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University of Missouri-St. Louis

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The Current

February 18,
2008

www.thecurrentonline.com

VOLUME 41, ISSUE 1240

INSIDE

Oscar Night: the show will go on

Check out *The Current's* scorecard for the Academy Awards, which will be held on Sunday, Feb. 24.

See A&E, page 8

One in a thousand . . .

Courtney Watts, guard for the women's basketball team, recorded her 1,000th career point during Senior Night in Saturday's game against Quincy.

See SPORTS, page 10



Meet the Alumni Association president

Hubert Hoosman has a history with UM-St. Louis, including a place in the UMSL Sports Hall of Fame. Now, Hoosman is continuing his legacy with the alumni.

See FEATURES, page 6



Sounds from South Africa at the PAC

Ladysmith Black Mambazo gives the audience an earful at the Touhill.

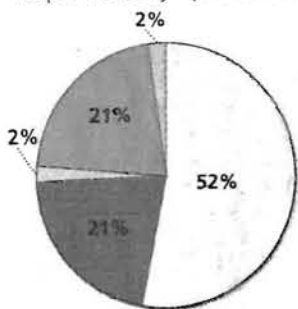
See A&E, page 8

ON THE WEB

The Current online.com

Web poll results:

What was your reaction to the results of the "Super Tuesday" primaries?



- Excited
- Disappointed
- Enraged
- Don't care
- What primary?
- What is that?

This week's question:

In honor of President's Day, who is your favorite president of all-time?

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UMSL weighs in on affirmative action initiative

By CARRIE FASISKA

Managing Editor

Ward Connerly, a California businessman, has proposed an amendment to the Missouri Constitution that would ban affirmative action programs across the state.

The amendment would affect state departments and other public institutions such as public education, political subdivisions and public corporations.

This ballot initiative, the Missouri Civil Rights Initiative, is sponsored by the American Civil Rights Coalition and is just one of five state initiatives

across the country including Colorado, Nebraska, Arizona and Oklahoma.

Currently, there is controversy in the state courts over the language of the proposed amendment. MoCRI filed a lawsuit against Robin Carnahan, Missouri secretary of state, for changing the language of the proposal.

The original ballot title read, "Shall the Missouri Constitution be amended to: ban affirmative action programs designed to eliminate discrimination against, and improve opportunities for, women and minorities in public contracting, employment and education; and allow preferential treatment based on race, sex, color,

Quick Read

UM-St. Louis staff and professors discussed the effects of an anti-affirmative action initiative making its way through Missouri courts at Harris-Stowe on Wednesday.

ethnicity, or national origin to meet federal program funds eligibility standards as well as preferential treatment for bona fide qualifications based on sex?"

MoCRI claimed that Carnahan rewrote the title to read "ban affirmative action programs designed to eliminate discrimination against, and improve opportunities for women and minorities." The ballot title has since

been modified.

There are many groups around the state that are against MoCRI and the banning of affirmative action, including the WE CAN coalition.

On Wednesday, WE CAN held a public hearing to save affirmative action at Harris-Stowe State College.

During the hearing, local advocates spoke about what affirmative action is, why St. Louis needs affirmative action and the projected local impact that the Civil Rights Initiative would have on higher education and local jobs.

Terry Jones, Ph.D., UM-St. Louis political science professor, spoke about why St. Louis needs affirmative action.

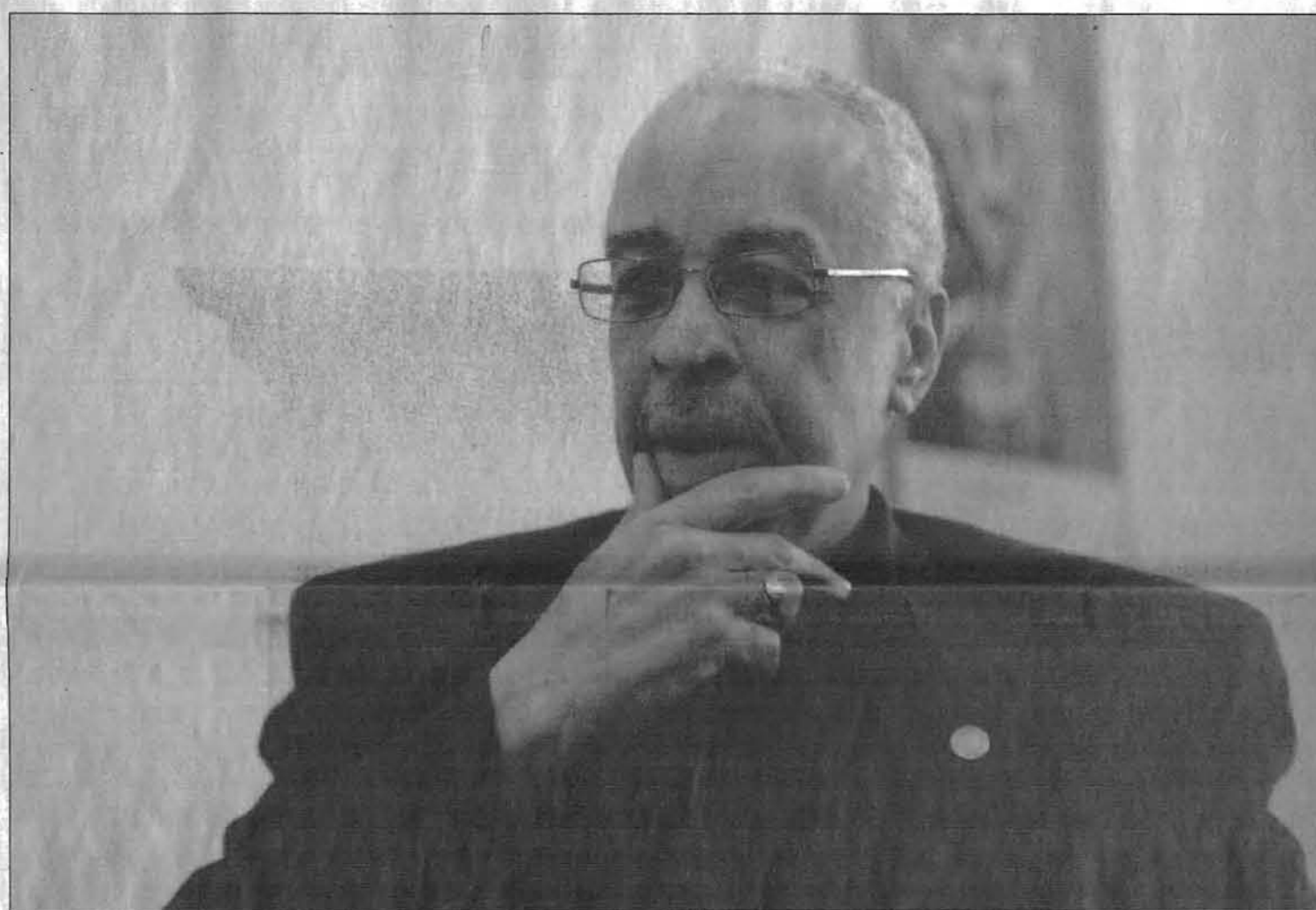
Jones said he feels that supporting affirmative action is "the right thing to do, the smart thing to do." Affirmative action creates "a more equal, more level playing field" he said.

Deborah Burris, director of the Office of Equal Opportunity at UM-St. Louis, also spoke during the hearing about the possible effects of MoCRI on local higher education institutions.

Burris explained that without affirmative action, scholarships and financial aid would be eliminated leaving many minority students unable to afford college. If minorities could not afford to attend college, it could lead to a decrease in a diverse workforce.

See AFFIRMATIVE ACTION, page 3

BLACK HISTORY MONTH



Danny Reise • Assistant Photo Editor

Mike Jones, senior policy adviser to St. Louis County Executive Charlie Dooley, talks about the black student movement at UM-St. Louis in the late 1960s. Jones was one of the first members of Associated Black Collegians, which formed on campus in 1968.

40 years of ABC . . . and counting

BY: PAUL HACKBARTH • EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

When you talk to guys my age, all of them black, some of them white, we all say the same thing: We never thought we'd live to see [Barack] Obama. I never thought I would be alive to say a black guy had a legitimate chance to be president of the United States."

Those thoughts summed up the past 40 years for Mike Jones, senior policy adviser for St. Louis County Executive Charlie Dooley and UM-St. Louis alumnus.

"If you would've asked me in 1968, would you see a black CEO of a Fortune 50 corporation like Merrill Lynch... I'd say, 'not possible,'" Jones said. "If you would've asked me... if we'd have a black man as secretary of state and black woman as national security adviser, I'd say, 'get out of here.'"

What Obama has accomplished made something true for blacks that once was only true for whites: I can be anything. While the successes of the civil rights movement and black student movement of the late '60s helped Stan O'Neal from Merrill Lynch or Condoleezza Rice become U.S. security adviser, Jones was not immune to the possibilities that those movements opened for him.

Jones attended UM-St. Louis from 1967-1971 and graduated in 1975 majoring in secondary education and history. He was there in the spring of 1968 for the beginnings of the Associated Black Collegians, which celebrated 40 years in existence on campus this year.



Matthew Hill • Photo Editor

Kelcy Siddall, president of the Black Leadership Organizing Council, said the black student movement on UM-St. Louis' campus was low key.

"For me, as I look back from that spring of '68, that you'd be talking to me in the county executive's office on the ninth floor... Forget Colon Powell and Barack Obama. I would've said Mike Jones couldn't have done this," he said.

Just as he represented black students at UM-St. Louis in 1968, his struggle continues in his current job, where he describes being in a room representing people who cannot get into that same room.

"That is a direct result of my experience in the organization that I brought from the '60s," he said.

See HISTORY OF ABC, page 7

House bill would limit enrollment of illegal aliens

By PAUL HACKBARTH

Editor-in-Chief

A bill currently making its way through the Missouri legislature would limit the enrollment of illegal aliens in Missouri universities, but some question whether this piece of legislation is turning admissions offices into border patrols.

The House Immigration Committee passed a version of Missouri HB1463 on Feb. 7. The bill, which originally requested colleges and universities check the status of all students who apply, was amended to verify those who are enrolled only.

Rep. Jerry Nolte (R-Gladstone) is sponsoring HB1463, which would require higher education institutions to certify that they did not knowingly enroll illegal aliens.

Nolte did not return phone calls.

"Right now, we do not verify the legal status of anyone who is applying for admission," said Joel Glassman, associate provost for Academic Affairs and director for the Center for International Studies. "It's based on an academic decision. We do not investigate."

Glassman said there is an assumption that students who are not legal residents of the United States "will be carrying a neon sign."

However, staff at UM-St. Louis worry if the bill becomes law, it would be a "massive undertaking" and a "rather significant burden," Glassman said.

Greg McCalley, associate vice provost for Student Affairs, said the change from verifying students that universities "admit" to those they "enroll" would be a change "from checking many, many thousands to just about a thousand."

McCalley said the UM system is trying to lower that number more by requiring admissions offices to check only newly enrolled students, instead of all currently enrolled students, which for the UM system, would total about 63,000 students.

In addition to checking immigration status, the registrar at each campus would be required to send an annual letter to the Missouri legislature proving they did not knowingly admit any illegal alien to the institution before receiving state funding.

For UM-St. Louis admissions, if passed, the law would require increase staff power, including two additional full-time staff members to cover the work, McCalley said. However, since the University is switching to the PeopleSoft filing system, the office is ready electronic-wise, he said.

See IMMIGRATION, page 3

Stay Current
with this
week's weather

Monday



Tuesday



Wednesday



Thursday



Friday



Saturday



Sunday

Hi/Low: 32/13
Precip: 30%Hi/Low: 34/21
Precip: 20%Hi/Low: 28/17
Precip: 30%Hi/Low: 35/28
Precip: 20%Hi/Low: 44/31
Precip: 30%Hi/Low: 50/34
Precip: 30%Hi/Low: 49/30
Precip: 30%Weather predictions
taken from NOAA
national weather
system.

CAMPUS CRIMELINE

MONDAY, FEB. 11

STEALING UNDER \$500 - VILLA BUILDING

The victim reported that sometime since the beginning of the semester, person(s) unknown stole six videotapes which were being stored in the attic area of the building.

TUESDAY, FEB. 12

STEALING UNDER \$500 - UNIVERSITY MEADOWS

Sometime between Feb. 8 and Feb. 11 property belonging to the victim was stolen from his apartment. The items include an I-Pod Nano and radio and a Chemistry textbook. The victim indicated that his apartment is frequently left unlocked.

PROPERTY DAMAGE TO VEHICLE - WEST DRIVE GARAGE

The victim stated that between 5:45 p.m. and 6 p.m., after parking a vehicle in the garage, another vehicle approached and the driver got out and started screaming at the victim and pounding on the driver's side glass window.

The victim left the area and went to the police station to report the incident. The suspect is unknown.

PROPERTY DAMAGE TO VEHICLE - WEST DRIVE GARAGE

The victim said that between 6:30 p.m. and 6:40 p.m., while trying to park a vehicle in the garage, another vehicle backed up quickly in an attempt to take the parking space.

While this vehicle backed up, the victim thought that the vehicle was struck by the suspect vehicle. The victim got out to look at the car for damage, when the first vehicle drove back past and threw a plastic bottle of lemonade, striking the victim's vehicle. The victim went to the police station to report the incident. The suspect is unknown.

FRIDAY, FEB. 15

POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA - PARKING LOT KK

During a traffic stop on East Drive at Lot KK for a stop sign violation at about 2:30 a.m., the officer located some marijuana and a small glass pipe in the possession of the driver. The driver was arrested on the drug violation and given a citation for the stop sign violation.

STEALING UNDER \$500 - DES LEE TECHNOLOGY CENTER

Between noon and 1 p.m., a digital camera was stolen from the Des Lee Technology Center. The reporting party, who works for ITS indicated that three black male juveniles came into the Lab area and requested to use the computers. One of these juveniles later came up to the counter to borrow a camera. Sometime after they had used the camera, the three juveniles simply walked out of the building, before the employees even realized it, and never turned the camera back in. The investigation is continuing and obtaining the identity on the three subjects is underway.

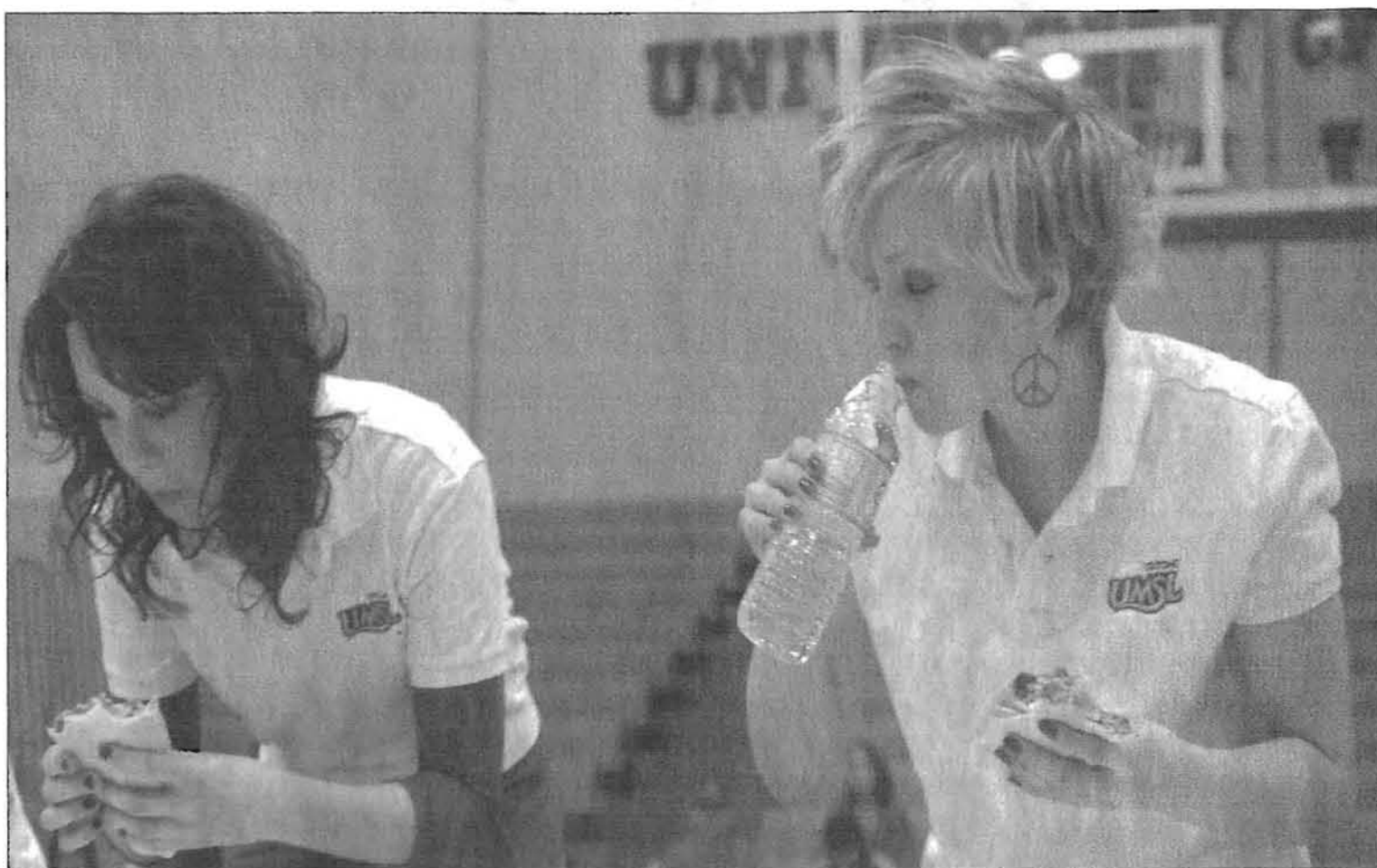
STEALING OVER \$500 - UNIVERSITY MEADOWS

Sometime between 5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., the victim had his Apple Macbook Pro laptop computer stolen from his apartment. The victim advised that he left the computer near the couch, and his apartment was left unlocked. Nothing else of value was taken from the apartment. The computer was entered into the system as stolen. There are no suspects in this incident.

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

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

MACHO MAMAS DEVOUR BURRITOS IN CONTEST



Danny Reise • Assistant Photo Editor

Paige Dubman (LEFT), sophomore, business administration, and Elly Pini, sophomore, secondary English education, were two of the contestants in the 2008 UM-St. Louis Macho Burrito Eating Championship during halftime of the "Pack the Stands" game Thursday in the Mark Twain gymnasium. Pini was the winner the event.

What's Current

Your weekly calendar of campus events

TUESDAY, FEB. 19

Photo Exhibit

"Point-of-View: Weed & Seed" is the latest exhibit in the Point-of-View photography project overseen by the Public Policy Research Center at UM-St. Louis. It opens at noon. The series features photos taken by people who live and work in urban areas. This exhibit features photos by children who attended a summer camp at West End Mt. Carmel Community Outreach Center. The exhibit will run through May 18 in 362 SSB. This event is free and open to the public. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visit <http://pprc.umsl.edu> for more information.

