

The Current

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2008

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GLVC UPDATE

Triton softball qualifies for GLVC tournament

The UM-St. Louis softball team gained the No. 7 seed in the Great Lakes Valley Conference tournament for the first time since 2005. The Tritons now stand at 24-24 on the season, including 13-13 in the league. The Tritons will face No. 2 seed SIUE (41-9) on Thursday, May 1 at noon.

INSIDE



India Night graces the Pilot House

The Indian Student Association hosted a night of festivities, food and fun.

See FEATURES, page 6

Jackie Chan and Jet Li face off in 'The Forbidden Kingdom'

Check out *The Current's* review of this action packed film.

See A&E, page 10



Con-grad-ulations Class of 2008

See pages 8-9

Can UMSL Athletics go Division I? Read the final installment

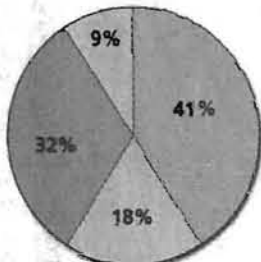
See SPORTS, page 12

ON THE WEB

The Current online.com

Web poll results:

What was your favorite part of Mirthday?



- Gym Class Heroes
- Rides
- The student organizations booth
- The theme "Under the Sea"

This week's question:

What was your favorite part of the '07-'08 year?

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SGA wraps up year with a Wii

By RYAN SCHERR

News Editor

Students at the last Student Government Association meeting of the semester received an update on the emergency alert system, South Campus construction and got a chance to win a Wii.

In his report, Bryan Goers, SGA president, talked about lack of student participation and various problems in the 3N emergency contact system.

The emergency alert system is a

text message-based system that would send alerts to students should there be a critical emergency on campus, such as the shootings that occurred at Virginia Tech and Northern Illinois University.

Goers said there was discussion to also add natural disasters to the alert system, but he did note some issues.

"There is a delay from when the first text message is sent until the final text message is sent," Goers said. "The delay can be anywhere from 20 minutes on a good day to one hour."

Few students have signed up to

be a part of the alert system. Students can access the alert system through MyView.

During the meeting, one representative of SGA expressed concern that UM-St. Louis may use students' cell phone numbers after they graduate to contact them. Goers said SGA executives "were told that that would not happen."

Also in Goers' report, the South Campus parking garage will be completed on Thursday, May 1.

See SGA MEETING, page 7

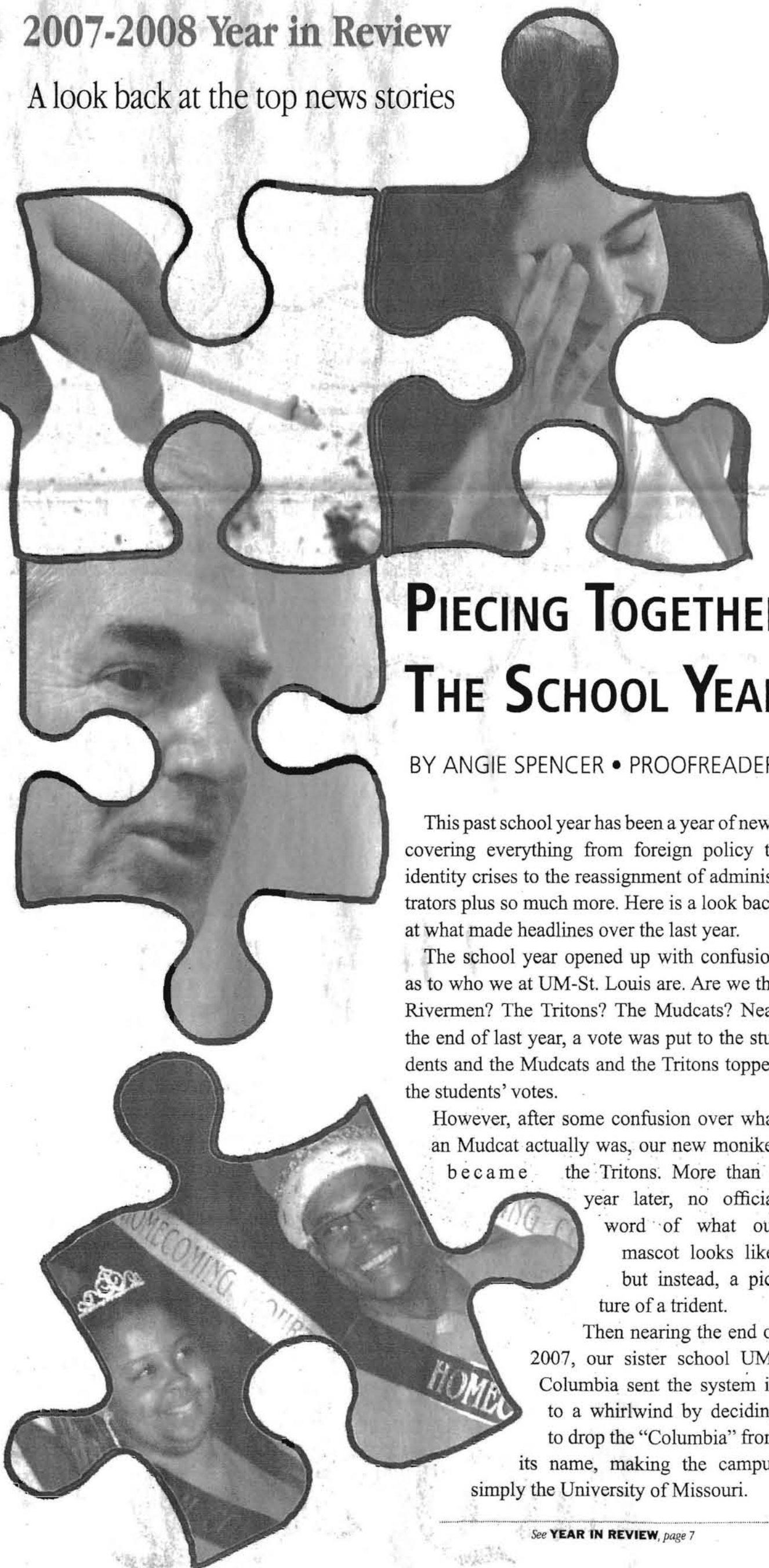


Danny Reise • Assistant Photo Editor

SGA chair Louis McGee prepares to pick the winner of a Wii at the SGA meeting Friday. Malcolm Connor, representative from Helping Hands, won for attending every meeting this semester.

2007-2008 Year in Review

A look back at the top news stories



PIECING TOGETHER THE SCHOOL YEAR

BY ANGIE SPENCER • PROOFREADER

This past school year has been a year of news covering everything from foreign policy to identity crises to the reassignment of administrators plus so much more. Here is a look back at what made headlines over the last year.

The school year opened up with confusion as to who we at UM-St. Louis are. Are we the Rivermen? The Tritons? The Mudcats? Near the end of last year, a vote was put to the students and the Mudcats and the Tritons topped the students' votes.

However, after some confusion over what an Mudcat actually was, our new moniker became the Tritons. More than a year later, no official word of what our mascot looks like, but instead, a picture of a trident.

Then nearing the end of 2007, our sister school UM-Columbia sent the system in to a whirlwind by deciding to drop the "Columbia" from its name, making the campus simply the University of Missouri.

See YEAR IN REVIEW, page 7

SABC budgets fall short of expectations

By ANGIE SPENCER

Proofreader

It is that time of year again when the money trees shed their leaves both in tax rebates and Student Activity Budget Committee allocations.

While most Americans will be getting a tax rebate, meaning more money than just what they receive from their tax returns, many student organizations at UM-St. Louis got a budget cut.

For the 2007-2008 academic year, the SABC allocated a total of \$824,558.83. For the upcoming 2008-2009 school year, the committee allocated only \$711,207.00, a nearly 13 percent decrease.

Student Government Association Comptroller Katie Moore is the head of SABC and discussed the disbursement procedures.

"SABC is a diverse committee that has many different types of students and backgrounds," Moore said. "When allocating funds, we had to look at which organizations help the most students since everyone's student fees go toward it. We had to follow the [SABC's Funding Priorities] and figure out if the organizations were going to benefit everyone else or not."

The Funding Priorities state that, "Priority will be given to organizations that: 1. Partially support themselves through fundraising activities. 2. Have effectively and properly used previous Student Activity Budget Committee allocations. 3. Have consistently attended Student Government Association meetings and required Student Life workshops and training."

While 38 organizations received increases in their budget, including SGA, which received a 5 percent increase, 24 organizations received decreases in their budget.

One of those groups was the Student Electronic Media Professionals Association. SEMPAs budget decreased by 33 percent and organization President Anthony Fowler does not understand the significant decrease.

"We did not get the appeal done in time. We were a day over the deadline," Fowler said. "I'm just wondering why the allocation was so much less this year than it was last year. I'm confused about that."

Fowler was not the only one left stumped by the allocations given out by the SABC. Ben Lambert, treasurer of the Rivermen Inline Hockey team, feels that what the team has been allocated for the next academic year will only hurt the future of the program.

"With how successful we were this year, there was no way this was appropriate," Lambert said. The hockey team's budget for 2007-2008 was \$26,140. For the 2008-2009 school year, the club was allocated a mere \$735.

"We need a \$30,000 operating budget year to year and that is a cold, hard fact," Lambert said. "I submitted a \$45,000 budget form ... I called Katie [Moore] when filling out the budget and asked her 'where to put this and where to put that.' Katie told me where and Katie was wrong."

In response, Moore said she never saw a budget as high as Lambert claims, adding, "You can't wait until the last couple of hours to do your budget. For such an important organization and budget, why wait until the last minute?"

Lambert said the team's "plan of attack right now" is to try to get help from the UM-St. Louis athletic department. However, he said the budget cut is taking its toll on him.

"I have not been able to sleep right because of this," he said. "I really feel like I've let everybody down and I did what I was supposed to do. I can't stress enough how much this is going to affect the team."

For a complete listing

Check out Page 3 for a full list of how much SABC allocated to all of UM-St. Louis' student organizations for the 2008-2009 school year.

Stay Current with this week's weather

Monday

Hi/Low: 52/35
Precip: 30%

Tuesday

Hi/Low: 59/46
Precip: 10%

Wednesday

Hi/Low: 70/63
Precip: 10%

Thursday

Hi/Low: 72/63
Precip: 20%

Friday

Hi/Low: 65/53
Precip: 50%

Saturday

Hi/Low: 57/44
Precip: 30%

Sunday

Hi/Low: 63/51
Precip: 40%

Weather predictions taken from <http://www.weather.com>

CAMPUS
CRIMELINE

MONDAY, APRIL 21

**PROPERTY DAMAGE -
LUCAS LANE**

A resident called the UM-St. Louis police and informed them that a suspect threw a brick into his front window and then left the area.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23

**STEALING UNDER \$500 -
LUCAS HALL**

Sometime between April 16 and April 23, a television was stolen from the common area of a room. There are no suspects in this incident.

THURSDAY, APRIL 24

**STEALING UNDER \$500 -
FINE ARTS BUILDING**

The victim reported she left her purse unattended in the hallway, and went to a meeting. When she returned to locate her purse, it was gone. An investigation recovered the purse in a nearby women's restroom. The victim indicated that the only thing missing was some cash.

The UM-St. Louis Police Department is open 24 hours a day. If you see anyone that looks suspicious or out of place you are encouraged to call the UM-St. Louis Police at 516-5155 or 911 if it is an emergency.

Remember that crime prevention is a community effort, and anyone having information concerning these or any other incidents should contact the campus police.

CORRECTIONS

The Current regrets that sometimes in our making of this publication, we make mistakes. What we do no regret is correcting our mistakes. Please let us know of any corrections that need to be made.

To report any corrections that need to be made, please contact The Current at 314-516-5174 or by e-mail at thecurrent@umsl.edu.

In the April 21 issue of The Current, the following corrections need to be made:

In the story, "All shook up! Earthquake wakes up, shakes up St. Louis," in the fourth paragraph from the end of the article the official magnitude of the earthquake released by the U.S. Geological Survey was measured on the Moment Magnitude scale, not a Richter Magnitude, which is not accurate for quakes above magnitude 5.5, as stated in the article.

The standalone photo on page 2 titled "Photos from Abroad" was actually taken by Matthew Hill, photo editor for The Current. A outline incorrectly stated another photographer took the photo.

In the article, "Ritter, Cowan, Hall win SGA elections," the article incorrectly stated that SGA president Bryan Goers announced the winners of the elections. SGA elections committee chair Adam Richter announced the winners.

A caption for the photo along with the story "Moving to the beat of a mirthful drum," incorrectly spelled the person's name. The correct spelling is Karandeep Puji.

THANK YOU

The staff of The Current wants to take this time to thank all of the readers who have continued to follow our coverage of this campus over the past year.

We strive every week to bring you the best in writing, photography, design, illustrations and more, and as we continue next year, we hope you will continue to watch us grow as an organization and serve as a voice for the students.

Thank you for your time, and we are proud to serve the UM-St. Louis community.

Sincerely,
The Current

HULA INVASION



Hula dancers from the Hawaiian Polynesian Revue took over The Nosh Wednesday, as a joint partnership between Student Life and Chartwells, to bring different food and entertainment to UM-St. Louis students.

Sofi Seck • Staff Photographer

What's Current

Your weekly calendar of campus events

MONDAY, APRIL 28

Monday Noon Series

"Women in Politics Worldwide: From Participation to Representation" will be presented at 12:15 p.m. in 222 J.C. Penney Conference Center. Free and open to the public.

Music Colloquium

"Commercial Music Identification" by Cezary Janikow, associate professor of computer science at 3 p.m. in 302 CCB. Free. For more information, call 6355.

Alumni Lecture

UM-St. Louis alumnus and research leader at Dow Chemical Company Timothy T. Wenzel will present "New Polymers from Old Monomers" at 4 p.m. in 451 Bentoni Hall. Free. For more information, e-mail lbar-ton@umsl.edu.

Play Premiere

St. Louis playwright Steven Clark's play "The Tragedy of Hypatia" will premiere at 7:30 p.m. in 100 Clark Hall. Free. Call 5581 for more information.

Student Recital Day

UM-St. Louis music students will perform at the Music Department Student Recital Day in the Touhill Performing Arts Center. Times vary. Free. For more information, visit <http://www.umsl.edu/~umslmusic/>.

TUESDAY, APRIL 29

Panel Discussion

"Your Community's History, Your Community's Future" presented by four speakers, from 6:30 p.m. until 9 p.m. at the Carpenter Branch of the St. Louis Public Library, 3309 South Grand Blvd. in St. Louis. Free. Visit <http://www.umsl.edu/cpp/neighborhoodhistory/> for more information.

Concert

Stella Markou, director of vocal studies at UM-St. Louis will perform a concert at 7:30 p.m. in the Touhill Performing Arts Center. Free. For more information, visit <http://www.stellamarkou.com>.

Chloro-Film

A film screening of "The 11th Hour" and "Everything's Cool," two climate change documentaries. From 3 p.m. until 7 p.m. in the Pilot House in the MSC. Free.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30

Book Reading

St. Louis poet and UM-St. Louis alumna Sally Van Doren will read from her book "Sex at Noon Taxes" at 7 p.m. in Gallery 210. Free. For more information, call 5590.

Recital

Vocalist and UM-St. Louis senior Michael Bobo will perform at 7 p.m. in 205 Music Building. Free. Visit <http://www.umsl.edu/~umslmusic/>.

Concert


The University Symphonic Band will perform a concert at 7:30 p.m. in the Touhill Performing Arts Center. Free. Visit <http://www.umsl.edu/~umslmusic/> for more information.

Storytelling Festival

This free festival from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. for all ages to celebrate and renew the ancient art of storytelling. World class storytellers present sessions at numerous sites, including the Gateway Arch, Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis and St. Charles parks, libraries, and coffee shops. Times and locations vary. Visit <http://www.umsl.edu/> for more information or call Victoria Knapp at 6677 for more information.

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

All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.



Stella Markou, director of vocal studies at UM-St. Louis will perform at the Touhill Performing Arts Center Tuesday, April 29.

File Photo

Poetry Series

St. Louisan Sally Van Doren, winner of the 2007 Walt Whitman award, will perform poetry as a part of the Poetry and Short Story Series from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. in Gallery 210. Call Karen Lucas at 5699 for more information.

THURSDAY, MAY 1

Wieners for Seniors

Students Today, Alumni Tomorrow (STAT) will hold this event to wish good luck to the graduating seniors. Free hot dogs for graduating seniors. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. outside the MSC, next to the Lakes. Call Michelle Pierson at 5785 for more information.

The Monkey Trail

"The Monkey Trail," a documentary on homelessness in St. Louis will be shown at 6 p.m. in Gallery 210. The documentary will focus on the daily struggle for survival. This event is free and open to the public. Call 5976 for more information.

