

11-2-1998

Current, November 02, 1998

University of Missouri-St. Louis

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The Current

THE STUDENT VOICE OF UM-ST. LOUIS

November 2, 1998

The University of Missouri-St. Louis

Vol. 32 Issue 935



Beloved: The Pulitzer Prize-winning Toni Morrison novel depicting the horrors of slavery is adapted for movie theaters.

See page 6.



Out for a stroll: The 'Walk for Hunger' swung into action last month. To read more about it, see page 3.

Losin' it: Plagued by injuries, the volleyball Riverwomen drop 3 of 4 in weekend competition.

See page 5.

NEWS FROM ALL OVER

Minnesota student groups try to join suit over fee system

(U-WIRE) MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. — Three student services fees-funded groups will attempt for a third time to join the University's side in a lawsuit against the fees system in a hearing before an 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals three-judge panel.

Lawyers on both sides say the outcome of the Nov. 20 hearing could have a significant impact on the case.

In February, five students filed suit against the University, claiming their First Amendment rights are violated because student services fees fund groups who engage in political and ideological activities.

The La Raza Student Cultural Center, the Queer Student Cultural Center and University YW student groups were specifically named in the lawsuit. The groups have since tried to join the University's side of the suit to protect what they say are their First Amendment rights to free speech.

Jordan Lorence, the plaintiffs' attorney, said the student groups have a significant free speech argument. He added that if the appeals court allows the groups to join the case, he will have difficulty winning.

"If [the student groups] are correct, then we have no lawsuit whatsoever," Lorence said.

Pat Logue, attorney for the student groups, plans to argue that the First Amendment does not grant the right to withhold student services fees from student groups. Anyone on campus can seek funding for his or her point of view, she said.

Lorence said arguments like Logue's were rejected in a recent ruling against the University of Wisconsin, which is fighting a lawsuit similar to the one filed against the University of Minnesota.

The University of Wisconsin lost its case and must revamp its student fees system — unless an appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court is granted.

Anti-discrimination clause gets approval from SGA

Resolution calls for UM-system to change policy on sexual, gender orientation

BY SUE BRITT
staff associate

UM-St. Louis' Student Government Association passed a resolution at its meeting, Thursday, to lobby the UM-Board of Curators to include sexual and gender orientation in its anti-discrimination policy.

Michael Rankins, SGA vice-president, said that the Board removed the classification of sexual orientation from the policy three years ago. Rankins said the Board of Curators consists of, "high-ranking persons who have the care of the University system."

"[The sexual orientation clause] was in three years ago," Rankins said, "and it was removed without explanation. The president of the UM-system actually gave the order to remove the sexual orientation clause from all the campuses."

This is the third year that UM-St. Louis' SGA has petitioned the Board in this matter. The resolution reads, in part, "In order to develop a higher level of cultural awareness... Enlisting the aid of all student organizations... In spite of the removal of 'sexual orientation' from the recommended UM system-wide anti-discrimination policy... Be it resolved that the UM-St. Louis Student Government Association denounces any discrimination on

the basis of age, disability, sex, color, national origin, veteran status, religion, race, sexual orientation, or gender orientation."

An amendment adding "gender orientation" to the resolution was brought to the floor at the SGA meeting, voted on and passed by the members.

Maurice Manning, a spokesman for the UM-system, said that it was not a matter of the removal of the term sexual orientation that was the issue. It was more of a procedural matter.

"In the late eighties Columbia and St. Louis, of the four campus system, added the sexual orientation clause to their policy. They did so with good intentions," Manning said, "And they did so without permission from the Board. It stopped appearing because it was never approved in the first place. And it has to be."

Manning said that in 1995 in a systemwide review of procedures the Board noticed that two campuses, St. Louis and Columbia, had "sexual orientation" included in their anti-discrimination policies and two campuses, Rolla and Kansas City, did not.

At that time representatives were brought in from the four campuses to discuss what should be done to correct the discrepancy.

"Kansas City and Rolla wanted to keep things the way they were on their campuses. St. Louis and Columbia wanted to keep things the way they were on their campuses," Manning said. "[The Board] could not get a consensus

see SGA, page 6

SABC members selected for '99

BY SUE BRITT
staff associate

Names of the new committee members for the Student Activities Budget Committee were announced at the Student Government Association meeting, Thursday.

Nine regular and two alternate members were chosen from the 16 applicants this year. This is an addition of one regular member's seat from the eight regular and two alternate panel of years previous.

"Everyone who applied was a really good applicant this year," SGA Comptroller Ben Ash said. "It was really hard to make the decisions on who gets on and who doesn't make it, which contributed to the decision to change the make up from eight regular

Ash

see SABC, page 6

Faculty and staff discuss e-mail concerns in 'constructive' meeting

BY DAVID BAUGHER
senior editor

About 40 faculty and staff met Friday to discuss problems and concerns about campus e-mail, according to Jerrold Siegel, director of Campus Computing.

Siegel called the meeting after criticism from some faculty over the handling of an incident in early September in which the UMSLVA server's power supply exploded resulting in the erasure of some incoming e-mail as well as an interruption in outgoing mail. Some faculty had complained that they were not informed of the situation until almost three weeks after the fact due to what they perceived as a lack of communication.

Siegel, who led Friday's meeting, called the gathering "constructive" and "very pleasant."

"I certainly felt that the questions were all fair and the concerns were real," he said. "I felt we needed this to help everybody get on the same page on some of these issues."

Siegel said some of the discussion at the meeting was an attempt to clarify communication issues when a crash or other problem occurs.

"These things do happen and what people were asking is that we be clear, that we tell them exactly [what happens]," Siegel

Open forum focuses on communication

said.

Siegel said that while Campus Computing hoped "to do a better job communicating," it is often difficult to decide what problems are serious enough to warrant a campuswide notification.

"The issue is every time a server crashes do you get a voice mail message or every time a network is down for fifteen minutes or some printer goes out do we spam the campus..." Siegel said. "We need to do more than we did [but] there is still a balancing act...a judgment call as to how many people need to really know."

He said the department would try to "err on the side of telling too much."

"We're going to be very proactive," Siegel said.

According to Siegel other e-mail issues were also covered during the meeting including the introduction of Outlook software for checking e-mail. Siegel said that Outlook functions well with the exchange server.

"They actually work best together but you don't actually need Outlook to use the exchange server," Siegel said.

Siegel noted that while he had heard some concerns about "training issues" and

"compatibility issues" with the software he found that many at the meeting were more concerned that they had not received Outlook.

"Strangely enough, the issue seemed to be 'Gee, we want to get on Outlook quicker,'" Siegel said.

Siegel said that the forum discussed not just e-mail but a number of topics including the compatibility of the Internet browsers, Netscape and Internet Explorer.

"Probably unless we're going to drive the students crazy we might as well choose one rather than the other," Siegel said. "The feeling was for now at least we'll stick with Netscape and try to make Internet Explorer or something like it available [as]... a special application for special purposes rather than promise to support Internet Explorer and Netscape and try to make sure everything works on both."

Some participants also brought up concerns over problems with dial-in phone lines.

Siegel said there was little the University could do about that issue since

see E-mail, page 6

Trick or treat, ye mateys



Stephanie Platt/The Current

Student Services Coordinator Don McCarty holds up the winning entry in a jack 'o lantern carving contest Friday in the University Center. The first-place pumpkin belonged to Horizons Peer Educators.

Biodiversity celebrated in World Ecology Day kickoff

BY SUE BRITT
staff associate

The International Center for Tropical Ecology cosponsored World Ecology Day at the J.C. Penney Building, Oct. 23, in a program entitled, "Getting off the Ark: The Role of Zoos in Species and Habitat Conservation."

Other sponsors were the Missouri Botanical Garden and the Saint Louis Zoo with some funding provided by Mallinckrodt, Inc..

High school students from about 10 area districts attended. They heard George Amato, director of Genetics at

the Wildlife Conservation Society give a talk, "Using Molecular Markers to Identify Conservation Units and Priorities," and Louise Bradshaw, director of education at the St. Louis Zoo speak of how to get involved personally in saving wildlife and wild places.

The key note speaker, Devra G. Kleiman, senior research scientist from the National Zoological Park, the Smithsonian Institution and adjunct professor at the University of Maryland spoke of her research with Golden Lion Tamarins and the work

see Ecology, page 8



Stephanie Platt/The Current

Carolyn Ikpeama, Education Outreach Coordinator for the St. Louis Zoo, shows a sea sponge to a visitor, Oct. 23. The Zoo is one of the sponsors of World Ecology Day.