Bosnian Film and Culture Lecture

Lejla Panjeta, professor of theater and media studies at the University of Tuzla in Bosnia and Herzegovina, will present two lectures on Bosnian film and culture. The lectures will take place in 200 Lucas Hall at 3:30 p.m. and again on Feb. 21 at 3:30 p.m. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 6663.

Mr. & Mrs. RHA Pageant

RHA hosts its annual drag beauty pageant, with prizes for participants, from 7:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. in the Pilot House. For more information, call the RHA at 6877.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 20

Effective Advertising

The Office of Student Life will hold an informational seminar on effective advertising concepts and strategies. This event will be at 1 p.m. in the SGA Chambers. This event is free. For more information, please call 5291 or visit 366 MSC.

THURSDAY, FEB. 21

Documentary Film

"The Children's March", which tells the story how the young people of Birmingham, Alabama braved fire hoses and police dogs in 1963 and fought segregation, will be shown in 213 Clark Hall at 3 p.m. The film highlights how the young people played a role in the civil rights movement. This event is free. Contact the Institute for Women's and Gender Studies at 5581 for more information.

Homelessness Panel

Gallery 210 will host a panel discussion in conjunction with its exhibit "Urgent Shelter" on the concerns and issues faced by the homeless in St. Louis, the available social services, and the intersections between art, society and recovery. This event will be at 6 p.m. in the auditorium at Gallery 210. This event is free. Visit <http://gallery210.umsl.edu> or call 5976 for more information.

Welcome to Stepford

Brooke Center Wise, alumna and mixed media artist, will present her exhibit, "Welcome to Stepford." The exhibit is a humorously clever representation of the issues of sexism that women face in modern society. A reception will take place from 4 p.m. until 7 p.m. in Gallery Visio, with refreshments. The exhibit is free and will run until March 14. For more information, visit <http://www.umsl.edu/~galvisio> or call 7922.

Irish Nationalist Lecture

J.J. Lee, Glucksman Professor of Irish Studies and director of Glucksman Ireland House at New York University will present a lecture at 12:30 p.m. on Michael Davitt, an Irish nationalist

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

All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.

social campaigner, who founded the Irish National Land League, a political organization that fought to abolish landlordism in Ireland. This event is free and open to the public. Visit <http://cfis-umsl.com> or call 7299 for more information.

Campus Rec Trivia Night

Campus Rec will host a trivia night from 7 p.m. until 10 p.m. at the Provincial House. This event is free to students, faculty, staff, family and friends. Maximum of 10 people per table. Prizes and snacks for all participants. Registration required. For more information, please call 5326 or visit <http://www.umsl.edu/services/recsport>. To register, visit 203 Mark Twain.

SUNDAY, FEB. 24

Philanthropy Lecture

Br. Charles S. Anthony, St. Louis native and director of the Center for Social Advancement, Disease Prevention and Medical Research in Ormylia, Greece, will present a lecture on examples of philanthropy throughout history and into modern times. Reception at 7 p.m., lecture at 7:30 p.m. in the SGA chambers. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 7299.

Announcements

Instructional Computing Labs are offering 1-hour classes on a number of computer topics. Most subjects are offered several times.

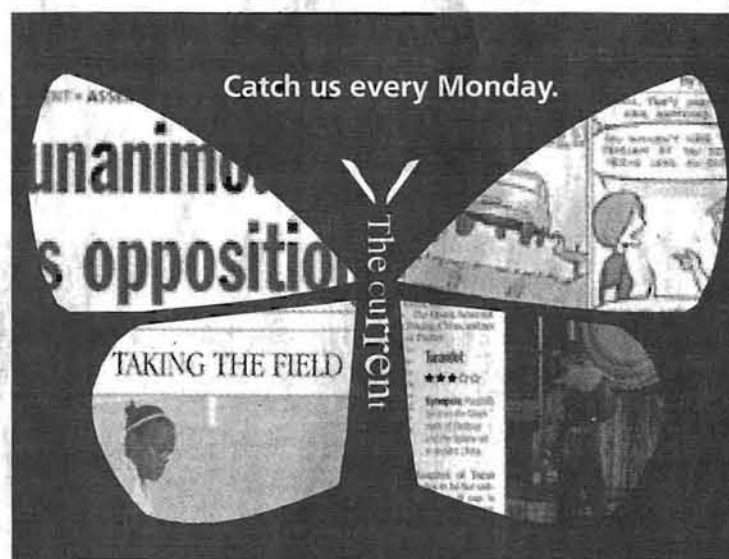
These classes are free to UMSL students, staff, and faculty. To sign up and view a complete list of available training sessions, visit <http://www.umsl.edu/training> or any computer lab on campus, or call 7170.

Researchers at UMSL are seeking participants for a new study assessing and treating individuals suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Participants must be 18 years old and suffering from PTSD resulting from an interpersonal assault. Participants will be compensated up to \$250 for their time, including a full psychological assessment and trauma-focused therapy, free of charge.

Call 6738 for more information or to participate.

The deadline for Campus Rec's Table Tennis Tournament are Tuesday, Feb. 19.

This one-night intramural tournament on Feb. 26 from 6:30 to 9 p.m. features matches for all skill levels. To register or for more information, visit 203 Mark Twain or call 5326.



CORRECTIONS

The Current regrets that sometimes in our making of this publication, we make mistakes. To report any corrections that need to be made, please contact The Current at 314-516-5174 or by email at thecurrent@umsl.edu.

In the Feb. 11 issue of The Current the following corrections need to be made:

In the staff viewpoint, "Gardasil does not cure herpes," the headline incorrectly named herpes as a disease treated by the medicine. The

headline should have read, "Gardasil does not cure HPV, cancer."

In the restaurant review, "400 Olive: Dining in elegance," the article incorrectly stated the restaurant offered more than 20 different kinds of wine. 400 Olive actually serves over 100 kinds of wine.

In the article, "Dinner and a movie: Valentine's date staple," the byline for Stephanie Soleta was incorrectly spelled.

The article, "Men's basketball rocks the Hawks," was not complete. The full version of the story can be read at <http://www.thecurrentonline.com>.

The Short Fuse column titled,

"Coaching for the game or for the opportunity?" had the wrong column. The column printed was actually the Short Fuse from the week of Jan. 28.

In the article, "Tension erupts in violence at Kirkwood City Hall," the story incorrectly stated that Charles Thornton filed a federal lawsuit against the Missouri Supreme Court.

The lawsuit was actually against the Kirkwood city council. The article also incorrectly stated that Mayor Mike Swoboda was released from the hospital Feb. 10. At the time, Swoboda was still in critical condition. Also, the story incor-

rectly stated Maureen Thornton was Charles' former wife. She was still his wife at the time.

In the article, "Missouri chooses Obama, McCain," the story incorrectly stated that the winner of the Missouri primary has always won the presidential election. Missouri has always chosen the president in the general election, not the primary except for 1956.

The credit for the photograph of T.R. Hughes Ballpark in O'Fallon, Mo. in the "Spring into Sports" special section was incorrectly named.

The correct credit should have been given to www.ballparkdigest.com.

The Current

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

STAFF

Paul Hackbarth • Editor-in-Chief
Carrie Fasiska • Managing Editor
Melissa S. Hayden • Business Manager
Rob Borkin • Ad Director
Judi Linville • Adviser

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Gene Doyel • Web Editor
Matthew Hill • Photo Editor
Danny Reise • Asst. Photo Editor / Distribution

Staff Writers

Jeremy Trice, Bianca Powell, Greg Gatcombe, Scott Lavelock, Christa Riley, Camila Buechler, Chris Stewart, Jessica Keil

Columnists

Stuart Reeves, Thomas Helton, Michael Cosby

Staff Photographers

Courtney A. Strong, Sofi Seck

Page Designers

Tom Bremer

Cartoonists

Elizabeth Gearhart, Cody Perkins

Advertising Representatives

Amanda Ward

CONTACT US

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

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

Email | thecurrent@umsl.edu

Mail | 388 MSC
One University Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63121

ON THE WEB

The Current

<http://www.thecurrentonline.com>

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

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

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

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

AFFILIATIONS



Democratic front runner still not obvious yet

Superdelegates will decide fate of Obama, Clinton as Democratic National Convention approaches

By JUSTI MONTAGUE
Copy Editor

Although Super Tuesday is long since over, Americans still do not have a clear idea of who the Democratic nominee will be for the presidential election in 2008.

A clear Republican front runner has been established in Arizona Sen. John McCain, who swept his competition, Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee and Texas U.S. House member Ron Paul, in the Potomac primaries, held Tuesday, Feb. 12.

McCain received a total of 104 delegates from these primaries, 16 from the District of Columbia, 28 from Maryland and 60 from Virginia.

No other Republican candidates have been awarded delegates from these competitions, but Maryland is still waiting to award nine unpledged

delegates.

Currently, McCain is leading the race with 801 awarded delegates and 26 unpledged RNC votes, Mike Huckabee is trailing behind McCain with 217 delegates and Paul is closing things up with 16 votes.

Mitt Romney, who is no longer running, is still holding on to his 286 delegates. Neither Huckabee nor Paul have been awarded any RNC votes.

The unpledged RNC members are typically members of the Republican National Committee, who become delegates automatically and are free to support the candidate of

their choosing. There will be 463 Republican unpledged delegates, and a Republican candidate will require 1,191 delegates to receive the nomination.

Superdelegates are the Democratic equivalent to RNC votes. All 796 of them are typically party elites (members of the Democratic National Committee, elected officials or other party leaders), and they may have a larger part in selecting the Democratic nominee than ever before.

After his eight straight wins in Utah, Louisiana, Nebraska, Washington, Maine, the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia; Illinois

Sen. Barack Obama has taken a slender lead over former first lady and New York Sen. Hillary Clinton.

Obama currently has 1,096 pledged delegates and 157 superdelegates, and Clinton is coming in second place by a mere 42 delegates, with 977 pledged and 234 superdelegates.

Obama and Clinton are still waiting to hear who John Edwards' 26 delegates will be awarded to, and both are far from the 2,025 delegates needed to claim the democratic nomination.

Because superdelegates are not required to publicly announce which

candidate they will be supporting, it is difficult to pinpoint the exact amount of support a candidate has.

However, according to an ongoing CNN poll, Clinton has the support of at least 234 superdelegates, while Obama trails behind her with the support of 156. The remaining superdelegates are either neutral, undecided or have not revealed their preferences.

While it appears that Clinton holds a sizeable lead among superdelegates, Obama has recently received some high profile endorsements, including those from Sens. Ted Kennedy and John Kerry, both of Massachusetts.

If Obama and Clinton continue the neck and neck race they have lead so far, superdelegates may be the deciding factor, but their lead could change anytime with 19 Republican primaries and caucuses left and 18 Democratic races still to go.



John McCain (R)
Awarded 801 delegates



Barack Obama (D)
1,096 pledged delegates



Hillary Clinton (D)
977 pledged delegates

NEWS BRIEFS

Forsee officially takes over as system president Monday

Gary Forsee, former chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Sprint-Nextel Corp. will officially begin his term as the next president of the University of Missouri system.

Forsee was announced as the University's 22nd president on Dec. 20, 2007. Forsee will replace Gordon Lamb, who has served as interim president since April 2007.

Forsee will be visiting the UM-St. Louis campus on Monday, Feb. 25 at noon for an open reception with the campus community.



Gary Forsee

Mark Twain pool closed for health inspection

Swimmers using the pool in the Mark Twain complex will have to wait for the St. Louis County Health Department's inspection before the pool reopens again.

The pool closed on Wednesday because of "trouble regulating the chemicals in the pool," said Intramural Coordinator Pam Steinmetz.

She said chlorine levels were too high, which caused itchy skin and faded swimsuits in some swimmers in the water aerobics class.

Steinmetz said the athletics department is regulating the chemical levels on a daily basis.

The Health Department has closed the pool until at least Tuesday, Feb. 19. On that day, a team will return for a follow-up inspection.

After the county health department gives the OK, classes and schedules will return to normal.

Criminology professor honored with 'Sold on St. Louis' award

Richard Rosenfeld, curators' professor of criminology and criminal justice, received the Sold on St. Louis Award Wednesday at Union Station for his research regarding St. Louis' ranking in October 2006 as the most dangerous city in the nation.

Rosenfeld's research countered the Morgan Quitno Press report's claim that St. Louis topped the list of most dangerous cities in the U.S.

Rosenfeld was one of six St. Louisians who won the award. The St. Louis Regional Chamber and Growth Association nominated Rosenfeld.



Richard Rosenfeld

Senate bill would cap tuition for veterans

The Missouri Senate gave first-round approval on Wednesday to a bill, which would cut tuition for military veterans up to nearly 80 percent at the University of Missouri.

Sen. Maida Coleman, minority floor leader from St. Louis, is sponsoring the "Missouri Returning Heroes' Education Act," which would allow certain veterans of the U.S. military to pay \$50 per credit hour for tuition at Missouri colleges and universities that receive state funding. Resident undergraduate tuition at the University of Missouri is currently about \$236 per credit hour.

The new tuition cap would only apply to veterans who served in combat after Sept. 11, 2001, were discharged from service under honorable conditions, are enrolled in undergraduate courses and have at least a GPA of 2.5.

Veterans would be eligible for the lower tuition rate for up to 10 years from the veteran's last discharge before the chance expires.

University of Missouri officials said the cap would cost the University about \$1.6 million per year.

During debate of the bill on the floor, Sen. Charlie Shields, majority leader from St. Joseph, argued the legislature should absorb the cost of the bill, but the legislature opposed it in the perfected version of the bill.

The Senate will hold another vote on the bill before it is sent to the House of Representatives.

To read more about the bill, go to: http://www.senate.mo.gov/08info/BTS_Web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=61.

'STATEHOUSE SISTERS'

Curator Cheryl Walker (FAR LEFT) from the UM Board of Curators moderates "Statehouse Sisters: A conversation with women leaders" with guests Missouri Sen. Maida Coleman, minority floor leader (CENTER) and Missouri Rep. Jamilah Nasheed. The panel discussed women in politics on Friday in Century Room B. Of the 34 state senators, seven are women and of the 158 representatives in the Missouri House, 31 are female.



Matthew Hill • Photo Editor

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION, from page 1

Burris was not only concerned about student enrollment, but faculty recruitment as well. She said it is "important to have diverse faculty and the students can relate better when they have teachers that look like them."

Dick Fleming, Chief Executive Officer of the Regional Chamber and Growth Association, talked about the effects the proposed initiative would have on local businesses and corporations.

"The most important factor in keeping businesses in the area is the ability to attract and keep a workforce," Fleming said.

He explained one of the key attributes that attracts people to St. Louis is its diverse community. Fleming said businesses feel this amendment would send "the opposite view of a diverse community."

Also at the hearing to speak about the impact the initiative would have on local jobs was Gerry Feldhaus, executive secretary-treasurer of the St. Louis Building and Construction Trades Council.

Feldhaus said he believes affirmative action is "simply an issue of

fairness and equality," that men and women, no matter what race, should be offered decent paying jobs and that everyone should have an opportunity to make a living.

Affirmative action has already been banned in California, Washington and Michigan because of the work of the American Civil Rights Coalition.

During the hearing, Penny Pennington, a former Michigan resident, spoke about the impact of the ban. When the proposal made it onto the ballot in Michigan, Pennington said, "the language was convoluted."

The proposal ended up passing 58 percent to 42 percent. She noted one of the effects of this ban was a drop in minority enrollment at the University of Michigan.

According to the WE CAN Coalition's website, the proposal can bypass the legislative process by getting registered voters to sign a petition to place it on the Nov. 4 ballot. MoCRI would need an estimated 150,000 signatures to accomplish this. WE CAN is urging voters not to sign these petitions.

	Executive and Administrative		Teaching and Research	
	Full Time	Part Time	Full Time	Part Time
Male	70	4	267	577
Female	74	2	289	369
American Indian / Alaskan Native	1	0	1	4
Asian / Pacific Islander	1	0	58	115
Black	22	0	39	84
Hispanic	1	0	9	27
White	119	6	437	704
Not Available	0	0	12	12

Source: Chancellor's Diversity Initiative, 2006

IMMIGRATION, page 1

To check the status of students living within the border, Glassman said documentation, like a birth certificate, would prove a student's status. For international students born outside the country, documents from their respective countries, or a green card, would suffice, but the bill only affects students living within the U.S. border.

"[International students] must secure a visa to study and must issue documents to apply for a visa, but that is done with the U.S. Department of State," Glassman said.

While HB1463 may require an extra workload, Glassman questioned whether the legislation is an appropriate function of a university. "It's the job of the Department of Homeland Security, but we're being asked to carry out a police function," he said. "We're not setup to do that, and it's not an inexpensive activity."

McCalley agreed with Glassman's thoughts. "It sure feels like we're checking for the government to make sure they are not illegal," he said. McCalley has not run into any illegal aliens while working at UM-St. Louis.

While Missouri universities may be facing tougher restrictions on illegal aliens, across the river, SIU-Edwardsville openly admits undocumented students.

According to a post on the college admissions counselors listserv, Todd Burrell, director of Admissions at SIUE wrote, "when a student applies for admission on our undergraduate application...they simply check the box on question 9 as 'requesting consideration under Public Act 93-7.' These students are reviewed as any other student based on our admission criteria at the time of application for admission. By checking this box, students will be [sic] pay in state tuition..."

Glassman noted that if HB1463 becomes law, the University would comply with it.

Do you have what it takes?

well-known work distinguished by its editor, publisher, etc. (the Skeat edition of Chaucer) 4. any of the various regular issues of a newspaper (the Sunday edition) **ed-i-tor** (ed'i tar) *n.* [L. < *editus*, pp. of *edere*, to give out, publish < *e-*, out + *dare*, to give: see **DATIVE**] 1. a person who edits 2. the head of a department of a newspaper, magazine, etc. 3. a device for editing motion-picture film, video tape, etc. as by viewing, cutting, and splicing — **ed-i-tor-ship** *n.* — **ed-i-tress** (-ə tris) *n. fem.* **ed-i-to-ri-al** (ed'i tōr'ē əl) *adj.* 1. of or by an editor or of or for editing 2. characteristic of an editor or editorial; appearing in the manner of an editor (an editorial)

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OUR OPINION



Elizabeth Gearhart • Illustrator

Anti-affirmative action initiative is a step backward

How ironic does it seem that an anti-affirmative action initiative arises as Black History Month is well underway this February with Women's History Month coming up in March. This initiative is trying to erase decades and decades of the accomplishments and advancements of these groups and other minorities.

This proposal from California businessman Ward Connerly, chairman of the American Civil Rights Coalition, may result in banning anti-affirmative action here in Missouri, while some form or another has already been passed in California, Michigan and Washington state.

