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## Current, February 18, 2002

University of Missouri-St. Louis

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**GeesePeace helps 'down' size geese population**

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THECURRENTONLINE.COM

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI - ST. LOUIS

## Student group showcase held in Jeff. City

BY KELLI SOLT  
Senior Writer

The UM system lobbied against proposed budget cuts Feb. 13 at Jefferson City in The Missouri Capitol Building for the 15th Annual Associated Students of the University of Missouri showcase.

ASUM set up display boards to show off their awards and accomplishments on the 3rd floor of the Missouri Capitol Building from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. UM-St. Louis representatives included: Gallery Visio, the International Business Club, the Forensics and Debate Club and the Student Government Association.

"It was a success. We had more organizations than the entire UM system - 14 in all," Communications Director of ASUM Lisa Foehner said.

Ice cream with strawberries, putt-putt for prizes, fresh baked cookies and birds of prey brought by The College of Veterinary Medicine from UM-Columbia were a few attractions that filled the capitol to entice legislators to view the student organizations.

"It was great to see students taking an active part in the governance of higher education."

-Hyter Alexander  
multicultural relations counselor

The showcase was timely because Gov. Bob Holden has proposed statewide budget cuts of nearly \$100 million from higher education in Missouri. This reduction would cost \$1,000 per student and could result in a 20 percent tuition hike. The argument made by ASUM is that Higher Education is absorbing an unfair portion of the budget cuts.

While ASUM lobbied, business in the capitol was carried on as usual. A State Senate meeting was in session, Sen. Maida Coleman was sworn in, and grade school children toured the building. Downstairs, Holden and First Lady Lori Hauser Holden presented the Missouri Arts Awards, and a concert including pianist Stanislav Ioudenitch.

"I had a blast," Spanish Club President Jessica McConnell said. "Jami McNall (Gallery Visio President) and I met Sen. Kennedy who invited us to sit on the floor in the Senate meeting. He introduced us to the President of the Senate, Lt. Gov. Joe Maxwell, who is an alumnus of UM-St. Louis."

After 3 p.m., about 20 students attended a committee hearing on higher education which discussed Bill Proposal 1522 that would grant all students in Missouri \$2,000 to attend Missouri public and private universities. Rep. Esther Haywood said it would be nice if there was the money. However, the bill was not supported by ASUM Lobbyist Marci Jacobs from UM-Columbia.

"It was great to see students taking an active part in the governance of higher education; the testimony in the hearing was just fantastic," Multicultural Relations Counselor Hyter Alexander said.

ASUM is a student group that lobbies on behalf of the four UM campuses. UM-St. Louis joined ASUM in 1999 and now provides an internship at the capitol.

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# Pilot House sets sail

BY DAN WIEGERT  
Staff Editor

UM-St. Louis will once again have a student lounge with the grand opening of the Pilot House at 5:30 p.m., on Feb. 20.

The opening will feature a live band and free food and drink will be served. Chancellor Touhill will also hold a short ceremony to commemorate the opening.

The Pilot House will be available to all students as an alternative to the commons area for social purposes. Inside, the Pilot House is furnished with a stage that is in front of a fully hand painted wall and floor, both created by art students Luke Shulte and Abril Borrego.

"Ideally, the Pilot House could be a venue for bands, open mike nights and even movie showings," Director of

Auxiliary Services  
Gloria Schultz said.

Other features of the Pilot House include a television lounge, a pool table, dartboards and tables that were painted by on-campus organizations. There is also a concession area that will serve snacks and refreshments, including beer.

At the Pilot House, the serving of alcoholic beverages will be strictly enforced and will only be served to students of a legal age with proper I.D. A two-drink limit will also be enforced.

"I'm not worrying about the alcohol situation," Schultz said. "At Big Man On Campus [Feb. 13], the stu-

"Ideally, the Pilot House could be a venue for bands, open mic nights and even movie showings."

- Gloria Schultz  
Director of Auxiliary Services

dents proved how responsible they can be. We didn't even give away two cases. In short, nobody here is going to get drunk."

According to Schultz, the Pilot House holds great potential for the stu-

dent body, because it is not controlled by UM-St. Louis, and will not be rented out for closed events. There had been concern over this issue after the University rented out the Century Hall in the MSC for a job fair, which congested parking lots and the MSC.

The Pilot House will be available to students during Millennium Student Center business hours and food will be available from 2-8 pm.

How the Pilot House will affect student life has yet to be seen, but one fact is certain: it is for the students. It was conceived as a student lounge, but

could become more.

"Students have been given another place to socialize, away from the formal nature of the rest of the Millennium Center. This is a place that will allow students to relax, socialize and have fun," Schultz said.

UM-St. Louis has been without a student lounge for two years. The last student lounge, The Underground, was shut down when the Millennium Student Center opened. The Pilot House is located on the first floor of the MSC in the hallway right past the painted pillars.

All students, faculty and staff are invited to attend the grand opening. For more information contact Gloria Schultz at 516-5760.

-The Pilot House is located directly behind The Nosh, on the 1st floor of the Millennium Student Center

# BMOC helps raise AIDS awareness

BY CILLAH HALL  
Staff Writer

The 3rd Annual Big Man on Campus Competition, held Feb. 13 in the Pilot House, was held to raise awareness of the AIDS virus to the UM-St. Louis community.

Some feel that the stigma and denial associated with AIDS are two of the major reasons that the disease is spreading so rapidly.

"Our goal is to raise money for AIDS as well as to attract a diverse group of people to participate," Luebbert said. "All proceeds from this event will be donated to the St. Louis Effort for AIDS."

The three sororities from UM-St. Louis; Delta Zeta, Alpha Xi Delta, and Zeta Tau Alpha organized the event.

"We want students to enjoy the competition, but at the same time inform them of a difficult situation effecting many of our peers," Homecoming President and Alpha Xi

Delta member Julie Clifford said.

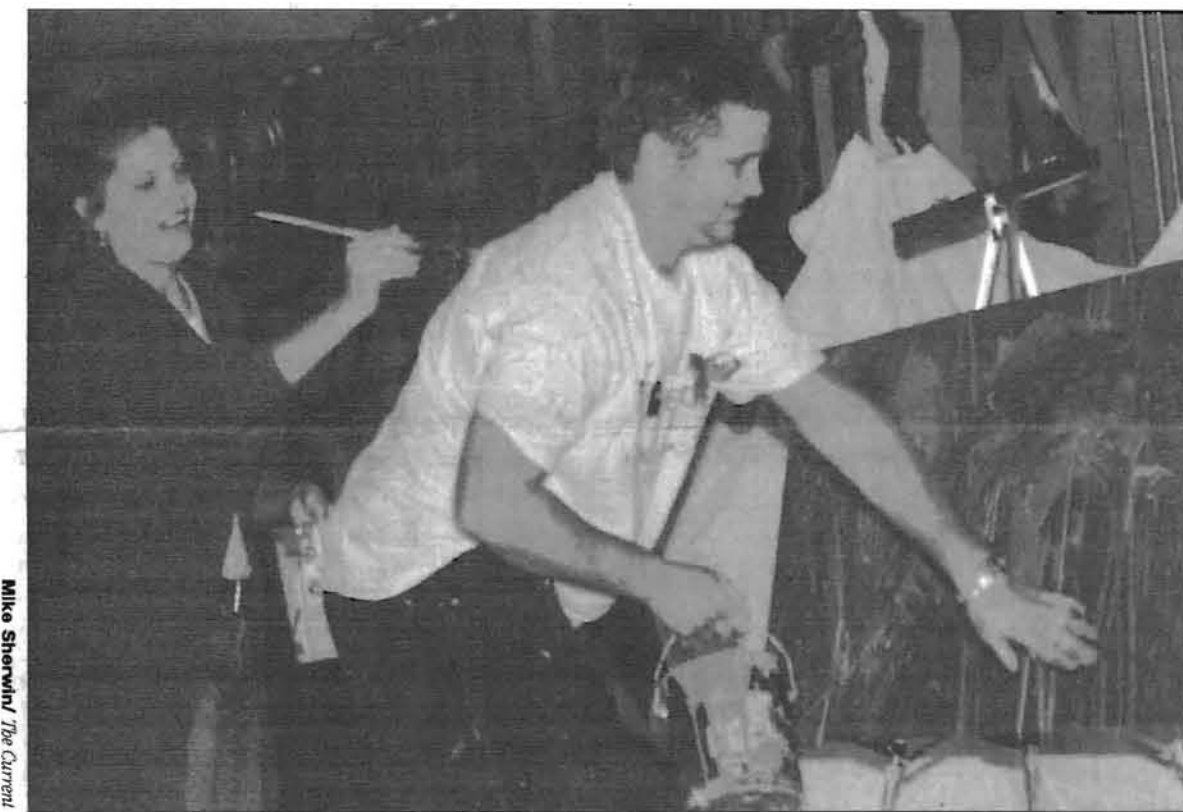
The contest, held in the new Pilot House, informed students of how to prevent the AIDS virus. A bucket of condoms and different flyers and brochures on safe sex greeted the audience at the entrance.

Although 14 men registered for the contest, only 13 participated. Contestants were judged in several categories including talent, formal wear and a question/answer session.

The credentials for the candidates were impressive. SGA President Ryan Connor took part in the contest, as well as some scholars, including Mark Mayfield, who has a current GPA of 3.8. They excel not only in leadership and academics, but also in other extracurricular activities.

The winners were announced later in the evening at a bonfire in front of the Millennium Student Center. Mayfield won the competition. SGA Vice-President Joe Flees and Pilot House Artist Luke Schulte were runners-up.

The event raised over \$1,000 for AIDS awareness.



BMOC runner-up Luke Schulte displays his artistic talent at the 3rd Annual BMOC Competition, held Feb. 13 in the Pilot House.

# Abrahams on TRC

## UMSL professor speaks at Wash U.

BY AMANDA MUELLER  
Staff Writer

UM-St. Louis Professor Cecil Abrahams gave a speech at Washington University on South Africa and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. In his speech Abrahams talks about the troubles of South Africa's past and how the country is trying to rebuild itself with the help of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

The Commission was established in 1994 under President Nelson Mandela's government.

The Commission was set up to uncover stories of murder, torture and rape endured by the South African people during the apartheid era. Apartheid was a racial separation plan that was started in 1948 by Daniel F. Malan.

"The job of the TRC was two-fold," Abrahams said.

First, it was to accept South Africans, who had endured acts of violence themselves or those who had members of family who had experienced violence." The second job of the TRC was to bring some peace and closure to these thousands of people.

The hard part about bringing justice to those who had been wronged was that in many of the cases, the vic-

tims were no longer around today.

"There are still people today whose lives and deaths we don't know about," Abrahams said.

In some instances the victims, families were unaware of what had happened to their loved ones. The government had hidden their crimes in

'One night on her drive home she was held-up, robbed and eventually stoned to death. When this case came to trail the men were found guilty, but claimed it was not their fault; they were only acting on behalf of their organization.'

Amnesty was a chance for the accused to show remorse for what they had done and ask forgiveness either from the victim's families or the victims themselves.

"All they had to do was say they were sorry and what they did was wrong," Abrahams said. "The level of forgiveness in South Africa is incredible."

In one remarkable case involving a young American girl the family shows amazing compassion and forgiveness. Amy Beale was a bright scholar who had traveled to South Africa to try and make a difference. One night on her drive home she was held-up, robbed and eventually stoned to death. When this case came to trail the men were found guilty, but claimed it was not their fault; they were only acting on behalf of their organization.'

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In one remarkable case involving a young American girl the family shows amazing compassion and forgiveness. Amy Beale was a bright scholar who had traveled to South Africa to try and make a difference. One night on her drive home she was held-up, robbed and eventually stoned to death. When this case came to trail the men were found guilty, but claimed it was not their fault; they were only acting on behalf of their organization. They argued they should be given their freedom. In spite of this, the family forgave them and began the Amy Beale Foundation to assist black people in South Africa.

