. With our writing, we never want to do the same thing twice.

This seems like a trend for bands—not wanting to sound the same but failing...miserably. After ending the interview I walked through the bus and noticed the rest of the band sitting around watching a DVD, "The Motorcycle Diaries." They must have been so involved in the film that they could not participate in an interview.

The show started late—no surprise to concert-goers. Honestly, when was the last time you went to a performance that started on time. Anyway, opening was a band named Bless the Fall.

They might have been the most original band on the tour because when they walked out, I swear to you, I thought they were all girls and was jealous of the lead singer's haircut.

See BRANDAN, page 14

OFF SEASON, from page 8

The framing device is that four boys at a boarding school end their day of regimented classes by exploring a trunk of props.

They come across the text of Romeo and Juliet, launching them on first reading and then acting out the play.

The approach brings out layers of adolescence, sexual awakening and forbidden worlds in the play and the framing world of the boys. It was the freshest, most compelling version of Romeo and Juliet the area has seen in years.

The three play series ends with "Urinetown," the surprising and unlikely Broadway hit, a delightful

dark-comic parody of musicals with a serious side that says hard-hitting things about social inequity that will be reviewed separately next week.

With this award winner, The Rep wraps up a wonderful second season for the Off-Ramp Series.

The Grandel Theater venue is fine but these three excellent productions deserved the Mainstage at the Rep's home at the Loreto Hilton Theater in Webster Groves.

Rather than run all these different programs, the Rep should rethink that strategy and consider bringing these fresh, new shows onto its big stage.

URINETOWN, from page 8

Bobby Strong (Ben Nordstrom) is the handsome hero who works at a public "facility" in the poorest part of town, under the watchful, penny-pinching eye of Penelope Pennywise (Zoe Vonder Haar).

Of course, there is Caldwell B. Cladwell (Joneal Joplin), the billionaire tycoon whose company, Urine Goodhands Corporation, owns all the public toilets. Cladwell keeps a grip on his empire with the help of corrupt politician Senator Fipp (Bill Lynch).

Our working class hero Bobby chances to meet Cladwell's beautiful, innocent daughter Hope (Jayne Patterson) as she returns home from college to take up a new job, copy-

ing and faxing for Daddy's company.

The play has everything, from singing policemen, charming waifs, evil villains, conniving politicians, and angry mobs. Scene after scene offers hilarious singing and dancing spoofs of familiar musical bits and biting sarcastic dialog.

The scene where audience favorite Joneal Joplin dances around his desk in a fit of greedy glee is worth the price of admission alone. Unexpectedly, the music and dancing are actually quite good and very entertaining in their own right. Unlike some musical parodies, this play pulls no punches as it wrings comic gold from its topic.

Unlike most musicals, the play has unpredictable twists and even delivers a compelling story with sharp observations about modern economics. Every actor in the play is a gem, so much so that it is hard to pick a stand out performance. The Joneal Joplin song and dance is a comic delight, but so are duets between Isom's Officer Lockstock and Rosa's Little Sally.

Ben Nordstrom and Jayne Patterson, who recently played the role of Sally Bowles in the local production of "Cabaret," were excellent as the romantic leads, loopy and funny while being outstanding singers.

Zoe Vonder Haar gets to camp

and vamp it up a bit, in grand style, and the ensemble cast delivers the comic goods as well. The audience laughed non-stop in the first half of the play but was left with real substance to sink their intellectual teeth into by the play's end. It is the rarest of the rare, the comedy with meaning that is not sunk by the weight.

Despite the title, "Urinetown" is the one must-see play of the season. "Urinetown," which runs through Dec. 10, is the third and last of this season's Repertory Theater of St. Louis's Off-Ramp Series of plays at the Grandel Theater.

Information about tickets and the series are available at their Web site, www.offramptheater.com.

