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'Kissing' is sweet fun

▲ See page 6

THECURRENTONLINE.COM

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI - ST. LOUIS

## A tale of tragedy: Sterner on DUI

BY NICK BOWMAN  
Staff Editor

For many students, a DUI lecture means nothing more than a video, some non-alcoholic drinks and a speaker asking, "Have any of you ever driven a car while intoxicated?"

On Wednesday, March 20, Mark Sterner asked the question, "Have you ever killed three of your best friends while driving a car while intoxicated?"

Upon surveying the room, only one hand was raised.

That hand belonged to Sterner, who was convicted and sentenced for the death of three of his fraternity brothers while on Spring Break in 1994 in an automobile accident. Sterner served five years in Lee County (Fla.) prison.

The purpose of the talk, according to Sterner, is to "hopefully open student's eyes. I'm not going to sit up in front of them and preach. I just want them to hear my story and hopefully think about it."

Sterner and his friends, who were all seniors at Johnson and Wales College in Rhode Island, had decided to spend their final Spring Break as college students at Sanibel Island in Florida. In all, five of them drove down to Florida in a rented Lincoln Towncar for a vacation of a lifetime. Only two survived.

Sterner talked about the week, stating that "for the first five days, we had one guy stay sober to be the designated driver."

"The system worked great, until the last day, day six," Sterner said. "Everybody has served their turn as the sober one."

So the guys decided that they would just go to a local bar, and the least drunk person of the five would drive them back.

A videotape, which Sterner and his friends kept of that final night, was the centerpiece of Sterner's presentation.

As the tape rolled, the night's activity unfolded. To the 20 - 30 UM-St. Louis students in attendance, the majority of them Greek, the tape was no different than any other party tape. In fact, Sterner made it a point to state, "it's okay to laugh at the video. This tape was never intended to be used as an example. We just made it to watch when we were older and laugh about."

The tape showed five college guys having a good time. No danger, no harm. Just five legal-aged guys enjoying some drinks and some ladies.

"It was our last night in Florida, and we were determined to make it a good night," Sterner said.

As the men left the bar, and argument began as to who was the most sober of the five, Sterner won, and got behind the wheel.

As the men were heading back to their hotel, at speeds of over 100 MPH, the Lincoln Towncar hit a rough patch of road and was destroyed.

"When the police arrived, three of my best friends were dead. I was unconscious," Sterner said. "My best friend, who came out of the car almost unharmed, had to point out everyone. We haven't talked since the incident."

After spending what seemed like an eternity on life support, Sterner was visited by his family as well as the police, and booked with second-degree manslaughter.

## UMSL shows 5 year plan

*Res life, athletics highlights of the proposed strategy*

BY DAN WIEGERT  
Staff Editor

Student housing and expansion were the centerpieces of the new five-year plan unveiled by UM-St. Louis at the University's Board of Curators yearly meeting on March 22.

The plan calls for the proposed student housing to be on South Campus. The Health Profession school district will be moved into the Normandy Hospital so that the existing building can be converted into student housing. The plan also outlines the construction of a new West University Precinct along Hanley Road. This area will contain a bulk of the University's new housing.

To build this, the University will have to buy out a large chunk of existing residential housing on the north side of Hanley Road. On the corner of Hanley Road and Natural Bridge, the University plans to build a "Campus Town," which could possibly have retail shops, restaurants and other attractions.

The development and improvement of new and existing roads is also a concern of the University's Plan. The University wants to create a "Loop Road" that connects both North and South campuses. This road would connect East and West Campus drives, and would have a new intersection going across Natural Bridge Road that will connect it to the

South Campus.

Highway 70 and Florissant Road are being moved so that a new interchange can be built for the University. When completed, the new stretch of Florissant Road will be called University Boulevard.

Adding both parking lots and garages, tearing down old garages and removing temporary parking lots will improve parking. These lots will be added in all areas of the campus.

Within the next five years, the University plans to upgrade its existing sports facilities by adding a new soccer field with spectator seats, moving the baseball field to accommodate the new Geiger Road and adding 175 parking spaces. If the University ever chooses to move from NCAA Division II to Division I, the plan says that the Athletic District could expand possibly building a basketball arena, a track, more fields and a field house building.

The plan also outlines the development of specialized "districts" on campus. These districts would consolidate specific academic and recreational areas of campus life and would specify areas of expansion for each. These districts are the Arts and Sciences district to be located in the existing quad. The College of Education will move from the South Campus to an area east of the

see PLAN, p. 14



One of the stages of the proposed five-year plan. In this diagram, UM-St. Louis is broken in to three main sectors, the Residential Sector, the Academic Sector and the South Campus areas.

## UM Curators vote to raise student fees

BY NICK BOWMAN  
Senior Editor

With a unanimous vote, the University of Missouri Board of Curators passed a resolution to raise student fees throughout the UM System by 8.4 percent.

The resolution was recommended by the Financial Planning Committee and presented at the meeting. The presentation showed that the 8.4 percent is a 5.4 percent added onto the natural inflation rate of 3 percent.

With the passing of this resolution, UM students will be shouldering about 17 percent of the \$67.6 million expected budget shortfall for

the fiscal year 2003.

For students, this amounts to an \$11.90 increase per credit hour, or \$357 for an average 15 credit hour course load.

The committee made a point that "not to trivialize the financial burden, but the 8.4 percent increase will come out to an extra \$30 per month out of students' pockets."

This increase is the largest increase in educational fees since fiscal year 1997, where a 9.0 increase in fees was passed.

Also passed was a resolution adopting the metropolitan fee rate for residents of both the Kansas City and St. Louis metro areas. This will allow residents of those metro areas

to pay fees that are equal to resident students at UM-Kansas City and UM-St. Louis, respectively.

In continuing with the fee increases, the board passed a resolution to increase housing fees at all four campuses. UM-Columbia was hit the hardest with 5 percent raise in housing fees, while UM-St. Louis students' will pay an extra 3.4 percent.

An increase in the student activity fees for each campus was also passed, with UM-St. Louis receiving the highest hike, an 8.2 percent raise. This is largely in part to the financing of the Millennium Student Center, which passed through the Student Government Association of UM-St. Louis in 1995.

### Other approved items:

- Revised FY2003-2007 financial planning assumptions
- Increase educational and related fees
- Increase residence hall and family student housing rates
- Nominee name change for collateral release
- Proposed changes to VERIP reemployment guidelines
- Basketball arena cost consultant, UM-Columbia
- Design for Brewer Fieldhouse addition and renovation, at UM-Columbia
- Construction contract for Columbia Regional Birthing Center, UM-Columbia
- Construction contract for northeast electrical substation replacement, UM-Columbia
- Construction contract for Engineering Building West HVAC replacement, UM-Columbia
- Construction contract for Lefevre Hall exterior repairs, UM-Columbia
- Construction contract for Providence Road pedestrian bridge, UM-Columbia
- Procurement of DS-3 tail circuits, UM
- Naming of University Center, UM-Rolla
- Approval of revising physical facilities delegation, UM
- All items on the agenda were approved

*'Take me out to the ballgame...'*



Kevin Ottley/The Current

Cardinals Baseball '02 kicked off in the Pilot House last Monday. Free popcorn and cotton candy was served as many UM-St. Louis students took in the action. The Cardinals beat the Colorado Rockies 10-2 at Busch Stadium.

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# Bulletin 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-serve basis. We suggest all postings be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event. Send submissions to: Editor's Desk, 388 MSC, Natural Bridge Rd., St. Louis MO 63121 or fax 516-6811.  
All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.

## April 3 - May 16 Gallery Visio

The Gallery Visio Student Association is proud to present their premier show in the new student-run gallery space. First Look: A Student Exhibition will run through May 16. The exhibit will be open from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. on Wednesday. The Gallery Visio is located on the lower level of the MSC.

## Mon 8 Monday Noon Series

From 12 p.m. - 1 p.m. in room 229 in the JCPenney building, Jill Evens Petzell, documentary filmmaker, shows excerpts from her public documentary, *When the Bough Breaks*. The event will be presented by the Center for Humanities and is free and open to the public.

## Tue 9 Multicultural Affairs

Holocaust Remembrance Day will be celebrated today. There will be a name reading to honor those lost in the Holocaust in the Nosh from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. Steven Spielberg's *Survivors of the Holocaust* and PBS's *America's Response to the Holocaust* will be presented in the MSC room 316 from noon until 3. There will be an information table on the 2nd floor of the MSC. For more information call 314-865-1090.

## 9 Inter. Honor Society

The Golden Key International Honor Society will be having a meeting at 4:45 p.m. on the 3rd level of the MSC in the Student Organizations Office. All members are welcome.

## Thur 11 Rec Sports

Today is the registration deadline for Men's & Women's Volleyball Tournaments, a one-night event to be held Monday, April 15 in the MT Gym from 7 - 10 p.m. Team and individual sign-ups welcome. Sign up in the Rec Sports Office 203 Mark Twain.

## Thur 11 Rec Sports

Today is the registration deadline for Mirthday Sand Volleyball Tournament: All participants win t-shirts in our annual, non-competitive tourney held among the other exciting Mirthday activities, Wednesday, April 17. Entries are limited to the first 20 teams. Sign up in the Rec Sports Office 203 Mark Twain.

## Thu 11 UM-St. Louis Opera Workshop

On April 11 - 13 UM-St. Louis Opera Workshop presents "1940's Radio Hour" in the University Conference Center. Tickets are \$10 or \$5 for students. Contact the box office at 314-

## Mon 15 Monday Noon Series

From 12 p.m. - 1 p.m. in room 229 in the JCPenney building, Debra Dickerson will speak on "An American Story." The event will be presented by the Center for Humanities and is free and open to the public.

## Put it on the board!

If you have an event you would like on the Bulletin Board contact *The Current* at x5174 or email at [current@jinx.umsf.edu](mailto:current@jinx.umsf.edu).

## The Campus CrimeLine

April 1  
Victim reported that unknown person stole his UM-St. Louis parking sticker from the dash of his unsecured vehicle as it was parked on lot E.

April 1  
Female victim reported that an unknown male subject accosted her at approximately 8:30 p.m. as she was leaving her residence at

the Villa and walking towards her vehicle. The victim was able to break free from the subject and run to safety.

April 1  
An instructor reported that between 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. an unknown person apparently unlawfully entered her office located in the tower and stole her cell phone.

April 2  
The R.A. of Seton reported that two male subjects had vandalized the lower floor of the La Grau by spraying a fire extinguisher on the walls and ceiling of the building. Two subjects were subsequently arrested.

April 2  
A female victim reported that the day prior, and unknown person

stole her parking permit from her unsecured vehicle as it was parked on Lot X. The victim advised that she had the sticker taped to the interior of the rear window.

April 2  
The victim, who resides in the University Meadows, reported that for the last several months she has been receiving harassing

telephone calls from an acquaintance she met at work.

April 2  
A professor reported that her wallet was stolen from atop her desk in her office in Clark Hall. She advised that she was in and out of her office all day but had left the office insecure.

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

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# Quirky web hints



'Here are a few websites that might help you procrastinate or kill some time.'

BY JOAN HENRY  
Senior Writer

Surfing the Internet is a popular past time for many college students. With so many different sites, searches for fun sites start to resemble the search for a needle in a haystack.

Have unanswerable questions on your mind? Add them to [www.Crazythoughts.com](http://www.Crazythoughts.com). It lists unanswerable questions, such as, why are things transported by ship called cargo and things transported by car called a shipment? Along those lines, [www.Oxymoronlist.com](http://www.Oxymoronlist.com) has the largest list of oxymorons online.

Maybe you would rather have a title than ponder that unanswerable question. [Title.flywheel.org](http://Title.flywheel.org) is a random title generator. Just insert your name and become the Marquise of Baby Monkeys or the Countess of Catastrophic Oil Spills. Or do not

enter your name and get a new one.

Then there are sites that send e-cards to friends and family. [Www.Ohmygoodness.com](http://Www.Ohmygoodness.com) and [www.Sendingfun.com](http://www.Sendingfun.com) provide funny jokes or inspirational messages that can be personalized for your friends.

Instead of being nice and sending your friends a card, why not play a prank on them instead? [Www.StrangeReports.com](http://Www.StrangeReports.com) will make your friend a jock strap thief, a victim of a horrible outhouse accident or subject to a list of fictitious facts about clowns.

Find out what mistakes your favorite TV shows, movies and books have made on [www.Slipups.com](http://www.Slipups.com). Search by alphabetical order and find out if anyone else caught the mistakes you've found. If they have not messed up, list it and if they have, you can rate it on a scale of one through 10 and make a comment.

After you would found your TV

shows mistakes, you can vote if they are still good at [www.JumptheShark.com](http://www.JumptheShark.com). Vote on whether or not the show has "jumped the shark" (gone bad) and when the show "jumped the shark." It organizes the shows by alphabetical order and though events in the show, such as actor and character switches, graduation, couplings between characters and there's even a category for shows that might not ever "jump the shark."

Get the latest gossip and information on movies and movie stars at [www.imdb.com](http://www.imdb.com). Find out what movie is making the most money at the box office or the latest news on upcoming movies or stars. Search results come organized by star's names, movie titles and sometimes by character names. Search for Julia Roberts and find her film credits from 1986's TV movie "Crime Story" through movies she has yet to make like 2003's "Mona Lisa Smile."

Search for a movie and find ratings and comments by those who have seen it, as well as a plot outline, a cast list and recommendations for similar movies.

You can even find old St. Louis landmarks on one site. At [www.builtstlouis.net](http://www.builtstlouis.net) discover pictures of demolished landmarks, like the old Arena, the Ambassador Building and the Central West End's Round Building. Watch as buildings, like the Continental Building, the Chase Hotel and the Eads Bridge, are rebuilt. Tour the historic downtown area, gaze at three of St. Louis' old standpipe water towers (one of which dates back to 1898), and see which buildings are in danger of falling down.

Here are a few websites that might help you procrastinate or kill some time. Hopefully a few are useful. After all, the Czarina of Latter Day Saints the V can not be all wrong.

- [Crazythoughts.com](http://Crazythoughts.com)
- [Oxymoronlist.com](http://Oxymoronlist.com)
- [Title.flywheel.org](http://Title.flywheel.org)
- [Ohmygoodness.com](http://Ohmygoodness.com)
- [Sendingfun.com](http://Sendingfun.com)
- [StrangeReports.com](http://StrangeReports.com)
- [Slipups.com](http://Slipups.com)
- [JumptheShark.com](http://JumptheShark.com)
- [imdb.com](http://imdb.com)
- [builtstlouis.net](http://builtstlouis.net)

# Searching for a frog in tropical locals

CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER  
A&E Editor

Some might think slogging through steamy tropical forests, searching for tiny tropical frogs, is a hardship. But to Dr. Martha Crump, it is life in paradise on a mythic search for truth and beauty.

In her presentation entitled "In Search of the Golden Frog: A Tropical Saga," Crump described her work with frogs and showed slides of her subjects and their tropical settings to a large and enthralled crowd at the Missouri Botanical Garden's Schoenberg Auditorium last Thursday, April 4. The presentation was part of the Jane and Whitney Harris lecture series sponsored by the International Center for Tropical Ecology at UM-St. Louis and the Missouri Botanical Garden. The lectures were established by ICTE and the Garden in 1991 and are free and open to the public.

Crump's accessible and enthusiastic approach soon warmed the crowd to her topic, as she described not only some of the intriguing and unusual frog species she encountered, but also emphasized the beauty of the tropical locales and the charm of the local peoples she met. The material was drawn from her book, "In Search of the Golden Frog: A Tropical Saga," which describes her field work. Studying frogs in Central and South America from 1968 - 1998, she originally

meant the book as a memoir for her two children. The focus of the talk was not only about tropical frogs, but also her enjoyment of the beauty around her and the people she met, as well as her love of learning.

Despite the title of her talk, her research does not actually involve the golden frog, a rarely seen species found in Costa Rica. Instead, the title refers to the legend that surrounds the golden frog, a legend she has always been taken with. She recounted some of this legend, quoting from the work of an anthropologist.

According to this record, the frog is a creature of great beauty that lives in the deep forests of the high mountains. It can only be found late at night by a worthy soul. When one finds the golden frog, that person is at first stunned by its great beauty and then filled with an overwhelming excitement of discovery. The legend continues that whoever finds the frog, finds happiness, and happiness will follow him as long as he has the frog. While many scale the heights and search the darkest forest for the frog, few ever see it. Fewer yet capture the frog and a very few are able to carry it for a longer

period of time. But, the legend contains a caution, as it also tells that once there was a man who found it but let it go because he did not recognize happiness when he had it.

This legend was very important to the Costa Rican Indians, and they made many charms and pieces of jewelry that represent the golden frog, creating a beguiling image that is everywhere in their culture.

Searching for the golden frog came to mean a mythic search for truth and beauty as well as happiness. Crump felt that this was an apt description of her field research in Central and South America.

Although her research did not take her to Costa Rica, it did take her to Ecuador, Chile and Argentina. Crump described some of the unusual and often colorful frogs she studied in her years of fieldwork. Using slides to illustrate her points, she described frog adaptation to different environments, their sometimes-unusual methods of reproduction, which go far beyond the laying eggs in water, and tadpole to metamorphosis into a frog that we have all studied in school. She spoke on the adaptability of frogs, as well as some of the challenges that face them in the future.

Crump said that one of the things she felt was enjoyable about field research was the ability to pick your environment for doing work she loved. She added that she loved the sense of discovery she found in the natural world, and she always tried to pick a beautiful locale to work in, a concept she illustrated with several slides of lush streams with little waterfalls, locations with lovely flowers, and brightly colored tropical birds and animals. She also said she felt, like any traveler, it was important to get to know the people of the country you were visiting. She added that she felt the experience of travel helped one to grow as a person and she believes in participating in the local culture. During her years of study and travel, one of her favorite places was Ecuador. While there, she joined the local people in dining on rat and guinea pigs, learned local dances, attended their weddings, sampled the local drinks and lived in simple huts. All the while, she was also raising two children surrounded by tropical scenery.