There have been over 21,000 reports heard by the TRC dealing with murder, torture and rape in South Africa. Some have found the TRC effective and some have not; 72 percent of blacks and 31 percent of whites in South Africa approve of the TRC. The TRC has now recently closed its doors.

"I do believe the TRC process has contributed to solving the problems in South Africa; so I proclaim the TRC to be a success," Abrahams said.



Cecil Abrahams speaks about the Truth and Reconciliation Commission at Washington University last week.

Makanni Igareh/The Current



# Bullet In Board

**Put it on the Board:** The Current Events Bulletin Board is a service provided free of charge to all student organizations, University departments and divisions. Deadline for submissions to The Current Events Bulletin Board is 5:00 p.m. every Thursday before publication. Space consideration is given to student organizations and is on a first-come, first-served basis. We suggest all postings be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event. Send submissions to: Editor's Desk, 388 MISC, Natural Bridge Rd., St. Louis MO 63121 or fax 516-6811.

**All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.**

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Assistant Professor of The College of Education Virginia Navarro will present "Growing Up Male: Cultural Messages," at 2 p.m. in Room 1312 Tower

There will be a lecture today at 6:30 p.m. in the MSC Century Room A. The topic of the lecture is "Betrayal: Sold out by the Civil Rights Movement" and will be presented by, Reginald Jones. It is free and open to the public.

The Public Policy Research Center will hold a Metropolitan Issues Forum called "Creating Reliable Partners: Accountable Leadership/Active citizens," from 3 - 4:30 p.m. today in Century Room C of the MSC. It is free and open to the public.

There will be a meeting today at 3 p.m. in MSC Room 313.

Attention all students! Get your vehicles checked today before you leave for Spring Break from noon - 4 p.m. at South 40, at the Police Station. They will be checking tire pressure, fluid levels, wiper blades and lights. This event is sponsored by W. U. P. D. Parking, Hartmann's Towing, Fowler's Texaco and the Woodard's Amoco.

The Fourth Annual Catherine Pelican Memorial Lecture in Greek Culture will be held today, with a reception starting at 7 p.m. and the lecture beginning at 7:30 p.m. Director of Liberal Studies John Hale from the College of Arts and Sciences from the University of Louisville will be featured. The lecture will be held in the MSC Century Room A.

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No purchase necessary while supplies last. One pass per person. Participating sponsors are ineligible. This movie is rated R for strong sexual content, nudity and language.

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# Go for it!

**The Current** is now accepting applications for the Editor-in-Chief position for 2002-2003.

**To qualify, students must:**

be enrolled in good standing

not be on disciplinary probation

have a cumulative grade point average  
of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 scale

must have completed a minimum of nine academic credit hours at UM-St. Louis

**Applicants must submit:**

a resume

a cover letter

three letters of reference

Please submit all application materials to the Editor-in-Chief by 5 p.m. on March 1.

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Applicants must be able to prove academic eligibility upon demand. Experience in journalism and management is strongly recommended, but not required.



# GeesePeace helps ‘down’ size geese population

BY SARA PORTER  
Senior Writer

They hang around campus seven days a week. Sometimes, they are seen walking across the sidewalks close to the students or exploring the wildlife at Bugg Lake. They startle people with their noise and have a tendency to snarl at those who come too close; and for the past few years, they have become too numerous.

“They” are Canada geese, and they are becoming overpopulated. An organization known as GeesePeace is striving to help control the geese population in urban areas.

Geesepeace is a not-for-profit organization that began in Virginia in 1998 to help lower the overpopulation of geese.

GeesePeace member and biology teacher at Ferguson Middle School Nancy Schnell said that she got involved with Geese Peace a year ago, over some controversy with a flock of geese near her school.

The geese had become so populated that the Missouri Department of Conservation had initiated a “round up,” sending geese to a slaughterhouse.

Schnell said that this shocked her. “It was in June, when the geese were in their molting stage, when they were unable to fly,” she said.

Schnell then met with members of GeesePeace including, UM-St. Louis’ biology professor Charles Granger and joined their group. “We wanted an alternative to combating overpopulation than the round up,” Schnell said.

Canada Geese arrived in the USA 53 years ago with the best of intentions, Schnell said.

“In the Missouri area, the Canada Geese were considered extinct,” Schnell said. “They were restored in 1949, at the Bush Wildlife Refuge, outside St. Louis.”

Schnell believes that the geese became overpopulated by carelessness from humans.

“Many citizens put up nests and

tubs and put out water,” she said. “Instead of doing their normal migration, the geese started living in urban areas.”

Changes in landscape also contributed to the geese’s overpopulation, Schnell said.

“[The geese] like cut grass and favor water,” she said. “When we cut down the forests, the geese lost many of their nearby natural predators.”

Two of the main problems resulting in geese overpopulation result from the geese’s feces and temperament.

“Some people think that all bird’s feces carry diseases, but that’s not necessarily true,” Schnell said. “But, despite that it’s hard to walk in and it’s messy.”

‘Two of the main problems resulting in geese overpopulation result from the geese’s feces and temperament.’

Geese have been known to have bad tempers, particularly the male when the female is nesting.

“The male will charge at people if he thinks that they are threatening the nest,” Schnell said. “People will become frightened and get hurt by trying to run from them.”

GeesePeace met on campus in January to discuss possible avenues to take in dealing with the geese and will plan on beginning this spring. Schnell said that GeesePeace plans to help geese overpopulation in four ways.

The first way to addle, or oil the geese eggs, so they cannot hatch. Two weeks later the mother will move.

“She will think the nest has failed and lay somewhere else,” Schnell said.

According to her, this process is a delicate one that must be controlled by the Department of Fish and Wildlife Services. She also realizes that it is a controversial one, a stand that she defends.

“All of the major animal groups

support it, because it is the lesser of the two evils,” Schnell said. “In a perfect world, we would never have to do this, but you control it at the birthing stage or at the living end by slaughtering.”

Schnell, a “self-described animal rights activist and tofu-eater” says that she supports adding eggs too.

“I got behind this, because I don’t want them to be rounded up and slaughtered,” she said.

The second method of controlling the geese population is to put up signs around the lake urging people not to feed the geese. Schnell says that feeding causes the geese to lose their natural instincts to hunt for food.

“Geese are intelligent,” she said. “They know where they can get a free ride.”

The third suggestion is to change the landscape of the lake even slightly.

“If geese have a clear view of the cut grass, they will try to get it,”

Schnell said. “If the landscape were different, it would prevent them from coming.”

The final measure is to train border collies to go after the geese. UM-St. Louis already has a collie trained by Doreen Olson. Border collies are used to warn the geese off from certain areas.

“We don’t want [the border collies] to harm the geese,” Schnell said. “Most won’t pursue them in the water.”

The decision on what to be done with the geese will lie with many groups such as the Horticultural Department and the Grounds Department, but Schnell sincerely hopes that no matter what happens that the Canada geese are treated with the utmost respect.

“Respect them for the majestic creatures they are,” Schnell said. “When you see them flying in the air in that ‘V’ formation, I hope they will see the geese in awe.”



Mutsumi Igarashi/ The Current

## UMSL student displays art downtown

BY JOHN WALTON  
Staff Writer

David Smith, a UM-St. Louis student, will display his paintings in the lobby of the Metropolitan Square building at 211 North Broadway in downtown St. Louis. The style of his work is modern expressionism and he favors painting on glass or Plexiglas. Several of his works are on canvas. The display opened Feb. 8, and runs for six weeks.

Smith noticed the display case at the Metropolitan when he made deliveries during his part time job. He asked Building Management whom to contact in order for him to display his works. He called the woman in charge of the display case, and she asked him to bring a sample of his work. She was impressed and told Smith there was an opening in February because the artist who had that time slot was going overseas, and the six-week period had been vacated.

Smith grew up in a modest neighborhood in Independence, Missouri, and is the youngest of nine children. The urge to paint happened seven years ago, when he was 19.

“I became interested in painting on glass when my father replaced the windows in the house,” Smith said. “I picked up a window from my parent’s bedroom and thought it would make a great surface for painting.”

He hopes to go on to graduate school and major in art therapy. Smith plays the cello and piano and enjoys

composing pieces on the piano. The music helps him to maintain the right frame of mind.

For a time, he didn’t want to sell his paintings because he would never see them again. Now he concentrates on not being attached to the painting he is working on.

Smith is not sure what opportunities painting will offer him. He feels a calling to create large paintings.

“Ideally, I would like to be commissioned to do a couple of big pieces of art,” Smith said.

He doesn’t sign his paintings when he is finished with them, because most of the time people will flip the piece on end, or turn it upside down and say, “This is the right side up.” Then he will sign it for the customer.

He enjoys having people around him while he is painting. When he paints, he tries to maintain a positive attitude.

“I don’t want to paint when I’m frustrated,” Smith said. “I think contention causes bad judgment.”

Smith wants to produce a great number of paintings. “If I stick with painting with the right frame of mind I should be able to produce a lot of paintings,” Smith said. “I would like to do at least 150 paintings a year for the next 10 years.”

The Metropolitan Square building is two blocks from a Metro-Link station. The lobby is open on weekends and evenings.

“I would like to do at least 150 paintings a year for the next 10 years.”

- David Smith  
Um-St. Louis art student

Beth Grindstaff (right) and Ken Dobbe, the Debate Club president and vice president respectively, hope to break the top ten in the national rankings.

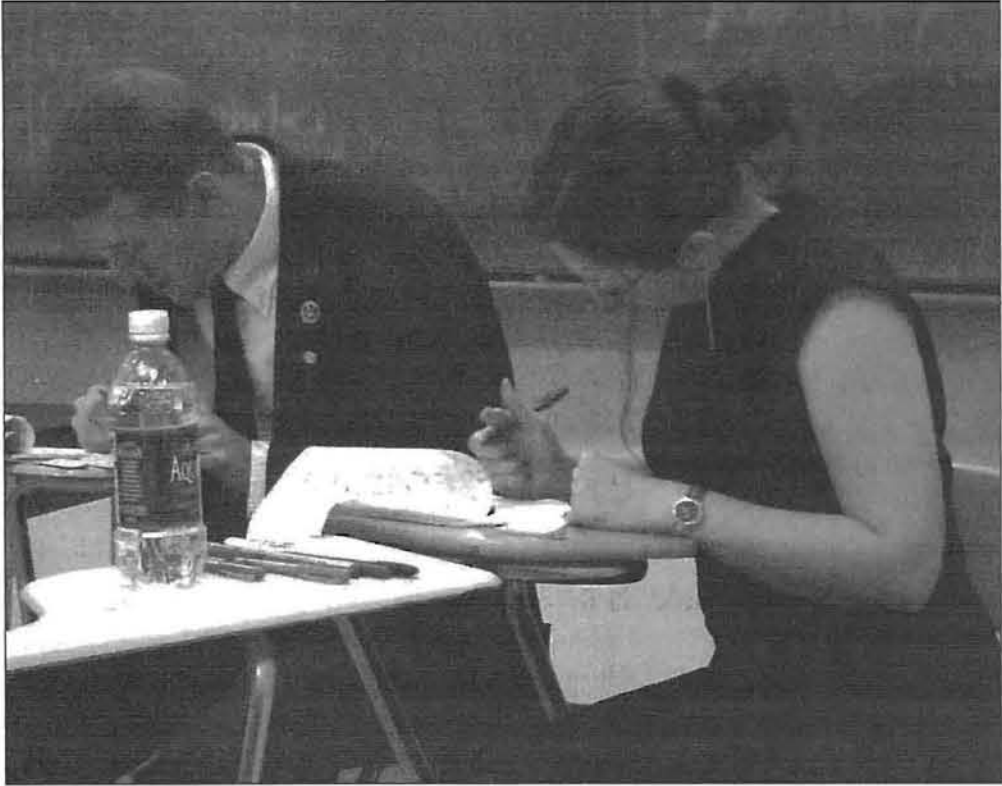


photo courtesy of the Debate Club

## Debate Club talks its way into national recognition

BY FARIKA RUSLI  
Staff Writer

The UM-St. Louis Debate Club’s accomplishments continue, with awards from tournaments at the Webster University and Ball State.