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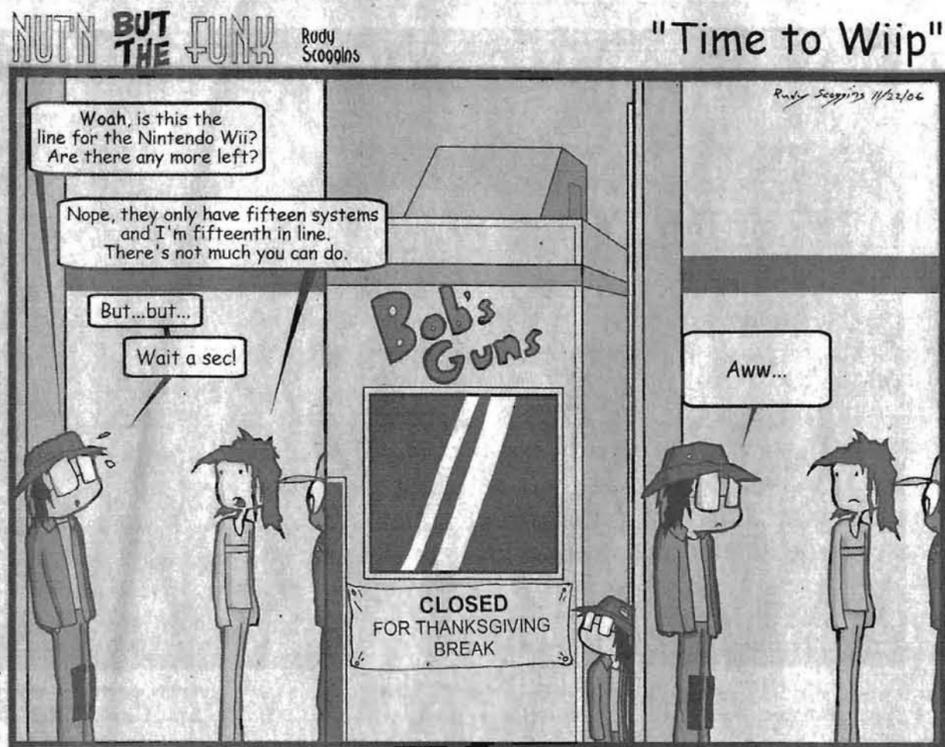
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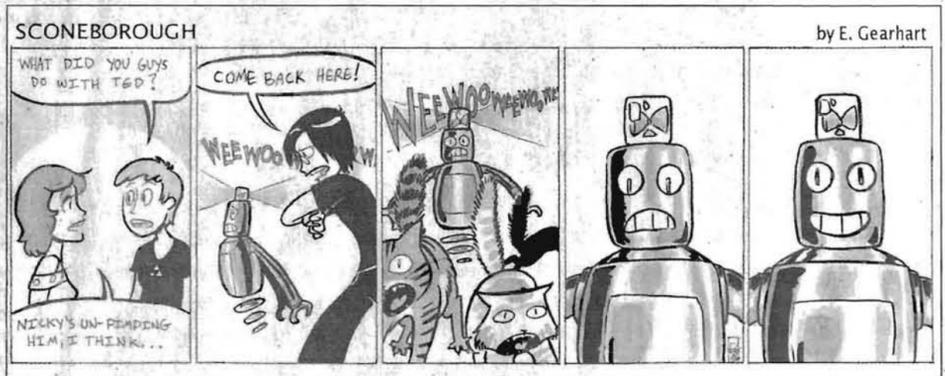
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CURRENT CARTOONISTS

