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Ninteen rocks the loop

See page 9

THECURRENTONLINE.COM

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI - ST. LOUIS

Performing Arts Center dedicated to Touhill

New Center took more than 20 years to realize

BY BECKY ROSNER
News Editor

On May 23, the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center was officially dedicated to the former chancellor. The event was

“The initial idea to create a performing arts center was proposed in 1979. In 1991, when Touhill became chancellor, she made the dream take form.”

both free and open to the public.

The event began with a short presentation by many speakers who contributed to the center. Interim Chancellor Don Dreimeier started off the event. He stated that the center was created “to honor the dreams of many individuals.”

The initial idea to create a performing arts center was proposed in 1979. The money was not available at the time; however, this was when the dream was first anticipated. In 1991, when Touhill became chancellor, she made the dream take form.

Architect Ed Wilhelm was present at the event. In 1996 he was chosen to design the building. Wilhelm said that the first question he asked was, “Do you want a world-class building?” Indeed this is what Touhill desired, and also what was created.

In charge of funding for the building were Wayne Good and Sheila Lumpy, members of the House of Representatives Budget Committee. Over \$40.4 million was given for construction. Both Good and Lumpy were presented certificates of honor by Dreimeier. Replicas of the plaques are located in the PAC.

Many firms around the St. Louis area supported the building of the center including Anheuser-Busch, U.S. Bank and Edward Jones. Over \$11.6 million was raised in funds by firms as well as private donors. Many of the donors and members from the firms were present.

These donors' names are located in various locations throughout the PAC.

see PAC, page 3

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‘The never ending story’

Coonrod reverses decision; SGA president still unknown

BY BECKY ROSNER
News Editor

After weeks of trials and tribulations, there is still no official SGA president. After Adam Schwadron was denied, he put in another appeal, which was accepted by vice-chancellor of student affairs, Curt Coonrod.

Just a few weeks ago Coonrod named Schwadron the SGA president. After much investigation, however, it was later recognized that Coonrod did not have the authority to do so. It was then documented that the only person that can name the president is the official election committee.

The official election committee consists of students appointed by the Student Government Association. It was determined that the election committee, containing a group of people put together to hear the appeal, was not properly comprised.

“After going back and doing a thorough review of the whole process, it was determined that the election committee was not properly constituted,” Coonrod said.

In the rules, there is no mechanism for the vice-chancellor in the process. Therefore, the decision will now sit in the hands of the SGA executive committee from last year.

However, in the SGA 2003 General Election Policy, it states that the Election Committee is responsible for all phases of the SGA elections. It also states that the Election Committee shall have the right to order a new election if it finds sufficient violations have occurred to overturn the election. It does not state that the executive committee shall have any part in the election process.

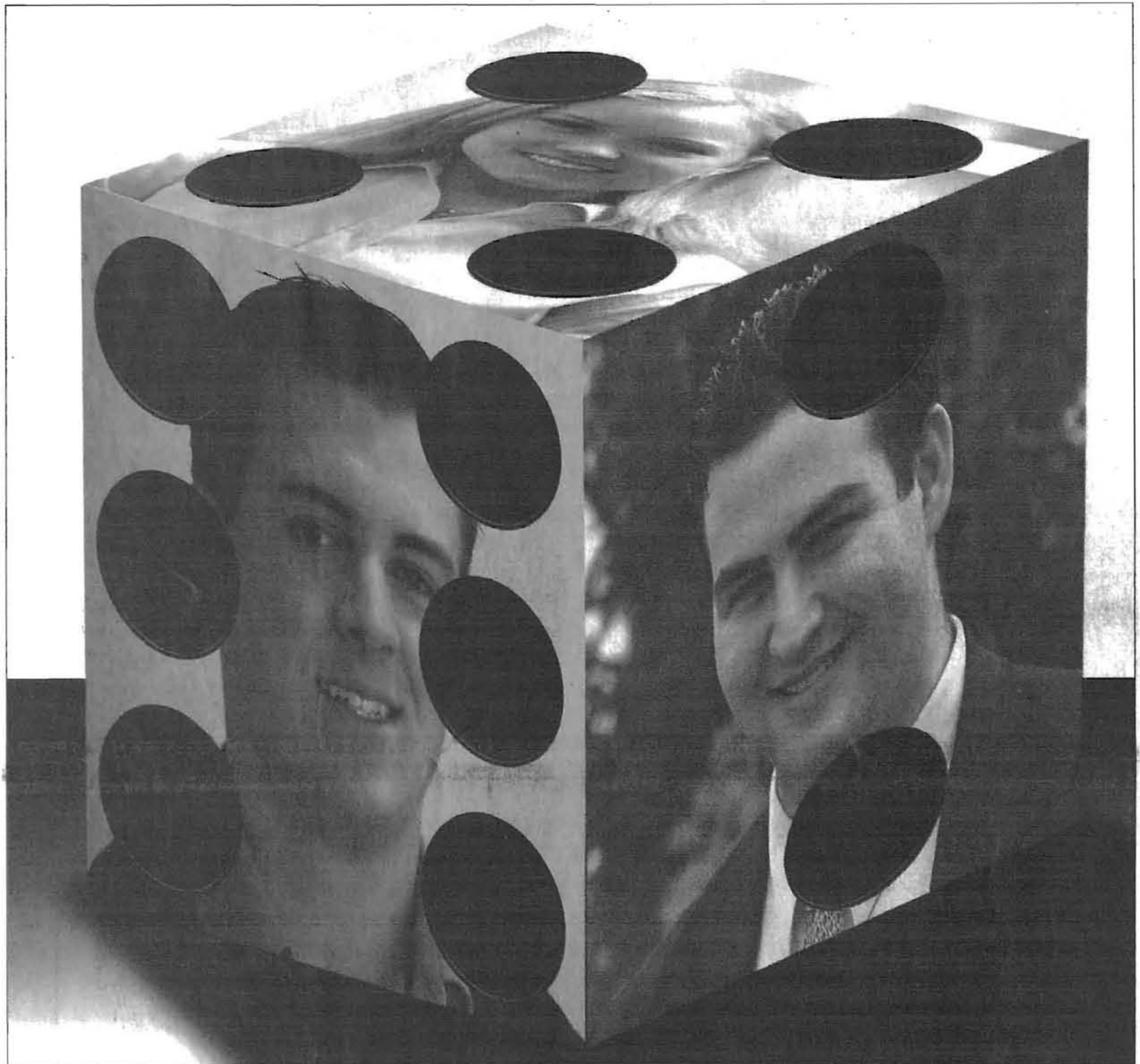
“My original appeal to the election committee will now go to the SGA executive committee from last year,” Adam Schwadron, presidential candidate, said.

There are three possible results to the appeal. A.) The committee accepts the appeal, B.) The committee rejects the appeal, or C.) There will be another election in the fall.

“I think that it is a possibility to have another presidential election in the fall,” Coonrod said. “That decision will actually be made by the executive committee.”

There was an official opinion asked of the UM-system. However, there have not been any official legal actions taken in the matter.

The original result was that



Beumeler won by popular vote. Schwadron then filed an appeal against Beumeler to the Election Committee, which was denied. They [election committee] then told Schwadron that he could appeal to the vice-chancellor, and he did so.

“That’s what the game of politics is, looking out for ones self,” Schwadron said.

Each candidate is allowed two appeals. After Schwadron was named president by the vice-chancellor, Beumeler filed an appeal to the

chancellor.

Whether there was an appeal or not, there are some issues that need to be addressed before executing another election. It was the first year that the voting was done online and it is thought that some students may have had trouble accessing the site.

“My philosophy is that if there are issues or concerns with that [voting], then we need to continue to work with that,” Coonrod said. “We’ll be happy to work with the student government association in working some of those

things out.”

The executive committee will come together to discuss the appeals put forth by Adam Schwadron. All aspects of the controversy will be conferred and an official decision will be made, though it is not known that they have the official authority to do so.

The executive committee plan to meet soon, however, it is not known as to when there will be an official result. Acting president Sam Andermarian’s term ends as of July

1. The hope is that there will some sort of result by then.

According to the SGA Constitution Article IV, section 1c: In the event that the office of President is vacated, the succession to the office is the Vice-President of the Association, the Chairperson of the Assembly, then the Vice-Chairperson of the Assembly. Therefore, Kristin Runde, Vice-President elect, will take office if no decision is made.

“And the saga continues,” Schwadron said.

SABC votes to fund themselves

Committee moves to give themselves \$15,375

BY JASON GRANGER
Editor-in-Chief

Is the Student Activities Budget Committee breaking their own rules? If the SABC allocations announced recently are any indication, then it appears they are violating their own rules.

According to the SABC bylaws, members of the committee are not allowed to vote on student organizations they are members of. However, according to the allocations announced by SABC, they voted to give themselves \$15,375 for the next school year.

SABC meets approximately five times per year, far less than many of the organizations at UM—St. Louis that received many thousands of dollars less than SABC.

According to SABC operating guidelines, there are strict measures each member of SABC must follow. The following are taken directly from the SABC Operating

Guidelines.

- Chair, comptroller of Student Government Association, non-voting.

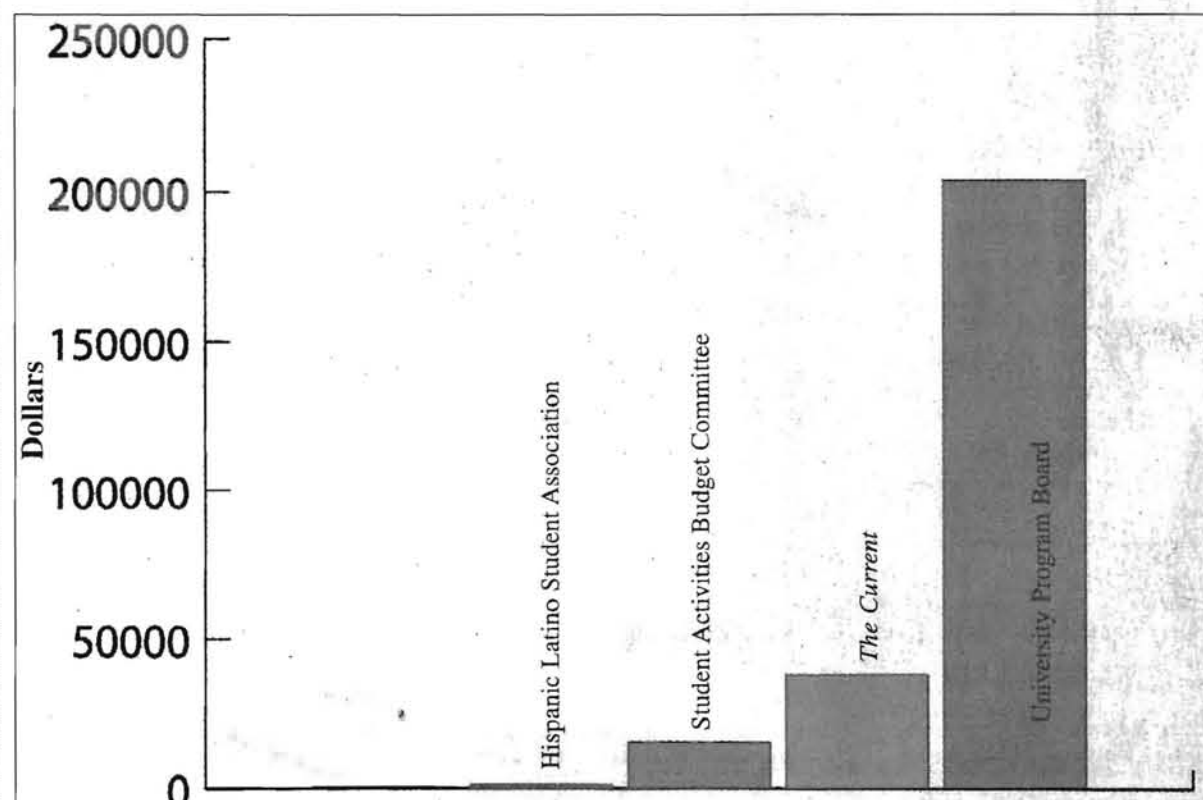
- Eleven students chosen by the Comptroller of the Student Government Association with the advice of Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs. Nine students serve as members of the committee and two students serve as alternates.

- To be considered for SABC membership, an individual must submit an application to the Student Activities office and complete an oral interview.

- The Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs should be certain that the membership of the committee is diverse and is representative of the student body.

- Every effort will be made to insure that no more than two members of the same organization will be members of the SABC.

see SABC, page 3



Bullet In Board

Put it on the Board:
The Current Events Bulletin Board is a service provided free of charge to all student organizations, University departments and divisions. Deadline for submissions to The Current Events Bulletin Board is 5 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 one week prior to the event. Send submissions via mail at 388 MSC, Natural Bridge Rd., St. Louis, MO 63121, fax at 516-6811 or email at current@jinx.umsl.edu.
All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.

Mon 16 Rec Sports

Today is the last day to sign-up for the coed softball league that is playing from June 18 - July 23. Games are played on Wednesdays at noon on the Mark Twain Softball Field. Entry deadline is today. Sign-up in the Rec Office, 203MT.

Thur 19 Dept. of Chemistry & Biochemistry

A Chemistry Colloquium entitled "Regularities in Fluorine Chemistry" begins at 11 a.m. in 451 Benton Hall. Coffee will be served at 10:45 a.m. Joel F. Liebman, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, presents a seminar. For more information call James Chickos at 516-5377. The event is free and open to the public.

Fri 27 Rec Sports

A gold Medal Tourney is at the St. Charles Golf Course. Tee-off anytime from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. 9 hole - \$10 or 18 hole - \$18. Mens and Womens divisions. Sign-up at the course the day of the event. For more information call 946-6190.

Put it on the Board!

Place your event on The Board in our upcoming edition; restrictions apply. Call 516-5174 for information.

Summer class schedule

Includes sessions II, III & V

Session II (4 week session)

June 16 Monday
June 18 Wednesday
June 21 Saturday

Classes begin at 8 a.m.
Last day any student may enroll (enter a course for credit) for Session II.
Last day to drop a Session II course without receiving a grade.
Last day a student may place a Session II course on Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory basis.
Independence Day Holiday.
Last day a student may drop or withdraw from a Session II course.
Session II closes, end of day.

Session III (4 week session)

July 14 Monday
July 16 Wednesday
July 19 Saturday

Classes being at 8 a.m.
Last day any student may enroll (enter a course for credit) for Session II.
Last day to drop a Session III course without receiving a grade.
Last day a student may place a Session III course on Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory basis.
Last day any student may drop or withdraw from a Session II course.
Session III closes, end of day.

Session V (8 week session)

June 16 Monday
June 19 Thursday
June 28 Saturday

Classes being at 8 a.m.
Last day any student may enroll (enter a course for credit) for Session V.
Last day to drop a Session V course without receiving a grade.
Last day a student may place a Session V course on Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory basis.
Independence Day Holiday
Last day any student may drop or withdraw from a Session II course.
Session V closes, end of day.

July 4 Friday
July 26 Saturday
August 6 Wednesday
August 9 Saturday

The Campus Crimeline

The following criminal incidents were reported to the University of Missouri - St. Louis Police Department between May 9, 2003 and June 13, 2003. If readers have information that could assist the police investigation, they are urged to call 516-5155. Campus police as a public service to promote awareness provides this information. Remember - crime prevention is a community effort.

May 9 - Stealing under \$500

In the Ward E. Barnes Library, a purse and the contents of the purse were stolen.

May 10 - Property damage

At 8177 Normandy Trace, a vehicle was damaged in the parking lot. The incident was handled by the Normandy Police Department.

May 10 - Vandalism

In the Normandy Residence Hall, a room was vandalized and chairs overturned.

May 11 - Sexual misconduct

In room 339 of the Social Science Building, a

subject inappropriately touched a female student.

May 12 - Stolen vehicle

In Parking Lot V, a vehicle was stolen from the lot.

May 13 - Vandalism

In Bellerive Residence Hall, food was strewn throughout the 1st floor lounge area.

May 14 - Burglary/Stealing

At 834 University Meadows Apartments, there was a delayed report of a stolen Playstation. Entry was gained to the apartment through an unlocked door.

May 15 - Property damage

In Parking Lot E, a stop sign was knocked down.

May 15 - Burglary

In LeGras Hall, a computer, monitor and projector was stolen.

May 17 - Stealing under \$500

In Normandie Residence Hall, a TV was stolen

from the lounge area.

May 19 - Stealing under \$500

In the Daughters of Charity, a TV/radio combination was stolen from the lounge area.

May 19 - Stolen vehicle

In Parking Lot E, a parked vehicle was stolen.

May 20 - Stealing under \$500

In Parking Lot E, a student parking permit was stolen from a vehicle.

