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12-2-1996

## Current, December 02, 1996

University of Missouri-St. Louis

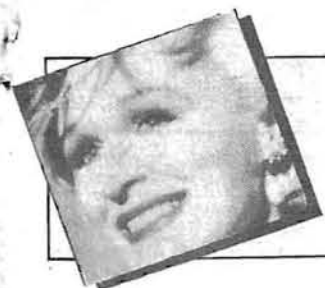
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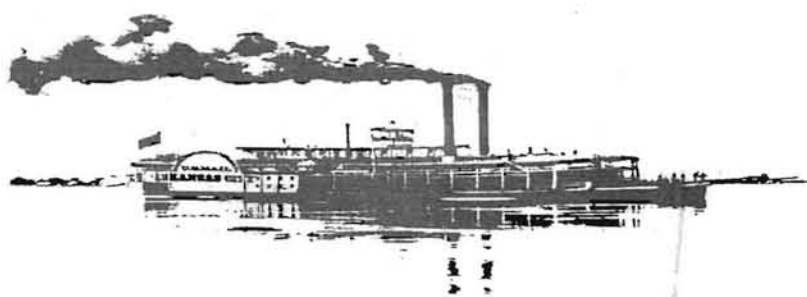
### Recommended Citation

University of Missouri-St. Louis, "Current, December 02, 1996" (1996). *Current (1990s)*. 223.  
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Disney does it again with  
101 Dalmatians.  
See page 7.



En Garde!  
Take a look at the fine art  
of fencing. See page 5.



The Student Voice  
of UM-St. Louis

# The Current

30th Anniversary  
1966-1996

Issue 874

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-ST. LOUIS

December 2, 1996

## 1996 THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Though many would agree that UM-St. Louis isn't a bastion of excitement, 1996 provided numerous interesting news items.

Our campus saw mold shut down Mark Twain. Officials who stepped up when trouble arose and others who stepped down without rhyme or reason. Unfortunately, some even passed on.

At various points throughout the year, students resigned, rebelled and even resorted to violence. Many students selected a new president.

Sure, none of these events made Tom Brokaw's Teleprompter, but they did find a place on the galleys of *The Current*.

As this is the last issue of the fall semester, and therefore the year, the staff of the newspaper takes a look back at some of the highlights and lowlights of the past 11 months.



Christella Hairston

### Assault disrupts campus community

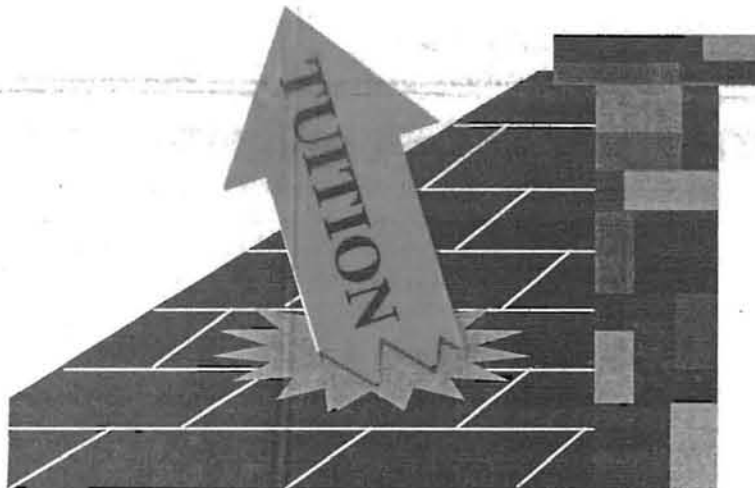
A simple dispute over a parking space in front of Woods Hall turned into a much bigger issue. According to Christella Hairston, a black woman, she was accosted by a white woman and male just outside the building. Hairston said the individuals were using racial epithets and the woman rushed at her kicking and punching. Nobody involved was arrested. Hairston felt that they should have been as well as banned from campus.

"If the tables had been turned," Hairston said, "I would have been arrested." Campus police said the situation was handled properly. Hairston, along with her supporters, felt that UM-St. Louis treats black students unfairly. She demanded that action be taken. St. Louis prosecuting attorney Robert McCulloch said both parties were at fault. "Nobody came into this thing with clean hands," he said. "Basically, it was an argument over a parking space."

### 5-year-plan sends tuition through roof

The fall '96 semester marked the beginning of the end. The end of the 5-year-plan, that is. The plan effectively doubled the tuition of students. In the 91-92 academic year, tuition was roughly \$67 per credit hour. The rate currently stands at \$121 per credit hour.

At the curators meeting in January, then UM president George Russell said the increases would make the University more competitive for high quality faculty.



### Fausz resigns, Honors students attempt to bring him back

Fred Fausz, dean of the Honors College, stepped down much to the chagrin of many honors students. Many students felt Fausz was forced to resign by Chancellor Blanche Touhill.

Fausz established a successful program and was revered by many of his students.

Several students weren't satisfied with that answer.

Thompson Knox along with several members of *Brain Stew*, a publication produced by Honors students, were

shocked at the news of the resignation of "Dean Fred."

Knox and honors student Wendy Verhoff wrote a form letter and placed it in *Brain Stew*.

The letter stated, "My intent is to make you aware of the respect and admiration that I, and all of the students of the Honors College hold for this man. In doing so, I hope that you will deny his petition for resignation and reinstate him as [dean]."

Touhill did not refuse the resignation.



Fred Fausz

see 1996, page 4

### Health Dept. closes Mark Twain

In February, officials from Public Health Department cited unsanitary conditions when it shut down the Mark Twain Building Feb. 15-16. Mold and fungus were growing in the locker rooms and tiles were missing in the shower areas. "The men's locker room looked as though it had not been cleaned for a long time," said Haywood Smith, public health sanitarian. The facility was reopened on Feb. 17. However, shortly after the clean-up, a custodian who wished to remain anonymous, said the University was negligent in handling the potent cleaning compound needed to conquer the mildew problem. He said the University failed to provide him with adequate protective clothing.

"My hands and feet are now a flaky, oozy mess," he said. "It's terrible what has been done to me." Officials said their motto was "safety first" and said the event would never happen again. The burned custodian visited a workers compensation doctor and is still employed by the University.

## Students, University lend a hand during holidays

by Kim Hudson  
news editor

The charitable efforts of numerous student organizations proves that students care about more than just their grades or their degrees.

The number of student organizations currently doing or planning charitable events for the holidays is many this year and with each project, the stereotype of the selfish, bookish and bourgeois college student is being dispelled.

The Current has already published several stories on the charitable efforts of students this year, including the Barnes Student Nurses Association Halloween Storytelling event in October, the National Optometric Student Association/Urban League clothing drive and the Sigma Pi Toys for Tots Drive.

The BSNA was able to bring Halloween fun to many children who were hospitalized or homebound for

Halloween. Spearheaded by organization member Daniel Nolte, the event was held at St. Louis Children's Hospital, and attended by several BSNA members.

"It's my way of trying to pay back what they gave to me," said Nolte who was a patient at Children's just two years ago with a severe brain tumor.

NOSA completed their clothing drive on Nov. 15 and organization president Adeyinka Adewale expressed much gratitude to her members for their help and support.

"The members have been just great," Adewale said. "We needed people to first set up the bins, then empty them, then clean the clothes. They have been very supportive about getting things done."

NOSA donated their clean items to the Urban League on Nov. 26. Adewale said the organization selected the Ur-

see Charity, page 4

### Fraternity provides meal for area seniors

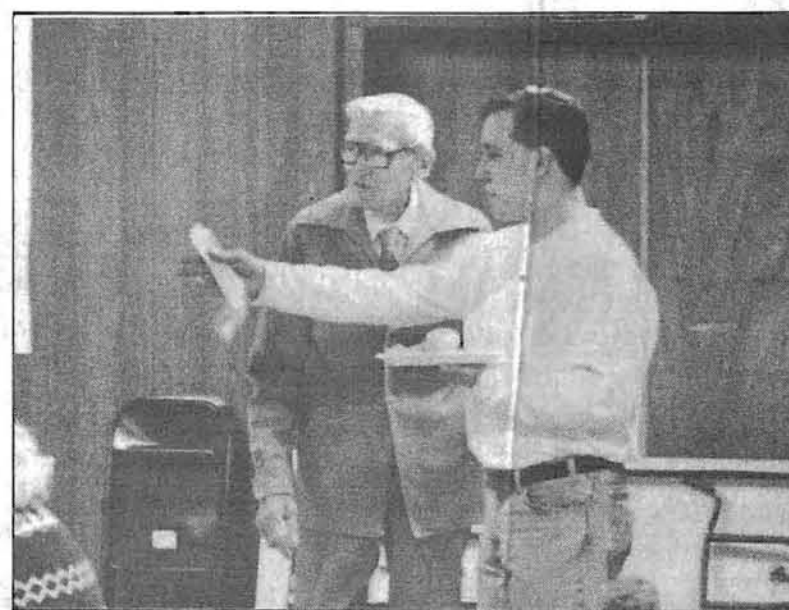


photo: Shelley Satke

A member of the Sigma Tau Gamma fraternity, assists a guest at the fraternity's annual dinner for the elderly.

by Jennifer Lynn  
of The Current staff

This season senior citizens in the area are thankful for the Sigma Tau Gamma fraternity. The fraternity held its Annual Charity Dinner Nov. 26.

The Annual Charity Dinner, held at the Bel-Ridge City Hall, fed senior citizens from Bel-Ridge, St. John and Normandy.

In the past, the fraternity has served a Thanksgiving meal to in upwards of 100 senior citizens, completely filling all of the tables at the hall.

"To some senior citizens, this is a Thanksgiving dinner that they would normally not have a chance

see Dinner, page 4

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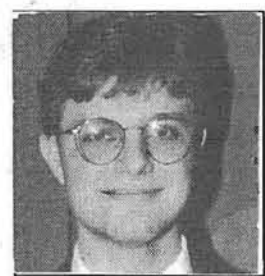


## Handling holiday pressures

by Scott Lamar  
editor in chief

I live for December. With December comes Christmas (though I'm an atheist, I still dig it), cold weather and snow.

Long underwear, building a snowman in the front yard, and Nat King Cole belting out his rendition of "Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire" is what it's all about.



You just can't beat a winter in St. Louis. The myriad of decorative lights reflecting off the freshly fallen snow coupled with the harmonious atmosphere could inspire Ebenezer Scrooge, Satan and the Grinch

that stole Christmas to engage in a warm embrace.

Unfortunately, it's not all beer and pizza. Amid the joys that come with the holiday season come enough hassles, headaches and pressures to drive a person to jump headlong into a snow drift.

It's been documented that the holidays create heaps of anxiety and stress on people.

For college students, it's especially easy to become distracted by all of the holiday merriment. You know the story. You have to buy presents for your loved ones, but in order to buy gifts, you need money. And everyone knows that students' financial resources are scarce. Working students can hack their car payments. However, they'll have to work overtime or take up employment making party trays at Schnucks to help absorb a holiday spendfest.

Many students blow off their classes and their A's and B's fall to C's and D's. Even students who are gung ho about making the grade sometimes become wrapped up in the gift giving season. Take a look around your class. Not quite as full as the first week of class, huh.

A better example is in the parking lots. Do you notice how nobody complains about parking towards the end of the semester?

There's no doubt that everyone feels some pressure. The pressure along with the cold, arctic air seemingly speed up the feeling of academic burnout.

With final exams ready to pounce on students, it's important to remember a few things that will make your holidays more enjoyable.

First, make school a number one priority. Yeah, I know. It's easier said than done. How in the world are people supposed to study when the walls need to be decked with bows of holly?

Well, there is no surefire solution. You have to find motivation within yourself. But just remember this; you've spent 15 weeks driving back and forth between work and school and sat through countless lectures hoping that the caffeine fix didn't wear off.

My best suggestion to stave off burnout is to go somewhere drab. A place free of flashing lights or price tags. In fact, you should choose a spot that is downright uncomfortable and painfully boring. Preferably a place with white walls and wooden chairs. Once there, the only thing to entertain yourself with is that door-stop of a textbook you haven't cracked since mid-term. Again, self-motivation is crucial. Even in a room that amounts to little more than a prison cell, you can play with your gum or doodle in that beast of a textbook. But the distraction are less prominent.

Equally as important is to quell the gift giving pressures. This is a lofty task when your family amounts to a small army. It's even more stressful when you have a girlfriend/boyfriend to think about and a group of co-workers you're not sure what to do with.

The best plan is to draw names. Many large families have adopted this method. It's fast and it's easy.

Set a money limit with your better half. If they are adamant about getting a diamond ring, dump their materialistic ass.

Another potential problem is those acquaintances that give you an unexpected gift. Though you may not even like them, you still feel obligated to buy them a gift of equal value.