Beth Grindstaff and Ken Dobbe, the debate club president and vice president respectively, won the Webster University tournament. Courtney Striatt, Stu Liming, Jennifer Fowler, and Grindstaff broke into the quarterfinals of the Ball State Tournament. They have also won several speaker awards this year.

“I won top speaker at Webster and Jennifer Fowler took 6th speaker at Webster and 5th at Ball State,” Dobbe said.

The UM-St. Louis Debate Club has made a huge jump in the national rankings, ascending 115 spots to No. 45 last December.

“We have started to win more rounds and trophies,” Dobbe said.

The club itself had been active for about 20 years. Its activities include

meetings, tournaments, and poetry readings. Some members volunteer to coach and judge the high school debate league.

The club does not have weekly meeting this semester because of the members’ schedules. Currently they have 20 members, but not all of them go to the tournaments because of the exams or weekend work. However, they try to take as many people who want to go.

The leadership of the club has changed from faculty to students.

“We are student run for the first time. Tom Preston used to coach us but left after last year,” Dobbe said. According to Faculty Advisor Kathryn Walterscheid, the goal of the club is really educational.

“It is for the students to improve their public speaking skill, to be more logically and critically thinking, and also for fun,” Walterscheid said. “But don’t forget, we also want to win.”

Walterscheid said a good debater must be quick thinking, logical, creative, clearly expresses his/her view and knowledge of current events

because sometimes the topic is unknown until they get into the round.

All students can join the club because they will get theory about the format and the strategy to counter the other team.

Their short-term plan is to get more students involved. To promote the club, members hang up signs, go to student orientation, and have visited classes. Political science and speech classes are most frequently visited by members.

“Our hope is to break the top 10 in the national rankings and to have at least one team break into the elimination rounds at the national tournament,” Dobbe said. “I also would like to see more support from the administration in the form of scholarships so that we may recruit more students to the team”

For those with an interest in the Debate Club, call Kathryn Walterscheid at 516-5244 or e-mail her at walterscheidk@msx.UM-St. Louis.edu.

# THE CURRENT

EDITOR

EMILY UMBRIGHT

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## IBC ready for global projects

BY JOHN WALTON  
Staff Writer

The International Business Club (IBC) strives to offer its participants a knowledge of international markets through the use of business contacts and a cultural interchange between domestic and foreign students. Seeking the experiences and abilities of local corporate officials through lectures and presentations is one method the club provides to assist its members to learn the skill of business relations.

One such meeting took place on Thurs., Jan. 24. The club met with Steven Burrows, president of Anheuser-Busch International. The meeting took place in a theater, in a corporate building at the brewery in St. Louis.

After a welcome, Burrows presented a slide show detailing his personal background and experience with Anheuser-Busch.

The world’s largest brewery is engaged in three core businesses. Producing beer for domestic and international markets, packaging and recycling and family theme parks. The theme parks are Busch



# OPINIONS

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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, length and grammar. All letters must be signed and include a daytime phone number. Students should also include their student ID number.

# Under Current

by **Mutsumi Igarashi**  
 Photography Director

What should UM-St. Louis's mascot be?

## OUR OPINION

# 'Bottoms up!' in the Pilot House

Ever get tired of just going to the cafeteria after class, grabbing a tray and sitting at a plain old table and eating ordinary food and drinking ordinary beverages? Well, the good people of the University of Missouri-St. Louis have come up with a novel idea. They have decided to open up the Pilot House, and with its opening are some issues that affect those on the UM-St. Louis campus.



This new area, located on the first floor of the Millennium Student Center, is designed to be a new and unique hangout that is supposed to be inviting and student-oriented. The interior has tables set up with a stage in the center for concerts or other performances. It has interesting lighting that is very conducive to what will most likely be a concert venue to

match a beautiful painting spread inside and out.

This seems to be a potentially great area for all of those who are present on the UM-St. Louis campus and hopefully. However, the house should be used for student use as it was supposedly planned for, and should not get rented out like other areas of the MSC and the campus.

To make its atmosphere even more inviting and distinctive, The Pilot House will hopefully serve alcoholic beverages. This is a great idea. What a better way to relax after an hour of College Algebra than having a nice, cold one to tide things over.

This is a great idea, indeed. However, this does need to be regulated and talk is that regulating will occur. Students should be asked for their student ID before being served, as they would if they were to walk into any local bar or restaurant and order an alcoholic beverage. Ages could be put on

the ID's. There should also be a drink limit on the number of drinks served per person and per hour. Because this is a college campus, the customer should be monitored a little more than those that are patrons of any other bar or restaurant. With that in mind, monitoring of the customers should be left to those who are in charge of the Pilot House and not the campus police or

### The issue:

With the opening of the Pilot House, students now have a lounge on campus to call their own. Beer, pool, and Golden Tee 2002 await those students who wish to just relax from a long day of studying. This is just one more step that the University has made in the right direction to attract students to the campus.

### We suggest:

The University let the place be. Monitor student drinking because you have to, but let the students hang-out and enjoy the atmosphere. Give them a place that they can get away from the world, if only for a few hours.

### So what do you think?

Tell us what you think! Drop us a line at the office, 388 MSC or online at: [thecurrentonline.com](http://thecurrentonline.com)

another agency of the University.

So, the Pilot House should be an interesting place for those on the UM-St. Louis campus to visit every so often. The place is appealing to the eyes and ears and will be a new avenue of relaxation for students. The Pilot House is hopefully going to be another of the many great assets this campus has to offer.

# Hail to King Quincy, boo to her highness

Here ye, here ye. All peasants of the village that is the University of Missouri - St. Louis annex be advised that his royal highness, King Quincy Pittmon, has been crowned on this 15th day of February, in the year of our lord 2002. He is a fair and just man, a man of ingenuity, and deservingly so will take sovereign rule over, well, nothing really, but...Hail King Quincy!

His highness graciously accepted his crown - although the crown did not graciously accept him, as it fell from his regal head - but it was placed upon his brow. Hail King Quincy!

The king took the salutations of his fallen opponents with the grace of, well, a king. The other men, although disheartened by the loss, felt a great sense of pride as His Majesty wore the crown well.

King Quincy started his royal duties the very next day, as he was in attendance at the Homecoming Basketball games against St. Joseph's. During a break in the action, he was introduced to the student body, distinguished alumni - whom there were literally hundreds of - and fans, and he accepted their cheers gladly.

Shortly after, the Queen, Dawn Gettner, was also announced. She was no where to be found.

Now how's that for student body representation. Well, quite literally, I guess she did a pretty good job, as

about 99 percent of the student body is never at a basketball game anyway.

Now, *The Current* just recently ran a story on the Homecoming Court, and a direct quote for Deni Keihl said that "we look for individuals with leadership qualities..."

You call that leadership?! It takes a real leader to lead people back to their couches instead of to the campus events that one would think a Homecoming King or Queen should be in attendance. It's not like she didn't know that she had to be there.

I dunno...I just think that it's a very sad commentary when our own elected campus leaders don't even show up at campus events, and this is just another example of someone just taking a vote and sitting on it.

Imagine in high school, when Homecoming was the gala event of the year, and not going to the football game after winning Homecoming Queen.

I know, perhaps I'm putting a little too much into this. I'm sure that her highness has a perfectly good reason why she chose not to come to the basketball game, and it's probably none of my business why she wasn't there.

I guess that, being 'a woman of class and style' and all, attending the UM-St. Louis Homecoming Game is just too much a hindrance for someone who lives on campus.



**NICK BOWMAN**  
 Editor-in-Chief

# So, what is a teacher worth?

For better or for worse, my family has subscribed to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. My mom thought that viewing the Post-Dispatch over the Internet would be cost-effective. But, she found out that the stories and pictures read better in print. (And we also have a good excuse not to talk to their pesky telemarketers.)

As I picked up the Metro section, I was struck by the headline of one story, "Performance-based teacher bonuses prompt outcry."

According to the plan, teachers at magnet school Metro received \$1,000, while the other four city high school teachers won't receive bonuses.

Does the plan help motivate teachers? And is it fair?

As a teacher at the School of Religion at my church, I can relate to some of the teachers. Although I can get paid for my work, I elect not to. What motivates me as a teacher is to teach the children as best as I can. I could use the money to pay some of my bills, but I feel my church can spend the money in more constructive ways.

The article lets some of the teachers from the city high schools sound off against the idea. Scott Mekler from Roosevelt High said Metro was being rewarded because the school is easier to teach at.

The article went on to mention that Metro is the newest and smallest school in the city, which helps Metro draw top students from middle schools.

Do smarter students make a class easier to teach? I'm not so sure.

In the class I teach, I've dealt with incredibly brilliant children. While

the other children are trying to grasp the material, my brilliant kids have already mastered it. Since the children already know the material, they usually become bored. And usually when children are bored, they disrupt the class by behaving badly. Teaching brilliant children isn't the bowl of cherries that some teachers would have you believe.

Because the story mentioned that Metro was able to recruit some of the smarter children, it leaves the impression that the other city schools unfairly get children of lesser IQ.

It just looks like Metro does a better job of recruiting children. Instead of huffing and puffing about the inequity, why not focus energies on trying to help the children in the other city schools? Why not look at the success Metro is having take it as a challenge? Why not try to better the students to stay up to par with Metro?

The story also mentioned that the compensation plan has been brought up

before, but it has not been very popular. The story points out that the St. Louis Teachers Union fought a similar bonus plan back in the '80s. It's hard to think why anyone would oppose a plan to reward teachers for getting the most out of children. Really, what is wrong about giving teachers an incentive to help children learn? Isn't the goal supposed to be helping children learn instead of figuring out a what's fair in a bonus system for teachers?

The performance-pay plan gives incentives for teachers to teach children better. And helping children learn better should be our most



**STEVE VALKO**  
 Managing Editor

## GUEST COMMENTARY

# A thank you note to ASUM

Well, I just got back from a good day of networking at the state capitol in Jefferson City, and I wanted to thank the people that made it possible. Lisa and the staff of ASUM did an excellent job at organizing a group of 13 student organizations to show off UM-St. Louis in the ASUM Showcase

for the Missouri State Legislature - especially in a year when it is very important for the University to show the Missouri Legislature that we need their support, to keep funding available so that tuition does not drastically increase. There was a good mixture of organizations from UM-St. Louis that

demonstrated that we are trying to offer a diverse experience to students' education experience.

**Christopher Brown**  
 President  
 UM-St. Louis College Republicans

# A penis talks about 'Vagina Monologues'

(U-WIRE) OXFORD, Miss. - Just in time for Valentine's Day you can go hear women talk about their vaginas.

Well God bless free speech. "The Vagina Monologues," a collection of "performance pieces" celebrating, well, the vagina, will go on this weekend, and I couldn't be more thrilled.

But before you think the following column is just a collection of misogynistic jokes about empowered women and their feminist need to express the beauty of their crotch, hang on a second.

Oh hell, I can't lie. This is a misogynistic collection of jokes and deservedly so.

What the hell is this whole thing about? The only reason I can see for using the word "vagina" in the title of the production is for shock value.

Yes, I know all about empowerment/disempowerment, whereas something that is meant to slander a minority is then used by said minority as a positive emphasis on their character (see the endless "N" word debate among African-Americans).

I also understand overusing the word "vagina" to demystify its connotation and make people comfortable with it. This is the same technique that was used in my ninth grade health class.