Arianna String Quartet

The UM-St. Louis students of the Arianna String Quartet will perform compositions by Schubert, Dvorak, and Vivaldi at 7:30 p.m. in the Touhill Performing Arts Center. Sponsored

by the Department of Music. Free and open to the public. Call 5980 for more information.

CBA 40th Anniversary

The College of Business Administration celebrates its 40th Anniversary from 4 p.m. until 6 p.m. in the Touhill Performing Arts Center. The program begins at 5 p.m. with David Ganz as Master of Ceremonies, and Emeritus Deans Emery Turner and Don Driemeier speaking about their experiences about the College, faculty and staff and the community.

Finals Stress Blow-Off

Various activities designed to reduce the stress of finals. Root beer and snacks provided, with activities like chair massages and making stress balls. From 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the MSC Rotunda. Free.

Speaker Series

John Fund, editor and writer for the Wall Street Journal, will talk on the topic "Obama, Clinton, McCain: The Story Behind the Story." A reception with food and beverages will follow the talk. 7:30 p.m. until 10 p.m. in the SGA Chambers.

For a complete list of upcoming events, visit the What's Current section of <http://www.thecurrentonline.com>.

The Current

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

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Got a tip for a story or photo opportunity? Have a correction to report? Do you have a question or comment for our staff? Are you interested in working at The Current? Please contact us:

Newsroom | 314-516-5174
Advertising | 314-516-5316
Business | 314-516-6810
Fax | 314-516-6811

Email | thecurrent@umsl.edu
Mail | 388 MSC
One University Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63121

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

The Current is hiring for 2008-2009.

Call 314-516-5174 or e-mail thecurrent@umsl.edu for more information.

AFFILIATIONS

MCMA

AP

STUDENT

Math education lecture gets off to a rocky start

At the end of his talk, audience member Martin Rochester, Distin-

While Bass gave his initial talk, there was a shifting in the seats and whispering that increased as the talk unfolded.

"The New Math had a lot of good ideas but it was a poorly written curriculum," Bass said. "One of the biggest problems was that they simply threw the curriculum at the

"The NSF, once standards were in place, funded the implementation. At that point, mathematicians had their children, those who were in public schools, bring them (the new math materials) home. They were dismayed. Mathematicians felt shut out and wanted to take over," Bass said.

Bass is the Roger Lyndon Collegiate Professor of Mathematics and Professor of Mathematics Education at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

Melissa S. Hayden named next year's editor-in-chief

Hayden will be taking over on May 12 for current editor-in-chief Paul Hackbarth, senior, communication, who will be graduating in May.

Forsee speaks out against anti-affirmative petition

As quoted in *The Columbia Missourian*, Forsee said he "strongly support[s] this opposition, and the university strongly supports this COPHE statement."

Express Scripts falls three spots on Fortune 500 listing

As one of the leading generic dispensing pharmaceutical companies in the country, Express Scripts made its home at UM-St. Louis in 2007 on North Campus. Since then, a second building is currently under construction, with plans for a third in the works.

Gov. Matt Blunt honors UMSL nursing professor

Maserang, who was the first faculty member from the College of Nursing to be honored with the award, received the award April 9 from Missouri Gov. Matt Blunt at the Missouri Council on Public Higher Education in Jefferson City, Mo.

Maserang joined the college in 1993 as an adjunct assistant professor of nursing and later served as an assistant nursing professor, director of nursing outreach education, coordinator of the RN/BSN program and director of extended nursing. She currently teaches via traditional classroom, clinical site, online course and multiple interconnected interactive television classrooms.

In the past, Maserang has also received the Carl N. Scheneman Excellence in Teaching Award, given each year to a University of Missouri Extension faculty member for planning, conducting and evaluating one extension educational activity conducted that academic year.

UMSL concert for Kirkwood honors the community hit by tragedy

The concert was introduced by

The concert presented two works, "The Soul of Ra," a new two-part work by Barbara Harbach, and "Ein Deutsches Requiem, Op. 45" by


was melodic and beautiful, with an "American sound" reminding one of Aaron Copeland. The music was languid but not dirge-like.

Still the work was beautiful, and was beautifully performed by the orchestra. For this piece, the splendid University Singers joined the University Orchestra. In some move-

Considering the concert was given in a church, with all ages present, the audience was very quiet and attentive, although the length of the second selection seems to have lead to some restlessness. The only major auditory interruptions were one briefly unhappy baby and a little extra percussion added by what sounded like a falling folding chair.

The crowd rewarded the musicians for their wonderful work by prolonged applause and a standing ovation, clearly appreciative of the beautiful music and kind thoughts of the university musicians.

BELLERIVE




WANTS YOU

Bellerive is now accepting original submissions of poetry, fiction, non-fiction, photography and art for the 2008 edition. Send your works to bellerivesubmit@nmsl.edu or drop them off in one of the red submissions boxes in the Bookstore, English Department, or Provincial House on South Campus. Submissions are accepted through June 15.

Donate a Dream


If you're a healthy female between ages 21 and 32, you can help give the gift of life to an infertile woman by becoming an egg donor. Our screening process will help ensure that the donation is safe and easy for you, and that you're medically and genetically a suitable donor. Your participation is *completely confidential*, and you'll be compensated for your time.



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UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI - ST. LOUIS						
STUDENT ACTIVITY BUDGETING COMMITTEES FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS						
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009						
ORGANIZATION NAME:	Received 2007-2008	Requested 2008-2009	Recommended 2008-2009	RECOMMENDATION AFTER APPEAL	Service Fee Allocation	
AIAW (American Assoc. of University Women)		\$500.00	\$500.00			
ADCON	\$2,025.00	\$841.15	\$1,341.90		\$ 430.00	
ADPAC	\$1,765.00	\$2,425.00	\$1,765.00		\$ 562.00	
Accounting Club	\$1,407.00	\$1,407.00	\$2,137.20			
Alpha Phi Omega	\$1,625.00	\$7,476.00	\$3,000.00			
Alpha Xi Delta	\$2,882.00	\$4,525.00	\$3,421.00		\$ 600.00	
American Institutes of Graphic Arts (AIGA)	\$4,400.00	\$15,420.00	\$6,420.00			
American Osteopathic Medical Assoc.	\$5,650.00	\$9,400.00	\$4,340.00			
Arts & Letters International	\$2,515.00	\$0.00	\$0.00			
Association of Student Administrators	\$2,100.00	\$11,900.00	\$1,200.00		\$ 610.00	
Associated Black Colleges	\$11,740.00	\$16,200.00	\$11,700.00			
Beta Alpha Psi	\$2,719.50	\$1,714.00	\$4,200.00		\$ 250.00	
Biology Society	\$2,960.00	\$0.00	\$0.00			
Biological Sciences Students Association	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$4,500.00		\$2,720.00	
Bowl Bowlers Student Assoc.		\$2,400.00	\$4,000.00			
Delta Leadership Organization Council	\$4,000.00	\$4,500.00	\$3,100.00			
Delta Student Nurses Association	\$4,000.00	\$7,150.00	\$4,750.00		\$ 150.00	
Gamma Gamma Phi Chapter	\$1,275.00	\$5,710.00	\$1,920.00			
Gamma Research Center	\$12,050.00	\$0.00	\$14,200.00			
Chemistry Club	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00			
Choral Belong in Fellowship		\$7,470.00	\$600.00			
Chiropractic Students Association (Masters)	\$2,110.00	\$5,700.00	\$2,400.00			
College Democrats	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,900.00			
College Republicans	\$7,610.00	\$4,500.00	\$5,700.00		\$4,100.00	
College Student Council		\$1,000.00	\$0.00			
Communications & Visual Arts Student Assoc.	\$1,800.00	\$2,000.00	\$5,100.00			
Conferences & Visual Arts Student Assoc.	\$48,610.00	\$48,610.00	\$38,440.00		\$ 8,000.00	
Delta Sigma Pi	\$3,032.00	\$8,300.00	\$2,400.00		\$ 550.00	
Delta Zeta Society	\$2,700.00	\$46,140.00	\$4,540.00		\$ 500.00	
Dietary Club	\$2,810.00	\$5,120.00	\$7,240.00		\$ 170.00	
Delta Phi Theta Society	\$7,080.00	\$11,884.11	\$8,800.00		\$7,800.00	
Dormant Choir	\$1,000.00	\$6,600.00	\$4,700.00			
Drumline Veterans Association	\$300.00	\$1,500.00	\$300.00		\$1,100.00	
Editing Staff Marketing Program	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00		\$ 500.00	
Engineering Council		\$2,800.00	\$1,500.00		\$ 1,000.00	
Gamma Student Organization	\$1,780.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,500.00			
Gamma Student Association	\$2,300.00	\$3,120.00	\$1,000.00		\$4,000.00	
International Business Club	\$6,730.00	\$0.00	\$0.00			
International Student Organization	\$7,700.00	\$0.00	\$0.00			
Jazz	\$1,600.00	\$29,100.00	\$2,000.00		\$ 1,000.00	
Jazz/Jazz Studies Association	\$1,150.00	\$7,230.00	\$7,500.00			
Junior Student Association	\$1,630.00	\$2,540.00	\$1,950.00			
Mad Men Society	\$900.00	\$600.00	\$600.00			
Missouri Community & Student Association	\$600.00	\$1,520.00	\$740.00			
Missouri Education National Conference	\$1,800.00	\$0.00	\$2,300.00			
Phi Theta Kappa		\$4,100.00	\$1,040.00		\$ 900.00	
Phi Theta Kappa	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,200.00			
Phi Theta Kappa Society	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00			
National Osteopathic Medical Assoc.		\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00			
National Osteopathic Medical Assoc.		\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00			
Order of Omega	\$350.00	\$1,200.00	\$500.00			
Phi Alpha Theta	\$14,000.00	\$14,000.00	\$14,000.00		\$ 1,000.00	

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

Letters to the editor should be brief, and those not exceeding 200 words will be given preference. We edit letters for clarity and length, not for dialect, correctness, intent or grammar. All letters must include a daytime phone number. Students must include their student ID numbers. Faculty and staff must include their title(s) and department(s). Editor-in-chief reserves the right to respond to letters. *The Current* reserves the right to deny letters.

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

Letters and commentaries will also be printed online at www.thecurrentonline.com

CONTACT US
Mail:
One University Blvd.
Room 388 MSC
St. Louis, MO 63121
Email:
thecurrent@umsl.edu

OUR OPINION

Don't waste away your summer vacation

Take the advice of poet Robert Frost and make the most of this summer by taking the road less traveled

The weather is getting warmer, the days are getting longer and the stress is building up.

These three signs signify that summer is almost here and they have shown up all over the UM-St. Louis campus.

Soon enough summer will be here. While the official start date of summer, or summer solstice, is not until June 21, for UM-St. Louis students and graduates, the season begins May 12 (or earlier after your last day of finals).

Many of you have probably already started making your summer plans, from the plain old routine such as lining up your summer classes or summer job or for the more adventurous, backpacking through Europe or skydiving from a plane.

For those procrastinators who do not have a clue how they are going to spend their summer vacation yet, *The Current* has some ideas to offer so that you will not end up wasting another summer vacation away.

Option #1:

School's in for the summer. Take a summer class, either an elective from a subject that has nothing to do with your major or a class you need to graduate.

Taking a class outside of your major field will expand your education just a little bit and it might be fun to learn something different for a change. You never know... You may end up liking it. Taking classes over the summer might also benefit you in

the long run, so you do not wind up next May, short one requirement or credit hour needed for graduation.

Option #2:

Take the road less traveled. If you usually spend your time at Busch Stadium rooting for the Cardinals, instead take in a concert from the St. Louis Symphony. If you are used to going to the St. Louis Art Museum, try out your dancing moves at Wild Country. Whatever you normally do, try at least one new and different thing this summer from your routine.

Option #3:

Volunteer to volunteer. Take a few days out of your vacation to go volunteer. St. Louis offers great places to volunteer from the United Way, Operation Food Search and many churches and other centers around the metropolitan area and they all need your help. You can also contact Volunteer Services at UM-St. Louis at (314) 516-4106 or <http://www.umsl.edu/services/volunteer/>.

Option #4:

Take a look! It's in a book! Make a summer reading list like you had to complete back in elementary school. Get a list of your favorites and add some new books to your list from genres that you would not ordinarily read. Make it a manageable list, something you are sure to com-

plete by the time the fall semester rolls around.

Option #5:

Get a job! Sha Na Na Na! Companies are looking for seasonal help, so take this summer to work a different job than you normally would. Work at your local ice cream parlor, be a lifeguard at a swimming pool or come work at *The Current*. Our paper puts out two summer issues, so it still allows you to finish the other things on this list.

Also, use the summer to complete an internship to get some of that "real world" experience they always are talking about.

Option #6:

Take the road less traveled. While gas prices are skyrocketing this summer, you can still take short road trips around Missouri and Illinois. Visit some of the wineries, go rafting or canoeing in the Ozarks or visit a historical site. If you still do not have enough gas money, take the train. Board the Amtrak station downtown and take a ride on the rails.

Whatever you do, make your summer mean something because summer vacations are precious. However, we do allow a day or two to sit around and do nothing but lay in the grass and watch the sky, looking at what the clouds resemble.

STAFF VIEWPOINT

One final look at UMSL athletics

Whoever takes on any task to improve the UM-St. Louis athletic department has got quite a job on their hands. That sounds like a pessimistic outlook, but the only way to get anywhere is to face the truth.

The truth is that this was once a program in which the entire area took pride. The men's soccer team won the national championship in 1973 and has made it to the NCAA tournament 17 times, but not once since 1991.

The year before that national title, the men's basketball team went down to Fayetteville and beat the University of Arkansas before representing the Rivermen in the Elite 8, but now, they have not even made it to the tournament since 1989.

The baseball team has made it to the College World Series five times, but now has not even had a practice field for the last two years and has only been able to have a full outdoor practice three times the entire semester. The team had to cover three different states to have those practices.

This sort of embarrassment has been the theme in recent years, from lawsuits to coach dismissals, from athletic director resignations to stolen sporting goods. The department has had nothing but egg on its face, and has gone from packed houses to empty seats.

Once drawing crowds of 3,000 to 5,000, the UM-St. Louis basketball teams are last in the Great Lakes Valley Conference in attendance, despite having the largest enrollment of any school in the league.



By SCOTT LAVELOCK
Staff Writer

The Tritons are currently 11th in the GLVC All-Sports standings, which combines the final results of each conference sport, leading only St. Joseph's, Kentucky Wesleyan and Missouri S&T.

How have things gotten to this point? When I think about that, the first person I look at is myself

because I have been a member of a baseball team that has been a losing squad during my four years here. I have not played to my potential, and I think there are many other athletes here would say the same about themselves.

It is unfortunate, especially when you see all of the hard work that our student-athletes go through to represent this school. It leads you to believe there is something else holding us back, even though I acknowledge that the athletes deserve their share of blame.

However, instead of rehashing about the things that have held us back, allow to me to simply focus on two things the department must address.

The first is money. Hardly any of our programs are able to provide adequate equipment and facilities. It is incredibly difficult for the athletes to get work done when they have to fight the other teams, and sometimes students and alumni, for gym space.

Plus, no one wants to play for a school with inadequate facilities, which keeps many talented players out of Triton uniforms.

See TRITON SPORTS, page 13

GUEST COMMENTARY

New UMSL athletic director grants Tritons a more competitive edge

By SHANNON VALLOWE

Guest Commentator

Located on the north side of campus is where you will find the Mark Twain Building, which has been home to UM-St. Louis's men's and women's sports teams for the past 37 years.

While walking through the building, you will get to see the Tritons' full size basketball court, two half courts, the sports director's office, the full size swimming pool, locker rooms and an inside track that wraps around the core of the building.

On the second level, along the track route, is where the Tritons' cardio room, entrance to the pool and locker rooms are located. As you descend to the basement level, you will find the weight room, racquetball courts and storage rooms.

For the most part, the machines and overall look of the cardio and weight rooms are in desperate need of a makeover.

Upon entering through the doors of the cardio room, you will instantly notice the numerous white and blue machines that litter the floor of the small space. In the far corner is a large utility fan spinning at full speed to help circulate the stuffy thick air through the room.

As you make your way toward the back wall, you will see a tiny niche that is filled to the max with exercise bikes, treadmills, elliptical machines and free weights.

For how many students that use this room, concerns have arisen in regards to the room's look and old

machines.

"I have used the cardio room at UMSL, but I do not think the room is in the best condition. It is small, the equipment is outdated and it gets very hot and stuffy," said Jamie Burkemper, junior, special education. "The room is also not very accessible. The machines are so close that I am sometimes claustrophobic while working out. I would love to workout in an atmosphere where it is more personal, open and an overall more professional environment."

If students wish to work with weights rather than machines, they head down to the weight room on the lower level. Inside of this room is where you will find fewer machines and more weight lifting devices such as bar bells, more free weights and bench presses.