There's two solutions to this bind. One, say thanks and walk away. Two, give them a gift that says, "Why in the hell did you buy me this?"

And nothing says it better than an Easter wreath.



## In support of abolishing bimonthly SGA meetings

Finally, a Student Government Association representative has wisely proposed that the Assembly reduce its meetings to once a month and abandon SGA President Bob Fritchey's shortsighted, bimonthly schedule implemented earlier this fall.

In theory a bimonthly schedule is a stroke of genius. Every meeting is another potential occasion to transact the Assembly's business and thereby affect a greater degree of change or at least stir the apathetic masses on campus to some semblance of life.

So, full of zeal for his job or inebriation with his new-found power, Fritchey hastily tried to put theory into practice.

Unfortunately the aberrations of theory fail to withstand the abrasive winds of reality—mainly that students with jobs and families and academic

obligations are sufficiently imposed upon by a monthly meeting that may easily conflict with at least one class or a shift at work or both. Doubling the number of monthly meetings served only to place an unfair and unreasonable burden on genuinely committed student representatives.

To make matters worse, each absence brings the truant student's organization one step closer to a budget freeze. The Assembly is comprised of the select students among thousands who choose to involve themselves. They chose to represent their organizations, and they choose to attend meetings. More times than not, an absence springs from some providential hindrance rather than apathy or negligence.

Punishing students and organizations when they fail to jump through all the hoops of student government is ridiculous and counterproductive to SGA's purpose.

Fritchey and other assembly members contend that the often "monstrous" lengths of meetings would be shortened if he implemented an alternating 3:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. meeting schedule.

Wrong. The length of any meeting of this nature is largely a function of the moderator's ability to conduct business efficiently. In this case, that responsibility falls to Assembly Chair Ben Ash.

Mistaking the Chair's inability to fulfill the responsibilities of his office is to unfairly impose unnecessary obligations on the representatives who must juggle their schedules and manipulate their time around two monthly meetings.

This frustration with Ash's incompetence and the zealot mentality of Fritchey and other members should not play itself out at the expense of students.

## Viva Santa Claus

by Doug Harrison  
managing editor

There's a familial transition afoot around our house these days. That is, Christmas '96 looks a lot different than Christmas, say, '81.

Time was when my brother and I had my parents up at some ungodly hour way before dawn to take final possession of our yuletide loot. In retrospect, my parents had probably just settled down to their long winter's nap after having played stand-in for St. Nick.

But those things never occur to a 6- or 7-year-old; delivery was Santa's job even if, in the absence of a fireplace, he did have to come down our house's stove pipe. Soot washes right out I hear.

My parents were pretty good Santa doubles as parents go. By my fifth and sixth years, my father was a consummate professional when it came to crumbling the cookies we left for Santa, leaving just the right amount of milk in the bottom of the glass to make the whole charade perfectly believable.

After Christmas morning at our house, our family went to my grandparents' house, which for many years was across a small creek and up a big hill from us.

One particular occasion about 15 years ago, a deluge on Christmas Eve made a roaring river out of that small creek. The creek/raging torrent being impassable by vehicle, my father fell a tree across the current, and we precariously inched our way to the other side, my mother carrying the food, my brother and I packing the gifts, my father helping us each.

So much for a white Christmas. But that's the stuff of which inflated and slightly-tweaked reminiscence is made at Christmas time now.

No one in our family believes in Santa

**This year, I had to talk my parents into sleeping in until 9 a.m. on Christmas morning—an ironic reversal of roles I thought.**

anyone, though my grandmother still insists upon labeling all of our gifts *To: Mikie, From: Santa, To: Dougie, From: Santa*, etc. I guess some traditions we never outgrow.

No one lives behind any creeks our under any hills as we once did. Now we live in different states and must coordinate gift exchanges with flight departures and military leaves.

We talk openly and freely of Santa's c.t.a. under the Christmas tree, for my parents still wait until the night before Christmas to haul out the bootie.

They don't have to be quite the stealth-Santas they were once, and I simply close my door and turn on the television if visions of sugar plums are not yet dancing in my head when they are ready to go to bed.

This year I had to talk my parents into sleeping in until 9:00 a.m. on Christmas morning—an ironic and slightly amusing reversal of roles I thought.

These days, my brother is married and my grandfather rests peacefully on the hill outside of the small town in which he watched so many holidays come and go.

The cousins with whom I once contended for present-counts now have children and fond memories of their own to create with their families.

The gifts don't much matter anymore. They're just an excuse, a prop, the trappings of our bounty that bring us together once a year.

The memory of my grandfather's face when he opened those Fruit of the Loom, 100 percent cotton socks, as a 6-year-old, my first gift to him; the anticipation of the life, and yes, family, the future holds for me—these are the things that matter.

It's a pity that robust men in red suits must ring bells outside of supermarkets and malls must turn into battle fields for us to realize it.

Merry Christmas.

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The student voice of UM-St. Louis

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7940 Natural Bridge Road  
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## The Current Newswire

**Freud foundation visiting scholar series.** The UM-St. Louis Biology department is sponsoring a discussion on "Cytochrome P450s in plant/insect interactions: inductions and deductions," Dec. 4 from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. in Room R120 of the Benton-Stadler-Research Science Complex. The guest, Dr. May Berenbaum is from the University of Illinois. Contact Bernadette Dalton at 516-6203 for more information.

**Litmag performance series.** Litmag will hold a reading from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Brant's Market and Cafe Dec. 4. This reading will consist of different English and Creative Writing professors from the St. Louis area. Call Rachel McCalla at 725-4684.

**Internet-based training.** The School of Business Administration is sponsoring a program to discuss the use of the Internet in training organization and business employees Dec. 5 in the J.C. Penney Conference Center. The fee is \$39 and includes lunch. Contact Joe Williams at 516-6912 for more information.

**Stress management.** Residential life is sponsoring a discussion on "Stress Management With an Attitude," Dec. 5 from 7:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. in the Seton Hall TV Lounge. Here, students can find tips on dealing with the pressures that come with the end of the semester. Call Maura Hohmann at 516-6955 for more information.

**University chorus holiday concert.** The Music Department is sponsoring a concert at Overland Baptist Church Dec. 3 from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. For more information, contact Nailah Hardrick at 516-5980.



**Holiday Fest tree**

**Men's basketball vs. Missouri Baptist.** The UM-St. Louis Basketball Rivermen will face Missouri Baptist in the first home game of the season. Tip-off will be on Tuesday, Dec. 3 at 7:30 p.m. in the Mark Twain Gymnasium. Students are admitted free with a valid ID. General admission is \$3 for adults and \$2 for children under 12.

**SGA meeting cancelled.** The Student Government Association has cancelled the last meeting of the fall semester scheduled for Dec. 4. Call 516-5105 for more information.

**Holiday Fest 1996.** Student Activities is sponsoring the 12th annual Holiday Fest this week. Organizations are encouraged to donate holiday food baskets and place them under the tree in the University Center. Groups are also invited to place a holiday ornament on the tree Dec. 4 between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Baskets may be placed any time until 11 a.m. Friday.

# Holiday Fest '96 provides food for needy, fun for campus

*Student organizations encouraged to donate, make ornament*

by Kim Hudson  
news editor

The annual Holiday Fest is on the way with food for the needy, fun and refreshments for members of the UM-St. Louis community.

This year's Holiday Fest marks the 12th in a series of annual charitable events that the University sponsors for students, faculty, staff and St. Louis' needy.

The event, scheduled for Dec. 4, is being sponsored by the Office of Student Activities in the University Center.

"It's the collection of food baskets for the needy," said Denny Kiehl, administrative secretary for the U. Center. "[The baskets] are being distributed to the North Side Team Ministry."

According to Kiehl, the Ministry has been the recipient of Holiday Fest efforts for several years. This organization had to satisfy certain criteria to receive goods from the

event.

"First the recipient organization had to be non-denominational," Kiehl said. "Second their target demographic had to express need."

Kiehl added that there was to be no requirement for the needy recipients to attend the organization's services.

Various members of the University community donated the items for the food baskets. The baskets were placed all over campus, including academic departments and student organization offices.

But while UM-St. Louis is working to bring help to the needy, the U. Center will be working to bring fun to the University community.

"The Holiday Reception will feature cookies and punch for anyone passing by," Kiehl said, "and student organizations can place their ornament on the tree."

Kiehl said all the student organizations and campus residents have been asked to make an ornament. The ornaments will deco-

rate the Christmas tree in the University Center lobby, where the Holiday Reception will be held.

Kiehl also said that everyone will have a chance to be represented. Passersby will be encouraged to sign a friendship garland that will also be placed on the tree.

This event was also made possible by a lot of sponsorship help from various student organizations.

"We were hoping that the different departments could bring the baskets in themselves," Kiehl said. "But if they cannot, members of Sigma Tau Gamma will go get the baskets and deliver them to the U. Center lobby."

The refreshment table will also be manned by representatives from Phi Alpha Theta, The African-American Leadership Council, The Wesley Foundation, University Program Board, Black Greeks United, Horizons Peer Counseling and The Social Work Association.

## SGA considers reducing assembly meetings

by Kim Hudson  
news editor

The Student Government Association discussed a proposal to cut the number of general assembly meetings from two to one a month.

The SGA general assembly meeting on Nov. 19, a representative from the Riverettes Pom Squad proposed that the number of meetings be reduced from two a month to the once a month schedule of last year.

"We meet every other week and we go over the same thing," she said. "It seems a little much."

SGA President Bob Fritchey responded that this year's schedule is designed to reduce the length of each general assembly meeting.

"We shouldn't have these 3-hour monster meetings once a month," Fritchey said. "We should meet twice a month for an hour, hour and a half."

The assembly was split as to how many meetings were necessary for the completion

**"We shouldn't have these 3-hour monster meetings once a month. We should meet twice a month for an hour, hour and a half."**

**-SGA President Bob Fritchey**

of SGA agendas. One representative argued against the proposal.

"It's not fair to those who want to participate in student activities and work full time," she said. "If the meetings were held in the afternoons only once a month, many of us would not be able to make them."

Another representative suggested having a twice a month meeting schedule where attendance at only one meeting per month was mandatory. Fritchey explained that such an arrangement would not be feasible in light of present voting procedures.

"What if the people at one meeting voted on a measure and the people at the other

meeting voted to amend that measure?" he asked. "Then, the measure would have to go back to the first group and it would take at least a month to get anything done."

Other SGA members reminded the assembly that there was no way every member could be present. Assembly members also discussed the different methods to ensure strong student involvement like the proxy procedure where representatives are allowed to send a substitute to the general assembly meetings.

The assembly moved that the proposal go to the SGA executive committee for further consideration.

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Charity, from page 1

ban League for their project because the League will distribute the clothes to needy St. Louisans free of charge.

Finally, Sigma Pi held its drive on Nov. 23.

The fraternity's event was part of a national effort by the United States Marine Corps to donate toys to needy children and ensure that these youngsters receive at least one brand new toy for Christmas.

In addition to these efforts, still more student organizations have planned charitable drives for this

Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. The African-American Leadership Council is planning a charity drive for Christmas.

"We threw around a lot of ideas at the last meeting," said AALC president Denise Jones. "We were discussing a visit to Annie Malone Children's Home to sit and talk to the kids and give them gifts."

The historic Annie Malone Children's Home provides shelter to homeless children and services to broken families while AALC focuses on leadership development

and community involvement.

Members of the UM-St. Louis chapter of Delta Sigma Pi, a national business fraternity, will serve meals at a homeless shelter during the winter, according to organization president Jennifer Boucher.

"We will be going to the Sunshine Mission, and we will have the kitchen all day," Boucher said. "It's something to show that we are not just a bunch of nerds."

Several other organizations and departments are planning events for the St. Louis community for the

holidays and beyond.

Members should contact their organization presidents to find how to get involved.

Students can also contact organizations to find out how to get involved in their projects.

The Office of Student Activities can provide the names and numbers of the faculty advisors to any student organization.

Call Student Activities at 516-5291 for a complete list of registered and recognized student organizations.

Dinner, from page 1

to attend," said Sigma Tau Gamma Vice President Mark Nordmeyer.

The fraternity members decorate the hall, prepare the food and also serve it to their guests. For the senior citizens who cannot attend the dinner, members of the Sigma Tau Gamma fraternity deliver the meal to their homes.

According to Nordmeyer, the Annual Charity Dinner is one of their major philanthropic events for the year.

The fraternity began preparing for this at the beginning of the semester. Members of the fraternity say they enjoys reaching out to members of the community, especially during

the holidays.

"Often times fraternities are thought to be nothing but party institutions," Nordmeyer said. "By serving this Thanksgiving dinner, we enhance our sense of belonging in the City of Bel-Ridge."