We all had to scream "penis" and "vagina" and "orgasm" as loud as we could to become familiar with the terms. If you want an uncomfortable high school situation watch a cheerleader do an oral report on pap smears. The visual images are endless.

see COMMENTARY, page 10

# What's your opinion?

How do you feel about the topics we've written about?

- Drinking at the Pilot House
- Homecoming duties
- Teacher worth

You can make *your* voice heard in a variety of ways!

- Submit a Letter to the Editor
- Write a Guest Commentary
- Visit the Online Forums at [TheCurrentOnline.com](http://TheCurrentOnline.com)



**Shawn Wittenberg**  
 Junior / Engineering

— " —  
**The Cheetah.**



**Amanda Lehmann**  
 Junior / Banking Finance

— " —  
**Grizzly Bear.**



**Amy Reidel**  
 Junior / Art and Psychology

— " —  
**Turtles, I like Turtles.**



**Will Scarfino**  
 Sophomore / Engineering

— " —  
**Flying Squirrels.**



# St. Joe's claims narrow win

BY HANK BURNS  
Interim Sports Editor

## UM-St. Louis Rivermen Basketball

Opportunity came home and went away for the Rivermen on Saturday, Feb. 16 as they took a 63-61 loss to St. Joseph's College on Homecoming Weekend.

With the loss, the Rivermen, at 6-12 in the GLVC and 10-14 overall, will have to win one more game to enter the GLVC tournament.

"It was kind of frustrating, but like I told them 'you don't lose the game at the end. You lose it at the beginning,' Rivermen Basketball Head Coach Mark Bernsen said. "We didn't get where we were supposed to be and when you don't do that, you lose."

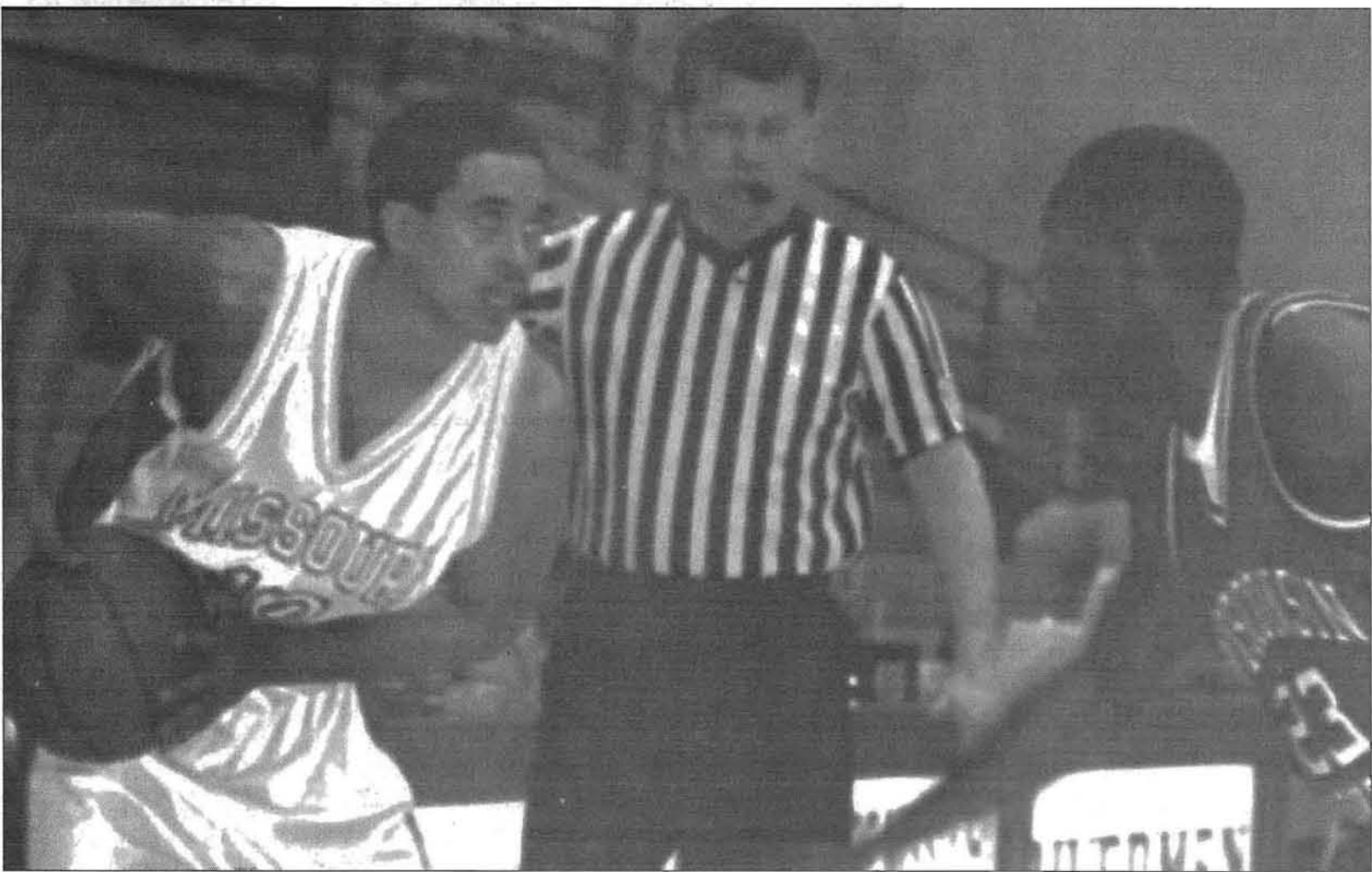
The Rivermen grabbed the lead early in the first half of the game with a two point shot by guard Derrick Redd. This was followed by a three point shot by forward Doug Lee and another two point shot by center Scott Kassel. This put the Rivermen up 7-0.

With 11 minutes and 41 seconds left on the clock, St. Joseph's guard Jamie Holden tied the game with a two point shot. This led the comeback for the Pumas.

Later in the half, Saint Joseph's guard Brent Mason, who led all scorers with 20 points in the game, hit a three point shot to tie the game for the third time in the first half. Another three pointer by Pumas guard Greg Muller with three minutes and 30 seconds left in the half put the team into a 27-24 lead.

The lead went back and forth throughout the game, switching hands between leads and ties a total of eight times.

With a three pointer by guard Hodges Smith, Saint Joseph's grabbed the lead late in the game with just over



Sara Sorrenson/ The Current

UM-St. Louis guard Deryn Carter (left) ponders tries to maneuver around UW-Parkside guard Quincey Moman during their Thursday, Feb. 14 game. Rivermen forward Jim Schelich led all scorers in that game with 26 points.

nine minutes left in the second half. The Rivermen attempted a late comeback with a series of two pointers and free throws by Kassel, guard Deryn Carter and Lee. That, in addition to a three point shot by Lee with two minutes and eight seconds left in the game, brought the score to 57-56 St. Joseph's. Guards Deryn Carter and Kassel each took foul shots late in the game.

UM-St. Louis' Carter accounted for four points in the last minute of the

"We didn't get where we were supposed to be and when you do that, you lose."

Mark Bernsen  
Head Coach  
UMSL Men's Basketball

game and Kassel accounted for one point from one of his allotted foul shots, which together tied the game at 61-61. But, with six seconds left, St. Joseph's guard Jamie Holden scored two points from the free throw line to put the final score at 63-61.

"All you have to do is look at yourself in the mirror and understand that things happen for a reason," Bernsen said. "Usually, if the situation turns against you its because you had a handle in it. You had something to do with

it. We did and it did."

The game was the last home game for seniors Carter, Kassel, Lee and Schelich. Schelich now has 816 career points and is 23rd on the UM-St. Louis career scoring list. He needs 33 points to pass Leon Kynard in 22nd place. Schelich is also fourth place in career three pointers with 137. Lawndale Thomas is in third place on the all-time list with 140.

UMSL defeated UW-Parkside 75-58 on Thursday, Feb. 14 at home.

# Riverwomen show life signs, defeat St. Joseph's 75-69

BY HANK BURNS  
Interim Sports Editor

## UM-St. Louis Riverwomen Basketball

Riverwomen guard Christy Lane led all scorers with 24 points as UM-St. Louis defeated Saint Joseph's College 75-69.

The victory put the Riverwomen at 5-13 overall and 8-16 in the GLVC conference.

UM-St. Louis had the lead in the beginning of the first half until Saint Joseph's forward Courtney Rosenbaum shot a two pointer and guard Whitney Avery hit a three pointer to tie the game at 14-14. Lane and Riverwomen forward Jessica Woods each scored two pointers to take an 18-14 lead. But, St. Joseph's would come back when Erin Sampsel made both of her free throws from a foul. That made the score 19-18.

"I've been worried this whole season, because every game is crucial and close," Riverwomen Basketball Head Coach Shelly Ethridge said. "We seem to mentally not be tough enough in those situations."

The Riverwomen ended up taking back the lead and losing it for the rest of the first half when St. Joseph's Heather Allen, who scored 14 points, hit a three point shot with just over six minutes remaining in the half.

UM-St. Louis' comeback came

early in the second half when guard Ebonie Halliburton, who scored 10 points in the game, drove down the lane to hit a two point shot. She was then fouled and hit a free throw, tying the game for the Riverwomen at 49-49. Lane hit a two pointer, giving the Riverwomen a 51-49 lead.

Despite several comeback attempts, including a game-tying three pointer by St. Joseph's Michelle Wagner, the Riverwomen defense held back their opponent's offense.

The Riverwomen took six foul shots in the final six minutes of the game, another factor that foiled St. Joseph's comeback attempt.

"Everybody seemed to step up tonight when it was important. That's something we've been struggling with all year."

Shelly Ethridge  
Head Coach  
UMSL Women's Basketball

"I felt pretty comfortable," Ethridge said. "Anytime you get into that situation where the opponents have to foul, I'm feeling pretty good, especially if we're shooting [foul shots] pretty well. I thought tonight we did a really good job of it."

Five Riverwomen scored in double digits en route to the victory.

Ethridge said that the team was completely in sync.

"Everybody seemed to step up tonight when it was important," Ethridge said. "That's something we've been struggling with all year. They picked senior night to step up to the challenge and I'm real happy."

The Riverwomen lost to the UW-Parkside squad, 65-59 on Thursday, Feb. 14 at home. Lane led all Rivermen scorers with 21 points and recorded a team-high six rebounds.



Sara Sorrenson/ The Current

Riverwomen guard Christy Lane (right), guarded from taking a two point shot, looks for an open teammate during the Saturday, Feb. 14 game against UW-Parkside.

# Boys of summer are returning for action on the diamond



THE ABCS OF SPORTS  
HANK BURNS

With the basketball seasons winding down and wrapping up it is time for the spring sports seasons to begin. Among those of course is America's past-time, baseball.

The 2002 Rivermen baseball team that will take the field on Saturday, Feb. 3 for an 11 a.m. game against Southwest Baptist University is one that has much potential as compared to the previous squad.

First baseman Nick Post will run the show in the infield, coming into the season having had a .975 fielding percentage. Second baseman Dave Simokaitis should be able to, along with shortstop Bryan Weiss,

ignite the offense at the top of the Rivermen line-up. Third baseman Brett Katz, who led the team with a .346 batting average and a .503 slugging percentage, should figure prominently in the Rivermen lineup.

Outfielders Buddy Simon, Brody Jackson and Jason Meyer have all returned for a final season with the Rivermen. Simon and Jackson are as talented in the field as they are at the plate. Simon hit .290, had team-highs with eight homeruns and 96 total bases, and stole 11 bases. He also had a .903 fielding percentage. Jackson hit .282 with 81 total bases and stole 23 bases in 25 attempts. He had a .962 fielding percentage.

So, if Simon and Jackson can be all-around players for a final season, one can expect good things.