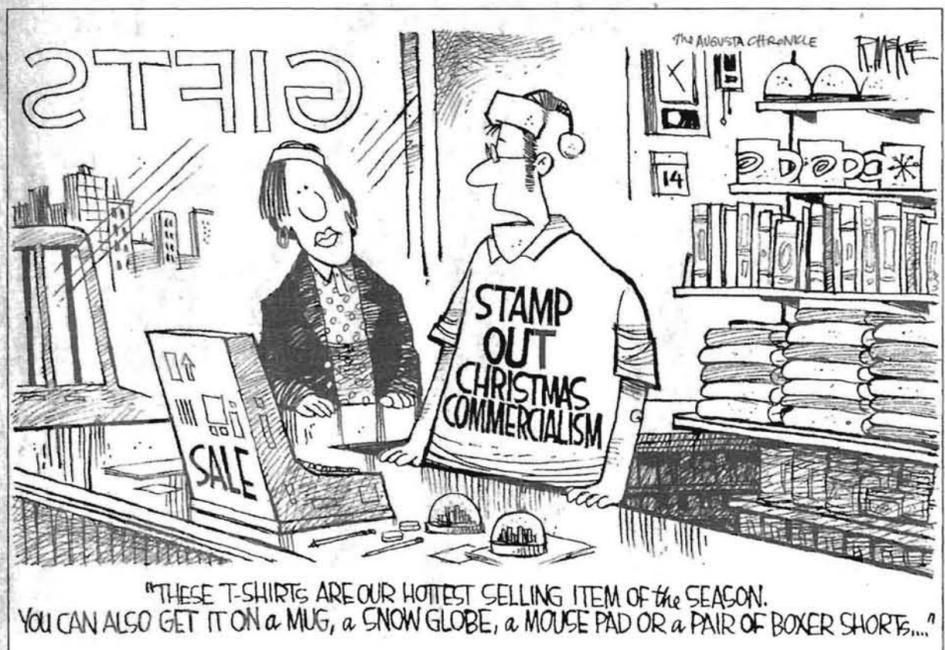
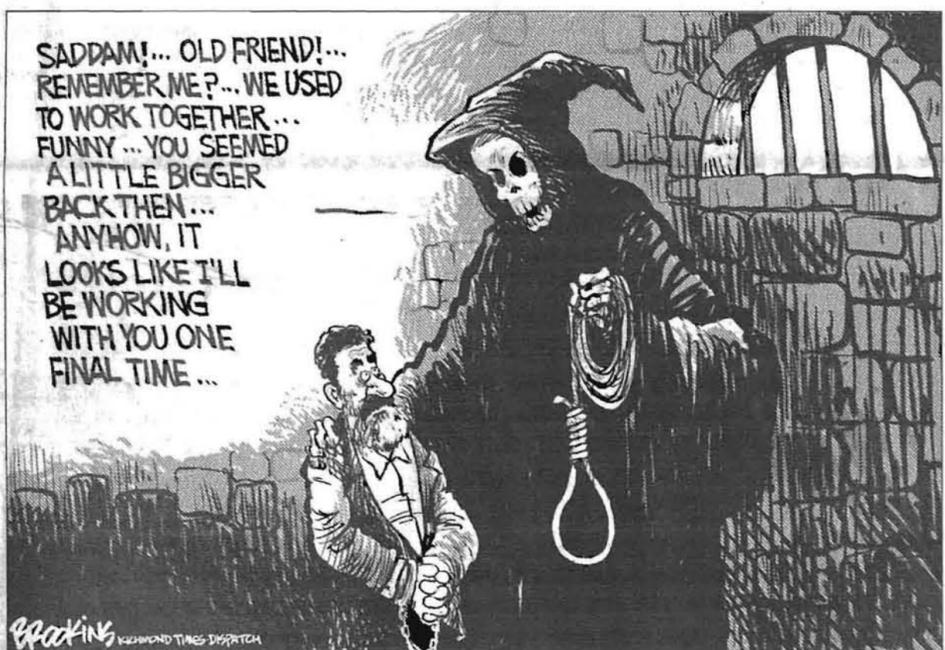


"Nut'n But the Funk" is drawn by Current cartoonist Rudy Scoggins.



"Sconeborough" is drawn by Current cartoonist Elizabeth Gearheart.

SYNDICATED CARTOONS



Snapshots at jasonlove.com



"Don't make me use my chemical weapons..."



MAXIMO PREDICTS

Horoscopes for Nov. 27 - Dec. 3

Aries
March 21-April 19

Hahahahaha. Now how does that turkey sound. Too bad you stuffed yourself, and all you have now is that gas and pain. Yuck.

Taurus
April 20-May 20

Hey, this week you find the winning powerball ticket under your pillow. Yeah right! Even the tooth fairy wouldn't give you a million bucks for those teeth.

Gemini
May 21-June 21

Do you really think the people that fall into the Sarlacc Pit get digested for one thousand years? Damn, didn't I say this last week? Well, you still suck.

Cancer
June 22-July 22

Camping is a great idea, in the summer! Next time you should rent a cabin.

Leo
July 23-Aug. 22

Today will be horrible for you. Everything goes wrong, you get an F on that quiz, you don't meet the love of your life and you become ugly.

Virgo
Aug. 23-Sept. 22

Jingle Bells, Batman smells, Robin laid an egg. The batmobile lost its wheel, and the Joker got away, HEY!

Libra
Sept. 23-Oct. 22

I changed my mind again, I despise you. Loser.

Scorpio
Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

Why must you insist on shopping the day after Thanksgiving? There is nothing great about standing in a line where you are about to waste your money while some kid pukes on your shoes and the people you are shopping for could care less about the stupid gift you are going to give them. Happy Holidays!

Sagittarius
Nov. 22 - Dec. 21

If you seriously think it is funny to say 'in bed' after reading a fortune cookie, think again. Here is a pre-made fortune for you, and go ahead and try your fun little game: "You get nothing, ever, for the rest of your life." Not so funny anymore. So stop it.

Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 19

Where do the stars go during the day? Stumped you!!

Aquarius
Jan. 20 - Feb. 18

Your mom said (insert strange noise here) last night.

Pisces
Feb. 19 - March 20

When will it be time to let by-gons be by-gons. Always wanted to say that. Oh yeah.