After her lecture, Crump took questions from the audience. One of the things that people interested in the environment have noted is the worldwide decline in frogs that has been

occurring in recent years. While many have suggested that global warming and the thinning of the ozone layer may play a role in this decline, Crump felt that the declines were more often tied to the destruction of forests and also to an infection that kills frogs during the cold winter months when they are less active or dormant. She also stated that the widely reported occurrence of large numbers of deformed frogs were more occasional and limited in the United States and Canada. Since this phenomenon was not found in Europe or the tropics, it pointed to an as-yet-undiscovered environmental factor in those areas, according to Crump.

At the conclusion of the evening, Chancellor Blanche M. Touhill presented Crump with a plaque to commemorate the occasion and recognize her lifetime of work. One of Crump's final remarks was that she felt that her work had been like that mythic search for the golden frog, a search for truth and beauty, and that she hoped that, unlike the man in the myth, she would be able to recognize happiness when she found it.

# EMERALD

EDITOR

EMILY UMBRIGHT

Features Editor

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## The Dept. of Humanities sponsors an evening out

BY MICHELLE ELKINS  
Staff Writer

The Department of Humanities collaborated with The Black Repertory theatre for a preview opening night of the play "Conversations on a Dirt Road" by Samm-Art Williams.

Karen Lucas, assistant director of the Department of Humanities, and Director Diane Toulaitos provide a series of programs that are free and open to students and the community.

With a long established relationship the humanities department has with Repertory Director Ron Himes, who has visited the UM-St. Louis campus many times, suggested the "Center for Humanities Night at the Black Rep" to get the campus community and others to come out and support the center, as well as enjoy the premiere of a new play.

"Conversations on a Dirt Road" takes place in a vintage southern grocery. The play tells the story of two brothers who inherit their family's property. One wants to sell it while the other wants to hold on to its legacy. The conversation between the brothers deals with what to do with the inheritance. The brothers discuss

see HUMANITIES, page 8

# Courses in human relations help specialty business

ON THE BRIGHT SIDE



EMILY UMBRIGHT

The origins of tea remain a mystery to some. While everyone knows this leafy infusion comes from nature, the fact that an actual tea plant exists is a little known fact.

A few days ago, I decided to invest in some tea seedlings, which I found could be shipped to me from a small Missouri town ironically called Tea. I say invest not only to hint at the amount of time I plan to spend on my little project, but also to signify the first steps I have taken in a business endeavor. (No, this is not free advertising.)

While I do wonder if there will be

enough people in this city who will actually leave their comfortable homes to sit on the floor of my ultra-modern teahouse, I had to ask myself how many people actually go to a coffee-house because they genuinely like coffee? Most of the time people go to these places because of the environment, which is the creation of the innovative small business owner.

When I tell people about my plan, I mostly get a lot of laughs. While I have decided to import some of the tea rather than grow it all from scratch, I know the idea still seems rather far-fetched. However, I firmly believe

that if an individual can develop a concept and communicate it with conviction to others who can share in the excitement, it will happen. If, on the other hand, a person involved with the project begins to doubt the outcome or change the vision of the designer for his or her own personal gain, the whole thing will fall apart. Nevertheless, once I start describing the idea down to minutest detail, people—still laughing—say they would actually go there. One friend said he would work there for free.

This is the kind of support that is necessary for positive morale and

strong motivation. It fuels my research-driven obsession. While I become preoccupied with choosing different tea sets, discovering ancient and obscure coffee alternatives, and deciding on location and interior design, I must remind myself that while I have the ideas, I truly know nothing about running a business. I mean, I know the basic laws of supply and demand, but I have yet to discover all of the legalities involved with launching this venture. Still, my trendy, little teahouse filled with herbal blends, and rare, high-quality infusions could happen. Provided I can take out a small business loan.



# OPINIONS

## OUR OPINION

# Patriotism: is it the flavor of the week?

The Stars and Stripes. Old Glory. The Red, White and Blue. As we approach seven months since the terrorist attacks of September 11, we're still showing pride and solidarity with perhaps the most emblematic symbol of this country. Or are we?

In the weeks and months following the attacks, U.S. flags in all sizes, shapes and forms were flying off the shelves everywhere. Retailers could not keep them in stock. Flag manufacturers were hiring extra employees and working through the night to keep up with demand. Even our own campus bookstore was getting into the market and at the time we didn't seem to mind being gouged for a t-shirt, decal, auto-

These very same items are now a dime a dozen, and can be purchased en masse anywhere from Sears to Big Lots. The "NYPD" and "FDNY" shirts and caps that have also become popular items have already joined the flag in discount bins and "two for one" specials. This in itself is a disturbing development in a country when just months ago the failure to display a flag in some way put individuals at odds with the unity many Americans proudly felt after the attacks. Even as President Bush's "War on Terrorism" continues at home, throughout the Middle East, and in Afghanistan, our pride and solidarity is waning in more ways than one.

A walk around the UM-St. Louis campus reveals an equally disturbing trend. The flag that hangs in front of the Sigma Pi fraternity house for example, is neither properly cared for, nor illuminated adequately at night.

The flag that flies at the north Metrolink station near the university police department, while properly illuminated at night, is not only frayed, but also coming apart at the stripes. In the parking lots, the still-popular car flags

that some UM-St. Louis students, faculty and staff (you know who you are) that were once proudly affixed, have become faded and tattered.

In our sudden and brief obsession with national pride, many of us have since, and quite literally, left the flag out to dry. While some Americans are aware of some of the simpler rules of displaying the symbol of our country, it seems that most important ones have fallen by the wayside.

A considerably extensive document known as title 4, United States Code,

Chapter 1, Section 1 and Section 2, and Executive Order 10834, outlines in specific detail, the "dos" and "don'ts" of our national symbol. While many of

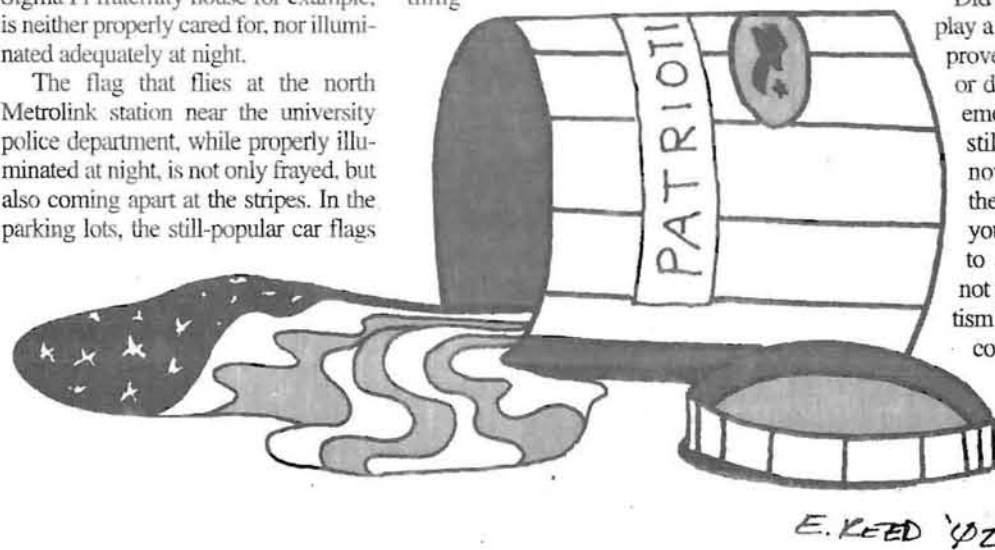
these rules relate to ceremonial display and presentation of the flag, the rules are in fact intended for civilians who wish to display the flag on their own.

Though unintentionally, many of those who have chosen to show their patriotism by purchasing and displaying the flag have also disrespected it by leaving it out to fade and deteriorate. This is in fact, just as disrespectful as when the flag is burned in a political protest (though ironically, burning the flag is the only acceptable way of disposing of it).

As a symbol, HOW our flag is displayed carries more significance than the simple decision of choosing to display it in the first place. The flag should never be displayed while it is torn, soiled, or damaged in any way.

The flag should be properly illuminated at night, and never exposed to the elements. The flag should never be constructed, or impressed upon anything

'In our sudden and brief obsession with national pride, many of us have since, and quite literally, left the flag out to dry.'



## What's your opinion?

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

- Patriotism
- Awareness Week
- My bud Skip

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)

## Are you aware?

Last week, I used the handicapped restrooms in the Millennium Student Center, third floor (across from the snack machines).

It's a thing that I do. I mean, the stalls are just so roomy, there's always a fresh roll of toilet paper and plenty of room to hang your coat, bookbag or whatever on.

Well, let me change that last comment. It's a thing that I used to do.

What made me change, you may ask? Well, I'd like to say that it was the efforts of disAbilities Access and the University, but actually it was a real-life experience. Well, more like a conglomeration of experiences.

All my life I've had this phobia of using a stand-up urinal; I don't like to have conversation while 'doing my business.' So instead I've elected for the stall option.

The problem with this? Well, I've noticed that many people feel that it's wrong for a man to use a stall if he has to urinate (to those of you may not be aware, male restrooms have both urinals and commodes).

I don't like to use the urinal. The simple thought of standing next to another man and relieving myself is just too morbid for me (it brings back memories of Fox Elementary, where the boy's restrooms were nothing more than a glorified bathtub, meant for multiple people to use at one time).

Now, with the stalls, one has two

options: the standard-issue water closet (the ethical choice) or the roomier and cozier handicapped version.

I already mentioned earlier my preference, and I also alluded to a change in that preference; thus the point of this week's column.

There's actually two parts to this decision, one of which I didn't even realize until after I stopped using the 'forbidden toilet.'

Sometime last week, I'm not certain of the date, I ran into a man in a wheelchair in the restroom. That's not an all-that-uncommon encounter, but try making that same encounter as you're vacating the stall, which, by the way, is the only handicapped stall in the restroom (in contrast, there are three regular stalls in the restroom).

The man didn't say much to me, just nod-

ded as we went on with his business - no pun intended. In a leap of good faith - or a half-ass way to save face - I held the stall door open for the man. I don't think that this was the wisest thing I've ever done, nor the kindest; sort of like pouring salt in a wound.

As I stood in front of the mirror, the reflection that stared back at me was rather shameful; so shameful that I chose not to look back at it.

I washed my hands of the filth, and something in me just decided to wash the shame away from my heart.

So next week, if I've really got to go, I'll just hold it.

At least I have the option.



NICK BOWMAN  
Editor-in-Chief

## My bud Skip

One of the advantages of the Internet is quick and direct access to many newspapers, especially columnists. It's always fun to go to the Drudgereport.com and see what Bob Novack, Walter Williams, Molly Ivins and other columnists have to say about the world at large. But of all the columnists I like to read, none can hold a candle to sports columnist Skip Bayless.

I first discovered Bayless many years ago. At that time in my life I loved to read biographies about leaders, especially football coaches. I loved paging through the stories of Bill Parcells, Jimmy Johnson and Dan Reeves.

After going through a lot of the coaches' books at the library, I came across a book called, God's Coach by Bayless, which chronicled the life of Cowboy head-coach Tom Landry.

Bayless started writing a column for the Dallas Morning News starting back in 1978. In vivid detail, Bayless related the weaknesses of Landry and the Cowboy organization as a whole.

Bayless loved to play on words like the Cowboys coming apart at their "designer seams," how a player could be a "purse-string puppet" at contract time and how Landry "struck while the irony was hot" in the media.

Bayless painted a masterful picture of the city of Dallas during the Cowboy heydays during the 1970s and early 1980s. Bayless made Dallas sound like "The Great Gatsby," where residents lived in excess of many things from money, lust and partying. Dallas seemed like one big party at the time and many people, including

the Cowboys, loved to make the scene.

Shortly after reading his book, I wondered if he still wrote columns. After a search of the Internet, I found yes he was. Bayless was writing for the Chicago Tribune at the time. And this included columns, columns and more columns.

I was in heaven when I found this. He would yet tell me in fancy detail about Slammin' Sammy Sosa, the lousy White Sox and the next knucklehead personnel decision by 'Da Bears. It was almost like getting to read a new book everyday for free.

It was enjoyable reading Bayless, but something happened a year ago. Bayless wrote a column about how he was upset when he left his grade school teacher at the end of the year. Bayless went on to say he was leaving the Tribune and not saying why or where he was going.

I was annoyed after learning this. I read him regularly, and now he was leaving and not saying where he was going? What is up with that?

For fun last January, I decided to do a web search of Bayless just for fun. And lo and behold, it said that Bayless was writing for the San Jose Mercury News. Finally, I could enjoy Skip's talking about the Raiders, Barry Bonds and all the other sports team in the Bay Area of California in entertaining fashion. Good times are here again.

Happiness can sometimes mean to find joy in the little things in life. For me, a Skip Bayless column every morning continually puts a smile on my face.



STEVE VALKO  
Managing Editor

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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

How was your Spring Break?



Kim Hyun Hee  
Senior / Communication

"I did not have any special events. I was very bored. I wanted to go to trip, but I had a lot of homework."



Seo Dong Choon  
Senior / Business

"I just killed the time in my place, but it was nice to have too much relaxation."



Omur Hayta  
Senior / Finance

"I went to New Orleans, a very lovely place, I had a lot of fun."



Tom Morrison  
MPPA / Graduate

"Went to Branson and bought a car."



# R-men sweep Kentucky

## UMSL claims a winning record with a three-game win streak

**UM-St. Louis Rivermen Baseball**

**BY HANK BURNS**  
Staff Editor

After experiencing a 6-5 loss on April 3 to Southern Indiana in a game that Head Coach Jim Brady described as a "heartbreaker," the UM-St. Louis Rivermen baseball team is in the midst of a three-game winning streak. The team, now 15-13 overall and 4-6 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference, swept their April 6 doubleheader with Kentucky Wesleyan 4-0 and 5-2.

Rivermen right-handed pitcher Greg Bierling, who moved to 3-2 on the season, threw a 3-hit, seven-inning shutout. Bierling now has a 2.50 earned run average and 23 strikeouts in 36 innings pitched.

Brady is somewhat impressed by the 14-12 Kentucky Panthers, whose team earned run average is 2.78 compared to UM-St. Louis' 3.57 ERA.

"They've got a quality pitching staff and pitching is the name of the game," Brady said. "They have pitched well against every single team in the conference. That makes them very formidable for this weekend."

"We've got our work cut out for us from the standpoint that we're going to see good pitching this weekend. We've got to take advantage of what they give to us and then hope our pitchers can shut them down and I know I expect tight games."

Although Brady is weary of the Panthers, he does feel that on paper, his team is superior.

"We have to go out there and play to our strengths and take advantage of what they're going to give us," Brady said. "Personnel-wise, I think we're better. But, in baseball, you might be better personnel-wise, but it could come down to one inning and if you execute that inning and the other team doesn't, you win or if you don't execute and the other team does, you lose."

The Rivermen defeated Oakland City 10-7 in a single game match-up on April 4. Brady was impressed with the performance of RHP Matt Robinson, who notched his first victory of the season. Robinson is 1-3 with a 4.73 ERA in just over 32

innings pitched.

On April 3, the Rivermen took a doubleheader split with Southern Indiana, winning the first game 10-3 and sustaining a 6-5 loss. Rivermen RHP Keith Wallace picked up the win in the first game, making him 2-5 on the season.

