



**Known Quantity:** "I Still Know What You Did Last Summer" is much like its predecessor. See page 12.

**Cultural Crossroads:** Check out our special full-page feature on the recently-relocated Mercantile library. Let us take you on a walk-through tour of the institution's historic collections. See Page 6.

**Spiked:** Women's volleyball closes regular season by dropping two of their final three games. See page 5.

NEWS FROM ALL OVER

**Anti-homosexual parade float draws suspensions at CSU**

(U-WIRE) FORT COLLINS, Colo. — A Colorado State University judicial officer handed down disciplinary actions ranging from probation to suspension to 11 individuals responsible for displaying a message jeering homosexuals on a parade float.

Individual names were not released because of federal privacy laws.

"We are very confident that this ruling matches the findings of the board and the actions of those involved," said Tom Milligan, director of media and community relations. "It's our hope that this brings it to a close."

The scarecrow with the offensive message appeared on a homecoming float co-sponsored by the Alpha Chi Omega sorority and the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity.

The sorority voted to disband following the incident citing embarrassment and intolerance for the behavior. The national fraternity suspended the CSU Pi Kappa Alpha chapter and condemned the actions of the members involved.

The anti-gay message, which was written on a scarecrow, appeared just days after University of Wyoming student Matthew Shepard was beaten and left for dead on a fence outside Laramie, Wyo. The cyclists who found Shepard, who was gay, said they first mistook him for a scarecrow.

Anyone suspended from CSU is removed from enrollment, but may reapply after certain provisions — including workshops in ethics, community service and writing assignments — are met.

The university made the disciplinary decision based on violations of parade rules, student conduct and misleading statements made by the individuals after the incident.

Students may appeal the decision of the judicial officer to a university judicial board. None of the students have appealed the decision, Milligan said.

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# The Current

THE STUDENT VOICE OF UM-ST. LOUIS

November 16, 1998

The University of Missouri-St. Louis

Vol. 32 Issue 937

## Arts Center focus of Council debate

BY ASHLEY COOK  
 senior editor

The chancellor attended Friday's Faculty Council meeting to participate in an open discussion on the pros and cons of the proposed Performing Arts Center.

Chancellor Blanche Touhill said that she felt that there would be sufficient scheduling of academic events and commercial enterprises to justify such a venue being built on campus.

"That's why I'm trying to take this year in order to work with AMS [the consulting firm hired by the University] and the Budget and Planning [committee], and work with the various departments and get a better handle on the percentage of commercial versus academic [events]," Touhill said.

Touhill said that contrary to some council members' comments, she felt that operating deficits would not present a problem.

"I think that one never knows what's going to come, but I do have some ideas how to backstop budgets so that deficits can be protected," Touhill said. "That's something that I would like to discuss with the Budget and Planning committee."

The chancellor said that the University was working to reinstate the theater program sometime next year, possibly in the spring. The program was "phased out" a few years ago in a budget cut. Touhill said that there just wasn't a space large enough to accommodate the present needs of the University.

"Last year, I went to several events in the J.C. Penney auditorium that were over-subscribed. You could not get into the auditorium," Touhill said.

Touhill also talked about providing space for future events, when the University might be able to offer lectures from speakers who would draw a crowd too large for present halls.

"I go to universities where they have lecture series where the students come to lecture series because [the speakers] are outstanding people," Touhill said.

John Onuska, professor in the English Department, said that he felt that the emphasis on building the center would negatively affect efforts to increase quality of education in other areas on campus.

"Our students are being short-changed," Onuska said. "We have got to educate our students. We have got to put something into general education, all these things that are more crucial issues, but not building a theater for a commercial venue."

see Touhill, page 7

## Parents, administrators meet about Child Center

### Traffic, safety issues prompt gathering

BY ASHLEY COOK  
 senior editor

Parents of children from the South Campus Child Development Center met with administrators Nov. 4 to discuss safety and parking concerns.

#### FIRE SAFETY

Reinhard Schuster, vice chancellor for Administrative Services, said that two recent electrical fires on South Campus were likely due to old equipment which couldn't handle strong power surges.

"The electrical service to this part of the campus is very old and antiquated. . . as this property is developed, there will be more of a demand for power," Schuster said.

As earlier reported, a fire last month, located in the basement under the Center, caused an evacuation of the children to the Kathy J. Weinman Center.

Robert Roeseler, director of institutional safety, said that steps had been taken to lessen the likelihood of additional fires such as the one last month which was caused by a power surge that caused a cable to overheat and burn its insulation.

"We put a fuse in to prevent this from occurring

again," Roeseler said. "It's in a location. . . that would then blow a fuse somewhere else outside the building."

Schuster said that Union Electric brought in more power from Bellrive to South Campus when the apartments at University Meadows were built, but that more was needed to accommodate future growth.

"[Union Electric] understands that as we develop more and more, we need more power," Schuster said.

A parent at the meeting expressed his concern that the old electrical equipment still posed a hazard to the children's center, even with prompt police response to fire situations.

"We've dodged a bullet twice. I have every confidence in you and your staff to take care of the children once you have been alerted, but it's that interim space between an event occurring and you getting on site that makes it a possibility for disaster," he said.

Roeseler said that with the new fuse design that there wasn't much chance for future fires occurring.

"That possibility should be eliminated, and I say should because anything can happen as I'm sure you're aware of, even in your own home," Roeseler said.

#### PARKING PROBLEMS

Parents also raised several concerns over the recent change of South Drive to one-way, which requires parents to drive around the back

see Meeting, page 8

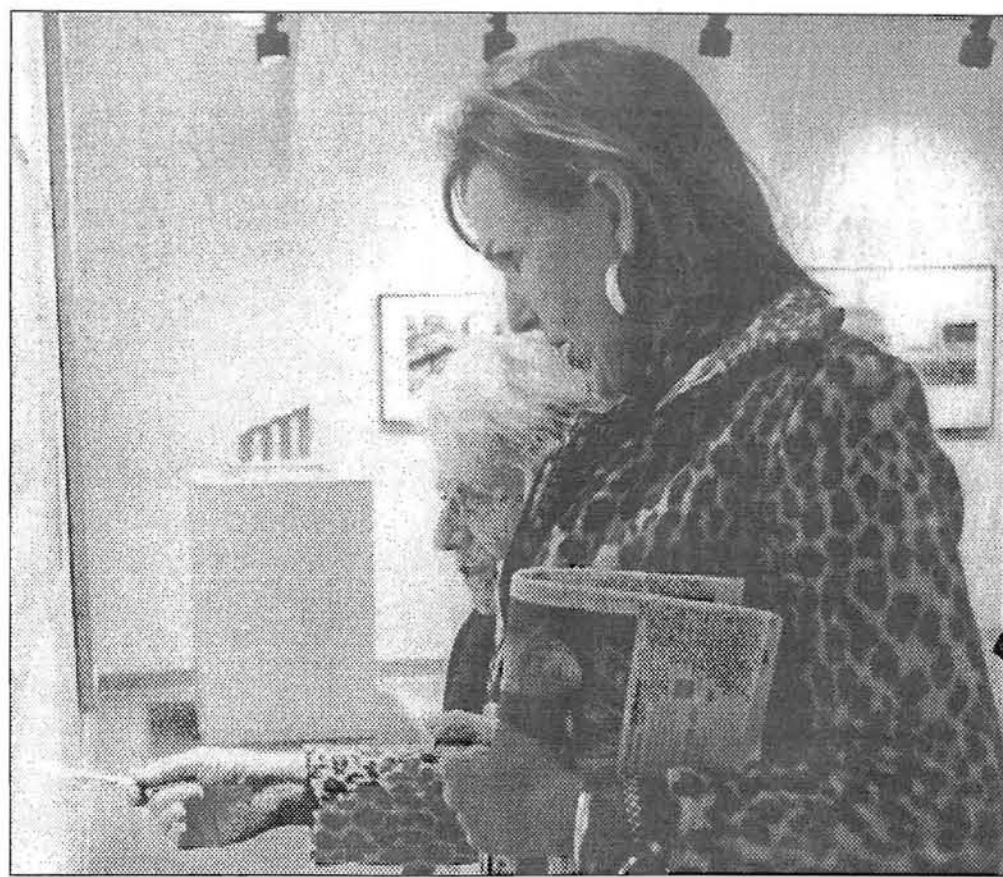


Stephanie Platt/The Current

Vinita Henry, professor of Optometry takes her children Emily (right), 4, and Elizabeth, 1, to their vehicle at the Child Development Center Thursday afternoon.

Robert Roeseler, director of institutional safety, said that steps had been taken to lessen the likelihood of additional fires such as the one last month which was caused by a power surge that caused a cable to overheat and burn its insulation.

"We put a fuse in to prevent this from occurring



Stephanie Platt/The Current

Senior communication major Sandra Tricamo converses with her mother-in-law Mary Tricamo about drawings of the Washington Avenue Edison Brothers Warehouse. The drawings are in Gallery 210 as part of the "What is a City?" conference, which is intended to focus on the present state and potential improvement of St. Louis.

## Police investigate several electronics thefts on campus

BY SUE BRITT  
 staff associate

Recent incidents of computer thefts on the UM-St. Louis campus remain unsolved. Campus police are continuing their investigations.

Over the last year several computers and other electronics have been stolen on the UM-St. Louis campus. These thefts have occurred in several different areas of the campus and in a variety of circumstances. Last month, computers still in their boxes were stolen from Benton Hall. This month, electronics were stolen from a locked classroom in the Social Sciences Building. In July, boxed computers were stolen from a locked room in Marillac Hall.

"We receive reports from a variety [of sources and circumstances]," Captain James Smalley of the UM-St. Louis police department said, "Sometimes [the computers] are already installed. Sometimes they are waiting to be installed," Smalley said. "[The thefts] are just kind of spread out. Naturally, we investigate all the thefts."

Smalley said that the variety was not only concerning the types of items taken and the locations they were taken from but also the methods used. Several of the thefts occurred from locked rooms.

"If it's a person's office and they report that the door was locked when they left," Smalley said, "the door was still locked when they returned."

Some of the most recent thefts occurred in Stadler Hall. Two incidents occurred on Sept. 27 and 29, when a laptop computer, scanner and printer were stolen. In October, two additional computers were taken from Stadler Hall.

"It seems like much of this activity is occurring around Stadler," Smalley said. The police department could not comment on the ongoing investigation.

"We can't divulge the tactics that we use to investigate," Smalley said. "If everybody knows what we're doing someone could come up with a way around it. But we are investigating."

## Newman House plans Hunger Awareness Week

BY SUE BRITT  
 staff associate

Hunger Awareness Week, which has been coordinated by Betty Chitwood of the Newman House for the past three years, begins today and will run through Thursday.

Money will be raised by T-shirt sales in the University Center lobby, FAST for hunger donations, a soup sale in the Underground and the Hunger Banquet on Thursday.

The majority of the money raised will be given to the organization Oxfam America. Oxfam is an organization that mainly aids people in Third-World countries by helping people to help themselves, Chitwood said.

"They show them the best way to farm their land. They show them how to use the resources that they've got to the most productive means," Chitwood said. "And they have opened a group in America. They helped during Hurricane

Hugo in Florida. But mainly they work in Third-World countries."

This is the fourth Hunger Awareness Week organized by the Newman House, the Catholic student center. Chitwood said each year it has grown. She said the president of the Student Government Association from four years ago suggested that Newman House involve the entire campus and make the event a week long.

"It's been wonderful," Chitwood said. "I have met some of the most wonderful people."

One of those people is John Geerling, MD, MA theology, who has traveled to Honduras, volunteering for the organization Farm of the Child. Geerling and other volunteers lead a group of 40 orphans to safety through the mountains during the threatened arrival of Hurricane Mitch. They took a 30-day supply of food not knowing what to expect.

"Right now, they are at a shelter with no electricity, no running water. They have lots of beans and rice and they have lots of bottled water," Chitwood said. "But they have no way of getting back to their village. The bridges are out. It could take anywhere from a month to three months to get back. Twenty of these children are under the age of five. This year a part of the money that I'm going to be collecting is going to go to Honduras."

Statistics provided by Oxfam state there are 160 million children under the age of five that are malnourished and that every 2.5 seconds a child dies from hunger related causes. They report worldwide 840 million people do not get enough to eat.

Chitwood said it is not that there is a shortage of food but that there is an unequal distribution of it.

see Hunger, page 7



Named UM-St. Louis' 1998 Best Campus Community Building Program

# Bulletin Board

**Put it on the Board:** The Current Events Bulletin Board is a service provided free of charge to all student organizations and University departments and divisions. Deadline for submissions to The Current Events Bulletin Board is 5 p.m. every Thursday before publication. Space consideration is given to student organizations and is on a first-come, first-served basis. We suggest all submissions be posted at least two weeks prior to the event. Send submissions to: Todd Appel, 7940 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis MO 63121 or fax 516-6811. All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.