May 21 - Possession of a controlled substance

In 120 Bellerive Residence Hall, a controlled substance was found in a room.

May 22 - Stealing under \$500

In room 201 of the Research Building, there was a delayed report of money stolen from a purse.

May 22 - Stealing under \$500

In room 210 of Stadler Hall, there was a delayed report of a wallet containing credit cards being stolen.

May 24 - Stealing under \$500

A bicycle was stolen then abandoned in the apartment complex.

June 3 - Fugitive arrest

In Lot F, a subject was arrested on an outstanding warrant from Normandy Police Department.

June 4 - Telephone harassment

At 8177 D Normandy Trace, an ex-boyfriend phoned a student and made threats.

June 5 - Stealing under \$500

In the Social Science Building, a box of rubber work gloves was stolen from a custodial closet.

June 7 - Burglary

In Seton Hall, a cash box was taken from the office, without forced entry.

June 8 - Vandalism

In the Social Science Building, a vending machine's glass was broken.

June 13 - Stealing under \$500

In room 534 of Clark Hall, a wallet and contents were stolen.

June 13 - Stealing under \$500

In Garage D, a license plate was stolen from a vehicle while parked in the garage.

June 13 - Property damage

At the Old Normandy Hospital, located at 7840 Natural Bridge Rd. some windows were discovered broken.

Note:

During this same time period, two vehicles were "booted" for displaying counterfeit parking permits. The violators had to pay \$25 to have the boot removed. The vehicles were given parking tickets in the amount of \$250. Also, students caught using a counterfeit parking permit, are referred to Student Affairs for disciplinary action. In addition, five vehicles were booted for being frequent violators. All vehicles that are parked on campus need to display some kind of valid parking permit.

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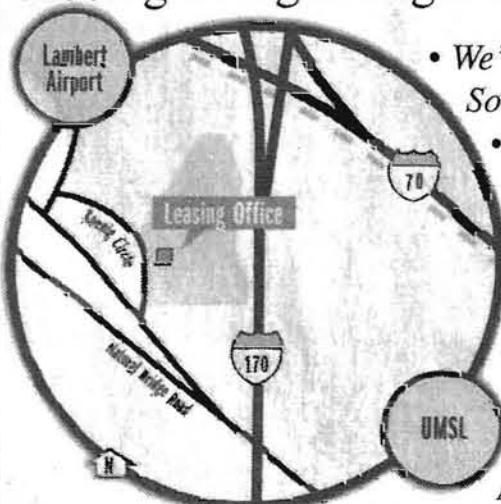
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PAC, from page 1

Photos by Mike Sherwin/ The Current

A worker passes in front of the imposing window of one of the Performing Arts Center's smaller auditoriums. After a formal dedication ceremony, visitors were given a tour of the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center, which is slated to open in fall 2003.

Many contributors bought bricks and some bought seats in the auditorium. Major contributor's names are placed on a wall as you walk in the building.

Several members of the Board of Curators were present, including president Connie Silverstein. In her speech she talked about funding and all that went into the PAC. There were a total of five presidents that worked with Touhill throughout the construction.

The PAC will bring dance and theater back to the university. Music, which is currently available, will also be emphasized.

Touhill was last to speak. She spoke about how honored she was to have her name on the PAC and how a dream was made into a reality. "I know we will treasure it always," said Touhill.

After the dedication, a short reception followed. Refreshments were available to everyone as well as tours of the building.

**LEFT:**

Blanche Touhill chats with professor of music James Richards during a reception after the Performing Arts Center's dedication ceremony.

RIGHT:

A construction worker continues work on the PAC as visitors tour the unfinished building May 23.

**SABC, from page 1**

The Student Activities Budget Committee meets in April. The committee allocates student activity fees to all campus groups and organizations. SABC decisions must receive approval from Vice-Chancellor for Student Affairs Curt Coonrod, then they have to be signed off on by the chancellor



Mike Sherwin/ The Current

• No member of SABC may vote on the budget of an organization that she/he is a member.

Along with these membership requirements, the SABC has nine funding priorities that student organizations must meet in order to receive an allocation. The following are taken directly from the SABC Operating Guidelines.

1. Provide activities designed to enhance UM—St. Louis' reputation in the community and academic circles.
2. Activities that help recruit and retain students.

3. Enhance cooperation between UM—St. Louis organizations through joint projects.

4. Promote increased faculty, staff and student interaction.

5. Promote the development of student leadership.

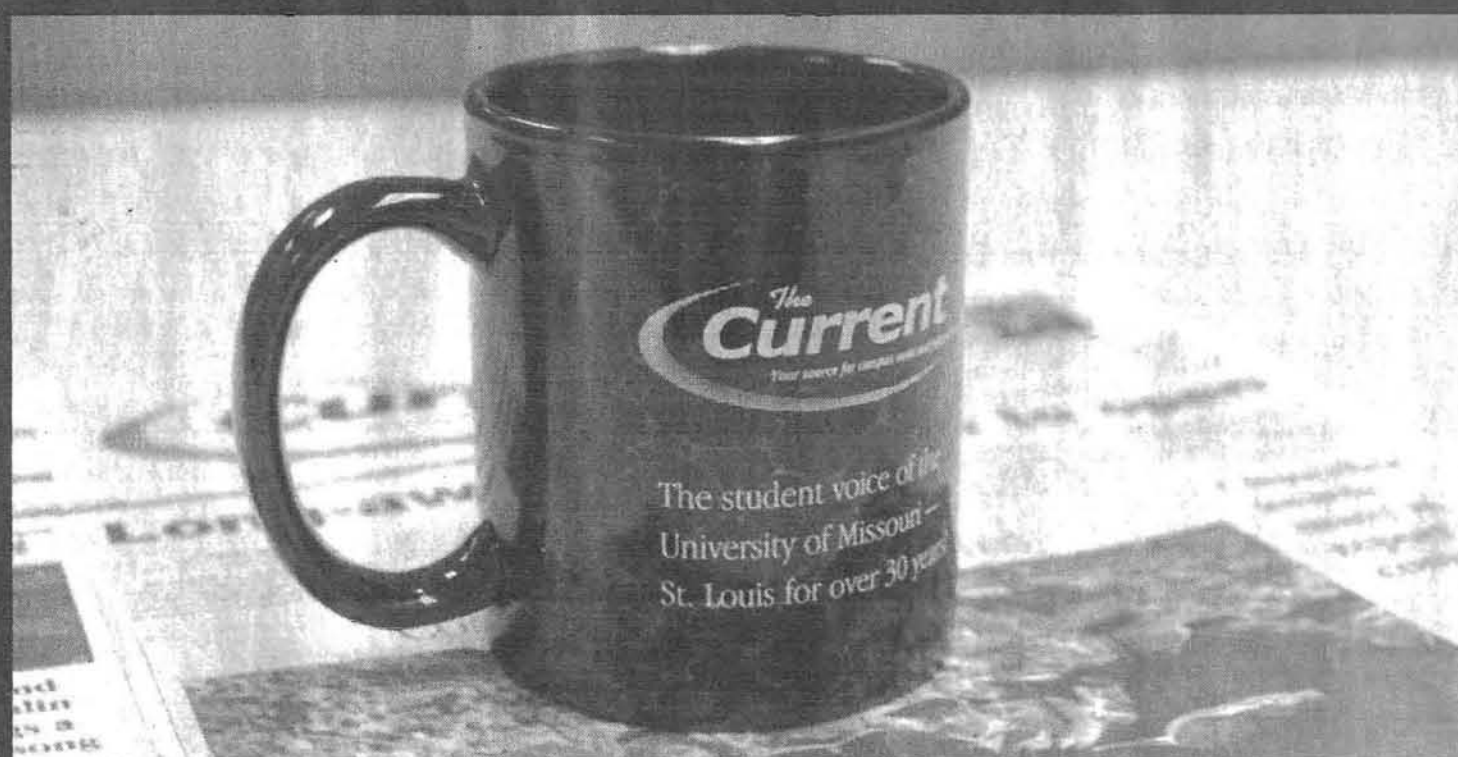
6. Contribute to students' cultural, social, educational, or career development.

7. Priority given to organizations that partially support themselves through fundraising activities.

8. Priority will be given to organizations that have effectively used previous Student Activity Budget Committee allocations.

9. Priority will be given to organizations who have consistently attended Student Government Association Monthly Meetings and who has sent a representative to the Leadership Training Retreat.

SABC decisions are not final. They must first receive approval from Vice-Chancellor for Student Affairs Curt Coonrod, then they have to be signed off on by the chancellor. This year, Jerry Durham, who was acting as chancellor while Interim Chancellor Donald Driemeier was recuperating from bypass surgery, gave final approval on the allocations.



The Current is hiring for next year. Interested? Drop us a line or send a resume to 388 MSC care of Nichole LeClair, Managing Editor.

The Current, get caught up.

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ORIENTATION ISSUE JULY 21.
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HELP YOU GET SITUATED AT
UM-ST. LOUIS AND IN THE
ST. LOUIS AREA.**

OUR OPINION

No he's the president, no he's not, yes he is...

Well, well. It seems like such a long time ago that the Student Government Association elections took place, yet here we are, talking about them once again.

For those of you not in the know, Adam Beumeler, senior, won the election over Adam Schwadron, senior, and Frederick Echer III, senior. After the election, Schwadron accused Beumeler of violating SGA campaigning rules and filed an appeal. After both Schwadron and Beumeler met with the election committee, the committee ruled in favor of Beumeler, so it appeared he would assume the position of SGA president. However, Schwadron took

tee itself. Second of all, Coonrod apparently made a decision he did not have the authority to make when he first named Schwadron president. He also made a mistake by putting that decision in writing. Coonrod's desire to see the decision go before the executive committee is also troubling. According to the SGA's constitution, the executive committee does not have the authority to rule on matters like this. So if their word was taken as gospel on this issue, it would call the integrity of the office into question the entire school year. The other question this raises is, which executive committee to use. Should the old committee reconvene, or does the new committee make the decision? Tough one to answer.

The wildcard in all of this mess is Vice President elect Kristy Runde. If the decision is not made by July 1, then according to SGA rules, Runde takes over as president. If the student body had to wait until the new semester starts in August, it would be unfair to Runde to ask her to serve as president until that time, then relinquish her title. Indeed, the road ahead for SGA is rough.

Obviously there has to be an answer out there somewhere, and indeed, it is sitting in the person of Kristy Runde. With Beumeler's intention to hire a lawyer if he is not named president (which seems like overkill), and Schwadron's dogged pursuit of having Beumeler expelled from the race, Runde seems like the perfect choice to be president. Why? Because she has had nothing to do with the controversy. In fact, she has done quite well at keeping herself out of the fray, admirable in light of all that has happened. It seems logical, at this point, to disqualify Beumeler and Schwadron, and just wait for July 1 to roll around and name Runde president. Granted, neither Beumeler nor Schwadron will particularly care for this turn of events, but at this point, that is an irrelevant point.

It's sad that the student voice is not going to matter in this election. Much in the same way Al Gore won the popular vote in the 2000 election but George W. Bush got the electoral votes, the voice of the people is going to be ignored here. Sad, but true. Now, the powers that be need to settle this before it goes much further and no one votes next year.



his complaints to Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Curt Coonrod, and Coonrod ruled in favor of Schwadron. So it appeared Schwadron would assume the position of SGA president. Not so fast. Just a scant few days later, Coonrod reversed his decision and left not only both candidates, but the student body, in limbo. Coonrod wants to see the decision either go before the SGA executive committee or have the student body revote at the start of the new school year. This newspaper has said it before, but this is really starting to turn into the 2000 presidential election. Instead of recounting the votes, UM—St. Louis has to deal with indecision from multiple parties.

Certain problems have arisen about decisions made by the election committee and Coonrod. First of all, the election committee was somewhat slap-dash in that former SGA Vice President Rob Clarke did not put much effort into assembling it and it was thrown together at the last second. This brings into question the integrity of the committee, not necessarily the members, but the commit-

The issue

The students of UM-St. Louis are still without a president. Adam Schwadron and Adam Beumeler have contested the election so many times, people are flashing back to the 2000 presidential elections.

We suggest

Schwadron and Beumeler should both be kicked out and Vice President Elect Kristy Runde should be named president.

So what do you think?

Tell us what you think! Drop us a line at the office, 388 MSC, or online at our Web site www.thecurrentonline.com.

Loved one's death can heal

Loss is hard. To quote Joan Baez, "Don't it always seem to go, that you don't know what you got 'till it's gone." I know that sounds cliché, but in the end, it's true. Last week, I lost my Aunt Kathleen to cancer of the, well, pretty much everything. Breast cancer, brain, bone, blood, uterine, lung, you name it, she had it. This marked the second time in my life that someone close to me has died of cancer and it doesn't get any easier. But there are things that can be taken away from such sad occasions.

Often times, it is easy to look back on the death of a loved one with sorrow and pain. In my case, my aunt suffered for quite a long time before she succumbed to cancer. Over two years, she battled and battled hard, putting her body through untold agonies in, an ultimately vain, effort to defeat the undefeated. It would be easy for me to look back and see her in the hospital, her frock of red hair gone, lying in a hospital bed. In the wake of this, however, I have chosen to look back at her days of health and humor. I remember going to Door County, Wis. and watching her smile. Psychiatrists say there are steps to grieving. Denial, anger, acceptance and several others I can't remember. I don't know about all that. Often times, I look at things like that as so much psychobabble. I really rather bypass those things and just remember. For those of you out there

that have lost someone, that is perhaps the best advice I could ever offer. Remember. Remember the days and nights where you just had a good time being in their company. Remember the vacations and the summer picnics in the backyard. Remember just loving that person.

I am not the most religious person on the planet, but I have my beliefs. I believe that some people are called home, sometimes too early it seems. I believe that God does indeed want some people home with him earlier than others, and my Aunt Kathleen was one of them. Now, if you will indulge me, I would like to quote Green Day part and parcel:

"Another turning point, a fork stuck in the road. Time grabs you by the wrist, directs you where to go. So make

the best of this test and don't ask why. It's not a question but a lesson learned in time. It's something unpredictable, but in the end is right. I hope you had the time of your life. So take the photographs and still frames in your mind. Hang it on a shelf in good health and good time. Tattoos and memories and dead skin on trial. For what it's worth, it was worth all the while. It's something unpredictable, but in the end is right. I hope you had the time of your life. It's something unpredictable, but in the end is right. I hope you had the time of your life."

Indeed Kathleen, I hope you had the time of your life, because you certainly helped my have mine.



JASON GRANGER
Editor-in-Chief

Everyone's biased

I find myself on the cringing end of many heated discussions these days. They usually begin with a mild, "Oh, so you're a journalist," and progress steadily to the ever popular, "The media is so biased!" I cringe not because I disagree; it's just that I don't respond well to yelling. You know, I was a very sensitive child...

They're right of course, we're irrevocably biased. "The Media" is not a machine, but a collection of people with both latent and obvious prejudices. Though it is our professional obligation to be aware of these and keep them out of our work as much as possible, there will always be an effect.

We introduce our own biases in the way we perceive events and information. We are biased in what we feel is newsworthy; how much time we are willing to commit to a subject; the language we use, and by our own political, religious, and socio-economic backgrounds. All that we take in is filtered through these considerations and no matter how vigilant we are, our product will be changed.

Bias is subtle and can take time to find. Unfortunately, the very nature of news, its timeliness, makes this harder. News is perishable and within the short period that it is valuable, we must find it, organize it, check it for accuracy and get it back to our community. We do not have the luxury of the lengthy analysis that you find in less immediate resources, such as books or lectures. News will always be tainted by our perceptions.

What alarms me is the amount of righteous indignation (often expressed loudly, occasionally accompanied by reddened face and stern glare) that accompanies the discussion of media bias—especially on this campus. In an academic environment, where students are well-versed in comparative analysis, bombarded with incongruous views from so-called experts and made famil-

iar with the pitfalls of primary, secondary, and tertiary sources, how can they innocently demand one-size-fits-all media coverage?

I feel we are better served by focusing on accuracy, fairness in the treatment of subjects and maintaining a variety of sources for our news. There is value in the variability of perception.

We, as members of the media, should be held accountable for what we report, how it's related, its accuracy, and the variety of views we represent. We owe it to our sources to represent them fairly, even if we do not agree with them.

The public has every right to complain about and make demands of their media—and especially to point out obvious bias. However, the public also has the responsibility of addressing their concerns with the media, and fighting the temptation of becoming passive media consumers. We could all be more discriminating with the information we take in and allow to shape our worldviews. We, here at *The Current*, support the right and tradition of slamming the local paper—as long as you complain to us too.

