

3-14-1994

Current, March 14, 1994

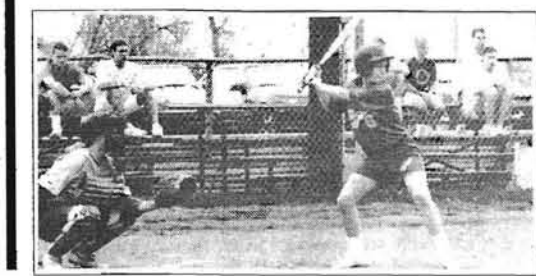
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Sneak Peak

UM-St. Louis Riverwomen softball team is looking for its first winning season in five years.

EDITORIAL

Editor responds to fraternity members who say The Current's coverage of fraternities is too negative.

FEATURES

The UM-St. Louis Debate squad set a school record this season with 118 awards.

SPORTS

Who will be the aces in Rivermen baseball coach Jim Brady's deck of cards?

Plus/Minus Grading May Change Students' GPAs

by Clint Zweifel
news editor

UM-St. Louis students may have a tougher or easier time obtaining the grade point average (GPA) they want beginning in fall semester.

Incremental grading (plus/minus grading) was passed by the UM-St. Louis Senate last April and will go into effect in fall semester.

- Grading averages are as follows:
- A = 4.0, A- = 3.7
 - B+ = 3.3, B = 3.0, B- = 2.7
 - C+ = 2.3, C = 2.0, C- = 1.7
 - D+ = 1.3, D = 1.0, D- = 0.7
 - F = 0

Incremental grading must be passed by each of the campuses' Senate before it can be used. Individual faculty members will have full flexibility, though, in deciding whether they want to use the grading system.

Leonard Ott, assistant professor of Music at UM-St. Louis, said incremental grading will allow instructors to better evaluate students' work.

"(Incremental grading) is expected to give a greater option for instructors to evaluate students," Ott said. "The people that proposed this were looking for ways to help students exclusively and understand how they were doing in

comparison to their peers."

Charles Korr, professor of History at UM-St. Louis, said he does not have strong feelings for or against the use of incremental grading. Korr said, though, that faculty will be able to better compare students' work when using the system.

"On balance, it is a better idea than not," Korr said.

"It does give (faculty) a chance to make a finer distinction. (Faculty will have) a greater degree of ability to differentiate between levels of course work."

Andy Masters, UM-St. Louis Student Government Association president, said he agrees that incremental grading could be a more accurate judge of student's work. He said, though, the system will hurt the GPAs of many students. Masters said he spoke with Ryan Gerding, UM-Columbia's SGA vice

president, who said the main complaint of students there was the possibility of losing a scholarship due to receiving a minus grade. UM-Columbia students rallied against incremental grading at the University's Faculty Council meeting Feb. 24. The proposal still must be passed by the Faculty Council at UM-Columbia before it can be implemented.

"Even though they're getting the same scores in their classes, they could get different GPAs."

Andy Masters, SGA president on Incremental Grading

"It makes a more accurate system, but it could definitely effect students in their recognition of scholarships," Masters said. "Even though they're getting the same scores in their classes, they could get different GPAs."

Masters also said the flexibility faculty has in deciding whether to use incremental grading could cause confusion on students' report cards. A student could have some professors who do not use the system and others who do.

Deborah Larson, associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, said incremental grading had been introduced into the Senate previously, but was not passed. She said there will be inconsistencies associated with the flexibility faculty will have, but she does not see that as a problem.

"There's going to be inconsistencies," Larson said. "I don't see that as a problem. Perhaps an A+ would have

See Grading, page 6

Senate Approves Parking Sticker; May Company Donates \$200,000 To Honors College

by Jeremy Rutherford
associate news editor

The proposed parking sticker was approved by the UM-St. Louis Senate at its meeting on Tuesday.

Andy Masters, Student Government Association president, said he has worked since 1990 trying to find a new way to identify the automobiles of UM-St. Louis students, faculty and staff.

"It's been an issue whether we should use stickers or hanging tags," Masters said. "What the committee decided is that we will have a sticker that will not damage the car, and also will advertise the University."

"There is going to be three colors, but the design has not been created, yet. It will go on the back windshield, and hopefully will be installed this fall semester."

Masters said he was relieved when the proposal was approved by the Senate.

"Oh yeah," Masters said. "It is the perfect solution for an argument that has been going on for years, definitely."

In other Senate business

For the second time, the Pierre Laclede Honors College has received a contribution of \$200,000 from the May Department Company adding to the College's endowment scholarship.

Kathy Osborn, vice chancellor of University Relations, said the first contribution will be consumed by the end of this year and the second will begin next year and not be consumed

See Parking, page 6

State Of The Nation 1994



Photo: Dave Floyd

Student Government Association (SGA) vice president Dave Roither speaks at an Assembly meeting last semester. SGA is planning a debate between the College Democrats and College Republicans.

Political Week To Bring Out Student Perspective

by Jeremy Rutherford
associate news editor

State of the Nation 1994: The Student Perspective will begin on March 28, according to Andy Masters, Student Government Association (SGA) president.

Masters made the announcement at the SGA meeting on March 2.

Masters and Dave Roither, SGA vice president, have scheduled U.S. Congressman Jim Talent and County Executive "Buzz" Westfall to visit the UM-St. Louis campus. "It's a chance for students to meet our government's leaders," Masters said. "And they can express their opinions about different issues."

The week of events will include: a panel discussion, a debate between the College Republicans and the College Democrats, U.S. Senate candidate Steve Carroll and, Masters said, "we're trying to bring Mayor (Freeman) Bosely to the campus, also."

The idea, Masters said, came after he and Roither completed internships at the offices of Talent

and Westfall, respectively.

"I said, 'I'll get my guy, and (Dave) you get your guy,'" Masters said.