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current

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

Bulletin Board

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

Monday, Nov. 2

• **Monday Noon Series: Elections 1998: What's at Stake for St. Louis.** E. Terrence Jones, professor of political science, describes what the outcome of tomorrow's elections will mean for the St. Louis Region. This event will be held in 229 J.C. Penney. Contact: Karen Lucas, 5699.

• **Flu Shots in the Marillac Hall Lobby** from 9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. in the Seton Hall Lobby from 10:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m., in the U-Center Lobby from 11:45 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and in the Lucas Hall 3rd Floor Lobby from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. The cost is \$10.00. Contact: Health Services, 5671.

• **"Perceptions of Race and Gender in Colonial (French and Spanish) Missouri."** This seminar will be given by Carl J. Eckberg, Professor Emeritus of History, Illinois State University. This event will be held from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in 331 SSB. Contact: The Center for International Studies and the Department of History, 5753.

• **Spanish Club Meeting** at 2 p.m. in 542 Clark Hall.

• **Walking Clinic.** learn how to make your walking workouts more effective for you. Bodywalk techniques will be demonstrated. The class meets from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

Tuesday, Nov. 3

• **Life in the Spirit Seminar** from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. in the Newman House at 8200 Natural Bridge Road. Contact: Betty or Dennis, 385-3455.

Wednesday, Nov. 4

• **Stop Smoking Clinic** from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. in the Women's Center in 211 Clark Hall. If you are one of the many smokers who is trying to kick the habit, members of the American Lung Association will advise participants on various methods to kick the smoking habit. Contact: Women's Center, 5380.

• **Diabetes Information Day.** Stop and Speak to a certified diabetes educator and have a blood glucose check between 11:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. in the U-Center Lobby and between 5:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. in the third floor lobby of Lucas Hall.

• **Brown Bag Series II, Finances and Financial Aid Tips to promote financial health.** This event will be held from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. in 72 J.C. Penney. Topics: Student Loans, Repayment, Default, Grace, Consolidation, Credit, Budget and Sense, Interest, and IRA's. Presented by Carol Banks, Financial Aid, and Mary Fehner, Community Education Specialist, Consumer Credit Counseling Service, and Dr. Thomas H. Eysell, School of Business Administration. Contact: Linda Sharp, 6807.

Thursday, Nov. 5

• **SOUP AND SOUL FOOD** (free lunch and a time for prayer and meditation) from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Normandy United Methodist Church at 8000 Natural Bridge Rd. Sponsored by the Wesley Foundation Campus Ministry. Everyone invited. Contact: Roger Jespersen, 385-3000.

• **Poetry and Short Story Reading Series.** Poetry reading by Jennifer

MacKenzie at 12:30 p.m. in 493 Lucas Hall. Contact: Karen Lucas, 5699.

• **Annis Pratt, NWSA Academic Discourse Committee: Brown Bag: "How to Respond to Prejudiced Remarks."** This event will be from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. in 325 Lucas Hall. Contact: IWGS, 5581 or 6383.

Monday, Nov. 9

• **Monday Noon Series: "Cognitive Authority, Rationality, and the Science Wars"** Lynn Hankinson-Nelson, professor of philosophy, UM-St. Louis, considers recent charges that the explanations of scientific practice offered by feminist scientists and science scholars "block" adequate understandings of science, and constitute a threat to rationality and democracy.

• **Library Research assistance Clinic** runs Monday through Friday from November 9 to November 20. Sign up at the TJ Library Reference Desk for help with research papers or projects. Contact: 5060.

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

Tuesday, Nov. 10

• **Life in the Spirit Seminar** from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. in the Newman House at 8200 Natural Bridge Road. Contact: Betty or Dennis, 385-3455.

• **Student Social Work Association Meeting** from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the Evening College Conference Room on the third floor of Lucas Hall. Contact:

Terri Kettenbrink, 924-6402.

Wednesday, Nov. 11

• **Minority Businesses.** Come welcome St. Louis area minority business owner Anne Webb. She will discuss how she started her business as well as how UM-St. Louis students can start their own minority businesses. This event will be held from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. in the Women's Center in 211 Clark Hall. Contact: 5380.

• **FLU SHOTS** at the University Health Services in 127 Woods Hall from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. and from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 12

• **SOUP AND SOUL FOOD** (free lunch and a time for prayer and meditation) from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Normandy United Methodist Church at 8000 Natural Bridge Rd. Sponsored by the Wesley Foundation Campus Ministry. Everyone invited. Contact: Roger Jespersen, 385-3000.

• **Fourth Annual "What Is A City?"** conference. The conference meets from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Contact: 5974, TDD users 5961.

Friday, Nov. 13

• **Fourth Annual "What Is A City?"** conference. The conference meets from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Contact: 5974, TDD users 5961.

Saturday, Nov. 14

• **Wacky Warriors Paintball** from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Free to all students. Enrollment is limited to 50 students. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

Campus CrimeLine

The Campus CrimeLine is a free service provided by the UM-St. Louis Police Department to promote safety through awareness.

October 6

At 2:00 p.m., a disturbance took place on East Drive on UM-St. Louis South Campus involving a Shuttle Bus Driver and a UM-St. Louis Student. Both claimed to be assaulted. The information will be forwarded to the St. Louis County Prosecutor's Office for review.

October 7

At 1:54 a.m., a purse was reported stolen from the Thomas Jefferson

Library.

October 12

A faculty member reported that between 2:30 p.m. on 10-09-98 and 9:00 a.m. on 10-12-98, several pieces of computer equipment were stolen. The items were two Apple computers and two Apple Display Monitors.

A student group member reported that between 10-05-98 at 3:00 p.m.

and 10-09-98 at 11:00 a.m. Two posters owned by his organization were missing from Marillac Hall.

A vehicle was reported at 3:05 p.m. to be damaged while parked near Stadler Hall. The vehicle had scratch marks from a sharp object.

October 15

A staff person reported the theft of a compact disc player which was to be given away as a door prize at a

campus event being held at the Mark Twain Building. The disc player and other prizes were left unattended.

October 16

A staff member reported at 7:25 p.m., a broken window was discovered on a rental truck parked at the Loading Dock in the rear of the General Services Building. The window was broken by a rock.

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MCMA



Get This

Super Amy: It's a bird, it's a plane, no it's...

Today I would like to tackle that age-old dilemma that has mystified generations of philosophers, educators and just darn swell folks alike.

If you could have one of these three super powers - invisibility, superhuman strength, or the ability to fly - which one would you choose?

Invisibility might be fun for a while, but I'd imagine it would be the first to grow old. Sure, there would be the eavesdropping, the practical jokes, etc. If you are going to be a superhero (which is really the point because, let's face it, now you're a freak so what else are you going to do?... except maybe be a really neat spy or a tabloid journalist) the fact that no one else can see you would come in handy. If there was a robbery or a terrorist threat, you could show up on the scene and knock the bad guy's hand or steal his evil plans with ease. Whatever gets the job done.

But, with invisibility, there comes loneliness. People would probably think it was really groovy at first and want to hang out with you. But the odds of having a meaningful relationship are pretty much out of the question. Unless you are a painfully shy introvert or maybe a perverted voyeur, in which case this just may be your pick.

Not many superheroes would have cut the mustard without their almighty strength. I must admit, it is the most practical choice for the career of world saving. I'm not too excited about the idea. I think it would get boring pretty quick. And there's that responsibility factor that I'm not too keen on. Everyone would know that you were the strongest and that no one could beat you, so they'd always expect you to do something when there was a problem. Talk about having a hectic schedule, and absolutely no personal life whatsoever. There would also be the very limited allowance for error. I mean, what kind of excuse would you have? "I'm only human"? It doesn't quite work in this particular circumstance. Personally, I don't need that kind of pressure.

Based pretty much on selfishness (with a little basic laziness mixed in), I would choose the ability to fly. I've been having those dreams where I could fly since I was little, and it's one of the most amazing things I've ever experienced. As for riding the world of evil, I realize it probably wouldn't be better than either of the aforementioned powers. I could fly to the scene of a crime and then, well, I'd probably land and... uh... well, I'd still be the same old girl who happened to be able to fly now. My best option at this point would probably be to fly away really, really fast. I'd have to stick to solving smaller problems like getting kittens out of trees or washing the second-story windows of my house for my mom. Although some may consider these acts as beneficial, they probably wouldn't apply to the wider scope of "the entire human race." But I could save a bundle on airfare.