It is a hard time to be a journalist. The fiasco at the New York Times, the easing of monopoly regulations in media, the recent challenges of covering the war with accuracy and tact. The public trust has been understandably shaken. It's a sign that our checks and balances are not working. So, I would like to encourage our own readers to speak up. Let us know when you feel we have missed an important angle, when you feel we have been unfair, when there is something you would like to see more, or less of. Send a letter to the editor, give us a call, stop by the office, send us an email. No matter what your opinion, I look forward to hearing from you. The more voices we have, the better we can serve a variety of viewpoints.



NICHOLE LECLAIR
Managing Editor

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- We're all biased
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Cassandra Gay
Admissions Office Employee
Alumna 1988

I'd step into the president's shoes for a day and sign as much legislation I could, so I could try and help improve a lot of people's lives.



Andrea Stopke
Junior
Communication

I would like to be my one year old for a day, to see what his world is like.



Kristy Runde
Sophomore
Accounting

An action-movie actress...you know, work for the CIA, and kick a lot of butt.



Hank Burns
Senior
Communication

I would like to be Martin Sheen so I could play the president [on television] while actually making more money than the real one.

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

Under Current

by Mike Sherwin
Photography Director

Whose shoes would you like to step into for a day?

Weather gone wild

When will the rain stop?



BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER
Science Columnist

Everyone's noticed the weird weather this spring. Instead of warming up into summer, we've been stuck in a perpetual March-April weather pattern, with rain, wind and cool temperatures. While some are savoring the delay of the usual steamy St. Louis summer, the on-going wetness and coolness are dampening everyone else's spirits, and leaving us asking one another – what's up with the weather?

Raise that question and you've likely to get at least one person who says it is part of global warming and climate change. How would cool, wet weather be linked to global warming?

Plenty of people think that global warming is only a theory but studies of global surface temperatures indicate it has already happened. According to the University of East Anglia's School of Environmental Sciences, the mean surface temperature of the earth has increased by 1.1 °F. In the last 40 years, the increase has been 0.5 °F. Seven of the warmest ten years of the twentieth century occurred in the 1990s. Some skeptics comment that temperature measurements from space don't support the surface temperature measurements, but a 2000 National Academy of Science study indicates that the satellite data had to be adjusted for measurement and calibration problems, and after correction, supports the surface temperature data.

Well, so what, you may say – that doesn't sound like much. But ponder this: the difference in average tempera-

ture between now and the last Ice age is only 9 °F. The warming that happened in the twentieth century was greater than in the past 400-600 years, according to the Union of Concerned Scientists. So it has to have some significance.

What does that have to do with usually cool, wet weather? More than it would appear. While the average global temperature is up and on average things will be hotter than they were, the real effect is in climate change. Familiar, established weather patterns are changing, according to the United Nations Environment Programme. Weather is what happens locally every day; climate is the long-term big picture of weather patterns. Rising temperatures mean melting polar ice, which means rising ocean levels. Ocean temperatures are likely to rise and the ocean currents are what drive our usual weather patterns. Evidence gathered in 2001 by a study group of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change points to a significant slowing of the ocean circulation that transport warm water to the north Atlantic. Which makes the British Isles much warmer than one would expect for their latitude. The effect would also extend to other North Atlantic areas, making a warm-of-its-latitude area like Europe into a colder location. The same IPCC sponsored a working group that found that the rise in global temperature would lead to an increase in precipitation but it would vary from region to region. They also concluded from their research that there would be changes in climate variability, which could include increases in frequency and intensity of severe weather events. Like extended, unseasonable cool, rainy spells with tornados. Hmm, sounds familiar.

We've all noticed that the once rare El Nino seems to be with us every other year now. Dry areas become drier, wet areas wetter, and even the reverse. Canadians might look forward to warmer weather but when Chicago has temperatures like Texas, what will it be like here? Unfortunately, the Union of Concerned Scientists say projections indicate a 5 °F to 10 °F increase for the next century, if trends continue as they have. While this is new and reversible now, it won't be in thirty

years.

Of course, there are those that argue that this is part of a natural pattern, not a man made effect. And there is some intriguing research that supports the idea that is not all due to SUVs and power plants. Cows. Cows are the culprits for much of the release of green house gases, which contribute to warming. However, is there really any one who thinks there would be as many cows on Earth if it weren't for human beings? Yes, we put them there, those little methane factories.

Face it, it's not the natural world – it's us. We're everywhere and obviously the changes we've made to the natural world have to have an effect. There are just too many of us and too many changes for that not to be the case.

What is one to do? Except for a few Luddites, most of us are reluctant to run screaming back to the dark ages, throwing away our technology and conveniences as we go. But we just have to be smart about this and not ignore it. A new study points to another intriguing reason things are getting warmer and the weather gets crazier. It seems no one had thought about the effect of all that concrete. If you've even been in a city on a hot summer day, surrounded by concrete sidewalks and buildings, and then walked into a shady park, you noticed the temperature change right away. It's not just the shade of the trees – the buildings can shade you too – but the effect of the vegetation on air temperature. As night approaches, the effect is even more noticeable. The air in the park cools off while the concreted areas retain their heat. It seems this may be big key to global warming – temperatures never drop enough at night, allowing heat to buildup even further the next day. And urban sprawl and paving the planet is part of it.

Regardless, we will have more weird weather to look forward to in coming years but we can stabilize the picture. We can be smart about it without undoing the whole twentieth century. A little more civilized world with more trees and green space and less concrete is an appealing first step. Having a shorter drive to school or work is too. And how about those cute little Mini Coopers? Got to be easier on the gas budget than an SUV.

The best album that you've never heard

This week: George Harrison's Brainwashed

BY JASON GRANGER
Editor-in-Chief

Hello and welcome to the first installment of the best album you've never heard. In this weekly column I will endeavor to let the fair members of the UM—St. Louis community in on some gems of albums that haven't received the playtime they deserve. Our first album is a recent release: George Harrison's "Brainwashed."

Everyone knows who George Harrison was. I say "was" because, sadly, George died in 2001 of cancer. However, he was the lead guitarist of The Beatles, a little-known group from Liverpool, England (I hope you all picked up on the sarcasm.) In the latter stages of the group's existence, Harrison penned some truly amazing songs including "It's All Too Much," "While My Guitar Gently Weeps," "For You Blue," "Something" and "Here Comes the Sun." His songwriting skills show their full might on "Brainwashed," released posthumously in 2002.

Now, you might be thinking, "why should I buy this album?" Put simply, George Harrison shows all his skills in the album, an album full of stand-out tracks, while not exhibiting a single weak track. As with any album,

however, there is one track that stands above the rest. Like "A Day in the Life," from The Beatles' "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band" and "Thunder Road" from Bruce Springsteen's "Born to Run," "The Rising Sun" stands above the rest of the tracks as a truly magical piece of


poke at Catholicism has an engaging slide guitar hook, and fun lyrics. But leave it to the "quiet Beatle" to throw in some dark humor in with his songs. In "Vatican Blues," Harrison sings, "I wish somebody would tell me/That it's only a show/But I'll confess/Own up/Let's face it/In my concrete tuxedo."

This album is not without it's outright emotional moments either. It took Harrison a while, but when he finally found the love of his life, Olivia, he was not against pulling a Paul McCartney and writing copious amounts of songs about her. On this album, Harrison writes his finest love songs since "What is Life?" from "All Things Must Pass." What woman wouldn't want to hear "Just talking to myself/Crying as we part/Knowing as you leave me/I also lose my heart."

Anyone who is a fan of great songwriting and underrated guitar work should check out this album, which was co-produced by Harrison's son Dhani. Just as a side note, if you want a song that will make you smile ear to ear, take a listen to "Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea." Trust me, if you buy this album (or compact disk for the great unwashed), you won't regret it. In fact, it will be one of your wisest investments.



George Harrison's "Brainwashed" was released posthumously in 2002. While it entered the "Billboard" charts in the top ten, on the whole, few people know a lot about this amazing album.



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- Jason Granger will contact you about interview times

An EOE.

FEATURES

EDITOR

KATE DROLET
Features Editor

phone: 516-4886
fax: 516-6811

Believe it or not, there are still positions available at The Current. Kate would love to have some staff writers come aboard, so please stop by the office and drop off an application. Address it to Nichole LeClair, managing editor. We are in MSC 388.

More than the mall

BY KATE DROLET
Features Editor

Summer is a season that people look forward to all year long. Harsh winter days make this season of light even more desirable. Unfortunately, the novelty of a lazy afternoon wears off rather quickly.

St. Louis offers entertainment for everyone. Instead of wasting the days away in an overly air-conditioned room, explore what this city on the river has to offer.

Riding around on public transportation can make for an interesting experience, and does not require a great deal of exertion, considering that the seats are padded and the air conditioning keeps passengers comfortable. Hop onto the Metro and ride from end to end (getting off at Washington Park is not recommended). Observe the different personalities and the passing scenery.

Laurie Bainter uses public transportation every day to go to and from work. "Everyone is really friendly because they've all been riding to work together forever. I do meet some ignorant people though," she said.

The zoo is an attraction caters to people of all ages. In addition to the usual creatures, St. Louis is now home to new guests. Check the zoo schedule for special night events. This adventure is great for college students; visiting the animals is free.

The St. Louis Science Center continually offers interesting activities. Along with the permanent displays, the science center also hosts different exhibits from time to time. A "Candy Unwrapped" interactive exhibit will take place in July. Free sweets and candy-related demonstrations will all be part of this series.

If the weather is nice, a trip to the Botanical Gardens can break the monotony of a summer day. Gigantic plants grow in a geo-dome greenhouse, huge lily pads float in ponds and a mix of colors flood the gardens. For a small price, visitors can enjoy a taste of nature.

Grab some friends, some food and a Frisbee or soccer ball and spend the

day outdoors in Forest Park. Roller skates and roller blades, bicycles and fishing poles can be rented in the park to complete a relaxing afternoon.

A trip to the Saint Louis Art Museum can add some culture and fun to a hot day. Wander through the galleries and examine the traditional and not-so-traditional works housed in the museum. "Ford Free Fridays" at the museum enable patrons to take advantage of extended hours from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., and offers free admission to the exhibitions throughout the day.

June 20 is "Drive Your Corvette to Work" day. From 7 until 9 a.m., car lovers will gather at the art museum to show off and ogle automobiles.

The City Museum, an indoor and outdoor playground for people of all ages, stays open until 1:30 a.m. on Friday and Saturday nights. For a night out, visit the City Museum and enjoy a cash bar, live music and, of course, a giant playground.

Spend a day on the Loop or walking around Central West End. Not only do these areas have interesting shops and restaurants, they are also conducive to people-watching.

Another place good for watching people is Lambert-St. Louis International Airport. Ride the Metro over and observe travelers coming and going and planes landing and taking off. Remember to stop by the ticket counter to get the best view of security searches.

Find some friends and visit Plaza Frontenac in West County. Try on \$900 dresses and suits and \$600 shoes. Pretend to be fabulously wealthy. Use a fake accent. Do not tear anything.

Donate your time to a charitable organization. Volunteering will pass the time while benefiting somebody else. Help out at the YMCA or serve at a homeless shelter. These experiences are humbling and enjoyable.

Scrape up money and buy tickets for the cheap seats at Busch Stadium and watch a Cardinals game from the nosebleed section. Dance around and embarrass your friends to get on television. Insult the opposite team and yell at the umpire as if you were sitting on the first-base line.

The Riverfront Times is a free publication that, among other things,



Mike Sherwin/The Current

A visit to the Missouri Botanical Garden can be a welcome change to "mall-monotony" during the summer.

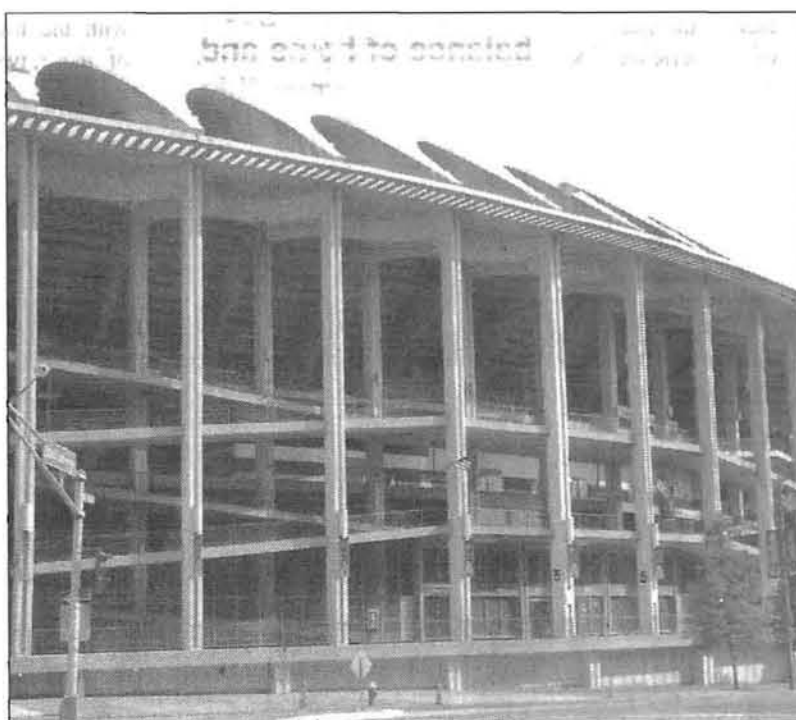
advertises upcoming events such as the Abyssinian cat show on June 28 and 29 at the Gateway Convention Center (located north of Collinsville).

More events listed in the recent edition of The Times include the Central West End gallery walks. Neighborhood art galleries will remain open from 6 until 9 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of every month.

On the first Saturday of every month, an outdoor city market runs from 14th to 16th St. along Washington Ave. With two blocks of antiques, collectibles and other items, a morning at the market might yield an interesting find.

Creve Coeur Park is hosting the "Full Moon Paddle and Hot Dog Roast" on the second Saturday of July. An evening of fun in the park complete with free hotdogs will start at 9 p.m.

Battling boredom can be as easy as visiting the library or doing something adventurous, like trying out a completely different haircut. Going to the Galleria gets old after awhile, so remember that there's more than a mall out there. Either way, summer is a time to barbecue, eat icy pops and relax. However you decide to spend your time, do not let the season go to waste.



Mike Sherwin/The Current

Bleachers, anyone? Busch Stadium, conveniently located along the Metro-Link, makes for a great summer excursion.



Mike Sherwin/The Current

With the Science Center, the Zoo, the St. Louis Art Museum, and the history museum, Forest Park is great fun - and free!

Riggins achieves publishing dream

BY MELISSA MCCRARY
Features Associate

One determined student at the University of Missouri-St. Louis has fulfilled her lifelong dream of having a book published.

Karen Riggins, junior, anthropology and psychology, recently published a poetry book entitled "The Reluctant Witness."

When Riggins was three years old, she told her mom that she was going to write the great American novel. She never anticipated writing poetry, but she is still working to complete a novel.

What makes this student and writer even more special is the fact that she has been diagnosed as manic-depressive.

"Many people have said that I would never go anywhere with my life, and that people with mental illnesses cannot succeed in life, but with me getting my book published, I am proving them wrong," Riggins said.

Other students with disabilities have been very supportive and have urged Riggins to pursue her dreams. The University supplied her with a tape recorder to record lectures and help her take daily notes. Faculty and staff members have helped her to stay focused in school, while giving her extra time outside of class to write and publish her book.

Not only did fellow students and friends encourage her to get her book

published, many teachers also served as inspirations.

One of those teachers was Dr. Sheilah Clarke-Ekong, Dean of the Evening College.

"Karen talked about having aspirations of being a writer, and I thought that that was very admirable for someone to have at a young age," Ekong said. "Knowing that she had the potential, I told her to go for it."

After Riggins spoke to a fellow church member who had already been published, she was determined to turn her poetry into a real book. The woman from her church told her about 1st Books Library, a publisher that could help her achieve her dream.

"The Reluctant Witness" took a year for Riggins to complete. She began typing poetry and saved each poem in a separate file on a disk. When she brought her work to the publisher, Riggins was told that all of her work had to be combined into one file. She had close friends help her organize her poems and design a book cover.

Riggins paid about \$1200 for the whole publishing process. The cost included maintaining her own copyright.

Riggins also discussed pitfalls in the publishing world. She explained how traditional publishers sometimes give writers \$150,000 up front. If a writer accepts this offer, he or she may be required to sell the publisher legal rights to the work. When an

author does not own rights, the publishing company is entitled to utilize the piece of work however it pleases.

Many people interested in publishing books might wonder about how much profit the author actually makes. Riggins received 50% of the bookstand's sale price.

Some of the types of poetry in "The Reluctant Witness" are written for younger people with questions about God. Some poems are about self-discovery and inspirations.