DISCLAIMER:
Maximo Predicts heard it from a friend who, heard it from a friend who, heard it from another you were messinn' around. They say you got a boy friend, you're out late every weekend, they're talking about you and its bringin me down. Whew, I love that song. By the way, nothing that Maximo says is real and you should not care about anything this mysterious being produces. He is crazy and will no longer be printed as a result. Please say good-bye. Good-bye cruel world, kisses and hugs.

King Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13				14			
15		16					17			
18							19			
20	21				22	23				
24				25				26	27	28
29			30						31	
32		33					34			
35							36			
37	38	39				40				
41				42	43				44	45
46				47				48		
49				50				51		

ACROSS
1 Cock and bull?
4 Bread spread
8 TV chef Moulton
12 Reaction to a bad taste
13 Fashion
14 Family
15 Bullring VIP
17 "It - Necessarily So"
18 Rue the run
19 Visualization
20 Omega's opposite
22 Camel feature
24 Provider of veritas
25 Spitoon
29 Before
30 Capitols' caps
31 Pay with plastic
32 Brazilian port city
34 Dorm dweller
35 Eternally
36 Songs of praise
37 First word of many limericks
40 Look-alikes, idiomatically
41 Boo Boo's mentor
42 Pomp
46 Detailed map
47 Exam format
48 Literary

DOWN
9 Others (Lat.)
10 Pealed
11 Initial chip
16 Toyota
19 Satan's staff
20 Brutus' birds
21 Trevi toss, once
22 Comedy
25 "The Da Vinci" writer's sine qua non
26 Calamitous time
27 Actor Wilson
28 Cincinnati seafood
30 Comic Letterman
33 Truth
34 Blue hue
36 Some women's footwear
37 Work at the keyboard
38 Cling to
39 "Zounds!"
40 Blueprint
42 Turf
43 Favorable vote
44 Lennon's lady
45 Skedaddled

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

	7	5			1		4	
6			8			5	1	
	8			3	2			7
		3	9	7			2	
1	9		4					6
		6			8	4		9
		4			5	6		1
5	1			6				9
3			2	1		8		

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

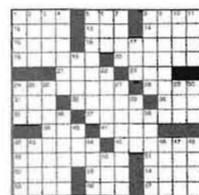
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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Find the answers to this week's crossword puzzle and Sudoku at

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DEMOCRATS, from page 5

After that, Congress can slowly but surely phase more people in. Healthcare in this country is getting too expensive for many people. We need to do something to ensure people can get basic health needs.

It is, by now, a foregone conclusion that the war in Iraq is not going well. Disaster, fiasco and quagmire have all been used to describe this war, and not just by Democrats. The time has come to begin figuring out how long our service men and women will have to stay in harm's way.

Democrats need to take a long look at trying to convince President George W. Bush that a phased withdrawal is the best course of action. The Iraqis have no pressing need to take control of their country with American troops there to take the pressure off.

Democrats have a real opportunity here. Now it is time for them to show that they deserve the faith and trust we have put in them. If they have any ambition to take the White House in 2008, they must prove now that they can handle the reigns.

THE U, from page 6

The Gentlemen Callers

Genre: rock
Web site: myspace.com/thegentlemancallers

These delightful gents have fulfilled their calling in the Lou actively since 2001 with their most notable performances opening twice for rock'n'roll legend Chuck Berry.

They are best known for their brand of soul and R&B infused garage and '60s British rock styling, in spite of the fact that, "We play in a basement and none of us were alive in the '60s. We've never played in a garage ever," said bassist and lead vocalist Kevin Schneider jokingly.

The GC's lyrics involve a type of bluesy howl set to a steadily grooving backbeat, twangy guitar, booming bass and melodic organ. The result is buoyant, danceable music set to classic rock'n'roll laments of "girls and how evil they are," the group said.

After listening to the opening track "I Was Blind" off of their spring 2006 release, "Don't Say What It Is," listeners find themselves calling for backup in the form of a dancing partner in no time.

Sex Robots

Genre: rock/pop
Web Site: myspace.com/sexrobots

The Sex Robots play what guitarist and vocalist Mario Viele described as, "bouncy, trashy rock and roll." Think early raunchy punk bands like The Ramones and The Buzzcocks infused with the bubbly estrogen pop of early Madonna and Cyndi Lauper.

Going on to describe the sound, Viele said their music is a by-product of boredom and murder. "Sometimes, when we're on tour, we kill drifters," Viele said, with little elaboration.

The 'bots recently completed their first two-month tour from the Midwest to the west coast last spring. From fighting over two-week old Spam in a tour van to enjoying breakfast with a gambling man, they recalled several moments on the road with endearing, mischievous smiles on their faces.

