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4-26-2004

## Current, April 26, 2004

University of Missouri-St. Louis

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April 26,  
2004ISSUE  
1119

# The Current

Your source for campus news and information



See page 7

Bands, booths and big rides at Mirthday

THECURRENTONLINE.COM

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI - ST. LOUIS

## \$1 million grant will transform old hospital

BY COURTNEY HABERER  
Staff Writer

The Small Business Administration, a United States governmental association, gives grants that will be used to help small businesses. On Feb. 4, the Office of Research Administration at UM-St. Louis received a \$1 million grant from the SBA.

Nasser Arshadi, vice chancellor for research at UM-St. Louis, applied for this grant three years ago. The Office of Research Administration, the Office of Administration and faculty members from the Mathematics and Computer Science and the Information Sciences departments at UM-St. Louis are all involved.

The money will be going to an incubator that will house 12 start-up companies. The incubator will be located at the site of the old Normandy Hospital on Natural Bridge Road, which is currently owned by UM-St. Louis.

There are two options on how the space will be used. The first option is for the incubator to take up one floor of the old hospital. The second option is to have the old building torn down and have two new buildings take its place.

One of the new buildings will house the incubator, while the other would be turned into an extensive health center. The health center would be accessible to both the community and UM-St. Louis students. The health center would have such things as an optometry center, the UM-St. Louis nursing college and a coffee/gift shop.

see GRANT, page 13

## Masters student's essay wins contest

BY ANNIINA VUORI  
Staff Writer

Marianne Samayoa, who will get her masters degree in history this spring at UM-St. Louis, won the Society for the Social History of Medicine's 2003 Roy Porter Student Essay Competition.

Samayoa won the competition with her essay "More than Quacks: Seeking Medical Care in Late Colonial Latin America." She has lived in Guatemala for 20 years, and said she is interested in Latin America, but that the medical aspect for her essay came from the material that was available to her more than out of an interest for medicine.

Samayoa's essay will be published in 2005 in the scholarly journal "Social History of Medicine." This is the first time her material will be published in a scholarly journal. The award also included \$500.

"I am working on the revision now," Samayoa said.

see ESSAY WINNER, page 13

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## Bopp, Abraham take top SGA posts

BY BECKY ROSNER  
News Editor

Scott Bopp was elected Student Government Association president and Erin Abraham was named vice president, after an online vote on Tuesday and Wednesday.

The candidates were informed on Thursday morning of the results of the election. Bopp won with 384 votes, Kenyatta Thacker received 323 votes and Charles Stadlander received 147 votes. Fifteen ballots were cast blank.

"I found out at about 9:30 a.m. on Thursday morning when Erin Abraham called to give me the results," Bopp said.

In the vice president elections,

Abraham received 482 votes and Melinda McNabb received 346 votes.

Forty-one ballots were blank. Aaron Golchert was elected comptroller with 660 votes and 209 ballots cast blank. A total of 869 votes were cast for SGA in the election.

Abraham said that she was too afraid to look to see if she won, so she waited for one of her

friends to call her and let her know the results of the election. After speaking with her friend, she called Bopp to inform him of the results.

Bopp said that he will officially take office on July 1. Kristy Runde will reside in the position until that date. He said that he has already talked to Runde about the transition.

"I've already talked with Kristy and we will spend time over the next couple of months to make the transition," Bopp said.

Primarily, Bopp said that he would like to establish more contacts with the students. Both he and Abraham said that they would like to have a table in the rotunda of the Millennium Student Center every day or often, in order to

provide the students with a chance to speak with the executive committee of SGA.

They said this would also provide many opportunities for the students to voice their questions and/or concerns about what is going on around campus. Being right where the students have access to them without going to the office, they hope will increase student involvement.



Scott Bopp



Erin Abraham

"Scott and I are here to serve the students. We want to be out there and readily accessible," Abraham said.

Another way that Bopp said he would like to get the students more involved is to make the SGA website more accessible by including more frequent updates about what is going on with SGA. He would also like to hold occasional town hall meetings to get better connections with the community.

Abraham said she would like to start on her mentoring program over the summer. She spoke about the proposed program in the SGA debate.

see SGA ELECTIONS, page 13

## Taking in the view...



Mike Sherwin/The Current

Mohammed Al-Eqabi, junior, chemistry, takes in the view of the demolition of Garage D on Tuesday, just south of the Millennium Student Center. Demolition of the garage, which had been on campus since 1972, began on Monday. The project is scheduled to be completed by September, and will include a new parking lot, lakes and fountains, paths, benches and landscaping.

## The Current's funding decreased for second year in a row by SABC

BY BECKY ROSNER  
News Editor

The Student Activities Budget Committee has cut *The Current's* funding for the second year in a row.

*The Current* asked for approximately \$43,000 to start up the paper next semester. SABC allocated \$18,000 to the organization. Last year, SABC cut *The Current's* funding to zero and then re-allocated the \$38,200 after an appeal.

"This is the second year in a row the SABC has cut *The Current's* funding so drastically," said Jason Granger, editor-in-chief of *The Current*. "The hardworking staffers of this newspaper do not deserve to have to justify its existence every year."

On April 16, three members of *The Current's* executive committee presented their appeal to the SABC. They explained to the committee that it would not be possible for the organization to operate on the allocated \$18,000. Printing costs alone account for more than \$38,000.

In the appeal, the SABC claimed that *The Current* filled out the budget request wrong. The amount indicated in the allocations box should only have been the amount requested from the SABC. Instead, it included advertising revenue.

"At the appeal, *The Current* defended this particular matter with two key points: the forms being misleading and that SABC committee members should have contacted *The Current* prior to allocation," said Benny Suen, chair of the SABC. "Regarding the efforts of the committee members to reach student organizations, it is not mandatory for committee members to contact organizations regarding their budget."



Mike Sherwin/The Current

Benny Suen, chairman of the Student Activities Budget Committee, informs Jason Granger, editor-in-chief of *The Current*, that no more than three members would be allowed in to the newspaper's appeal before the SABC on April 16. In 2003, over twenty *Current* staff members attended that year's appeal.

Granger said that *The Current* would be forced to take to legal action if the allocation is not increased. The Student Press Law Center has provided Granger with information on legal rights regarding the situation. "I did not want the situation to progress to the point that I had to consider legal action, but if that is what it takes, that is what it takes," said Granger.

*The Current* was informed early last week that their appeal was denied by the SABC. "The Student Activities Budget Committee felt that

*The Current* did not plead their case and unanimously denied the appeal," said Suen.

In a final attempt to avoid such action, Granger said he requested the assistance of Chancellor Thomas George. George agreed to review the situation. He also arranged an open meeting on Thursday, in the Student Government Chambers of the Millennium Student Center, to discuss *The Current's* funding issues.

## KWMU starts annual spring fund drive

BY ANNIINA VUORI  
Staff Writer

"We are 6.5 percent ahead of last year, and what is exciting is that half the people are new members," Patricia Wente, the station's director and general manager, said on Thursday morning.

By that time, the station had collected \$94,000 of its \$150,000 goal.

"Things are going in well, and they need to, too," Wente said.

She explained that more and more people listen to the station, which means a raise in the dues that the station pays to National Public Radio.

"People give because they know this is the way we buy our programming, and they like what they listen to," Wente said.

KWMU has 181,000 listeners and 13,000 members. Half of the station's operating budget comes from these members. KWMU has three fund drives every year: one in the spring, one in the fall and one close to Valentine's Day in February.

To enable the fund drives, the station has 200 volunteers who answer the phones and process letters.

"These people are our listeners who really like the station," Wente said.

Mike Schrand, KWMU's program director, said that people are very excited about the opportunity to see the station, and even meet the people they listen to on the radio.

see KWMU, page 13

## New scholarship created by family of gerontology professor

BY MICHAEL SPAKOUSKY  
Staff Writer

Gerontology is the study of aging. According to "Karger," an international gerontology journal, gerontology "covers all aspects of experimental, clinical, and behavioral aging research."

People are living longer now than ever before in history, and this has been the cause for a dramatic increase in the demand for new information on the aging process.

For those interested in pursuing a career in gerontology, a new scholarship has been made available at UM-St. Louis through the family of a current gerontology professor, Robert Calsyn.

The Albert and Virginia Calsyn Scholarship has been created in honor of the parents of Calsyn. According to an e-mail sent out by Calsyn, his parents, Albert and Virginia Calsyn, "raised seven children, all born Caesarean section." The life of his parents was filled with hardships and sacrifices that most of the younger generation will hopefully never face.

Hard work, perseverance, a regimented lifestyle and a devoted tenacity to properly raising seven children are why Calsyn is here today, doing something that neither of his parents were able to do. As Calsyn writes, "But people like my parents are rarely remembered by society—buildings are not named after them etc.—but they are what makes this country great."

The scholarship will be awarded to one graduate gerontology student with the highest grade point average each year.

The specific details of the scholarship have not been made available yet, but more information can be obtained by contacting Ann Steffen, the new director of gerontology programs and associate professor of psychology, at 516-5421. Information can also be obtained by visiting the gerontology website at <http://www.umsl.edu/divisions/gerontology/>



# Bulletin Board

**Put it on the Board:**  
The Current Events Bulletin Board is a service provided free of charge to all student organizations, University departments and divisions. Deadline for submissions to The Current Events Bulletin Board is 5 p.m., every Thursday before publication. Space consideration is given to student organizations and is on a first-come, first-served basis. We suggest all postings be submitted at least 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.umsi.edu](mailto:current@jinx.umsi.edu)  
All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.

**For April 29 Youth Violence Prevention Conference**  
The 3rd Annual Youth Violence Prevention Conference will take place on April 29 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the J.C. Penney Bldg. The registration fee is \$35 and includes breakfast and a luncheon. For more info, call Deborah Doering at 6793 or e-mail [debbied@umsi.edu](mailto:debbied@umsi.edu) or visit <http://www.umsi.edu/~contas/>.

**Mon 26 Storyteller discusses 1904 World's Fair**  
Author and professional storyteller Annette Harrison will present the storytelling session "The 1904 World's Fair: A Child's Eye View" at 12:15 p.m. in 229 J.C. Penney Bldg. Bring a lunch. Light refreshments will be served. The lecture is free and open to the public. Call 5699 or visit <http://www.umsi.edu/~cfh> for more info.

**19 UMSL Prof reads at River Styx Lit. Fest**  
Today is the registration deadline for the River Styx Literary Fest, featuring readings from Mary Troy, asst. professor of English. The event, at 6:30 p.m. May 3 at Duff's, 392 N. Euclid Ave., will benefit the River Styx magazine. The event will include a variety of food, art and music. Tickets are \$45. Call 5512 or e-mail [sweet@umsi.edu](mailto:sweet@umsi.edu) for more info.

**Put it on the Board!** Call 516-5174 for details or email [current@jinx.umsi.edu](mailto:current@jinx.umsi.edu)

**Tues 27 FREE MOVIE SHOWING!**

Amnesty International, Phi Alpha Theta, and Pierre Laclede Honors College Student Association proudly present "Cradle Will Rock." "An ambitious, funny and thought-provoking film. Writer/director Tim Robbins boldly tackles politics, the arts, and a cultural revolution." It will be shown tonight in the Pilot House at 7 p.m.

**Wed 28 Live Mexican music**  
HISLA presents Luis Miranda who will be playing live Mexican music in the Pilot House today from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Free munchies and drinks will be served. Contact Lana at 5835 for more information.

**28 Harvard prof discusses book on German hist.**  
Steven Ozment, McLean Professor of Ancient and Modern History at Harvard University, will discuss "A Mighty Fortress," his new history of the German people, at 7:30 p.m. in Century Room B in the MSC. Seating is limited. Call 6620 for more info.

**Wed 28 (cont.) Greek film series features "Rembetiko"**  
"Rembetiko," a Greek film, will screen at 6:30 p.m. in 200 Lucas Hall. Directed by Costas Ferras in 1983, the film is a fictionalized biography of singer Marika Ninou. Ninou was a specialist in Greek rembetika music, which is similar to American blues music. The film outlines her life through love affairs, professional successes and personal disasters. The event is free and open to the public. Call 6089 for more information.

**Thurs 29 Teleconference series continues**  
The 2004 Teleconference Series presents "Campus Activities: Creating Intentional Connections for Student Learning" from noon to 3:00 p.m. in 100 Clark Hall. Bring a lunch. Beverages and snacks are provided. Everyone is welcome.

**29 Conquering Finals workshop**  
Worried about finals? Find out how to Conquer Finals in our free workshop today from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. This service is free but please call 5711 to reserve a place. Sponsored by Counseling Services, 126 MSC.

**Sat 1 Foreign Language Aptitude Test**  
The Dept. of Foreign Languages and Literatures is now offering aptitude testing for those students interested in taking French or Spanish Intensive classes this Summer Semester 2004. Intensive Language offers students the opportunity to fulfill the foreign language requirement by completing 15 hours of course work. Students will learn basic speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills at an accelerated pace. In order to be approved for registration in Intensive Language, students must pass a general language aptitude test that is administered by the department, and determines an individual's ability to recognize language sounds and forms and memorize them quickly. These skills are vital for success in the Intensive Language courses. Courses tend to fill up quickly, so early testing is advised!

The next aptitude test is scheduled for today at 9:00 a.m. To register, call 6240 or stop by the Foreign Languages and Literatures Office located in 554 Clark Hall. You may also register via e-mail at [http://www.umsi.edu/divisions/artsciencel/forlanglit](mailto:http://www.umsi.edu/divisions/artsciencel/forlanglit).

Put it on the board!  
Have an upcoming event?  
List it here and get results!  
Call ext. 5174 for info!

## The Current

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## The Campus Crimeline

The following criminal incidents were reported to the University of Missouri-St. Louis Police Department between April 3, 2004 and April 17, 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!

**April 6-Stealing under \$500-Social Sciences Building**  
A tool belt with tools was stolen from a maintenance room.  
**April 6-Stealing under \$500-Unknown exact location**  
Victim reported that sometime since the first of the year, someone stole her license plate tabs from her vehicle.  
**April 7-Harassment-Benton Hall**  
A teacher was receiving harassing e-mails from a former student.

**April 11-Stealing under \$500-451 Marillac Hall**  
A wallet and cell phone was reported stolen from an insecure office between 3:00 p.m. and 3:45 p.m. The items with the exception of the cash and cell phone were later recovered in a bathroom.  
**April 14-Warrant Arrest-8173 Normandy Trace**  
A subject was arrested on an outstanding warrant from Moline Acres.

**April 14-Stolen Auto-Parking Garage N, first floor**  
A vehicle was stolen from the bottom level of Garage N. St. Louis City Police later recovered this vehicle and a subject was arrested.  
**April 15-Stolen Auto-Mark Twain Drive**  
A vehicle was stolen while parked outside of the Mark Twain Building. This vehicle was later recovered abandoned in St. Louis City after being involved in a traffic crash.  
**April 15-Stealing Over \$500-Mark**

**TwainDrive**  
A vehicle was broken into and the stereo was stolen.  
**\*\*NOTE\*\***  
As a reminder, please keep your valuable secured, or in your possession at all times. Most of the thefts that occur on this campus are because the owners failed to properly safeguard their property. Please report all suspicious activity to the Police Department at 516-5155 or 911 if it is an emergency.

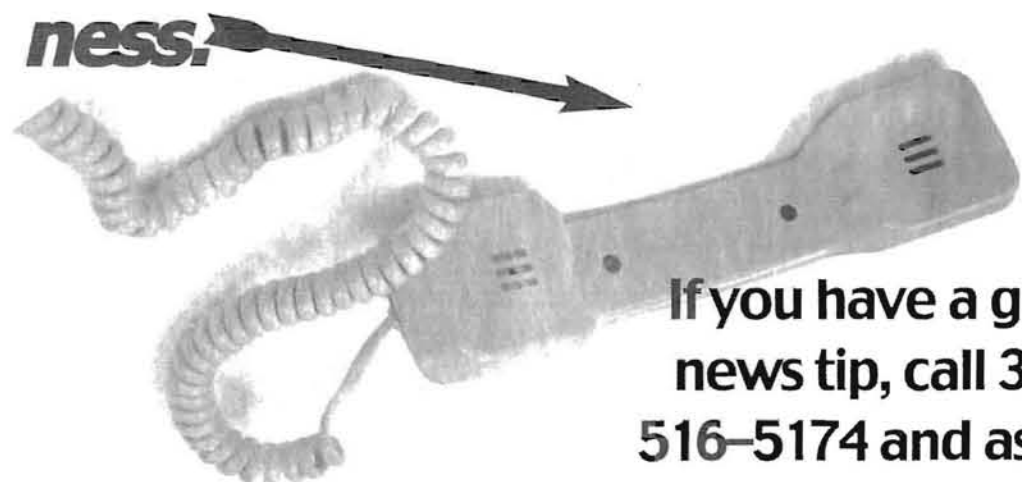
# !!WANTED!!

A FEW GOOD MEN...AND WOMEN TO TAKE AN ACTIVE ROLL ON THEIR CAMPUS.  
COME WRITE FOR THE NEWSPAPER! CALL 516-5174 FOR INFO

## Corrections

•In issue 1118 of The Current, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Curt Coonrod's name was misspelled on page 3 in a photo caption. The Current regrets this typo.  
•In issue 1118, a stand-alone on page 14 misidentified the instructor of the English 4985 class "Editing Litmag." Associate Professor of English Nanora Sweet led the English 4985 class "Editing Litmag" in Winter semester 2004.

This is a vital aspect of the news business.



If you have a good news tip, call 314-516-5174 and ask for Becky Rosner, the news editor. Do your part for UMSL!

•Or e-mail us at [current@jinx.umsi.edu](mailto:current@jinx.umsi.edu)



Both locations have part-time positions available now that can be structured around a student's class schedule. These positions generally involve 5-hour shifts that can produce good pay relative to our industry. We will train. Secured on-site parking is available to our employees. A MetroLink stop is one block from our Downtown location. This is an opportunity to make some saving/spending money while introducing yourself to an upscale environment with a matching clientele. We are presently hiring for the following job positions:

**Downtown**  
7th & Market  
P.M. HOST/HOUSTESS  
A.M. SERVER  
P.M. DISHWASHER

**West Port Plaza**  
1270 & Page  
P.M. HOST/HOUSTESS

Interested parties should apply in person M-F 2-4 p.m. No telephone calls please.

The Current is hiring for next year for all positions save editor-in-chief. If you are interested, stop by and talk to Kate Drolet, next year's e-i-c or call ext. 5174 for further info.

That is all.





Mike Sherwin/The Current  
 Van Reidhead, associate professor of anthropology, listens to Jamie Smith, senior, anthropology, talk about her poster presentation "Entry and Existence in a Counter-Cultural Anarchist Community" during the Undergraduate Research Symposium on Friday. Smith researched an anarchist community living in South St. Louis for her senior thesis project.

