

2-9-2004

Current, February 09, 2004

University of Missouri-St. Louis

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University of Missouri-St. Louis, "Current, February 09, 2004" (2004). *Current (2000s)*. 173.
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February 9,
2004ISSUE
1109

The Current

Your source for campus news and information



See page 12

St. Louis band The 5th Element

THECURRENTONLINE.COM

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI - ST. LOUIS

Transition to provost

current structure

proposed structure

Jerry Durham
Vice Chancellor
for Academic Affairs



Curt Coonrad
Vice Chancellor
for Student Affairs



Provost position consolidates the VC-Academic Affairs and VC-Student Affairs positions

Search for provost to begin

BY BECKY ROSNER

News Editor

The search committee for the new provost position has been appointed and will begin the search process soon.

About 18 members have been appointed to serve on the provost search committee. Members were notified two to three weeks ago that they were chosen to be a part of the process. A list was compiled of all the people who were interested and then the Faculty Senate narrowed the list to those who were chosen.

"I think the provost position is an extremely important position for our campus and is one that affects faculty and students, so I thought that it

would be important to be on the committee," Lois Pierce, professor and chair of social work, and member of provost search committee, said.

Chancellor Thomas George also appointed some people to serve on the committee. Student Government Association President Kristy Runde is the only student chosen by the chancellor to serve on the committee. Runde will be representing the students in the decision.

Patricia Somers, education, has been appointed to chair the search. Almost all of the members of the committee are from this campus. There is at least one person from the UM System who will also be present.

Runde has met the provost at all of the other UM campuses. She has a good idea of what the campus should

be looking for in the person who will take on the provost duties.

"I just think that I have had a lot of experience talking with the provost at all of the other campuses and I have gotten an idea of what we really need from that position," Runde said.

Pierce has served on the search committees for the chancellor and the UM System president. She said that the first thing the committee does is review a job description for the position and approve it. Next, this will be distributed and people will be begin to apply for the position.

The first meeting for the committee will be held on Feb. 12. It is not yet known how often they will meet. However, the busy time for the group will be after all of the applications are submitted and people

begin the interview process.

"At the deadline, the committee starts meeting fairly frequently until they finally select somebody," Pierce said.

If all goes well, the committee hopes to have someone appointed by the beginning of the fall semester. The committee does not select the candidate, but recommends to George whom it thinks would be best suited for the position. George then makes the final decision.

All of the other campuses in the UM System have a provost. The model is also popular nationwide. UM-St. Louis has always had a vice chancellor of academic affairs in place of the position.

see PROVOST, page 3

Flu vaccine no longer available on campus

BY NICHOLE LECLAIR

Managing Editor

Flu vaccinations are no longer available for the 2003-2004 season through University Health Services. The campus healthcare provider has exhausted its supply.

According to Dana Merris, nurse practitioner at Health Services, this localized shortage is not connected with recent national shortages. It is a result of purchasing decisions.

Each season, Health Services must determine how much vaccine will be ordered. This decision may be made as early as April. Although the office provided approximately 500 vaccinations, they are still getting requests for the shots. "Based on how many [flu shots] we gave out last year is how we do our initial order," explained Merris. "Once we ran out, we started a sign-up list, and everybody who was on the sign-up list we ordered vaccine for."

"We gave out 400 [vaccinations] the first time and an additional 100 the second time," said Amanda Wood, nurse practitioner. The decision to limit the second order to those already on the waiting list was due in part to potential waste. The office predicted that demand would soon lessen and though the original vaccine order was for individual syringes, the new stock had to be ordered in ten-dose vials. "Those are harder to use up," said Wood.

Merris said that though the initial demand for the vaccine was similar to last year, the requests were being made later into the season than usual.

Flu season generally runs between November and February and vaccinations are most effective when received earlier in the year. As the season is drawing to a close, Merris does not feel that further treatments

should be necessary. However, she is directing people who still want the shot to contact the John C. Murphy Health Clinic in Berkeley, the closest source to campus.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website, www.cdc.gov, "An estimated 10 percent to 20 percent of U.S. residents get the flu each year: an average of 114,000 people are hospitalized for flu-related complications and 36,000 Americans die each year from complications of the flu."

Flu Facts

*10 to 20% of U.S. residents get the flu each year

*An average of 114,000 people a year are hospitalized due to flu-related complications

*36,000 Americans die each year from complications of flu

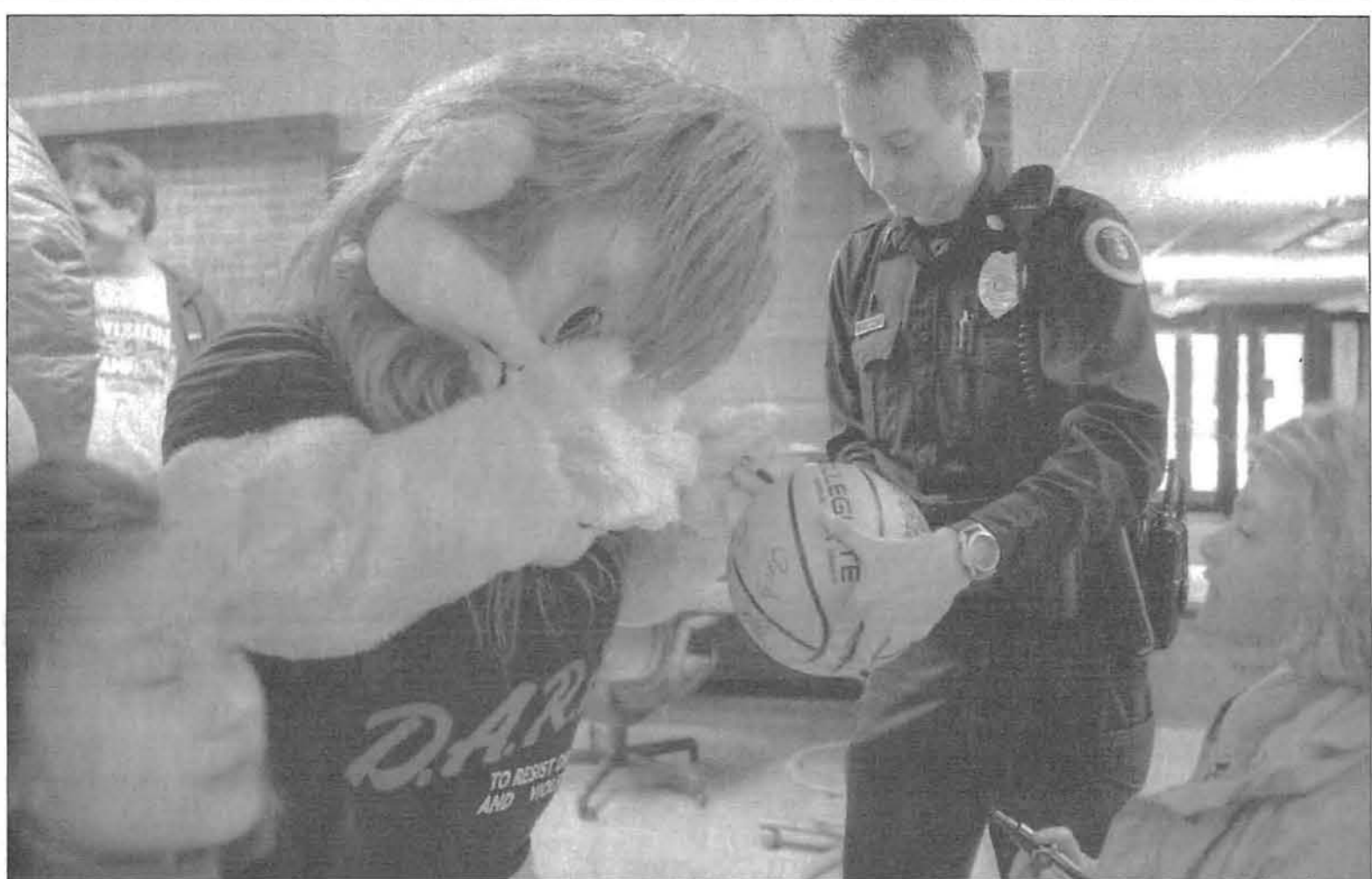
Flu vs. the Cold

Although the cold and flu share symptoms: fever, body aches, fatigue and dry cough, they are more intense and common with flu. People with colds are more likely to have a runny or stuffy nose. Special tests can tell if a person has the flu.

Source: the Centers for Disease Control
www.cdc.gov

flu vaccine price gouging," by Todd C. Frankel, which noted price increases between October and December of approximately 500 percent.

The CDC recommends vaccinations for flu each fall, whether via injection or the new nasal spray, FluMist. Even if a person has already had the flu in a particular season, there are three main types and "infection with one virus does not protect against the other two." They also advise the public to avoid close contact with others who are sick, to stay home if you are ill, cover your mouth and nose when you sneeze or cough, wash your hands often and avoid touching your face.



Photos by Mike Sherwin/ The Current

Mascots en masse...

ABOVE:

Darren, the D.A.R.E. mascot, gets a hand from police officer Terry Martin while autographing a basketball for a young fan during Mascot Day at the Mark Twain Athletic Center on Saturday afternoon. About a dozen mascots from various organizations and sports teams were on hand for autographs and photos during the Rivermen game.



Harvard professor's lecture focuses on upcoming 2004 presidential election

BY WILL MELTON

Staff Writer

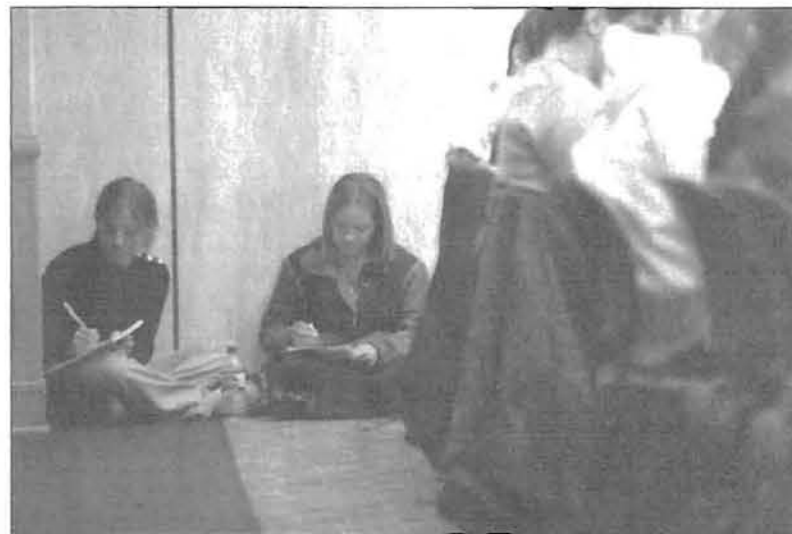
Last Tuesday, Thomas Patterson, Bradlee professor of government and press at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government, spoke to a crowded audience in the Millennium Student Center about the



Thomas Patterson

upcoming presidential election and who is likely to vote and who will win. Nearly half of all Americans do not vote. College students are one of the biggest groups of people who do not exercise their right to vote. Patterson claimed that despite the hype surrounding the Internet, and in particular the Howard Dean campaign, the media remains the most powerful medium influencing campaigns.

"Having built up, in part, Howard Dean, the press chose to tear him



Photos by Mike Sherwin/ The Current

Jaime Sciacca (left) and Corley Koprowski, both juniors at Ladue High School, take notes during the well-attended lecture by Harvard Professor Thomas Patterson on "The 2004 Presidential Election: Who's Likely to Win and Who's Likely to Vote?"

down. That's a pretty standard pattern with the American press," Patterson said.

He chronicled the history of voter participation, noting instances in which involvement was high and low. During the recent primaries, he said, the largest number of voters arrived in New Hampshire since 1972. However, voter turnout ended up

dropping for that year, despite the high number of volunteers. Patterson explained that problems surrounding declining numbers in voter participation are inherent in the structure of the system itself.