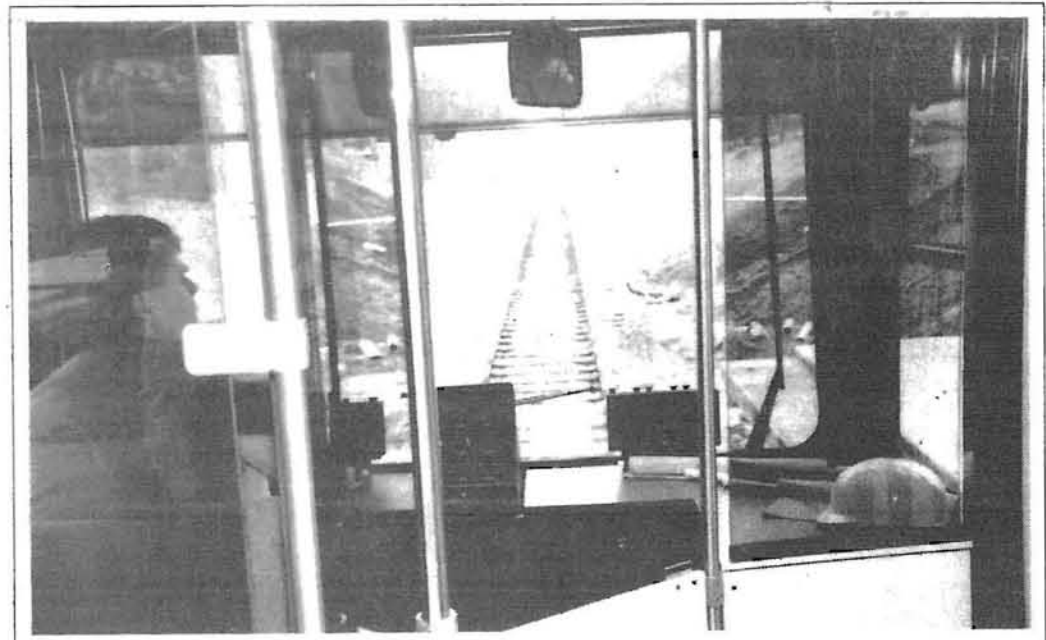
"The biggest lesson in 1992 was the significant increase in voter turnout in the age bracket of 18-25," he said. "The politicians are now realizing (that age) is important to them. They are looking forward to get to speak to young people and really accept them with open arms."

Events planned for the week are:

March 28, Westfall, 12:00-1:00 p.m., Talent from 1-2:00 p.m., Room 222J.C. Penney "Health Care Reform-How it will affect us?" Voter registration in the University Center lobby.

March 29, Former Missouri Secretary of State candidate John Hancock speaks on "Cultural Relativism in the '90s." U.S. Senate candidate Steve Carroll speaks on "Small Businesses and America's Economic Future." Voter registration in the University Center lobby.

See Political, page 6



Left:
Take a ride down the track. MetroLink light rail system has been free ride for UM-St. Louis students the entire 1993-94 academic year.

Former SGA President To Run For St. Charles Political Office

by Jeremy Rutherford
associate news editor

Michael Tomlinson, 1992-93 UM-St. Louis Student Government Association president, announced his candidacy for State Representative in the D-16th district.

Tomlinson's degree work included: political science, communications and history. He was involved in Bill Clinton's 1992 presidential election campaign, and said being a member of a major party added to his drive to do something he always wanted to do.

"It's something I've always been around," Tomlinson said. "And I pulled a lot from Clinton's campaign to use in my campaign. I learned to be energetic and stand in front of a large group of people, which Clinton did an excellent job."

Tomlinson said many problems exist in the district, but he is prepared to tackle major issues.

"The roads are 4-1 a problem over any other issue," Tomlinson said. "This is what we will have to spear-head our platform."

"Another issue is the growth of the county. The Page Bridge extension is almost accomplished, it is just a matter of speeding up the process."



Mike Tomlinson

The crime against children and sentencing of criminals must also be addressed, Tomlinson said. "The real concern is to look at the parole system. If we need to make it stiffer, we will, but something drastically needs to be done."

Water runoff, Tomlinson said, has been a problem of the district for the past couple of years. But he said with funding from the Metro Sewer District, we can start to take care of the problem.

Tomlinson said he is optimistic about UM-St. Louis expansion into the 16th district.

"We have a community college and a private school," Tomlinson said. "But I am really excited about UM-St. Louis moving into the district."

Tomlinson was recently married and it's a good thing he said, because the support is much needed.

"I knew going into the campaign, but the time involved can put a strain on any relationship," Tomlinson said. "It takes an effort from everyone to accomplish something. With the support of friends, family and my wife, the only thing I'm waiting for now is good weather so I can get started knocking on a lot and a lot of doors."

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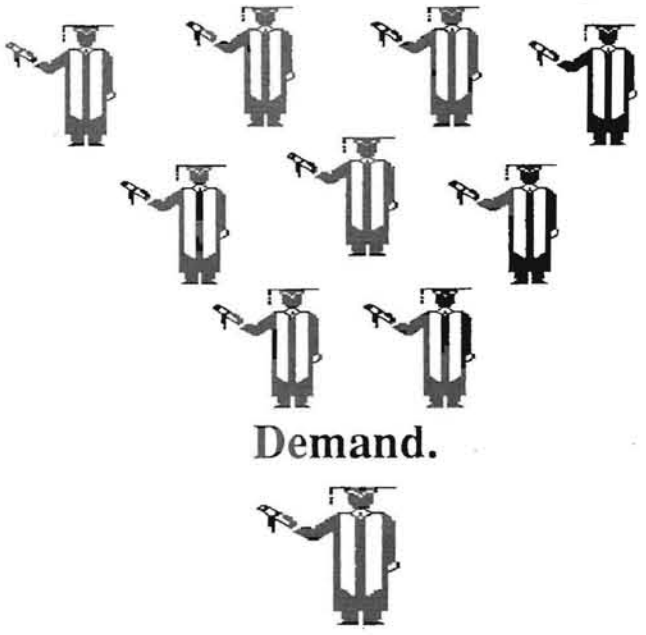
Foreign Film Festival
March 21- Too Beautiful For You
March 22- Cyrano de Bergerac
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ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN MONTH

UM-St. Louis 1994 Asian Pacific American Month will be observed during the last two weeks of April. The theme will be "Bridging Cultures." In addition to the exhibits in the Thomas Jefferson (North Campus) and Ward E. Barnes (South Campus) Libraries, there will be a problem solving symposium especially for Asians, who have recently entered into the United States. Dr. Milton Fujita, a psychiatrist, will discuss "Problems Facing Asian- Americans Students in Adjusting to the Cultures Within the U.S." on April 26, noon- 2 p.m. in 75 J.C. Penney Building. A campus community conference is being developed to enhance understanding between other minorities and Asian Americans.