In Missouri, the initiative would add Section 34, Article 1 to the constitution stating "The state shall not discriminate against, or grant preferential treatment to, any individual or group on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin in the operation of public employment, public education, or public contracting."

While a recent panel discussion at Harris-Stowe State University included just a handful of people who are direct products of affirmative action, there are thousands and thousands of ethnic minorities, women,

people with disabilities and, in some cases, people from rural backgrounds who can say have made it where they are today because of affirmative actions.

Proponents of the amendment say that affirmative action actually has negative consequences, such as choosing less qualified minority applicants just to fill a quota demanded by affirmative action.

However, getting rid of such an action would ultimately end diversity in the workplace, schools and all of the public sector. Everybody, no matter the color of their skin, gender or economic status, should have the same opportunities available to them.

Effects of the ban on affirmative action in states that have already passed legislation include initial lower enrollment of minorities in public universities and lower percentage of businesses owned by women and blacks.

Specifically at universities, access to affordable college education will feel a major pinch, as some universities may be required to eliminate or

redefine scholarships awarded to students based on gender or race.

If minorities have limited access to an affordable education, they may never be the most qualified applicant for a job.

Hiring of faculty and staff may also be adversely affected by taking race or gender out of the equation. While quality of teaching is obviously a high priority to provide the best education to students, the diversity that professors and lecturers bring to the classroom is more valuable than ever.

So what can we do to prevent the efforts of this prohibition of affirmative action?

The coalition can use a ballot initiative instead of going through the legislature that requires signatures of voters. In Missouri, this means an estimated 150,000 to 180,000 signatures. If they receive the required number of signatures by May 8, the initiative will be up for a vote on the Nov. 4 ballot statewide.

All voters have to do is simple: do not sign the initiative petition. Fight to keep affirmative action alive.

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- Media and school shootings
- McCain's health plan
- Submit a letter to the editor
- Write a guest commentary
- Comment in our online forums

UNDERCURRENT

By Danny Reise • Asst. Photo Editor

What do you think of media piracy?



Ethan Chou
Sophomore
Criminology

"Yes for music. No for movies."



Mike Dowd
Senior
Marketing

"If I really like the band, like Flogging Molly, I'll buy it."



Sarah Souder
Sophomore
Spanish & Sociology

"It's stealing from the rich, just another form of redistribution."



Chris Cooper
Senior
Music Education

"It's basically stealing from the people who work hard to get where they're at in their career. I only hope that



Ben White
Junior
Liberal Studies

"I don't have a big problem with music, but movies I think is just wrong."

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

EDITOR'S VIEWPOINT

Media attention does not equal more school shootings

We have all heard the scenario before: a mentally ill student from a bad background builds up so much hate and anger that he or she bursts out in some random act of violence.

It has been called the 20/20 hindsight phenomenon. It is easy to look back and say this or that caused the student to act out. Some blame it on a mental disorder and ask, why did the shooter not get help sooner? Why did the shooter's teacher or parents not see the signs?

Unfortunately, if a student walked onto the UM-St. Louis campus today and decided to shoot up the place, that individual would not be wearing a bright neon sign as a warning to others.

Others blame enforcement of gun control laws or that guns are easily accessible.

Again, unfortunately, our forefathers put in that pesky Amendment 2 in our nation's constitution that we have the right to bear arms.

Lately, the most cited reason for why school shootings happen is an easy one: blame it on the media, which supposedly prompt these "copycats."

Under this argument, a constant bombardment of media attention to these school shootings only aids a potential shooter to see that it can work and strikes fear into the community that this can, indeed, happen.

The fact of the matter is that there has been no proven direct correlation between media coverage and school violence, just as there is no clear cut evidence violence in television or video games leads to violent acts in



By PAUL HACKBARTH
Editor-in-Chief

the real world.

Despite this, many worry that the copycat syndrome will continue, but the only reason it continues is that readers and viewers still want to know every last detail of the tragedy, and since violence sells in the media, the vicious cycle goes on and on.

So, the question remains, has our obsession with school shootings in the media gone too far?

The media may influence would-be shooters as much as the media may influence how we should dress or act.

But if the media was not there to warn its audience members about school shootings, where else would the public turn to in order to help prevent repeat incidents?

While the next school shooter may not carry the obvious warning signs, the media can help inform communities about what counselors offer to troubled students, talk with doctors about symptoms of mental disease, what officials can do to offer better alert systems at schools, show the effectiveness of ineffectiveness of current emergency procedures, and so on.

Information, not sensationalism, of crimes and violence on school campuses will lead to fewer school shootings in the long run.

In the case of NIU, they learned a lesson from Virginia Tech and had many of the steps in place to prevent another tragedy, but sometimes, bad things can still happen.

Taking media coverage alone out of the equation is about as effective as taking gun control out of the mix.

STAFF VIEWPOINT

Citizens should own healthcare

With Arizona Sen. John McCain closing in on his party's presidential nomination, it seems timely to discuss his health care proposals.

While McCain's plan moves away from government mandates, it is his insistence on greater individual responsibility when it comes to the maintenance of our bodies that I find begs a handful of interesting questions regarding our national perspective on what duties are owed to us by our government when it comes to healthcare, and perhaps our own reluctance to admit that we may each owe a duty back.

The first thing that comes to mind when I look at McCain's plan as it is compared to other presidential hopeful's plans that is one of these things is not like the other.

The proposals of former republican hopeful Mitt Romney, and democratic potentials Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton all reduce to government mandates in one way or another to force either citizens to carry some form of health insurance, or for insurers to issue coverage regardless of too many factors for it to make good business sense for those companies.

McCain's plan has a few regulatory messages that would allow



By STUART REEVES
Columnist

those who purchase their own insurance to shop outside of their local market and be able to carry their coverage with them across the country.

It also would provide a tax credit of as much as \$5,000 to families that purchase their insurance independently.

The last bullet on the presentation of his plan, found on his campaign website, says that we must all take responsibility for the maintenance of our health through the regulation or our diets and exercise. This may sound like greeting card wisdom.

With the incidents of Type II Diabetes on the rise, which is most often attributed to poor diets, coming with a strain on our healthcare system in excess of several million dollars a year, exactly why should we expect the government to take care of a body of citizens that seem to have little regard for their own bodies?

Should our children under the age of 18 be provided with low-cost or no-cost health care? Sure, they have no mobility or income as a protected class.

What about our elderly and our veterans?

See **MCCAIN HEALTH PLAN**, page 7

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

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

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

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STUDY ABROAD

Notes from Nanjing

The Year of the Rat



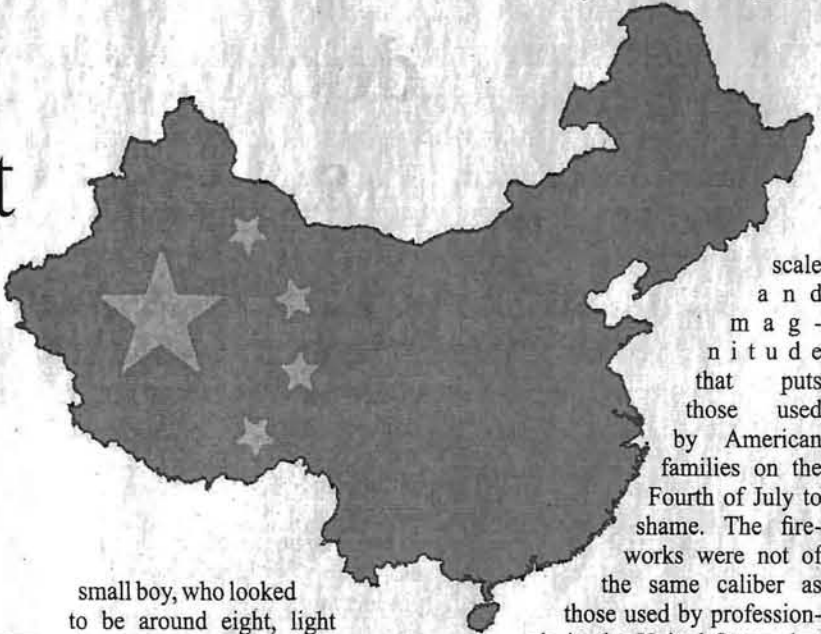
By **MICHAEL COSBY**
Columnist

As I walked down Hankou Street, I noticed a dark shape skitter across the sidewalk and stop just under a trash can.

I immediately recognized the unmistakable small, furry body and disproportionately long, skinny tail, yet my disgust was mitigated by a mild amusement at encountering the new year's namesake.

I strolled on toward Tinghan Street, puzzled by the oddly reverential position the rat traditionally enjoys relative to the other animals of the Chinese zodiac, when my attention was wrenched from the contemplation of Chinese symbolism by an enormous firework exploding twenty feet over my head.

I turned around just in time to see a



small boy, who looked to be around eight, light another enormous rocket that narrowly missed an electric wire and exploded with a deafening boom.

The boy looked proudly to his parents standing behind him, who showed their approval of his pyrotechnic abilities with smiles and a wave.

It was Feb. 7, the first day of the Spring Festival, the Chinese New Year, and I had just arrived in Nanjing.

I suppose I always understood that gunpowder, and therefore fireworks, originated in China, but it was not until traversing the streets of Nanjing that first night that I finally comprehended the true extent of the Chinese affection for recreational explosives.

Everywhere I walked, I encountered people of all ages buying, selling, lighting and watching fireworks of a

scale and magnitude that puts those used by American families on the Fourth of July to shame. The fireworks were not of the same caliber as those used by professionals in the United States, but some were close.

In the heart of a metropolis home to over five million, I watched people gleefully setting off huge fireworks in school courtyards, on small side streets and even at the sides of busy intersections.

Nanjing sounds like a war zone during the high days of the festival, and it is quite impossible to walk anywhere at any time of day or night without being startled out of your wits by an explosion just overhead.

This mixture of missiles and explosives continues for days and culminates at midnight of the fifth day of the festival, when lighting off fireworks is considered to bring good luck.

As people gradually begin returning to work around days six and seven, the frequency of the explosions



Michael Cosby shoots off fireworks during the first day of the Spring Festival, the Chinese New Year on Feb. 7.

begins to slowly decrease, but even a full week after the festival begins, it is not uncommon to hear the tell-tale pops and cracks.

The next day when I met Mao, my Chinese tutor and guide around Nanjing, he mentioned he had brought a few firecrackers for us to play with later.

This description proved woefully inadequate for the mini arsenal he supplied, which might actually have been considered rather small by Chinese standards.

In addition to a string of what resembled Black Cats linked two by two for over four feet, he also had the

biggest Roman Candle I have ever seen, and a short, but wide, stand comprised of fifty small tubes, each of which contained its own rocket.

Later that night, we set up at a small side street and began the madness.

The string of firecrackers took over three minutes to finish exploding and left a mess of paper casing that would be considered criminal in the United States.

The rockets launched from the freestanding tube took longer than the firecrackers and held up pedestrian traffic at the small intersection for a full five minutes.

When I lit and held the Roman candle, it unexpectedly sprouted a fountain of flames while intermittently firing a glowing orb of fire high into the air.

The whole scene was quite ridiculous, and was the most unabashedly careless fun I have had in a long time.

Before coming to China, I had never really been interested in or impressed with the fireworks sold on and around the Fourth of July.

After witnessing the pyrotechnic extravagance of the Spring Festival, I think I never will.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Delmar Lounge

[In response to a letter to the editor from the Feb. 11 issue]:

I think we can all agree that *The Current* is not a source of hard-hitting journalism. But does this fact suggest that misleading restaurant reviews are acceptable just because some of us consider the standards of this school newspaper to be subpar?

I argue that inaccurate journalism is inexcusable regardless of the paper in which it is published. The question therefore becomes: how should one's experience at the Delmar Restaurant and Lounge really be quantified?

I have visited the Delmar [Lounge] on several occasions. On one occasion I saw someone sadly attempt to do the worm in the middle of the establishment and fail miserably. On another occasion I saw a woman throw up under a table in the back after being served cocktails beyond the threshold of her liquor limit.

I was once hit on by a man in a loud yellow T-shirt who offered me a ride around the block on the back of his moped. On my final visit, I was challenged to an arm wrestling match by a woman with a mullet in a black leather vest. When there, I avoided using the women's restroom because the floor was wet for reasons that remain a mystery.

That being said, of the adjectives previously used to describe the Delmar Lounge, which one would best describe my personal experience there? Could we call it classy and sophisticated as Stephanie Soleta described it? Or rather ghetto as David Glennon described it?

Of these three words, I would have to choose the word ghetto. In my mind, a classy and sophisticated establishment provides its patrons the comfort of functional plumbing, the luxury of not wondering why the bathroom floor is wet and whether or not that fluid may be bodily in origin. I think classy and sophisticated imply a certain immunity to dining at a table beneath which someone may have vomited.

Regarding the list of criteria used to define ghetto, I think the paragraph describing my experience at the Delmar provides an appropriate barometer. I think the use of the word in its original context relied on its more recent adaptation in American slang as opposed to the literal meaning.

I do not think its aim was to invoke images of Warsaw or the Peabody projects. Finally whether or not the Delmar is the only bar in the Loop open until 3 a.m. is limited by the definition of the Loop and thus subject to interpretation.

If we are talking about the traditional Loop (west of Skinker and east of Big Bend), then yes, the Delmar [Lounge] is the only 3 o'clock bar in the Loop.

Gardasil as a vaccine

Regarding Stuart Reeves' Feb. 11 opinion piece on the Gardasil HPV vaccine: First, the subject line ("Gardasil does not cure herpes") seems like a bit of a nonsequitur. Gardasil is a vaccine against human papilloma virus, which causes genital warts, not against a herpes virus. Second, Merck, the manufacturer of Gardasil, has never touted the vaccine as a cure for HPV. In fact, it is recommended for females who have not yet hit puberty. This is due to the fact that it only works as a vaccine -- a preventative against contracting the disease -- not a cure, and prepubertal females are the least likely to have already become sexually active and thus contracted HPV. Third, state-legislated vaccines are nothing new. Many religions oppose the use of vaccines, some because of concerns regarding the use of aborted fetal tissue in specific vaccines, others due to the "playing God" aspect of vaccinations. These parents have enjoyed a religious exemption in every state except for Mississippi and West Virginia, and parents who oppose Gardasil for religious reasons will continue to be able to use that religious exemption against the use of Gardasil if it becomes a mandated vaccine. Mandating the vaccine will ease the public health disaster that is HPV. The vast majority of sexually-active men and women carry the vi-

rus -- and most of them are unaware. If Gardasil becomes a vaccine required by law, young economically-disadvantaged women -- who are more likely, statistically, to have more sexual partners, to suffer more sexual assaults, and to become sexually active earlier -- will be able to obtain this vaccine through the public health system at little to no cost. At the present time, this highest-risk population is the least likely to be able to afford the vaccine. Reeves states that he is concerned about this new form of legislating morality. I suggest Reeves take a closer look into the anti-vaccination movement -- religious and moral objections to vaccinations are nothing new, and neither are exemptions to those vaccinations. The state allows each family to make its own decisions regarding religion and vaccination, contrary to Reeves' misguided belief. The only effects legislating Gardasil will have are: decreasing the incidence of HPV cases, providing the vaccine to populations who otherwise could not afford to pay for it, and an extra form for religious objectors to fill out. Is it better to put a little extra burden on the shoulders of the ultra-right-wing minority, or to continue to escalate the public health nightmare that is HPV?

Lindsay Perkins
Sophomore
Computer Science

HEAR YE,
HEAR YE!

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CAMPUS & THE
ACCREDITATION
PROCESS

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Wednesday Feb 20
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PERSONALLY,
I LIKE THAT WE'RE
ALL ENCOURAGED TO
THINK LIKE OWNERS.

Mike Yancey
UMSL class of '92, Edward Jones associate since 1994.

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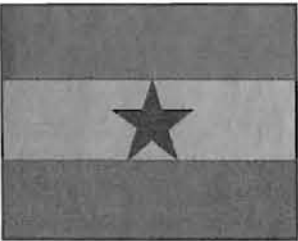
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FEATURE

TOP TEN

Study Abroad destinations that you did not know UMSL offered



10. Ghana: Former United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan hails from this country.
9. New Zealand: Get to see where Frodo and the rest of the hobbits filmed 'Lord of the Rings.'
8. Netherlands: Practice your clogging.
7. Czech Republic: Join in on the country's love for puppets and marionettes.
6. Belgium: The country has waffles and chocolate.
5. Austria: Where 'The Sound of Music' was filmed.
4. Estonia: Desert yourself on one of its over 1,500 islands.
3. Scotland: Play golf on the nation's rolling green hills.
2. Iceland: Despite the name, there is hardly any ice.
1. Lithuania - In 2009, the nation will celebrate its millennium.

When preparation meets opportunity

New president of Alumni Association has legacy at UMSL

By JESSICA KEIL
Staff Writer

Hubert H. Hoosman Jr., a UM-St. Louis graduate and a record-holding Rivermen basketball star, keeps busy as the chief executive officer of Vantage Credit Union and the president of the UM-St. Louis Alumni Association.

In an office with walls lined with Vantage Credit Union awards, Hoosman radiates accomplishment.

In an interview on Feb. 14, he described how he came to be so successful and explained how UM-St. Louis helped.

Hoosman attended UM-St. Louis between the years of 1975 and 1979 and came to the school on a basketball scholarship.

Throughout his four years in college, he played for the then named Rivermen basketball team as a guard/forward.

He scored 1,351 points in his career, the sixth best total in UM-St. Louis history. For this, Hoosman was inducted into the UM-St. Louis sports hall of fame in 2007.

When asked if he ever planned on pursuing a basketball career, Hoosman replied, "I would love to have. [Playing for UM-St. Louis] was a wonderful experience...there were great guys on the team."