"Money does affect our politics. It affects it in a large way," Patterson said. For nearly 25 years, the candidate who raised the most money before

Iowa received the party's nomination. Also, an estimated 90 percent of campaigns focus on polls, character issues and scandals in lieu of public policy, because there are incentives in the system to attack the other candidates.

The primaries are also set up in a way that favors the early states. By the beginning of March, the candidate has almost always been selected. States that come after March experience a drop in voter turnout. "You almost have a system of haves or have-nots. If you're up front you count. If you're further back you don't count for much," Patterson said.

Election laws are not constructed to encourage a high voter turnout. Part of the reason for them is to do just the opposite.

"They were quite deliberately designed to hold down turnout. Working people find it hard, in some cases, to get to the polls if they close at seven. These are not accidents," Patterson said.

"One-fourth of American adults, even if they wanted to vote, can't, and the reason they can't is because they're not registered," Patterson said.

see ELECTION, page 13

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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.

Thru March Woodcock Museum

"Image and Imagination: Art of the American West" virtual exhibit is open online at <http://woodcockmuseum.umsl.edu>. Featured is paintings and sculptures from the permanent collections of the Woodcock Museum and the Mercantile Library at UM-St. Louis.

Winter months Free refreshments

Counseling services is serving free hot drinks and cookies at the Compass resource room in Seton Hall during the winter months. Coffee, tea, hot cider and hot chocolate will be available along with four different types of cookies. The drinks and cookies are served between the hours of 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m., Mondays through Thursdays. Students, faculty and staff are all welcome to drop by. The Compass is located on the ground floor of Seton Hall, in the lounge with the pool tables.

Through May MyGateway help

Information Technology Services will be holding workshops on MyGateway. They are free and open to faculty, staff and graduate teaching assistants. For more information, call 6538 or e-mail rok@umsl.edu.

Mon 9 Air Force conductor

Retired U.S. Air Force Col. Arnald D. Gabriel will discuss "The Role of Music in the Military" at 12:15 p.m. in 229 J.C. Penney Conference Center. Bring a lunch. Light refreshments will be served. The lecture is part of the Monday Noon Series. Gabriel will also participate in the roundtable discussion "The International Music Experience around the World" at 4:30 p.m. in the Lee Theater at the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center. Both discussions are free and open to the public. Call 5980 for more information.

9 Science speaker

Thomas Smith, a researcher at the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center in Creve Coeur, Mo. will discuss "Metals in Biology: Structural Studies on a Zinc Transporter and Calcium Channel Inhibitor" at 4 p.m. in 451 Benton Hall. Coffee will be served at 3:45 p.m. The lecture is free and open to the public. Call 5311 or visit <http://www.umsl.edu/chemistry> for more information.

9 Ingrid Jacoby

Ingrid Jacoby, a pianist known for her technical precision and energy, will perform at 8 p.m. at The Ethical Society of St. Louis, 9001 Clayton Rd. in Ladue, Mo. The concert is part of the Premiere Performances Series. Tickets are \$23 for adults, \$18 for students and seniors. Call 5818 for tickets and more information.

Tues 10 Students perform

The E. Desmond Lee High School Music Festival will take place at 7 p.m. at the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center. About 300 students from more than 25 St. Louis-area high schools will participate. The concert is free and open to the public. Call 5365 for more information.

Wed 11 Teaching, technology

Patricia Somers, associate professor of education, will discuss "Documenting Student Growth and Learning" at noon in 315 Millennium Student Center. She will describe alternative strategies and tools for measuring student growth and learning. Bring a lunch. Light refreshments will be provided. The event is free and open to faculty, staff, and graduate students. Call 4508 or visit <http://www.umsl.edu/ctl> for more info.

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THE BOARD!**
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11 Professor discusses poetry

Micere M. Githae Mugo, professor of African American studies at Syracuse University in New York, will present "Poetry as Art and Political Statement in African Orature," a discussion and poetry reading, at 4 p.m. in Century Room C in the Millennium Student Center. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 6495.

Thurs 12 Staged reading

The Department of Theatre, Dance and Media Arts and Natural Bridge Theatre and Dance Workshop will present a staged reading of the play "Watersheds: Scenes from the Creek" at 8 p.m. in the rehearsal hall at the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center. A discussion with the playwright, David M. White, will follow the performance. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call (314) 882-2021.

12 Talking about Race

Sheila Clark-Ekong, anthropology, will moderate the discussion "Talking about Race: Beyond Black and White" from noon-1:30 p.m. in 211 Clark Hall. Panelists include Susan Brownell, anthropology, Teresa Guess, sociology and Deborah Henry, honors and history. This event is sponsored by the Institute for Women's and Gender Studies. Call 516-5581 for more info.

Sat 14 Writing the Proposal

Aspiring novelists are invited to participate in the non-credit course The Write Stuff: Writing the Proposal. The course will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. in 78 J.C. Penney Conference Center. Participants will learn how to tell editors what they need to know to publish a book. The fee is \$29 and the course is open to the public. Call 6793 or visit <http://www.umsl.edu/~contas/> for more information.

To March 12 IC Labs Short Courses

Instructional Computing Labs will be holding Short Courses over the next few weeks. These are free courses offered to any UMSL student, staff or faculty on the following topics: MSWord Basics, MSExcel Basics, MS PowerPoint Basics, UNIX/Mac Basics, CD Writing/FTP/HTML/Studentmail/Samba. For a schedule or for more information, please visit www.umsl.edu/technology/instructionalcomputing/labs/shortcourses.html or call 6061.

Annual contests

UM-St. Louis students can participate in United Nations Day: World Holiday contests. The Center for International Studies is sponsoring three contests for student artwork, essays and web sites. A \$2,000 prize will be awarded to the first place winner in each category. For more information, call 5753 or e-mail gorellj@umsl.edu.

Put it on the Board! Call 516-5174 for details or email current@jinx.umsl.edu

The Campus Crimeline

The following criminal incidents were reported to the University of Missouri - St. Louis Police Department during the winter between January 31, 2004 and February 8, 2004. 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.

February 3 - Burglary second degree/Stealing over \$500 - Barnes Library

Two VCRs and 4 video cameras were stolen from the basement area study rooms.

February 5 - Warrant arrest- University Conference Center
A subject was arrested on outstanding warrants out of Pagedale and St. Louis City.

February 5 - Attempted larceny/Destruction of property- Lucas hall first floor
Sometimes between 2-2-2004 and 2-5-2004 someone cut off the lock hasp from the vending machine, however, nothing was stolen.

February 6 - Three reports of attempted larceny/Destruction of property - Computer Science Building, Social Sciences Building, General Services Building
Sometimes between 2-2-2004 and 2-5-2004, someone cut off the lock hasp from the vending machines, however, nothing was stolen from any machines.

February 7 - Destruction of property-Villa North
Sometime in the last month, unknown person(s)

pried a lock off the second floor breezeway door of the Villa Building.

February 7 - Attempted suicide - 8205 A Normandy Terrace Drive
A former student took some over the counter pain pills along with some Tylenol and was transported to DePaul Hospital for treatment.

February 8 - Property damage to vehicle - Parking lot X
A student reported that someone apparently shot at his vehicle with a BB gun while it was parked

overnight at Parking Lot X, causing damage to the vehicle's windshield.

NOTE: Items will be stolen from your backpack, purse, wallet etc. if it is left unattended! Even if it is only for a minute or two. Please help prevent crime by always keeping your possessions with you at all times. It is also noted that just because a classroom, office, lounge, library, computer lab, lunch area etc. is occupied by many people doesn't mean your property is safeguarded.

!!WANTED!!

A FEW GOOD MEN...AND WOMEN TO WRITE SPORTS AND NEWS. COME BY THE OFFICE, 388 MSC AND DROP OFF A COVER LETTER AND RESUME. NICHOLE LECLAIR, THE MANAGING EDITOR, WILL CONTACT YOU ABOUT AN INTERVIEW TIME.

This is a vital aspect of the news business.



**Got a hot news tip?
Give us
a call at the office.
314.516.5174. Ask for
Becky Rosner, news
editor.**

•You can also e-mail us
at current@jinx.umsl.edu



Are you an ace in the hole? Can you win any hand? If so, then come by The Current and apply to be a news writer. It takes the best of the best to write news, so if this describes you, bring in a cover letter and resume addressed to Nichole LeClair, managing editor. We are in 388 MSC or you can call 314-516-6811.

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Statehouse Sisters looks at women in politics

BY STEFANIE TAYLOR

Staff Writer

Statehouse Sisters, the second annual forum for the future of women in politics, was held on Friday in Century Room B of the MSC. The panelists included Democrat Sen. Rita Days, Democrat Rep. Esther Haywood and Democrat Rep. Connie Johnson.

UM Curator Cheryl Walker served as moderator and said that the forum served as a great time to honor African-American female legislators and celebrate Black History Month.

"The women present certainly exemplify what it means to take the reins and be community leaders," said

Walker, who spoke of the all-powerful spirit of women.

Sen. Days of District 14 spoke first on the advantage that females bring to the legislature.

"Women look at legislative issues differently than men," Days said. "We are looking at what's best for our community. We're not looking for personal recognition or power." Days also said that she felt legislature is the last stronghold of male supremacy.

Days spoke passionately about "taking care of their own" and "joining together to make a difference."

"We all represent different kinds of districts, but we face the same issues, such as education, health care and senior citizen care," she said. "Women

are by and large the unsung heroines of our age. It's our nature to take care of people."

Sen. Days serves in many organizations, including the Advisory Board of Juvenile Minority Overrepresentation Project, the Center for Human Origin and Cultural Diversity and the Missouri Legislative Black Caucus. She also serves on the Joint Committee on Court Automation, Education, Financial and Governmental Organization, Veteran's Affairs and Elections, Small Business, Insurance and Industrial Relations and Transportation.

Rep. Haywood of District 71 followed Sen. Days. "We need to focus on what we've overcome," said Rep. Haywood. "We need to examine the past to achieve our present goals."

Haywood outlined the history of women in politics, especially noting the ambitious African-American females.

"The role for women in government is unending," she said as she explained how a female created the Missouri Highway Patrol. "We've traveled a great distance on the road to equality, but we still have a long way to go. We must break down the barriers of race, ethnicity and religion."

Rep. Haywood spoke about passing down political guidance to young people. "We need young women ready for the House, the Senate and school boards," said Haywood. "Women are crucial to the success of Missouri and we must continue to focus on the goals we set."

Rep. Haywood is a retired math teacher from East St. Louis, Ill., where she worked for 30 years. She also serves on the Normandy School Board of Directors and the Normandy Hospital Guild. Rep. Haywood is a charter member and past president of the St. Louis County NAACP chapter.

Rep. Johnson of District 61 agreed with Rep. Haywood. "You need to know where you've been before you know where you're gonna go," said Rep. Johnson. "The nineteenth amendment gave us the right to vote 84 years ago, and we were just getting started. We've made some great strides, but we need not get comfortable."

Rep. Johnson, who works as a lawyer in St. Louis, spoke eagerly



Casey Ulrich/ The Current

UM Curator Cheryl Walker listens as Missouri State Representative Esther Haywood discusses the future of women in politics. The conference "Statehouse Sisters" was sponsored by the Sue Shear Institute for Women in Public Life at UMSL, the Office of Multicultural Relations at UMSL and the Office of Equal Opportunity at UMSL.

about her strong work in tort reform and other policy issues. "You are not going to overlook me," she said. "You are not going to overlook my view or my people either."

"We will only have a future if we work hard in the present," said Rep. Johnson, about supporting young African-American politicians. "I am trying to find someone to actively recruit as my successor. Those of us who are in politics must keep the cycle."

Rep. Johnson serves as Vice President of the Missouri Legislative Black Caucus Foundation and has served as a member of the Minority Health Advisory Council. She is also an adjunct professor at the University of St. Louis School of Public Health.

During a question-and-answer session that followed the individual speeches, the statehouse sisters said they strongly supported the policy of "teach one; teach one" when building a young group to take the reins of African-American politics. The ques-

tion-and-answer session led to heated policy issues, such as public school funding, foster care, concealed weapons, gay marriage and loss of African-American power in St. Louis public school systems.