Right-handed pitcher Steve Wallace will also return for a final season at UM-St. Louis. In 2001, Wallace had a 2.03 earned run average, a 7-2 record and a team-high six saves in 40 innings pitched. Right-hander Greg Bierling will probably vie for a number one or two spot in the Rivermen starting rotation. He put up a 5-5 record with 49 strikeouts and a 3.93 ERA in 66.1 innings pitched. Right-hander Matt Robinson should play a major role in the starting rotation. Robinson had a 2.40 ERA and a 3-1 record

with 28 strikeouts in 48.2 innings pitched. Lefty Steve Hutson will be key in the success of the '02 staff. He posted a 3-2 record with a 4.40 ERA and 21 strikeouts in 28.2 innings pitched. If each of these arms stay healthy, the Rivermen will be sitting pretty.

The Rivermen, who posted a 29-23 overall record in 2001, have the potential defense and the offense that could save themselves and their fans much heartache in the 2002 season. Will things come together this season for the Rivermen? Chances are that they will, if the defense and offense live in perfect harmony.

# SPORTS

## EDITOR

HANK BURNS  
Interim Sports Editor

phone: 516-5174  
fax: 516-6811

## COMING UP

23

### Baseball

11 a.m. - Southwest Baptist at UM-St. Louis

### Tennis

Men's and Women's 6 p.m. - vs. Truman State at the Frontenac Recreation Center in St. Louis

## RESULTS

### Basketball

Men

16

\*UW-Parkside 110 at Quincy 105 2OT

\*at Southern Indiana 86 Indianapolis 68

\*at Kentucky Wesleyan 99 Northern Kentucky 76

\*Lewis 70 at SIU Edwardsville 59

Women

16

\*at Quincy 61 UW-Parkside 51

\*Northern Kentucky 80 at Kentucky Wesleyan 73

\*at SIU Edwardsville 65 Lewis 62

\*Bellarmine 83 at Spalding 61

## WEB

www.umsu.edu/services/athletics

for the latest sports news and information



# A&E

## EDITOR

**CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER**  
A&E Editor

phone: 516-4886  
fax: 516-6811

## A&E Campus Calendar

## EVENTS

### March

3

The University Chamber Winds will perform a concert at 3 p.m. in the Provincial Chapel. The event is free and open to the public. Please contact 516-2263 for more details.

7

March 7-April 6  
Gallery 210 will present "Graphic Work by Robert Stackhouse: Drawing and Prints from the Belger Foundation." Gallery 210 is open from Tuesday-Saturday 11 a.m.-5 p.m. For more information call 516-5592.

A Percussion ensemble concert will be at 7:30 p.m. at the Millennium Center. The concert is free and open to the public. Please call 516-6646 for more information.

### MOVIE MARQUEE



**CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER**

# The 'Ball' is a dance of emotions

BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER  
Staff Editor

"Monster's Ball," is a gripping tale of love between two people surrounded by the pain caused by loss, denial of feelings and racism. Through an examination of feelings and prejudices, it is a compelling, sometimes raw, story of personal transformation and human need.

A "monster's ball," as a prison guard explains, was a party British guards had for a condemned man the night before his execution.

The three Southern white men of the Grotowski family have all worked at the Angola prison. Patriarch Buck (Peter Boyle), now retired and partially disabled, maintains the family's tradition of cold inflexibility and racism with an iron fist, supported by his son Hank (Billy Bob Thornton). His grandson Sonny (Heath Ledger) is clearly not the steely man his grandfather is, but he seems to want to please his father. At the prison, Hank and Sonny are helping prepare an African-American prisoner Lawrence Musgrove (Sean Combs) for execution.

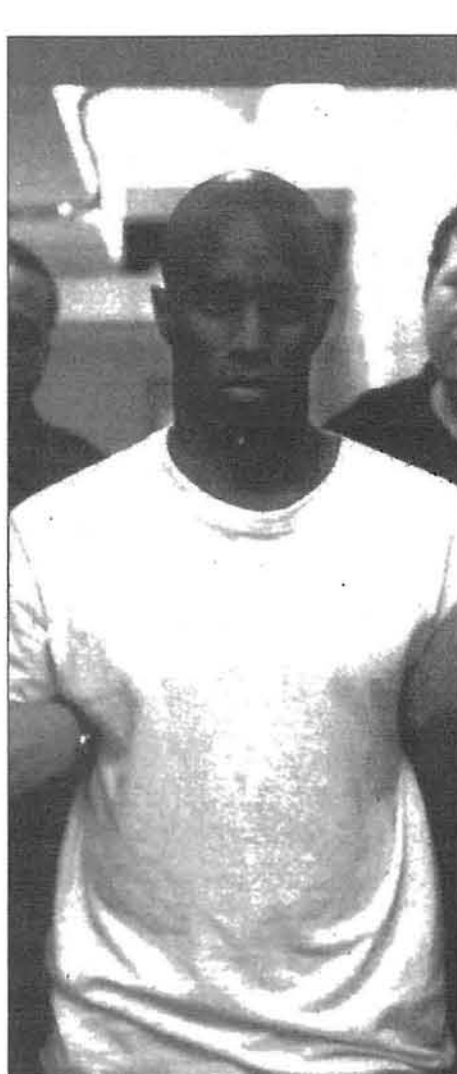
No matter what kind of person he was before, Musgrove is now rather meek and fearful, drawing solace from the sketches he likes to draw. As his execution approaches, his wife Leticia (Halle Berry) and obese son Tyrell (Coronji Calhoun) come to visit. The condemned man is gentle and fatherly with his son, telling him that even if his father is a bad man, his son is not. The wife is hostile and distant, telling her husband she's only there because of their son. As the execution approaches, the inmate sketches portraits of the guards and we see how Sonny is moved by Musgrove's humanity. Hank watches this with disapproval, just as he has watched his son's interactions with the two African-American boys who live near their house. Hank sternly warns his son not to waver as the execution date comes close. But Sonny does falter and then has to face the family wrath.

A chance encounter between

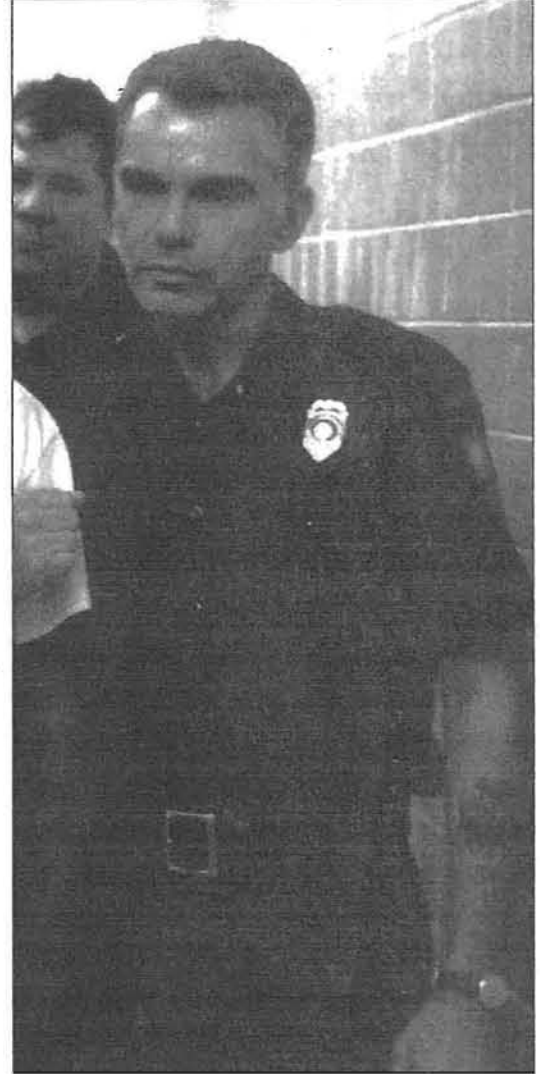


Leticia and Hank eventually leads to a shared connection through their mutual loss and pain.

This moving story is beautifully acted by the cast, but the performances of Halle Berry and Billy Bob Thornton are phenomenal. Audiences have seen stunning performances from Thornton in past films and have an idea of his abilities, but Berry's performance is a revelation. While she has done good work before, no other role has given her the opportunity this one does. Her portrayal of Leticia, a African-American woman from the lowest economic rung, nearly overwhelmed by the tragedies that



'Through an examination of feelings and prejudices, it is a compelling, sometimes raw, story of personal transformation and human need.'



Heath Ledger  
Sean Combs  
and Billy Bob  
Thornton in  
"Monster's  
Ball".

overtake her and the obstacles she faces, is deep and moving. It is no wonder that Berry is a strong contender for an Oscar. If for no other reason, you should see it for Berry's luminous performance.

Her excellent work is supported by her co-star Thornton and the rest of the cast. Peter Boyle and Heath Ledger are excellent as well, but Sean Combs is startlingly good as the gentle Musgrove. The work of the actors is aided by a wonderful script with a story that is unexpected, emotional, and absorbing.

The film has scenes that are violent or sexually graphic, but it is the raw emotion, particularly from Berry, that grips you. The heavily shadowed look of the film and its skillful direction lend a starkness to the tale that holds the focus on the character's emotions, keeping things powerful and searing.

I highly recommend this powerful drama. It combines a great human story with a message about the price of denying our humanity. The film is a wonderful experience, although it is at times graphic and even sometimes hard to watch; but by the end, it is sure to satisfy and even uplift you.

## ON - CAMPUS CONCERT REVIEW

# 'The Dorians' give credit to the Irish past

BY SARA PORTER  
Senior Writer

The Irish music group, The Dorians, consists of three men from Carbondale, Ill.: Bryan Kelso Crow, tin and pan whistle; Mike Soltys, fiddle; and Mike Shanahan, guitar. They exhibited the Irish heritage in music at a free concert at the Music Building, on February 14. The concert presented a wonderful look at the lives of Irish immigrants to this country through the light vocals and energetic music.

The Dorian's informal, relaxed atmosphere was clearly stated at the beginning when they began with reels from County Kerry, Ireland. The band was treated to the sound of the audience tapping their feet to the music. Crow also treated the audience to a crash course in music, by explaining that reels were songs set to a 4-4 beat and jigs were songs set to a 6-8 beat.

The members of the trio accented each other with whistles, guitars and fiddles and proved that their strength lies in their harmonies. UM-St. Louis student Jimmy Paul, accompanied them on the bowhran, a drum-like instrument, on a few songs. One of the songs included the jig "The Cliffs of Modhair."

The Dorians also performed three

excellent vocal songs. Each of these songs carried a theme of Irishmen immigrating from Ireland, but missing their homeland. All of them stood out with moving solos by Crow and Shanahan. Two songs in particular, "When the Boys Come Rolling Home," about a man who carries the dream of returning to his beloved homeland to his deathbed, and "The Rocky Road to Dublin," about a young Irishman who runs into trouble with some rough men from Liverpool, display the trio's talents for singing and playing. The trio even invited the audience to sing along with "When the Boys." The vocal songs were performed so eloquently that one almost wished that they had performed more of them.

Most of the songs that The Dorians performed were in tribute to their musical heroes, such as fiddler Ed Reevey, in the reels, "Shoemaker's Daughter," and "Love at the Endings," but they also played one original composition, "Ozark Boy," which they wrote about a young friend of Crow's. "Ozark Boy," was seamlessly integrated into the concert, so much so that someone said, "The Dorians should do more original music." And they should.

The Dorians performed a nice trib-



Mike Sherwin/The Current

The Irish music group, The Dorians, consists of three men from Carbondale, Ill.: Bryan Kelso Crow, tin and pan whistle; Mike Soltys, fiddle; and Mike Shanahan, guitar.

# The best place for movies: The Tivoli

Do you have a favorite movie theater?

Because I spend a lot of time in movie theaters, I have favorite theaters. If you're a big movie fan, you too have a theater you like.