One poem concerns abortion. It deals with the consequences of being pro-choice and pro-life. This poem shows how painful and heartbreaking abortion can be for people, rather than serving as an easy alternative.

Riggins said many people have labeled her writings as being devoted to God and very religious, but she feels differently.

"Everyone has faith, but many of my poems are based on life experiences and how to overcome hard obstacles people face in life," Riggins said.

Poetry can take on many different styles and is a very challenging type of writing. This author writes does not write strictly by the book. She intertwines variety and creativity in her writing.

"I don't write unless inspiration strikes me," Riggins said.

"The Reluctant Witness" can be purchased at Barnes and Noble, through the Internet at Amazon.com



Student Karen Riggins recently published a book of poetry, which is available (among other places) in the UM-St. Louis bookstore.

and at www.1stbooks.com. Copies are also available at the University

Summer in Seton

BY KATE DROLET
Features Editor

During the fall and winter semesters, UM-St. Louis is a busy place, with classes, countless sports events and student life activities. Even though the University's residential population is relatively small, those who do live on campus know that this close-knit community is an active group.

But what happens in the summer when the majority of residents move to their respective homes? Not a whole lot, according to Mitch Isaacs, graduate assistant for Provincial House.

"It's a very laid back environment (in the residence halls) during the summer," Isaacs said. "It's quieter. Students are more focused on their work or their studies. There are only about 50 or 60 residents in Seton."

All UM-St. Louis summer residents are required to live in Seton Hall. The remainder of the halls, Le Gras, Villa, Villa North, Bellerive and Normandie, are occupied by conference services. Several Christian youth camps utilize these services each summer.

Laurie Bainter, sophomore, international business, finds their presence an inconvenience to UM-St. Louis residents.

"The Honors College are with the mail boxes is only open from nine until five. I work, so I can't get over there during those hours," she said.

Bainter addressed her concerns to Director of Residential Life Kimberly Allen. The mail situation is being han-

All UM-St. Louis summer residents are required to live in Seton Hall.

dled, but UM-St. Louis students will still have limited access to the rest of the building.

As far as food service goes, Seton Hall has one working kitchen and snack machines on the ground floor. The Nosh is open Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Randy Sommers is one of two summer resident assistants for Seton Hall. Summer RA's are required to execute one program per week for the residents.

"We had a barbecue one night and half of the dorm was outside. We had a good time," he said.

Other programs included a nature walk in Normandy Park, a pingpong tournament and a pool tournament. Residents will also have the opportunity to attend an air show at Scott Air Force Base, located near Belleville, IL, on June 21 and 23.

"There's really not much going on right now," said Isaacs. "[The Residence Hall Association] is planning welcome week for the fall, the department [of Residential Life] is working out the budget and planning stuff for next year."

Justin Kimble, Jonas Zakour, Lizzie Abraham, Maria Curtis, Bobby Hopkins, Alex Kerford, Kate Drolet, Tyler Cross, Griffith Taylor and Jhanah Haynes-Mark will begin RA training in early August before the storm of students rush in for the fall semester. Until that time, campus life will remain quiet.

R-Men hope for success

BY STEVE HARRELL

Sports Editor

After finishing well under .500 in 2001, the men's soccer program bounced back and had an impressive 2002 campaign. Finishing at 9-7-1, the Rivermen almost doubled their win total from the year before en route to a second place finish in the Great Lakes Valley Conference. For his efforts, head coach Dan King received 2002 Coach of the Year honors for the conference, leading his men to a 7-3-1 finish in league play.

UM-St. Louis was upset in the first round of the conference tournament, winning a number of key games, including an upset of the eventual conference champs, Southern Indiana.

"Last year we showed that we could beat anyone in the conference," Coach King said. "But we still have to progress. We need to learn to play more consistently, especially against solid teams."

Inconsistency is what ended UM-St. Louis' season last fall, as they dropped the 2-7 opening round game to Wisconsin-Parkside in the conference tourney.

"Play-off soccer is a lot different than playing in the regular season," added Coach King. "We probably needed to be better prepared for that game (against Wisconsin-



The Rivermen soccer team finished the 2002 season with a 9-7-1 record. The team has signed six new players in preparation for the fall 2003 season.

Parkside)."

Last spring, UM-St. Louis competed in five exhibition matches, a staple of college soccer. Coach King always wants to play the best opponents in the spring, and true to his word, King compiled a grueling

schedule that included three Division I teams: Saint Louis University, Indiana, and Indiana-Purdue at Indianapolis. Throw in nearby Wash. U. and conference rival SIU-Edwardsville, and you've got a season full of powerhouses. UM-St. Louis' spring record

reflected the level of talent they went up against, as the team finished 0-5. But Coach King isn't worried. After all, exhibition matches aren't about wins and losses.

"I wanted to pressure the youngsters, and I felt good about how

they responded," noted King. "You have to play the best in order to grow as an individual and as a team. We started six Freshmen this spring, and I think they all played pretty well."

Trying to repeat last year's winning season may prove tough for the R-Men this fall. The team graduated eight players, including their entire back four and both captains. Two of those players, Pat Shelton and Jeff Stegman, earned all conference honors in their final year. But don't discount the Rivermen just yet; they will be returning five starters, which should prove to be a strong foundation to build a winning team around. And with the addition of six new players, including Junior College All-American Mark Malloy, UMSL has a chance meet last year's mark and even improve on their 9-7-1 finish. But whether or not the squad reaches the play-offs, that is anyone's guess. UM-St. Louis hasn't seen post season play since 1991. So what does Coach King think of his team's chances?

"We have as good of a shot as anyone. We play in the toughest region and the toughest conference in the country. Battling through the GLVC schedule gets us ready to take on anyone," he said.

Coach King and his troops open the regular season in late August. Check <http://umsl-sports.com> for official dates and times.

Coach's corner

Brady believes his 2003 squad can take on any conference opponent

BY STEVE HARRELL

Sports Editor

Declared by many of its members as the toughest conference in NCAA-Division II, the Great Lakes Valley Conference is filled with many formidable opponents for the UM-St. Louis baseball squad. Currently, the Rivermen are at the top of the GLVC, with a 39-14 overall record. That being the case, Rivermen skipper Jim Brady feels that his team is the team to beat this season.

"It's not an easy road the rest of the way, but I'm confident that if we play up to our capabilities that teams are going to have to beat us," Brady said. "Because I really don't see us beating ourselves. I really don't."

According to Brady, one major way that UM-St. Louis can avoid beating themselves is through handling wins and losses well.

"This team has the capability of going on a roll and gathering momentum," Brady said. "All of a sudden, before you know it, you could win 10 or 12 in a row. If you have a bad game, you pitch that aside and you go on. You just keep playing and realize that you're going to hit a couple bumps in the road and a day where you don't play well."

"That's part of the game," Brady continued. "You might run into a hot pitcher that just goes out and does a great job. You tip your cap to him and you go to the next game and say 'Okay, let's see what happens this time around.'"

Overall, Brady feels confident that his 2003 squad can take on any conference opponent and the following is a look at some of the key teams in the GLVC.

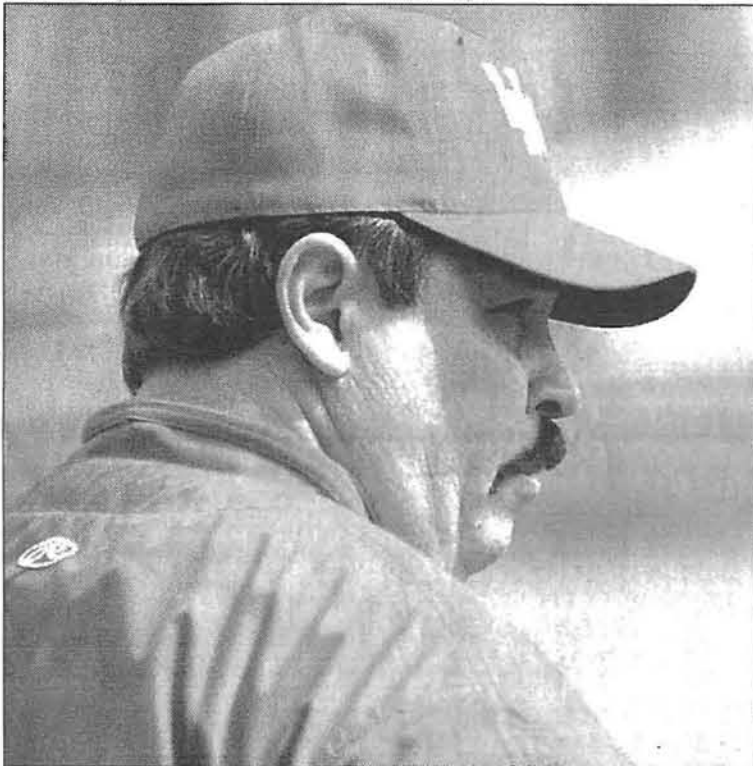
NORTHERN KENTUCKY

Defending Champs

INDIANAPOLIS

"They are a perennial power," Brady said. "I think our teams compare very favorably. I think I'd give us a slight edge, but keep in mind we've got to go there to play. Once again, if this team plays up to our capabilities, I truly feel that we are the best team in this league. Indy's close, but they're not as good as we are."

WISCONSIN-PARKSIDE



Rivermen baseball coach Jim Brady led UM-St. Louis to win the GLVC championship in 2003.

"They've got some good pitching and everybody knows that good pitching can stop good hitting," Brady said. "When we have to go in there, once again we've got to play in their backyard. You've got to contend with good pitchers. We've got to go out and play well." "It's not going to be a given that we're just going to go out and be able to stand toe-to-toe and go out there and slug them," Brady continued. "Their team is predicated on solid pitching. They've got three solid starters. In baseball pitching's the name of the game, so I would say that they're dangerous."

SAINT JOSEPH'S

"I think that we play them at the very end," Brady said. "I think by that time we're going to get a better idea. I know they've got one pretty good pitcher. After that, their offense is not something that scares me. They're going to have to manufacture runs. I think they're a team that, basically, we need to stay on top of. If we do, I think we'll prevail."

SIUE

"They're rivals on the other side of the river and they're always a handful, no matter where they're at in the standings," Brady said. "It's the same way with us against them. It's one of those things that you never know. The team that comes ready to play that day will be the team that wins. Once again, you can't take them for granted."

"That rivalry, it's kind of like Missouri and Kansas," Brady continued. "You can throw all the records out the window when those two teams play and it's kind of the same way with us. When we play, you can throw the records out the window because whichever team goes out and plays well normally prevails."

Magic Number?

I just want to win the next game. When you play well and you look up at the scoreboard and say 'God, we've got a 20 point lead.' I kind of want to play each game and say 'Okay, we won that game, let's go to the next game.' Then, we'll let everything else kind of fall into place.

peting in six off-season matches. Playing the likes of Lindenwood and Truman State, the Riverwomen went 2-4 in their spring season, which pleased their coach.

"This spring was a great learning experience. We played some good teams, and the girls all got better. They all dedicated themselves to winning this fall. I saw lots of growth on this squad in the spring. I'm looking for more of that this fall."

But Coach Gyllenborg is thinking even farther ahead than this fall. "Before they graduate, I'm wanting this group of girls to make the NCAA regionals. That's very possible given their talent. Even if we didn't add another player to the roster, I think that that goal is very attainable."

The Riverwomen open their season early this fall. For their entire 2003 schedule, check <http://umsl-sports.com>.

Coach optimistic about chances

BY STEVE HARRELL

Sports Editor

The 2002-2003 season was rough for men's basketball, as the team finished with just five wins and a now-infamous 19 game losing streak, but head coach Mark Bernsen is optimistic that next year's campaign will produce much better results, using their extra year of experience and maturity. UM-St. Louis will return four starters this winter. Couple that with a good recruiting class, and you have a recipe for success.

Among those returning, UM-St. Louis will have their top two scorers (Ronnie Banks and Jonathan Griffin) and their top two rebounders (Griffin and Jo'Van Fisher) back on the floor. Of the four new recruits, three of them are Junior College transfers, while one is a

Division I refugee. All four men should bring lots of experience to the team. Coach Bernsen also hopes to add more players before the season kicks off.

Despite all the optimism surrounding the squad, the team is expected to miss Mindaugas Adamonis and Darryl Saine next season.

Both players made contributions last season. Even with the loss of those two players, Coach Bernsen is hopeful that his team can finish above .500 this year. "My goal is to have a winning season this year," Bernsen said. "We have a good balance of home and away games this season...we're going to try and win half of our conference games and all of our out of conference match-ups."

Look for a complete season preview of Rivermen basketball later this fall. Can't wait 'til then? Check out <http://umsl-sports.com>.

"We have a good balance of home and away games this season...we're going to try and win half of our conference games and all of our out of conference match-ups"

-Coach Mark Bernsen

SPORTS



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Questions or Comments?

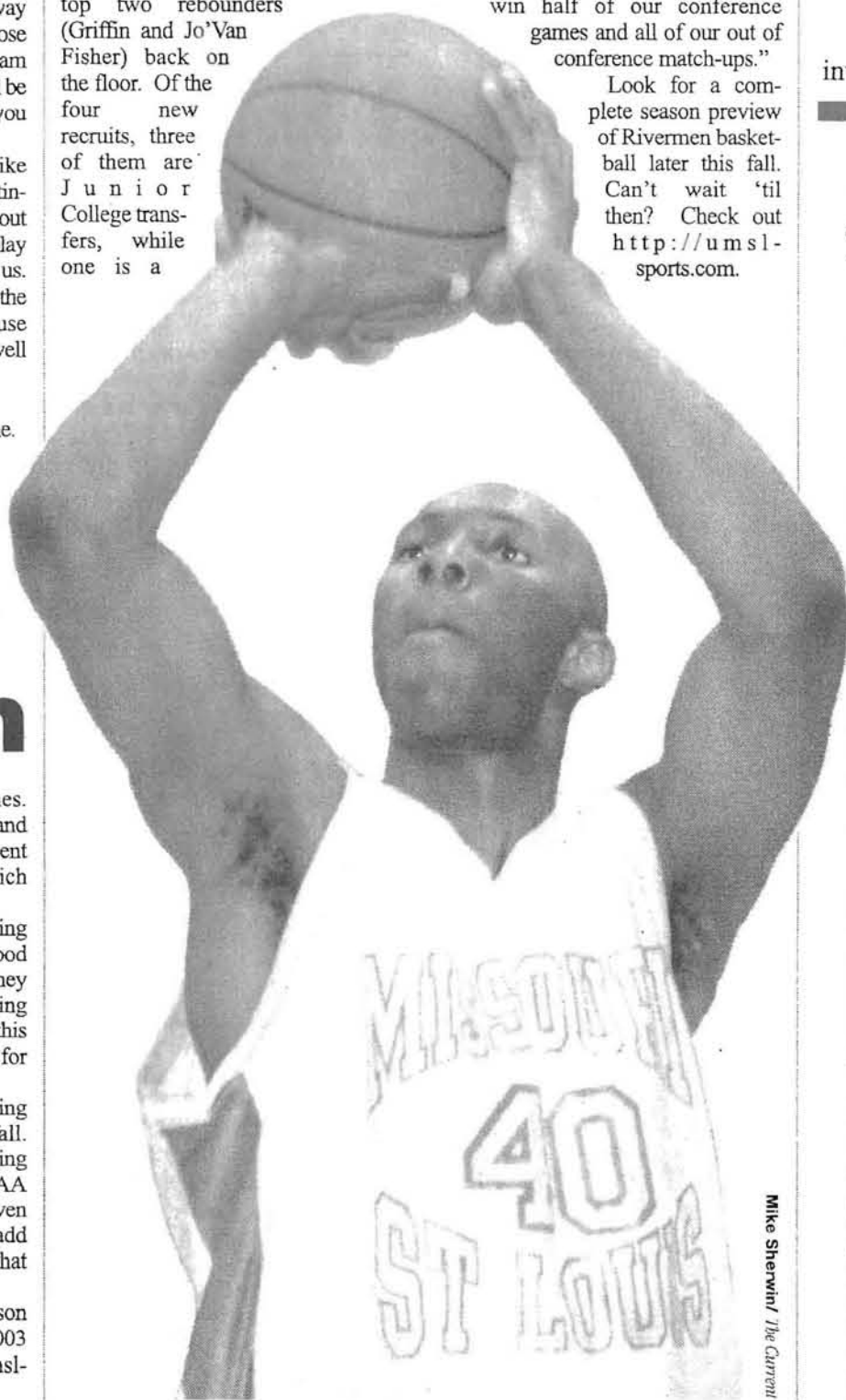
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WEB

Check out the R-men and R-women sports at www.umsl-sports.com

Sorry everyone, but there are no statistics available right now. It's a bummer, but rest assured, as soon as they're here, you'll get them.



