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University of Missouri-St. Louis

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The Current

January 28,
2008

www.thecurrentonline.com

VOLUME 41, ISSUE 123

INSIDE

South Campus dining hall opens

South Campus expanded its dining hours and added a new eatery for students, faculty and staff.

See NEWS, page 3



'Cloverfield': Not your typical monster flick

Michael Stahl-David stars as Rob Hawkins, the hero in director Matt Reeves' 'Cloverfield.'

See A&E, page 6

Lay the smackdown

Check out *The Current's* review of the new video game, 'WWE Smackdown vs. RAW 2008.'

See A&E, page 7



Tritons split games during homestand

On Thursday, both Triton basketball teams beat N. Kentucky, but both fell to Bellarmine on Saturday.

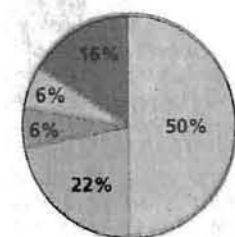
See SPORTS, page 8

ON THE WEB

The Current online.com

Web poll results:

How is the Highway 40 shutdown affecting your commute?



- Not at all
- A few minor detours
- Horrible! It's the end of the world
- My commute takes twice as long
- Highway 40 shut down?

This week's question:

Do you plan to vote on 'Super Tuesday'?

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ONE AND DONE: GOVERNOR MATT BLUNT PULLS OUT OF RE-ELECTION RACE

'I will not seek a second term'

By JUSTI MONTAGUE

Copy Editor



Matthew Hill • Photo Editor

Gov. Matt Blunt announced Tuesday that he would not seek a second term of office. Blunt has served as governor of Missouri since November 2004.

Matt Blunt announced Tuesday, Jan. 22 that he will not be seeking a second term as Missouri's governor.

Before running for governor of Missouri, Blunt served as Missouri's 37th Secretary of State, represented the 139th legislative district Greene County in the Missouri House of Representatives and served in the Navy in Operation Enduring Freedom, the United States' response to the Sept. 11 attacks.

Today, Blunt serves as lieutenant commander in the United States Naval Reserve.

Matt Blunt was elected Missouri's 54th governor on Nov. 2, 2004 with the support of 101 out of 114 counties. He ran on a platform which involved:

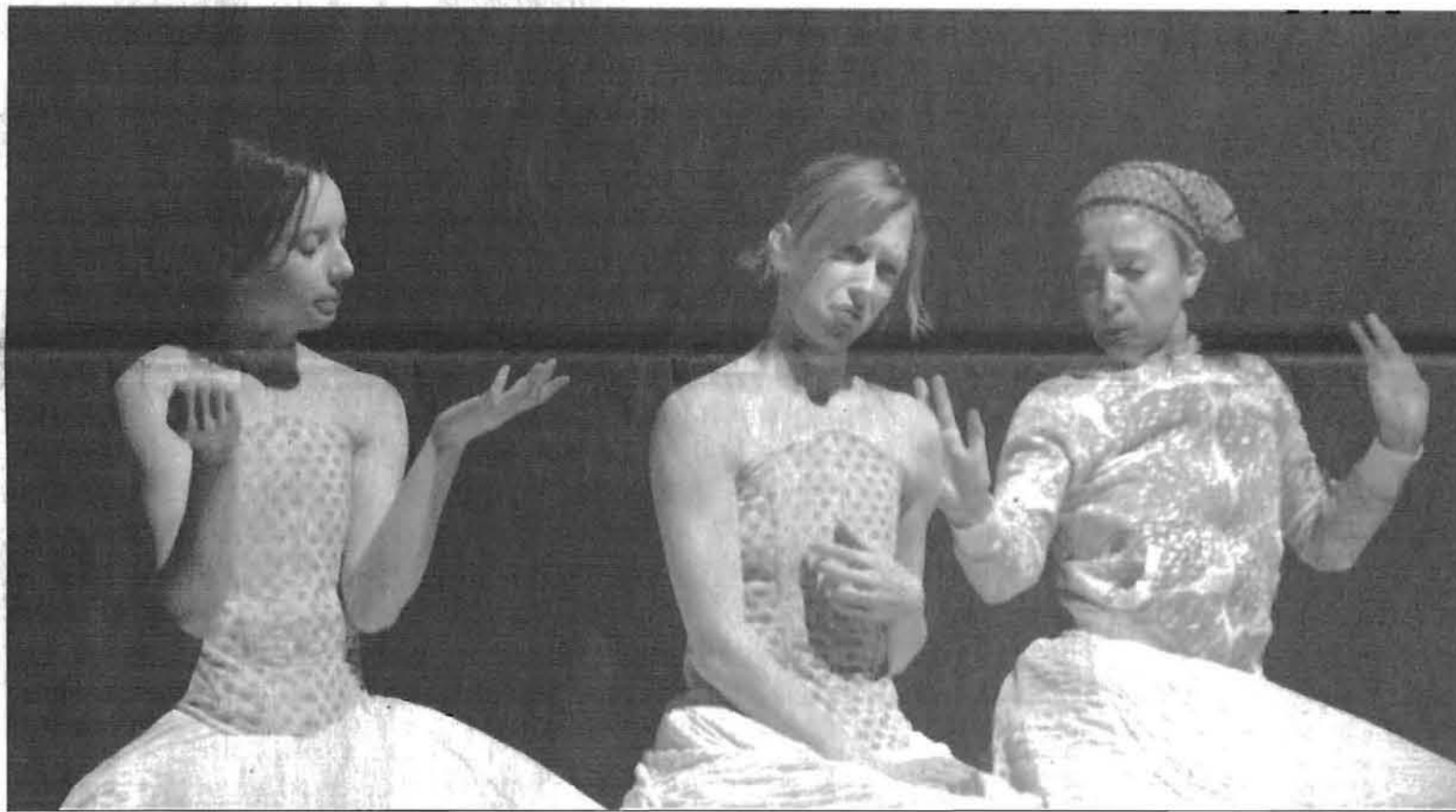
Quick Read

Matt Blunt was elected Missouri's 54th governor on Nov. 2, 2004. During his term, Blunt signed SB389 into law, giving funds to Benton-Stadler renovations and increased availability of Bright Flight scholarships to Missouri students.

making education the state's top budget priority; strengthening Missouri's economy and entrepreneurial climate and creating family supporting jobs, expanding access to high quality, affordable health care; and helping families, farms, and small businesses by holding the line on job-killing tax increases.

See MATT BLUNT, page 3

THE MUSE OF MEXICO PRESENTS...



Danny Reise • Assistant Photo Editor

Members of Dance St. Louis perform in Tania Perez-Salsas *Compania De Danza*, which opened at the Touhill in the Anheuser-Busch theater on Friday. The performance, inspired by Alessandro Baricco's *Oceano Mare*, is about the nature of femininity.

Registration numbers low for 3N alert system

By SARAH O'BRIEN

News Editor

While the number of students, faculty and staff in the University of Missouri system initially registering for the new emergency alert system was low, UM-St. Louis is slowly trying to get caught up.

"We started late asking faculty, but we are pretty much caught up to the other campuses," Bob Samples, director of University communications, said.

The UM system recently employed a vendor for a campuswide notification system as one way to notify faculty, staff and students of emergency situations occurring on their campus.

3N was employed by the UM-system last semester to encourage quicker notification in the event of a "serious" emergency on campus.

"We can reach people by email, office phones and we have sound systems on police vehicles," Samples said, as means of notifying the campus of dangerous situations. "That has tended to be what we've done to date."

Samples said the 3N emergency notification ability to reach the cell phones of enrolled students, faculty and staff through an automatic message or phone call would be an additional advantage in states of emergency on campus.

"Currently we've sent out an email to faculty and staff where they can go on to a UM system Web site and put up their cell phone or text message number," Samples said.

The initial email was sent out before winter break. Samples said another email would follow after faculty and staff had settled into the new semester.

The program has had low registration numbers systemwide. Samples said faculty and staff registration at each campus is at about 10 to 15 percent.

"We have not reached out to the students yet because 3N is setting up a Web site where the students can go and directly put it into the 3N database," Samples said. He added that the Web site would be up sometime this semester.

UM-St. Louis is the only campus where students do not have access to the Peoplesoft program, which makes it difficult for UM-St. Louis students to register, thus requiring 3N to create the separate site.

"Other campuses already have implemented that," Samples said. The program "will not be implemented until later this spring, once this happens students can access a UM system website for 3N," he said.

The registration for the 3N pro-

gram is voluntary, and the information will be used only in the most serious of emergency situations.

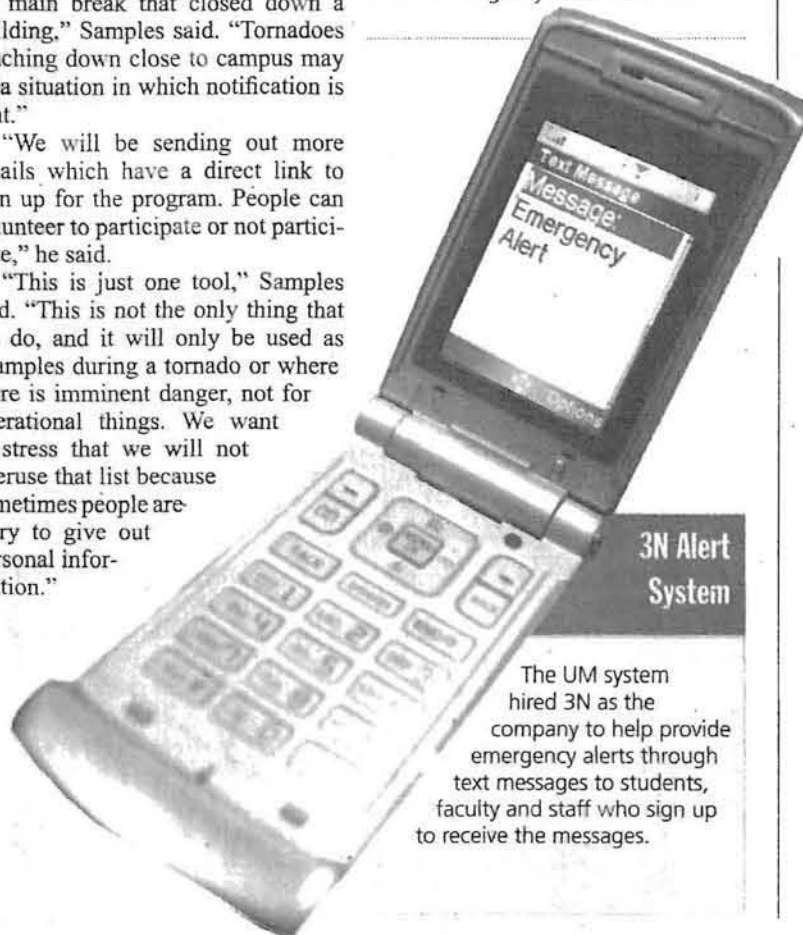
"Not a severe emergency is a water main break that closed down a building," Samples said. "Tornadoes touching down close to campus may be a situation in which notification is sent."

"We will be sending out more emails which have a direct link to sign up for the program. People can volunteer to participate or not participate," he said.

"This is just one tool," Samples said. "This is not the only thing that we do, and it will only be used as examples during a tornado or where there is imminent danger, not for operational things. We want to stress that we will not overuse that list because sometimes people are leery to give out personal information."

Quick Read

Only 10-15 percent of faculty and staff at each UM campus has signed up to receive emergency alerts from 3N.



3N Alert System

The UM system hired 3N as the company to help provide emergency alerts through text messages to students, faculty and staff who sign up to receive the messages.

WELLNESS CENTER

Makeover for Mark Twain in the works

By JEREMY TRICE

Staff Writer

Talks are in motion to possibly develop a new fitness and wellness facility in the Mark Twain building.

Athletics Director John Garvilla says he wants "a facility that will meet the current needs of the students, faculty, staff and external members until a separate fitness building can be built."

The Mark Twain building was built in the 1970s and according to Garvilla, "has created change in use of space."

Garvilla's plan for the facility would be to potentially combine the weight room and two of the racquetball areas for a 5,100-square-foot facility.

"Others have been receptive to this idea," Garvilla said. "It is a much-needed facility."

"It'd be great," said Matt Silver, freshman, accounting, concerning the idea of a new facility.

Garvilla said the idea of a health and wellness facility is "financially feasible as compared to actually building a new facility," but he does "envision one day for the institution to actually build one."

According to Garvilla, right now "the project is in the conceptual stages of developing such a facility."

"I believe that such a facility would play a role in enrollment management, community relations and enhance athletic success," Garvilla said.

Garvilla's current issues with the lower floor of the facility at present need are a lack of membership appeal and marketability, inefficient use of space, supervision concerns, antiquated equipment and health and safety concerns.

Health and safety concerns are what Garvilla said is "a lack of supervision in the Mark Twain weight room and occasional student worker supervision."

Garvilla wishes to "eliminate liability by hiring a full-time supervisor to this new facility."

Inefficient use of space relates to what Garvilla said is, "the decline in the use of the racquetball areas."

Concerning the equipment, Garvilla says that "slightly 50 percent of the equipment in the weight room is over 15 years old" and that he "wants a facility with state of the art equipment."

Comparing the workout equipment that other universities have, Mizzou's Yeckel Training Center in their Athletic Training Complex has 15,000 square feet of space for athletes to train in, along with a 4,000-square-foot turf-covered balcony.



John Garvilla
Athletics Director

Quick Read

The Athletics Department is considering creating a wellness and fitness center inside the walls of the Mark Twain complex.

See WELLNESS, page 3

Stay Current with this week's weather

Monday

Hi/Low: 62/48
Precip: 40%

Tuesday

Hi/Low: 52/20
Precip: 30%

Wednesday

Hi/Low: 39/25
Precip: 10%

Thursday

Hi/Low: 37/27
Precip: 30%

Friday

Hi/Low: 32/20
Precip: 40%

Saturday

Hi/Low: 43/26
Precip: 10%

Sunday

Hi/Low: 44/31
Precip: 10%

Weather predictions taken from NOAA national weather system.

CAMPUS CRIMELINE

FRIDAY, JAN. 25

STEALING OVER \$500 - UNIVERSITY MEADOWS

Victim stated person(s) unknown, made surreptitious entry to her room in the University Meadows Apartment Complex, and removed a lock box, containing checks and credit cards. There are no current suspects in this incident.

STEALING UNDER \$500 - NURSING ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

Victim stated person(s) unknown gained entry to a first floor conference room in the Nursing Administration Building and removed a telephone. There are no current suspects in this incident.

The UM-St. Louis Police Department is open 24 hours a day. If you see anyone that looks suspicious or out of place you are encouraged to call the UM-St. Louis Police at 516-5155 or 911 if it is an emergency.

Remember that crime prevention is a community effort, and anyone having information concerning these or any other incidents should contact the campus police.