Unfortunately, this room closely mirrors the atmosphere of the cardio room and many student athletes who use this room for weight training feel it too is in bad condition. UM-St. Louis men's golf member J.R. Siracusa feels an upgrade is in great need.

"The facility we currently have is not very clean nor up to standards," Siracusa said. "A bigger room and newer equipment would most likely encourage more students to go over to the Mark Twain to workout instead of paying high prices at a local gym."

Not only do many athletes feel the rooms' equipment needs to be brought up to date, but coaches feel the same as well.

See COMPETITION, page 5

STAFF VIEWPOINT

Summer time, and the living's easy

Ahh, summer, the most treasured time of the year for any student. Three minuscule months filled with chirping birds, warm air, tans, swimming, baseball, softball and best of all, pure relaxation.

Whether you are 3 years old or 23 years old, summer provides individuals with so many opportunities to enjoy life that they are otherwise restricted from due to school obligations.

Unfortunately, even summer has become full of obligations, as our society is continuously becoming more competitive. Every parent wants their child to be number one and have an advantage over every other child.

Sadly, these advantages come at a priceless cost, as individuals are sacrificing their free time to become involved in extracurricular activities.

Well, I have had enough. Taking extra classes at school, picking up more hours at work, joining other clubs and sporting activities, it all must stop!

Whatever happened to having a schedule with nothing scheduled?

I believe that the best times in life occur due to spontaneity. When will there be any time to allow that spontaneity to spring up if we fill up every moment of our life with some extra activity?

I am aware that no one is going



By BEN GILLHAM
Staff Writer

to dramatically change their lifestyle and try to revert back to the good 'ole days, but I do propose an attempt to make life more enjoyable.

Just as businesses use to shut down operations on Sunday, likewise you should shut down the many activities in which you are involved.

Every Sunday this summer, do nothing. Sit back and take pleasure in slowing down the chaos of everyday life.

To help bring the furious pace to a soft, flowing current, an individual can alter the seemingly smallest aspects of his or her daily events.

For example, instead of racing to wherever you need to be, go the speed limit. Many people try to squeeze in those few extra miles per hour, but have you ever noticed that it rarely

helps? Not to mention, actually going the speed limit almost makes you feel unique, as you realize how few people really follow this law.

While you are driving or even just sitting at home, listen to some mellow music. Personally, I would choose to listen to some Jimmy Buffet or Alan Jackson. Even if you do not prefer country, every genre of music has artists who bring their tone down a notch and seem softer.

You could also share breakfast, lunch, or dinner with family or friends. Why not even cook the meal with the people close to you?

Say no to any planned activities and just see what comes about. You cannot imagine what may lie ahead of you.

Even if nothing does take place, at least you have that time to reflect, an action that we are usually too busy to do. Reflect about where you are in life, if you are happy, if what you are doing now is truly what you desire, what changes you would like to make to your life. The thoughts are as endless as the number of Sundays in your lifetime.

Most importantly, do what relaxes you. On any given Sunday this summer, I can envision myself eating an ice-cream sundae while watching the sun sink below the horizon, with Kenny Chesney's song "When the sun goes down" playing in the background. What about you?

UNDERCURRENT

By Danny Reise • Asst. Photo Editor

Is UM-St. Louis prepared for a major earthquake?

What do you think? Send your own response to thecurrent@umsl.edu or talk about it in our online forums at www.thecurrentonline.com



Nicole Mestas
Chartwells
Management

"It will crumble to the ground."



Marissa Lightner
Sophomore
Math Education

"Not at all... They don't really prepare for much."



Karan Pujji
Junior
Finance

"Judging by the way snowstorms were handled, I doubt we could handle a major catastrophe."



Chelsey Maylee
Sophomore
Psychology

"I don't think the buildings on South Campus, or even some of the older buildings on North, would make it."



Candace Anderson
Sophomore
Secondary Education

"How does one prepare for an earthquake?"

STUDY ABROAD

Notes from Nanjing

The hard way



By **MICHAEL COSBY**
Columnist

One of China's most popular tourist attractions, the Yellow Mountain, continues to endure an overwhelming level of development.

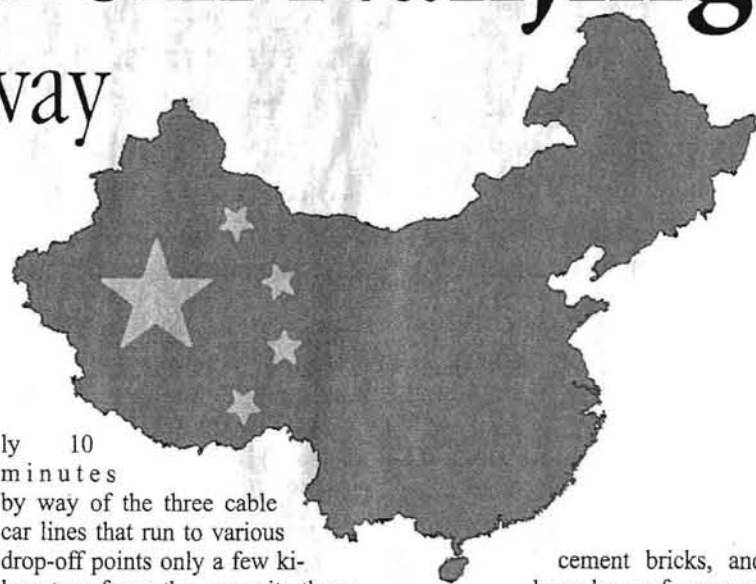
Both the Western and Eastern slopes are lined with small concession stands and cheap souvenir shops, and luxury hotels line the mountains' slopes in all directions.

The summit, once prized by poets and painters as an otherworldly refuge for peace and solitude, is clustered with restaurants, an observatory, a bank, and even a police department.

As in the rest of China, construction on the mountain runs twenty-four-seven, even at an elevation of five thousand feet. New hotels spring up out of the mist, and old ones are constantly redecorating and remodeling in an attempt to keep up with the blistering pace of development.

In order to meet the unflinching demands of the rapidly growing Chinese tourist economy, the Yellow Mountain requires a river of supplies that flow toward the summit from Tangkou, the small village that lies at the base of the mountain.

Though ascent of the Yellow Mountain can be completed in rough-



ly 10 minutes by way of the three cable car lines that run to various drop-off points only a few kilometers from the summit, these cars are strictly reserved for those tourists willing to shell out seventy RMB (10 U.S.D.) above and beyond the mountain's pricey admission fee.

Energy costs are still expensive in Anhui, but labor costs are cheap, thus the entirety of those building materials, staple commodities, and luxury items found on the mountain, are carried there on the backs of porters, one stone step at a time.

The 7.5 kilometer trek up the Eastern steps of the Yellow Mountain is strenuous by any standard. The uneven steps are roughly cut, and oftentimes the harrowing, steep stairs look down upon dizzying drops. An unburdened climber can complete the hike in less than three hours, but most opt for the easy way up and take the cable cars.

Those intrepid tourist who do chose to ascend the mountain on foot are usually greeted at the summit by a three-star hotel offering clean beds, hot showers, freshly ground coffee, and cold imported beer.

For the hundreds of porters who ascend and descend the mountain each day, however, a typical journey can take almost five hours. An average load can consist of anything from boxes of fresh produce, cases of wine and alcohol, piles of large

cement bricks, and huge bags of masonry mortar.

The work day, which begins around dawn, is usually long enough for two round-trips up and down the mountain. In addition to the treacherous steps and perilous drop-offs, porters must mind the crowds of tourists who clog the trails on weekends and holidays, making the ascent all the more difficult by pestering the porters with questions during their short breaks and poking at the delicately balanced loads as the porters trudge slowly by.

While even one trip to the summit bearing a typical porter's load seems utterly impossible, the porters' swelling calf muscles bulging underneath the stockings that show beneath their rolled-up pant legs tell of the years spent in the backbreaking labor.

The compensation these porters receive for their Herculean efforts ranks amongst the lowest in China and they lack medical coverage or a retirement pension.

As long as Anhui lags pitifully behind its more fortunate neighbors, such as Jiangsu and Shanghai, it is certain that there will be no shortage of unfortunate workers willing to endure the drudgery in return for a few simple meals a day and a little money to send home each month.

SCIENCE COLUMN

Earth Day is every day on campus

Before we talk about some environmental events on campus, I am going to pat myself on the back a little bit, by pointing out that this column discussed the health concerns over plastics and the chemical bisphenol A on Sept. 4, 2007. The topic was then being ignored by the media, which has recently started to report on it. Some significant research on this was done on this at our sister campus of UM-Columbia, by Dr. Frederick vom Saal. You can read the column in the Current archives.

Although Earth Day was officially on April 22, and many of the St. Louis Earth Day events took place on the weekend before that date, here at UM-St. Louis we are no so fast to forget Earth Day. Events with a focus on the environmental continue, with both the last official event of Earth Day 2008 and a mini film festival.

On Tuesday, April 29, the Student Government Association's Green Committee will present Environmental Awareness Film Screening "Chloro-Film!" a screening of two documentaries "The 11th Hour," and "Everything's Cool."

On May 7, it is the all-day St. Louis Earth Day Symposium, "Green Solutions for Clean Water: Policy and Practice."

"Chloro-Film!" Environmental Awareness Film Screening is on Tuesday, April 29, at 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. in Pilot House. The event is a chance to follow up Earth Day with some the facts and what you can do to help. They will be screening two films concerning environmental awareness, "The 11th Hour," and "Everything's Cool." The event is free.

Lou Staudt, a member of the committee, is organizing the screenings. "Chloro-Film is a play



By **CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER**
Science Columnist

on chlorophyll, the stuff that makes plants green," said Staudt. She described the two films they will be showing. "Everything's Cool [is] a darkly comedic look at the rift between the science and politics surrounding climate change, and The 11th Hour [is] Leonardo DiCaprio's film which talks to experts in all fields about the converging environmental crises," she said. The screening will be from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m., Tuesday April 29 in the Pilot House and it is open to anyone who can come.

This is an informal event so people can come for half-an-hour, a whole movie, or both films, depending on their personal schedule," she said. "This is just a screening to help raise awareness about climate change and the general status of the environment around campus."

The documentary "Everything's Cool" will be shown from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m., "The 11th Hour" from 4:15 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. There will be a repeat showing of "Everything's Cool" at 6 p.m.

The last official event of St. Louis Earth Day 2008 takes place on this campus on May 7. The St. Louis Earth Day Symposium,

"Green Solutions for Clean Water: Policy and Practice" is a day long event, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the J.C. Penney Conference Center.

The symposium is scholarly and practical. Goals include focuses storm water, with management techniques for both homeowners and municipalities, but there are a variety of water quality issues discussed.

The keynote speech at 8:30 p.m. is by Art Spratlin, Director of Water, Wetlands, & Pesticides Division of the Environmental Protection Agency for Region 7, followed by a panel discussion by Spratlin, Floyd Gilzow of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources and Michael Coulson of the East-West Gateway Council of Governments.

There is a choice of discussion sessions on water policy or site design, followed by lunch and a speaker on the importance of local leadership on water quality issues.

The afternoon brings ShowMe Rain Gardens: A Regional Initiative for Clean Water, a way rain gardens can help slow or capture rainwater, a key goal in water issues.

There is also a session on low-impact design for subdivisions, which often can degrade local water quality by promoting rapid rainwater run-off.

Also in the afternoon are workshops on green technologies, focused on green roofs and permeable paving systems, and on low-impact development retrofits for urban areas and storm sewers.

The symposium event wraps up with a reception.

Registration is required but the fee of \$75 includes a continental breakfast, the lunch buffet and the reception with a cash bar. Register at <http://www.stlouisearthday.org/sympsm08.htm>.

COMPETITION, from page 4

Women's soccer coach and Assistant Athletic Director Beth Goetz believes new equipment would only help improve the performances of UM-St. Louis athletes.

"I know one of the main concerns from my team is the need for updated equipment that meets their needs," Goetz said. "For example there are not a lot of free weights in the cardio or weight room for everyone to use, especially if there is a full team of athletes lifting weights at once."

According to Larry Coffin, director of Campus Recreation, most of the machines in the cardio room were last ordered in 1991 with the exception of a few replacements.

"We had a few treadmills and bikes replaced several years ago but regardless, all of the equipment should be replaced soon," he said.

With so much talk of new machines and a new look for the two rooms being discussed between students, athletes and coaches, it is not surprising the issue has been brought to the attention of Athletic Director John Garvilla.

"In all honesty the current state of our weight room and cardio facility is not good. We have several concerns regarding the equipment, space, supervision, air quality, and hygiene of the facilities," Garvilla said.

"The UMSL administration and UMSL athletics administration are aware of the current state of the fitness facilities and are making strides in providing the student body, faculty, staff and community with improved facilities and equipment. However, much planning and raising of funds has to be done in order to make it a reality."

According to Garvilla, a plan has been developed to combine the two racquetball courts and the weight room to create a 5,100 square foot, two-story facility.

"It would be a state of the art facility all under one roof. We currently have a poorly designed L-shape cardio area and weight room in serious need of updating," Garvilla said.

"We all understand the value a new facility will have with regards to impacting recruiting, retention and student athlete performance."

The support the administration has provided in this area has been an encouragement to me as we explore the possibilities of developing a new and improved facility within the Mark Twain Building."

Building on to the fitness center in the Mark Twain is something that has long been anticipated by many UM-St. Louis students and staff. Hopefully with the new plan to expand the space, it will encourage more students to use their school's fitness facilities rather than searching elsewhere to work out.

Sales Professional Internship Program

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ISA gives students access to Indian culture

By JESSICA KEIL
Features Editor

India is one of the second most populated country in the world, second only to China. It is however, the largest democracy in the world. The country can claim many things, including the invention of the popular yet challenging game of chess, the number zero and the beginnings of algebra and calculus.

These facts and much more were presented to the attendees of India Night at the Pilot House on Saturday, April 26.

"India Night is a way for the ISA [Indian Student Association] to spread awareness about the Indian culture...it is our biggest event of the year," said Rahul Malhotra, senior, international business, and vice president of the ISA.

In preparation for India Night, the Pilot House was lined with rows of chairs, and equipped with a sound system and projector. As the guests arrived, upbeat Indian music boomed from the speakers and UM-St. Louis students involved in the ISA milled about, some modeling traditional Indian dress.

India Night began when its two co-ed MC's addressed the crowd with an Indian greeting. The couple gave a brief overview of the country that India Night represents, and invited an influential and accomplished Indian speaker to the stage. After the preliminaries were underway, the fun truly began.

First up was a solo female singer, accompanied by a drummer, who sang a traditional Indian song, which was written for the goddess of wisdom. Next, the audience enjoyed two more songs by six more ISA students.

Fourteen ISA models donning traditional Indian clothing followed and gave a fashion show, much to the audience's delight. The women wore saris and salwar suits of varying colors, some being bright orange or blue and pink with delicate gold trim. The men wore robe like outfits, called sherwani in earthy tones, and modest patterns.

Technical difficulties interrupted the movie that was to be played next; however, the students (literally) did not miss a beat and moved right into another song.

By the time a modern Indian dance called the "Musty Disco" was performed, spectators had completely forgotten about the technical difficulties of before and were consumed by the upbeat choreography.

When an ISA student played a drum-like instrument called a dhol, the audience, still awed by the last performance, made their immense approval of the performance known by whistling and clapping along with the beat.

The noise died down when the ISA successfully showed a video about free market democracy in India.

Ramiro Gamarra, junior, electrical engineering, was part of the audience at India Night and revealed that

the video concerning India's market economy was his favorite part of the night.

"I just really learned a lot from it," Gamarra said.

Pamela Fernandez, junior, international business and friend of Gamarra's, stated otherwise.

"The dances were my favorite," she said. "They were just so beautiful and energetic."

Luckily for Fernandez, India Night would present its audience with two more dances and a song before its close. The song was an Indian love ballad sung by Abhinav Pandey, a recent UM-St. Louis biology graduate.

The two dances shared dancers, but came from very different sources. The first was inspired by traditional Indian wedding ceremonies, and the second by Bollywood.

The performances at India Night were concluded with a list of thank you's from both the ISA's faculty advisor, and its student president.

Last, but not least, the guests of the ISA's India Night were treated to Indian cuisine outside the Nosh. The buffet included butter chicken, a vegetarian dish, Indian bread, rice with cumin seeds and vegetables, rice pudding, and a thick mango lassi to wash it all down.

"We have [India Night] every year," said Pandey, the Indian love song singer who helped organize the event, "and the Indian Student Association comes together as a team in order to make the night great for everyone involved."



Danny Reise • Assistant Photo Editor
Karan Puji plays the dhol during India Night in the Pilot House.

