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2005ISSUE
1139

THECURRENTONLINE.COM

The Current

Your source for campus news and information



See page 11
DiCaprio shines in 'The Aviator'

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI - ST. LOUIS

PAC announces 5-year plan to shape up finances

In November, the PAC revealed that it would end the year with a \$900,000 deficit -- over six times what was expected

PAC's 5 year plan:

- Establish endowment (currently at \$505,000)
- More corporate sponsors
- Aggressive marketing
- Encourage rentals of performance halls
- Book shows where promoter holds liability (not the university)

BY PAUL HACKBARTH
Co-News Editor

The Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center is the "premier facility in the Midwest," says Dixie Kohn, vice chancellor for University Relations. However, this same "premier facility" is nearly \$900,000 in debt. Currently, new strategies are being applied in a five-year plan to help with the PAC's financial problems.

The PAC, which opened in September 2003, was created to be a

"not-for-profit academic teaching unit," according to Kohn. "I can't think of any not-for-profit organization that makes a profit," he said.

Kohn took over the PAC on July 1 of last year after former managing director, John Dale Kennedy, resigned. One of Kohn's first decisions as head of the PAC was outsourcing R. Scott Brigham's position as marketing director.

Kohn said he is not actively planning on filling the managing director's position. As for marketing, Rachel Queen, assistant director of marketing, has been working on

strategies to improve the PAC's marketing plan.

"This new plan will lend credibility and build recognition," Queen said.

Queen explained the marketing strategies for upcoming shows, including building more partnerships, reaching out to community groups, changing the way the PAC advertises and creating more sponsorships.

The PAC had no sponsors when it first opened, but, "we have at least 120 sponsors now, and every show from now on has a sponsor," Queen said.

see PAC FINANCES, page 12



Dixie Kohn, vice chancellor for university relations, speaks with a reporter on Thursday afternoon at the Performing Arts Center.

Mike Sherwin/The Current

Coach Brady wins lawsuit against UMSL

BY MIKE SHERWIN &
KATE DROLET

Staff Writer & Editor-in-Chief

UM-St. Louis baseball coach Jim Brady was awarded \$1.275 million from a jury in St. Louis County on Friday, ending one chapter of a dispute over Brady's employment, a dispute which has existed in some form since 1998.

The suit named the Curators of the University of Missouri, Vice Chancellor of Administrative Services Reinhard Schuster and Athletics Director Patricia Dolan as defendants. As the prosecuting party, Brady alleged that a decision in 2002 to cut the coach from his full-time status was based on age discrimination and retaliation for two previous charges filed with the Missouri Commission on Human Rights.

Brady began coaching at UM-St. Louis in 1985, and finished every

season with a winning record. His record currently stands at 560-319-6, which is the most wins a coach has held in UM-St. Louis athletic history. Despite the statistics, the coach was reduced to part-time status on Sept. 1, 2002, ending his benefits and cutting his \$40,000 salary in half. Brady agreed to the terms of the part-time contract, but filed a complaint with the MCHR on Dec. 16, 2002. The MCHR then sent Brady a "Notice of Right to Sue" for the charge of discrimination.

Brady's lawyer, Jerome Dobson, said "[Brady] has gone through hell and this has always been about much more than taking away his job. It was a matter of standing up for what's right."

Dobson said that the charges of wrongdoing first took place in 1998, when Reinhard Schuster sent "an employment contract which they called 'Goals and Objectives,'" to the four older coaches, including Brady. According to Dobson, the "Goals and Objectives" contained "ridiculous requirements," including one provision which would require the coach to have a .500 record the next season or be forced to resign.

see COACH BRADY, page 12



Jim Brady
Baseball Head
Coach

Back to January...



Mike Sherwin/The Current

Aretha Jordan, senior, English, walks through a shower of snowflakes on her way to the Thomas Jefferson Library Thursday morning. Despite the strong winds and freezing temperatures, Jordan said, "This is really nice. I enjoy this kind of weather." The day before, temperatures were in the low 60s.

Election rules take the spotlight in first SGA meeting

BY PATRICIA LEE
Co-News Editor

During the Student Government Association's first meeting of the semester on Friday, Jan. 14, election rules were the main topic of discussion.

For the last couple of years, various controversies have dominated the elections. In last year's election, vice-president-elect Erin Abraham was disqualified after the election committee determined she had violated campaign rules.

After looking over proposed election rule revisions, the assembly discussed changes.

The election committee had proposed a cap on campaign spending. They capped the spending limit at \$1200 for each slate or party, or \$1000 for a candidate running individually. "That way students without much money can still run for student government office," Brian Rails, SGA chair, said.

Under the previous election rules, an official polling place was defined as

group of three computers on campus, and campaigning within ten feet of an official polling place was illegal.

The committee proposed changing that designation from the group of three computers to campus computer labs. The reason behind this was that the old laws were ambiguous because students sitting together with three personal computers could technically be classified as an official polling place.

There are still four spaces open on the election committees. Applications are available at the Student Life office and are due by Friday.

The election committee is responsible for hearing appeals about election rule violations, setting up polling places and is in charge of the elections.

SGA president Scott Bopp also answered questions about the USA Today Collegiate Readership Program approved at the last meeting.

Under the pilot program, students can receive free newspapers during a trial period that runs until Feb. 2. The newspapers, which currently include

USA Today, St. Louis Post-Dispatch and New York Times, are located in six newsstands on various locations on campus.

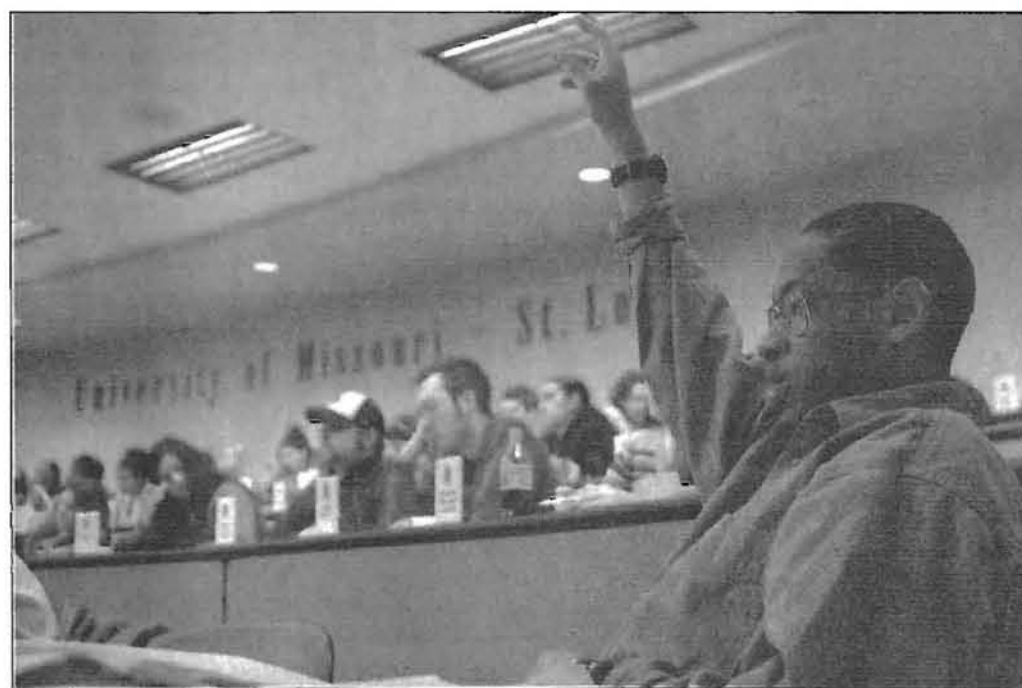
Right now, the newsstands are open to anyone, but if the program goes into effect, students will be able to access the papers by swiping their student IDs through a card reader.

If the program continues on campus, student fees would cover the cost of the newspapers.

A student referendum will decide how the program would continue at UM-St. Louis. "We won't have results until a week or so after Feb. 2," Bopp said. That referendum would decide what and how many papers students could receive and how much it would cost.

"I encourage anybody to monitor the usage, please let somebody on student government know as we are adjusting usage," Bopp said.

The assembly also approved sergeant-at-arms Thomas Helton as Associated Students of Missouri board member. The spot had been vacated after one of the members declined the



Mike Sherwin/The Current

Damien Johnson, junior, studio art, raises his hand for a question during a discussion on a proposal by Operations and Rules Committee which would reform UM-St. Louis student election rules. Johnson represents the College Republicans.

position due to time constraints.

In a previous election for ASUM board members, Helton had been the third overall vote-getter. If Helton had

not been approved at the meeting, they would have had to go through another election process to fill that position.

At the meeting, vice president

Mindy McNabb also announced that fall homecoming might be held in October instead of November because of lack of space at the Marriott.

INDEX

Bulletin Board	2
Opinions	4 & 5
Features	6 & 7
Sports	8 & 9
A & E	10 & 11
Classifieds	15

Sports:
Riverwomen
pick up win
Indianapolis

See page 8



Opinion:
What's
wrong with
the PAC?

See page 4



A&E:
'Women in
the Arts' at
Visio

See page 14



Bullet In Board

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

Put it on the Board:
The Current Events Bulletin Board is a service provided free of charge to all student organizations. University departments and divisions. Deadline for submissions to The Current Events Bulletin Board is 5 p.m., every Thursday before publication. Space consideration is given to student organizations and is on a first-come, first-serve basis. We suggest all postings be submitted at least one week prior to the event. Send submissions via mail at 388 MSC, Natural Bridge Rd., St. Louis, MO 63121. Fax at 516-6811 or email at current@jinx.umsi.edu.
All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.

All Week

College Theater Festival at Touhill Center

The weeklong Region V Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival will be held at the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center and other locations on campus. More than 1,200 college students representing more than 80 colleges and seven states will showcase and participate in a variety of theater competitions. Winners receive an all-expenses-paid trip to the national festival at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. Three performances are open to the public, including "Flaming Guns of the Purple Sage," staged by Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 19; "Tartuffe," presented by St. Louis Community College at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 20; and "Pippin," presented by Wichita State University at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 21. Tickets to all three shows are \$10 and are available in the lobby of the Touhill one hour prior to curtain. Call 4100 for more information.

All Week

Campus Recreation's wellness classes are free this week

Campus Recreation's Spring Aerobics classes begin today and run through May 6 in the aerobics room at the Mark Twain/Athletic & Fitness Center. Classes are free today through Jan. 21. Two half-semester sessions will be offered. The fee for each session is \$45 for the general public, \$35 for alumni, and \$25 for students, faculty and staff. Fee for both sessions is \$80. Classes available include high and low aerobics, yoga, total body toning and water exercise. Spinning, or stationary cycling, classes are offered for a separate fee; single classes are \$5 for students, \$6 for faculty and staff, and \$8 for all others. Registration is available at the Campus Recreation Office, 203 Mark Twain. Call 5326 or visit <http://www.umsi.edu/services/recreation> for more information.

Tues. Jan. 18

Texas Hold'em Night

The SGA's Homecoming Committee and University Program Board are holding a Texas Hold'em. Tournament at 6:00 p.m. in the Pilot House. Register in the Student Life office; fee is \$5.00 per student. Prizes will be awarded and refreshments will be served.

For more info visit the Student Life website at: www.umsi.edu/studentlife/osl/ or call 516-5291.

Thurs. Jan. 20

County executive to serve as honorary coach

County Executive Charlie Dooley will be the honorary coach of the UMSL Rivermen at the men's basketball game versus the Quincy University Hawks at 7:30 p.m. at the Mark Twain/Athletic & Fitness Center. Call 5823 for more info.

Tues. Jan. 18

Scholar to discuss welfare reform

Stephanie Riger, professor of psychology at the University of Illinois at Chicago, will discuss "Psychological Research and Social Policy: The Case of Welfare Reform and Violence Against Women" at 3 p.m. in Room R-120 of the Research Complex. The colloquium is free and open to the public and sponsored by the Department of Psychology. Call 5393 for more information.

Wed. Jan. 19

Speaker to discuss workplace environment

Matthew J. Grawitch, researcher and doctoral candidate in the industrial/organizational psychology program at Saint Louis University, will discuss "Unlocking Self-Regulation in the Workplace" at 1:30 p.m. in 411 Clark Hall. The colloquium is free and open to the public and sponsored by the Department of Psychology. Call 5393 for more information.

Wed. Jan. 19

Deadline for Campus Recreation activities

Deadline day for several Campus Recreation activities: coed volleyball league; men's and women's basketball leagues; four-player men's and women's arena football leagues; and a bowling doubles league. The activities are free and open to students, faculty and staff. Team and individual entries are accepted. Call 5326 or visit <http://www.umsi.edu/services/recreation> for more information.

Thurs. Jan. 20.

UMSL authors to read at Gallery Visio

UMSL faculty Nan Sweet, Ruth Ellen Kocher, Jennifer Mackenzie and Mary Troy will read from their poems and short stories at noon in Gallery Visio at the Millennium Student Center. Barbara Harbach, professor of music, will serve as emcee. The readings go along with "Visual Poem," an exhibition on display through Jan. 27 at Gallery Visio that features art by UMSL women. The event and exhibition are free and open to the public. Call 7922 for more information.

Thurs. Jan. 20

Visiting scholar to discuss business in China

Lu Wei, associate professor of business and director of int'l programs in the School of Business at the University of Science and Technology in Hefei, Anhui, China, will discuss "Doing Business with Chinese and Business Opportunities for Young Americans" at 2 p.m. in 401 SSB. This event is free and open to students, faculty and staff, and sponsored by the College of Business Administration. Call 6109 for more information.

Thurs. Jan. 20

Musician to perform on Irish uilleann pipes

Irish musician Tommy Martin will discuss and demonstrate the Irish uilleann pipes at 12:30 p.m. in 205 Music Building. Martin will also discuss its history. The event is free and open to the public, and sponsored by the Smurfit-Stone Endowed Professorship in Irish Studies, Saint Louis Irish Arts, the Center for International Studies and Department of Music. Call 6495 for more information.

Thurs. Jan. 20

Seminar on 'Why Some Students Don't Learn'

The spring semester's first brown bag seminar for teaching assistants, "Why Some Students Don't Learn," will be held from 12:30 to 1:45 p.m. in 223 Research Complex. The seminar will be led by Charles Granger, professor of biology and education at UMSL. The session is open to all graduate students and interested faculty and administrators. Coffee and cookies will be served. Call 5586 for more information.

Fri. Jan. 21

Faculty to read from works at TJ Library

Faculty from the Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing program will present "A Celebration of the Book" at 7:30 p.m. in the lobby of the Thomas Jefferson Library. Ruth Ellen Kocher, Howard Schwartz, Nan Sweet, Mary Troy, Eamonn Wall and Steven Schreiner will read from their latest books. The event is free and open to the public and sponsored by the UMSL libraries, bookstore, Alumni Association and the MFA program. Refreshments will be provided. Call 5789 to RSVP or for more info.

Fri. Jan. 21

Visiting scholar to discuss industry and research in China

Zhongsheng Hua, professor and chair of the Department of Information Management and Decision Science at the University of Science and Technology in Hefei, Anhui, China, will discuss "China's Logistics Development: Industry and Research" at 11 a.m. in 401 Social Sciences & Business Building. This event is free and open to students, faculty and staff, and sponsored by the College of Business Administration. Call 6109 for more information.

Fri. Jan. 21

Registration deadline for PPRC's Neighborhood Leadership Academy

Today is the registration deadline for the Neighborhood Leadership Academy. The academy, which will take place over 11 sessions from Feb. 7 to May 16 in the J.C. Penney

Conference Center, is designed for current and future neighborhood and community leaders, community organization staff members and students pursuing community development careers. A limited number of scholarships are available. The academy is sponsored by the Public Policy Research Center, Nonprofit Management and Leadership Program and University of Missouri Extension. Call 5960 to register. Visit <http://pprc.umsi.edu/> for more information.

Sat. Jan. 22

Women, Religion and Human Rights Symposium

"Women, Religion and Human Rights: Acting Locally, Thinking Globally," an interfaith feminist symposium exploring women's rights as human rights, will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Century Rooms at the Millennium Student Center. The symposium will begin with a panel discussion titled "Local Voices, Local Action" at 9 a.m. That will be followed at 10:30 a.m. by the keynote address by Shaheen Sardar Ali, professor of human rights and law at the University of Warwick, Coventry, U.K. Her presentation will be followed at 11:30 a.m. by several breakout sessions: "What the Good Book Really Says"; "Multi-faith Reflections on Fundamentalism"; "Faith-based Community Action"; and "Women and Religious Leadership." The event is free and open to the public, but donations will be accepted. It is sponsored by the Institute for Women's and Gender Studies and the Center for International Studies at UMSL, the Women's Studies Program at Saint Louis University, and the Religious Studies and Global Legal Studies programs at Washington University. Call 5581 for more information.