**Monday, Nov. 16**

- Hunger Awareness Week Clothing and Food Drive** at the U. Meadows. Contact: Betty Chitwood, 385-3455.
- IWGS Governing Board Meeting** from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Contact: IWGS, 5581 or 6383.
- Library Research Assistance Clinic** runs Monday through Friday from November 9 to November 20. Sign up at the TJ Library Reference Desk for help with research papers or projects. Contact: 5060.
- Monday Noon Series: "A Choice Model of Self-Control: Id and Ego in the Pigeon"**. Leonard Green, professor of psychology, Washington University, presents some of his research on the choices pigeons make at 12:00 p.m. in 229 J.C. Penney. Contact: Karen Lucas, 5699.
- "Impact of the New York Times: Its Agenda Setting Role and Influence"**. A discussion with Howard French, Reporter, The New York Times from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. in 331 SSB. Contact: 5753.
- Spanish Club Meeting** at 2 p.m. in 542 Clark Hall.
- Institute of Women's and Gender Studies Governing Board meeting** from

2:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Contact: IWGS, 5581 or 6383.

- Introduction to Weight Training**, learn how to use the Fitness Center and weight room to achieve the goals you desire. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

**Tuesday, Nov. 17**

- Hunger Awareness Week Clothing and Food Drive** at the U. Meadows. Contact: Betty Chitwood, 385-3455.
- Life in the Spirit Seminar** from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. in the Newman House at 8200 Natural Bridge Road. Contact: Betty or Dennis, 385-3455.
- Hunger Awareness Week Soup Line** in the Underground from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. with Table and T-shirt sales at U. Center Lobby.
- Poetry reading** by Irish poet Claran Carson, poet and musician, Belfast, Northern Ireland, from 12:30 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. in 493 Lucas Hall. Contact: 5753.

**Wednesday, Nov. 18**

- Hunger Awareness Week Clothing and Food Drive** at the U. Meadows. Contact: Betty Chitwood, 385-3455.
- Weight Training Programming**, learn advanced training techniques to make your program work for you. Learn to use

different exercise splits and rep schemes for better results. Experienced weight-lifters only. The class meets from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Contact: 5326.

- Hunger Awareness Week Soup Line** in the Underground from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. with Table and T-shirt sales at U. Center Lobby. Contact: Betty Chitwood, 385-3455.
- Film: "Women Get the Vote"** from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. in the Women's Center 211 Clark Hall. Contact: The Women's Center, 5380.

**Thursday, Nov. 19**

- Hunger Awareness Week Clothing and Food Drive** at the U. Meadows. Contact: Betty Chitwood, 385-3455.
- "Fermats Last Theorem"** this PBS special will be shown in 229 J.C. Penney at 2 p.m. Refreshments will be served. Sponsored by the Math Club. Contact: 6599.

**Friday, Nov. 20**

- Hunger Awareness Week Clothing and Food Drive** at the U. Meadows. Contact: Betty Chitwood, 385-3455.
- Mr. Martin McKinsey, Translator of Modern Greek Literature: Reading translations from Yiannis Ritsos and Nikos Engonopoulos.** The reading will be in 78

J.C. Penney. Contact: Karen Lucas, 5699.

**Monday, Nov. 23**

- Introduction to Weight Training**, learn how to use the Fitness Center and weight room to achieve the goals you desire. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.
- Monday Noon Series: R\*e\*s\*p\*e\*c\*t—Finding Out What It Means...** Claude Evans, associate professor of philosophy, Washington University, discusses animal rights attacks on hunting and fishing. Contact: Karen Lucas, 5699.

**Tuesday, Nov. 24**

- Student Social Work Association Meeting** from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the Evening College Conference Room on the third floor of Lucas Hall. Contact: Kettebrink, 924-6402.
- Life in the Spirit Seminar** from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. in the Newman House at 8200 Natural Bridge Road. Contact: Betty or Dennis, 385-3455.

**Monday, Nov. 30**

- Monday Noon Series: A Preview of a Renaissance Madrigal Feast.** The UM-St. Louis Madrigal ensemble, with director John Hylton, professor of music, UM-St. Louis, performs seasonal Renaissance music in 229 J.C. Penney. Contact: Karen Lucas, 5699.

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# The Current

**is looking for a few good students.**

**Now hiring:**

**Proofreader/ Copy Editor Business Associate Photo Associate**

**Volunteer positions also available. Call 516-6810**

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# HUNGER a WAR Reness WEEK at UM-St. Louis

**"Every 2.5 seconds, a child dies from hunger related causes."**

**March 16 - 20, 1998**

**Mon. - Thurs., Nov. 16th, INFORMATION TABLE U. Center Lobby**

**Tues. & Wed., Nov. 17th & 18th, SOUP LINE from 11:30am - 1pm**  
 in the Underground \$2.00 donation for Homemade Vegetable Soup

**Thur., Nov. 19th HUNGER BANQUET from 12:15 - 1:15**  
 in the JC Penney Lobby  
 Local Hunger contacts, served by University Personnel

Look for "Fast for Hunger" canisters located in The Underground & in U. Center Lobby to donate money for "Oxfam" and "Farm of the Children" in Honduras

- \* Meal Plan Deductions
- \* Clothing and Food Drive at University Meadows

Contact  
 Betty Chitwood - 385-3455 (FULFILL)

This advertisement paid for by UPB, Student Activities, and The Current at UM-St. Louis



# FEATURES

Amy Lombardo, Features Editor  
Phone 516-5174, Fax 516-6811

## Get This

### In the numbers? Amy explores numerology

Hey, baby, what's your sign? I'll admit this tired line will no longer get you the digits from a member of the opposite sex, but I'll also bet the farm that everyone reading this knows the answer to that question. Astrology is pretty mainstream these days (I'm a Virgo — September 1). Horoscopes are in almost every newspaper and magazine imaginable, giving the masses advice on health, love, work and luck.

If you've ever eaten in a Chinese restaurant, odds are you've seen a placemat or menu with the Chinese zodiac on it as well. Depending on what year you were born, you could be a pig, dog, donkey, monkey or various other assorted animals. Each one has its own little personality paragraph that highlights the traits that you are supposed to possess. I was born in 1974, which, I believe, makes me a tiger (not bad, considering the alternatives).



**AMY LOMBARDO**  
Features Editor  
All I remember is that, according to the chart, I should be a creative individual or something along those lines.

But there is also another way to learn about the innards of your complex and special self, besides in-depth therapy, of course. It's called numerology. Some of you may have heard of it, others may not have. In either circumstance, I find it pretty interesting, so I thought I would share the basics with you today.

I know what you're thinking. Don't all of these see-the-future, know-yourself systems involve numbers?

Yes, they do. But this is specifically designed to deal solely with numbers, and hence, is a phenomenon all its own.

Actually, it's not exactly a new discovery. To name just a few, the Chinese, Japanese, Greeks, Hebrews, Egyptians, Phoenicians and Mayans all developed and used number systems to make predictions and explore their inner selves. Like most good charting systems, it takes a kind of cure-all approach to life. The issues covered are vast — talents, goals, hidden qualities, opportunities, challenges, cycles of life, career, romance and prosperity.

I'm going to give you a simple little exercise to try out at home.

To arrive at your number, all it takes is a small amount of math knowledge (just basic addition, don't freak out on me) and about one minute of your time. The chart assigns a number to every letter in the alphabet. A=1, B=2, C=3, D=4, E=5, F=6, G=7, H=8, I=9, and then the process repeats itself, J=1... R=9... S=1... Z=8.

Now take the letters of your name and add the numbers. For example, I'll use Amy, because that's my name, and add 1+4+7=12. Now take the 12 and add the 1+2=3. See how easy this is? My number is 3.

The chart says that 3's are playful, creative, inspirational, optimistic and enthusiastic. One book calls it the "sunshine number."

Some people who actually know me may beg to differ on this conclusion, but who are they to argue with the numbers?

I really don't have the time or space to list the qualities of all the different numbers, so if any of you are just dying to know what it means to be a 5, I suggest visiting the campus library where I'm sure there are books overflowing with details on the topic.

# Poetic Justice

'Night of Poetry' showcases UM-St. Louis talent



Stephanie Platt/The Current

English Professor Howard Schwartz recites poetry at Left Bank Books as part of a Litmag reading.

BY ANNE PORTER  
staff associate

Poetry can be dull. Especially in those classes where the directions were, "Write a Haiku... you know, the three line, 5-7-5 syllable lines..."

Poetry can also be very entertaining, especially when read by the author who knows what the emotions behind the poetry are, and where to place the emphasis. The listener also learns about the poet's quirks and eccentricities that help to create the poetry to which they are listening.

Wednesday night, Litmag and Left Bank Books presented "A Night of Poetry" complete with the works of UM-St. Louis faculty members Jennifer MacKenzie, Donald Finkel, Steven Schreiner, and Howard Schwartz. Kim Hudgins provided excellent musical entertainment for preludes, interludes and postludes.

Schreiner, an associate professor of English at UM-St. Louis, teaches the MFA program and is the editor of a soon-to-be-published journal, *Natural Bridge*. He has written *Too Soon to Leave* and his poetry has been published in the *Colorado Review* and *Poet and Critic*.

Schreiner covered a variety of topics in his poetry from children at fairs to love. In *Child at the Fair*, Schreiner described the life of a disabled child and how she can still see the beauty that the rest of the world does.

About the *Mother Poem* Schreiner joked it was "not the mother of all poems, but my mother poem." This poem described the life of his mother and asks, "Will I be disillusioned and brave?" like his mother.

MacKenzie teaches English at UM-St. Louis and has had work appear in publications such as *River Styx* and *Christian Science Monitor*. MacKenzie is working on an anthology of her to work to be published in the future.

MacKenzie writes about cats, poetry, and bats. About cats and poetry, MacKenzie said it is a "poem about poetry although [it] may not seem to be." In a *Study of Two Cats*, MacKenzie believes, "with cats it's instinct," but with humans it's something learned.

For her poem, *In Praise of Shadows*, MacKenzie describes with the epitaph, "Were it not for shadows, there would be no beauty." The poem itself tosses in variations such as the "scents are her colors."

Howard Schwartz has taught for 28 years and all those years of knowledge appear in his poetry. Schwartz said, "I have an intense fascination with Jewish lore," to explain the basis for much of his poetry. One of the Jewish poems, *A Wall Rubbing*, tells of Schwartz's friend who took a wall-rubbing and in the poem Schwartz details, "words like tears were mute."

For the basis of another poem, in Schwartz's dream journal, he catalogued the word which appeared most and that was "salt." In honor of that word, Schwartz wrote a poem titled *Salt*. In the poem the story of salt is told as, "Salt more precious than the veins in which it flowed," and how people were killed just for the salt in their bodies.

Schwartz also talked of his like of mythology and showed this in the poem *Mermaids*. In *Mermaids*, the theory of mermaids and sirens is discussed as mermaids, a "race of dolphins that mated with men?"

Don Finkel, a visiting professor from Washington University covers a variety of topics from musicians to topless bars. In *Piano Man* Finkel tells the tale of a blind musician whose hands were so frostbitten that they were like claws, "stiff but only oddly civil manicured claw."

In *At Rexie's Topless*, a poem dedicated to a dancer tells about a dancer who recited Emily Dickinson poetry lines while dancing. Not just the classical lines, but the ones that not everyone knows. Finkel said of this poem, "It just proves you can't judge people by what they do or what they look like."

Finkel ended with the poem *Cold Snap* which tells the story of the women and children that live in the Larry Rice Home for Battered Women and describes the day in which the children play and the "night [that] clinches the city in its icy fist."

## UNDER CURRENT

compiled by Jeremy Pratte/of the Current staff

### What is your best excuse for being late?

"I had to run an errand for my mother."

-Scott Howze  
Junior/EE/Comp Sci



"My best excuse for being late is that my car ran away and I had to go catch it."

-James T. McNichols  
Freshman/Music Education



"Some guy accosted me in the Underground and wanted me to answer a question for the \*@!^? paper."

-Stephani Crawford  
5th year/Communication



"I got caught in traffic."

-Stephanie Dooley  
Freshman/Accounting



"I missed the shuttle bus and had to walk from South Campus."

-Lauren Kurt  
Freshman/Int. Business



## Landmarks of St. Louis celebrated at Gallery 210

BY ANNE PORTER  
staff associate

The St. Louis Arch, the Edison Brothers Building, and the future Thomas Eagleton Courthouse: these are all considered major components of St. Louis City.

Gallery 210 in conjunction with the "What is a City Conference" has compiled works by local and national artists that are the basis for these great buildings that make St. Louis so well-known.