Beside location, a number of factors add up to a great movie theater. Basically, you can see three big factors: the kind of films shown, the visual appeal and the ambience of the theater and creature comforts. We're going to take a look at each of these factors, and seek out the best. Here in my on-going series on the best movie theaters.

The Tivoli is hard to beat for total movie-going experience. The Tivoli is located in the heart of the Delmar Loop area. It is run by the Landmark theater chain, the major foreign and independent film chain in the country. However, the building is still

owned by Joe Edwards, who did the beautiful restoration and who also owns the Pageant and Blueberry Hill.

The Tivoli shows independent films, foreign films and some higher end, more artistic mainstream films. It is also the main place to see edgy, gritty, independent films and really challenging art films. Generally, they don't book family films or teen films, so there usually are few if any children in the audience. The audiences have a higher percentage of serious film fans, often college-aged or adults. They are generally quiet and well behaved, which makes it a very pleasant place to watch a film. Being near both Wash. U. and Clayton brings in some affluent, well-educated filmgoers. Some of the edgier films draw more viewers who are alternative-looking young people, as you might expect. But even these

audiences tend to be better behaved than at the typical multiplex teen films. At the Tivoli, you may find intellectuals and film snobs, but the higher income crowd here doesn't tend to chat on their cell phones during films as they do in some other theaters with affluent crowds. The Tivoli was one of the venues for the St. Louis International Film Festival, showing their commitment to foreign films.

A splendidly renovated 1925 movie palace, the Tivoli is less ornate and fanciful than the Fox but it is a perfect movie venue. The entrance and box office are beautiful as well as historic. The lobby is full of gorgeous architectural details and the most fascinating collections of old movie posters and memorabilia. There are three theatres - two small ones and a large grand "house" (as the audi-

ums are called in the movie business) in the front half of the original movie house.

The Tivoli was built for both vaudeville and movies, and has a stage and functioning curtain. If at all possible, you want to see something in the main theater, where more visual splendor awaits you in addition to the biggest screen. The two smaller houses are comfortable enough and are a good adaptation to multiple screens but the main theater is such a marvelous restoration, that you should arrive early just to look at it. The lobby is fairly large, comfortable, with bistro tables you can sit at while waiting for the film to start.

Concessions are good, probably the best in town, with gourmet coffees, tea and juices beside the requisite soda. The popcorn is fresh and tasty, and the staff members pride

themselves on the gourmet popcorn used, expensive butter and popping oil. The candy selection also tends to the gourmet, with Toblerone candy bars more prominent than Skittles. The sound system and acoustics are very good and all the seats are new, wide and comfortable, with cup holders. Although this is not stadium seating, sightlines are good in the big theater, and adequate in the smaller ones, except for the back row. The staff members are friendly and responsive, and these people really love films. Some of them are remarkably knowledgeable about films. Just go in and ask John, who takes the tickets, to recommend a film - he has great taste. The Tivoli doesn't really have it's own parking lot (a problem for all older theaters) but there is a municipal lot next to it and the U. City garage across the street.



# 'Iris' focuses on life of novelist

BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER  
Staff Editor

Novelist Iris Murdoch is much better known, and much beloved, in her native Britain. Even if you are unfamiliar with the author who is the subject of this film, "Iris" is sure to touch you.

Based on her husband's memoirs, "Iris" tells parallel stories about the early part of author Iris Murdoch's life and its final stage as she is taken over by Alzheimer's disease. Both portions are really love stories, about the sweetness and devotion of her husband as the brilliant novelist descends

ish her novel before the fog descends, and her sweet befuddled husband John tries to help her, while not really grasping what is happening to his adored wife.

Swinging back and forth in time, the brilliant portrayals of Judi Dench as the disintegrating Iris and Jim Broadbent as her befuddled and heart-broken husband John, is contrasted against the images of the young Iris, played affectingly by Kate Winslet, and John, played equally well by Hugh Bonneville.

This treats us to a moving vision of love over a lifetime. Not surprisingly, Judi Dench was nominated for an Oscar, but that honor was extended to



Kate Winslet (top) and Judi Dench star in 'Iris.'

"'Iris' is not only a fully drawn image of a particular marriage, but of love and spending one's life with another person.'

into the abyss of mental confusion, their courtship, and early marriage.

The film switches back and forth between the present of her slow decline and the sometimes rocky past of their budding love affair. The alternating stories unfold ever-deepening character studies of the brilliant beautiful young writer, the clumsy sweet man who loves her talent as well as her and the eccentric and disorganized older couple who cling to each other, joined by her writing.

The film opens with a glimpse into the later life of Iris (Judi Dench) and her husband John Bayley (Jim Broadbent), a close, intellectual couple in their modest eccentric home along a riverbank. The discovery that Iris's occasional memory lapses have a more sinister meaning throws everything into a frenzy as Iris hurries to fin-

Broadbent and Winslet as well although, unfairly, not to Bonneville.

If you like tour-de-force acting, this film bursts with it. A mark of a really outstanding film is one that succeeds both as entertainment, moving us to tears in a drama or to laughter in comedy, but also saying something about human nature or the world, a deeper content beyond a mere amusement. It is this quality that often makes a film memorable. "Iris" is not only a fully drawn image of a particular marriage but of love and spending one's life with another person.

The film is too realistic to be conventionally romantic but it is compelling in its truthfulness. But finally, it is brilliant acting in this well-constructed tale of devotion that makes this film a must see for serious film fans.



## MUSIC REVIEW

### Centro-Matic merges sweet pop with grimy country

BY RYAN MEEHAN  
Music Writer

"Distance and Clime," the latest effort from Dallas, Texas, lo-fi indie rockers Centro-Matic, comes packaged with only one picture of the band—a single, solitary glance at the brains behind the brawn.

The picture shows lead singer, Scot Danbom, beer in hand, pointing at some unseen heavenly object with a drunkenly distorted face that is cackling with wicked delight. It is the most unflattering admission for what would presumably be a publicity photo one could imagine.

Completely absent is the well-constructed introspective melancholy that most rockers have convinced themselves is the best public representation of their life and art. Instead, this photo seems to simply be some drunken moment that a giggling friend took a snapshot of, only for reasons of later embarrassment. Yet, the photo could be a brilliant public relations ploy. The photo shows that these are a few guys who hang out next-door, have a little fun and make music. They are your little brother and his group wise-cracking friends.

Accordingly, the band's music is that of the perfect bar band. You would never want to see these guys at Riverport; the monstrosity of the amphitheatre would assassinate their charm. You want to see these guys up close; you want them to hear you cheer, and you want to talk to them at the end of the show.

"Distance and Clime," was woven with a similar needle that stitched the boot heel tapping, dusty heart albums of Son Volt. Yet many of their songs have a pop progression that is very similar to the sounds championed by



'You would never want to see these guys at Riverport; the monstrosity of the amphitheatre would assassinate their charm.'

such as Guided By Voices or Flaming Lips. Added to the mix is enough distortion to power a space station.

The first song on the album, "The Connection's Not So Civilized," immediately shows a band that is equally steeped in punk as they are country. These are call words for the alt-country genre, a place the band obviously feels at home. As consistent as this sound is felt throughout the album, the really good thing about this band is the ease with which they switch to a more pop influenced rock sound. "Fountains Of Fire," the album's next and maybe best song, immediately leaves behind the reverb-laden country romp of the previous song for a sweet ballad that doesn't try to dazzle as much as it does seduce.

Yet the contradiction of sound doesn't always flow smoothly. The next song, "Scrap The New Rails," goes back to the blitz of alt-country too quickly. Albeit, the song itself is not bad, it's just poorly placed, making the flow of the album seem a little rough.

Centro-Matic is hugely successful at their marriage of sounds. Their best songs like "Tundra," "Actuator's Great" or "On The Sagtikos" have both the kick start fun of Pavement mixed with the sincerity of alt-country rockers Son Volt. These songs are very easy to listen to because the chord changes and beat evolution are varied and accomplished enough to hold one's attention through many listens.

Their worst songs, such as "Patiently Standing" or "Janitorial On Channel Fail," run a little towards the trite. The bouncing idiocy of these tunes finds Centro-Matic stuck in a song formula that was probably meant for the radio. The band is best when they stick to their own vision, and not try to pan to the pleasure of the general populace.

"Distance and Clime," the band's fifth album, strikes a good balance between being both soft and hard, as grimy as it often is sweet.

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**MICAH ISSITT**  
Science Columnist

Throughout the history of science there have been many attempts to claim that human beings are the most advanced of all organisms. Aristotle's "great chain of being" envisioned humans as the crowning achievement of God's creation. Since Aristotle's time, scientists have been creating a view of nature that places humans as a piece in the puzzle rather than the apex of a mountain, but many people still believe that humans deserve a special status. One strange and long forgotten theory might provide a unique, although not superior, place for the human being.

Wolfgang Schad was a German biologist who wrote papers and books about mammals in the early 1970s. In 1974, Schad published his seminal work, a strange little book entitled "Man and Mammals," which is unlike

any biology text ever published.

Schad attempted to describe mammal anatomy using a radical method, which he termed "three-foldedness." Schad believed that his method allowed him to discover things about the mammal form that mainstream science overlooked. In addition, he believed that his method led to a new understanding of human anatomy.

Schad arranged organisms into a kind of developmental tree, not unlike the ones produced by modern evolutionists; however, Schad's tree was based on the extent to which animal forms are "bound to their environments." In Schad's schema, humans are unique precisely because they are the least bound to the environment of any mammal.

The legs and feet of most mammals are specific to their way of life—the flippers of seals and whales, the flattened feet of the mole, and the clawed paws of carnivores. Schad also observed that in every mammal the tibia (ankle bone) is the most complex and well developed of the leg bones. In Schad's opinion, the tibia is well developed because it is closest to the environment where these animals are bound. The femur (thigh bone) of most mammals is fairly simple com-

'Because we are so basic in physical design, we are able to expand ourselves mentally and spread over the globe into any habitat.'

pared to the bones of the feet and the tibia.

Schad called the jaws "the limbs of the head," and he noticed that most mammals' jaws are specialized. Specialized jaws developed because most mammals use their mouth to grip things and manipulate their environment.

Schad believed that the parts of an animal's body that make the most contact with the environment become the most specialized. Therefore, the hands, feet and head of most mammals are closely bound to the environment and are also fairly complex. The bones closest to the feet and hands should be the next most specialized. As we move inward toward the "trunk" of a mammal we should observe a more generalized structure.

Schad noticed a stark contrast in the morphology of human beings. Humans, he said, are "underdeveloped," which accounted for our apparent dominance over other animals. Because we are so basic in physical design, we are able to expand ourselves mentally and spread over the globe into any habitat.

Human feet are the part of our bodies most closely associated with the environment, but compared to most

mammals, human feet are remarkably simplified structures. This allows us to use our feet equally on all terrain, but not especially well on any specific terrain.

Our hands are even more generalized than our feet. Schad describes the human arms and hands as being "completely freed from the environment." Because of this, we can use our hands for a variety of tasks. Compared to any other mammals, however, our hands seem underdeveloped.

The human head and face are also simplified. Unlike most mammals' our teeth are not designed to utilize a specific type of food. We have teeth that can chew vegetable matter, and teeth that can chew flesh; but neither type of tooth is particularly adapted to its function. Our teeth are like "all purpose" eating utensils. Schad believed that this generalized structure "frees" the face for communication.

In addition, Schad stated that most mammals have morphologies that are "environment based," leading to the specialization of the parts of their bodies that lie closest to their environment, while humans are "organism based," so the parts of our bodies that lie closer to our trunk are the most

specialized.

Human tibias (ankle bones) are basic, while our femurs (thigh bones) seem larger and more developed. The bones in our arms are all very generalized, becoming more substantial as we approach the center of the body. This, Schad says, is a result of the fact that human evolution is "freeing" us from our environment, and therefore our morphology represents an expression or our internal coherence, rather than environmental influence.