Sat. Jan. 22

Authors to teach non-credit fiction writing programs

"Fiction Writing: The Next Level" will be offered from 10 a.m. to noon Saturdays, beginning today and running through April 2 at the J.C. Penney Conference Center. Taught by published authors, this noncredit program covers fiction-writing techniques. The fee for the 10-week course is \$159. Part of The Write Stuff Chancellor's Certificate Program, the course is sponsored by the Master of Fine Arts Program, College of Arts and Sciences, Continuing Education and Outreach. Call 5974 or visit <http://www.umsi.edu/~conted/> and click on The Write Stuff for more information or to register.

Sat. Jan. 22

Guaranteed 4.0 Seminar

The "Guaranteed 4.0" seminar and workshop will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in 118 Social Sciences & Business Building. The opening seminar will run from 10 a.m. to noon,

with the workshop beginning at 1 p.m. The event is open to all UMSL students, and sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Relations/Academic Affairs. Participants must attend the seminar before being allowed to join the workshop. Call 6807 for more information.

Sat. Jan. 22

New workshop to teach writing poetry for children

"Poetry" will be offered from 9 a.m. to noon today and Jan. 29 at the J.C. Penney Conference Center. Participants will review a variety of published poems that children enjoy, and then shape their own words into polished poetic form. The fee for this two-session workshop is \$39. Part of The Write Stuff Chancellor's Certificate Program, the course is sponsored by the Master of Fine Arts Program, College of Arts and Sciences, Continuing Education and Outreach. Call 5974 or visit <http://www.umsi.edu/~conted/> and click on The Write Stuff for more information or to register.

Mon. Jan. 24

Monday Noon Series: Author to read from 'A Compendium of Skirts'

Author Phyllis Moore, director of liberal arts at the Kansas City Art Institute, will read from her book, "A Compendium of Skirts," at 12:15 p.m. in 229 J.C. Penney Conference Center. Moore's short stories have appeared in Redbook, The Georgia Review, The Mississippi Review and Chicago Works, an anthology of Chicago writers. Attendees may bring their lunch. Light refreshments will be served. The lecture is free and open to the public, and it's part of the Monday Noon Series, which is sponsored by The Center for the Humanities, Missouri Arts Council and The Regional Arts Commission. Call 5699 or visit <http://www.umsi.edu/~cfh> for more information.

Mon. Jan. 24

Visiting speaker to discuss X-ray studies

David Vaknin, adjunct assistant professor of physics and astronomy at Iowa State University, will discuss "X-ray Synchrotron Studies of Structure and Interfacial Phenomena at Biomimetic Membranes" at 4 p.m. in 451 Benton Hall. Coffee will be served at 3:45 p.m. The colloquium is free and open to the public, and sponsored by the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. Call 5311 for more information.

Thru Feb. 12

"Sentences," at Gal. 210

Photographer Jane Calvin creates photomontages that address issues of women, society and beauty. At the Gallery 210, next to N. MetroLink station. Free. Open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

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MCMA



ASSOCIATED
COLLEGIATE
PRESS

Campus Crimeline

The following criminal incidents were reported to the UM-St. Louis Police Department between Jan. 10, 2005 and Jan. 16, 2005. If readers have information that could assist the police investigation, they are urged to call 516-5155. Campus police as a public service to promote awareness provides this information. Remember, crime prevention is a community effort.

Jan. 10

Stealing Under \$500

366 Social Science Building
The victim reported that someone had apparently stolen a can of peanuts from her office sometime over the Christmas break.

Jan. 10

Stolen Motor Vehicle

121 South Campus Classroom Building - South Drive

The victim reported that apparently suspect(s) entered an office while it was insecure and unoccupied and stole the victim's keys and cash. The keys contained the automatic door unlocking button. A witness later observed a black male suspect enter the victim's car and drive away. The victim's car

was parked on South Drive near the library. The vehicle was recovered by the Hillsdale Police two hours after it was stolen. It had been involved in a one car accident.

The driver was taken into custody for tampering with a motor vehicle. The detective for the UM-St. Louis Police Department is continuing to work on this investigation to determine if the driver is the suspect who originally stole the car. Charges are pending in this incident.

Jan. 11

Property Damage 2nd Degree

7840 Natural Bridge Road (Old Hospital)

Red spray painted graffiti was discovered on the northeast corner of the abandoned building. The facilities department was able to paint over the affected area.

Jan. 11

Stealing Under \$500

Child Development Center

Two tricycles were stolen from a storage area sometime during the holiday break.

Jan. 11

Stealing Under \$500

Parking Lot JJ-Daughters of Charity area

A student reported a parking permit was stolen from a vehicle while parked. The permit was placed on top of the old permit, and was thereby easy to remove. The permit was entered into the computer system as stolen.

Jan. 11

Stealing Under \$500

Mark Twain Drive

The victim reported a stereo speaker box was stolen from his trunk. The victim believes he inadvertently pressed the trunk unlock button on his remote as he was putting it in his pocket. There was no forced entry and nothing else was taken.

Jan. 12

Stealing Under \$500

331 Research Building

The victim reported a stolen calculator from an office. The calculator was left in an unsecured office and when the victim went back to get it, it was gone.

Jan. 12

Stealing Under \$500

Parking Lot E

A victim reported that one of her Illinois License plates was stolen from her vehicle while it was parked on Lot E.

Jan. 13

Stealing Under \$500

General Services Building-Storage Area

The Theatre Department reported that a miter saw was stolen from their storage area sometime between Dec. 1, 2004 and Jan. 13, 2005.

Jan. 14

Stealing Under \$500.00

University Meadows Apartments

The victim reported that her brother had apparently stolen \$1,200 in cash from her purse. The victim advised that she had cashed her allotment check and placed it in her purse. When she returned to her apartment with her brother and his girlfriend, she placed her purse in the living room and went to her bedroom. She then heard the front door close and discovered her brother and money were gone. The UM-St. Louis Police put the suspect and his girlfriend in the computer as wanted for questioning in this incident.

Do you have
the passion?

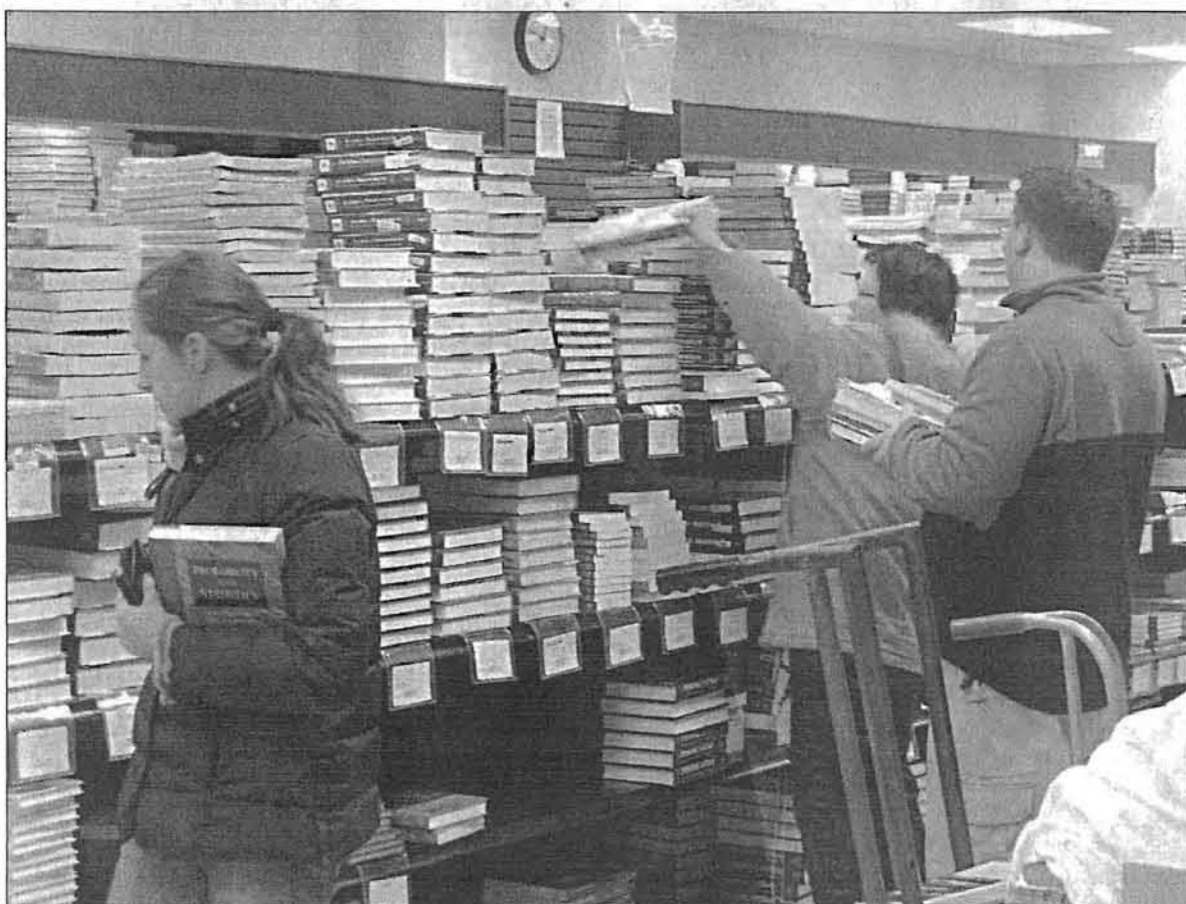
Do you want
the experience?



The Current News Team

It's all about
the truth.

Students find alternate options for buying books



Kevin Ottey/The Current

Students search the textbook section of the MSC bookstore thursday afternoon. Some students find that the bookstore is the most convenient way to get course textbooks.

BY PAUL HACKBARTH

Co-News Editor

After each semester ends, UM-St. Louis students are often left with unwanted textbooks. Until recently, a student's only option was to sell them back to the bookstore. However, new alternatives allow students to set their own price.

Kenneth Williams, a graduate of Ohio Northern University, has created a website called www.collegecampus-connection.com that allows students to sell their textbooks using intercampus trading.

"I have developed a website that is much easier to use and easier for college students to find books," Williams said.

Students can register at the website for free all year long and search for books whether they are members or not. They can add their book to a database and pick which campus to sell their book at.

"All you have to do is find the book on the site, click the contact info, contact the person and meet on campus," Williams said.

Unlike other websites, William's site avoids shipping and handling and does not take a percentage of the sale.

"With my site, you post at your campus, sell at your campus, profit at

your campus," he said. "The more people who sign up and post books, the better it is for everyone."

Besides William's website, students could sell their textbooks through Beta Alpha Psi's book pool held on Dec. 13 through 16 and Jan. 8 through 11. However, BAP only accepted books for four business courses at UM-St. Louis.

Jim Tiburzi, faculty adviser for BAP, said, "We set up the facilitation for students who wanted to sell their books rather than selling them back to the bookstore."

Students brought their business course books to the Social Sciences and Business Tower, filled out a form and set their own price.

"It gave an opportunity for people to buy books at a lesser price and for people who wanted to sell them at a better price than they were going to get. That was the biggest advantage," Tiburzi said.

BAP charged students \$1 per book and 10 percent of the proceeds. BAP sold 59 textbooks in all, and Tiburzi predicted a profit of about \$300.

Tiburzi got the idea after talking with a faculty advisor from Weber State University at a BAP national convention. Weber State allows students to sell books for every class offered there.

"We hear people complaining all

the time," Tiburzi said. "With all this complaining, maybe there would be a lot of students who actually wanted to look for some alternative means other than selling their books back to the bookstore."

However, he said only about 10 percent of students participated.

While the Internet and BAP offer alternatives, the campus bookstore still allows students to sell their textbooks through a wholesale company called Missouri Book Services.

Gloria Schultz, bookstore manager, said, "The bookstore buys books from students based on the text requests that come from each department or professor."

MBS scans a student's book and if that title is in their database, students will receive half of the new price of the book, even if students bought it as a used book.

Schultz shared advantages to using the bookstore instead of selling textbooks online. "Students get instant cash payments when they sell to the bookstore rather than waiting for the online company to issue payment. In addition, when selling online, students must pack the books and hassle with mailing them. It's more convenient to sell to the bookstore."

"Our goal is to buy as many books as possible from students during the buyback each semester," Schultz said.

Many students find parking fees excessive

BY DAN BAUER

Staff Writer

Another semester has begun at UM-St. Louis. That means it is time for students to cut those checks or scrounge up an adequate amount of cash to purchase this semester's parking pass.

Parking passes have consistently gone up over the past several years.

It may be hard for a student to comprehend that a UM-St. Louis parking fee used to be a flat \$50 cost less than a decade ago, considering that a full time-student now pays between \$216 and \$270 per semester.

The current charge for a student parking pass is \$18 per credit hour, which caps off at 15 credit hours.

For standard passenger cars, the parking permits have to be affixed to the outside driver-side lower corner of the rear windshield. For other vehicles, such as convertibles, vans, and trucks, the permit must be applied on the lower passenger-side of the windshield.

There is a \$25 ticket for improper placement of the parking sticker. While the tickets have remained the same cost for a number of years, the initial purchase of the tags has continued to rise.

Luckily for students who did not purchase their parking permit during

the first week of classes, they had the first week as a grace period. Cars without passes will begin being ticketed on Monday, Jan. 17.

Circumstances concerning the parking situation at the University have drastically changed.

In the past couple of years parking lots have been repaired, torn down and new facilities built in their place. The latest addition is the garage across from the Millennium Student Center.

Students have a wide range of opinions when it comes to the price of parking at UM-St. Louis.

"I think parking stickers are way too high. Maybe around \$100 would be better," said Dan Flees, freshman. "Why do we have to have such

fancy lots if it's going to cost and arm and a leg? Nobody got to vote on that."

However, this sentiment was not the only feeling at UM-St. Louis.

Ryan Crump, senior, math and science, said, "The parking fees are necessary for funding so UM-St. Louis students have nice facilities. That is simply the cost of a quality education nowadays," Crump added.

In short, a relatively large number of students are upset over the higher costs. Ideas for compromise have floated around, though none have been officially accepted.

One such idea is to lower the student activities fee if parking costs are going to continue to rise.



Although parking meters are available for visitors, some students prefer to chance the time limited meter rather than pay the parking fee. Legally, meters are only for UM-St. Louis visitors. Meters last less time than the shortest class.

Kevin Ottey/The Current

NEWS BRIEFS



Mike Sherwin/The Current

Evening students crowd around a newspaper vending box, unable to open the machine with their student ID cards. The box is part of the USA Today Collegiate Readership Program's trial period. SGA President Scott Bopp said on Friday that the box has been malfunctioning but will be fixed or replaced soon. The trial period lasts until Feb. 4, after which the SGA will decide whether or not to bring the program to a vote in a student referendum to approve a new fee to continue the readership program.

Construction work will provide additional parking

A construction project is underway on an area between the Millennium Student Center and the North MetroLink station. Weather had delayed the project, but it is expected to be completed in about one and a half months.

Prior to construction, the space was a grassy area where people often cut across to reach the Millennium Student Center from the MetroLink.

The \$270,000 project will add 20 parking spaces to Parking Lot E. These spaces would provide additional valet parking for the Blanche Touhill Performing Arts Center.

The project would also include a sidewalk system that includes lighting and landscaping. It would link the Millennium Student Center, the MSC North Garage, the Performing Arts Center and the MetroLink station.

Violinist joins Arianna String Quartet

After a six-month search, the Arianna String Quartet has added its newest member. Violinist David Gillham was chosen out of nine potential candidates in the United States and Europe.

Gillham replaces violinist Rebecca Rhee, one of the quartet's founding members. Rhee left the group last year to spend more time with her family and to pursue other activities.

Prior to joining the quartet, Gillham worked as a viola instructor at the University of Central Arkansas' department of music. His first concert with the Arianna String Quartet will be on Feb. 6 at 4 p.m. in the Blanche Touhill Performing Arts Center.

The Arianna String Quartet is UM-St. Louis' quartet-in-residence and teaches various music lessons at the University.

American College Theater Festival at PAC

The weeklong Region V Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival will be held at the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center and other locations on campus. More than 1,200 college students representing more than 80 colleges and seven states will showcase and participate in a variety of theater competitions. Winners receive an all-expenses-paid trip to the national festival at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. Three performances are open to the public, including "Flaming Guns of the Purple Sage," staged by Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 19; "Tartuffe," presented by St. Louis Community College at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 20; and "Pippin," presented by Wichita State University at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 21. Tickets to all three shows are \$10 and are available in the lobby of the Touhill one hour prior to curtain. Call 4100 for more information.

Proposed greenway would connect UM-St. Louis, MetroLink stations

BY PATRICIA LEE

Co-News Editor

Although still in the planning process, there is a proposal to build a greenway through UM-St. Louis. On Wednesday, Jan. 12, the Great Rivers Greenway District held an open house at UM-St. Louis concerning St. Vincent Greenway.

The proposed greenway would be 6-7 miles long and stretch from Ramona Lake to Forest Park. It would connect a number of parks, including St. Vincent Park, Forest Park and Wellston Neighborhood Park.