Did You Know!

- Dr. Y.S. Tsiang, secretary general to the President of the Republic of China was awarded an honorary doctor of laws degree at the UM-St. Louis winter commencement. Tsiang is credited with masterminding Taiwan's land reform.
- Asian Americans held 3.8 percent of federal jobs in 1991. Overall, Asian Americans comprise 2.8 percent of the public-private workforce.
- Within higher education, Asian Americans hold 4.9 percent of jobs. In the public schools, Asian Americans held .9 percent of jobs at the elementary and secondary school levels in 1991.
- The Coalition of Asian Americans celebrates Asian Pacific American Heritage Month with a festival of ethnic foods, performances and displays at Faust Park. Free admission with \$2.00 parking fee. For information: (314) 469-1049

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From the editor's desk

by Russell Korando
editor-in-chief



Finger pointing. Excuses. Justification. It's not my (our) fault.

I've had it all wrong. There is no crime in the U.S. because no one is guilty of doing anything wrong. Everyone has their reasons for committing crimes. Or they just forgot about crimes against them for, oh, say, 20 years, only to remember when there looks to be a pot of gold at the end of the lawsuit.

Every newspaper sets aside (hopefully just) a little space every issue to clarify misspelled names, dates and sometimes critical facts. A way of saying, "Look, we were wrong, but we're not ego-driven enough not to admit it."

As is so often pointed out, *The Current* has been prone to mistakes, too. You should be impressed by lack of errors, but your not, because press adulation is taboo—only write to the editor when you have a gripe. Fine.

Personally, I misspelled Cassidy Senter's last name. Big mistake, considering the context for which it was used. Every time I make a mistake, and I get to it when I read the story in print, it's like a record that skips over the same spot. I keep going back to it.

We've "bastardized" Columbus' name. Put the wrong year in a folio line. Misspelled campus official's names... not lately. And we've run a picture of a squirrel too prominently on page one. But we've never mislead the students of this campus as to what is most important to their interest.

Student-related events and decisions. Whether or not they are solely happening on UM-St. Louis's campus is not a factor when news breaks on different campuses in Missouri. When a professor of English sued Southeast Missouri State in January, it was obvious the facts surrounding his case were important to all professors... not just in Missouri. And when a student is hazed to death, allegedly by fellow fraternity members, that too affects all students.

In his letter to the editor Feb. 28, Marty Schutte, UM-St. Louis Sigma Tau Gamma president, takes the opportunity to rail *The Current's* ethics concerning our coverage of Michael Davis' death, "... to capitalize on elevating negative images of Greek life during this annually slow news period."

Schutte subtly shifts the blame of a most heinous crime to that not of fellow Greek members, but to the press because we covered the event so thoroughly. Marty, point your middle finger at someone else.

Some members of the press may be taking Davis' death a little per-

sonal because he, too, was an aspiring journalist. And if it's proven that his would-be f(r)at brothers were responsible for his death, I don't think the relationships between frats and campus newspapers will take a turn for the better.

Being a vet of the U.S. Army's Infantry School, hazing, to me, never really seemed to be the scourge of college life lawmakers made it out to be. Our drill instructors couldn't touch us physically, but they used cattleprod methods to shake us up mentally. Hazing at Ft. Benning, Ga. was a daily occurrence.

No one was beaten to death, though. Unfortunately, death makes microscopic issues jump to the top of news pages. But all Schutte is concerned about is his vested interest (recruiting pledges for beer money and repairs for the ole frat house when parties get out of hand) and not the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but...

Schutte challenges our headline writing, and says frats are... still the best form of character development available on college campuses, today. Oh, images of Beavis and Butt-head and all out drunkfests develop character.

Andrew Masters, UM-St. Louis Student Government president and fellow Sig Tau member, mirrored Schutte's remarks. Masters said he wished *The Current* would focus on more positive aspects of our fraternities and not the negative aspects of fraternities on other campuses.

So, because Davis' death occurred 120 miles south of St. Louis, it's not important enough for student reporters to gain valuable investigative reporting skills by actually going to Cape Girardeau.

I know, Sig Tau helped feed needy people on Thanksgiving Day. But *The Current* was there too, covering the event. But guys like Marty and Andy forget the balance of coverage and immediately castigate us when something is covered not adhesive to his frat's image.

All I can think about is Davis' smiling image smeared across newswires coast to coast. And all the beer money in the world won't bring it back to life.

Vox Populi... Voice of the People

Dear editor,

Well, the Olympics are over and so is the Tonya Harding/Nancy Kerrigan story. Or is it? The saga may never end, it seems. As the FBI prepares to investigate Harding, the questions come fast and furious:

•Will she be convicted of the assault on Nancy Kerrigan?

•Is she guilty?

•Did she deliberately break her shoelace to get more attention and buy herself more time at the competition?

•Will she stay with Jeff Gillooly?

•Will we ever stop seeing her face in the news?

The answers to these questions and more can all be discovered in the coming months as the continuing investigation unfolds to reveal even more bizarre details about Harding and the "Much Ado About Nothing" saga. Yes, Harding summed it up nicely with the same music score to her technical program. There was really nothing for people to get worked up about. Get real. Even if Kerrigan had been eliminated from the competition by the botched attack, in order for Harding to win the Gold, her entourage would have to whack out at least eight other

kneecaps! Could you imagine, Kerrigan not withstanding, Harding had her butt whipped by an orphaned 16-year-old? She would have been furious!