Mike Sherwin/The Current

Tennis set for season

BY STEVE HARRELL

Sports Editor

After ending last fall's regular season at 7-7, the Riverwomen tennis squad went on to finish seventh in the conference tournament, settling for an 8-9 record overall. Considering the team consisted only of Freshmen and Sophomores, many schools would be happy with these results, but not the players here at UM-St. Louis.

"The girls underachieved and they know it," said head coach Rick Gyllenborg. "We let one or two matches get away from us in the conference tournament."

Just one match in the three-game-must tournament can make or break your outcome, as the Riverwomen already knew. They finished two spots better in 2001, fifth place, despite playing with mostly the same group of girls.

"They were very unhappy with (2002's) seventh place finish, considering what they accomplished the year before," added Coach Gyllenborg.

But all that is in the past. This year, Coach Gyllenborg and his troops are ready to do some damage in the Great Lakes Valley Conference. They return all eight of last year's players, and the 2003 edition of the Riverwomen tennis team has one thing you can't teach: experience. With no losses on the personnel side, these eight ladies are back and hungrier than ever, and their goals for 2003 and beyond clear: they want to win. But winning in the always tough GLVC is easier said than done, and Coach Gyllenborg has other goals for this fall.

"I'm looking for another year of growth and maturity out of the ladies," Gyllenborg stated.

The girls gained a lot of maturity and experience this past spring, com-

UMSL defeats Hawks in GLVC

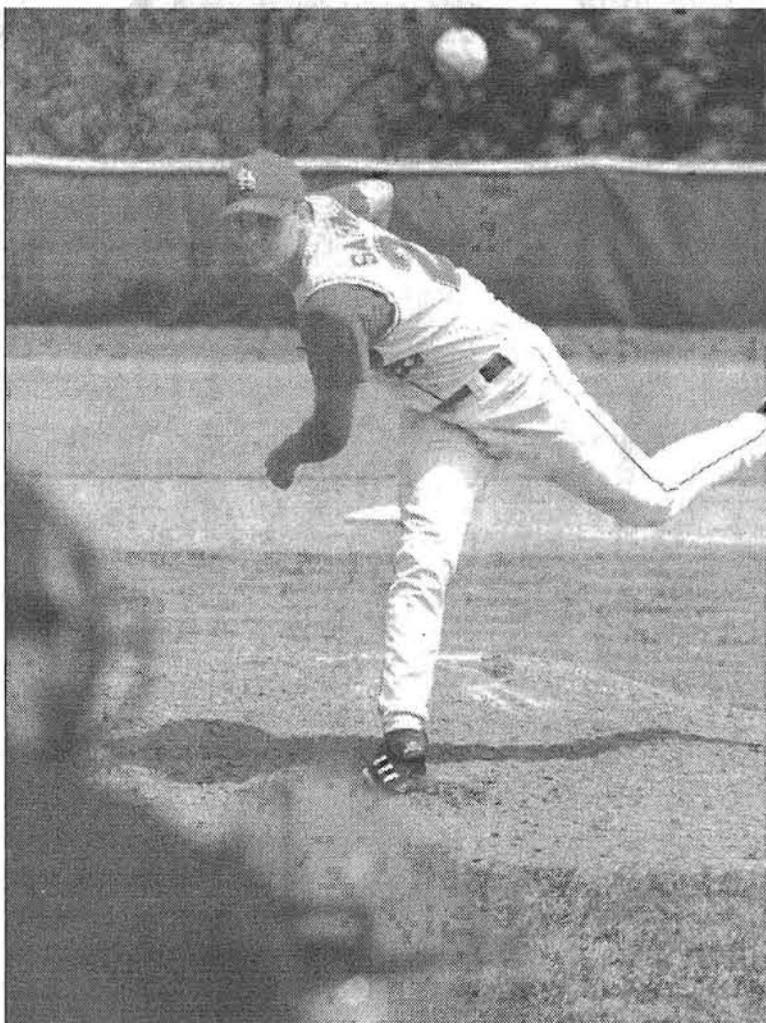
BY STEVE HARRELL
Sports Editor

Sweeping conference-rival Quincy, the Rivermen once again displayed their dominance in Great Lakes Valley Conference play. UM-St. Louis defeated the Hawks 1-0 in game one and 9-8 in the doubleheader.

Left-handed pitcher Kevin Sahrman picked up a complete game shutout in game one. Sahrman struck out two, walked one and allowed six hits in seven innings of work. Quincy starter Matt Rodeffer pitched for six innings, gave up one run, struck out four and walked none.

The effort of the Rivermen hurlers paled in comparison to the luster of the UM-St. Louis offense in game two as the team scored eight runs in the fourth inning. The outcome of the game was all but decided, however, as the Hawks came back late in the game and nearly bring it to a tie.

"We relaxed a little bit and then we let some of the side distractions enter in and we lost our focus a little bit," Brady said. "We drop a ball in the infield and all of a sudden open up a can of worms. The thing is that we learned a lesson today that you can't lose sight of what your goal is, no matter what the score. We were within an eyelash of the game being tied.



Rivermen pitcher Kevin Sahrman pitched a shutout in the first game of the Great Lakes Valley Conference.

It took a great play by Bryan Weiss in the eighth inning to get that force out at second base. If we don't get that, the game's tied. Now the momentum is totally shifted toward the other side because they were down."

Brady is happy to have gotten out of the game with the lead intact. "We kind of did the same thing against SIUE," Brady said. "There was a time we were down 8-0 and we came back and ended up winning the ballgame 15-9. You can't take anything for granted, even when you're playing with wood. I'm grateful to have dodged a bullet. This team showed, once again, how resilient that they are. We did what we had to do to win."

Brady was impressed with his pitchers during the game, despite the final score. "We got good performances out of our pitchers even though we allowed

them some space to come back and make it really interesting and exciting," Brady said. "Some of that was our own doing. Anytime you get up on somebody 9-0, basically you've just got to throw the ball down the middle."

"You got a young sophomore pitching and he's trying to impress and nibble, especially with two strikes," Brady said, of . "He's got to understand that it's about just throwing strikes and throw the minimum pitches possible. Make them swing

the bat and rely on our defense."

Right-hander Steven McCoy picked up the victory, giving up four earned runs and six hits in six innings pitched. Right-hander Greg Bierling picked up the save and struck out two in just over an inning pitched.

"Even at the end, we had to bring Greg Bierling back and you just can't say enough great things about his leadership," Brady said. "He won the ball there at the end and it worked out quite well because it seemed like the home plate umpire was squeezing Josh Green a little bit. He definitely squeezed Todd Katz and Greg came in there and didn't allow anything to distract him and just went after them. He ended up getting the save. It was impressive."

GVLC 2003 Final Baseball Standings				
Team	GVLC		Overall	
	W-L	Pct.	W-L	Pct.
Missouri-St. Louis	23-7	.767	39-15	.722
SIU Edwardsville	17-13	.567	24-26	.480
Indianapolis	17-13	.567	39-22	.639
Wis.-Parkide	16-14	.533	24-26	.480
Quincy	15-15	.500	28-23	.549
Kentucky Wesleyan	15-15	.500	24-22	.522
Northern Kentucky	15-15	.500	28-24	.538
Saint Joseph's	14-16	.467	28-25	.528
Southern Indiana	13-17	.433	24-27	.471
Bellarmine	10-20	.333	13-34	.277
Lewis	10-20	.333	17-38	.309

Tennis makes NCAA tournament, again

BY STEVE HARRELL
Sports Editor

For the second straight year the men's tennis program here at UM-St. Louis played well enough to make the NCAA Division II tournament, but for the second straight year the tennis squad fell to Wayne State in the opening round, dashing their hopes for a national championship.

It was a great season nonetheless, as the team aced, volleyed, and smashed their way to a 16-8 record, not to mention a third place finish in the Great Lakes Valley Conference tournament. But as good as the squad was this spring, they may not return to post season play for a couple of years.

"I suppose you could call next year

GVLC 2003 Final Tennis Standings				
Team	GVLC		Overall	
	W-L	Pct.	W-L	Pct.
Northern Kentucky	8-0	1.000	22-6	.786
Indianapolis	6-2	.750	13-17	.433
Southern Indiana	6-2	.750	10-10	.500
Bellarmine	5-3	.625	11-5	.688
Missouri-St. Louis	5-3	.625	15-8	.652
Quincy	3-5	.375	12-12	.500
SIU Edwardsville	2-6	.250	4-10	.286
Lewis	1-7	.125	6-13	.316
Saint Joseph's	0-8	.000	10-28	.263

a rebuilding year," explained head coach Rick Gyllenberg. "We're losing lots of talent, leadership, and maturity." Coach Gyllenberg later went on to say that even though some key players were lost to graduation, he hopes that some returning players can step up and fill the holes left by the Seniors.

"Since our regular season is in the spring, we have all fall and part of winter to prepare for next year. Everyone will get next fall to mature, which will really help us. We'll have to see how our recruits fare," Gyllenberg said.

Two of those recruits are expected to play a role on the squad next season. Max Bugner is coming to, UM-St. Louis from Kingwood, Texas, and Francis Lam will be joining the team

from England.

"Lam is a very good player," said Gyllenberg. "I expect him to compete for Freshman of the Year honors here in the conference. Of course, you never know what the other teams are going to have as far as new recruits, so we'll have to wait and see. But this kid is very good."

One of the players returning to the team will be last season's GLVC Freshman of the Year, Mike Schaaf. Schaaf, along with teammates Martin Kardos and Matt Vaulkhard, were named to the all-conference team this past spring. Of the three, only Kardos is graduating. Leaving with Kardos are Seniors Mario Gruden and Martin Dam.

"We're losing our one, four, and six guys, which will really hurt us,"

Gyllenberg noted. "We'll have to see how the remaining players respond to that."

UM-St. Louis does have some wins to build from, besting conference rivals Indianapolis and Bellarmine during the regular season, as well as non-conference opponent Vincennes.

Next season, Coach Gyllenberg says the squad will have a tough time making regionals. "We won't really know exactly what we've got until we see how the recruits fare in the fall, but getting to regionals will be a big hurdle next season."

You'll have to wait until next spring to see whether or not the new recruits can mesh with the returning starters, but until then you can satisfy your hunger for UM-St. Louis tennis at <http://umsl-sports.com>.

The reel life story of The Mighty Ducks

BY STEVE HARRELL
Sports Editor

Isn't it funny how life imitates art? Eleven years ago, the Mighty Ducks were nothing but a rag-tag hockey team from Minnesota, living their dreams on a sheet of ice...and the silver screen. Now, in 2003, the Mighty Ducks are nothing but a rag-tag tag hockey team from Anaheim, living their dreams on a sheet of ice...and in front of 20,000 screaming fans. What a difference a decade makes.

Disney released the movie The Mighty Ducks in theatres in 1992, and it quickly became the feel good movie of the year, at least amongst my group of friends (what can I say, we were ten years old). The general public embraced the movie as well (see, we weren't the only ones who liked it), prompting Disney to name their expansion NHL franchise, The Mighty Ducks of Anaheim. Most of the players that first year didn't exactly appre-

ciate playing for a team named after a kiddie flick, but there was little they could do. So the players donned their jerseys, displaying a logo that could only be described as an evil cartoon duck, and they began writing a new chapter in NHL history. Little did they know that for six weeks in the spring of 2003, the franchise would make a play-off run reminiscent of their theatrical counterparts.

So as I was watching Game 7 of the Stanley Cup Finals last Monday, I began thinking about the key players on the Mighty Ducks (both the real and fictitious squads). I began seeing similarities in their attitudes, playing styles, and on-ice personalities. And since we won't be seeing the Anaheim players cast in a remake of the movie (though I wouldn't put it past Disney), I came up with my own list of players to star in the remake. So without further ado, I give you the actors of The Mighty Ducks, 2003:

Paul Kariya as Adam Banks

Far and away the best player on the squad, Banks has been the go-to guy ever since joining the Ducks. This would have been an even better fit had Kariya not gotten up from a hit he took from New Jersey defenseman Scott Stevens earlier in Game 6. In the original movie, Banks gets taken out by the other team's thugs during the championship game, only he doesn't get up. In the Finals, Kariya was eventually helped off after taking the hit; in fact, he scored a goal not long after the incident. Now that I think of it, I always believed that Banks kid was a pansy.

Jean Sebastian Giguere as Goldberg

Every hockey team serious about winning a title needs solid goaltending. In the original movie, Goldberg morphs from a smelly, annoying fat kid who's scared of the puck to, well, a smelly, annoying fat kid who can stop the puck. He came out of nowhere to become arguably the team MVP. Plus he has a cool nickname (Goldberg the Goalie...I never said it was original).

J.S. Giguere also came out of nowhere, but he rose to an even higher level: Conne Smythe winner (given to the MVP of the entire post season). He also has a cool nickname (Jiggy), and while Giguere isn't a smelly, annoying fat kid, he is French-Canadian. Who would you rather sit beside on the team bus?

Adam Oates as Charlie Conway

This is the guy that everyone in the theatre was really pulling for. Small in stature but big in heart, it seems like this kid has been playing hockey forever (it's possible that Adam Oates actually has been playing hockey forever...I'll check into it). With his outstanding leadership skills, Conway keeps his team positive through the rough times and eventually wins the Ducks the state championship.

(You know, as stupid as it sounds, I almost expected Adam Oates to gather his team before the third period of Game 7 and begin chanting, "Quack! Quack! Quack!" until everyone in a

Ducks jersey was fired up.)

There are a couple other similarities worth pointing out as well:

1. In the movie, the Ducks sneak into the play-offs as the number seven seed by playing good hockey towards the end of the season. While Anaheim didn't exactly surprise anyone, they also earned the seven seed by playing well in the second half of the season.
2. Also in the movie, the Ducks meet the perennial powerhouse Hawks team in the championship. In the Cup Finals, Anaheim took on the New Jersey Devils, who have dominated the league ever since winning their first Stanley Cup in 1995.
3. The fans of the Hawks are classless and despised by all. We found this to be true of the New Jersey Devils' fans too, as they booed J.S. Giguere while receiving the Conne Smythe Award.
4. The coach of the Pee Wee Ducks, Gordon Bombay, was in his first season on the bench. He took a non-play-


off team and turned them into champions. The '02-'03 season also marked Mike Babcock's first head coaching job (in the NHL). Like Bombay, Babcock is a young coach who never quite made the National Hockey League, but he was able to take a non-playoff team and guide them to the promised land (almost).

5. The fictitious Ducks had sharpshooter Fulton Reed, while the Anaheim Mighty Ducks almost traded for Blues sniper Al MacInnis. OK, I made that up. I needed an excuse to mention Fulton Reed in this column, because I thought he was cool as hell.

As I mentioned earlier, life imitates art; it doesn't mirror art. Anaheim came up one game short in their quest for the Cup, but gave an incredible effort nonetheless. They'll get another shot next season, but I think we all know that the Kariya-Giguere-Oates led Ducks are too much like the movie Ducks: the sequel just won't be as good as the original.

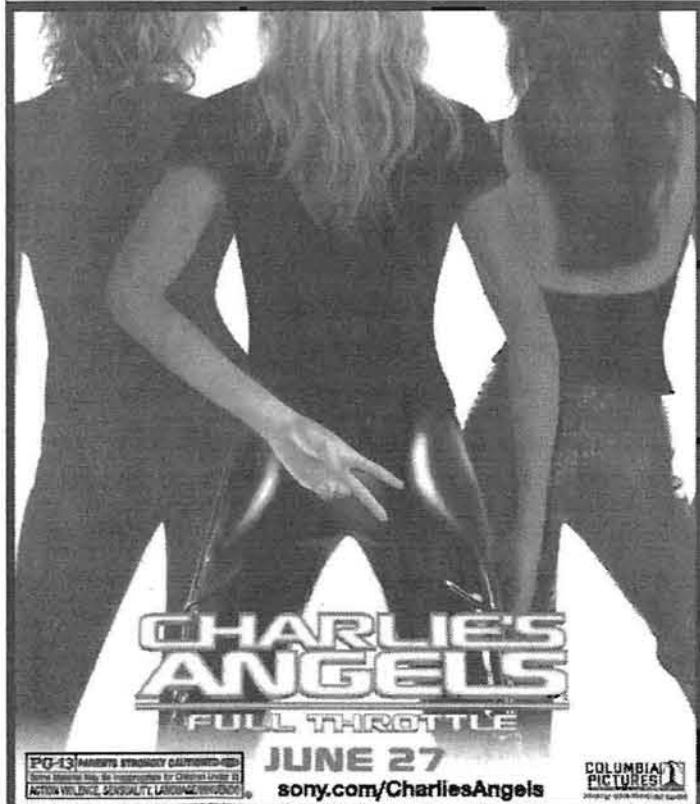
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Summer time is for movies

BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER
Film Critic

Signs of lazy summertime can be seen everywhere. People want to play, go on vacation and chill out. Staying up late because the daylight lasts leads to staying out late because the air grows cooler. Staying cool seems much more important than staying focused, and the movie theater is about as cool as you can get.