"Planning Place- Models, Marquettes, and Drawings of Major St. Louis Public Artworks" is a collection of both national and local artists which shows the plans, studies and models for the buildings as they are known today.

Richard Haas, a printmaker and muralist, loaned his works "Facades of the Edison Brothers Stores" to the Gallery. The Facades gives details as to the history of St. Louis

through the use of a horse and rider to represent St. Louis placed before a pseudo-tile monochrome backdrop to create the illusion of marble.

Terry Suhre, Gallery 210's director, says of Haas, "He is a most generous man," and would illustrate further to describe as opening the works Haas sent himself as, "quite a delightful surprise."

Bernard Edison, CEO of the Edison Brothers Shoe Company, commissioned the Facades as "gift to the city." Although they were meant to add to the commercial value of the building than really add to public art value, the Facades do both in that they make the building recognizable as a part of St. Louis architecture.

The Serra Sculptures also known as Twain is still a controversial work in the St. Louis area, probably one of the most contemporary works in St. Louis by one of the most highly-regarded contemporary artists.

Charlotta Kotik, of the publication *Around the Corner*, describes the controversy of Serra's work as, "We cannot comfortably judge his works hampered as we are by a barrage of aesthetic values of past centuries.

But neither can we turn away."

The exhibit includes the basis for Twain at its location on Market Street by photographs and rough sketches. The sketches present the framing that Twain does to the buildings that surround the location. The St. Louis Art Museum loaned these pieces to show the process and planning involved in such a work.

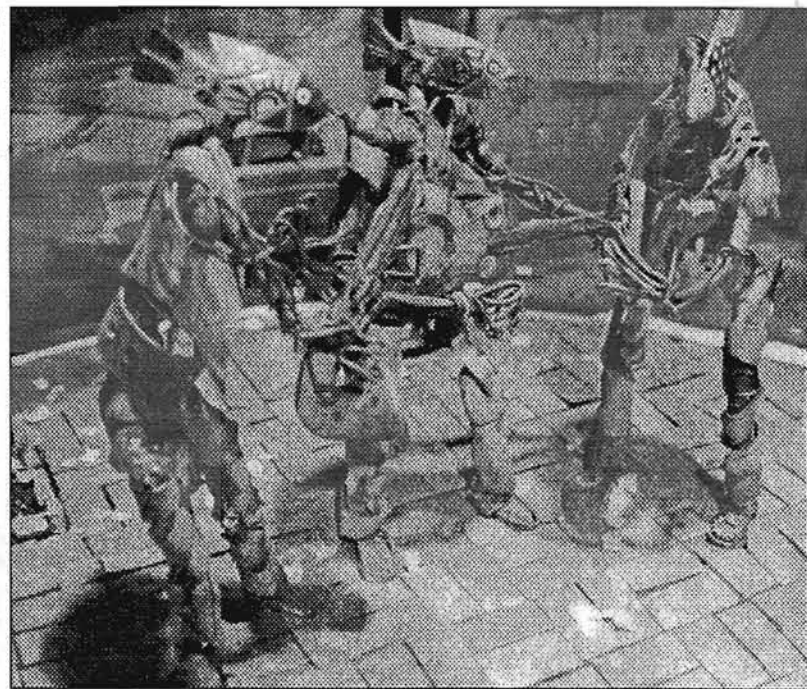
"Artists in Transit" is funded by the Bi-State Development Agency whose goal is to combine public art and the transit system. Local artists included in this are Rod Baer and Tim Curtis.

Curtis has included in "Arts in Transit" his models for his MetroLink art which show on a small scale what he has accomplished at Future Perfect, located at the Sixth Street and Washington MetroLink Station. Future Perfect combines trees, gold leaf and net to create a 16-foot by 16-foot illusion of nature.

Rod Baer, another artist featured in Arts in Transit, has included *Dancing Chairs*.

"He is a terrific craftsman as shown by his model," said Suhre. The *Dancing Chairs* poses two chairs dancing to create a square dance ritual. The final *Chairs* will be mounted at street level and facing traffic.

In 1947, Eero Saarinen sketched a model for what is known as the St.



Stephanie Platt/The Current

A model of Laclede's Landing's Bass Band at Gallery 210.

Louis Arch. The basis for the sculpture in the sketches shows just how long it takes to create a work on the magnitude of the Arch. The Arch is the most readily identifiable symbol of St. Louis and the world knows St. Louis just by the Arch.

The Model for St. Louis, the Thomas F. Eagleton U.S. Court House Project, is in the design process by Mary Miss. Miss' proposal for the Project is in Gallery 210. When completed it will be located at Walnut and 11th Streets. Miss' goal is to create a private sanctuary in a public place.

Gallery 210, where art is just a walk away, is located in Lucas Hall. The hours of operation are Tuesdays, noon to 8 p.m., Wednesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



# Comments

**The Current**  
THE STUDENT VOICE OF UM-ST. LOUIS

## Editorial Board

**David Baugher**  
Editor in Chief

**Ashley Cook**  
Managing Editor &  
Editorial Page Editor

"Our Opinion" reflects the majority opinion of the editorial board

## How to Respond

Your response is an important part of the weekly debate on this page. Letters should be brief and those not exceeding 200 words will be given preference. We edit letters for clarity, length and grammar. All letters must be signed and include a daytime telephone number.



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## OUR OPINION

# Open discussion about the Performing Arts Center focuses on financial concerns

## The Issue:

Can UM-St. Louis and the surrounding community realistically support the Performing Arts Center?

## We Suggest:

The Performing Arts Center will have a better chance to thrive if this campus and nearby capital and economic structuring can continue to improve.

## So what do you think?

Let us hear from you on this or any issue in a letter to the editor.

The Faculty Council meeting Wednesday was turned over to Blanche Touhill for an open discussion on the proposed Performing Arts Center.

Opponents proposed that it was unclear as to where all the money was going to come from, and there was some fear that overblown operating cost losses would mean cutting short development in other areas of campus.

The chancellor said that she would handle the center's debts by "backstopping" them, like she has with other budgets on campus, like the Honor's College and College of Arts and Sciences.

The chancellor said that she felt the cost estimates were on target, and that debts would be handled.

It's the old argument all over again: which takes precedence, educational infrastructure or capital improvements?

Of course, in a complex structure like a university, voices will be strong for both sides of the issue - we have to build to get students, some say; we have to have teachers and programs to offer first, others say. Who is right?

A balance of the two would be the optimum answer, of course. And, efforts have been made in both directions, with new academic programs recently added,

several more in the planning stages, and the new student center and parking garage now under construction.

The problem is that while it is great to build up the capital improvements, attention is so far removed from the education of students, that the good intentions spent on providing for future students come at the cost of a quality education for those currently paying tuition.

Cutbacks in space and staff have been occurring for the last several years, with new cutbacks and consolidations to come soon. All this, while popular new programs are being added.

Change is a good thing, as is moving forward in providing a varied and inclusive education for students.

The new Performing Arts Center will be a bright and shining star in the local arts community, but will it be of much use to students? The chancellor said that the center was for the community of students, to provide them with a place to attend lectures and concerts.

Kudos to students and faculty alike in the music department who work hard to plan and perform events, but how many of the general student population are going to return to this area at night after the long commute home to attend events? Not

many.

The chancellor said that students would not be paying tickets for their seating to attend events included under academic planning, and it's a good thing because you won't fill half of the 1,600-seat venue with either paying or non-paying students. This campus just doesn't generate that kind of attendance.

The chancellor's argument was that you have to have the "vision" to see what is to come. Planning and vision are vital when it comes to something as costly as this, but will there be a return of economic health to the surrounding community as in years past when large events were well-attended? It seems unlikely.

What a venue like this requires to be successful is a vital and involved campus community, strong programming, and a location that is well organized from the top down, from a secure and attractive local economy to a well-organized capital structure.

At the moment, this campus is far from meeting those goals, and whether or not they are met years down the road before costs overwhelm the university will depend on the long-term commitment of the chancellor, this campus, and the local and arts communities.

## GUEST COMMENTARY

# Study time - Toddler style

When a classmate told me she had studied for three hours the previous night - uninterrupted - I felt the green starting at my toes and rising up my body until I looked like the Budweiser toad. Do you know what three hours of uninterrupted study time is to the mother of a toddler? Nonexistent. It is a fantasy she plays in her head as she gets up for the tenth time to see what little junior needs this time.

Let me describe my study ritual. I place multiple toys on the living room floor, make sure the juice cup is full and suitable snacks are within reach of tiny hands, and switch the television to Nickelodeon. (Note: Do not believe any mother who says she does not use the television as a baby-sitter from time to time. She is most likely a liar.) Finally, I curl up in my overstuffed chair to read an assigned chapter in my book - hoping, praying for just thirty minutes before my son, Tommy, decides he needs me desperately.

As I finish the third line of text, there is a crash strong enough to make the floor shake. In the two seconds it had taken me to read three lines, Tommy has managed to pull the television and the VCR out of the entertainment center. This is how the mother of a toddler studies - in 2,3, and 4 second intervals. By the way, some may say my son is a demon because of his mischievous stunt - not true. He has always been mechanically-oriented and merely wanted to see how the television works. Some kids snuggle with stuffed animals at bedtime; my son snuggles with the dust-buster (or whatever appliance happens to be available) when he goes to bed. Go figure.

You might be saying to yourself, "Why does-

n't she just study after he goes to bed or where he takes a nap?" If you are, there is no doubt you are not a parent. After chasing a toddler all morning when he takes a nap, you take a nap. As for studying after he goes to bed - that is so cute. You see, that is when you do everything else you have to do as a mother; wash clothes, pick up toys, clean bathrooms, fix lunches for the next day, and check the photo album to make sure the

man sitting on your sofa is really your husband because, with everything else going on, you have trouble remembering sometimes.

Fortunately, you adapt. I have learned to be creative in working study time into my toddler-filled days. I read assignments in the bathtub while my husband feeds Tommy breakfast. I keep books in the car so that I can read at stop lights and trains. I take my laptop to the doctor's office and the dentist's office. I study terms while I cook dinner or sit with Tommy when he takes his bath. Those 2, 3, and 4 second intervals do add up, and with the help of a very supportive husband, I do get my studying done (most of the time).

Before you start feeling sympathy for me, ponder this: I would not change anything! Raising my son is the best job I have ever had. I learn more from him than I will ever learn in a classroom. Some mothers go to school, raise multiple children, and work outside the home. Please reserve your sympathy and admiration for them. And, the next time you turn to a fellow classmate to complain about having to study for three whole hours, make sure she is not the mother of a toddler - she may send you to your room for a time-out.



RANDI SANSFIELD

Guest Commentator

## Important Notice: Read this column

It came in a plain white envelope, with a bulk mail stamp in the right hand corner. "NOTICE" it trumpeted in large red print. "IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR SERVICE," it continued cryptically.

My service? Which of "my services" they were referring to was not made clear but of course I had to open it. I certainly was not going to miss vital information about my service. This could be a very important service, one that I've come to depend on without even knowing I had it. Maybe they were raising the price of my service. They might be about to cut off my service, and I had only now just found out I had one. Well, darn it I was going to fight this all the way to the top. I wasn't going to lose my service, not without an argument anyway.

In fact, rather than information about my service, it turned out to be an advertisement containing information about their Internet service, which, coincidentally, they wanted to sell me. Ohhhhh. An honest mistake, I'm sure. These sorts of typos happen. After all, they wouldn't intentionally mislead me into opening up their junk mail by making me think the local utility was about to cut off my electricity or something.

It seems I had become yet another victim of the latest and most aggressive strain of bulk mailing, junk mail designed to scare you into reading it. This follows in the proud tradition of "junk mail disguised as official-looking documents" and the ever-popular "junk mail that calls you repeatedly by your first name."

This last is a special favorite of one-cent, CD-of-the-month clubs who apparently feel that the fact that they can read my first name off a mailing list gives them a special insight into my personal taste in music. The CD people are constantly trying to rope me into some kind of special offer from hell that I need a slide rule to figure out. "Buy ONE CD at regular price and get TWO more for 1 cent each for the first year with purchase SEVEN additional CD's at half cost over the next five months, then just buy THREE more CD's for \$5.99 apiece sometime before the next full moon unless the spring equinox falls on a Thursday in which case you can also buy..." Don't worry, there is "no commitment" and I can "cancel anytime."

But worse than the CD club people are the credit card telemarketers who don't allow me to hang up by speed-reading the benefits of "their new annual fee credit card with no down payment and no service charge which will allow me to develop a line of credit which is especially valuable for a college student so if you could just answer a few simple questions which will only take a minute we can start your application immediately."