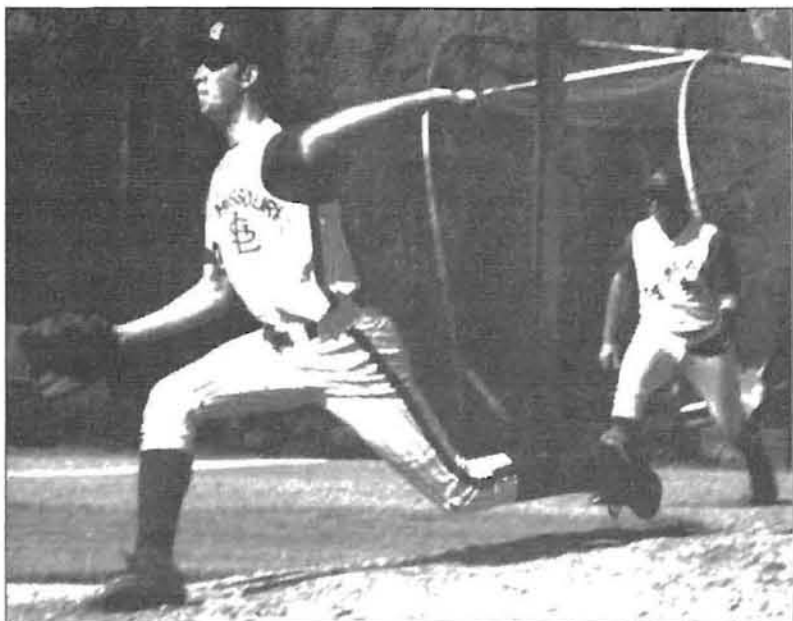
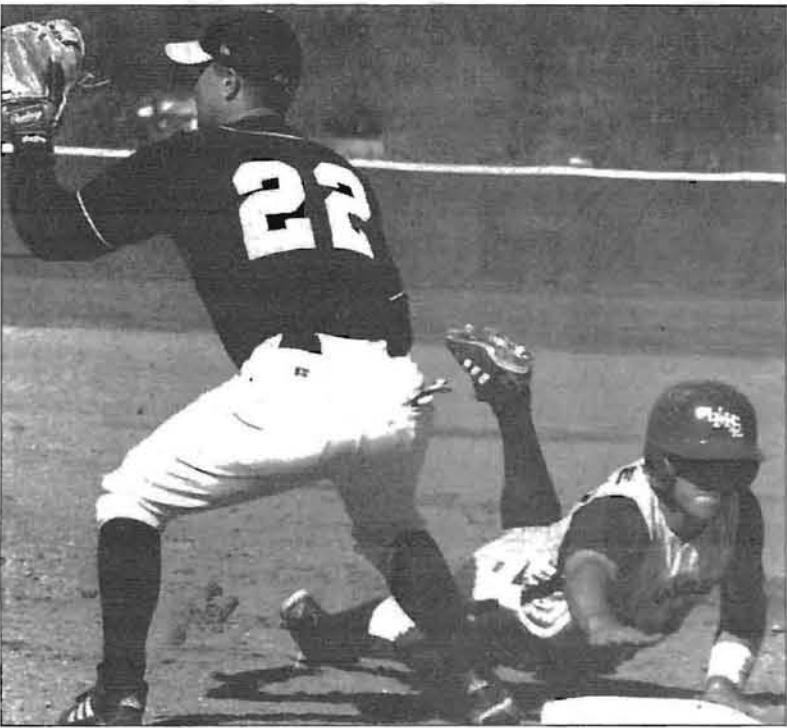
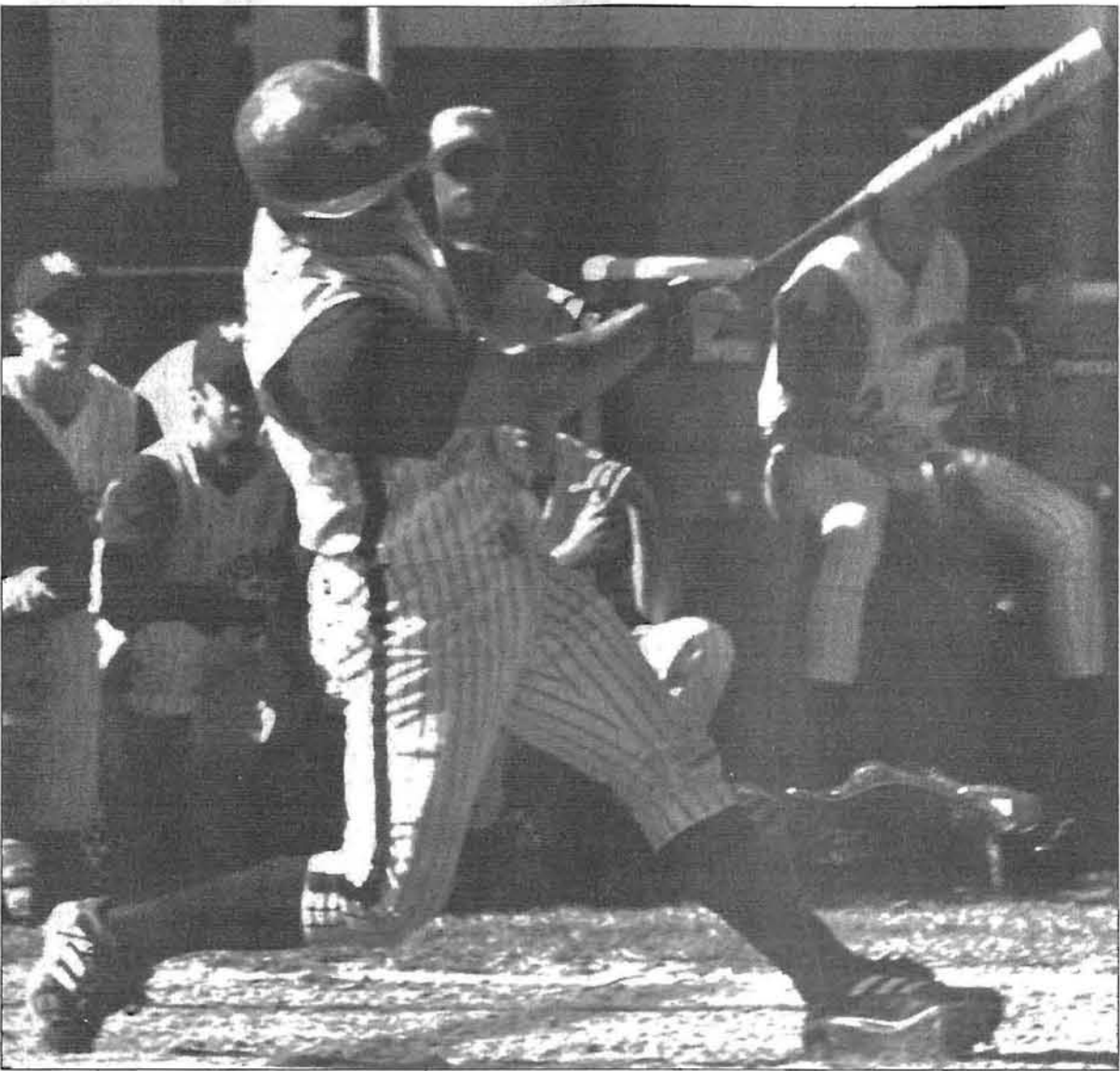
"The only way to pitch yourself out of a slump is to get out there and pitch," Brady said. "Keith went out and gave me seven innings."

"There's a guy who's been a closer and yet, he was hungry enough to go out there and he pitched seven innings and we won the game and he did a credible job. Right now, he knows he's going through a stage is challenging him a little bit and he's just got to rise above it and I think he's got the make-up to do that. He gave us a nice effort."

Brady attributes the loss of the second game to the arrangement of the rotation. LHP Steve Hutson, who is 3-1 on the season with a 2.87 ERA, started the game for the Rivermen.

"I should've done a better job of setting the rotation up," Brady said. "I'm not gonna blame it on any of our guys. It's my fault. We just gotta find a way, maybe offensively, to get it done a little earlier and pitchers, late in the game, to step up."

"I gotta find a way to put us in a situation where we can go out and get the job done. It was a heartbreaker for all of us and everybody took it hard."



Photos by Sara Sorenson/The Current

The Rivermen returned home from their road trip to Florida on April 1 - they were 3-7 - to defeat Lincoln 8-0 at home.

### SKIPPER'S CORNER

## Baseball skipper sees some bright spots in his 2002 team

**BY HANK BURNS**  
Staff Editor

Standing it at 15-13 and 4-6 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference, the UM-St. Louis Rivermen baseball team has had it's struggles. But, according to Rivermen skipper Jim Brady, the team does have some bright spots.

Below are some of the Rivermen who, according to Brady, have most recently shone brightly for the Rivermen.

**Shortstop Bryan Weiss** - .351 average, 24 runs, 34 hits  
"He's been very, very steady," Brady said. "He's been a spark for us, offensively and defensively, he has

really played a solid shortstop for us. It's very much of a pleasant surprise to see him making that quick adaptation to wood [bats]."

**Outfielder Aaron Walther** - .354 average, 15 runs, 28 hits  
"Erin's been very, very steady hitting in the five-hole [in the line-up] for a while and now hitting in the four-hole," Brady said. "He stroked the ball very nicely and he's done a very good job for us."

**Outfielder Brody Jackson** - .406, 7 homers, 23 runs batted in  
"He's worked extremely hard and the hard work has paid dividends," Brady said. "He's been a spark for us."

He's dangerous. He just brings a lot of things to the table, both offensively and defensively, and just a pleasure to coach - always keeping everybody loose. He's fun to be around. He's a solid player. Brody's earned the respect of our opponents, so that speaks volumes for him right there."

**Left-hander Steve Hutson** - 3-1 record, 2.87 ERA, 15 strikeouts  
"He dedicated himself to having just the best year of his life," Brady said. "His work ethic, his preparation, all the things that we've done have paid huge dividends."

"He's one of those guys that I wish I'd had him two years ago, because now he's really matured into the qual-

ity pitcher that I always felt he was capable of doing and being. It's just a credit to his resiliency."

"He's starting to receive some of the benefits of that hard work and dedication. We've dropped his arm angle down a little bit and now he's got three variations off the change. He's developed from a thrower into a pitcher."

**Right-hander Joe Curtis** - 2-1, 2.42 ERA, 24 K  
He struggled last year. He had some problems, mentally, wondering if he could perform at this level. I think this year, a lot of people would've written him off, but the only person that didn't was Joe and he's really given us quality innings and it speaks volumes."

**Right-hander Matt Robinson** - 1-3, 16 K, 7 appearances, 4 starts  
"I put him in the doghouse there, late in winter practice, because he wasn't doing some of the things as well as he could have," Brady said. "He lost a little bit of his competitive edge. He wasn't even aware that he was doing it. "If you had been around last year to see what he went through, it was so above and beyond what the ordinary person does. He's your classic over-achiever. He gets the most out of what he has."

For more information on Rivermen baseball, including up-to-date stats, team rosters and game schedules, visit [www.umsl.edu/services/athletics](http://www.umsl.edu/services/athletics).

### SPORTS SHORTS

#### • Tennis sweeps conference matches

The UM-St. Louis men's tennis team cruised to two wins in conference tennis action on Saturday, defeating Saint Joseph's College 5-0, and defeating Lewis University 9-0.

In the first match of the day, UM-St. Louis won all three doubles match-

es against St. Joseph's. Matt Vaulkhard (Victoria, B.C.) then registered a 6-1, 6-1 win at number three singles and Marios Gruden (St. Louis, Mo./Mehlville) recorded a perfect 6-0, 6-0 win at number four singles to secure the match for the Rivermen.

Against Lewis, the Rivermen again swept all three doubles matches. Matt Vaulkhard and Josef Clark (Clayton, Mo./Clayton) won at one doubles 8-0,

Martin Kardos (Bratislava, Slovakia) and Mario Gruden teamed up for an 8-3 win at two doubles and Martin Damm (Buenos Aires, Argentina) and T.J. Schaefer (Belleville, Ill./Belleville East) won 8-2 at number three doubles for UM-St. Louis. The Rivermen then swept each of the six singles matches against the Flyers for the 9-0 win.

UM-St. Louis improves to 8-2 on the season and 2-0 in conference play.

#### • Softball drops doubleheader

The UM-St. Louis softball team dropped a doubleheader at Southern Indiana on Saturday afternoon, falling 1-0 in both games, including a 10-inning game in the opener.

In the first game, both teams fought it out for 10 innings before the

Screaming Eagles brought home the game-winning run with two outs and bases loaded. Both starting pitchers went the distance, fighting off scoring opportunities along the way. Twice in the game USI got a runner on third but failed to bring a run home.

The second game was another pitchers duel, as UM-St. Louis limited Southern Indiana to just three hits in the game but lost 1-0.

## R-women's late failings are temporary, not set traits



THE ABCS OF SPORTS  
HANK BURNS

Having dropped their April 6 doubleheader to Southern Indiana, the UM-St. Louis Riverwomen softball team is 19-14 overall on the season. With the losses the team is in the midst of a three-game losing streak, which is not necessarily a big deal at this point. The team is five games above a .500 winning percentage and the likelihood of the team suddenly falling back to .500 is slim. The team is 4-3 in conference play, but that is only seven games. There are many more conference games for the Riverwomen to play and the doubleheader losses were merely well-deserved wins for a talented Southern Indiana team.

In the April 6 doubleheader, the

Riverwomen lost two 1-0 games. In the first game, the two teams battled for 10

innings and Chrissy Greife, who is 6-4 with a 2.61 ERA and 32 strikeouts, pitched in just over nine innings. She allowed only three hits and just one unearned run. And, as luck and chance would have it,

that run cost the Riverwomen the lead and the potentially well-deserved win.

In the second game of the doubleheader, staff ace Cassey Attebury came on to pitch six innings, allowing one run on three hits. Attebury, who is nearly automatic on the mound, is

10-7 with an astonishing 2.28 ERA and 48 strikeouts in just over 122 innings pitched and 17 games started. So, once again, she pitched for six innings and allowed only one run and that run happened to be the only thing that it took for a capable Southern Indiana team to defeat a potent UM-St. Louis team.

The Riverwomen will have a great opportunity to improve on their 4-3 conference record, with three conference match-ups in the same week. Indianapolis [1-5 in conference, 8-14-1 overall], Northern Kentucky [6-2, 22-6] and Quincy [0-6, 1-20] will all be in town to give the Riverwomen an opening to achieve better positioning in the conference.

Great Lakes Valley Conference		
Team	Conference	Overall
1. SIU EDWARDSVILLE	11-1	32-7
2. NORTHERN KENTUCKY	6-2	22-6
3. LEWIS	7-3	17-13
4. MISSOURI-ST. LOUIS	4-3	18-13
5. BELLARMINE	4-3	16-8
6. SOUTHERN INDIANA	6-5	16-12
7. SAINT JOSEPH'S	3-3	14-14
8. WIS.-PARKSIDE	2-5	11-7
9. INDIANAPOLIS	1-5	8-14-1
10. QUINCY	0-6	1-18
11. KENTUCKY WESLEYAN	0-8	5-16

# SPORTS

### EDITOR

**HANK BURNS**

Sports Editor

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fax: 516-6811

### COMING UP

#### Baseball

April 10

2:30 p.m. vs. Quincy in St. Louis

11  
3 p.m. vs. Truman State in St. Louis

13  
Noon vs. St. Joseph's [DH] in Rensselaer, Ind.

14  
Noon vs. St. Joseph's in Fort Meyers, Fla.

16  
3 p.m. vs. SIUE in St. Louis

#### Softball

April 9

2 p.m. vs. Southwest Baptist [DH] in St. Louis

10  
4 p.m. vs. Lincoln (DH) in St. Louis

13  
1 p.m. vs. Indianapolis (DH) in St. Louis

#### Men's Tennis

April 9

3 p.m. vs. SIUE in St. Louis

12  
3 p.m. vs. Indianapolis in St. Louis

13  
9 a.m. vs. Northern Kentucky in St. Louis

14  
1 p.m. vs. Quincy in Quincy, Ill.

### WEB

[www.umsl.edu/services/athletics](http://www.umsl.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  
April  
29

The University Singers & Chorale will perform a concert at 7:30 p.m. in the Provincial House Chapel. The concert is free and open to the public. For more information please contact 516-6607.

May  
7  
The University Chorus will perform a concert at 7:30 p.m. in the Provincial Chapel. The concert is free and open to the public. For more information please call 516-6685.

8  
The Chinese Folk Dance Company will perform a concert at 8 p.m. in the J.C. Penney Auditorium. The Concert is part of the Center for International Studies' Performing Arts Series. Tickets are \$7 for students, \$11 for seniors and \$15 for adults. For more information call the box office at 516-7299 or contact the CIS' website at www.center\_for\_international\_studies.org.



CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER  
A&E Editor

It all starts with a kiss. "Kissing Jessica Stein" is a really funny and charming twist on the romantic comedy. The twist to the basic idea introduces unexpected possibilities and fresh humor unavailable to other romantic comedies. This surprising little independent film is enjoyable beginning to end. It's hilarious, beguiling and even poignant.

Jessica Stein is depressed. Her Jewish grandmother chides her and embarrasses her about being single during service at Temple. Her brother is getting married, her best friend Joan is happily married and pregnant, and Jessica hasn't even had a date in a year. Although she lives comfortably in New York, she is worried about being single and working as a copy editor, not exactly the life she envisioned for herself. Jessica's sweet and kind-hearted but she's somewhat neurotic. She's very particular and rather conventional. To get out of her rut, she tries to plunge into a round of dating, encouraged by her matchmaking best friend Joan. But there are a lot of frogs to kiss out there - men who are self absorbed or rude, men with bad table manners or bad grammar - something that particularly irks editor Jessica. One day in Jessica's cubicle, her friend Joan is reading the personal ads aloud to her when

they hit the perfect ad - the writer quotes Jessica's favorite author and what follows sounds ideal. Then Joan notices the problem - she's reading an ad from the "women seeking women" section.

Jessica doesn't say anything to Joan, but she can't stop thinking about that ad. Secretly, she calls and makes a date. Helen couldn't be more different from Jessica. She's an unconventional and hip beauty who runs an art gallery, and has run through all the interesting men she knows. She and her gay

guy friends decide that there's only one thing left to give her the novelty she craves - she has to start dating women. Together, they craft the perfect personal ad.

When Helen and Jessica meet, they click instantly, but is it romance? From this almost farcical beginning, the film develops into a delightful romp that plays with opposites attracting, friendship verses romance, and self-discovery. Jennifer Westfeldt plays Jessica with the loopy charm of the lead character in Woody Allen's classic "Anne

Hall." Nearly every woman will identify in some way with her perpetual questioning of her life decisions.

Heather Juergensen plays Helen as charmingly unpredictable, but a more sensitive person than Jessica assumes. The cast is rounded out by Jackie Hoffman as Joan, who only wants Jessica to be happy, and Scott Cohen as Jessica's boss and ex-boyfriend Josh Meyers, who knows her better than she thinks.

Jennifer Westfeldt and Heather Juergensen not only star in "Kissing Jessica Stein," they wrote it and co-

produced it. Director Charles Herman-Wurmfeld fell in love with the script and pursued the writers to let him helm the film. Their collaboration produced a delightful tale that plays with assumptions about gender roles, sexuality and romance without a political agenda. Still, the filmmakers were aware they were treading on hazardous ground and touching some hot buttons with their subject. But their light touch and skill kept the film delightful and intriguing.

This film has been enjoying some success and hopefully we will see more from its stars and filmmakers. There's nothing like a film with a good story.



Heather Juergensen and Jennifer Westfeldt star in 'Kissing Jessica Stein.'