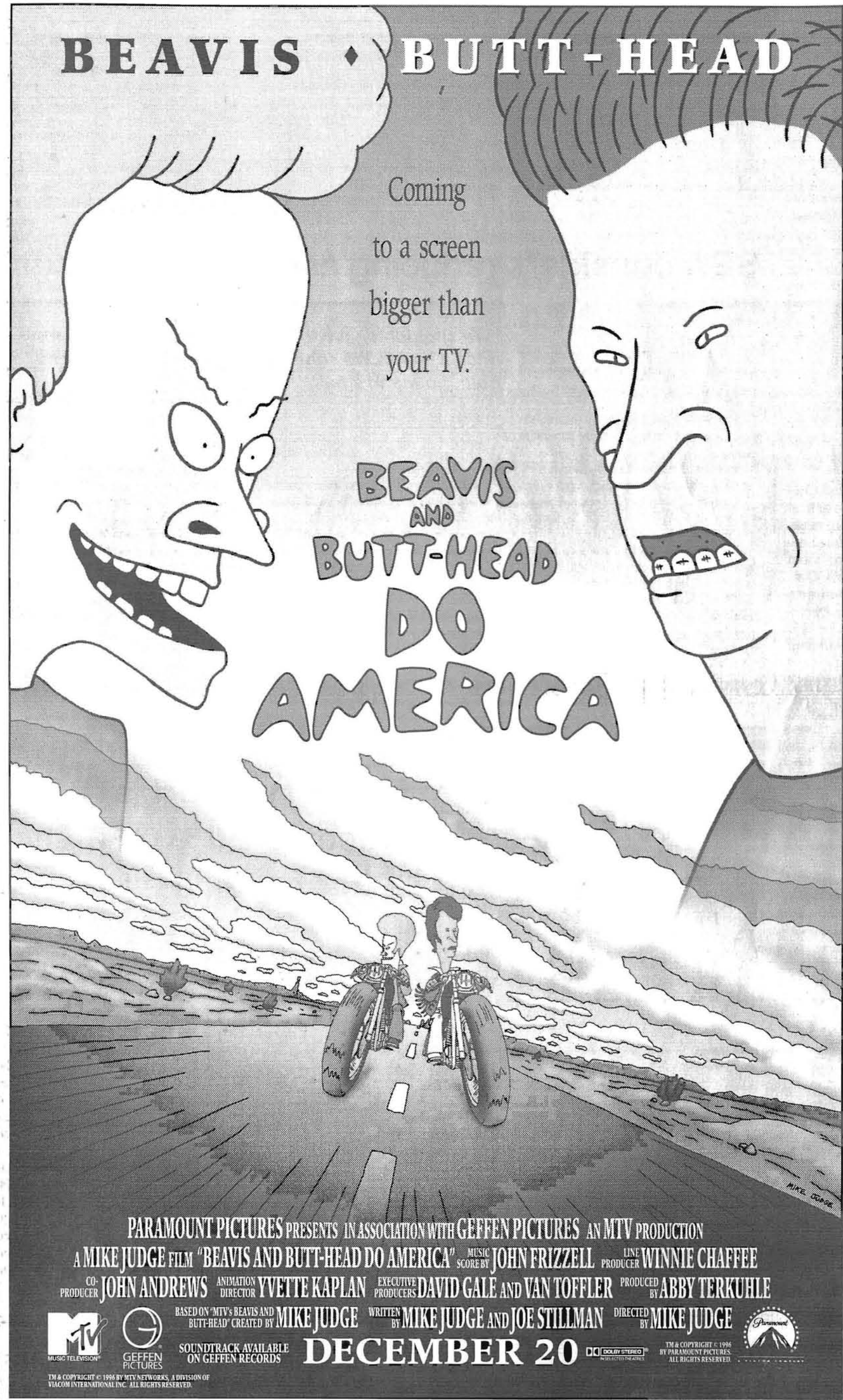
The City of Bel-Ridge provided the fraternity with the funds for this activity and was pleased to see it reaching out to members of the community.

"We appreciate their concern for the community and for taking an interest in the community," said one city official. "We're happy that they are not just using the fraternity for parties."

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SOUNDTRACK AVAILABLE ON GEFEN RECORDS  
DECEMBER 20  
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'96, from page 1

Leaving . . .

After 30+ semesters

Longtime Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Lowe "Sandy" MacLean announced his retirement from Student Affairs after 15 years at the post.



L. "Sandy" MacLean

After 1 semester

David Loshin made headlines this time last year as the newly appointed Dean of the School of Optometry. He made headlines this year when he abruptly resigned his post after only eight months on the job.



David Loshin

Pikes lose recognition—briefly

After police responded to an alleged assault at the Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity, the University stripped the men of their recognition as a student organization.

Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Lowe "Sandy" MacLean called for the revocation to be counted in

years rather than months and recommended that the Pikes disband and reorganize.

Late in November the Senate Student Affairs Committee voted 5-3 to reinstate the fraternity, though MacLean, vowed to block the measure.

SGA elections turbulent at best

What began with a squeak ended with a loud crash.

This year's SGA presidential election was entertaining to say the least from the journalistic standpoint. Bob Fritchey entered the race uncontested.

What looked like a gim'me became an effort to defeat write-in candidate Jason Warren.

Long before the polls were to close, election chairman Rene Cuevas closed the polls. Cuevas, who was threatened to be hit with a chair by Tyrone Rodgers, was accused along with then President Beth Titlow and Bob Fritchey of

conspiring to rig the election.

"They're all part of the same administration," Warren said. "Titlow appointed Cuevas as election chairman and Fritchey as SGA parliamentarian. I think they're all in cahoots together."

Warren filed a complaint with the student court after Cuevas banned him from campaigning and disqualified all votes for him, citing that Warren had broken the election rules.

The student court ruled that the election results would stand and that a SGA committee should adopt a new set of rules

### Whadd'ya think of our coverage?

Give us your thoughts on our efforts during the past year or any suggestions you have for the coming one.

Got down your comments in the space provided and drop them in the mailbox in the U-Center Lobby.

## The Current

an equal opportunity organization

From the staff of *The Current*,  
Happy Holidays!

# NICE PLANET. WE'LL TAKE IT!

# MARS ATTACKS!

## FRIDAY DECEMBER 13



PG-13

WARNER BROS. PICTURES PRESENTS A TIME WARNER ENTERTAINMENT COMPANY PRODUCTION  
Mars Attacks! The original movie from 1996



## Rat's Ramblin's



by Michael J. Urness  
entertainment editor

Well, this was to have been the column in which I gave up the hard-ass, crusty old bastard routine and in which I showed the real me, the sensitive New-Age guy side. Yeah, right. No, really, I expected to graduate at the end of this semester, and I'd put together a column telling all the world how much fun it's been working on The Current these past two-and-a-half years and how much I treasured the friendships that my affiliation with the paper has afforded me.

Unfortunately, I found out a month or so back that I'm not going to graduate. I'm short three 300-level psychology hours. The University does not award minors after a degree has been awarded, so I've postponed my graduation. Not only will I not graduate this semester, but I'm toying with the idea of taking another two semesters and getting a major in psychology to go with the one I've got coming in communication.

The bright side to all this is that you will be spared the mushy, self-emasculating column I had planned for another semester. Yes, I will be back at The Current, albeit in a smaller capacity but still bringing you the best in acoustic music reviews and sharing this space with the 'brooding misanthrope' who brings you the Generic Offering every other week.

So what could possibly take the place of a column about my being in touch with my feminine side and yet be entertaining or enlightening or both? Nothing really. So, because it's the holiday season and you're probably worried about being charitable without being taken for a ride, let's spend a few minutes on alternative ways of giving this holiday season.

There are three major things (excuses) that keep most of us from performing charitable acts. They are motivation, resources and skepticism. The former is an acquired trait and one you'll have to come to terms with yourself. The later can be avoided by becoming directly involved and refusing to rely on outside institutions or organizations to distribute the resources. (Too many charity dollars are wasted on administrative costs.)

This leaves resources. If you're a traditional student, or a non-traditional one for that matter, money is almost certainly tight. For most, time is the most plentiful resource. Volunteering to work in a food kitchen or pantry are things that you can do, though either may mean missing or delaying your own celebration. Most of us will never get a better chance to see how truly blessed we are.

Volunteering in some capacity at a hospital or nursing home can be rewarding and humbling as well. And who among couldn't use a little humbling?

The bottom line? There are ways we can all give to those less fortunate than ourselves, ways that will leave us reasonably certain that the resources are reaching those we seek to help.

I haven't decided yet just what I'm going to do over the holidays, but the first thing I'll probably do once that last final is out of the way is go to the West County Club, a place where AA and similar meetings are going on from morning to night. It's closest thing I do to going to church. I'll sit in on a beginners meeting and get my attitude right for next semester.

Have a happy and safe holiday season. For some of you, the safe part may require condoms and a designated driver. Whatever works.

# EN GARDE!

## Challenge yourself to a duel for agility, prowess and speed

by Sean Stockburger  
features associate

Maybe it happened while watching The Three Musketeers, or Princess Bride. Or maybe you caught coverage of the real thing while watching the Olympics on television.

For whatever reason, at one time or another, almost everyone has watched two people dueling with swords and thought, "I wish I could do that." If you have ever picked up a tennis racket and thrust it towards your roommate saying, "En Garde!", with a horrible French accent; then maybe it is time to give the classic sport of fencing a try.

Because fencing is not a very popular sport in the U.S., it tends to be a little misunderstood.

Despite its aggressive style, it is not a dangerous sport. Fencers wear masks to protect their eyes; and jackets and gauntlets protect the torso,

arms and hands from bruises. The standard weapon is the foil. It is a light rapier type thrusting weapon that bends easily.

Every time the fencer hits the opponent, the foil bends to absorb some of the force.

When fencers get injured, it is rarely anything more serious than a muscle pulled during a lunge. Athletes are much more likely to be injured while playing football, basketball or tennis.

Given the safety record of fencing as a sport, the beginner has nothing to lose, but plenty to gain. Fencing is a sport that requires quick thinking, honed reflexes and a relaxed outlook.

Aside from building fitness, speed and coordination; it is a great stress reliever.

It might even help you land a role in a Shakespeare production.

It does not take long to learn

enough to have fun fencing, but it does take effort. Fencing has its own vocabulary with words such as 'parry,' 'reposte,' 'balestra' and 'fleeche.'

There are rules of engagement in many bouts that dictate what part of your opponents body you must hit to score.

There are many rules to fencing, and foil is where most students begin learning them. In foil, fencers score 'touches' by hitting their opponent on the torso, sides or back. The arms, legs, and head are 'off target hits' and do not score.

The St. Louis Community College offers a fencing for beginners

The lessons begin with foot work and defense, and then lunges and attacks.

The last hour is usually for bouts between classmates. The class is open to all ages and abilities, so anyone can find fencing partners at their skill level.

Sometimes the children learn faster than the adults.

Students with more competitive spirits will get a vigorous workout from this class. Bouts between well matched fencers can turn into twenty minutes or more of fast and furious swordplay.

The St. Louis Community College fencing class is taught every semester. The instructor is Master Fencer Charles L. Willis III of the Parkway Fencing Club.

Willis coaches several nationally ranked fencers, but also loves teaching beginners of all ages.

To sign up for the winter semester contact Chuck Willis directly at the Parkway Fencing Academy, (314) 394-6857.

**Given the safety of fencing . . . the beginner has nothing to lose but plenty to gain . . . Aside from building fitness, speed and coordination, it is a great stress reliever.**

To execute successful defensive parries and offensive lunges, the fencer must practice precise movement in front of a mirror until they are comfortable. Balance plays an important role in the fencers movements.

The word 'foil' also describes the most common type of fencing competition.

class through their continuing education program.

The class meets one night a week, and the total cost of tuition and a foil is under \$100. The instructor provides masks and jackets.

At the beginning of each class, students warm up with a half hour of stretches and light jogging.



photo: Jill Barrett

Fencing student Michael Robben poses with his foil.