I hate these people but have to admire their lung capacity. In the end, I suppose we'll just have to get used to this new aggressive breed of salesman. Maybe we can even adopt some of his techniques.

To find out more read next week's column. It contains important information about your service.



DAVID BAUGHER  
Editor-in-Chief

## Remembering those who served

You might have wondered Wednesday why you didn't get any mail, or why you couldn't get into the bank to make a withdrawal - or maybe you didn't even notice.

For those slightly more well-informed folks on campus, it was a day to pause and thank US veterans for their service. That's right, it was Veteran's Day.

A long-standing holiday that was officially renamed by Congress in 1954, Veteran's Day is a holiday that gives America the opportunity to show its appreciation for the sacrifices made by the men and women of the armed forces in times of need, both past and present.

Wednesday evening, local news channels included stories on events honoring veterans around the area, from official ceremonies downtown at the Soldier's Memorial, to elementary students' exhibits honoring family veterans.

Maybe those news reports were the only indication to some that Veteran's Day had taken place. That's unfortunate, because while Memorial Day, more than a day to stay home and barbecue and toss the football around, is a day to honor the war dead, Veteran's Day offers something more: the opportunity to thank those who have served while they are still around.

Don't miss out on that chance. In this generation's time of anti-government protests and sentiment, men and women are still called to serve, and they serve with little thanks from the country they protect.

I won't miss this opportunity. To the members of my family who have given of themselves to keep my freedom intact, I thank you. To my grandfather, buried in Jefferson Barracks with five others who lost their lives in Germany, and whom I'll never know except as a young man in a photograph, I thank you.

To my father who served in the Navy at home and abroad, for which reason I was born in Spain on a military base, I thank you.

To my big brother who missed his little sister's wedding because he was called to serve in the Gulf War, I thank you.

War is ugly. It isn't to be glorified or glamorized. But to those men and women who have served both in peacetime and wartime, we thank you for defending us and ensuring our rights to freedom of expression, even if we don't often choose to use it to express our gratitude.



ASHLEY COOK  
Managing Editor



## SPORTS

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## Off the Wall

## Pro wrestling secrets really no big secret

A few weeks ago after enjoying a few hours in front of the TV, I learn something that will change my life forever, professional wrestling is fake!

I don't think that I would have ever known if it weren't for the great work of those who made the "Secrets of Professional Wrestling Revealed."

Come on, you mean to tell me that Hulk Hogan doesn't really beat people up? Or that even worse, that they don't really hit each other? How can I ever go on?

Seriously I think that is the way NBC and the makers of the show expected fans to respond. They expected most fans to watch the show and be amazed that these men, and a few women, don't really get dropped on their head after each move. They really thought there were millions of interested people who would be influenced by the show - they were drastically wrong.

The show was made to reveal secrets of the wrestling trade that had been handed down through years and years of teaching.

I was amazed that the makers of the show really thought this would blow the roof off of the wrestling world. This isn't quite the same type of subject as their "Secrets of Magic" shows. In the magic shows, there is much made of illusion and trickery. In wrestling, it is "what you see is what you get," and not many death-defying tricks to reveal. That is where the show lacks. For a show that is supposed to break apart the foundation of the sport, it really didn't even cause a crack.

How could anyone not know that the characters could be fake? And the major deal of wrestling being fake, ever hear of anyone getting arrested for assault from these matches? Didn't think so.

I know there may be someone out there whose world this show really changed in some way. It may have really destroyed some people the same way that many respond when they find out that their parents are Santa Claus. That is only a minor part of the real world though.

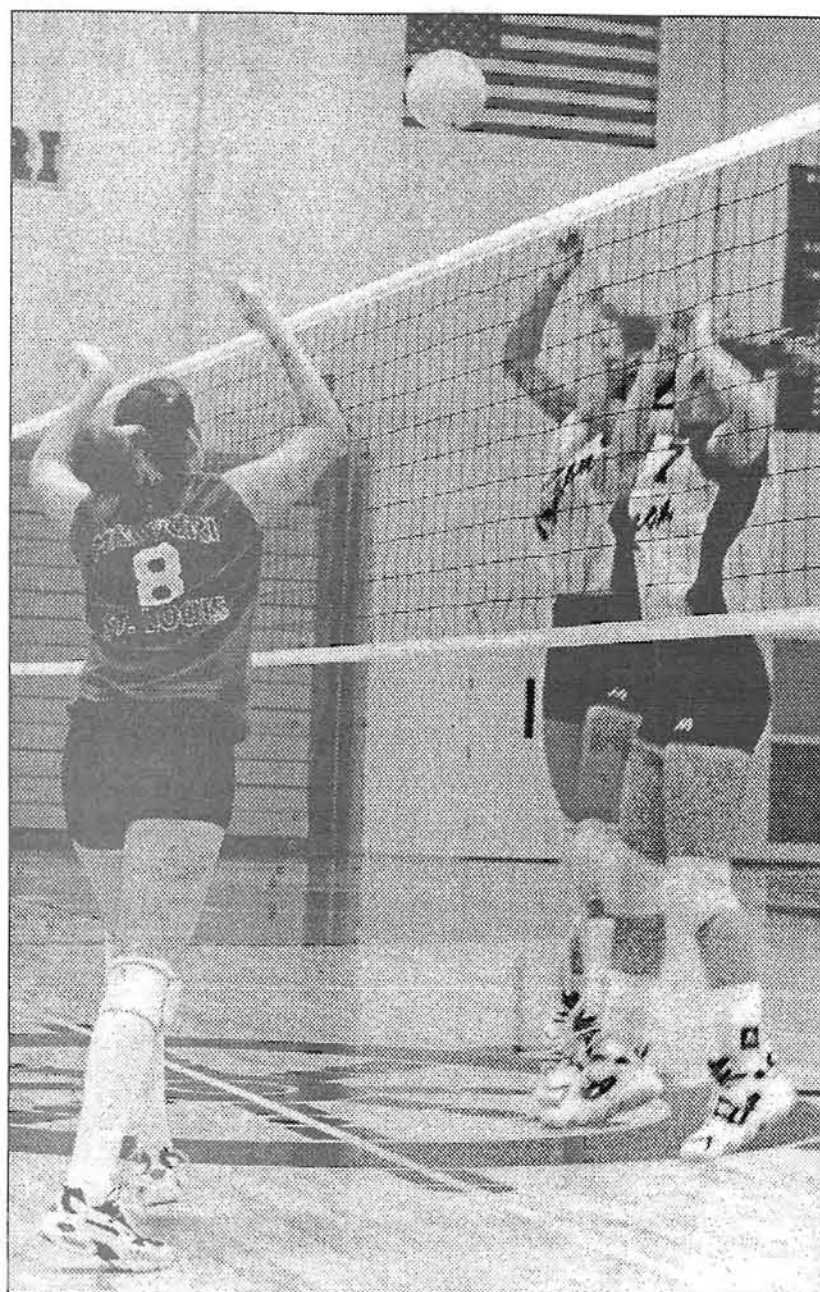
Wrestling is meant to be enjoyed for what it is; a show for men. It is the soap opera and ballet for men, with choreographed moves and enough scandals to make the people on "As the World Turns" blush. The sport has come to new highs and lows and the informed fans realize this and love wrestling even more.

The show didn't blow the foundation of my world, though I did find it mildly interesting. The part about "blading" (where the wrestler cuts his head with a razor blade to cause bleeding) was interesting, if not gruesome. The wrestlers make a small incision to cause profuse bleeding. Weird, but to each their own I guess.

Wrestling will survive this show as it has survived every other scandal and allegation. As they say in acting, the show must go on.



KEN DUNKIN  
sports editor



Stephanie Platt/The Current  
Susan Kleinschnitz (left) slams the ball back to two Truman players in the November 8 game at UM-St. Louis.

## Volleyball wins 1 of 3 as regular season ends

BY JOE HARRIS  
of the Current staff

The Riverwomen volleyball team finished their regular season on a down note dropping two of their final three regular-season matches.

The losses came against Great Lakes Valley Conference rival SIU-Edwardsville and intrastate rival Truman State. The lone win came against Indianapolis.

The Riverwomen finished the regular season with a 16-10 overall record and 9-7 in GLVC play. The loss to SIU-Edwardsville also dropped the Riverwomen to 4th place in the GLVC's Green Division.

The weekend started off well with the win over Indianapolis.

"We blocked well and we served well," Head Coach Denise Silvester said. "By blocking well we eliminated a lot of Indianapolis' offensive chances."

The Riverwomen won the match 11-15, 15-12, 15-9, 15-4.

Michelle Hochstatter, Susan Kleinschnitz, and Nicole Wall led the Riverwomen in kills with 17, 11, and 10 respectively. The Riverwomen also had 21 team blocks.

The next day would not be as kind to the Riverwomen as they fell to SIU-Edwardsville 15-7, 7-15, 15-13, 15-8.

"We served well and passed better," Silvester said. "Even though we lost, I am still pleased with our performance."

Wall led the Riverwomen with 12 kills, Hochstatter and Kleinschnitz each posted a .429

and .348 respectively, and Leslie Armstrong made all of the Riverwomen's 48 assists.

The season ended with a 15-6, 15-8, 15-7 loss to Truman State.

"We never got into a rhythm against Truman State," Silvester said. "We didn't know a lot about them so we never had a good feel in the match."

The Riverwomen had a tough time hitting the ball as they posted 18 team errors for a .122 team hitting percentage.

Defensively, though, the Riverwomen remained tough. Holly Zrout led the team with 18 digs and Kristen Brugnara followed with 14 digs. Zrout also had two solo blocks.

The 4th place finish in the Green Division means that the Riverwomen will face Fort Wayne in the first round of the GLVC tournament. Fort Wayne is the No. 1 seed in the GLVC's Blue Division and is hosting the tournament.

"I think the girls are ready for this match," Silvester said. "It will be a really big challenge facing Fort Wayne on their home floor in the premiere match of the 1st round."

Fort Wayne will benefit from a sizable home-court advantage. Silvester said that they have large and enthusiastic crowds.

Silvester also believes that the pressure will be on Fort Wayne.

"Fort Wayne has a lot riding on this match," Silvester said. "They need to win at least one match in this tournament to move on to the regional tournament, so they have the most to lose."

## Women's b-ball to face tougher conference play

BY JOE HARRIS  
of the Current staff

The Riverwomen basketball team is looking to take another step forward in the '98-'99 season and to improve upon last year's 14-12 overall record.

Getting over .500 last year was the first step in Head Coach Shelly Ethridge's rebuilding plan. This year the expectations are raised.

"We definitely have a better squad, but since we moved to a 22 conference game schedule it may not reflect how much better we are," Ethridge said.

Though the tougher competition may not leave the Riverwomen with an overly-impressive win-loss record, Ethridge believes that the tougher competition will help the team in the long run.

"You don't just want to go get wins and not play very competitive teams," Ethridge said. "You start to get lackadaisical and over-confident and that's when you start losing ballgames."

The Riverwomen have a simple team goal - to get into the conference tournament, preferably in the top four overall.

Attaining this goal will be tough considering the Riverwomen only have four returning lettermen from last year's squad. The four returning lettermen are Melanie Marcy, Krystal Logan, Lindsay Brefeld, and Angela Stewart.

Marcy was the Riverwomen's leading rebounder and shot blocker last year. Logan was close behind Marcy in rebounds and has improved her overall game.

With more consistent shooting from Brefeld and Stewart, the Riverwomen should have a solid nucleus of players familiar with Great Lakes Valley Conference play.

The newcomers should also contribute heavily. Sara Mauck should see considerable time at point guard and when Tawanda Daniel gets into physical condition she will be looking to take the place of Annette Brandy. Brandy was one of the key players from last year's squad. She did not return this season. Ethridge feels though that the team has what it takes to replace the players that left the program.

"I could really go on about every player on the team," Ethridge said. "We have depth at every position, that is one thing we've got compared to last year. We won't lose anything if we go to our bench."

One of the benefits of the team depth is that Ethridge has more height this season.

"I have more size than I've ever had," Ethridge said. "I've always had a problem getting height. This year we have four six-foot forwards."

The Riverwomen also feature the tallest player in the GLVC, 6'4" junior Jennifer Littleton. Littleton, a center, comes from Mineral Area Junior College.

With the added players Ethridge will again put the defensive side to the game first in the team's game plan.

"Defense is definitely what I live by," Ethridge said. "It's not necessarily what we do the best, but it's certainly something we try to take pride in."

## Sports Opinion

## WWF rivalries provide fun for fans

As a child, I used to go to Mass on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. and then rush home in time to sit around for an hour and then watch WWF wrestling at 11:00 a.m.

I thought nothing of it. I saw wrestlers trying to beat each other up and actually thought at one point that it all was real.

Now, I look at the WWF in a new light. People always try to tell me that the WCW is better than the WWF, but I stick with the old and now the new.