TOP TEN

Most populated countries in the world in 2007

10. Japan - 129 million, 2% of the world's population

9. Bangladesh - 137 million, 2.1% of the world's population

8. Russia - 143 million, 2.2% of the world's population

7. Nigeria - 162 million, 2.5% of the world's population

6. Pakistan - 168 million, 2.5% of the world's population

5. Brazil - 187 million, 2.8% of the world's population

4. Indonesia - 224 million, 3.4% of the world's population

3. United States - 302 million, 4.6% of the world's population



2. India - 1.1 billion, 17.1% of the world's population

1. China - 1317 million, 19.9% of the world's population

Statistics courtesy of www.census.gov

I'VE GOT MY EYE ON YOU

Rosanne Vrugtman (LEFT), department specialist for Education Leadership & Policy Studies, and Terrence Moore, video production assistant, look at photos from the St. Louis Eye Camera Club on Thursday at the TLC learning studio. The organization brings students and professionals together to learn from each other about photography.

Sofi Seck • Staff Photographer

Students stream to stargazing

Observatory open house continues to highlight the stars, planets while preparing for long-awaited move

By CATE MARQUIS
A&E Editor

Stargazers from across the area show up on a regular basis at the Observatory open house, according to Keira Wright, the physics and astronomy student who runs the UM-St. Louis Astronomy Department's program.

"Really, it (attendance) depends on how cold it is. When it is still kind of cold out, people do come. But when it is really nice out, we can go up to fifty people," said Wright, a senior majoring in physics. "It is kind of hard to keep track of that (total attendance) because sometimes we stay open up to two hours, because people keep coming. On the low side, it is probably ten to fifteen," said Wright.

Meanwhile, the long anticipated move of the Observatory from its present South Campus location, to a spot near the Fine Arts Building, off Florissant Road, is set for this May, according to Department of Physics and Astronomy Chairman Professor Bruce Wilking.

"The current plan is we are going to move at the end of May," said Wilking.

The observatory is moving to make way for a new baseball field. "We were told we would be moving a year ago. Then we were told funding

for the (baseball field) project was put on hold for three years, so we were staying put. Then we found out it was only being delayed one year.

So there has been some uncertainty. But it is fine and the construction crew is making sure we have everything we need at the new site," he said.

Although the observatory will be in a new location, it will not be a new observatory.

"Actually, since we don't really have any funds, we have to deconstruct the one that we have, then move it," said Keira Wright. "We have to take everything apart and move everything that is there now and move it to the new spot."

"It would be wonderful if we could get a bigger observatory and possibly, a new telescope because ours is very old. It is wonderful and huge and still functions fine but it is kind of outdated," said Wright.

One concern with any location for an observatory is light pollution. "The new location is not too different. There isn't anywhere we can go that is not off campus to get away from light," said Bruce Wilking.

"We are probably a little more directly under the flights patterns from Lambert," he said. This can interfere with long exposure astronomy photography.

"Occasionally we have a plane that will fly through our field of view and if you were doing a thirty minute exposure and you were getting toward the end of that and a plane flew through, you would lose it all," Wilking said.

About 15 people are the comfortable capacity of the observatory at any one time, but Wright said that the observatory typically has a stream of people coming and going through a night.

"We have people waiting outside often but we do have telescopes outside that we set up sometimes," she said.

"When they see the observatory is open, sometimes they arrive early, while I am still setting up. When we are fully operational, they come in and I explain what we are seeing and where to look, because there is actually a viewfinder and an eyepiece.

"Usually the objects are best seen through the eyepiece, when you can see the zoomed-in version. The finder scope is just so we can find it manually in the sky. So I explain where to look and what the object is, how far away, how bright it is, stuff like that."

Mostly, Wright sets up the Observatory open house, with minimal help from other students or faculty. "They stop by occasionally and help me set up," she said.

On a given night, Wright sets up the main telescope inside the dome and a ten-inch telescope outside, but sometimes other students or professors bring their telescopes too.

The Observatory open house public viewing is set for once a month and the objects on view are listed on its Web site at <http://www.umsl.edu/~physics/pdfs/astro.pdf>. Some parts of the viewing program are the same every open house.

"We always have the first quarter moon, so you can see what it looks like on the moon's surface, right where the terminator is, where you see the dark side and the light side, the dividing line. And you can really see detail on that terminating line. We always have whatever planets are available, which are often Jupiter, Saturn, Mars, and Venus.

So those are the brightest. Other

objects we view include deep sky objects like other galaxies, nebulae, and so forth."

Other objects to view this month are Beehive Cluster and M35, an open cluster. This month's Observatory open house, planned for Saturday, April 12, was postponed due to clouds, and the planned re-scheduling date, Sunday, April 13, was also cloudy. Beside the public viewings, Wright also sets up viewings just for astronomy students. However, weather can interfere.

"Usually we have one of two a month (for the students) but lately everyone has been cancelled due to weather, so we have had to scramble to get one scheduled for them" she said.

See **OBSERVATORY**, page 14

IDOL TAKES THE STAGE



Willanda Rhodes, junior, social work, sings on stage at the Pilot House on Thursday night as part of UMSL Idol. Rhodes won the competition.

Sofi Seck • Staff Photographer

YEAR IN REVIEW, from page 1

Despite opposition from both UM-Kansas City and UM-St. Louis, the name change passed, and Mizzou became the second system school to change its name, following UMRolla's change to Missouri University of Science & Technology.

Backtracking now to the beginning of the school year, a graduate student learned the hard way about a foreign country's law about exporting. Roxana Contreras, physics graduate student, purchased Soviet era war medals and old Russian currency from a street vendor in Voronezh, Russia.

At the airport, Russian customs agents stopped her, promptly detained her and told her that she might face jail time.

After being detained for nearly two months, Contreras was free to leave Russia. Having to pay only a \$600 fine, Contreras returned home to St. Louis on Sept. 5, 2007.

The next big news to sweep the UM-St. Louis campus was the need for a campus wide emergency alert system. The UM system adopted the 3n system, which would send alerts via "phone, e-mail, text messaging, instant messaging, pager, fax and BlackBerry devices," on Sept. 24, 2007.

Last week, UM-St. Louis' students, faculty and staff received an e-mail from Bob Samples, director of University Communications, stating that UM-St. Louis students could sign up for the system using MyView.

October blew in with a crisp fall air and with it came Red and Gold Reign. Throughout the week of Oct.

8, 2007, the Tritons trampled SIUEdwardsville in soccer and as a celebration, the school held a sold-out dance at The Chase Park Plaza. The-mon Ryan, Jr. and Antonette Dickens were announced as Homecoming King and Queen respectively.

The next week, administrator Reinhard Schuster returned after an extended leave from his vice chancellor of Administrative Affairs position to a newly created associated vice chancellor of Managerial and Technological Services.

Along with the position came a \$3,400.08 raise, which prompted an investigation by *The Current* in to the salaries of the top administrators at the University.

On Oct. 26, 2007, SGA Comptroller Katie Moore presented to the Student Government Association assembly a new student organization to raise awareness about smoking and its effects on both smokers and non-smokers.

This organization, known as PASS, or Peers Advocating Smoke-Free Solutions, proposed a ban that left many students angry.

One smoker, Joe Sanchez, senior, communication, said he is glad that ban did not pass but agrees with some of what the plan says.

"I'm glad it didn't pass, but it is something that needs to be done. I think they're going about it the wrong way, though. Designated smoking areas, but not by doors, would be good so everyone doesn't have to walk through [the smoke]," Sanchez said.

Another student, Kevin Meente-meyer, senior, media studies, said,

"I've got no problem with smoking areas, but we should have designated non-smoking areas like in front of the doors. If this passed, a lot more people would be late for classes since instead of doing it in the process [of walking to class], they would have to go to an area, smoke and then go to the next building. Personally, when I'm smoking, I know I've got 15 minutes and I'll probably smoke two cigarettes as long as I know I've got time between classes."

2008 was a new year and a new start for one man: Gary Forsee, the new UM system president.

As the ex-chief executive officer of Sprint, many questioned his abilities to run a school system, but Forsee came charging in by setting up meetings at all four campuses to integrate himself well before his Feb. 18 start date. Forsee is a UMRolla graduate.

The SGA meeting on Feb. 8, 2008, sparked a debate on whether

Missouri should end affirmative action. Kelcy Siddall, president of the Black Leadership Organizing Council, brought this issue to the attention of SGA assembly by talking about Ward Connerly and his petition in five states that would end affirmative action.

To add to the debate, UM Curator David Wasinger is an attorney for the "civil rights initiative."

Later in February, snow blanketed the metropolitan area, causing the campus to close for snow. UM-St. Louis students braved the blizzard-like conditions to make it to classes only to find out that they were cancelled upon arrival.

On one day, school was not cancelled until there was already six inches of snow on the ground. And yet, on another day, school was not cancelled until 3:37 p.m.

We know not what the future holds, but expect the unexpected.

SGA MEETING, from page 1

However, Goers said that "everyday it rains, it sets back the date for the garage to be completed."

Goers also said the South Campus road between Natural Bridge Road and the South Campus MetroLink station would be fixed by Aug. 17, but will be paid for by the university.

"This is a long overdue project. Although the MetroLink buses are a large part of the problem, MetroLink will not be paying for the road construction," he said.

SGA Vice President Cadence Rippeto talked about the success of many of the committees this year, especially the Green Committee. This year, the Green Committee was the first SGA committee to have a booth at Mirthday.

"[The Green Committee members] have done an awesome job and really made a presence on this campus," said Rippeto.

Miriam Huffman, associate di-

rector of Student Life, also reminded campus organizations must fill out change of officer forms for the 2008-2009 school year. Also Huffman talked about changes in the Leadership Retreat for next year.


"We decided to move the Leadership Retreat from a two-day off-campus event to a one-day on-campus event to attract more student leaders and members of campus organizations," she said.

The Leadership Retreat is scheduled for Sept. 5. All campus organizations are required to have one member attend the retreat.

All of the SGA officers also thanked the assembly for its help and participation this year.

"Thank you so much. It has been a crazy, but awesome year," Rippeto said.

"I think we have done a lot this year for the campus. I hope all of you are involved in Student Life next year," she said.



I WANT YOU FOR ASUM

ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI

We are searching for Legislative Interns and Board Members who are:

-Energetic -Hardworking -Goal Oriented

For more information contact ASUM
366 MSC/314-516-7306

The Current is proud to present our adviser Judi Linville with our organization's very own **Oscar for Lifetime Achievement Award**. We could not ask for a better adviser and appreciate all you have done for us.



From the staff of *The Current*, we thank you for your 16 years of service and we wish you the best in your retirement. Not only is *The Current* the Best in State newspaper, but you are the Best Adviser in the State. We will miss you!

I WANT TEAM SPIRIT GLORY

AND NOT TO SHOW UP IN FULL UNIFORM FOR A GAME THAT WAS CANCELLED THREE DAYS AGO.

CAMPUS RECREATION- SPRING 2008

Keep a look out for the New Campus Recreation Schedule for Fall 2008!

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STAFF VIEWPOINT

It's the end of the (college) world as we know it

I find it ironic that the R.E.M. song "It's The End Of The World As We Know It" says the end starts with an earthquake, and how does the end of my college world begin? With an earthquake, both the one that rumbled last week and the shake-up of my life now.



By PAUL HACKBARTH
Editor-in-Chief

However, predicting in 2004 that an earthquake would happen in 2008 would have been as lucky as a guess that I would be ending my college career as editor-in-chief of a Best in State newspaper or even getting a degree in communication of all things.

If you would have asked me in the fall of 2004 when I enrolled in UM-St. Louis as a transfer student what I would be doing in 2008, I would have said taking classes in medical school, maybe interning at a hospital, well after graduating from UM-St. Louis with a bachelor's in biology.

I would be on my way to becoming one of those doctors like you see on *E.R.* or a genetics specialist maybe helping solve some crime on *C.S.I.*, in the "real world."

As I come to end of my life in college, which was supposed to be the best six years of my life, I am at a point where I have to face the "real world," which they always talk about after college. I have come to realize, though, the college world and "real world" are not all that different.

In the "real world," there are no summer vacations, no winter or spring breaks, but at least those in the "real world" might get holidays off.

You may still sit at a desk, which will hopefully be bigger than the one in your lecture hall, and instead of a professor, you have a boss.

You will probably still have that annoying classmate (they call them co-workers in the "real world") that does nothing and gets a better grade

(or paid more) than you.

You still have homework and you have tests of a different kind, like whether you can make that sale or choosing between your family and job.

However, I am glad to say along the way through UM-St. Louis, I have made some friends and gained some mentors that shaped my outlook for the "real world," like professors Gina Keckritz, Al Akerson and Mike Murray who all believed in me and helped me get to where I am today.

However, my greatest mentor, of course, is *The Current's* adviser Judi Linville, who was always there to listen to my ramblings and complaints late at night or early in the morning, but also to share the glory of the good moments, like winning Best in State. While she is retiring from advising *The Current* this summer, I hope she does not retire from advising me about the "real world."

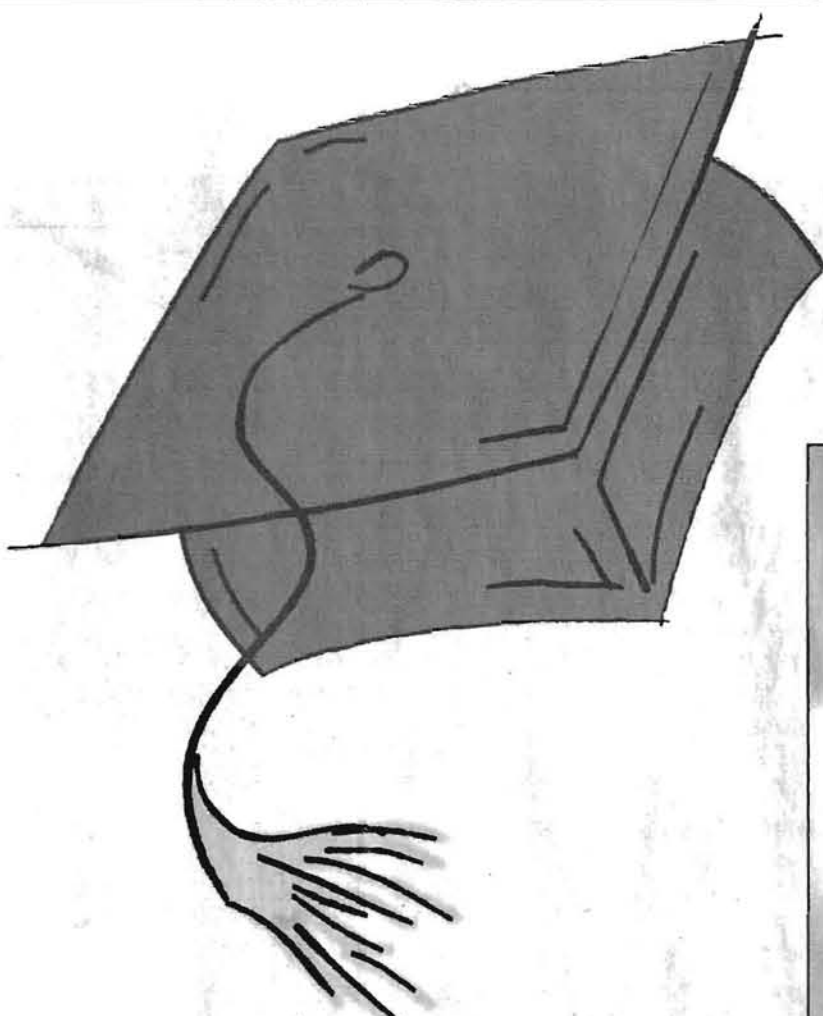
All of the former editors-in-chief that I served under starting with Kate Kimble, Mike Sherwin and Adam D. Wiseman, and next year's editor Melissa S. Hayden all influenced me to one day accomplish a personal goal of mine, to become the editor-in-chief of *The Current*.

The entire staff this year has been my crutch for support when I needed it and to see so many new faces come together to help make this year one the bests is a memory I will keep forever.

However, the person who has helped me and supported me most of all is a person I wrote about at last June: my father, who passed away four years ago this coming July.

He is the one person that will make the transition from the college world to the "real world" all that easier.

Hackbarth out.



The Current bids farewell to its staffers

The Current is saying goodbye to many of its staff members this spring as graduation approaches.

Paul Hackbarth, editor-in-chief: Paul will graduate with a bachelor of arts in communication. Paul has served as staff writer, news editor, design editor and other roles in previous years working with *The Current* since 2004. Paul hopes to work at a newspaper after he graduates.

Tom Schnable, assistant sports editor: Tom will graduate with a bachelor of arts in communication. Tom has served as assistant sports editor and sports writer. He joined the staff in the spring 2007. Tom has interned at the *Suburban Journals*.