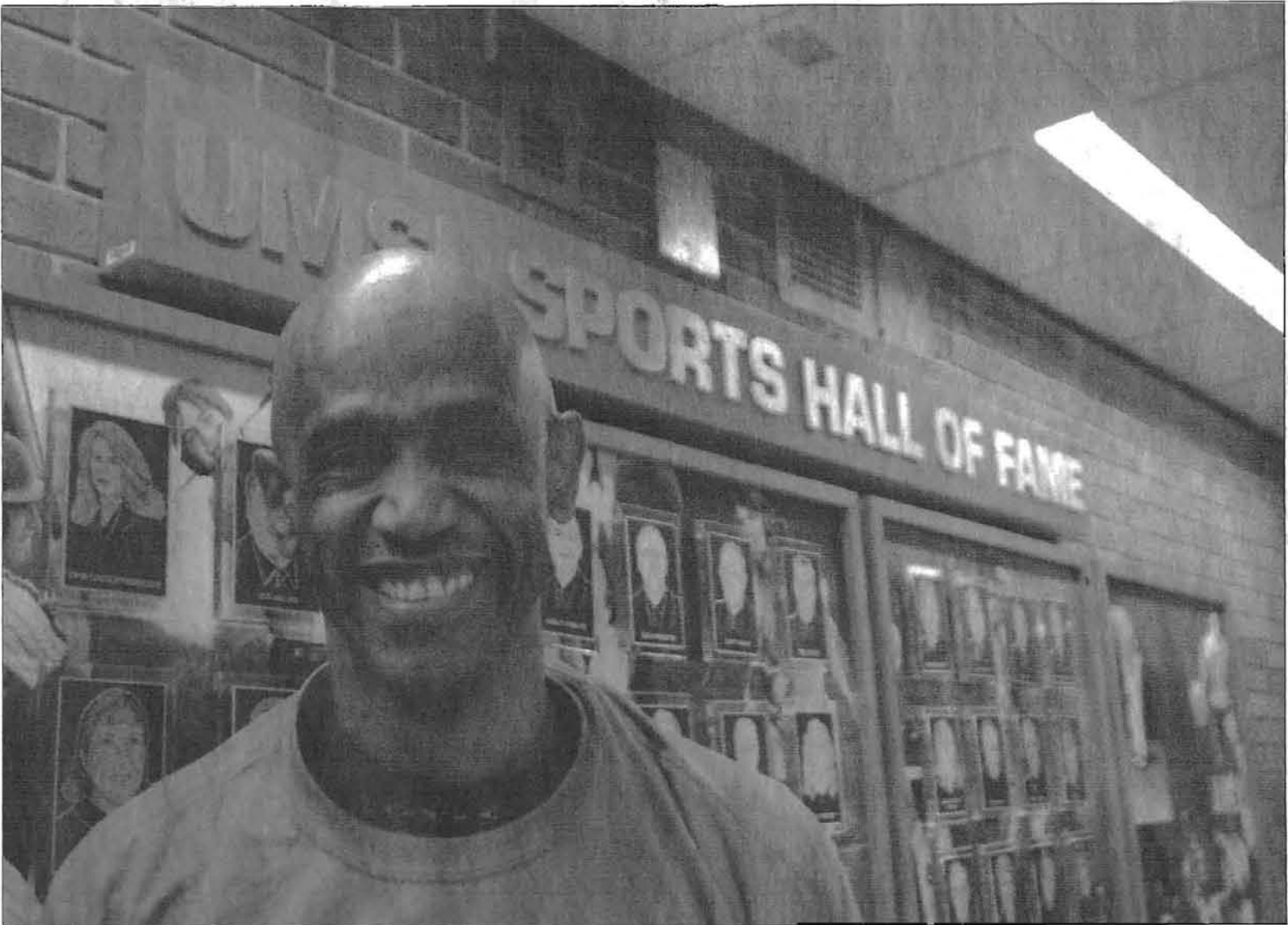
Hoosman said he believes that his experience with the basketball team, coupled with the methods of the administration and staff at UM-St. Louis, helped him to mature and become the man he is today.

"At UMSL, I was treated as a regular student. It was a truly safe environment for a young man to mature. Several of my classmates [from high school] went to major universities and were pampered for being athletes," Hoosman said.

"Many of them never finished college because they could not handle themselves otherwise. I was given no special privileges for being on the basketball team at UMSL. This strong environment helped me to become very independent," he said.

Hoosman had other talents besides that of handling a basketball and spent much of his college life studying in a field that is today commonly known as criminology, not business.

"I changed my major to business



Matthew Hill • Photo Editor

Hubert Hoosman, president of the Alumni Association, attended the 'Pack the Stands' games at the Mark Twain Center Thursday.

later in college and had quite a time trying to make up the credits," Hoosman laughed. "But I had to be true to myself. The change needed to be made".

By switching his major, Hoosman may not have known that it would lead him to become the CEO of a credit union.

He was, however, perceptive enough to see that his chosen major was not working for him.

"There is no such thing as luck," Hoosman said. "Luck is merely when preparation meets opportunity".

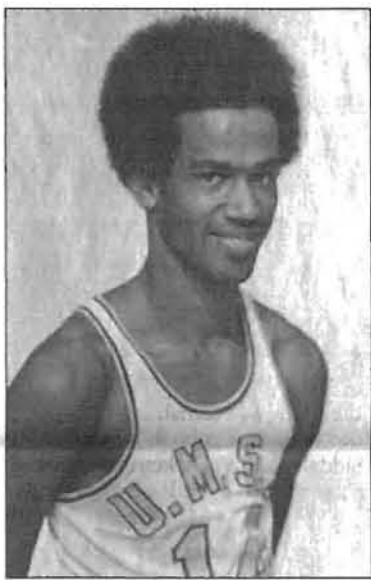
"Now I work in one of the best industries in the country," Hoosman said, smiling. "[At Vantage Credit Union]...we are non-profit. We're simply people helping other people."

In fact, helping others seems to be a hobby of Hoosman's. His work with the UM-St. Louis Alumni Association only furthers this claim.

In the early 1980s, Hoosman became involved with the UM-St. Louis Alumni Association. He soon realized that he did not have the time at that point in his career to devote to the group.

His vocation benefited from this foresight, and he recently re-involved himself with the association. By 2007, Hoosman was named its president.

Since becoming president, Hoos-



Hoosman's team photograph when he played for the Rivermen basketball team in the 1970s.

man has strived to make a positive difference on campus. On March 4, he will lead the Alumni Association to Jefferson City to lobby for the "needs of the University."

Hoosman has also formally organized policies which include young alumni within the association. He said he is proud of his diverse executive team and hopes that more and more young alumni will begin to get



Photos courtesy of www.umsllions.com

Hoosman played under men's coach Chuck Smith from 1975 to 1979 and is currently in the UMSL Sports Hall of Fame.

involved in the UM-St. Louis Alumni Association as the new policies are formed.

"70 percent of UMSL graduates stay in St. Louis, and I know there are a lot of leaders in there," Hoosman said.

According to Hoosman, any person can succeed in life as long as they have perseverance. He offers up these words of advice for any UM-St.

Louis students.

"Remember to always be true to yourself. Perseverance is most important in your chosen field, but always be realistic," he said. "Don't be afraid to change your major if you need to, and don't be afraid to fail. Take every step as a learning opportunity."

Standing at a staggering 6 feet 5 inches, Hoosman had the drive to not only be the best UM-St. Louis basketball player that he could be, but to be the best business man and alumnus that he could be as well.

It is no wonder he received the "distinguished alumni award" in 1995.

In his mind, there is no reason that any single other UM-St. Louis alumnus cannot do the same.

"Do something," he says to UM-St. Louis students. "Do not waste your degree. Use it, and once you receive it, hang it up on your wall and know that when you look up at it that you accomplished something wonderful, and you can do it again."

It may seem as if good luck continually followed Hoosman throughout his career.

More likely, however, is that through his ambition, drive, and perseverance, this UM-St. Louis alumnus grabbed on to success at an early age and never loosened his grip.

Building bridges: UMSL partners with University in Kuwait

By CHRIS STEWART
Staff Writer

UM-St. Louis is offering Arabic classes for the first time, and in Kuwait, the Gulf University of Science and Technology is expanding and moving to a full campus.

One thing that these two events have in common is Mike Costello. Until recently, Costello was the director of International Programs here at UM-St. Louis. He left that position so that he would be able to teach both here and abroad.

This summer, Costello plans to visit GUST, a school which itself sends a handful of professors to UM-St. Louis each year.

Costello sees the fact that many students do not pursue foreign languages or exchange programs as unfortunate.

For him, a college's interaction with foreign counterparts is a chance to better prepare its students for an increasingly globalized world.

"We build relationships to overcome what we don't know about each other," Costello said.

GUST in Kuwait and The Modern College of Business and Science in Oman are two small colleges which

are officially affiliated with UM-St. Louis.

Working with Joel Glassman, academic director of UM-St. Louis Center for International Studies, Costello has kept watch over the development of the two schools. When asked what this actually entails, Costello did not hesitate to answer.

"On a day to day basis, this is a lot of infrastructure work. These schools are both building and growing, and in fact, they have both recently expanded and moved to new campuses," Costello explained.

Both MCBS and GUST are also currently seeking American accreditation, a goal that Costello and Glassman are keen to see them reach. Both schools also send exchange students to UM-St. Louis each year. This leads to other issues that Costello has been involved with.

"I have done a lot of work to alleviate the concerns of Kuwaiti students and their families," Costello said. "People don't know what to expect coming to UMSL in exchange programs. I tell their families it isn't New York City or Los Angeles. It's a pretty calm, safe place."

The central idea is that a relationship is built slowly and in steps. There are untold benefits from work-

ing alongside GUST and MCBS, but barriers must be broken down first.

The first step to overcoming differences is language. Costello believes that language is the basis for understanding another culture. He said that when knowledge of how someone speaks is obtained, an individual can get a feel for how they live.

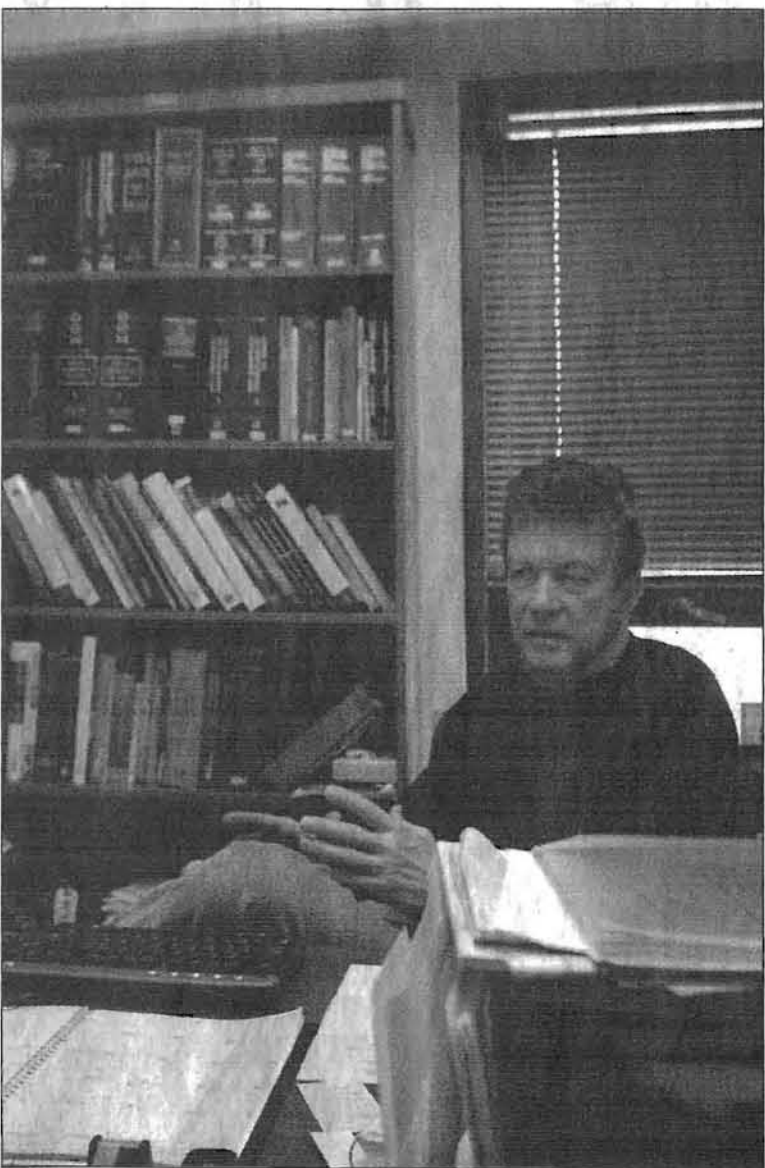
"When I was younger, I didn't have any idea how language would apply to my life, and I later regretted not studying it more," he explained. "More and more each day, the world is moving quickly and there are so many opportunities that open up when you learn new languages."

Costello and Glassman have certainly made the most of UM-St. Louis's promising opportunities to build relationships with GUST and MCBS.

They have overseen UM-St. Louis's investment in these two Middle Eastern colleges and the rewards of this investment increase with every Kuwaiti professor and Omani student that comes to the University.

The future of the fledgling Arabic department here is bursting with possibilities that come from longstanding international relations.

These possibilities will only increase as long as multiculturalism is a priority here at UM-St. Louis.



Matthew Hill • Photo Editor

Mike Costello, coordinator of International Studies at UM-St. Louis, talks in his office in the SSB Tower on Friday. Costello plans to visit the Gulf University of Science and Technology in Kuwait this year in an effort to broaden the relationship between GUST and UM-St. Louis. GUST sends several professors to UM-St. Louis every year. "We build relationships to overcome what we don't know about each other," Costello said.

In the beginning . . .

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A&E ON CAMPUS

AT THE TOUHILL

St. Petersburg Ballet, classic ballet presented by Dance St. Louis, Touhill, Friday, Feb. 22 at 8 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 23, at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.
Brock McGuire Band concert of Irish music, Touhill, Saturday, Feb. 23 at 8 p.m.

CAMPUS GALLERIES

Gallery Visio: 'Welcome To Stepford' art exhibit, ongoing.
Gallery 210: 'Urgent Shelter' art exhibit, ongoing.
PPRC Gallery: "Point-of-View: Weed & Seed," photo exhibit, opening reception and talk with three speakers, Tuesday, Feb. 19 at noon.

CAMPUS EVENTS:

Monday Noon Series: 'Terma: Exploring Acoustical Properties of the Greek Language through Contemporary Music,' talk by Stella Markou, director of vocal studies at UMSL, Feb. 18 at 12:15 p.m., 222 J.C. Penney Conference Center.
Lejla Panjeta, professor of theater and media studies at the University of Tuzla in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Lecture, Feb. 19 at 3:30 p.m., 200 Lucas Hall.
"Mr. & Mrs. Residence Halls Association" Pageant, Feb. 19 at 7:30 p.m., Pilot House.

TOP ITUNES
DOWNLOADS

- 1. Low (feat. T-Pain) - Flo Rida
- 2. Don't Stop the Music - Rihanna
- 3. Love Song - Sara Bareilles
- 4. With You - Chris Brown
- 5. See You Again - Miley Cyrus
- 6. Sorry - Buckcherry
- 7. Take You There - Sean Kingston
- 8. No One - Alicia Keys
- 9. Rehab - Amy Winehouse
- 10. New Soul - Yael Naim



2008 Award season scorecard:

Which films lead awards pack in run-up to Oscars?

By CATE MARQUIS
ACE Editor

The 80th annual Academy Awards are on Sunday, February 24. Now that the writers' strike is over, the show can go on for the Oscars. The Oscars mark the end of the movie awards season, the series of critical and popular awards to recognize the best in cinema for the past year of 2007.

The Academy Awards are the capping event of the year-end series of awards, and the guessing game about which of many worthy films will be the ultimate winners of Oscar gold is an entertainment in itself.

While the Oscars are not always indicators of great filmmaking, they do represent money for filmmakers and stars. Oscar winners also influence the kinds of films you will see in the coming years.

For the audience, films that win multiple awards, including a nomination for that final Oscar prize, are marked as worthwhile films. For some more serious film buffs, the other awards might be a better guide to picking a film but the Oscars do affect what will make it to the local theater.

But predicting Oscars is notoriously difficult. Members of the Academy, all movie insiders, are not actually required to watch the films and are known to vote based on personal relationships. The films nominated in Oscar categories are often a better indication of worthwhile films for the past year, along with the winners of other awards.

So rather than try to pick the winners of Sunday's Oscar race, let us look at a scorecard of awards already won for the major Oscar nominees, starting with the five nominees for Best Picture. They are ranked below by number of Oscar nominations, then other wins and nominations.

Also, capsule reviews for the many Oscar nominees still in local theaters are in a separate article.

For film critics associations best picture awards, the big favorite was "No Country For Old Men" which won eleven awards, followed by "There Will Be Blood" with two wins and "Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford" with one. The BAFTA, the British version of the Academy Awards, award and the Golden Globes, from the Hollywood Foreign Press Association, award for drama Best Picture both went to "Atonement."

For local critics, "No Country For Old Men" won the local St. Louis Gateway Film Critics Association Award for Best Picture. The Kansas City Film Critics Circle Award for Best Picture went to "There Will Be Blood." "No Country For Old Men" won the Best Picture award for the Chicago Film Critics Association.

No Country For Old Men: The Coen brothers violent drama is the likely favorite to win this category, with 8 Oscar nominations, including Best Picture, Supporting Actor for Javier Bardem, Adapted Screenplay, Sound Editing, Sound, Editing and Cinematography.

It has another 73 wins and 29 nominations. Wins include BAFTA Film Award Best Cinematography, Best Director, Best Supporting Actor for Javier Bardem, eleven Best Picture awards from film critics associations, Critics Choice Award for Best Director and Best Picture, several other awards for Best Director and Golden Globe for Best Screenplay.

Trivia note: The Coen brothers, Joel and Ethan, are nominated for Adapted Screenplay, Directing, and Editing for "No Country For Old Men." Roger Deakins nominated for Best Cinematography for both this film and "Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford."

There Will Be Blood: Another violent drama, directed by Paul Thomas Anderson, has 8 Oscar nominations, including Best Picture, Director, Adapted Screenplay, Best Actor for Daniel Day-Lewis, Sound Editing, Editing and Art Direction. It has another 33 wins and 31 nominations, with wins including Critics Choice Award for Best Actor and Score.

Atonement: Seven Oscar nominations, including Best Picture, Cinematography, Best Adapted Screenplay, Original Score, Costume Design and Art Direction. Another 11 wins and 52 nominations, including wins for BAFTA (British Academy of Film and Television Arts Awards) and Golden Globe Best Picture, plus film critic awards for Cinematography, Costume and Editing, and Venice Film Festival Prize of the Forum for Cinema and Literature. But it might be too British and too literary for the Academy.

Michael Clayton: Seven Oscar nominations, including Best Picture, Best Actor for George Clooney, Best Supporting Actor for Tom Wilkinson, Best Supporting Actress for Tilda Swinton, Directing, Original Score and Original Screenplay. It has another 7 wins and 41 nominations, with wins including BAFTA Film Award for Best Supporting Actress for Tilda Swinton and several other acting wins. The story is good and it is taut drama but the nominations and wins are heavy on acting categories, so that seems to indicate it is unlikely to win.

Juno: Four Oscar nominations, including Best Picture, Best Actress, Best Director, Original Screenplay, for the only comedy in the bunch and a genuine popular hit as well. For other awards, "Juno" has 30 wins and 19 nominations, with wins including Critics Choice Award for Best Comedy Movie, Satellite Award for Best Motion Picture, Comedy or Musical, several awards for screenplay and for actress Ellen Page.

Ratatouille - Nominated for 5 Oscars, for Best Animated, Original Screenplay for Brad Bird and others, Original Score,

Sound, Sound Editing, and another 32 wins and 16 nominations. The all-but-certain winner for the animated category, this comedy also won that category for the local St. Louis Gateway Film Critics Awards.

The Diving Bell and the Butterfly - Four Oscar nominations for this inspiring fact-based French-language drama but sadly none for either Best Picture or even Best Foreign-Language Film.