Wrestlers like "Stone Cold" Steve Austin and the "Undertaker" are drawing fans throughout the nation. The whole deal with Vince McMahon and his problem with Austin is a wonderful crowd-drawer.

No person who saw Austin destroy McMahon in the hospital would not want to see the end result and that is why wrestling is so popular over the entire country right now. People love to see the enemy or the so-called "bad guy" lose. They come to watch their heroes fight and emerge victorious while the "bad guy" looks like a fool and sulks in his own state of being a loser.

I do not know what it is about the sport of wrestling now, but I love it. I believe now that it is fake, but it is the

entertaining event that I love the most.

The scary music of "Gangrel" or even the exotic looks of "Sabel" would keep any spectator in suspense. "The Rock," the "People's Champ" is fantastic and crowd-appealing with his "People's Elbow" or even his "Rock Bottom."

Even the whole "Kain" and "Undertaker" rivalry has captured my interest. Imagine if you would, two guys who stand at seven ft. and weigh over 300 lbs. trying to fight one another. Now in reality if this happened, someone would get hurt. Wrestling is an act and the people have bought into it.

The Survivor Series was held in St. Louis this past Sunday, and it was sold out for nearly two weeks before the event occurred. Even the lowly St. Louis Rams could not even accomplish that.

Wrestling may have looked real when I was a child, but the actors and their abilities to keep me coming back to find out what happens next is what keeps me lured into the sport of wrestling.

-Dave Kinworthy

## Riverwomen finish season at GLVC Soccer's 7-12 record masks great end-of-season play

BY DAVE KINWORTHY  
staff associate

Although the women's soccer team finished the season with a record of 7-12 overall and 4-6 in conference play, the Riverwomen showed dramatic strides as they finished the season.

Junior Carrie Marino led the Riverwomen this season with 13 goals and five assists. Three of her goals were good enough for game-winners. Jennifer Terbrock added two goals and five assists and Sarah Kalish finished the season with a bang, adding four goals of her own.

The Riverwomen were solid in the nets with Samantha Grashoff playing all 19 games for the Riverwomen. She kept the Riverwomen in every game with the exception of the team's loss at Rockhurst 4-0. Her goals against average was 1.58. Opponents only scored more than two goals off of her only five times. Her grace and presence will be a positive contribution for next year's run.

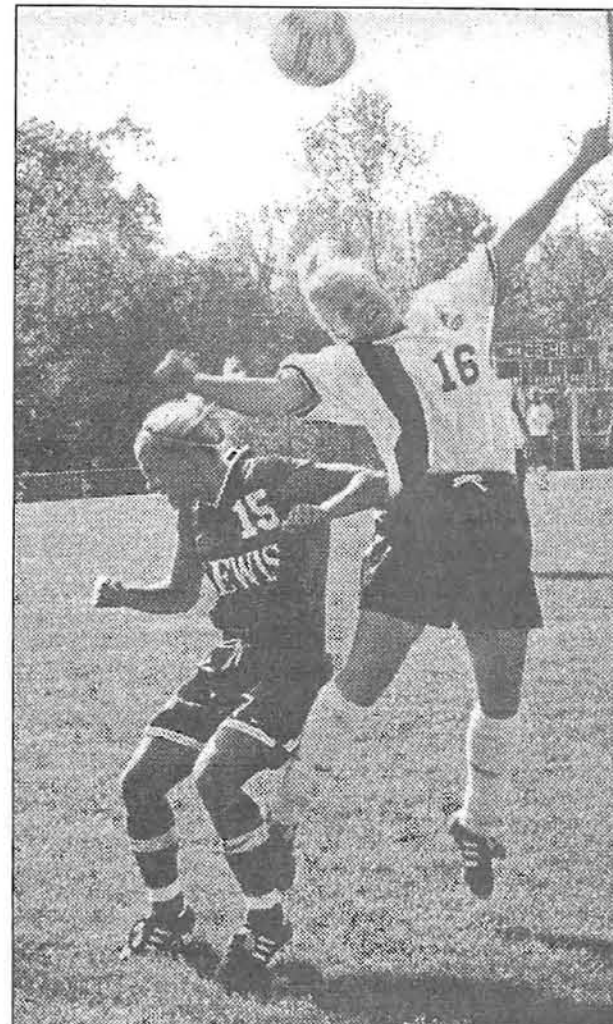
The Riverwomen will only

lose four players from this year's squad.

Those players are Shannon Humphrey, Michelle Hogan, Lynn Lueddecke and Wendy Hollon. Among the four players, they accumulated four points total. These women worked hard to execute the type of system that Head Coach Beth Goetz has been working to implement. They led by example and showed their competitiveness when it came down to crunch time.

"These girls brought experience to the game," Goetz said. "Their effort really showed towards the end [of the season] because they realized they only had a few games left."

The Riverwomen took great strides in making it to the GLVC tournament this year, something that UM-St. Louis fell short in achieving last year. Although they eventually lost to No. 2 seed Southern Indiana 3-1, the Riverwomen are headed in the right direction under the guidance and supervision of Coach Goetz.



Stephanie Platt/The Current

Jennifer Terbrock (right) uses her head in a recent game against Lewis.



**SPECIAL FEATURE**

Amy Lombardo, Features Editor  
Phone 516-5174, Fax 516-6811

**Mercantile and more**

*The oldest library west of the Mississippi is now housed on the UM-St. Louis campus in our very own Thomas Jefferson Library*



**TOP RIGHT:** The West Wind Statue by Thomas R. Gould in 1870. It was a gift to the library.

**TOP LEFT:** A railroad signal from the John W. Barriger III Railroad Collection.

**BOTTOM LEFT:** Library Clerk Elisabeth Baron reshelves books in the rare book vault.

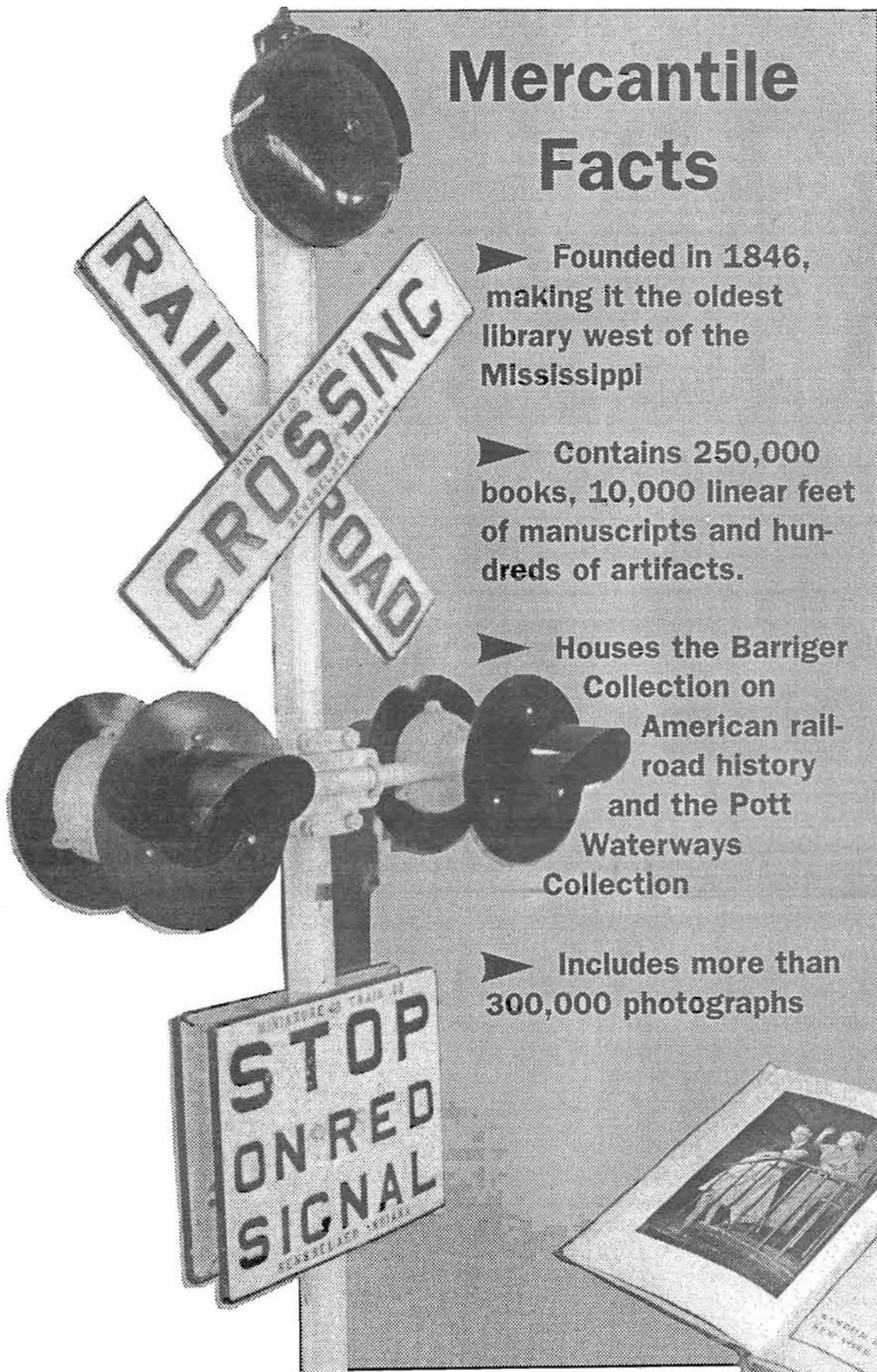
**MIDDLE:** A first edition of *The Glass Menagerie* on display in the Cultural Cornerstone Exhibit on level 1.

**BOTTOM RIGHT:** Reference Librarian Charles E. Brown displays an original photo of an early Cardinals player from the St. Louis Globe-Democrat collection.

Photos  
by  
Stephanie Platt  
of the Current  
staff

**Mercantile Facts**

- ▶ Founded in 1846, making it the oldest library west of the Mississippi
- ▶ Contains 250,000 books, 10,000 linear feet of manuscripts and hundreds of artifacts.
- ▶ Houses the Barriger Collection on American railroad history and the Pott Waterways Collection
- ▶ Includes more than 300,000 photographs



BY ANNE PORTER  
staff associate

The Mercantile Library was located at 510 Locust Street in downtown St. Louis, but because of a decline in usage the library moved to the UM-St. Louis campus. The Mercantile Library is now located directly below the Thomas Jefferson Library on the North Campus.

John N. Hoover, a director at the Mercantile Library, equated the decline to a shift in the way all the art, theater, and cultural centers have consolidated into one area. Many of these cultural centers have been located near colleges and universities in the St. Louis area to allow greater accessibility for the people. One example of this is the Art Museum. According to Hoover the "overall reason was to channel rich research collections."

Many proposals were considered, but UM-St. Louis was the most enthusiastic and showed the most potential for future development with abilities such as Internet access. By moving, the Mercantile has been allowed more room to expand the collections, greater access and security, and the combination of a shared location with the Thomas Jefferson Library.

The growth occurs in two ways: archival and donations in fields and strengths. Hoover said, "donations—many things [from] the greatest collections come that way." He described this in more detail by adding that donations allow "greater definition of subject strengths."

Hoover has also met with many faculty and staff members and has discovered that there is an interest to develop some of the lesser collections. The "interest of faculty and students" is reason enough to grow for the future. Two professorships have been created through the Mercantile Library in addition to the amount of endowment.

In order to provide students and faculty with a place to study, the Mercantile has matched the hours of the general library and may in the future possibly look at adding student staff to help the library users.

One of the most interesting areas of the Mercantile Library is the rare book reading room. One book that can be located there is the *New England Primer* that was printed in Worcester, Mass. It is one of the oldest textbooks printed in America. The first textbook with arithmetic, west of the Mississippi, was printed in 1820 in St. Louis, and this book can also be located in the rare book reading room.

In addition to very old books, the Mercantile also has general sections of circulation including an in-depth collection of New York best-sellers. According to Hoover there is a "very [old] tradition with older books as well" as new.

Some of those older documents are included in the Wayman collection which is compiled of early St. Louis City documents from maps to memorabilia from the 1904 World's Fair. This type of collection is just a part of one of the main themes of the collection which is travel and Western Americana artifacts that focus on the development and depth of this region. Many early American periodicals and early 19th-century American poetry are also included in this theme.