WORTHY CAUSE DRAWS TRITONS



Anika Barnes takes blood from Samantha Conforti, junior, secondary education and English, on Jan. 22 in the MSC Century Rooms.

Sofi Seck • Staff Photographer

What's Current

Your weekly calendar of campus events

MONDAY, JAN. 28

Chemistry Colloquium

Jennifer S. Laurence, assistant professor of pharmaceutical chemistry at the University of Kansas-Lawrence, will discuss "Investigating the relationship between the structure of the phosphatase of regenerating liver PRL-1 and its redox modulation," at 4 p.m. in 451 Benton.

Monday Noon Series

Mike Miller, assistant professor of art at the University of Illinois, Springfield, will discuss "Pattern Interference: Digital Media and the Visual Arts" at 12:15 p.m. in the SGA Chamber, Millennium Student Center. The event is free.

TUESDAY, JAN. 29

Aikido Classes

Campus Rec's Aikido classes will begin its 8 week classes. The classes will meet Tuesdays and Thursdays at 12:45 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. \$10 for students, \$25 for faculty, staff and alumni and \$35 for general public. For more information call 5326.

Study Abroad Session

This information session will cover the types of programs available, scholarships and financial aid, earning academic credit, application procedures, and much more. 3:30 p.m. until 4:15 p.m. in room 261 MSC. For more information call 6497.

Colloquium

"Sequential and Parallel Algorithms for Some Problems on Trees" by Raymond Greenlaw, professor of computer science at Armstrong Atlantic State University in Savannah, Ga. 3 p.m. in room 302 Computer Center Building. For more information call 6355.

Wellness Outreach

Health, Wellness, and Counseling Services will be having an outreach to raise awareness about HPV and Gardasil. Event held in the Nosh from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

St. Louis Symphony

The Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra will perform a concert, "Discover Messiaen's Turangalila Symphony," at 7:30 p.m., in the Touhill Performing Arts Center. Tickets are \$35-\$111, UM-St. Louis student and employee discount available, go to <http://www.touhill.org/>.

Pipeline to Local Office

If you are ready to enter public life, attend this workshop-50 percent of the candidates who have attended have gone on to win their elections. Topics include developing a winning campaign plan and budget, targeting likely voters, fund-raising, getting voters to the polls, and public speaking. Cost: \$50. The workshop will be held from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. in 126 J.C. Penney Center.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 30

Halo Event

Come play Halo on the big projector screen in the Pilot House. The game will be played on Xbox 360s from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. For more information go to <http://www.umsl.edu/~sigmapl>.

Study Abroad

All students considering study abroad for a semester or academic year should attend an information session as a first step. Application deadline for summer and fall programs is Feb. 22. The sessions will be held from 12:30 p.m. to 1:15 p.m. in the 261 MSC.

"What's Current" is a free service for all student organizations and campus departments. Deadline for submissions is 5 p.m. the 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. Email event listings to thecurrent@umsl.edu.

All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.



Tom Bremer • Page Designer

The Pilot House will host Sigma Pi's Xbox 360 Halo event this week. The event will be Wed. Jan. 30 from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Bills, Bills, Bills

Come learn how to get you and your vendor paid. 1-2 p.m. in the SGA chambers. Call Student Life, 5921, for more info.

THURSDAY, JAN. 31

Talk Sex

The Talk Sex with Sue Johanson Tour stops at UMSL at 8 p.m. in JC Penney Building room 101. Get all the answers you have ever wanted to know about sex. For more information call 5531.

Ski Trip Deadline

Jan. 31 is the SIGN-UP DEADLINE for Campus Rec's HIDDEN VALLEY SKI TRIP scheduled for Friday, Feb. 8, 5 p.m.-midnight. Cost- \$20/student \$30/faculty/staff Registration fee includes lift tickets, ski or snowboard rental, one-hour ski lesson, and transportation. Call 5326.

FRIDAY, FEB. 1

Myths & Facts

Safe Zone is sponsoring a talk on HIV/AIDS: The Myths & Facts. The talk will take place from 12 p.m. until 1 p.m. in Clark Hall room 211. Free to campus and community. For more information call 5711.

Justice System Talk

Visiting scholar Brian Johnson from University of Maryland will be discussing Judges and prosecutors departing from sentencing guidelines. Talk is from 11:45 a.m. until 2:15 p.m. in SSB 133.

MONDAY, FEB. 4

Black 68 Pageant

This is the first event of Black 68 week and the Associated Black Collegians wants you to participate! Event is held from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. at the Pilot House.

Nurses Celebration

The College of Nursing presents a Celebration of African-American Nursing History from 8 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. in the J.C. Penney Conference Center. Join us for the first event of this kind. For more information call 5948 or visit <http://nursing.umsl.edu>.

Get your fix every Monday!
The Current

The Current

The University of Missouri-St. Louis
Student Newspaper Since 1966

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CORRECTIONS

The Current regrets that sometimes in our making of this publication, we make mistakes. To report any corrections that need to be made, please contact The Current at 314-516-5174 or by email at thecurrent@umsl.edu.

In the Jan. 22 issue of The Current the following corrections need to be made:

The caption for the photo with the MLK contest winning essay, "The Freedom to Dream" incorrectly named the speaker as Hilary O. Shelton. The person pictured is actually Charles Piller.

The Current

<http://www.thecurrentonline.com>

Now Hiring for **Features Editor**: The Features Editor receives a \$50 weekly salary and is responsible for overseeing the features section, including ensuring 4-6 stories are covered in the section, writing one story per week and editing stories.

Send a cover letter and resume to thecurrent@umsl.edu



South Campus opens new dining hall in the ProHo

By Sarah O'Brien
News Editor

Chartwells opened the doors of the new dining hall in the Provincial House on South Campus at the start of the new semester.

South Campus is home to Optometry, Nursing and the Honors Colleges where hundreds of students have class throughout the day.

Until this semester, students' options for dining on South Campus were slim.

Now students have the opportunity to dine in buffet style cuisine similar to the Nosh on North Campus.

Robert Bliss, dean of the Honors College, said he is "delighted" with the opening of the new dining hall, which is located in the same building where most honors courses are held.

Bliss said the kitchen was remodeled in 2003, and later, UM-St. Louis marketing graduate students created a market survey for the staff, faculty and students from the Honors College and Residential Life.

The survey asked whether stu-

dents, faculty and staff were interested in a "catering outlet" on South Campus.

"The survey was very well done," Bliss said, adding that he was grateful for the help of Haim Mano, associate professor of marketing.

"Bringing the catering facility to South Campus in winter 2008 was a cooperative effort, which began in earnest in August and September 2007 after preliminary discussions between Student Affairs and Chartwells," Bliss said.

"It involved all the South Campus

deans and directors [Children's Center, Education, Honors, Nursing, Optometry, Residential Life, and Social Work] and students," Bliss said.

Curt Coonrod, vice provost of Student Affairs and Gloria Schultz, director of division of Auxiliary Services, headed the effort along with Chartwells.

Planning for the facility included types of payment, food and hours among other issues.

Currently, the system does not accept debit or credit cards, but does accept Chartwells meal plans and

cash.

"A grand lunchtime opening was held for faculty and staff on Friday, Jan. 11," Bliss said.

"While I feel that this facility should have been open before this semester, I am delighted that it has opened now and see no point in lamenting any avoidable delays," Bliss said, "and let's hope the wait has been worth it."

Bliss said he believes "the food is of good quality."

Chartwells offers hot meals, a soup and salad bar, as well as a soda

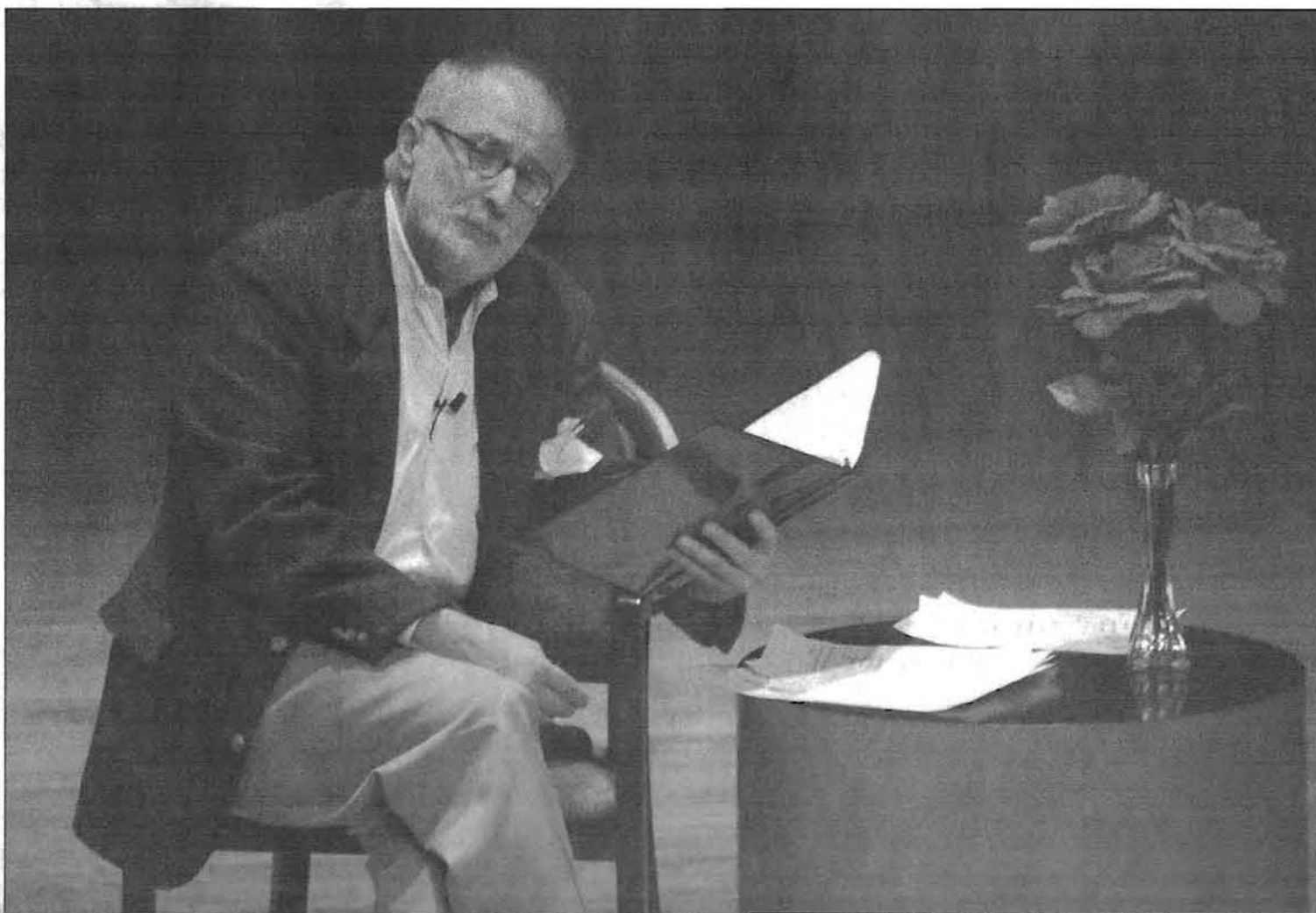
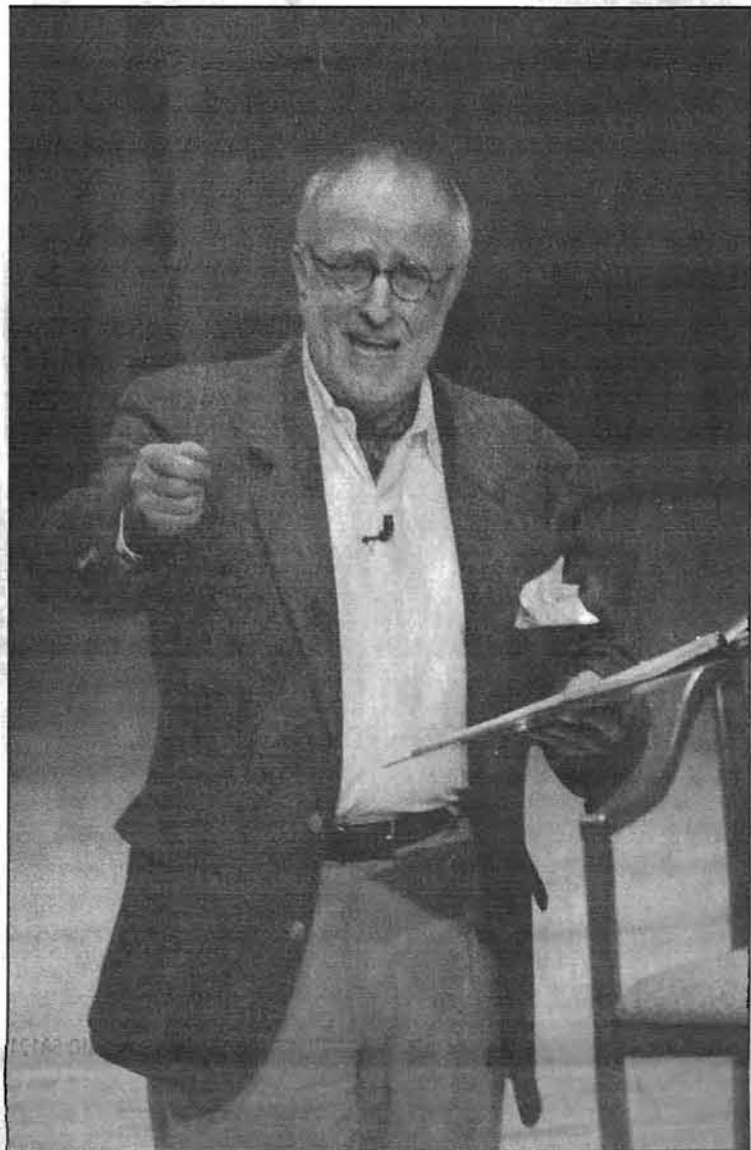
fountain and other amenities.

"Above all, the staff that Chartwells has chosen to launch this service have been hospitable, cheerful and helpful," Bliss said.

While Bliss is disappointed in the "actual use" of the hall, he hopes that it will "catch on and gain custom" as the semester moves on.

"Through enhanced collegiality, the success of this dining hall will underwrite the academic success of the honors college and other South Campus units," Bliss said. "So let's eat, shall we?"

'CAVAFY' MYSTIFIES AT THE TOUHILL



Yannis Simonides puts on a solo performance of 'Cavafy', based on the life and work of Alexandrine poet Constantine P. Cavafy, at the Touhill Friday night. His performance was part of the International Performing Arts Series 2007-2008, sponsored by the Center for International Studies.

SGA prepares for Board of Curators to discuss fee increase

By Jessica Keil
Staff Writer

The student fees that the Student Government Association approved in December will be up for approval when the UM Board of Curators visits campus this week.