The Oscar nominations are for, Best Director for Julian Schnabel, Best Cinematography, Best Editing and Best Adapted Screenplay. It had another 25 wins and 27 nominations, including wins for AFI Fest Audience Award for Best Feature, St. Louis International Film Festival Audience Choice Award, SLIFF's Film Critics Award and the St. Louis Gateway Film Critics Association Award for Best Foreign-Language Film. It is an outstanding, moving, audience-pleasing film.

Ma Vie En Rose - Nominated for 3 Oscars, for Best Actress for Marion Cotillard, Costume Design and Make-up, plus another 15 wins and 33 nominations. Tour-de-force acting in this biopic of legendary French singer Edith Piaf makes the film a crowd-pleaser.

Sweeney Todd - Nominated for 3 Oscars with Best Actor for Johnny Depp, Art Direction and Costume Design, plus another 10 wins and 15 nominations. Tim Burton brings lots of blood to his adaptation of Stephen Sondheim's murderous musical.

Bourne Ultimatum - Nominated for 3 Oscars for Best Editing, Sound and Sound Editing. Another 7 wins and 17 nominations, wins include BAFTA for Best Sound and Editing and People's Choice Award for Action Movie

Away From Her - Nominated for 2 Oscars, Best Actress for Julie Christie and Best Adapted Screenplay, with another 5 wins and 13 nominations. It is a good, small indie movie, about a couple dealing

with Alzheimer's.

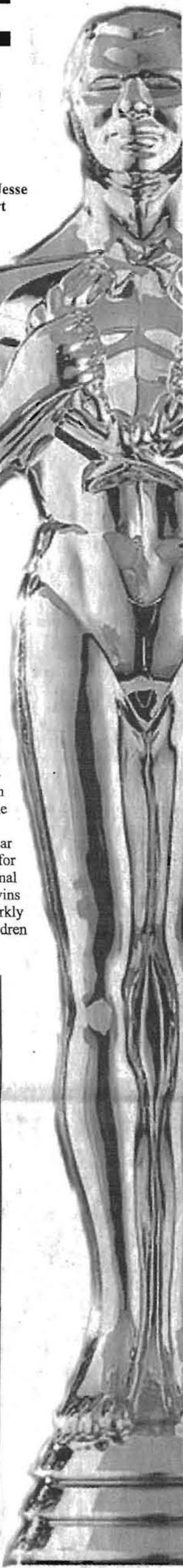
The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford - Nominated for 2 Oscars, for Best Supporting Actor for Casey Affleck, Best Cinematography, and has another 9 wins and 13 nominations. It was one of the four films that won Best Picture awards from film critics associations. It is a visually beautiful period film, with strong acting and thought-provoking drama about fame and infamy, based on the book of the same name, one of the year's most underrated films.

Into the Wild - Nominated for 2 Oscars, for Best Supporting Actor for Hal Holbrook and for Editing, plus another 7 wins and 24 nominations. It is a fact-based drama about a supremely confident young man who went unprepared into the wilderness.

The Savages - Two Oscar nominations, for Best Actress for Laura Linney and Best Original Screenplay, with another 5 wins and 13 nominations. It is a darkly comic drama about grown children and family dynamics.



Juno



Ladysmith Black Mambazo brings joyful sounds to the Touhill

By CHRIS STEWART
Staff Writer

Some of the finest art, literature, and music has been created in the midst of turbulence and unrest. Music in particular has flourished among suffering people, giving them a way to both express their sorrow and mitigate it.

Ladysmith Black Mambazo can certainly claim to be part of this lineage, having performed their music for nearly half a century in their home country of South Africa.

This slice of South African history comes to our campus appropriately in February, Black History Month. The concert took place at the Touhill Performing Arts Center on Sunday, February 10.

In that time, South Africa has gone through immense changes and horrific upheaval. It is not the fact that Ladysmith Black Mambazo is singing that is surprising, but rather the fact that their music is so joyful. For the audience at the Touhill last Sunday, the continuing story of Ladysmith Black Mambazo came alive as the eight singers took the stage.

Ladysmith Black Mambazo began in the 1960s as a musical group that blended traditional South African songs and chants with gospel tunes and a progressive message. In

its home community its music grew in popularity and the group began to sing at contests. Soon the group was so good and its sound so polished that they were banned from singing competitions. Hearing them four decades later, it is not hard to see why.

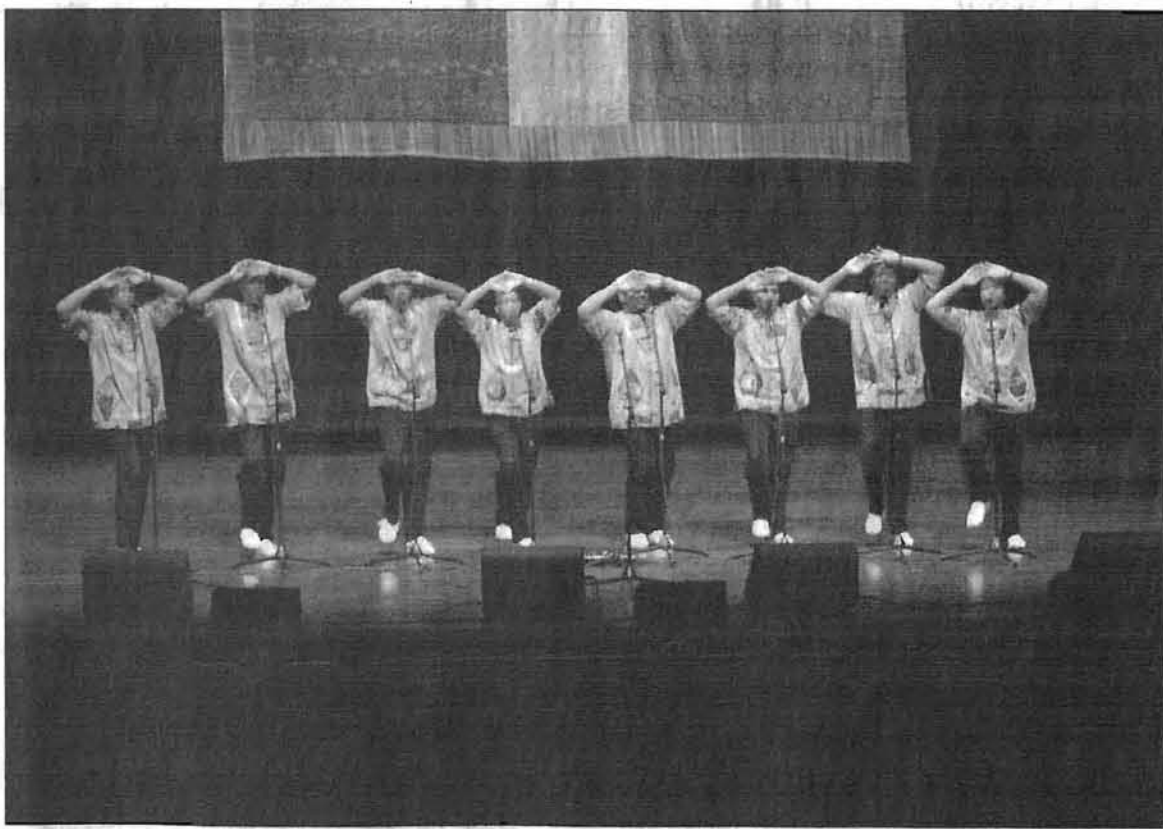
Its performance is so compelling and uplifting that it becomes a tangible demonstration of music's universal appeal.

Compared to most music heard today, Ladysmith's songs are an exercise in simplicity. There are no instruments, sound effects, or electronics. Instead there are chant-like tunes most often sung by seven singers while one lead vocalist steps forwards and sings a melody.

The songs are the kind of rich, repetitive, story-based folk songs that originated as something a group of South African miners would sing to pass the time.

Nearly all of the melodies were triumphant, even the songs that told of hardship, and the music generated an overall spirit of community. Many were infused with exuberant dancing and clapping. By the end of the night when the group performed its last song they invited audience members up on stage to dance.

The simplicity of the music and the uplifting lyrics do not lessen the impact of Ladysmith Black Mambazo's message. The group has per-



Courtney A. Strong • Staff Photographer

Ladysmith Black Mambazo performs at the Touhill PAC on Sunday, Feb. 10. A musical group that began in the 1960s, and which blends traditional South African song and chants with gospel tunes, came to UMSL in time for February and Black History Month.

formed through many hard years and its homeland still has a long way to go towards recovery. Because of this, songs that deal with sadness had a real potency to them, the kind of humanizing look at tragedy that can only come from experience. What is inspiring

about the group is the way that they insist on never dwelling upon injustice but instead challenging it by offering their music to the world.

Of all the remarkable aspects of Ladysmith Black Mambazo's music and history, the most fundamental is

its simple message: music is universal and change is possible. Lofty principles for a musical group perhaps, but then again Ladysmith Black Mambazo is no ordinary group. They are living history, folk entertainers, and distinctly talented singers all in one.

THEATER REVIEW



Photo Courtesy of www.repstl.org

Two of 12 jurors are gathered for their deliberations while a troubled young man accused of killing his aggressive father awaits the verdict in “Twelve Angry Men.”

‘Twelve Angry Men’ is theater at its best

By CATE MARQUIS
A&E Editor

The courtroom drama “Twelve Angry Men,” now on stage at the Repertory Theater of St. Louis, is quite simply the highlight of the Rep’s season. It is the one play you should not miss this year.

“Twelve Angry Men” was first performed as a 1954 TV drama, then made into a classic 1957 movie by director Sidney Lumet, before being translated to the stage. Despite that unlikely evolution, the plays exploration of the dynamics in a jury as it struggles over the verdict in a murder trial is timeless and powerful.

The action of “Twelve Angry Men” all takes place in the jury room after the trial, on a hot summer afternoon in the pre-air conditioned 1950s. None of the jury members are given names in the play, but fortunately they are seated in the order of their assigned number on the jury.

The trail is a capital murder case where the penalty is death. A young man from a tenement is accused of stabbing his father to death following an argument. As the jurors settle down to work, the foreman (Peter Van Wagner) decides to call a quick vote, just to see if they are already in agreement on the verdict. All vote for guilty but one

juror, Juror 8 (Jeff Talbott). The lone holdout says that the evidence seems to indicate the young man is indeed guilty, but since the penalty is death, he wants to at least discuss the case, so there is no lingering reasonable doubt. So they discuss, in sometimes-heated fashion, as the verdict hangs in the balance during the one-act play.

In many ways “Twelve Angry Men” could as easily be set now, but the Rep’s presentation preserves the 1950s time period, which makes it easier to explain the all-white, all-male jury. Despite those similarities, the jurors are diverse in other ways, with a variety of income and education levels, including a banker, an advertising executive, a construction worker and watchmaker. They vary in backgrounds, personalities and ages, as well as viewpoints. Some jurors are loud and pushy while others are timid and retiring.

This is powerful stuff, drama on a grand scale, as they explore the testimony in the play. Although the action all takes place in the jury room and adjoining bathroom, they are unraveling a mystery of what might lie beneath the testimony. At times, jurors act out scenarios of the crime, call for pieces of evidence to be brought in and butt heads of the various shifting alliances as they work toward the verdict.

Each juror plays his part but a few stand out in the drama. Juror 8, whose

Twelve Angry Men

★★★★★

Director: Martin Platt

Stars: Peter Van Wagner, Gary Wayne Barker, & Greg Thorton

Synopsis: “Twelve Angry Men” takes one through deliberation of a jury after a murder trial of a young man.

prevents an early decision, is a reasonable, deliberate and thoughtful man who wants to feel certain they reach the right decision. The jury foreman, Juror 1, a fair and organized man who sincerely wants to do the right thing and backs up the dissenter’s request for discussion of the case.

Other jurors, like young, brash Juror 7 (R. Ward Duffy) seems most interested in finishing up early, so he can make it to the baseball game. Early on, he forms an alliance with Juror 3 (Greg Thornton) who leads a vocal group, who are already thoroughly convinced of the defendant’s guilt. As they jurors pick apart the evidence, shifting alliances of opinion form.

Talbott, Duffy, Van Wagner and

Thornton all offer strong performances, as does the rest of the cast. Steve Brady also turns in a strong performance as the loud, egotistical Juror 10, one of the group adamant for conviction. Other cast members include Gary Wayne Barker, James Anthony, Richmond Hoxie, Dane Knell, Rich Pisarkiewicz, Jerry Vogel and Craig Wroe as jurors and Greg Johnston as the jury room guard.

As the jury explores the facts that lurk beneath the surface of the case, facts about human weaknesses and prejudices as well as assumptions about eye witness testimony all crop up.

The set is simple but has a certain gravitas. Marvelously compact and effective, it is a room with large table and classic wooden courtroom chairs, with a coat rack and alcove from restroom sink. The back wall is a series of large windows, looking out on a gray city streetscape. Despite the seeming confinement of the set, the play is remarkable lively and dramatically fiery.

“Twelve Angry Men” is a great classic play about human nature and justice. The Rep offers a great classic production not to be missed. “Twelve Angry Men” runs through March 2 on the Repertory Theater of St. Louis’ Main Stage, on the Webster University Campus, 130mEdgar road. For information on tickets and student discounts, visit their website at <http://www.repstl.org>.

MOVIE REVIEW

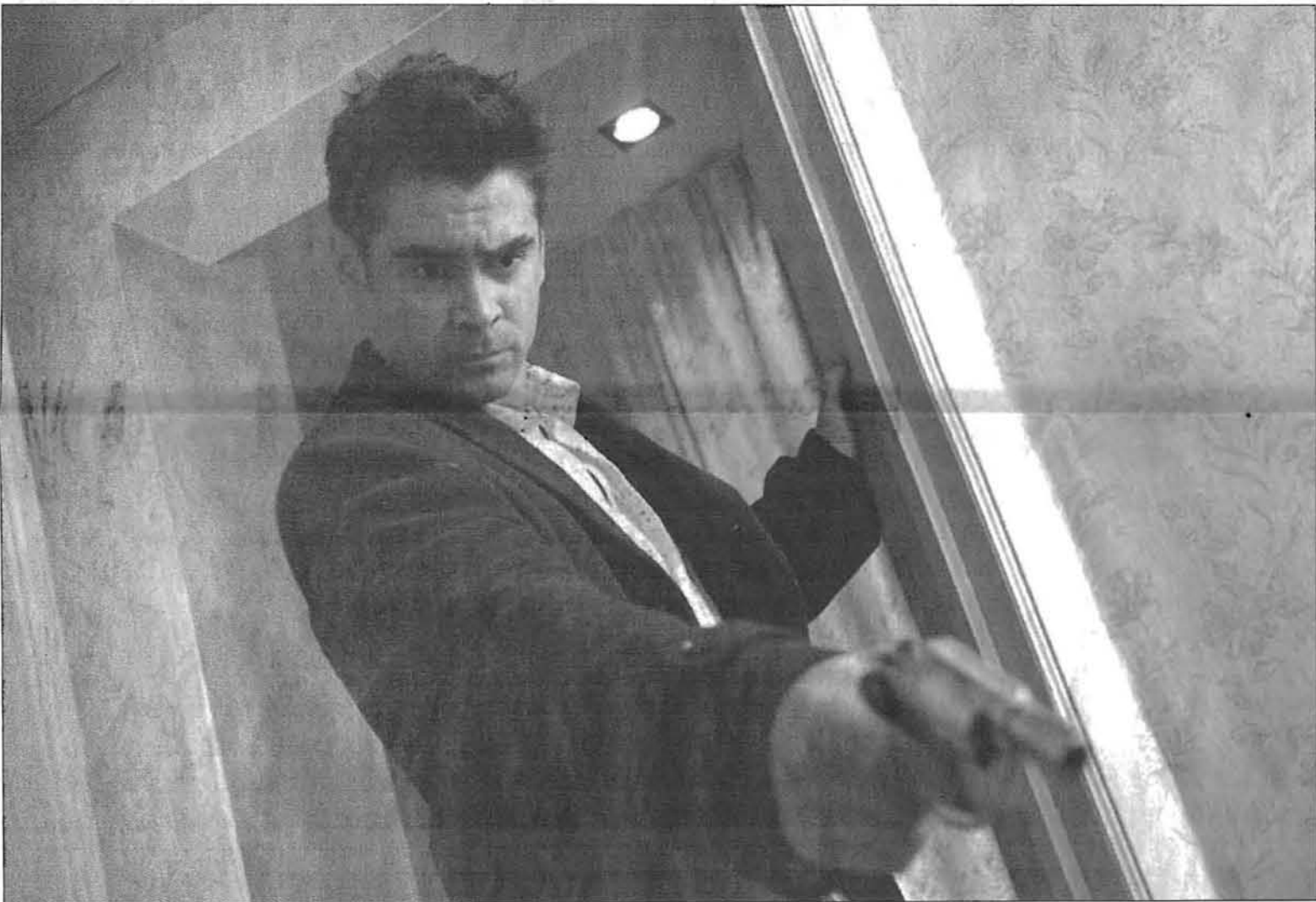


Photo Courtesy of www.rottentomatoes.com

Colin Farrell (SHOWN HERE) co-stars with Brendan Gleeson in the break-out film “In Bruges.” Martin McDonagh, director, casts these two hitmen to take care of any winter time blues.

‘In Bruges’ is rare break from wintertime doldrums

By CATE MARQUIS
A&E Editor

The last thing you expect in the February film release slump is a decent movie, which is why “In Bruges” is such a delightful surprise.

Smart, funny and clever, this film about two Irish hit men hiding out in the unlikely place of the quaint Belgian town of Bruges is done in the style of British crime comedies like “Lock Stock and Two Smoking Barrels.” It is highly entertaining but “In Bruges” is more than simply entertaining. It is also filled with layers of meaning and absurdities that it mines like chocolates in a box of Valentine candy, each one a new surprise.

Ray (Colin Farrell) and Ken (Brendan Gleeson) are a couple of Irish hit men fresh off a job who have been shipped off by their boss Harry (Ralph Fiennes) to hide out until things blow over. The boss has sent them to the tourist-filled medieval city of Bruges, and even set them up in a cute and cozy little bed and breakfast. When Ray learns that

they are expected to share a room, with no other available, the volatile young man nearly loses it, over fears that someone might assume they are a gay couple.

While the older, more experienced hit man Ken is perfectly happy to settle in for a few days of sightseeing of historic buildings as they wait from a call from the boss, young Ray is impatiently bouncing off walls. He whines constantly and sarcastically about being stuck in such a wholesomely historic city. If the boss was going to send them away, why not someplace in the Caribbean, he grumbles. He cannot wait to get out of the little hotel and find the nearest pub.