Summer is the traditional time for blockbuster action movies, special effects extravaganzas, goofier-than-usual comedies and seemingly endless sequels. Nothing heavy plays during the summer; the light stuff reigns during hot weather. Even the most serious person is apt to take a mental break to settle down with the popcorn in the cold, dark of the movie theater and enjoy the escapism of the big screen experience.

For those who like the edgier style of the independent film, the St. Louis Filmmakers Showcase runs from June 25-29. This mini film festival is presented by Cinema St. Louis, the year-round organization that brings us the big fall St. Louis International Film Festival. The festival features the work of local filmmakers, ranging from local professionals to students, all of which are worth a look. The films are generally short and are grouped by themes. If you are interested in indie film or curious about the local filmmaking scene, this peek is a must. Check out the lineup of films online at <http://sliff.org>.

For the late-nighters, the Tivoli Reel Late summer-long series of midnight movies is already under way. Starting with the original "Matrix" and "Raiders of the Lost Ark," the series shows cult favorites, Japanese anime, the quirky, the edgy, the fantastic, and other offbeat films at midnight for two

weekends. Each weekend starts a new movie for a two-weekend run while concluding the second weekend run of another. A full schedule of the midnight shows is available at the Tivoli Theater, or online at <http://landmark-theatres.com>.

The big special effects and action movies have already launched with "X2: X-Men United" and "The Matrix: Reloaded," summer comedies "Bruce Almighty" and "Daddy Daycare," "Hollywood Homicide" has a foot in both pools. Here is a quick look at some of the summer offerings. Remember that release dates are subject to change.

Among the most highly anticipated movies is "The Hulk" (June 20). Ang Lee, whose past works include "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon," "The Ice Storm" and "Ride With the Devil," directs the adaptation of the comic book series. Lee's range supplies hope that this film will be the big special effects blast of the season. The press screening isn't until this week, so we'll have to wait to see if the hype matches the product. Eric Bana and Jennifer Connelly star.

Another film with a lot of buzz is the screen adaptation of the bestseller "Seabiscuit" (July 25). The real-life story of an unlikely little horse and the equally unlikely collection of underdogs whose faith in him drove the horse to racing success, captured the public imagination during the Great Depression inspired a best-selling modern book. This superb Americana film stars Tobey Maguire, making "Seabiscuit" the likely 'prestige film' of the summer.

Another movie people are curious about, although for different reasons, is the Ben Affleck-Jennifer Lopez vehicle "Gigli" (July 30), which is being described as a romantic gangster comedy, fitting right in with this summer's popular action and comedy

theme.

In the weightier, late summer arena is director Stephen Frears' latest. Frears, whose previous films include "High Fidelity," directs "Amelie" star Audrey Tautou in the suspense/drama "Dirty Pretty Things" (August 15), a harbinger of fall's return to serious films.

The season of the sequel is already well under way—easily the biggest group of summer films yet. One thing is for sure: The sequel names just keep getting longer as they multiply.

An early release, and among the many sequels in the comedy field, is "Dumb and Dumberer," which opens June 20. The original stars are missing but the dumbness goes on. Anticipation for this film wanes as the premiere approaches.

There is more hope, at least as far as pleasing fans of the original, for "Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle" (June 27) offers more hope of pleasing its original fans; "Full Throttle" shows the requisite amount of giggling and giggling along with the mix of action and comedy.

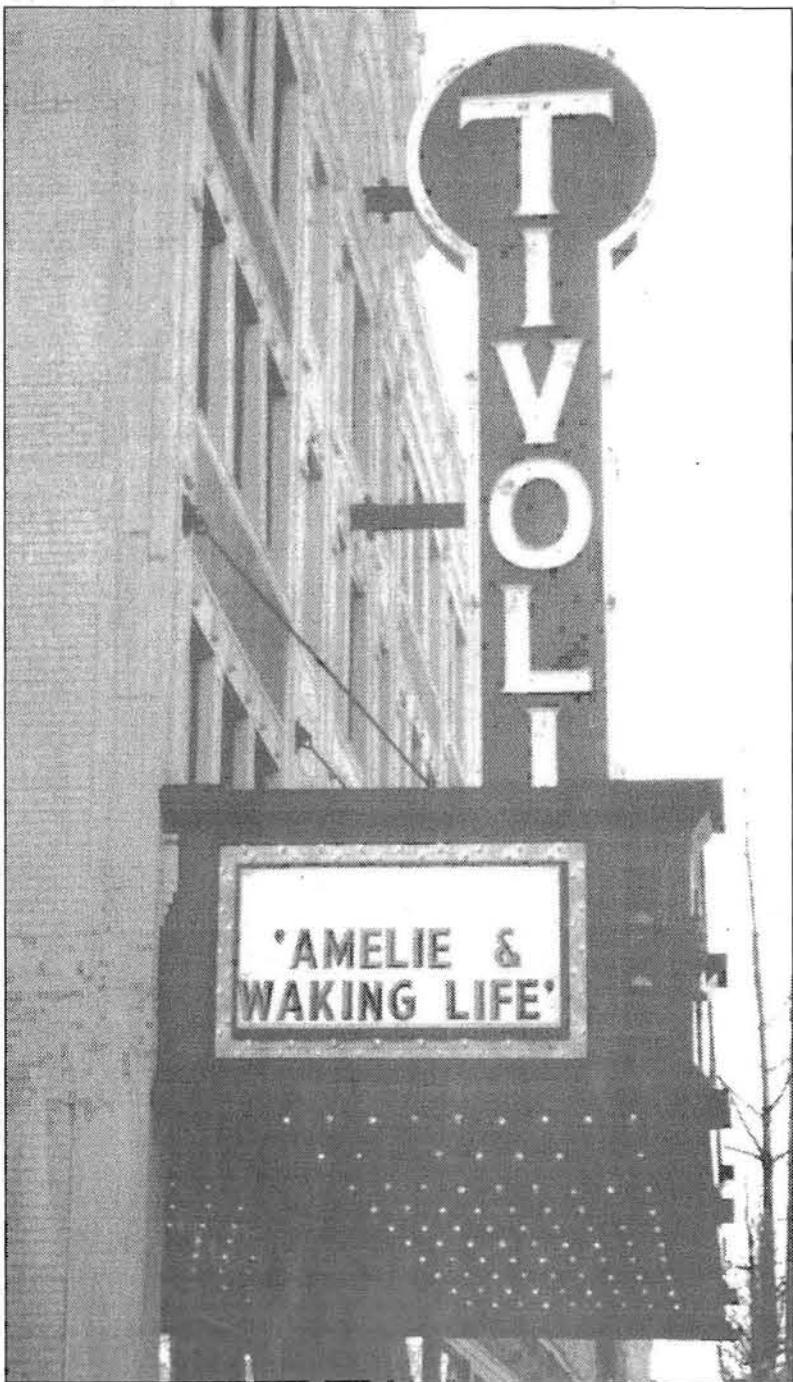
Reese Witherspoon reprises her update of a Hollywood standard, the dumb blond comedy, with "Legally Blond 2: Red, White, and Blond." Look for it in theatres July 2.

"Bad Boys II" (July 18) also has its original cast members, Martin Lawrence and Will Smith, in more action-comedy.

Angelina Jolie and Lara Croft return in "Lara Croft Tomb Raider: The Cradle of Life" (July 25) for more special effects and barely-clothed action.

The kids might enjoy "Spy Kids 3D: Game Over" (July 25). Since this is the third in the "Spy Kids" series, it may not be any funnier than the 3D glasses themselves.

see SUMMER, page 10



Mike Sherwin/ The Current

The Tivoli Theater, located at 6350 Delmar, is home to the Reel Late summer series of movies during the summer.

AT&T

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'Chaos' thrills with a brain and a heart

BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER
Film Critic

Thrillers rarely offer any other intellectual challenge than wondering which way the plot will turn next, although the good ones keep you on the edge of your seat. The French film "Chaos" is a nonstop exciting and entertaining story that, shockingly, has more meaning and emotion than most thrillers of recent years. It might take mainstream Hollywood about one year to remake this gem into a popular English-language film with big-name American stars, but you ought to go see the original while you can; it is worth it.

"Chaos" opens with a violent shock. An affluent Parisian couple (Catherine Frot and Vincent Lindon) drives down a dark, deserted city street when a woman (Rachida Brakni) rushes out into the night, bleeding and screaming for them to help her. The husband reacts immediately by locking the car doors and attempting to put the car in reverse. However, it is too late and after witnessing the attack, the wife pleads with her husband to call for an ambulance for the now-unconscious woman. He refuses, fearing involvement, and drives off as the sound of police sirens approaches. Filled with guilt the next day, the affluent woman Helene tracks down the victim, now in a coma in the hospital. Her actions set in motion an extraordinary chain of events, which reveals the unexpected complexity behind the attack and also unexpected aspects of each character. Everyone and everything loses its footing as the couple's neatly compartmentalized world unravels. "Chaos" touches on the relationship of this materially successful couple who are too busy to have a life, their dysfunctional and unfulfilled family life, and the disparity in the lives of the affluent and the immigrants living among them, without once dropping its entertainment value.

First and foremost, "Chaos" a good tale, full of intrigue and switchbacks, and deliciously ironic humor. Its comments on modern life are seamlessly interwoven and the whole film is devoid of any hint of preaching. Helene's distraction from her busy life reveals her husband, Paul, as a self-centered brat who dodges calls from his mother (Line Renaud) and can't manage the simplest household on his own. Their college-student son Fabrice (Aurelien Wiik) mirror's his father's character, cheating on his live-in fiancée. As Helene watches over the recovering Noemie, she learns that the attack was not the simple event it seemed. Noemie's convoluted story of organized crime, drugs, deceit, finance and the Algerian immigrant subculture is told in fascinating fashion, step by step.

The embedded content in this tale is a hallmark of excellent films, inviting comparison to Chaplin's great comedies.

see CHAOS, page 10

MOVIE REVIEW

Film binds music, meaning 'Together'



Xiaochun, played by Tang Yun, gets to know his first violin teacher, Professor Jiang, played by Wang Zhiwen, in United Artists' stirring new drama about the power of music, "Together."

BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER
Film Critic

Chen Kaige is one of a handful of star directors working in Chinese cin-

ema. Himself the son of a filmmaker, Chen has directed numerous outstanding films, including "Farewell My Concubine," a visually stunning film about the waning days of Peking

opera. His new film, "Together" is less sweeping and historic but Chen's eye for photographic beauty and skill in presenting artists in performance are still strong in this tale of a young violinist. Musical and visual beauty fill the film, along with the warm and moving tale about the art of music and about choices in life.

"Together," filmed in Chinese, tells the story of a gifted young violinist (Tang Yun, an actual violin prodigy) and his doting single parent father (Liu Peiqi). The father, despite being a simple peasant cook, is devoted to advancing his 13-year-old son Xiaochun's chances to be a classical musician. Seeing that his potential can never be realized in their small town, the father takes his son to Beijing to try out for a spot in a prestigious music school and to launch the boy's musical career. Despite having won all the local competitions and giving a wonderful audition, the boy fails to win admittance, which the father discovers is due his lack of family connections. Not discouraged by the fierce competition of the big city, the father wheedles private lessons from a professor (Wang Zhiwen) at the school. Eventually, the boy comes to the attention of another professor (played by director Chen Kaige himself), a man known for training international stars.

There are a lot of dichotomies in the film, some played for drama and

some for comedy. The first professor (Wang Zhiwen) is a talented recluse who lives in a messy apartment full of adopted cats. Despite his blunt speech and crusty manner, the professor is a softhearted and sentimental man who cares more about his art than any material success. He's a gifted teacher who understands the importance of

— “ —

This moving film is a warm meditation on family and choices for success and worth the trip to the theater.

— ” —

feeling in music, but the professor's lack of care about externals is part of what holds him back in his career. The father's concern for his son's success drives him to find another teacher. The new teacher (Chen Kaige) is a socially polished and financially successful star maker, who demands total control over his proteges as he coldly directs their careers. The violin prodigy is thrust into a world of choices between his teachers, between the westernized world of Beijing and the country world of his father, between feelings and material success, and between the

love for music and money.

Comic elements lighten the drama. His father's country bumpkin ways in the big city, and the hip, goldigger neighbor Lili (played by Chen Hong, director Chen's wife) who befriends the boy, provide a dash of humor and fun, as do the curmudgeonly ways of the messy professor. The film's coming of age story unfolds as the boy becomes infatuated with his neighbor, reaches realizations about his father and their relationship, and is faced with some tough life choices. The dramatic tension between the expectations of his two teachers is only one of the many choices the boy faces.

"Together" is filled with marvelous music, both blended in the background and spotlighted during the performance sequences. Chen masterfully shows the passion in musical performance. Apart from that, the look of the film, the lovely composition of shots and skillful lighting make the film simply enjoyable to watch and remind us of the moving beauty of cinematography in this era of digital video. The focus on visual elements and splendid acting communicate directly with the audience, transcending the language barrier.

"Together" is an engrossing story, with beautiful music and expressive acting. This moving film is a warm meditation on family and choices for success and worth the trip to the theater.

CONCERT REVIEW

The noise of Nineteen Inspiring teens play on Loop

BY AMY GONWA
Music Critic

The hours turned into minutes, and Nineteen was to take the stage any moment. A growing crowd emerged into Leland St. on the Delmar Loop, and soon we were all swimming in a cesspool of wild sound. As Nineteen began voicing their wrath, punk rock grabbed a hold of the small outdoor gathering, shaking our bodies and minds. Nominated as the best punk band by the Riverfront Times Music Awards showcase, this local band proved their worthiness of the title, along with their willingness to rock.

What seemed at first like an unorthodox melody soon transformed into a mighty and artistic sound that captured everyone's full attention. The three minds that construct Nineteen exhibited a strong combined musical character and a shining devotion for their bandmates and fans. Living on and breathing in the crowd's excitement, Nineteen refused to let down their avid St. Louis following on the evening of June 8.

Throughout their short-lived set, Nineteen tore into each one of their songs. I could see the motivation and concentration in each of the three members' eyes as they played. As the end grew nearer, the building excitement exploded into the last song where several fans attacked the stage to help Nineteen go out with a bang. Matt, Stephen, Tim and random others created an anarchist playground on stage for their finale. And thanks to one enthusiastic fan, Joe, and his ravishing kazoo solo, the last song was a hit.

Steady, assertive rhythm rung out from Tim, the band's drummer, who plays faster than most of us can think. And pleasantly harsh vocal arrangements erupted from singer and guitarist Matt. Bassist, Stephen, proved that boisterous energy along with precise rhythms make for quite the animated musical performance. Each of the three members brought their music to life, and helped to create a sound that has driven Nineteen to their success in St. Louis.

Lyrically, Nineteen is both clever and dynamic, and builds poetic lines that fit well with their music.

In a post-show interview, guitarist Matt explained to me that "all three halves" go into the writing of each song. This joint effort seems to be working well for Nineteen, as their songs are catchy and insistent.

"We write songs to inspire," bassist Stephen told me, and by the response of their fans, Nineteen seems to be doing just that. Stephen further described his group as being focused on global issues in their lyrical writings, instead of other typical modern musical themes.

Nineteen certainly did make their message clear, sporting t-shirts with assertive messages and singing words that the three men all feel strongly about. They may be young, but these 18-year-old guys have accomplished some lofty achievements thus far. Nineteen is a frequent at the Hi-Pointe, Creepy Crawl, Lemp Arts Center and local VFW halls, so you can catch their music just miles from your home. Although these clubs have brought about a great amount of exposure, the group enjoys playing in random clubs and basement shows. Hear Nineteen play some darn fine punk rock at Cicero's July 20.



Amy Gonwa/ The Current

Matt, the guitarist for Nineteen, a local punk trio, performs at the Riverfront Times' Music Awards. The RFT held an outdoor show on Leland Street in the University City Loop on June 8.

MOVIE REVIEW

Reloaded 'Matrix' is worth the trip

BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER
Film Critic

Summer is the time for action films and, increasingly, sequels. So it is fitting that the sequel to the special effects innovator "The Matrix" is appearing just as our summer warmed up. While not as groundbreaking visually as the first movie, "The Matrix: Reloaded" is still well worth the trip. Assuming you liked the first one.

Don't get me wrong—I liked the first film—but I think some of those commenting on the film only came to admire it in retrospect and don't usually care for this style of film. Others were more impressed with the innovative special effects action than the story itself. In my case, my expectations for any sequel are rather low—any sequel that doesn't violate the concept of the first and makes a reasonably good effort is usually enough for most fans. The bar is lower and sequels are almost never as good as, much less exceed or build on, the first.