Amanda Ward, advertising representative: Amanda will graduate with a bachelor of arts in communication. She joined *The Current* staff in the winter of 2008 as a practicum intern in advertising. Amanda is a member of the UMSL Flames Dance Team, Zeta Tau Alpha sorority

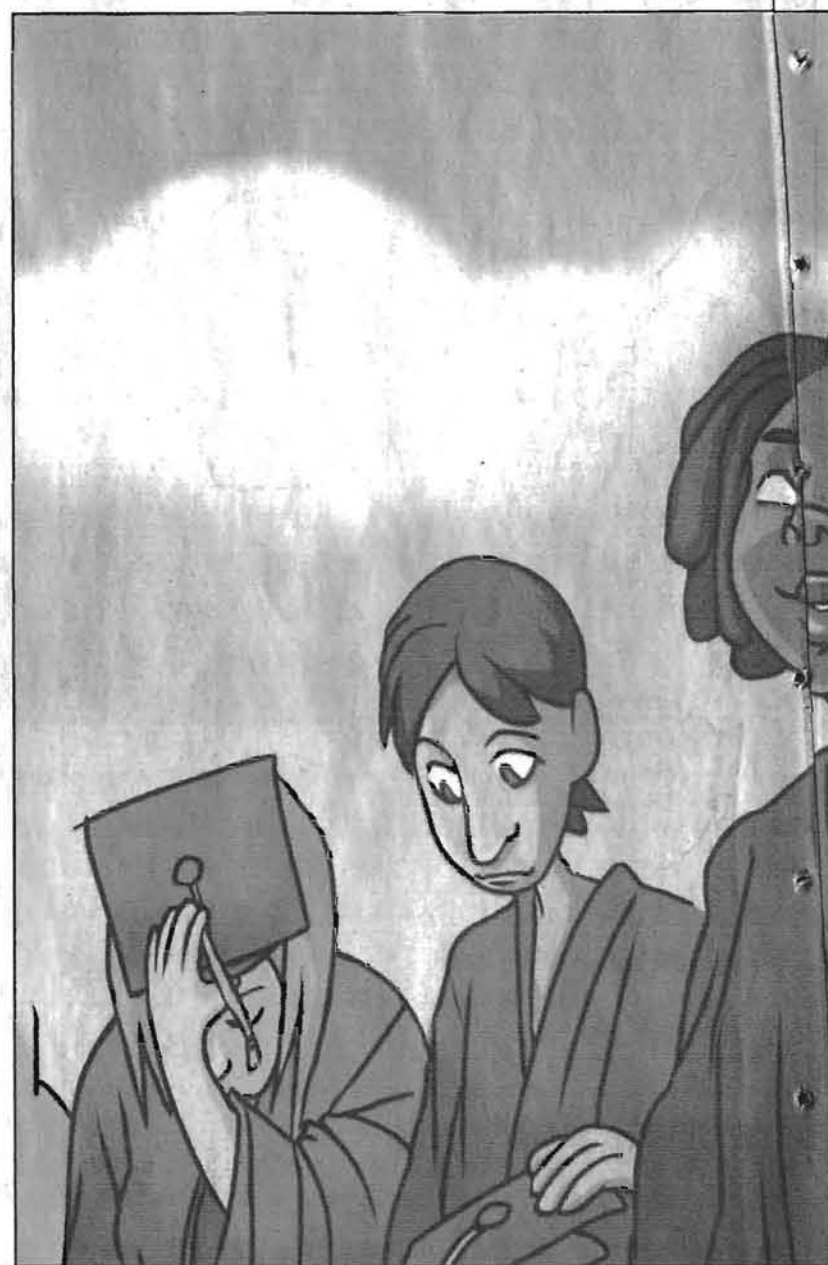
and the Order of Omega. Amanda recently served a short term as vice chair in the Student Government Association executive committee.

Scott Lavelock, sports writer: Scott will graduate with a bachelor of arts in communication and as a career path, he wants to go into radio broadcast or journalism. Scott joined *The Current* in the fall of 2007 and completed a practicum during the winter semester of 2008. Scott has been a member of the UM-St. Louis baseball team for four years and has always wanted to pursue a career in professional baseball, but he does not foresee that in his future.

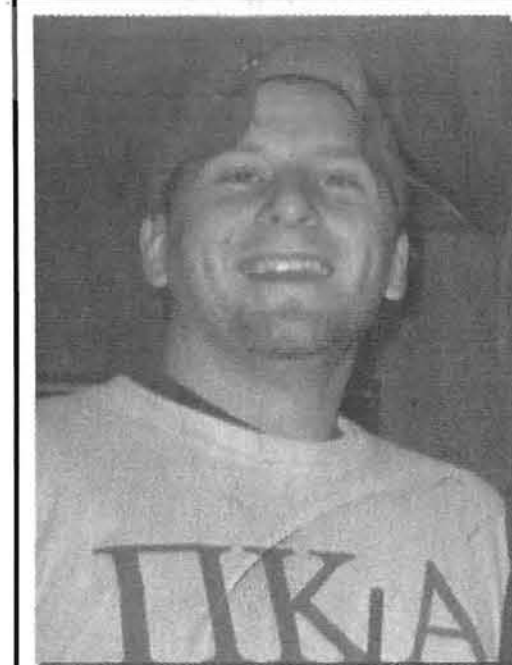
Melissa S. Hayden, the editor-in-chief for the 2008-2009 school year, said she appreciates what these staff members have done for *The Current*.

"I am going to miss everybody, but it's going to be especially weird without Paul here because he's been here helping me out all along the way," she said.

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF '08



GOOD LUCK OF THE GRADUATES



JASON,
It has been 4 years of fun, exhaustion, sorrow, & happiness. Between studying, PIKES, work, Erin & family you have always managed to accomplish what you wanted to get done. We are very proud of you son and we are sure that you will succeed in whatever the future brings.

Love,
Mom & Dad



JASON,
I am so proud of you! I know you will do whatever you decide to do.

I love you,
Jessica



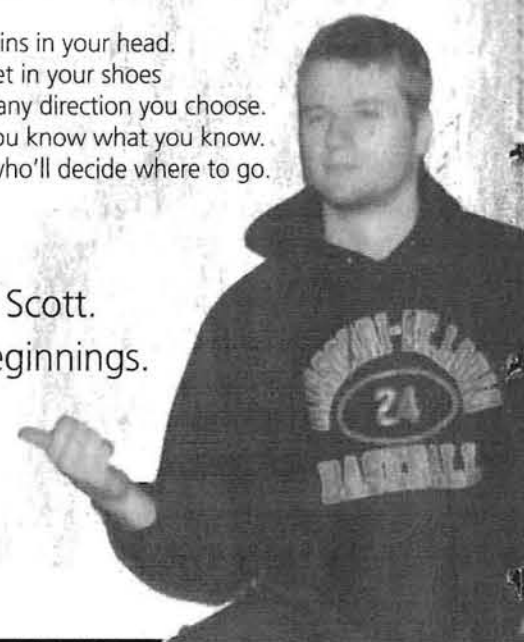
SCOTT LAVELOCK

Congratulations!
Today is your day.
You're off to great places!
You're off and away!

You have brains in your head.
You have feet in your shoes.
You can steer yourself any direction you choose.
You're on your own, you know what you know.
And YOU are the guy who'll decide where to go.

And we know that you will go far, Scott.
But always remember your humble beginnings.

Congratulations,
The Current



CONGRATULATIONS
AMANDA!

We Are So Proud
Of You!

Love,
Mom, Dad, Gregory, Amy,
Angela, Michael,
& Steven

'08



LATIONS F 2008



Elizabeth Gearhart • Illustrator

CK TO ALL ADUATES!

FAQs FOR UMSL GRADUATES

- **Do I need tickets?**
No. Tickets are not needed for any of the ceremonies. You may bring as many family members and friends as you like.
- **What time do candidates need to be there?**
Graduates will report to Room 221 of the Mark Twain Building 45 minutes before the ceremony.
- **What time should guests arrive?**
The Mark Twain Building will open to the public one hour before the start of each ceremony. The Touhill Performing Arts Center will open one hour before the College of Optometry ceremony.
- **How long does the ceremony usually last?**
Each ceremony will be approximately one to one and a half hours in length.
- **Will my name be read?**
Yes. All candidates come to the stage - their names are read, they are congratulated by the Chancellor, and they receive a diploma cover.
- **Which side do I wear my tassel on?**
Undergraduate students should wear their tassel on the right side of their cap at the beginning of the ceremony. After students are pronounced graduated, tassels are moved to the left side of the cap.

Graduate students should wear their tassel on the left side of their cap, since they have already graduated with a bachelor's degree.
- Faculty members and administrators should wear their tassel on the left side of their cap.
- **Is there a graduation rehearsal I need to attend?**
No, there is no rehearsal.
- **When do I get my diploma?**
Six to eight weeks after commencement your diploma will be mailed to you. A copy

Spring Commencement Schedule

All ceremonies will be held in the Mark Twain Building (except the College of Optometry). Each ceremony includes undergraduates and graduate candidates and will be approximately one to one and a half hours in length.

Saturday, May 10 10 a.m.

Mark Twain Building (UMSL North Campus)
Tickets are NOT needed for this ceremony. Open seating.

- * College of Nursing
- * UMSL/WU Joint Undergraduate Engineering Program
- * College of Fine Arts & Communication
- * School of Social Work
- * Bachelor of General Studies/ Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies
- * UMR-EEC
- * Gerontology Masters Program
- * Masters in Public Policy Administration

Saturday, May 10 2 p.m.

Mark Twain Building (UMSL North Campus)
Tickets are NOT needed for this ceremony. Open seating.

- * College of Arts and Sciences

Saturday, May 10 6 p.m.

Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center (UMSL North Campus)
Tickets are NOT needed for this ceremony. Open seating.

- * College of Optometry

Sunday, May 11 2 p.m.

Mark Twain Building (UMSL North Campus)
Tickets are NOT needed for this ceremony. Open seating.

- * College of Education

Sunday, May 11 6 p.m.

Mark Twain Building (UMSL North Campus)
Tickets are NOT needed for this ceremony. Open seating.

- * College of Business Administration

of the commencement program will be included. If you have a question about how your name will appear on the diploma, contact Peggy Bemis in the Registrar's Office at 516-6930.

- **Will professional photos be taken?**

Heart of America/Chappell Photography will take two photos of each candidate - 1. As the candidate shakes hands with the Chancellor. 2. At the foot of the stage in front of the U.S. and Missouri flags. You will receive proofs in the mail about a week after the ceremony. If you do not

receive your proofs in 7-10 days, call Heart of America/Chappell Photography at 800-424-3686.

- **Is there a video made of the ceremony?**
No.



*Congratulations,
James!*

*We are so proud of you!
We knew you could do it!*

"Love Mom and Dad"

'08



**CONGRATULATIONS
MARK!
YOUR A WINNER**

*Love,
Mom & "POPS"*

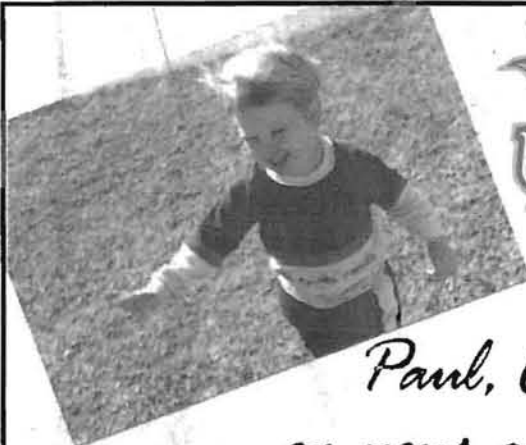


The Current

www.thecurrentonline.com

The Current congratulates Tom Schnable, our assistant sports editor, on graduating

*Congratulations
Tom Schnable!*



*Paul, Congratulations
on your graduation, 2008!*

We are so proud of you.

*You have done a great job, and
we know you will keep up the good work.*

- Love Mom, Jennifer and Triton

A&E

THIS WEEK AT THE TOUHILL

STELLA MARKOU

The concert will be Tuesday April 29, at 7:30 p.m. in the Anheuser-Busch Performance Hall in the Touhill. The director of vocal studies makes her St. Louis debut in a concert featuring the works of Handel, Debussy and our own Barbara Harbach.

UMSL SYMPHONIC BAND

The band will perform a concert to cap the semester on Wednesday April 30 at 7:30 p.m. in the Touhill Lee Theater.

CHINESE SPECTACULAR

Music, dance and acrobatics plus an array of other Chinese performing arts highlight this extravaganza on April 30 - May 1 in the Anheuser-Busch performance Hall in the Touhill.

ARIANNA QUARTET

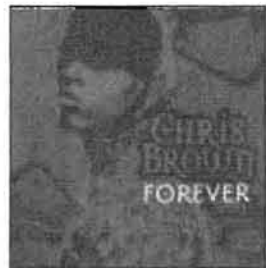
String quartet will perform Thursday, May 1 at 7:30 p.m. in the Touhill Lee Theater.

STORYTELLING FESTIVAL

The final event of the St. Louis Storytelling Festival, with featured storytellers including Heather Forest, Robert Greygrass, Beth Horner, Franky Ramont, The Storycrafters and Ken Wolfe. May 1-3, in the Touhill Lee Theater.

TOP ITUNES DOWNLOADS

- 1. Bleeding Love - Leona Lewis
- 2. 4 Minutes (feat. Justin Timberlake) - Madonna



- 3. Forever - Chris Brown
- 4. Lollipop - Lil Wayne
- 5. Leavin' - Jesse McCartney
- 6. No Air - Jordin Sparks & Chris Brown
- 7. Say - John Mayer
- 8. Love in this Club - Usher
- 9. Touch My Body - Mariah Carey
- 10. Sexy Can I (feat. Yung Berg) - Ray J

MOVIE REVIEW



Jackie Chan stars as Lu Yan in "The Forbidden Kingdom," directed by Robert Minkoff.



Jet Li stars as Silent Monk and the Monkey King "The Forbidden Kingdom."

'The Forbidden Kingdom' joins martial arts legends

By Cate Marquis
A&E Editor

It is the dream cast for a martial arts movie: superstars Jet Li and Jackie Chan. The two international stars of Hong Kong martial arts action movies join forces in "The Forbidden Kingdom," a family-friendly, American-made fantasy that takes a modern American kid back to the time of Chinese legends. Jet Li and Jackie Chan even do battle in one kung fu fight scene. What could be better?

Jet Li and Jackie Chan are international stars but some of their more recent American-made offerings have not always hit the mark with audiences here. Their joint foray into kid-friendly family fare with "Forbidden Kingdom" is a much better film, with a great deal of fun and non-stop action.

The likeable "The Forbidden Kingdom" samples from a variety of films, including "The Wizard of Oz," "Karate Kid," "Lord of the Rings" and "House of Flying Daggers," to create one entertaining and often hilarious package. The film smorgasbord includes nods to Jackie Chan's Hong Kong breakthrough hit "Drunken Master" and Jet Li's "Hero." Icons of Chinese myths and legends, some familiar to fans of Chinese action films, like the White-Haired Witch, the evil warlord and the Monkey King make their appearances.



Jason (Michael Angarano) is a poor teen, new to his run-down neighborhood, who is hooked on Chinese action movies about legends and mythic heroes. His favorite hangout is the seedy shop of an old Chinese man named Hop, where he discovers an old golden Chinese fighting staff. But the old man refuses to part with it, telling him he is waiting for someone to pick it up and return it to its rightful owner.

A confrontation with a gang of young bullies trying to rob Hop's shop

knocks Jason unconscious and sends him back to the time of Chinese legends, where the real fun begins. Like Dorothy in "The Wizard of Oz," once Jason reaches the land of his dreams, all he wants is to get back home.

"The Forbidden Kingdom" is the kind of kid's film that is packed with winking fun, an all-ages film that everyone can enjoy.

American director Rob Minkoff, who also helmed the animated "The Lion King," crafts a film that is nearly non-stop, in both humor and kung fu

action. It is packed with familiar Chinese movie characters, like the beautiful, young but skilled Golden Sparrow (Liu Yifei), orphaned by the Jade Warlord's (Collin Chou) army and set on revenge, who plays beautiful Chinese music but is also a knife-wielding assassin, as well as the Chinese legends. Adversaries are the Jade Warlord and his ally, the white-haired witch Ni Chang (Li Bingbing).

Jackie Chan is in wonderful form as the drunken martial arts master Lu Yan, with funnier material than he has

"The Forbidden Kingdom" follows the story of Jason (Michael Angarano), a young boy, who is transferred back in time of Chinese legends, where he meets Lu Yan (Chan) and Silent Monk (Li).

had in a long time. There are fewer big stunts for Jackie but he makes up for it with plenty of other action and comedy.