SGA President Bryan Goers informed the students the Board of Curators would be meeting on campus on Thursday, Jan. 31 and Friday, Feb. 1.

Gary Forsee, former CEO of Sprint and newly appointed system president of the UM system, will be present at the meeting as well as the former president Gordon H. Lamb. Lamb, currently executive vice president for Forsee, will be receiving a gift at the Board of Curators meeting for his service to the school as system president.

The Board of Curators will vote for the increase in student fees that the SGA assembly passed on Dec. 7. The fee increases include a 10-cent increase for Health Services, a 38-cent increase for the Millennium Student Center, a 50-cent increase for Athletics and an 8-cent increase for Infrastructure.

These are in addition to the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Fine Arts and Commu-

nication's proposed 3.5 percent fee increase for next year.

These fee increases will be discussed by the Board of Curators in its meeting on Thursday Jan. 31 of next week and decided on the next day, Friday Feb. 1.

Bryan Goers, SGA president, said that unlike the past chancellors, UM-St. Louis's current chancellor Thomas F. George is "on the SGA's side," meaning that the fee increases are likely to be passed by the board.

Also at the meeting, Andrew Mulcheck, junior, secondary education and Pi Kappa Alpha member, was nominated for Student Court justice. The motion to nominate Mulcheck went unopposed and he was soon after elected to the Student Court.

When asked why he wanted to run, Mulcheck said, "I wanted to become more involved," and added that he was "excited" to be participating in the Student Court this semester.

The meeting also included reminders of upcoming events such as Relay for Life, Black History Month and Sue Johanson's "Talk Sex" tour on Thursday, Jan. 31.

A brief discussion about Homecoming was also included in the SGA meeting.

Cadence Rippeto said the date is set for Sept. 27, 2008 and will be held at the Millennium Hotel in downtown St. Louis.

The chairs for Homecoming are Grace Marie Ritter and Katie Moore. Homecoming committee applications are due Feb. 29 at 5 p.m.



Andrew Mulcheck
New Student Court Justice

NEWS BRIEF

First chair of psychology department dies

Former UM-St. Louis psychology department chairman and psychology professor Alan G. Krasnoff died Wednesday, Jan. 23 of pneumonia. He was 79-years-old and lived in Clayton.

Krasnoff helped start the psychology department at the University.

Krasnoff worked with UM-St. Louis graduate students evaluating inmates at local county jails. Though he retired in 1990, he continued the inmate evaluation project until 2001.

Krasnoff was a veteran of World War II, enlisting to the U.S. Army branch almost immediately after his 17th birthday in 1945. He served in Korea as well.

He leaves behind a large family including a wife, two sons, two daughters and eight grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Jewish Food Pantry, 10950 Schuetz Road, St. Louis, Mo. 63146, or to a charity of the donor's choice.

WELLNESS, from page 1

According to Mizzou's athletic Web site, "the weight room equipment will be upgraded with over \$300,000 in additions and replacements from Hammer Strength and Life Fitness."

The Yeckel Training Center also have a Nutrition Oasis, where Balance Bars and Gatorade among other items are provided.

"I aim for a cleaner, healthier environment," Garvilla said, speaking about this possible facility.

Benefits to this project according to Garvilla are to "improve our health, safety and supervision concerns, expand the possibility for revenue generated by memberships, provide a recruiting tool more comparable to our competing institutions and expand the possibilities for usable space created."

"I want to give the students, faculty, and staff a facility that they can proud of," Garvilla said.

A date has not yet been set for the start of this project.

MATT BLUNT, from page 1

While in office, Blunt signed the AARP Divided We Fail Health Care Pledge, which will work in a bipartisan way to advocate for healthcare policies for not only Missourians, but for all Americans to be provided with access to quality, affordable healthcare and lifetime financial security.

Blunt was also given the special Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) Lion Mascot Award for his leadership and influence in Missouri public schools to help keep children off drugs.

When Blunt was elected governor, Missouri's budget was \$1.1 billion in the red, and the Blunt administration turned that into three straight surpluses without raising taxes. In fact, taxes were cut while

Blunt was in office.

His budgets have delivered \$1.2 billion to Missouri's public school system, and since 2004, Missouri's record job loss has been turned into almost 90,000 new jobs.

Pledging in the campaign and in his inaugural address to honor and strengthen Missouri's values, Blunt enacted pro-life legislation; is appointing men and women with "sound values and strong credentials" to the state judiciary; passed legislation to fight the plague of meth production; and signed bills honoring Missouri's veterans.

Blunt's campaign announced to Missourians that he will not be running for reelection because "what we set-out to achieve four years ago has been accomplished." Blunt

says he would never run for office just to hold a title, but only to bring change to government. Blunt believes that "virtually everything" he wanted to accomplish as governor has been accomplished, and there is not a "sense of mission" for him to run for a second term.

At the end of his term, Blunt will have served 20 years in public service, 10 years in the United States Navy and 10 years in the state government.

According to Blunt, he would like Missourians to understand that he is not retiring from trying to make Missouri a better place, but that his wife Melanie and his son William Branch mean the world to him and he is looking forward to more time spent with them.

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The Current



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OPINION

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

Guest commentaries are typically longer (generally 400-600 words) on a specific topic of interest to readers. If you are interested in writing a guest commentary, please contact *The Current's* editor-in-chief.

Letters and commentaries will also be printed online at www.thecurrentonline.com

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OUR OPINION



Mission accomplished?

Gov. Matt Blunt: The good, the bad and the ugly

Gov. Matt Blunt announced last week he would not seek another term as Missouri governor citing his reason as already accomplishing the mission he set out to do. *The Current* has watched Blunt carry out many things during his term.

However, after reviewing what Blunt has done for UM-St. Louis and the UM system, was this really what Blunt set out to do? Below is a short list of his enterprises for the UM-St. Louis campus including the good, the bad and the ugly.

Good: Blunt recently visited campus in December, announcing his plan to increase funding for higher education in Missouri.

Good: In May 2007, Blunt signed into law Senate Bill 389, promising overdue funding for renovations in science classrooms and labs in Benton-Stadler Hall.

Good Yet Bad: Hidden in the language of SB389 was a cap placed on tuition and student fees to the rate of inflation and the Consumer Price Index. This may seem good, but the cap could potentially hurt departments like Athletics and Health Services, causing them to look for money elsewhere. The limit on fee increases may also pose potential problems like less health care that the University can provide. Limiting student fee increases also means less money to

be distributed across the board to student organizations.

Bad: Blunt originally planned about a third of the MOHELA loan sale money (\$350 in student loan assets, including \$85 million for a life science building at UM-Columbia) to be put toward the UM-Columbia campus.

Good: The Missouri legislature decided to override Blunt's suggestion for how the money from the MOHELA sale would be allocated by cutting Mizzou about \$50 million and giving the UM-St. Louis campus more funding to allow for the construction of an information technology incubator.

Good: Blunt helped increase students' chances for earning Bright Flight scholarships, lowering the requirements so more students could be eligible to receive financial aid to assist paying for college.

Good: Blunt made sure procedures were in place at Missouri universities to step up security and decrease the chances of tragedies happening like the Virginia Tech incident, including recommendations such as class-specific emergency instructions printed on class syllabi, monitoring disciplinary records of transfer students, installing locks on the inside of classroom doors and surveillance cameras.

Ugly: When Maria Kerford (formerly Maria Curtis) was the student representative to the University of Missouri Board of Curators, Blunt tried to strip the UM-St. Louis student from her full two-year term as student curator. Because a state statute maintains that the term of the student curator begins and ends in January and Kerford began in July, Blunt tried to correct the timing of the term by shortchanging Kerford in her position.

Good: Despite this, Blunt's office never took any action to correct the matter and Kerford served two full years until last summer when UM-Columbia student Tony Luetkemeyer took over.

Good Yet Bad: In January 2007, Blunt announced a \$40 million increase in funding to Missouri universities. Despite this bold move (any extra money for UM-St. Louis is a good thing), the increase still does not bring UM-St. Louis to the funding levels that it received in state appropriations in 2000.

For the most part, UM-St. Louis benefited from Blunt's actions as governor. While *The Current* concedes that the governor cannot always please everybody, was favoring certain schools over another really an intention of Blunt for his mission for Missouri?

STAFF VIEWPOINT

Single-payer is something used, not something new

With the primaries in full swing, we are hearing a good deal of racket on various issues from candidates on both sides of the proverbial aisle.

It feels that there has been a theme of the week pattern with each passing debate. We have heard about the war in Iraq, some comical solutions to terrorism which included one time GOP hopeful Fred Thompson expressing his willingness to satisfy the demands of Islamic extremists who were as eager to get to heaven and their 70 virgins, and even the relevance of the faith of the candidates while in office courtesy of Republican candidates Huckabee and Romney.

Last week in South Carolina, healthcare and potential solutions garnered the spotlight, particularly among the Democratic contenders.

The candidates began to throw around a phrase that may have struck the ears of the electorate as something new, namely "single payer system." Alas, it is not, strictly speaking. In fact, it is just a nicer way of dressing up a proposal to move the U.S. healthcare system toward Universal Coverage.

That is not to say that there are not differences between the two proposals, however, it is their striking

similarities that can still put one off of either.

Under single-payer, the federal government would use taxes to fund health insurance for all Americans in a similar fashion as they do currently for Medicare. This potentially puts the federal government in the role of being not only your insurance broker, but also your adjuster.

In order to take this system and make the jump to full blown socialized medicine, the federal government would have to take complete control of the hospital systems in this country and employ the physicians directly. Still, the latter is not a far cry from the initial proposition, I think.

The single-payer is not an absurd notion altogether. It appears to work with some efficacy at the micro level, namely with Medicare and also the Veterans Administration which follows a model much more closer to a socialized set up in which the doctors and hospitals are owned and funded directly by the federal government. However, at the macro level, significant problems arise.

First, some claim that a move toward single-payer would have the benefit of administrative efficiency that could ultimately push costs



By STUART REEVES

Columnist

downward. This is a tenuous claim. In order to put single-payer into effect and claim this particular victory, one has to wrestle away power from the private insurers that currently support the millions of employer-subsidized plans that exist.

One possible solution to this is to use a pool model similar to what is used for flood insurance for homeowners or catastrophic event coverage for the airline industry. Under these plans, money is contributed to a large pool from which these parties can make claims, however, the administrative duties are contracted out to private insurance companies.

Former North Carolina Senator John Edwards actually had a pearl of wisdom I was surprised to agree with: give Americans the option to either purchase their insurance privately or through the single-payer system. However, this exposes a second concern, namely the need to maintain private coverage in spite of a potential single-payer system.

Most Republicans and several conservative Democrats have long said putting the government in charge of managing healthcare opens the door for them to set price and determine coverage to such a degree that it will stifle free market instruments, cripple research and generally have a negative affect on quality of care.

In Canada, which currently has a single-payer system, its citizens are urged to purchase supplementary health insurance to cover those conditions, maladies and other circumstances that would arise and not be covered under a federal plan.

This signals to me that once we have single-payer in place, we will simply have a redressing of the problem all over again. While a larger segment of the general population will have access to rudimentary healthcare, such as preventative medicine

and emergency care, above a certain point, we are back at square one with that same newly insured segment not having access to other critical care items due to expense.

Since there is no way of knowing what the market effect will be on the cost of such supplemental insurance, it is utterly irresponsible to rely on it to cover any potential gap in coverage or care.

So there you have it, folks. We can use single-payer to service the healthcare needs of very specific and vulnerable segments of our population, such as minors, the elderly and veterans, and perhaps we even have a duty to do so. However, this system is far too problematic for the general public.

The beauty of the employer-subsidized model is that it forces businesses to recognize the inherent worth in their workforce and the need to maintain their physical well-being in order to perform their jobs and thus stimulate the growth of that enterprise.

Moreover, there is nothing novel in the single-payer set up. The concerns that have never been adequately addressed in previous universal proposals still arise under the single-payer setup, making it literally just a rose by another name.

EDITOR'S VIEWPOINT

Random acts of kindness

If you saw an unattended burning pile of leaves on fire at a house where you did not know the occupants, would you stop or just drive by?

If you are walking down the hallway and somebody who you do not know drops a cell phone in front of you and does not notice, would you say anything or keep on walking?

If you see somebody breaking into a car whose owner you most likely do not know in one of the parking garages, would you call the police or ignore the perpetrator?

Think about your answer carefully because what you would ideally do and what you would actually do are probably different.

We all hear stories like these and we also hear those stories where the random stranger rescues a child from a burning building or maybe saves another person from being run over by a car.

When Richard Middleton, political science professor at UM-St. Louis, saved a house from burning earlier this month, his instinct was to help and he did not even consider any alternatives. "You see someone's yard on fire, you don't even think twice."

For Middleton, that might be true. For others, they probably would think twice or not even consider stopping at the house to call the fire department and police as an option of what to do in that situation.

There are always reasons not to act. Maybe you are in a hurry to be somewhere by a certain time and do not have the time to do or say anything.



By PAUL HACKBARTH

Editor-in-Chief

Maybe your past has been ridden with people who did not seem to care when one of the above situations happened to you.

Maybe you are scared to get involved for safety reasons or because you do not know the person involved and how they might react.

Maybe you think that it will not affect you, and you may be right.

However, for every reason not to do something, there is a reason to do that random act of kindness.

While you may not feel like a hero, the people whose life or house or prized possession that you might end up saving will think you are.

After doing something good for somebody else, you might get that tingling feeling of satisfaction that you did something good.

Maybe you will simply do it for karma reasons. What goes around comes around. You know that you would want someone to do the same for you in that situation.

Maybe you will even be rewarded for your efforts.

After taking several classes on foreign culture and the rest of the world's sense of community compared to the individualistic nature and the "me-me-me" culture in the U.S., it is good to know some people in this country still have a sense of community and a sense to look out for each other.

Apathy should not be an option in these types of situations.

Remember that it is not so much doing the right thing as it is just doing something, taking some sort of action.

UNDERCURRENT

By Danny Reise • Asst. Photo Editor

Where is the best place to park on campus?

What do you think? Send your own response to thecurrent@umsl.edu or talk about it in our online forums at www.thecurrentonline.com



Jeff Grossman
Junior
Communication

"The shuttle is the best way to go, when there's room to sit down, that is."



Janelle Bradshaw
Junior
Biology

"I like to park in the West garage, but it is never open."



James Akers
Senior
History Education

"For \$270 I should get to park in the MSC. Preferably near the escalators."



Karan Pujji
Junior
Finance

"Right in front of the pond by the Bridge."



Peter Hantack
Junior
Education

"At the Mark Twain Center."

STUDY ABROAD

Out of Africa

Clintons, Cape Town and campus life

A lot has happened here in South Africa in the past week.