For myself, it was a trip. If it weren't for Harding and Kerrigan, I would have never seen the Olympics, never would have seen Bonnie Blair win the Gold, and never had the privilege of watching Torvil and Dean's performance to the score "Bolero." I was on the edge of my seat on Friday night, along with millions of other viewers, watching and waiting for Harding and Kerrigan, having followed the story in the press since the attack on Kerrigan in Detroit in January.

So, I have them to thank, because they got me involved in watching a truly wonderful show. It just leaves me wondering why Harding chose "Jurassic Park" for her music. Was she trying to tell us something? Anyway, it was fun, but it's all over except the gossip. So, Nancy, enjoy your trip to Disney World, and Tonya, make sure your laces are tight before you step on the ice next time.

Brenda Tumbow

UM-St. Louis/

•Herman W. Smith, professor of Sociology, has published the book, "The Myth of Japanese Homogeneity: Social Ecological Diversity in Education and Socialization" with Nova Science Publishers Inc.

•The 18th annual Chancellor's report to the community will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., May 25 at the America's Center.

•The May Department Stores Co., Famous Barr, Lord and Taylor and Payless Shoe Source stores have pledged \$200,000 over five years to the Pierre Laclede Honors College.

The gift is to support an endowed scholarship fund for students enrolled in the Honors College, with emphasis on women and African-Americans. The May Co. endowments of \$400,000 are the second-largest at UM-St. Louis.

Career Placement Services will co-sponsor the eighth Gateway to Careers Job Fair, March 10, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Mark Twain Building. One hundred employers are participating in the event this year.

Newsire

The CURRENT



Address all correspondence to: *The Current*
8001 Natural Bridge Road • St. Louis, Mo. 63121
Business and Advertising (314) 553-5175 or Newsroom and Editorial (314) 553-5174

Russell Korando
Clint Zweifel
Christine McGraw
Jason Buchheit
Larry Offner
Jeremy Rutherford
Cory Schroeder
Pete Dicrispino
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State Of The Nation '94:

The Student Perspective



Mon. March 28 Room 222 J.C.P.

County Executive "Buzz" Westfall 12-1:00 p.m.
"Crime: What Can Be Done?"

U.S. Congressman James Talent 1-2:00 p.m.
"Health Care Reform-- How will it affect us?"

Tues. March 29 Room 222 J.C.P.

Former Mo. Secretary Of State Candidate John Hancock
"Cultural Relativism in the '90s" 12-1:00 p.m.
U.S. Senate Candidate Steve Carroll
"Small Businesses and America's Economic Future" 1-2:00 p.m.

Weds. March 30 Room 222 J.C.P.

Analyst Discussion Panel:
"Clinton Administration--Heading in the Right Direction?" 12-1:30 p.m.

Thurs. March 31 Room 78 J.C.P.

DEBATE: College Republicans vs. College Democrats
Special Guest Moderator, Time T.B.A.
Prizes to be awarded-- Audience to decide the winner.



Coordinated By Student Gov't. Association 553-5105

Voice Of The People Policy

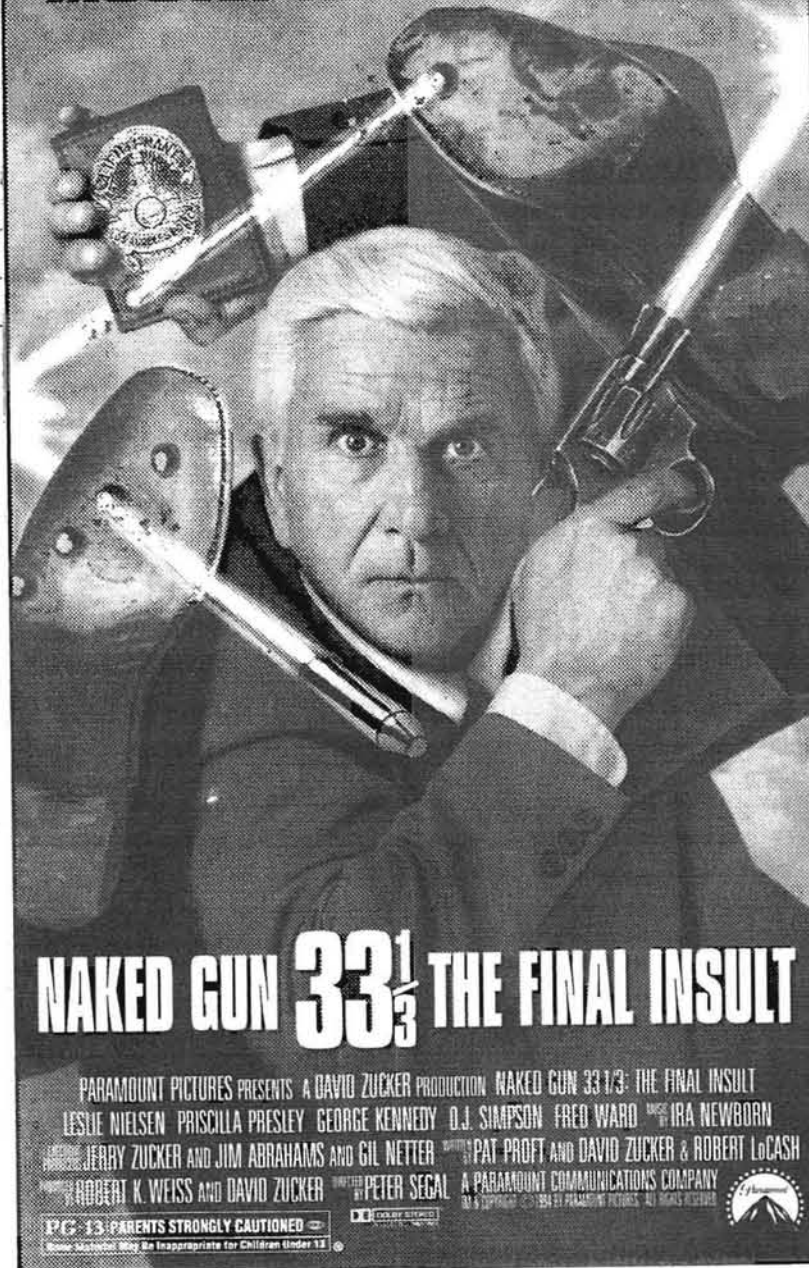
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Editing may be necessary for space and clarity. Ideas will not be altered, but editing will avoid obscenity, libel and invasions of privacy.