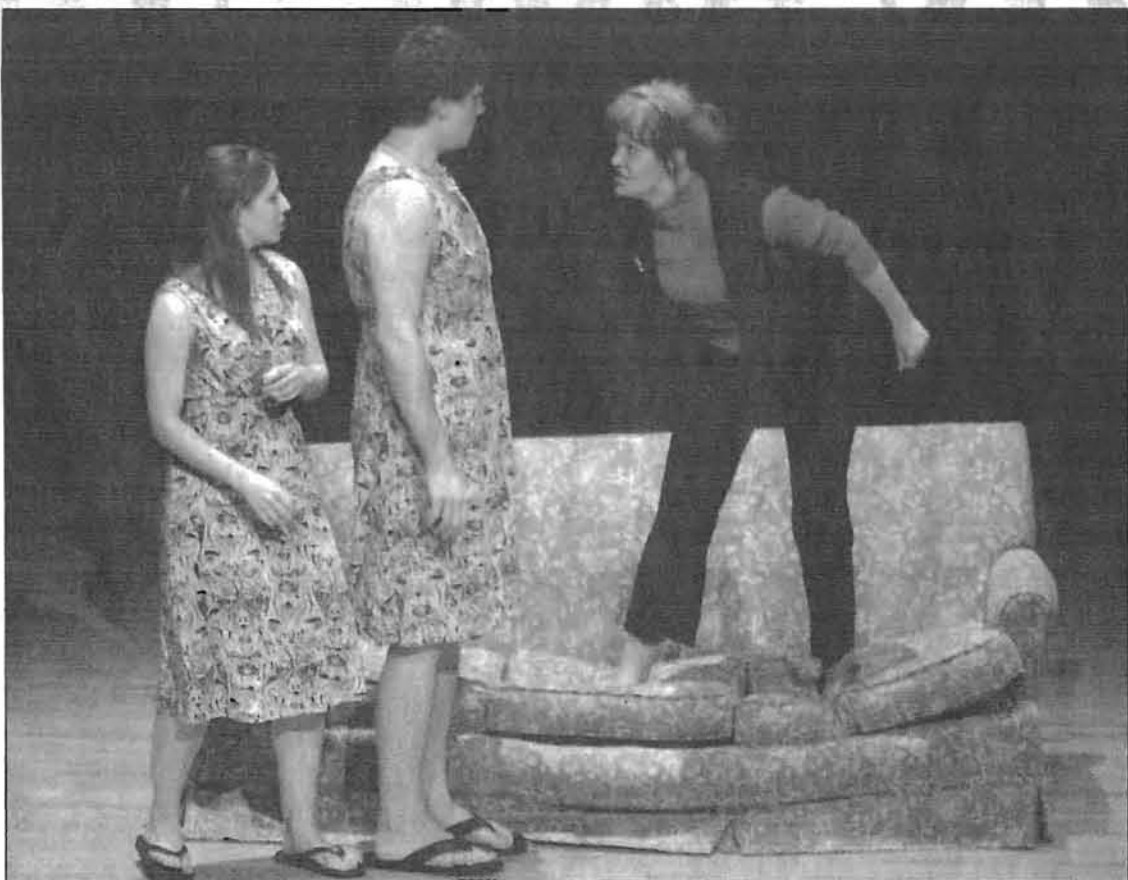
The fight scene between Jet Li and Jackie Chan is marvelous. Actually, the two great martial arts actors are great together in every scene they share, making one wish that this pairing had been tried sooner.

Jet Li, who often plays noble, unsmiling heroes, gets to stretch in his role as the always-laughing immortal Monkey King, in heavy golden make-up and flowing blonde hair.

There are plenty of martial arts moves for Jet Li but the humorous persona he creates adds enormous charm on screen. Jet Li's other character, the Silent Monk, is more typical of his roles but he also adds touches of humor here too.

"Forbidden Kingdom" has plenty of action and humor, but the action effects emphasis is on fantasy, not violence, making it more acceptable for some younger audience members. The special effects are wonderful, and the location shots in China, the lush and colorful sets and costumes are all perfect.

Although it is primarily aimed at young teens and 'tweens, "The Forbidden Kingdom" has monkey barrels of entertainment for any audience. It is not deep or significant, or even original or artistically groundbreaking. It is, however, lots of fun and very entertaining.



UM-St. Louis students brought various one-act plays to the Touhill Performing Arts Center on Tuesday. Here, Brie Brewer, freshman, theatre and dance, (RIGHT) shouts at her co-stars during performance.

One-act plays at Touhill close out directing class semester

By Sofi Seck
Staff Photographer

On Tuesday, for the first time in UM-St. Louis history, the Touhill PAC held a showcase of student directed one-act plays.

Professor Jason Cannon's directing class performed three one-act plays in the Touhill's Lee Theater. This was the final project for his Directing class, which featured three directors and twelve actors.

The first play was Christopher Durang's "Naomi in the Living Room." Directed by Brendan Gartland, the play told a story of a dysfunctional family dealing with an unfortunate loss. It began as a married couple paid a visit to the husband's mother, played by Rebecca Tasley. She was an odd woman who kept the audience laughing the entire time. Tasley played the role of the mother well. In the scene, she screamed at her daughter-in-law the entire time and her mood changed every couple of minutes.

"She was absolutely a joy to watch," said Mitra Rahmani, one of the audience members.

Michael Williams, senior, secondary education, played the husband. He was impressed with the outcome of the whole thing.

"We did a fabulous job. Everyone worked hard and it turned out great," Williams said.

The second play was "A Funny Way of Showing It" by Jerry Rabushka. Directed by Caitlynn Ward, this drama-filled play took place in a high school. It was about a young lady who was in a physically abusive relationship. She was dating the star athlete of the school, but the problem was that he frequently hit her.

Like most good-hearted plays, at the end her friends intervened and it all worked out. The great thing about this play was the message and the acknowledgement that abuse is a subject that can affect anyone. It was an interesting scene to watch and the acting was respectable, but no one stood out.

Morenike Coker directed the last play, "Tom and Jerry" by Jim Geoghan. This one seemed to entertain the audience the most based on the outpour of laughter at any given moment. The setting was in a base-

ment of a club in the 1980s where two comedians, Tom and Jerry, made their living performing. Tom was the serious, headstrong businessman. Jerry was a carefree guy who was only interested in the fun aspect of their business. Jerry took nothing seriously and was an alcohol and substance abuser.

"I liked the third play the best," Rahmani said. "The acting was good and it kept my attention the whole time." Among the cast, the tone of the performances varies from comic caricature to understated realism. For all that, this was the most satisfactory played and carefully directed of the three.

All together, the plays were entertaining, the acting was well done and the scenes well directed.

"The directors did a good job but more work needed to go into it, it was good but it could have been better," Williams said.

As for the show's attendance, William said, "I was very happy with the amount of people there, considering that there was very little advertising for it." This was the first of its kind performed at the Touhill, but it should not be the last.

Soda Fountain Square is not square at all

By Angie Spencer
Proofreader

Lafayette Square is home to many restaurants and bars to delight the human belly and soul. From chocolate to coffee to comfort food, there is something there for everyone. One place that encompasses all of these is Soda Fountain Square.

At the corner of Park Avenue and 18th Street sits a diner described by its Web site as a "1930s Soda Fountain and Diner." However, the interior says something completely different.

With a wall lined with antique radios, a diner may feel as though they have walked in to that sort of atmosphere. The dimmed lighting, wooden booths, carpeting, tables and sophisticated bar have the opposite effect.

But people do not go to restaurants for the décor, they go for the food, and Soda Fountain Square will not disappoint.

Going out on Dine Out for Life, where the proceeds went to benefit HIV/AIDS research, may not have been the best idea, time-wise. Waiting for food for over a half an hour does not bode well for any restaurant or diner. However, the wait was more than worth it.

The Buttermilk Pancakes (\$3.95 for four and nearly the size of a grown person's head) were some of the fluffiest pancakes to grace a plate. The batter had the perfect griddle flavor with a hint of maple syrup baked in. Top the stack with more syrupy goodness and you have in front of you the best breakfast ever.

Get a side of bacon (\$2.25) with it, and be transported back to how your grandfather used to cook it: juicy with just the right amount of complimentary crispiness.

For lunch, try the Chicken Tenders (\$6.95) served with a maple mustard sauce for dipping and fries. While

the plate of food did not appear to be fully cooked, the fries did not taste as such. Piled high, they were crinkle cut, crispy and lightly salted.

The batter of the chicken started to peel off of the meat and that made it hard to eat. Chicken tenders are meant to have a crispy, crunchy batter and while it did, it slid off the meat too easily. The sauce for dipping was more mustard than maple, so be sure to ask for honey or syrup to pour in if you do not like mustard.

The Homemade Meatloaf Plate (\$9.95) was not a let-down. With nearly a pound of meat showcased with a mountain of mashed potatoes, both smothered in a rich, brown gravy, this dish would be hard for almost anyone to finish. It was tender, juicy and a very hearty serving. It was a little bit like Salisbury steak with mushroom gravy, so

be aware of that if you order it.

If you have room for dessert, get the Goopy Butter Cake (\$3.95). Not many restaurants have this St. Louis classic on their menu, so enjoy it while you can. This is a dessert that lives up to its name. It is goopy, buttery and the crust is about as much cake as you will find. Other choices to consider are sundaes, malts and shakes.

The downfalls of this restaurant: for being a soda fountain, the root beer and Coke were both flat at best.

While the staff is certainly friendly, they are forgetful (no spoon for a Coke Float after asking for one). They also did not come back to check on the table for at least 20 minutes. However, the busyness of the day, Dine Out for Life, might hint that the problems with service may not be typical on an average night.

Located at 1801 Park Avenue, Soda Fountain Square is a must-try for any food enthusiast. Hours are Tuesday through Thursday, 6:30 a.m. to 10 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 6:30 a.m. to midnight, and Sunday, 7:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. It is closed on Mondays.

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W
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ATHLETE
OF THE WEEK



Steve Porter

Steve Porter is back. McCluer High School's chosen one has returned to form, leading UM-St. Louis to two victories over #25 Southern Indiana and helping them come close against Division-I Saint Louis University.

His best game of the week was in a close loss to Southern Indiana on Saturday, though, when he went 3-for-4 with two doubles, a home run, six RBI and two runs.

All-in-all for the week, he went 6-for-17 (.353) with nine RBIs, four doubles, two stolen bases and two hit by pitches.

Porter now leads the team in RBIs with 26, walks with 21 and stolen bases with 14. He has been caught stealing only once all season.

UPCOMING GAMES

Baseball
April 29
at Missouri S&T (dh)
1 p.m.

April 30
vs. Wisconsin-Parkside
(dh)
Noon

May 2
vs. Indianapolis
7 p.m.

May 3
vs. Indianapolis (dh)
Noon

May 4
vs. Indianapolis
1 p.m.

Softball

May 1
vs. SIU-Edwardsville
Noon

A CLOSER LOOK

A SPECIAL FIVE-PART IN-DEPTH SERIES TO ANSWER THE QUESTION:

Can UM-St. Louis athletics achieve Division-I status?

PART FIVE OF FIVE: What would the move mean for the University?

By Tom Schnable
Assistant Sports Editor

The first four parts of the feature series were designed to ask as many questions as it answered. What would UM-St. Louis be like if it had a football team? Would there be new facilities on campus? How would the school pay for it all?

In the final part of the series, we take a look at what the jump to Division-I would mean for UM-St. Louis. Not just how the physical aspects of the campus would change, but in a much broader sense, the recognition that being D-I would bring to the university.

To answer this question, we again take a look at how the jump might affect the school most resembling ours, SIU-Edwardsville.

"I think from an enrollment management perspective, they'll get more students," said Athletic Director John Garvilla, referring to UM-St. Louis's current conference partner. "Their donations will go up. They'll get a lot more PR because they will be playing major universities."

"I think their brand identity will improve, brand awareness will im-

prove and people will recognize SIUE to a greater extent. There is a big difference when you're comparing the New York Yankees to the Toledo Mud Hens."

Certainly, once SIUE gets to D-I, it will have arrived in the big leagues. More so than just on the college sports' scene, SIUE will enter an era where it will have to be taken seriously by the media as well.

"SIUE's AD Brad Hewitt told me in over 50 years, SIUE has not appeared in the Chicago Tribune," Garvilla said. "When they made the decision to go D-I, they got in the Tribune right away."

But once that exposure comes, Garvilla pointed out that there is no turning back. Schools like SMU and even Missouri have been burned badly by NCAA sanctions for mistakes they have made in the past.

"From a positive or negative outlook, including social issues, behavioral issues and academic issues, you are no longer in the back, you are no longer in the middle," he said. "You are the classified section. You are right there, front-and-center, even from a negative standpoint."

The potential for failure is a possible reason schools have not tried

making the transition in the past. Schools can get comfortable maintaining status quo, and some people think a school like UM-St. Louis may be best served by trying to succeed at its current level.

"From a personal level, we do a lot of things very well here, especially for the resources we have," said Rick Gyllenberg, who has worked in the athletic department in numerous roles for over 10 years. "It is my opinion that we get better at what we're doing at the Division-II level before we think about going to the Division-I level."

"We have a long way to go before we're a national powerhouse in Division-II, and I think we might want to be knocking on the door of doing some pretty great things at the Division-II level before you ought to consider going Division-I."

The 'resources' Gyllenberg referred to are the biggest stumbling block holding schools like UM-St. Louis back. That issue has already been discussed, but it warrants mentioning again that if the university made the jump, it would cost a great deal of money.

It is clear that a decision such as this is a major one for any university

Softball

Tritons do just enough to reach post season

By Scott Lavelock
Staff Writer

A week in which the UM-St. Louis softball team went 2-4 in conference and 4-4 overall would ordinarily be considered a disappointment. But this week, it was just enough to punch their ticket to the Great Lakes Valley Conference Tournament for the first time since 2005.

The Tritons sealed the deal on Sunday with a clutch 6-0 victory over heavily-favored Indianapolis in the final game of the regular season. That win brought them into a four-way tie for sixth place.

With only eight spots in the conference tournament, one of those four teams had to be the odd-one-out. After the tiebreaker, UM-St. Louis, Wisconsin-Parkside and Rockhurst qualified, while Quincy will only go to the tournament as spectators.

The win that sent the Tritons to the post-season came after a 12-3 loss earlier on Sunday against Indianapolis, which pushed them to the brink of elimination. They responded, though, with seven shutout innings from junior Ally DeFosset and freshman Crystal Koehler to move their overall record to 24-24.

Most importantly, though, it improved their conference record to 13-13. That was just enough after their Saturday split against St. Joseph's and their two 1-0 losses against SIU-Edwardsville on Tuesday.

The Tritons also swept Washington University in a non-conference doubleheader on Thursday.

It is a new season now, however. UM-St. Louis enters the GLVC



Danny Reise • Assistant Photo Editor

Kelly Essner pitched a game that would keep the hits for Washington University to a minimum on Thursday at UMSL Softball Field.

Tournament as the seventh-seed, and will face second-seeded SIUE in the first round on Thursday in Peoria, Ill. Should they win the three-day, double-elimination tournament, the Tritons will receive an automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament.

Last week's action began at home against those SIUE Cougars, the defending national champions. UM-St. Louis out-hit them 6-2 in game one, but one of the Cougar hits was a

home run, providing the game's only tally. DeFosset pitched the complete game for UM-St. Louis.

Koehler pitched her first complete game of the year in game two, allowing one run. That was all SIUE needed, as senior Casey Dierkes was the only Triton who reached base by virtue of a base hit.

On Thursday at the UM-St. Louis Softball Field, junior Kelly Essner drove in the first run of the

game against Wash. U. with a first inning single. That would be more than enough, as she threw a masterful two-hit shutout with no walks en route to a 3-0 win over the Bears. Sophomore Carly Maddock added a two-run single.

In game two, senior Alex Ogle broke a 3-3 tie in the fifth with a two RBI double.

See **SOFTBALL**, page 13

Baseball

Last minute game leads to loss for Tritons

By Angie Spencer
Proofreader

A day that started out dreary and then turned hopeful played out the opposite way for the Tritons.

In a last minute scheduling, the Tritons faced the Division I St. Louis University Billikens at The Billiken Sports Center Tuesday night.

The Tritons took a tough loss, losing 7-6. This loss moved the Tritons to 15-21 on the season, while bumping the Billikens to 18-20.

Starting pitcher, J.C. Schute allowed four runs in the first inning putting SLU up by four.

"They [SLU] capitalized on the mistakes I threw," Schute said. He took the loss on the mound, giving

up five runs on eight hits in three innings.

The first inning ended on a relay throw to the plate where catcher Nico Gregali recorded the put out to put some momentum back on the Triton side.

In a roar of determination, the red and gold came back to tie it up in the top of the second.

Designated hitter John Kalb led off the inning with a double into left centerfield, followed by Gregali who singled.

Next up was senior Mark Sanders, who singled to right, scoring Kalb into the plate.

Senior Ryan Ayers then singled to right scoring Gregali. Junior Andy Ford came to the plate, after junior Steve Porter walked, scoring Sanders

making the score 4-3.