Before moving on campus, there was a blackout in the city that has been long awaited. Just the week before, Johannesburg also suffered a huge blackout that has many in the country afraid they are running out of electricity. The blackout in Cape Town only furthered those fears.

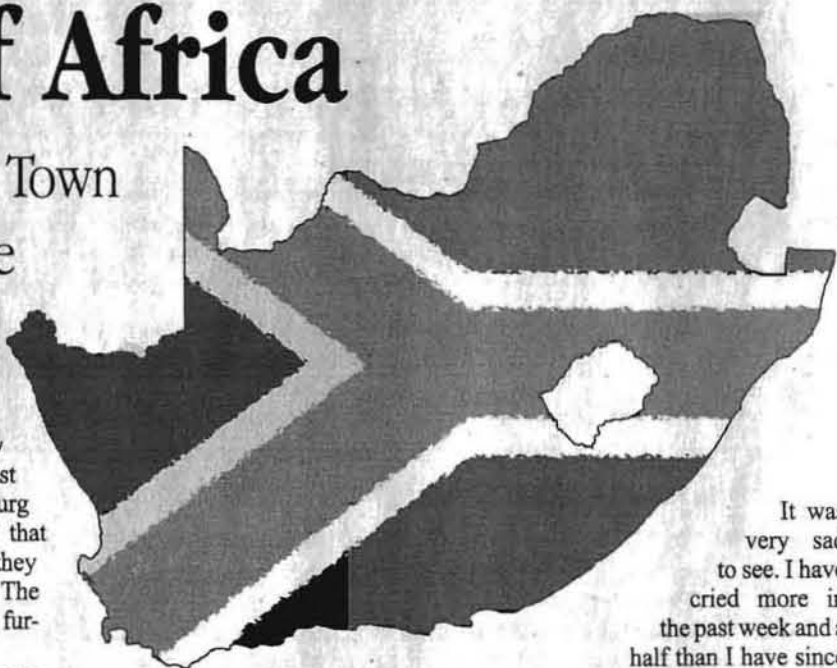
Nonetheless, I spent that time getting to know some fellow travelers. Every person I talk to asks if Hillary is going to win the election. The Clintons have done a lot for this region and apparently everyone wants her to win. When I try to explain how our primaries work, not many people understand, even the Europeans.

As far as understanding, everyone on campus speaks Afrikaans, which I did not expect. Everyone speaks English very well too, but it definitely makes me think people are talking about me if I walk past.

Not only am I the only white person around, but, I dress funny because all I have done for these first few days is walk around in the warm weather and go to the gym, so I have been walking around in my workout clothes. I realized this morning that probably is not the best idea.

I have not had access to television at all and very little Internet until next week, but I heard the U.S. market is on the downhill slopes again.

It is weird not being able to talk current events with people when I know so much about it. Here, I have tried to talk to a few about the U.S. economy



It was very sad to see. I have cried more in the past week and a half than I have since I was a baby I think. It makes me feel like a baby, but some of the things I see are truly sad and hard to not get emotional over.

Still past that, people are generally nice, with some people on campus having gone out of their way to assure I am comfortable here. I am sure they understand somewhat how I feel here.

The weather here apparently is always between 60 at night and 80 during the day, with wind. The campus is somewhat like Mizzou, except with a large barbed wire fence surrounding the entire property. I have been advised to never leave campus alone and to try not to leave without a car if I am with someone else.

Nighttime as well can be dangerous, even on campus, especially for a white person. Everyone thinks I am rich. Compared to them I am, but in reality, I am not.

I hope I am giving you a little insight into what South Africa is like. When I have the better access to the Internet I will be able to write more often and show you some of the fascinating pictures I have taken.

Cheers from South Africa.



By THOMAS HELTON

Columnist

I am also unsure of what I am allowed to ask about.

On the drive to campus last Thursday, which is about 30 minutes from the city, much like UM-St. Louis, I saw a township, or a few of them. Unfortunately I do not have pictures this week, but you can look up South Africa Townships on Google to see what I have seen.

It is virtually a city or town made entirely up of crowded little houses that people put together out of garbage.

JESSICA ALBA
THE EYE

SEBASTIAN RUTHERFORD
DAVID MOREAU AND XAVIER TRILLIO

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STAFF VIEWPOINT

McCaskill: Obama's latest fan

Perhaps you have seen the TV spots. Claire McCaskill recently added herself to Barack Obama's impressive and ever-growing list of supporters.

On the surface, McCaskill's endorsement comes as a pleasant surprise. It is nice to see someone take a side in the increasingly bitter Hillary-Obama rivalry.

Between the lines, there are some crucial connotations of McCaskill's pledged support. While nobody is saying it out loud, McCaskill's endorsement is a big boost for Obama's quest to win over female Democrats. For Missouri Democrats conflicted over whom they support, McCaskill's endorsement may very well be a deciding factor.

Senator McCaskill does not mince words when vouching for Obama, calling him passionate and inspiring and expressing how moved she is by his message.

No matter what you think of Obama or McCaskill, her endorsement is potent simply because it is a demonstration of Obama's ability to awaken excitement within the



By CHRIS STEWART
Staff Writer

Democratic Party.

Having less-than-successfully offered John Kerry in the hopes of "changing things" in 2004, the Democratic Party clearly needs to play things more aggressively this time around. For many people, Obama represents the tangible presence of change.

Equally removed from Edwards' uninspiring monotone and Hillary's suspicious closeness to the political machine, Obama has relied on individual support from the start. Touting the fact that he receives a large portion of financial support in small

personal donations, Obama has gained a lot of momentum through word of mouth.

Obama's campaign has worked hard to show him as a young, fresh, natural leader who is the candidate that is really going to finally bring change. Boosting this image is Senator McCaskill's story of how she decided to endorse Obama.

She has told how she was hesitant to speak out on the matter until confronted to do so by her teenage daughter. This kind of conscience-fueled support is exactly what young democratic voters are hoping Obama will be able to get from the rest of the government if elected. Senator McCaskill's message is timely arriving with Super Tuesday less than two weeks away.

In a close race where momentum is everything, it is safe to say that McCaskill's endorsement will help Obama build support. By adding her voice to the ranks, Claire McCaskill is sure to sway a few people who are distracted by the details of the race and have forgotten how much is at stake this year.

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EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS MICHAEL DILBECK AND BRYAN DONWELL PRODUCED BY TOM COSTAIN WRITTEN BY PERRY ANDELIN BLAKE DIRECTED BY DAVID HENNING

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS ADAM SANDLER JACK GIARRAPUTO GLENN'S GAINOR BILL TODMAN JR. EDWARD MILSTEIN PAUL SCHWAKE PRODUCED BY PETER GAULKE WRITTEN BY PETER GAULKE & FRED WOLF DIRECTED BY FRED WOLF

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UPCOMING MOVIE RELEASES

BE KIND REWIND

Directed by Michel Gondry, starring Jack Black and Mos Def.

JOHN RAMBO

Directed by and starring Sylvester Stallone.

UNTRACEABLE

Directed by Gregory Hoblit, starring Diane Lane and Colin Hanks.

CHARLIE BARTLETT

Directed by Jon Poll, starring Anton Yelchin and Robert Downey Jr.

THE EYE

Directed by David Moreau and Xavier Palud, starring Jessica Alba and Parker Posey.

OVER HER DEAD BODY

Directed by Jeff Lowell, starring Evan Longoria Parker and Paul Rudd.

STRANGE WILDERNESS

Directed by Fred Wolf, starring Steve Zahn.

FOOL'S GOLD

Directed by Andy Tennant, starring Kate Hudson and Matthew McConaughey.

WELCOME HOME ROSCOE JENKINS

Directors Malcolm D. Lee, starring Martin Lawrence, and James Earl Jones.

TOP TUNES DOWNLOADS

1. Low - Flo Rida featuring T-Pain
2. Don't Stop the Music - Rihanna
3. With You - Chris Brown
4. Love Song - Sara Bareilles
5. Take You There - Sean Kingston
6. Piece of Me - Britney Spears
7. Apologize - Timbaland feat. OneRepublic
8. No One - Alicia Keys
9. Clumsy - Fergie
10. Paralyzer - Finger Eleven



MOVIE REVIEW

'Cloverfield' brings home video to monster movies

By CHRIS STEWART • STAFF WRITER



J.J. Abrams strikes gold again

Here is a disaster movie told by the victims that brings a few fresh things to the genre.

Too often a monster movie will simply be an excuse for a director to destroy the world in a burst of visual decadence. Also common to disaster movies is preaching; from the atomic parables of 1950's Godzilla to the glory days of disaster flicks: the Vietnam-torn 1970's, screenwriters have a nasty habit of bombarding the audience with obvious metaphors. "Cloverfield" manages to break free of these trappings and is consistently intense and entertaining, and yes, even a little scary.

"Cloverfield" is filmed in a low-key, home video style and features a cast of unknowns. The characters are far easier to care about than the scientists and generals who often inhabit disaster movies. Producer J.J. Abrams (of "Lost" fame) also scores some points by not wasting too much time blowing stuff up and avoiding altogether any political parallels.

The cast of first-timers works hard to play it straight and succeeds. Even though the thin plot and lack of monster (which we do not get a good look at for most of the film) may disappoint more avid sci-fi fans, it mercifully spares the rest of us a lot of speeches.

The film begins with various New York City twenty-somethings preparing a surprise party for our hero Rob (Michael Stahl-David). Hud (T. J. Miller), who is Rob's bumbling-yet-likeable best friend, is given a camera and told to interview the partygoers.

These interviews and snippets of conversations around the party allow us to piece together a basic idea of who all is sleeping with whom.

With this information handy, we are ready for the terror to commence. The party is interrupted by a blackout that happens to coincide with a loud noise. Soon there are distant explosions, flying bits of flaming debris, screaming, sirens, and indistinct glimpses of a huge, vaguely reptilian monster.

The rest of "Cloverfield," like any good disaster flick, concerns itself with our likeable group of victims trying to escape. All of this is captured on film by Hud, who also serves as narrator.

"Cloverfield" has its flaws. After a good deal of buildup, the revealing of the monster itself is fairly underwhelming and anyone looking for Oscar-worthy depth in the dialogue is going to be disappointed. In the end, for most people, the film's worth boils down to two questions: Is it watchable and entertaining from start to finish and will it show us anything new? The answer to both of these questions is yes.

The movie is watchable because the effects are top-notch and the lean script never insults the audience's intelligence. As for showing us something new, the film's effective disaster atmosphere combined with outstanding sound mixing are exciting without being mind-blowing.

Every now and then, however, "Cloverfield" bares its teeth. One scene in particular involving an airborne escape near the film's end is so convincing and intense that it alone is worth the price of admission, and thankfully does not have to be, because the rest of the movie is not half bad.

RESTAURANT REVIEW



Courtney A. Strong • Staff Photographer

The Delmar Restaurant and Lounge, located in the University City Loop at Delmar and Eastgate, is home to contemporary American cuisine and live jazz.

Loungin' around on Delmar

By STEPHANIE SOLETA

Staff Writer

I was not sure what to expect when I entered Delmar Restaurant and Lounge. I wanted to be impressed by the place, since it was difficult to find a parking spot and I had to walk a distance in single-digit temperatures. I was surprised when, upon entering, I encountered an extremely sophisticated place.

While opting to sit in the restaurant section (to sample some of the food), one notices that the lounge/bar area was classy as well. The black and-red motif gave the place a high-class feel, yet the servers were extremely friendly and personable. Looking around, one might note that this would be a great place to take a date — especially with Valentine's Day looming just around the corner.

I started off with a Pink Panther

— one of the many martinis offered. I sipped it slowly, not sure what to expect and found it to taste divine — not too strong and not too sweet. The prices of the drinks were actually quite reasonable.

However, glancing over the menu, it was noted the prices of the main dishes were not as reasonable as the drinks, although they were not completely outrageous. Selecting a main course, it was upsetting to find that they did not offer a dinner salad with their main courses (it must be purchased separately and it is larger than a normal dinner salad). A creamy pasta dish was ordered, the Portobello ravioli with pesto cream sauce.

The restaurant's black tables, chairs, and booths offered a nice contrast to the red walls, and the fresh red flowers at each table added yet another hint of sophistication.

See DELMAR, page 10

CD REVIEW

Three: The beginning has ended

By CHRIS STEWART

Staff Writer

Three describes its music as "dark yet uplifting, spiritual without any connection to religion." Their position on the Progressive Nation Tour alongside of Porcupine Tree and Opeth brings to mind the kind of melodic progressive metal for which Dream Theater (sponsors of the tour) are known.

Three, fronted by Joey Eppard (brother of Coheed and Cambria's former drummer Josh Eppard) offers the same kind of earnest, tightly-woven semi-metal that has found Coheed a following. Also reminiscent of Coheed and Cambria is the way that Three's soul is found in the way they blend pop-packaged vocals, dubiously anxious lyrics and progressive rock riffs.

With their new album "The End is Begun," Three offers a catchy fifth record that brims with familiar atmosphere, but breaks no new ground. Having recently moved to Metal Blade Record (a significant step up for the band), Three seems far less ready to challenge themselves than they do to establish a marketable sound.

Thus "The End is Begun" is by far the most musically consistent of Three's five albums. Gone is the upbeat funk-metal of "Half Life", gone are the bass-driven pop stylings of "Paint By Numbers" and gone are the darkly inviting ballads that comprised "Summertime Nightmare".

Three continues to excel at moody, haunting tunes backed by aggressive guitar work. They fall

short in continuing in the kinds of genre-blending experimentation that drew most of their modest fan base. "The End is Begun" is catchy if not quite satisfying in the way that "Summertime Nightmare" seemed to promise. In "The End" there is more accessible music that appeals right away and less sheer songwriting.



Three
'The End is Begun'

ing to get lost in.

Also new is the way that the album's early passages devote serious time to lead guitar riffs sure to delight fans of Three's metal genre, but creating a busy, cluttered sound that was refreshingly missing from earlier albums.

Throughout the years, Three has kept things mostly surprise-free in the lyrics department. One look at the cover art of their new release "The End is Begun" and one can see that the status quo is well maintained. Song names like "Bleeding Me Home", "My Divided Calling" and "The World is Born of Flame" can hardly be unexpected.

One is bound to find the lyrics to these songs (like Joey Eppard's vocals) either relentlessly sincere or appealingly fitting.

"The Word is Born of Flame", the album's first track, begins in a passive aggressive tone with Joey Eppard's signature fingerpicking in which one can hear a mixture of bass guitar string-slappery and classical chord-scaling.

After some darkly smooth vocals whisper for awhile over the pristine guitar work (mostly about the coming darkness etc.) the real fun begins. The first taste given of the album's real punch is the suitably weighty yet playful riffs that end "The Word is Born of Flame" and lead right into the next song.