There are also plans to connect it with the Rock Road and Wellston Metro stations, but that is dependent on partnerships with Metro. "There will be a strong partnership with the University, St. Louis County and possibly Metro," Ulman said.

For the most part, the greenway would be built on public land, but if necessary, buying private lands, or the rights to build on it, are options for the district.

The greenway and the Great Rivers Greenway are funded by a one-tenth of one cent sales tax, which voters approved in November 2000.

Exactly where the St. Vincent Greenway would connect UM-St. Louis is not clear right now. "The University has ideas about where it would like to be on campus," Ulman said.

A bicycle and pedestrian trail would run the entire length of the greenway and, where possible, there would also be adjacent parks and green spaces. "One of the constant features will be this trail," Ulman said.

The St. Vincent Greenway would be part of a larger system of greenways that would connect major St. Louis waterways such as the Mississippi, Missouri and Meramec rivers.

While the proposal usually met with positive reactions, there were some concerns about whether the greenway would interfere with streets. "We are trying not to be on the street with bicycle lanes. We are trying to have designated bicycle paths," Ulman said.

Ulman believed that the project would help improve the local economy by causing additional investment



Betty Van Uum, assistant to the chancellor, chats with Jim and Nancy Hogue of Florissant at an informational session on proposed network of parks and trails that would connect UM-St. Louis and several MetroLink stations.

from the private sector.

"We strongly feel that a connected system of greenways can improve economic development, raise property values and spur economic development in this area," Ulman said.

Darlene Haun, a member of the Americorps Stream Team, an organization that is involved with the upkeep of streams, also supported the greenway proposal, but pointed out that when the MetroLink was built, it did not bring St. Louis the economic development that was expected.

The University was one of several places where the district held open houses during the week. According to Nancy Ulman, the greenway's project director, the goal of the open houses was to get residents' thoughts about the greenway.

"We're asking people what they think and how they might use it. We want to get their input and ideas," Ulman said. "We want to begin to educate the public about assets and opportunities with the greenway."

One local community leader who

attended the open house was Vinita Park's mayor, Virginia Bira. Vinita Park lies north of the proposed greenway and Bira wanted the greenway to include her city.

"I think this project is really great, but again, our area is not included in this project," Bira said. "We need to do something about it."

In fact, Bira spent more than \$37,000 to study the effect the greenway would have on her city. She believed that the greenway would help solve the problems Vinita Park has with its lack of parking.

"I have 2000 people coming to work in Vinita Park, and one of the things they want is green trails and walking area within the industrial park and to the city so they can get to work," Bira said.

Despite the fact that many St. Louisans rely on personal vehicles for transportation, Larry Ruff, Stream Team Assistant, believed that people would use the greenways if they were there. "If you build it, they will come," he said.

OUR OPINION

Desperately seeking solvency

PAC's debt due to poor planning, not performances

In the depths of the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center, the United States Air Force Band held a recording session on Thursday for an upcoming compact disc release.

Starting Tuesday of this week, over 1,200 collegiate actors will descend upon the center for the week-long American College Theater Festival.

The Touhill has given the public a new reason to notice the U-M-St. Louis campus, but has the \$52 million performing arts center proven its worth?

Much of the unexpected \$887,000 deficit can be attributed to poor financial planning, though location and accessibility should also be held responsible.

In November, the PAC staff revealed to the University Assembly's Budget and Planning Committee that the Center's year-end debt would be six times more than initially anticipated. The fact that the PAC was operating on a deficit was hardly a surprise; the Touhill staff originally projected a deficit of \$68,000, later revised to around \$132,000.

However, the magnitude of the Center's debt hinted that the Touhill's operation planning and execution may have been woefully ill-prepared prior to its opening in September 2003. The departure of John Dale Kennedy after only a year as director of the Touhill seemed to portend that trouble was on the horizon for the center.

At the November meeting, the presentation to the Budget and Planning Committee showed that the Touhill's trouble partly involved underselling events: original financial reports expected 70 percent occupancy for shows, when actual occupancy lagged behind at 47 percent.

So, why have the numbers been so disappointing?

Certainly, the problem is not the facility itself. The Touhill is an architectural gem. With its striking glass and brick exterior, the multi-level Anheuser-Busch Performance Hall and the intimate Des Lee Theater, the Touhill defies visitors to walk away aesthetically unsatisfied.

Ironically, the Touhill's singularity may be one of its fundamental problems. North County does not have a reputation as a hotbed of quality cultural programming, so even the most glorious oasis of

culture has to overcome a public more accustomed to thinking of a place like the Grand Center as "the place to go" for cultural entertainment.

Parking availability and location may have an impact on attendance. For some visitors, the long, winding sidewalks and muddy landscape between the parking

lot and the PAC are merely an inconvenience. However, for elderly patrons, the marathon walk can prove uncomfortable or impossible. The new parking lot between the Student Center and

Tohill will improve this problem, but as attendance increases, the problem will arise again.

The Touhill shares the same general struggle of U-M-St. Louis: to be viewed as a prominent institution and more just than "the school by the airport."

While some critics have presented the Touhill as a financial albatross around the neck of the campus, siphoning off badly-needed funds from other University programs, the reality is that the PAC is here and we need to make the best of an imperfect situation.

The Touhill's management seems to be getting on the right track. Rather than defensively sticking to money-losing methods, the PAC's leaders have taken action to ensure that past mistakes are not repeated.

The PAC staff plans to book types of shows that have proven to sell well, such as comedy performers and popular musicians. Not all big-name performances draw a crowd, and the staff should carefully consider its selection.

The meager 10 percent student discount was not enticing enough for those who battle with school bills. The Touhill has upped its discount from 10 percent to 25 percent, which hopefully will draw a larger U-M-St. Louis crowd.

By making improvements in efficiency, the Touhill may be able to pull itself out of the cavernous deficit. The PAC's performances, not its finances, should take center stage.

The Performing Arts Center is still in its infancy, and to a certain extent, missteps are to be expected. However, with a smarter operation, the Touhill should be able to serve the campus as a first-rate performance facility, a laboratory for the University's performing arts students, and as a persuasive recruitment tool.

The Issue

The Touhill

Performing Arts

Center recently

reported an unex-

pected \$887,000

debt. Poor financial

planning, location

and accessibility are

responsible for the

bulk of the prob-

lem.

We suggest

The PAC staff

should carefully

select less expen-

sive shows that

will appeal to

audiences. New

parking will help

the accessibility

issue, but constant

improvement is

necessary to acco-

modate growth.

So what do you think?

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

The Current goes to 1979

Among piles of press releases, stacks of newspapers and a collection of modern technology, archives dating back to the 1960's sit in The Current office. On stressful production nights, I sit down with an old edition and remember the legacy that I am fortunate to be a part of.

I recently picked up the 1978-79 archive and flipped to this week back then. Almost exactly 20 years ago, student fees were in the news. The \$27 student activity fee had experienced a \$2.50 increase for athletics. Speaking of athletics, a student's commentary shows that sports have never taken a top priority among U-M-St. Louis students.

"What is wrong with the basketball team?!" You hear it being spoken on the mouths of many people here at UMSL, Phil Boone wrote. "Actually, the basketball team should feel lucky that people are even mentioning them. From the attendance at many of the games, I wonder if the team has any fans at all."

We had wrestling and swim teams in 1979, and jazz was popular through KWMU. Our recreational sports list included whitewater kayaking (so apparently we had nearby whitewater rapids back then too), inner tube water polo and weightlifting. Students could take sport and dance classes, including scuba diving, advanced life saving, gymnastics and disco.

"The Rowdies" was a group of athletes who participated in super sport competitions in the area. Four women and four men played volleyball, ran the 880 relay, completed an obstacle course, had a "beer can toss," finished a Frisbee throw and heaved in a tug-of-war.

This year, U-M-St. Louis is home to the "Women in the Arts" series, which celebrates female contributions to the world of music, literature and art. In 1979, U-M-St. Louis women celebrated the ten-year anniversary of what they called "the new women's movement." Featured seminars at the festival included, "Options for Women: Exit

Classroom, Enter Boardroom," a dance performance titled, "Women's Work," and art exhibits.

"Lord of the Rings" debuted as a PG film at the Shady Oak Theatre at Forsyth and Hanley.

U-M-St. Louis students reluctantly walked between classes during an early semester snow in 1979, just as students have done this week.

Dan Swanger was the official Miller Campus representative back in the day. His ad, which ran in The Current, read, "For a really great time, call your Miller Campus Representative. Find out what important services, equipment and ideas can help you make your event a very successful one. When you've got the time, we've got Miller Light, Miller High Life and Lowenbrau."

The Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity advertised their annual spring break trip in the Jan. 18, 1979 edition of The Current. For \$159, students could spend seven days and six nights at Daytona Beach. The price included a round-trip bus ticket and lodging at the "luxurious Plaza Hotel on the beach."

A slightly blurry photo in issue 329 explains a unique bit of U-M-St. Louis foliage.

"YOU WON'T FIND IT LISTED IN THE CARD CATALOG," the caption reads. "Two young marijuana plants grew in a planter in the library's fourth level."

Twenty years ago, Stadler Hall housed more than daytime classes. Students could pay \$1 to see weekend films. The top flicks on North Campus in 1979 included "High Anxiety," "The World's Greatest Lover," "Blue Collar," "American Hot Wax," and "Saturday Night Fever."

The age-yellowed pages reflect the date, but some of the issues still resound. However, it is easy to see that in its 40-year history, the culture at U-M-St. Louis and The Current has undergone some changes. This has always been a place for students, and flipping through the archives makes that clear.

Cold weather blisters St. Louis

After months of relatively warm weather, our city has finally experienced winter. Last week, frigid temperatures swept over the city, making life a lot harder for those of us who have been dreading the season.

Winter is my least favorite season of all. I hate dressing in a million layers to go to classes and I hate even more dealing with car problems and gas prices. Every morning I wake up early, hoping my car will start and my doors will unlock. I have already experienced one incident in relation to the cold weather.

I went outside to start my car for work when I realized my door locks were frozen shut. So, naturally, as any freezing, tired person would do, I pulled on the door handle. That attempt failed as I broke the door handle. Having no other option, I climbed in through my trunk. I know I was not the only one forced to endure this icy humiliation. Winter is out to get us.

In addition to problems with our vehicles, gas prices skyrocketed after it started to get cold. I am assuming the demand is high right now, causing the prices to rise; however, it is inconvenient for us that it happens right when everyone needs to fill up their tanks. It probably is not something we can control, but it sure does put a bigger damper on the season.

Car trouble is not the only reason I dread winter every year. This season is also plain boring. When the temperature drops, everyone is forced to stay inside because it is too cold to do anything else. This turns Friday and Saturday nights

into painfully mundane evenings for those who are afraid to drive anywhere in the weather.

Bundling up and warming up your car to go anywhere make things less appealing in general. It is a great season for covering up by a fire and watching a movie. This tends to get old after a couple of months though. So, another thing to do when the weather brings you down is to play games with a group of friends. This can be a fun alternative to watching movies or a full DVD season of your favorite television show.

For those who are really adventurous and not afraid of the cold, sledding can be an option. I am not a fan of purposely getting wet and cold, but enough snow can make it a good time. Plus, it can bring some excitement to a relatively boring season.

Some may think the snow could give you some time off classes, but I would not count on the cancellation of school due to the snow. Most of my professors have said that the University hardly ever closes the campus all together. I have been here for three years, and we have not had a snow day in that amount of time. Some professors may cancel class if they are not able or willing to get to campus, but the likelihood is slim.

Some instructors will use MyGateway to tell students when class is cancelled, so your best bet is to check this in the morning. The campus school snow closing number is 516-4636.

Just try to make the most of what is in my opinion a boring and irritating season and remember that spring is will get here someday.



KATE DROLET
Editor-in-Chief



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Managing Editor

Editorial Board

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MIKE SHERWIN

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

LETTERS

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

What's your opinion?

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

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

- PAC debt: poor planning
- The Current goes to 1979
- Cold weather blisters STL

- Submit a letter to the editor
- Write a guest commentary
- Visit the online forums at TheCurrentOnline.com

Under Current

by Kevin Ottley
Photography Associate

Which course is going to be the most stressful this semester?



Jennifer Ryan
Senior
Mathematics

That would be Chemistry because I've never taken it before and it's 5 hours!



Nikia Paulette
Junior
Business Finance

Legal Environment of Business. The professor says he has high standards; it's going to be difficult because of him.



Chris Georges
Junior
Chemistry

Quantitative Analysis is a lab class. It really sucks...



Shu Yao
Senior
Chemistry

I think all my classes are pretty easy this semester. I'm graduating so I already took all my hard courses.

SCIENCE COLUMN

Taking shots at the flu Influenza has a long, deadly history



BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-
HOMEYER

Science Columnist

World War I was one of the most brutal and deadly wars of all time. A greater percentage of the population of the countries at war died during the years of this conflict than in any other war since, nearly wiping away a generation. Yet it was not combat that killed the most of these young people. It was the flu.

This nearly inconceivable fact is why our government worries about influenza. In many species, the flu is a deadly disease, but in humans, it seriously affects mostly the very old, the very young, and those with already-compromised health. For most of us, the flu is a pain but not life-threatening. However in that deadly 1918 epidemic, the flu struck with deadly effects and most shockingly, targeted mostly young, healthy adults.

So the government urges everyone to get a flu shot to prevent what happened in 1918, right? Actually, it is more complicated than that, and some of those complications came out this year with the shortage of flu vaccine.

The real reason the government urges you to get a flu shot is not to stop a deadly flu that year but to increase demand for flu vaccine. Influenza is one of the most changeable of viruses, shifting types from place to place and year to year. When it combines with strains from other species, it can become a new deadly form. Your resistance to a strain of flu depends on the ability of your immune system to recognize the sur-

face proteins on the influenza virus. Viruses outside of a cell are simple things, essentially some nucleic acid, DNA or RNA, wrapped inside a protein coat. The protein coat packages the genetic material and helps it attach to a cell and get inside. Your immune system fights the virus by recognizing the proteins on the surface of the virus.

For flu, there are two types of surface proteins involved in this process: neuraminidase (NA), of which there are nine major antigenic types, and haemagglutinin (HA) of which there are 13 major antigenic types. There are several types of influenza but it is the Type A, which occurs in man, birds, pigs, and other species, that generates the epidemic threat when strains that occur in one species combine with the human strains. Strains of influenza are designated by H (number) N (number), for example H1N2, where the numbers specify the antigenic type of the HA and NA proteins.

Strains of influenza undergo "antigenic drift" as they develop small changes in response to immune resistance to the strain in populations. Periodically, strains recombine, creating an "antigenic shift." Changes in the NA protein are more frequent but changes in the HA protein are the most significant. Strains of the virus may shift from year to year and location to location, with many strains originating in Asia. There are an amazing number of combinations of flu but usually just a few types for a species, for which we are likely to have some antibodies and resistance due to previous exposure. Once in a while, one of these combinations jumps the species barrier and spreads rapidly because no one has resistance. These are the strains of flu that create the killer epidemics and why there is much concern about bird flu in Asia right now.

In 1918, the world had its worst influenza epidemic. The 1918 strain, H1N1, created a pandemic that swept around the world. More young people died of flu, between 20 and 40 million, than died in the World War going on at the same time. More people died of flu in that one year than died of plague during the four years of the Black Death Bubonic Plague

from 1347 to 1351. The 1918 flu was known as "Spanish Flu" or "La Grippe," although it may have started in Asia or even in the U.S. It targeted young, healthy people between 20 and 40 years of age, often killing within days of infection.

This year, we had a glitch in our flu vaccine supply because we were getting our vaccine from only one main manufacturer. Flu vaccine production issues are more about business than biology. It now takes almost a year to develop a vaccine for a particular strain of flu, so this is more about keeping companies in the vaccine business than about a fast response to a looming pandemic.

The reason the government encourages flu vaccine is to make sure there are companies that can make flu vaccine, to have some company in the business of developing vaccines. Keeping companies in the business increases the chance of improving vaccine development. The goal of flu vaccination drives is, in many ways, to boost the profits for a less-profitable business. The sad truth of modern drug development is that the modern business climate demands big profits now and favors volume business. Drug development is expensive, and development of vaccines and searches for new antibiotics are being dropped by drug companies in favor of more profitable drugs for common chronic conditions which bring in a steady reliable income. Both drugs for diseases that fewer people have and drugs that are onetime cures or preventive treatments are neglected. This leads to "orphan drugs" that no company finds profitable enough to market and "orphan diseases" that do not affect enough people for treatments to yield big profits being ignored and essentially creates a sort of competition between vaccines and antibiotics, drugs that offer a one-time short term profit versus treatments that manage diseases long term.