At first, “In Bruges” looks like simple action and comedy, entertainment but the clever script and well-drawn characters evolve and take us into unexpected territory. This film is the directing debut of playwright Martin McDonagh, who wrote the dark surreal play “Pillowman,” as well as this film script. The film is packed with terrific dialog and peppered with a colorful supporting cast of offbeat characters but also with

In Bruges

★★★★★

Director: Martin McDonagh

Stars: Colin Farrell & Brendan Gleeson

Synopsis: Hiding in Bruges after a difficult job, two hit men begin to differ on their views of life and death.

discussions of life and death, right and wrong.

Like other films in this British action comedy genre, the violence in “In Bruges” is bloody and plentiful, but it is undercut by a bumbling bad guys humanity. Unlike many films in that genre, “In Bruges” is a refreshingly rich and multi-layered film, with fully developed characters we get to know. The plot twists and turns, often taking a quick about-face just when you think you see where it is headed. The film alternates ac-

tion sequences with comic absurdity, sometimes verging on Pythonesque, and ironic or dramatic observations on human prejudices and ethical dilemmas.

Colin Farrell delivers one of his best performances in an age, with a young tough guy’s impatience tempered by the self-doubt of youth. Despite his non-stop complaining, both Ken and the audience grow fond of this very young man, who is struggling with the reality of the crime he just committed. Gleeson delivers a first-rate and subtle performance as the older criminal, who develops a fatherly fondness for Ray, as he begins reflecting back on his long association with his boss Harry. The entire cast is brilliant, offering characters that are convincing while skillful walking the thin line between absurd and believable. The result is a rich and enjoyable film experience.

“In Bruges” is that rare film, one that works as both entertainment and as a vehicle for provoking thought. Give yourself a break from the winter blahs and run out and see the surprisingly bright film gem “In Bruges.”

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SPORTS

ATHLETE
OF THE WEEK



Thomas Ames

Thomas Ames, graduate student, education, is a 5'11" left-catching goaltender for the UM-St. Louis Tritons roller hockey team.

He was named the nation's top goaltender while leading UM-St. Louis to the 2004 national championship.

In the game Sunday against St. Louis Community College - Meramec, Ames saved 11 of 13 shots against him, helping the Tritons win its 11-2 victory over the Magic.

UPCOMING GAMES

Women's Basketball

Feb. 21
at Drury
5:45 p.m.

Feb. 23
at Rockhurst
1 p.m.

Feb. 26
at Missouri-S&T
5:30 p.m.

Men's Basketball

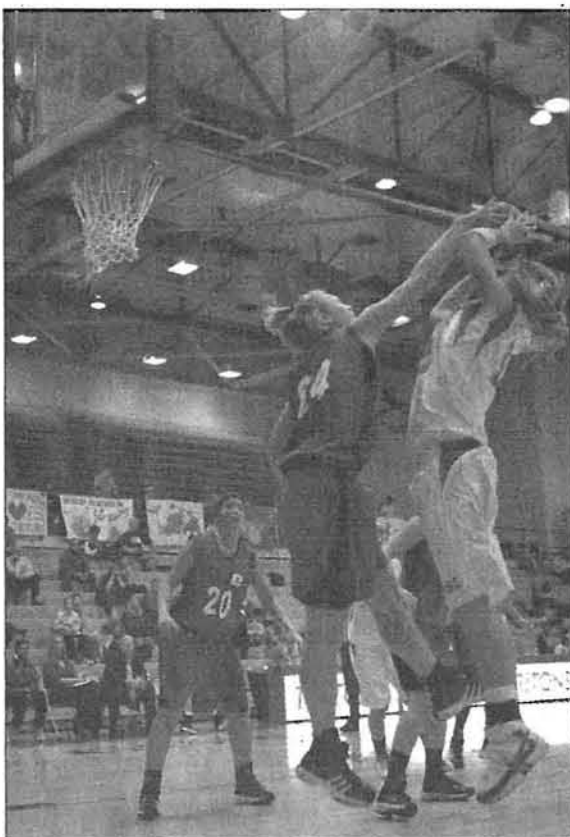
Feb. 21
at Drury
8 p.m.

Feb. 23
at Rockhurst
3 p.m.

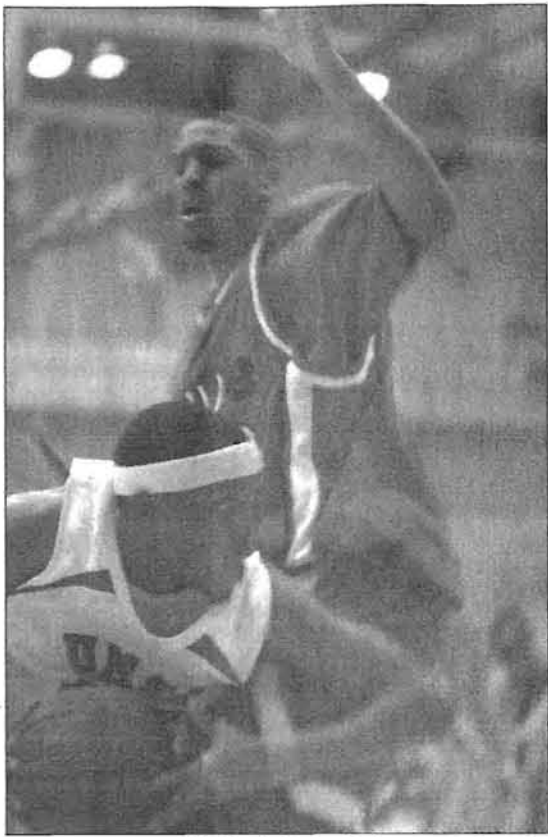
Feb. 26
at Missouri-S&T
7:30 p.m.

Roller Hockey

March 1
vs. Lindenwood
10 a.m.



(LEFT) Kelcy Hulbert, forward, gets the ball stripped from her during Thursday nights Pack the Stands game against SIUE. (RIGHT) Tim Green, guard, tries to duck under SIUE's defender during the Pack the Stands game on Thursday night.



Photos by Danny Reise • Assistant Photo Editor

Pack the Stands ends with disappointment

By Scott Lavelock
Staff Writer

UM-St. Louis basketball teams faced archenemy SIUE during Pack the Stands Night for what could be the last time before the Cougars move to Division-I next year.

It was the Triton fans that packed the stands, inspiring both the men's and women's teams to valiant efforts on the hardwood.

Both of the teams just missed on opportunities late in the game, however, with SIUE taking the women's game 71-68 and the men's game 59-57.

"I thought we had a great crowd

at the game," said UM-St. Louis men's head coach Chris Pilz. "There is no doubt the atmosphere helped both our men's and women's teams. I was proud of our effort."

The Triton women trailed the entire first half, falling behind early by 11 before Kristi White made a brilliant hustle play to get them fired up and back in it. White stepped into the passing lane to deflect the ball with her backhand, sprinted past the Cougar defender to chase it down, tiptoed the sideline and went coast-to-coast for the lay-up.

That fueled the momentum for an 11-0 run that brought the Tritons back to within two at the half. Everything was seemingly going their

way, with SIUE air-balling free throws and UM-St. Louis's Mary Slaughter, pouring in baskets that led to her first career double-double. She finished the game with 16 points and 13 rebounds.

The Cougars held the Tritons at bay in the second half before senior Taylor Gagliano, broke through with 8:04 left, draining a three-pointer from the left wing that gave them their first lead at 56-55 and sent the crowd into a frenzy.

"It was just so exciting to look up and see that we were ahead," senior Amanda Miller said afterward.

See **PACK THE STANDS**, page 12

Rivalry games bring big turnout

By Scott Lavelock
Staff Writer

A buzz and excitement enveloped Chuck Smith Court at the Mark Twain Center on Thursday night like it has not done all year, as Pack the Stands Night brought season-high crowds for the men's and women's basketball games between UM-St. Louis and Southern Illinois - Edwardsville.

"I'm very excited," said spectator Natalie Barnard, senior, secondary education. "This is the most exciting game I've been to in a long time."

The athletic department pulled out all the stops to bring folks to the two games against the Tritons' biggest rival.

Halftime performances and contests, raffles and drawings for prizes, and activities for the kids all played a big part, but nothing can bring people in like free food.

An all-you-can-eat buffet of burgers, pasta salad, corn on the cob, chips, brownies, cookies and Pepsi products kept the fans happy the entire evening, and most of them think that more events featuring the free food would be a great move by the athletic department.

"Considering I eat like a mule, it might not be a bad idea," junior Jake Neely said. "It's gone well. The fans are loud. It's good stuff."

The food festivities were highlighted by the Del Taco Macho Burrito Eating Contest, of which there was a women's competition at halftime of the women's game and a corresponding one at halftime of the men's game for the guys. In each contest, three band members squared off to see who could wolf down the Del Taco Macho Burrito in the quickest time.

Rob O'Brien took the title in the men's contest, and Elly Pini won the women's version.

Both won a \$25 gift card to Del Taco, but Pini said the fun really came from the pride of beating her

band mates.

"It was huge," Pini said. "This was a big day for me."

UM-St. Louis has aggressively increased their efforts to gain athletics sponsorship this year, and their new partnership with Del Taco is a testament to that.

"It's a natural fit for us with our restaurant located right there on Natural Bridge Road."

Del Taco General Manager Pat Shields said. "We're glad to be here and glad to be doing things with UMSL in the future."

Free t-shirts given away at the gate were another fan favorite, complete with yellow-gold lettering on a dark red background displaying "UMSL" on the front and "Pack The Stands" on the back.

Although the free stuff attracted much of the 653 fans at the men's game and 513 at the women's game, many such as Mike Ruzycski, freshman, undeclared, just wanted to see a good game.

"I think it was the promise of an exciting game between the UMSL Tritons women and the SIUE Cougars," Ruzycski said of his attraction to the events.

An exciting game it was, as the attendance at the game was the highest for any UM-St. Louis women's game, home or away, all season. Not to mention that both games went down to the wire and were settled by one possession.

Most of the patrons think that the big crowds helped contribute to the Tritons' stellar effort on the floor, and that it is important that the university continue to do everything they can to promote the teams.

"Having fans motivates the team to do better," distinguished alumnus Matt Tesson, senior, liberal studies said. "That will create more people who want to come to the school and play for the school, which will bring in better talent."

Freshman Kayla Kinzinger agrees, especially noting how many

See **FANS**, page 13

1,000th time is the charm

By LaGuan Fuse
Sports Editor

Senior Courtney Watts is now the 10th all time leading scorer for the UM-St. Louis women's basketball team after recording her 1,000th career point and finishing with nine points in the Tritons' 72-61 loss against Quincy University on Saturday. With the loss, the Tritons are currently tied for last place in the GLVC West standings.

After the loss, UM-St. Louis falls to 3-12 in conference standings and 6-17 overall. The Tritons have now lost seven consecutive conference games and the possibility of gaining a bid to the conference tournament.

Watts may lead all current UM-St. Louis players in career points, but it was Quincy's Jessica Keller who led her team to victory.

Keller finished with 21 points, nine rebounds and six assists. Keller is currently second in the GLVC in average points per game, first in assists per game and fourth in rebounds per game.

Kristi White, sophomore, led the Tritons with 15 points in the game after shooting 5-9 from the field. White pulled down two rebounds and made two assists in the game as well.

Watts shot 3-14 from the field against the Lady Hawks and gave up the ball seven times. Watts finished the game with three rebounds, two assists and one steal. Watts is currently 26th in the GLVC in average points per game.

As for rebounding, sophomore Lindsey Ransome, finished with a game-high 10 rebounds. Ransome shot 1-7 from the field, including shooting 0-6 from behind the arc, but was able to shoot 6-7 from the free throw line.

The Tritons were able to out-rebound their opponents in the game

51-43. UM-St. Louis finished the game with 17 offensive rebounds and is currently in first place for offensive rebounding in the GLVC.

Quincy got off to an early lead in the game going on an 8-2 scoring run.

The Tritons, however, kept the score close but were unable to gain the lead in the first half going down by as much as nine. By the end of the first half, the Tritons were able to play catch-up and only trailed the Lady Hawks 26-22.

The second half started with UM-St. Louis taking the lead and going up by six points before Quincy chipped into the lead. With 13 minutes left in the game, the score was tied at 35 and the Tritons were unable to secure a steady lead over the Lady Hawks.

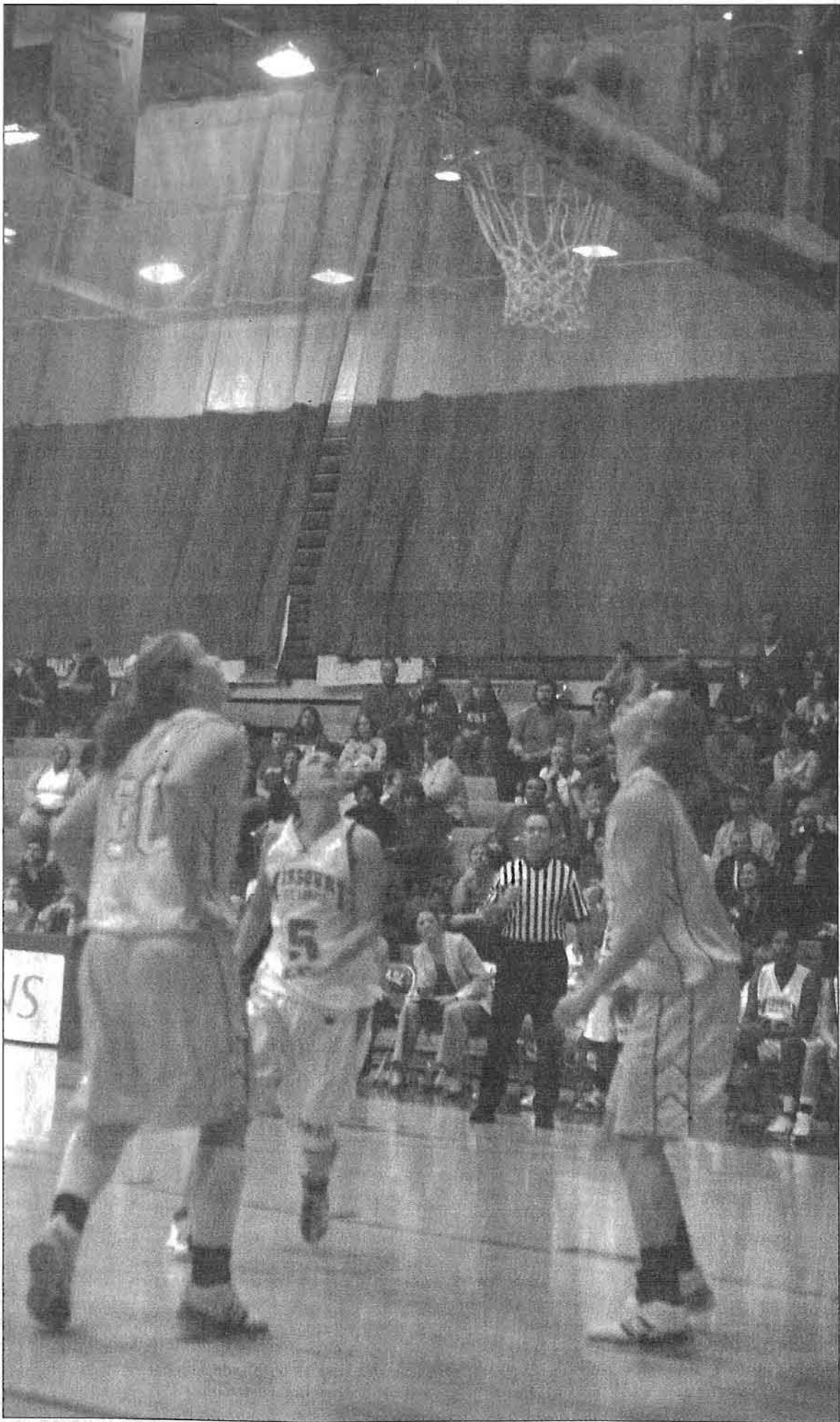
With a little over six minutes left in the game, the Lady Hawks took the lead over the Tritons and never looked back. Quincy opened an 11-3 scoring run on UM-St. Louis before closing out the game with the victory.

The Tritons have a tough battle ahead as they finish out the season with four games on the road, starting with Drury on Feb. 21. Drury has already gained a spot in the conference tournament and is currently 13-2 in the GLVC and is also riding a 12-game winning streak. UM-St. Louis will then battle Rockhurst, who currently posts the same 3-12 GLVC record as the Tritons.

The final two games of the season will be played on Feb. 26 at Missouri S&T and then the final game will be against Southern Indiana on March 1.

Courtney Watts breaks the 1,000 career point mark with this shot during the last home game of the season on Saturday in the Mark Twain gym.

Danny Reise • Assistant Photo Editor



Tritons go 1-4 in final home stand

By LaGuan Fuse
Sports Editor

The UM-St. Louis men's basketball team finished its final home stand of the season losing three out of four games. The Tritons lost the home finale 76-61 to Quincy University. After the game, the Tritons' GLVC record falls to 3-12 and the team is 8-15 overall.

Quincy's Excell Hardy scored a game-high 28 points in the Hawks' victory over the Tritons. Hardy ended the game shooting 9-12 from the field including shooting 7-9 from behind the arc.

Tim Green led the Tritons with 14 points in the game, shooting 4-6 from the field. Green also knocked down six out of seven free throw attempts. Green finished the game with five rebounds and five assists.

Both David Ward and Paul Paradoski added 10 points to the scoreboard for the Tritons. Ward shot 4-8 in the game and pulled down seven rebounds and added three assists. Paradoski shot 3-13 from the field with all three shots being 3-pointers and pulled down three rebounds and had four assists.

Paul De Chellis ended the game with nine points for UM- St. Louis and shot 4-5 from the field.

The Hawks had three players besides Hardy who finished the game with double-digits. Andre Muse finished the game with 18 points and finished with eight assists. Muse is currently seventh in the GLVC in average points per game. He was followed by Josh Edmonds who finished with 12 points and Cameron Murkey who ended with 11 points.

The Tritons were able to record 16 assists on 19 made baskets in the game, but the team also game up 14 turnovers in the game while Quincy only gave up 10. The Hawks were able to convert those turnovers into 18 points while the Tritons managed 10 points.

UM-St. Louis has four games left this season, each on the road, and each vital if the Tritons hope to secure a spot in the GLVC tournament. With Quincy's win over UM-St. Louis, the Hawks still have a two-game lead over the Tritons in the GLVC West standings.

The next opponent for UM-St. Louis will be Drury, who is currently in first place in the GLVC West with a record of 13-2.

The Tritons will face off against the Panthers on Feb. 21 and even though Drury already has gained a spot in the conference tournament, the win is very necessary if the Tritons hope to move up in the standings.

The following game for the Tritons will be against Rockhurst, who is in the one spot, and one game ahead of UM- St. Louis in the standings. As the Tritons are playing the top team in the conference on Feb. 21, the Hawks will be playing the team at the bottom of the standings, Missouri S&T, who has not won a conference game all season.

The final two games of the season will be against Missouri S&T on Feb. 26 and then Southern Indiana on March first. The last time the Tritons faced the Miners, the Tritons picked up the 60-46 win. The last time the Tritons faced off against the Screaming Eagles, the Tritons lost 67-44.