Rep. Johnson spoke about foster care solutions. "We do have a crisis in foster care in Missouri," she said. "We have a foster care reform bill that addresses this issue." Rep. Johnson detailed a bill that would outsource foster care to private organizations. She said she felt that the bill addressed the issue comprehensively, instead of simply "band-aiding" it.

An audience member accused the Missouri Democratic Party of being reactive instead of proactive when it comes to addressing gay marriage policy. Sen. Days said in response:

"The Republicans are being very proactive because they do have an agenda. They feel very strongly against gay marriage, and that motivates them."

Sen. Days said she felt it was diffi-

cult to be proactive with term limits. "The same issues return each term, but new people are making the decisions," said Sen. Days. "It makes for a very slow policy progression."

Sen. Johnson finished the forum by challenging the audience to get involved by voting.

"If you don't like a decision, but you didn't vote, you have to share the responsibility," she said. "People won't even come out and vote for a school board election. We all have a shared responsibility."

The Statehouse Sisters forum was sponsored by the Sue Shear Institute for Women in Public Life, in partnership with the Institute for Women's and Gender Studies, Office of Multicultural Relations, Office of Equal Opportunity, The Evening College, The UM-St. Louis Alumni Association-African American Chapter, Center for Human Origin and Cultural Diversity and the Associated Students for University of Missouri.



Casey Ulrich/ The Current

Audience members listen to Sen. Rita Days, Rep. Esther Haywood, Rep. Connie Johnson and moderator Cheryl Walker, a UM Curator, talk about the roles and issues surrounding women in politics.

PROVOST, from page 1

"It's pretty much bringing us in line with other campuses that would be similar to us," Pierce said.

An organizational chart has been made to show how the positions will line up after the change. The vice chancellor of academic affairs and vice chancellor of student affairs positions will be eliminated and merged into the provost title. George, as well as members of the group, has been answering many questions about the

change.

Duties of the provost will be to oversee academic affairs, student affairs, budget control and research. The provost should also be able to step into the chancellor's seat on a need-be basis.

Runde said they have an application made already and will be sending it out soon. It has been reviewed and should be sent out after the first meeting. The search will be nationwide;

anyone is able to apply for the position.

The position will focus on academics and is telling of the University; that it does want to focus more on academics and the students.

"I definitely hope that it is someone who is student friendly, like our chancellor, someone that students can approach," Runde said. "I think that the students need to realize that this is a big step for us and is a good thing."

You are cordially invited to ... An Afternoon With The Mayor

February 12, 2004
11:30 AM - 12:30 AM
The Century Rooms
MSC

Come and enjoy a free lunch followed by a program and questions.
To RSVP, contact Lana or Sarah @ 516-5835

Sponsored by The Associated Students of The University of Missouri

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3 CONTESTS
3 \$2,000 PRIZES

ART website Essay

The CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES at University of Missouri-St. Louis is sponsoring three annual contests for the best student artwork, essay and website on:

UNITED NATIONS DAY, OCTOBER 24: A WORLD HOLIDAY

These contests were established by DOROTHY SCHNEIDER, former Red Cross overseas worker, college faculty member (English Department) in San Diego, and St. Charles, Missouri, and author of the UN Resolution to create United Nations Day as an international holiday.

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-ST. LOUIS students interested in competing for the \$2,000 ART prize must submit a personal art representation; for the ESSAY prize must submit two or three pages, typed, double spaced, on standard 8.5" X 11" white paper; and for the WEBSITE prize must submit a website design on CD.

To be eligible, the submissions must include the words "UNITED NATIONS DAY (OCTOBER 24)", "ANNUAL WORLD HOLIDAY" and include the following ideas:

Three panels of judges from the University of Missouri-St. Louis will judge the contests. Essays and Websites will be judged on content and style. Art will be judged on content and design. All entries must avoid plagiarism and partisan politics. All entries become the property of the University of Missouri-St. Louis. Participation is voluntary and previous winners are ineligible. Only one winner per contest will be selected. The winners will be announced in late April at a reception in honor of United Nations Day.

ENTRY DEADLINE: MONDAY MARCH 29, 2004

OPINION

OUR OPINION

Spots not earned New residence hall plans lack parking

Owning a car is not like keeping a pet. Simply having one around is not enough reward for the investment.

So how will campus residents respond to having limited access to their own vehicles and finding transportation to get to their transportation? We may find out when the new South Campus Residence Hall is completed. Only 11 parking spaces are currently available at the new site, and these include restricted handicap parking. The next closest parking will be a mile away.

Although the University Board of

So why, when the University has the opportunity to start from scratch and has plenty of locations to choose from, is it adding to the problem? Why not build in a better location, or incorporate parking into the plan? Is it better to build a smaller hall with more parking, or make the basement a parking structure? Construction has not yet begun, so why is the Board of Curators throwing up its hands already?

There seem to be a number of alternatives to the present course of action, but disregarding these in

favor of placing the burden on students and meeting the lowest level of commitment to our campus community seems to have won out.

If there is a substantial reason for carrying on with the original plan, we hope that additional resources for campus residents will be developed. Already inadequate, campus transportation options will see heavier use and adding days and hours to the schedule would be beneficial.

Offering food service or maintaining a basic campus grocery store on weekends would also be an appreciated gesture.

If you have not yet heard of this dilemma, you are not alone. In fact, though most students, staff and faculty are aware of the building project, few have heard much about the parking issue. Details have been discussed during Board meetings, but are lacking in public reports. Maybe the low priority of this problem is due to a distinct lack of public awareness, scrutiny and pressure.

There may be a good reason for the Board of Curators' decision to build a residence hall without parking. Students' safety, inconvenience and added expenses might pale in comparison to whatever the answer is. But either way, it's time all of the details were made public, and students got a chance to enter the discussion.

Curators discussed canceling the residence project on South Campus due to the lack of parking, it will now continue as planned. This leaves prospective tenants with two options: go without a vehicle or have a part-time vehicle with full-time payments and expenses.

Current options for students who live on South Campus and do not have transportation include using the Campus Shuttle or the MetroLink. Unfortunately, the shuttle only runs from approximately 7:30 a.m. to 10:45 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and only until 5:00 p.m. on Fridays. The MetroLink, though offering weekend service, usually necessitates at least a minor trek or two and comes with its own safety concerns depending on the hour of the day and the location. Weekends are especially problematic without food service on campus.



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"Our Opinion" reflects the majority opinion of the Editorial Board.

LETTERS

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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). Editor-in-chief reserves the right to respond to letters. The Current reserves the right to deny letters.

Under Current

by Kevin Ottley
Staff Photographer

What's the weirdest food combo you've seen someone eat



Dustin Martinez
Junior
English

Pineapple pizza I think is kinda gross.



Tracy Castleberry
Senior
Nursing

People that eat their eggs with ketchup.



Mark Worts
Junior
Biology

I'd say pickles dipped in mustard.



Sara Southard
Freshman
Mechanical Engineering

Doritos and peanut butter! Isn't that gross? My friends eat it all the time!

Icey dawn

UMSL risks students' safety by staying open

Ugh. That is all I can say about the weather of late. Snow, ice, rain and wicked cold have made the last three-odd weeks not so much fun.

Perhaps the least fun of all is UM-St. Louis' response to the inclement weather. What do I mean? Well, first and foremost, we all have to understand that UM-St. Louis is a commuter campus. A small population of its students live on campus and the rest (yours truly included) drive every day to get to class. So, what happens when there is an ice storm, like the one two weeks ago? One would think that, like practically every other school in the area (including Kirkwood R-7, which I can tell you does not close for anything short of the Apocalypse), UM-St. Louis would favor safety and close its doors. Nope. Get to school, come hell or high water.

What message does this send? Why did they not close their doors? Why oh why were many thousands of students asked to brave, in some places, up to an inch of ice on the roads, sidewalks and cars? What was there to gain?

While I was staring in bewilderment at my television screen while watching the names of countless other schools scroll by (Ursuline, Vianney, Visitation, etc.), I half pondered not going to class; my own kind of protest. But no, what if I missed something important to the class? Also, we had a meeting at the paper (for which only eight people turned up, and I thank them), and if I canceled it, then stories would not be assigned.

Ignorance is not bliss

I have the personal misfortune of encountering *Citizen* magazine on a regular basis. That cheerful publication produced by Focus on the Family promoting intolerance, creative interpretation of statistics and a disregard for evolutionary theory is readily available at my parents' house.

I try not to look at it, really I do. I know in advance what I will find and how it will make me feel. Comments about "baby killers", the "homosexual agenda", the "liberal conspiracy" and those crazy Darwinists are only the beginning. Of course, after page one I need to lie down for a while to settle my stomach. I'll tell you about page two once my chest pains level off.

So why do I bother to open a magazine that infuriates me? Because I believe in both sides of an argument, because I know that ignorance is not bliss — even if it prevents ulcers, and finally, because I want the same consideration from those who disagree with me.

Agreeing to disagree is one thing; not understanding what you're disagreeing with is another. It also clues me in to which subjects I should avoid at the dinner table that month—but family politics is a topic unto itself.

We all enjoy "preaching to the converted" to some degree. It feels good to go off on a tangent, uninter-

It gets better, if you can believe it. What were students greeted with?

Ice, lots of it. Treacherous walking conditions that led to slip after slip. This ice is still present as of this print run. In fact, last Tuesday, I had to park on the top level of the Millennium Student Center Parking Garage, and that place is one giant sheet of ice. At first I thought I had driven into the Savvis Center. I was afraid I was going to run over Pavol Demitra and Christian Backman.

Not fun. So then I had to walk across the sheet of ice to get to the steps where I was met with more ice caused by refreezing. When I went to Southeast Missouri State University, I lived off campus there as I do here in St. Louis. We had a snowstorm down there; I think we had about five or six inches. SEMO closed down; they did not want students walking, much less driving, in such conditions. It was comforting to know that they were keeping students' best interests at heart. I am afraid I do not feel the same way attending UM-St. Louis. Not when the school asks me to drive 15 miles (I live in Crestwood) on ice-covered streets.

If I did not know any better, I would think UM-St. Louis cares not for its students. If I was totally naïve and out of the loop, I would think UM-St. Louis fell asleep at the switch and forgot about the safety of its students. But not UM-St. Louis. Students never feel second-rate here; they never feel like a secondary factor at this University. It just does not happen...does it?



JASON GRANGER
Editor-in-Chief



NICHOLE LeCLAIR
Managing Editor

What's your opinion?

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

- Residence halls parking
- UMSL open in nasty weather
- Intolerance

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

- Submit a Letter to the Editor
- Write a Guest Commentary
- Visit the Online Forums at TheCurrentOnline.com

SARS a prelude to flu?



BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER
Science Columnist

Four times as many people died from the 1918 flu pandemic than were killed in World War I, a war noted for its great loss of life and which came to an end that same year.

Usually, influenza is a non-lethal disease more dangerous to the very old or young. Yet in 1918, 40 million people died worldwide from a form of flu that seemed to hit the young and healthy the hardest.

But that cannot happen now, can it? Flu is usually an irritating ordeal, but not deadly for most healthy young people. Although the 1918 pandemic struck this group the hardest, with people dying in the streets, on trains and on the way to war or back home, this was before modern medicine and antibiotics.

Unfortunately, antibiotics are useless against influenza because a virus causes it, not a microbe. Vaccines look like the best bet to control the flu, but it is a remarkably fast-changing virus. The vaccine is notoriously slow to develop, requiring several months of lead-time.

This grim tidbit should give you an idea of why there is such intense interest focused on the cases of bird flu being transmitted to humans in Asia. By the first day of February, 14 people in Asia had become infected with flu from chickens and 11 had died. Also on February 1, there was the first reported case of human-to-human transmission of bird flu, the first step toward a pandemic.

However, a single instance of transmission of the bird flu from person to person does not mean it has acquired the ability to spread easily between humans. Once it reaches that point, it can spread rapidly through populations that have little or no immunity to the new strain.