Letters in print do not necessarily reflect the opinion of *The Current*.

For purposes of verification, all letters must bear the writer's handwritten signature, address, student identification number and home or work telephone number. If requested, all efforts will be made to maintain the writer's anonymity.

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No Argument: UM-St. Louis Debate Squad Is Best

by Michael O'Brian
associate features editor

The UM-St. Louis Forensics and Debate Squad set a new school record by winning 118 awards, and the season isn't even over yet.

The count at this time tops the school's previous record of 115 set in 1987-88.

Seniors Jerrie Hayes and Trezette



Trezette Stafford

Stafford have proven to be the weight of this year's success. Hayes set a record for most awards won by a

student in one season with 25. Stafford brought in five first place awards at the state tournament this year.

"In my ten years of coaching, I have never seen a student not only with such talent, but with such persistence and determination to excel," said Tom Preston, director of Forensics. "Although Jerrie has won by far and away the largest number of awards of any student in the 27-year history of the program, it is her dedication to practice and to perfection that impresses me more than anybody else."

At the State Tournament, the team brought home 21 awards including nine first place honors.

"Although Trezette wasn't really active in the squad but for this year, I cannot express how pleased we have been with her performance," said Preston.

Stafford won a school-record nine awards at the tournament. As a first-year competitor, she was named top novice in three individual events.

"It is incredible that she did this well against competition with six or seven times her experience," said Preston.

The success of this year's team was not only evident at the tournament. The squad also attended the Russell Martin Tournament at

Cornell University and placed first in overall competition against a 32-team field. Schools in attendance at the tournament included Harvard, Penn State, Syracuse, and Notre Dame.

"When I first came here there was zilch for students," said Preston. "Now we have very limited financial assistance to attract debaters."

UM-St. Louis recently began offering research assistantships to members of the team. Certainly, Preston has been influential in bringing that support to prime. His dedication to the Forensics Team has made winners of the school and has caught the attention of the administration.

"Originally there was a very small travel budget," said Preston. "Now that budget is tripled."

The team is reliant on money from the school, but also does a number of fundraising efforts to enhance their budget. Examples include, the annual Gateway Tournament, candy sales, and a summer workshop for high school students.

The workshop not only brings in revenue for the team, but it's an opportunity for high school students to become familiar with debate and forensics through pri-



Photo: Dave Floyd

The '93-94 UM-St. Louis Forensics and Debate Squad. This year's team set records in many categories including most awards (118).

vate and public grants. Last year 75 St. Louis city students were able to attend the workshop through grants put together for the mock trial debate category.

The UM-St. Louis team is currently raising money to send

qualifying members to the nationals. Different events are held at different places. Becky Witte has qualified to attend the Persuasive Speaking event in Anchorage, Alaska.

Other team members attend-

ing the nationals this year are Jerrie Hayes, Trezette Stafford, Frank Richter, Michelle Turner, Tim Ennenbach and Nkrumah Zuberi. Assistant coaches working with Preston are Sherry LaBonn and Jennifer Schultz.

My Life: Self-Portrait of an Artist

by Jeffrey Struyk
features editor

How much of your life could you fit in a plastic sandwich bag? Thomas Kochheiser, Director of Gallery 210, tried to fit it all in.

On Jan. 25, Kochheiser opened his exhibit, "My Life" at Left Bank Books in the Central West End. The exhibit consists of 250 plastic Ziploc sandwich bags tacked down with 2 clear push pins each. The bags are laid out in a grid about an inch and a half apart from each other. Each bag

contains an object from the artist's personal life.

"It's like this real strict grid. What I've done is sort of created a self-portrait but instead of drawing a picture of myself, I collected all this junk that has to do with my life. It's sort of stuff that I come across every day. There's a lot of toys from my kid, there's a lot of aviation stuff like stall charts. . . all kinds of just run of the mill stuff. The idea is that if you look at this piece and the things that are in it, you'll get some idea of who I am and what my interests are,"

Kochheiser said.

Kochheiser also used the unusual media, sandwich bags, in a previous exhibit six years ago. "I work in numerous media. I had sandwich bags that I had been drawing on, I've also done collage pieces. I tend not to paint. One day I got some sandwich bags out. I guess you could call it cheating, but I tend to like images that are crisp and look like they really look," Kochheiser demonstrated how he would lay the sandwich bag down on a photograph and trace over it with a marker. "It's real quick, and actually it's helped me develop an interesting drawing style because I can do it real fast," Kochheiser said. "I was just looking for something unusual."

Kochheiser did not learn about art from any formal training, but rather from his own life experiences. "I've never had any art classes. All my training has been in [art] histories, but I've never really studied studio art. In a sense, it frees me up to use damn near anything I come across," Kochheiser said.

"Because I don't know that I'm doing to start with, things I stumble on tend to really look like my own

instead of something that came to me after looking at someone else's work and are pretty uniquely mine and I like that," Kochheiser said. "Of course the fact that I have never gone to art school means I'm kind of behind the eight-ball in trying to do certain things. I don't have much technical knowledge. I'm sort of reinventing the wheel a lot of times. It would probably be easier if someone would show me how to do some of the things, but I'm more likely to just try to figure it out on my own."

On the positive side, this lack of technical knowledge is offset by the lack of outside influence affecting his own imagination. "A lot of times people go to school and get their BFA (Bachelor of Fine Arts) and then their MFA (Master of Fine Arts) and then they have to take a lot of time to work through all these influences that they've had to try to come up with something that is their own. You have to unlearn a lot of stuff," Kochheiser said. "I just go my own way."