AMY LOMBARDO
Features Editor

Human Nature

Center for Human Origins and Cultural Diversity shows children similarities of people of all colors

BY AMY LOMBARDO
staff editor

Often in today's society, a lot of emphasis is placed on the differences in human beings. UM-St. Louis has a program that chooses to focus on the similarities.

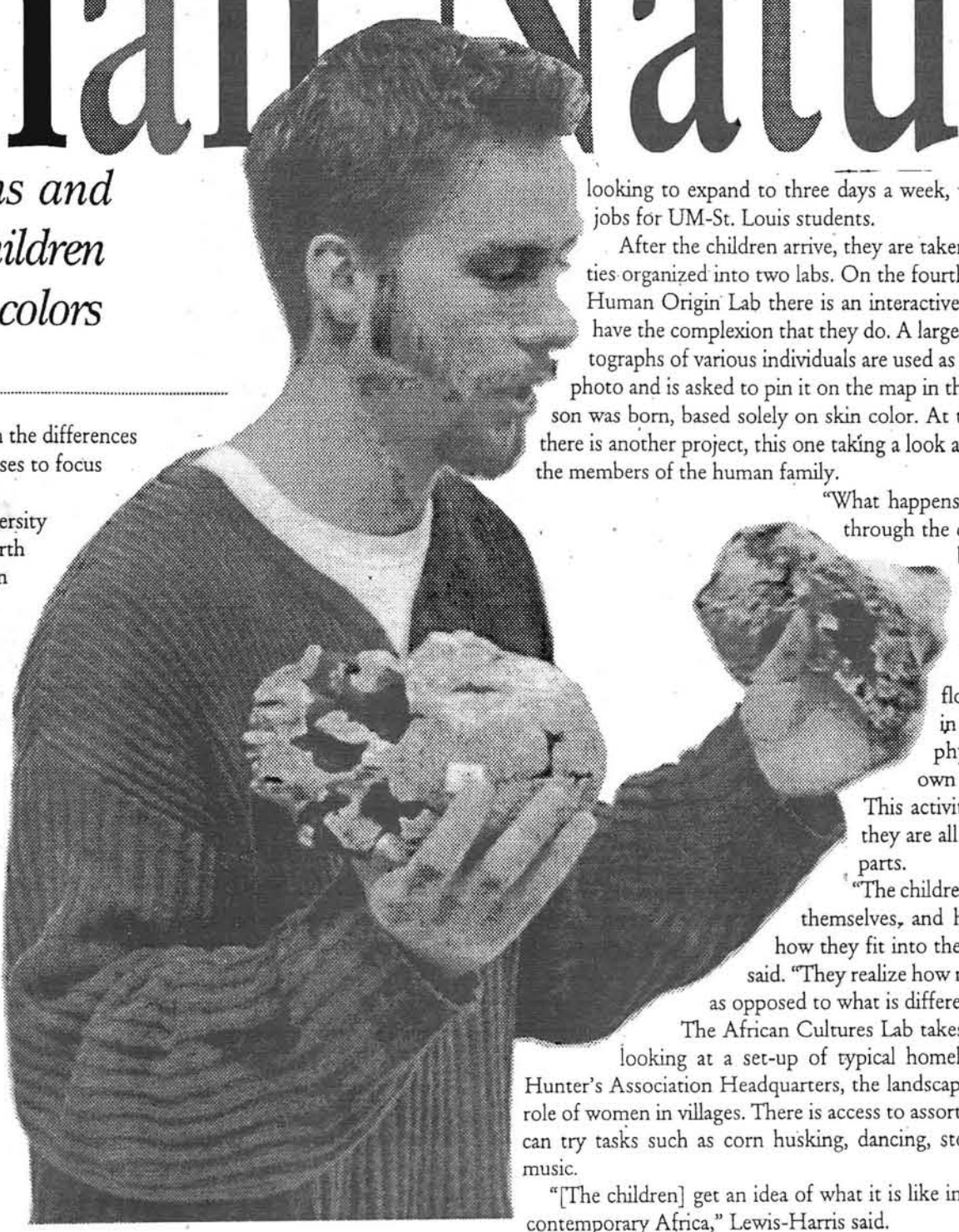
The Center for Human Origins and Cultural Diversity (CHOCOD) is located on campus, on the first and fourth floors of Clark Hall. Since its start last May, more than 1,500 people have participated in the program. It is designed for grade school and high school levels, but also hosts undergraduates, graduates and adults.

Students learn through a combination of hands-on activities, discussion and visual aids like timelines, fossil casts and authentic African artifacts. Some topics include variations in skin color, the theory of evolution, and the biology of humans.

Jacquelyn A. Lewis-Harris is the director of CHOCOD. She says that their main goal is education for all people.

"It shows [people] how they can apply some of the basics of anthropology to everyday life and it gives them a totally different view of looking at people," Lewis-Harris said. "I think one of the most important things is that it doesn't make physical anthropology scary, because [people] came up imagining, 'Oh, god, this is going to be dull!'"

The CHOCOD invites students from St. Louis area public and private schools. The groups visit the labs on Wednesdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. during the regular school year, and arrangements can also be made for the summer months. The Center is currently



looking to expand to three days a week, which will create part-time jobs for UM-St. Louis students.

After the children arrive, they are taken through a series of activities organized into two labs. On the fourth floor of Clark Hall in the Human Origin Lab there is an interactive discussion on why people have the complexion that they do. A large map of the Earth and photographs of various individuals are used as props. Each child is given a photo and is asked to pin it on the map in the area they believe the person was born, based solely on skin color. At the other end of the room, there is another project, this one taking a look at fossil casts of bones from the members of the human family.

"What happens when [the visitors] come through the center is that they find out by bone structure and fossil records that they are all related," Lewis-Harris said.

Downstairs on the first floor, the visitors participate in the craft of measuring and physically structuring their own forearm bones out of clay. This activity shows the children how they are all made up of the same basic parts.

"The children have a better awareness of themselves, and have a better awareness of how they fit into the big picture," Lewis-Harris said. "They realize how much they have in common as opposed to what is different."

The African Cultures Lab takes a journey through Africa, looking at a set-up of typical homelife in modern Kenya, the Hunter's Association Headquarters, the landscape of wild territory, and the role of women in villages. There is access to assorted tools where the children can try tasks such as corn husking, dancing, storytelling, instruments and music.

"[The children] get an idea of what it is like in the mixed environment of contemporary Africa," Lewis-Harris said.

UNDER
CURRENT

compiled by Jeremy Pratte/ of the Current staff

What was your best Halloween costume ever?

"My best Halloween costume was being a smurf in the first grade."

-Josh Peete
Biology Pre-Med

"My best costume ever was RuPaul."

-Katie Mallon
Freshman/International Business

"My favorite costume has to be when I dressed up as Pippi Longstocking. I borrowed my Mom's brown eyeliner and put big freckles all over my face and cut up a wire hanger to put in my hair. Now that I think about it maybe that isn't my favorite costume-those hanger points hurt."

-Cindy Beaird
Senior/Psychology

"My best costume was the year I went as 'One of the Living Dead.'"

-Delon E. Polk
Freshman/Accounting

'Walk for Hunger' raises food for needy

BY KEVIN BUCKLEY
of the Current staff

October 17, St. Louis' best came out to help their local food pantries. The "10th Annual Walk For Hunger" took place at Forest Park, supported by over 1,500 volunteers eager to walk a few extra miles to provide food for the needy.

Cindy Stull is the director of the St. Louis Food Pantry Association.

"It was great. It met and exceeded all of our expectations. The forecast was rain, but we got sunshine," Stull said.

The "Walk For Hunger" representatives collected pledges from various corporate and individual sponsors, and attempted to walk the ten-kilometer course set up in Forest Park.

Sponsors pledge a certain amount for each kilometer the volunteer walks and the money goes to the St. Louis Food Pantry Association where it will be appropriately distributed to needy food pantries.

"The mission for the 'Walk For Hunger' is to put cash in the hands of the neighborhood food pantries so they can pay the bills," Stull explains.

Stull assembled this event 10 years ago to counter changes in welfare reform. "There are so many people who don't realize how great the need is," Stull said.

Even with a strong economy and a drop in welfare rolls, poverty still looms in St. Louis and food pantries are the last refuge for many needy families.

"Just because people are being dropped from the welfare rolls does not necessarily mean that they are no longer in need of help," Stull said. "These folks are no longer getting government assistance, but they are still hungry."

Food pantries in St. Louis feed about 300,000 people a month. However, these are not vagrants snatching up handouts.

"The majority of people coming into food pantries are working poor... these people are working," Stull said.