Men's basketball falls to Panthers

By Scott Lavelock
Staff Writer

The Drury Panthers, ranked eleventh in the nation in Division-II, came to town last Saturday Feb. 9, flexed its muscles, raced out to a 22-point first half lead and never looked back in a 68-55 win over UM-St. Louis.

Drury controlled the game from the onset, taking leads of 17-7, 29-10 and 39-17 in front of 405 faithful fans at the Mark Twain Center.

Paul Paradoski's team-leading 16 points and 6 assists were not enough for UM-St. Louis, who fell to 8-13, 3-10 in conference play going into this past week's action.

Paradoski moved into fourth in the GLVC with 88 assists on the season after his efforts last Saturday.

First place Drury improved to 18-3, 11-2 in GLVC action, and went on to clinch the GLVC West title with their two wins this past week.

The Panthers dominated the

early going last Saturday by owning the game inside, outscoring UM-St. Louis in the paint in the first half 16-8 and outrebounding them 27-18 for the game.

The Tritons continued to battle in the second half, though. After trailing 41-24 early in the second frame, they rattled off nine straight points to cut the deficit to eight. Adam Kaatman started the run by putting back a missed three point attempt by Paradoski.

Nathan Whittaker then grabbed a steal and found Kaatman for a three-pointer, one of his two connections from long range in three attempts on the game.

Back-to-back lay-ups by Paradoski and Whittaker continued the run before Drury was able to get back on the board.

UM-St. Louis kept pecking away, getting back to within nine points on a steal and a breakaway lay-up by Jason Black with seven minutes to go.

See BASKETBALL, page 12

STATS CORNER

MEN'S BASKETBALL

GLVC Standings		
Team	Conf. (W-L)	Overall (W-L)
Drury	13-2	20-3
SIU-Edwardsville	7-8	14-9
Southern Indiana	7-8	13-10
Quincy	5-10	11-12
Rockhurst	4-11	8-15
UM - St. Louis	3-12	8-15
Missouri S&T	0-15	3-20

Box Scores

February 14	1st	2nd	F
SIU-Edwardsville	30	29	59
UM-St. Louis	21	36	57

February 16	1st	2nd	F
Quincy	35	41	76
UM-St. Louis	35	26	61

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

GLVC Standings		
Team	Conf. (W-L)	Overall (W-L)
Drury	13-2	21-2
Missouri S&T	12-3	18-4
Quincy	10-5	15-8
SIU-Edwardsville	8-7	15-8
Southern Indiana	4-11	9-14
Rockhurst	3-12	8-15
UM - St. Louis	3-12	6-17

Box Scores

February 14	1st	2nd	F
SIU-Edwardsville	34	37	71
UM-St. Louis	32	36	68

February 16	1st	2nd	F
Quincy	26	46	72
UM-St. Louis	22	39	61

ROLLER HOCKEY

GPCIHL Standings		
Team (Division 1)	Overall (W-L-T)	Pts
Lindenwood	16-0-0	32
UM - St. Louis	13-2-0	26
UM - Columbia	10-5-1	21
Missouri S&T	6-10-1	13
Illinois	4-11-0	8
Middle Tennessee	2-13-2	6
Illinois State	1-13-2	4

Box Scores

February 17	F
St. Louis CC-Meramec	2
UM-St. Louis	11

February 9	F
Truman State	4
UM-St. Louis	10

SOFTBALL

GLVC Standings		
Team	Conf. (W-L)	Overall (W-L)
SIU-Edwardsville	0-0	4-0
Bellarmine	0-0	3-1
Quincy	0-0	3-1
Indianapolis	0-0	1-3
UM - St. Louis	0-0	1-3
Southern Indiana	0-0	1-3
KY Wesleyan	0-0	0-0
Missouri S&T	0-0	0-0
Northern KY	0-0	0-0
Rockhurst	0-0	0-0
Saint Joseph's	0-0	0-0
UW-Parkside	0-0	0-0
Drury	0-0	0-4
Lewis	0-0	0-4

Special Note: Feb. 17's games where cancelled due to inclement field conditions.

STAFF VIEWPOINT

A rite of spring: who's playing for the Cardinals?

At least we know who is on first. For now, that is. Everything else seems to be up in the air as the Cardinals begin full-team workouts today at its spring training home in Jupiter, Fla.

The pitchers and catchers got a head start on the season by reporting to camp over the weekend, and the way it looks right now, they will need it. Adam Wainwright, Braden Looper and late-season success Joel Piniero seem to have their spots in the rotation locked in.

Bargain-bin pick up Matt Clement will get the first chance at the fourth spot in the Cardinals rotation, but from there it is anyone's guess as to who completes the staff. Todd Wellemeier, Brad Thompson and Anthony Reyes appear to be the ones in the running, but considering last season's smorgasbord of pitchers, who knows whom it will end up



By Tom Schnable
Assistant Sports Editor

Tommy John, surgery, and could be back around the all-star break.

Mulder's progress is a bit murkier. After undergoing a second procedure on his throwing shoulder at the end of last season, Mulder's timetable has been repeatedly pushed back, and it is possible the only lefty in the starting rotation will not be back until May or longer.

As you can see, there is much to be resolved before the Cardinals head north for the regular season, and that is just in the pitching department.

The outfield raises just as many eyebrows. Those involved in this debate include Chris Duncan, Skip Schumaker, Ryan Ludwick and Brian Barton. And do not forget about Rick Ankiel. Oh yeah, and Juan Gonzalez...wait, Juan Gonzalez?

See CARDINALS, page 12

SHORT FUSE

Coaching at UMSL: opportunity is the key

Is it me or is the UM-St. Louis starting a trend of losing our coaches to other universities? OK, so losing two women's basketball coaches in one year and then a volleyball coach the next year may not be a trend, but it is important none the less. Do not get me wrong. I understand that each coach needs to look out for his or her own professional career, but I think that it is time that the university does a little more to keep coaches here.

This, of course, is not going to be an easy thing to do because it is impossible to predict the future and who knows when that dream coaching job will become a reality. Coaching, like any other profession, is about money and opportunity. I am not too sure what our coaches are being paid, but a D-II school without any recent championships is probably not offering top dollar, so that means opportunity is really going to be a key.

That opportunity would greatly depend on the coach and what they are looking for. Right now the university is looking for a new volleyball coach to fill the void left by former Head Coach Josh Lauer, who recently took an assistant coaching position at the University of Alabama (Tuscaloosa). So that means we need a coach who is looking to be here for a while, not taking any-



By LaGuan Fuse
Sports Editor

thing away from Lauer because I think he did an excellent job in his four years as coach. UM-St. Louis needs a coach who is not looking to rebuild the team, but build the team.

I think that Lisa Curliss-Taylor, head coach for the women's basketball, did the right thing by changing the style of play for the women's basketball team. It was the same players, but she introduced a new style of play, knowing that it will take a few years before all of the kinks are worked out. Now it is going to be very important for the success of the team to have consistency in coaching because there have been three coaches of the women's basketball team in the past two seasons. If the team is expected to be consis-

tent, coaching needs to be consistent as well.

UM-St. Louis has been changing a lot in the athletic department and like the cliché says, "change takes time" so I will continue to see what other changes are around the corner. Here is one that I really hope to see before I graduate. I think that the university needs a little more diversity in the coaching department. We have two head female coaches, three female assistant coaches and two African-American male assistant coaches here at UM-St. Louis. Besides that, there is very little diversity among our coaches.

So as we move to the future of athletics at UM-St. Louis, isn't it time to find consistency in the areas where there is none, while keeping in mind that changing some areas may be far past due.

If UM-St. Louis is going to ever be known for its athletic teams, it is going to have to start at the top. The new name and new image has been around, but that is not all that it is going to take to bring home championships.

Coaches coach and players play, but what happens to the players who are recruited and want to play for a school just to play for a certain coach and then that coach leaves the school, because of a better opportunity?

Six in a row for UMSL hockey

By Scott Lavelock
Staff Writer

The UM-St. Louis club inline hockey team has recorded six wins in a row after two solid wins Feb. 9 at the Matteson Square Gardens Tri-Plex in St. Peters.

The Tritons blasted Illinois State 11-1 in their first time out since Jan. 20, and followed that up with an encore win over St. Charles Community College by a final tally of 8-4.

Those victories moved the Tritons record to 11-2 going into the following Sunday's action as they hold fast to second place in the Great Plains Collegiate Inline Hockey League among Division-I schools.

In the first game, contrary to the indication of the final score, it was actually Illinois State who drew first blood. They had it spilled all over them though, as a red and gold deluge netted eleven straight goals.

Jeremy Scott got the Tritons going with 4:07 left in the first period with the game-tying goal. It only took 23 more seconds for Jason Holzum to put them up for good with his eighth goal of the season.

The route was on in the second period, as UM-St. Louis outscored the Redbirds 7-0. Six different Tritons stuck the puck in the net, with the scoring parade including Scott, Jason Shields, Blake Propp, Andy Meade, PJ Tallo, and Aaron Schulz. Meade registered two goals in the period, the last of which came with one second remaining. Propp scored again in the third period for his second of the game and eighth of the year.

PJ Tallo, who finished the game with four assists, assisted Propp. It was Jeremy Scott who owned the spotlight though, turning a hat trick with his third goal of the match and tenth of the season.

UM-St. Louis out shot Illinois State by a remarkable margin of 35-7, making things easy for goalie James Cash, who is now third in the league in goals against average and save percentage, one spot ahead of teammate Thomas Ames in both categories.

Illinois State's record stood at 1-10-1 after losing to Lindenwood University later in the day.

See HOCKEY, page 12

SPORTS BRIEF

Tennis brings home four titles from Principia

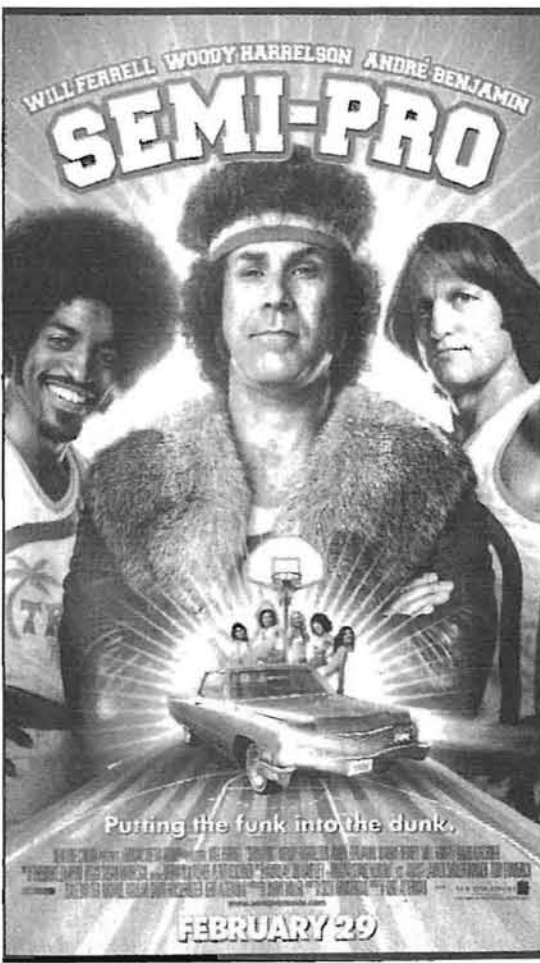
The UM-St. Louis men's tennis team came away from the Principia College Men's Tennis Invitational with four titles this past weekend. The Tritons claimed two single titles as well as two in doubles.

Sophomore Andreas Dimke walked away with the title for Singles Flight A. The other singles title was won in Singles Flight C by junior Peter Hantack.

As for doubles, Dimke along with senior Boris Simic won the doubles Flight 1. Freshman Alexander Cherman and sophomore Andre Chemas won the title for doubles Flight 3.

The first home match of the spring season will be on March 8 against Western Illinois. The first conference match for the Tritons will be on March 21 against Lewis.

Singles Flight A Boris Simic (UMSL) def. Batchelor (Principia), 6-4, 6-1 Gonzalez (SIUE) def. Simic (UMSL), 6-4, 6-4 Andreas Dimke (UMSL) def. Wightman (Principia), 6-4, 6-0 Dimke (UMSL) def. Pusateri (Truman State), 6-2, 6-1 Dimke (UMSL) def. Gonzalez (SIUE), 6-3, 6-1	Singles Flight B Daniel Anthony (UMSL) def. Huber (Principia), 6-1, 6-0 Young (SIUE) def. Anthony (UMSL), 6-4, 6-0 Tim Bryant (UMSL) def. De Laney (Principia), 6-1, 6-0 Scholtz (Truman State) def. Bryant (UMSL), 4-6, 6-4 (10-6)	Singles Flight C Alexander Cherman (UMSL) def. Hagenlocher (Principia), 6-3, 6-0 Cherman (UMSL) def. Boswell (Truman State), 6-4, 6-3 Peter Hantack (UMSL) def. Sherwood (Truman State), 6-2, 6-1 Hantack (UMSL) def. Logan (Lewis & Clark), 6-1, 6-1 Hantack (UMSL) def. Cherman (UMSL), 5-7, 6-1 (10-6)	Doubles Flight #1 Dimke/Simic (UMSL) def. Gonzalez/Garrison (SIUE), 8-6 Simke/Simic (UMSL) def. Schlotz/Rothfusz (Truman State), 8-6	Doubles Flight #2 Burgdorfer/Hantack (UMSL) def. Logan/Morse (Lewis & Clark), 8-2 Burgdorfer/Hantack (UMSL) def. Hipkiss/Rusk (Truman State), 8-2 Sanchez/Young (SIUE) def. Burgdorfer/Hantack (UMSL), 8-6	Doubles Flight #3 Bryant/Anthony (UMSL) def. Graber/Highley (SIUE), 8-5 Bryant/Anthony (UMSL) def. Boswell/Pusateri (Truman State), 8-0 Chermas/Cherman (UMSL) def. Holler/Weidman (Greenville), 8-0 Chermas/Cherman (UMSL) def. Bryant/Anthony (UMSL), 9-7
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HOCKEY from page 11

Lindenwood still led the Tritons by 1 1/2 games in the standings through last Saturday's action, and were outscoring their opponents this season by a mind-boggling total of 105-10.

In game two on Saturday, the Tritons faced a much tougher opponent in St. Charles Community College, who entered the match with a record of 9-3, tops for any Division-III team in the GPCIHLL. UM-St. Louis jumped out quickly, leading 4-0 after one period.

Aaron Schulz got things going with goal number five on the season, followed by Jason Shields with his seventh. PJ Tallo then connected for an unassisted goal, and only nine seconds later Andy Meade notched his first goal of the game.

It would not be his last, though. He scored on a power play to start the second period and give the Tritons a 5-0 lead. The Cougars would not die as they hammered home four consecutive goals to give UM-

St. Louis a scare and make the score 5-4 at the end of two periods.

Kenny Gales scored two of the goals for SCC, and Gus Maloney and Sean Daft each scored one.

Just when the Tritons needed him the most though, Meade responded. He scored his third goal with 7:09 left in the game to give the red and gold a little insurance, and for good measure put his fourth goal in just over three minutes later. That performance gives him twelve goals on the season.

With 1:05 left, Tallo put the icing on the cake with a short-handed goal, only the second such goal for the Tritons this season. It was Tallo's 13th goal of the season, and to go with his league-leading 29 assists, he now leads the GPCIHLL in total points as well.

Thomas Ames held down the net for the Tritons against SCC the whole way, holding on for the 8-4 win.

CARDINALS from page 11

Whoever manager Tony LaRussa decides will roam the outfield at Busch Stadium this year, it appears the skipper will go with a mix-and-match contingent. That means when the Cardinals face a right-hander Duncan, Schumaker and Ankiel will most likely play, and Barton, Ludwick and someone else would appear against lefties.

Arguably the most important part of any team is its up-the-middle defense. In competition at short-stop and second base Aaron Miles, Adam Kennedy and Brendan Ryan are returning, and newcomers Cesar Izturis and D'Angelo Jimenez, who like Gonzalez is a non-roster invitee.

The three pillars of the Cardinals this season will be catcher Yadier Molina, third baseman Troy Glaus and, of course, first baseman Albert Pujols. While each of these

players face no competition at their positions, the questions surrounding them involve their health. All three missed time over the last two seasons due to various ailments.

The biggest concern is Pujols, who is battling an elbow problem that has plagued him since 2003. Pujols recently said that the situation is out of his control, and if the elbow goes he will require likely season-ending surgery to repair it. Surely, if Pujols is gone, so are the Cardinals chances in 2008.

Welcome to the St. Louis Cardinals version 2008! It will only be a matter of time before the season gets under way, and you find yourself in the seats at Busch eating a hot dog and sipping a cold one. My recommendation is that you wait to purchase that jersey, because the player's name on the back might not still be on the team by then.

BASKETBALL from page 11

The Tritons were a completely different team in the second half, outscoring Drury 18-6 in the paint, and 17-10 off turnovers, and a field goal by Dave Ward moved him into 22nd place on the all-time UM-St. Louis scoring list with 884 career points.

Sky Frazier whittled the Panthers lead to eight by converting an old-fashioned three-point play with 5:44 remaining. Frazier finished the game with 11 points, making all five of his free throw attempts.

FANS from page 10

"I think they should keep doing this because it gets the team riled up, and there are people here who have never been here before," Kinzinger said. "There's a lot of people, so that's making the game really close."

Lisa Brinker, junior, business administration would like to see the promotion extended to other programs.

"Obviously this has brought a lot of people here today and got more

people involved," Brinker, a junior, said. "Maybe they should try doing a Pack-the-Stands Night for the all the other sports teams besides just basketball so that other teams can have crowds like this once in a while too."

The Tritons shot well from the line as well, with Paradoski going 8 of 10, accounting for half of his 16 points. Kaatman finished with eight points for UM-St. Louis, and Whitaker had seven.

The home portion of the basketball schedule is over now, but the UM-St. Louis athletic department hopes that the attendance trend continues as spring sports begin to get underway.

PACK THE STANDS from page 10

"It was a big momentum builder. The girls saw that, they fed off that, and we tried to build off that. It was a big shot."

SIUE ultimately had the answer, though. Whitney Sykes responded to Gagliano's triple with one of her own, reclaiming the lead for the Cougars. That led to a 10-1 run which helped SIUE dictate the tempo of the final minutes.

"Last time we played them, they just took us to the hole, so our main goal today was to keep them out of the paint," UM-St. Louis head coach Lisa Curliss-Taylor said. "When we'd keep them out of the paint, we'd go on a run, but then we'd slip up defensively, and they were back in there scoring lay-ups."

Courtney Watts, senior, got the Tritons close again, with a steal and a breakaway lay-up that made it a three-point game with 59 seconds left. The red and gold came up empty on their next two possessions, sealing a 71-68 Cougar victory. The loss eliminated the UM-St. Louis women from post-season contention.