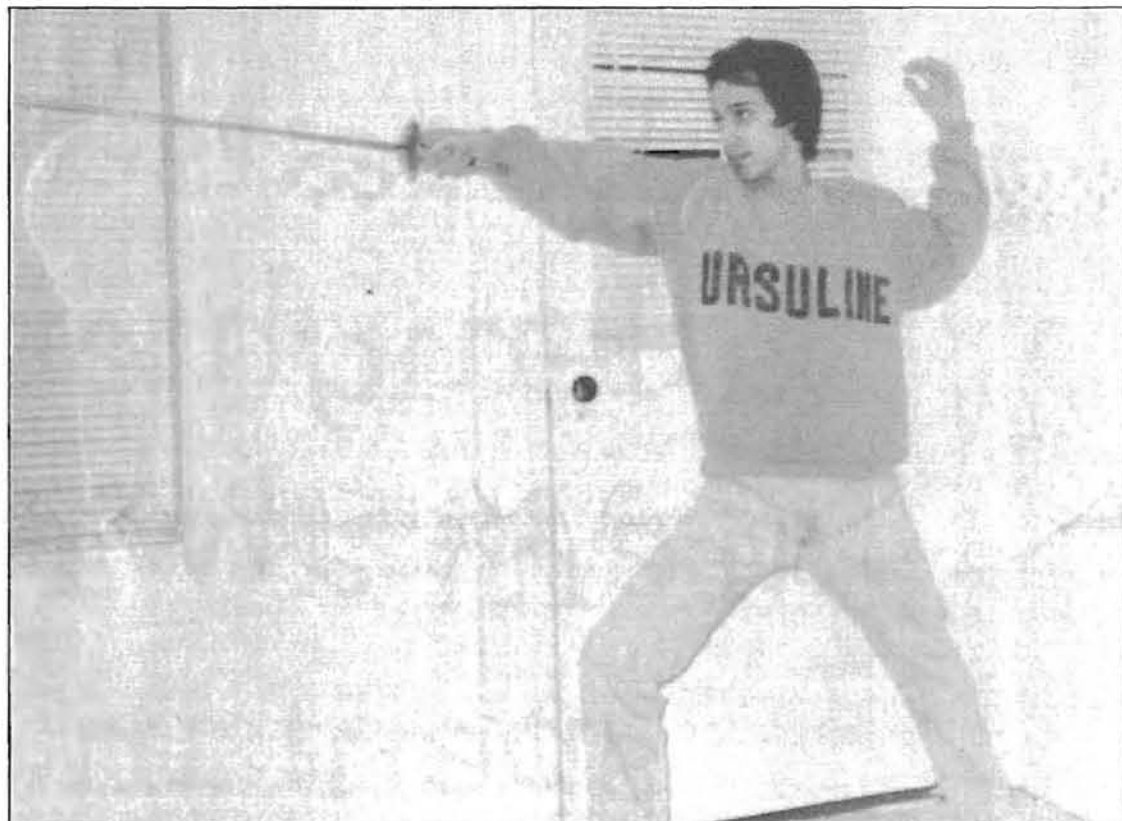


photo: Jill Barrett

Robben displays the standard fencing form.

## Top 10 (well, top 5) reasons to intern

by Mike Strantz  
of The Current Staff

During the summer of 1995, I was putting my resume together so that I could land an internship before I graduated. I was in the library when I came across a book on the nation's top 100 internship programs. And then I saw it, *Late Show with David Letterman*, the show I've always dreamed of working for. The book briefly described the internship and provided the name of the internship coordinator and an address to send a resume to.

I knew right away that I had to do something to distinguish myself from all of the other applicants, so I decided to send a ridiculous resume to send along with my real resume. For

two weeks I waited, hoping that I would get the phone call letting me know that I was one of 60 applicants selected for an interview.

Then one day I came home from school and saw a message laying on the stairs to my bedroom. It was a message to call "The Late Show" and set up an interview. Only two weeks after receiving the message, I was in the heart of Manhattan at the Port Authority Bus Terminal. I was a little lost at the bus station, but fortunately, there was a nice New Yorker who graciously offered to help me find my way around.

For ten minutes, this stranger and I wandered around the bus station. Finally, he showed me where to go to find a bus ticket. Realizing this guy volunteered his valuable time help-

ing me out, I reached into my pocket to get a few dollars. As I handed him \$3, he said "S\*\*t, brother, is that all? I'm gonna need more than that — I've gotta buy some dope." I was shocked that this guy was so blatant. I laughed and said, "You gotta buy some dope? Now why the hell are you telling me that?" He responded, "Hey, at least I'm trying to be honest. I ain't lying and telling you I need some money for food or s\*\*t like that." It was at that moment that I realized I had truly arrived in New York City.

### THE INTERVIEW

There I was, naked, standing alone outside the famous Ed Sullivan Theater, minutes away from the biggest interview of my

life. At the moment, I was so nervous, I just wanted to get it over with. At 10:00 a.m., I met the internship coordinator. She introduced herself and took a picture of me. I interviewed with 10 different departments which included writing, production, talent, research, producer's intern, Dave's intern, design, graphics, mail room and Paul Shaffer's intern. The time I spent in each department varied from 10 to 20 minutes. The interviews were very laid-back and informal. This surprised me. I was prepared to state what I thought the meaning of life was. I left New York the next day worried that I didn't do anything to distinguish myself from the rest of the interviewees. But ten days after the interview, I got a phone call telling me that I was one of 12 interns

hired for the spring semester.

### WHAT WAS WORK LIKE?

Like any other internship, "The Late Show" had its share of gopher work which, unfortunately, included snow shoveling. The first morning I worked, my boss asked me if I had gloves. "Huh," I thought. "Sure, I have gloves. I just got a lovely pair for Christmas." "Good," she said, "because you're going to be shoveling snow." Being my first day and all, my enthusiasm was running high and I told her that shoveling snow sounded terrific. Another intern and I had to

see *Internship*, page 4

## UnderCurrent

by Shelley Satke  
of The Current staff



"On my honeymoon to the Ozarks—I got really sick."

— Julie Devlin  
Senior • Mass Comm.

"To New Jersey with some relatives—we didn't go anywhere or do anything because they wanted to save money."

— Alice Webb  
Junior • Education



"On my honeymoon in Paris—the maid yelled at me in French, and I had no idea what she said."

— Michele Huisinga  
Graduate • Economics

"While taking a friend home I was pulled over and ended up in hand cuffs on my way to jail."

— Don Cwiklowski  
Graduate • English



### What was the worst trip you ever took?



Internship, from page 3

shovel violinist Itzak Perlman's drive-way so that he could be on the show that night.


I also had to get Dave's lunch every morning. Actually, it was his back-up lunch in case something was wrong with his main lunch. To get

Dave's lunch, the show had a car service pick up and intern and drive them to and from the restaurant.

When I wasn't busy running around, I did some pretty cool things. Some of my responsibilities included screening video tapes of comedians

and stupid pet tricks. I also searched newspapers for human interest stories and wrote summaries of the stars featured on shows such as "Inside Edition" and "Entertainment Tonight." One of the highlights of my internship was being in a skit with

Dave.



# GRAND OPENING


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THE PERKS

There was no shortage of perks working at "The Late Show." I was able to see several band rehearsals, including the Red Hot Chili Peppers, The Allman Brothers, Dave Matthews Band, Green Day, Blues Traveler and Menudo.

Interns could also meet the guests. I met Teri Hatcher, Robin Williams, Norm MacDonald, Adam Sandler, Chris Farley and Elizabeth Shue. I also met Richard Simmons, which is not necessarily a good thing. I threw a football to him, but it hit his chest and he dropped it.

A lot of times, interns would be asked to bring stuff up to guests' dressing rooms. One day, one of my bosses asked me to get some light beer for Adam Sandler. She told me to bring a Coors Light.

After running down the street to the convenience store, I brought the beer up to Adam's dressing room. I walked in and told Adam I had the beer, and that I hoped he didn't have to wait too long. Adam looked at the beer I was holding and said, "Coors Light? I can't drink that s\*\*t. That s\*\*t sucks!" "Hey, listen," I said, "I went through all the trouble of buying this beer for you and you're going to drink it even if

I have to force it down your throat." No, I didn't really say that. I actually said, "I can go run and get some other beer if you so desire, Your Excellence." He was pretty cool and said that it was no problem and thanked me anyway.

WHAT WAS DAVE LIKE?

If anyone's ever read anything about Dave, you probably know that he is shy off-camera. From what I've gathered, Dave spends a lot of

zine article where he said that he hated when people would kiss up to him by saying things like "nice show." Oh, well.

LIVING IN THE CITY THAT NEVER SLEEPS

Apartments were hard to come by, and they were outrageously expensive. I finally found one for \$925 a month. It was smaller than my bedroom at home, with barely enough room for myself, the mouse

*One day after the show, I was alone in the elevator with Dave. I was extremely uncomfortable because I didn't know what to say. I summoned all of my social skills and told him that it was a nice show. He looked at me and to my surprise said, "What the hell were you watching?"*

his day working in his office blasting Pearl Jam. He was extremely busy most of the day. He had to review segment notes (which are rehearsed dialogue between Dave and a guest). He also had to rehearse the monologue and work on pre-tapes and remotes. (Remotes are any tapings that take place outside of the office or theater.)

Besides being in a skit with Dave, I said hi to him several times in the hall. One day after the show, I was alone in the elevator with Dave. I was extremely uncomfortable because I didn't know what to say. I summoned all of my social skills and told him that it was a nice show. He looked at me and to my surprise said, "What the hell were you watching?"

The very next day, I read a maga-

and the cockroaches, but the location was great.

I was within 15 minutes walking distance from "The Late Show" and Times Square. It was 10 minutes walking distance from Central Park and a 10 minute subway ride from the Empire State Building. Plus there were pubs, delis and coffee shops all within 5 to 10 minute walking distance.

The whole internship experience was great, from getting the opportunity to live in Manhattan to learning about how a major television show is run.

I recommend that anyone give it a shot if they are interested. The summer is the most competitive, so I would recommend either the fall or spring semesters.

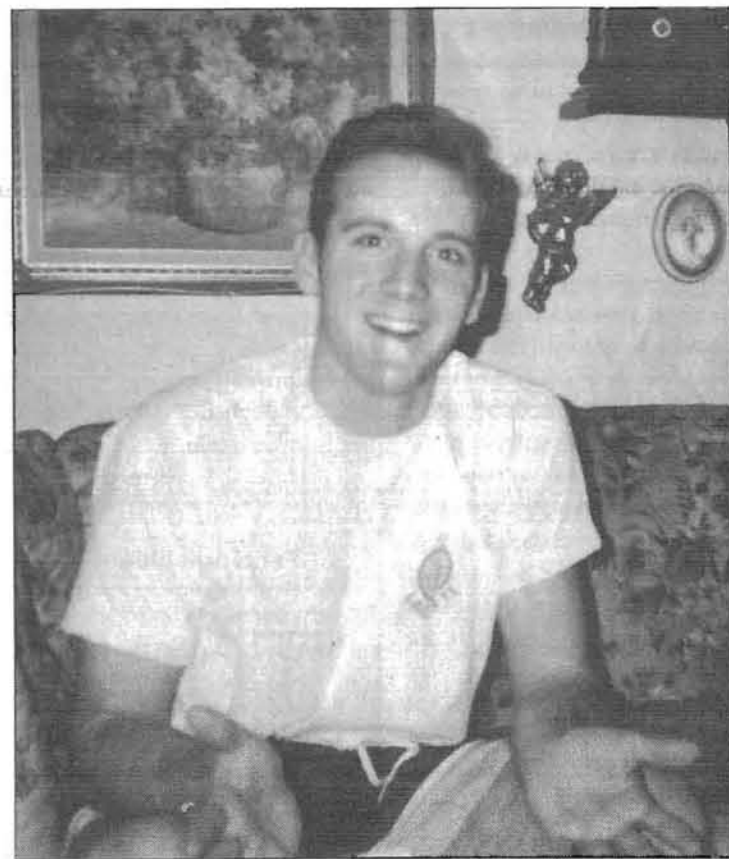


photo: courtesy of Mike Strantz

Strantz reminisces about his internship.

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## FILM SPIN

*The English Patient*  
101 Dalmatians  
Palookaville

Now Showing

Rated R  
Rated PG  
Rated R

# The English Patient explores love amid war



Ralph Fiennes (l) and Kristin Scott Thomas (r) in Anthony Minghella's latest film *The English Patient*.

By S. Duggan  
of *The Current* staff

A sweeping drama of love and war, *The English Patient* is breathtaking. Based on the prize-winning novel by Michael Ondaatje, this haunting, romantic film is certain to win acclaim.

Starring Ralph Fiennes (Almasy), Kristin Scott Thomas (Katherine Clifton), Juliette Binoche (Hana), Willem Dafoe (Caravaggio) and Naveen Andrews (Kip), *The English Patient* is set in Northern Africa and Italy before and during World War II. During the war-time upheaval, we follow two passionate love stories.

As an unrecognizably burned patient lies dying in an abandoned Italian monastery, he is cared for by a

equally damaged nurse. She has lost everyone she has ever loved to the war, and like the patient, is slowly dying inside. Yet, as he slips in and out of consciousness, the patient gradually reveals his true identity. Every sound elicits some memory, every song - a past event. Thus, she comes to know the tragic story of his great life and love and finds her true self as well.

Told elliptically, the film rolls and shifts from past to present. We follow the patient's remembrance of his romance with Katherine Clifton and witness their desire and inevitable union. As does the nurse, Hana, who is rediscovering her own ability for love and friendship. Hana and the patient seem destined to heal one another. Their relationship with one

another is as critical as each of their separate relationships. She cares for his dying and disfigured body, and he renews her faith and courage to love.