The marketplace ideal is that some upstart company will make these drugs that the big companies do not find profitable enough but it has not worked that way so far. Fear of a repeat of the 1918 epidemic drives the effort to keep demand for flu vaccine high.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Student thanks Martin for review

[In response to Monica Martin's restaurant review in Issue 1138, Jan. 10, 2005]

A special thank you to Monica Martin for a well written article. I am currently a student at UMSL, and my husband is one of the co-owners of

Crown Candy Kitchen. He was delighted to hear they enjoyed their visit. I have forwarded the article to the Crown Candy staff. Thanks for your support, and I hope other students will visit, especially during the Easter season, where homemade

solid chocolate bunnies adorn the candy shelves.

Laura Karandzieff
UM-St. Louis student, General Studies

Rants and Raves

Annoyed? Excited? Share your love. Rant and Rave. Email to current@jinx.ums.edu or leave in the envelope outside of the office door. Rants and Raves will be anonymous. Please keep obscenities to a minimum.

"Dear Frosty,
I drove an hour in snow just for class, and I got the evil eye for being late. I hate you."

"I walked by fraternity guys the other day, and they didn't give me a flyer. Should I be offended or relieved?"

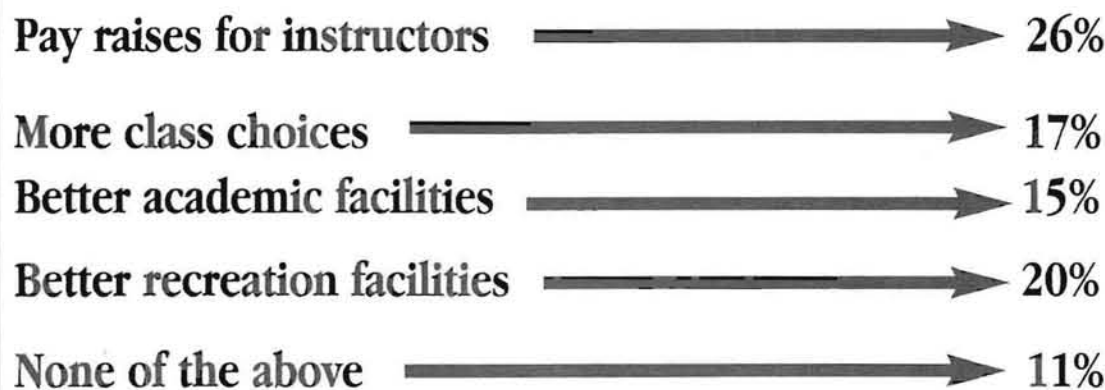
"The Current is such a fantastic newspaper. I don't know that I could truly live a meaningful existence without their error-proof reporting and charming evaluations of school administrators."

"I'm glad somebody finally gave the Loch Ness Monster a good home. Those lakes only cost a few thousand dollars, and now we have a mascot right outside."

"I was approached by a friendly MetroLink rider yesterday. He sang me a song about greeting cards and told me I was 'thick.' I think I'm flattered. He was 80."

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

What would you dish out more money for?



Results via www.thecurrentonline.com

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

You are formally invited...

Where: The White House, noon

When: Thursday, Jan. 20

Why: The President's Inauguration

Check your local TV Listings. Tune in to history.

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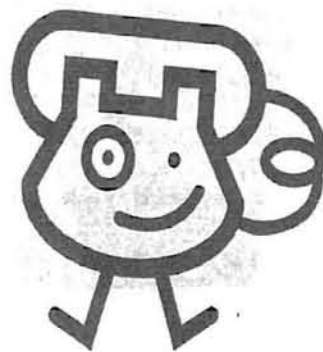
Submit a cover letter and resume to Becky Rosner, Managing Editor, at 388 MSC, or via email at current@jinx.ums.edu.

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UM-ST. LOUIS JUST THINK

FEATURES

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MELISSA MCCRARY
Features Editor

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the week's
best
bets

Tues. Jan. 18
Texas Hold 'Em
Tournament

For five bucks, you can get into the action at a Texas Hold 'Em Tournament, held in the Pilot House starting at 6 p.m. Register early to make sure you get a spot. The top winners will receive gift certificates, and refreshments will be served. See Pat Sherman in the Student Life Office (366 MSC) to sign up. Or visit: www.umsl.edu/studentlife/osl/

Wed. Jan. 19
Open Mic in honor of
Dr. Martin Luther King

The Associated Black Collegians are holding a Open Mic Event, "In Celebration of the Dream" in the Pilot House on Jan. 19 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more info, call ABC at 314-516-5731.



Gwenne Hayes-Stewart browses the PPRC gallery during the opening reception of "Gateway Greening's Community Gardeners" at the PPRC on Wednesday. Hayes-Stewart is director of the Gateway Greening program, which establishes and maintains gardens in urban areas.

Point-of-View series continues at the PPRC art gallery in SSB

This time, urban gardeners put down their spades and pick up cameras

BY MELISSA MCCRARY
Features Editor

The Public Policy Research Center, located in room 362 of the Social Sciences and Business Building, opened the "Gateway Greening's Community Gardeners" art exhibit on Wednesday, January 12.

This exhibit is part of the Point-of-View Series, which showcases photographs from gardeners and people who live and work throughout the community.

Rebecca Pastor, PPRC Communications Coordinator, said that the office has held special art exhibitions like this one for the past 30 years.

"This is a very different and new kind of exhibit and is the second one in the series," Pastor said.

Three Point-of-View exhibitions will be hosted annually by PPRC. All of the exhibitions will focus on different volunteer community groups.

The photographs on display were taken by eight different gardeners, one who is a member of the St. Louis nonprofit organization Gateway Greening.

William Bennett, Wardwell Buckner, Bob Byrne, Ruth Kamphoefner, Marilyn Lane, Kristin Linder, LaDoris Payne, Ola Bledsoe and Cheryl Schaefer are the gardeners who submitted their work in this exhibition.

A variety of photos, including images of Lafayette Park, bridges, trees, flowers, leaves, foliage, plants, gates, architecture and people working within the community, focus on the concept of nature. All photos were taken in 2004.

"I like the pictures of the bridges because



Mel Watkin introduces members of the Gateway Greening organization whose photographs are on display in the Public Policy Research Center gallery. Gateway Greening is a program in which volunteers maintain urban gardens throughout the city. The exhibit, "Gateway Greening's Community Gardeners" runs through April 6. A second part of the project is on display at the Dennis and Judith Jones Visitor and Education Center in Forest Park.

they remind me of some of the places that I have visited on vacation in Tokyo," Milinda Ochirukh, senior, psychology, said.

"Gateway Greening's Community Gardeners" exhibition is sponsored by the Regional Arts Commission, the Missouri Arts Council, the Arts and Education Council of St. Louis and Art Tech Photo Finishing in Clayton.

People interested in community art and with urban beautification can visit this free exhibit, open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., until April 6.

UMSL sponsors blood drive for national donor month

Health Services holds contest for student groups who donate

BY MAEGHAN BROWN
Staff Writer

Thousands of people all across the country have received blood transfusions. For many this is a life-saving event. Blood is needed everyday. To some, donating blood is scary, but to know that they are saving lives makes the fear become desire to help someone.

January is National Blood Donor Month. Because supplies are usually limited during winter months, the American Red Cross tries to start off the year with a strong supply of blood.

With current tragedies like the tsunami and California's mud slide, along with everyday car accidents and surgeries, blood supplies run low. According to Red Cross, approximately 38,000 units of blood are required in hospitals and emergency rooms everyday to save lives.

Blood is thoroughly screened before being used. Even before it has been drawn from the donor, it is tested for blood type and for any unexpected red blood cell antibodies that may cause complications in a recipient. Other tests that are performed include screenings for Hepatitis B and C, HIV-1 and HIV-2, human T-lymphotropic viruses

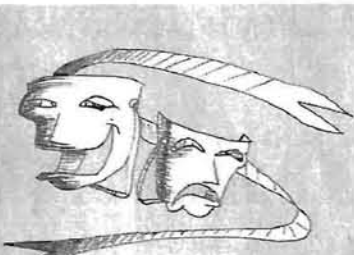
HTLV-I and HTLV-II, syphilis and West Nile virus. With these precautions, a recipient's chance of getting contaminated blood is slim to none.

The Red Cross has asked UM-St. Louis to hold a blood drive on Feb. 7, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., in Century rooms A and B of the MSC.

Kathy Castulik, Health Educator

of University Health Services, is asking students to donate.

Though the blood drive will be held next month, there is still much that students can do to get involved.



St. Louis contest gives actors a chance to shine

BY MELISSA MCCRARY
Features Editor

Students who have an interest in acting can audition for the St. Louis Chapter of The National Society of Arts and Letters competition for a chance to fulfill their dreams of stardom or to win a cash prize.

NSAL is a non-profit organization that sponsors one contest each year focusing on different forms of art, such as dance, drama, art, literature and music. NSAL was created in 1945, when a group of dedicated women wanted to give more recognition and honor to those talented in the arts.

Since its founding, over 35 different Chapters across the United States have become NSAL active members.

The purposes of NSAL are to encourage and assist young artists, to give scholarships and awards through competitions and to create opportunities for individuals interested in creative arts. Other aims of NSAL are to encourage higher standards of professional ethics in the arts and to promote a greater public interest in the creative arts.

Elizabeth Shermann, NSAL's St. Louis Chapter Chairman, said she thinks that these competitions give emerging artists an opportunity to show off their talents.

"This organization serves the community by giving people lots of publicity in the arts, helps them get going, provides advising services, organizes auditions and assists people with finding agents," Shermann said.

While last year's competition focused on musical theater, this year's theme will be centered on comedy acting.

The competition will be held March 6 at the Sheldon Theater on downtown Washington Avenue.

To participate in this contest, competitors must be between the ages of 18-29 and must live, attend school or work within 100 miles of St. Louis. Those who audition must present two audition monologues in English and one that is a classical piece. Participants are required to attend a master class that is conducted by a professional director and producer.

The master class will be held Feb. 19 at the Epical Society on Clayton Road.

At the St. Louis competition, three winners will be selected by judges from all over the United States. The first place winner receives \$2,000 and advances to the National Competition, held in Hawaii. The second and third place winners receive \$1,000 and the grand-prize winner at the National Competition receives \$10,000 and a possible contract from an acting agency.

Shermann said that the last drama national first place winner, Michael Lindner, has been living in Chicago and is working on a variety of productions and acting jobs while earning a living for himself.

The deadline for application submission is Jan. 29. To receive an application call 314-652-4158 (email songs4elizabeth@msn.com). To find more information about NSAL, visit www.arts-nsal.org.

Flu shots are once again available to the public

BY **CARRIE LEWIS**
Staff Writer

For many, mid to late winter means the peak of the flu season. With the contamination problems that caused an unexpected shortage of flu vaccine production, concern about this year's flu season is even higher than usual.

Nancy Magnuson, Director of UM-St. Louis' University Health Services, described the flu as a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses. She explained that it is spread by respiratory droplet infection from coughing and sneezing.

"Adults may be able to infect others one day before symptoms occur until seven days after symptoms occur," Magnuson said.

Despite the fear that this flu season may be bad due to the lack of available vaccinations, Tina Hesman, writer for the St. Louis Post Dispatch, said that the flu season has been mild so far.

Hesman recently wrote an article

about the expanding availability of flu shots. She reported that the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services has relaxed the age restrictions for flu vaccinations to include people age 50 and older. Caregivers and household contacts of people in high-risk groups may also receive the vaccination. Unfortunately this does not include most UM-St. Louis students.

Due to the vaccine shortage, University Health Services was unable to provide flu shots, but is currently stocked with FluMist, an influenza vaccine that is administered as a nose spray and is available to people between the ages of 5 to 49 who are not pregnant.

For those who prefer to get the shot, Barnes-Jewish Hospital recently announced that they will be giving out 3,000 free vaccinations to the public.

People can receive these free shots at the Barnes-Jewish South campus main lobby (located between Kingshighway and Euclid Avenue) from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. The Center for Advanced Medicine on the third

floor of Barnes will also be giving shots each day, from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m.

John Vasquez, junior, biology, is one of the many people who choose to battle the flu season without help from vaccinations. For students who choose not to get a flu shot this season, there are several tips to stay healthy.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends avoiding close contact with those who are sick, washing hands frequently and avoiding hand contact with the eyes, nose or mouth. For those who do get sick, it is important to stay home or avoid contact with others to prevent spreading of the illness.

For more information about staying healthy or FluMist, contact University Health Services at (314) 516-5671. Also, residents of St. Louis and St. Charles counties can find information about public flu clinics by calling the St. Louis Regional Flu hotline at (314) 644-4358 or by visiting www.scchealth.org.



Registered Nurse and UMSL mom, Elaine Anatra, vaccinates a patient at in the lobby of the Center for Advanced Medicine. Patients receive the shot if they are 50 years old and over. Ages 5 - 49 are vaccinated with a mist.

Erica Burns/The Current

Voices for Children provides services to abused children

BY **MELISSA MCCRARY**
Features Editor

Voices for Children (formerly St. Louis City CASA), an organization that helps find housing for abused children, provides community volunteers a chance to participate within the organization.

Marissa Paine, Community Volunteer Relations Manager of Voices for Children, described the group's main purpose and how volunteers can become involved.

"This a non-profit organization that trains volunteers to become court-appointed officers in the city of St. Louis," Paine said. "The volunteers get to know the children, spend time at different foster care, investigate their backgrounds and school records and make recommendations for the best interests of the children."

Paine said that the volunteer child advocates speak on behalf of abused and neglected children in the city of St. Louis, work with legal supervi-

sors to protect children's rights during their time in foster care and provide the children hope for a better future. The volunteers might make recommendations to a Juvenile Court Judge about living environments, health issues and educational values.

Voices for Children represents 1,000 children, while there are currently 12,200 children in foster care in Missouri and 2,000 children in foster care in St. Louis.

Many people throughout the St. Louis community have participated and supported the efforts of Voices for Children.

Phil Donato, Special Events and Outreach Manager of KWMU, said that someone who supported the KWMU underwriting on the station purchased an underwriting package that designated five spots in support of Voices for Children.

On the organization's website, St. Louis City Mayor Francis Slay said, "These volunteers represent hundreds of children each year in the

guardian ad litem program, and Voices for Children works very hard to ensure that each child represented receives consistent and quality representation."

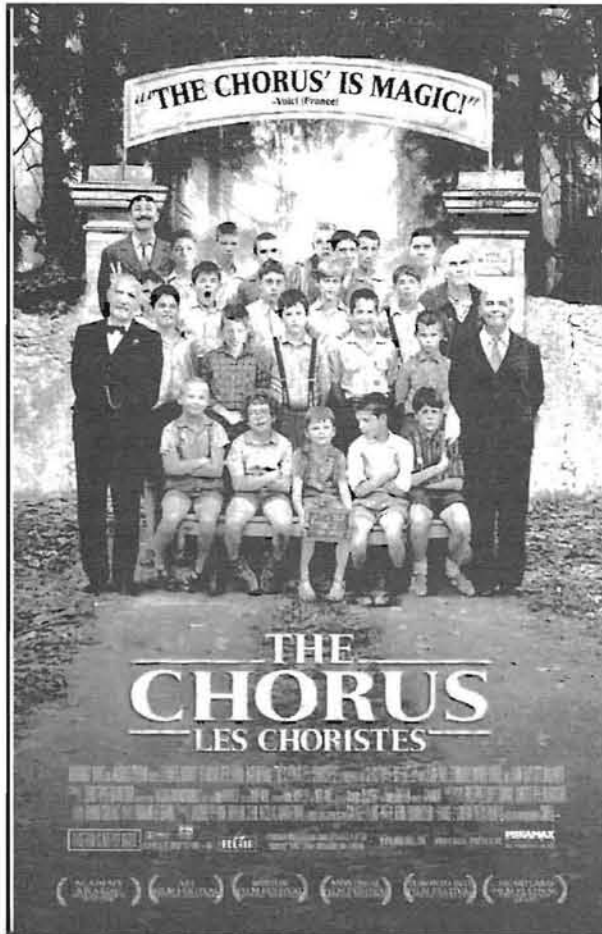
All child volunteer advocates and court case guardians must undergo a training program in order to work in the Juvenile Court System.

"Volunteers sworn in for cases must complete training classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. during the 5 week program. Volunteers must be at least 21 years old and must complete the application process," Paine said.

Training classes begin on January 25 and in April.

Other ways that people can volunteer include videotaping training classes, helping with mailings, and organizing training materials and newsletter layout.

To find out about all volunteer opportunities with Voices for Children call 314-552-2430 or look them up on the web at www.voicesforchildren.org.



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The Current

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LES CHORISTES

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IN THEATERS FRIDAY, JANUARY 28TH

Student organizes game design club

BY **MELISSA MCCRARY**
Features Editor

Jacob Gahn, junior, computer science, might seem like an ordinary UM-St. Louis student, but this determined student has formed a new campus club that he hopes will lead towards his future career.

Gahn, a game-lover, created the Game Design/Theory Club at the end of last semester.

Although this group has not become an official registered organization through the Office of Student Life, they have already held their first meeting and have about eight active participants.

Sanjiv Bhatia, Associate Professor for the Department of Math and Computer Science, is the club's faculty advisor.