BOOK REVIEW

Get lost in 'Gemma'

BY SARA PORTER  
Senior Writer

It is the dream of many college students to go backpacking around the world. Along with the excitement of travel comes the danger warnings. Do not drink the water in certain places. Stay away from people who ask you to take strange packages in buildings. Do not get involved in political demonstrations, etc. As many stories as there are of people who travel and return with many memories, there are also stories about people who don't return at all, either because of death or imprisonment. "Losing Gemma" by Katy Gardner, is a fascinating novel like that about two young women who travel to India only to lose one.

The story begins with two Englishwomen, Esther and Gemma, who travel through India during their college years. Esther, who we are told is the more daring of the two, suggests they leave the Lonely Planet guide behind and go to an unknown destination. They find themselves headed for Agun Mazir, a Buddhist shrine where legend has it a man once burnt to death while praying (perfect foreshadowing). On the way, the two encounter another traveler, Coral, an Australian pseudo-hippie who may or may not be all that she appears. Throughout the trip the women encounter drugs, hallucination, insanity, cults and death.

In the three main characters, Gardner presents three different women all who are interesting parallels from each other. The novel's narrator, Esther, starts off as a together young woman who slowly becomes consumed by tragedy. She is proud of her BA in anthropology from Sussex, having three previous stamps on her passport and stealing Gemma's boyfriend, Steve. But, as the story unfolds, the daring Esther becomes less and less sure of herself as she loses control of the situation around her.

It is common in literature and film to create two best friends who are polar opposites (the shy one and the outgoing one, the smart one and the dizzy one) and Gardner does that, but she does not keep Gemma and Esther in that position for long. Gemma, begins the story as a shy, mousy young woman who "flunked her O Levels" so she did not finish college.

Now, she just stays home and reads to get away from her dysfunctional parents. She is willing to follow Esther in all of her schemes.

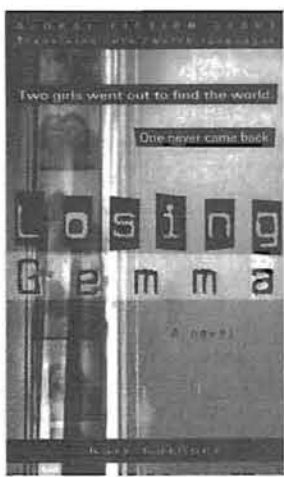
Later on in India, as Gemma becomes entranced by her surroundings, the leader-follower dynamic switches between them in ways that Esther is not even aware of until the very end. Another interesting departure in this novel is it

breaks from Esther's first person narration to Gemma's third person to reveal a clever devious mind behind a mousy exterior even if Esther does not know.

The third lead character, Coral is shrouded in mystery and the reader does not even know the complete truth about her. She is an interesting character as she lures Gemma and Esther into the world of Agun Mazir, where she is known as "Sarti." But, then as Gemma and Esther become more and more the focus, Coral becomes less important, so it is no surprise that she disappears halfway through the story never to return.

The setting of the novel lends to its suspense, particularly when they reach Agun Mazir and they become the subject of some horrifying hallucinations. The reader is left unsure of what is real and what isn't and can really feel the fear throughout the story.

Besides being a suspenseful tale, "Losing Gemma" is also a powerful story about friendship and faith and who really knows about whom. It is worth reading as a travel book, as a friendship story and as a wonderful novel.



Jodie Foster plays recently divorced Meg Alton in the thriller, 'Panic Room.'

'Panic Room,' another Hollywood thriller

CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER  
A&E Editor

The "Panic Room" is a good thriller. It has twists, surprises and you will spend plenty of time on the edge of your seat. But some filmgoers may have been expecting something more. After all, director David Fincher's previous film was the rising cult classic "Fight Club."

There is not much of that previous film here. Here's the set up. Meg Altmann (Jodie Foster), newly divorced, is looking at very posh New York houses with her tomboyish nine-year-old daughter Sarah (Kristen Stewart). The real estate agent has taken them to a house that she assures Meg is both unique and wonderful, but she has to buy now. The 1870s renovated house is imposing and impressive and really too big for them, but the house has an upgrade that really sells it - a secret room called a "panic room." This perk is a paranoid's dream - steel door, concrete walls, separate ventilation and electrical systems, a bank of video monitors hooked to cameras all over the house, separate phone line, vaults, and survival supplies. A little fortress. The nine-year-old, who had previously been racing around the house and ignoring the real estate

agent's repeated orders to "stop that," now halts to marvel at this find and declare it cool. They decide to buy the house and price is not a problem - her wealthy ex-husband has to pay. They decide to move in that night, since the house is unoccupied.

However, they will not be alone for long. Three men (Forest Whitaker, Jared Leto, and Dwight Yoakam) come to break-in, intending to acquire what they know is in a house that they think is unoccupied.

Of course, I could tell you more about the story, but it is suspense; you want to be surprised.

The film has plenty of suspense, aided by some amazing camera work in the tradition of Alfred Hitchcock. In pursuit of the action, the camera zooms through keyholes and the handle on a coffeemaker, it ranges through three floors to follow a stairway chase, and otherwise seeks to dazzle the audience. The stately mansion and the blue-toned, heavily shadowed lighting are deliciously atmospheric. The characters are not quite what they seem at first, both the invaders and the householders are full of surprises. The film is fast paced, with chases, twists, and double-dealing. Action rather than character is the focus, but the actors do a fine job, especially the twitchy Jared Leto and the always wonderful Forest

Whittaker, and all the actors develop some depth to the characters. As always, Jodie Foster lends a steeliness to a character which would have seemed much more helpless in the hands of another actress.

Although the film only briefly comments on the trend, these little fortresses like the "Panic Room" are growing in popularity among very wealthy Americans, fueled by an unsupported fear of crime (which statistics show is declining) and concerns about earthquakes, riots and other disasters, man-made or natural. One New York architect said he routinely includes them in plans for wealthy clients, and a California builder said that he built six a year in the early '90s but now builds more than 60 a year.

Still, "Panic Room" is just entertainment. It is a pretty good film but not a classic. It does not offer something more, unlike the undertone of the Hitchcock films to which it alludes or the director's previous quirky film, "Fight Club." The camera tricks look good, the tension is high, but you can not help but think, is this all? Clearly, it is not that he tried to reach high again and didn't quite make it, it's that this is a completely different kind of film. Perhaps this is really unfair.



THEATER REVIEW

'Private Lives' gets personal with gender roles

CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER  
A&E Editor

"Private Lives" is a classic Noel Coward comedy, full of the marvelous witty banter for which his plays are famous. For those not familiar with Noel Coward, he was one of the most successful playwrights of the 1920s and 1930s and was noted for his biting humor and sophisticated word play. This delightful gem is playing at the Repertory Theater of St. Louis in Webster Groves now through April 12. This comedy of couples in conflict is a play of style and crisp dialogue set among the rich and glamorous of the late 1920s.

Elyot (Don Burroughs), an elegant-looking man in his mid thirties, has just arrived to begin his honeymoon on the French Riviera with his much younger bride Sybil (Stephanie Cozart). It is evening and they are enjoying their terrace view from their lush hotel, prepar-

ing to go out for dinner. Then Elyot encounters the last person he expects to see - his ex-wife Amanda (Mary Proctor), who happens to be honeymooning with her new husband Victor (John Pasha) in the next suite. While new wife Sybil is very prim and proper, Amanda is sophisticated and relaxed. Still, she is as shocked and upset as Elyot to find him in the neighboring suite. Amanda's new husband Victor also couldn't be more different from her ex-husband. Where Elyot is verbal, and clever, Victor is rather stodgy and conventional. Amanda and Elyot try to avoid each other but it's clear they have more in common with each other than with their new spouses. Still, they didn't exactly get along when they were married - screaming and throwing things at each other. Will love get a second chance or is it too late?

The possibilities for rapier wit and biting sarcasm are endless in this sparkling verbal play. As always, the Rep's sets are gorgeous, creating the

perfect atmosphere of late 1920s style and elegance. Don Burroughs as Elyot and Mary Proctor as Amanda really let the sparks fly, reminding us why Coward's plays were such hits and have continued as models of verbal comedy. The play pokes fun at the gender roles and stereotypes of the era, while still striking the right chord in the ongoing struggles of romantic love. John Pasha is delightfully as the adoring but plodding Victor, nearly smothering Amanda in protectiveness. But Stephanie Cozart sometimes steals the scene with her maddeningly prissy and dense Sybil. Of course, it was the ensemble that made the play work, and work it did.

A lot has changed in the years since the play was written but the humor remains vibrant. The look back at the rigid gender roles of the past and Noel Coward's fun at their expense is worth the price of the ticket alone. "Private Lives" guarantees an evening of intelligent and fast-paced fun.



Don Burroughs as Elyot and Mary Proctor as Amanda star in 'Private Lives.'

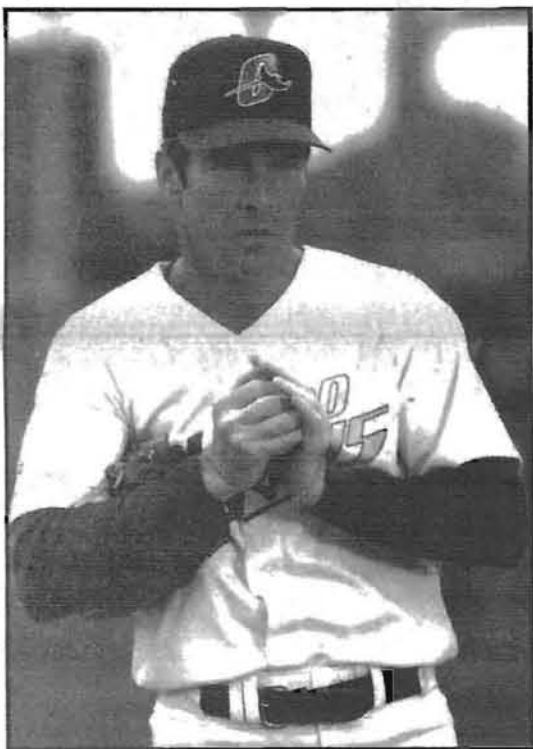
MOVIE REVIEWS

'The Rookie' hits a homer 'Ice Age,' full of warm laughs

CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER  
A&E Editor

The ads are touting "The Rookie" as "classic Disney." Don't believe them - it's actually better than that.

The truth is, I'm not very fond of most Disney movies. They are supposed to be family movies but really they are child-pleasing movies that, maybe, adults can stand. They tend to be manipulative and overdone, and are often sappy, sentimental, and filled with clichés. None of this bothers children, of course, who have not seen all these tricks before and prefer a simple story. But, for adults, it is often too much. Still, if you are taking a child to the movies, your choices are very limited - you are only looking at G rated, maybe PG rated movies, and the Disney ones are just about your only option for a high gloss film.



Dennis Quaid plays Jim Morris, a teacher who makes one last try to achieve his dream of pitching in the major leagues in 'The Rookie.'

Then along comes "The Rookie." Although it is rated a flat-out G, this is not really a children's movie or at least, not very little children because children are not the central characters. It really is a family movie, and a charming, winning film to boot. Kids from age nine and up should understand the story and the adults, including your granny who winches at all that bad language, and older children will enjoy it. It is what Disney family films ought to be - a real, warm, and inspiring tale about second chances.

Based on a true story, Dennis Quaid plays Jim Morris, a high school physics teacher and baseball coach in a small Texas town. Jim had childhood ambitions to play major league baseball but his father (Brian Cox) was not supportive of his son's dream. While he did make it into the minor leagues, an injury ended his career early. Now Jim's settled into a quiet and obscure small town life, with his down-to-earth wife Lorri (Rachel

Griffiths) and three small children. Late at night, he quietly pitches baseballs out in a deserted field by himself, to relax.

Jim's high school baseball team is failing. Texans only seem to care about football and the school has already tried to cut the baseball team from the budget. The kids on the team look at the lush football field and their

Teachers take these challenges all the time - if the students achieve some goal, the teacher will ride a donkey through the school - that kind of thing. The team offers this challenge: despite having won only one game last year, they will take the division championship. In return, Coach Morris tries out for the major leagues. Although he grimaces at the thought of the embarrassment of being a 35-year-old guy at a major league try-out, he takes the challenge. Everyone buckles down to work and soon the impossible looks possible.

Where this film differs from the usual Bad News Bears - Field of Dreams formula is in its unexpected realism, part of which has to come from its basis in a true story. No stereotypes - all the characters are fully rounded and believable. We never think that these children are hopeless goofs - it is clear they are talented but disheartened. Coach knows he is a pretty good pitcher, but he is afraid to disrupt his life to follow an old dream. The struggles are about the real world - real family responsibilities, real practical considerations about making a living, finding funding for a little baseball team and solving the problem of deer eating the grass seed on the ball field. Little details a more conventional family film would skip over. Like what do you do with a crying baby and a just-changed diaper if they call you just then for your big league try-out? This is a real-life, telling-your-friends-the-story solution. When Jim talks to his five-year-old Hunter (Angus T. Jones) on the phone, the child talks in that concrete way real five-year-olds talk - like a real child, not a "movie" child. The

see **ROOKIE**, page 11

BY JOAN HENRY  
Staff Writer

"Ice Age" is a prehistoric movie filled with modern technology.

Ray Romano, John Leguizamo, Denis Leary and others lend their voices and talents to the ancient animals, who race a blizzard to return an infant to his human tribe.

Sid the sloth (John Leguizamo) wakes up a bit late for the migration to warmer climates and finds that his family has left him behind. Again. After Manny the lone woolly mammoth (Ray Romano) gets him out of trouble with a couple of rhinos (Cedric "the Entertainer" and Stephen Root) during his migration north, Sid tags along, chattering constantly.

Meanwhile, Soto (Goran Visnjic), the leader of Diego's (Denis Leary) pack of saber tooth tigers, orders an attack on a tribe of human hunters that killed half the pack. Diego's job is to kidnap hunter's baby for revenge. Things go wrong during the attack and

Diego is charged with finding the baby and bringing him back to Soto.

Manny and Sid find the baby first and they decide to take the baby back to the humans. Diego convinces Manny and Sid to let him help them by mentioning that the coming blizzard will block the path to the humans and that his tracking skills are the only way to find them in time. Diego's real plan is to lead them to the tigers, instead of the humans.

Then there is Scrut (director Chris Wedge) scurrying after the ever-elusive acorn. This poor half-squirrel-half-rat creature has no actual reason to be in the movie other than to be squished, fried, stomped on and otherwise mistreated by nature. It might sound gruesome, but this display of slapstick and silent comedy is fun to watch.

The animation of the animals is excellent, but the humans' movements seem choppy. The facial expressions are extremely well done, especially Scrut's "something really bad is about

to happen to me" expression. The animators seemed to have been very detail oriented when constructing this movie.

The plot takes a while to get moving but after it does, it keeps its momentum. Most older viewers will figure out the ending before the movie is half over, but it's still a fun ride. Children will get a kick out of Scrut's antics and other visual gags, and adults can laugh at a few of Romano's lines and appreciate a lot of Sid's vies for attention. Scrut is there just for comedic value and Leguizamo's sloth steals the movie as the ugly, unloved misfit. Romano's sad, but lovable mammoth is extremely caring towards the baby, while Leary and Visnjic dwell as the villains.

While this movie isn't as good as "Shrek" or Disney's newest computer-animated film, "Monsters, Inc.," it is a good break into animation for Fox Animation and Blue Sky. This is also a good break into feature length animation for the film's director, Chris Wedge, who won an Oscar for his short animated film "Bunny."



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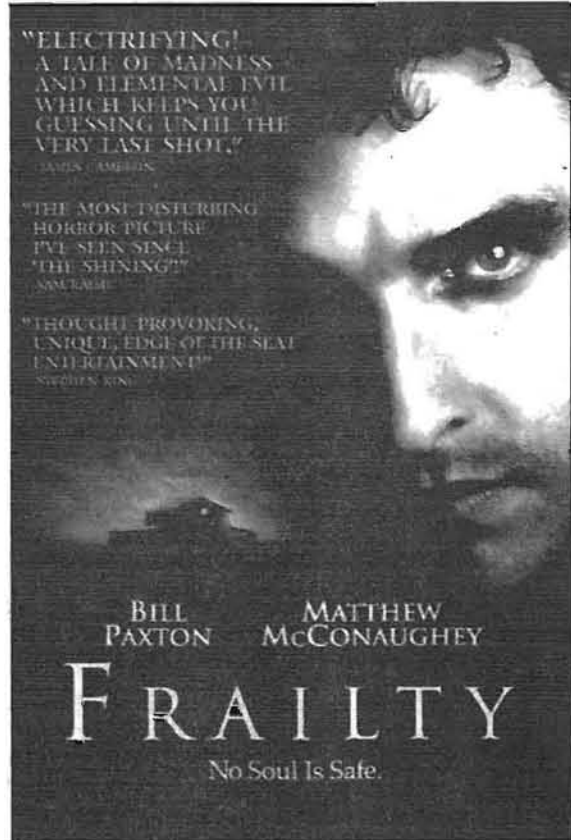
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OPENS IN THEATERS ON FRIDAY, APRIL 12





**MICAH ISSITT**  
Science Columnist

"Spring still makes spring in the mind when sixty years are told Love wakes anew this throbbing heart, And we are never old." — Ralph Waldo Emerson "the World Soul"

Spring has sprung, or rather it is in the process of springing. For organisms in the temperate regions of the earth, spring is historically and biologically the season for mating. Right now thousands of animals and plants are preparing for the frenzy of the "mating season."

Squirrels will chase each other around trees, birds will sing melodious songs from the branch tips and humans will be walking in the park, going out to dinner and airing out their sports bras and biker shorts for the season.

For this article I have gathered several newsworthy scientific discoveries in the spirit of spring romance.

**Crazy Love:**

A 1990 study in Italy concluded that individuals who reported being "in love" showed symptoms of obsessive

compulsive disorder (OCD). Italian men and women showed an increased tendency to behave in ways consistent with this disorder, such as having compulsive thoughts about certain things, or performing certain obsessive behaviors.