Schad views life as a process, rather than a collection of organisms. Each animal form is a unique expression of the same life process. Organisms are akin to different translations of the same word, and the differences between organisms represent the peculiarities of the language in which they are formed.

Aristotle argued that humans are dominant over the rest of life because we are the crowning achievement of God's design, and because we are the most complex creatures ever created. By contrast, Schad has inverted the pyramid. To him, evolution can be envisioned as nature trying to create a pure expression of an idea, and the simplest expression of this idea is the human being.

## Sorority woman doubles as a Ram

**BY JENNIFER GREER**  
Staff Writer

While most students watched the Super Bowl from local pubs or from their own parties, UM-St. Louis sophomore Dani Stoll cheered the team on from the sidelines as a Rams Cheerleader.

Stoll, 19, has been a St. Louis Rams Cheerleader since May 2001. She became interested in the squad after a friend and former Rams Cheerleader told her about the try-outs in May. Of the other cheerleaders, Stoll said she feels honored to be a part of the group.

There are 27 other cheerleaders whose ages range from 18-31. "The cheerleaders all are really nice," Stoll said.

Coming from an athletic and dance background, Stoll had never been a cheerleader before. Stoll has performed jazz, ballet and modern dance since the age of four. She also has made great achievements in softball, basketball and track from Sainte Genevieve High School.

Being a Rams Cheerleader has brought Stoll many opportunities, including meeting celebrities such as Nelly and Leah Thomas. At the Super Bowl in New Orleans, Stoll saw stars Mariah Carey, Patti LaBelle and Paul McCartney. She also has developed a good relationship with the local reporters from Channel 5 News, such as Deanne Lane, Malcolm Briggs and Art Holliday.

When asked about the energy before and after the Super Bowl game, Stoll says, "It was really intense.

People were so pumped."

Obviously, the mood of the crowd changed after the unfortunate loss, but Stoll says the fans still cheered on.

A lot of hard work goes into being a Rams Cheerleader. The Rams Cheerleaders make \$75 a game; however, they get other benefits from sponsors such as free makeup, tan-

ning, hair styling and vacations. They are required to do 25 hours of charity work and numerous promotions for the team.

Stoll's other activities include being an active member of the Delta Zeta sorority on campus. She serves in two

offices for the organization. Stoll remains active in charity work through their Philanthropy office. Stoll said Delta Zeta currently works with the St. Joseph Institute for the Deaf in Chesterfield. Her other office in the sorority is the Ways and Means office which is responsible for raising funds for the organization.

Stoll is far from the stereotypical cheerleader. She says the Rams Cheerleaders' goal is to kill the stereotype of the dumb cheerleader. Although currently undeclared, Stoll plans to major in communications and minor in French. After graduation, she wants to pursue a career in broadcasting as a news anchor.

If anyone is interested in becoming a Rams Cheerleader, applications are available at any of their sponsor's locations. Applicants must be 18 years old and must be available to attend all home games and rehearsals. For more information, contact Rams Entertainment at (314) 982-7267.



Photo courtesy of Dani Stoll

**BY AUDREY HENDERSON**  
The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

(U-WIRE) BALTIMORE - If you have watched television at any point in the past several years, it is likely that you have seen at least a few of the memorable Budweiser and Miller beer commercials. The Budweiser lizard with his trademark, "Wassup," and Miller's fun, youthful parties have made alcohol advertising downright fun, not to mention profitable. Beer marketers spent more than \$500 million on television advertising last year.

But if critics thought advertising beer on television was socially irresponsible, they are up in arms about NBC's recent decision to allow hard liquor advertising for the first time in more than 50 years.

The "distilled spirits" industry, as they prefer to be called, imposed an informal, voluntary ban on radio advertisements in 1936 and extended the ban to television in 1948. Since then, advertisements for Johnnie Walker, Absolut, Jack Daniels and other distilled drinks have been restricted to magazines and newspapers. While popular beer commercials have sent beer sales soaring in the past decade, sales of distilled spirits have decreased and have left marketers frustrated with the few options available to reach large audiences.

In 1996, the distilled spirits industry began cautiously placing ads on cable and local television channels across the country. Seagram broke the ice with a Jack Daniels commercial aired in Texas, and soon other drink makers, including Bailey's Irish Cream, tapped into the idea that television advertising was a viable possibility.

Although the advertisements were few in number and were placed in local markets rather than on national networks, the industry

received criticism from social watchdog groups and FCC Chairman Reed Hunt, who called for reaffirmation of the voluntary ban on television advertisements.

In a speech to the Children's Action Network in Nov. 1996, Hunt called upon "every TV licensee and

spenders, the distilled spirits industry aggressively negotiated with the networks to gain access to the airwaves. NBC decided to accept the commercials with a list of conditions to ensure social responsibility and to prevent the advertisements from targeting youth.

"(I call upon) every TV licensee and cable company to just say no to the hard liquor industry's shameful campaign."

Reed Hunt  
FCC Chairman

cable company to just say no to the hard liquor industry's shameful campaign."

However, the distilled spirits industry continued to place a small number of ads in local markets across the U.S. as they tested the waters for further advertising expansion. It wasn't until last year that the industry got its chance to jump to network television. Amid depressed advertising revenues due to the struggling economy and the disappearance of the big dot-com

NBC struck a deal with London-based Diageo PLC, the world's largest liquor company with brands including Smirnoff, Tanqueray, Bailey's Irish Cream, Johnnie Walker and Jose Cuervo, to begin airing commercials in 2001.

As part of the deal with NBC, Diageo PLC and its U.S. subsidiary Guinness UDV are required to air four months of commercials focusing on a "social responsibility theme" before general production promotion is permitted.

The first ad hit the airwaves in Dec. 2001, during a Saturday Night Live program and promoted the popular malt beverage Smirnoff Ice with a message for viewers who drink to make sure they have a designated driver.

As part of the conditions set forth for distilled spirit companies, NBC has limited air time for the commercials to the late prime time hours of 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. eastern time and during late-night shows such as Saturday Night Live and The Tonight Show with Jay Leno. NBC has also stipulated that no actors under the age of 30 may appear in the commercials, and athletes and entertainment figures who appeal to those under the age of 21 may not be featured.

Despite NBC's efforts to ensure that the ads are not targeted to youth and promote a social responsibility theme, critics have been quick to denounce NBC's decision to air the ads as a step in the wrong direction.

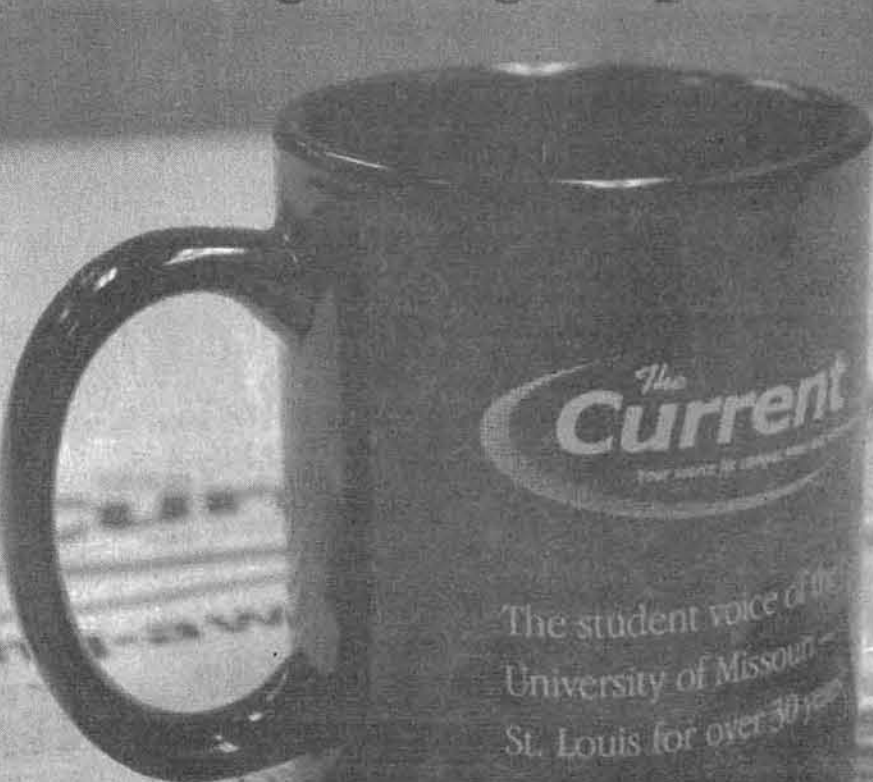
"Ultimately, what they would be doing is preaching temperance from a bar stool," said U.S. Representative Edward Markey during an interview with MSNBC in Dec. 2001.

A number of advocacy groups and public watchdog organizations in Washington have begun to call for a federal law prohibiting the advertisement of hard liquor on television.

"The only solution now is for federal regulation, just as we have federal regulation prohibiting tobacco ads on television," said Joseph Califano, director of the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University, in an interview with The Wall Street Journal in December.

But for now, the ads remain, and the other major television networks are watching carefully to determine if they, too, should accept the business of the distilled spirits industry.

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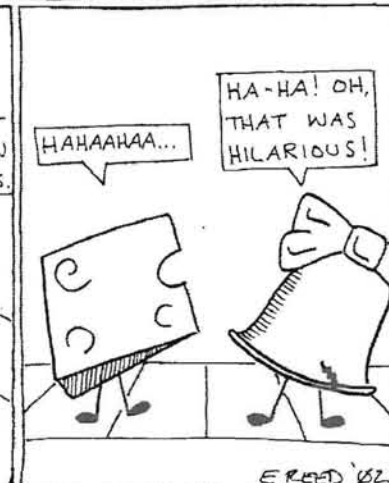
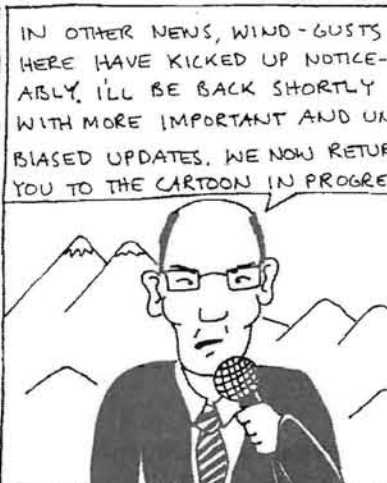
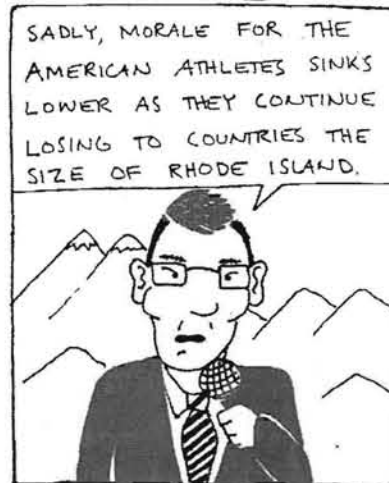
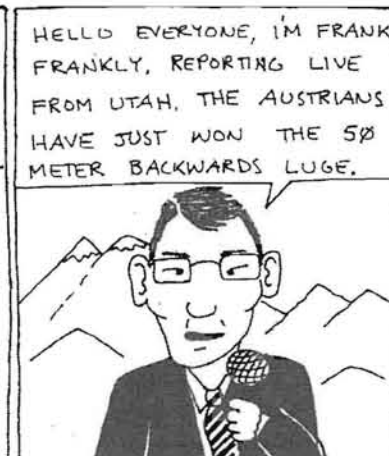
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# Homecoming week 2002

BY ROBERT ALTON CLARKE  
Special to the Current

## Monday

Homecoming Week began with a blood drive that was held in the Century Room A and B. The event was coordinated through the Gateway Blood Association, a St. Louis area organization. The projected goal was to gather 50 units. At 3 p.m., according to Nurse Amy Schoenberg, 48 units had been gathered.