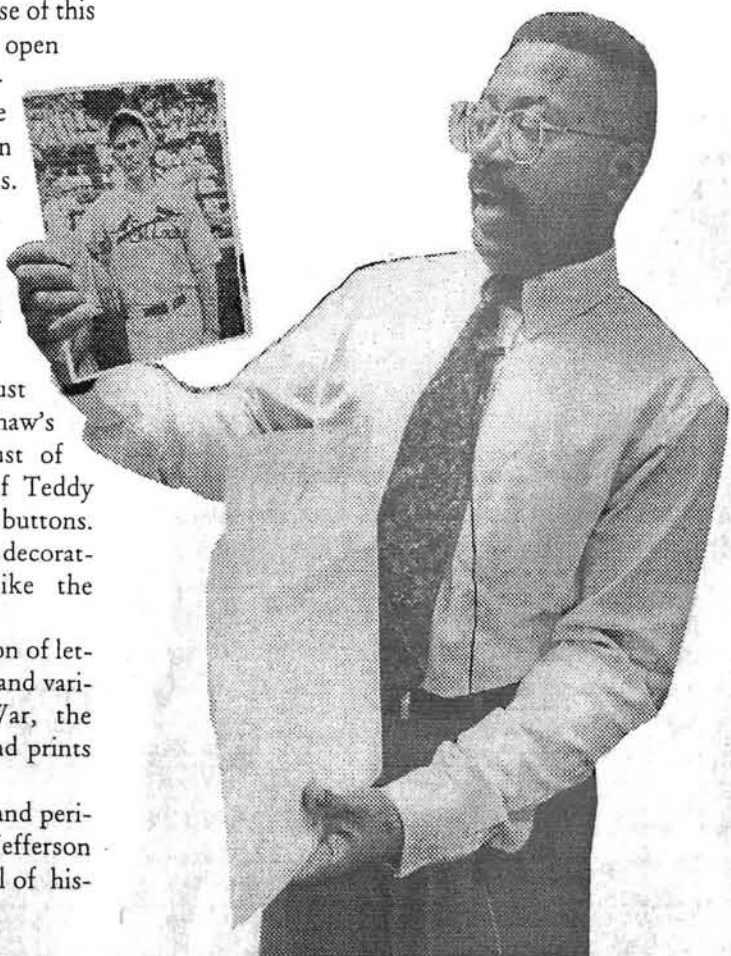
Charles E. Brown, a reference librarian at the Mercantile, invites "the community to come and use the facilities to [their] heart's content." The Mercantile is the oldest library west of Mississippi and because of this they do have quite a massive collection of open stacks. These open stacks are much more accessible to the general public. Ironically, the Mercantile collection is more widely known about by people from cities other than St. Louis.

This same collection was looked at by U.S. Grant and Will T. Sherman many years ago, who also attended the Mercantile. Sherman's descendent even donated some his books and artifacts to the collections.

The Mercantile includes in its collection a bust of Henry Shaw, who was the creator of Shaw's Garden. The collection also possesses a bust of George Washington and a large selection of Teddy Roosevelt artifacts from his books to campaign buttons. James Audubon has some of his famous works decorating the Mercantile with some works like the "Quadrupeds of North America."

From the Civil War era, they have a collection of letters written by a soldier, called Robin's Paper, and various maps as well. From the Mexican War, the Mercantile has many woodcuts, engravings, and prints that depict the action of the war.

If interested in viewing any of the artwork and periodicals described above, just go to the Thomas Jefferson Library and go down one level. It is a great deal of history that is close and intriguing to see.





# UM-St. Louis loses bid for state representative seat

BY SUE BRITT  
staff associate

UM-St. Louis graduate, Chris Kuban, 24, lost his bid for state representative for the 99th District in South St. Louis County on Nov. 3.

Kuban was defeated by incumbent Republican candidate Catherine Enz by about 2,000 votes, a 60-40 split. Kuban said it was the closest race between an incumbent and a challenger in South County.

"Out of all the other challengers," Kuban said, "I had come up with the most votes."

Before Kuban came back to St. Louis to finish his degree in communications he worked for the governor in Jefferson City, first as an assistant scheduler then as a constituent liaison.

"[The title, constituent liaison is] just a fancy title that means that I got to handle the questions and calls from [the citizens of Missouri]," Kuban said. "When people called the governor's office for any reason, I was expected to get them answers, anything that had to do with state government."

In October 1997, Kuban began running for the state representative seat while attending UM-St. Louis and working for Missouri Foundation for Fair Contracting. In August of this year, upon his graduation, he took a leave of absence from his job to begin his campaign full time.

Both candidates seemed surprised by the level of hostility and each reported the other had engaged in negative campaigning.

"This got to be a very nasty campaign on both sides," Kuban said, "She said I support partial-birth abortion. And I don't. She said I support state-funded abortion. And I don't."

Kuban said that Enz referred to him as, "the young Kuban," and complained that he was living in his parent's home while running for office.

"This was a blatant case of trying to use someone's age against them," Kuban said.

Enz said that Kuban resorted to the use of "tabloid journalism."

"I was surprised at some of his tactics," Enz said, "because

he's educated, or whatever."

Enz refused to comment on any the specifics of the campaign.

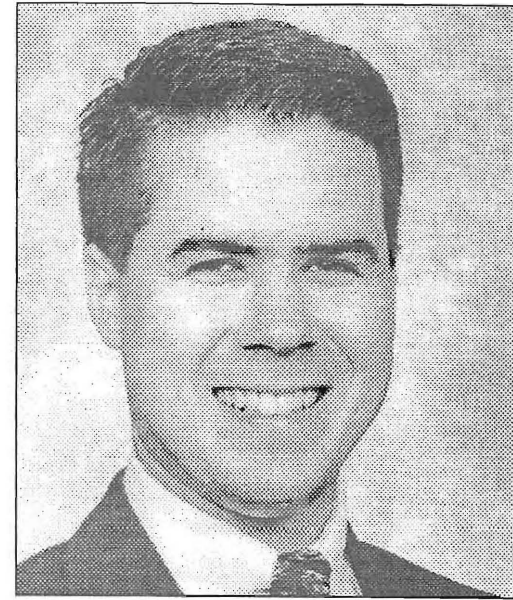
"The election is over," Enz said, "The voters have spoken."

Kuban said that the brochures he sent out in South County were not tabloid journalism but tabloid-style brochures. He said that the term is used to describe the way the brochures are folded and that the brochures addressed the issues, Enz's record and contained a letter and bio from Kuban.

"It was a tabloid style. It wasn't tabloid journalism," Kuban said. "That [type of brochure] is just what the political realm calls tabloid-style."

Kuban said that the campaign was an incredible learning experience for him and that he honestly doesn't know what he will do next. He is considering starting his own communications firm but is still undecided.

"It was an interesting campaign and I'm glad it's over," Kuban said, "and now it's time to get on with real life."



Kuban

## HUNGER, FROM PAGE 1

This inequality is demonstrated at the Hunger Banquet, where 15 percent of the guests will be served as so-called "First World," 25 percent as so-called "Second World," and 60 percent as Third World.

"People will receive food as the world distribution of food is," Chitwood said. "Fifteen percent receive a full meal, 25 percent receive beans and rice and 60 percent will receive rice and will sit on the floor

and will eat it off a piece of paper that resembles a leaf because that's how 60 percent of the people get their daily food."

Students can make donations in the Underground at the cashier's with cash or, for those in dorms, from their meal plan with their student number. Also at the Underground, the "Soup Line" will serve homemade soup and a roll or "soupbowl" for \$2 on Tuesday and Wednesday.

## TOUHILL, FROM PAGE 1

John B. Hylton, Music Department chairperson, supported the chancellor's statement that there was sufficient programming from his department to fill the new venue, saying that in fact her estimates were low.

"We are already doing from 30, 40, to 50 musical events a semester; several this week," Hylton said. "I have to say I haven't seen many of you at those events, but we do them, and many are rather well-attended. Some are not, but we don't have a decent performance space on this campus, so why would you come?"

William Richardson, director of bands, said that bands were having difficulty due to lack of adequate performance space.

"We have to do something with the band because the band is too large to fit in any existing space on campus that would not either cause some kind of physical damage to our ears or cause tremendous pains for the people that are surrounding us," Richardson said. "We retain the notion that the bands... are among some of the best-kept secrets that the University has to offer."

Mark Madsen, director of vocal studies, told the council that his students would be putting on a production of "Man of La Mancha" in the

J.C. Penney auditorium, despite problems the space presented, such as no orchestral pit, one small dressing room, no backstage area, and inadequate lighting.

"We're going to do this anyway, because we've got the students to do it... the students do very fine things," Madsen said. "I know that very few of you are aware of that because we don't ever see you at performances."

Don Parker, director of the Percussion and Jazz Ensemble, said that this University needed a large, well-known venue in order to increase this campus' attraction of students.

"[Students] look at facilities and they say 'I want to be there, I'd like a chance to perform in that facility, I'd like the chance to be a part of that,'" Parker said. "I remind people of that because sometimes we forget why we are here - it's a public institution. We need to be able to attract students to this campus, not only students in the surrounding area, but also that mixture of students, hopefully international students."

The chancellor said that she felt that the center would be for all the students, providing an important part of their education.

"Performing arts and culture and communications; that's part of one's

education," Touhill said.

Touhill said that in the future the athletics program would be built up to increase the draw of students to this campus, but that "under her watch" the change would be to work on music, theater, art, and communications.

Touhill said that she wasn't looking to simply meet the short-term needs for space, but that she was looking to the future.

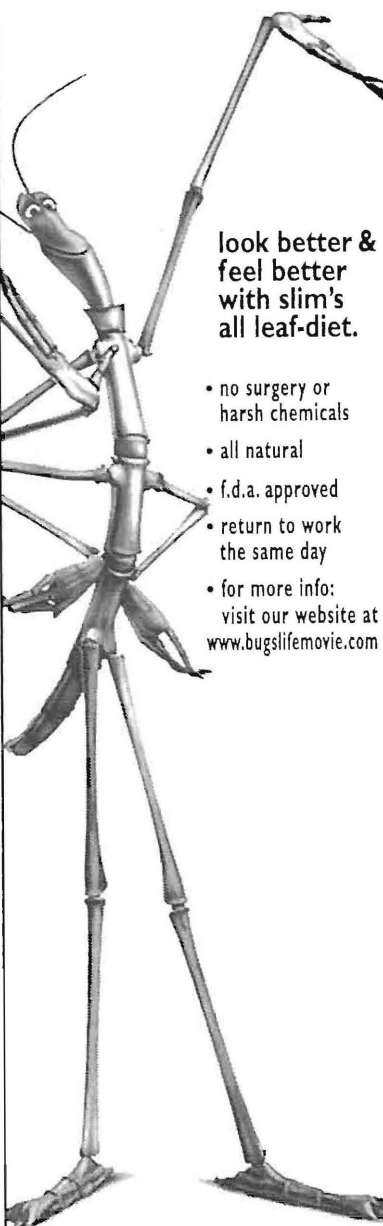
"I'm giving you a vision of a building that our students can come to that they can listen to lectures, they can listen to music, watch a play, and they can listen to the symphony," Touhill said.

### Correction

In Issue 936, the date for Ciaran Carson's Nov. 17 poetry reading was listed incorrectly in the Bulletin Board.

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Movie Review

# Tired stereotypes ruin promising 'Shadrach'

**Shadrach**  
**Opened Nov. 6 at Plaza Frontenac;**  
**Running time: 98 min**

Based on a short story by William Styron, *Shadrach* is directed by Susanna Styron from a screenplay that she co-wrote. The story sounded like a thoughtful drama about prejudice, family and humanity.

The story is told through the eyes of 10-year-old Paul, whose pleasant but lonely life as the well-dressed, well-behaved only child of a respectable upper-middle class couple in the 1930s South is darkened by his mother's illness.

Paul frequently visits the Dabneys, a large poor family, descendants of pre-Civil War plantation owners, who live a life of messy, rural poverty that seems to fascinate Paul. In fact, the Dabneys are the embodiment of every political-ly-incorrec t joke about the stereotypical hillbil-

ly family. Inhabiting a rundown shack with a yard full of trash and farm animals, slovenly earthy Mom (Andie McDowell) languidly drinks beer after beer, tossing the empties away as she calls to one of her children to bring her another. Dad (Harvey Keitel), a moonshiner by trade (what else would he be?), punctuates all his speech with strings of foul language which seem to have nothing to do with what he's saying. The offspring are characters in this same vein. The effect is crude and comic.

Into this morass enters the dignified Shadrach, a 99-year-old former slave, who has come with the request that he be buried on the Dabney's plantation, where he was born. The old man is gentle, feeble, and childlike, with a supreme confidence that his request will be granted, especially after he asserts that he's a Dabney, too.

What happens after this requires a great suspension of disbelief. The Dabneys remain cartoonish stereotypes, but the story is told without much discernible comedy or charm. The behavior of the Dabneys and Paul's parents seem unrealistic for this time and place, and no explanation is given for their surprising actions.