The complexities of this film are numerous. Some may find the interwoven stories and slips from present to past difficult to follow. The myriad of plots are all complex as well. Many of the events are offered subtly, and require careful attention to observe. Though, the deliberate viewer will be rewarded with charming, witty and disturbing threads otherwise missed.

Kristen Scott Thomas offers a remarkable performance. She is enchanting as Katherine Clifton, a worthy shift from her icier screen characters. Ralph Fiennes is extraordinary as Almasy. An exceptional film, *The English Patient* is not to be missed.



## Ask Fredrico

by Mike Strantz  
of *The Current* staff

EVERY DOLLAR SPENT ON A LAWYER IS A DOLLAR WELL SPENT?

**Dear Fredrico:** I'm writing you to complain about my professor Shane Summer. His tests are too darn hard, and I think it's unfair. I'm one semester from getting out of here, and he is single handedly destroying my chances of graduating. Will you please use your powerful influence to persuade him to ease up on his tests. **Don**

**Fredrico believes** in personal perseverance and feels that Professor Summer deserves the opportunity to defend himself.

**Dear Fredrico:** Thanks for allowing me this forum. I may be nuts, but I've been teaching for too many years to have some punk kid tell me my tests are too hard. I take the tests myself each semester just to stay fresh, and I never get below a B. I know who you are, Don; you can't hide from me in the back of class. You're the twerp with the ear-ring and long hair who only shows up on test days. I tell you what Don: I'll make you a little offer. If you show up for class the rest of the semester, I'll give you a passing grade. (If you believe that one, you believe in the Easter Bunny.) No, actually you can improve your grade significantly from the negative 20 on your last exam. But, here's the hook, you must use a #2 pencil. That eraser mate you used didn't cut it.

**Professor Summer**

**Fredrico is afraid** of this guy. He is a mysterious man whose presence is not desired. Sorry I can't help you, Don. It looks like you're on your own.

**Dear Fredrico:** This is Bob. I work for Satan here in Hell. Perhaps you have recognized some of our influence in your work. We think you'd be a wonderful addition to our staff once your miserable existence on earth is completed. We'll give you an eternity of deceit, lying and your very own company car. How about it? We have some decent broads down here, and they're all easy. **Bob**

**I'm not sure.** What do the women look like down there?

**Dear Fredrico:** I'm a teenage girl and have been overweight most of my life. I haven't dated much. Guys just didn't seem interested in me until lately. Now that I've lost weight and have a nice figure, guys won't stop asking me out. This may sound great, but the guys who want to date me are only interested in one thing. I just want more out of a relationship. **Amy**

**I'm afraid** I'm not clear as to what the problem is, but if you want to have sex, by all means go ahead.

**Dear Fredrico:** This is your girlfriend Fredrica. I did that home pregnancy test, and I found out we're having a baby! **Fredrica**

**Fredrico has left** the country!

This is my final column. I hope that I was able to help the young men and women of this campus the way so many of you have helped me. As a final note, I would like to announce that you can see me speaking next semester at the *Disturbed Alumni Series* in the JC Penney Building. (BYOB) Release the Bees!

# 101 Dalmatians provide Disney with big holiday hit

By S. Duggan  
of *The Current* staff

Walt Disney has us seeing spots again, dalmatian spots that is. One-hundred-and-one to be precise.

In its new-release *101 Dalmatians*, Walt Disney's delightful animated adventure, the studio has changed a thing or two. This classic has become a live-action comedy and just in time for the holidays.

In this wonderful tale of puppy love, the happy Dalmatian family of Pongo, Perdita and their 15 puppies is victimized by a vicious case of dognapping. Like any good parents, Pongo and Perdita set out to find their pups, and the excitement begins.

Racing against the horrible fur-craving villain, Cruella DeVil (Glenn Close), Pongo and Perdita must save their puppies from becoming her next fur coat. They get help, however, from all sorts of friendly creatures. Raccoons, crows and cows alike are among those who aid in the rescue.

In a parallel tale, Pongo and Perdita's human "pets," Roger and Anita (Jeff Daniels and Joely

Richardson), are setting up a cozy home of their own. Like their canine friends, however, they too have nasty old Cruella to contend with.

Glenn Close is a marvelous villain, and coupled with scoundrels like Hugh Laurie (Jasper) and Mark Williams (Horace), this evil threesome is sure to keep your children on seat's edge. One 8-year-old viewer had this to say about the film: "It was awesome, and the puppies were so cute!"

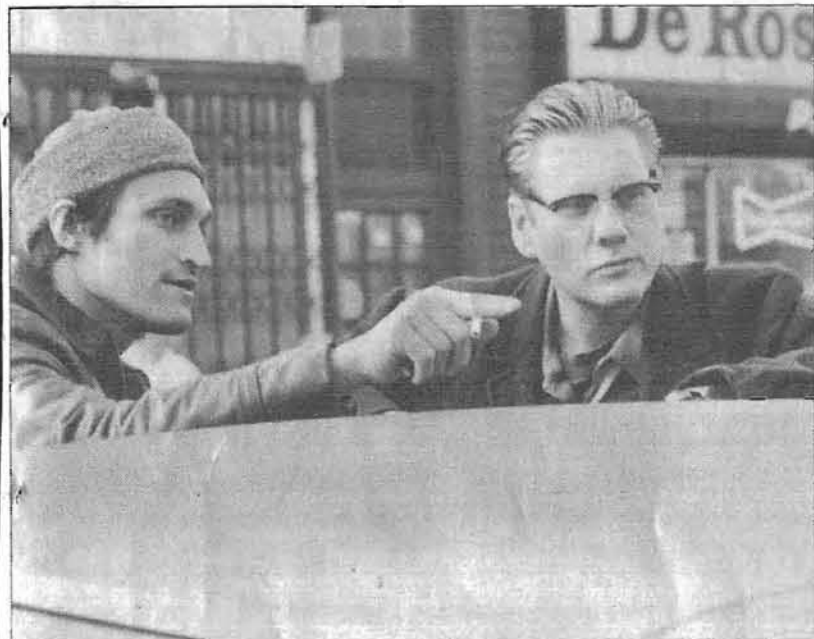
"Although many films have included dogs, very few have attempted anything as ambitious as that of *101 Dalmatians*," noted head animal trainer and coordinator Gary Gero. Ninety-nine puppies, several adult dogs and a throng of other animals had to be cast for the film. Because the puppies were so central to the film, the entire cast and crew found their schedules revolving around the puppies. Nevertheless, the end product has proven well worth the effort. For, although demanding, the animals are adorable.

This fun-filled comedy is sure to be a treat for the whole family this holiday season. Don't miss it.



Tony Award winner Glenn Close stars as fashionable, fur loving, Cruella DeVil, in Walt Disney Pictures new live-action comedy/fantasy/adventure, *101 Dalmatians*.

# Palookaville comes close but never really delivers



L-R Russ (Vincent Gallo), wanna-be tough guy attempts to show Sid (William Forsyth) that crime may be the solution to their unemployment problems in *Palookaville*.

by Nathanael D. Schulte  
of *The Current* staff

**Q:** What do you get when you cross three idiots who are on the skids with the opportunity to rob an armored car?

**A:** *Palookaville*

Imagine a typical lower class Italian family in the middle of Jersey City. There's the aging mother, who sits around the house all day watching Wheel of Fortune. Then we have the hot tempered daughter married to a less than ethical police officer. There's also the rebellious, arrogant, idiot son who spends all day with his two buddies. His name is Russ (Vincent Gallo), and he is the first lead character.

Next, there is Jerry (Adam Trese), a young husband and father, currently unemployed and feeling less than thrilled with the idea that his wife has

to bring home the primary income. He is also quite upset by his wife's boss who's been grabbing her every chance he gets. He fires her after Jerry comes to her rescue.

Last is Syd (William Forsyth), the lonely single guy who keeps a picture of the love who left him ten years ago. He has only his two dogs to keep him company most of the time. However, he does spend a considerable amount of time at Russ's house.

Before we get to know the characters more deeply, though, we see them attempting to rob a jewelry store by breaking in through the rear of the building. However, because they didn't count on a little atypical architecture from the builders of the miniature strip unit, they end up breaking into the bakery next door. They end up with only the cash in the drawer and a coat full of doughnuts.

Because of this embarrassing fail-

ure, they decide they must find some other way to make some fast money. With the help of fate and an old movie, they become convinced they can rob an armored car that makes its way around the city every day. They soon find, however, it's not as easy as they anticipated.

Though interesting and even funny at times, *Palookaville*, was neither interesting nor funny enough to make me want to see it again. At one point, I actually felt sorry for the characters for the meaninglessness of their lives, but eventually I found myself slightly bored with the constant apathy that characterized their existence. It's not that the story was poorly told; I just think the story was a bit boring from the outset. Overall, I'd say this film was almost there, but not quite.

Note: *Palookaville* has no release date yet, so keep your eyes open.

## Current Music Reviews

Country Christmas

### Tinsel Tunes—

*More Holiday Treats from Sugar Hill*  
(Sugar Hill)

Just in time for the holidays, Sugar Hill Records has released *Tinsel Tunes—More Holiday Treats from Sugar Hill*. The new CD features classics, as well as original holiday songs that will soon become classics.

The album begins with Chris Hillman and Herb Pedersen doing "Blue Christmas Lights," originally written by Buck Owens and Red

a lively, all-acoustic version of "Sleigh Ride." Though backed by Darrell Scott on guitar and Viktor Krauss on bass, it's Bush and his masterful mandolin playing that are spotlighted.

Mollie O'Brien is next with the melancholy "In the Bleak Midwinter." Jerry Douglas provides a fitting backdrop for this one with his incredible dobro playing. The award-winning group The Nashville Bluegrass Band provides excellent vocal harmonies on the Alan O'Bryant penned gospel tune "Christmas Story." The Lonesome

tempo "All I Want Is Mary For Christmas."

The remaining tunes include: Kathy Kallick & The Little Big Band's "Ring The Bells at Midnight," The Laurel Canyon Ramblers' "Christmas is Coming to Town," Chris Thile's "Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella," Brother Boys' "I'll Be Home For Christmas," Psychograss' "On a Quiet Night," The Fairfield Four and The Nashville Bluegrass Band's "The Last Month of the Year," Don Dixon and Marti Jones' "Every Day Will be Like a Holiday" and Chesapeake's "Christmas Swing."

My favorite and by far the most unorthodox of any Christmas songs you'll ever hear is the final track, a live version of Robert Earl Keen's

see Music, page 8





## Music, from page 7

"Merry Christmas From the Family." This song first appeared on Keen's 1994 *Gringo Honeymoon* CD. It features the chorus:

*Carve the turkey turn the ball game on  
Mix Margaritas when the eggnog's gone  
Send somebody to the Quick-Pack store  
We need some ice and an extension chord  
A can of bean dip and some Diet Rite  
A box of Tampons and some Marlboro Lights  
Hallelujah everybody say cheese  
Merry Christmas from the family*

If you're tired of the same old same old when it comes to holiday music, give *Tinsel Tunes* a try. It would also make a good gift for any country music lover.

(Michael J. Urness)

### Guy Davis—

*Call Down The Thunder*  
(Red House Records)

When most people think of country blues, names like Robert Johnson and Mississippi John Hurt come to mind. In the last few years, there's been a handful of musicians cropping up who not only embrace the style but who have been inspired to bring Delta blues to a whole new generation of listeners. Among them is 43-year-old Guy Davis.

The son of actors Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee, Guy is as comfortable and talented acting as he is playing and singing. In addition to bit parts on soaps, he's performed Taj Mahal songs on Broadway in the play *Mulebone*, and he performs off-Broadway in the title role of *Robert Johnson: Trick the Devil*. His one man show *In Bed with the Blues: The Adventures of Fishy Waters* earned him a W.C. Handy "Keeping the Blues

Alive Award" in 1993.

Despite having been raised in New York, Davis' music is steeped in the Mississippi Delta blues sound. On his second solo album, *Call Down The Thunder*, Davis demonstrates the finger pickin' style he learned several years ago on 10 original songs and 3 covers.

"This is my impression of Thanksgiving as seen through the eyes of a child," Davis says of the instrumental "Thanksgiving Day." "The Kid goes into the kitchen and sees women with their backs to him. He tries to peek in the pots, but they shoo him away. After awhile, one by one, they all turn around with a feast that they bring to the table."

The mellow song "The Road is Calling" finds Davis singing about the allure of the road, the futility of fighting the urge to go and the impact one person's absence has on the rest of the family. The final track "New Shoes," is a fast number that finds

### Acoustic Blues

Davis singing with the accompaniment of what sounds like a lone harp and a room full of people clapping and stomping.