OCD is often accompanied by lowered levels of the neurotransmitter serotonin. Low levels of serotonin are correlated with feelings of depression or anxiety. Participants in the Italian study who reported they had recently fallen in love showed serotonin levels 40 percent lower than their peers.

Low levels of serotonin may be responsible for feelings of desperation and depression and have also been correlated with high sex drive in males. The incidence of increased male sex drive may be a biological attempt to increase the body's serotonin levels.

This biochemical effect appears to be temporary, as the same individuals tested after their relationships were a year old showed significantly higher levels of serotonin.

One of the authors of the study suggested that this physiological mechanism may be necessary for a person to fall in love. "After all we'd have to be mad to fall in love, wouldn't we?"

**It's all In Your Head:**

Researchers at University College in London used "functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging" to take pictures

'...individuals who reported being 'in love' showed symptoms of obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD).'

of the electrical and chemical activity going on inside lovers' brains.

During the scanning procedure participants were shown pictures of their new lovers as well as pictures of opposite sex platonic friends. Researchers found that patterns of brain activity associated with an individual's "lover" were significantly different from brain patterns associated with unknown individuals or opposite sex friends.

The fMRI data indicates that our

brains develop special patterns of activity that are specific to the people we are thinking about. Our brains may have characteristic patterns for every person that we interact with.

Scientists identified several distinct areas of the brain that seemed to be affected, including the area of the brain that scientists associate with instinctual feelings, the part of the brain affected by mood-altering drugs and the prefrontal cortex, which is often associat-

ed with feelings of desperation and depression.

**Flirting With Science:**

New York Psychologist-Professor Arthur Arun has been conducting research that indicates that eye contact may be one of the most important determinants of attraction.

Professor Arun conducted a study where participants were asked to stare into each other's eyes for a full four minutes and then each subject was interviewed privately and asked questions about whether or not they felt attracted to their partner. Many couples did report a certain attraction for the each other, and two of Dr. Arun's couples began dating after the experiment and were later married.

Further research indicates that body language may play an equally important role in attraction. Scientists observing couples have noticed that couples tend to sit, move and gesture similarly as part of the flirting ritual.

This phenomenon has been called mirroring and is thought to indicate good communication and reciprocation of interest. Consciously attempting to mimic someone you're attracted to is not recommended, however. If these movements are subconsciously driven, they are more likely to seem natural and attractive to your partner.

Drawing from research across the world, scientists have attempted to

quantify certain aspects of flirtation. They have found that it generally takes between 60 seconds and four minutes for a person to decide if they are attracted to someone.

Scientists believe that successful flirtation is more a bodily phenomenon than a linguistic one. Research indicates that body language is the determinant of attraction over 50 percent of the time. Thirty-eight percent of the equation belongs to the speed and tone of the voice. Certain voice patterns may be more attractive than others, helping to induce attraction. Scientists also found that the actual content of what is said only accounts for about 5-7 percent of attraction.

Well, it's in the air again. I suppose as the sun begins to rise earlier and the smell of flowers mingles with the breeze everyone begins to sense the familiar feeling of spring fever, pulling their eyes towards the windows and onto the bodies of passers by.

Science has pointed its microscope lens at our mating rituals and has found that much to the surprise of pick-up line aficionados, people are more interested in the way you move your lips than what comes out of them. In addition, research indicates that mating and madness may in fact be intertwined in a biological dance, giving new meaning to the age old phrase "spring fever."

## Float comes in first

BY ELIZABETH WILSON  
Staff Writer

The UM-St. Louis Bookstore tied for first place in the civic category recently at the annual downtown St. Patrick Parade. They tied with the USO and Fire Department.

"It's hard to beat the USO and Fire Department especially after 9-11," Gloria Schultz, director of Bookstore Business and Management Services, said.

The theme of the float was "Stars, Stripes, Shamrocks and UM-St. Louis Forever." The float included Irish music, Uncle Sam and leprechauns. Sixty students, faculty, staff, alumni and community members walked alongside float handing out mini flags

and beads.

The Bookstore has participated in all the major parades in St. Louis. They have had this float for a few years. Every year it gets a new facelift by the grounds department.

"I was very pleased with the enthusiasm and cooperation from so many of our students. They spent their Saturday showing everyone how proud they are to be affiliated with UMSL. The success of this year's float is due to the tireless efforts of (Groundskeeper) Carol Usery & the grounds crew, Student Activities and Ron Edwards, who coordinates our float for each parade," Schultz said.

The Bookstore will be taking part in another parade this summer. All students are invited to participate.



Photo courtesy of UM-St. Louis

Homecoming King Quincy Pittmon and Queen Dawn Gettinger join Chancellor Blanche Touhill on the UM-St. Louis bookstore float at the annual downtown St. Patrick Parade.

### HUMANITIES, from page 3

what the land has meant to their family, their hard working father, as every Saturday night as the locals gathered at their common meeting place. One brother can't let go while the other can't wait to get rid of the backbreaking work for success. The play focuses on issues dealing with history, family relations and other values.

Humanities Night at the Black Rep is an effort to continue and expand on programming such as the Short Story Reading series and the Monday Noon

Lecture Series. The center's objective is to increase awareness about their programs.

"This is not only a fundraiser but a friend raiser to get people interested in what we are doing and would like to see more," Lucas said.

The evening included a reception presented by Heartland Bank that took place at the Vaughn Cultural Center just half a block from the Repertory Theater. Kranson Industries underwrote the ticket sales to help make it

affordable for students to attend enabling all proceeds to go directly to the Center for Humanities.

"We thought there were a lot of people that don't know what a treasure the Black Rep is," Lucas said.

"Some people may think the Black Rep is not for them or feel they will not understand it, but if they get there I know they will love it." "This will not only make us some friends but the Black Rep will get some new friends that they deserve," Lucas said.

The Current, get caught up in it every Monday.

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# Ceili music performed on campus

BY KELLI SOLT  
Senior Writer

The Kilfenora Ceili Band brought sounds of Ireland to UM-St. Louis Thursday at a concert in the music building from 12:30 to 1:45 p.m. They performed a second concert in the J.C. Penny building later that evening.

The Kilfenora Ceili Band has been playing since the 1900s. The band is composed of ten musicians who play three fiddles, two flutes, a banjo, an accordion, a concertina, the piano and drums. The signature of the music is traditional Ceili style reels, jigs, marches and waltzes. The bands intent is to keep the traditional Ceili, dance music, alive and pure.

The concert was informal and first rate. The band began with four reels followed by three jigs, a march and a duet of reels with Sheila Garry on the fiddle and Tim Collins on the concertina.

"It is neat to watch their feet tapping it is so different from what they do in America," communications major, Angela Teater said.

The quick rhythm lifting melodies had most of the feet in the room tapping along. Yelps by the musicians were also let out to encourage each other as they changed reels or jigs.

They continued with jigs, polkas and two additional duets; Garry Shannon and Anthony Quigney on flutes, and fiddler Anne Marie McCormick with accordionist Conor McCarthy.

In between each piece, Shannon introduced the songs and provided bits of info on the band or the tradi-

tion of the music. However, he did not know all the names of the songs.

"Irish bands have a repertoire of 600 to 700 melodies, so it is not easy to remember them all," Shannon said.

Shannon also introduced the youngest member of the band, drummer, Sean Griffin.

"He is available and packed a large suitcase so he can bring a lady back home," Shannon said.

A question and answer period provided the audience with a chance to interact with the light-hearted musicians.

The band has been together since 1992, and they are all from or are currently living in County Clair, Ireland. They all have other jobs and have to coordinate times to practice and travel.

John Lynch, the banjo player, is the third generation in the Kilfenora band following his father and grandfather.

"The music is a part of our heritige. I didn't want to be the one to let them down," Lynch said.

Pianist Fintan McMahon said it is the love of the music that keeps the band going.

"It is an honor to be asked to play



Mutsumi Igarashi/ The Current

The Kilfenora Ceili Band brought sounds of Ireland to UM-St. Louis Thursday at a concert in the music building from 12:30 to 1:45 p.m.

'The bands intent is to keep the traditional Ceili, dance music, alive and pure.'

and we love it," concertina player Tim Collins said.

The Kilfenora Ceili Band recently finished their seventh CD and tour the U.S. about three or four times a year. In 1995, they repeated the triumph of the former band by winning the All Ireland Ceili Band Competition three times in a row.

Gearoid O'Allmhurain, a fourth generation concertina player and pro-

fessor of Irish Studies in the music department, was a former member of the band in 1992 and 1993, in which he helped them win the competition. He brought out his concertina to join the Kilfenora band on their last number.

O'Allmhurain and Eamonn Wall, English professor, both from Ireland, have collaborated to bring Ireland to the University through

poets and musicians. Study abroad opportunities to Galway, Ireland, and an Irish music workshop over Memorial Day are other opportunities for students to experience the essence of Ireland.

Students who want information about opportunities to study in Ireland or attend Irish events can contact Professors Wall at 516-5541 or Oh'Allmhurain at 516-4256.

# Opera Workshop to perform 'The 1940s Radio Hour'

BY SARA PORTER  
Senior Writer

For the past few years, The Opera Theatre Workshop of UM-St. Louis has performed musicals of more light operatic traditions of composers such as Gilbert and Sullivan and John Phillip Sousa. This year, they are taking a different tactic. They are performing a musical that more invokes the spirits of (Benny) Goodman and (Glen) Miller than Gilbert and Sullivan, with "The 1940s Radio Hour."

"The 1940s Radio Hour" will be performed at 7:30 p.m., April 11, 12 and 13, at the Normandy Inn and Conference Center in the former Pierre Laclede Honors College on Belleve Drive.

"The 1940s Radio Hour" is an ensemble musical set during the onset

of WWII and deals with the antagonisms, backstage romances and professional disagreements of the fictional radio program "The Mutual Manhattan Variety Cavalcade" during the rehearsals and performance of a Christmas Eve broadcast.

This musical was chosen primarily because it was unlike any other musical that the Opera Theatre Workshop had done in the past.

"In the past few years the plays were more operatic," Milton Zoth, the shows director, said. "Here everything is different with the music and the setting."

Zoth also said that unlike the previous productions, "The Man of La Mancha," "El Capitan" and "Pirates of Penzance," which focused on one protagonist, "The 1940s Radio Hour" is an

ensemble piece.

"Everybody has their moments," Zoth said, citing the musicals subplots involving an alcoholic star, a diva star, a pair of young lovers and a trumpet player who is about to go to war.

Despite the comparisons between the setting in "Radio Hour" and modern times with the recent war in Afghanistan, Adjunct Assistant Professor and Organizer of the Opera Theatre Workshop, Kathryn Haggans said that recent events was not an issue in selecting the play.

"[The current war] was not a factor at all," Haggans said. "The biggest factor was we wanted a tight ensemble cast, and we wanted a contrast from previous performances with new material."

"Occasionally, you come across a

line in the production and think 'oh my God,'" Haggans said. "There are some connections to what is going on now, but we aren't trying to exploit it."

The music performed in "Radio Hour" are songs collected from that era, such as "Blues in the Night Shoes" and "Stormy Weather," as well as 1940s renditions of Christmas carols, such as "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas."

Working at a musical presents a challenge from straight plays, Sarah Holt, assistant stage manager, said. Holt previously assisted with Zoth in straight plays such as "Macbeth" and "The Rivals."

"You have to integrate the choreography and the performances to be matched with the music," Holt said. The challenge in working on a musical

set in the 1940s is teaching dance moves to people who's parents weren't even born during this time period, said choreographer, Cindy Duggan.

"There's a few dance numbers in this production, such as a jitterbug, a tap dance and a staging of 'Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy,'" Duggan said.

Zoth and Haggans agree that the performers were able to catch onto the 1940s milieu pretty quickly.

"[The actors] picked up the dancing pretty quickly," Zoth said. "It helped create the atmosphere."

"The biggest hurdles music-wise were the tight harmonies in which the women had to take it down lower and for the men to take it up higher," Zoth said. "But, the students are bright and have a musical background."

The cast and crew have good expect-

tations for this production, said Drum Crenshaw, a music business major who plays comic relief "Neal."

"It has a very strong nostalgic feel to it," Crenshaw said.

Zoth also hopes the audience enjoys the production.

"I directed a previous production of it and the audience loved it," he said. "It's funny, the production is wonderful and people will enjoy the music. Also, I love ensemble pieces."

"The music is the real main character," Zoth said.

Haggans hopes that the audience will walk out with the same reaction she has seen in other performances. "Everyone I know who has seen it has walked out, shrugged and said 'You know that was a wonderful show,'" she said.

Do you have tips?

(No, not sirloin tips)

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Depo-Provera®

Contraceptive Injection

medroxyprogesterone acetate injectable suspension

**DEPO-PROVERA®** Contraceptive Injection (medroxyprogesterone acetate injectable suspension, USP)

This product is intended to prevent pregnancy. It does not protect against HIV infection (AIDS) and other sexually transmitted diseases.

**What is DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?**

DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection is a form of birth control that is given as an intramuscular injection (a shot) in the buttock or upper arm once every 3 months (13 weeks). To continue your contraceptive protection, you must return for your next injection promptly at the end of 3 months (13 weeks). DEPO-PROVERA contains medroxyprogesterone acetate, a chemical similar to (but not the same as) the natural hormone progesterone, which is produced by your ovaries during the second half of your menstrual cycle. DEPO-PROVERA acts by preventing your egg cells from ripening. If an egg is not released from the ovaries during your menstrual cycle, it cannot become fertilized by sperm and result in pregnancy. DEPO-PROVERA also causes changes in the lining of your uterus that make it less likely for pregnancy to occur.

**How effective is DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?**

The efficacy of DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection depends on following the recommended dosage schedule exactly (see "How often do I get my shot of DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?"). To make sure you are not pregnant when you first get DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection, your first injection must be given **ONLY** during the first 5 days of a normal menstrual period. **ONLY** after the first 5 days after childbirth if not breast-feeding and, if exclusively breast-feeding, **ONLY** at the sixth week after childbirth. It is a long-term injectable contraceptive when administered at 3-month (13-week) intervals. DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection is over 99% effective, making it one of the most reliable methods of birth control available. This means that the average annual pregnancy rate is less than one for every 100 women who use DEPO-PROVERA. The effectiveness of most contraceptive methods depends in part on how reliably each woman uses the method. The effectiveness of DEPO-PROVERA depends only on the patient returning every 3 months (13 weeks) for her next injection. Your health-care provider will help you compare DEPO-PROVERA with other contraceptive methods and give you the information you need in order to decide which contraceptive method is the right choice for you.

The following table shows the percent of women who got pregnant while using different kinds of contraceptive methods. It gives both the lowest expected rate of pregnancy (the rate expected, in women who use each method exactly as it should be used) and the typical rate of pregnancy (which includes women who became pregnant because they forgot to use their birth control or because they did not follow the directions exactly).

Method	Lowest Expected	Typical
DEPO-PROVERA	0.3	0.3
Implants (Norplant)	0.2*	0.2*
Female sterilization	0.2	0.4
Male sterilization	0.1	0.15
Oral contraceptive (pill)	-	3
Combined Progestogen only	0.1	-
IUD	0.5	-
Progestin only	2.0	3
Copper T 380A	0.8	-
Condom (without spermicide)	2	12
Diaphragm (with spermicide)	6	18
Cervical cap	6	18
Withdrawal	4	18
Periodic abstinence	1.9	20
Spermicide alone	3	21
Vaginal Sponges used before childbirth	6	18
used after childbirth	9	28
Natural family planning	85	85

Source: Trussardi et al. *Obstet Gynecol* 1990;76:558-567.

\*From Norplant® package insert.

**Who should not use DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?**

Not all women should use DEPO-PROVERA. You should not use DEPO-PROVERA if you have any of the following conditions:

- If you think you might be pregnant
- If you have any vaginal bleeding without a known reason

Birth control you think about just 4 x a year.

- If you have had cancer of the breast
- If you have had a stroke
- If you have or have had blood clots (phlebitis) in your legs
- If you have problems with your liver or liver disease
- If you are allergic to DEPO-PROVERA (medroxyprogesterone acetate) or any of its other ingredients

**What other things should I consider before using DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?**

You will have a physical examination before your doctor prescribes DEPO-PROVERA. It is important to tell your health-care provider if you have any of the following:

- A family history of breast cancer
- An abnormal mammogram (breast x-ray), fibrocystic breast disease, breast nodules or lumps, or bleeding from your nipples
- Kidney disease
- Irregular or scanty menstrual periods
- High blood pressure
- Migraine headaches
- Asthma
- Epilepsy (convulsions or seizures)
- Diabetes or a family history of diabetes
- A history of depression
- If you are taking any prescription or over-the-counter medications

**This product is intended to prevent pregnancy. It does not protect against transmission of HIV (AIDS) and other sexually transmitted diseases such as chlamydia, genital herpes, genital warts, gonorrhea, hepatitis B, and syphilis.**

**What if I want to become pregnant after using DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?**

Because DEPO-PROVERA is a long-acting birth control method, it takes some time after your last injection for its effect to wear off. Based on the results from a large study done in the United States, for women who stop using DEPO-PROVERA in order to become pregnant, it is expected that about half of those who become pregnant will do so in about 10 months after their last injection; about two thirds of those who become pregnant will do so in about 12 months; about 83% of those who become pregnant will do so in about 15 months; and about 93% of those who become pregnant will do so in about 18 months after their last injection. The length of time you use DEPO-PROVERA has no effect on how long it takes you to become pregnant after you stop using it.