This same, slightly manicured mantra hooks listeners from the very first chorus off of their



Adam D. Wiseman • Editor-in-Chief

Dave Stevenson, lead singer of The Ottomen, performs during a show at Cicero's in the loop last month.

recently released self-produced, self-titled album. In regard to their performance on the 5th, Viele said, "Expect a big ending. Instead of playing for 26 minutes, we're going to play for 28."

The Ultraviolents

Genre: rock/experimental
Web: myspace.com/ultraviolentsattack

This quartet has been peddling its punk-infused experimental rock around town for a couple of years.

In addition to the typical guitar-drums-bass combination, the Ultraviolents throw in saxophone player Mabel Suen, whose thrashy vocals complement her male guitarist/vocalist counterpart. Influenced by such local groups as MU330 and The Pubes.

The band performed at UM-St. Louis during last year's Mirthday festivities. But that time, the stage was outdoor, so campus fans will get the chance to catch the Ultraviolents in a club setting, down in the Pilot House.



File Photo

The Ultraviolents (shown in this photo from May 2006 at the Mirthday celebration on campus) will perform along with seven other local groups at the "Support Student Radio" benefit concert in the Pilot House on Dec. 5 from 3 p.m. to 10 p.m. The event, held by student radio station, "The U," costs \$5 to attend. The proceeds will be given to the American Cancer Society.

Position Available

Help organize ASUM lunches and other events. Maintain the office and the ASUM budget.

Position: Event Coordinator
Up to 10 hours a week
\$7 an hour

Student Legislative Association
Associated Students of the University of Missouri

CURSIVE, from page 9

However, he also touches upon popular Christian beliefs. "Original sin, idyllic garden/ Some talking snake giving apples away/ What would that snake say if he could only see us today?"

Unfortunately, next to many of the interesting grooves, some tracks fall flat on their generic rock faces; most notable on some of the middle tracks such as "Flag and Family" and "Dorothy Dreams of Tornadoes."

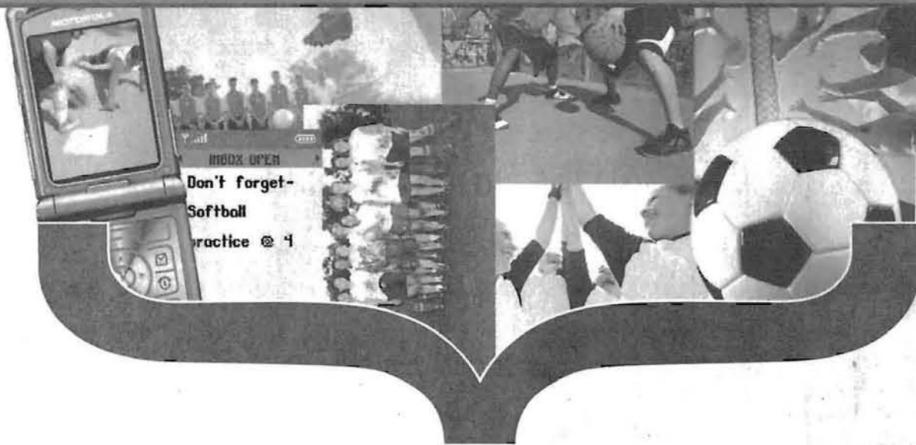
There are smart ideologies behind each track but without the

right presentation they fail to be effective.

"Happy Hollow" is an enjoyable and fascinating listen. Many of the current issues brought up are taken on without getting overly preachy and much of the music stays entertaining thanks to the use of horns and soft keyboards.

This concept album rivals the much-hyped 2004 Green Day release "American Idiot" while covering similar topics but sadly did not get half of the same marketing support.

CAMPUS INTRAMURAL UPDATE



U.S. Cellular® gets me... so I can always get the score.

Volleyball

Date: 12/4
Time: Mon 7p-10p
Place: MT Gym
Sign up: 11/30
Division: M & W

Indoor Men Soccer

Date: 12/6
Time: Wed 7p-10p
Place: MT Gym
Sign up: 12/5
Division: M

Indoor Coed Soccer

Date: 11/29
Time: Wed 7p-10p
Place: MT Gym
Sign up: 11/29
Division: Coed

Basketball Contest

Date: 11/28 thru 12/10
Time: Tues thru Fri 11a-1p
Place: Mt Gym
Sign up: Anytime
Division: W & M

Darts

Date: 11/30
Time: Thurs 10p-12p
Place: TBD
Sign up: Anytime
Division: CoEd



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