## Students present work at research symposium

BY ANNIINA VUORI  
 Staff Writer

The Undergraduate Research Symposium was held on Friday in the Millennium Student Center. This was the third year the symposium has been organized here at UM-St. Louis.

Shelby Kleweis, senior, biology, was the symposium's chair. The figures have been going up steeply. Last year, there were 37 presentations, and in 2002, only 15.

"This year we have 55 presentations," Kleweis said.

Students can give two kinds of presentations: oral and poster. Anthropology is the field that is most represented in the symposium, but Kleweis said other sciences like biology and chemistry are catching up.

"Our goal is to have all the students who are doing research—and I know most of them are—to present their work here," Kleweis said.

About 20 students have been working on putting the symposium together. They have been planning the event since last year.

"We started planning already in September," Kleweis said.

All of the organizers are volunteers. Golden Key International Honor Society, Pierre Laclède Honors College, the College of Arts and Sciences and Academic Affairs sponsored the symposium.

"People need to know what students are doing," Kleweis said. "UMSL is a great campus and there is a lot of cool research going on here, but we don't know about it because it's behind closed doors."

Don Mertz, director of the Center for Academic Development, said that he was very impressed with the presentations.

"This is the first time I'm here, and even though much of the subject matter is outside my range, I find it very interesting and informative," he said.

Joyce Corey, professor of chemistry, said that the great challenge, especially for her field's students, was to explain the complicated material to non-chemists. Victoria Speedie and Michael Rutherford, both juniors in chemistry, were presenting two posters of two different reactions.

"I think this experience will be helpful for me in the future, especially the communication skills I get to practice here," Rutherford said.

Speedie, who is an exchange student from Scotland, said that preparing the presentation for the symposium had taken about 20 hours of work; doing the actual research took longer.

"It took the whole last semester to do the first reaction, and the other one we did this semester," she said. "We don't get to do undergraduate research back home, so this was a great opportunity for me."

Gretchen Haupt, junior, anthropology, was presenting her research on orangutan behavior. She found the symposium a good idea.

"This presentation was a part of an Honors College class I took," Haupt said. "If you were actually in the research field, this is something you would do: present your research."

Haupt said the people she had talked to want to get a more in-depth explanation on her findings.

see SYMPOSIUM, page 13

## UM-C student criticized for urging students to lie during blood drive

BY MICHAEL SPAKOUSKY  
 Staff Writer

On April 7, the single act of a student has led to a nationwide controversy of UM students and specifically the Gamma Phi Beta sorority.

Christie Key, a sophomore sorority member from the St. Louis area, sent an e-mail out to nearly 170 Gamma Phi Beta members urging them to lie in order to help them win a blood drive that is held annually during Greek Week.

Key wrote, "I don't care if you got a tattoo last week — LIE." The e-mail goes on to say, "I don't care if you have a cold. Suck it up. We all do. LIE. Recent piercings? LIE. Even if you're going to use the 'Do Not Use My Blood' sticker, give anyway. Punishment for not giving blood is quite severe."

In 1999, the UM-Columbia Greek Week Blood Drive won a place in the Guinness Book of World Records for collecting 3,156 units in a single day, single site drive.

News sources all over the country, from Arizona to CBS and CNN, have run stories about this e-mail. The coverage has been nationwide and extremely negative. According to the American Red Cross, all blood is tested before the recipient can use it, and if a problem such as a disease is discovered, the donor will be notified.

However, no system is perfect, and additional safeguards have been put in place in order to insure clean blood. The Red Cross tells those who are sick or have recently received tattoos or piercings not to donate blood, both to protect the health of donors and to lessen the risk of transmitting diseases to recipients.

These rules were not only disregarded, but also purposefully averted by Key. The consequences for this action could be severe. No information has been released yet concerning any recourse that Key will face. According to a press release by Gamma Phi Beta, "International officers of the organization will supervise the internal chapter judicial process so that Gamma Phi Beta procedures regarding disciplinary

action are followed."

On April 15, Key wrote an apology letter. "To the University of Missouri, I apologize for potentially jeopardizing our good relationship with the Red Cross, as well as our reputation. I ask the administration, faculty, staff and my fellow students to forgive my error that put us in the public eye for such a negative act."

At this point it is difficult to predict what will happen to Key, but her action has created a debate over whether or not events such as the blood drive are perhaps a little too competitive. The blood drive is, of course, an event designed to help supply the American Red Cross with much needed blood so that lives can be saved. However, many feel that this original intent has been lost, buried under the desire for recognition and the need to win.

Although this was only one act, and by itself should cast no ill light on the thousands of blood drive events that save countless lives every year, Key is only one person, and according to Gamma Phi Beta, her e-mail was sent without consent or approval.

## Students take action to defend teacher



Mike Sherwin/The Current  
 Brian Radzom (left), senior, social work, and five other students from the social work department meet with College of Arts and Sciences dean Mark Burkholder and Lois Pierce (not shown), department chairperson for social work. The students met with the dean to urge him to reconsider a decision to not renew a teaching contract with senior lecturer in social work Janey Archey. Burkholder said he could not discuss personnel matters, and trusted in Pierce's judgment in not renewing Archey's contract. Non-regular faculty members are typically given one-year or one-semester contracts. Archey has taught at UM-St. Louis for the past 12 years, and full-time for the past four years.

## Participants Needed for Sleep Research Study



Are you unable to sleep through the night?

Do you often have difficulty falling asleep?

The Sleep Medicine and Research Center is seeking adults with insomnia to participate in a clinical research study to evaluate an investigational medication for insomnia.

### Study Requirements:

- Have difficulty falling or staying asleep
- 18 to 65 years old
- Healthy

Study-related medical care and study medication will be provided at no cost.

Monetary compensation will be provided.  
 For more information call 314-205-6011

Sleep Medicine and Research Center • St. Luke's Hospital  
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*Thank you!*  
 for your vote to support the  
 Associated Students of the  
 University of Missouri.  
 ASUM will continue to serve  
 as the student voice at the state  
 and federal level.

## GET INVOLVED with ASUM

The SGA Assembly will elect two students (graduate or undergraduate) to a one-year term on the ASUM Board of Directors at the SGA Meeting.

- Friday, April 30 at 1 p.m.  
 in the SGA chambers

For more information, call Ben DeChue at 516-5835  
 or stop by the ASUM office at 381 MSC.



# OPINION

## OUR OPINION

# SABC presents many chances for corruption

The Student Activities Budget Committee is a group of students selected by the comptroller of the Student Government Association. The group is spearheaded by the comptroller, and is given the task of allocating money to every student organization on a yearly basis. Student organizations each submit a budget detailing their request for the next fiscal period, and the committee, in meetings not open to the public, decides how much each organization will receive.

While the idea that SABC is a valuable learning tool for students is not inherently corrupt, the opportunities for bias are numerous because of the committee's structure.

The first opportunity for a corrupt committee comes with the selection process. The comptroller chooses twelve members of the student body to serve. This is equivalent to a prosecutor handpicking the jurors in a court case. These students are not required to have any background in accounting, nor do they have to prove their impartiality or integrity. Politicians are not allowed to appoint their own relatives to office. That's called nepotism. So why are elected student leaders allowed to? The selection process makes it easy for the comptroller to stack the deck with like-minded individuals rather than a group with diverse opinions and involvement.

The *Current* found out the hard way this year that even if the committee does not understand an organization's budget request, the members do not deem it necessary to contact an organization for clarification. In our appeal, SABC alleged that we filled out our budget request incorrectly. That was the reason, they said, that they had cut approximately \$20,000 from our funds. We explained that they had either misread the letter that stated our exact request or failed to read all of the information provided to them.

For much of its history, SABC gave organizations a chance to explain their budgets to the committee to avoid miscommunication. As the number of organizations grew, committee members took ten groups to contact and clarify requests. Several years ago this practice stopped altogether. The effects are painfully evident, as this year's members decided to impose fatal cuts rather than make a five-minute phone

call to clarify.

And then there's the issue of the \$700,000 in student activity fees that funds organizations. As students, do we want a group of our untrained peers to control that money? The solution to this problem is simple. Instead of allowing the comptroller to choose members, have the student body elect six student members and the faculty to appoint six faculty members. Right now the only faculty influence that SABC members have is that of their advisor, who, because of her position, is not legally entitled to make decisions. More than half a million dollars is far too large a responsibility for twelve students. It is not educational to leave that much money in their hands. It is foolish.

Not only do twelve students control the money, they control it without the watchful eye of the public. Biases and hard feelings have no trouble coming out when nobody is watching. SABC's meetings are closed, despite the fact the thousands of dollars of public money is handled. Integrity is how a person acts when nobody is around.

Organizations are given the chance to appeal their allocation. However, last year's funding was cut even more for some who pled their cases. SABC is not required to justify their reasons for disbursement.

Once the committee has passed their final decisions, not even the Chancellor can reverse their decision. So let's recount. The comptroller of SGA chooses SABC's members, who are not required to hold any knowledge related to finances. These students sit in a room with the door closed and dole out more than half a million dollars to student organizations. They are not required to justify their reasons. They have no adult influence other than that of their faculty advisor, who legally cannot make any decisions. Once all is said and done, no administrator can reverse a decision made by the committee.

This is the second time that *The Current* is a victim of the SABC system. The fact that we have had to fight twice is evidence that the system cannot be trusted. This column could have personally attacked each member of the committee. After all, that is what they have done to every member, current and future, of this newspaper, by forcing us into this game of theirs. Instead, we decided to explain the root of the problem. We thought we'd act grown up. We wish SABC could have done the same.

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## The Issue

While the goals of the Student Activities Budget Committee are, to begin with, noble, it presents too many options for corruption. People with axes to grind can get on the committee and punish organizations, like *The Current*, at will.

## We suggest

Something needs to be done to help ensure that the type of actions taken by the SABC this year and last year cannot happen again. There is too much at stake for the organizations of this campus to have a group of immature students doling out thousands of student dollars.

## So what do you think?

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

# UMSL's deadline set

Well, ladies and gentlemen, the ball is certainly rolling. For those of you not in the know, *The Current* is facing yet another budget crisis from the University. Bad news.

So now the paper is left with few options, unsavory as they may be. What are those options? *The Current* can let it go and accept the allocation of \$18,000 from the Student Activities Budget Committee (which would lead to the downfall of the paper, by the by) or they can pursue a more aggressive approach: to let the courts decide what should happen now.

Some people have already asked if this is a bit extreme. They wonder if *The Current* is not jumping the gun, if you will pardon the cliché. Ben DeClue has even asked if we considered taking this to the Student Court. No, the Student Court can do nothing for us. The fact of the matter is, no one can regulate what the SABC says and does. According to Chancellor Thomas George, he cannot overturn the decision. They made it, it stands. Sometimes, in situations like this, too much autonomy can be a bad thing. It certainly turned out that way for *The Current*.

We did not want this to get this far. Each and every member of *The Current* could probably think of about 1,000 better things to do with his or her time. Kate Drolet, next year's editor-in-chief (and congratulations again, Kate) has found herself, unwittingly, in the crosshairs of a battle she does not deserve. This is not my budget they are

cutting. I am out of here; I have done my time. No, if they are trying to punish me, they are going about it in the wrong way. If they had really wanted to punish me, they should have broken my fingers or blown up my car. This is poor organizational planning here.

Some members of *The Current* met with Chancellor Tom George, communications guru Bob Samples and Vice Chancellor Curt Coonrod last Thursday, and I have yet to make up my mind about what I think about the situation. George seemed willing to listen to us and our arguments to have the funding restored in some way. That is good. What is bad is their focus on *The Current's* salaries. In their eyes, evidently we should make less money, or no money at all. Well, that simply cannot happen. Why? This is a commuter school. People have to drive, use their gas, to be here. We have to give them some reason to be here. We pay our staff members enough that if this is not their primary job, they don't have to work 40 hours a week at Target or Wal-Mart or wherever, work 25-40 hours a week here, go to classes and attempt to have some sort of social life. *The Current* has high standards of quality; we cannot cut out payroll and still expect to adhere to those standards.

So once again, *The Current* is playing a waiting game. But I won't wait that long. I am serving notice here that this ends one way or another this week. Wednesday, the members of *The Current* better have answers.



**JASON GRANGER**  
Editor-in-Chief

## Media and public opinion

# Science and the media can co-exist

Funny, I don't feel manipulative. Unfortunately, the research says otherwise and I have few options for reform.

You see, I am preparing a seminar for scientists on working with the media. Part of this presentation will focus on how the mass media influences public opinion. Superficially, this is an obvious matter of cause and effect. But in the case of science news, the scope is somewhat troubling.

The language and processes of scientific research can make understanding direct reports exceedingly difficult for the nonscientist. So it is not surprising that the main source of science information for the general public is the media. However, this information has been filtered through the journalistic process. And though it is the aim of journalism to impart the "truth" as objectively and completely as possible, the process does lend its own values and limitations to the original information. It's simply unavoidable.

It is important for scientists to understand this process so that they can work with the media more effectively and avoid distortions of their research. Yet, it is at least as imperative for the media consumer to understand how science becomes news, in order to evaluate the quality of information offered and decide the degree to which it should inform his or her personal opinions.

The media really doesn't have a particular "agenda," though the same might not be true of all individual journalists (unfortunate as this is). However, adding "spin" to a subject can be hard to avoid, especially with science topics that often require distillation and interpretation to make them accessible to the public.

The quality and breadth of science information in the media is dependent on the journalists who collect the basic data from scientists, as well as the organizations that employ the journalists. These individuals have the power to grant or deny coverage, choose the angle it is given, the sources that are consulted, the prominence of one story over another, and the language used to convey the information. Through the selection and reproduction of news items, the media constructs a collection of preferred readings that gives meaning to events.

Although there are objectively occurring events, news itself is not observable. News is a process of choices that says one event is more significant than another. In presenting those choices, value-based judgments are made. Though a new story should relate certain basic details about its subject, such as who, what, when, where and why, it is important to remember that it is the journalist who often decides which person counts as "who," the validity of information that counts for "what," or facts, the locations and periods of "where" and "when" the matter, and the precise definition of "why."

Any time information passes from one person to the next, it is changed. Knowing the degree to which this is possible, consulting a variety of sources, and being skeptical of what is not being covered, are all key effective evaluation of media sources and a more accurate world view, especially in the field of science. Our best intentions are not enough; careful reporting still requires careful reading.



**NICHOLE LECLAIR**  
Managing Editor

# What's your opinion?

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

- SABC corruption
- Chancellor has a deadline to meet
- Science and the media

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

- Submit a letter to the editor
- Write a guest commentary
- Visit the online forums at [TheCurrentOnline.com](http://TheCurrentOnline.com)



**Morgan Appleby**  
Senior  
Mass Comm

They should sell beer! Give everyone who is 21 and over a wristband and sell beer!



**Pete Clark**  
Senior  
Business Administration

They need one of those rooms you can bounce around in, and laser tag!



**Matt Agres**  
Junior  
Business Administration

Free food. Free pizza, for example...



**Ashley Gates**  
Junior  
Criminal Justice

I'd definitely be here if they raffled off a car or a vacation.

# Under Current

by **Michael Pelikan**  
Staff Photographer

What one thing would guarantee your presence at Mirthday?



# Film, video and digital: how do they differ?



CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER  
Science Columnist

Last week, we looked at how the brain processes what the eye sees when watching a movie. For that discussion, we assumed that the intermittent images of film, videotape and digital were all the same. In fact, there are some significant differences. We will now look at the difference between the three visual formats and, next week, discuss the significance of their differences.

Cinema is a visual medium and we are visual creatures. Film was originally purely visual and all the language and grammar of film, and most of the techniques, were developed during the silent era (although some techniques were forgotten and then rediscovered after some limitations of early sound film production had been overcome). Actually, the sound in movies only enhances the images.

All these formats produce flicker, although at different rates. Because the rates of flicker are all over the critical flicker threshold, we will talk instead about the differences in the images that are shown.

Film, the original format, sets the bar for visual quality in cinema that other formats have to match or attempt to exceed. The greatest visual difference in the image information content that our eye-brain sees exists between film and analog videotape. For this discussion, we will mean analog videotape, such as BETA and VHS, when we say "video" and "digital" will include all digital, whether digital film or digital video. For digital, we will really only talk about the most advanced forms since that is the most useful comparison. Both film and videotape are considered analog systems, which means they have continuous information, while digital uses a discontinuous information storage system of discrete electronic bits. Curiously, both videotape and digital images have their origin in computers.

The differences between film and videotape are the easiest for our eye-brain to detect, with film's visual content much greater and quality much higher than videotape, especially as the images are enlarged. Digital film/video stands in between these two, with the high end of digital film approaching the content level of conventional 35mm film. How significant these differences may or may not be is part of next week's discussion and part of the question of whether we prefer to watch a particular format.

Film, which is a light-sensitive chemical emulsion on a transparent base, contains the most information by far, since it is a continuous surface of information, so that when it is enlarged one sees more detail that was

undetectable before. Only the size of the grains in the emulsion and amount of surface space used to record the image limit the amount of available information.

The chemical process of movie film is essentially the same as any conventional photography, so a film is a series of still photos. When the light-sensitive surface of film is exposed, a chemical reaction takes place that creates an image that mirrors the scene being photographed. Generally, the image is a latent one (not obvious to the eye) that appears when the film is developed. Hence, the photographer truly does not know what the image looks like until the film is developed. For this reason, movie footage is developed and printed every day of shooting, and then shown in raw, unedited footage called rushes or dailies, so that spoiled shots may be re-shot. Like all conventional photographs, a film negative is then used to strike a positive print. The print is made on transparent base through which light shines when the film is projected on screen. Because the image is continuous, it contains the greatest amount of visual information.

Film photography is old technology but it is artistically striking. The earliest films were black and white silver nitrate film stock. An emulsion of silver halides (silver chloride, silver bromide and silver iodide) in gelatin was fixed to a flexible cellulose nitrate (celluloid) filmstrip base. When exposed, the silver halide crystals turned dark where light fell on them, fewer grains reacted where there was less light and not at all in dark areas. In developing, the silver halides that reacted were converted to elemental silver and the un-reacted grains of silver halides were washed away. When projected, the silver images on silver nitrate film glowed, giving rise to the phrase "silver screen." These films entranced audiences, not just because of the movement, but because the images were sharp with great detail that gave a powerful sense of depth and dimension. This aspect of silver-based black and white photography - the depth, the detail, and the luminosity - is why still photographers use silver gelatin prints in art photography. The visually striking nature of these prints is something you can confirm for yourself at any museum or gallery with fine art photography prints.

When you see old films from the earliest era of film, you are not really seeing what those first audiences saw, because silver nitrate film results in some problems for movies. As beautiful as the images are, the film stock is both unstable and highly flammable. In fact, as it decays it is chemically related to dynamite and can spontaneously combust. When you see old films now, you are seeing something transferred to the safety stock that was developed in the 1930s and later, from prints that may have been un-restored and degraded. Seeing a restored print gives you a better sense of the original beauty of early films, but essays written by film scholars who saw the original silver nitrate films and later film stocks agree on the superior visual beauty of the originals. Only very few people now living have seen real silver nitrate films.