"The new games are known for

detailed graphics and images just slightly removed from reality. The push will be to get the animation seen in movies like 'Matrix' and 'Star Wars' into game design," Bhatia said.

"We hope to look into the design of current game engines and contribute to the design of games in general."

Bhatia said that he is mainly interested in the terrain modeling that can be used in flight simulators and board games, and has already published some papers and given a tutorial in a conference on the subject. His other interest is in creating realistic lighting effects.

Gahn created this club because he said that he wanted to provide a place for others who are interested in not just playing, but with also learning about what goes on behind game design and to have fun.

"I have always been interested in game design and it has been my dream

to take my interest and make it career-related," Gahn said. "I want to meet other like-minded people, discuss possible opportunities and exchange ideas."

The club will focus on all types and a variety of games.

"There is not just one aspect that we will focus on. The variety of games will include: computer, video, card and board games."

Game Design/Theory Club plans to hold more weekly or bi-weekly meetings throughout the semester.

Gahn said that when he first began organizing the club, he knew that it was going to be hard work, but he continued to campaign and hopes to recruit even more members.

To become a Game Design/Theory Club member or to find out more information about this new campus group, email Gahn at jgtd@umsl.edu.

University of Missouri St. Louis

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SPORTS

EDITOR

JAMES DAUGHERTY

Sports Editor

phone: 516-5174

fax: 516-6811

Upcoming

Men's Basketball

Jan. 18
 ♦ vs Robert Morris (Ill.)
 7 p.m.

Jan. 20
 ♦ vs Quincy
 7:30 p.m.

Jan. 22
 ♦ at Lincoln (Jeff. City, Mo.)
 5 p.m.

Women's Basketball

Jan. 20
 ♦ vs. Quincy
 5:30 p.m.

Jan. 22
 ♦ vs. Rockhurst
 3 p.m.



The UM-St. Louis Riverwomen celebrate after narrowly clinching a 68-65 victory over the Indianapolis Greyhounds on Jan. 8 at the Mark Twain Athletic Building. The Riverwomen were led by Courtney Watts with 15 points and Crystal Lambert with 12 points, Kali Birkey led the team with 10 rebounds.

Mike Sherwin/The Current

Riverwomen stay on track with win over Indianapolis

BY JAMES DAUGHERTY

Sports Editor

All of the Riverwomen's hard work paid off on Jan. 8 at the Mark Twain Athletic Center as the Riverwomen basketball team knocked off the 16th ranked Indianapolis Greyhounds. Unlike most games where Birkey leads the team in scoring, this win was dictated by spectacular showings from the backcourt; freshman Courtney Watts shot 5 of 10 from the field scoring 15 points and Crystal Lambert added 12 points on 5 of 9 shooting. Lambert started things off right for the Riverwomen by scoring on a three-pointer to open the game. The Greyhounds soon retaliated, however, and took the first significant lead of the game, 20-11, after nine minutes of play. The Riverwomen closed the gap on a 10-2 run, capped by a lay-up from Watts. Despite the run the Riverwomen did not regain the lead until just over three minutes remaining in the half. Down 26-25 Amanda Miller hit four consecutive free-throws followed by a lay-up to single-handedly give the team a 31-26 lead. The Greyhounds tried to close the gap in the final seconds of the half, but Nikki Jerome hit a three-pointer with four seconds left to give the

Riverwomen a 36-30 lead.

The second half turned out to be much more of a battle for the Riverwomen. The Greyhounds went on a 15-5 run over a nine minute period to regain the lead 45-41. That four point lead was the highest that either team would have the rest of the game. The Riverwomen quickly responded and took the lead back on another Lambert three-pointer, only to lose it again as Indianapolis scored a three of their own. From that point on the lead changed often, and the teams had 10 ties before the game was over. The defining moment of the game came with 1:46 left to play. Lambert hit a jumper to give the Riverwomen a two point lead, then Leslie Ricker got the Riverwomen a huge defensive stop. Watts took advantage of the situation and scored on a lay-up to give the team a four point lead. The Greyhounds were forced from that point on to stop the clock with fouls. The Riverwomen were only up by two, 67-65, with 19 seconds left and Watts shooting free-throws. She missed them both, but Miller came up with what had to be the most important rebound of the game, and Watts was fouled again to get another chance to ice the game. Watts hit the free-throw and the team went on to win 68-



Mike Sherwin/The Current

Riverwomen forward Leslie Ricker scans the court before making a pass during the Riverwomen's victory Jan. 8 against the 16th ranked Indianapolis Greyhounds. The victory gave the Riverwomen their first conference win of the season, and an overall record of 3-9.

65. Nobody could be more pleased with the victory than Coach Lee Buchanan, "It was what I would call a complete team effort. I felt like we got contributions from everybody, and everybody's contributions were important no matter how big or how small. For example, all 11 players had a rebound. I was just happy to see smiles on their faces. They've been working so hard, and it finally paid off," Buchanan said.

The win was the unquestionably the biggest for the Riverwomen this year. Unfortunately it did not help the Riverwomen in their next game. On Jan. 13 the Riverwomen were blown out while on the road against Wisconsin Parkside. The game was lopsided from the start. The Rangers opened up with an 11-2 lead in the first five minutes, retained a 13 point lead with 10 minutes in the half, then blew the game wide open on a 25-5 run at

the end of the half. The Riverwomen entered halftime down 43-19. The second half was no better. The Riverwomen did manage to cut the lead down to 18 at one point, but then then followed up the steady climb with just six points in the last ten minutes of the game. The final score was 69-43. The loss put the Riverwomen at 3-10 on the season.

The team will be in action next on Jan. 20 against Quincy.

High flying dunk team to perform at halftime Jan. 20

High Impact Squad makes its second appearance at UMSL

BY JAMES DAUGHERTY

Sports Editor

During halftime of the men's basketball game on Thursday, Jan. 20, UM-St. Louis will welcome the "High Impact Squad" to the Mark Twain Athletic Center. The High Impact Squad is group out of Houston, Texas made up of eight acrobats who thrill audiences with their super hero costumes and high flying dunks off of trampolines. They will be performing for the second time in as many years at UM-St. Louis; their show last year netted the largest attendance of any basketball game.

The group is headed by founder and President Jerry Burrell. Burrell knows something about acrobatics; he was a member of the National Championship gymnastics team at Arizona State University and won the individual National Championship in the floor exercise. The original High Impact



Mike Sherwin/The Current

The High Impact Squad performs last year during a halftime show at the Mark Twain Athletic Center. The team will visit again Jan. 20 during the Rivermen basketball game.

Squad was formed by a group of friends who met each other while rehabilitating from serious accidents or assaults. They were introduced to one another by their physical therapist, and since all of them were athletic they decided to form

a group that could inspire audiences to live for today. Their inspiration was due to their own dramatic recoveries.

The original group members are now retired, but their spirit is carried on by current group members

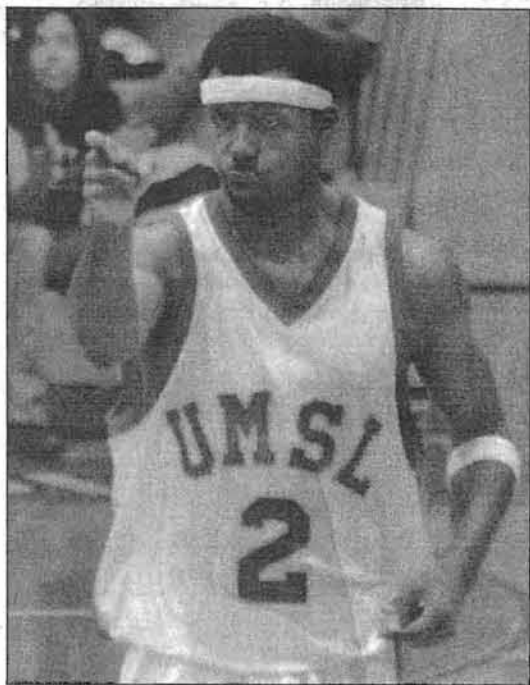
including: "Weasy" Wayne Bell, Greg Mueller, Teryl "T" Smith, Courtney Foote, Robert C. King, Justin Bailey and Jason W. "J-Skill" Skillern. There are similar offshoots of the group on each of the different continents.

The High Impact Squad touches audiences with their incredible acrobatic skills and their motivational message. Their presentation has taken them to do shows for the NBA, CBA, WNBA, collegiate basketball games, theme parks, festivals and just about anywhere else they are needed. Last year at UM-St. Louis they performed a variety of high flying dunks and excited the crowd with their enthusiasm. Doug Boyer, Promotional Manager for the Athletic Department, is responsible for bringing the group to UM-St. Louis. He is looking forward to this year's show as much as anyone else, "This show is highly entertaining and filled with energy. It is so much fun, you'll love it even if you don't like basketball at all," Boyer said.

The High Impact Squad will be performing at halftime of the men's 7:30 p.m. game on Jan. 20 against Quincy. More information on the time and place can be found on the athletics link of the UM-St. Louis web site, and more information on the High Impact Squad can be found at www.h-i-s.com. The gallery pictures on their website were taken in the UM-St. Louis gym.

Rivermen take a tough loss against Indianapolis

BY JAMES DAUGHERTY
Sports Editor



Mike Sherwin/The Current

LEFT: Rivermen forward Aaron Green points at the opposing team's bench after slamming a dunk in the second half Jan. 8 against Indianapolis. Green led the team with 20 points scored.

The UM-St. Louis men's basketball team recently played two games against conference foes. On Jan. 8 the team was defeated 73-68 by Indianapolis and on Jan. 13 the team defeated Wisconsin-Parkside 80-73.

The loss at Indianapolis was hard for the Rivermen to take since they were ahead at crucial times and the game was at home. The game started off in the Greyhounds' favor. They led 16-5 seven minutes into the half, but then Chris Mroz hit a three-pointer to spark a 17-2 run which was ended with a three-pointer by Jonathan Griffin, giving the Rivermen a 22-18 lead. The Greyhounds finally woke up and began to retaliate and were up 35-31 with just under a minute to play. In that last minute Griffin pulled the Rivermen to within one with a three-pointer.

At the start of the second half the Greyhounds jumped back to a five-point lead with a couple of lay-ups. Then the game became pure runs. David Ward and Aaron Green combined to score the next nine points of the game and give the lead back to the Rivermen, 43-39. The Greyhounds went on an 11-0 run of their own to take a 50-43 lead. With ten minutes left and the score 55-48, Mroz sparked another big run by the Rivermen with another three-pointer. Over the next four minutes the Rivermen outscored the Greyhounds 10-0, and led by four with just over six minutes remaining. With five minutes left the Rivermen would have their last lead of the game. The Greyhounds hit back to back three-pointers and then got another jumper to go up by three. The Rivermen were still within striking distance and only down by two points with 47 seconds left, but then Lawrence Barnes caught a pass on the baseline near the basket and threw down a monstrous dunk which seemed to take all of the Rivermen's hopes down with it. It turned out to be a three-point play for the Greyhounds and they held on for the 68-73 victory.

Coach Chris Pilz explained why the team lost, "We played well, but we made some untimely mistakes. It was

a hard-played and well-executed game that we came up short in," he said. Darrell Minner, Rivermen center, felt the same way: "I think we had great effort. We really executed on some plays but at the end when we had the lead we got too comfortable and that cost us the game. That happens every game, the effort and communication are there, we just have to get out of our comfort zone," Minner said.

Green led the Rivermen with 20 points, while Ward chipped in 13 and nine rebounds.

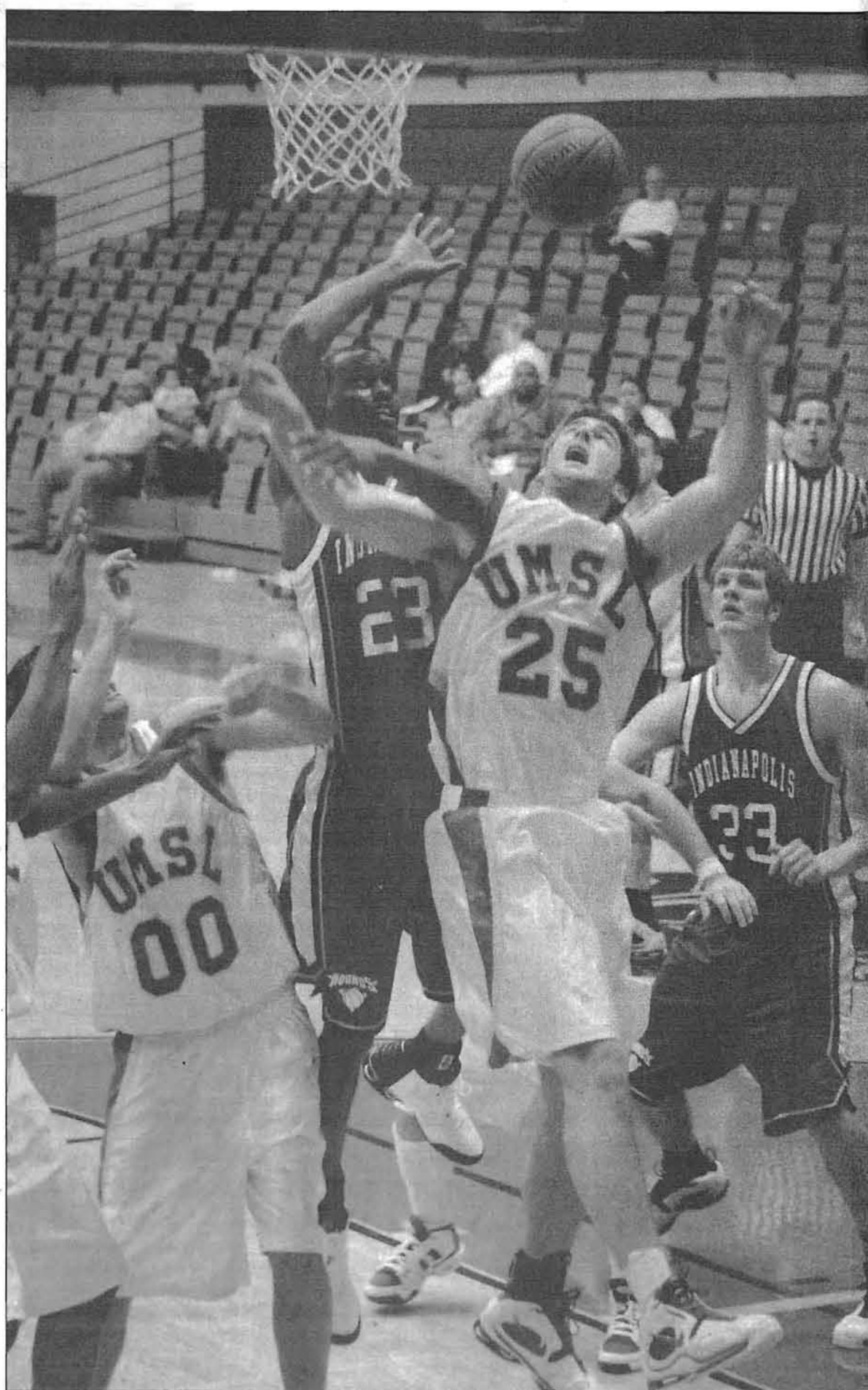
The loss was a disheartening one for the Rivermen, but they redeemed themselves with an 80-73 win on the road against Wisconsin-Parkside. The Rivermen started the game down 6-7 before going on a 9-0 run to take a 15-7 lead. Wisconsin-Parkside did not let them keep it long; they outscored the Rivermen 18-9 over the next seven minutes to take the lead back, 25-24. The Rivermen fought back to regain the lead, but Parkside managed to enter the half up 35-31.

Parkside continued to steadily increase their lead in the second half. With 13 minutes to play the team had built a comfortable 55-42 lead. The Rivermen began to chip away at the lead with a 7-0 run. Parkside stopped the run with a three-pointer, and led by nine until the Rivermen made their

next run. Chris Mroz hit a huge three-pointer during an 8-0 run that put the Rivermen within one point, but Parkside hit a three of their own. Down by four, Mroz struck again from three-point range, bringing the deficit to just one again. A lay-up by Tim Guerin gave the Rivermen a one point advantage and then the teams traded three-pointers. At 67-66 the Rivermen had the lead for good. Jonathan Griffin helped keep the Rivermen on top with a couple of baskets and the Rivermen closed them out on 9-of-10 free throw shooting at the end of the game.

Coach Pilz believes that the team would pull out the close games at home too if they received a little help from the fans. "What would make us better is to have a fan support base. We don't have home court advantage ever if we don't have fans. I would like to invite all of the students to come support their team: it is a free and fun way to be entertained. We would win the close games in the last minutes with some fans to rattle the other team," Pilz said. So far two of three wins for the Rivermen have been on the road.

Mroz led the team with a career-high 22 points, including 4 of 5 three-pointers. Green added 18 points of his own in the winning effort. The team will next be in action on Jan. 20 against Quincy.