"My Life" is on display at Left Bank Books at 399 N. Euclid in the Central West End. The exhibit will be open through April 3.



Photo: Dave Floyd

IT'S MY LIFE: Thomas Kochheiser, Director of Gallery 210 shows a self-portrait in his exhibit, "My Life" at Left Bank Books. The exhibit is made up of plastic sandwich bags containing various objects from his daily life.

Chatter Box

by Cinde Poll
of The Current staff

What do you think of the U.S. policy in Bosnia?



"I think there needs to be some kind of international law, but then you have the problem: who is going to set it into law."

Brenda Jumper
Junior
English

"We need to get the hell out of there. President Billary should spend more time with the United States."

Viken Wellman, Sr.
Sophomore
History



"I believe that it is desirable that the U.S. participate with NATO or the United Nations in a combined effort. I don't believe it is a good idea to do it all by ourselves."

Steven Hause
Professor
History



"We've said so much but we have done so little."

Kevin McHugh
Junior
Chemistry



Photo: Christopher Sutherland

Charcoal drawings and milk-jug masks are some of the many works of student art on display in gallery 210.

Student Art Show in Gallery 210 A Commentary

by Michael O'Brian
associate features editor

sign, and the two downward curves create an interesting visual effect.

Students are showing off their artistic wares in Gallery 210. Some of the work on display is pleasing.

I was very impressed by the photography work by John Chambless. Chambless has a great sense of composition and an eye for the interesting angle.

In one shot, Chambless shows Highway 40, Exit 37B. This is the Grand Boulevard exit. Chambless has taken the shot viewing eastbound which shows the semi-circular turn of the off-ramp. The Arch is below the exit

Another shot Chambless took is in one of the underground MetroLink stops. The photo was taken as the light rail comes at the camera and passes. Chambless appears to have taken the shot on a low shutter speed which shows the motion of the vehicle. His camera angle creates a composition that intensifies motion with intersecting diagonal and vertical lines formed by the interior structure of the



See Art, page 6

Campus Crime

2/18/94
An individual reported that both their front and rear license plates were taken from her vehicle parked on the South Campus MetroLink parking lot. She said the incident occurred between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

2/21/94
A staff member reported that an unknown person damaged the door of her vehicle between the hours of 2:05 p.m. and 3:10 p.m. The car was parked on the first level of garage "C."

2/22/94
A staff member reported that an unknown person took her unattended purse at 11:00 a.m. from her desk in a South Campus classroom.

2/26/94
A student reported that an unknown person took \$500 from his room in the Honors College between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. The money was recovered.

3/3/94
An individual reported that an unknown person took her wallet while she was using vending machines on the first floor of Benton Hall at 12:40 p.m.

Parking from page 1

until 1997.

"The contribution enables the Honors College to offer competitive scholarships," Osborne said. "Dr. Fausz can go to schools and work with a large pool of money."

Political from page 6

March 30, Panel Discussion 12:00 p.m. Room 222 J.C. Penney, "The Clinton Administration-Taking Us in the Right Direction?"

March 31, Debate: College Republicans vs. College Democrats.

All dates and times are subject to change.

Grading from page 1

been good to include, but there are equal chances for a student to be helped or hurt. It gives both the student and the instructor a better idea of where the student is."

Delbert Day, chair of the Intercampus Faculty Council and professor of ceramic engineering at UM-Rolla, said he would rather see all faculty use incremental grading or none use it at all.

"I think there ought to be uniformity in the grading system, but we recognize that there has to be some flexibility," Day said. "Certainly, in an area where you're getting to have a letter grade, it's better to have uniformity than three or four different policies."

Day said, though, he has confidence the system will work.

"Any system will have some good points and some weak points," he said. "You're stuck with that. When there's a change, there is always a risk with that change. The University has went through grading changes in the past and students have always done well."

mask is a King Tut-looking replica done by Kathy Berens.

Laurie Collins has a nice work of different materials put together in a collage to form the image of a woman walking away from you on a beach. Very clever, Laurie.

Of all the drawn works, there is only one artist who caught my attention. Two works by Martamaa are very stimulating.

One is pastel drawn landscape. Martamaa has used secondary colors to create a vividness and spark normally seen with the use of primary colors. The work demands your eyes glance. The other piece by Martamaa is an upperbody drawing of a man (maybe a self-portrait) done in charcoal. Out of a display of six charcoal drawings in a section, Martamaa's is the only one which seems to have any concept of light against dark, and it is the only one which contains any value of technique.

In that set, Melissa McVicker has done some interesting cross-hatching work, but the background looks rushed.

The big work of the show (and I mean big!) is one I call the "Colossal Insect Monstrosity." This work is the combined effort of several students done on 40 sheets of 11 x 14 inch pieces of paper and tacked together spanning one wall of the gallery. In my opinion, it is wasted space. Though some of the insects in this huge work are not bad, the piece lacks any sense of composition with nothing to tie the immense work together.

The work seems to want you to study its detail, but it is so monotonous and boring that I just didn't want to trudge through the muck.

Works by Adam Schnieder, Cary Boelhauf and Hans Hentschal are worth mentioning. I think these artists have much better to come.

Who am I to rate this show? Nobody, but I am the one who's sitting at this computer. I recommend students jot through the gallery to see what is on display. Reserve a few minutes. You probably won't need much more.

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Speak No Evil



All Good Things Must End

by Cory Schroeder
sports editor

Last issue, "Speak No Evil" took an in-depth look at the success women's basketball coach Jim Coen enjoyed this season while guiding the Riverwomen to a playoff berth.

This issue, we take a look at Coen's counterpart, men's basketball coach Rich Meckfessel, who has unfortunately had less than a successful season.

The Rivermen won a total of eight games this season, their worst ever performance during Meckfessel's tenure.

"It's been a tough season on everybody," Meckfessel said. "No one likes to lose."