By the time that the single, "All That Remains", is reached in its traditional fourth-song spot, the listener is ready for the fireworks and in this song they are indeed delivered.

"All That Remains" is well worth a listen, bound to melt the heart of even the most uninterested listener. Like any good single it wraps a well-rounded taste of the best aspects of the record in an ultra-catchy tune complete with soaring chorus.

"The End is Begun" serves well its apparent purpose as an entry portal to the band for those not familiar with their sound. The album is an accurate enough portrait of the things that Three does well without hinting at their true capability.

By restricting themselves from the eerie expanses of "Summertime Nightmare" (arguably the band's greatest work), Three has neither lost nor gained as much as may have seemed at stake with this album.

In the meantime there are many soulfully overproduced pleasures to be had as the "End" begins.

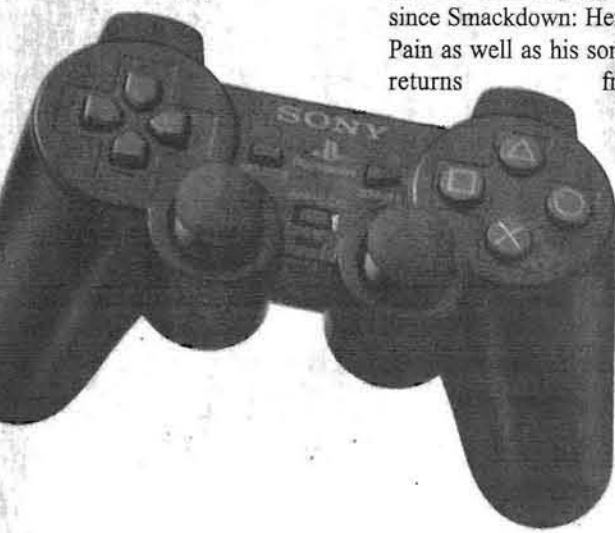
GAME REVIEW

WWE lays the smackdown on gamers

By JEREMY TRICE
Staff Writer

WWE Smackdown vs. RAW 2008 for the Playstation 2 is affectionately known to some fans as Smackdown vs. RAW vs. ECW, because this year World Wrestling Entertainment has included their Tuesday night brand ECW. ECW, introduced in 2006, stems from the original Extreme Championship Wrestling that made its way to the professional wrestling scene in 1992. This time around, SvR '08 has new features, new game modes, new controls, new WWE superstars as well as old ones returning to the Smackdown franchise, new unlockables, and one interesting fact.

This year's Smackdown game is special because this is the first time that a Smackdown game has appeared on all seventh generation consoles. But - yes, there is a but - this year, some of the features that have been added to the game were not necessary.



MOVIE REVIEW



In Julian Schnabel's 'The Diving Bell and the Butterfly,' Marie-Josée Croze is Jean-Dominique Bauby's speech therapist, Henriette.

'Diving Bell' is original, imaginative

By CATE MARQUIS
A&E Editor

You wake up in a hospital and find you cannot move. It is not a dream, a nightmarish adventure has just begun, but the path will lead into unexpected and unknown territory.

No, this is not the opening scene of the latest horror flick, but a remarkable true story in one of the best films of 2007.

People who do not think of film as an art form will have a very hard time making that point after viewing artist and filmmaker Julian Schnabel's entertaining and engrossing point-of-view biopic "The Diving Bell And The Butterfly."

The French-language "The Diving Bell And The Butterfly" is a slyly funny, fact based film, told from the first person point-of-view of a man who has suffered a massive stroke that leaves his mind sharp but his body almost entirely paralyzed.

Before he wakes up in a hospital in an untenable situation, French fashion magazine Elle editor Jean-Dominique Bauby (Mathieu Amal-

New superstars and Divas:
Despite the existing roster in the game and superstars returning to the game from WWE Smackdown vs. RAW 2007, making their debut in Smackdown vs. RAW '08 are: "The Silver Tongued Pugilist" Elijah Burke, "The Alpha Male" Marcus Cor Von, Cryme Tyme members JTG and Shad Gaspard, The Sandman, Montel Vontavious Porter (MVP), CM Punk, Kenny Dykstra, WWE Diva Ashley, and ECW Vixen Kelly Kelly. Michelle McCool returns to the series after her appearance in WWE Smackdown vs. RAW 2006.

Also returning is Jeff Hardy, whose last video game appearance was in WWE Smackdown! Shut Your Mouth in 2002. However, his unlockable moveset was always available after Smackdown! Shut Your Mouth.

Available unlockable characters that add to the roster are: WWE Chairman Vince McMahon, who has not been a playable character since Smackdown: Here Comes the Pain as well as his son Shane, who returns from SvR 2007.

Legends:
Popular WWE Legends such as "Stone Cold" Steve Austin, The Rock, "Rowdy" Roddy Piper, Bret "The Hit-

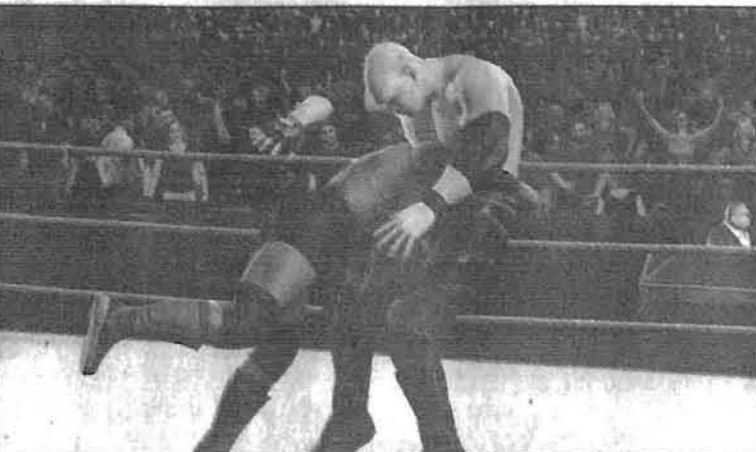


Photo courtesy of www.xbox.com

man" Hart and Mick Foley return to the game as well as the debut of the ECW Legends Sabu, Tommy Dreamer and Terry Funk. But why is Shane McMahon classified a legend in the game? Shane is not a legend, even if he is the chairman's son. After a while, playing with the "Texas Rattlesnake" and "The Brahma Bull" will get a little stale.

Controls:
Anyone who hasn't even played Smackdown vs. RAW 2007 may want to pay attention to this: the controls in SvR 2008 are extremely different. The controls have had a serious change for what would be considered the worst: such as how to make your character run, how to grapple the opponent, and even the finisher button has been changed! If some of you Smackdown fans were a little frustrated with the controls, you are not alone.

Fighting Styles:
Each character is allowed two fighting styles. Of course, this could

be considered a good thing because there are things in the game that would not look right, such as Batista doing an RKO, MVP doing Matt Hardy's V1 taunt. That is why certain characters can do certain things and why styles have been split up into eight categories: Submission, Brawler, Technical, Hardcore, Powerhouse, Dirty, Showman and High-Flyer.

The great part about this is that no one will ever look like they are out of character...unless it is a created wrestler. High-flyers can fake injuries and when their opponent is close enough, you can perform a Possum Pin.

Brawlers like Finlay can move to the upper body section of the opponent and with a press of the X button, they can pound their opponent's face into raw hamburger using the right analog stick, which is predominately what you use for almost all grappling.

See SMACKDOWN, page 10

CD REVIEW

Are you ready for 'The Real Thing'?

By BIANCA POWELL
Staff Writer

As a teenager, I was introduced to the movement of neo-soul, and one of the many new faces in that movement was Jill Scott. This Philly girl's face and voice blasted into the neo-soul scene in July of 2000 with her debut album "Who is Jill Scott: Words and Sounds Vol. 1."

Her velvety and melodic voice quickly became one that could not be replaced. Her debut album earned her many Grammy nominations along with her introduction to becoming known for her poetic talents as well. Immediately, Scott became a fan favorite for singles such as 'Gettin' In the Way', 'He Loves Me', and 'Long Way', which also gained Grammy and B.E.T. nominations for best singles and her debut album for the best female album of the year.

With a voice so smooth it caressed anything rowdy within and yet more than powerful and fierce, you have no choice but to pay attention. Yet, again in 2004 Jill Scott released "Beautifully Human: Words and Sounds Vol. 2." It produced hit singles such as 'Whatever' and 'Golden,' which displayed Scott's talent as an artist, gaining her the number three spot in the Billboard chart.

Phenomenal is one of many words

to describe the lyrical genius that is Jill Scott. Time and time again, she has amazed us with her poetic brilliance in a very authentic form that cannot be duplicated.

Released in 2007, "The Real Thing: Words and Sounds Vol. 3" is one of her most exceptional albums yet, with sounds and lyrics that are poetic and filled with a sincere desire to expressed the good, bad and ugly in her lyrics. In her biography, Scott wrote "But if you deal with an artist, the good, the bad and the ugly is going to come out in the music," which shows in her music. The album is the best quality I have heard in a very long time.

"The Real Thing" has been strongly anticipated and has also exceeded all expectations set for with its debut single 'Hate On Me' topping the charts. This album has every element of what makes an album great with inspirations stretching from jazz to hip-hop, from hip-hop to soul, from soul to rock, and even some Caribbean influence. Scott has provided "spoken-word" or poetry throughout this album with song such as "Crown Royal" or "Epiphany."

These songs show her ability to bring enlightenment to real life situations that pertains to love, life and happiness. These components are simply what makes Scott completely different from other artists and keeps her fan both old and new coming back for more.



Jill Scott 'The Real Thing'

Before You
VOTE

Check out *The Current's* guide to Super Tuesday on stands

Monday, Feb. 1

The Diving Bell and the Butterfly

★★★★★

Director: Julian Schnabel

Stars: Jean-Dominique Bauby, Henriette Durand

Nominated for 4 Oscars

ric) was a 43 year-old, charismatic businessman at the height of his career and charm. The unromantic, womanizing Bauby has a messy personal life, with a long-time girlfriend Celine (Emmanuelle Seigner) and a new, younger mistress, and an ailing, aging father (Max Von Sydow). Based on Bauby's own memoir, written by blinking his one good eye in code, this stroke victim is no suffering saint, but a wisecracking curmudgeon, a high-powered wheeler-dealer trapped in his worst nightmare.

His paralyzed body holds him like a diver in a diving bell but his mind and imagination still soar like a butterfly. There is self-discovery, romance, heartbreak and nothing predictable or ordinary about this tale.

The director's brilliant use of

first person point of view takes us on a harrowing ride of suspense and challenge, an experience to rival any adventure film, rather than the more expected sentimental story of overcoming disability. "The Diving Bell and The Butterfly" becomes a humor filled and unpredictable adventure of a sarcastically funny and restless mind. The story has some common elements with "The Sea Inside," another fact-based story about disability, but this film's artistic approach and crusty central character make it a wholly different kind of film.

The film is as visually stunning as the approach to the story, with imaginative, gorgeous photography that opens up the film's visual horizons.

The artist/director Julian Schnabel's choice of first person point-of-

view is inspired but credit also must go to the actor Mathieu Amalric who plays Bauby, a real challenge with the physical constraints of the role. Parts of the story are told as flashbacks, before the stroke and some dreamlike sequences.

Emmanuelle Seigner and the venerable Max Von Sydow are wonderful in their supporting roles, as is Marie-Josée Croze as a therapist who helps him learn to communicate.

"Diving Bell" is one of the best films of 2007, with numerous award nominations, including a win for Audience Choice and St. Louis Gateway Film Critics Award at the St. Louis International Film Festival last fall.

Schnabel garnered a Best Director Oscar nomination along with three others, although the film was unfortunately snubbed for both Best Picture and Best Foreign Language Film nominations.

"The Diving Bell and The Butterfly" is a must-see movie, now playing at the Plaza Frontenac Cinema.

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SPORTS

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



Mary Slaughter

Mary Slaughter is deserving of being named Athlete of the Week for her career high 17 points in the Tritons' 56-51 victory against Northern Kentucky on Thursday at home.

Slaughter scored 13 of her 17 points in the first half of the game. Slaughter also recorded a team-high eight rebounds and two steals.

Slaughter is new the Tritons basketball team this year, but not new to coach Lisa Curliss-Taylor.

Slaughter played for Curlis-Taylor at East Texas Baptist University.

The 5' 11" forward earned all-American Southwest Conference second team honors while playing for East Texas.

Slaughter is a junior majoring in physical education.

UPCOMING GAMES

Men's Basketball

Jan. 31
at Quincy
7:30 p.m.

Feb. 2
at SIU-Edwardsville
3 p.m.

Women's Basketball

Jan. 31
at Quincy
5:15 p.m.

Feb. 2
at SIU-Edwardsville
1 p.m.

Men's Basketball



Photos by: Danny Reise • Assistant Photo Editor

Sky Frazier, senior, center, scored 10 points and recorded nine rebounds on Saturday's loss against Bellarmine.

Not a good 'knight' for Tritons

Bellarmine	65
Tritons	54

By TOM SCHNABLE
Assistant Sports Editor

Some of the best basketball performances have been by men who felt 'under the weather.'

For example, Michael Jordan scored 38 points and led his Bulls to a victory in the NBA Finals in 1997 while suffering from the flu.

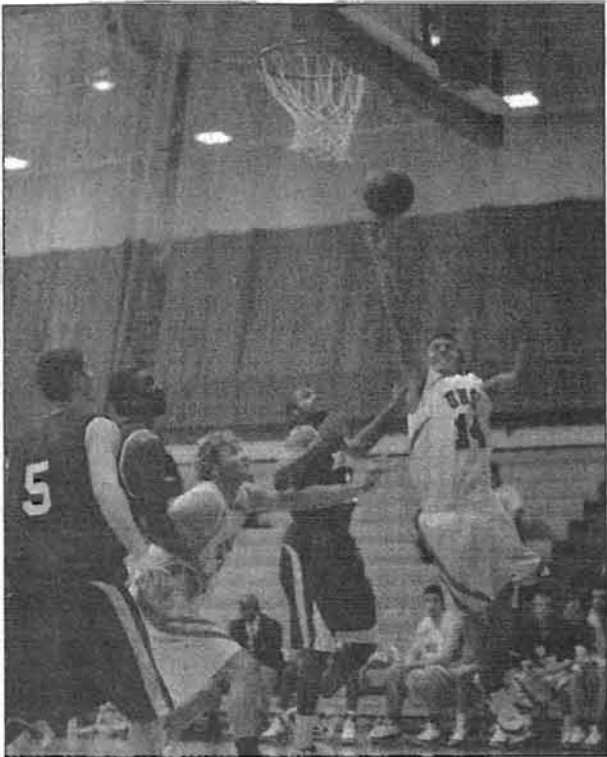
So it should have come as no surprise that Paul Paradoski, who had been ill all week long, came out firing in the first half of the Tritons game Saturday afternoon against Bellarmine.