Clean up hitter Scott Lavelock hit a sacrifice fly bringing home Ayers to tie the game up 4-4.

The Billikens earned runs in the bottom of the third and fourth innings. This is where the hopeful turned dreary as this put the Billikens up by two.

No one scored again until the top of the seventh when Lavelock drove in his second run of the night, hitting a double to leftfield that scored Ford, bringing the Tritons within one.

SLU drove in one more run in the eighth bringing the score to 7-5.

In a valiant effort, Ayers hit a homer over the far rightfield wall to lead off the ninth bringing one last ray of hope to the Tritons. However, the two though five slots were unable

to bring a run in resulting in the final score of 7-6.

Despite it being a last minute game, the Tritons felt that did not affect their play.

"We were prepared," Schute said. "We were ready to go just for practice, so we played no worse or better."

Though putting up a noble effort, the Tritons came up just short.

"This game just slipped through our fingers," Ford said. "We had a chance to make a statement."

With the 2008 NCAA Division II Baseball Championships around the corner, the Tritons still have a fighting chance to make it.

"We have to win every series from here on out. I think we can do it," Ford said.

Golf

Tritons find the greens

By Scott Lavelock
Staff Writer

The UM-St. Louis women's golf team continues to improve, turning in a couple of solid performances the last two weeks. The lady linksters finished fourth out of nine teams at the Aviator Classic, hosted by Lewis University, from April 20-21.

They followed that up by making a run at the Great Lakes Valley Conference Tournament championship last weekend. The Tritons were in second place after the first day, only nine strokes behind eventual champion Northern Kentucky. They had slipped to seventh by the end of the tournament, but it was still a respectable finish in the 12-team field.

The men competed in their second regional tournament of the spring from April 20-21 in Noblesville, Ind. at Purgatory Golf Course, where the Tritons entered the inferno and finished a disappointing 14th out of 19.

The tournament was close from top to bottom, though, with UM-St. Louis finishing only 11 strokes out of seventh.

At Lewis last weekend, the women came out strong from day one. Junior Shannon Vallowe shot a first-round total of 83 allowed her to hang on to a team-best 13th place finish.

Freshman Ashley Stout's rounds of 85 and 81 were good for a 19th place finish, and junior Sarah Cissell was one stroke behind her to finish 22nd.

Senior Erin Konkol and sophomore Leslie Fischer fired identical two-day totals to tie for 30th.

Northern Kentucky won the tournament played at Prairie Bluff Golf Course in Lockport, Ill., holding off Southern Indiana by five strokes. The Tritons edged Lewis by one shot to hang on to fourth.

At the GLVC Tournament played in Marion, Ill. at the Kokopelli Golf Club, Stout led the red and gold to their strong start on Saturday with a 79 on the first 18 holes. She was tied for second at that point, only one shot behind Northern Kentucky's Sophie Rasmussen, who ultimately won the title.

Konkol was also in contention after day one, shooting an 80 to put her two strokes off the lead.

Things went south on Sunday, however. Stout fell to 15th, which was still the third best finish of any freshman in the tournament.

Konkol shot six strokes behind Stout to finish 23rd, with Cissell and Fischer tying for 31st. Vallowe connected for two identical rounds of 93 to place 39th.

This time, the women could not hold off Lewis, who outlasted them by four strokes to force the Tritons into seventh.

Day two was the better day for the men in their most recent tournament, as they came back from 17th on day one to finish 14th.

Junior Matt Winslow was the team's top performer, finishing only six over par after rounds of 74 and 76. He placed 24th.

Junior Matt Thomas and freshman Tim Cochran both shot an 80 in round one and a 74 in round two, tying for 50th. Freshman Ryan Penfield recorded an 81 on both days, tying for 82nd with sophomore Tim Swoboda, who fired rounds of 77 and 85.

Grand Valley St. took the tournament title of teams representing the Great Lakes Region, with an impressive performance from top to bottom. They shot only two strokes over par as a team for the entire tournament.



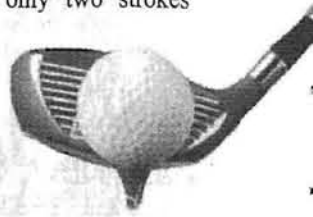
Shannon Vallowe



Ashley Stout



Sarah Cissell



Tennis

Disappointing end for Triton teams at GLVC Tournament

By Scott Lavelock
Staff Writer

Less than one week after the UM-St. Louis men's tennis team reached new heights with their victory over Rockhurst, they came crashing back down at the Great Lakes Valley Conference Tournament in Indianapolis on Friday.

The Hawks avenged last week's loss with a 5-1 win over the second-seeded Tritons in the semifinal match.

This came after a Rockhurst victory over Southern Indiana and a UM-St. Louis win over Indianapolis earlier in the day set up their match for the right to go the tournament championship.

Drury went on to defend their number one seed on Saturday by beating Rockhurst for their third straight GLVC Tournament championship. Drury's women's team won their second straight title earlier in the day.

Now, all the Tritons can do is

wait. Despite missing out on the automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament that comes with a conference tournament championship, they could still possibly get an at-large berth. If the bid does not come, the 2007-2008 season will end for the Tritons with a record of 15-6.

UM-St. Louis's conference tournament appearance last week came after sophomore Andi Dimke and senior Boris Simic were named to the All-GLVC Team.

The two combined for the only win against third-seeded Rockhurst, a 9-8 doubles win at the number one position.

The other doubles matches were close as well, but the Tritons came up short. Senior Ryan Burgdorfer and freshman Daniel Anthony lost 8-6 at the number two position, and senior Peter Hantack and sophomore Andre Chemas fell 9-7 at the three slot.

That left it to the singles competitors if the Tritons were to advance to the championship, but three of them did not get a chance to finish their

matches. After Simic, Anthony and Hantack lost their matches, making it 5-1 in Rockhurst's favor, the other three matches were halted since the Hawks had already clinched the match.

Chemas and Dimke's matches were among those, despite both of them being neck and neck with their opponents in the second set. Freshman Alex Cherman also did not get to finish his match. He had won the first set, 7-5.

The red and gold got to the semis by virtue of their 5-1 victory over seventh-seeded Indianapolis that morning, which was keyed by a pair of doubles wins. Burgdorfer and Anthony won 8-3, and Chemas and Hantack took their match 8-2.

The Tritons then cruised through singles play with easy wins by Hantack and Cherman, who both dropped only one game during their respective matches. Anthony clinched the team's win with his 6-1, 6-2 triumph, leaving the matches of Dimke, Simic and Chemas unfinished.

SOFTBALL, from page 12

Essner scored one of those runs, as she continued her field day with two hits and an RBI. Junior Megan Riggs also went 2 for 3, and her two runs were the difference in a 5-3 Triton win.

Once again at home on Saturday, UM-St. Louis held off St. Joseph's in game one, 4-1. Riggs starred once again, going 3 for 4 and pounding a two-run double in the fourth inning that broke the game open. DeFosset threw another complete game, her 13th of the year, surviving a seventh inning rally to hold on for the win.

It was the Pumas who had to survive in game two. Leading 4-0, St. Joseph's pitcher Sara Somogyi was

three outs away from a no-hitter before freshman Karey Kruse broke it up with a ringing double.

By the time the dust had settled, the Tritons had four runs across the plate. Essner drove in Kruse with a double, and then Dierkes mashed a triple that brought in two runs before an error allowed her to score the tying run on the play. The game lasted 10 innings before the Pumas finally won, 5-4.

Indianapolis then came to town on Sunday and erased a 3-2 Triton lead by hanging a seven-spot in the fifth. Essner was the lone source of offense for UM-St. Louis, but her three-run homer was not enough in

the 12-3 loss.

And so, it all came down to the final game, and it was all Tritons. The game was busted open in the 4th when single runs scored on a triple by Riggs and a bunt single by senior Dana Essner. Two runs also scored on a single through the middle by sophomore Meg Brussman in the 6-0 win.

UM-St. Louis's first round game on Thursday will begin at noon. A win over SIUE would pit them against the winner of Rockhurst and Missouri S&T later in the day. A loss would match them up against the loser of Indianapolis and Southern Indiana.

STATS CORNER

MEN'S TENNIS

GLVC Standings		
Team	Conf.	Overall
	(W-L)	(W-L)
Drury	10-0	21-2
UM-St. Louis	9-1	15-6
Rockhurst	8-2	12-6
SIU-Edwardsville	7-3	12-8
Bellarmino	5-5	13-9
Southern Indiana	5-5	8-12
Northern KY	4-6	7-13
Indianapolis	4-6	6-13
Quincy	2-8	8-15
St. Joseph's	1-9	7-12
Lewis	0-10	0-16

Tournament Results		Season Records	
Quarterfinals		A. Chemas	12-3
UM-St. Louis	5	A. Cherman	12-3
Indianapolis	1	A. Dimke	16-5
		P. Hantack	17-7
Semifinals		D. Anthony	15-7
Rockhurst	5	R. Burgdorfer	3-2
UM-St. Louis	1	B. Simic	9-10
		T. Bryant	7-9

BASEBALL

GLVC West Standings		
Team	Conf. (W-L)	Overall (W-L)
Southern Indiana	21-6	33-15
Drury	14-11	26-18
SIU-Edwardsville	15-13	21-23
Quincy	14-14	25-22
Missouri S&T	12-14	19-22
UM-St. Louis	11-15	17-23
Rockhurst	8-20	17-32

Upcoming Games		
April 29	at Missouri S&T (dh)	1 p.m.
April 30	vs. UW-Parkside (dh)	12 p.m.
May 2	vs. Indianapolis	7 p.m.
May 3	vs. Indianapolis (dh)	12 p.m.

SOFTBALL

GLVC Standings		
Team	Conf. (W-L)	Overall (W-L)
Lewis	20-4	37-13
SIU Edwardsville	19-5	41-9
Missouri S&T	17-9	26-19
Indianapolis	16-10	34-24
Southern Indiana	14-10	31-21
UM-St. Louis	13-13	24-24
Quincy	12-12	28-18
Rockhurst	12-12	27-18
UW-Parkside	12-12	25-20
Saint Joseph's	10-14	20-25
Northern KY	9-17	20-28
Drury	8-18	19-36
KY Wesleyan	6-18	12-30
Bellarmino	6-20	18-40

Upcoming Games		
May 1 (GLVC Tournament)	vs. SIU-Edwardsville	12 p.m.

TRITON SPORTS, from page 4

This will only change when more money comes rolling in.

Athletic Director John Garvillia has a track record of strong fundraising, and we have already seen increased efforts in getting sponsors and advertising.

Bringing in that corporate money, especially from alumni, will be key in resurrecting the program. There has been improvement, but there needs to be drastically more.

Most of the money for any of our University's programs comes from the state, which has simply not made the commitment that it needs to.

The only way for UM-St. Louis to maximize its potential is for the government and the whole university system to recognize that potential and make the financial commitment that they are not making.

The second issue that needs to

be addressed is the way our administration functions. Just as the athletes share a lot of the blame for the losing, so too do the administrators, both inside and outside of the athletic department, and the coaches.

All of those who are in these leadership positions throughout the school are not exactly on the same page. Calling them a cohesive unit would be like calling Kim Jong Il a fair and democratic leader.

There are several problems they need to fix, from the lack of a baseball field down to the holes in the bleachers. None of them are going to get fixed, though, if the administration does not work together to make it happen.

I would call on them to do something a little different: put aside the differences and the egos, and get on the same page. If that does not hap-

pen, things will never get any better.

If it does, though, and if the University and legislature wake up and start bringing in more money, this is a program that is capable of returning to its past glory.

I have seen a lot of good things in my four years here. The administrators have stepped up to try and help the students many times.

The coaches have brought in many talented players in spite of the outdated facilities.

The athletes have pulled off multiple upsets of nationally-ranked teams.

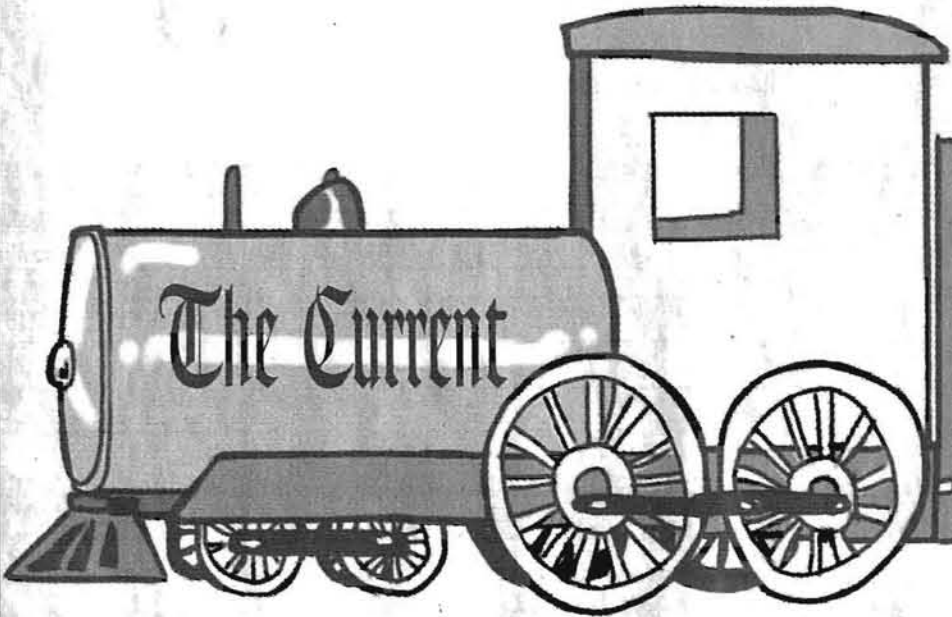
After I graduate next month, I hope to see those things continue. They only will, however, if there is a rise in the amount of cooperation and the amount of money.

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SPORTS BRIEF

Weekend split keeps UMSL baseball alive for GLVC Tourney

The UM-St. Louis baseball team snatched two wins this weekend at #25 Southern Indiana. The first was a 6-3 win in game two of Saturday's doubleheader, followed by a 6-3 victory on Sunday against the Screaming Eagles, who have clinched the Great Lakes Valley Conference West title.

Those wins keep UM-St. Louis in contention for the GLVC Tournament.

With six conference games left, the Tritons trail Drury by 3 1/2 games for second place in the West. They can grab a spot either by reaching second in the West or by snaring the final wild card spot.

The Tritons trail Indianapolis by five games for that spot, but the two teams play each other four times this weekend after the Tritons' doubleheader at Missouri S&T on Tuesday. They will also play twice against Wisconsin-Parkside on Wednesday, but those games will not count in the conference standings due to scheduling rules.

Last weekend's series started slowly for UM-St. Louis, with USI winning game one 11-3. Seniors Ryan Ayers and Mark Sanders each had two hits in the loss and pulled off a double steal to score a run in the third.

On Saturday, USI took a 10-2 lead in game one before UM-St. Louis scored two in the fifth and three in the final inning.

Each of those runs came with two outs, as junior Steve Porter hit a three-run homer to complete a 3-for-4 game with 6 RBI. The Tritons promptly loaded the bases later in the inning, but could not get any more runs in the 10-7 loss.

Game two saw a reversal of fortune, as sophomore Justin Rodgers threw 7.2 strong innings, allowing three runs and five hits. Sanders hit another homer, his third in the last two weeks. Senior Ryan Gray went 4-for-4, and senior Nico Gregali hit a two-run triple in the sixth to give UM-St. Louis a lead they would not relinquish.

Senior John Kalb was dominant out of the bullpen, pitching 1.1 perfect innings for the save.

UM-St. Louis grabbed a 4-1 lead on Sunday with the help of a two-run single by Porter. USI fought back to tie the game twice, but an RBI single by junior Andy Ford and a wild pitch that scored senior Cole Williams gave the Tritons just enough.

Sophomore Seth Cockrum got the win out of the bullpen, and Kalb again got the save.



Lishu Qu, graduate student, computer science, takes a look at the planet Mars through the main telescope of the Richard D. Schwartz Observatory on South Campus in 2007.

OBSERVATORY, from page 6

She was trying to set one up for that evening. "I actually thought I was going to cancel it, because it was supposed to rain but it looks clear now," she said.

"I actually live very close to the observatory, so I am in a good spot," she said. "But I have to keep changing the message (if the weather changes)."

For the public viewing as well, it is a good idea to check the Skywatch Hotline at (314) 516-5706 shortly before the open house to see if it is taking place or not, in the case of changeable weather.

Keira Wright got her position running the Observatory open house because she is so active in the physics and astronomy department.

"Dr. Wilking, the head of the department of physics, just asked me if I wanted to do it and I said 'Gladly,'" she said. "So for the past year, I have been running the Observatory on South campus."

In warmer weather the observatory is busy but Keira Wright herself is pretty busy too.