"The ensuing virus would be highly pathogenic and transmissible," said Shigru Omi of the World Health Organization. This is close enough to send healthcare organizations scrambling to prepare. Many experts believe that we are overdue for such a pandemic.

A flu vaccine is produced every year and sometimes it is more effective than others. This is due to the fast-changing nature of the virus and the

slow development time, which forces researchers to make an educated guess as to the most likely dominant strain. Often they guess wrong. The decision is usually reached by monitoring strains developing in Asia, which seems to be a jumping-off point for new types.

Ironically, the flu vaccine developed in any particular year will probably not protect you against a deadly pandemic. The vaccines are developed for the expected dominant strain, whereas a pandemic strain may arise too quickly for a vaccine to be developed by this method. The main reason for getting the flu shot every year is not so much to protect against the dominant, non-deadly version, but to keep private companies interested in developing flu vaccine. There is a fear that if they do not sell enough doses and the vaccine becomes unprofitable, they will put less effort into vaccine development and we may be left with no vaccine development mechanism to attempt to stop a deadly strain.

Previous flu pandemics have originated in birds, including both the 1918 occurrence and the last, in 1968. In this most recent, nearly half a million people died when the pandemic originated in wild aquatic birds. This is also considered as the most likely source for the next outbreak.

Strains of flu are identified by two surface proteins: haemagglutinin (H) and neuraminidase (N), which are key in a strain's infectiveness. The strain of bird flu infecting people in Asia now is H5N1, the same strain that killed six people in Hong Kong in 1997. However, this is not the only strain being watched. Also in 1997, a H7N7 strain infected 80 people and killed one in the Netherlands. Influenza is found in a number of species, including birds and pigs, and is especially deadly to birds.

Although flu is usually non-lethal in healthy young humans, it becomes much more dangerous when it jumps from one species to another. Strains vary from species to species, but when a strain of the ever-changing virus becomes sufficiently similar to the strains found in another species, it can make the jump into the species.

Flu strains from chickens or pigs sometimes are transmitted to people. If a wild bird strain jumps into chickens and picks up some of those genes, it is one step closer to a jump into people.

One researcher, Yi Guan of the University of Hong Kong, China, has warned that one strain of flu from ducks, H9N2, has already acquired genes from chickens and may be getting close to a strain that can spread directly into humans. One of the concerns about such a transmission has to do with wild migrating ducks.

This would be an alarming development, because one of the ways that flu is controlled is by the slaughter of infected chickens. If wild migrating birds like ducks become involved in transmission, the disease would be harder to control and more easily spread over greater distances.

Bird flu is already a pandemic

among Asian chickens, and there is concern about outbreaks in remote areas of less developed nations like Laos and Cambodia, which may lack the resources to track bird-to-human and human-to-human infections.

Fortunately, the recent outbreak of SARS has energized a number of Asian governments and health organizations, so they are more primed to seriously address this potential threat than they otherwise might have been.

One way to defend against flu is by vaccine. Unfortunately, due to the rapidly changing and unpredictable nature of these particular viruses, new vaccines have to continually be made. Since the new vaccines are cultured in chicken eggs, it can take four to six months to mass-produce a vaccine for new strains.

Countries are looking at ways to shorten this lag time, but some public health experts believe that such vaccines would be of little use to those close to the origin of such a pandemic. They would be more useful against a secondary round of infection.

Klaus Stohr, head of the World Health Organization's global influenza program, said that, "vaccines will not be ready for those at the epicenter of any pandemic." The WHO is developing a multi-step plan to address this threat, starting with containing avian flu outbreaks and monitoring for human-to-human transmissions.

Antiviral drugs would be the first line of defense against a pandemic. Fortunately, the H5N1 strain is susceptible to treatment by the antiviral agent Tamiflu (oseltamivir), although the less expensive and more common antivirals, amantadine and rimantadine, are ineffective. Tamiflu attacks the viruses' neuraminidase enzyme, while the older drugs interfere with virus replication.

Some nations are starting to stockpile antivirals against a future pandemic, while others are working to shorten the development time for vaccine. In Germany, health officials are working on a plan to prepare prototype vaccines for all circulating subtypes of haemagglutinin in human and animal populations, so as to be months closer to a final vaccine for various strains. Canada is also developing a plan to increase the rate of vaccine production for pandemic strains.

Some researchers believe that studying how the virus mutates in a new species can yield valuable clues for anticipating changes in this little understood process. Other researchers caution that there is a potential to actually create a pandemic strain in such experiments.

Without sufficiently secure lab procedures, "You could create a monster," said WHO infectious disease expert David Heymann.

Other scientists feel that such experimentation would not be useful enough to justify the risk. "It's exceedingly difficult and I'm not optimistic that we'll produce something of value," said London epidemiologist Roy Anderson, who also noted that real pandemics are influenced by events that cannot be predicted.

The best album that you've never heard

This week: The ten best songs you've never heard and why

BY JASON GRANGER
Editor-in-Chief

This week, we are going to switch gears a little bit and look at the ten best songs you have never heard. Some of these songs are by popular artists that get buried behind big hits; others are by more obscure artists, and as such, may not get as much play time. Some of these are just plain rock songs with no meaning; others are protest songs

- 8) "All I Want is You"- U2
U2 has so many hits that some of their best work gets overlooked. When you have songs like "With or Without You," "One," "Still Haven't Found What I'm Looking For" and "Walk On," it is understandable how things get buried. But this is, bar none, the best love song ever written. Bono does not get enough credit for being a lyricist. He's awesome.

- 7) "The Story in your Eyes"- The

Appearing only on his Unplugged album, Young's "Stringman" is a haunting, emotionally gut-wrenching tune about a homeless veteran. Young's ghost-like voice sung over a simple arrangement lends to the ethereal quality of this song.

4) "Little by Little" - Oasis
From Oasis' most recent release, "Heathen Chemistry," "Little by Little" is Noel Gallagher doing what he does best: writing catchy, moving rock and pop. This ballad is kind of a mix of Pink Floyd's "Wish you were Here" and The Beatles' "Cry Baby Cry." The chorus is one of the most infectious you will ever hear.

- 3) "Heart of Gold" -Johnny Cash

The Man in Black never shied away from covering a song he enjoyed, and he did that here with Neil Young's only number one hit. The song sounds as though it was made for Mr. Cash, with Johnny plaintively singing "I've been a miner for a heart of gold/And I'm getting old."

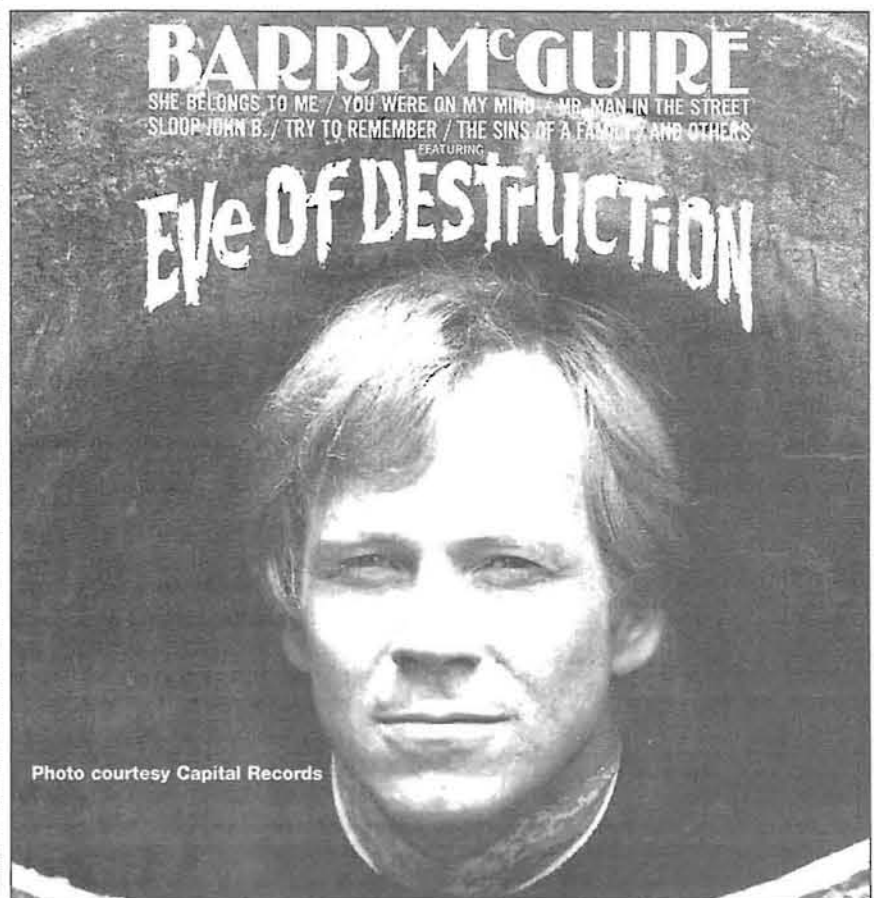
- 2) "It's All too Much" -The Beatles

From the "Yellow Submarine" soundtrack, the George Harrison-penned track is a tidal wave of sound. Recorded at the height of The Beatles' psychedelic experimentation, this love song to his then-wife Patti is a fine example of how much Harrison had grown as a songwriter.

- 1) "Eve of Destruction" - Barry McGuire

This is rock and roll's first protest song, released in 1964, a couple of years before Bob Dylan, The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, Jefferson Airplane, Joni Mitchell et al, started speaking their minds. McGuire's gravelly voice ponders the question "Do we understand we're 'on the eve of destruction'?" With references to everything from Vietnam to Selma, Ala., no controversy and no injustice was overlooked. For particularly good lyrics, listen carefully to "You don't believe in war/But what's that gun you're totin'/And even the Jordan river has/Bodies floatin',"

There it is, ladies and gentlemen. Take a listen for pure music pleasure. You won't regret it.



of the highest quality, questioning rationale and leadership. So, without further ado, to the list.

- 10) "Break it Down Again"- Tears for Fears

This is one of the best songs of the 1990s and so few people know it. Recorded after the split between Curt Smith and Roland Orzabal, this song is a sonic wave that washes over you like a tsunami.

- 9) "Alright for Now"- Tom Petty

This lullaby/love song shows Petty's more tender side. Featured on Petty's first solo effort, "Full Moon Fever," it is buried behind hits like "I Won't Back Down" and "Free Fallin'" but holds its own weight quite well. Parents, try singing this one to your crying child.

Moody Blues

Pigeonholed as a progressive rock act, the Moody Blues actually go back to the latter days of the British Invasion. This song rocks and makes no apologies about it. Frontman Justin Hayward's guitar work and voice make this an amazing song.

- 6) "Running on Faith (Unplugged)"- Eric Clapton

After the death of his son, Clapton was looking for something he could throw himself into, especially after the runaway success of his haunting ballad, "Tears in Heaven." The result was "Unplugged." This song highlights a blues-laden CD full of emotion. Clapton is the best guitarist of all time, no matter what Rolling Stone says.

- 5) "Stringman (Unplugged)"- Neil Young

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Current should have offered endorsement to Bush

Dear Editor,

In response to *The Current's* endorsement for John Kerry, I think *The Current* should take back the endorsement and endorse George W. Bush. While Kerry did serve honorably in Vietnam, it does not mean he'll make a good commander-in-chief, like Bush. After 9/11, Bush responded to the attack with more than a few missiles. He worked with the Northern Alliance that fought the

ground war and removed the Taliban. One of the reasons why Bush carried out Operation Iraqi Freedom is the same reason [former President Bill] Clinton bombed Iraq in Operation Desert Fox, weapons of mass destruction. Both used the same information, but the difference is now we don't have to worry about the weapons any more. The difference between Clinton bombing Afghanistan and Bush bombing

Afghanistan and sending Special Forces to work with the Northern Alliance is we don't have to worry about the Taliban again.

More over, Bush is not ignoring the economy. Other than cutting taxes, he is trying to produce more jobs by drilling for oil. So I'm voting for Bush.