The hand's fate showed the Rivermen no mercy this season. Their heart and soul and lone senior Malcolm Hill went down with a season-ending leg injury with more than half the games left to play.

He was what little glue we had," Meckfessel said. "After he went down, everything else kinda fell apart too."

This year's squad featured Hill as the only returning player from the previous year. All of the other players came as transfers from other programs or as incoming freshmen. Needless to say, with all the new faces running around out there, everybody seemed unsure of what role they were supposed to play. A chemistry was never developed; teamwork was just a word.

"I couldn't get them to take shots to win," Meckfessel said. "I couldn't get to play defense for more than 35 seconds. We didn't have that smoothness on the floor."

Why was the this team unable to come together?

"We had a lot of strong-willed people. We had players who were successful on other levels," Meckfessel said. "Our players now understand what they need to do to win."

Meckfessel took full responsibility for his team's erratic and sometimes embarrassing play.

"They were poorly disciplined and that's my responsibility," Meckfessel said. "We had all these new guys coming in who had been successful wherever they had been. I decided to loosen the reigns and just let them play. Next year will be different."

Meckfessel is a proven winner with 400 wins under his belt. During the season, you could see the weariness of losing take a toll on him. For once, he abandoned his system and tried to let the talent foster on its own. It backfired. Odds are next year, every player will always be in his shadow.

Meckfessel has had his best years after a losing season. His NCAA tournament team that reached the Regional final came after a 12-15 season.

So with all the negatives aside, what were some of the positives of the season.

"Everybody got a lot of minutes," Meckfessel said. "We now what to expect from each individual."

Next year, red-shirt Jim Robinson will be ready to go. Robinson is deadly from long range and should add some much needed scoring punch.

With a solid recruiting class, we can expect to Rivermen to return to their rightful status, as a contender for the Mid-American Intercollegiate Athletics Association championship.

They're Back! Rivermen Hopeful For Another Trip To World Series

by Pete Dicrispino
associate sports editor

After being eliminated from the NCAA Division II College World Series last year, the UM-St. Louis baseball team hopes this year will be different.

The Rivermen captured their first regional championship in 16 years a year ago and received a taste of World Series experience. This year they're hoping the experience will be just what the doctor ordered, in bringing a World Series Championship to UM-St. Louis.

"It will take a total team effort again," Rivermen skipper Jim Brady said. "We have to play good defense and take advantage of our offensive opportunities. And our pitching has to be better than it was last year."

The Rivermen return 16 lettermen from last year and have added 14 newcomers to an already impressive lineup.

"We have a very deep and flexible lineup that enables us to do a lot of things," Brady said.

Brady is hopeful the World Series trip last year will help the team's frame of mind.

"That entire experience is invaluable, they now know what it takes to be there," Brady said.

The Rivermen lost All-American pitcher Andy Runzi and hard-hitting outfielder Bob Mutnansky from last year's team, but Brady feels there is enough talent to offset the losses.

"Some people will have to set up for



The Current file photo

SWING BATTER! Rightfielder Dave Jolliff waiting for a pitch in a game last year. Jolliff, and his brother Donnie, will try to lead the Rivermen to their second straight World Series berth. The Rivermen return 16 lettermen from last year and added 14 new faces to this year's lineup.

us, like Andy and Bob did last year," Brady said.

Senior outfielders Jeff Eye and Donnie Jolliff will be counted on to step up offensively.

"They will carry the load, they have both proven that they can handle

it," Brady said.

"Eye, this year will set a school record for runs batted in in a career and Jolliff is a 100 percent healthwise."

While the Rivermen don't have an ace in Runzi, they might have a deeper pitching staff than last year.

be even better than last year," Brady said.

Stratman will be joined by righthanders Chris Dumm (5-1), Matt Logeais (4-2), and Trevor Wolfe (2-1) in the rotation.

Transfers Steve Ekhooff and Jason Fischer also could push for spots in the starting four.

"This is a group that I feel good about and anyone of these guys could emerge on a given day," Brady said.

In the bullpen, the Rivermen might have the best one-two punch in the country. Senior Greg Shepherd led the nation last year in saves and will be the stopper again this year.

"I expect the same kind of excellence this year from Greg," Brady said. "He has a big league slider. The key is he has to stay ahead of the batters."

Shepherd will receive help from freshman Rob Rogers in the bullpen.

Rogers is a hard-throwing righthander who has the ability to dominate a game.

"He has a chance to come in and be a great compliment to Shepherd as a set-up man," Brady said.

On offense, no matter how the order goes, should be very potent.

Here's a look at the probable opening day order.

Transfers Bart Leuthauser (second base) and David Lucas (third base), are penciled in No. 1 and No. 2 in the

See Baseball, page 8

Coen Guides Riverwomen To First Winning Season In Five Years

by Rob Goedecker
of The Current staff

When Jim Coen took over as head coach for the UM-St. Louis women's basketball team last year, he had five goals that he wanted to accomplish in his first season.

1. Establish a winning attitude:

Throughout the season, the Riverwomen have proven that they can play with the top teams in the Mid-American Intercollegiate Conference (MIAA), deal with pressure situations that would have crushed Riverwomen teams of the past, and come back from deficits to win key games.

2. Have a winning season:

UM-St. Louis finished the season 16-13 overall and 8-8 in the conference, their first winning season in eight years.

3. Make the MIAA playoffs:

The MIAA conference consists of 12 teams, and out of those teams the top eight get to compete in the playoffs. This year the Riverwomen finished seventh, giving them their first playoff appearance in over five years.

4. Beat a quality team:

UM-St. Louis beat a very talented Pittsburg State team (MIAA conference champions two years ago) on the road in front of a roaring Gorilla crowd. The loss was only the Gorilla's second at home in four years.

5. Win a MIAA playoff game:

In the first round of the playoffs, the Riverwomen played a tough Washburn team, a team they felt confident they could beat, besides the fact that Washburn has never lost to a MIAA conference team at home. But they fell just short of that goal after losing 88-77 in a close game.