**What are the risks of using DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?**

The side effect reported most frequently by women who use DEPO-PROVERA for contraception is a change in their normal menstrual cycle. During the first year of using DEPO-PROVERA, you might have one or more of the following changes: irregular or unpredictable bleeding or spotting; an increase or decrease in menstrual bleeding; or no bleeding at all. Unusually heavy or continuous bleeding, however, is not a side effect of DEPO-PROVERA, and if this happens, you should see your health-care provider right away. With continued use of DEPO-PROVERA, bleeding usually decreases, and many women stop having periods completely. In clinical studies of DEPO-PROVERA, 55% of the women studied reported no menstrual bleeding (amenorrhea) after 1 year of use, and 68% of the women studied reported no menstrual bleeding after 2 years of use. The reason that your periods stop is because DEPO-PROVERA causes a resting state in your ovaries. When your ovaries do not release an egg monthly, the regular monthly growth of the lining of your uterus does not occur and, therefore, the bleeding that comes with your normal menstruation does not take place. When you stop using DEPO-PROVERA, your menstrual period will usually, in time, return to its normal cycle.

**2. Bone Mineral Changes**

Use of DEPO-PROVERA may be associated with a decrease in the amount of mineral stored in your bones. This could increase your risk of developing bone fractures. The rate of bone mineral loss is greatest in the early years of DEPO-PROVERA use, but after that, it begins to resemble the normal rate of age-related bone mineral loss.

**3. Cancer**

Studies of women who have used different forms of contraception found that women who used DEPO-PROVERA for contraception had no increased overall risk of developing cancer of the breast, ovary, uterus, cervix, or liver. However, women under 25 years of age whose first exposure to DEPO-PROVERA was within the previous 4 to 5 years may have a slightly increased risk of developing breast cancer similar to that seen with oral contraceptives. You should discuss this with your health-care provider.

**4. Unexplained Pregnancy**

Because DEPO-PROVERA is such an effective contraceptive method, the risk of accidental pregnancy for women who get their shots regularly (every 3 months [13 weeks]) is very low. While there have been reports of an increased risk of low birth weight and neonatal infant death or other health problems in infants conceived close to the time of injection, such pregnancies are uncommon. If you think you may have become pregnant while using DEPO-PROVERA for contraception, see your health-care provider as soon as possible.

**5. Allergic Reactions**

Some women using DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection have reported severe and potentially life-threatening allergic reactions known as anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions. Symptoms include the sudden onset of hives or swelling and itching of the skin, breathing difficulties, and a drop in blood pressure.

**6. Other Risks**

Women who use hormone-based contraceptives may have an increased risk of blood clots or stroke. Also, if a contraceptive method fails, there is a possibility that the fertilized egg will develop outside of the uterus (ectopic pregnancy). While these events are rare, you should tell your health-care provider if you have any of the problems listed in the next section.

**What symptoms may signal problems while using DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?**

Call your health-care provider immediately if any of these problems occur following an injection of DEPO-PROVERA:

- sharp chest pain, coughing up of blood, or sudden shortness of breath (indicating a possible clot in the lung)
- sudden severe headache or vomiting, dizziness or fainting, problems with your eyesight or speech, weakness or numbness in an arm or leg (indicating a possible stroke)
- severe pain or swelling in the calf (indicating a possible clot in the leg)
- unusually heavy vaginal bleeding
- severe pain or tenderness in the lower abdominal area
- persistent pain, pus, or bleeding at the injection site

**What are the possible side effects of DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?**

**1. Weight Gain**

You may experience a weight gain while you are using DEPO-PROVERA. About two thirds of the women who used DEPO-PROVERA in clinical trials reported a weight gain of about 5 pounds during the first year of use. You may continue to gain weight after the first year. Women in one large study who used DEPO-PROVERA for 2 years gained an average total of 8.1 pounds over those 2 years, or approximately 4 pounds per year. Women who continued for 4 years gained an average total of 13.8 pounds over those 4 years, or approximately 3.5 pounds per year. Women who continued for 6 years gained an average total of 16.5 pounds over those 6 years, or approximately 2.75 pounds per year.

**2. Other Side Effects**

In a clinical study of over 3,900 women who used DEPO-PROVERA for up to 7 years, some women reported the following effects that may or may not have been related to their use of DEPO-PROVERA: irregular menstrual bleeding, amenorrhea, headache, nervousness, abdominal cramps, dizziness, weakness or fatigue, decreased sexual desire, leg cramps, nausea, vaginal discharge or irritation, breast swelling and tenderness, bloating, swelling of the hands or feet, backache, depression, insomnia, acne, pelvic pain, no hair growth or excessive hair loss, rash, hot flashes, and joint pain. Other problems were reported by very few of the women in the clinical trials, but some of these could be serious. These include convulsions, jaundice, urinary tract infections, allergic reactions, fainting, paralysis, osteoporosis, lack of return to fertility deep vein thrombosis, pulmonary embolus, breast cancer, or cervical cancer. If these or any other problems occur during your use of DEPO-PROVERA, discuss them with your health-care provider.

**Should any precautions be followed during use of DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?**

**1. Missed Periods**

During the time you are using DEPO-PROVERA for contraception, you may skip a period, or your periods may stop completely. If you have been receiving your DEPO-PROVERA injections regularly every 3 months (13 weeks), you are probably not pregnant. However, if you think that you may be pregnant, see your health-care provider.

**2. Laboratory Test Interactions**

If you are scheduled for any laboratory tests, tell your health-care provider that you are using DEPO-PROVERA for contraception. Certain blood tests are affected by hormones such as DEPO-PROVERA.

**3. Drug Interactions**

Cytidine (aminoglutethimide) is an anticancer drug that may significantly decrease the effectiveness of DEPO-PROVERA if the two drugs are given during the same time.

**4. Nursing Mothers**

Although DEPO-PROVERA can be passed to the nursing infant in the breast milk, no harmful effects have been found in these children. DEPO-PROVERA does not prevent the breasts from producing milk, so it can be used by nursing mothers. However, to minimize the amount of DEPO-PROVERA that is passed to the infant in the first weeks after birth, you should wait until 6 weeks after childbirth before you start using DEPO-PROVERA for contraception.

**How often do I get my shot of DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?**

The recommended dose of DEPO-PROVERA is 150 mg every 3 months (13 weeks) given in a single intramuscular injection in the buttock or upper arm. To make sure that you are not pregnant at the time of the first injection, it is essential that the injection be given **ONLY** during the first 5 days of a normal menstrual period. If used following the delivery of a child, the first injection of DEPO-PROVERA **MUST** be given within 5 days after childbirth if you are not breast-feeding or 6 weeks after childbirth if you are exclusively breast-feeding. If you wait longer than 3 months (13 weeks) between injections, or longer than 6 weeks after delivery, your health-care provider should determine that you are not pregnant before giving you your injection of DEPO-PROVERA.

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U.S. AIR FORCE  
CROSS INTO THE BLUE



# IRS helps people lose weight

BY STANFORD GRIFFITH  
Staff Writer

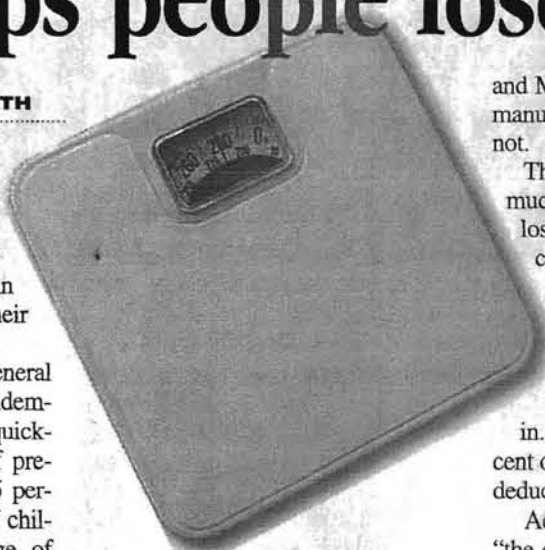
The IRS has decided to help people lose more than just their money. The government taxing agency recently decided to allow certain taxpayers to deduct certain weight loss expenses from their taxes.

In late 2001, the Surgeon General declared obesity as a national epidemic and warned that obesity will quickly become the leading cause of preventable death. An estimated 35 percent of adults and 14 percent of children are obese. The percentage of obese people has doubled since 1980.

Only those who have been medically diagnosed as obese and under a physician's orders to lose weight are eligible for these deductions.

Obesity is defined as having a body mass index of at least 30. The 25 to 29.9 range is defined as overweight. Body mass index is an attempt to connect height and weight into a simplified numeric system. For more information, see <http://www.consumer.gov/weight-loss/bmi.htm>.

Although the U.S. government seems to be making an effort to recognize obesity as a disease, the battle is uphill even within its own departments. The Center for Disease Control has asked the Centers for Medicare



and Medicaid to include obesity in its manual as a disease. To date, it does not.

The tax break is unlikely to have much effect. The total of the weight loss expenses must surpass 7.5 percent of the taxpayer's adjusted gross income (income minus deductions of retirement programs). Expenses of health problems caused by the extra weight can also be calculated in. However, in 1999, only 5 percent of taxpayers claimed any medical deductions.

According to the IRS, the costs of "the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment or prevention" of obesity count towards this 7.5 percent. Obese people often have heart problems, diabetes, arthritis and high blood pressure. Approximately 300,000 die each year due to health problems caused or worsened by being overweight. Health care expenses due to obesity are estimated to be \$117 billion annually.

While such diet programs as Jenny Craig and Weight Watchers are covered, the tax code currently is unclear if gym memberships and exercise equipment are included in this plan.

Food, including food connected with approved weight loss programs, is not included in this revenue ruling since everyone must buy food.

Diet drugs (FDA approved or not) have not been mentioned.

'Only those who have been medically diagnosed as obese are eligible for these deductions.'

# SGA candidates announced

On Monday, March 8, candidates running for SGA offices can begin their campaigns.

To date, the candidates for

**President**  
Sam Andemariam  
Fredrich Eccher

**Vice-president**  
Robert Alton Clark  
Beth Grindstaff

**Comptroller**  
Jeff Griesemer

Incumbents running for reelection include David Dodd and Justin Kimble.

The elections will be held on April 17 (Mirth day) and 18. The polls will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Millennium Center. Current SGA Vice-president Joe Flees said that he is trying to get night hours for the election and to get an election site on the South Campus. Look to *The Current* for further information and endorsements.

# UMSL holds career fairs

Some UM-St. Louis spent their Spring Break not in Florida or Cancun, but attending one the Career Services job fairs. Career Services has hosted three career fairs within the past three weeks.

UM-St. Louis hosted the Gateway to Careers Job Fair, sponsored by the Gateway Career Service Association on March 26. Approximately 475 UM-St. Louis students and alum-

ni attended the event. Ninety employers were on hand to speak with these individuals.

At the Gateway Teacher Recruiting Fair on March 27, nearly 200 of the teacher candidates attending were either UM-St. Louis students or alumni. Some 60 school districts from 12 different states were in attendance.

Career Services is also hosting another Teacher Job Fair on

Aug. 8. "Holding a job fair in August is extremely popular with school districts and many teacher candidates are hired at this event," Emily Rapko McEneny, career specialist at UM-St. Louis's career services, said.

Career Services is located in room 327 in the 327 Millennium Student Center or by calling 516-6535.

## PANIC, from page 6

Directors might want to make different kinds of films. Maybe that's the problem with such an original and unique film - it sets the bar high for the next one and leads to expectations. "Panic Room" works perfectly well as a piece of simple entertainment, and that is perhaps all David Fincher wanted this time. If it were the work of another filmmaker, no one would offer this kind of comment; entertainment alone would be enough. But perhaps this film would not have garnered as much critical attention, if it had not been from the director of "Fight Club."

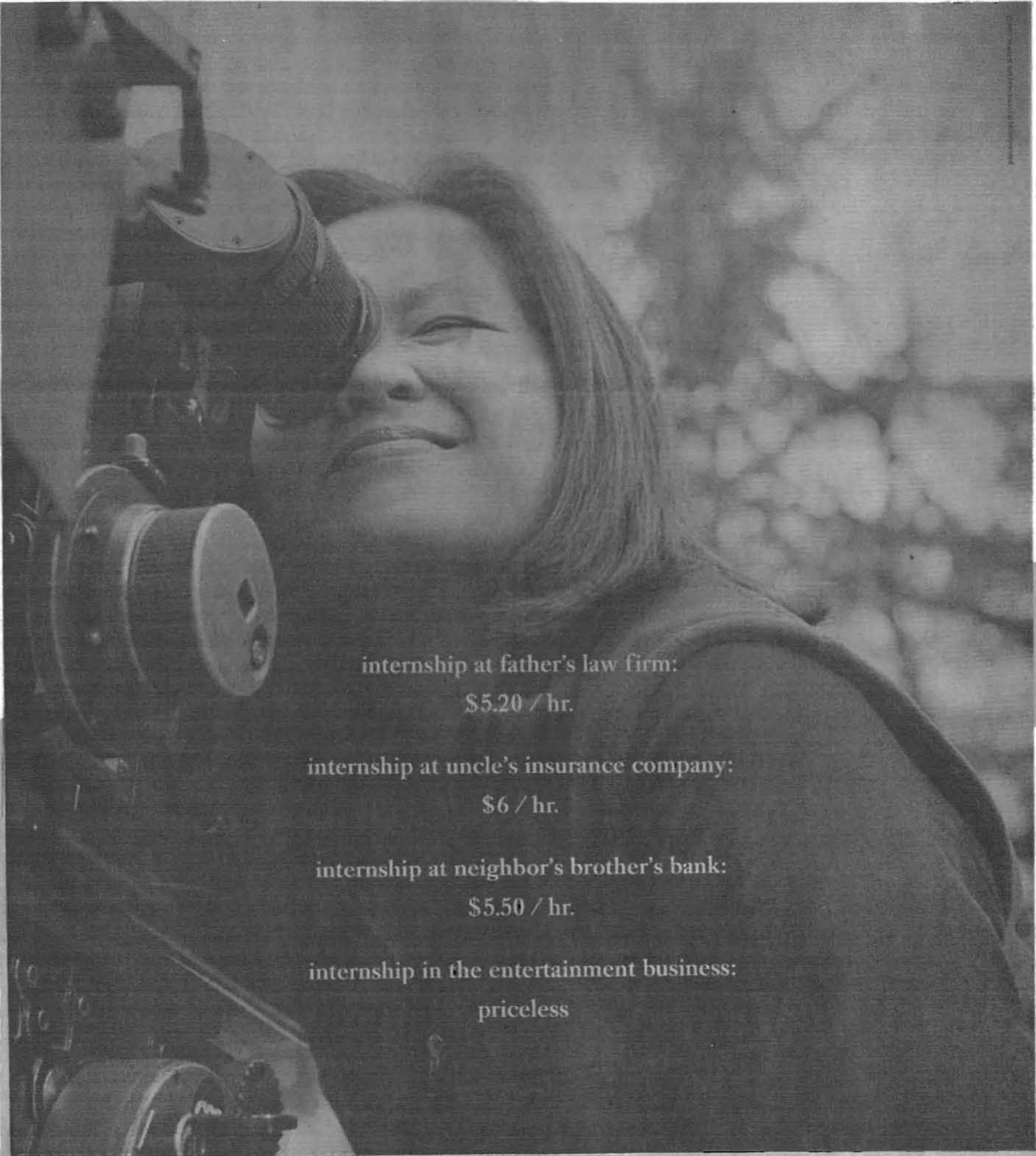
So that is the quandary. It is a worthwhile thriller. If you like thrills, scares and suspense (and I do), it is pretty good, worth seeing. The camera work is fabulous. If you want to see it because you loved Fight Club and that film's "playing around with reality" concept, this is not the same kind of thing at all. Better wait for another film

## ROOKIE, from page 7

result of this realism is a much more moving and effective film, a movie without the overblown hysterical tone and sentiment than really reduces the effect of the drama. It's really a case of less is more.

The credit for this much more effective approach has to go both to director John Lee Hancock's graceful recreation of realistic small town life and the cast's underplayed performances. Dennis Quaid's restrained portrayal of Jim Morris makes his every gesture have meaning and increases the power of the scenes in which he subtly expresses his anguish and indecision about the choice with which he has to come to grips. At the same time, one gets a sense of the quiet, reluctant hero of an old-fashioned Western in Quaid's character. Rachel Griffiths, more often seen in small independent or art films, is wonderful as Morris' straightforward, uncomplicated wife Lorri. Brian Cox's acting as Jim's distant and disapproving is just as real and fully rounded as the rest of the film's roles.

Of course, the real life-based story is wonderful. It's the kind of tale that you have to know is based in fact before you see it. Otherwise, it seems too farfetched despite the realism of the people. The story is a winner and should bring some well-deserved attention to Dennis Quaid for a beautiful performance. Hopefully, this restrained, warm and real approach will become a trend in family films. This really is a film everyone can enjoy.