Damien Johnson
UM-St. Louis Student

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Student disagrees with College Republican's views of Kerry

Dear Editor

Stephanie Bell's assumptions in her Letter to the Editor (Feb. 2, 2004 edition) are perhaps in need of a review. While it is arguable that President Bush went to war against the will of the American people, she must surely acknowledge that a great majority of the world's population was against the U.S. initiating the Iraq War. Even many of our allies, who are technically part of the Coalition, such as Spain and Italy, joined the U.S. despite their own widespread domestic opposition.

As to Sen. Kerry's "waffling" on the Iraq War, it seems that he, like many Americans, based his decision on the apocalyptic messages emanating from the administration, such as Iraq's ability to attack the East Coast of the U.S. with unmanned aerial drones. While it should be strongly taken into consideration that Dr. Kay believes this to be solely an intelligence issue, only an

independent commission will be able to view the specific intelligence reports, like the aerial drone data, to judge whether or not the administration correctly conveyed the actual, existent danger to the American people. That is an issue that is still outstanding and that is why the President has been forced to name a commission to look into the intelligence data.

Bell's letter also seems to contain a few logical fallacies. If Sen. Kerry has such a reverence to the polls and still decides to usually vote liberal, then at which polls is he looking? Bell surely can't contend that the majority of polls show America to be a staunchly liberal place, thereby affecting Sen. Kerry's voting practices. If one were to point out that Massachusetts' polls tend toward the liberal side, then Sen. Kerry should be applauded for correctly representing the will of the majority of the people in his state, not lambasted.

Many have argued that President Bush connects well with the American people. If we go by Bell's logic then this is an incredible achievement because because Mr. Bush was also born into an Ivy League, East Coast family of privilege. Just because someone is rich (or poor) does not mean that they cannot connect with or understand the problems of average Americans.

Finally, what is the point of the marginalizing scare tactics of branding *The Current* as a liberal newspaper? The Republicans have been using the term "Liberal" as a smear tactic to the point of exhaustion. Maybe it is time to review the Left-Right continuum to see where "Tax Cut and Spend, Big-Government Republicans" and "Conservatives-Out-to-Remake-the-International-Status-Quo" fit in.

Chris Snively
UM-St. Louis Student

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What do the readers think: Results from the weekly web poll:

Did you watch the Superbowl?

Of Course	63% (17 votes)
No, I hate football	11% (3 votes)
Just the commercials	0% (0 votes)
Bits and pieces of it	19% (5 votes)
Only halftime	7% (2 votes)
Just the pregame	0% (0 votes)

Results via www.thecurrentonline.com

*www.thecurrentonline.com does not limit votes per person and the poll is not a scientific sampling.

UMSL celebrates black history month

BY MELISSA MCCRARY
Features Associate

What do Harriet Tubman, Ida B. Wells, W.E.B. DuBois, Louis Armstrong, Jackie Robinson, Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King, Jr. and Muhammad Ali have in common?

These are all significant African-Americans in history who are honored during Black History Month.

All around the world, people reflect on the historical trials and tribulations involving African Americans during the month of February.

Many people might think of the Underground Railroad when they think of Harriet Tubman. Tubman helped over 1,000 slaves escape to states where slavery was not allowed.

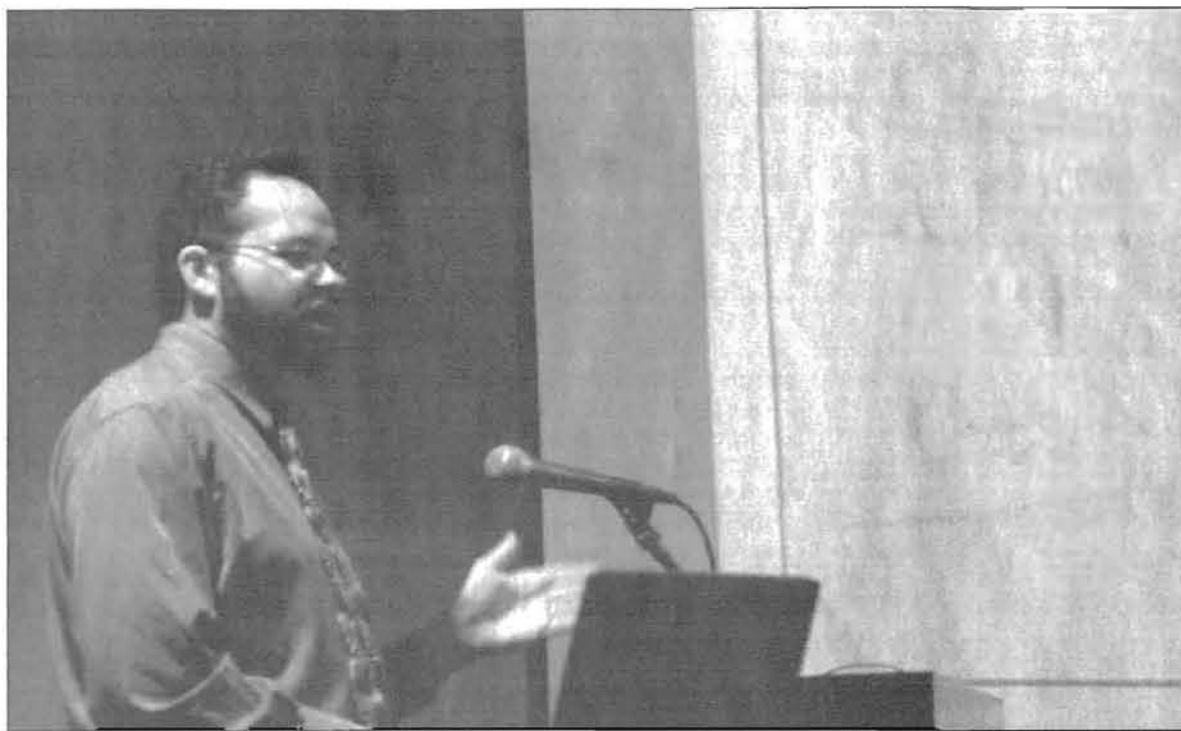
Ida B. Wells is well known for her skills of writing for black newspapers. Later in life, she became a part of the Memphis Free Speech. Like Wells, W.E.B. DuBois also became famous for writing his published book, "The Souls of Black Folk," in 1903.

While some African-Americans gained popularity through their writing, others became famous for their talents as musicians. Louis Armstrong has been called the best jazz player of all time. Armstrong gave a strong meaning to jazz throughout the 1920s.

Jackie Robinson was a determined individual who was inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame. Robinson was the first African-American to play baseball for the major league in 1947.

Another important person in black history is Rosa Parks. Parks helped to put an end to segregation by refusing to give up her bus seat to a white person. This incident initiated the Montgomery Improvement Association and one of the longest boycotts in the nation in 1955. With the help of Martin Luther King, Jr., racial segregation ended on public transportation.

King was a Baptist minister and one of the strongest leaders during the Civil Rights Movement. During the 1950s and 1960s, King demanded equality for black and other minority



Timothy Baumann, assistant professor of anthropology, discusses his archaeological excavations of a Missouri plantation site during a slide lecture Jan. 29. The lecture was the first of a series of speakers in celebration of Black History Month.

populations. He worked to end violence related to minority and white differences. In 1964, King won a Nobel Peace Prize for his leadership and speech demonstrations.

Admissions Department Assistant Jaime Lincoln believes that Martin Luther King, Jr. had a tremendous impact on black history.

"There are very many significant moments, but the one that stands out the most is Dr. King's 'I Have A Dream' Speech," Lincoln said.

From slavery to segregation to the formation of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, black history and equal rights have evolved in a positive way since the 1900s.

Miyoshi Crawford, junior, English, feels that schools should continue to educate students about the African-American culture more than just for one month a year.

"To me, black history month is sup-

posed to be a time to reflect on the contributions of the American black on our society, but I can't help notice how it has become commercialized almost to the point where it's often ignored," Crawford said. "It has also become the excuse not to teach black history the other 11 months of the year."

Many local elementary and high schools provide activities for children to learn about black history, and UM-St. Louis has also planned numerous on-campus events and is welcoming guest speakers throughout the month of February.

The first speaker, Assistant Professor of Anthropology Timothy Baumann, hosted a discussion on Thursday, Jan. 29. Baumann discussed a plantation site in Saline County, Mo., where settlers held slaves. The Oak Grove plantation has a very informative story behind it, and dates back to 1852.

"The purpose of my presentation was to let people know what kind of research is going on at UMSL studying the African-American heritage," Baumann said. "Many people do not know or realize what their lives were really like back then."

Other upcoming speakers include Missouri Senator Rita Days; Michael Eric Dyson, Avalon Foundation Professor of Humanities at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia; Allison Joseph, poet and associate professor of creative writing at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale; Charles V. Willie, professor emeritus of education at Harvard University and Kenneth Winn, Missouri's Deputy Secretary of State for Records Services.

For more information about dates or presentations for all upcoming speakers, visit the UM-St. Louis homepage or contact the Office of Multicultural Relations at 516-6807.

Black History Month Events

February 9

Michael Eric Dyson, author of "Holler If You Hear Me: Searching for Tupac Shakur" and books on Martin Luther King and Malcolm X, speaks at 7p.m. in the Touhill Performing Arts Center on "Issues Concerning the State of Black America."

February 10

Poet Allison Joseph will read from her work at 4pm in the auditorium of Gallery 210, which is located near the North Campus Metro-Link station.

February 19

Charles V. Willie, Harvard professor, will discuss "Brown v. the Board 50th anniversary" at 2pm in room 427 SSB.

February 23

Kenneth Winn will discuss "Lewis and Clark meet Dred Scott: The St. Louis Circuit Court Project" at 12:15 in 229 J.C. Penney.

EDITOR

KATE DROLET

Features Editor

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Child care on campus

South Campus center gives options to student parents

BY MELISSA MCCRARY
Features Associate

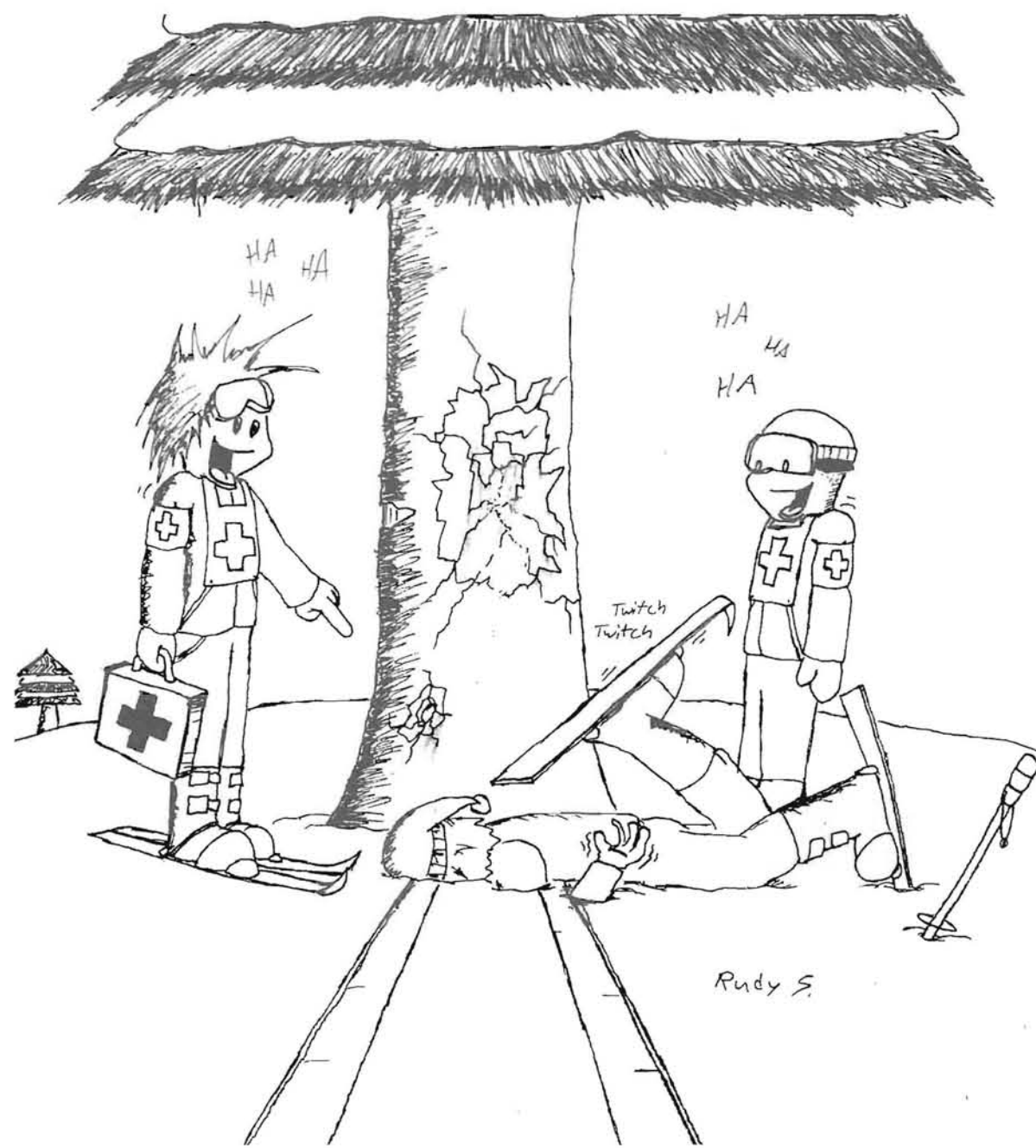
The average age of a UM-St. Louis student is in the late twenties. Adults returning to school face the same issues as traditional students, and some have to juggle education with family. The University offers a child care service to help ease the burden of student parents.