Amazingly, Paul's parents decide to leave him in the Dabneys' care while they attend to some out-of-town family business, commenting only that the Dabneys "have fallen on hard times."

Clearly, there was a kernel of a good story in this film, and there are even some appealing scenes centering on Shadrach, but the film is squashed in large part by the insistence on these stereotypical characters and by its lack of believability.

-Catherine Marquis-Homeyer

Music Review

# Lynyrd Skynyrd is a welcome blast from music's past

**Lynyrd Skynyrd**  
**Skynyrd's First**  
**Rock-MCA Records**

It would be a major understatement to say that Lynyrd Skynyrd played a role in '70's music. To many they were one of the top bands of their era.

On the recently-rereleased debut album Skynyrd fans can hear what made them one of the top groups for well over a decade.

This isn't one of those rereleased to make a quick buck discs, far from it. There are six never-released songs and several early recordings of the group's greatest hits including "Freebird."

All the songs were recorded in 1971 two years before the group's first major label release. Though very raw on some tracks, their future greatness shines throughout most tracks.

All the great ones are here and in their original forms. "Simple Man" sounds different but still has the jumpy but sad beat. "Freebird" has an extended acoustic guitar intro yet it stays perfect in the song's eerie way.

Skynyrd's time may be long past but with a rerelease of some of their best it just shows that the best really do live forever.

-Ken Dunkin

Music Review

# Same formula gives Son Volt another hit

**Son Volt**  
**Wide Swing Tremolo**  
**Warner Bros.**

Son Volt's latest release follows the old rule of "if it ain't broke, don't fix it." Although some of the tracks on *Wide Swing Tremolo* hint at a slight departure in the band's sound, the remaining songs stick closely to the same formula that brought the group wide critical acclaim on their first two releases, *Trace* and *Straightaways*.

The sole songwriter for the band, vocalist/guitarist Jay Farrar, has for the most part kept intact

the hybrid of rock/country/folk melodies that characterize Son Volt's music. This time around, however, Farrar has toned down the country music influence featured so prominently in the band's previous projects in favor of a more up-tempo, garage-rock sound. Tracks such as "Straightface," "Driving the View" and "Question" highlight this edgier new aspect, sounding reminiscent of some of R.E.M.'s earliest work.

The rest of the tracks remain truer to form for Son Volt. The melodies are a little mellower, and

the instrumentation is more intricate, with Farrar and cohorts Jim and Dave Boquist throwing in liberal doses of lap and steel guitars, dulcimers and fiddles. The results are blues- and folk-laden songs such as "Medicine Hat" and "Right on Through."

*Wide Swing Tremolo*, with its variety of tempos and styles, isn't easy to classify. It is, however, a deft blend of musical influences that shows off Son Volt's ability to evolve without losing its best qualities.

-Mary Lindsley

## MEETING, FROM PAGE 1

of the School of Nursing and Seton Hall to get to the Children's Center.

Roeseler said that the change, which added 75 parking spaces to South Campus, was planned the best way he could to please the greatest amount of people.

"It is an additional burden to drive around, I realize that," Roeseler said. "I hope it's something that you can accept that gives us a little more parking space."

Parents were concerned because there had been incidents of near head-on collisions from drivers going the wrong way.

Roeseler said that approximately 50 tickets had

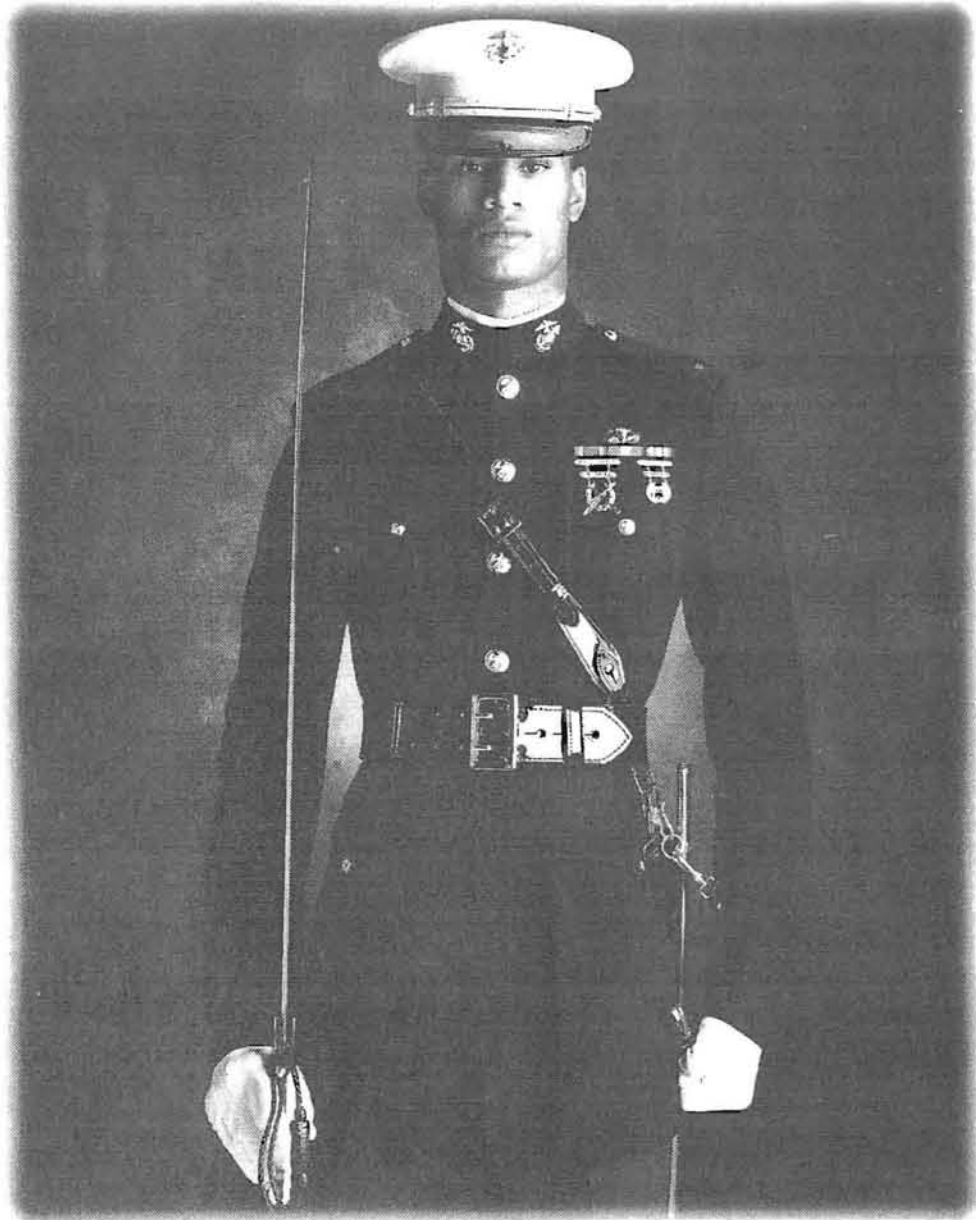
been written for wrong-way drivers.

One parent felt that the one-way drive was well worth it to avoid the previous hazard of high-speed, two-way traffic, but others suggested Roeseler create a loop around lot X by the Ward E. Barnes Education Library that would allow students and parents to access that area safely and quickly, avoiding the long drive around.

Roeseler said that several of the solutions offered were good, and that he knew the present situation was an inconvenience.

"We're trying to create parking solutions that are safe and consider as many people as possible," Roeseler said.

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Movie Review

# 'Life is Beautiful' is well worth the subtitles



Roberto Benigni (left) and Giorgio Cantarini in "Life is Beautiful (La Vita e Bella.)"

**Life is Beautiful**  
(Italian with English subtitles)  
Not rated  
Running Time: 2:12

The Italian work *Life is Beautiful* is the film that will win the Oscar Award for best foreign film.

It has been a long time since anything so moving, so well written, and so powerful has been shown in a movie theater. It is by far the best film of the year. It is worth standing in long lines. It is worth paying full price. It is even worth suffering through subtitles.

The film tells the story of an Italian Jew, Guido (Roberto Benigni), and his method of survival during one of man's bleakest periods, the Holocaust. Yet, this is not a depressing documentary. Nor is it disrespectful to those that survived the hideous conditions in the concentration camps. It is rather a story about a desire to live not only for yourself but also for the ones you love most.

The beginning of the movie is quite different from the second half. It is light and humorous. It follows Guido to the Tuscan town of Arezzo where he attempts to open a bookshop. In the meantime he works as a waiter for his uncle. On the way into town he meets his "princessa" Dora (Nicoletta Braschi). He wins her over with his clever stunts and charming words. The humor is so well-written and acted, it is impossible to do it justice by summarizing it.

Benigni is very similar to Charlie Chaplin. He is a

clown with a soft heart that is capable of stealing the audience's. He steals Dora away from her fascist fiance at their engagement party. He rides in on a white horse that was vandalized by anti-Semitic hoodlums. It is a subtle foreshadow of the events to come as Guido and Dora ride off into the distance.

The film then jumps five years into the future. Guido and Dora are now married and have a son Giosue. Their son is like any other little boy. The thing he wants most in life is a real tank.

On Giosue's fifth birthday, the Nazis come to take Guido, his uncle, and Giosue to the concentration camp. Dora hurriedly follows them to the train station to demand that she be allowed to get on the train bound for the concentration camp. Dora, who is not Jewish, feels that it is better to die with her family than live without them.

Giosue is too young to know the horrors of war and his father tries to prevent him from ever finding them out. He tells his young son that it is all a game. It is the same game that his father made him play when he was five years old. The goal is to be the first to earn 1000 points. The winner gets a real tank. Guido is able to turn the life-saving act of avoiding the Nazis into a game of hide and seek. Every little action becomes a

game. Guido is able to continue to survive the torture of the concentration camp and keep his spirits up because of his desire to save his son.

The most touching parts of the concentration camp scenes are the little ways Guido is able to communicate with Dora and tell her that he and Giosue are still alive. From the camp, Guido is still able to tell her that he loves her.

The film is powerful. It is more than just a film about survivors. It is a film about humanity. It successfully proves that even in the darkest of situations, humor and beauty can survive. But most importantly, it proves that life is beautiful.

-Stephanie M. Platt

Theater Review

# 'Lord' can't compete with 'Riverdance'

**"Riverdance"**

Haunting a cappella singing, fiddle playing, flamenco dancing, Russian folk ballet, pirouettes, leaps, switch kicks and Irish dance were all part of the "Riverdance" stage show performed through Nov. 15 at The Fox theatre. The show is known for the Irish Dance Troupe's full-stage, fast-paced scenes of dancers doing traditional routines, but the show is also a wonderfully developed professional production that holds the viewer's interest with artistic variations of scenes and music.

I expected this show to be a lot like Michael Flatley's "Lord of the Dance" that I saw recently on PBS television. (Flatley choreographed the "Riverdance" main Irish dance numbers before starting his own show.) But the music is so rich and the numbers are so varied that "Riverdance" is much more inviting and interesting.

The show includes 13 scenes, and is loosely plotted around the dramatic story of Ireland as homeland, with many of its people moving away in a struggle to survive. But the story is depicted in such an uplifting way. "In dance and song we gift our children" chants the narrator. "We will not go down. We will not be beaten down like grain" are daunting words in the "Thunderstorm" scene. They find a new world, with new people and new ways, depicted in the fun scene "Trading Taps" where three American Jazz and tap dancers

alternately compete in a street dance with three Irish traditional dancers. They mimic each other, and the audience laughs and loves it. It is pure city soul and jazz vs. old world dance, and both the audience and the dancers seem to enjoy the juxtaposition.

The show begins with a circle as a backdrop, a medieval atmosphere celebrating the coming of the sun and the saving of the harvest. It continues through dance and song, sometimes with a spiritual effect—long velvety dresses, candles, an a cappella voice that rings clear as a bell with the sound of a musical instrument. It is sometimes poetic, and often full of action and drama.

The music varies from Charlie Daniels' style fiddle-playing to a Kenny G-sounding, plaintive soprano sax to powerful and loud marching-style drumming. The orchestra, situated at one side of the stage, plays instruments such as the gadulka, bodhran, darabukkka, dunbeg and ouda.

The "Riverdance" show currently has three companies performing throughout the world. Tour dates are given on their website at [www.riverdance.com](http://www.riverdance.com).

"Riverdance" was presented by Dance St. Louis, which is also presenting "Christmas at the Fox" with "Nutteracker" December 10-13 and "A Dickens' Christmas Carol"

December 17-20. Dance St. Louis can be reached at 534-6622 for more information about upcoming performances.