Mike Sherwin/The Current

Forward David Ward (25) struggles to secure a rebound Jan. 8 against Indianapolis. Ward scored a career high 13 points and nine rebounds during the game, which the Rivermen lost 73-68.

Rivermen baseball team gets ready to swing into action

BY DAVE SECKMAN
Staff Writer

The last few seasons have proven to be very beneficial to the Rivermen baseball program as they have once again made a name for themselves and turned back into the perennial power that they once were.

Only two seasons ago the team rolled through the conference, taking each team by storm and winning the first ever conference championship by any UM-St. Louis team. Last season, however, was not as successful as some would have hoped, but the Rivermen did show that they could stick it to the competition. They finished third in the conference at the end of the regular season and managed to come up just short of another conference tournament championship, losing in the final game of the tournament to Northern Kentucky.

This season looks to be a tougher one for the Rivermen. Although they do not lack talent, they lack numbers on the roster. The Rivermen only return 13 players from last year's roster and have only a handful of recruits to add to the team. But do not be fooled by that statistic because the Rivermen haven't finished out of the top 3 in the conference since the 1991 season.

Sophomore outfielder Mark Sanders commented on the upcoming season, "We are going to have to work together well for things to go our way this year. We have all of the talent to make things happen the way we want them to," Sanders said.

The team will be lead by the core group of thirteen players who are returning, which includes a group of ten remaining from the conference championship team only two seasons ago. Out of the thirteen players, there

are eight seniors on the team who hope to bring the conference title back to UM-St. Louis this season. Those seniors are Tom Anderson, Colby Hughes, Steven McCoy, Dan Kriegshauser, Jonathan Pate, Eric Michaelis, Matt Kueny and Blake Burnside.

Burnside spoke about the group and the talent that they possess. "We are not a very deep team this year, but we have all of the talent in every position to do very well this season, we just need to win most of our home games and do well on the road to get to where we want to be at the end of the season," Burnside said.

Regardless of their short roster, the Rivermen squad has the potential to make things happen on the diamond. The team aims to make another run for the title at the end of the season and hopefully bring the trophy back home where it belongs.

Men's tennis looks to continue dominance in upcoming season

BY DAVE SECKMAN
Staff Writer

The Rivermen tennis program has been nothing short of stellar the last four seasons. The team has played up to their potential the last four years and has never fallen short of the high expectations they face.

The Rivermen have qualified for the NCAA tournament two out of the last three seasons, which is an accomplishment only two other teams in UM-St. Louis sports history share: the 1970 and 1980 Rivermen and Riverwomen soccer programs.

This year looks to be another strong one for the Rivermen. They will hit the courts with all but one of their top six players from last season's team for this spring's campaign. Over

the last four seasons the Rivermen have not placed outside of the top eight teams in the region and have finished no worse than a tie for fourth in conference play.

Junior Stephen Pobst commented on the upcoming season. "We have all been hitting very well so far to start the season, and although we may not do as well as teams have done in the past few years I think that we still have a shot to do very well this season," Pobst said.

Coming back to the team this spring is a core of players that have now played together for over a year's time. The group of young and talented players looks to lead another Rivermen team into a post-season berth. Returnees include juniors Mike Schaaf, Rajan Saini and Stephen

Pobst, who will be looked to for team leadership as the season goes on. Along with those three the sophomore duo of Max Bugner and Francis Lam look to help complete the already talented squad. Last but not least is the lone freshman to the team, Ryan Burgdorfer, who is coming off of a very successful high school career and looks to start off on the right foot and come up with some important wins as the season rolls along.

Although the expectations are high as usual, you can expect the Rivermen tennis team to come to the courts well prepared to tackle the rigorous season ahead. Look for the team to carry on the success they have been having and do very well throughout the season.

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A&E

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St. Louis-based
Mid America
Dance Company
to grace PAC

BY TANA ROGERS
Staff Writer

The Touhill Performing Arts Center attracts many skilled, professional artists and performers to the stage. Friday, Jan. 28 and Saturday, Jan. 29, the esteemed Mid America Dance Company will perform in the Lee Theatre.

The performance will be a combination of the modern dance movements of the Mid America Dance Company and the lasting creations of dancer and choreographer Erick Hawkins.

Hawkins died in 1994, but left a legacy after appearing in several movies. Walter Sorell, in Dance Magazine, Inc., states that Hawkins also created the "free-flow" technique of dance. In addition, the dancer/choreographer has a dance company in Brooklyn named in his honor.

The Mid America Dance Company is based in St. Louis and has been for more than 25 years. According to their website <http://www.midamericadance.com>, this troupe "is one of the oldest and largest professional modern dance companies in the Midwest."

The company teaches dance classes throughout the metro area and also choreographs events per request. The company shows allegiance to the community by offering educational performances that enlighten through dance movements.

One such program, "Dr. Dance - Breathing Easy," confronts the effects of smoking cigarettes.

With such reputations, the collaboration of the moves of Hawkins and the respected Mid America Dance Company will create a well-regarded performance at the Performing Arts Center.

The tickets are on sale now at the Touhill. UM-St. Louis student and employee tickets are \$10, with a purchase limit of two tickets per valid ID. The ticket office is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and two hours before every event. On Saturdays, the box office opens from noon to intermission.

Tickets also can be purchased online at <https://touhillpac.umsi.edu>.

Top films of 2004 weren't the only box office champs



Photos courtesy rottentomatoes.com

BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER
A & E Editor

"Top Ten" lists are lists of the year's best films (in someone's opinion), not lists of the most popular films. So let's look at the Box Office Champs of 2004, and a few other kinds of movie lists.

Critics' "Top Ten" movie lists rarely match the box office Top Ten, because the movies that audiences find most entertaining or emotionally satisfying are not always the most creatively original or socially significant and different things matter more to a critic judging film quality than to an audience member just looking to be entertained. However, the best films really are the ones that succeed on both levels, satisfying both audiences and hitting artistic standards. Movie studios look to these critics' lists, hoping to find their awards-contender "prestige" films on them, but box office is what they want for all films. The awards, especially the Oscars, also translate into more money, in theaters or video and DVD rental and sales.

Here are the Top Ten Box Office hits of 2004, according to the Internet Movie Database, a website of movie info. These are the most popular movies of the year, as defined by dollars spent at the box office. Note how many of these are family or kid's movies, which says something about who spends more

- on movies.
- Top Ten Box Office Champs of 2004:**
1. Shrek 2
 2. Spider-Man 2
 3. Passion of the Christ
 4. The Incredibles
 5. Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban
 6. The Day After Tomorrow
 7. Bourne Supremacy
 8. Meet the Fockers
 9. Shark Tale
 10. Polar Express

These are the films and their ranks on the day this list was compiled but it might change over time, as some of these are still in theaters. Another thing to remember about this list is that it is ranked by dollars, not ticket sales, so as ticket prices go up, the ranking of more recent films rise compared to older films. All-time box office champs are more realistically compared over time by using tickets sold, or even comparing ticket sales to percentage of population. Complicated, huh?

In addition to the comedies on my "Top 20" list, here are my picks for other top comedies. Be warned: tastes in comedies are often the most

- individual.
- More Top Comedies (after those on the Top 20):**
1. Shaun of the Dead - this British zombie romantic comedy is just hilarious
 2. Meet the Fockers - silly, funny, thanks to the great cast, even without the sight gags
 3. Shrek 2 - as funny as the first one and a clever next step
 4. I (Heart) Huckabees - its weird "philosophical meets silly" humor appealed to me. So shoot me.
 5. Harold and Kumar Go To White Castle - OK, it is dumb, juvenile and low-budget, but it surprised me with interesting undercurrents and multicultural twists on the genre.

Some films work for a certain audience but not everyone. Here are the top "not for everyone" films that really delivered what their target audiences wanted.

Tops for their audience:

1. Passion of the Christ - Everything its audience wanted and a big hit with many church groups, but hyper-realism left some non-

Catholics, and less religious or non-religious folks feeling queasy and disturbed by the relentless violence.

2. Phantom of the Opera - If you love Andrew Lloyd Webber, this is the film for you. Visually lush, big melodrama as grand opera, Webber obviously controlled every aspect of this production and aimed to fulfill all the dreams of his fans.
3. Dogville - A love it or hate it film, even in the art house crowd. The ultimate foreign film-art house meld, it is stagey, stylized, and angry but a powerful expression of the director's view.

Why no documentaries on this list? General interest docs are actually less common than docs for narrow target audiences, so including them would make this list enormous, and meaningless.

In recent years, I have been struck by a seeming trend towards great acting performances in less than worthy films. Many of this year's top films featured great acting performances but some acting performances surpassed their film vehicle, sometimes boosting the film higher than it otherwise could achieve.

Remarkable performances in lesser films:

1. Jamie Foxx - Great in "Collateral," then frankly amazing in "Ray." Deserves an Oscar, and may get one for "Ray," a wonderful subject that deserved a better movie.

see TOPS, page 11

PERFORMANCE PREVIEW

Tribute to great American composer at PAC

BY MELIQUEICA MEADOWS
Staff Writer

In honor of the 100th anniversary of the birth of composer Harold Arlen, a multi-media concert celebrating his life and music is scheduled for Sunday, Jan. 30 at 7 p.m. in the Anheuser-Busch performance hall.

Some of the biggest hits of classic American music were written by a man that many Americans cannot name. When asked who wrote standards like "I've Got the World on a String" or "Over the Rainbow," many draw a blank or erroneously give the credit to a better known American composer like Irving Berlin. However, not only did Harold Arlen write "Over the Rainbow," he also wrote the score for the film "The Wizard of Oz" starring Judy Garland.

Two Broadway performers, Tom Wopat and Faith Prince, will perform Arlen's hits during the concert which will also include scenes from

"The Wizard of Oz" as well as pictures and home movies documenting his life. Wopat is an accomplished actor and classically trained

Some of the biggest hits of classic American music were written by a man that many Americans cannot name.

vocalist whose resume boasts roles in some of Broadway's biggest musicals, including "Annie Get Your Gun." However, Wopat is probably

most fondly remembered for his role as Luke Duke on the 1980s television show "The Dukes of Hazzard." Recently Wopat made his singing debut with the release of "Still of the Night" on Angel Records.

Faith Prince is no stranger to the Broadway stage either. She has performed in "Noises Off," "Bells Are Ringing" and received a Tony Award in 1992 for her role as Miss Adelaide in "Guys and Dolls." Prince is a member of the cast of "Huff," a television series on Showtime starring Hank Azaria and Blythe Danner. She has also appeared on television shows "Monk" and "House."

In 1938, Metro Goldwyn Mayer (MGM) hired Arlen and E.Y. Harburg to write the score for "The Wizard of Oz." In two months the duo had created a score that included many memorable songs including "We're Off to See the Wizard" and "Over the Rainbow."

Tickets for the concert are still available and can be purchased at the PAC box office. For more information about the concert call 516-4949.

Songs composed by Herold Arlen

- * We're Off to See the Wizard
- * The Merry Old Land of Oz
- * Ding-Dong! The Witch is Dead
- * I've Got the World On A String
- * It's Only A Paper Moon
- * Ac-Cent-Tchu-Ate The Positive
- * Stormy Weather
- * Get Happy
- * I Love A Parade
- * Last Night When We Were Young

RESTAURANT REVIEW

Watercolors Café has bright decor, friendly service

BY MONICA MARTIN
Staff Writer

If you are looking for a change of pace in where you eat, then look no further than Watercolors Cafe. They serve breakfast and lunch all day, everyday.

Watercolors Cafe is a bright and cheerful restaurant. The walls are painted yellow and are adorned with many different paintings. The booths are red and the chairs are painted different colors. The restaurant is large, with two dining rooms for smoking and non-smoking. The bar is located in the smoking section. In between

the two dining rooms is the hostess station and waiting area, also colorfully decorated.

My friend and I arrived on Sunday at about 12:30 p.m. and the parking lot appeared to be full. After less than five minutes, we were seated in the smoking section. There were three TVs showing the football game. The tables were brightly decorated and the coasters were shaped like old-fashioned records. Our waiter, Josh, doubled as the bartender. After bringing out water for my friend and a chocolate shake for me, he took our order. My friend ordered a paddy melt, which came with fries. I ordered a hamburger club, which came with a selection of fries, chips, or coleslaw. The menu had numerous other items to choose from, including appetizers, soups and salads, "paint it your way" burgers, watercolors sandwiches and desserts. For those who would rather have breakfast, the restaurant offers pancakes, omelets, waffles, French toast and crepes. Beverages include alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks. Most items range between five and seven dollars.

As we waited for our food, my friend and I were able to take in the rest of the restaurant. The section we were in was not full for lunch time. Only two other booths were taken. The non-smoking section seemed to

have more people. We spotted customers dressed casually, and some who looked as if they had just come from church. We sat by the window and also had a view of the kitchen.

After what seemed like a lengthy wait, our food arrived. My hamburger club was a hamburger with bacon, lettuce, tomato and mayo on wheat bread. It turned out to be better than described and went well with my shake. My friend enjoyed her paddy melt immensely. The total bill plus the tip came to twenty dollars plus spare change.

Josh, the server, was friendly but did not check back with us frequently. However, he had a good sense of humor and seemed to get along with the other patrons and employees. He was also the only server in our section.

Watercolors Cafe is owned by two equally colorful people, Julia Stoops and Michael Henry. The restaurant is open from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. There are daily breakfast specials from 6 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Watercolors Cafe is a good change of pace from other restaurants that offer breakfast and lunch all day. The decor gives off a welcoming feeling. Visit them at 611 N. Lindbergh. Reservations are not required. The food was delicious, but the service was slow.



Watercolors Cafe
Located at 611 N. Lindbergh



Erica Burrus/The Current

The Grilled Rosemary Chicken entree is presented in a colorful fashion that coincides with the interior decor at the Watercolors Cafe.



Erica Burrus/The Current

Watercolors Cafe Bartendar, Megan Alsop, prepares to serve hot spinach dip and chips.

MOVIE REVIEW

DiCaprio brings Hughes to life in 'Aviator'

BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER
Film Critic

At age 18, both of Howard Hughes' parents were dead and he was the millionaire head of his father's company, which had made a fortune with the invention of a drill bit for oil wells in the Texas oil boom of the early twentieth century.

Martin Scorsese's film "The Aviator" opens with this young Howard Hughes. Before he became a recluse obsessed with germs who lived in littered Las Vegas hotel rooms, Howard Hughes was an American "golden boy." He was a virtual icon of the early twentieth century ideal man who has it all - looks, talent, money, brains, bravery, ambition. Hughes was handsome, tall, and gifted, a young millionaire who was an aviation visionary, a Hollywood filmmaker, an engineer and pilot, who dated big Hollywood stars and set aviation records. Despite his many accomplishments, Hughes preferred to identify himself as an aviator. How this man could go from brilliant to bizarre makes a story that has both Hollywood glamour and the grandeur of an epic.

Hughes was a larger-than-life figure, whose biography sounds like something created by the over-active imagination of a screenwriter. "The Aviator" is a visually appealing film that is glamorously entertaining, with a grand, epic scope and finely tuned dramatic nuances in a masterfully told story. It is alternately thrilling and gripping to watch the roller coaster of soaring accomplishments and decline into madness.

At the beginning of the film, young Hughes has gone from studying engineering at Cal Tech and the world of Texas business to become a freelance Hollywood producer and director on the location of his first big film, in the 1927 silent film era at age 22. It launched both his career as a filmmaker and Hughes' aviation company.

Hughes' life was nothing if not both varied and accomplished. He made such noted films as "Hell's Angels," "The Front Page," "Flying Leathernecks," and the original "Scarface." He launched the career of Jean



Photo courtesy rottentomatoes.com

John C. Reilly plays the man Hughes (Leonardo DiCaprio) appoints to run Hughes Tool Company. The film takes a turn for the shadows as the plot unfolds, revealing the creeping darkness that haunts Hughes. Hughes, who was heralded as both brilliant and eccentric, charismatic and shy, struggles to battle demons brought on by ordinary life.

Harlow, directed and produced hit films and owned the RKO movie studio; but he also owed the TWA airline, designed and built innovative planes, dated movie stars such as Katherine Hepburn and Ava Gardner, lived the life of a celebrity playboy and set early records for flying around the world and for air speed.

This is the stuff of which legends are made. The film covers Hughes' most prolific period from the 1920s to the late 1940s. In the "Aviator," we get Hughes the filmmaker, the engineer, the businessman, the womanizer, the record-setting pilot, a man who would

not just be one thing. This lush, gorgeous, vibrant film brings us the glitter of Hollywood life. Yet despite all his accomplishments, Hughes was a man with serious flaws that grew over time. At his high point, Hughes' shyness and eccentricities are a minor note under a charismatic personality, but as the story unfolds more trouble creeps over his life. The film itself darkens in tone, going from a glowing brightness to a world of shadows. In his ups and downs, Hughes seems most stabilized and happy when working on an envelope-pushing engineering project or meeting another challenge, but a man

overwhelmed by ordinary life.