I was especially impressed with Davis' cover of the Robert Johnson number "When You Got a Close Friend," as well as the mournful "Long Train." His slide guitar playin' on Mance Lipscomb's "Run Sinner Run" was impressive too.

Though many of Davis' tunes evoke thoughts of the Delta masters, a few will remind listeners of other blues hotbeds, too, like Memphis and Chicago. Two such songs are "See Me When You Can" and "Mama's Gonna Fix It Right."

If you love the Delta blues style but are put off by the popping, snapping and hissing of the original recordings of the 20s and 30s, check out *Call Down The Thunder*. It features the spirit of the early stuff without the background noise.

(Michael J. Urness)



Guy Davis

Christmas

### Lucy Kaplansky—

*Flesh and Bone*  
(Red House Records)

Two years ago she was Dr. Kaplansky, a psychologist on staff at New York hospital. Today, Lucy Kaplansky is a fast rising star on the folk, singer/songwriter scene, and she's touring in support of her second CD *Flesh and Bone*. Over the years, Kaplansky has lent her diminutive voice to recordings by acoustic superstars like John Gorka, Shawn Colvin and Nanci Griffith.

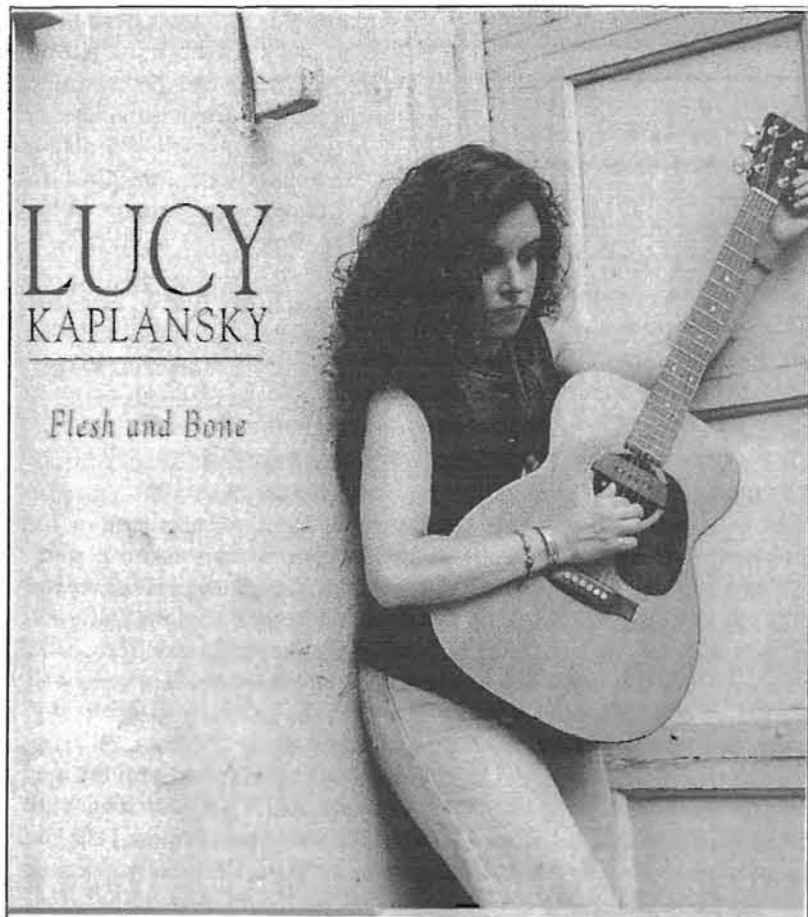
On *Flesh and Bone*, Kaplansky, along with the aid of several incredible musicians and guest vocalists, moves between folk, country and bluegrass tunes with relative ease. Eight of the album's 12 songs are originals written by Kaplansky and her songwriting partner Richard Litvin. Also included are a few covers including: Nick Lowe's "(What's So Funny 'Bout) Peace, Love and Understanding," Richard Thompson's "Don't Renege on Our Love" and Gram Parsons' "The Return of the Grievous Angel."

While I love Kaplansky's solo singing, I found the songs she does with John Gorka and Richard Shindell's backing vocals to be among the CDs best. With Gorka she does "If You Could See Me," and with Shindell she does "Love is the Ride" along with the traditional "Mary and the Soldier."

Guests on *Flesh and Bone* include Larry Campbell on guitar, fiddle, mandolin, dobro, and cittern; Anton Sanko on organ, lap steel guitar, and tiple; Zev Katz on bass, Frank Vilardi on drums and percussion; and Shindell, Gorka and Jennifer Kimball on backing vocals.

If I wasn't already impressed with Kaplansky's voice and guitar, her decision to include Gram Parsons' "The Return of the Grievous Angel" was enough to make me lifetime fan.

Kaplansky is an intuitive songwriter—no doubt owing to all the psychology classes it took to earn her doctorate degree. She plays and sings with reserve on the songs that require it and with passionate abandon on others. I anticipate she'll only get better with time. (Michael J. Urness)



Lucy Kaplansky

### Snow Angels—

*A Hear Music Holiday Collection*  
(Compass Records)

*Snow Angels*, a compilation CD of classic Christmas tunes, features an eclectic group of alternative-pop and acoustic-folk artists like Joan Osborne, Pierce Pettis, Jim Infantino and Jonatha Brooke.

The CD begins with the ensemble known as Dave's True Story performing "Winter Wonderland." Kelly Flint's silky-smooth vocals combined with the funky guitars of Tommie McKenzie and David Cantor, and the trumpet of Chris Botti make for a jazzed up version of the original.

Next is James Mccandless and his acoustic guitar doing a simple yet stellar version of "Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer."

Louise Taylor, Jenny Hersch, Jack Hardy and Wendy Beckerman turn in an inspiring offering of "The Little Drummer Boy." Pierce Pettis

lends his unique vocals to "Miriam," a song originally penned by him and featuring the haunting backing vocals of Michele Costic.

Joan Osborne's turns out an inspiring a Capella rendition of "Children, Go Where I Send Thee." Jim Infantino and Jonatha Brooke perform a lively duet on "The Holly and the Ivy."

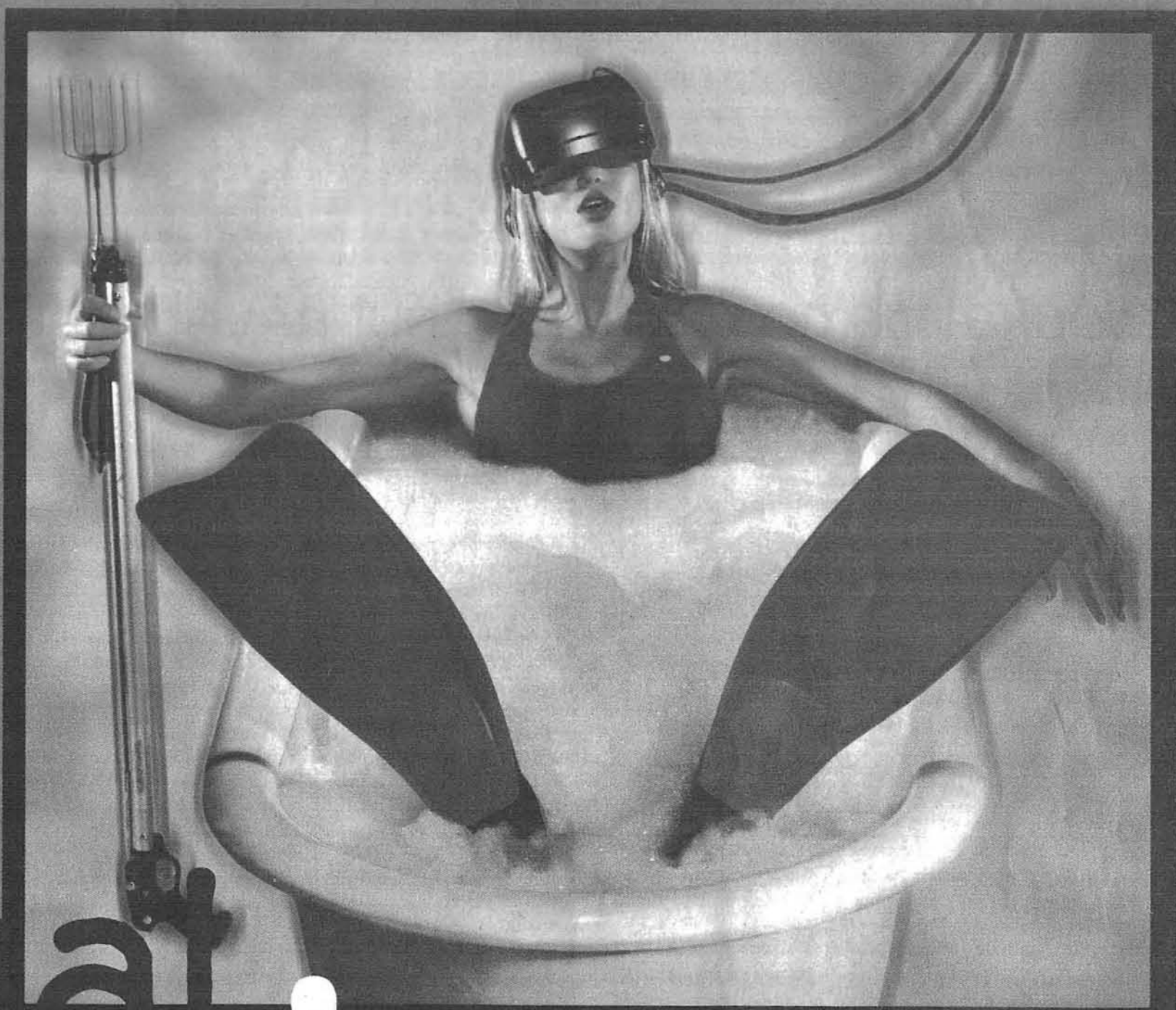
The remaining songs are equally noteworthy including: Kevin Connolly's "O Come All Ye Faithful," Laurie Sargent's "Merry Christmas, Baby" and Catie Curtis' "Silent Night," as well as Grace Griffith's "Christ Child Lullabye/Sans Day Carol."

*Snow Angels* was originally recorded and released by Hear Music in 1994 and was only available through that label's catalog. Re-released earlier this year by Compass Records, the CD will delight those at any holiday gathering.

(Michael J. Urness)

Getting nothing  
out of your  
independent  
study in

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Scuba?





## Bluegrass

**True Life Blues—**  
*The Songs of Bill Monroe*  
(Sugar Hill)

Originally recorded to honor the man credited with being the father of Bluegrass music, *True Life Blues* features some of the most talented people in bluegrass singing 16 Bill Monroe songs.

With so much talent performing on each and every song, it's hard to pick favorites. That being, I was particularly impressed with the vocals turned in by Alan O'Bryant, Ronnie McCoury, Del McCoury and Roland White on the gospel track "Get Down on Your Knees And Pray." O'Bryant sounded exactly like the old man himself. The dueling fiddles of Vassar Clements and Richard Greene as well as the mandolin pickin' of youngster Chris Thile really bring the instrumental track "Scotland" to life too.

Peter Rowan, David Grisman and Herb Pedersen give a taste of high-lonesome 'Dawg' music on "Travelin' This Lonesome Road."

The first track, "Molly And

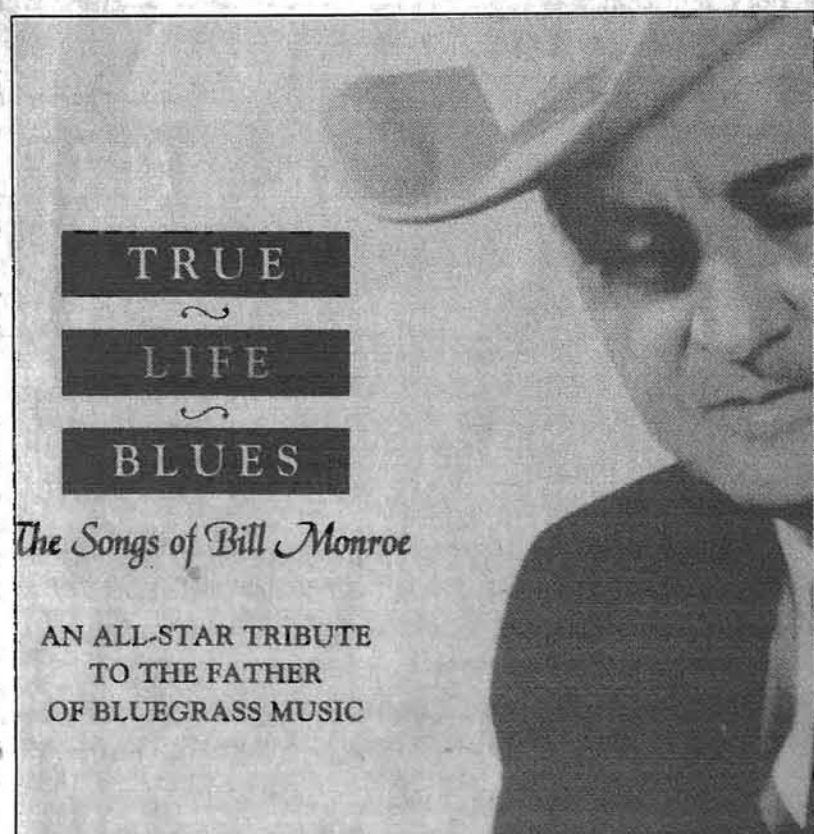
Tenbrooks," finds O'Bryant and his strong vocals backed by a stellar group of musicians including Stuart Duncan who sounds like he's burnin' up a bow. The title track, "True Life Blues," is sung by Laurie Lewis and Kathie Kallick. These two harmonize like you wouldn't believe. The instrumentation is strong too, with Lewis on fiddle, Mike Marshall on mandolin and Tony Trishka on banjo.