A full-time childcare center is located in room 130 of the South Campus classroom building. The center seeks to provide an enriching environment for children through a variety of activities. The center provides planned quality programs for children between the ages of 6 weeks and 5 years old.

"The Development Center was first developed in 1975, and since then we have received National Accreditation," UCDC Director Lynn Navin said.

The University Child Development Center (UCDC) accommodates the needs of students, faculty and staff with children and is open to the area community.

see CHILD CARE, page 8



Students hit the slopes at Hidden Valley

BY GARY SOHN
Staff Writer

On Friday, Jan. 28, students ventured out in winter weather to enjoy a ski trip sponsored by University Program Board and Residential Life. For twenty dollars, students could ski or snowboard at Hidden Valley ski range, located in Eureka, Mo.

The trip was free for campus residents. Travis Guzman, sophomore, philosophy and Vice President of the Residence Hall Association, said that he organized the trip with the University Program Board.

"I was the initial person to talk to the University Program Board about buying passes for our residents who normally might not have the money to pay for it themselves. We had five-hundred dollars in our budget for the ski trip," he said.

Over twenty people showed up for the ski trip. Most students traveled to the ski resort by bus, which was provided free of charge.

At the resort, the bus dropped the students off at the entrance for an evening of fun on the slopes. They were shod in ski boots and fitted with either a snowboard or skis.

This was a first-time ski experience for several students.

Maartje von Lakerveld, freshman,

undecided, said, "I never skied before but I picked it up quite fast, and it was lots and lots of fun. I thought it was really cool of RHA to organize something like this for residents."

Another student who attended ski trip was Michael Branch, freshman, communication. Branch said this was his first time skiing, and he did well despite a couple of falls.

"It was fun at first until I decided to go down an intermediate hill. I fell down and some kid made fun of me," he said.

Despite taking a few spills, some students had too much fun to stop.

"I was scared to begin with," Gwilym Lobo, sophomore, history, said, "But I thought it was fun. It would have been good if we had more time."

The ski trip is just one of many events put on by UPB and RHA.

Events sponsored by UPB for the month of February are "Bumper Car" and "Battle of the Sexes." For dates, times, and any applicable fees, visit Student Affairs, which is located on the third floor of the Millennium Student Center.

RHA is sponsoring a lock-in at the YMCA on Feb. 13 for UM-St. Louis residents. Residents can sign up at Residential Life or the RHA office on south campus.

Author finds link between mythology and psychotherapy

BY CARRIE LEWIS
Staff Writer

On Thursday, Jan. 29, Dr. Mary Pat Henahan visited UM-St. Louis to discuss Irish mythology and how it relates to modern psychotherapy. Henahan has a book available, entitled "Integrating Spirit and Psyche: Using Women's Narratives in Psychotherapy."

Henahan explained that in the past, "mythology served as psychotherapy." After her introduction, Henahan introduced three mythical goddesses that she would incorporate into her speech.

The first mythical character Henahan discussed was Macha, the goddess of life and beauty. Henahan brought in heather; according to the legend, the flower would spring up when Macha walked the earth. Macha's myth concerned her husband. He refused to listen to what his wife said and, in turn, lost everything. Henahan related the myth to a major problem many couples run into today: lack of effective communication.

St. Brigid was the next woman on the list. We commonly know St. Brigid as the symbol

of fire. Her story tells about how she made a special cross for her dying father that helped him accept Christ. Celts still hang this cross on their door to keep out evil.

The final goddess discussed was Danu, the goddess of music and fertility. Henahan explained that music therapy is still commonly used today, especially for the elderly.

Henahan used this opportunity to play a song for the audience on a traditional Irish instrument called the Hampered Dulcimer. She played a song called "Ash Grove." The song

deals with a love story about two people meeting in an ash grove. Later, one of the lovers must return to the spot to bury the other.

Henahan moved on to a slide show. She used artwork to explain some of the struggles women face. One of the paintings, entitled "Betty," depicts a woman looking away from the viewer.

Henahan said that Betty

"turns away to a more hopeful stance."

Henahan analyzed other paintings, sculptures and photos as well.

Finally, Henahan told her audience a story

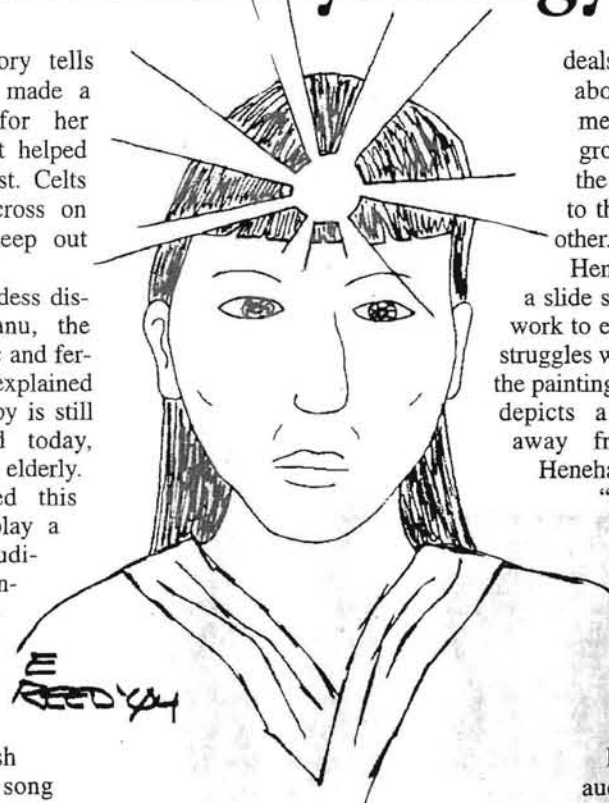
about two sisters who shared a farm but lived very different lives. The married sister felt bad for her single sister because she had no one to look after her. So at night she would sneak some of her grain into her sister's bucket. The unmarried sister felt bad for her married sister because she had so many mouths to feed. So at night, she would sneak some of her grain into her sister's bucket. One evening the two women ran into each other. The place they met became known as a holy place, and a church was built there. Henahan then surprised the audience by revealing that she had re-authored the story. The original version was about the horrible things the sisters did to each other.

The speech ended with a short question and answer session.

Michael Metzger, senior, English, attended the lecture because his class required him to, but he was happy he came.

"I enjoyed the slides, it was interesting to see how the artwork depicted women's issues and mythology," he said.

Katherine Keating, senior, English, said she benefited most from hearing about the three goddesses and their roles in history.





Karen Wortmann (right), senior, music, performs with the University String Quartet at a reception for the release of the UM-St. Louis literary magazine "Bellerive" on Friday afternoon in the commons room of the Pierre Laclede Honors College on South Campus.

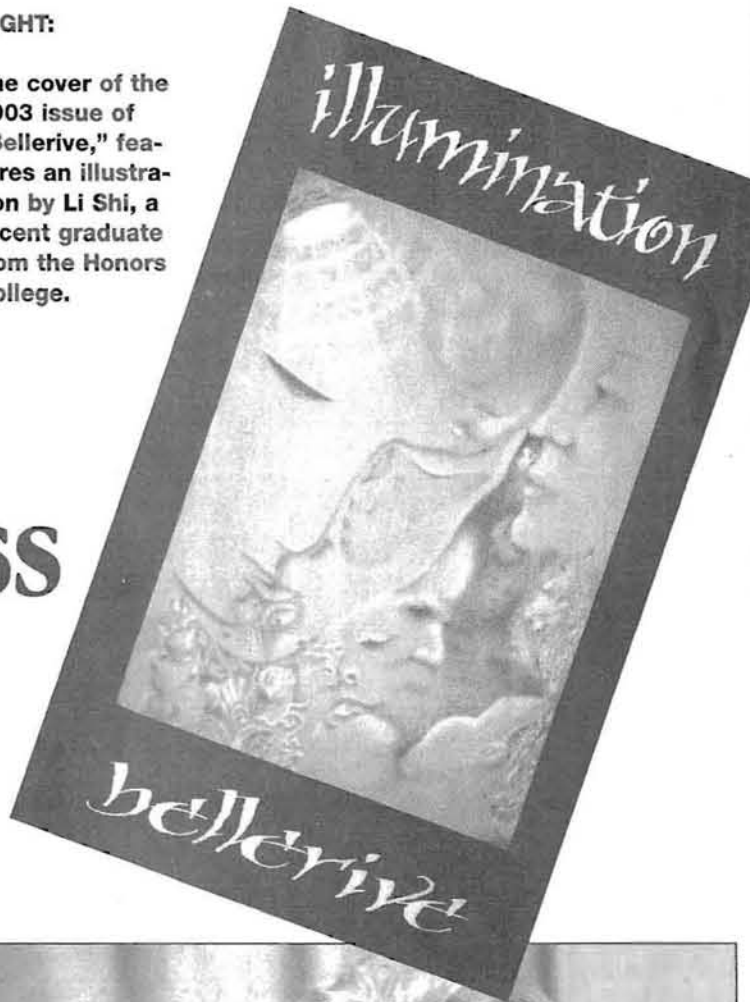


Photos by Mike Sherwin/ The Current

ABOVE: Guests at the "Bellerive" reception on Friday browse the snack table, which included a decorated "Bellerive" cake.

RIGHT:

The cover of the 2003 issue of "Bellerive," features an illustration by Li Shi, a recent graduate from the Honors College.



New 'Bellerive' debuts with class at Honors College reception

The UMSL literary magazine's fourth issue features work by over 30 students and a piece by PHLC Dean Bliss. For the first time, the magazine was created by students in a 'Bellerive' class.

BY KATE DROLET
Features Editor

Friday, Feb. 6, students, faculty and staff gathered in the Pierre Laclede Honors College common room to debut 'Bellerive', a student-produced literary magazine.

A string quartet from the University Orchestra played at the reception, and guests mingled and enjoyed an assortment of hors d'oeuvres.

Nancy Gleason, faculty advisor and instructor for "Bellerive," said that the production of the magazine was a lengthy, but enjoyable process.

"We started last spring, collecting submissions. This is the first time we've had this as a class," she said. "An interesting note is that the class wasn't filled with just English majors. We had people in computer science, music, communication, business and physics. It was a really good mix."

Submissions were collected during the winter 2003 semester and the class met during the fall 2003 semester. Students were in charge of the solicitation of writing and art and of selection, layout, pricing and marketing.

Ricardo Garcia, sophomore, physics, was a member of the "Bellerive" team.