As the technology of film advanced, chemicals were added to film emulsions to overcome difference in sensitivity to different colors of light (the emulsion was more sensitive to blues, so they "wash out" and insensitive to red, which appears darker) and color filmstocks were developed.

For film, there are two factors that determine the amount of information available to the eye, and therefore the quality of the image: the size of the grains of photosensitive material and the size of the surface of each still frame. Filmstocks with fine grains take more light to expose, and hence are called slow films, but produce the finest images without the graininess of fast film. Professional film stocks come in 16mm, 35mm and 70mm formats, with the larger format being both better and more expensive. The smaller format films capture less information when exposed, and if 16mm film is enlarged to 35mm, the image is not as good as film shot on 35mm stock, since there was less information available on the original film surface. The conventional standard of 35mm film shown in commercial theaters is generally what competing formats are trying to match. The largest format, 70mm film, is also the most expensive but captures the finest image, an unapproachable standard for seamless density of information.

Neither video or digital can approach the amount of visual information in 70mm films but we will concentrate on the more common 35mm standard.

Videotape was developed for television. The term "video" itself is derived from Latin for "I see" and, strictly speaking, video means the visual portion of electronic signals that represent moving pictures. Videotape actually originated from magnetic tape used to record computer data. Later, magnetic tape was used to record audio, before it was developed to record broadcast television in the 1970s. A videocassette recorder uses a read/write head to record audio and video from the electronic signal of a television broadcast onto videotape. The magnetic tape is essentially the same as used for other recording, consisting of a magnetizable coating on a thin plastic strip.

It is helpful to know a bit about TV to understand video. In TV, the image taken by the camera is broken up into horizontal scan lines that are assembled to form a single image, the frame of video. A unlimited number of scan lines would create a continuous image of high resolution but restrictions on the available bandwidth of a TV signal restricts the possible horizontal resolution. TV systems are interlaced, which means that alternate rows of the frame are transmitted in sequence. On a TV's screen, the images are painted line-by-line by a moving beam of electrons that hit a phosphor coating on the back of the cathode ray tube (CRT) screen. Reorientation of the beam at the end of each line and the bottom of the screen creates a blank space, so TVs are flickering, just like movies, although at a different rate.

Because of the way the image is produced, our visual perception system sees video having a shallow "depth of field," one of the characteristics that gives depth to images, and the human eye-brain perceives its image flatter and less "live" than a image from film. Because film has a greater amount of visual information, from a continuous chemical surface that freezes the pattern of light that falls on it and mirrors that pattern falling on the retina, our eye brain takes in that information as being more like the "real world" than the scan lines of video.

see SCIENCE COLUMN, page 14

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Former editor expresses outrage over The Current's budget newest crisis

To the editor:

I must express my outrage at the SABC's recent decision to drastically slash The Current's funding for the upcoming fiscal year. Such a move sets an appalling and deplorable precedent by striking at the core of one of our most fundamental First Amendment protections.

What makes this problem all the more regrettable is that The Current exemplifies so well the kind of

vibrant university life and high level of campus involvement that UMSL has tried to foster for so long. During my four years at the paper, I learned more valuable vocational skills, made more friends and had more good times than at any other period of my life. Both my college experience and my professional career since then, I owe to The Current.

I have found the administrators at UMSL to be generally an intelligent

and fair-minded lot. As both an UM-St. Louis alumni and former editor of The Current, I certainly hope that they will work to correct this problem as quickly as possible by restoring the paper's funding and finding a way to protect it from future difficulties.

David Baugher  
Editor-in-chief of The Current  
1998-1999

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Taylor supports Current

Dear Editor(s):

AHHHHHHHHHHHHH!!!! Not again!!!! I am astonished that the Current, the student voice, would be denied full funding AGAIN!!!!

I thought this was 2004, not 2003. I am more astonished that the appeal was turned down. Not having been at the meeting, I am told issues like salaries were part of the decision ("Why does the editor of the Current make more than the SGA president?" Ever wonder why the editor of the Post - Dispatch makes more than the mayor of St. Louis? Could it be capitalism?). I applaud the Current for going out and making money...and I say pay the people who bust their butts to sell the ads, write the articles, take the pictures (had to get Photoman in there), and lay the thing out. It is a job and the students who apply for and are hired to do it should not be penalized for their abilities, but rather cele-

brated and compensated for their hard work. Trust me, in 10 years when you see Angela Ashley's articles in Cosmo, you'll say, "I knew her from college" (my experience with Gary Pierre Pierre on the Tavis Smiley Show or Keith Clinkscales from Vanguard Group and Vibe fame), and previous funding issues of the Current will seem silly and impractical to you as an alumnus. Ask yourself why they are not today as a student and member of our campus community.

The Current is our student voice and it should not be censored. They need seed money in order to get the machine rolling. OUR student funds pay for that (I paid student fees this year, even as an employee, when I paid for classes, even though I tried to get out of them :-)). The Current is an information/news source, it is a training ground and a social outlet. We need to stay mindful of that in the bud-

geting process. To not fund it amounts to censorship, and that seems mighty not First Amendment friendly to me. Stop bickering over small issues...let's grow up and act like the other colleges out there...let's be willing to pay our student leaders for their self abnegation and commitment to representing us. We are on the verge of something big...we are getting more and better students, we are getting more and better programs...let's continue to grow our "rag" to its potential. Viva la Current! Lange lebe der Current/Xian zai wan shui/Da Zdravstvuet Potok/The Current lezelalem/Sheha Current yichya lanetzach/Long live the Current.

Todd A. Taylor  
Admissions Counselor  
Pierre LaCade Honors College

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Student commends SABC decision

Dear editor,

It's funny how whinny Mr. Granger is when the school cuts off the paper's funding. I remember just last year how maniacal his claims were of not being at the mercy of University funds, during the period of the paper's ill-advised editorial questioning the

need for the racially aligned student associations, like the Black Student Nurses Association. It really gives me a chuckle to read his latest editorial demanding a return of the paper's life-line funds. Kudos to the SABC for questioning the need for this divisive institution within our University com-

munity. I welcome the opportunity for the paper to demonstrate its worth to me, as a tuition-paying student.

Matthew Rabbitt  
Senior  
Social Work

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Renaud questions SABC

Dear Editor,

The Student Activities Budget Committee seems dedicated to making itself look foolish. This is the second year in a row that it has denied The Current a fair allocation of student fees.

The Current is one of the top student papers in the state. Last spring, The Current won "Best Overall Newspaper" from the Missouri College Media Association for the second year in a row. The Current is a source of pride for UMSL.

Year after year, The Current has grown and improved. In fact, The Current is a good deal for every student, since The Current uses much less money from student fees than the

other student newspapers in the St. Louis area.

The Current also makes enormous contributions to the UMSL community by participating in and promoting almost all of UMSL's student activities. It informs and entertains the campus community with insightful stories every week.

And unlike other student organizations which provide leadership opportunities for just a few students, The Current has a staff of 25-30 students who get practical experience in a variety of fields. No other organization on campus provides so many students such great training.

The Current meets and far exceeds every one of the SABC's funding pri-

orities. So there is no reason the SABC should have cut The Current's funding.

The SABC decision was clearly based on dissatisfaction with The Current's content, or perhaps some personal vendettas. But the SABC isn't allowed to make its financial allocations based on such things.

The students on the SABC have acted like little children. Now it is time for the grown-ups, UMSL's administrators, to correct the kids' mistake and give The Current its fair allocation of the money. The paper's staff has more than earned it.

Josh Renaud  
Former editor-in-chief of The Current (2000-01)

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Former editor writes about SABC

Dear editor:

Unfortunately, it seems like it is just another year at UMSL where the Student Allocations Budget Committee (SABC) attempts to boost its ego while trying to play lord over The Current. As a former editor and alum, I am outraged but not shocked. The SABC traditionally has tried to make The Current beg and plead for the few table scraps thrown to it from the students activities fees, but this cut goes too far.

The Current has consistently placed among the state's college newspapers at the annual Missouri Press Association (MPA) awards. This includes beating the University of Missouri-Columbia's "The Maneater" head-to-head on several occasions. For our intellectually challenged SABC members, UMSL Columbia houses one of the country's elite journalism schools and The Maneater receives approximately three times more funding and has three times the staff as The Current does. For The Current to compete, but also to beat such a publication with obvious advantages says something for the quality and character of its staff.

Furthermore, the age-old argu-

ment that staff members make too much money is irrelevant. No student funds, repeat no student funds, go towards staff members salaries. Those salaries are paid through ad revenue. The SABC allocation goes toward printing costs (which go higher and higher every year), phone lines and equipment (computers, etc.). Without that allocation, there would be no revenues and no paper.

The Current has also helped improve UMSL's image among the UM system by hosting the MPA awards banquet several times in recent years. This event brings UM system students from across the state to our campus. It gives us an opportunity to show what a great campus UMSL can be and many participants go back to their campuses holding UMSL in a higher regard.

The Current has also trained and molded several of our community leaders - many of which are currently in the media working everywhere from the Post-Dispatch and KSDK Channel 5, to the Suburban Journals and even the Jewish Light. These people have other friends in the media and have a special place in their heart for The Current. These people would not hesitate on blowing

the whistle and painting UMSL in a negative light through various news paper and TV reports if they thought their student newspaper was at a risk.

You put together the awards, the positive campus image and the friendships The Current has created and its easy to see why it is one of the best things UMSL has going for it. The Current stacks up more than favorably to other campus organizations including the Student Government Association (which SABC is a part of), who had a convicted felon as its president during my time at The Current. It is just shame that a few misguided kids are trying to abuse their power with this drastic funding cut. It is time for UMSL to step in and rectify this situation with not only a temporary fix with the restoration of this year's funding, but also with a permanent solution by taking away the power of the SABC over the The Current and by putting the paper's funding in non-biased, more mature committee

Sincerely,  
Joseph W. Harris  
Editor-in-Chief, 1999-2000

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Harrison addresses cut

To the Editor,

Regarding the SABC's decision to severely cut The Current's student activities budget allocation: In light of the committee's failed attempt last year to eliminate student activities funding for The Current altogether, this year's decision seems, uh, suspect, to say the least. The Current has always presented a quandary for the SABC, since the paper, unlike other organizations, operates on a mixture of self-generated advertising revenue and support from student activities fees. Most former editors, including myself, can recall their own SABC hearing in which they had to contend with someone on the committee thinking her or she had "discovered" the "scandal" that The Current is funded through multiple strains of revenue. But the last couple of years worth of SABC decisions seem to have crossed the line from an inexcusable but benign lack of familiarity with the various financial structures

of student organizations to something much more intentionally pernicious and punitive. Even the most generous interpretation of the rationale for this year's decision -- that The Current filled out the allocation-request forms incorrectly by including all of its revenue and expenses on the request, instead of just its SABC allocation money -- defies credulity. Does the SABC really think that it's best ethical and accounting practice for The Current to mislead student leaders and university administrators in official records about the paper's solvency? What kind of sense does it make to punish The Current for being honest and open in its financial practices? Nonsense, is about all I can come up with. But either way, it's an appalling abdication of responsibility and, I suspect, a disingenuous (and potentially illegal) manipulation of procedure to justify an ideological or political decision (or worse, settling a personal score) on the basis of a spe-

cious, disqualifying technicality. And though I'm troubled by the apparent lack of adequate counsel and direction from the office of student affairs in this process (shouldn't this deep of a funding cut have raised a red flag for someone in the vice chancellor's office?), I'm most troubled by the future this sort of decision portends for free speech and open discourse among student organizations. If these kinds of SABC charades continue for many more years, the fair and mostly democratic process of allocating student activities fees is going to be bankrupted by the inexorable self-regarding arrogance of too many high-handed student-politicians who mistake the fairly circumscribed domain of the student activities budget committee for their own personal bureau of nebbishness and censorship.

Douglas Harrison  
B.A. English, 1998



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## Can Nader change America?

BY CARRIE LEWIS  
Staff Writer

Ralph Nader is running for president again. While his views appeal to many people, especially young voters, others, like Lisa English of ruminatethis.com, a website for political conversation, say that Nader is simply a "spoiler" who "will merely dilute the Left vote and help to elect a Right-winger."

This view suggests that the liberal votes will be split between Democratic candidate John Kerry and Nader while incumbent Republican president George W. Bush will receive all the conservative votes, allowing him to win the election. English claims that if this happens, "Nader will be screwing over the very people he wants to help."

Before making assumptions, voters should go back and review Nader's history.

Nader was born in 1934 in Winsted, Conn. He graduated from Princeton in 1955 and then from Harvard Law School in 1958. In 1965, Nader produced a book entitled "Unsafe at Any Speed." This best-selling book exposed potentially dangerous cars, such as GM's Corvair. GM responded by personally attacking Nader until Nader filed a lawsuit against the company and GM admitted wrongdoing before the Senate.

see NADER, page 12

# Litmag and poetry slam converge

BY KATE DROLET  
Features Editor

On Thursday, April 15 and Thursday, April 22, contributors and producers of UM-St. Louis' literary supplement Litmag gathered to celebrate the publication.

The April 15 event was held in Gallery 210. Professor Nan Sweet, who taught the Litmag class, opened the evening by congratulating contributors and acknowledging members of the class. In 1998, Sweet contributed a poem that she wrote as a dedication to the 1997 staffers, the last Litmag group she advised until this year. She read the poem to begin the evening, as a hushed audience listened in the dimly lit room, accented with red tulips and candlelight.

Sweet was followed by Paul Huggins, senior, English, who read his published poems "Forgiveness," "Tennessee Dark" and "Destinies in Destination."

Susan LeBriar, another author published in Litmag, read an excerpt from her short story entitled "Threshold." The section described a series of encounters between a mother, her autistic son and neighbors.

Olivia Ayes, senior, English, and co-editor for literary publication "Bellerive," shared two poems called "Continue" and "Threads."

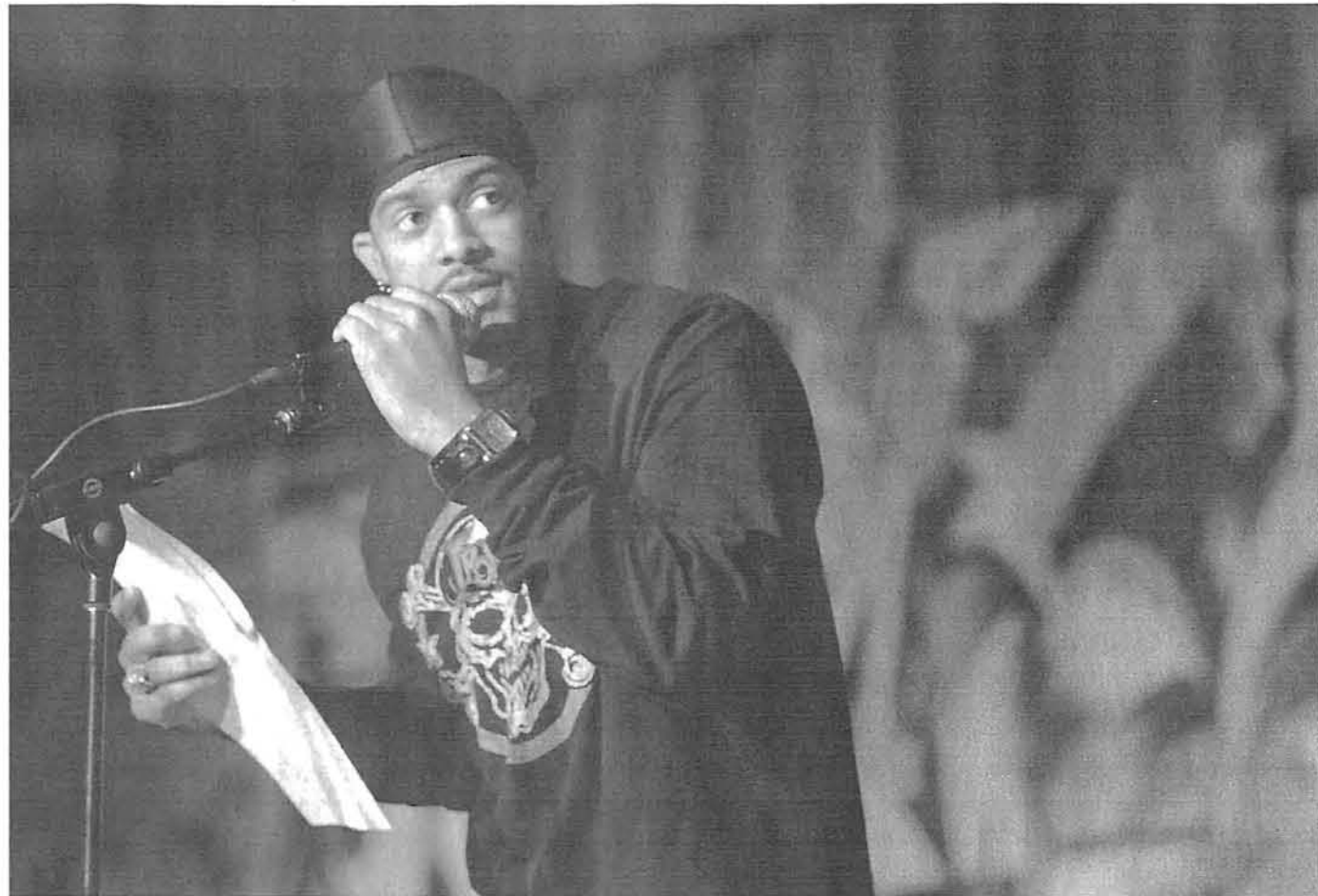
Scott Samson, Lindenwood student, read some of his poetry as well.

"I write [poetry] on Keno strips in bars. I don't drink, so I have to have something to do if I'm not singing karaoke," he said.

Other readers included La'Vonda Merritt, Dana Lewandowski, Annette Crymes and Katie Anderson. After these authors presented their work, the audience was invited to mingle, eat and share opinions about the presentation so far.

Huggins was a member of the Litmag class.

"Reading everybody else's poetry [was the best part]. We had some real-



Patrick Johnson, senior, elementary education, performs during the poetry slam/open mic night at "The Coffeehouse" on Thursday evening in the Pilot House. Johnson placed 2nd out of five contestants in the slam part of the evening. Johnson and two other slammers will attend the "Slam finals" at Blueberry Hill on June 2.

ly great submissions," he said.

Sweet also said that she enjoyed working with the class.

"I think the favorite part for me was seeing the student teams take off working in clusters. They did copy editing, production and community relations," she said.