Paradoski scored 14 points in the opening half against the Knights, including 4-of-4 from three-point range, to keep his team in the game.

"I was sick all week, and I was nervous about even playing today," the senior, who transferred from Southeast Missouri in the offseason, said afterwards. "I didn't tell coach that I didn't feel well, and I was really nervous about it. I came out and made my first couple of shots, and I just felt it from there and didn't hold back."

Unfortunately for UM-St. Louis, Paradoski's efforts were not enough as the visiting team upended the Tritons 65-54 at the Mark Twain Building.

The teams stayed neck-and-neck in the first half, until the Knights finished



Senior guard Paul Paradoski had 20 points against Bellarmine on Saturday. Paradoski also recorded four assists and three steals in the game.

on a 15-6 run to open up the game. Bellarmine's Dzafla Larkai proved to be too difficult to stop for the Triton big men. The 6-8 senior, who attended prep school in London, scored 14 of his 22 points in the first half.

"They put little spurts on us," said Paradoski, referring to Bellarmine's first-half run. "We seemed to shut down a little bit. When we do that, it's hard for us to fight back."

In the second half, the Tritons closed the gap on Bellarmine thanks to a change in strategy at the half.

"We went to a zone and had some success for a little bit," said UM-St. Louis coach Chris Pilz. "They have some really good shooters and we tried to change the flow of the game."

See MEN'S BASKETBALL, page 10

UMSL upsets No. 25 ranked Northern Kentucky

By TOM SCHNABLE
Assistant Sports Editor

The way the worm turns in the world of basketball, most teams pull off at least one upset per season. Thursday night on Chuck Smith court, the UM-St. Louis men's basketball team snagged its in a 71-63 victory over Northern Kentucky. NKU had come into the game as the 25th-ranked team in Division II.

Efficiency was the name of the game for the Tritons, who only committed 11 turnovers, nine below their season average. That, and clutch free-

throw shooting down the stretch, allowed UM-St. Louis to escape with the win.

Coach Chris Pilz thought the effort his men exerted that evening was the best it had been all season long.

"Northern Kentucky is the best team on that side [the eastern division], and that was probably our best game of the season," said Pilz.

"On the offensive end we were really efficient and effective in executing what we wanted to do, and we executed our defensive game plan as well," he said.

Junior Tim Green led a quartet of

N. Kentucky	63
Tritons	71

Tritons in double-digit scoring with 17 points, including 8-8 from the foul line. UM-St. Louis as a team shot 83 percent from the charity stripe, including 7 out of 8 in the games final two minutes.

Green and senior Paul De Chellis each grabbed six rebounds in the game, which tied for the team high. De Chellis, along with senior Paul Paradoski, chipped in 14 points and senior Sky Frazier added 13. Frazier

played only 20 minutes due to foul trouble.

Despite the contributions of these players, Coach Pilz credited the entire team in the victory.

"Collectively, even the guys that didn't get in the game [helped out]," he said. "I thought our bench had good energy, the guys on the floor were really concentrating and enthusiastic, and just playing their hardest."

The victory improved the Tritons record to 7-9, 2-6 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference. It was the first win for UM-St. Louis versus an opponent

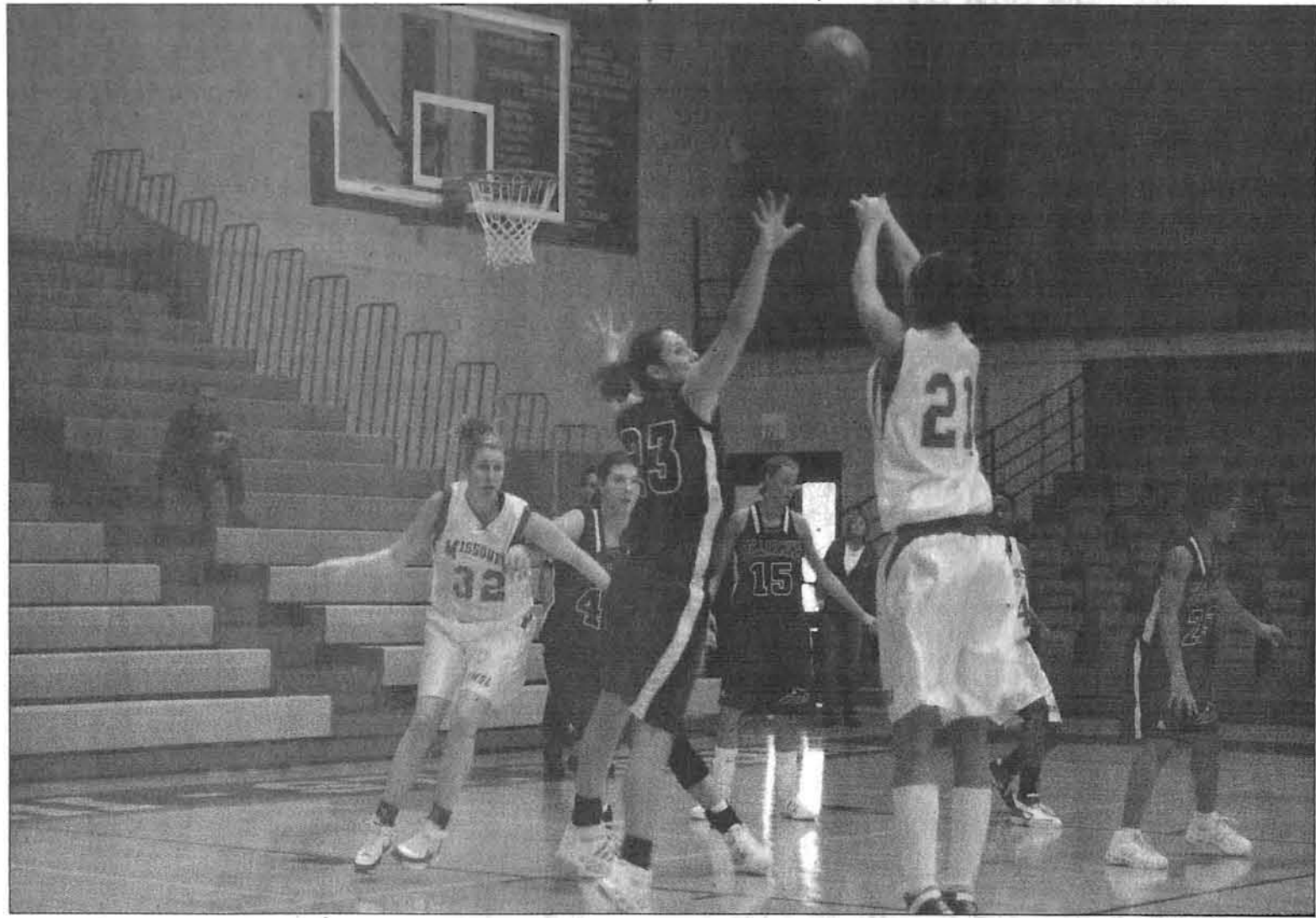
from the eastern division, which certainly made Coach Pilz happy.

"The east has dominated our side," he said, referring to his team's then 1-5 record against eastern opposition. "Now we get in our own division, on the west side, and it'll be interesting to see how we do."

Pilz also noted that the win was only the teams' second in games decided by fewer than 10 points.

"We lost five single-digit games to that point," said Pilz. "When you struggle and play a bunch of close games, sometimes you have to figure out how to win one of those."

Women's Basketball



Danny Reise • Assistant Photo Editor

Sophomore guard Kelly Mitchell (#21) had eight rebounds and scored 11 points against Bellarmine in Saturday's game.

White's 3-pointers not enough against Knights

By SCOTT LAVELOCK
Staff Writer

The UM-St. Louis women's basketball team wore the same uniforms on Saturday as they did on Thursday, but nonetheless looked like a completely different team.

Two days after the Tritons stunned Northern Kentucky, the 14th ranked team in Division II of the NCAA, they were outshot by unranked Bellarmine 84-73 at Chuck Smith Court here at UM-St. Louis.

"We weren't the same team that just played two days ago, and that's sad," Head Coach Lisa Curliss-Taylor said following the game. "We prepare the same way. We practice the same way. We need to play the same way."

Most of the damage was done in the first half, as Bellarmine took a 45-32 lead to the locker room. For the Tritons, it was the turnovers that plagued them just as they have all season. Out of 18 turnovers, 14 came in the first half, and the Knights turned those into 17 points in the first 20 minutes of play.

"That caused a lot of trouble for us when they got out on fast breaks," said sophomore guard Kristi White. "We weren't getting back at all."

It was White and senior point

guard Courtney Watts who alone carried UM-St. Louis through that rough stretch at the end of the first half. Watts ran the floor and distributed well, dishing out six of her team-high eight assists in the first half. White buried all three of her attempts from beyond the arc in the first half, and finished the game five for six.

"Once you hit one, your confidence goes up and you just keep shooting," said White, who scored 17 and now leads all Tritons in three-point percentage at 43 percent on the

Bellarmine	84
Tritons	73

season. "You just kind of go with it. I didn't do anything different from what I usually do."

UM-St. Louis came out with guns blazing to start the second half, just as they had in the first half when they had scored the first eight points of the game.

Watts started the second stanza by nailing a three-pointer off of an offensive rebound. Lindsey Ransome followed with a pair of trifectas on consecutive attempts.

Every time the Tritons would draw closer, though, Bellarmine's Angela Smith had an answer.

See BELLARMINE, page 9

Slaughter leads Tritons in NKU upset

Bellarmine	51
Tritons	56

By LAQUAN FUSE
Sports Editor

Mary Slaughter led UM-St. Louis with 17 points in the Tritons' 56-51 victory over the Northern Kentucky Norse last Thursday night. UM-St. Louis snapped a three-game losing streak by upsetting NKU, who suffered its third conference loss of the season.

With the win, UM-St. Louis improves to 5-10 overall and 3-5 in the conference.

The Tritons gave up 21 turnovers in the game, but NKU only managed to score 12 points off of the turnovers. UM-St. Louis was able to score 16 points off of NKU's 15 turnovers.

The first half started evenly but ended with the momentum in favor of the Tritons, who went on a 10-0 scoring run in the final six minutes of the first half. UM-St. Louis went into the half with the lead, 27-16.

The Norse came out in the second half and quickly caught up with the Tritons, tying the score twice in the process. With 11:19 left in the game, the Tritons started another scoring run. The Tritons continued to drop shot after shot and went up by as much as 11 before the Norse started to make a comeback. NKU's effort to regain the lead fell short and the Tritons were able to pick up the win.

Courtney Watts was cold in the game for the Tritons, shooting 0-6 in the game, three of the shots came from behind the arc. Watts' only two points came from the line as she shot 2-8 from the free throw line. Watts finished the game with five turnovers and only one assist in 34 minutes played.

See TRITON UPSET, page 10

STATS CORNER

MEN'S BASKETBALL

GLVC Standings		
Team	Conf. (W-L)	Overall (W-L)
Drury	8-1	15-2
Southern Indiana	4-5	10-7
Rockhurst	3-6	6-10
SIU - Edwardsville	2-7	8-8
UM - St. Louis	2-7	7-10
Quincy	1-8	7-10
Missouri S&T	0-9	3-14

Box Scores

January 26	1st	2nd	F
Bellarmine	36	29	65
UM-St. Louis	26	28	54

January 24	1st	2nd	F
Northern Kentucky	20	43	63
UM-St. Louis	32	39	71

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

GLVC Standings		
Team	Conf. (W-L)	Overall (W-L)
Missouri S&T	8-1	14-2
Drury	7-2	15-2
SIU - Edwardsville	6-3	13-4
Quincy	6-3	11-6
UM - St. Louis	3-6	5-11
Southern Indiana	2-7	7-10
Rockhurst	1-8	6-11

Box Scores

January 26	1st	2nd	F
Bellarmine	45	39	84
UM-St. Louis	32	41	73

January 17	1st	2nd	F
Northern Kentucky	16	35	51
UM-St. Louis	27	29	56

ROLLER HOCKEY

GPCIHL Standings		
Team (Division 1)	Overall (W-L-T)	Pts
Lindenwood	10-0-0	20
UM - St. Louis	9-2-0	18
UM - Columbia	7-5-0	14
Illinois	4-7-0	8
Missouri S&T	2-8-1	5
Illinois State	1-8-1	3
Middle Tennessee	1-10-1	3

Upcoming Games

February 9
at St. Charles CC
8 a.m.

February 9
vs. St. Louis CC- Meramec
7 p.m.

Roller Hockey

Tritons trounce Mizzou and Missouri S&T in two shutouts

By SCOTT LAVELOCK

Staff Writer

The rest of the UM System may have gotten a few wins over UM-St. Louis throughout the year, but they failed to score a single goal against the Triton club inline hockey team last Sunday, Jan. 20.

The red and gold threw their first goose egg of the day on Mizzou in a 4-0 statement victory at the Matteson Square Gardens Tri-Plex in St. Peters.

They repeated the feat against Missouri S&T, the artist formerly known as Missouri-Rolla, with a 10-0 blowout.

"I think it's real big," said team captain Adam Clarke of the two Sunday shutouts.

"We're all very competitive, and we have a real big rivalry against Mizzou. We did not even give up a goal and that was a real big milestone for us. Any time we play that well, it gives us a lot of confidence."

It was Clarke who assisted on

the first two goals against UM-Columbia, both of which were in the first period.

The first was scored by Andy Meade, his sixth goal of the season. Ben Lambert put the second one in after Clarke fired a shot that deflected off Tiger goalie Chris Dahlberg's shin pads.

"We had numbers on them so all I did was go to the far post and wait to bang home the rebound," Lambert said.

See HOCKEY, page 10

THREE-ON-THREE



Matthew Hill • Photo Editor

Rec Sports sponsored a three-on-three basketball tournament Wednesday in the Mark Twain gymnasium.

SHORT FUSE

Tritons need consistency, not roller coaster performances

The Tritons, both men and women, defeated the Norse on Thursday night. Last week, I said that the Tritons needed to focus to defeat the Northern Kentucky Norse, and since the men's team won 71-63 and the women's team won 56-51, I think they did just that.

During the women's game, Mary Slaughter and Kristi White led the team with 30 points. Another key factor in the game was that the Tritons were able to limit NKU senior, Angela Healy, to only six points. Healy is currently ninth in the conference, averaging 14 points per game.

It was a big surprise to see UM-St. Louis give up 21 turnovers in a game and still pick up the win. Taylor Gagliano was the only player in the game for the Tritons who did not have a turnover.

Northern Kentucky had a hard time going against teams in Missouri because they not only lost to the Tritons, but also to the Missouri S&T Miners on Saturday. The Miners picked up the 66-42 win and sent NKU home on a two-game losing streak.

On the men's side, the Tritons were led by Tim Green, but the team

also had three other players who scored double digits in the game. NKU came into the Mark Twain Building with only one conference loss on their record for the season, but the Tritons made sure to change that.