Since Hughes' story is so wrapped up in Hollywood, it is appropriate that Scorsese made this film in grand classic Hollywood style. In some respects, the film is as much about classic Hollywood and the history of the '20s to '40s, as it is about Hughes. This also makes it a perfect subject for Scorsese, who is known for his encyclopedic knowledge of film history and early Hollywood.

The film offers a perfect recreation of period details, down to the matching of music from the periods, recreating the time and place of Hollywood's golden era. The

score is delightful and the pacing of the film is near perfect, with exciting action sequences against the emotional arc of Hughes' life. DiCaprio's performance builds a sympathetic character that earns our admiration despite his flaws and also horrifies us as he descends into madness. Fittingly, Scorsese ends the film at the point where Hughes is beginning this final phase, where the madness comes to dominant his life, leaving our memories of his bizarre end to fill in the rest.

Leonardo DiCaprio delivers an uncanny and compelling portrayal of Hughes, revealing previously untapped levels of talent. DiCaprio both evokes those familiar aspects of Howard Hughes, transforming his appearance and mannerisms to match the historical public figure, and yet taking on the character so fully that he seems to become Hughes.

DiCaprio's Oscar-worthy performance dominates the film but it is by no means the only wonderful piece of acting in the film. Cate Blanchet is breathtaking as well as Katherine Hepburn. Both DiCaprio and Blanchet had the challenge of portraying famous people with well known personalities without creating caricatures, an especially difficult task. She starts out with a performance that almost borders on mimicry but then deepens it into a fuller character. This has been a year of astounding standout performances for Blanchet, and she is deserving of recognition for both this role and her already considerable body of work.

The film has other spectacular supporting roles, with John C. Reilly giving his usual strong performance as the man Hughes picks to run the Hughes Tool Company for him in order to fuel his various projects. One of the strongest performances is Alec Baldwin as Juan Trippe, head of Pan Am, the nemesis of Hughes' airline, TWA. Likewise, Alan Alda's turn as the corrupt Senator in Trippe's pocket is striking.

"The Aviator" is one of Scorsese's best films in years, a stronger and more successful effort than his previous "Gangs of New York," about which there was so much Oscar buzz. This year, "The Aviator" really is deserving of that Oscar for Scorsese and also for Leonardo DiCaprio's hypnotic and powerful performance.

MUSIC REVIEW

Eve 6 continues to rise, combining emotion and rock

Three Los Angeles teenagers who shared the love of music reached their ultimate goal of becoming a well-known band when they signed with RCA Records in highschool.

The group's self-titled platinum debut, "Eve 6," was released in April of 1998, followed by the release of "HorrorScope" in 2000.

Hits like "Inside Out," "Here's to the Night" and "Promise" from the group's first two albums immediately won praise from listening fans.

Eve 6 has had a major comeback since the release of their first album.

In July of 2003, the album's "All In Your Head" hit music stores all across the country.

Although all three band members worked together with the creation of the catchy vocals, Jon Siebels (guitar) and Tony Fagenson (drums) give credit and say that Max Collins (bass) is the member responsible for most of the lyrics in "All In Your Head."

On the Eve 6 website, Fagenson said, "The process of this record was a struggle, physically, things not working out, charging forward over many obstacles, but also within our heads."

Some can say that this album's success would not have been possible without the help of a couple of experienced producers who played a major role in the album's production.



Gregg Wattenberg, Tom Lord-Alge (worked in production with the Rolling Stones, Hole and Marilyn Manson) and Jim Scott (who produced songs for the Red Hot Chili Peppers and Foo Fighters) were the talented individuals who had a big hand in the release of this album.

In addition to these producers' help, the recording studios where the group taped their tracks had a strong

impact on the album. The songs were recorded in New York's Avatar Studios (where rock 'n roll legends AC/DC produced their most popular album "Back In Black") and at Los Angeles' famous House of Blues.

The 12-track album reached number 27 on the Billboard Top 200 album chart after a few weeks of its release. During that time, "Think Twice" hit number nine on the

Billboard's Modern Rock chart.

"When all is said and done/ And dead does he love you/ The way that I do/ Breathing in lighting/ Tonight's fighting/ I feel the hurt so physical/ Think twice before you touch my girl/ Come around I'll let you feel the burn."

The lyrics in "Think Twice" describe a man caught in a love triangle with a girl who is seeing someone else. "Think Twice" shows how energetic the group is and talks about how to deal with issues of jealousy.

The opening song on the album, "Without you Here" brings out some of the band members sensitivity. In a way it has the same meaning as "Think Twice," but is done in a slower pace. In this song, listeners are able to feel how affectionate and painful love can be. The lyrics, "Without you here I feel my fear," paints a picture of how hard separation can be.

Track six, "Hey Montana," combines the group's pop-rock tunes with the harmonies of their instruments. This song has a more laid-back approach with the excitement that sprout from bass, guitar and piano.

Since the release of their first album, Eve 6 has matured and improved their sound quality, while still maintaining a strong fan base.

Tops, from page 10

2. Christian Bale - Bale slimmed down to frightening levels and delivers a riveting performance in "The Machinist," although the film does not make psychological sense in the end.

3. Billy Bob Thornton - Great in both "The Alamo" and "Friday Night Lights." People had plenty of complaints about "Alamo" but Thornton's performance was the highlight.

4. Kevin Bacon - Bacon does a wonderful job in a difficult role as a paroled pedophile struggling to overcome his dark impulses in "The Woodsman," due out later this month.

5. Kevin Spacey - An astounding performance as Bobbie Darin in "Beyond the Sea." Spacey's singing and dancing are wonderful as he channels Darin, although the film has some flaws. Who knew he was so multi-talented?

Now for the bottom of the list. Curiously, one of these (Van Helsing) is also in the top 300 of all-time box office sales. Must have been the hype.

Bottom Five Films:

1. Surviving Christmas
2. Christmas with the Kranks
3. Catwoman
4. Taxi
5. Van Helsing



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Eve 6. Spiderman. George Carlin. Crown Candy.

Kiss Me Kate. Physical Graffiti. Grease.

Norton's Cafe. Collateral.

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Sting. The Motorcycle Diaries. The Aviator.

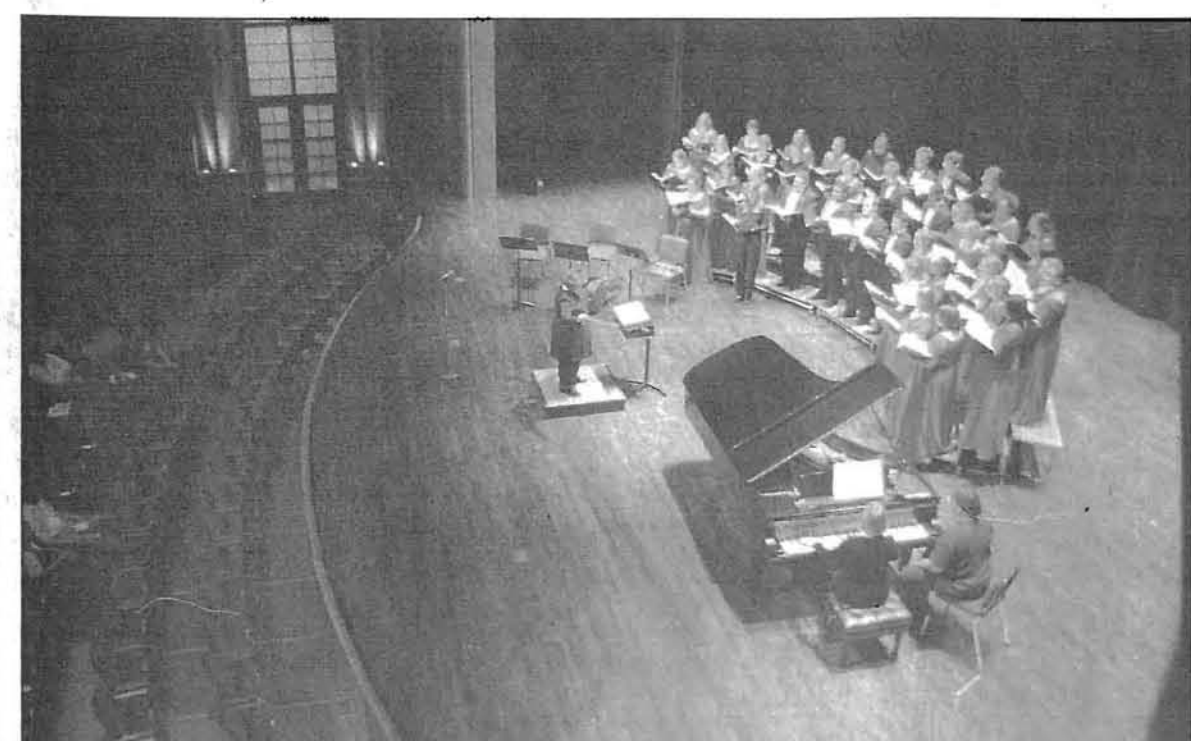
Garden State. Gingham's

The Melting Pot.

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Your A&E

PAC FINANCES, from page 1



Mike Sherwin/The Current

Vice Chancellor for University Relations Dixie Kohn calls the PAC a "teaching laboratory," which allows student groups to practice and perform in a world class facility. Here, the University Chorus performs at the PAC's grand opening in August 2003.

The five-year plan also includes increasing revenue by raising rates to outside organizations that want to rent the PAC. They plan to decrease spending by not booking shows that do poorly. They also plan on allowing renters to assume liability rather than UM-St. Louis. Also, Kohn said that by changing their brochures to pamphlets, they have saved \$45,000.

The PAC also made online ticketing available, which started Jan. 1 through a company called Tessitura. They have also invited radio personalities from stations, such as KMOX, KYKY and KEZK, that have personally attended shows at the PAC and told audience members about them.

"We have even created an endowment to relieve tension from

the budget," Kohn said.

Gabriel Stevens, senior, studio art and parking valet attendant for the PAC, has been working there for the past two semesters. Stevens commented on the changes he has seen since working there. "I've noticed that last semester their shows have been selling better than the first semester I worked there."

While the PAC held 178 events last year, Kohn predicts over 200 shows will be held this year.

Stevens also said the PAC is making changes to his and other departments. "There will be new rules that will tighten up how money is handled," Stevens said.

Since the PAC is part of UM-St. Louis, students are involved in funding the PAC. Every student registered for classes pays a \$10

fee, whether they attend or not. According to statistics that Kohn shared, only an estimated 10.5 percent of UM-St. Louis students attended events at the PAC last year.

However, Kohn said the PAC plans to increase student involvement by raising student discounts for shows from 10 percent to 25 percent off regular ticket prices.

The image of the PAC has shown conflicting views, but Queen said, "Once we get people here, their misperceptions are gone and they are amazed at its quality and caliber."

Kohn said, "We have a five-year plan, a great staff who knows the arts and we are all committed for it to be the best it can be. I think people just have to be patient."

PAC BY THE NUMBERS

- \$52 million - the cost of building the Touhill PAC
- 1,169 working days to construct PAC
- \$1.32 million total ticket sales for all events at both Anheuser Busch Hall and Lee Theater
- 94,000 year end estimate attendance for all events
- 84 UMSI department sponsored public events
- 44 PAC sponsored performing arts events by 2004-2005 season
- 7.6% UMSI student attendance at 85 ticketed performing arts events
- 2357 parking spots with 4 minutes walking distance of PAC
- \$260,000 - revenue made up of student fees
- 1,625 - Seats in the Anheuser-Busch Performance Hall
- 300 - Seats in the Desmond and Mary Ann Lee Theater.

Source: PAC

BRADY WINS LAWSUIT, from page 1

Brady filed a charge of age discrimination in May 1998, and Dobson said that a little over a year later Brady was fired. According to court documents, a few months later, in September 1999, he was rehired after retaining counsel.

By April 2000, Brady had filed a second charge of discrimination with the MCHR, which was settled in November 2001.

According to court documents, in June 2002, Brady was notified of the decision by Schuster and Dolan to relegate baseball and three other sports to a 'second-tier' level, and the demotions of those coaches to part-time status.

The jury found that the UM Curators, Dolan and Schuster had engaged in age discrimination and retaliation against Brady. The jury awarded him \$225,000 in compensatory damages, and punitive awards of \$750,000, \$200,000 and \$100,000 against the UM Curators, Schuster and Dolan, respectively.

"I think it was a harsh verdict against the defendants," Schuster said.

Bob Samples, director of media,

Marketing and Printing Services at UM-St. Louis, said that the University is, "disappointed by the verdict. We are looking at our options."

UM-St. Louis' legal team has several options in terms of an appeal, including a post-trial motion with the circuit court. They are expected to announce their plans this week.

Dobson said the jury awarded twice what he and Brady asked for in punitive damages against Schuster and Dolan.

"We're thrilled with this verdict," Dobson said. "We had a lot of evidence, and the jury found it compelling."

Scott Lovelock, sophomore, communication, is on his first year with the Rivermen baseball team. He said the team is proud of their coach. "Coach Brady is a players' coach," Lovelock said. "He will put it on the line for the guys and he stands up for what he believes in no matter what."

Brady, when asked if he planned to continue to work as head coach of the Rivermen baseball team, said, "I would never let my boys down."

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Journalism isn't always easy...



The Current recently bid adieu to one of our senior staffers. Gary Sohn hopped on an airplane headed for New York City, where he will work for NBC's sports department.

Gary spent three semesters at this newspaper, and his contributions were visible each week. He started out as a features writer and quickly worked up to a features associate. Gary shared his talents with other sections, and he joined the production team early this semester.

On Nov. 1 (above), our friend labored away into the wee hours of the morning with fellow production teamsters. His goal: to produce an election section that would knock the socks off of 16,000 students.

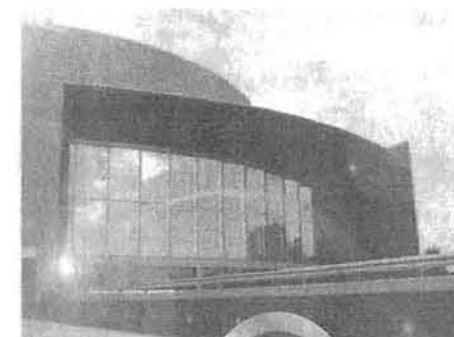
Mr. Sohn wrote over 60 stories of varying topics. Some of the memorable pieces include an interview with Roger McGuinn of The Birds, an event entirely in French, concert reviews for Sting and Usher, a profile about a trans-gender student and a piece about a talking mannequin.

Gary, thanks for everything. Weekends won't be the same without you.

Look for Mr. Sohn's column, "Intern Diaries," coming soon to The Current.



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Housing

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A 2-bedroom apartment is now available for one or two people. It is located on UMSL north campus (5 mins walk to MSC, Mark Twain). The UMSL shuttle bus is available. The rent is \$575/month. The apartment will be filled very soon, so please contact me (Surat: 314-398-1925) as soon as possible.
Bigger, Better Student Housing - Your Kitchen is open when you want!
The Pasadena Apartments - 3901 Canterbury (63121). 1 bedroom, 600 ft, starts at \$500 and 2 bedroom, 700 ft, - \$600 per month. Heat, hot water, wireless DSL, parking included. 0.6 mile from campus, renovated units, wood flooring.
Call John (314) 651-0349

Roommate Needed ASAP
11935 Glenpark Dr.: 3 bdrm, 2 bath, family room, living room, all appliances included. Very nice house, 10 mins from UMSL in Maryland Heights. 2 21/m already there. \$375/month + utilities. Fully furnished, brand new kitchen, 4 seasons room,

Housing

big back yrd. Chillen, fun, and clean! Call Jeff 314)378-3057 jas5f5@studentmail.umsl.edu
Apartments for Rent
Minutes from campus, several locations to choose from. 3 rooms and a kitchen. Stove and refrig. included. Rents range from \$385 to \$455 a month. For details leave a message (314) 772-7612

Roommate wanted
Share house across the street from UMSL. Furnished bedroom, shared kitchen, living room, dining room. Washer/Dryer, Central air, Microwave, Dishwasher, off street parking. Rent is \$350/month, includes utilities. Contact Ann: 314.381.2238

Help Wanted

Come spend the summer working in the mountains of Arizona. United Christian Youth Camp seeks strong Christians willing to work hard and have fun. Contact UCYC at (877) 945-0391 or www.ucyc.com

Math tutors needed:
Math tutors are needed to work a few remaining hours in the CAD Math Lab (425 SSB). Applicants must have completed through Calculus III or through Basic Calc and Business Stats. Call Dorothy Gotway at 314-516-5181, come by 506 Tower or email dgotway@umsl.edu.

Looking For Part-time Work?????