The April 22 Litmag Coffeehouse offered somewhat of a different atmosphere for literature and poetry. The Coffeehouse event was co-sponsored by Litmag, the Residence Hall Association and the Associated Black Collegians. This evening took place in the Pilot House, located in the Millennium Student Center, and was hosted by ABC member M.K. Stallings.

Stallings began the evening by inviting the audience to participate in a poetry slam. After arranging contestants, he selected judges from the audience and introduced the five "slammers." Each slammer had five minutes to present one or two poems, which would be judged on a scale of one to five.

"Everyone who's slamming tonight is an artist. They're sensitive. So don't be too mean," Stallings reminded the audience.

The first slammer, The Movie Poetically, interpreted his poem "Black Wax." This poem centered around two central phrases: "Bring back the wax" and "Bring back the words."

The second slammer, Patrick Johnson, junior, elementary education, read a poem that he put together after "the worst dream of [his] life." The piece gave the audience a graphic image of a scene set in hell.

The third slammer, David Petty, presented his poem entitled "In the swim for my life." His piece dealt with overcoming temptation and seeking victory. One line of his poem read "Victories come/I will be young/happy...I have to prepare myself to swim."

The fourth slammer, Braids, introduced himself as a business administration student from Sanford Brown College. His presentation was entitled "Thug at the Pearly Gates," and depicted a scene between "the man upstairs" and a thug at the pearly gates. Braids portrayed the man upstairs by standing on the right side of the stage and spoke as the thug by standing on the left.

The fifth slammer, Janae Ramsey, read two poems entitled "A Horse Named Vagary" and "A Night on the Town." Her pieces dealt with the recognition of truth and beauty in a not-so-appealing place.

After the slam, Stallings invited the audience to take a free soda and mingle. Adie Bennett, freshman, English and Litmag author, drew names for door prizes and handed out copies of Litmag.

see POETRY, page 12



Mike Sherwin/The Current

Sid Savan answers questions from the audience April 14, at his talk on myths in advertising.

## Retiring professor debunks 'myths in advertising' during swansong lecture series

BY GARY SOHN  
Staff Writer

On April 14, students, faculty, staff and friends showed up at the SGA Chambers to listen to Savan talk about the "bubba mysis" of advertising.

"Advertising has become so much a part of our lives at the beginning of the twenty-first century," Savan said, "that its acceptance has led to many myths about what it can and can't do."

Savan said that these myths in advertising are what he calls "bubba mysis."

Savan explained, "When I was growing up, shortly after the Spanish-American War, in my family, we didn't call them myths...we called them 'bubba mysis'...old grandmother tales. And like all bubba mysis...they all had a certain degree of truth to them...but, mostly, they were exaggerated to put fear in our hearts."

Although some unethical practices do exist in advertising, Savan said,

advertisers are very reluctant to cross ethical lines when the outcome can be damaging to a company. He said that most people like to believe in conspiracies, "and so bubba mysis continue to plague nearly every type of advertising message."

**No ad agency in their right mind would ever spend time and money on subliminal advertising...It fits right into the sightings of Elvis alive and the death of John F. Kennedy...It's intriguing if nothing else.**

- Sid Savan

Savan introduced some of the bubba mysis of advertising, that advertising is untruthful or deceptive, offensive and in bad taste, uses sex appeal, encourages materialism, makes people buy things they do not need, has sub-

liminal power, increases the cost of goods and services and helps sell bad products.

"One of the major attacks against advertising is that many ads are untruthful or, at the least, misleading," he said. "I'm sorry to say that deceptive advertising still exists. However, it's fairly rare."

Savan said deceptive advertising is done less today than in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries because of better regulation by the Federal Trade Commission, the Federal Communication Commission, the U.S. Postal Service, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, state regulations and self regulations imposed by various trade associations.

Some deceptive advertising that is still done today uses what Savan calls "puffery." Puffery occurs when advertisers say nothing about their product in advertisements, and what they claim in their ads can neither be proved nor disproved.

Puffery is, according to Savan, "using terms like 'Nestle makes the very best chocolate.'"

## Single parents have to struggle to find time for education

BY ANGELA ASHLEY  
Staff Writer

Students often have outside lives that can play pivotal roles in their education. For example, many students at UM-St. Louis have jobs outside of school and other activities that they may be involved in, whether off or on campus. Some students not only work and go to school, but they also raise children.

Kristen Harris, graduate student, theater and communication, is a single mother of a three-year-old boy. In addition to taking six hours of classes at UM-St. Louis, she also works full time as a teacher.

"The biggest problem is finding time for everything, for just breathing," said Harris. "When you take evening classes, it seems like people don't realize that you have a job or a life."

Harris sends her son to a day care center while she works, and her parents help by watching the child while she attends classes. When asked where she finds time to do her assignments, Harris replied "my weekends are definitely full with homework, because there's just no other time."

Lack of time seems to be one of the biggest issues facing single parents, but raising children while earning a degree can also be expensive. Harris estimated that she spends close to \$750 each month on childcare. Add in the tuition payments and life necessities, and the numbers are enough to make any student's head spin. Luckily, several grants and scholarships are available for single parents. These can be found through the UM-St. Louis Financial Aid Office or on the Internet.

The University Child Development Center is a close option for parents needing daycare. Located on South Campus, this program has been running for over 20 years. Rates and hours, along with the list of different programs that run within the center, are available on their website at [www.ums.edu/~kids](http://www.ums.edu/~kids).

When asked if there were any kinds of discounts or assistance for students, Amy Tenney, Program

Coordinator for the UCDC said, "Occasionally we have grants for parents that are students, but the federal government has cut funding so it's unlikely that we will be able to offer those grants in the future." The Center offers different pay rates that depend on the child's age and how many days of care are needed.

In addition to a lack of time and a need for funds, single parents also need support. Putting "single parents" in a search bar online leads to several support groups and links to buy books such as *The Single Mother's Survival Guide* by Patrice Kast. One website offers support and information for single parents.

The owners of this site are also trying to create a day in honor of single parents. Posted on the website, [www.oneparentfamily.co.uk](http://www.oneparentfamily.co.uk), is, "We are men and women, moms and dads, aunts, uncles, grandmothers and grandfathers, foster parents and friends who, because we raise a child in a home without the continual support of another adult, are called Single Parents. We often do the work of two, both at home and in the workplace to support our families. To date, Colorado is the only state in the union to recognize Single Parents Day. I believe that it is time that we single parents took up the cause to have every state in the union recognize March 21 as Single Parents Day." The website encourages anyone interested in making this a national day of recognition to write to his or her state senators.

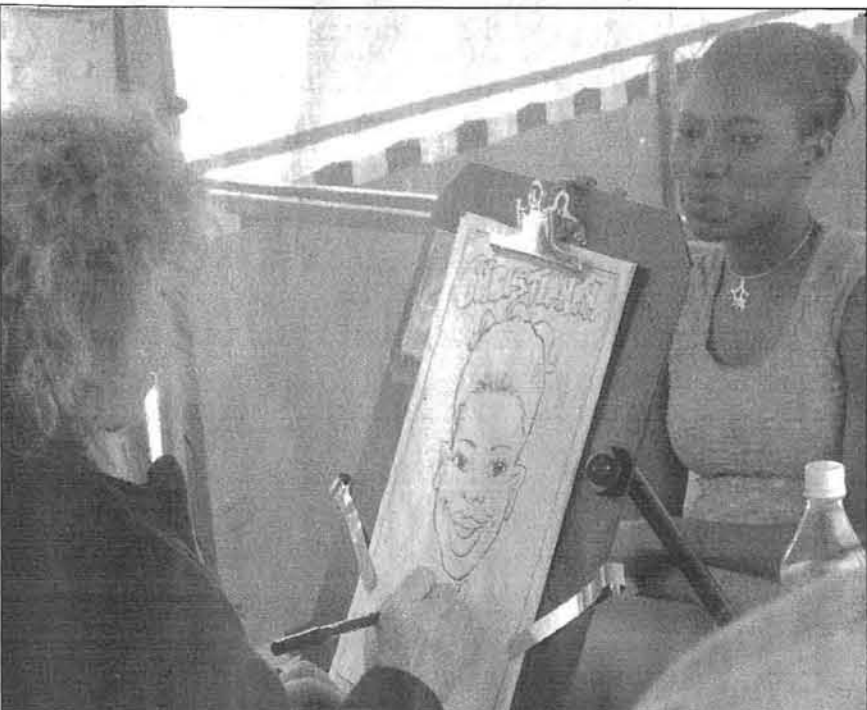
In addition to support groups and scholarships, schools also have special classes that can aid single parents in their quest for a degree. Classes such as video and Internet courses offer the chance to earn credits with minimal time in the classroom. One of the biggest supporters of this is KVIE television, known to the masses as PBS.

According to [www.kvie.org/dtv](http://www.kvie.org/dtv), "In some cases, it would make college a possibility for single parents or those working while going to school...or being able to attend college at all."

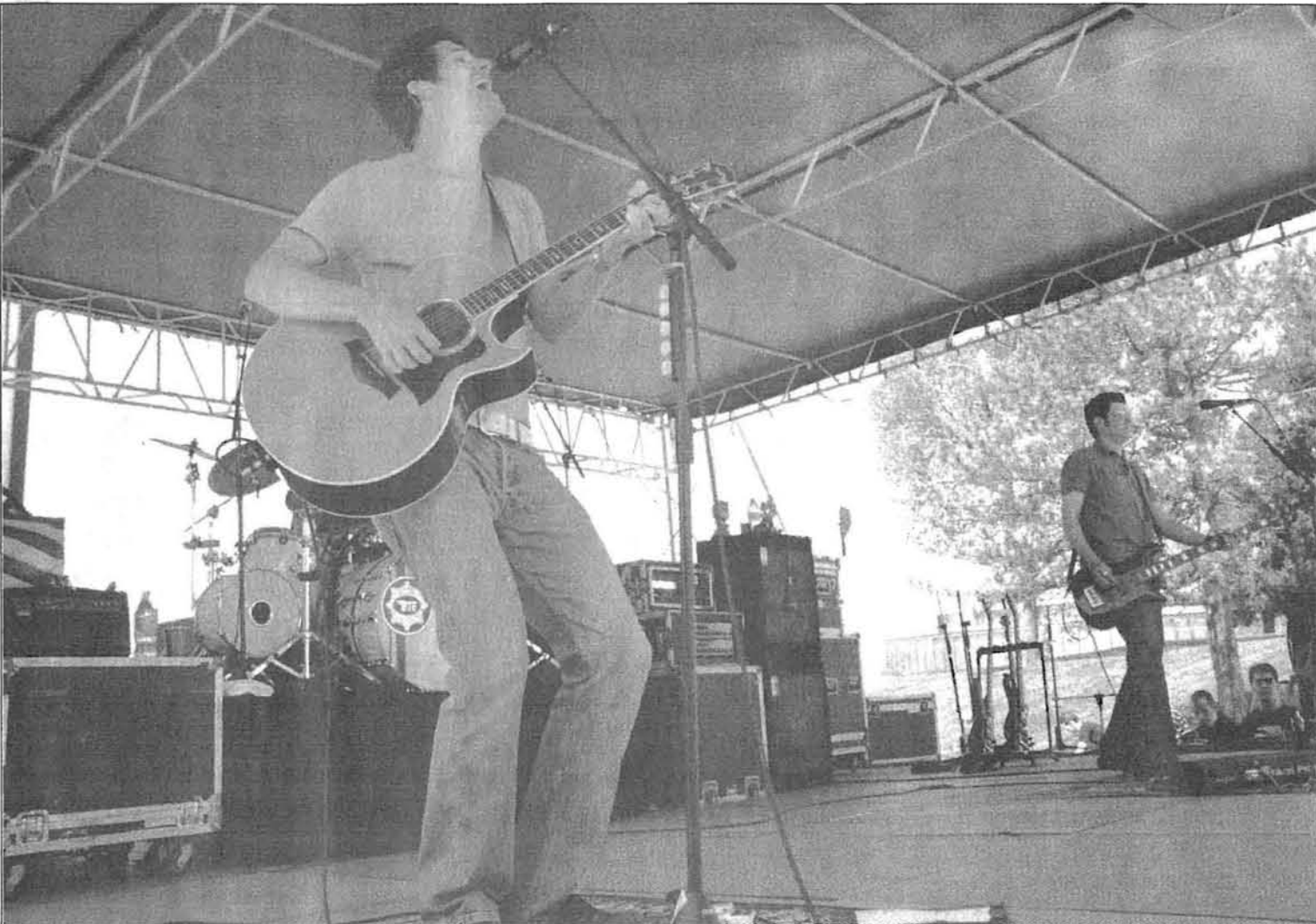
see SINGLE PARENTS, page 12

see ADVERTISING MYTHS, page 12

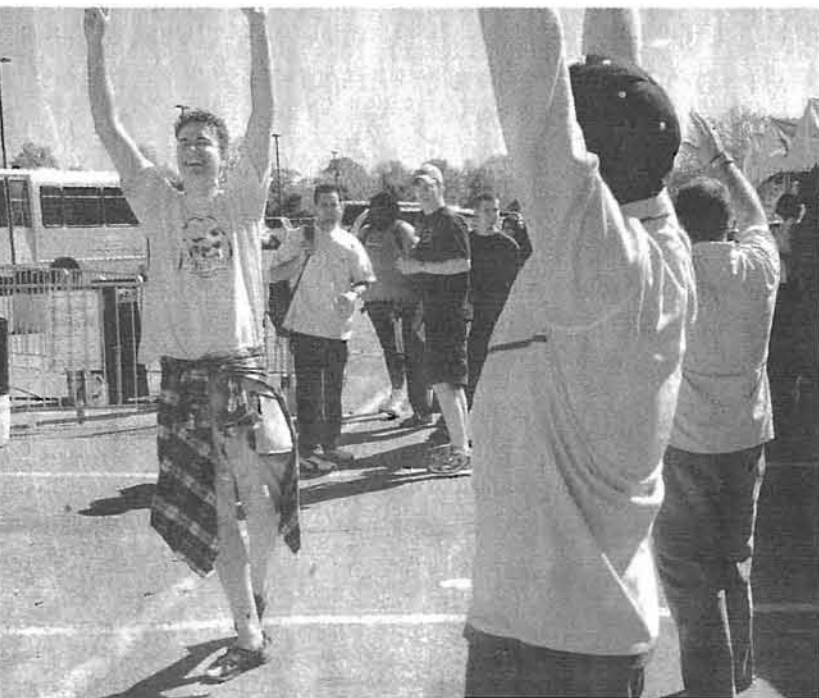




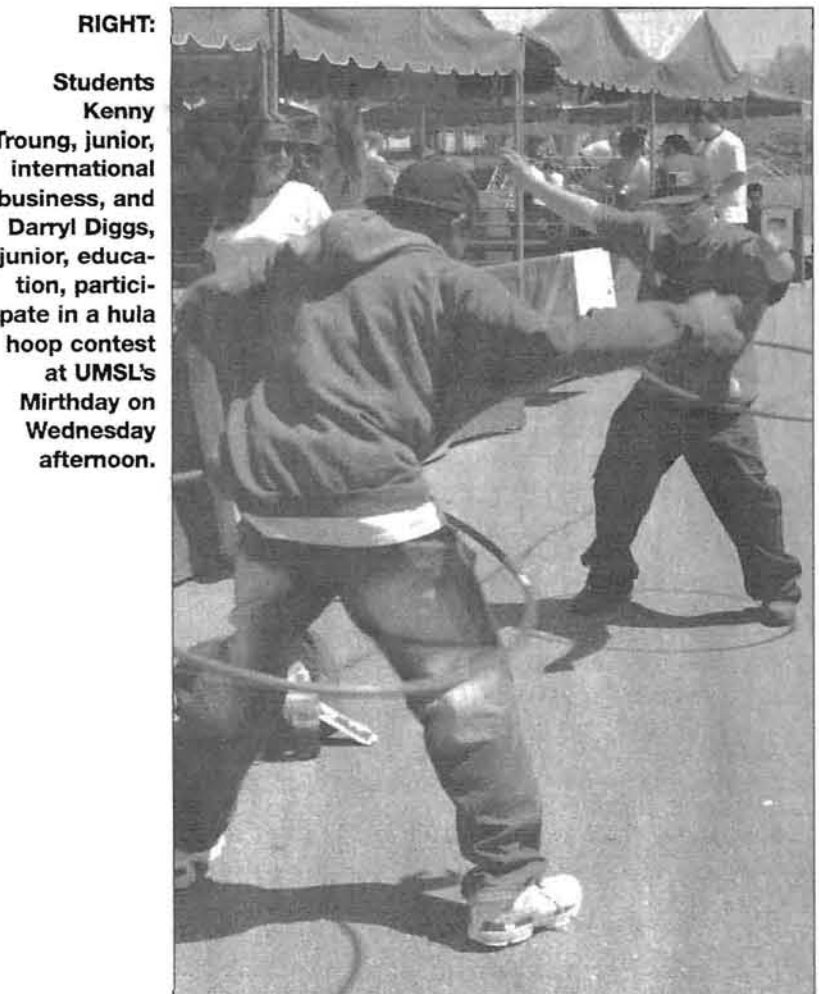
ABOVE:  
A caricaturist performs her magic for students at a Mirthday booth on Wednesday.



RIGHT:  
Kevin Griffin, lead singer and guitarist of Better Than Ezra, performs on Wednesday afternoon during Mirthday.



Jim Flacke, freshman, fine arts, celebrates after he and other students successfully kicked a hackey-sac around in a circle on Wednesday during Mirthday festivities in the parking lot to the north of the MSC.



RIGHT:  
Students Kenny Troung, junior, international business, and Darryl Diggs, junior, education, participate in a hula hoop contest at UMSL's Mirthday on Wednesday afternoon.

# The clouds roll back for 'Mirthday' celebration

BY MELISSA MCCRARY  
Features Associate

On Wednesday, April 21, UM-St. Louis held its annual spring carnival celebration, Mirthday, to help students enjoy their last month of classes before final exams.

Despite the threat of rain all throughout the morning, numerous departments and organizations continued to prepare for the big event.

"At first we were a little concerned about the weather, but the day ended being excellent and the temperature was just right," said Jonathan Lidgus, graduate assistant for the Office of Student Life. "Last year it rained and we had to move the entertainment into The Nosh, but this year everything went as planned."

The event began at noon and lasted until 6 p.m., with numerous booths, rides, food and a few live performances available to carnival-goers.

Chartwells sold hamburgers and hotdogs, another vendor sold funnel cakes and Student Life gave away popcorn, sno-cones and cotton candy.

The rides included a giant slide, a Ferris wheel, the nausea-inducing Hurricane, the Sizzler, the Dragon and Bumper cars. Student organizations displayed themselves in booths. Several focused on cultural diversity and international organizations.

Support Staff of the International Students Organization Keith Southam described some of this year's booths.

"There were about eight booths focusing on countries around the world and different ethnic cultures," Southam said. "There was one booth sponsored by International Student Services, Study Abroad and others for Thailand, Mainland China, Korea, Muslim and Indonesia."