However, pantries need money to pay the bills and other non-food expenses. The proceeds of

this event go directly to the pantries' financial aid.

"Walk For Hunger" owes much gratitude to its corporate sponsors like Imo's Pizza and KMOV who, Stull says, "picked up the bill." Not only did these businesses provide financial aid, they also set up "appreciation stops" every kilometer where walkers could receive a beverage or snack. The first four were primarily for children, featuring Ronald McDonald, Support Dogs, clowns and Fred Bird.

However, the "Walk for Hunger" is not the only way to help the hungry in St. Louis. The Boy Scout canned food drive is coming up soon.

"Every single person should have a bag out on their front porch," Stull said.

This drive brings in 24 truckloads of food. However, it takes 1,500 truckloads of food to meet the need. Consequently, the St. Louis Metro Food Pantry Association will accept donations any time of year.

"We need food every month," Stull said. "I would encourage everyone to do their part."

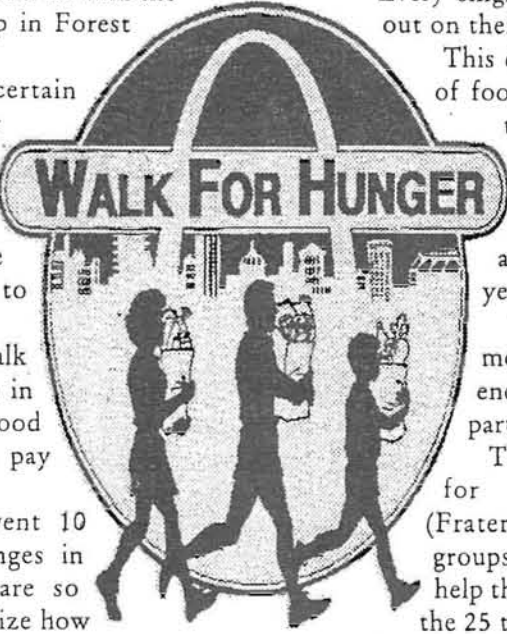
There are many opportunities for groups of all kinds (Fraternities, Sororities, Church groups and dormitory students) to help the needy of St. Louis. Due to the 25 truckloads of food coming in soon, food pantries will need help storing and sorting.

The St. Louis Metro Food Pantry Association will also begin hosting another fundraiser going from Thanksgiving to Christmas in which groups can volunteer for three and a half hours selling Christmas trees. If anyone has any questions or wants to get involved in any of these activities, call 426-FOOD and talk to Cindy Stull.

As for the future of the walk and the area food pantries, Stull says "nothing would please me more [than] to say we aren't going to have a walk next year because we don't need it."

Unfortunately, a lot of work has to be done and just as much volunteer help is needed.

However, as Stull explains, "That good warm feeling inside is worth all the effort."



Comments

The Current

THE STUDENT VOICE OF UM-ST. LOUIS

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Editorial Page Editor

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

How to Respond

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



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

There are advantages to being an Alum

A recent issue of the Current included a guest commentary entitled "Alumni Disadvantage." While the author, Gail Rimkus, made some valid observations, she failed to distinguish between problems the University faculty or staff are addressing, difficulties which all students face and must handle with parental or other assistance, and those where alumni are legitimately interested parties. These misunderstandings can be cleared up with the information contained in this letter.

In response to one of the author's points, members of our alumni association do enjoy the benefits of discounts to many on-campus services such as those offered at the School of Optometry, library, Career Services and University Bookstore. However, the real reason alumni join the association is not to receive but to give...to give back to the institution that gave us so much.

UM-St. Louis graduates take an approach to their involvement in a manner I call "reverse alma mater." Most graduates could not take advantage of what was available to improve campus life while they attended UM-St. Louis due to family or work responsibilities. Many could not work on the Current staff, join our various on-campus organizations, or socialize with faculty or fellow students. Many attended classes in make-shift rooms, parked on gravel lots, and performed research off-campus because our library was not finished. Their computer assignments were turned in on punch cards produced in dimly-lit computer labs. (Well I'll stop there before I start in on how far they walked through the snow to get to classes!) But years later, these same alums realize that their effort was worthwhile! You'd be amazed to hear the success stories contained in the ranks of our over 56,000 alumni. The Current has highlighted many of our alums; two this semester.

The purpose of our Alumni Association is found in our mission statement, which states in part: enhance the public image of UM-St. Louis, foster a spirit of fraternity among graduates, former and current students, promote and support the professional and personal development of alumni, and to elicit community, political and financial support for the University. This is mainly accomplished through the voluntary efforts of past graduates. We do this through activities (over 50 programs and events were offered last year alone) which include the sponsorship of scholarships, book stipends, the Distinguished Speaker Series, Spirit awards, and new graduate receptions. By the way, this year we've chosen to sponsor the "pep band", missing at last year's basketball games due to departmental budget cuts.

Remember that these efforts are funded and undertaken on a voluntary basis by graduates who "suffered" through the same type of frustrations the student detailed. But, our members live by the spirit embedded in the anonymous quote: "One generation plants the trees, the next sits in their shade." Alumni understand that while their college experience was not ideal, they are better off for the experience.

Some say bad publicity is better than no publicity. However, the misleading headline did not support the article. Yet it did prompt this letter. Hopefully it will generate student interest in the Alumni Association. We want more students to seek us out and take advantage of our programs. Their participation will help make our efforts more rewarding.

And finally, my message to Ms. Rimkus, hang in there! We have all faced the frustrations you are experiencing. You're going to make it! And your investment in education will be repaid many-fold. I applaud you for being active on campus despite your disappointment with certain issues of student life. We look forward to having you become a member of our association after your graduation. Our university will become a better institution with active proponents like you.

-David K. Adam (BSBA '81, MACC '93)
President Alumni Association

OUR OPINION

Voting: silence or a voice? It's your choice

The Issue:

On Tuesday people will be asked to vote in elections nationwide. College students across the nation however are known to be underrepresented.

We Suggest:

College students make their voices heard through voting in Tuesday's election. It's your right - take advantage of it.

So what do you think?

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

It's that time of year again.

On Tuesday, the people of Missouri will be asked to cast their ballots on a host of candidates and issues facing the state. It is our hope that college students from UM-St. Louis and across the state will make their voices heard and vote.

Among other propositions, voters will be asked to decide on Constitutional Amendment No. 9, the controversial "boats in moats" clause which will determine the legality of the state's gambling boats docked in artificially-created water inlets. With millions of dollars in tax revenue and economic development hanging in the balance, the outcome of this issue is critically important to all Missourians. Voters will also decide on Proposition A which would ban animal fighting in the state.

In addition, one U.S. Senate seat and all nine U.S. House seats are up for grabs in this general election. We will see a new state auditor along with many local offices, state representative and state senate districts which are also up for grabs. It is imperative that UM-St. Louisans, of all politi-

cal parties and persuasions, make it a priority to be at the polls next month.

There is, however, more to voting than simply punching holes on a ballot. It's vital that all students educate themselves about the candidates, especially those for smaller local offices. Make it a point to read voter's guides in your newspaper. Keep up-to-date on the issues and people who represent you and then make informed decisions about the laws we make and the individuals we send to Washington and Jefferson City.

It is well-known that college students are underrepresented in voting booths across the country. This is sad since college students often have special concerns ranging from financial aid to curricula requirements. Students, especially those attending a public institution of higher learning, have every reason to involve themselves more in the democratic process.

If we don't make our interests heard to the powers that be, the silence will certainly speak for itself. Get out and vote this Tuesday.

GUEST COMMENTARY

A vote for serenity

All I want is quiet. Life is busy, sometimes downright crazy. Sometimes I just need to be in a quiet place, a place that gives you a few minutes to relax, reflect, think about your life. Mother Nature is good for that: a lake reflecting the sun, wind rustling through the trees, birds chirping, the smell of fresh air. There are many peaceful places like that in Missouri, many only an hour's drive outside of St. Louis.

I don't have an hour. Remember that busy, crazy life? I need some place closer. Lucky for me, I've found a serene place like that in Maryland Heights, very convenient for a busy person like me. It has all the benefits of the quiet places outside of the city, yet it's right here. A beautiful lake, trees, and wildlife. All year long, through all seasons, the peacefulness of Creve Coeur Park never fails to calm me.