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Abbreviated Contest Rules. No Purchase Necessary to Enter or Win. Void Where Prohibited. Open to legal residents of the 50 U.S. & the District of Columbia between the ages of 18 & 25 who are enrolled as full or part-time undergraduate students in a U.S. Department of Education accredited 2-year or 4-year college/university as of 2/26/02 & at the time of winner selection & notification. To enter: 1) Visit [www.mastercard.com](http://www.mastercard.com), click on the MasterCard® Priceless Edge™ icon between 5:00-01 PM Central Time ("CT") on 2/26/02 & 4:59:59 PM CT on 4/23/02 ("Promotion Period"), & follow the instructions provided; & 2) Submit your entry of no more than (250) words answering the following question: "If you could start your own entertainment company, what would it do & how would it be different? Entries will be judged based on the following criteria: 1) Originality: 0-40 points; 2) Creativity: 0-30 points; & 3) Relevance to the theme: 0-30 points. (50) winners will be selected for the duration of the promotion period in accordance with three Entry Periods ("EP"): Beginning at 5:00-01 PM CT, and ending at 4:59:59 PM CT respectively: (16) EP #1 Winners: 2/26/02-3/16/02; (16) EP #2 Winners: 3/17/02-4/4/02 and (18) EP #3 Winners: 4/5/02-4/23/02. Winners will attend MasterCard® Priceless Edge™ Summer Study Program at Belmont University's Mike Curb School of Business & Vanderbilt University's Blair School of Music in Nashville, TN between 5/28/02 & 6/29/02. Prize includes round-trip coach air transportation from major airport nearest to winner's residence in the U.S., standard room/board on Belmont University's campus, on-campus meal plan designated by Sponsor, ground transportation to/from off-campus dwellings, \$1000 which may be used toward spending money, & the opportunity to compete for one of twelve select invitations to join the Music In High Places production internship team & participate in a two-week, on-location internship of the Music In High Places production offices in Los Angeles, CA & at the Music In High Places shoot during an artist to be determined, solely by Sponsor. (APV=\$5,700). Taxes & any other expenses are winner's sole responsibility. Subject to the Official Rules available online at [www.mastercard.com](http://www.mastercard.com). For the winners' names, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to be received by 6/7/02 to: MasterCard® Priceless Edge™ Winners, P.O. Box 13104, Bridgeport, CT 06603-0106. ©2002 MasterCard International Incorporated. All Rights Reserved. Sponsor: MasterCard International Incorporated, 2000 Purchase Street, Purchase, NY 10577. Promotes Project Support Team, Inc., 100 Mill Plain Road, Danbury, CT 06811.

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# As reparation suits begin, is Duke a possible target?

BY DAVE INGRAM

The Chronicle

(Duke University)

(U-WIRE) DURHAM, N.C. - On October 15, 1855, Washington Duke walked into a Hillsborough slave sale and paid \$601 for a slave named "Caroline."

It would be, according to known records, his only purchase of a slave, but it is just one of several possible links between slavery and the university that his son would one day endow.

As an institution, Duke is not alone in those links, which have prompted a lawsuit filed last week in New York asking for reparations from three companies that may have directly benefited from slavery. Filed on behalf of the descendants of slaves, the lawsuit is part of a growing national movement for slavery reparations. Much of the attention has focused on corporations, but leaders of the reparations movement have mentioned universities — including Harvard, Yale and Brown universities — as potential defendants, leaving the question of whether Duke could also be a target.

Charles Ogletree, a Harvard law professor, is co-chairing the Reparations Coordinating Committee, one of the groups preparing reparations lawsuits. The lawsuits are intended to show, Ogletree has said, how the effects of slavery in America continue to the present.

"A full and deep conversation on slavery and its legacy has never taken place in America," Ogletree wrote this week in a New York Times column. "Reparations litigation will show what slavery meant, how it was profitable and how it has continued to affect the opportunities of millions of black Americans."

Whether the University profited from slavery is unclear, and John Burness, senior vice president for public affairs and government relations, said he did not know of any investigation into the question. The 1860 U.S. Census does not show Washington Duke owning a slave, suggesting he had sold or freed Caroline. In fact, the

tobacco farmer made most of his money after the Civil War, when he started W. Duke, Sons & Co., later to become the American Tobacco Company.

Those companies may have bought tobacco from plantations that grew out of slavery, but such an indirect link may not be enough for a suit, said Donald Beskind, a senior lecturer at Duke's School of Law and a litigation expert.

"Any claim against Duke would have to be considered completely speculative without factual informa-

wrote Trinity College 1839-1892: The Beginnings of Duke University.

Ogletree's mention of the three universities cites "grants and endowments traced back to slavery," and Duke may have benefited in a similar manner. The Campaign for Duke has received hundreds of thousands of dollars from seven companies mentioned as potential defendants, said Peter Vaughn, director of communications and donor relations for university development.

Even if direct benefits from slavery can be proved, a lawsuit faces other

'On October 15, 1855, Washington Duke walked into a Hillsborough slave sale and paid \$601 for a slave named "Caroline."'

tion that supports it," Beskind said. "You only have liability for conduct, and you need to find proof of conduct."

Such proof might be hard to come by for a university like Duke, founded in 1924, but could more likely be found in an older institution, such as Harvard, founded in 1636, or Trinity College, Duke's predecessor that was founded in 1839.

Braxton Craven, the second Trinity president, owned two slaves. However, most of the school and its supporters, which included many abolitionist Quakers and Methodists, seem not to have profited from slaves, according to materials in the University Archives.

"Most of the people in the vicinity of Trinity owned no slaves; and those who did for the most part possessed as few as Craven. Large slaveholders were a widely scattered minority in the counties of Randolph, Guilford and Davidson," writes Nora Chaffin, who

obstacles, Beskind said. First, claims of wrongdoing usually are subject to a statute of limitations that prevents lawsuits on decades-old crimes. Second, slavery was legal before the Civil War.

"Money can usually only be reclaimed for illegal activity," Beskind said.

However, the lawsuit could still succeed in another way, said James Coleman, professor of the practice of law. As is the case with many lawsuits, he said, reparations suits are intended as much to draw attention to an overlooked issue as they are to result in monetary awards.

"I don't read that article as saying that the goal of this effort is to obtain damages from the defendants," Coleman said of Ogletree's column. "I think the goal appears to be something different: to force a discussion of the issues and to get the country to look at the legacy of slavery... by targeting institutions that may have benefited from slavery."

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

# R.A.R.E. slate of business for SGA

Dear Editor,

Today marks the first day of campaigning for the upcoming Student Government Association elections that will be held on April 17th and 18th. Several of the most concerned students on campus have organized into a slate that represents the diverse needs of our University. We, the students for Reform, Accountability, Responsibility, and Excellence ask that you give careful consideration to the candidates and the issues. Our candidates for the executive offices are Sam Andemariam for President, Robert Alton Clarke for Vice President, and Jeff Griesemer for Student Comptroller. The students of R.A.R.E. believe that the answer to the University of Missouri-St. Louis's student government problems is a renewed commitment to the ideals of equality that has developed the University's diversity: an open minded student body and an acceptance of all races, sexes, religions, colors, national origins, ages, handicaps, and sexual orientations; a dedication to civil liberties and personal freedom that is necessary for the institution of higher learning; and a faculty relations policy of cooperation, understanding, and assertiveness that has been the tradition of the Student Government Association.

We believe that a movement has started on this Campus that will be fully understood years from now. Our administration will give its full support to organizations that foster the sense of community. We understand that those who live on campus have an advantage and because of this we will support the University in all its efforts to expand the amount of living space of campus. Those organizations that are currently functioning on campus like the University Meadows, Resident Halls, and Mansion Hill condominiums are examples of what our future holds as a community campus. We will specifically support the efforts of residents in the dormitories to have

twenty-hour visitation.

We believe that a Student Court must be formed so that there is an avenue for student's complaints and grievances. The Court should have final jurisdiction in regard to, parking appeals and mediation between student organizations.

We believe that Formal Male Recruitment would be of great benefit to the Greek system and University. Our administration in recognition of the importance of the Greek system will fully support the organization of a Formal Rush in that it will encourage improved interfraternal relations, increase diversity, and make the Greek system more accessible.

We believe that the offices of President, Vice President, and Comptroller could be managed better. We pledge to publish and maintain office hours. We will also encourage increased student representative involvement by enforcing more responsibilities. The President as representative of our student body will ensure and maintain the integrity of the organization. The Vice President will be charged with the duty of overseeing this duty on the "day to day" basis.

We believe that the Student Government Association should increase its presence on campus. Most importantly we will develop the Government's website so that it up to date, responsive, and accessible.

We believe that currently students are being treated unequally in various ways on Campus. Our administration will develop a formal grievance dialogue to address this. We hope to work with the University on this development, but are willing to take bold, active measures to enforce the findings of our grievance process and Student Court. We will not be afraid to take steps to mobilize our student body if our demands are not met.

We believe that there are current violations of parking enforcements, zoning and access. Our Government will take steps to further investigate

this and take steps to correct the issues.

We believe that the greatest way to increase accountability is to formalize policy that will bind individuals to action. We will write government policy that will be open to the public. With these steps in place the media, student body, and student government will be able to hold individuals accountable for their office and duties.

We believe that the students use of the libraries and their access to them is paramount to student excellence. With that, we will push to expand library hours to midnight Monday through Thursday, and until nine in the evening Friday through Sunday.

We believe that technological access to all the students on campus is important insuring equality and excellence. Therefore, we will push to expand the computer lab hours till midnight in all five of our computing labs.

We believe that leadership is best when it is diversified and dynamic. Our administration welcomes all students to become involved in leadership. We will recruit tomorrow's leaders through New Student Orientation and Open House to help mentor incoming freshmen moving towards leadership.

We believe that our campus is full of talented and scholastic individuals. In recognition of this we will develop awards and honors for outstanding students in all aspects of our University.

We will move forward with these beliefs and see them develop into policy and change on our campus in the next administration. A complete copy of our platform is available in the office of Student Activities. Our goal is not simply to be elected into office, but to have a mandate to lead from the Student Body, so please cast your vote for R.A.R.E. on April 17th and April 18th.

Submitted Faithfully,

Robert Alton Clarke  
R.A.R.E. Candidate V.P. of S.G.A.

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Void where prohibited by law. A purchase is not necessary to enter and will not improve your chances of winning.

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# Meal plan deal a real steal at Ohio

BY SARAH FACTER  
The Lantern  
(Ohio State U.)

(U-WIRE) COLUMBUS, Ohio - Let them eat cooked-to-order eggs — as many as 19 times a week, if need be.

Meal plans have become more flexible for residence hall students at Ohio State University, allowing them to access multiple meals during each meal period.

The restriction that previously limited students to one meal per meal period, with a total of four periods in a day, was eliminated. This is just one of many changes Ohio State University students can see in the dining halls and in their diets.

Because Buckeye Express has continuous service, these changes were necessary, said Tim Keegstra, director of Campus Dining Services.

"Buckeye Express doesn't close between meals. Before, a student could buy breakfast at 10:31 a.m. and use up their lunch meal for the day," Keegstra said.

Students now have the option of using their meal plan any time they want and as many times as they like.

In addition, Mirror Lake Cafe has extended its daily hours until 2 a.m., and a deli has been added to Baker Commons.

'Meal plans have become more flexible for residence hall students at Ohio State University, allowing them to access multiple meals during each meal period.'

Made-to-order sandwiches will be available from the deli, eliminating the need for ready-made sandwiches from the cooler.

Cooked-to-order eggs will also be available for breakfast at Buckeye Express, appealing to the individual preferences of each student.

These changes will likely increase food consumption, but OSU is not concerned about losing money.

"At first, there may be a spike in overall eating," Keegstra said. "But

after a few weeks, it will go back to normal. Students can only eat so much."

Before the changes were implemented, research conducted at several other universities demonstrated little likelihood for money loss.

These alterations came as a result of the efforts of both the Undergraduate Student Government and the Residence Halls Advisory Council.

The dining facilities want to put students first, Keegstra said.

"When we can work something out that seems reasonable and cost-effective, we do it," he said.

Students are taking advantage of the new policy, which went into effect on Monday.

"I have had several people use more than one meal so far," said Carolyn Bowe, a Baker Commons employee. "Many people have been asking questions about the changes."

Students seem to be in favor of the modifications.

"I think they are pretty cool because now I can use up all my meals," said Andrew Kuhn, a freshman in business. "I won't have to waste money on the meals I don't use." Julie Miles, a freshman in political science, agrees.

"The changes are a great idea and will benefit people more," she said.

# 3 Ft. Riley (Kan.) soldiers die in training explosion

BY TARA PATTY  
Kansas State Collegian  
(Kansas State U.)

(U-WIRE) MANHATTAN, Kan. - An explosion killed three Fort Riley soldiers in the early hours of Friday morning in the Mojave Desert during a live training exercise at the National Training Center in Fort Irwin, Calif., Fort Riley officials said.

Sgt. Clifton J. Decklar, 22, of Shelton, Wash.; Spec. Bobby L. Newton, 27, of New Orleans, La.; and Pvt. 2 Oscar Perez-Jimenez, 19,

of West Covina, Calif., were killed in the accident at 4:30 a.m. central time. The three men were firing live ammunition from an M-1064 armored personnel carrier when a 120 mm mortar round exploded, killing the three men in the vehicle, a Fort Riley press release said.

A fourth member of the crew, Pfc. Jamie Weare of Indianapolis, Ind., who was not in the vehicle, was evacuated to Weed Army Community Hospital at Fort Irwin. He was treated for minor cuts and released back to his unit, said Sgt. first class Kimberly Williams, Fort Irwin public affairs non-commissioned officer in charge.

The men, who arrived at Fort Irwin in February along with about 3,500 other Fort Riley soldiers, were taking part in live training in which soldiers fired live ammunition at pop-up targets, Williams said.

The unit was comprised of indirect fire infantrymen specially trained to operate the equipment they were using. "While loading the weapon something went wrong, and the round exploded," Williams said. "We're investigating what exactly happened."

The M-1064 fires mortar loaded inside the vehicle and fired through a metal tube that extends through the hatch of the vehicle, said Lt. Colonel Art DeGraf, head of the K-State military science department who has trained at the center. The set-up is similar to a person shooting a Roman candle out of the sunroof of a car, he said. The mortar, which is loaded manually, fires indirectly out of the hatch in an arch trajectory, he said.

Flags at Fort Riley were lowered to half-mast at 3 p.m. Friday to honor the fallen soldiers, according to a Fort Riley press release. A service for the three men will be in Fort Irwin in April, however no further details were available.

Williams said the National Training Center at Fort Irwin schools soldiers in desert combat in a simulated battlefield. Soldiers arrive at the facility 10 times a year for training scheduled years in advance, she said. Upon arrival, soldiers train for a week and then take part in force-on-force combat using a complex system of lasers before beginning live ammunition training.

"It's the world's best simulated battlefield," DeGraf said.

Training at the center has contributed to the strength of the army in recent years and resulted in fewer deaths in combat, he said.

"Any time we lose a soldier or serviceman in training it's a tragic loss," DeGraf said. "Due to the nature of military combative performance there is an inherent risk."

What the army can't do, he said, is not train realistically.

All of the soldiers taking part in training at Fort Irwin will be home by mid-April, Fort Riley spokesperson Deb Skidmore said.

'The three men were firing live ammunition from an M-1064 armored personnel carrier when a 120 mm mortar round exploded, killing the three men in the vehicle.'

# Dr. Ricklefs named Outstanding Scientist

CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER  
A&E Editor

Dr. Robert Ricklefs, Curator's Professor of Biology at UM-St. Louis, received the 2002 Fellows Award, recognizing outstanding scientists, from the Academy of Science of St. Louis at a gala dinner held Thursday, April 4, 2002, at the Sheraton City Center. It is by no means the first award recognizing the work of this notable scientist.

"He has contributed greatly to studies of species diversity and the aging process," said Peter Raven, director of the Missouri Botanical Garden. "His findings and research are of major benefit to all who are concerned with conservation, biodiversity and evolutionary biology." UM-St. Louis's tropical ecology and conservation research division, the International Center for Tropical Ecology, serves as the research partner of the Botanical Garden in tropical ecology.

When Ricklefs joined the UM-St. Louis Biology department in 1995, he brought a level of added distinction to an already strong tropical ecology research department. His addition to

the faculty as Curator's Professor gave instant international recognition to the department, as he is considered to be one of the world's leading ecologists. Dr. Ricklefs' areas of study are biology, ecology, and ornithology, the study of birds. His textbooks "Ecology" (1973, now in its fourth printing) and "Ecology of Nature" (1976, now in its fifth printing) are credited with introducing many college students to the topic of ecology and are considered standards of their subject. Among his numerous awards and honors are the Brewster Medal from the American Ornithologists' Union and the President's Award from the American Society of Naturalists. He was also awarded membership or fellowships in the Smithsonian Institution, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the American Association for the Advancement of Science and other prestigious organizations. He has taught and done research at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Stanford University and UCLA, among others.

Despite his many accomplishments and awards, Ricklefs is a modest, down-to-earth person, with a great sense of humor, as many of his students know. When contacted by

phone, he joked a bit in a self-effacing manner before commenting on the award. "It was a great honor," he commented. "St. Louis has a great community of scientists. It's nice to have the recognition." Although he had been aware that he had been nominated for the award, he said he "was pleasantly surprised to win."

Ricklefs felt that one of the most important aspects of the award was the attention it brings to UM-St. Louis. "It's also nice for UM-St. Louis to get the recognition," Ricklefs added. "Many times these awards only go to scientists at Washington University or other big schools." Another benefit of the award was the recognition it gave to the field of ecology. "A lot of people who get these awards are often in the molecular biology field, so it's nice to get some recognition for ecology," continued Ricklefs. "This is important because it is an area in which St. Louis is very strong."

Ricklefs' current research includes the historical biology and geography of Caribbean birds, studies in the development and aging of birds, development of immune systems in birds, as well as growth and development of Arctic shorebirds.