Some booths held activities such as calligraphy, origami and craft activities. Members of the Muslim Student Association gave students free henna tattoos. Most of the booths gave students the opportunity to get more familiar with campus organizations, play games and win prizes.

"I think the writing the names in Arabic and the prizes, such as the cups and hats, were the best part of Mirthday," said Milinda Lacy, junior, psychology.

In previous years, entertainers such as Ludacris, Nappy Roots, the Battle of the Bands,



LEFT:  
Jaime Lincoln, a department assistant in the admissions office, enjoys a ride down the giant slide set up on Wednesday for Mirthday, the annual UM-St. Louis spring celebration. Mirthday featured amusement park rides, booths representing various student and campus organizations and offices, live music and food from Chartwells.

radio stations Z-107 and 105.7 The Point offered live performances. This year UM-St. Louis welcomed Better Than Ezra and The 5th Element to the stage.

Lidgus said that there was more of a variety of musical acts and more booth participation compared to previous years.

In the past, Mirthday has been held in front of

the Millennium Student Center. Due to the demolition of Garage D, the event was held this year on Parking Lot E, behind the MSC.

"Usually in front of the MSC, more people can see the event. I think the location had a small effect on the attendance rate since most people knew about it because we had a huge publicity campaign," Lidgus said.

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# Baseball takes 4 out of 5 games over the past week

BY GRETCHEN MOORE  
Sports Editor

The Rivermen would take the lead in the bottom half of the inning as Morgan hit a bases-loaded, two-run single for a 5-3 advantage.

Then UM-St. Louis poured it on, scoring five runs in the sixth inning. Logan Hughes had a two-run double and Morgan belted a two-run homer down the left field line, his third home run of the season.

Bellarmine would score three runs in the seventh inning off the UM-St. Louis bullpen as Matt Kueny and then Steven McCoy would come in to relieve Burnside, who pitched strongly, only giving up three runs. The Rivermen responded right back with four runs in the bottom half of the inning. Grana knocked in the first run of the inning with an RBI single and Morgan came through again with another two-run single.

Pate came in at the top of the eighth to pitch for McCoy. The Rivermen then scored two more runs in the bottom of the eighth inning for the 16-6 final.

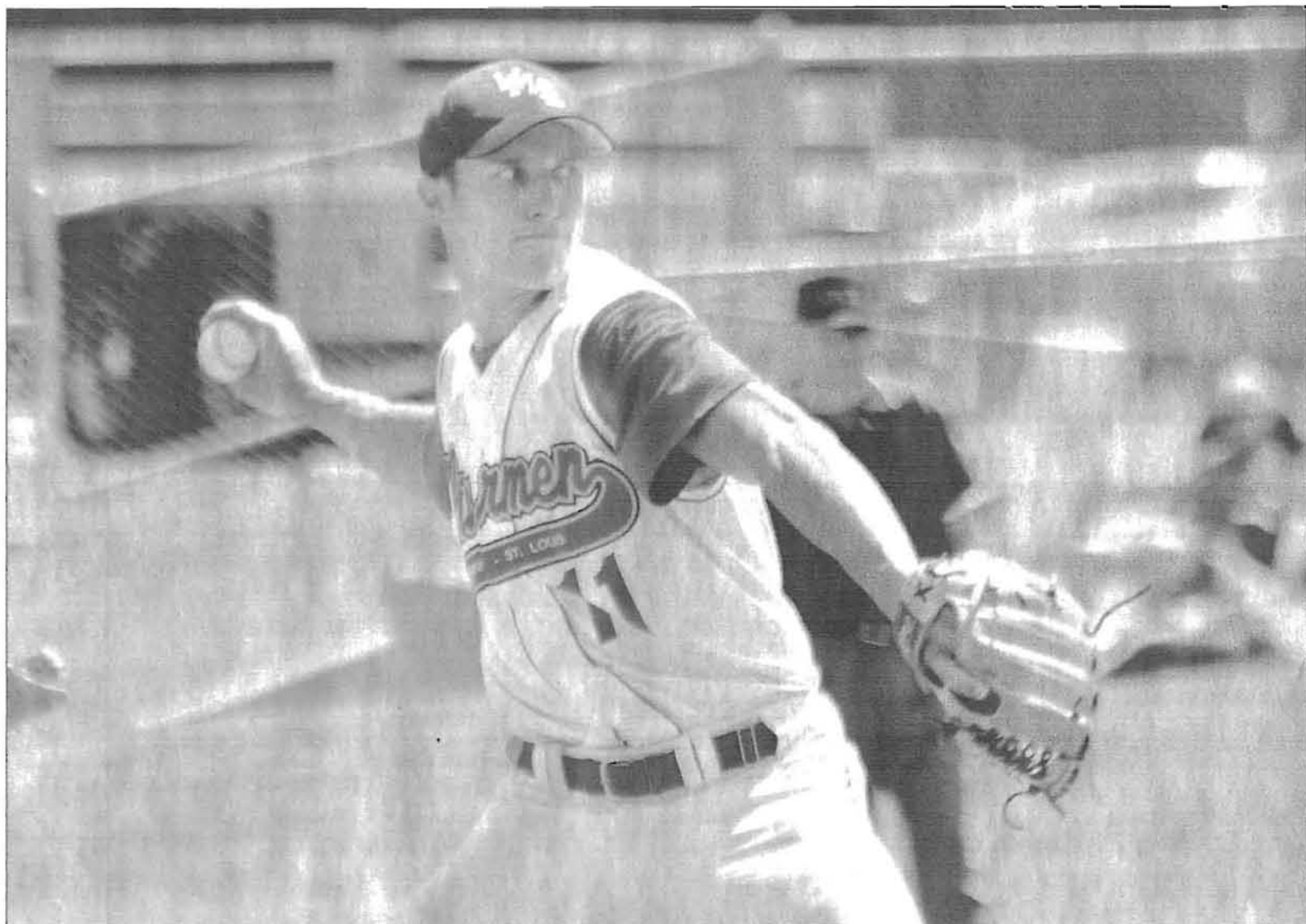
Morgan had a big day at the plate, going 2-for-4 in the first game, and going 4-for-6 with one run and six RBIs in the second game. Mercer and Grana each had four hits in the second game as well, as Mercer added three runs scored and four RBIs. Sanders scored five runs in the second game as well.

The Rivermen carried the momentum from the win against Bellarmine to score seven runs in the first innings of the doubleheader against Southern Indiana, winning 5-3 in the first game and 10-3 in the second game.

In the opener, UM-St. Louis got on the board quickly with three runs in the first inning, as each of the first five hitters got a hit. Mercer had an RBI double and Logan Hughes had a two-run single in the inning.

Southern Indiana added an unearned run in the second inning, but UM-St. Louis came back with a single run in the third on an RBI single by Mike Wulff. USI fought back with two runs in the fifth, but the Rivermen got another RBI base hit from Grana in the sixth for the 5-3 win. McCoy got the complete game win, giving up three runs, one earned, on seven hits and struck out seven.

The Rivermen got on the board quickly again in the second game, as five of the first six hitters reached



Photos by Mike Sherwin/The Current

Rivermen pitcher Josh Morgan led his team to a 5-4 victory over Bellarmine on April 17. The Rivermen went on to defeat Bellarmine in 3 of 4 games against Bellarmine over a weekend of two doubleheaders.

base safely. Logan Hughes had an RBI single and Morgan had a two-run double as UM-St. Louis scored four times in the first inning for a 4-0 lead.

Southern Indiana got on the board with a single run in the second inning, but the Rivermen came back with two runs in the bottom half of the inning. Colby Hughes then added two more runs for UM-St. Louis in the third with a two-run home run, his third of the season.

Southern Indiana would add single runs in both the fifth and sixth innings, but UM-St. Louis came right back with a run in the sixth and seventh innings as Davis had an RBI single in the sixth and Sanders had an RBI single in the seventh for the 10-3 win. Pate got the win, going 5.1 innings and giving up three runs, one earned, on five hits.

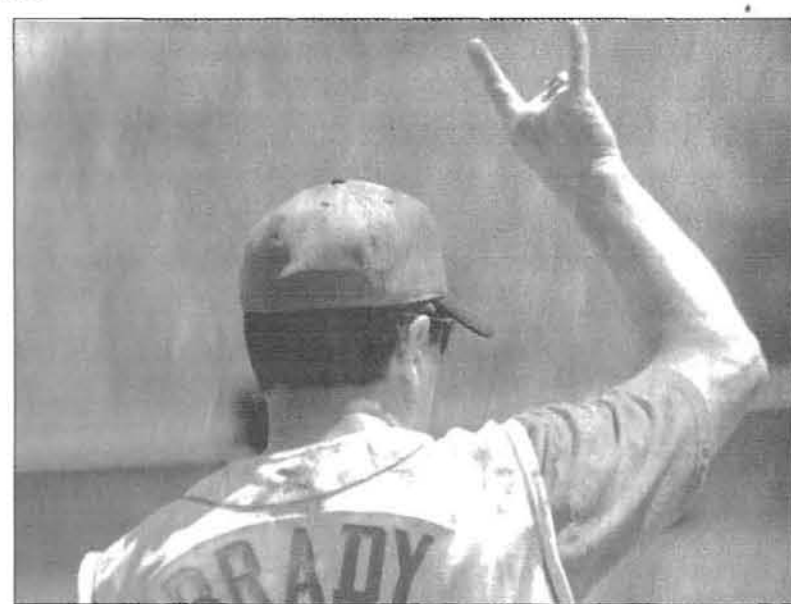
Coach Brady commented on his team's performance over the week.

"I think we are playing pretty consistently. Anytime you can win three out of four games it is a plus. We want to get to where we have our best games when we play in the conference tournament."

The Rivermen are now 26-19-1 on the season and 21-11 in the GLVC. UM-St. Louis will be at home this weekend for a big four-game series with league leading Wisconsin-Parkside. The Rivermen will host Parkside for a doubleheader on both Saturday and Sunday, beginning at 12 noon each day.

"This weekend we are really looking forward to having Wisconsin-Parkside on our home field. I think they have a greater fear of us than we do of them. Hopefully the scale will be tipped in our favor," Brady said.

see **BASEBALL**, page 14



Rivermen head coach Jim Brady signals to a baserunner during the first game of a doubleheader April 17 against Bellarmine. The Rivermen won both games, 5-4 and 13-7.

## Softball team sweeps, gets swept UM-St. Louis softball goes 3-3 last six games

BY JAMES DAUGHERTY  
Staff Writer

The UM-St. Louis softball team came out at an even .500 over its last six games. The first opponent it faced was conference foe Bellarmine on Saturday, April 17. The Riverwomen started the first game against Bellarmine being behind by two runs in the second inning, but the Riverwomen came back in the same inning to score three runs. Savanna Adams had an RBI double, and then the Riverwomen capitalized on five Bellarmine errors throughout the game to get the 3-2 win.

In a game plagued with errors, Coach Durbin was not pleased with her team's play.

"We won because we capitalized on their mistakes. Our mentality seemed to be 'we should kill them', so we really only played well enough to win. We could have played much better, and I think that the girls understand that."

Pitcher Emily Wagoner helped contain Bellarmine by only giving up four hits and getting four strikeouts. The second game was no better for the Riverwomen, who needed extra innings to defeat Bellarmine in the doubleheader. Both teams scored in the opening inning, then Bellarmine scored a run in the fourth inning to take the 2-1 lead.

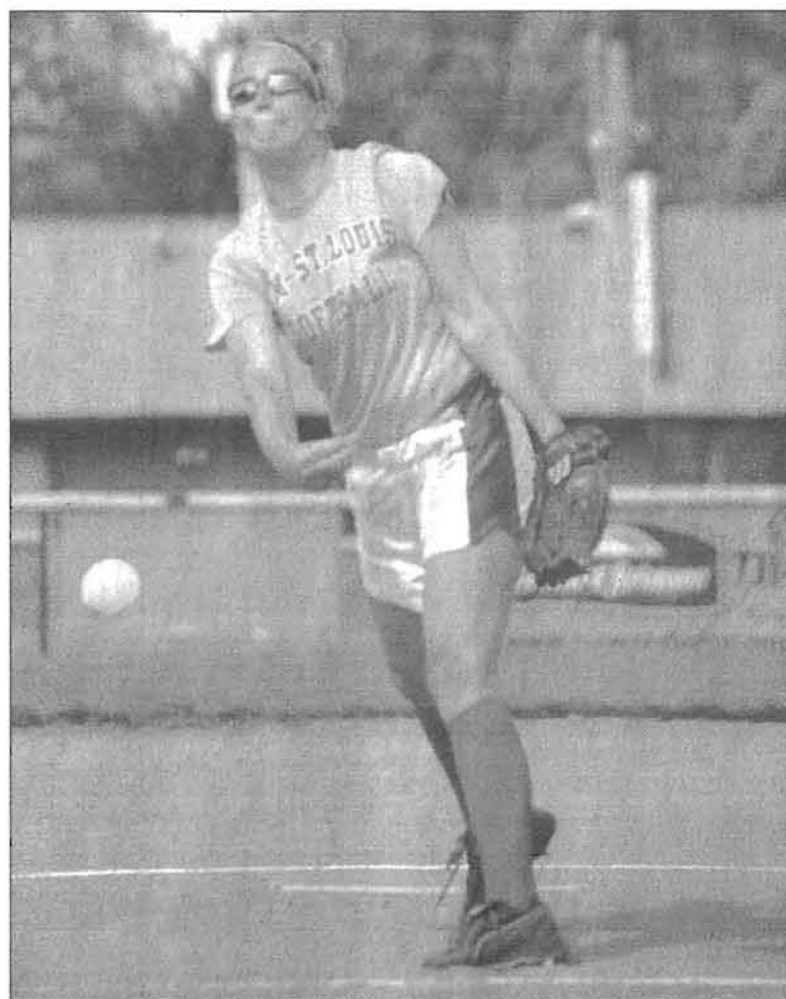
In the fifth inning, the Riverwomen came back and scored a run on an RBI single by Corie Jones to force the extra innings. The Riverwomen finally put Bellarmine away in the eighth inning as Kristen Economon knocked in the go-ahead run and then scored on an RBI single by Shauna Wilson. Pitcher Casey Moran notched three strikeouts in the victory.

Sunday, April 18, UM-St. Louis

suffered two losses to conference leading Northern Kentucky. Nerves showed in the Riverwomen as it took going down 7-0 after just one inning to calm down. Northern Kentucky was able to score just one more run the rest of the game, and the Riverwomen were much more prepared to play in the second game. Both teams remained scoreless until the third inning of the second game, when the Norse scored two runs.

In the fourth inning, Kim Kulatits scored on a hit by Wilson, and then in the fifth Economon hit an RBI single to score Jones and tie the game. The Norse came back again in the bottom of the fifth and scored three runs to clinch the 5-2 victory. Nervousness aside, the Riverwomen played very well against a team who stands at 38-3.

see **SOFTBALL**, page 9



Jesse Gater/The Current

Casey Moran, sophomore pitcher/firstbase, put her all into her pitch in the opening game victory of Tuesday's doubleheader vs. Quincy University.

## Rivermen tennis beats up on Indianapolis

BY DAVE SECKMAN  
Staff Writer

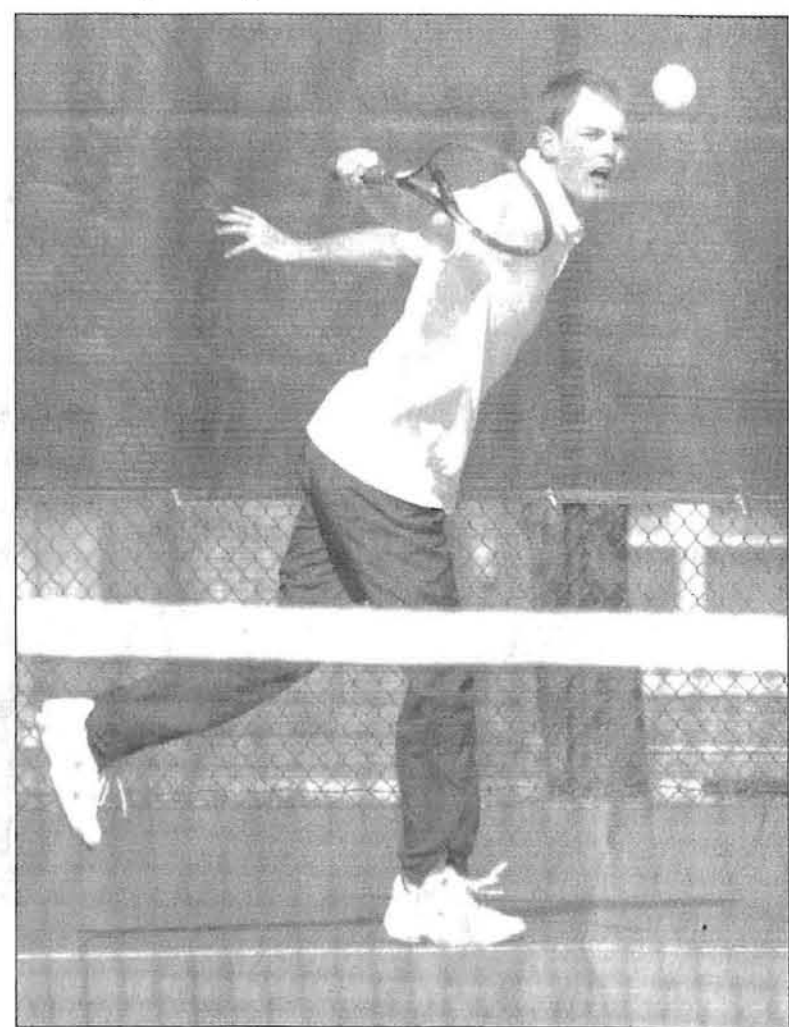
The UM-St. Louis men's tennis team played to a 5-0 loss to second-seeded Southern Indiana in the semifinals of the GLVC men's tennis tournament this past weekend. The loss followed a morning win against third seeded Indianapolis 5-3 in the quarterfinals.

The first match up for the Rivermen was Indianapolis. Earlier in the season the Rivermen lost a close match to the Greyhounds 5-4 and were looking to avenge their loss.

Avenge is exactly what they did. The Rivermen came out of the gates running and never looked back.

UM-St. Louis won the two and three doubles match against Indianapolis for an early 2-1 lead in the match. The Rivermen then got three huge singles wins at the number three, four and five slots. Freshman Francis Lam dominated at the number three singles spot, and was followed up by a gusty performance by Raj Saini at number four singles.

see **TENNIS**, page 14



Amanda Schniedermeyer/The Current

Riverman James Daugherty gives a backhand return during a game April 13 at Lindenwood University in St. Charles.

SPORTS

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Questions  
or  
Comments?