In "The Matrix: Reloaded," the Wachowski brothers return to the perception-reality aspect of the Matrix to play with our heads a bit about what is real and what's illusion. The sequel picks up the story a few years after the original. The battle between machines and humans still goes on and Neo (Keanu Reeves) has become more comfortable in his role as the One, at least as regards his special powers within the Matrix. But now we get a larger view of the whole human society within Zion. Within the city, Morpheus (Lawrence Fishburne) has less influence than we thought, and we see that Morpheus' belief in "the One" is a minority, quasi-religious view. A new attack by the machines and divisions within the human community create new tensions that are not aided by the lack of input from the Oracle (the

late Gloria Foster). While Morpheus contends with the politics within Zion and the attack from without, Neo grapples with understanding the Matrix itself, with oddly symbolic events and characters offering hints that no one else in Zion has the whole picture either.

From a storytelling point of view, this is a welcome return to more intriguing concepts of the original. This return is accompanied by references to religious symbols, prophecies and iconic events, as well as even more intriguing names: The Biblical "Zion," the Greco-Roman god "Morpheus," and Neo (an anagram of "One" as well as meaning "new") are joined by characters with names such as "Persephone." In Greek mythology, this is the name of the daughter of the goddess of the harvest Demeter, kidnapped by Hades and taken as his wife, whose alternating time on Earth and in the Underworld cause the changing seasons from summer to winter. Puzzling out symbolism (if any) in names and events is part of the fun of the film.

As for visual effects, the film provides lots

of fun and dazzle, particularly in a spectacular highway chase scene. The appearance of Agent Smith (Hugo Weaving) and his countless doppelgangers is also highly amusing, although a more experienced eye may see a marked resemblance to a computer game. However, the film is not as startlingly revolutionary in technique as the first one, and that

notable performances are given. The under-appreciated Lawrence Fishburne gives his usual gravitas and compelling delivery to his performance, imbuing his lines with a power they would lack in the voice of another actor. Keanu Reeves has mercifully few lines, which lends a bit of weight to the maturing Neo, and the rest of the cast does fine, even if

they are not always given much to do. Again Carrie-Anne Moss as Trinity shows off her action film chops but gets to show a softer side in this film as well. Hugo Weaving, who may have been working on films nonstop with the first Matrix, the three Lord of the Rings films and the two Matrix sequels shooting

deliciously balanced contrast that also mirrors class divisions in our own world. That his wife is named Persephone (Monica Bellucci), a mythic character with a foot in two worlds, is one of the fascinating bits tossed into the Wachowskis' stew.

Should you go see "The Matrix: Reloaded"? By all means if you enjoyed the first, it is worth a look. If it was the story and science fiction setting that most appealed to you about the Matrix, you should be pleased with this follow-up. For action fans, it is a great deal of fun to watch, reprising the visual style of the first with a little more of a puzzle to chew on. But for fans who were more impressed with the visual aspects of the original—their unique combination of computer enhancements and martial arts techniques—the sequel does not provide a new roundhouse of industry-shattering techniques or a really new look. Intriguingly, the trench coats and upscale marble-and-glass urban architecture of the Matrix seem to have been replaced by the priestly cassocks and black-and-gray industrial look of the little-seen "Equilibrium," a science fiction film released last fall.

If you didn't care for the first one, the sequel won't change your mind. After all, "The Matrix" was hardly high art: It is entertainment, albeit with a frisson of philosophy. While I appreciated the originality of the action effects in the Matrix, it dropped its thread of "what is reality" philosophical view as it morphed into the more familiar myth: the foretold hero coming to save his people. The major question in my mind about the sequel was whether the philosophical/science fiction elements would re-emerge or if they would remain missing. It was gratifying to see a return to this theme in any form. With both sequels filmed together, "The Matrix: Reloaded" sets the stage well for the final tale, "The Matrix: Revolution," which comes out in the fall.

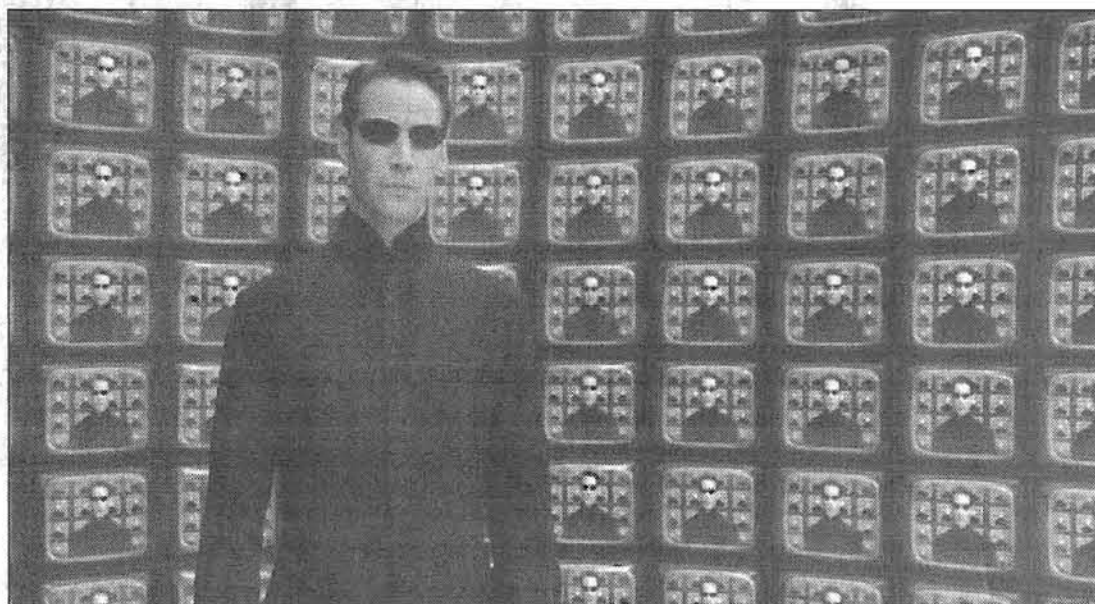


Photo courtesy Warner Bros. Pictures

KEANU REEVES in Warner Bros. Pictures' and Village Roadshow Pictures' provocative futuristic action thriller "The Matrix Reloaded," also starring Laurence Fishburne and Carrie-Anne Moss and distributed by Warner Bros. Pictures.

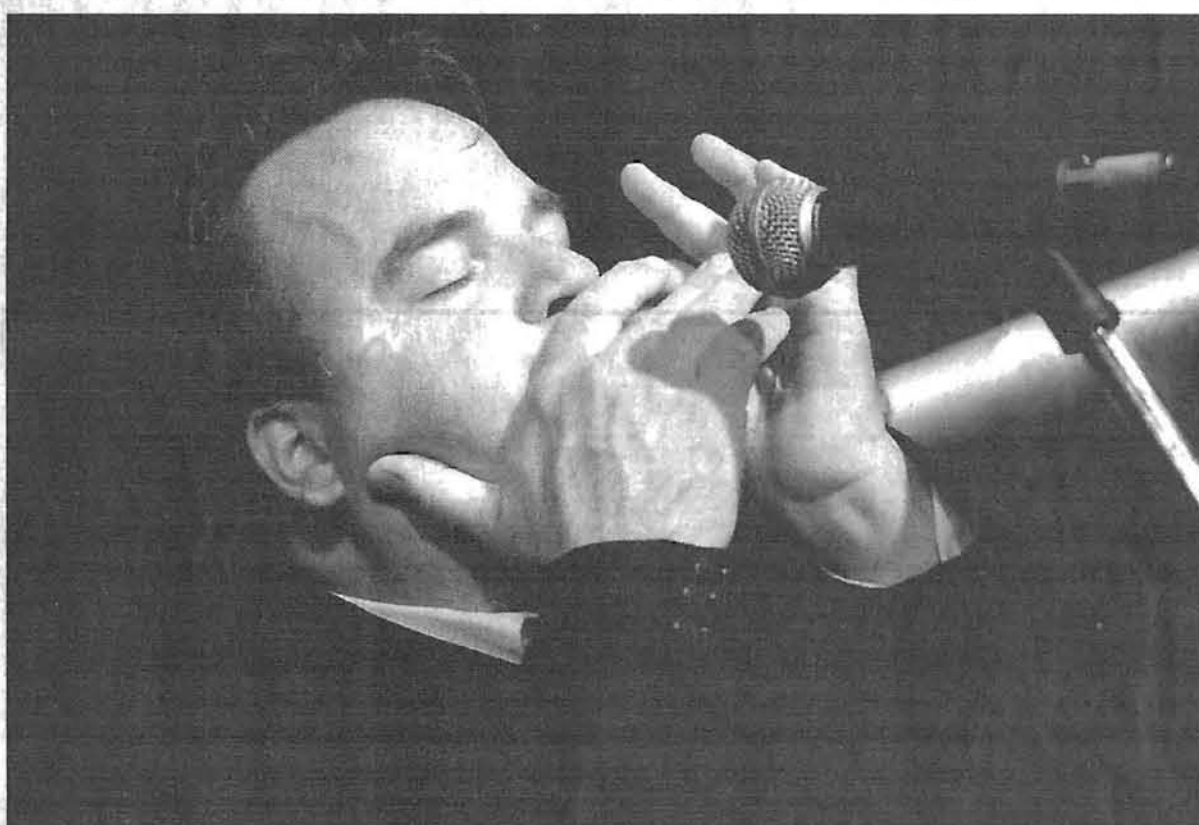
may cause some let down for the special effects fans. "The Matrix: Reloaded" is a better sequel than most, a good springboard to the final installment, but it is not all things to all fans.

Despite that, the sequel is action saturated maybe more so than the first one. Although the action and the plot developments that set up the next film are more important here than character development and acting, some

almost back-to-back, is still splendid as the ascerbic Agent Smith.

The heavily African-influenced and organic look of Zion is a sharp contrast to the slick urbane corporate polish of the Matrix and its inhabitants. The biting arrogance and perversity of the Matrix power broker Merovingian (played marvelously with French accent by Lambert Wilson), who controls the craftsman-like Keymaker (Randall Duk Kim), is a

CD REVIEW



Self-taught Paul Reddick has renovated classical blues. His new release "Rattlebags" only marks the beginning of Paul Reddick and The Sidemen's venture.

Spreadin' the blues

BY AMY GONWA
Music Critic

Paul Reddick has got the blues: he's got a lonesome, soulful orchestra inside of him, and he's not afraid to use it. Reddick has teamed up with three other musicians to form a quartet that is reinventing classic blues music. "Rattlebag" is Paul Reddick and The Sidemen's fourth album and is certainly a sixteen-track step in the right direction for the group.

"Rattlebag" possesses a strong sound clearly rooted in traditional blues with an innovative quality, creating a unique compilation. A high respect for the classical elements of blues is evident throughout the album, yet Paul Reddick and The Sidemen produce a sound unique enough to be noticed in today's music scene.

Vocalist and harmonica man Reddick sings with simplicity about

love, travel, and life's trials. Reddick's old Southern blues choruses take the listener back to a time when jazz and blues dominated the airwaves and life was relatively uncomplicated. "For all that's gone and tumbles down, like a lonesome song make a change blues," is one of the many inventive pieces of poetry that fit together to construct Reddick's songs. The sixteen tracks of "Rattlebag" tell a long story of exploration and expression.

Reddick possesses the raspy vocal chords and low range that is essential to blues performers, but the entire band contributes to the true poignant sound. Reddick's voice and pulsating harmonica patterns are strengthened by the help of three other talented musicians. The steady drum beats, unparalleled guitar solos, and heavy bass tones of The Sidemen create the band's unique groove. Together these four men have created a modern blend of folk music, classical blues

and bluegrass rhythms.

The fourth track on "Rattlebag" exemplifies the group's individual and combined talents. Guitarist Kyle Ferguson keeps a free-flowing pattern, while Reddick goes crazy on his harmonica on "King o' the Zig-Zag." The influence of B.B. King is in this track, with heavy beats and jazz like background music. Coincidentally, Mr. King, Buddy Guy and John Mayall have all taken an interest in Reddick and invited him to open for their acts.

Along with sharing a stage with legends, Reddick and The Sidemen have won several Maple Blues Awards, and "Rattlebag" has gained the group numerous other nominations. Self-taught musician Reddick has taken a small blues ensemble from Toronto to a group making waves in modern music. With their release of "Rattlebag," Paul Reddick and The Sidemen are proving that having the blues is more than just rhythm and rhyme: it's an art form.

Frot projects a maternal fierceness that pulls it off. Rachida Brakni is compelling as the resourceful and focused Noemie, demonstrating why she is one of the hottest rising stars in France. Vincent Lindon is wonderful as the despicable and domestically helpless Paul, yet Lindon makes him human too. Line Renaud is touching as Paul's neglected mother. The casting is flawless.

This balanced mix of entertainment and content is what many serious films strive for but rarely achieve

and at which less serious films only pretend. The combination is so rare and to see it in a summer film is all the more refreshing. One could easily ignore the subtext and just enjoy the "Chaos" thriller ride, but the story is so good, so knowing, even inspiring and deliciously amusing that the whole story will sink into your soul with hardly a flicker. It is a great start to summer films, even for those who don't usually enjoy subtitled films. Don't wait for the Hollywood version; watch "Chaos" now.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT CALENDAR

a look at theater, opera, circus, cinema and more coming up soon

Circus Flora - small single-ring approach to circus arts, always worth the trip for the close-up look. Every year there is a new story to tie the performances together. This year it is "Da Capo" now through June 29

They Might Be Giants - the Tivoli will run "Gigantic," the terrific documentary about this pair of musical innovators, starting on June 27; but you might be able to see them live too on June 28, since their website says they will be in town. Now if only we can find them.

Tosca - one of Opera Theater's terrific quartet of operas in English, with young rising stars who really act and really, absolutely can sing. This one is has one of the best dramatic stories in opera, staged with glorious and lush style. Through June 29.

Abduction from the Seraglio - Another opera theater offering, a delightful Mozart comedy. Great music, great fun, lots of laughs. Through June 29.

Flight - Opera Theater's new offering, this one is an intriguing award-winning tale of people trapped together in an airport. Through June 29.

Thais - Opera Theater's revival choice of this season is a tale of religious zeal and romantic tragedy set in Egypt of long ago. Through June 29.

Fiddler on the Roof - the Muny selection until June 22, a great little musical based on Jewish folk tales, with the hum-able "Sunrise, Sunset."

American Wanderlust: Taking to the Road in the 20th Century - the History Museum's main exhibit until Sept. 7 focuses on the American love affair with the highway and recreational vehicles - a good summertime theme.

Andrei Tarkovsky Film Festival - this weekend program runs through June 22 at the Webster Film Series, focusing on the works of Russian filmmaker Andrei Tarkovsky, who made personal, dark, difficult fantasies of great beauty, hailed by renown filmmakers such as Ingmar Bergman.

Under the Stars - summer outdoor film fest from the Webster Film Series, at Bar Italia in the Central West End, accompanied by a three course meal,

features the Gregory Peck - Audrey Hepburn romantic classic "Roman Holiday," at 6 PM, tickets \$35.

Damn Yankees - the baseball themed Faustian musical is now at the Black Rep in Grandel Theater through June 28.

NEW MOVIES

June 20

28 Days Later - science fiction-thriller about a deadly pathogen.

Alex and Emma - opposites attract romance about a pair working on a book, stars Kate Hudson and Luke Wilson, directed by Rob Reiner.

Legend of Suriyothai - a huge hit in Thailand, a lush historic film about a 16th century legendary Thai queen.

June 28

Whale Rider - a festival winner from last year about a South Pacific girl who thinks she can be anything, no matter what her traditional culture says.

July 4

Terminator 3 - He's back - again. Man versus machine. You know the drill. Arnold Schwarzenegger stars.

League of Extraordinary Gentlemen - Victorian-set action/adventure with characters from history and literature, stars Sean Connery.

July 7

Pirates of the Caribbean - pirates, swordplay, comedy, and, umm, Disney; stars Johnny Depp, Geoffrey Rush, directed by Gore Verbinski ("The Mexican").

July 11

The Embalmer - a creepy tale about an aging taxidermist, updated from a maybe-real Roman Empire story.

SUMMER, from page 9

August 1 brings the third American Pie movie, "American Wedding." Whether there is anything left here is also in doubt.

Late in the summer, the sequels start to look more like fall's horror film season, with "Jeepers Creepers 2" (August 29). Not all of these films were big hits originally, but that doesn't seem to be the requirement for a sequel anymore.