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## 2002 Summer Leagues

Day	Type	League	#Bowlers	Time	Mtg
Monday	Seniors	Sr. 9-pin	4	Noon	May 20
	Mix or Match	Odd Balls	4	7 p.m.	May 20
Tuesday	Scratch	Tues. Scr Trui	3	7 p.m.	May 21
	Juniors	Avg 170 and above Boys & Girls	3	4 p.m.	June 11
Wednesday	Juniors	Cosmic	4	1 p.m.	June 12
	Mix or Match	Anybody	4	7 p.m.	May 22
Thursday	Ladies	Busy Bees	2	10 a.m.	May 23
	Mix or Match	Mixers	4	7 p.m.	May 23
Friday	Seniors	Lads & Lassies	4	Noon	May 24
	Adult/Child	Cosmic	2	7 p.m.	May 24
Saturday	Juniors	Just Fun	3	Noon	June 15
	Mix or Match	Cosmic	4	7 p.m.	May 25
Sunday	Adult/Child	Family	2	1 p.m.	May 26
	Mix or Match	Sunday Brunch	2	7 p.m.	May 26



# Oregon logo still topic of debate

BY KATIE ELLIS

Oregon Daily Emerald  
(U. Oregon)

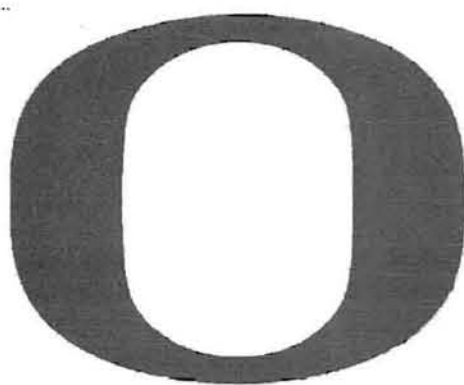
(U-WIRE) EUGENE, Ore. - The fate of the new University of Oregon logo remains uncertain after two law school professors proposed a resolution requesting the University continue to use the traditional University seal on official letterheads and business cards.

Margaret Hallock and Maurice Holland proposed the resolution during the University Senate meeting Wednesday. Both professors said the stationery used for business and academic purposes should use the traditional University seal instead of the Nike O and said other law school faculty members share their opinion.

"The feelings among law school faculty members are extremely strong about the prospect that the letterhead and business cards would cease to have the University seal," Holland said.

Holland said law school faculty members feel so strongly about the logo issue they even considered suggesting a resolution to prohibit the University from adopting the Nike O completely. He also said continued use of the original seal on business and academic documents would be in the best interest of preserving the tradition of the University.

University President Dave Frohnmayer responded to the proposed resolution and said the decision surrounding the future University logo has yet



The Nike Oregon logo. Many Oregon academic departments feel that this logo is not professional or dignified enough.

"There could have been more input sought from students. I think there should have been a presentation before the Student Senate."

- Eric Bailey  
student rep  
University senate

to be concluded. He said the process of deciding on a new logo has been a successful consultative effort among members of the University community.

Frohnmayer asked University Senate members not to consider the resolution because it would disrupt the consultative process by adding political legislation.

"I ask you to consider the issue but not to pass the resolution," Frohnmayer said. "This has been a matter with the most extensive consultation that has occurred on this campus."

If the Nike O becomes the official University logo, many are concerned about whether faculty and staff members will have a choice to use either the O or the traditional seal. Frohnmayer contended faculty members' opinions have been heard and always are taken into consideration.

"Voices have been heard loud and clear that faculty should have the choice to use the seal," Frohnmayer said.

Eric Bailey, a student representative on the University senate, agreed with Frohnmayer but said there should have been more student views heard about the issue.

"There could have been more input sought from students," Bailey said. "I think there should have been a presentation before the Student Senate."

The University Senate will continue discussion about the resolution next month.

# 75-man OU Fraternity fight leads to house suspension

BY ERIN BOECKMAN

Oklahoma Daily  
(U. Oklahoma)

(U-WIRE) NORMAN, Okla. - The Delta Tau Delta fraternity of the University of Oklahoma is under suspension following a 75-person fight early Friday morning.

At 3:30 a.m. Friday, Norman police arrived at the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity house at 701 College Ave., where a large group of people were fighting, according to a Norman police report.

Blake Allen Hall, the Sigma Phi Epsilon president, told police that he overheard that members of the Delta Tau Delta fraternity were fighting with Sigma Phi Epsilon members outside 701 College Ave., according to the report. Hall then told police that he went outside and observed about 75 people fighting in the street. When Hall attempted to break up the

'Charges included: unlawful assembly, public intoxication and interference with official process.'

fights, he was punched in the face and received a bloody nose.

Twenty-seven non-traffic dockets were filed, said Norman police Lt. Glenn Dobry. Charges included unlawful assembly, public intoxica-

tion and interference with official process. According to the report, most of the individuals involved in the fight fled the scene as police arrived. This was the second time police were dispatched to 701 College Ave., on complaints of large fights within an hour.

Clarke Stroud, vice president of student affairs, made the decision to suspend the Delta Tau Delta Fraternity based on preliminary information, said Jeff Hickman, university press secretary. While under suspension, fraternity members are not allowed to hold any activities. Basically, the members can live in their house, and that is it.

"The president (David L. Boren) has made it clear that improper behavior will not be tolerated," Hickman said.

An investigation into the cause of the fight is pending.

# Child porn charges not a rarity, say Iowa officials

BY ANNA HOLLAND

Iowa State Daily  
(Iowa State U.)

(U-WIRE) AMES, Iowa - The Department of Public Safety investigation into child pornography in Welch Hall is not an isolated case, DPS officials said. DPS Director Jerry Stewart said he knows of at least four other cases in Ames, Iowa, in the past five years in which child pornography was discovered on the Iowa State University campus.

Stewart said two cases were in residence hall rooms and one was in a private apartment.

Individuals involved in those cases pleaded guilty to the charges, he said.

DPS officers also obtained statements from witnesses and executed a search warrant on an Ames Police Department case regarding child pornography at a local business, Stewart said.

There are several levels of charges regarding child pornography, he said.

The suspect in this case faces possible charges of sexual exploitation of a minor, which comes with a fine of up to \$50,000 if convicted.

"The severity is based upon the content of the material and associated acts," Stewart said.

The crime resurfaced in Ames last week when DPS officers executed a search warrant in Welch Hall and seized computer equipment.

Stewart and Birch-Welch-Roberts Hall Director Ryan Gildersleeve declined to comment on the investigation.

Child pornography is also appearing on campuses around the nation.

A psychology student at Texas A&M University pleaded not guilty in court March 27 to charges of intent to distribute child pornography. A visiting professor at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee has been

accused of downloading child pornography onto school computers.

A former Baylor University professor charged with possession of child pornography in July 2000 pleaded guilty to the charge in court March 26.

Mike Bowman, assistant director of Academic Information Technologies, said university officials have complete access to all information and files on the ISU server but rarely check the files.

"We don't do monitoring," Bowman said. "Generally, we only provide material under court order or university administrator approval."

Bowman said he has access to all files managed by Academic Information Technologies, including e-mail, Web pages, programs and data files. The office does not check files without permission from authorities.

"We're completely guided by a court order through legal services," he

# U. Missouri-Kansas City music student dies in car accident

Harman, 19, member of many UMKC clubs

BY BEN MCCARTHY

University News  
(UM-Kansas City)

(U-WIRE) KANSAS CITY, Mo. - University of Missouri-Kansas City students lost one of their own when Amanda Harman, a 19-year-old student in the Conservatory, died last week after a head-on collision with a car that was traveling down the wrong side of the highway.

Harman moved to Kansas City last August to attend the University. She graduated at the top of her class from Salisbury High School, located in Salisbury, Mo., a small town about 40 miles northwest of Columbia. Harman was looking to pursue her goal of one day earning a living by teaching music.

Harman was heavily involved with school-related activities. She often worked with children at a Kansas City elementary school and was to begin

work with high school students interested in music careers too.

She played the trumpet and sang in the high school choir before moving on to the University. She sang with the UMKC Conservatory of Music's Women's Chorale and was excited when she heard recently that she had been accepted to the Sigma Alpha Iota music fraternity.

Professor William Fredrickson, one of Harman's instructors, said he found himself going back through her work this week. He found one piece that he felt typified Harman as a student.

Fredrickson said the assignment describes Harman's experiences while "shadowing" different music teachers at her Salisbury High School.

"These were the kind of interactions she said that gave her an understanding of what made a good teacher," Fredrickson said. "And what made her more passionate about becoming a teacher herself."

Melissa Theis, her pledge mom at Sigma Alpha Iota, remembered how determined she was in anything she did.

"She was sick during a pledge ceremony and didn't want to miss it," Theis said. "She showed up with a 102 temperature."

Sigma Alpha Iota plans to construct a collage in her inside Grant Hall. The sorority released a statement expressing how much she will be missed.

The Conservatory also released a statement that includes a few words from an outline of her goals that Harman was asked to write when she first arrived on campus.

"Her response tells you about the qualities she brought to this ensemble: 'to become a better singer, a better person, and a team player.' She achieved those goals and her brief, but important impact on faculty and other students will be positive and long lasting."

## PLAN, from page 1

Millennium Student Center. The Cultural District will be located between the Performing Arts Center and the MSC. The Athletic and Recreation district will remain around the Mark Twain Center. Finally the Beffa Property will possibly be used for a future chancellor's residence, a conference center and guest housing.

The Five-Year Plan outlines the

forecasted needs of the University and details how the University plans to balance and to prepare for these needs. Some of these plans have already been implemented, and some are to be done in the future.

The plan was prepared by Sasaki Associates, Inc. This plan is the third Five-Year plan that the University has put forward.

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#### To second in command

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#### SHAD

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#### Spring

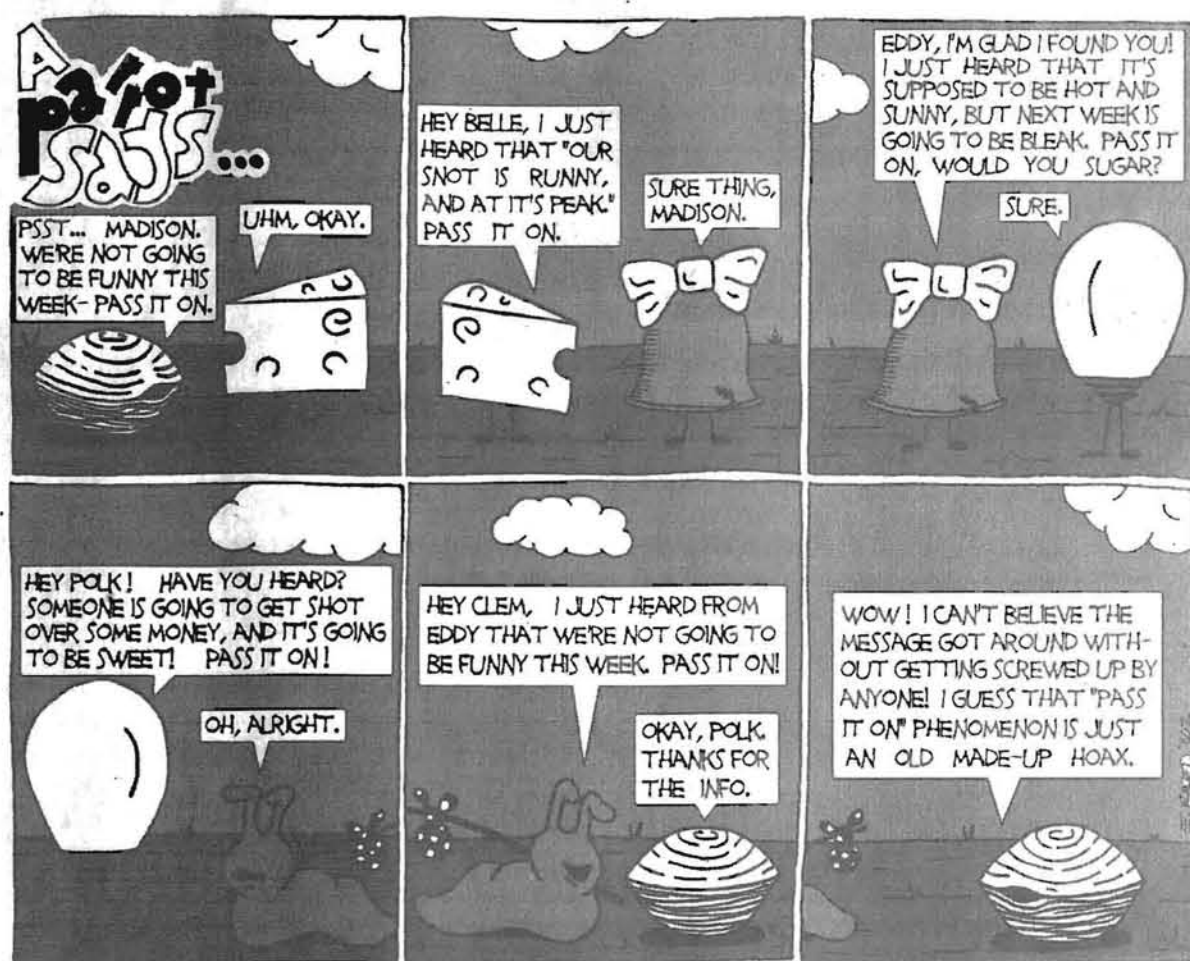
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#### Anyone else

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#### Josh

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# Event is a big success

"This is a good opportunity for different organizations to come together and accomplish something."

- Maria Curtis  
SGA Representative

BY AMANDA MUELLER  
Staff Writer

UM-St. Louis students participated in the Big Event by volunteering their time at St. Vincent Home for Children April 6. Students helped out the home by doing yard work and some spring-cleaning.

Project director Jeff Griesemer was pleased that UM-St. Louis students to make a difference.

"Everyone is so busy that we do not often get a chance to help the community," Griesemer said. "We are looking forward to helping an organization where we have helped before and that is so close to our campus."

Griesemer also recruited some students to join him in his effort, Maria Curtis and Daron Dierkes are two students who came to help out. Maria is also a representative of the SGA and University Singers. Dierkes is on the Student Senate and in the Pierre Laclede Honors Student Organization.

"This is a good opportunity for different organizations to come together and accomplish something," Curtis said.

Jeff also was able to persuade another two students; Kristin Williams and Emily Thomas join him by making signs asking for help.

Sigma Pi President Grant Willer, was happy that his fraternity could help.

"This is the second year we have done this, and anytime there is stuff in the community especially closer to the house we always do community clean-up," Willer said. "We do a lot of charity work, at least once a month we try to do something. We get a good response from members when do work like this."

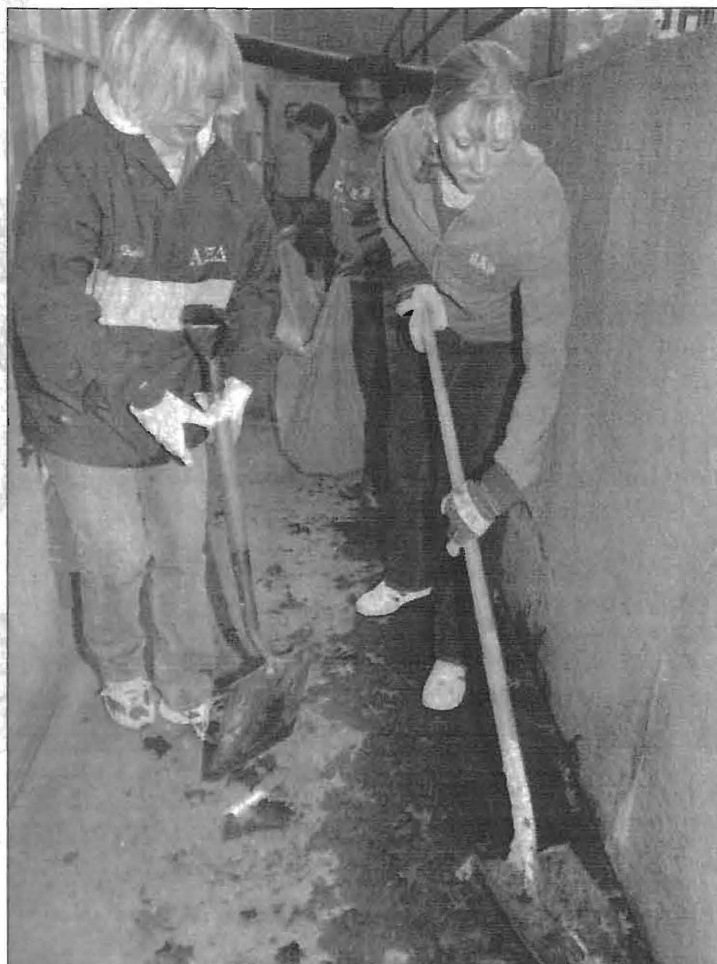
Sororities like Delta Zeta and Alpha Phi Omega also joined in to help.

"We do get four hours of service and many of my sorority sisters convinced me to come out and help," said Delta Zeta member, Allison Dillas. "It sounded like it would be a fun opportunity."

Organizations on campus such as the Resident Hall Association, College Republicans, Catholic Newman Center, and Student Ambassadors also help to sponsor the event. Chartwells, who provides campus dining for UM-St. Louis, donated food for the workers.

The Big Event started back in 1982 at Texas A&M, when six students volunteered to help clean up a local cemetery. It has now become a yearly national event for many schools across the country. UM-St. Louis jumped on board in 1998 and has been helping ever since. UM-St. Louis is also the only school in the area that participates in the project. There are over 23 other universities that participate and last year alone 5300 students volunteered for The Big Event.

This year marks the fourth year that UM-St. Louis students have given their time to help St. Vincent's.



LEFT: A couple of Alpha Xi Delta sorority sisters help clean up the St. Vincent Children's Home during The Big Event. Sigma Pi fraternity, Residential Life and various other campus groups pitched in to help clean up the property.

BELOW: The St. Vincent Children's Home is home to orphans from around the St. Louis area.

Mike Sherwin/ The Current



Mutsumi Igarashi/ The Current



Mutsumi Igarashi/ The Current

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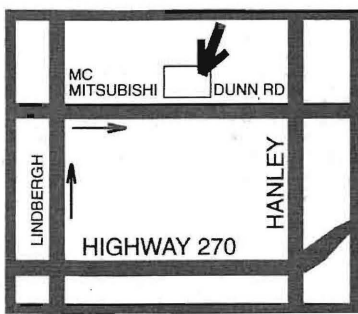


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