Send me an e-mail  
current@jinx.umsu.edu

## Vaulkhard garners honors

BY DAVE SECKMAN  
Staff Writer

UM-St. Louis men's tennis or Matt Vaulkhard was named the Great Lakes Valley All-conference men's tennis team on Tuesday for the third time in four years. His selection added another record to his record-setting season historic career.

Vaulkhard finished this year's tennis season with an overall singles record of 12-9, and a 9-6 record in doubles matches. He was 4-4 in conference singles matches this season. Earlier this week, Vaulkhard broke the all-time career wins record by tallying his 100th career singles win. He broke previous school record that was previously held by Tom January, a former UM-St. Louis Hall of Famer. January held the previous record at 50 career singles wins, which had been a record that stood just over 30 years.

Vaulkhard is a repeat selection to GLVC All-Conference team. He earned that honor during his freshman year when he was also named GLVC Freshman of the Year. Last season as a junior, he played exceptionally well and was named to the All-Conference team the second time in his three years here.

Vaulkhard was also named by Intercollegiate Tennis Association as the Player to Watch in the Great Lakes Region as a sophomore. This is a great honor is given to underclassmen who show potential to be great players. Last season as a junior, Vaulkhard earned academic honors to go along with skills at the net. He was named to the GLVC Academic All-conference team and was named an Academic Scholar athlete.

see **VAULKHARD**, page 9



SOFTBALL, from page 8

Coach Durnin mentioned the difficulties in playing a team like Northern Kentucky.

"NKU has a philosophy that works for them. In the first game, they had a pitcher who would only throw high hard balls, which were extremely difficult to hit. In the second game, they had a pitcher who would only throw low balls, 10-15 mph slower than the first. I think, though, that the girls are learning they can play with anyone. Being at 2-2 with a 38-3 team until the last two innings showed them how talented they are."

There tends to be a fine line between knowing you can compete with anyone, and knowing you have to compete with everyone. This concept was reinforced for the Riverwomen, who split their next doubleheader with a team they had already swept twice before. The Riverwomen played their next games against Quincy, and had an ugly 3-1 loss in the first game before coming back and winning 9-4 in the second.

Coach Durnin summed up the doubleheader:

"You can't take any team for granted and expect to win." After the loss, Kulaitis got the Riverwomen started off well in the second game with an RBI single to score Jones in the first inning.

Quincy tied the game in the second, then took the lead in the top of the third, but Kulaitis struck again in the bottom of the third with an RBI triple before scoring herself on a base hit by Molly Buyat to take the 3-2 lead. After the Hawks tied the game in the fifth, Wilson hit her first home run of the season to give UM-St. Louis the 4-3 lead. In the sixth inning, the Riverwomen put the game away with five runs to grab a 9-4 victory.

WEB

Check out the R-men and R-women at [www.umsl-sports.com](http://www.umsl-sports.com)



Jesse Gater/The Current

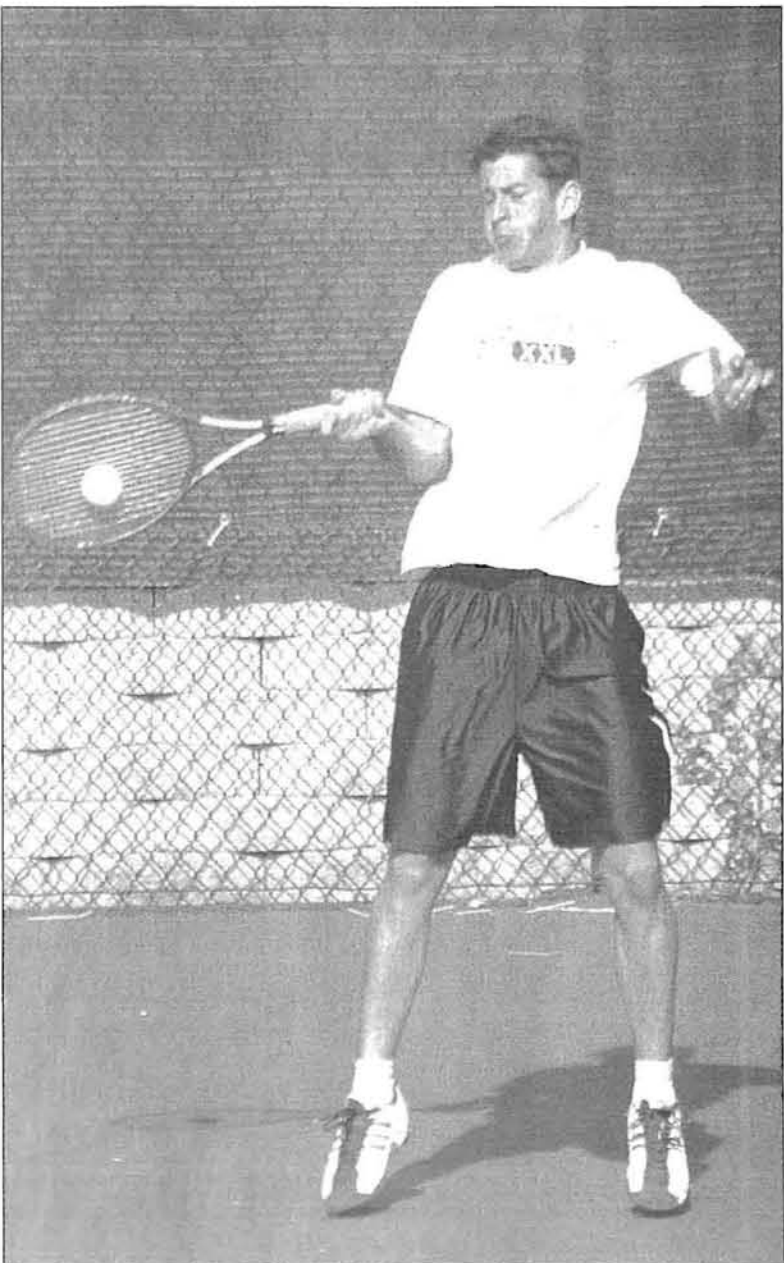
Maria Gaertner, sophomore/Utility, gives Casey Moran, sophomore/pitcher and firstbase, a perfect target for a strike in the Riverwomen's doubleheader on, Tuesday.

VAULKHARD, from page 8

Vaulkhard commented on his all-conference selection. "It is always nice to be recognized for things you do. Everyone works hard, which usually goes unrecognized. That is why it is a team sport. I wouldn't have had the opportunities that I have had were it not for my teammates. It is not very often you have things this well happen to you consistently throughout

your career and I am grateful for the opportunities that I have had. I enjoyed my career here and am glad that I have been a part of the program."

Last week the Rivermen closed out their tennis season and Vaulkhard's career came to a close with a season that included some great moments and memories.



Amanda Schniedermeyer/The Current

Matt Vaulkhard plays a singles match April 13 at Lindenwood. Vaulkhard set the UMSL career victory record with his 51st career singles win and was named a GLVC All-Conference selection.

LINDSAY LOHAN

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IN THEATRES APRIL 30

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## EDITOR

**CASEY SHACHER**  
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## Movie Calendar

## Movies

Film openings are subject to change.

Week of  
April 26  
Opening

**Lean Girls-** Teen comedy star Lindsayohan stars in this film about a girl who, despite being raised in Africa, must adjust to the unfamiliar world of high school in America. Opens April 30.

**Godsend-** In this sci-fi thriller, mourning parents seek out a scientist (Robert De Niro) to have their deceased child brought back to life through illegal cloning. They are successful, but the cloned child turns out to be more devil than the little angel they remember. Opens April 30.

**Ongoing**  
**Man on Fire-** Denzel Washington stars as an emotionally scarred ex-soldier who now serves as a bodyguard for an elite family's young daughter in Mexico City. When the girl is kidnapped, he will stop at nothing to get her back, even if it means resurrecting his taste for rage and vengeance.

## CONCERT REVIEW

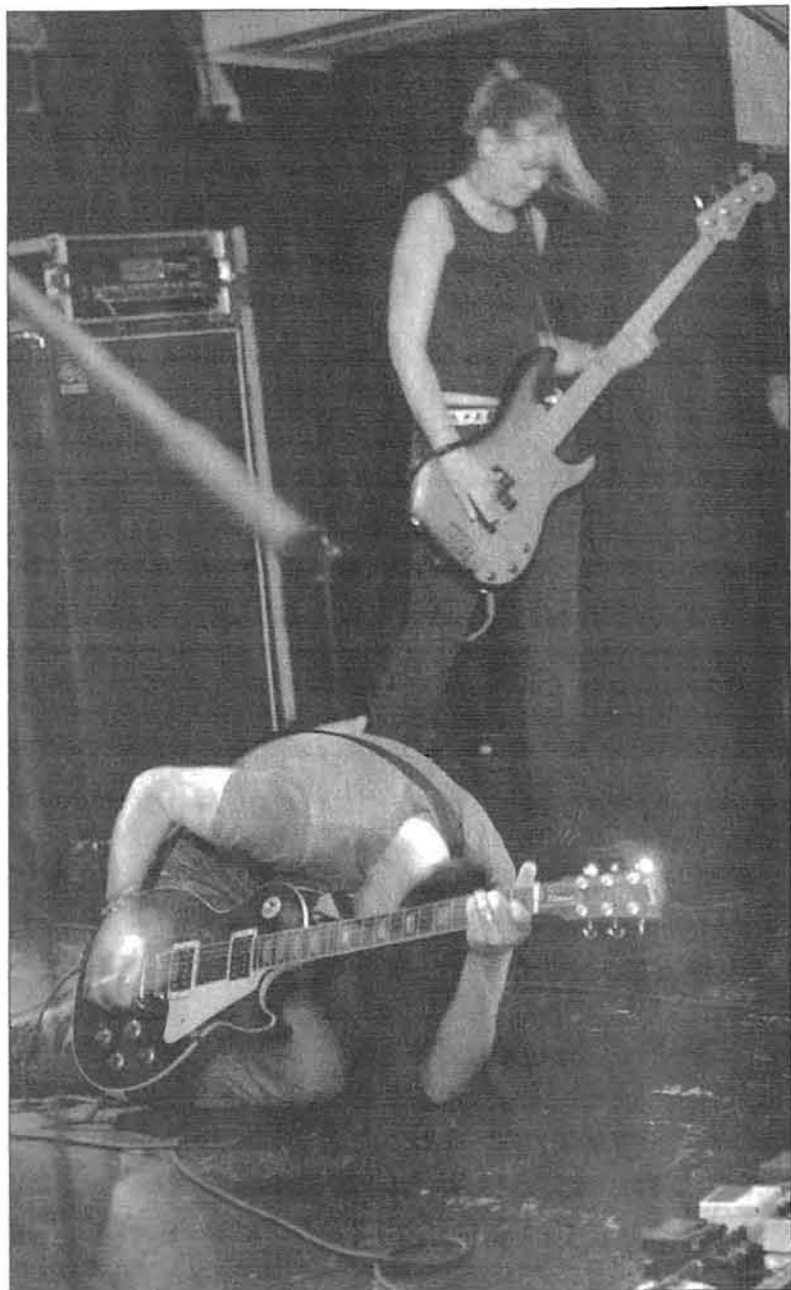
# Stellastarr\* shines for fans at the Gargoyle

BY LAURA HEPBURN  
Music Critic

On April 17, I attended the Killers/Stellastarr\* concert at the Gargoyle. If you have never been to the Gargoyle on Washington University's campus, you are missing a very different and interesting concert experience. There room was divided in half with curtains and containing a small platform about two feet higher than the floor. When I arrived, there were approximately 15 patrons, no bar and a no-smoking rule. I could tell this would be an altogether unique concert situation. I grew even more interested as the minutes passed and more people were gathering and talking excitedly about the band they had come to see. The Killers were an impressive opening act for Stellastarr\*. They were in keeping with the high-energy independent rock while being different

enough from Stellastarr\* to hopefully attract some new fans of their own. The songs were diverse enough to be interesting but without a lull or moment of boredom. I guarantee that a lot of Stellastarr\* fans left the show with the intention of buying the Killers' album when it comes out (I know I did). Stellastarr\* is the only band I willingly review repeatedly. With amazing guitar lines, delicious lead vocals, Pixies-style backup vocals and out-of-this-world energy, Stellastarr\* has mastered a sound that will be theirs alone. From the moment I heard their album, I knew that this band would put on a great show. I was not disappointed. While the quality of a performance is largely dependent on the band, one cannot rule out the role the audience plays. Of all the concerts I have been to, I have rarely seen such enthusiastic and dedicated fans. Their voices could be heard during every chorus of every song and their applause was heartfelt.

The beginning of every song was met with cheers and clapping. The audience swayed to "MoonGirl" and went crazy during "My Coco." It helps that Stellastarr\* has yet to record a bad song, but I maintain that there is something mysterious and enchanting about their music that does not just entertain fans but captures them as well. Stellastarr\* did not lose their momentum for a moment. The concert began with "In the Walls" and ended with an encore including "Pulp Song." Guitarist Michael Jurin was twice as impressive live as on the CD, with a smoldering presence and surreal and melodious guitar lines. Sometimes it is easy to take musicians for granted when absorbing their music, but Jurin could not be ignored or overlooked when performing. Drummer/keyboardsist Arthur Kremer was the first to come onstage and receive his due in audience appreciation. He was quirky, fun and managed to be a prominent force even when sitting at the back of the stage. Bassist/backup vocalist Amanda Tannen was a complimentary element with her mellow vibe, gently crooned vocals and throbbing bass. Of course, vocalist/guitarist Shawn Christensen was equally as mesmerizing onstage as Jurin. Christensen's vocals have always been my favorite characteristic of Stellastarr\*'s music and his performance April 17 lived up to my expectations. What remains strongest in my mind is that this band was able to deliver so much more than amazing music and a high-energy performance. Each member of Stellastarr\* took his or her personality onstage with his or her instruments. I was able to discern different flavors and colors amidst their tapestry of sound, and that brought me so much closer to what Stellastarr\* is. This was one of the most amazing shows I have ever been to.



Vocalist/guitarist Shawn Christensen fronts Stellastarr\*, which played at the Gargoyle on the Washington University campus on April 17.

Shawn Christensen, vocalist and guitarist for Stellastarr\*, and bassist Amanda Tannen perform at the Gargoyle on Saturday, April 17.

## RESTAURANT REVIEW

All the comforts of home

# Tom's Bar and Grill caters to America's favorite pastime

BY MONICA MARTIN  
Staff Writer

If you like watching television while chowing down, head over to Tom's Bar & Grill. Tom's Bar & Grill happens to be a relaxing restaurant. When you walk in, you see the bar first. However, comfortable seating is available toward the left, in the back. Gaze at the art deco and neon beer signs that adorn the walls or daydream of vacation while looking at large model airplanes that hang from the ceiling.

Opposite the bar blazes a fire in a fireplace, with a mirror above it. Also, a floor-to-ceiling mirror can be seen on the wall across from the kitchen. Use your imagination with that one. Everything from the walls to the bar to the tables and chairs are made of wood and brick, creating a pleasant, homey environment. Perhaps the best features, however, are the many television sets. There are two medium-sized TVs behind the bar and two more in the back by the tables. A big-screen TV can also be seen in the table area. A video game sits in the front near the door. Ironically, an old-fashioned cash register and saloon cabinets lean against the walls in the back, creating an eclectic atmosphere.

We arrived at 6:00 on a Sunday to a full house. All of the seats at the bar were full, so we headed over to the table seating. Everyone else seemed more concerned with watching television than with talking. It was difficult to hear our waitress, who had to lean forward to hear us, and to be heard. We only saw a female wait-staff, and there did not seem to be an employee uniform. Although several people smoked cigars and cigarettes, the room was not smoky. The lighting was dim but not so much that you could not see around. Becky, our waitress, brought the drinks while we checked out the menu. Melissa ordered Sprite and I

ordered hot chocolate. Tom's offers the usual items for a bar and grill: appetizers, soups and salads, entrees, hearty sandwiches, pizza, sides and substitutions and desserts. To drink, Tom's offers soda, coffee, hot tea, hot chocolate, iced tea, draft beer, bottled beer and wine. Melissa ordered a Turkey Melt with fries (\$6.95) and I ordered Chicken Strips (\$7.95) with my choice of fries. Only fifteen minutes passed before the food came. My chicken strips pleased me because there was more meat than skin. They were hot, but a little dry. The strips came with fries, coleslaw, two small pieces of French bread and Ranch Dressing. Melissa said, "The sand-

wich was good, but it wasn't overly filling because of the grease. The fries do you in." Melissa and I had a great time. The waitress was a doll, and we had a lot of fun watching TV and watching everyone else watch TV. Although we had a hard time hearing each other, we definitely did not mind sitting around, reharsing high school stories and gossiping. I recommend Tom's Bar & Grill as a great place to gather with friends and watch the game, or to relax and daydream. Do any of the above from 11 a.m. to 1 a.m. Monday through Sunday. Happy Hour is Monday through Friday from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Do not forget your designated driver.



ABOVE: Tom's Bar and Grill, located in the Central West End, provides people with a cozy place to dine and drink. You can dine by the fireplace in the dining room or sit at the bar located on the right as you enter. Monday thru Thursday, Tom's provides students a twenty percent discount.

LEFT: Visitors enjoy a casual meal at Tom's Bar and Grill.

# Big bargains draw customers to Olivette's 'ABC' jewelry

BY CASEY SCHACHER  
A&E Editor

Circle around the parking lot outside of 9345 Olive at any time during the day, and you may find yourself in want of a place to park. The insanely popular Olivette store, ABC Trading and Wholesale Co. Inc., draws in customers with an impressive consistency and for good reason. A trip to ABC yields not only great deals but also a unique experience. Hundreds upon hundreds of jewelry and accessories adorn every inch of available space, creating narrow paths through which to navigate. Patrons, mainly women but with a fair share of men, carry baskets filled to the brims with gorgeous necklaces, purses and other sorts of feminine adornment.

How can they afford it? This question is easily answered with a glance at any of the products' prices: under \$10 for a necklace-and-earrings set suitable for prom is a typical example. Not everything is for women, however. Sunglasses, incredible wallets and jewelry for men are offered at great deals. This store is not for the faint of heart. Go only if you like to shop. Consider yourself warned. This place has the feel of a dream garage sale; you must sift through bins to find many items. Products range from the demure and elegant to being worthy of a drag show. Tiaras sparkle and boas tease amongst impossibly crammed shelving. Picking up and placing back down an item in this store is like abandoning a slot machine in a casino. The second you leave, someone

else has swooped in on it. If you see something you like, grab it and, for the love of God, hang on to it or you may end up with regret. However, make sure to put it into your basket and not your pockets. A man sits in the front of the store on a lifeguard chair. With the assistance of many security mirrors, he sees every move you make. I found ABC Trading & Wholesale Co. Inc. to be rather exciting. I am not ashamed to admit this because I know that if you are anything like me, the second you squeeze your way into this packed store, you will not stop saying, "I can't believe I never heard of this place before." Call them for directions at (314) 993-1142 and get on your way before you spend another wasted penny on jewelry from a department store.