"We were like a family group. We

would get together; discuss our thoughts on the papers. We decided what got in...and helped each other out," he said.

Gleason also noted the close relationship of the class.

"We met in a classroom connected to a kitchen, so Friday was always a food fest," she said.

All submissions were picked on an anonymous basis.

"This is the fourth year that Dean Bliss has a piece in "Bellerive," and he makes it in without the students even knowing it's him," Gleason said.

Li Shi, a former student who recently moved to Boulder, Co. to work with an art therapy program,

designed the cover.

"I'm very impressed and honored to be invited. It's a really neat setting," said Annette Crymes, a prospective graduate student.

David Bradley, author and professor at the University of Oregon, attended the reception as a guest speaker. Dean Bob Bliss introduced Bradley. The two had met 32 years ago at a conference in Kent, England. They discovered that they had both attended the University of Pennsylvania, and both had some of the same influential professors.

"One of the problems today is that people can't write," said Bradley. "And that is part of our communication...Anything that promotes [communication] in any way is great."

"I wasn't sure what this was about until I received a copy of ["Bellerive"]. It's an impressive thing. You could say 'it's good for a school magazine.' It's good for any magazine," he said. "I want to tell you how important it is to have an enterprise like this at any university. There is somebody out there in the magazine that will go on. To see your name in print can mean the world to you."

Bradley went on to discuss his personal experience with breaking into professional writing and offered inspirational advice to all writers.

"Bellerive" is currently on sale for \$6 for one copy or \$10 for two. Submissions for next year's publications are being accepted through April 15.

RIGHT"

Donna Hart, a faculty member in the Pierre Laclede Honors College, looks through her copy of the 2003 issue of 'Bellerive.'



David Bradley, author and director of creative writing at the University of Oregon, was one of the featured guests at the 'Bellerive' reception on Friday. The day before, Bradley and Andre Odendaal led a discussion on "Writing and Race in America and South Africa."



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Student court takes over parking appeals

BY STEFANIE TAYLOR
Staff Writer

This semester, UM-St. Louis students will be appealing to a court of their peers instead of to a three-part unknown and undisclosed group comprised of one student, one faculty and one police staff member.

"I was a pretty loud voice before, and this is another way for me to stay involved," said Brandon Dempsey, sophomore, communication, referring to his seat as justice on the student court. The court now officially deals with student parking ticket appeals.

"We're changing to process to make it more student-oriented," said Dempsey, one of seven student justices serving the student court this semester. Last semester, Dempsey was the student member of the appeals court, and he continues to serve on the parking appeals committee under the new system.

The student court will meet about every two weeks to review parking appeals. According to Dempsey, there must be at least three of the seven justices present to hold a meeting. Each case is thoroughly discussed and granted appeal only if the reason stat-

ed falls under the 2003-2004 student pamphlet for parking and traffic regulations. Students can get a copy of the pamphlet at the information desk in the Millennium Student Center or at the UM-St. Louis Police Department.

"We do everything by that pamphlet," said Dempsey. "It's our constitution. It gives us reasons for appeals and denial. We cite the reference to the pamphlet on every appeal application we review."

John Heinz, sophomore, international business, said, "In Spring of 2003 my car broke down. I drove my mom to work and then drove her car to school." Heinz said he was running late and parked in the garage adjacent to the student center. "I had class in five minutes and had to get there. I talked to the patrolman and explained my situation. I promised to go buy a temporary parking permit after class.

"The attendant said I wouldn't get a ticket," said Heinz, who is glad to see the students taking control of parking appeals. "I went to class, and when I came back there was a ticket on my car. I went to talk to the police department and filed an appeals request. The lady at the desk said it sounded like a reasonable excuse, but they denied the

appeal and I had to pay \$60."

Dempsey said the main quality that the court is trying to preserve is fairness. "We really want to make sure the students get treated fairly," he said. "We're devoting a lot of time and energy to the students to make sure the tickets are granted fairly."

Dempsey said there are many ways to prevent getting a ticket. "We're really starting to push education as a means of prevention," he said. "We can't revoke a ticket on the grounds of ignorance."

Dempsey said that the most common cases the student court reviews are those for stu-

dents who own parking permits, but simply chose to drive a different vehicle to campus. Dempsey said the court also sees many ticketed students who do not own parking permits

complain about the high cost of student fees.

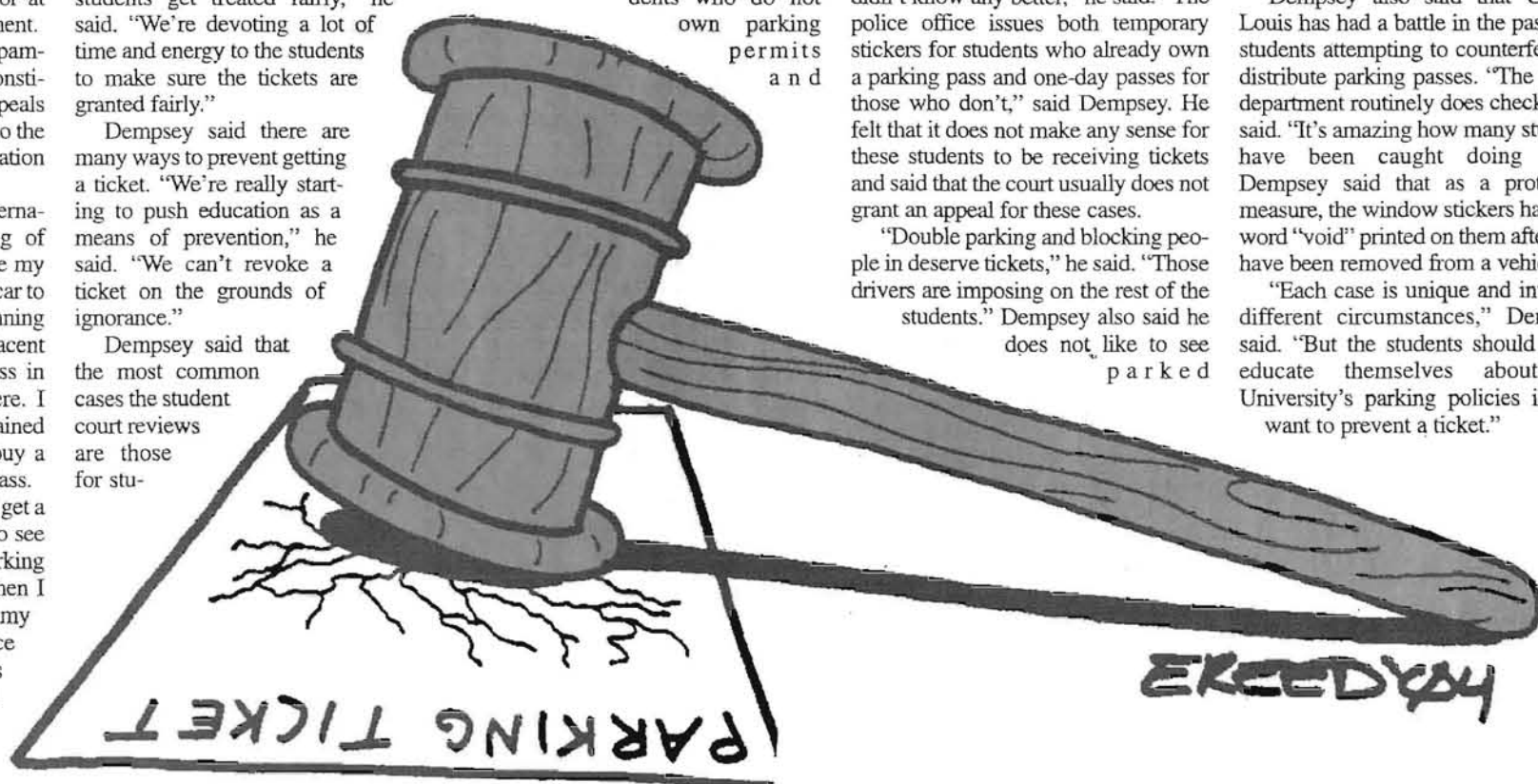
"But people do dumb stuff too, like parking on the grass and saying they didn't know any better," he said. "The police office issues both temporary stickers for students who already own a parking pass and one-day passes for those who don't," said Dempsey. He felt that it does not make any sense for these students to be receiving tickets and said that the court usually does not grant an appeal for these cases.

"Double parking and blocking people in deserve tickets," he said. "Those drivers are imposing on the rest of the students." Dempsey also said he does not like to see parked

cars of students who do not own parking passes. "It's not fair to those of us who do pay for parking," he said. "That could be my spot."

Dempsey also said that UM-St. Louis has had a battle in the past over students attempting to counterfeit and distribute parking passes. "The police department routinely does checks," he said. "It's amazing how many students have been caught doing this." Dempsey said that as a protective measure, the window stickers have the word "void" printed on them after they have been removed from a vehicle.

"Each case is unique and involves different circumstances," Dempsey said. "But the students should really educate themselves about the University's parking policies if they want to prevent a ticket."



Kevin Ottley/The Current

The University Child Development Center, located on South Campus, accommodates the needs of students, faculty and staff, but is also open to the public. The center provides programs for children between the ages of 6 weeks and 5 years old.

CHILD CARE, from page 6

"Right now, we are licensed for 81 children," said Amy Cenney, program coordinator for the UCDC. "Enrollment stays pretty much the same throughout the year."

The center believes that children learn by playing and interacting with other children. The staff strives to meet their philosophy that children are encouraged and supported to reach their full potential in life.

Numerous interactive activities are available for the children to engage in. Some of the activities include music, art, outdoor play, crafts and indoor toys and props.

"There are six classrooms, and each class has two full-time employees in addition to part-time employees, with a total of approximately 22 people staffed," Cenney said.

Cenney also said that most of the full-time workers have two-year or four-year degrees with numerous years of child experience and background. Some of the part-time

employees are UM-St. Louis students working on earning degrees in education.

Since the center abides by the rules of the Missouri Department of Health, Division of Maternal, Child and Family Health, and is a licensed organization, all staff must go through training each year to stay up to date on childcare situations.

Children receive breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack, which is all included in the sitting cost.

Those wishing to enroll their children must pay a one-time application fee of \$5, which is deducted from the initial registration fee once the enrollment process is completed. A person can download a registration form or waiting list off of the University Child Development Center's website through UM-St. Louis' site.

The Center offers discounted rates for children who attend a half-day, who do not need childcare the whole week or those who have

another sibling enrolled in the program. If the child enrolled only attends the center on a part-time basis, parents can choose to pay an hourly rate.

The rates range from \$23.25 to \$182, depending on whether the child is an infant, toddler, two-year-old or in preschool. The prices also vary depending on whether the child attends a half-day, full-day, week long or part-time.

The Center is open from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday and year round, except for holidays. The holidays that the center closes on include Christmas Day through New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Thanksgiving Friday.

Anyone interested in signing a child up for University daycare services, call 516-5658 or find more information at <http://www.umsu.edu/~kids/Overview.htm>.