Some of the stats for the Tritons are really impressive for the game.

UM-St. Louis finished with 18 assists on 21 made shots and all but one player finished with an assist. The Tritons gave up 11 turnovers in the game, which is an improvement when looking at turnovers in the last three games.

I said that the Tritons needed to watch out for NKU's Dennis Gagai, who earned Player of the Week for the week of Jan. 14. Gagai did not cause too much of a problem for the Tritons as he only scored nine points in the game. All nine points came from behind the arc.

ing good position, with Amanda Miller taking two charges in the first nine minutes of the game.

As soon as that stopped, though, the run was on. An 18-3 run by the Knights that covered a little less than five minutes of the first half turned a 15-14 Triton lead into a 32-18 deficit.

UM-St. Louis would never lead again, despite three baskets from downtown by Kelly Mitchell, who has now recovered from a foot injury that sidelined her last year and has been a solid addition to this year's team.

Freshman Kelcy Hulbert also got into the mix, as the 6'1" forward



By LAQUAN FUSE

Sports Editor

UM-St. Louis defeated the top team in the GLVC East and now is tied for fourth place in the GLVC West with SIUE.

The Tritons were not as fortunate when the Bellarmine Knights stepped onto the Chuck Smith court. The men lost 65-54 and the

women lost 84-73.

Bellarmine's Dzafla Larkai is currently 14th in the GLVC in scoring averaging 15 points per game and against UM-St. Louis, he scored a game high 22 points. Paul Paradoski was right behind him as he chipped in a team high 20 points for the Tritons.

The Tritons were not able to get to the line much in the game that may have cost them.

Bellarmine made 18 of 26 shots from the line while UM-St. Louis made 5 of 8. I guess this is what people mean when they say that

free throws really can win you the game.

The women's game ended with a higher score but the same result. Three players for the Tritons finished the game in the double digits, but it was Bellarmine's Angela Smith who led the game in scoring with 27 points.

Hopefully this loss will not slow the team's momentum because if the Tritons hope to move up in the standings, they will need to pull off wins against Quincy an SIUE, who are currently tied for fourth place in the GLVC West.

This may be a battle of strategy or consistency, but either way, these games need to be won. Picking up a win against NKU was a perfect way to end a losing streak, but the team needs to keep in mind that this is not the time to continue an up and down streak.

The next couple of games for the Tritons are away games and each game becomes more important if UM-St. Louis wants a spot in the conference tournament.

There is still time and there are still games to play. The only thing that needs to happen now is to put the ball through the net.

in conference play, but are still only two and a half games behind Bellarmine for the eighth and final berth in the GLVC Tournament.

Next week's games at arch-nemesis Quincy and cross-town rival SIUE will be important in making up ground.

"We had a loss today and we didn't play as well, but we've got to come into practice next week and be ready to go because those are two huge games," said Ransome, who leads the team in free throw percentage at 77 percent. "We usually bounce back, and everybody's got to work hard. I think we can get two wins."

STAFF VIEWPOINT

Long live the bowls

Playoffs simply do not work for college football

Well, another college football season has come and gone, and once again sports fans have been bombarded with incessant talk about the necessity for a playoff to determine a "true champion" in the great game.

Excuse me while I throw up.

Oh, but how

could somebody possibly be against a season-ending tournament to end all this controversy about who should be number one and number two? After all, you do not hear many convincing arguments these days making a plea for those old traditional bowl games.

Prepare to hear one. First of all, playoff proponents say that their system would allow the best team in the nation to be determined by letting things play out on the field. Yet, is that not what is already done?

Now it is true that LSU and USC, who could be argued as the two best teams this year, did not get a chance to play each other this season. But who says they would have even if there was a tournament? Would there then be any more or less of an argument of who is better if they did not play each other in this supposed playoff?

Playoff supporters would say yes, because you could say, "Well, so-and-so beat so-and-so, who beat so-and-so, who beat the Asthma Institute, who beat the Little Sisters of the Poor, who beat Nancy's Funeral Home, blah blah blah..."

If that were the case, though, then we could use this logic through the regular season, but we cannot entirely. Stanford and Oregon, both decidedly inferior teams to USC, beat the Trojans. Kentucky and Arkansas equaled the feat against LSU. Yet none of those teams are made to be any more worthy of winning the national championship.

So why do these folks maintain that a playoff is the only true method for determining a logical flow of who is better?

I maintain that it is because our society has such a preoccupation with having an undisputed number one and making that the only thing that matters.

I would respond to that by asking, "what is wrong with a little dispute and discussion?" After all, that is what makes the regular season so important and so meaningful. Every game matters just as much as the next, more so than in any other sport.

Besides, even if there were a tournament with, say, eight teams, now there would just be more controversy over who should be number eight instead of number nine, or number seven instead of number ten.

It is a never ending cycle, and the NCAA Basketball Tournament is a testament to that. Every March, our minds are bogged with the minutiae of RPI and strength of schedule and record in your last ten games and



By SCOTT LAVELOCK

Staff Writer

conference RPI and record on days when the players' girlfriends kiss them for luck, all so that Billy Packer can try to explain to us why he is actually smarter than the selection committee, which we all know is not true.

The bottom line is, there will always be disputes over who should be present in the post-season, so a tournament does not resolve that any more than bowls do.

Every other sport already has a playoff, so why should college football be different? Why can we not continue the arguments that we have now about who is the best?

I say we certainly have enough of a basis for these lively discussions with what goes on in the regular season. In fact, I would say that is one of the best things about the game. Each game in the regular season means so much, that it leaves us on the edge of our collective seat every week.

The same cannot be said for many other sports, even college basketball, which is certainly riveting in March. Face it: the games being played right now do not mean very much.

Mizzou could lose its next five games like idiots, but if they get hot at the end of the year, they are in. SLU could score only seven points in the first half of a game (oh wait, they already did that), but they could catch fire and still go to the tournament.

The North Florida Ospreys (who?) are 0-15 this year, but guess what? If they win the Atlantic Sun Tournament, they are going to the big dance.

I am not saying this is bad. It certainly makes for great Cinderella stories at the end of the year.

My point is this: we already have a system in many sports that provides this style of crowning a champion. There is no need for college football to follow suit.

The bowl games are rich in tradition, pageantry and meaning, and they do a better job than people realize of providing us with a true champion.

Most years, it is pretty clear who the two best teams are, and it probably gives us a better championship game most years than a tournament would.

Of course, we could just settle this by saying that a college football playoff would take so long that it would interfere with the players' final exams and holiday breaks, making it impractical to have.

But then again, when has the NCAA actually cared about what is good for the players? It is all about the dollar signs.

Even so, the bowls are a better alternative. They keep so much merit in the regular season games that we eat it up all year and fill the stadiums week after week.

Hence those dollar signs. College football does not need a tournament. It *IS* a tournament; a season-long tournament that we come to love every autumn.

BELLARMINE from page 8

She made six three-pointers and scored a game-high 27 points, and as the foul trouble increased for UM-St. Louis, they became less able to defend every facet of the Knight attack.

"They can score anywhere," senior forward Leslie Ricker said. "They have an inside game and an outside game. So it's hard to just lock on Smith, because if she doesn't score, they can still get it inside."

Get it inside they did, as 6'1" center Katie Willinger dominated the post with 19 points and 13 rebounds. This came after the Tritons had done a good job early in the game of blocking out and maintain-

The Current Online

http://thecurrentonline.com

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Slightly better than Myspace

TRITON UPSET, from page 8

Kristi White was the other top scorer in the game for the Tritons. White finished with 13 points and shot 5-8 from the field including 3-4 from behind the arc.

Jessie Slack and Cassie Brannen led the offensive attack for the Norse with 13 points each.

Each player in the game for the Tritons pulled down at least one rebound in the game. The rebounding attack was led by Slaughter who led the team with eight rebounds, all defensive, and Kelly Mitchell with six rebounds, five of which were defensive.

For the game, the Tritons managed to out rebound the Norse 46-37. The game was dominated by mostly defensive rebounds as only 13 of the total rebounds in the game were offensive.

The next two games for the Tritons are on the against Quincy and SIUE. The Tritons return home to the Mark Twain Building on Feb. 5 to start a five-game home stand which kicks off with a non conference game against Oakland City.

The Tritons' next home stand features Pack the Stands Night against Rockhurst on Feb. 7 and Senior Night against Quincy on Feb. 16. The game against Quincy is also the last home game of the season.

HOCKEY, from page 9

"Adam is an incredible passer and I knew that we would have a great scoring opportunity merely because the puck was on his stick. I was in the right spot for the rebound and buried it," Lambert continued.

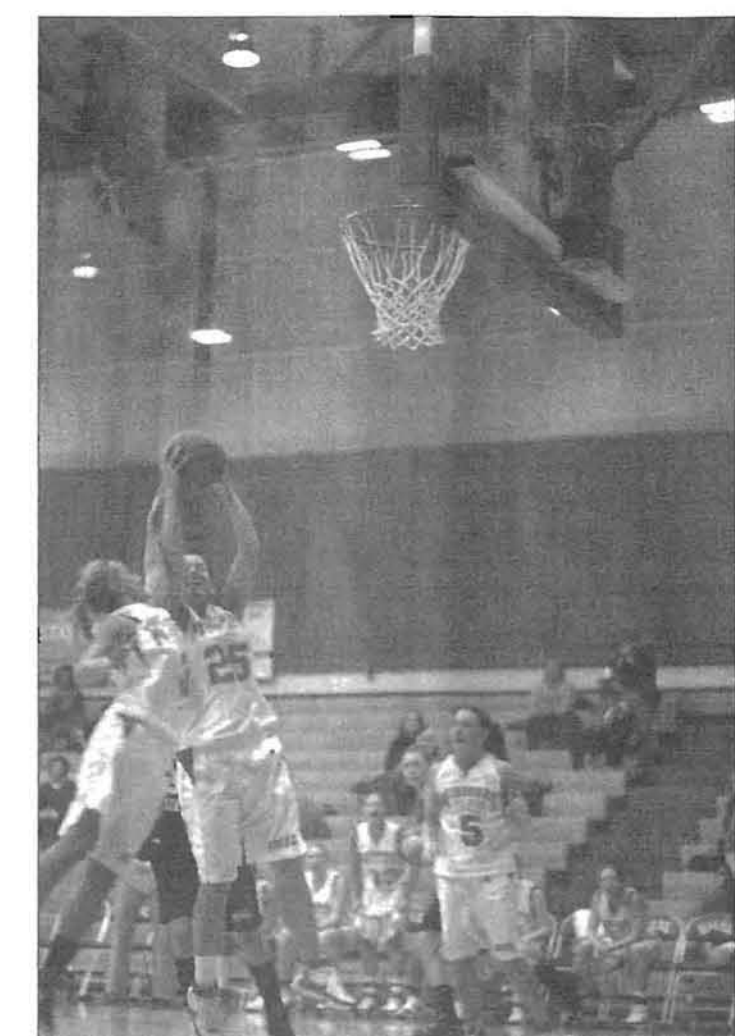
"Usually, that's my job on our team, to grind and score gritty goals. I will never have half of the shots that guys like Meade, Clarkie and PJ [Tallo] have, so I have to wait for my chances and bury them when the opportunity arises."

After a scoring drought that lasted the entire second period and most of the third, Clarke finally got himself a goal with 2:46 left in the game for his team-leading 14th of the year.

A minute and a half later, with UM-St. Louis on the power play, Aaron Schulz scored his third goal of the season, finishing off the 4-0 triumph.

Mizzou's record is now 7-5 after recovering from the loss against the Tritons by beating St. Charles Community College later in the day.

"Every time we play Mizzou, we want to really stick it to them," Lambert said after the game. "It's a 36 minute affair every time we play, no



Danny Reise • Assistant Photo Editor

Taylor Gagliano (#25) had four defensive rebounds against Northern Kentucky on Thursday.

garbage time."

James Cash made sure none of that time got away from the Tritons, as he completed the shut-out with 18 saves in goal.

The game against Missouri S&T was never a contest. UM-St. Louis out shot the Miners by an astounding margin of 44-8.

"Everybody on our team is really comfortable moving the puck to each other," Clarke said of the team's control of the tempo. "Not many guys are just skating around. We all look to the open man. We really practice that to control the puck."

Jason Holzum turned a hat trick for the Tritons, scoring once in each period and running his season total to seven goals. Lambert and Tallo also scored in the first period, giving UM-St. Louis a 3-0 lead.

It was 6-0 after two periods, as Blake Propp contributed to the scoring barrage along with Tallo, whose second goal of the match moved his season total to ten.

Propp and Lambert scored yet again in the third, scoring their sixth and 11th goals of the year, respectively. After Holzum finished his hat

trick, Clarke showed no mercy on the Miners and punched one in to make it a double-digit, ten goal victory. Clarke is now third in the Great Plains Collegiate Inline Hockey League in goals.

This time it was Thomas Ames who shutout the opposition, registering eight saves.

Sunday's two wins against the divisional opponents moved the Tritons' record to 9-2 in this their first year of Division I play, and they sit only one and a half games behind division-leading Lindenwood. Missouri S&T slipped in the ranks to 2-8-1.

The Tritons will be in action Saturday Feb. 9 against division rival Illinois State at 11 a.m., again at the Tri-Plex in St. Peters. At 6 p.m., they will take on St. Charles Community College, a powerhouse in Division III.

Then Sunday, Feb. 10 the Tritons will face St. Louis Community College - Meramec, another D-III opponent, before playing the Fighting Illini of Illinois in a divisional match. Game times are noon and 4 p.m. respectively.

acts every Friday night. The music provides a great mood for young people as well as for the young at heart. On this particular night, live music began promptly at 7 p.m. The guitar player was a talented musician but did not play so loud that it would disturb diners' meals.

In all, Delmar Restaurant and Lounge offers an enjoyable dining experience.

While the food was a bit pricy, the atmosphere and the quality made the price well worth it.

Delmar Restaurant and Lounge is located at 6235 Delmar Boulevard in the Loop and is open Monday through Friday 5 p.m. until 3 a.m. For more information, call Delmar Restaurant and Lounge at (314) 725-6565 or fax at (314) 725-3383.

adorned with nuts, which was rather different for a pasta dish. I was not disappointed. I was left feeling full but not stuffed.

After dinner, one might decide to stick around for awhile. Delmar Restaurant and Lounge is well known for its musical acts, especially the jazz

Delmar Restaurant and Lounge

★★★★☆

Located at 6235 Delmar Blvd. on the Loop

314-725-6565

DELMAR, from page 6

The tall windows offered a perfect view of Delmar Boulevard, which provides a good opportunity to watch the busy street while one's food is being prepared. The candles at each table provided a coziness amongst more modern surroundings. The bar, like the restaurant, also had a touch of modern class. The mirrors and lights behind it made it the focal point.