MOVIE REVIEW

# Surprising ‘Wilbur’ uncovers dark comedy treasure

BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-  
HOMEYER  
Film Critic

“Wilbur” is a dark comedy of sparkling and funny dialogue, quirky characters in unpredictable situations and real human feelings. In the very funny and surprisingly touching Scottish tale, “Wilbur,” a used-books store owner, Harbour (Adrian Rawlins), has a problem: his younger brother Wilbur (Jamie Sives). For a long time, Wilbur has repeatedly tried to kill himself, only to be rescued by his protective older brother each time. Sometimes billed as “Wilbur

Wants to Kill Himself,” the film focuses on two brothers who are bound together by suicide attempts, gestures that the sarcastically witty Wilbur makes with the full expectation of being rescued by his doting and patient older brother Harbour. This routine dominates both their lives, driven by Harbour’s protective attitude and guilt over Wilbur’s childhood trauma at the death of their mother. Despite his unfortunate hobby, Wilbur has a job working at a day care center where the children all love him despite his sarcastic barbs. In a pivotal scene, the remarkably clumsy Alice and overly serious Harbour fret over hosting a birthday

party for Alice’s daughter. The unstable Wilbur takes charge in his element, having attended hundreds of kids’ birthday parties. He reassures them that everything will be fine, as these parties are always the same - a fight breaks out, someone spills on his or her clothes and someone throws up. It all comes true but not just because of the kids. Otherwise, the impulsive and handsome Wilbur is a brilliantly, bitingly funny curmudgeon who turns away all friendly gestures, even from the many women attracted to him. Although locked together by familial devotion, the brothers could not be more different. Harbour is all steady responsibility, both toward the

mentally unstable Wilbur and in running the used-books store they inherited from their parents. The sweet, patient and kind-hearted Harbour has unremarkable looks, the kind of fellow whom women do not give a second glance, yet he hardly notices the fact that he is passed over in his devotion to his younger brother. After Wilbur’s latest suicide attempt, Harbour gets the idea that having a girlfriend might help Wilbur stabilize his life and sets out to find him one. When a young single mother named Alice (Shirley Henderson) comes into their bookstore to sell some books, Harbour thinks he has found a likely candidate for Wilbur’s girlfriend - that is, until Harbour him-

self falls for her. Despite the quirky premise, the film has real heart along with the real humor in its tale of love, family and personal growth. The tragicomic elements run straight through the tale and there is universality in the story of life’s surprises and twists, both good and bad. The cast of oddball characters lends great charm in scene after scene, and each actor turns in a spot-on performance, especially Jamie Sives in the lead. This well-written script combines comic and tragic elements to keep the tale nicely balanced with a fresh, quirky story that will keep you wondering what will happen next. The lively, verbal fireworks are a pure

delight to hear and the cast creates assortment of likeable if odd characters whom one cannot resist. Director Lone Scherfig hand both the comedy and drama with charm, showing the same sure eye for editing and giving the audience just the right amount of information in this film, her first one in English just as she did in her previous film “Italian for Beginners.” This audience-pleasing film first appeared in our area at last fall’s St. Louis International Film Festival and it is nice to see it come back for a longer run. If you missed it before or want to see this charmer again now is your chance. You will not sorry.

MOVIE REVIEW

# ‘Hellboy’ vs. ‘Punisher’: Who will triumph in the comic book battle

BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-  
HOMEYER  
Film Critic

In the interest of better serving our readers, we bring you two reviews for the price of one: “Hellboy” versus “The Punisher”—yes, the comic book movie face-off. Spring break and the appearance of *The Stagnant* precluded a review of the comic book-themed “Hellboy,” but the release of a second comic book movie, “The Punisher,” quick on its heels gives a second shot at it, as part of this tandem review. So let us see how these boys stack up. “Hellboy,” one of two comic book-based films in theaters now, is one heck of an entertaining action film, mostly due to Ron Perlman’s absolutely pitch-perfect performance as the red-hued demon-turned-special-forces operative against evil called “Hellboy.” The story gives us some of the original character, “Hellboy,” and bits from various stories in the comic. Devil-conjuring Nazis, aided by the supernaturally resilient Rasputin (Karel Rodin), bring the red demon to our world from Hell but are interrupted in their nefarious plans by an attack by Allied forces. The Allied troops dub the infant red devil “Hellboy,” and the demon boy is adopted and raised by Professor Trevor “Broom” Brattenholm (John Hurt). Hellboy (Perlman) grows up to work for his surrogate father as part of a secret government operation assigned

to fight the various devils and demons that the still-working Rasputin brings to earth to spread evil. Apart from Perlman’s performance, one of best things about this film is that it returns to an old-fashioned theme of good versus evil. Hellboy may have been born a devil but he still has free will and can exercise a choice between right and wrong. Although it appears to be Hellboy’s fate to be the key demon to help end the world, he was raised by a man who seems to have instilled some very good values. It is a refreshing change from the current personal revenge, the our-guys-versus-their-guys theme that ignores any real questions of right or wrong, or moral choices. The combination of Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle crossed with X-Men with a dash of Ghostbusters makes up “Hellboy.” The movie makes for an action-packed entertainment film with a good dose of comedy. It is hard to imagine anyone else doing this role as well as Perlman does, tossing off one-liners while whipping the stuffing out of the bad guys. Despite his scary appearance and huge red stone hand, Hellboy is pretty much a typical teen, growing up and learning to adjust to life. He is messy, he eats constantly and he is self-conscious about his looks, especially where girls are concerned. Yet, at work, Hellboy is all professionalism and efficiency. In Perlman’s skillful hands, these elements make for a perfect mix and an appealing character.

The rest of the cast is also good, and the tone stays consistent with comic book action and wisecracks. Director Guillermo del Toro, who co-wrote the script and also directed the supernatural-tinged Mexican action film, “Devil’s Backbone,” does a fine job with the action, editing, pacing and balance between character development and story. However, while the action is good and effects well done, there is nothing groundbreaking. Some fans of the comic book itself maybe disappointed that the story was based on several issues instead of a single story. In the final Armageddon-type showdown,

you expect something more horrendous for a demon whose purpose was to destroy the world. The final showdown between the forces of good and evil also lacked the kind of gravitas that might be expected for an Armageddon-type event. “Hellboy” is well-paced, good action entertainment but the thing that really boosts it up is that performance by Perlman. However, this plus is bolstered by the refreshing idea that there may be some right or wrong beyond just “our guys should win.” “The Punisher” is comic-book vigilante justice.

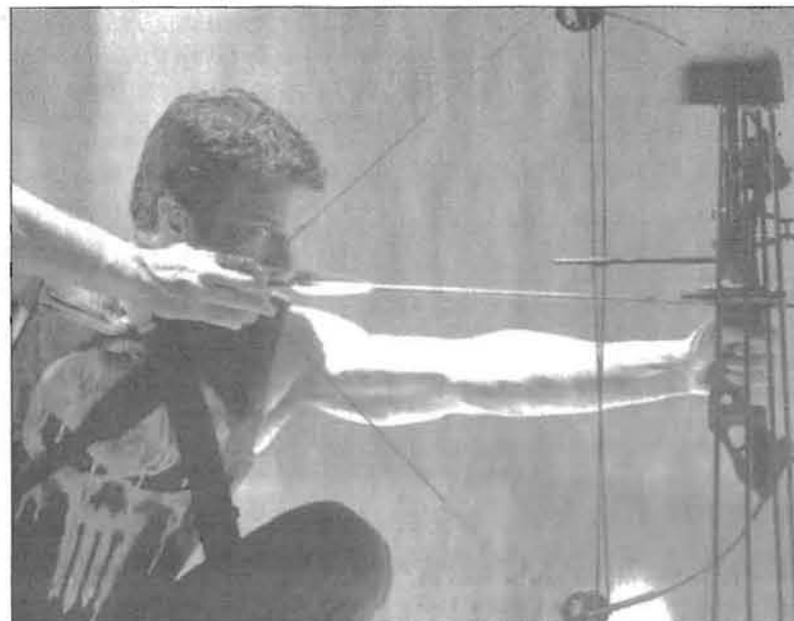
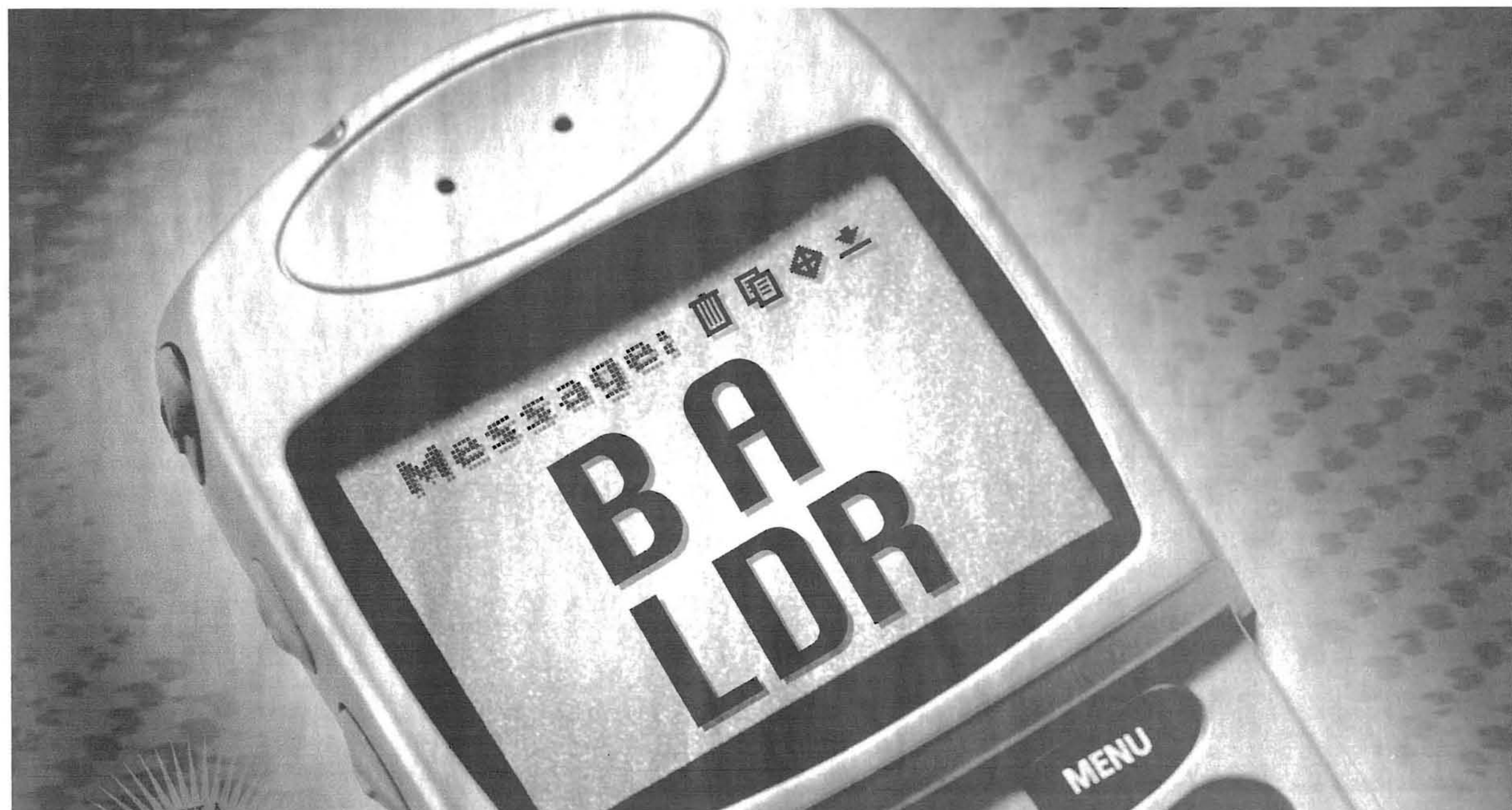



Photo courtesy rottentomatoes.com

Hey, who needs that rule-of-law stuff when you can just call “The Punisher”? “The Punisher” and “Hellboy” are both comic book-inspired action movies but that is about the extent of what they have in common. “The Punisher” is yet another tale of personal vengeance, in a year filled with such tales. While it has a few humorous touches, it proves to be an overall grim tale with stock characters and story, along with the occasional foray into sadism and disturbing imagery. Yet, it shows flashes of visual brilliance and features a strong performance by its lead, Thomas Jane. “The Punisher,” transformed FBI agent Frank Castle (Thomas Jane), has his dreams of quitting to spend more time with his family shattered when they are massacred by underworld criminal money-launderer, Howard Saint (John Travolta), whose son Bobby (James Carpinello) was killed by Castle during a drug bust. In the Punisher’s world, one revenge killing deserves another, so after withdrawing from the world and working through some depression, Castle moves into a dilapidated slum apartment and sets out to exact that revenge by killing Saint and all his family as well. Grim stuff end to end, but Thomas Jane as Castle turns in a more nuanced and strong performance than the story deserved to get. Despite an uninspired plot, the action sequences show considerable artistry in places and even cine-

matic style. There is one striking scene where director Jonathon Hensleigh who also co-wrote the script, crosses between the comic events in the neighborhood boring apartment, where Castle poverty-stricken, riff-raff, oddball neighbors live, and the action events Castle’s apartment. The neighbors have befriended the reclusive vigilante as he has just returned to his room after dinner with them. The opera-loving chef puts on a CD and while the neighbors are dancing and mugging to loud music, a bruiser known as the Russian breaks in on Castle. While Castle is being tossed about and his apartment destroyed, the music covers the din, so his newfound friends are oblivious to the pummeling. The director cuts back and forth between the prancing antics in one apartment and the mayhem in the other. All the while music swells, with soaring notes punctuating soaring bodies, both in dance and in battle. It is riveting to watch an almost worth the price of admission. Almost. The whole picture has to be balanced by other scenes in which sadism or other disturbing themes dominate. If the whole film had been more like this one sequence, the direct would have had something there. “The Punisher” is entertaining enough for fans of action and violence but falls short on story and character along with its endorsement of vigilante justice. In a head-to-head battle with the comic book-based rival for cinematic merit, I would still take “Hellboy.”



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YOU CAN



NADER, from page 6

Around this time, activists began to ravel to Washington, D.C. to work with Nader. Along with these activists, Nader successfully pushed laws to protect consumers, workers, taxpayers and the environment.

Between now and then, Nader has fought against insurance companies, global trade arrangements and corporate lobbyists. He has also authored, co-authored and sponsored many books, including "Action for a Change," "Corporate Change in America" and "Who's Poisoning America."

VoteNader.com explains many of Nader's proposed reforms. The website

claims that since January 2001, 2.7 million jobs have been lost and that Nader plans to reverse this trend.

Nader believes that the government should not over-emphasize standardized tests in schools. His assertion is that when the government does place such a high value on standardized testing, excessive time is devoted to narrow test preparation.

Nader does not support the invasion of Iraq. VoteNader.com says that Bush has already spent more than \$155 billion on the occupation, and that the same amount of money could be spent on free public college and university

tuition for all students.

On the issue of gay rights, Nader feels that love and commitment are not in surplus in this country, and that any loving relationship should be encouraged.

Daron Dierkes, junior, history, agrees with many of Nader's views, but thinks he would be more successful working through some of his organizations rather than running for president of the United States.

VoteNader.com has a complete list of Nader's plans if elected president, as well as up-to-date news about the candidate.

SINGLE PARENTS, from page 6

"And because of digital technology, all of these students will be able to access materials to complement the videos they're watching." UM-St. Louis offers both Internet and video courses to students.

As students can imagine, trying to raise a child and attend college can be a tiring responsibility. Emily Fishman, junior, communication,

does not have children but shared her opinion of what she imagined it would be like if she did.

"Having a child is a huge responsibility. Personally, I don't think it is the best environment to raise a child while still in school. It can be done, no doubt, but you have to consider what both the parent and the child will have to sacrifice to accomplish

both to the greatest potential. It all really depends on where the person is in their life and whether or not they are ready to take on that responsibility," she said.

When Harris was asked how she felt about her responsibilities as a parent and student, she replied, "It is hard, but I wouldn't trade lives with anyone else."

POETRY, from page 6

Katie Johnston also reminded listeners that Litmag submissions were being accepted from Sept. 27, 2004 until Jan. 18, 2005 for the spring 2005 publication.

Stallings said that ABC decided to co-host the evening as a way to "unearth some poets here at UMSL" and find potential members for the St. Louis Poetry Slam team.

"It's such a private thing for someone to be able to share [their works] on stage," he said. "I'm glad we could be a part of it."

The audience settled back in for

another listening experience, which included music from the band "The Blind Shepherds." The group, composed of members on an acoustic guitar, an electric guitar and drums, filled the Pilot House with original music of the soft-rock genre. They performed five songs.

Stallings announced the winners of the poetry slam. The Movie Poetically took third for his presentation, Johnson took second and Braids earned first. These individuals will perform and compete on June 2 at Blueberry Hill in

the Delmar Loop. Winners of that competition will have the opportunity to perform with the St. Louis Poetry Slam team.

The open-mic part of the evening concluded with more music and reading by Litmag authors.

For more information about Litmag, submissions or course enrollment, you can contact Sweet at (314) 516-5512 or sweet@umsl.edu. UM-St. Louis students, faculty and staff are invited to submit poetry, fiction/nonfiction works, artistic photos and art entries.

ADVERTISING MYTHS, from page 6

"How do you know if it's the best chocolate? 'The best deal in town.' How do you know it's the best deal in town? 'Nobody can beat our prices.' How do you know that someone can't come along and beat your prices?"

Savan said that the next advertising bubba mysis is that advertising is offensive and in bad taste.

"Some [consumers] are offended if a product or services, such as contraceptives or personal hygiene product, are advertised at all," he said. "The most irritating commercials are ads for feminine hygiene products, whereas commercials for women's underwear and hemorrhoid products were close behind."

Savan said that the public has become more tolerant of these commercials, as the ads have become more frequent in the media.

"Despite the fact that some people find them offensive, ads for personal products such as herpes medication, douches, home pregnancy tests and colon cancer detection kits have become more common on TV and in print and the public seems to have more tolerance for them," he said.

The next bubba mysis Savan introduced was sexual appeal.

He said, "For example, in 1987, Playtex broke new ground using models instead of mannequins. Playtex's competitor, Maidenform, didn't take long to react and made the first commercial showing a woman removing

her bra; however, while remaining fully dressed in a sweater."

Because sex appeal is not usually effective in advertising, Savan said that advertisers do not rely solely on that strategy to sell products.

"As I showed in my first lecture in this farewell series of lectures, the biggest problem with sexually-oriented ads is that they don't work," he said. "Men certainly take notice of nude and half-nude women in ads...so much notice that they forget who ran the ad and what they were saying."