The tranquility of Creve Coeur Park is in danger of being devastated by the Page Avenue Extension, which will be built over the south corner of the lake. Proponents of the Page Avenue Extension claim it won't disturb the park or the wildlife. Somehow I just don't buy it. Each time I walk on the south side of the park trail (where the highway will cross over), I remember the deer I

saw there one day, and I look for the egrets who seem to prefer the most secluded part of the lake. The loudest sound I hear is the honking of a flock of geese flying overhead. I wonder how much longer the quiet will last. I feel sad for what will be lost: a precious piece of nature, unspoiled, so close, so accessible.



CATHY VATTEROTT
Guest Commentator

How important is it to our collective psyche to have such quiet places? How many such places do we have and how far away are they? How much do they add to the quality of our life? Are they more effective than therapy? What is the value of the peace such places bring to our soul?

Sometime, take a few minutes from your busy schedule to visit the lake in Creve Coeur Park. Take a few minutes to enjoy one of the simple pleasures of life: walk a dog, ride a bike, feed the ducks, catch a fish, row a boat, read a book. Enjoy the quiet and the unspoiled view. See if it doesn't lift your spirits and make you feel a little more relaxed, a little calmer. Then try to imagine a 10-lane highway as part of the view, looming across the back side of the lake. Think hard about the value of a quiet place that's not 50 miles away. And on November 3rd, vote "NO" on Proposition 1. Vote for serenity.

Life in the fast lane always a challenge

Is it my imagination or are people's driving skills deteriorating?

I have begun to notice this phenomenon more lately because my job forces me to work late on weekends and so I often find myself driving home at four in the morning. It's interesting to be out on the roads at a time of day when the surrounding traffic appears to consist entirely of police and people being chased by police.

God pity the 4 a.m. commuter. True the roads are emptier and the traffic signals are all on flash, but those few motorists who are out for a pre-dawn cruise have a tendency to drive like extras from a Mad Max film. For some reason people out at that hour apparently operate under the general assumption that the traffic laws don't go into effect until sunrise. On a recent early-morning drive I was tailgated by a car who flashed his brights in my rearview mirror - the international signal for rude speed demons everywhere. This, while I was doing 70 mph, on an utterly empty four-lane interstate. Eventually, he got the idea and passed me using the other three-quarters of unoccupied highway where he immediately accelerated to Mach 3 and disappeared in seconds.

Of course the whole thing was my fault for going too slow. No matter what the signs say, 70 miles per hour is now the accepted minimum speed for shopping carts in the canned goods aisle, not the interstate where everyone is expected to do at least 80 if they plan on driving anywhere but the median strip or the shoulder.

I am the first to admit that I am not the best driver in the world. I have totaled one car and rear-ended two vehicles in four years behind the wheel. Still, I am getting tired of sharing the road with a host of mentally unstable/passive-aggressives who seem to have learned their driving etiquette entirely from "Starsky and Hutch" reruns. The cast of characters on our roads is an increasingly angry lot. There is The Tailgater, who must drive no more than one inch off your bumper; The Weaver, that heavy-traffic Houdini who darts from one lane to the next, ever in search of that elusive Northwest Passage to the next exit ramp; and of course, The Highway Hog, who would rather start a ten-car pile-up than let you merge into his lane.

This last is always my personal favorite. The testosterone-crazed Hog is very territorial, always up for a fight. Don't make direct eye contact and whatever you do DON'T USE YOUR BLINKER. You might just as well wave a red cape in front of a bull. This little courtesy will only warn the Hog you that you plan on committing the unforgivable sin of changing lanes in front of him. No truly dedicated Hog will ever allow this to happen even if it means speeding up to 95 miles an hour and side-swiping you into a concrete barricade. You cannot violate his turf.

I suppose our lack of manners on the streets really isn't all that surprising. More and more we are losing our manners and our tempers in every aspect of life. At home, in the workplace, at school we are always quick to anger, slow to cool. Our highways are just reflecting the basic trend of a society that seems increasingly bent on viewing other human beings less as individuals with rights, feelings and a family that wants them home in one piece and more as impediments, roadblocks to our happiness and convenience, just another set of potholes in the increasingly bumpy road of life.

Thanks, but no thanks, really

Recently, I was shopping at a local store, trying to decide which baking pan to purchase. Due to budgetary constraints, I only get to buy something new once in a blue moon, so I was actually giving this decision a lot of thought.

Meanwhile, I was approached by a tall, nice-looking man whose expression indicated he intended to talk to me. Steeling myself for the expected sales pitch (like those weird guys at the gas station who try to sell you perfume) or flashing incident (happened to me my freshman year at college), I waited for what would come next.

"I'd like to give you my phone number," he said.

"Why?" I asked incredulously, knowing no earthly reason why some person would want to give me his phone number.

"So we can talk or something," he said.

"About what?" I said, suspiciously.

He looked at me strangely, and said, "We can just talk about stuff and maybe we can go out or something."

"OOOhhh," I said, the realization that he was trying to ask me out seeping into my marriage-minded psyche.

Suppressing the urge to laugh at myself for not figuring it out sooner, I told him that I was flattered, but that I couldn't.

"Thank you, but I really can't," I said.

"Why," he said, "you got a fiancé or a boyfriend?"

"No, I'm married," I said.

"Oh, OK," he said, and walked away.

I picked up my pan and started walking towards the cashier's, giggling to myself.

As I entered the main aisle, I saw the guy approaching me again, this time with a piece of paper in his hand.

"Here, just take my number, maybe we can talk," he said.

"No, I really can't," I said, laughing outright at what my husband would think of his wife calling some strange man "just to talk."

The guy will never know how much of a boost he gave my ego that day. I have a pretty strong sense of self, and have never relied on the opinions of others to form my self-esteem. Still, it doesn't hurt when you discover that after eight years of marriage, you can still attract offers, even if you've lost the



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Off the wall

Nothing beats playing a game of tackle football

For my money there is nothing more enjoyable than a game of tackle football.

What could be more fun than running at someone and hitting them with all you have in your body? Or having the bragging rights over someone who you despise? I can't think of anything as fun or adrenaline-pumping.

Sure, playing tackle football can cause harm to your health. No pads, no stretching before the games, and occasionally a few intense rivalries can put you on the shelf for a few weeks and in some cases a few months. But

the alternative, playing touch football, always seemed too easy. We could play touch in gym class; touch was for wussies.

We wanted to play like the big guys on TV. We wanted to have all-out crushing hits.

Every little kid has daydreams of catching a pass and sprinting up the sidelines burning up the opposition with their blazing speed. Or in my case, throwing a 50-yard bomb for the winning touchdown of the game. After all, Jim McMahon was my idol.

In my childhood neighborhood we had some tough rivalries in North County. We really took this seriously. We played against neighborhood teams from Sun Valley, the church team from the San Francisco Temple, a few teams from Castle Point and when no one would play against us we would play against ourselves. We made out like pros and took it like we were a real team.

So with my number nine jersey, a replica of Chicago Bear Jim McMahon's jersey, I would go out hoping to be the star. More than likely they stuck me on offensive line, or told me to go deep at wide receiver. Either way I was happy. I was never the star but that was OK; I had the chance to play. Even when I was 12 years old and played in the older kids' games. I was the only one crazy enough to run back kick returns. I was knocked silly a few times but hit after hit I always got up. I couldn't stand that they would make me sit out, or that God forbid my parents wouldn't let me play because I was hurt.

Getting hurt never bothered me; maybe because it wasn't an option for me. I looked at it as a part of the game. A cut on the arm or a bruised leg didn't matter, it was just whether or not I played the game.

Now that I am older, I still look at it the same way. I get juiced when planning, playing or getting ready for a neighborhood game. The thought of playing my friend Joe Nolan and his friends for the fifth time has my juices flowing. It makes me feel even more hyped when I think about laying Nolan out. Tackle football - what a game.



KEN DUNKIN
sports editor

Riverwomen win 7-0 over Harris-Stowe, are 4-5 in GLVC Women lose to Quincy 0-1 in overtime play

BY DAVE KINWORTHY
staff associate

The women's soccer team currently stands at 6-9 overall, 4-5 in the GLVC and is ranked 7th overall.

UM-St. Louis was forced to play without sweeper Beth Ostermeyer this past weekend due to a stress fracture which will sideline her for the remainder of the season.

"She has played sweeper for us the whole year and it was an adjustment for her since she had never played sweeper before," Head Coach Beth Goetz said. "She had a good effect on the team."

The Riverwomen took on Quincy and lost in a heart-breaker 0-1 in overtime.

In the first overtime, the Riverwomen went against the wind and Quincy's goaltender punted the ball well over the half line, which led to a breakaway goal by Quincy.

Goetz seemed pleased with her team's performance against Quincy.