When the order came out, it was a pleasant surprise. The food was fantastic and it came out quickly. I only ate a small portion of my dinner salad to save room for the pasta, and I was glad I did. While not normally a fan of white pasta sauce, since it can be rather heavy to digest, it was a delight to find that the sauce was creamy but not too thick. It was

MEN'S BASKETBALL, from page 8

We tried to make them stand still and shoot some threes, and when they missed some we were able to close the gap."

Senior Paul De Chellis led a 13-6 run by scoring eight points to bring the deficit back to six. Paradoski sunk another three-pointer with just over six minutes to play to make the score 50-47.

The point guard credited the team's inside play for allowing the team to come back.

"Our big guys are stronger than most of the guys in the league, and we try to use them as much as we can," Paradoski said. "The more physical they get, the more the guards see it

and play off of them."

Junior Nathan Whittaker had a chance to tie the game with a three, but his attempt missed, and UM-St. Louis got no closer the rest of the afternoon as the Knights finished on a 15-7 run of their own to close out the game.

Paradoski ended the game with 20 points to go along with four assists. De Chellis finished a perfect 6-of-6 from the field, scoring 12 points and pulling down five boards.

Senior Sky Frazier missed a double-double by one rebound, finishing with 10 points and nine boards.

After the game, Coach Pilz balked at the idea that the team experienced

a letdown after their upset victory on Thursday.

"Our effort was good, but our execution offensively and defensively was not quite good enough," he said.

Instead, Pilz thought a big difference in the game was the amount of free throws each team attempted.

"Probably the story of the night is those guys get to the free-throw line 26 times and we get 8. 26-8 at home is a really big discrepancy."

UM-St. Louis plays Quincy on Thursday, before traveling to Edwardsville for a Saturday afternoon contest.

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**SMACKDOWN**, from page 7

Nice, right? Well, that is just the good part about that. The most annoying part of the fighting style system is the Submission fighting system. It is very hard to master and I do not think it is necessary.

The Game Itself:

For fans of the original ECW, the traditional ECW Extreme Rules match has been introduced to the franchise. Who does not love a good contest where superstars maim each other with anything that is not nailed down in a no-disqualification, anything-goes brawl?

At the versus screen before you go to your match, you can choose what four weapons will be under the ring. The weapon wheel for the ECW Extreme Rules match brings some fresh flavor to '08 as well. The only thing that would upset the player, I think, is the fact that the weapon wheel is exclusively for the Extreme Rules Match.

Hall of Fame mode gets a thumbs-up because the player can relieve 12 of the WWE's greatest moments such as the Bret Hart/Shawn Michaels 30 Minute Iron Man match for the WWE Championship, the Bret Hart/Steve Austin Submission match.

And now, the downfalls:

The graphics in the game do look realistic and the interface is good, minus the same glitches of all Smackdown games: the wrestler's body parts warping through each other and bad collision detection. And again: the PS2 makes Mark Henry look like he is not 400 pounds, but more like he is a starved orphan. Also, the sound quality is good, but the commentary itself is disappointing and still has the same malfunction as last year: the commentators confuse the wrestlers and finishers. (Jerry "The King Lawler" referred to one wrestler's finisher as a DDT.) Plus, there is no crowd chanting.

In the championship matches, the ring announcer is supposed to say, "The following contest is scheduled for one fall and is for the (enter title name here) Championship." But nope, what the announcer says is "The (enter title name here) Champion, from (enter hometown here), and so on and so forth."

Another disappointment is some of the finishing moves the Superstars have that are not theirs and that these finishers are locked. The moves that a majority of these Superstars have had since Smackdown: Just Bring It - when the Smackdown games moved to the

Playstation 2 and introduced wrestlers having two finishers instead of one.

For example, The Undertaker uses the Last Ride and the Tombstone Piledriver Pin. Upon playing as the Phenom, you will see that he is equipped with a choke slam instead of the Last Ride. Jeff Hardy's Swanton Bomb was locked and he was equipped with Mr. Kennedy's version, the Kenton Bomb as well as a move that is not his finisher, the Whisper in the Wind. Kane's fall forward power bomb finisher is not equipped, but a Tombstone that he does not use.

Overall, I would just like to say that WWE Smackdown vs. RAW 2008 is not exactly the best of the entire series, but it is not the worst. THQ should not add any more features to the Smackdown games until they work out the current problems.

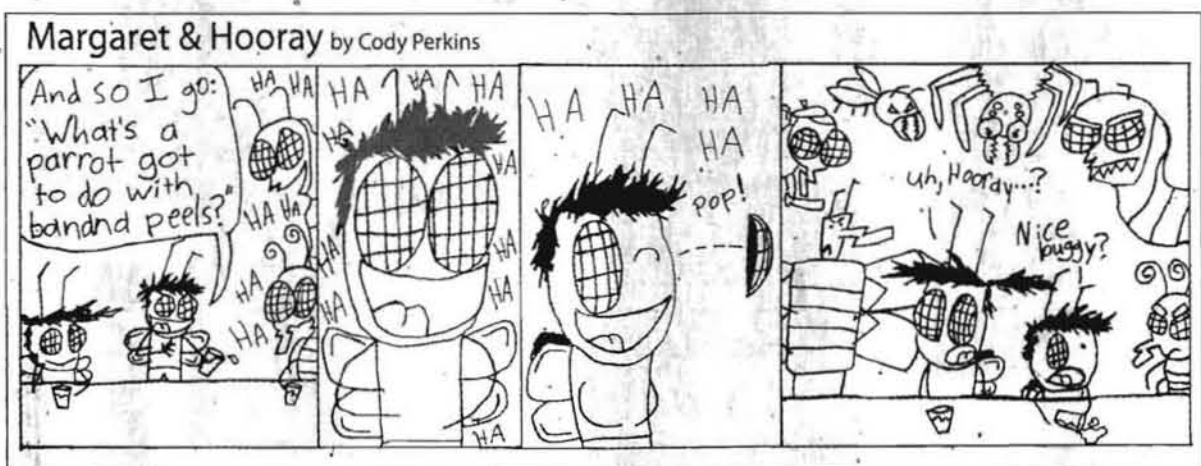
A good game, yes, but I am afraid this year that things have hit rock bottom. Gameplay gets five stars. Sound gets three stars because of the confusion and glitches. Graphics get three and a half because of the bad collision detection and Mark Henry's appearance. Basically, I give the game a total of four and a half stars.

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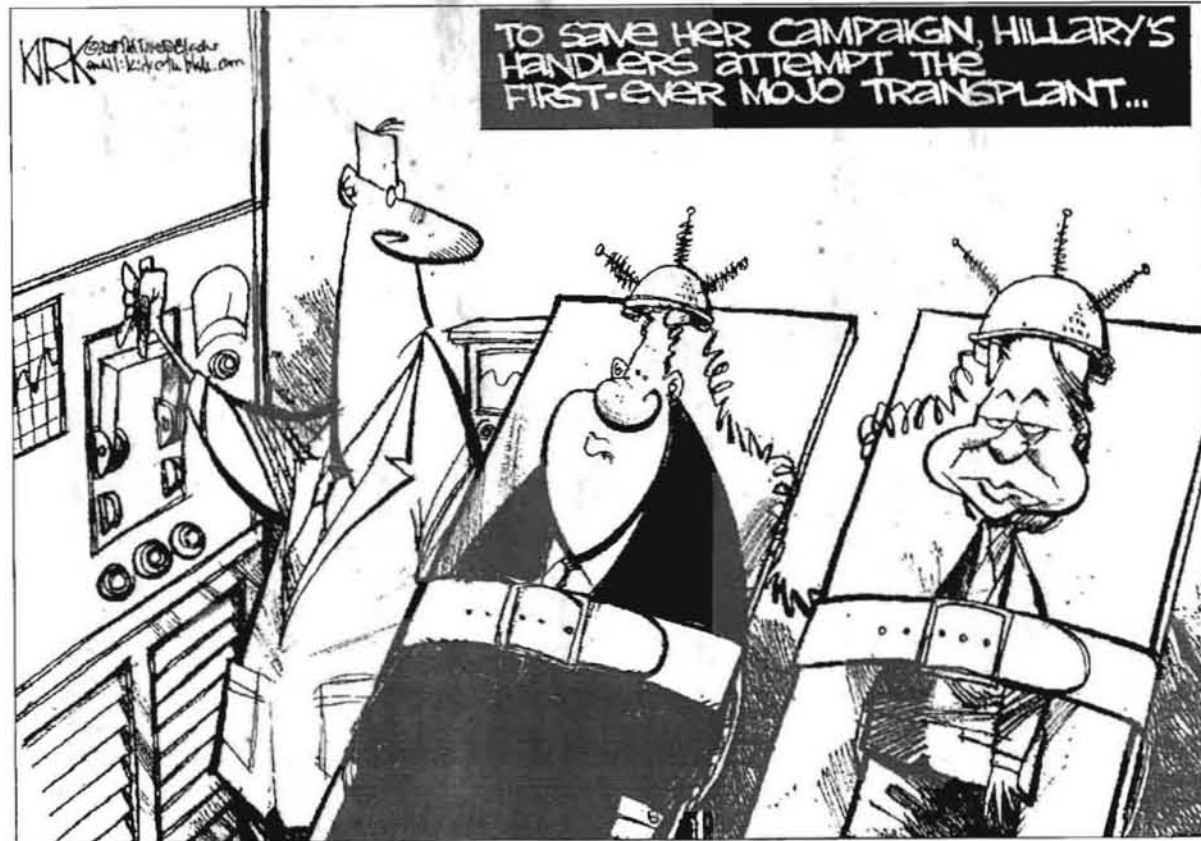
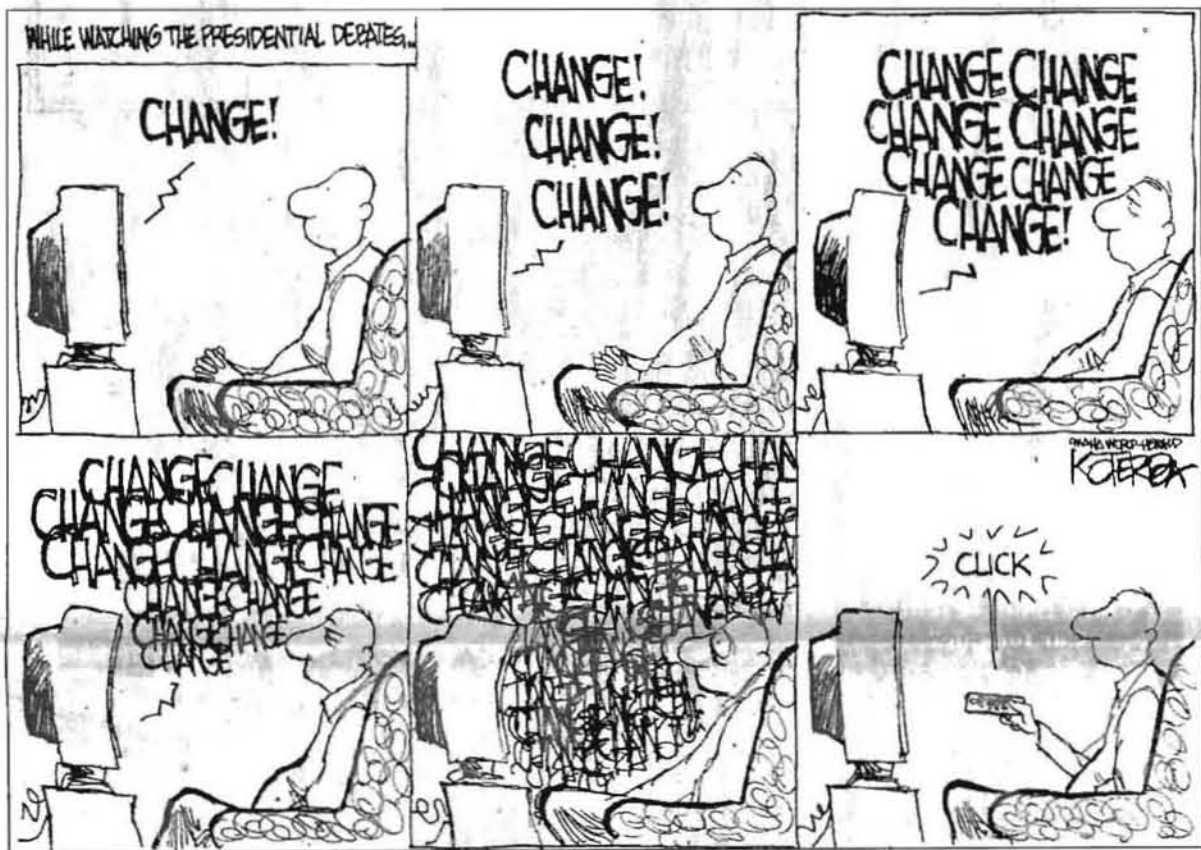


"Sconeborough" is drawn by Current cartoonist Elizabeth Gearheart



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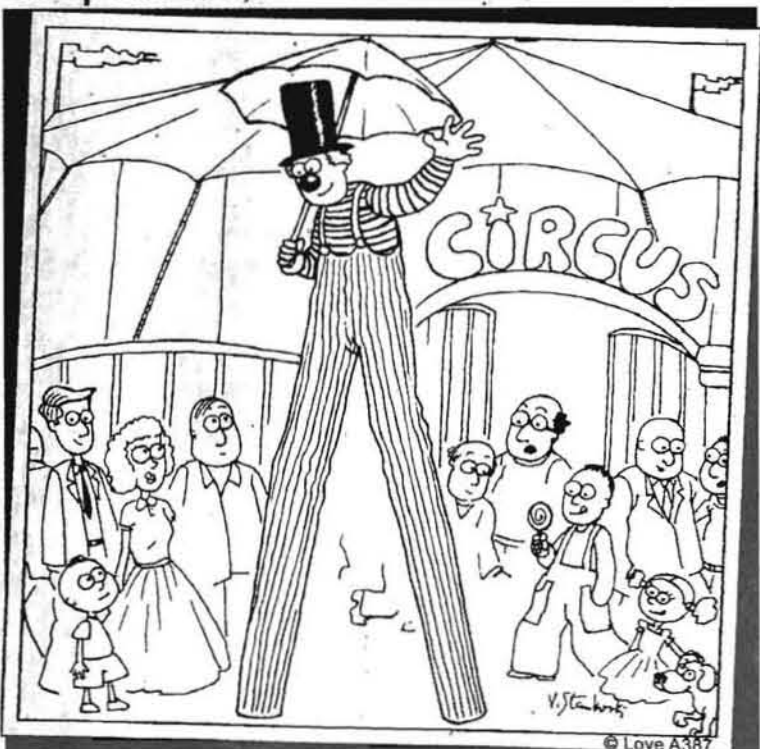
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