Another bubba mysis is that advertising encourages materialism and that it makes people buy things they do not need. Savan argued that this contention is only half true.

"The United States is undoubtedly the most materialist society in the world. Many attribute it to advertising. They say that advertising seeks to create needs rather than just showing how a product fulfills them...well, they're right," Savan said.

"There is nothing the matter with materialism" and "Acquisition of possessions is not necessarily a bad thing" are attitudes that Savan believes has encouraged materialism in society.

"The point is that advertising encourages materialism and tends to ignore certain attitudes that are important in our society. It is one of the reasons that Americans tend to lose their compassion and focus more on greed," he said. "I'm okay, you're

okay' is the theme of the '80s."

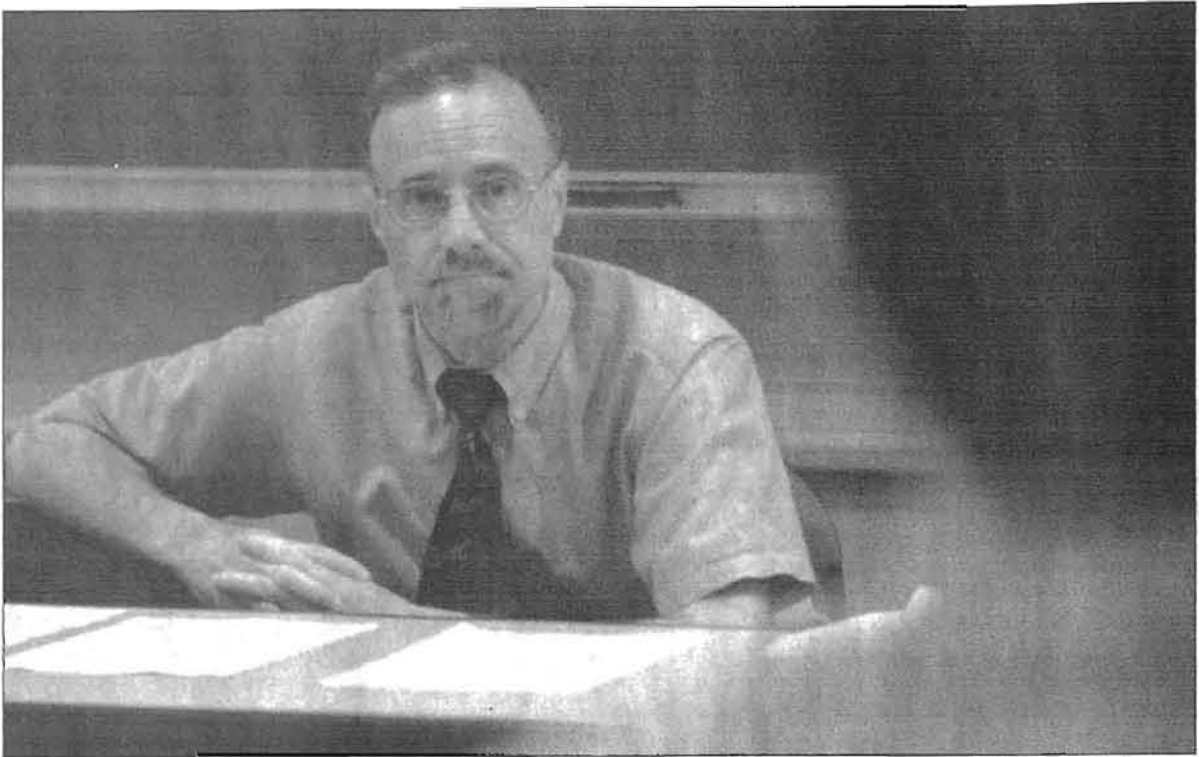
Savan said that even though the bubba mysis contending that advertising encourages materialism is true, he disagrees with the claim that advertising makes people buy things they do not need. He said that advertising uses persuasion to sell products, but advertisers cannot force a consumer to purchase a product.

"For example," Savan said, "the new Coca-Cola taste advertised in the mid-'80s failed miserably because most people preferred the old taste to the new taste. People didn't like the new Edsel either...and no amount of concentrated advertising from two of the best marketers in our society could change their minds."

The next myth, which asserts that advertising has subliminal power, is a popular bubba mysis. Subliminal messaging supposedly occurs when messages are flashed on screen for a brief time, or buried in the illustration so deeply that only the subconscious mind can see them. He explained that only one person made a career out of subliminal messaging in advertising, and that person made his money writing about the topic.

"Vance Packard, in the sixties, in his book, 'Hidden Persuaders,' made a career of talking to college students about these hidden messages that speak only to the subconscious mind. As far as I know, he's the only person to have ever made money from the

SABC, from page 1



Mike Sherwin/ The Current

Chancellor Thomas George listens to comments from *The Current's* editor-in-chief Jason Granger during an open meeting Friday in the SGA Chambers. George called for the meeting to find out more about the newspaper's allocation, which was reduced by more than half of last year's allocation by the Student Activities Budget Committee.

Bob Samples, director of University communications, moderated the event. George and Curt Coonrod, vice chancellor of student affairs, also participated. Samples spoke about his recommendations for the paper, as well as the information that he has compiled from other universities.

Samples and Coonrod have been researching how other universities fund student newspapers. So far, their findings indicate a variety of approaches. Although some papers are funded via student activities allocations, others are completely dependent on advertising revenue. Others, like *The Current*, are funded in part by both. And though most papers dependent on allocations are subject to the funding decisions of student government associations, some, such as the University News at UMKansas City, are given a standard

amount plus inflation.

Another issue that came up at the meeting was salary. All positions on *The Current* are paid. Samples said that the salaries at UM-St. Louis are comparatively high and that many other universities do not pay the staff of student publications. "The questions about salaries are ridiculous," said Granger. "We are a commuter school, and we have to give our staff members some incentive to be here."

Many members of *The Current* agreed that they would not be able to put in the time necessary to produce a quality product without pay. According to Granger, who listed some of the awards given to the paper, the publication is one of the best in the state due to the high level of commitment on the part of the staff – both in time and effort.

The budget cut will significantly

affect the staff for next year. Granger said that he is concerned over the possibility that personal grudges held toward him by the SABC may impact others. "What is most unfair about all of this is that it's next year's staff that gets hurt. If someone is out to punish me, they did it quite poorly," said Granger.

Articles about the funding issue have been published in the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*. A story was also aired on NewsChannel 5.

According to Granger, legal action will only be taken as a last resort, as he hopes for a more civil resolution. However, he will use the option if this is not possible. "The Student Press Law Center has provided us with excellent legal counsel," said Granger. "They have informed me that if I deem it necessary, they will find us a lawyer to represent us pro bono."

idea of subliminal advertising," Savan said.

The idea of an ad agency using subliminal messages in advertising is "utterly absurd" and appeals to conspiracy theorists who want to believe and enjoy them, according to Savan.

"No ad agency in their right mind would ever spend time and money on subliminal advertising," Savan said. "It fits right into the sightings of Elvis alive and the death of John F. Kennedy...It's intriguing if nothing else."

The bubba mysis that advertising increases the cost of goods and services is true to some extent. Savan said that advertising could bring a product into mass production, which can cut costs.

"The first TV sets cost over \$500 in 1947 for a seven-inch screen. Now you can buy a 21-inch color picture for under \$200. Computers, VCRs and Camcorders have proven that advertised products can lower prices," Savan said.

However, products that have been outsourced to other countries in order to lower the costs have resulted in an even higher cost for the consumer.

"Keds [shoes], when they were made in America, cost about \$3 to \$5 a pair. Now that sports shoes are being made in Bangladesh, they cost 10 to 20 times as much," Savan said. "Nike has taken a shoe that costs about \$3 to make and sell it for \$150...I guess it

depends on how greedy a company is."

The bubba mysis that advertising helps sell bad products is true, according to Savan; however, he says this can cause negative consequences.

"It can eliminate repeat sales," Savan said, "and an inferior product that's been oversold can put that company out of business faster than any other reason."

After presenting the "bubba mysis" of advertising, Savan concluded his lecture by saying that there are many views to justify and condemn advertised products. He asked the audience which view is more correct.

"Should advertising be banned? I don't believe too many people will agree with that. Should it be uncontrolled? Likewise, not too many people, even advertising people, believe that. Is advertising a necessary part of society or a detriment to our culture? You tell me," Savan said.

James Kimbrough, junior, mass communication, said that he noticed some bubba mysis that actually does exist in advertising.

"I think advertising leads to materialism because everything that is advertised is glamorized. If you don't have the latest thing, then you're left out," he said.

"Advertisement doesn't make me want to go out and buy any product. I think advertisements inform people of products that are available," said

Linda Vaughn, administrative secretary in the department of communication.

Those who have attended his previous two lectures encourage others not to miss this one.

Kimbrough said that Savan's lectures are very entertaining and have something that appeals to everyone.

"This [next lecture] would be a good learning opportunity and I hope people go and see him. His lectures are very entertaining. There was a serious side and a funny side. You could relate with a conservative attitude or a comical attitude," Kimbrough said.

Vaughn agrees with Kimbrough that students should attend this final lecture by Savan, especially those interested in politics.

"From an education viewpoint it will be very informative and I anticipate we'll get a lot of Sid's personal opinions of who will win," Vaughn said. "But I think it will be overall good for students to learn the political process."

"Debunking Advertising Myths" is the second of Savan's three final lectures. His third lecture, entitled "Who Will Win the Presidency in 2004," will be held on Wednesday, May 5 in the SGA Chambers located on the third floor of the MSC, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

"Who Will Win the Presidency in 2004" will be Savan's final lecture at UM-St. Louis.

**The Current will be hiring for all positions excluding editor-in-chief beginning in May. Submit your resume and cover letter to be considered for employment.**

*The Current* is located in Room 388, MSC. *The Current* is an equal opportunity employer.



SGA ELECTIONS, from page 1



Mike Sherwin/ The Current  
Scott Bopp folds tabletop advertisements for his campaign in the Student Life Office earlier this month. April 20 and 21, students elected Bopp over two other candidates as SGA President for the 2004-2005 school year.

She would like to work with the Normandy School District in this project. Over the summer, Abraham plans to expand on this idea.

The mentor program is the first thing that Abraham said she would like to work on when she gets into office in July. Community service is important to her and she hopes that many students will be interested in getting involved with the mentor program.

"To me, community service is a very important thing," Abraham said. "If you give to the community, they will give back to you."

The president and vice president elects plan to start up two committees over the summer: a special fees and review committee and an infrastructure committee. The student fees committee will review any new or increased student fees. They will be working closely with the administration, so that student's opinions can be heard.

Bopp said that this fee committee would be able to ask more qualifying questions to the people who come forward to the SGA to ask for increased or new fee requests. The group will also help students to understand better the purpose of the fees.

The infrastructure committee will work with such concerns as the Metrolink, proposed new recreation center, parking and Chartwells. Bopp said that this committee would be proactive to the situations at hand. Chartwells bid is up this year and they would like to look into what places can provide quality food for decent prices for the campus.

"We want to provide an open dialogue, so we can get feedback," Abraham said.

Abraham spoke about getting the evening college students more involved with SGA. She feels that they are not involved enough with the University. A coffee and donuts event used to occur at the evening college, to get them more involved with SGA, and Abraham would like to bring this back.

Bopp, Abraham and Golchert are all excited about taking on the new roles in SGA.

"I am very excited to have been elected in this position and moving forward with the things I spoke about in my campaign," Bopp said. "I am looking forward to being at the service of the students."

Also voted on in the recent election was the Associated Students of the University of Missouri referendum. This was passed with 324 votes for yes and 315 votes for no. A total of 639 votes were cast for the referendum.

SYMPOSIUM, from page 3

"When you have a poster board, you cannot fit everything like you would in a paper," Haupt said.

Teresa Johnson, freshman, pre-pharmacy, said that she had come to the MSC to do some paperwork, and was happy to discover the symposium there, too.

"I have been going around, looking at the presentations," she said.

Kleweis said that this was exactly the reason the MSC was chosen as the venue.

"The whole purpose is to get the foot traffic," Kleweis said. "Everyone is invited: students, administrators, staff, faculty, family and friends."

When asked if she might present her own work in a future symposium, Johnson said that she was not sure if she would have the confidence.

"I'm taking a public speaking class next semester, though, so who knows," Johnson said.

KWMU, from page 1

"It's fun to meet the people who love the product," Wente said. "These fund drives are good for everybody, because they really bring the community to the radio."

The membership fees begin at \$40, but by giving more, listeners can receive gifts such as a mug with logos of the station's programs, or sport and leisure chairs. The membership fee is tax deductible.

"We have one man who has been a member since KWMU started in 1972," Wente said.

On average, 70 percent of members renew their pledges. When the station is not having a fund drive, listeners can still obtain membership at [www.kwmu.org](http://www.kwmu.org) or by calling 314-516-4000.

Schrand said the station has raised its fund-drive efficiency.

"We used to do live pitching from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m., but now we only do it when most listeners are there," Schrand said.

He added that the station attracts most listeners during the morning edition.

"We are focusing on where the listeners are instead of pitching all day," Schrand said. "Both listeners and our workers like that."

Nanora Sweet, associate professor of English and women's and gender studies, said she paid her membership fee on Thursday. She reasoned her membership by saying:

"NPR has the largest news organization in the country. We need the coverage in America and abroad."

ESSAY WINNER, from page 1

"Money is temporary. Getting published and recognized is much more important."

Samayoa said she noticed the advert for the competition by chance in "Perspectives" magazine.

"The article forms a core of my thesis, which I changed some to match the competition's criteria," Samayoa said.

"I did not expect to win, so I was very surprised when I got the e-mail saying I had won."

At the time, Samayoa was in Spain doing research regarding her job as a research assistant.

"I couldn't call my friends, so I just forwarded the e-mail to them," she said.

Professor Mark Burkholder, whose research assistant Samayoa is, said that it has been a pleasure to see her developing into a great doctoral candidate.

"We have a lot of good masters students here, but she has proved to be quite extraordinary," Burkholder said. "I anticipate that after getting her Ph.D. she will get into something that will enable her to continue doing research."

Burkholder said he worked with Samayoa on an earlier version of the essay.

"It happened that the competition matched her thesis," he said. "She saw the opportunity and took it."

Samayoa's two main sources were Thomas Jefferson Library's John Tate Lanning Collection, which includes photocopies of printed medical self-help material, and a private collection, which includes letters to a Latin American doctor.

"I think we have a marvelous library service," she said. "Interlibrary loan puts everything into your reach."

Samayoa's essay shows the correlation between the printed medical material and what people know about their health. The two collections provided her with a unique opportunity to research and analyze.

"I am not so interested in disease or how they can be cured; I am more interested in seeing people's everyday lives through medicine," Samayoa said.

Samayoa said that she was not planning to be a history major when she came to UM-St. Louis in January 1999.

"I took a class in history and got stuck," she said. "The history department at UMSL is what made me a history major." Samayoa plans to start her doctorate studies at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis next fall.

GRANT, from page 1

Arshadi currently is working with the Office of Research Administration and other St. Louis universities in overseeing the Center for Emerging Technologies. The CET is a life science focused incubator that was developed in 1995.

Like the CET, the new incubator will help to establish new, growing companies. Once the companies are self-sufficient, they will be able to move on to their own location. The new incubator will be for information technology-related companies.

The University will be charging the companies a relatively small amount to rent out the space. The money collected will be used for the community, as well as for UM-St. Louis.

"We will charge the tenants around \$20 or \$30 per square foot," Arshadi said.

This project will be a great way for the University to help others by using technology transfer. Technology transfer is when universities, industries and governments share knowledge and resources.

Kathy Korando, junior, education, says that the University should really do more of this. "It's great to see the University donating some of their resources to others," Korando said.

The project is speculated to take about a year and a half to complete. More information can be found online at <http://www.ums.edu/>, as it becomes available.



Mike Sherwin/ The Current  
The old Normandy Hospital, on Natural Bridge Rd., will become a business incubator thanks to a \$1 million grant.

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Hannigans Restaurant (celebrating 25 years) has immediate openings for day and evening servers. Flexible schedules and great money! Must be experienced and available this summer. Apply in person. 719 N. 2nd St., Laclede Landing 314-241-8877

## For sale

### 1997 Audi A4

1.8T. cactus Green, auto, heated seats, trip computer, climate control, OEM spoiler, air conditioning, alloy wheels, 70,000 miles. \$8500.00. (636) 946-2789.

### Gateway 2000

Gateway 2000 solo 233 Pentium Processor. 64 megabites of RAM, 3 gigabyte hard drive. Serious emails, [msgabriel19@hotmail.com](mailto:msgabriel19@hotmail.com). Best offer

### Website for Sale

Over 1,000 members so far. [www.epayfunds.com](http://www.epayfunds.com). If interested please call 314-749-2883 and leave a message. Buyer will remain anonymous.

### 1973 VW Bus

\$1000. Email me at [ryan\\_strong2001@yahoo.com](mailto:ryan_strong2001@yahoo.com)

### 1998 Ford Mustang

Silver, 5-speed, CD player & cassette players, power front seats, 103K miles-highway, 1yr old clutch, dual air bags, small ding left front fender, and split rear seat. Only \$4600 obo call (314) 771-1953.

### '00 Honda Shadow Spirit

2000 Honda Shadow Spirit for sale. 1100cc engine, 15,000 miles, very fast bike in excellent condition. Has cobra "slash cut" pipes, blue engine light effects, trailer hitch, and saddle bags. Asking \$5500 obo. Call Derrick at 636-443-3827

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### 2001 Escort

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### 1999 Kawasaki Ninja

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## Housing

### Seeking Roommate

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### For Rent

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### Seeking Roommate

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### 2001 Honda CBR600F4i

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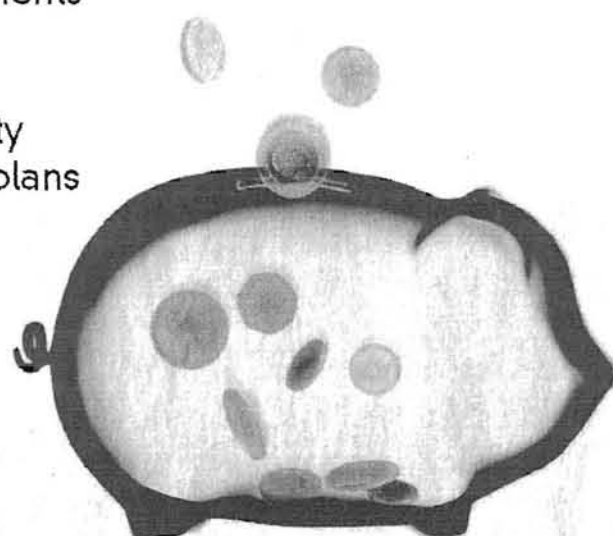
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