Part-time Office Assistant needed for filing and other office duties. Candidates must have good organization skills. We will work reasonably around school schedules. 20-30 hours per week. Hourly pay. Please mail resumes to: Resumes, Attn: Erica #3 Hollenberg Ct Bridgeton, MO 63044
HELP NEEDED!
We need a Barback and cocktail waitresses. Great Money close to Campus. Contact Kevin call: or 314-427-1616

Looking For A Way To Give Your Resume A Boost?
Come share your knowledge, skills and companionship with youth at after school computer programs in Pagedale or Webster Groves. For more information contact Mary Rocchio 314-516-7095/ rocciom@missouri.edu

RATES

(40 words are free for students, staff, and faculty.)
For others, ad rates are:
1 ad or issue - \$15
2 ads or issues - \$25
3 ads or issues - \$35
4+ - \$10 per ad/issue
Ads are searchable online.

Help Wanted

Earn \$3K-\$5K/wk potential. Start now, just 3/hr a day and earn more than your professors before the end of the year! Don't believe it? Then don't call! 1-800-881-1540, ext 3175, rec. msg.

Services

If you like Japanese food
then come to Nobu's Japanese Restaurant. We specialize in fresh raw fish, and cooked food too. Open 6 days a week, close to campus. Take highway 170 south, take Olive east exit. Need more directions give us a call at 314-997-2303. 8643 Olive St.

Stay current with today's technology:
We custom build PC's to client's needs/specs. Hardware and software upgrades. Troubleshooting. Repairs. Cleaning. Consulting. Current market pricing on all parts. A+ Certified PC Technician. Contact Don at nightson116@hotmail.com

Smoking Cessation - Are you interested in quitting tobacco?

To learn more about free on campus options for students, please contact the Wellness Resource Center at 516-5380 or email Michelle Schmidt at russellms@msx.umsl.edu

No Draft For Iraq

Patriotic Bumper Sticker \$3.50. Order today at bushliedthousandsdied.com. Register. Your vote counts! Register Today!

Big L Chop Suey Chinese Restaurant at 8949 Natural Bridge Rd in Bel Acres Shopping Center (1/4 mile east of I70). We provide a variety of lunch combos and daily specials with free soda. Check out our menu and pictures at: www.geocities.com/BigLRestaurant.

Do you compare yourself
to others and feel you don't measure up? Are you always on a diet? Have you ever made yourself vomit? To learn more about an on-campus group for eating concerns contact Lori @ 516-5711 or Michelle @ 516-5414

Find these classified ads at
www.TheCurrentOnline.com

Services

Avon Calling
Want to look great for the holiday season? Contact your local Avon and Mark Representative for hot deals on the latest beauty products, jewelry, and accessories. Call Karen at 397-5241 for a free catalog, samples, and information.

Purchasing a home? Refinancing your mortgage? Paying high rent?
Call me today for FREE pre-qualification and find out how you can purchase your own home and start building equity. Devang Vora, Mortgage Consultant, American Mortgage Company, Office: (314) 423-0351
Cell: (314) 541-5516
Email dvora@amcmort.com

Wellness Resource Center
Are you interested in a support group for adult children of alcoholics? To learn more about free on campus options for students, please contact the Wellness Resource Center at 516-5380 or email Michelle Schmidt at russellms@umsl.edu

Johnson Investigative Services
General and background investigations. Cheating spouses, marriage, death, and birth issues. Find lost loves and birth parents. Contact Olivia Johnson. P.O. Box 432 Arnold, MO 63010. pjohnson@sbcbglobal.net. (888)309-9786. Free initial consultation.

Expert editing

Re-writing of student papers, faculty books-in-progress, etc. Reasonable rates. Ms. Barbara at GloryArts. (314)991-6762.

Spring Break

Spring Break 2005 -
Travel with STS, America's #1 Student Tour Operator to Jamaica, Cancun, Acapulco, Bahamas and Florida. Now Hiring on-campus reps. Sell trips, Earn Cash, GO FREE! Book Early and Save. Call for group discounts. Information/Reservations 1-800-648-4849 or www.ststravel.com

Challenge... find a better price! Lowest prices, free meals, free drinks. Hottest Parties/Destinations November 6th deadline! Hiring reps-earn free trips /cash! Jamaica, Cancun, Acapulco, Barbados, Florida, and more ... www.sunsplashes.com 1800-426-7710

Personals

Seeking Beautiful Articulate MODELS
to host promotions and corporate events. Also seeking confident & photographic individuals to feature in fine art calendars & books. Call Demand Ten 866.815.0109 or Vanessa 636.578.6953

Have a fun girl's night out, birthday, or bachelorette party. Passion Party! For more info contact Jessica @ Parties_by_jessica@yahoo.com or JPats.yourpassionconsultant.com

Looking For: LEAD GUITARIST
Music Genres: Rock, Pop, Contemporary, R&B, some oldies, and wedding Songs. Please Call Aja @ 314-494-0600 email: msajaminor@aol.com. \$\$\$

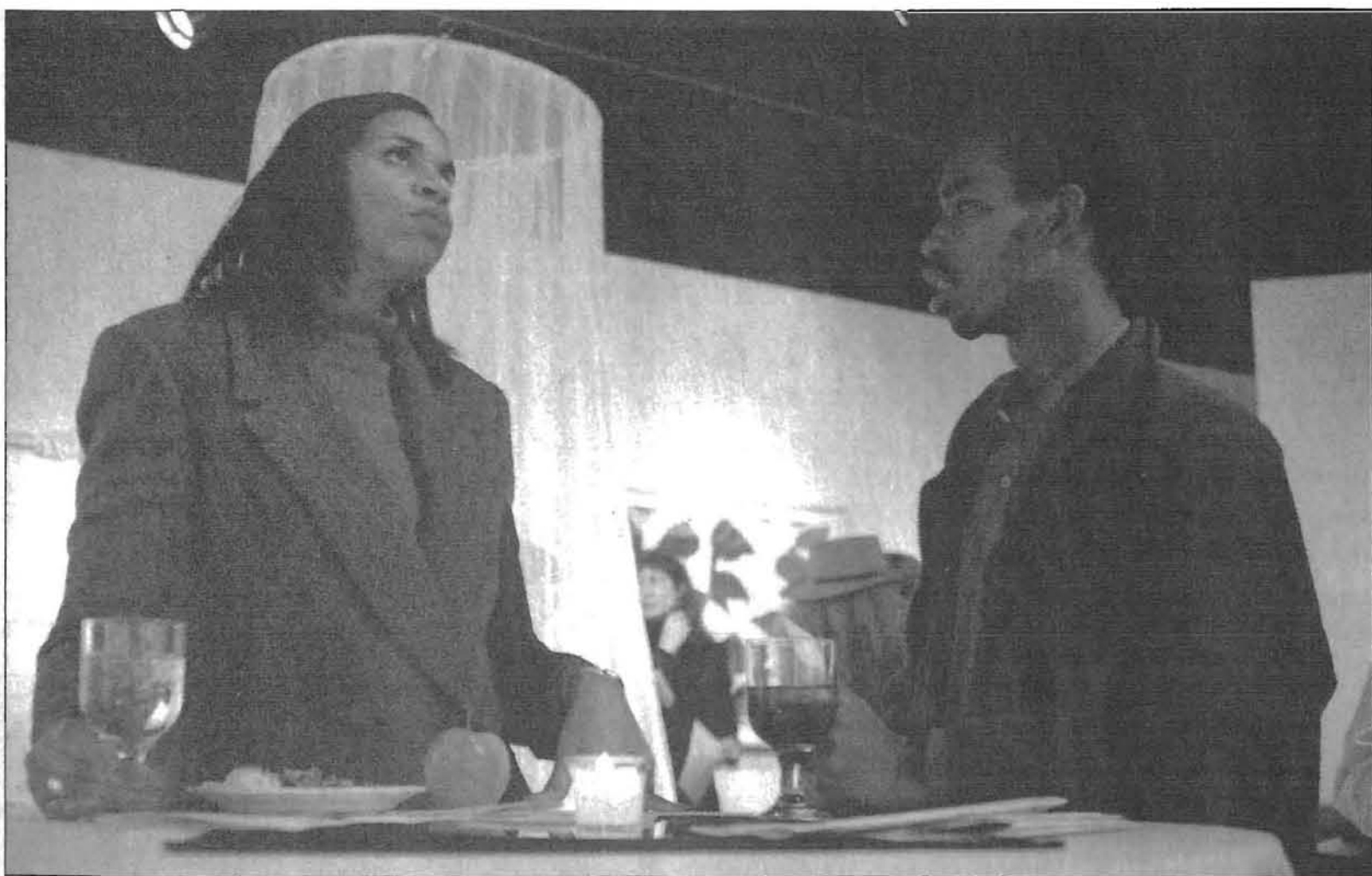
Come visit us! Transportation Provided
First Baptist Church-Ferguson has an amazing college class. Come check us out! Sundays 9:30am at 333 N. Florissant. Shuttle at Marillac Hall between 8:45am and 9:00am. Contact Jason 521-1515 for more info.

Need help with Thai, Tagalog and Cebuano
I am trying to find Christmas cards written in the languages of Thai, Tagalog, and Cebuano. If you can help me locate these items as soon as possible, it will be greatly appreciated. Please send an e-mail to Chris at cclindberg@yahoo.com.

Interested in making extra money? Or having a party? Earn \$100-/+ a night by selling Party Lite candles or host your own show to get free products! It's fun and easy! Please contact Susie at smlg84@umsl.edu.

BOOGIE NIGHTS!

Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity is holding a Boogie Nights Party on January 22, 2005 at the Pike house on Natural Bridge across from the MOBIL station. Take 70 east to 170 south, exit at Natural Bridge. Party starts at 10 p.m. Go to Pikes.net for more info.



ABOVE:

Rochelle DeClue Walker, assistant director of multicultural relations, talks with student David Petty at the opening reception of the exhibit "Visual Poems" at Gallery Visio on Thursday evening.

RIGHT:

Olivia Ayes checks out "Shiva House," a piece by Pat Johnson at the opening reception of "Visual Poems" on Thursday evening at Gallery Visio. "Shiva House" is a multimedia installation piece utilizing a Time magazine, tea bags, a diaphanous curtain, and numerous black paper curls, with messages written on each. "Visual Poems" runs through Jan. 27.



'Visual Poems' opens in style at Gallery Visio

Exhibit is latest in 'Women in the Arts' program; Faculty will read from works at Visio Jan. 20

BY MONICA MARTIN
Staff Writer

In the Gallery Visio in the Millennium Student Center, an exhibit entitled "Visual Poems" is currently being shown.

This exhibit contains artwork by women from UM-St. Louis, including paintings and poems. The selection is small, but beautiful, celebrating other women, such as Sylvia Plath. The works are long and detailed, or short and to the point. Although some pieces may be difficult to understand, the love and work that went into each piece is obvious. Artists include Linda Bangert, who works with art and art history as a research assistant; art student Annette Crymes; Patricia Johnson, recipient of a bachelor's degree in fine arts from UM-St. Louis in 2003; Susan Fitzsimmons, senior continuing education coordinator; and Drucilla Wall who lectures in the Pierre Laclède Honors College.

The exhibit is part of a celebration of women, called "Women in the Arts." It is a year-long multi-venue affair, just for women. This celebration will include artistic performances, exhibits, conferences, as well as educational events. The exhibit is being sponsored Women in the Arts in UM-St. Louis.

Although the exhibit opened on Jan. 10, the official opening ceremony was not until Jan. 13. The ceremony was between 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Barbara Harbach, music

professor at UM-St. Louis, introduced women who read from their own poetry. These women included Crymes, Fitzsimmons and Wall.

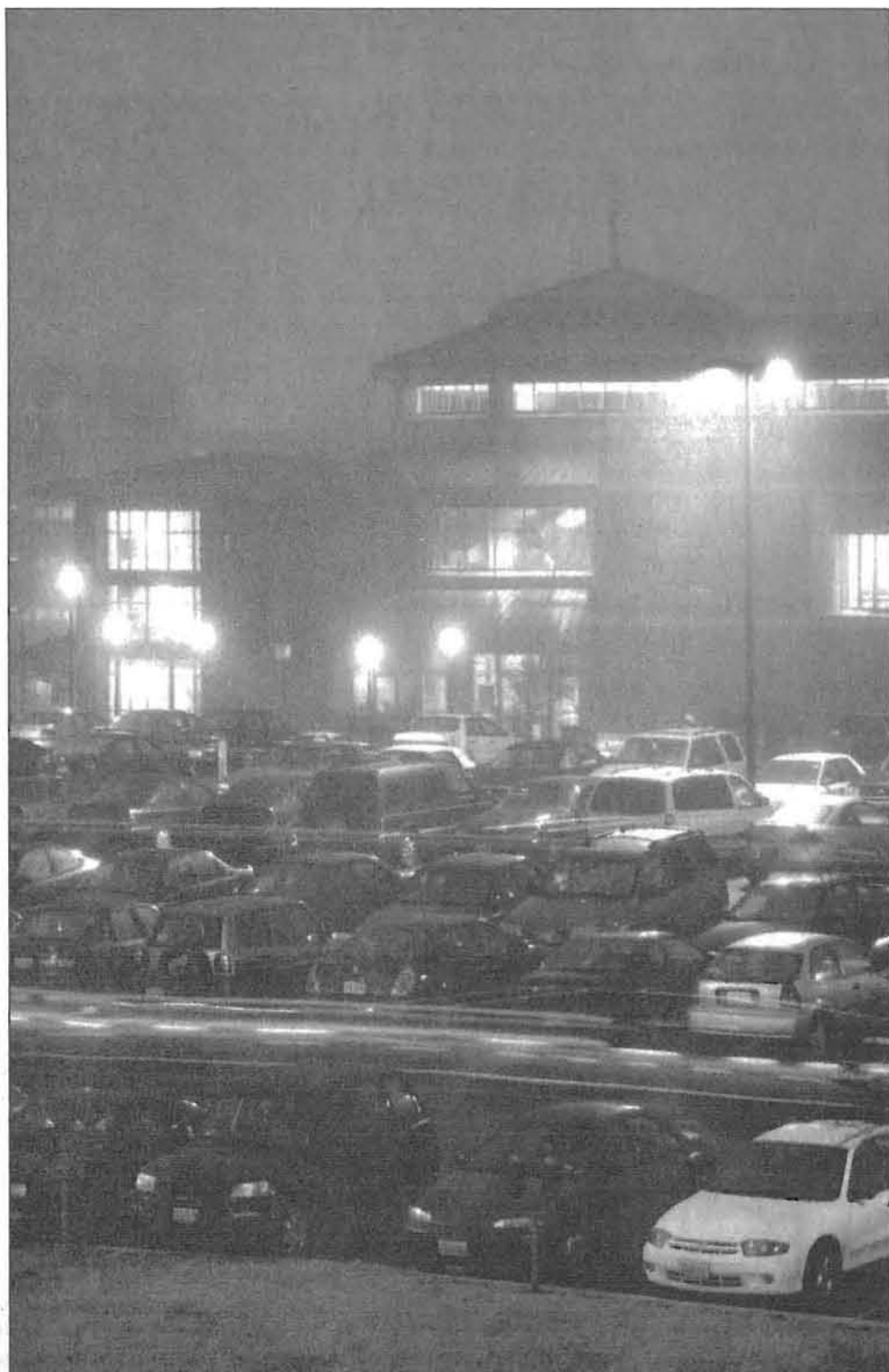
The exhibit will run until Jan 27 in Gallery Visio. The gallery's hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday. The exhibit is free and open to the public.

Another event to be held in conjunction with this exhibit is readings by UM-St. Louis authors. This will take place at noon on Jan. 20 in Gallery Visio and will also be sponsored by Women in the Arts at UM-St. Louis.

The authors who will be reading from their work include some faculty of UM-St. Louis: Nanora Sweet, associate professor of English and author of a collection of poetry called "Breathing Out," assistant English professor Ruth Ellen Kocher, who is also an author of several poetry collections, including "One Girl Babylon," Jennifer Mackenzie, senior lecturer in English, whose poems have appeared in publications such as Christian Science Monitor, Feminist Studies and Virtual World, and Mary Troy, associate professor of English and author of several short story collections including "Cookie Lily" and "The Alibi Cafe and Other Stories." The emcee will be Barbara Harbach.

If you were unable to make the opening ceremony or the readings, stop by the gallery anyway. Take in the powerful work and celebrate women.

Millennium in the mist...



Mike Sherwin/The Current

A shroud of mist greets evening college students looking for a parking spot just east of the Millennium Student Center on Tuesday night.

ASUM

The Associated Students
of the
University of Missouri



NOW HIRING:
NATIONAL ISSUES DIRECTOR

The National Issues Director is a part-time paid student staff position and is responsible for coordinating ASUM's efforts on the federal level.

Duties Include:

- Present national issues to the Board for approval for inclusion in the annual legislative policy
- Research issues approved by the Board
- Plan and implement the training program for the annual lobbying trip to Washington D.C.
- Track Congressional legislation potentially impacting UM system students and report their status to the ASUM Board of Directors each month
- Communication with national lobbying associations

For additional information contact
Erin Abraham at 314-516-5835

The National Issues Director is expected to work 8 - 10 hours per week throughout the academic year, with additional hours prior to the Washington D.C. trip. Previous federal level internship experience is helpful and good research and writing skills are essential.