"It was the best game we have had all year," Goetz said. "We had created several chances on goal, and by far dominated the game. We created great scoring opportunities but just could not tuck the ball in. Our frontrunners [Jennifer] Terbrock and [Julie Reiter] hit several shots and took more opportunities in the attacking role."

Goetz praised midfielder Alaina O'Donnell for her performance against Quincy.

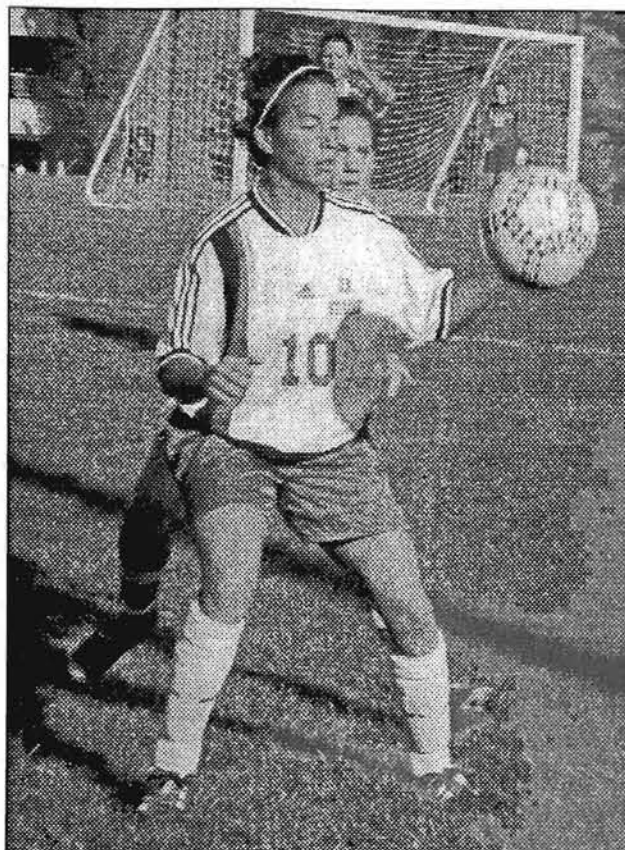
"She had a great game and a lot of our attack started from her," Goetz said. "She transitions well and gets herself in position to support the attack and she dominated the air and won many headers."

Going into the game, Goetz believed that her team matched up fairly well with Quincy despite the loss.

"We came out right away and got off to a good start despite the thunder and lightning," Goetz said. "I was pleased with the performance."

The women then took on Southern Indiana, the No. 1-ranked team in the GLVC, and lost 0-2.

"We were right there with them," Goetz said. "We are not too far behind that level of competition. We played



Stephanie Platt/The Current

Senior Carrie Marino takes possession of the ball from SIU-Edwardsville in a game Oct. 10.

well and knocked the ball around well."

The first goal by Southern Indiana was scored in the first 20 minutes on a penalty kick, a result of a takedown in the penalty box.

The second goal by Southern Indiana was scored shortly into the second half and was the nail in the coffin for the Riverwomen.

UM-St. Louis then took on Harris-Stowe and emerged victorious 7-0.

"We got the chance to score some goals and knock the ball around and try some new moves," Goetz said. "You hope that gives us a little confidence going into this tough weekend."

That past weekend, UM-St. Louis was defeated by Northern Kentucky 2-1.

Volleyball record falls to 13-7 after weekend losses

BY JOE HARRIS

of the Current staff

The Riverwomen volleyball juggernaut was temporarily derailed last weekend as they went 1-3 against Northern Kentucky, Wayne State, Bellarmine, and West Virginia Wesleyan.

Though the poor weekend dropped the team's overall record to 13-7 (6-5 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference), they still remained just one game behind second place Quincy in the GLVC's green division.

"We could catch Quincy or Bellarmine could catch us [for third]," Head Coach Denise Silvester said. "Anything can happen. It just remains to be seen which team comes out to play for all three schools."

Injuries took their toll on the Riverwomen. Susan Claggett is out for the rest of the year with a shoulder injury and Michelle Pasieka was out with the flu. The injuries forced Kristen Brugnara to play the back line while Leslie Armstrong was left with all of the setting duties.

The injuries left the Riverwomen with only nine healthy bodies for the four-match weekend.

The weekend started with a 12-15, 13-15, 15-12, 5-15 loss to Northern Kentucky. The Riverwomen hit the ball poorly posting a .119 team hitting percentage.

"Northern Kentucky is a very strong defensive team and very good blocking team," Silvester said. "We didn't pass very well and when you don't pass you don't have very much offense that you can run. Northern Kentucky was able to key in on it."

Michelle Hochstatter and Armstrong were two of the only bright spots for the Riverwomen. Hochstatter posted a .611 hitting percentage and Armstrong recorded 48 of the 52 Riverwomen sets.

The Wayne State match immediately followed the Northern Kentucky loss. Again, the Riverwomen fell 11-15,

3-15, 15-12, 5-15.

Coach Silvester believes that her team was tired against Wayne State.

"We had played eight games in the span of about five hours," Silvester said. "I think the girls were both physically tired and mentally tired because we spent so much time preparing to play Northern Kentucky."

Hochstatter again was one of the only bright spots leading the team with a .320 hitting percentage.

"Michelle's [Hochstatter] been getting better and better every weekend," Silvester said. "She's beginning to believe that she can be an offensive threat and she's going to have to come through for us in our remaining games and in our conference tournament."

On Saturday, the Riverwomen's first match was against conference foe Bellarmine. Once more, the Riverwomen fell 10-15, 9-15, 13-15.

The loss brought Bellarmine to only one game behind the Riverwomen in the conference standings.

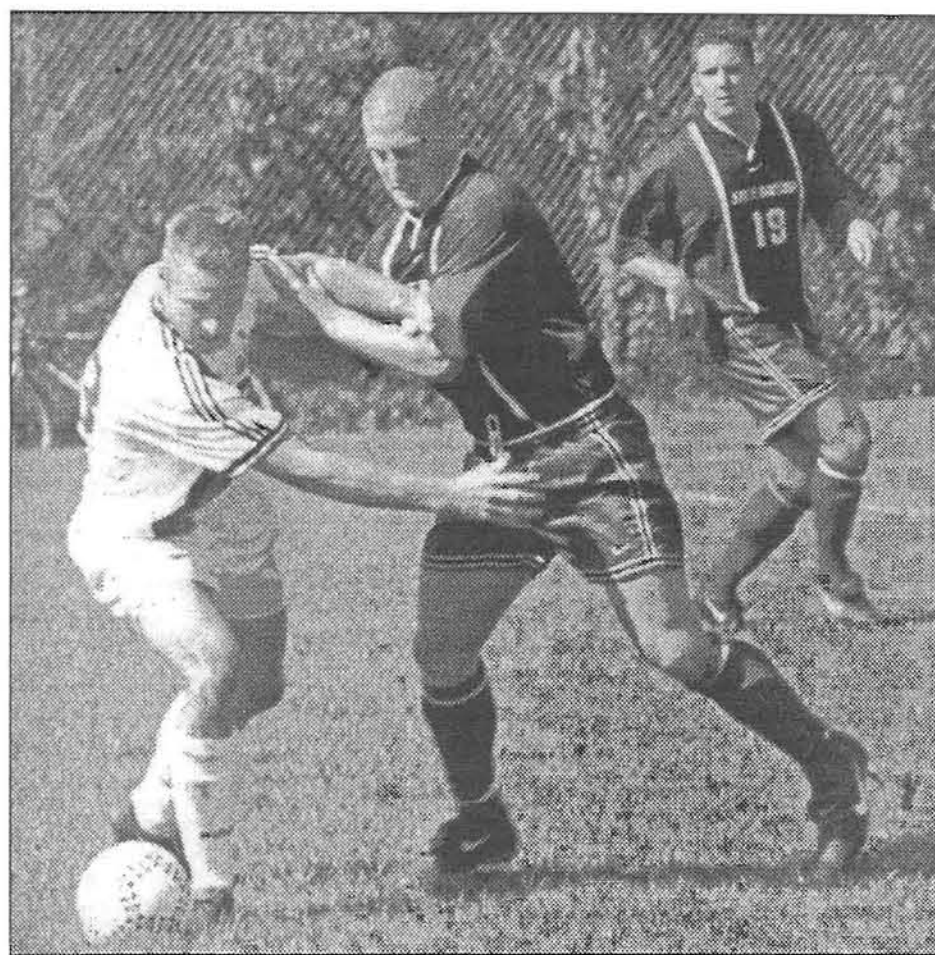
"Bellarmine now has the tie break meaning that if we finish with identical records they would be ahead of us," Silvester said. "Bellarmine's a desperate team. They didn't make the Conference tournament last year and they played as a desperate team."