At noon the Banner Wars began, which also kicked off the Big Man on Campus Competition. Banners were displayed on the third floor of the rotunda in the MSC. The purpose of the banners was to display the various contestants and also spread the message of AIDS awareness. The evening was finished off with a Table Tennis Tournament in the Mark Twain Fitness Center at 6 p.m.

## Tuesday

Highlighting Tuesday's events was the Mini Parade in the MSC. The Nosh was buzzing with excitement well before the Parade was scheduled to begin. There was confusion over the order of floats and that the parade route was cut short.

"Even though it was slightly disorganized, it was still fun throwing beads," UM-St. Louis Student, Stacy Morgan said.

Thirty-two floats were involved in the parade, which started in the Pilot House featuring entries from the Admissions Office, Health Services, sororities, the Homecoming Court, and the UM-St. Louis Police Department. This was the first year for the event.

On Tuesday, the Penny Wars also kicked off in coordination with BMOC. Tuesday was also the first day that students were allowed to cast their vote for the Homecoming King and Queen.

## Wednesday

Wednesday's events kicked off with a recreation sports event in the Nosh that began at 11 a.m. Both a free throw competition and football accuracy competition was set up for use. Prizes included UM-St. Louis apparel from the Bookstore. The main event Wednesday was the 3rd Annual Big Man on Campus Competition.

The Pilot House played host to the event. Trish Gazelle from 101.1 The

River was present to emcee the event. One dollar donations were accepted at the door, with beer and soda served for donations. Organized by the Panhellenic Association, BMOC contest raised, over \$1000 for the St. Louis Effort for AIDS. Despite sometimes disorganized transfers between events, the contest was a success. A crowd nearly filled The Pilot House. Cheerleading, dancing, kickboxing, and singing highlighted the talent portion of the competition.

With over \$1,000 raised and an afternoon of laughs, the event was a surprising success. Anne-Marie Luebbert, who was key in organizing the event said, "Next year we may change the judging system so there will be less emphasize on Penny Wars. I was happy with the turnout, but there could always have been more people." At 6 p.m., a Bonfire/Pep Rally was held on the patio of the MSC. Free soda, hot dogs, chips, cookies and hot chocolate were offered. The evening ended with Panhellenic Association naming Mark Mayfield the Big Man on Campus for 2002.

## Thursday

The Mark Twain Intramural Field was filled with Red and Yellow jersey at 2 p.m. on Thursday of Homecoming Week. The Power Puff Football game was about to begin, with the ladies of the Romans and the Greeks facing off. The game was well attended with supporters cheering on the girls. The final score was Greeks 21 Romans 0. Thursday night the Rivermen and Riverwomen squared off against Wisconsin-Parkside. The women's game began at 5:30 p.m. with the band and cheerleaders offering entertainment. The score was 30-26 Wisconsin-Parkside at the half.

During the half time there was a shootout for 52 combo meals from Taco Bell. The game ended with an exciting final five minutes with Wisconsin-Parkside coming up on top 65-59. The men's game saw one of the largest turnouts of the year. At half the UM-St. Louis was up 43-21. During the half time there was a drawing for various prizes, and the Homecoming Court was introduced. The final score was UM-St. Louis 76 Wisconsin-Parkside 58.

## Friday

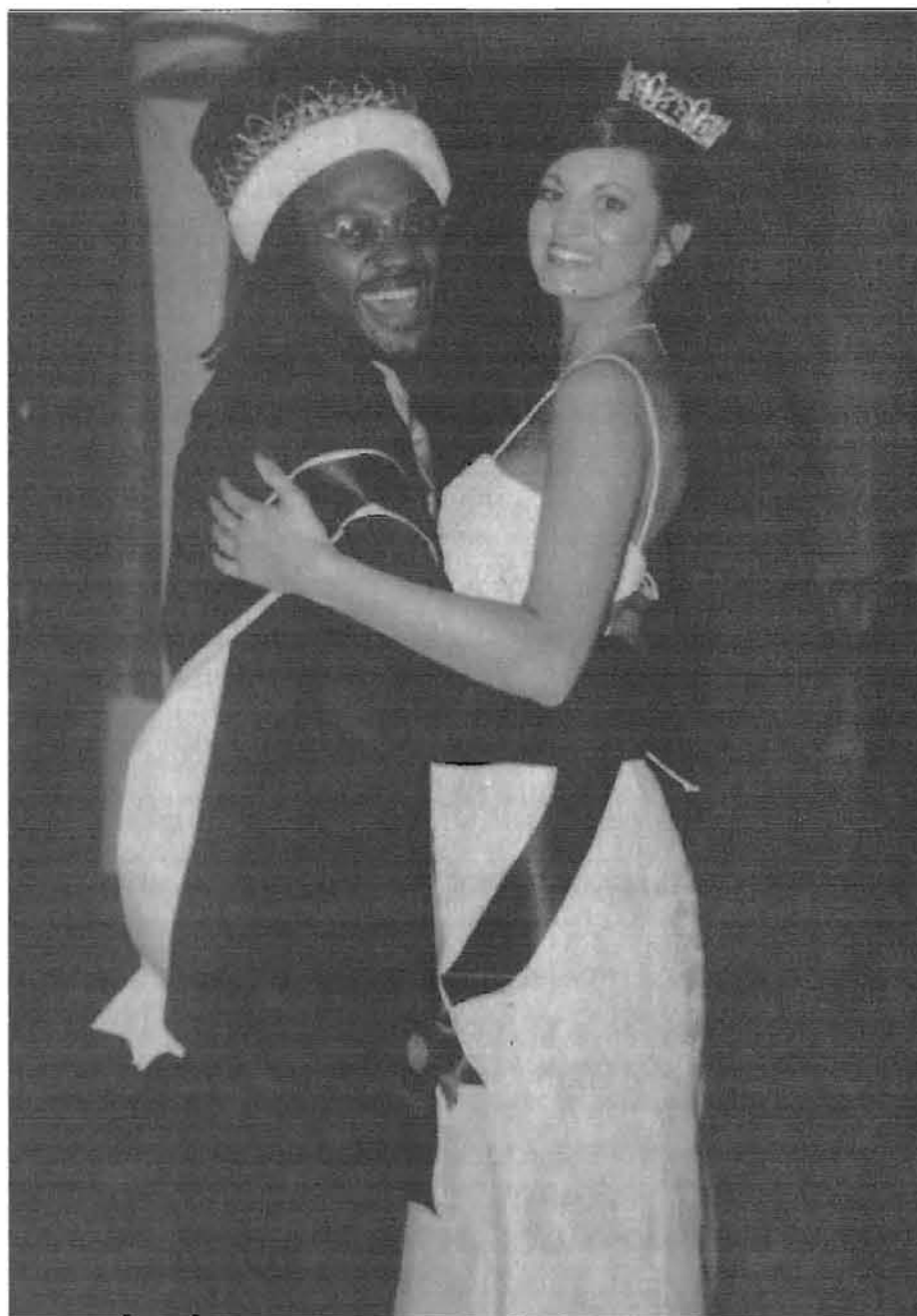
Friday was the day of the big dance. The night began with students and faculty assembling downtown at

"The dance played a very key role in the growing movement of converting UM-St. Louis from a "commuter campus" to a "community campus."

Windows Off Washington. With a tenth floor view of the downtown area the night began with dinner. Following the dinner the spirit competition winners were announced with Alpha Xi Delta coming in first, Delta Zeta in second and Zeta Tau Alpha in third. The Resident Hall Association and Grounds and Building Operations were named the winners of the mini parade. The 2002 King and Queen were announced following the spirit competition. Quincy Pittmon was crowned King, and Dawn Gettinger was crowned the Queen. Following the crowning students began dancing the night away. The dance played a very key role in the growing movement of converting UM-St. Louis from a "commuter campus" to a "community campus." Over 475 people in attendance.

## Saturday

The Homecoming Basketball Games began at 1 p.m. on Saturday. The Riverwomen showed up the women of St. Joseph with a final score of 75-69. Before the beginning of the men's game the senior men were recognized for their accomplishment throughout their career. During the half-time the senior women were also recognized. In coordination with Alumni Family Day the founding members of UM-St. Louis Sports Hall of Fame were also announced. The Alumni Association was in attendance providing flags for the crowd. During the second half the King and Queen were announced to the crowd. The game ended in a 63-61 finish, with the St. Joseph Pumas coming out on top.



(left) Quincy Pittmon was crowned King, and Dawn Gettinger was crowned the Queen at the 2002 Homecoming on Feb. 15.

(bottom) Students, faculty and staff enjoy themselves at Homecoming held at Windows off Washington.

Photos by Mutsumi Igarashi/The Current



## IBC, from page 3

Gardens, Sea World and Discovery Cove, which is in Orlando near Sea World.

The businesses of recycling and theme parks fit into the concept of public relations. Having a positive image to the public is what corporations hope to achieve around the globe.

In his presentation, Burrows spoke about challenges of operating in international markets. One of them was to develop a business strategy that would serve the objective of operating at a profit in foreign countries. The key is to combine the right product with the right country, the right image with the right foreign brewery, the right distribution system with the right partnership and the right profit structure with the right return.

At the people level, he linked "strategic drivers" with human resources. The strategy is to recruit from within and outside of the organization, to develop people so they can train others to fill their positions when they promote, to motivate employees

through understanding what they can control in their duties and to retain personnel through career opportunities.

The presentation closed with a question and answer session. Burrows was asked when the company goes into another country, does Anheuser-Busch develop human relationships with officials in the government?

Burrows said developing a relationship with the government is in the company's best interest.

"By cultivating relationships in the government, a system is put into place which can deal with taxations, cultural awareness and understanding," Burrows said. "It also enables a mechanism to be used in the event of emergencies, such as product recalls."

Students can pursue opportunities with the IBC. The club seeks to establish internships with local multinational corporations. The return value to the company is the student is a source of research for them. More information about the IBC is at their web page at <http://communities.msn.com/IBCSUMSL>.

## COMMENTARY, from page 4

The "Vag" show on the other hand is just in your face feminism meant to shock you. Now I don't hate feminists or the feminist movement, but at times they really make me want to marry some backwoods teenage girl and keep her barefoot in the kitchen.

In my humble 18-to-34-year-old white male opinion a woman can do anything in this world except check my prostate, and if I've bought her dinner she can do that too. Frankly I don't want to hear about the glorification of a gender that is pampered and humored on this campus everyday. We just wrapped up the Miss University pageant, an event of zero educational value and for that matter a marathon of antiquated values destined to keep you women in the kitchen. You've got to love Ole Miss; a beauty contest and a collection of speeches about the political value of the clitoris in the same week. That's the stuff of a great American public university.

No, I'm not bitter or lonely or sex-starved, I'm just tired of stupid women, and stupid people for that matter. There's a glaring contradiction among most quasi-feminists when it

comes to etiquette. Every date I've been on I've had to worry if opening the door was either gentlemanly or a sign of placism. Yes sweetheart, I know you're capable of operating a door. I was being nice.

You feminists have got to cut us some slack. Stupid jokes aside, men in relationships are entirely utilitarian and naturally stupid. We want sex, food, football and your silence occasionally. In the throws of passion or in the middle of a meal we don't want to define our feelings. Why? Because we're working here!

But I digress. Random complaints aside, if you want to see the

"Vagina Monologues" go ahead, but be advised it's more propaganda than entertainment. I'm sure I'll be argued to death on this in letters and e-mails, but "The Vagina Monologues" are just like contemporary Christian music. They're claiming to be entertainment but in actuality they're working the hard sell. I love Jesus and I love vaginas but it stops there.

-Steven Godfrey  
Daily Mississippian  
(U. of Mississippi)

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