The uptempo "I'm On My Way Back To The Old Home," done by the brothers McCoury, Craig Smith and Todd Phillips sounds like something Grandpa Jones would have done.

It's kinda fitting for former St. Louisan John Hartford to do "Little Cabin Home On The Hill," the project's last song. He recorded an offbeat version of this tune on one of his early albums and has performed it at concerts for years.

Monroe passed away shortly before the tribute CD was released in October. So, somewhere lies silent a well-traveled Gibson M5 mandolin its owner gone on to greener pastures—Kentucky bluegrass no doubt.

(Michael J. Urness)



# The Current Music Calendar

*It's going to be a long (some say not long enough) and probably cold month before the next semester begins. With that in mind, the following are a few suggestions (totally subjective) for keeping warm and keeping abreast of what's going on musically in area clubs and venues.*

Dec. 3	<i>Swing Set</i>	The Tap Room
Dec. 5	<i>Frogpond</i>	The Side Door
Dec. 6	<i>Dash Rip Rock w/Rugburns</i>	Mississippi Nights
	<i>Bella Wolf</i>	Cicero's
Dec. 7	<i>BR5-49 w/New Patrons of Husbandry</i>	Hi Point
Dec. 8	<i>Steve Vai</i>	Mississippi Nights
Dec. 9	<i>Moon Island</i>	Riddles Penultimate
Dec. 11	<i>Less Than Jake</i>	Galaxy
	<i>I Mother Earth</i>	Side Door
Dec. 13	<i>New World Spirits</i>	Galaxy
	<i>The Geyer Street Sheiks w/Alice Spencer</i>	Off Broadway
Dec. 14	<i>Toni Tennille</i>	Rickman Auditorium
Dec. 18	<i>Brave Combo</i>	Mississippi Nights
Dec. 19	<i>Dishwalla</i>	Galaxy
Dec. 20	<i>Flying Mules</i>	Riddles Penultimate
Dec. 21	<i>Road's End Duo</i>	Allen Avenue
	<i>Twilight Jump</i>	Riddles Penultimate
Dec. 31	<i>Tastes Like Chicken</i>	Mississippi Nights
Jan. 3 & 4	<i>They Might Be Giants</i>	Mississippi Nights

If you haven't already noticed, the St. Louis area is loaded with musical talent. A few local bands to keep an eye out for include: the Grateful Dead cover bands Schwag, The Kind and Jake's Leg. If county flavored music is more your style, look for the bands Liquid Prairie or The Orbits. The Soulard area and its clubs are where some of the best blues band in town can be heard. Keep an eye out for bookings of Ron Edwards, Leroy Pierson, Oliver Sain or Pennsylvania Slim.

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## OFF THE WALL



by Ken Dunkin  
sports editor

What hockey fan can actually say that hockey attracted them to the game? Not many, I would think. At least in my case, it was the fighting.

Hockey is the one sport, other than boxing, where the players can stop play and beat the crap out of each other. What could be better than that?

I remember when I was nine or ten, flipping through the channels and seeing a Blues game, no make that a Blues fight. I was amazed. At that time my parents were doing everything they could do to make me stop fighting, and these guys were paid to fight. What a game!

Other sports jumped in hockey's way for me. It wasn't just that the Blues were a poor team, they didn't fight that much. Sure Brian Sutter would drop the gloves. But they actually played hockey more than they fought. So I didn't watch it for quite a while.

Then in 1990-91, the Blues transformed. They got a few brawlers on the team, increased their overall talent by getting Brett Hull and put people around him that would protect him. Todd Ewen, the man that dropped Bob Probert, was mean. He was bad and, most of all, he had beaten the champ Probert who at the time was my most hated player. Ewen would then get replaced by Tony Twist and Kelly Chase.

With Twist and Chase the Blues had two players that were stricklu fighters. Then came Daren Kimble, another hard puncher who had aspecefic job fighting. I really liked those guys.

That was when I really began to like hockey. The Blues were a good team. It was the year Scott Stevens signed. They finished second in the league and had one of the toughest teams around.

Their epic battles with the Chicago Blackhawks made that season one of the most exciting I have seen. Sure the Blawkhawks finished first overall and beat the hapless Blues silly in several games. But the Blues would hang with them as fighters. Garth Butcher vs. Jeremy Roenick, Darren Kimble vs. Mike Pulose, Stu Grimson and Cam Russell. There were some great battles. While the game would be over, Sutter, then the coach, would load the ice with goons. They would plummet the opposition even though it proved nothing. It was great.

In one fight that sticks out in my mind, Scott Stevens battled Dave Manson. Manson, the man that once bit another player in a pile-up, put a hurting on the Blues captain. They squared off in the corner, but do to several other fights, they decided to move to center ice. Manson threw Stevens around like a rag doll.

Sure, I also remember the game where Adam Oates put a perfect pass on Hulls stick with seconds left in overtime to win a game, or the many times Hull rifled in a shot from the blue line. But, fighting makes up just as many memories.

While the hockey officials may not want it to be a part of the game, at least not publicly, it is. Just as much as kick saves by goalies or one-time passes by centers. Fighting is part of the game and it attracts more fans than it turns away. And, as I did, fans begin to like the other parts of the game.

# Where are all the fans?

by Brian Folsom  
sports associate

How many students on the UM-St. Louis campus, besides the athletes, are aware of the sports teams and follow them on a regular basis? The answer is kind of alarming: not many.

Attendance at any sporting event on campus on any given day, at any time is well below average, and it leaves many questions as why the athletic teams aren't floating in an ocean of support and spirit.

Most of the time, those in attendance are the families of those who are playing. In the case of soccer, men's games sometimes precede or follow women's games, and those in attendance will be the players on the team that played first in addition to the players' families.

There are some faithful students who come to support their team, but

the good majority don't.

Out of 100 people surveyed on the North Campus and South Campus, 72 percent admitted that they don't follow UM-St. Louis athletics on a regular basis. The remaining 28 percent said while they don't make every home game for at least one of the teams, they still read box scores, game summaries and sports stories about the teams.

According to those surveyed, there are many reasons why there is such a low turnout. The most popular excuse was that the games conflict with job and homework schedules. Some said they live too far away to come to campus for something other than school, while others said that they simply don't have enough interest. Still others said that they often are unaware of when the teams play and that there should be more publicity and announcements from the athletic department.

Sports Information Director Chuck Yahng said that this is very disappointing.

"I understand that the students have time factors and commitments, but I would hope that of all the students we have, a larger amount could get involved," he said.

Yahng added that more support can help the teams tremendously.

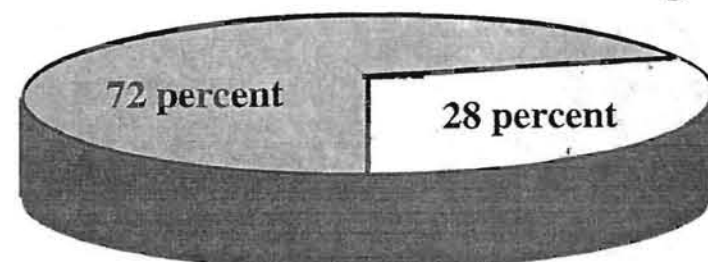
"It generates excitement, and when students don't show up, it really hurts the student-athletes the most because they feel like there is little pride for their team," Yahng said.

Yahng also added that a good way to get more students to come out would be to have more promotional ideas or to give out souvenirs at the games.

"We need to show a lot more support and get involved in the games," he said.

They don't know what they are missing.

## How many students follow UM-St. Louis athletics? Not many



In a survey done on North and South Campus, 72 of the 100 UM-St. Louis students surveyed said they don't follow athletics on the campus. Only 28 students follow the teams by attending games or reading stories and box scores.

## Riverwomen open season undefeated

by Brian Folsom  
sports associate

The UM-St. Louis Women's basketball team, 2-0, is off to its best start in three years after victories over Fontbonne and Missouri Baptist.

The Riverwomen started their season by defeating Fontbonne 76-71 on Nov. 23. Sophomore forward Denise Simon led the way with 18 points and 11 rebounds. Freshman Donna Simon was close behind with 17 points and 10 rebounds. Senior guard Deena Applebury dropped in 15 points while freshman Jamie Dressler added 12.

Three days later, the Riverwomen held on for a 68-66 win over Missouri Baptist. Denise Simon again led the way for the team, as she posted her second consecutive "double-double" with 15 points and 15 rebounds. Krystal Logan scored 13 points and grabbed 10 rebounds while Donna Simon added 8 points and 10 rebounds.

Head Coach Jim Coen said that although the team is 2-0, he hasn't been completely satisfied with their performance.

"We were clearly the better team in

each game," he said. "But we are a small, guard oriented team, and we aren't taking care of the ball like we should be."

The Riverwomen have turned the ball over 42 times in the first two games.

Coen noted that he was impressed with the effort the team put forth.

"I think we played extremely hard," he said. "Both victories were full team efforts."

Coen said he has also been pleased with the rebounding and the way the team has run the offense.

"We have run the offense real well, considering it is so early in the season and we have a young team," Coen said.

While Coen is impressed with the effort, there are still aspects that he said need work.

"We are hurting ourselves with the little things like forcing passes, missing layups and missing too many free throws," Coen said.

The Riverwomen are making 63 percent free throws through the first two games.

"We need to be better defensively and

see Women, page 11

**"We are hurting ourselves with the little things like forcing passes, missing layups, and missing too many free throws."**

**—Rivermen coach Jim Coen**

## Yahng excels as sports information director

by Brian Folsom  
sports associate

Not many sports information directors can excel at what they do and still have the time to interact and develop close friendships, but for Chuck Yahng, that is what makes his job so enjoyable.

Yahng came to UM-St. Louis from Lindenwood College, where he was sports information director for two years. According to Yahng, his first semester at UM-St. Louis has gone very well.

"What has made my job so much easier is that the teams have been so successful," he said. "Of course there is more work to do the more the teams win, but I don't mind at all."

Yahng stays busy every day, and he said that there is always something to do.

During a typical day, Yahng will get to his office around 8 a.m., then check his voice mail, his E-mail and fax machine for any messages or stats from any games.

During the early part of the week, he will begin to tie up everything that happened over the weekend, such as the stats and the results of the games. During the latter part of the week, he will work on game programs and prepare for the upcoming weekend games.

Yahng's position requires him to come in early and leave late, but he says he doesn't mind.

"I'm usually the first to come, and the last to leave," Yahng said.

This is especially true on game days. After completing his regular office work during the day, Yahng will begin to set up for that night's games where he keeps stats.

At the end of the games, Yahng is responsible for organizing the stats from the games, contacting the media for the scores and results. Then, he prepares for the next game. He usually does this by setting up the box scores and getting the stat sheets ready.

On rare occasions, there will be games played simultaneously on campus, and this can create a lot of confusion.

"It is hectic, but I have a lot of help, and I'm able to get the job done," Yahng said.

Yahng said the best part of his job is the chance to meet so many different personalities among the coaches and the players.

"There are so many neat people with diverse backgrounds," he said. "It makes things very interesting."

Yahng credits Athletic Director Pat Dolan for helping him out tremendously during his first semester.

"She is very knowledgeable about the way the sports information director position works, and she has been so supportive," Yahng said. "She is always willing to help out; she understands the time commitment this job requires, and I really appreciate that."

Yahng hopes he will be around for a long while.

"I love this job," he said. "There is always something different to do, and I always look forward to coming in."

## Rivermen fall in first conference game

by Ken Dunkin  
sports editor

The Rivermen basketball team suffered a 27 point loss to the tenth ranked Southern Indiana Screaming Eagles.