The Riverwomen blew several leads against Bellarmine as the team hit only .106 and had only two blocks.

The Riverwomen's fortune would change, however, in the weekend's final match against West Virginia Wesleyan. The five-game victory was especially rewarding after the Riverwomen came back from a two-games-to-none deficit.

"It shows a lot of character and a lot of pride [to make the comeback]," Silvester said. "They did everything they could to salvage the weekend."

The Riverwomen were led by Anne McCord's .357 hitting percentage and Hochstatter's .238 hitting percentage. Armstrong came through with 36 assists while Brugnara added 16 digs.



Stephanie Platt/The Current

Kevin Pierce (left) fights for possession of the ball in the Oct. 10 game against SIU-Edwardsville.

Rivermen soccer ties 5th-ranked Rockhurst

BY KEN DUNKIN

staff editor

The Rivermen soccer team looked to play the spoiler against highly-ranked Rockhurst last weekend. They tied the 5th ranking Rockhurst team 1-1 last Saturday.

The game took two overtimes to decide the draw. The Rivermen weren't satisfied though.

"It was probably the right finish to this game, but we really wanted a victory. We let up at times, there were a few mental breakdowns," Rivermen Head Coach Tom Redmond said.

One of the breakdowns came late in the second overtime. One of Rockhurst's top scorers, Thomas Andreasen, broke through the Rivermen defense. Six feet away from the goal Andreasen chipped the ball over the net out of play.

"We really caught a break there," Redmond said. "He is good for a goal or two a game and most of the time he hits that shot. We were lucky."

With few breakdowns the overtime was owned by the Rivermen. They out-shot Rockhurst and put the ball in the attack zone more often also.

"We came out slow in the first half. In the second half we played better. In the overtime I think our great work rate really came through. The guys really played well late," Redmond said.

The depth of the bench also came into play. The Rivermen used 16 players throughout the game.

"We made a few key switches early in the game. That was when we brought in Mark Mendenhall and Kevin Pierce. We moved Ryan Inky back in play also. The great thing was the guys we took out really were key players for us later in the game," Redmond said.

The Rivermen will host IPFW this Wednesday in the Great Lakes Valley Conference tournament. The Rivermen will host their first-round game at 7:30 p.m. at the Don Dallas Field.

Players are removed from team, reinstated

BY KEN DUNKIN
staff editor

It has been a rocky few weeks for several UM-St. Louis men's soccer players, having been kicked off the team one week only to be reinstated the following week.

Rivermen soccer players Trent Woodrick, Josh Fair, and Bobby Carter were suspended from the team for a prank they did on Labor Day weekend in a Quincy hotel. Rivermen Head Coach Tom Redmond disciplined the team after the event.

Several weeks after the prank happened, disciplinary action was handed down from the chancellor's office. Following the game against SIU-Edwardsville, Chancellor Blanche Touhill ruled that the players would be suspended for the remaining games this season.

After hearing more of the students' explanation the decision to kick the players off the team was reversed Oct. 22. In the two-game stretch the Rivermen went 0-1-1, dropping them from their previous 1st place tie in the conference.

"It was great to get the guys back. It was a really bad time to lose them, we were on such a roll," Redmond said.

The players apologized to all parties involved and were forced to deal with their actions. They said they felt the suspension was unjust.

"It was never our intention to embarrass the University," Woodrick said. "We had been disciplined and in our minds it was done and over with."

The team had moved on Woodrick said. He said he wishes the University would have done so also.

"Tom [Redmond] really got put through a lot with this situation. When he had found out what happened that weekend he handled it. We suffered the consequences and we really felt bad about the whole situation. The thing was no one was harmed by this. No one saw what we did and nothing would have been said but when they suspended us everyone found out why. It was very embarrassing," Woodrick said.

The players will remain on the roster for the remaining games. Woodrick will graduate after this semester. Fair and Carter have several years of eligibility left at UM-St. Louis.

Movie Review

Morrison's 'Beloved' comes to the silver screen



From left to right: Kimberly Elise, Oprah Winfrey, and Thandie Newton star in "Beloved."

Beloved
Rating: R
Running Time: 2:52

It begins with what looks like a tornado, yet the viewer gets glimpses of the lawn and it's a clear, calm day. One finally figures out that the tornado seems to be happening only inside the house, which doesn't make sense. Later, the viewer learns that the house is haunted, and the spirit moves objects and causes the tornado-like winds within the house. The story unfolds in layers, and the viewer definitely feels that (s)he is peeling away the layers to learn more and more about what is going on.

Two little boys are grabbing food in the first scene, and then run to hug a little girl goodbye. They are running away from home, away from the craziness of the house. The little girl and Sethe (Oprah Winfrey), the mother, are the only ones left living in the house, and one wonders why they stay. But Sethe first came to this house after she escaped slavery, and the viewer has much more to learn in the next two hours.

The story uses the injustices of slavery as a

basis, but the viewer realizes this through discerning what has happened to Sethe and her family. It is a shock to find that Sethe has killed her daughter so that the daughter won't be taken back by the landowner to be a slave.

The movie is based on Toni Morrison's 1987 Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, "Beloved." The film is long, almost three hours, but is developed from Morrison's wonderful storytelling style. Morrison said in an interview published in "The New Yorker" magazine that good fiction should have something in it that enlightens, and in her novel she wants the reader to understand what slavery did to people. Winfrey, the star of the movie, stated in information regarding the show that Morrison's book allowed the reader to understand what slavery did to a person's soul.

The viewer will enjoy the dynamics of the movie, including getting to know the caring, perceptive mother-in-law who preaches to her listeners in the woods. And, in true Morrison style, there is hope for Sethe.

-Pam White

SGA, FROM PAGE 1

from the four campuses."

So, the Board of Curators deferred to the federal guidelines for the UM system wide anti-discrimination policy, Manring said.

Manring said that the president of the Board of Curators has agreed to a subcommittee of the board in this matter.

"I'll be announcing public meetings where this topic can

be discussed," Manring said.

These public meetings will most likely be held at the most central of the universities, Columbia. Manring said there would be avenues to participate for those who cannot attend.

"If they can't come to it we will arrange a way to submit written statements," Manring said.

Those on the UM-St. Louis campus in favor of the addition to the anti-discrimination clause are maintaining the watch for change.

"I would say that I'm cautiously optimistic," Rankins said. "I hope some good work gets done toward progress in an open-minded and a level-headed forum."

SABC, FROM PAGE 1

with two alternates to nine regular with two alternates."

The new members, in no particular order, are from the College of Business Administration; Debbie Albrecht, Tanika Hale, Sharone Hopkins and Marsha Nored; from the College of Arts and Sciences; Neal Lewis, Joshua Stegeman, Joe Frank and Greg Carr; and from the School of Education, Gail Rimkus. The alternates announced were Shae Williams of Arts and

Sciences and Ida J. Luketin of Education from the Evening College.

"The alternates are going to take a more active role in the committee this year," Ash said.

"Before the alternates were just there to fill in when needed," Ash said. "[This year] they're all going to get to ask questions and are expected to come."

The new SABC, which is responsible for the allocation of

funding received by the University from student activities fees and dispersing of funding to the various student organizations that apply for budgets, will be meeting soon, Ash said.

"Sometime in November," Ash said. "we have to go over schedules. Definitely before the workshops."

The workshops that are required for all student organizations that are requesting funds will

be in about two weeks, Ash said.

"We will be having a workshop for the SABC this year to go over

E-MAIL, FROM PAGE 1

it related to the age and capacity of the lines in various parts of the St. Louis area.

"If you live in old homes with old telephone wires that really don't support the new high-speed modems, it really goes without saying," Siegel said.

Dennis Judd, presiding officer of the Faculty Council and participant

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Movie Review

'The Mighty' is feel-good fare

"The Mighty"
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Now Playing

The Mighty is a film about two boys that set out on a series of adventures in an attempt to find something neither has had before - friendship.

Maxwell Kane (Eldon Henson) and Kevin Dillon (Kieran Culkin) are two misfits in society. Maxwell is a giant but soft-spoken boy with not much smarts. Kevin on the other hand is a small boy in leg braces with more wit and brains than anyone else in school.

Kevin is sent to be Maxwell's reading tutor so Maxwell can pass the eighth grade. It is then that Kevin introduces Maxwell to the books about King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table. The boys try to become modern day knights in their own way by defending good and exposing evil. They even have their own makeshift armor.