-Pam White

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The City of Ferguson's Parks and Recreation Department offers the following holiday events:

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Saturday, Dec 5<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at January Wabash Park

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The City of Ferguson invites you and your family to celebrate the Holiday Seasons in Ferguson.

On Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. downtown Ferguson will sparkle with Holiday Lights, illuminating the way for a delightful Christmas Parade. With Santa as Grand Marshall the parade will conclude with a tree lighting ceremony and carolers. Refreshments and entertainment will follow at the Savoy Banquet Center. So consider Ferguson this year to start off your Holiday cheer.

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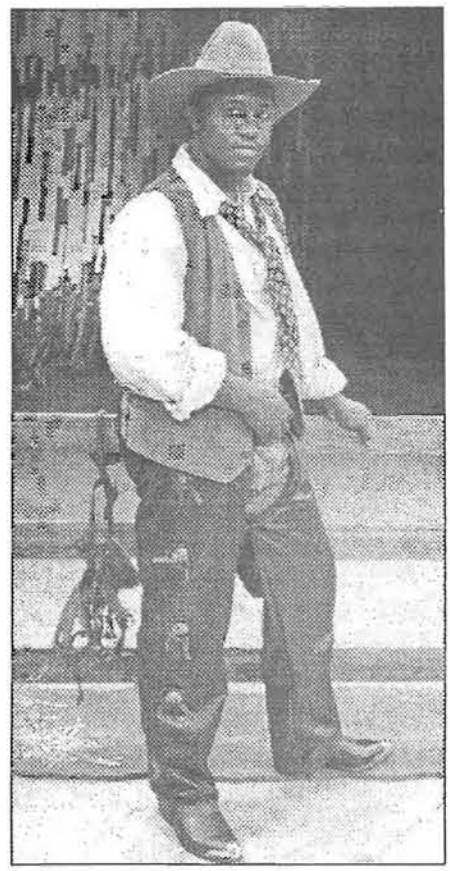
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Student Profile

# UM-St. Louis student participates in 'Opera for Youth'



Robert McNichols

BY AMY LOMBARDO  
staff editor

Every year the Opera Theatre of St. Louis puts together an Opera for Young People at the Center of Contemporary Arts (COCA). This year, one UM-St. Louis junior was able to be a part of it.

St. Louis native Robert McNichols began playing the cello nine years ago, the summer before he started the sixth grade. At Normandy High School, he picked up the electric bass guitar. He also acquired a third instrument, the piano, which he plays at the First Congregational Church. He has played for the St. Louis Youth Symphony Orchestra and the Missouri All-State Orchestra.

But it wasn't his instrumental talent that landed him a role in this year's production at COCA. It was his singing ability. This would not surprise most people who have met McNichols. It's almost impossible not to notice his deep, distinctive voice the minute he begins to speak.

"It's a big thing, a big break for me," McNichols said. "I'm only 20 years old and singing in the lead role in an opera with the Opera [Theatre] of St. Louis."

The opera "Joshua's Boots" was the fifth

opera commissioned for young people. Allison Felter, the director of education at Opera Theatre of St. Louis, says that material geared towards children is rare.

"[There is] not a lot of work that is written with young people in mind, so we find ourselves commissioning new works," Felter said.

The entire event is treated as it would be in a professional situation. Everything is built specifically for that particular show from the ground up. The children are paid and provided with stage and music direction, lighting, sets and costumes.

"I like to do these types of productions because it allows young people to have the opportunity to step into the shoes of a professional," Felter said. "As a result, we have high standards for them as well."

"Joshua's Boots" takes place 15 years after the end of the Civil War. Joshua, played by McNichols, is a young man forced to flee from his home in Tennessee to

Kansas.

"I have to leave...to find a life for myself, which turns out to be the life of a cowboy, thus, 'Joshua's Boots,'" McNichols explains.

The production is set up as a test-run for school audiences.

"Based on what we learned this fall, we'll make a few adjustments and present it to the general public," Felter said.

Although McNichols misses performing, he's getting along working at his church as the minister of music and as a desk clerk for the UM-St. Louis Residential Life Office. He is

also working hard on his major, vocal and instrumental education and performance.

McNichols does have one problem, though. He would like to know how he performed. He hasn't been able to listen to or watch any recordings of the production.

"What you sound like on the inside and what you actually sound like on the outside are two totally different things, and that's scary because I don't have a clue," McNichols said. "On the inside of my head I hear that I'm singing the right pitches, and that's it!"

## Simple lifestyle changes can prevent stress-related illnesses in students

BY COURTNEY IRWIN  
special to the Current

With the fall semester drawing to a close, college students are more likely to suffer from stress-related illness in greater numbers. This is due in large part to hectic school schedules and outside activities. In order to combat such ailments and keep one's health in balance, the UM-St. Louis Health Services is offering tips for students to stay well and survive final exam week.

University Health Services Administrator Nancy Magnuson, described how higher levels of anxiety affect student's health. "When you're under more stress than usual, it takes its toll on your body. The actual illness might not appear right away but it eventually catches up with you."

Magnuson also said that freshman are more likely to succumb to illness because of the adjustment to a new environment. "Coming to college is a total change and freshman aren't necessarily used to their new freedoms. They're still trying to establish a routine and don't

always take care of themselves properly," she said.

Many UM-St. Louis students complaining of illnesses are suffering from respiratory, ear, nose, and throat infections. Magnuson suggests that students make lifestyle changes to prepare their bodies for oncoming stresses.

Simple tasks such as avoiding caffeine, walking outside for ten minutes, and taking short naps are just a few ways to reduce one's chances of becoming sick. Magnuson even encourages students to engage in diversion tactics like coloring, blowing bubbles, or playing with koosh balls.

"Taking a break from your responsibilities and having fun is a good way to relieve tension," she said.

Health Services is offering detailed lists on how to deal with ongoing stresses. Counseling is always available for those who are feeling extremely overwhelmed. Magnuson emphasized that people should take preliminary steps when dealing with stress so that it will not have negative effects on their bodies.



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**Misc.**  
 "Caedmon's Call" in concert Sat. Nov. 21 at FBC Ferguson at 7:00. Call 524-1986 or e-mail concertinfo@juno.com, \$10 in advance, \$12 day of show.

**Northwest County YMCA** has part-time positions available for lifeguards and swim instructors. Must be mature, reliable and enjoy working with people. Lifeguards must have current certifications. NW County YMCA is located at 9116 Lackland Rd. or call 428-0840.

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**Budget Preparation Workshops for 1999-2000 Budget Requests**

Budget preparation workshops for student organizations are scheduled for November 6th thru 20th.

A recognized student organization must have a representative attend one of these workshops.

Attendance will be taken at workshops. Organizations that don't attend will not be eligible for funding. Budget applications will be distributed and committee's criteria will be discussed.

Mon., November 16	12:30 pm - 2:30 pm	Oak Room
Tues., November 17	2:30 pm - 4:30 pm	Cypress Room
Wed., November 18	5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Cypress Room
Thur., November 19	10:00 am - 12:00 noon	JC Penney 75
Fri., November 20	9:00 am - 11:00 am	Cypress Room



Movie Review

# 'I Still Know' retains charm of the original

**I Still Know What You Did Last Summer**  
**Rated: R**  
**Running Time: 96 minutes**

For those of you who are fans of the hit movie *Scream*, you are aware of "The Rules" that were established and define the reasoning behind what happens in horror movies. *Scream 2* told us that sequels are never as good as the original. *I Still Know What You Did Last Summer* does an excellent job of proving this point.

Julie James (Jennifer Love Hewitt) returns in *I Still Know What You Did Last Summer* now as a college student still tormented by what had happened to her and her friends two summers ago. Julie is struggling to get on with her life but her dreams refuse to subside. Fate allows her the chance to relax when she and her newfound friends from college win a trip to the Bahamas. However, they come to realize the killer Ben Willis (Muse Watson) is on the island. This makes their vacation anything but relaxing.

*I Still Know What You Did Last Summer* offers the same predictability that its predecessor *I Know What You Did Last Summer* did. The way the writer plays with your mind by leading you to believe every character in the movie could have been the killer except the killer him/herself is always a pleasant aspect of the movie. It was well-acted, well-written, and I was just overall pleased with the movie. If you liked the original, then you'll enjoy *I Still Know What You Did Last Summer*.

-Thomas Wombacher



Jennifer Love Hewitt (left) and Brandy in *I Still Know What You Did Last Summer*.

# Spring Break schedule wrong in student guide

BY KEVIN BUCKLEY  
of the Current staff

The dates for this year's Spring Break are printed incorrectly in the Student Guide and Academic Planner.

"The schedule for spring break that was published in this current year's calendar is actually the schedule for last year," said Karl Beeler, associate vice-chancellor for Student Affairs.

Beeler is hoping for a "public service announcement" that would, "let

the students and staff know that if they have been using the student guide to plan their vacations or breaks that they have an opportunity to correct it."

The corrections are as follows: Spring Recess 1999 officially begins at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 20 and classes resume again at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, March 29.

Beeler is assured that no similar problems will arise because this misprint is, "the only date that is incorrect."

SPRING BREAK SCHEDULE	
Classes end:	Classes begin:
Saturday	Monday
March 20	March 29
3 PM	8 AM

# Post-Dispatch investigative reporter speaks to UM-St. Louis students

BY SUE BRITT  
staff associate

Invited to a media forum Wednesday, were two St. Louis Post-Dispatch reporters and news directors from KMOX and Channel 5. Only investigative reporter of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Carolyn Tuft, made it to the forum. Despite this setback Stephen Caliendo, associate professor of political science at UM-St. Louis was pleased with the results. He said that interesting commentary was made regarding the state of the media today.

"Let me start by reminding my class and telling the visitors how this whole thing came about," Caliendo began, "how the idea [was] to have local media folks come in here and talk to us."

Caliendo explained how, in class discussions, the question was posed that if the polls were showing the public was tired of hearing about Monica Lewinsky and the media decide what to print based on what people are interested in reading then why were we, "bombarded with these Lewinsky stories."

## Journalist talks about Lewinsky coverage, laments decline of public trust

Caliendo asked Tuft her opinions as to why, after the media covered Watergate, press popularity was high and now, after Lewinsky, it was low.

In regard to the comparison of attitudes of people toward the press changing from a high approval of the times after Watergate to the very low approval rating now Tuft agreed there were real differences between the Lewinsky matter and Watergate and that that may have had some effect that contributed to the decline in approval of the media.

"Watergate was a complicated story. It was a story of crime. It was a story of a break-in. It was a story of deception. There were real crimes involved," Tuft said, "Lewinsky is an easy story. Sort of tabloid type . . . I think the public views the Washington media as a pack of reporters that run with, and around, almost interviewing each other."

Tuft said the use of unnamed sources may contribute to the decline of the public trust in the media.

"There have been questions, even in my mind of who these unnamed sources are," Tuft said. "The Washington Post's reporter, saying unnamed source, and he has an unnamed source, but it's actually a reporter from The New York Times."

Tuft said the Boston Globe columnist controver-

sies involving alleged fabrications were also a contributing factor to the decline of approval and trust of the public regarding the press.

"As an investigative reporter it breaks my heart," Tuft said, "because I can't get to every investigation that I really want to get to because there are so many stories out there. Why would you want to make one up?"

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## manny's horoscope november

- scorpio: (Hick)** stress independence, originality. don't follow the colony. brave action produces big payoff. virgo figures prominently in love/life.
- sagittarius: (rosie)** your sixth sense is trying to tell you something. wear your web to catch a new mate. avoid "love 'em and eat 'em" attitude that has failed you in the past.
- capricorn: (queen)** you are queen of the hill. make sure you are for direction. avoid flirtation. one mistake and you've got two million more mouths to feed.
- aquarius: (treffy)** the future is bright. popularity continues, but you don't always have to be the center of attention. turn your butt off occasionally and let someone else shine.
- pisces: (slim)** stand tall, stick to your guns. highlight versatility and branch out. your big break is just around the bend.
- aries: (heimlich)** a huge transformation awaits you. don't rush it. time will dictate metamorphosis, when opportunity arises. spread your wings and soar.
- taurus: (princess dot)** others may call you a pest. but don't give up. big things come in small packages. keep the faith. and you'll earn your wings.
- gemini: (hopper)** enemies will be bugging you this month. keep appetite and aggression in check. overeating will come back to haunt you like the plague.
- cancer: (tuck & roll)** don't go into a shell. focus on performance. comedy roll with the punches.
- leo: (manny)** you may be green, but you are wise beyond your years. your arc casts a spell on everyone around you.
- virgo: (princess atts)** you are a true trailblazer. this is a crucial time for you. stand up and pull your weight. x 10. scorpio makes a play. keep him guessing.
- libra: (francis)** remember beauty is only shall-deep. misunderstanding creates embarrassment in love life. spot the trouble before it's too late.



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