It was the second game of the year for the Rivermen. They had defeated Missouri Baptist 69-57 earlier in the month.

The 92-65 loss to Southern Indiana was the teams' first game in the Great Lakes Valley Conference (GLVC). It was a tough way to start, considering that the Eagles regularly become serious contenders for the national championship.

"It is the toughest game on our schedule," Rivermen head coach Rich Meckfessel said. "Northern Kentucky is favored to win the conference, but we play them at home. It was good to get Indiana out of the way early so we can have some practice time to work on some things and get better."

The team needs to work on are starting the game well and hitting their free-throws.

## Rivermen hit cold streak in California Classic

The Rivermen lost both of their games last weekend in the Roadrunner Classic in Bakersfield, Calif.

They lost the first game to The Master's College 77-71. Despite holding Mike Penberthy, a 30 point scorer, to 20 points the team lost.

Dwon Kelly led the team with 20 points. He also had five rebounds and a team leading four assists.

Rodney Hawthorn had the best game for the team as he poured in 15 points, pulled

It was down 47-26 at the half against the Eagles. They also shot a dismal 53 percent of the their free-throws.

"I am at a loss; we have done free-throws the same way we have done for 15 years," Meckfessel said. "Kevin (Tuckson) and Rodney (Hawthorne) aren't great free-throw shooters. They shot well late last year though. It has got to get better. But the only way it will is for people to step to the line and hit their shots."

"We need to get better. I still think this can be a good team in spite of what happened against Southern Indiana. We weren't ready for the intensity level that they brought to the game, and we didn't play with a lot of confidence and poise. Those are things we can fix. I think that as the game progressed, several players picked it up and a few gained confidence as the game went on."

The Rivermen were led in scoring by Tuckson and Hawthorne. Tuckson led the team with 17 points and Hawthorne had 16.

down nine rebounds and dished a team leading seven assists.

In the consolation round they lost to Azusa Pacific after a last second 3-Point shot by Jason Frillman fell short. The team had battled back from double-digit deficits.

Hawthorne led in the team in every category. He shot 7-8, had 10 rebounds, 18 points and five assists.

Kelly finished with 17 points on five 3-Pointers. He also had four assists.

The team placed fourth in the Classic.

Hawthorne also led the team with 9 rebounds.

"Rodney was ready to play from start to finish," Meckfessel said. "He was the one player that was ready to compete on that level. I think that he wants to have a good year. He has the capabilities to be the best player on the floor any time we play."

Tuckson, a four-year player was second

with eight rebounds. He also turned the ball over five times.

"Kevin figured out after 10 minutes that those guys weren't any better than he is," Meckfessel said. "Unfortunately after the first 10 minutes were over we were out of it. I think all of our guys can play at that level, we just were

see Indiana, page 11



Rivermen forward Brandon Klaus looks to save the ball in a practice scrimmage earlier this season. The team is currently 1-3 after they played in a tournament in California.

photo: Shelley Satke



# Rivermen wish they could forget Wisconsin

by Eric Thomas  
of The Current staff

The UM-St. Louis Rivermen Hockey Club went to Wisconsin the weekend of Nov. 22, 23 and 24 for three games. It proved to be rather disappointing for Head Coach Wayne Gholson's team. It was to be a busy trip for team trainers Dave Stefl and Doug Hepdern.

UM-St. Louis 0 1 2 — 3  
Marquette 2 2 1 — 5  
As in the past, the first period seems to hold troubles for the Rivermen. This game against the Marquette Golden Eagles proved no different. Forty-one seconds into the game the starting line of Deon Altman, Casey Gerkten, Mike Oliva, Jasson and Dave Hessell gave up a goal after losing the face-off.

The team was hit with their first injury when Altman darted in on a break-away and almost scored. Altman was whirled around by a defender and slid heavy into the boards head-first. He suffered moderate concussion and did not dress the remainder of the weekend.

"It was real weird sitting in the locker-room and not being able to remember anything," Altman said. "I knew I got here on a bus but not where here was. It was kinda scary."

Bryan Horn was the second Riverman injured. He was also out for the weekend with a concussion.

A shimmering glimpse of hope shined through when Diel nailed all three Golden Eagle forwards in one shift. He single-handedly sent an entire line to the bench rattled. Finally Shoffner chiseled away at the Eagles and scored, assisted by Herweck. After the face-off, Shoffner took a knee in the head, which prompted Herweck to retaliate, he was thrown out of the game.

"We looked tired, lethargic, dead even," Mackie said. "Kicking out our best player after allowing two of our guys to get injured on (bad) calls, that was terrible."

Gerkten scored his third of the season mid-way through the third. Defenseman Dave Parks assisted on



Dave Hessell handles the puck with a player waiting to check him. Mike Oliva waits for the pass. The Rivermen had to send several players to the hospital after a trip to Wisconsin.

the goal. Three minutes later Shoffner scored to tie the game at three.

With under a minute left in regulation, goalie Scott Bokal was pulled for an extra attacker, but UM-St. Louis lost possession of the puck, and the Eagles knocked in an empty-netter, sealing the Rivermen's fate.

UM-St. Louis 2 0 1 — 3  
Lawrence 1 3 0 — 4

After their loss the team tried to redeem it with a win over the Lawrence University Vikings. Due to the injuries back-up goalie Bokal skated out as a center.

Two minutes into the game, Jasson Hessell got nailed so hard at center ice that his helmet flew off ten feet. Parks was the next to go down with an injury: his shoulder.

Shoffner tied the score in the first and then subsequently taunted the crowd.

Herweck was next to score on a feed from Shoffner and Oliva. At the end of twenty minutes, the Rivermen led 2-1.

In the third period Shoffner rallied and scored for the Rivermen. After being taken down from behind,

he swatted at the sliding puck while on his belly and directed it in the net.

"The highlight was watching Dave get dinged in the melon by Parks," Herweck said speaking about the injury to the teams trainer.

Parks tried to clear the puck but he threw it into the Rivermen's bench, nailing Stefl above his left eye.

"It's a nice size wound," Stefl said. "I was tending to Shoffner's knee when -POW- I got drilled."

UM-St. Louis 4 1 0 — 5  
Lawrence 1 3 1 — 5

The first period proved to be the strongest this season for Gholson. Two minutes into the game, Herweck rocketed in alone, deked and drew the goalie down in the crease. Then he slid the puck in with a backhand for the unassisted goal.

Diel was whistled for interference, and that led to a Vikings' goal. But Herweck scored again to give the Rivermen the lead on a short-handed effort.

After several penalties Shoffner scored, assisted by Herweck, for the commanding 3-1 lead. They switched roles for the repeat (Shoffner to

Herweck) for yet another goal four minutes later.

The second period stunk for the Rivermen. The Vikings beat Mackie twice in the first 40 seconds of play.

The demeanor on the Rivermen bench was quiet as the penalties kept coming their way. Shoffner received a two-minute minor, followed by a ten-minute game misconduct, he was then ejected.

Faced with yet another five-on-three skating advantage, the Vikings scored.

Parks was then called for head-butting (on a clean but hard open-ice check), a five-minute major.

Diel was then ejected for a hit on a Lawrence player, who was helped to the bench. Herweck was ejected after protesting a non-call by the official. The slash to the ankle sent Herweck to the hospital; he was wheeled out of the rink on a gurney to the ambulance outside.

The Rivermen entered the third with a one goal lead. Despite brilliant penalty killing by Bokal, Hessell and Gerkten, the Rivermen gave up a short-handed goal to blow the lead.

## Women, from page 10

do the little things that are going to help us win," Coen said.

Coen said that he has been pleased with everyone's effort, and he is especially impressed with the emergence of three freshmen: Dressler, Missy England and Donna Simon.

"They each have come up with big plays in both games," Coen said.

The Riverwomen were scheduled to travel to Southern Indiana Nov. 30 to take on the 6th ranked

team in the country.

"Southern Indiana is a very good team, and I think we have a chance if we take care of the ball and work hard," Coen said. "This will definitely be one of the toughest games of the year."

The game will mark the first ever Great Lakes Valley Conference contest for the Riverwomen.

The Riverwomen play their first home game Dec. 2 at Mark Twain Building against Lindenwood.

## Indiana, from page 10

not ready for them."

If there is any consolation, Meckfessel said it is that Southern Indiana will play well against most of its opponents.

"You don't like to lose to any team by 27 points," he said. "But Southern Indiana will beat a lot of teams by 27 points. It was their fourth game and on their home court. We had only had one game against Missouri Baptist and they aren't on that level. So there we some things we had to adjust to quickly."

Meckfessel hasn't had to change the starting five: Tuckson, Hawthorne, Dwon Kelly, Todd Miller and Brandon Klaus have started all three games for the team.

"Four of the starting positions are secure," Meckfessel said. "Brandon (Klaus) is going to have to play better."

Klaus has two points for the season, an average of .6 points per game, and an eight percent shooting percentage. He has only scored once on twelve shots.

"Brandon is a senior, and he has been here. So, he will get every opportunity to keep his starting position," Meckfessel said. "The other four starting positions are solid."

"You don't get better unless you play better competition," Meckfessel said.

One part of the team's puzzle has been recovering from an injury. Guard Jason Frillman suffered a knee injury several weeks ago and has only appeared in one game.

He still has several weeks before he will be completely healthy.

"If [Frillman] can get through this week and the next he will be at 100 percent," Meckfessel said. "He was clearly our third guard when he got hurt. He was also looking like he could be a starter. But he has been out two weeks and it takes a while to come back."

Frillman made his first appearance for the team against The Master's College. He scored eight points in seven minutes, hitting three of his four shots. He also had two steals and lead the team for the game.

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- 1/2 UMSL vs. IUPU-Ft. Wayne**  
Game will begin at 6 P.M.
- 1/4 UMSL vs. St. Joseph's**  
Game will begin at 6 P.M.
- Close to Home**
- 12/14 UMSL at Washington University**  
Game will begin at 5:30 P.M.
- 12/21 UMSL at SIU-Edwardsville**  
Game will begin at 6 P.M.

## Men's Basketball

- 12/3 UMSL vs. Missouri Baptist**  
Game will begin at 7:30 P.M.
- 1/2 UMSL vs. IUPU Fort Wayne**  
Game will begin at 8 P.M.
- 1/4 UMSL vs. St. Joseph's**  
Game will begin at 8 P.M.
- Close to Home**
- 12/14 UMSL at Washington University**  
Game will begin at 7:30 P.M.
- 12/21 UMSL at SIU-Edwardsville**  
Game will begin at 7:30 P.M.

## UMSL STUDENTS AT PLAY

by Brian Folsom  
sports associate

After compiling the best record in fourteen years, the 1996 UM-St. Louis Riverwomen Soccer team will never forget the hard work and team effort that made their season a success.

The Riverwomen suffered a disappointing loss at the hands of Ashland two weeks ago in the season finale and fell short of a tournament bid. However, according to head coach Ken Hudson, too many other good things happened to consider this season a failure.

For instance, the Riverwomen (16-7), reeled off two lengthy winning streaks over the course of the season. One streak reached seven games. In another stretch, they went 8-1. They also had three players who made the all conference team for the Great Lakes Valley Conference. Senior Beth Ernst was named to the first team Sophomore Carrie Marino and senior Lori Lueddecke were second team picks.

Hudson had nothing but high praise for Ernst, and he said that she has a good shot at being an All-American.

"We didn't really know what to expect from her, but she was our best player the whole season," Hudson said. "She pretty much controlled everything. She did anything we wanted her to do, and she was very versatile."

The Riverwomen started the season 1-4. Hudson said that the first winning streak turned things around, but that it was a gradual team unification which led to the success.

"Our lineup was not really sound, but during the first streak, the goalkeeping really stepped up and we started to gel as a team," Hudson said.

Amy Abernathy and Samantha Grasshoff split time in goal this season. The Riverwomen will be losing three seniors this season: Lueddecke, Ann Logan and Marcie Scheskie. Scheskie tied the school record for assists in a career with 28.

"They will definitely be missed," Hudson said. "They all came into their own this year, and their talent will be tough to replace."

According to Hudson, it was a total team effort this season.

"It wasn't just one person that carried the load," he said. "We learned to play like more of a team, and we worked hard."

Hudson said that the team will build on what it accomplished this season.

"The players are hungry, there is no doubt about that," he said. "Our players know that we were in contention for a tournament bid right up until the last game, so they know they can play with any of those teams that made the tournament."

Overall, Hudson said it was a satisfying season.

"We could have played better at times, and maybe we should have won some games that we lost, but we showed a lot of effort," he said. "That gives us something to shoot for next year."

"This team should be very proud of itself," Hudson said.



photo: Ken Dunkin

Riverwoman Leigha Gibbs (#18) tries to stop a shot in a game this season. The team finished 16-7 overall.

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