Besides running the Observatory open house, she has taught labs in astronomy, and been a supplementary instructor for several astronomy courses.

She is working with Erika Gibb, assistant professor, on astronomy research.

She is also president of the physics club and works with a fifth grade science outreach program. She is also working with Dr. Sonya Bahar on research in neurophysics.

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One and two bedroom campus apartments now available at Mansion Hills Apartments. Large apartments include dishwasher, garbage disposal, on-site laundry facilities, pool, UMSL shuttle service, police sub-station, etc. NO DEPOSIT! Spaces are filling up fast for the fall semester. Some restrictions apply. Call today! 314-524-3446.

Immediately available 1 bedroom apartment at Woodson Park Apartments. Great location right off Page and 170. st floor, ample closet space, washer/dryer connection, and new kitchen appliances. Call 314-428-2145 for the current special.

HELP WANTED

Hannagan's Restaurant and Pub is now hiring happy people for Day and Evening Servers. Server positions receive great gratuities for great service. Flexible schedules are available. Apply in person or email resume for consideration. 719 N. second st. Laclede Landing. Hannagans@aol.com 314-241-8877

Join Our Team! Want a fun-filled, rewarding summer job? Our resident camp needs you! Competitive salary; room/board. Nine-week season begins May 31. call 314-592-2353 or email jmorgan@gliscoutsem.org for more info.

The College of Nursing is hiring a Student Assistant- Technical. The successful applicant needs excellent customer service and technical support skills and confidence around computers and other technology. See the job ad on the Career Services web site to apply.

MISCELLANEOUS

Traffic Ticket Trouble? Call UMSL's neighborhood attorney, Kris Boevingloh at 314-989-1492. Speeding - DWI - Driving While Suspended - MIP - Accident Cases Confidential consultation. Affordable fees starting at \$75.

Earn \$800-\$3200 a month to drive brand new cars with ads placed on them. <http://www.AdCarClub.com>

Tutoring Available! Graduate Student in Mathematics and Education (secondary and college-level) available for tutoring high school and college students in mathematics coursework. Location negotiable. Please call Amy at (314)725

2028 for more information and/or to secure arrangements for tutoring.

TYPING / EDITING /TRANSCRIPTION. Quality work, fair rates. Barbara (314) 991-6762.

The Current is now hiring for Business Manager, Advertising Director and Advertising Representatives. Call 5174 or email thecurrent@umsl.edu

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GET READY FOR WAR

CAMERON VS. ASHTON

WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS

IN THEATRES MAY 9

The Current

YOU AND A GUEST ARE INVITED TO A SPECIAL ADVANCED SCREENING

HAPPENS VEGAS

VISIT THE CURRENT AT www.thecurrentonline.com TO FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN PICK UP A PASS FOR TWO.

WHEN YOU STOP BY OUR OFFICE TO PICK UP YOUR PASS TELL US YOUR BEST BREAK-UP TIPS.

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

BOOK BUYBACK @UNIVERSITY MEADOWS CLUBHOUSE !! (UMSL South Campus)

May 6th (Tuesday) 9am-4pm
May 7th (Wednesday) 10:30am-4pm
May 8th (Thursday) 9am-4pm

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WORK FOR THE CURRENT.

IT'S WHAT ALL THE COOL KIDS ARE DOING.

ARE YOU AN IRON MAN?

The Current

INVITES YOU AND A GUEST TO THE FIRST MUST-SEE MOVIE OF THE SUMMER!

VISIT THE CURRENT AT www.thecurrentonline.com TO FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN PICK UP A PASS GOOD FOR TWO.

Come dressed as IRON MAN to the screening and compete as the best IRON MAN in St. Louis to win prizes!

GRAND PRIZE Mask & Repulsor Gauntlet!

5 RUNNERS-UP IRON MAN prize packages to include the IRON MAN novelization from Random House

www.ironmanmovie.com

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FOR GROUP SALES INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL US AT 1-877-PAR-GRP5 OR E-MAIL AT: GROUP_SALES@PARAMOUNT.COM

IN THEATRES FRIDAY, MAY 2!

Good bye, farewell, auf Wiedersehen, adieu.

Good luck graduates!

CURRENT CARTOONISTS

SCONEBOROUGH

by E. Gearhart

HOW'S THE INVENTING GOING, ELSIE?

...THE TOAST CARD!

THAT TOAST HAS YOUR SHOPPING LIST ON IT!

YEAH, I RAN OUT OF PAPER.

HMM... MAYBE IT'S TIME TO START ON MY NEXT INVENTION: HAM-A-GRAMS!

PRETTY WELL! I'M FINALIZING MY LATEST CREATION AS WE SPEAK. I CALL IT...

I MADE A MACHINE THAT WRITES ON TOAST! NOW I CAN SEND DELICIOUS MESSAGES.

ARE YOU REALLY GOING TO EAT THAT?

... EWWWW.

"Sconeborough" is drawn by Current cartoonist Elizabeth Gearhart

Margaret & Hooray by Cody Perkins

Hey Hooray, how'd the medical test go?

BAD! I fell asleep and didn't get paid! And worse of all, no cool side effects!

Whoa! You didn't have a tail before!

AWESOME!

Oh My God! Hooray, aren't you worried about the chemicals they put in you?

With Benefits like this, I prefer to remain unfortunately Awesome!

TO BE CONT'D FALL'08!

"Margaret and Hooray" is drawn by Current cartoonist Cody Perkins

PERM SPAWN, BY CALEB TRUE

LET'S DO WHAT WE DO BEST!!

FIVE, FOUR, THREE, TWO, ONE, GO!

CELEBRATE THE COSMIC DANCE.

YOU'RE SUCH A FREAKIN' HIPPIE.

"Perm Spawn" is drawn by Current cartoonist Caleb True

SYNDICATED CARTOON

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MARGULIES
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www.thecurrent.com/margulies

The Current says adieu to those who are graduating. Goodbye and good luck.

Snapshots at jasonlove.com



Chuck wasn't really suicidal. He just wanted to jump into that big balloon thingy.

King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Mentor

5 Bro or sis

8 Chest protectors?

12 Candid

13 Dead heat

14 Jacob's brother

15 "Death of a Salesman" son

16 Terrier variety

18 Just know

20 Ran up the phone bill

21 Libertine

23 Regret

24 Yarn

28 Radiate

31 Eisenhower

32 Battle verbally

34 Golf ball's position

35 Porridge-making bear

37 Get-rid-of-junk event

39 Sphere

41 Took the bus

42 One-dimensional

45 Monty —

49 Portrayer of Gilligan's skipper

51 Domesticated

52 Zilch, in Xochimilco

53 Caribbean, for one

54 Craving

55 Sight-seers?

56 Brooch

57 BPOE members

DOWN

1 Mongolian desert

2 — arms (ready to fight)

3 Plundered

4 Spread out, as a flag

5 Sculptures

6 Square root of IX

7 Titanic

8 Chinch

9 Columbus' sponsor

10 Hay bundle

11 Took to court

17 Listener

19 Tittle

22 "Pomp and Circumstance" composer

24 Allen or Conway

25 Alias abbr.

26 Summertime beverage

27 From the Continent

29 Lubricate

30 Tiny

33 Vortex

36 Sports venues

38 Colonize

40 "Humbly"

42 Diane or Nathan

43 "Now — me down to sleep"

44 Grate

46 Burglar's booty

47 Russian city

48 Trawler gear

50 Floral neckwear

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

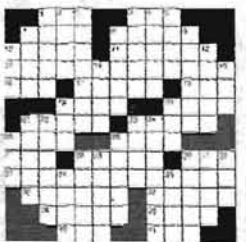
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging ★★★ HOO BOY!

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

The Current



Salome's Stars

ARIES (March 21 to April 19)

Do not waste your time and energy fretting over remarks you consider unnecessary or unkind. Best advice: Ignore them, and just keep doing your usual good job.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)

Those changes you planned to implement in early summer might need to be reassessed, but do not make any moves until you have discussed this with someone you trust.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)

Home becomes the center of a new social whirl, as you show your talent for hosting great parties. You can expect to impress a lot of people who've never seen this side of you.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22)

Your aspects favor harmony, making this a good time to work out problems in relationships — whether personal or professional, big or small. An old friend comes back.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22)

While you are still riding that high-powered beam, you might begin to lose focus by week's end. It could be you will need to do a little cat-napping to restore your spent energies.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 Sept. 22)

An unexpected development creates a lot of excitement. Where it takes you is your decision. Check out the possibilities, then decide if you want to go with it or not.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)

Although your supporters help you squash an unfair claim against you, do not let this go unchallenged. You need to learn more about the motives of those behind it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)

There are still some tasks to clear up by midweek. Then you can welcome the new month on a high note. A friend brings surprising but very welcome news.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)

You might want to change your plans before they are set in cement. Consider advice from colleagues, but remember that, ultimately, it is your choice.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19)

A difficult situation is working itself out. Lingering problems should be resolved by week's end, allowing the Goat to enjoy a calmer, less stressful period.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)

Be careful not to move so quickly that you miss possible warning signs that could upset your plans. Slow down. Your supporters will continue to stand by you.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20)

Your generosity in sharing your time and wisdom with others leads to an intriguing development that could have you considering some interesting choices.

BORN THIS WEEK:

You have a way of influencing people to be and do their best. You would make an excellent teacher.

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A&E ON CAMPUS

End of semester is not the end of arts on campus

By CATE MARQUIS
A&E Editor

Classes might be ending for the semester but that does not mean an end to the arts or entertainment on campus.

CONCERTS:

Maynard Ferguson Tribute concert, Sunday, May 4, at 7 p.m. Touhill Anheuser-Busch Performance Hall, Honoring Maynard Ferguson's 80th birthday, one of the greatest jazz trumpeters.

University Orchestra, Vocal Point and University Community Chorus concert, Tuesday, May 6, at 7:30 p.m. Touhill Anheuser-Busch Performance Hall. Choral and orchestral music concert with works by Handel, Bach, Barbara Harbach and others. University Orchestra will perform "The Soul of Ra" by Barbara Harbach, professor of music at UM-St. Louis, performed at the concert to honor Kirkwood. The concert also includes music by Oscar Hammerstein, Dave Brubeck and Billie Holiday.

Mother's Day Celebration 'Sing & Laugh with the Christians,' Sunday, May 11, at 6:30 p.m. Touhill Anheuser-Busch Performance

Hall. Men with a Vision presents a Mother's Day celebration with gospel music, gospel comedians, praise dancers and others.

Israeli singer Noa in concert, Tuesday, May 13, at 7 p.m. Touhill Anheuser-Busch Performance Hall. Kaleidoscope Israel @ 60 presents international recording artist Noa, known in Israel as Achinoam Nini. The international artists have influences that come from jazz, classical music and rock.

Voices in Harmony concert, June 21 Touhill Anheuser-Busch Performance Hall. International Champion a cappella singers chorus Ambassadors of Harmony performance.

All That Tap XVII dance concert, Saturday, July 26, 7 p.m. Touhill Anheuser-Busch Performance Hall. Tap dancers from exciting young talent to legendary masters, styles from Jazz to Funk to Broadway, accompanied by the Carobeth True Jazz Trio.

DANCE:

Prime Time Dance Competition, May 16-18, Touhill Anheuser-Busch Performance Hall. This is a free non-ticketed dance competition

on Friday, May 16, at 5 p.m., Saturday, May 17, at 8 a.m. and Sunday, May 18, at 8 a.m.

Spring to Dance Festival 2008, May 22 - May 23, Touhill Anheuser-Busch Performance Hall. The first-ever three day festival of dance, taking place over the Memorial Day weekend. Each evening's program is different and varied from world-acclaimed stars like The Joffrey Ballet of Chicago to rising talents like Dancing Wheels of Cleveland, with a focus on rising Midwestern troupes.

Sankofa Productions "Tropical Spectacular", Friday, May 30, at 8 p.m., Touhill Lee Theater. Multimedia production featuring authentic African Caribbean and traditional West African dance styles, with live music.

Forces of Nature Dance Theatre, Saturday, May 31, at 8 p.m. Touhill Anheuser-Busch Performance Hall. Forces of Nature Dance Theatre performs "Earth Rites," dance works "dedicated to the survival of life on our planet."

COMEDY:

The Second City comedy concert, May 16-17, Touhill Lee Theater.

Chicago's legendary improv troupe The Second City returns to

Touhill with edgy, adult, satirical humor and improvisation. Past members of the comedy troupe include Jim Belushi, Tina Fey, Chris Farley, Steve Carell and Stephen Colbert.

FILM and ART EXHIBITS:

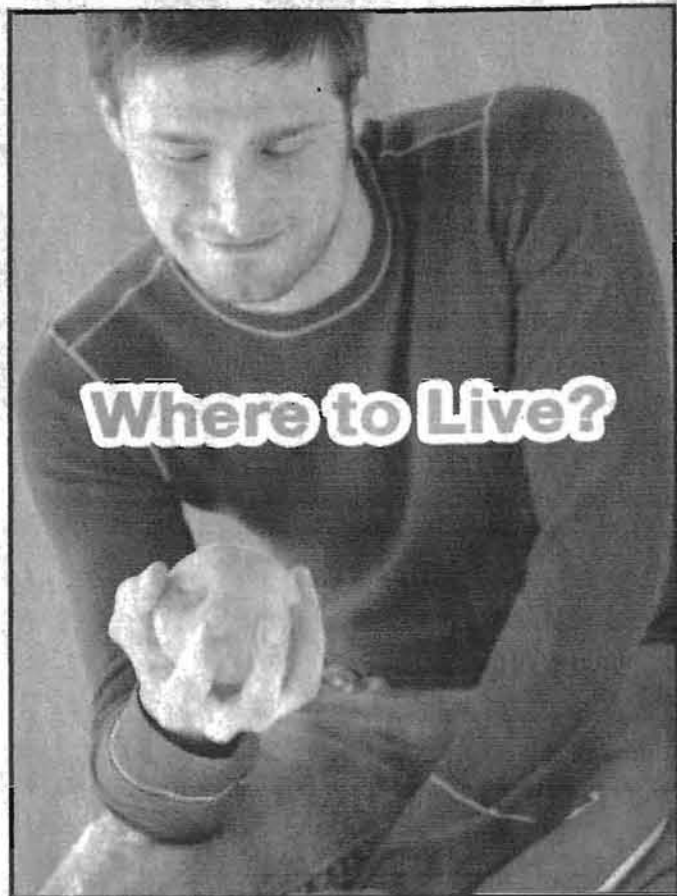
"The Monkey Trail" documentary film screening, May 1 at 6 p.m., Gallery 210 Auditorium. Part of series of events in conjunction with the 'Urgent Shelter' exhibit at Gallery 210, "The Monkey Trail" is a documentary on homelessness in St. Louis, covering the daily struggle for survival and also exploring difficulties in securing permanent and independent housing, steady work, sobriety and health care. "Urgent Shelter" is on display through May 31 in Gallery 210.

"Volunteer Visions" art exhibit, May 1- May 5 Gallery Visio. An exhibit celebrating the creativity of UM-St. Louis volunteers. Opening Reception May 1, 4-7 p.m. **"What I See" art exhibit, May 8 through June 26, Gallery Visio.** Benefits school children in Sri Lanka

"imPOSTERS: Fake Bands, Real Posters" art exhibit, July 17 - August 21, Gallery Visio. Opening reception July 17, 4-7 p.m. Now calling for submissions.

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The Second City

TOURING COMPANY

One Nation, Under Blog

UMSL STUDENTS: JUST \$10 at 10 P.M.!

FRIDAY, MAY 16, 10 P.M. [\$35, GENERAL PUBLIC]

Don't miss your chance to catch the hilarious improv and sketch comedy troupe THE SECOND CITY for just \$10 on Friday, May 16 at 10 p.m. "Legendary" raves *The New York Times*. No topic or subject matter is off limits for The Second City - if your parents asked you not to speak about it at the dinner table, chances are it will be made fun of!

Intended For Mature Audiences

FOR TICKETS/MORE INFO: CALL 516.4949 OR VISIT TOUHILL.ORG

[EXPLORING]

ANGER

IN MEN with DR. MARK SCHWARTZ

Wednesday, April 30 from 3:00 - 4:30 PM

Millennium Student Center Pilot House

Light refreshments will be served.

Presentation followed by Movie Night with Amnesty International at 5:00 PM.

Mark B. Schwartz, M.D., is a board certified Psychiatrist and a faculty member at the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science, School of Medicine, and formerly the Chief of the Division of Men's Health at the University of Missouri. Dr. Schwartz is a past president of the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law, and a past president of the American Psychiatric Association. He is also a past president of the Missouri Psychiatric Association and a past president of the Missouri Psychological Association. He is currently a professor of psychiatry and behavioral science at the University of Missouri, and is also a past president of the Missouri Psychiatric Association and a past president of the Missouri Psychological Association.

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