Beyond the sequels, there are still more comedies and action films. Englishman Rowan Atkinson (Mr. Bean) does his weird physical comedy bit as a spy in "Johnny English" (July 18), sure to appeal to fans of quirky British humor.

Spies and comedy combine again in a re-release of the George Clooney-directed "Confessions of a Dangerous Mind" (August 1), about game show producer and self-described CIA agent Chuck Baris, who brought us that '60s TV classic, the Gong Show. This film was originally released earlier this year, with promotion as an indie-type film. It got buried in the pre-Oscar glut but now it seems aimed at another audience.

Far into summer, Colin Farrell, Samuel L. Jackson, and Michelle Rodriguez star in "S.W.A.T." (August 8), an action film based on the TV

series. Brittany Murphy stars in a comedy/drama set in Manhattan called "Uptown Girls" (August 15).

August 22 brings us "Marci X," a comedy set in the world of rap music, starring Lisa Kudrow and Damon Wayans.

Countless females are waiting for the Ashton Kutcher romantic comedy, "My Boss' Daughter," also opening August 22.

There are also some foreign comedy and action film offerings for summer.

"Jet Lag," set to open in July, is already getting some early promotion. The luscious Juliette Binoche and action star Jean Reno star in this French romantic comedy.

The original Hong Kong action/comedy star, Jackie Chan, stars in "The Medallion" (August 22).

In the same line, "Shaolin Soccer" (August 8) may be a sure bet for action/comedy entertainment; it was the number-one grossing Hong Kong film of all time.

However, not all the movies coming to our area will be this typical summer fare. If you need a break from the blockbusters and the multiplex, there are a few serious films, dramas, and alternative films.

"Together" is from Chinese star director Chen Kaige, who also filmed "Farewell My Concubine." This film about a gifted teenage violinist whose peasant father brings him to Beijing to find a teacher to guide his son to greatness is a warm, moving, even funny film, with glorious photography. It is about choices and finding what is really valuable in life. "Together" will be in theaters June 20.

"The Hard Word" (June 27) stars Guy Pearce and Rachel Griffiths in a crime drama about three brothers, armed robbery and family intrigue.

In August, the drama "Buffalo Soldiers" starring Joaquin Phoenix and Anna Paquin makes its long-delayed debut.

Another drama in August, "The Magdalene Sisters" is director Peter Mullen's controversial film about abused Irish sisters and the Catholic Church, and is winning festival awards.

By the time the summer winds down, and we're all ready to get serious again, these summer entertainments will be fading away.

Until then, we can keep the tradition and chill out in the dark with the popcorn and the fantasy of the big screen.

CHAOS, from page 9

The genre might be action and thriller, but "Chaos" transcends without violating the rules of entertainment.

Apart from the outstanding script, there is another element that allows this feat: spot-on acting. Catherine Frot as Helene is just the right mix of strength and hesitation. We can read her fears, her guilt and her growing strength easily on her face. Her developing attachment to Noemie and her protectiveness lead her to do things completely out of her experience, but

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Lifeguards

CERTIFIED LIFEGUARDS needed this **SUMMER** for UMSL Indoor Swimming Pool. Afternoon & evening hours available (up to 24 hrs/week). Pay is \$10 per hour. Apply in the Rec Sports Office, 203 Mark Twain. Call 516-5326 for more information.

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TestMasters is hiring LSAT instructors. \$30 per hour. Positions are currently available for summer LSAT courses. 99th percentile score on an actual LSAT required. 1-800-696-5728. jobs@testmasters180.com.

Free classified ads

Classified ads are free to UM-St. Louis students, faculty, and staff. For more information on classifieds call 516-5316 or email your ad to current@jinx.umsl.edu. Ads must be 40 words or less. For students - include name, daytime phone and student ID number.

Housing

1-bedroom apartment

One-bedroom apartment available in June for a lease takeover. Located in the Central West End. If you are interested or know anyone who is, please call me at 314-454-3836.

Seeking roommate

UM-St. Louis student, black female, early 20s, smoker, quiet, studious, keeps to self, serious minded. Seeking female roommate to share two-bdrm. apartment, expenses approximately \$400 monthly max. Must have the finance to pay own share. If you are interested, please call and/or leave a message at 348-8109. The apartment is Kensington Square Apartments, 2100 N. New Florissant, Florissant, MO 63033.

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Room for rent - nice home in Ferguson, females only, safe neighborhood, convenient to University/stores, french doors, lots of windows, nice yard, storage space, kitch./LR shared, cable tv, laundry, phone and utilities included. \$380.00/month, deposit required (314) 229-7641.

Subletter Wanted

Graduating student seeks subletter for this summer for an apartment in the University Meadows. Call Jon at 314-516-7836.

Housing

Summer roommate wanted

UMSL student seeking roommate from mid-May through mid-August to share a 2-bedroom apartment. Apartment has dishwasher, laundry facilities on grounds, pool, AC, cable, fully furnished. Mansion Hills Apartments, super close to campus (near the ball fields), 10 min. walk to the MetroLink. \$260/month plus phone and electric. If you are interested, call Nicole at 314-521-5328 or 636-922-8206.

Seeking roommate

Seeking roommate to share large 4-bedroom house 2 miles from campus. \$300/month includes everything. DirecTV, DSL, and voicemail box. Call Tripp at 521-7330.

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Seeking roommate

Roommate wanted for two-story St. Ann home. You get upstairs-two private bedrooms and bathroom. I am a teacher and grad student. All utilities included. Prefer grad student or professional. \$400 per month. Please call Scot at 314-733-0948.

Basement apt. for rent

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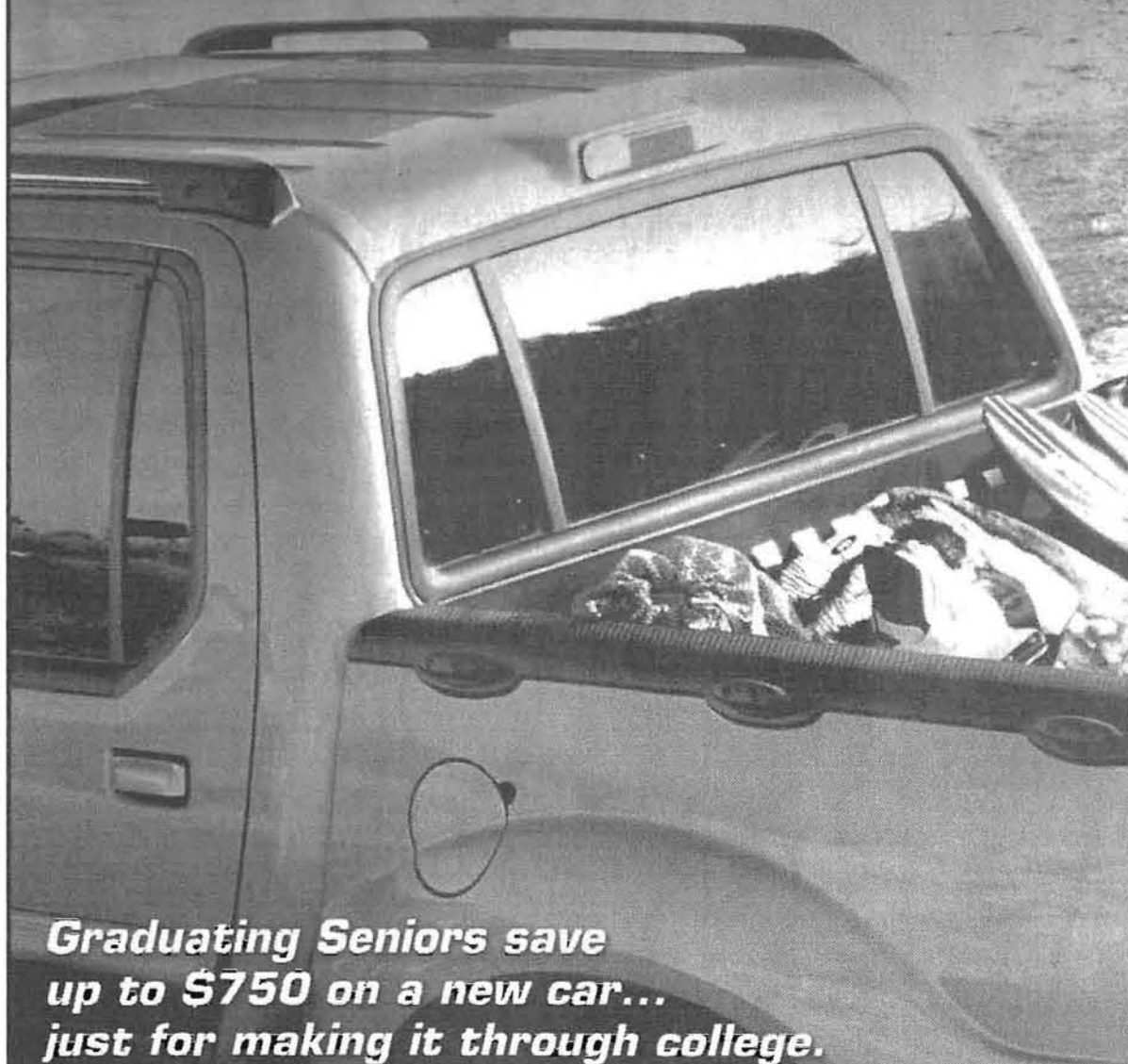


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From Olivette to North St. Louis: New PPRC exhibit shows an outsider's perspective

BY MIKE SHERWIN
Staff Writer

Susan Pittman was not born a photographer. Pittman, a retired pediatrician, proudly admits she only stumbled onto photography by chance. "I never had a camera in my hand until 1994 when my daughter couldn't think of anything else to give me as a gift. I went from never taking a picture to being picture crazy." The fruits of Pittman's late-found avocation are on display in a new exhibit at the Public Policy Research Center.

The exhibit, "Bonding with a Neighborhood," features a series of 11x14 color photographs of Ward 17 in north St. Louis, which is bounded by Grand and Kingshighway boulevards, Forest Park Parkway and St. Louis Avenue. Pittman, who lives in Olivette, first came to the neighborhood "to photograph buildings in different stages of development." Soon, she realized that the occupants of the buildings made for more interesting and engaging subjects.

In her artist's statement, Pittman recalls how she began to find human subjects. "Often people would watch me from their windows or porches. Eventually, someone would become curious, even suspicious, and start chatting with me. I would take pictures of their house, their children, or them...The people were quite surprised and obviously quite pleased when I returned next week with color prints for them. They would often hug

me. Sometimes they would request additional pictures of other family members."

One day, while photographing a mattress company, she met Rev. Robert Darden of Bell Grove Baptist Church. After taking photographs of Darden's children, the Reverend invited Pittman to visit the church. At Bell Grove, Pittman found one of her best subjects. Rev. Darden spoke at a

neighborhood, Pittman shows compassion and warmth for her subjects, in even the most prosaic daily tasks. In one photo, a neighbor passes a cordless screwdriver to another over a community garden plot: an ordinary scene, but one which creates a poignant image about community values and friendship.

The exhibit's curator, Jean Tucker, attributes the candor of Pittman's

PPRC's research...economics, history, sociology, interpersonal relationships in metropolitan areas. The idea for the documentary project was a unique one. It is really all we hope for in our city—for better interpersonal relationships and everybody being understanding of everyone else."

Several residents of Ward 17 attended the opening reception of the exhibit.

Sherry Moore, 37, and member of the Bell Grove Baptist Church admitted that having an outsider come in with a camera "was kind of strange." Still, Moore became accustomed to her presence quickly. "Once we started seeing her every Sunday, we just forgot she was there," says Moore. "Once in a while you see her flash go off, but she seems to feel right at home, and so do we."

Rev. Darden noted that Pittman's project transcended a purely artistic endeavor, and believes the photographer became a valuable social asset. "To me, Susan [Pittman] is bridging a gap that has been closed for a long time. In north St. Louis, there are only blacks now. Now we have a different culture coming in and it is better now. By her taking these pictures, she is saying it's time for us to get together."

"Bonding with a Neighborhood" will be displayed in the Public Policy Research Center gallery through Sept. 2. The PPRC is located on the third floor of SSB and is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m.



The Public Policy Research Center recently unveiled its latest exhibit, "Bonding with a Neighborhood," which features photographs by Susan Pittman, an Olivette native, documenting Ward 17 of north St. Louis.

reception for the artist and the new exhibit June 6. "We met at the mattress company and then she came to Bell Grove. After that day, she is always around us. I don't know how she finds out about our special events at church, but she is always right there. Every now and then we see her set the camera down on the bench and we see her sit down and say 'Amen. Praise the Lord.' She's now an official member."

Pittman's photographs document everyday life of the citizens of Ward 17. Although a stranger in the neigh-

borhood, Pittman shows compassion and warmth for her subjects, in even the most prosaic daily tasks. In one photo, a neighbor passes a cordless screwdriver to another over a community garden plot: an ordinary scene, but one which creates a poignant image about community values and friendship.

Tucker says the project appealed to her because of its relevance to city life and to the PPRC's mission. According to Tucker, "neighborhoods are a major aspect of the

able social asset. "To me, Susan [Pittman] is bridging a gap that has been closed for a long time. In north St. Louis, there are only blacks now. Now we have a different culture coming in and it is better now. By her taking these pictures, she is saying it's time for us to get together."

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ABOVE: Photographer Susan Pittman, whose work is on display in the PPRC gallery.

BELOW: Pittman sits next to Rashad Darden at the opening reception. Darden is one of Pittman's subjects featured in the exhibition



Alumni Association annual meeting travels back in time

UMSL Baseball coach Jim Brady awarded for service



LEFT:

Rae Mohrmann, with the recreational sports department, and a UM-St. Louis alumna (she received her masters of education in 1976), shows off her dress during the Alumni Association's Annual Meeting held Wednesday evening in the Pilot House. The meeting had a theme: "The Sixties: A Psychedelic Trip Through Time."

Lishu Qu/The Current

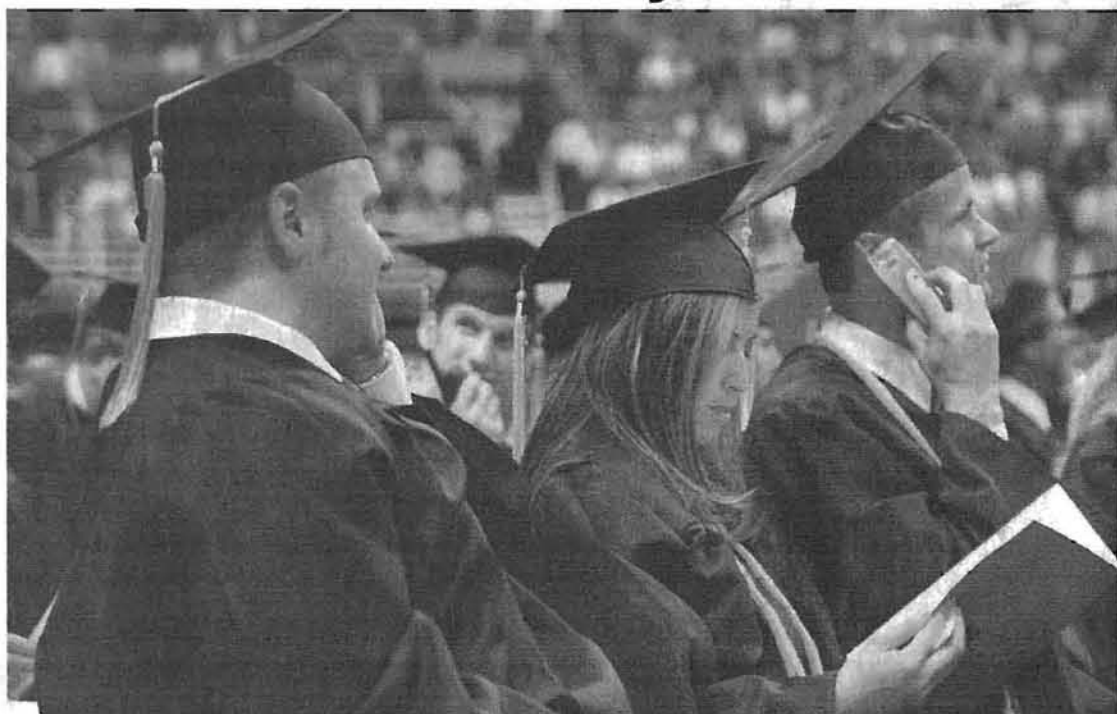
RIGHT:

Rivermen baseball coach Jim Brady receives an award for service from Rae Mohrmann.



Lishu Qu/The Current

...Can you hear me now?



Cellular phones abound at the Spring 2003 graduation, held at Savvis Center May 17. According to one graduate, "It was hard to hear the speakers because everyone was calling their families in the stands, asking where they were."

Mike Sherwin/The Current

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