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313 MSC

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Back to the Future Homecoming

Monday, February 23rd

Banner Wars - Rotunda and Bridge
BMOC penny wars - Nosh 10 am - 2 pm
Blood Drive - 1 pm to 7 pm, 3rd floor MSC

Tuesday, February 24th

Parade - Gravel Lot outside of MSC, 1 pm
BMOC penny wars - Nosh 10 am - 2 pm

Wednesday, February 25th

BMOC - Pilot House 1 pm
Bonfire - Gravel Lot outside of MSC 7 pm
- Present BMOC
- Present basketball team
Log presentation - at the bonfire
Rec. Sports Day

Thursday, February 26th

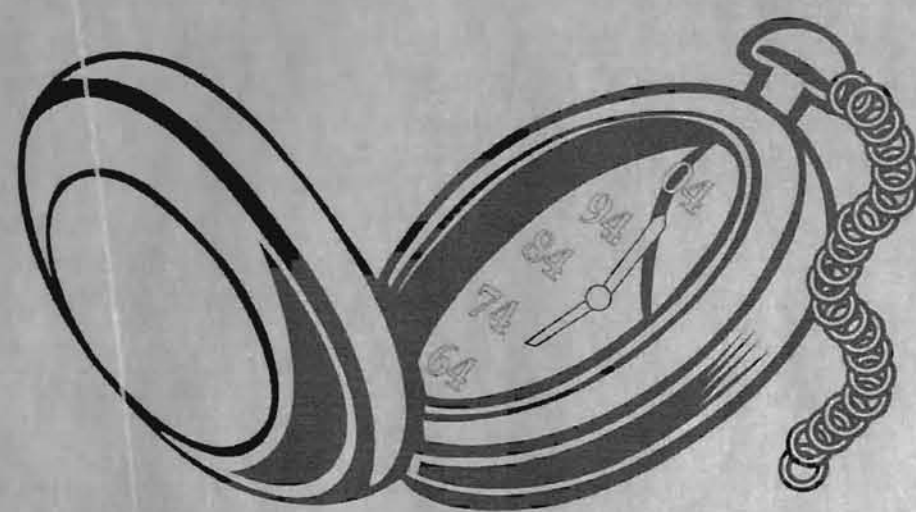
Powder Puff - Mark Twain Field 3 pm
Basketball Game - Women's game 5:30 against Parkside
- Men's Game - 7:45 against Parkside

Friday, February 27th

Dance - 7 pm Westport Sheraton
- Announce Court

Saturday, February 28th

Basketball Game - Women's game 1 pm against St. Joseph
- Men's game 3:15 pm against St. Joseph
- Announcing Spirit winners at men's game half time
- Present Court at Men's game half time
Alumni Family Day



Purchase your tickets for the dance now in the Office of Student Life - 366 MSC
\$20 single, \$30 couple and \$150 table (10 seats) tickets include catered dinners

SPORTS

Rivermen improve record

UMSL wins over Wisconsin-Parkside



TOP: Sophomore Guard Jonathan Griffin sours past his defender for a lay-up in the Rivermen exciting victory against Indianapolis last Thursday night in the Mark Twain Athletic Center.



ABOVE: Justin Foust tries to make a three-pointer over his Indianapolis opponent on Thursday.

BY JAMES DAUGHERTY
Staff Writer

It is hard to beat anyone if you are shooting 29.6% from the field, especially the team ranked 15 in the nation. The UM-St. Louis Rivermen suffered a blowout to Lewis Jan. 29, 80-51. The Rivermen only led once in the game, with the first basket by Jonathan Griffin, to go up 2-0. Lewis responded promptly with a three-pointer, but UM-St. Louis played well the first ten minutes and was able to keep the deficit to just five points, 17-12, thanks to a lay-up by Griffin with 9:14 left in the half. Lewis then went on a tear the rest of the half by outscoring the Rivermen 19-6 to take a 36-18 lead going into

halftime. Lewis began the second half where they left off, promptly hitting a three-pointer and outscoring the Rivermen 14-3 in the first five minutes.

UM-St. Louis could never get close enough to make a significant dent in the lead, and Lewis cruised to an easy 80-51 victory. Despite playing a better second half and almost doubling their point performance, the problem of defending in the paint was an Achilles heel for the Rivermen. After outscoring the Rivermen 20-10 in the paint in the first half, the Flyers did the same in the second and scored 26 points in the paint to UM-St. Louis' 16. Poor inside defense coupled with low field goal percentage spelled disaster. Coach Pilz largely attributed the low

offensive output to Lewis's defense.

"Lewis is one of the best teams in the country and it's good for our guys to see where they are right now. They beat us in every aspect of the game, and their defense forced our low field goal percentage because we didn't get many open looks." Griffin was the only player reaching double digits, a team high 18 points.

Three days after the loss against Lewis the Rivermen redeemed themselves with a hard fought victory. The UM-St. Louis men's basketball team improved its conference record with a win over Wisconsin-Parkside 81-76 Jan. 31. Griffin and Ronnie Banks both put on spectacular performances to lead the Rivermen with 26 points each. Griffin started the game off with a bucket for UM-St. Louis, and then both teams traded the lead back and forth.

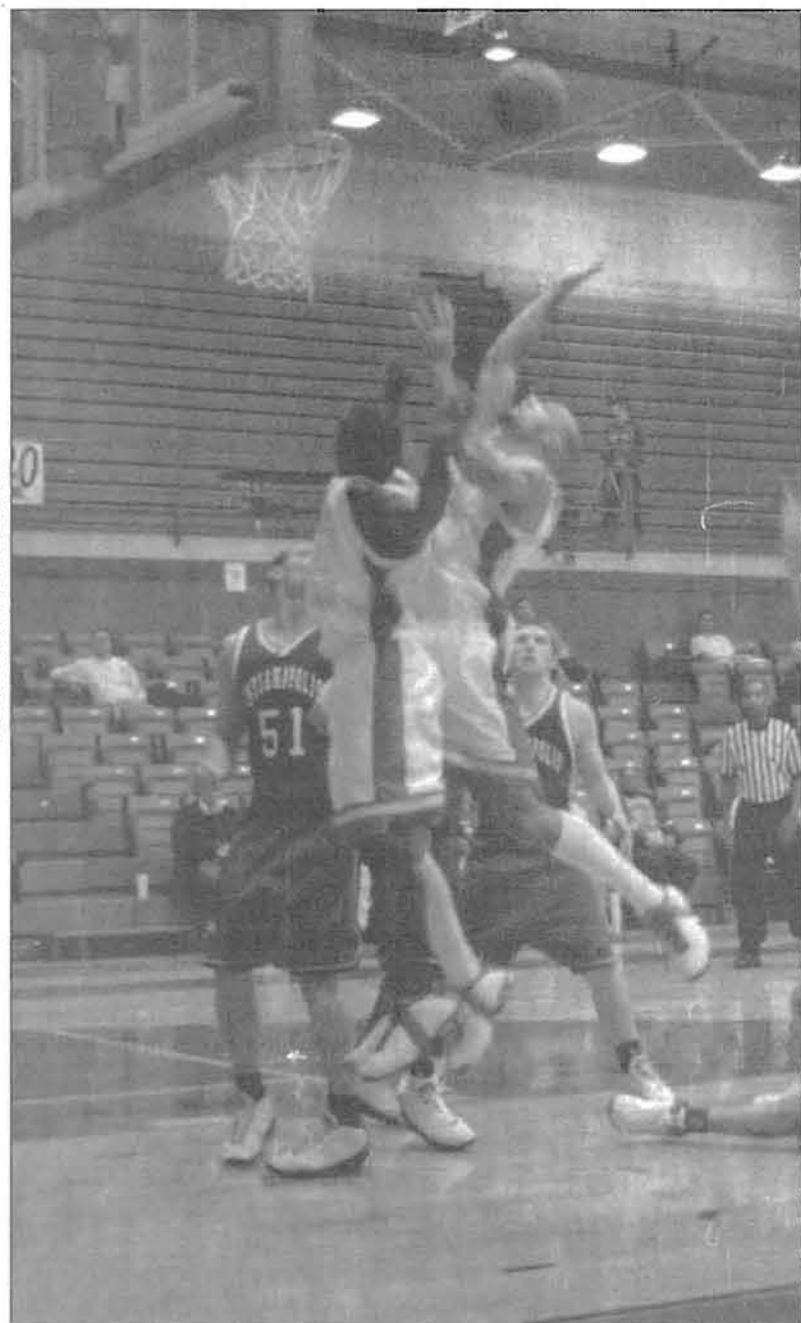
It was not until 6:49 left that UM-St. Louis took the lead for good in the half, with a 9-1 run sparked by Griffin and Banks, to go up 27-23. The Rivermen were able to keep their four-point lead going into halftime up 38-34.

In the second half, UM-St. Louis began with a characteristic breakdown and allowed Wisconsin-Parkside go on a 20-3 run after eight minutes of play, bringing the score to 54-41. Contrary to other games, though, the Rivermen chipped away at the score to have a ten-point deficit at 64-54 with 7:33 remaining. Then UM-St. Louis put its shooting threat to good use, and hit three three-pointers in a row by Kevin Nordman, Banks and Griffin to make it a one-point game, 66-65. Finally with just over two minutes remaining in the game, UM-St. Louis recaptured the lead on a 3-pointer by Banks, and from there the Rivermen were able to fend off the Rangers for the 81-76 victory.

Coach Pilz added that the field goal percentage had gone up:

"We out-rebounded them and shot 52% from the field. Any time you make shots, it gives you more energy on defense, so we then got multiple stops. I'm proud of our guys for rebounding from the loss at Lewis." UM-St. Louis won this game in a large part thanks to the leadership of Banks and Griffin, and Coach Pilz commented on their play:

"Banks and Griffin both gave an unbelievable effort in that game, and they pulled us through." Banks was 9-of-13 from the field and hit 4-of-6 3-pointers, and Griffin went 8-of-14 with five rebounds.



Ike Attah goes way up during the Rivermen's game Thursday night.

GRETCHEN MOORE

Sports Editor

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WEB

Check out the R-men
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UPCOMING

Men's Basketball

Feb. 12

• at Kentucky Wesleyan
5:30 p.m.

Feb. 14

• at Southern Indiana
1 p.m.

Women's Basketball

Feb. 12

• at Kentucky Wesleyan
7:45 p.m.

Feb. 14

• at Southern Indiana
3:15 p.m.

Students surveyed about new campus recreation center

BY GRETCHEN MOORE
Sports Editor

The University of Missouri - St. Louis has retained the firm of Brailsford & Dunlavey (B & D), based in Washington, D.C., to assess the need for a new recreation and wellness center.

winners, which would then be passed to the University for follow-up contact.

All responses will be gathered directly by B & D and treated as confidential, and the resulting database and analysis will be presented to the university with no individual identifications.

Within the survey, there are three



Shannon Hoppe/The Current

The existing Mark Twain Athletic Building could be getting a new counterpart facility.

Administration approached B & D, who utilizes surveys to reveal usage patterns, demand for particular amenities and user demographics, with the hopes to survey how well the addition would be to students on the UM-St. Louis campus. B & D delivered a survey via e-mail to all students with some incentives to those who returned the survey: grand prize, one semester, one vehicle parking pass and other prizes included three \$100 debit cards.

Students were asked to fill out an electronic ballot once their answers had been transferred anonymously to the database. A computerized, random number-picking from all fully, legitimately completed ballots will be made on Feb. 17, 2004, giving a list of

proposed suggestions as to what would be accepted by the students. The first option is a Fitness and Wellness Center - student fee equivalent to \$50 to \$60 per semester. This option would include large weight and fitness spaces with state-of-the-art equipment for strength training and cardio workouts, three group fitness studios for aerobics, spinning, yoga, martial arts, etc., indoor jogging / walking track, three racquetball courts, a Wellness center with an information center, seminar rooms and a fitness assessment area, a juice bar and social lounge and support spaces (lockers, towel service, equipment checkout, etc.)

see RECREATION, page 14

Men's tennis working hard going into season

The UM-St. Louis men's tennis team is on pace to make it to the NCAA tournament for the third straight year.



The men's tennis team performs conditioning drills during practice.

BY DAVE SECKMAN
Staff Writer

The UM-St. Louis men's tennis team looks forward to a spring season that starts them already in the hunt for their first Great Lakes Valley Conference title and a birth in the NCAA tournament for the third straight season.

The Rivermen are one of five teams from the GLVC conference that

rank in the NCAA pre-season regional polls. Third-ranked Southern Indiana and fourth-ranked Northern Kentucky are the only two teams from the conference that rank ahead of the Rivermen. Northwestern University out of Michigan took rank one in the region, followed by Ferris State at a close two. The Rivermen currently rank six in the region going into the pre-season, which has already begun for the Rivermen as of January.

Mike Schaaf, sophomore, will be

playing a large role for the Rivermen this season.

"We have been practicing hard three or more days a week since the second week in January, which doesn't include weight training. I can already tell that everyone is in much better shape right now than they were at this time last year." Mike was freshman of the year in the GLVC last year along with first-team all GLVC.

see TENNIS, page 13