The story is narrated by Maxwell and traces his confrontation with his past, including the death of his mother and the fact that his father is in jail. When his father is released from prison on parole the story heats up as Maxwell's grandparents try to protect him.

The film has some excellent performances by Sharon Stone as Kevin's mother. Gillian Anderson is also in the movie as Loretta Lee, one of Maxwell's father's shady friends. It is a very different role from her famous character on "The X-Files."

However, the best acting was done by Kieran Culkin. He is the younger brother of Macauley Culkin. Kieran is funnier in this film than his brother ever was in the *Home Alone* movies.

The Mighty is based on Rodman Philbrick's book "Freak the Mighty." The film is presented in book form. Each adventure is transitioned into the next by a chapter title. This allowed the director, Peter Chelsom, to move between two totally unrelated subjects without much of a transition. While this gave the director some freedom, it was at times extremely abrupt for the viewer.

The movie has some very strong aspects that are very similar to the recent movie *Simon Birch*. However, I think that this movie is a little less manipulative and more of a feel good movie. In the end, Maxwell learns that he does have worth as a human being. That in itself is one of the greatest lessons anyone could learn.

-Stephanie Platt



Sharon Stone in "The Mighty."

Music Review

'Inner Circle' can't shake 'Cops' theme

Inner Circle
"We Are Rockers"
Reggae

Inner Circle, most known for "Bad Boys," the theme song for *Cops*, and the not-so-recent movie *Bad Boys* with Will Smith and Martin Lawrence, have not changed their style very much. The entire subject matter of this album is no different than any other CD, but the way in which the subject matter is presented is where the problem lies. This album is reminiscent of that high school music of years ago as basic as the song, "I Love Girls" that begins by spelling out, "G.... for good...." and continues with the chorus "I Love Girls" and on to describe all the different types and how they play innocent men. If it is possible to ignore such adolescent songs, there are a few decent songs and if the listener is in the right frame of mind it is possible to picture themselves in Miami with Inner Circle sipping on a margarita. As much as this album could possibly be, Inner Circle has not transformed much since "Bad Boys." Most of the songs on this album are "Bad Boys" but with different lyrics and by any means are not truly responsive or current with music that has been released recently.

-Anne Porter

Music Review

'Blue Flannel' is not alternative



Blue Flannel

Blue Flannel
"XL"
modern rock

First to be said, even Blue Flannel makes it a point to bold type, "We are not alternative." And in today's radio, the typical listener often generalizes, "Well, The Point is alternative plus Jewel, and KSHE is classic, etc., etc." Blue Flannel seems a little of all types, not just alternative which may explain why they want to clarify this with the average radio music partaker. Blue Flannel begins a little intro just possibly to awaken the listener, and then almost as if the listener was there in the front row with Blue Flannel, Derek Cole begins to sing about

his love life, and his current love compared to his old love which is entertained with a jazzy xylophone. The best song that anyone can relate to is "Havin' A Bad Day" which anyone who works in the service industry can truly relate to in a way that should really not ideally happen, sad to say. Overall, this is quite a snappy little album which would make an excellent addition to anyone's collection. The majority of the cuts are short, sweet and do not drag the listener down even though they are entirely relevant to almost everyone's life. All this album does is allow people to laugh at their own lives.

-Anne Porter

ECOLOGY, FROM PAGE 1

being done to rescue the wild populations of them in Brazil.

Kleiman works with the people and government of Brazil and interdependently with the National Zoological Park to reintroduce zoo-born animals into the wild. This program has been very successful.

Because of the success of Kleiman's program many other programs are being developed throughout the country for repopulating of endangered species to the wild and monitoring and tracking of genetic information of captive animals.

"The zoos are very involved [in species survival plans]," Carolyn Ikpeama of the St. Louis Zoo said, "Basically, for an animal that's endangered there will be a person who's in charge of leading a group of people that will make the decision of which animal will breed with another."

Participants staffing booths included Mid-America Aquacenter, Saint Louis Children's Aquarium, Missouri Department of Conservation, Missouri Department of

Natural Resources, Missouri Environmental Fund, Saint Louis Rainforest Advocates and the Sierra Club among others.

Vicki Flier, from the boards of both the St. Louis Audubon Society and the Webster Groves Nature Society was running booths at the event. She is also involved with the Field Science Department at Washington University's Tyson Research Center where she educates youth.

"I tell them we have manners at home that we have to adhere to, so we have manners out in the woods," Flier said.

Dr. Patrick Osborne, executive director of the International Center for Tropical Ecology at UM-St. Louis said that involving the youth of the area is an important means of securing the future of our ecology.

"I hope that today will inspire you to support your local zoo," Osborne said to the students, "or become involved with local conservation organizations through volunteerism and other ways of active participation."

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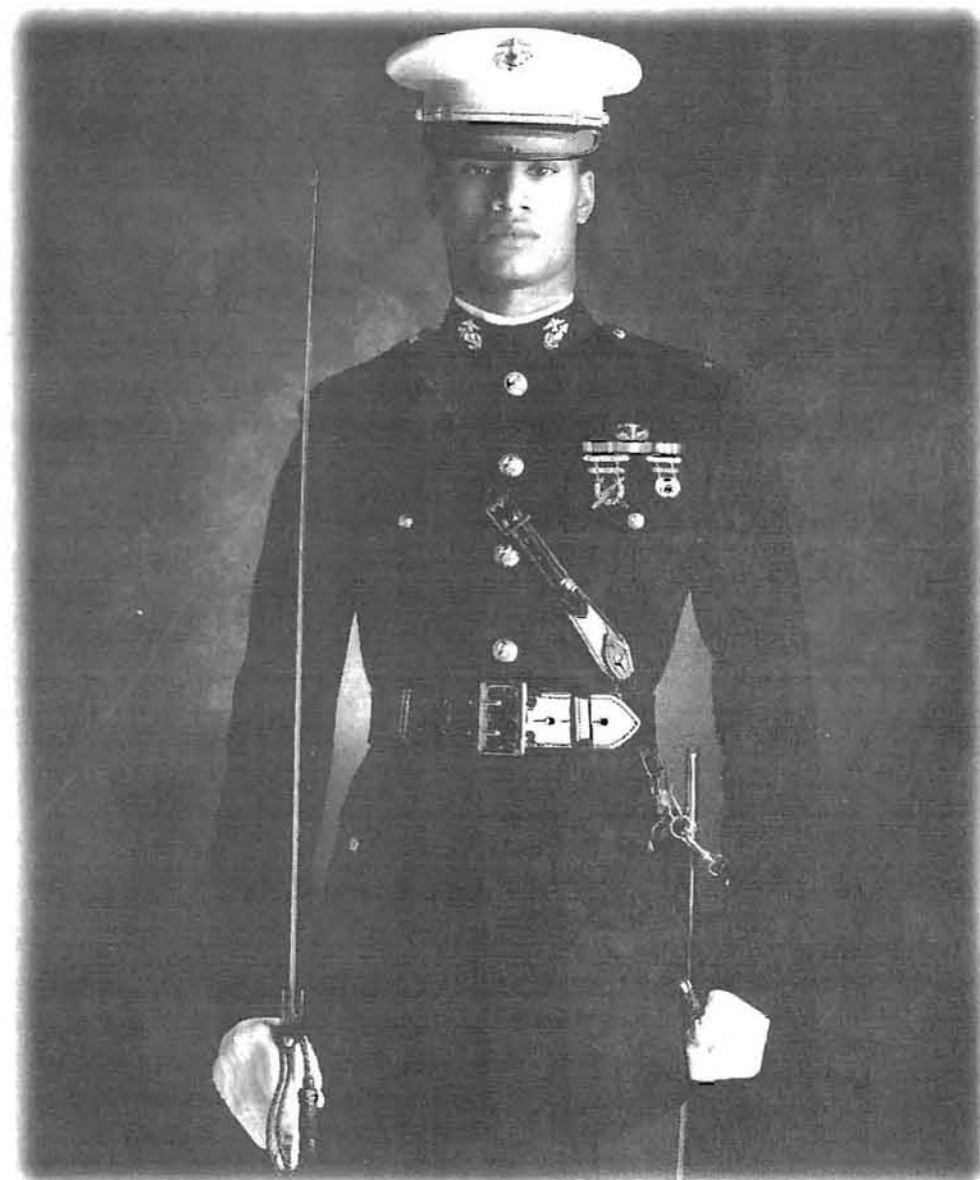
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