"We had the opportunity to win the game. It wasn't like we went out there with no chance to win," said Coen. "We wanted to play Washburn. We thought we could beat



Photo: Cinde Poli

CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARDS: "Athlete of the Week", Nancy Hesemann, was a true champion in her four-year career as a Riverwoman.

Washburn, but we went out there and didn't execute as well as we needed to. I thought our kids played as hard as they needed to, and had the effort we needed to win, but we didn't have the performance we needed to win. Sometimes that happens, but

See Coen, page 8

Voices From The Stands

To Pat Stewart: who wrote the letter, published in the Feb. 21 issue of *The Current*, that degraded the cleanliness of the Mark Twain Building. The Mark Twain Building was chosen as a site for the St. Louis Olympic Festival based on the quality of the facilities it had to offer. I am positive that if the Festival committee had thought it was "dirty", our facility would have been passed over.

Ms. Stewart, I think your best option is to shut your mouth when you don't know what you're talking about.

Sincerely,
"Disgruntled"

A name was not signed.

The Quote Box



UM-St. Louis Diehard Athletics Fan Mitch Waymer On The Olympic Festival

"All-right, we're hosting taekwando. Hey, wait a minute! What is taekwando?"



Westport Cine'
Athlete of the Week

Nancy Hesemann

***Finished Career As 10th All-Time Scorer And Third All-Time Rebounder**

***Senior Played All Four Years At UM-St. Louis**



Softball Team Reloads, Ready To Build On Winning Season

by Cory Schroeder
sports editor

By adding some new pieces, UM-St. Louis softball coach Harold Brumbaugh might have solved the MIAA Championship puzzle.

Last season, the Riverwomen enjoyed their finest season under Brumbaugh, posting a 24-22 record and a third place finish in the Mid-American Intercollegiate Athletics Association. It was also the first time a Brumbaugh team reached the conference tournament. The Riverwomen battled through the first round before being eliminated by Missouri Western.

Brumbaugh expects this season's squad to make a conference title run.

"We'll be right up there,"

See Softball, page 8



The Current file photo

BRUSH BACK: Riverwoman Nicole Christ gets a close shave by an opposing pitcher in a game last year.

Softball from page 7

Brumbaugh said. "We've got a lot of new faces, so it will take a while for us to gel. But by the middle of season, we should be somewhere near the top."

Two of those new faces join the Riverwomen from Division I schools. Robyn Horace (Southeast Missouri State) and Nikki Patton (Purdue) are talented transfers who both have enormous run producing capabilities. Patton is slated to start at shortstop while Horace will most likely wind up in left field.

"We have a lot of depth at a lot of positions," Brumbaugh said. "Right now, nothing is set."

With the addition of so many newcomers, Brumbaugh will be counting on big seasons from returning letterwinners Nicole Christ and Dina Whelchel. Christ, a sophomore, just joined the team after completing the season as the starting point guard for the women's basketball team.

"Nikki will only have two practices before we travel to Florida," Brumbaugh. "I'll be expecting more of the same numbers from last year."

Christ enjoyed a solid rookie season, batting .354 with 26 RBIs and 27

runs scored. She'll move over to third base to make room for Patton in the infield.

Despite the wear and tear of catching, Whelchel managed some impressive offensive numbers, hitting .362 while driving in 21 runs. With that kind of power, Brumbaugh sees her as a perfect fit for the clean-up spot.

"Dina has a lot of experience and she knows the game," Brumbaugh. "She's strong offensively and defensively."

On the mound, strikeout leader Jill Stockdale returns. Stockdale, a senior,

Coen from page 7

as long as you get the effort, you can never complain."

Late in the second half, UM-St. Louis cut the deficit to seven points on a three pointer by Nicole Christ with 4:49 remaining, but 20 seconds later Rhonda Metzke came back with a three of her own to knock the wind out of the Riverwomen's sails.

Shelly Foster, last years MIAA Player of the Year, led the Lady Blues with 29 points, 17 in the second half. Foster, 6'1", is mainly a perimeter player, but in the second half she played on the blocks and used her size to take advantage of a smaller UM-St. Louis team. "Hopefully next year we'll be looking at a situation where we'll recruit a couple of big kids so we don't have anymore mismatches," Coen said.

Senior Nancy Hesemann played her final game with the Riverwomen, scoring 10 points along with grabbing five rebounds.

Overall, the Riverwomen had a successful season and proved to everyone who doubted, that the Riverwomen are for real.

"If you don't set your goals high, your doomed to failure," Coen said.

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Hard indeed, while not pitching last year, Duffin patrolled centerfield and scored 23 runs while stealing seven bases.

"She's our catalyst," Brumbaugh said.

Another anchor will be Stephanie Adelman, the program's only four-year player. Adelman will be a fixture at first base, where she only made one error in 137 chances.

"Will be counting on Stephanie for a lot of leadership this season," Brumbaugh.

With a nucleus of steady veterans and a crop of talented transfers, Brumbaugh could again be looking at his most successful season to date.

Baseball from page 7

batting order.

"Leuthauser is a gritty player and Lucas is a gamer," Brady said.

Hitting No. 3 and No. 4 in the order will be the team's catalyst, Joliff, and the consistent Eye.

Catcher Todd Schmidt, who has all kinds of potential will bat No. 5 and overachiever catcher Jason Wilson will also see some time.

The always dangerous first baseman Jeff Peer will bat sixth.

"He has the power to knock it out of the ballpark," Brady said.

Jeremy Ragan, who is a solid shortstop, will bat No. 7 and the No. 8 and No. 9 spots are up for grabs.

Outfielders Dan Chinnici, Dave Joliff, Kelly Thornton, Dave Connelly, Brady Burk, and Joe Di Bartolo, will battle for the final two spots.

However, all will see plenty of playing time under Brady.

"I think they see the fruits of their labor, hard work does pay off," Brady said. "The series provided them with a taste and once you have been there, it makes the second trip more goal-oriented."

Fans better jump on the bandwagon now, by the time the World Series rolls around, it might be crowded.

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