The men were still alive, though, coming into the evening only two games behind SIUE for a berth in the conference tournament.

They started out hot, grabbing a 15-10 lead and moving the ball unselfishly, highlighted by a brilliant drive-and-dish from Tim Green, junior, to Nathan Whittaker, junior, who was making a back-door cut to the basket.

That basket scored two of Whittaker's team-leading 13 points, as well as one of Green's team-leading 7 assists.

SIUE responded with a 13-0 run, over which UM-St. Louis failed to score for over 8 minutes before Jason Black, junior, finally went in for

an uncontested lay-up off a picked off pass.

"We had some defensive mistakes and missed some really easy shots," Pilz said of the run, during which the Tritons did not make it to the free throw line one time. "Getting to the foul line is a very important of any offense. We need to attack the basket strong and sell the foul."

The Cougars led 32-21 at half-time, but back-to-back trifectas by Whittaker put the momentum on the home team's side. UM-St. Louis continued to work away at the lead, and Paul Paradoski, senior, came off a timeout by nailing a three and drawing the Tritons within two with 9:41 left.

Just three minutes later, they took a 48-46 lead on a turn-around lay-up by Dave Ward that he converted into an old-fashioned three-point play.

The ball was bouncing the Tritons' way, both figuratively and literally. The next time down the floor, it was rolling out of bounds, but luckily hit one of the officials, allowing Green to pick it up for the steal and a wide-open lay-up.

SIUE fought back, as Nikola Bundalo gave them the lead with a hook shot that made it 53-52 with 3:14 left. They held a three-point lead in the closing seconds, when the Tritons narrowly missed tying the game on two occasions.

Paradoski jacked up a fade-away three pointer with 14 seconds left that pinballed around the rim, clung to the edge of it, brought the fans to the edge of their seats and finally fell out. Paul De Chellis, senior, grabbed it for the Tritons, who were fouled on their next three-point attempt. Only one of the three free throws went down, and the Cougars hung on for the 59-57 win to improve to 13-9, 6-8 in the GLVC.

Triton tennis gets into the swing of things

By Scott Lavelock

Staff Writer

Carrying a 2-0 record into the spring portion of its schedule, the UM-St. Louis women's tennis team looked to keep building on their success at the Principia Tournament in Elsah, Illinois last weekend, Feb. 8 and 9.

The indoor tourney was the first event of the new semester for the Triton women, and though it included no competition counting toward the team record, it gave all the players a chance to improve their individual records, as well as gain valuable experience against competition from Principia, Truman State, McKendree, SIUE, and Illinois-Springfield.

Freshman Stephanie Thompson, the number one singles player on the team, led the way for the Tritons, notching a pair of victories in the Flight A singles division. She was

able to collect herself for those two wins after starting off a little slow, losing to Carli Connors of SIUE 6-2, 6-4.

"She was an extremely hard hitter, and I wasn't quite used to her tempo yet, but after a while I got more used to it," Thompson said. "At the beginning I was a little nervous, but once I played my first one or two matches I felt more relaxed and I got in a good rhythm."

Thompson collected her two wins over Jenny Mennerick of McKendree (6-4, 6-2) and Ashley Ragnow of Principia (6-2, 6-2). Mennerick avenged her loss by beating Thompson later in the tournament 7-6, 6-4, evening Thompson's tournament record out at 2-2 and giving the rest of the Tritons an example to follow.

"Personally, I look up to Stephanie Thompson," teammate Annie Gonzalez, junior, said. "She is a very

talented player and a great person on and off the court. I believe she has really brought up the standards of the UMSL girls' tennis team."

Adriana Garcia, junior, also fought well in the Flight A singles division, but came up just short in both of her matches, falling 6-2, 6-2 to Kathleen Brancato of Illinois-Springfield and Maria Occhipinti of McKendree 6-3, 6-3.

Juniors Molly Striler and Sara Davidson did come up with wins in Flight B, though, both over opponents from Principia. Striler knocked off Carey Erwin 6-4, 6-0 in her first match, with Davidson winning her first match as well over Julianna Ko. Davidson took the first set 6-4, lost the second set 5-7, but won on the tiebreak by a score of 10-3.

Both players lost their next two matches, however, with Striler losing to Kelsey Laird of SIUE and Rosana

Romilo of Illinois-Springfield, and Davidson falling against Erin Thom-an from McKendree and Ashley McGowan from Illinois-Springfield.

In Flight C singles, Annie Gonzalez came within an eyelash of winning her first match against Lauren Szakielo of McKendree, but lost 7-5, 7-5. Principia's KC Gahlon then outlasted her 6-3, 6-3.

Yuki Takashima, sophomore, lost both of her matches as well to SIUE's Stephanie Clark and Truman State's Kirstyn Sampias.

Despite coming up on the short end of the score in many of the matches, head coach Rick Gyllenborg is encouraged by what he saw during the tournament, especially considering the Tritons are competing with a bare minimum of six players.

See TRITON TENNIS, page 14

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

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Want to win money to perform your favorite Motown Hit? Stop by the Office of Student Life (366 MSC) to sign up to participate in Motown Night on Feb. 29. Group acts are encouraged, but solo acts are also welcomed.

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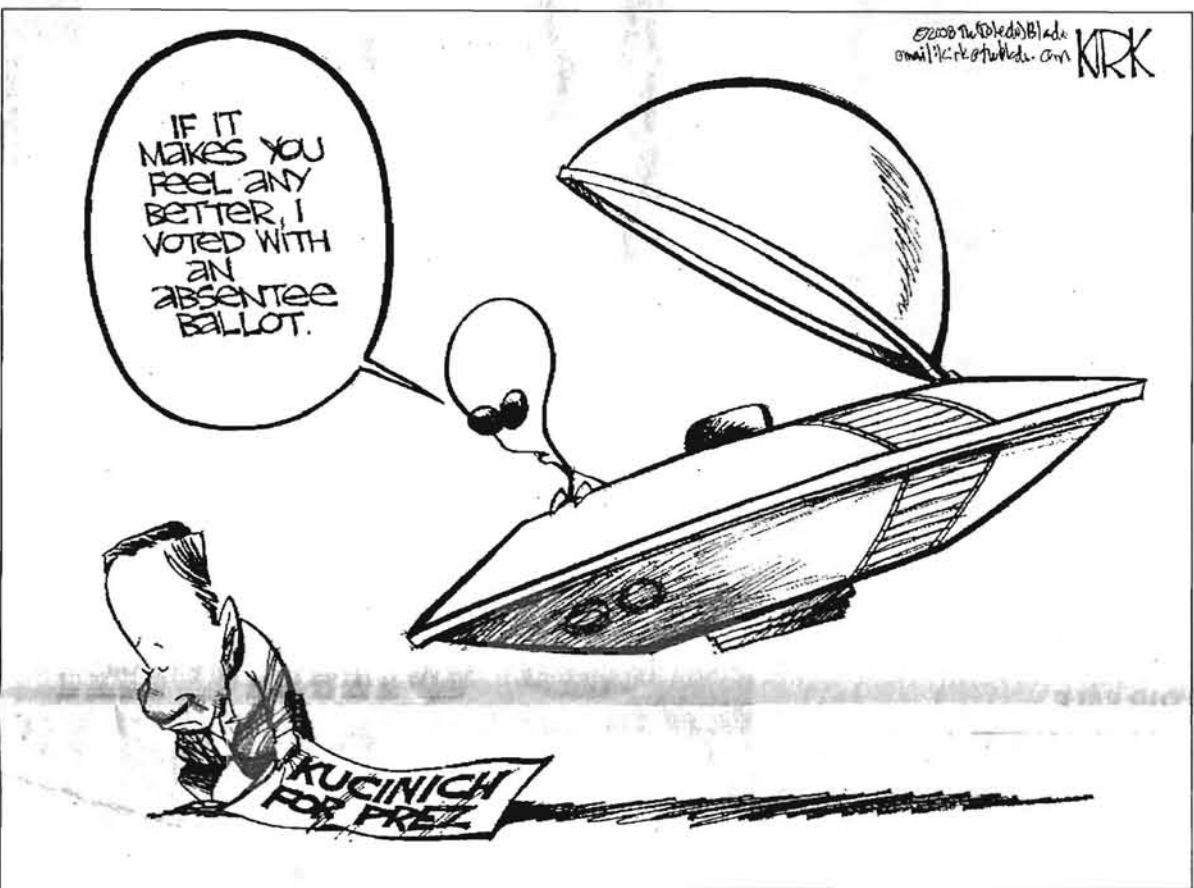


"Sconeborough" is drawn by Current cartoonist Elizabeth Gearhart



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

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"You can hold your breath all you want, Carl, but we are not going to use your budgeting plan."

King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Try the tea

4 Carvey or Delany

8 Cut down to size

12 Bill's partner

13 Smell

14 Trevi toss, once

15 Render speechless

16 Homeowners' expenses

18 Disney deer

20 Total

21 Organic compound

24 Business bigwig

28 And

32 "Clue" weapon

33 Mimic

34 Poisonous plant

36 Greek H

37 Line of fashion?

39 "Beloved" author Toni

41 Archimedes' device

43 In the vicinity

44 Brillo competitor

46 Forbidden chain

50 Message transmission method

55 Samovar

56 Diamond Head site

9 Predetermine

10 Raw rock

11 — de deux

17 Big Red or Orbit

19 Spell-down

22 Egg

23 Edsel, e.g.

25 Leaves

26 Engaged in

27 Slender

28 Factor in

29 Einstein's equation

30 Caboose's position

31 Exceptional

35 Lunar dents

38 Disarrange

40 George's brother

42 Calamity

45 Con game

47 Clinton predecessor

48 Sandwich treat

49 Formerly

50 Broom closet item

51 Scull need

52 Plato's P

53 Praiseful rendition

54 Mid-June honoree

DOWN

1 Wound cover

2 Waterloo is there

3 Verse

4 Popular pizza

5 Commotion

6 Neither mate

7 Decoupage

8 Din

10 Raw rock

11 — de deux

17 Big Red or Orbit

19 Spell-down

22 Egg

23 Edsel, e.g.

25 Leaves

26 Engaged in

27 Slender

28 Factor in

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49 Formerly

50 Broom closet item

51 Scull need

52 Plato's P

53 Praiseful rendition

54 Mid-June honoree

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

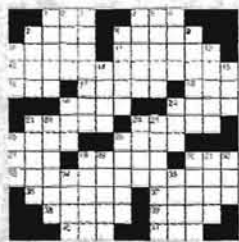
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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

The Current
online.com



ARIES
(March 21 to April 19)
Stop being the wool-gathering Lamb, and start turning that dream project into reality. You have the ideas, the drive and the charisma to persuade others to follow your lead. So do it.

TAURUS
(April 20 to May 20)
You have scored some big successes. But remember that all hard-working Ferdinands and Ferdinandas need some time to restore their energies and refresh their spirits.

GEMINI
(May 21 to June 20)
You are gaining a stronger mental image of what you are trying to achieve. Now look for the facts that will help get this to develop from a concept into a solid proposal.

CANCER
(June 21 to July 22)
Some of you eager-to-please Moon Children might want to delay some decisions until midweek, when you can again think more with your head than your heart.

LEO
(July 23 to Aug. 22)
A new business venture seems to offer everything you have been looking for. But be careful that that rosy picture does not betray traces of red ink under the surface.

VIRGO
(Aug. 23 Sept. 22)
A volatile situation needs the kind of thoughtful and considerate care you can provide right now. There will be plenty of time later to analyze what might have gone wrong.

LIBRA
(Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)
Your loyalty to a friend in a tough situation earns you respect from people you care about. Those who criticize you do not understand what friendship is all about.

SCORPIO
(Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)
Your strong work ethic is rewarded with the kind of challenging opportunity you love to tackle. Now, go ahead and celebrate with family and/or close friends.

SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)
A legal matter you thought had been finally resolved could require a second look. But do not make any moves without consulting your lawyer.

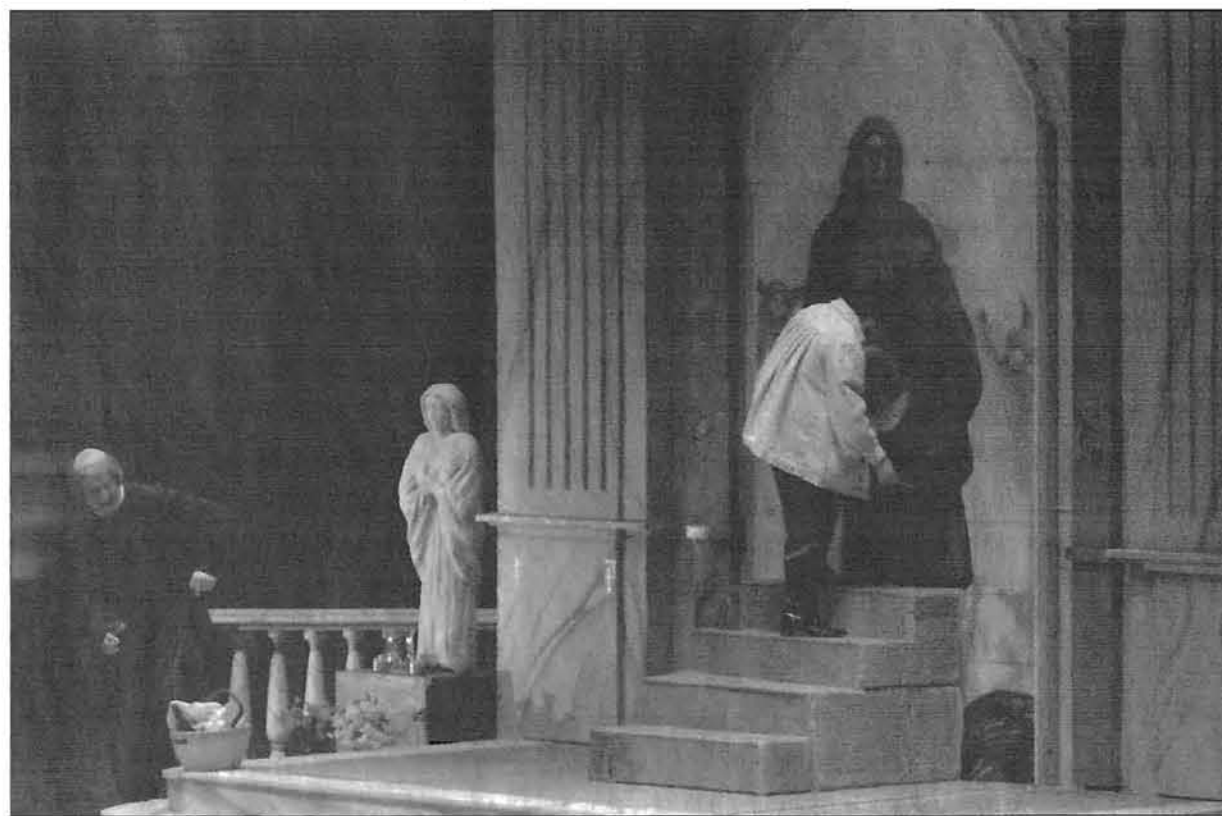
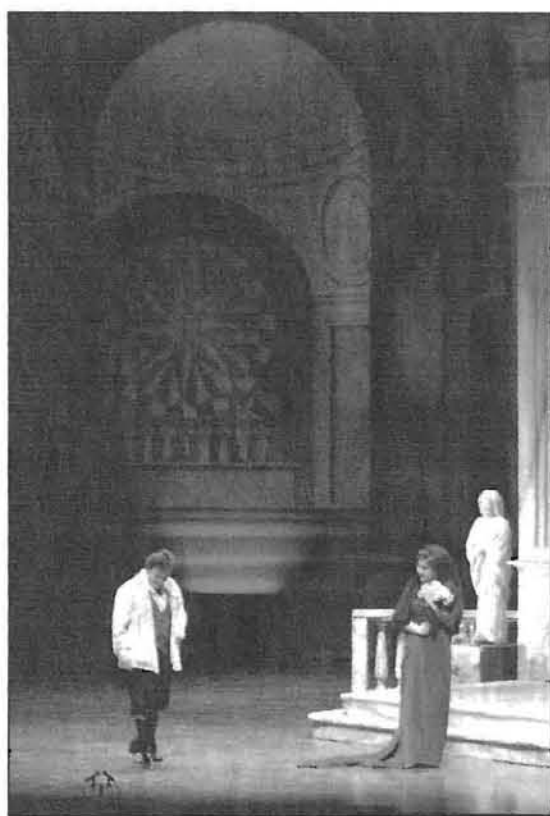
CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22 to Jan. 19)
Taking charge is what you like to do, and since you do it so well, expect to be asked to lead a special group. This could open an exciting new vista for you.

AQUARIUS
(Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)
An important matter might wind up being entrusted to you for handling. The responsibility is heavy, but you will have support from people able and eager to help.

PISCES
(Feb. 19 to March 20)
A spouse or partner might make an important, even life-changing, suggestion. Consider it carefully. It could hold some of the answers you've both been looking for.

BORN THIS WEEK:
You always try to do the right thing, and for the right reasons. No wonder people have come to depend on you.

TOSCA AT THE TOUHILL



Tosca, Puccini's Opera, was performed at the Touhill Performing Arts Center on Saturday. The opera premiered in Rome in 1900.

Photos by Danny Reise • Assistant Photo Editor

TRITON TENNIS, from page 12

"I thought the women competed outstanding," Gyllenberg said. "At the end of the weekend, we had lost more matches than we'd won, but I was extremely pleased with the effort and the level of competition. It was very good competition for what we're going to see later on in the year."

In doubles play, the Tritons came close to breaking through a couple times, but could not register any wins. Thompson and Garcia fell 9-8 in Flight 1 to Broncato and Ramilo of Illinois-Springfield, and also 8-3 to SIUE's Connors and Laura Horning.

Takashima and Davidson just missed against Illinois-Springfield's Liz Duggan and Ashley McGowan in Flight 2 and fell 9-8. They dropped their other match as well, and Gonzalez and Striler also went 0-2 in doubles play in Flight 3.

Stephanie Thompson thinks that the team will have to shore up their doubles play in order to keep putting together wins this year.

"Doubles play will be very important," Thompson said. "And our serving wasn't that great throughout the whole tournament. We had a few too many double faults, but I think once we work that out I think we'll be a lot better."

The team will be off from game action until their first outdoor match against Division-I Western Illinois on March 8, but Coach Gyllenberg sees positives coming from that lay-off.

"When we go outside the first of March, that will rejuvenate the effort," Gyllenberg said. "The focus is a little different when you come outside with the elements and stuff like that. I don't think it'll be that much trouble keeping them focused."

Gonzalez agrees that the team is headed in the right direction.

"I believe that we, as a team, are all working very hard, and with that hard work it will pay off into a successful season," Gonzalez said. "Coach definitely pushes us to our limits every day and I believe that will help us in the long run."

The team will continue to practice indoors before outdoor workouts start March 1.

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