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University of Missouri-St. Louis

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Students convene forum:
Communication between students and administrators dominated a Wednesday gathering of students.
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CREED
my own prison

It's all down hill from here:
The debut album from the new band Creed could disappoint you after the first track.
See page 6 for a review.



Transfer credit:
Annette Brandy brought talent with her from junior college.
See page 7.

Editorial: It's time to get past futile arguments about the necessity of the Performing Arts Center.
See page 4.

News From All Over

Penn State prof protests law by smoking 'joint' at U Gates

STATE COLLEGE, PENN. (U-WIRE) — Penn State University Professor Emeritus Julian Hecklen is a man of his word. Two weeks ago, the University chemistry professor claimed he would be back to smoke another "joint" at the University Gates.

Thursday, he lit up again with the promise he will return every week until his cause is reached. Hecklen approached the crowd, set up his lawn chair and started smoking before about 100 people. University Police Services officers then confiscated the cigarette. A member of the crowd then handed him another cigarette.

The confiscated cigarette is not yet confirmed as marijuana, said University Police Officer Wayne Weaver.

Hecklen also said he will be back next week and invited others to join him. He did not encourage marijuana smoking, but he said that if people wanted to join him, he would have no objections.

"I only ask that you arrange your own bail and no violence," Hecklen said.

—Emily Rehiring
Daily Collegian

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The Current

THE STUDENT VOICE OF UM-ST. LOUIS

Tuition gets modest hike from curators

BY MARY LINDSLEY
staff writer

The University of Missouri Board of Curators approved a recommendation by system President Manuel Pacheco to increase educational fees at a meeting on campus Thursday.

The measure, which was passed unanimously and without discussion by the board, will increase undergraduate charges system wide by \$3.70 per credit hour, from \$124.80 to \$128.50. Graduate fees will rise from \$157.90 to \$162.60 per credit hour.

Pacheco said the 3 percent increase, which will take effect in the 1998-99 academic year, is consistent with rising inflation costs.

"Today's recommendations maintain the board's commitment, following five years of significant and programmed increases in educational fees, to limit further increase to the cost of inflation," Pacheco said.

Gary Grace, vice chancellor of Student Affairs, said in a subsequent interview that the fee hike is "not unreasonable" and that some universities are raising educational fees by 5 percent to 6 percent a year.

Grace said that the additional revenue will offset cost of living raises for faculty and staff salaries as well as inflationary price increases in supplies.

The measure also calls for a 47 percent increase in the University's student activity fees. Increases for the same fees

Curators call rise 'inflationary increase'

at the UM System's other three campuses range from 1.9 percent to 5.2 percent.

The University's comparatively high percentage was attributed to the adoption of a separate \$6.05-per-credit-hour fee that will be used for debt service on the new University Center. In addition to this new fee, the existing University Center fee, currently \$3.54 per credit hour, will go up to \$3.60 per credit hour.

Pacheco noted that the new University Center fee had been approved by UM-St. Louis students, a reference to a Student Government Association resolution in December to support the increase.

In addition, the board's proposal will increase room and board charges on campus by 0.1 percent. The instructional computing fee will go up by \$1 per credit hour to \$8 per credit hour.

Pacheco said the computing fees will be used to add more computers and to expand the hours of operation of the instructional labs throughout the UM System.

see CURATORS, page 3



Daniel Hazelton/The Current

Newly appointed student curator Sarah Welch flips through her packet at the board of curators meeting held here Thursday. Welch will serve for the next two years.

Making Room for Mercantile

BY MARY LINDSLEY
staff writer

The director of the UM-St. Louis libraries says that plans are proceeding according to schedule to move the Mercantile Library collection to the Thomas Jefferson library.

Joan Rapp, libraries director, said that students and faculty should have access to the collection by the beginning of the fall 1998 semester.

"It's an extremely fast timeline," Rapp said. "When we started, we didn't think we could be done in less than a couple of years, but by the time we're finished, it will have taken us about a year."

Since September, work has focused on reorganizing the library to make room for the collection on the first and second floors. All books and periodicals previously on those levels have been moved to the fourth and fifth floors, respectively. Both floors have new carpeting and furniture, and a help desk has been added to the fifth floor.

Rapp said she was pleased with the renovations. "It looks far better than before."

She also noted that "people have been amazingly patient" as work is being done on the library.

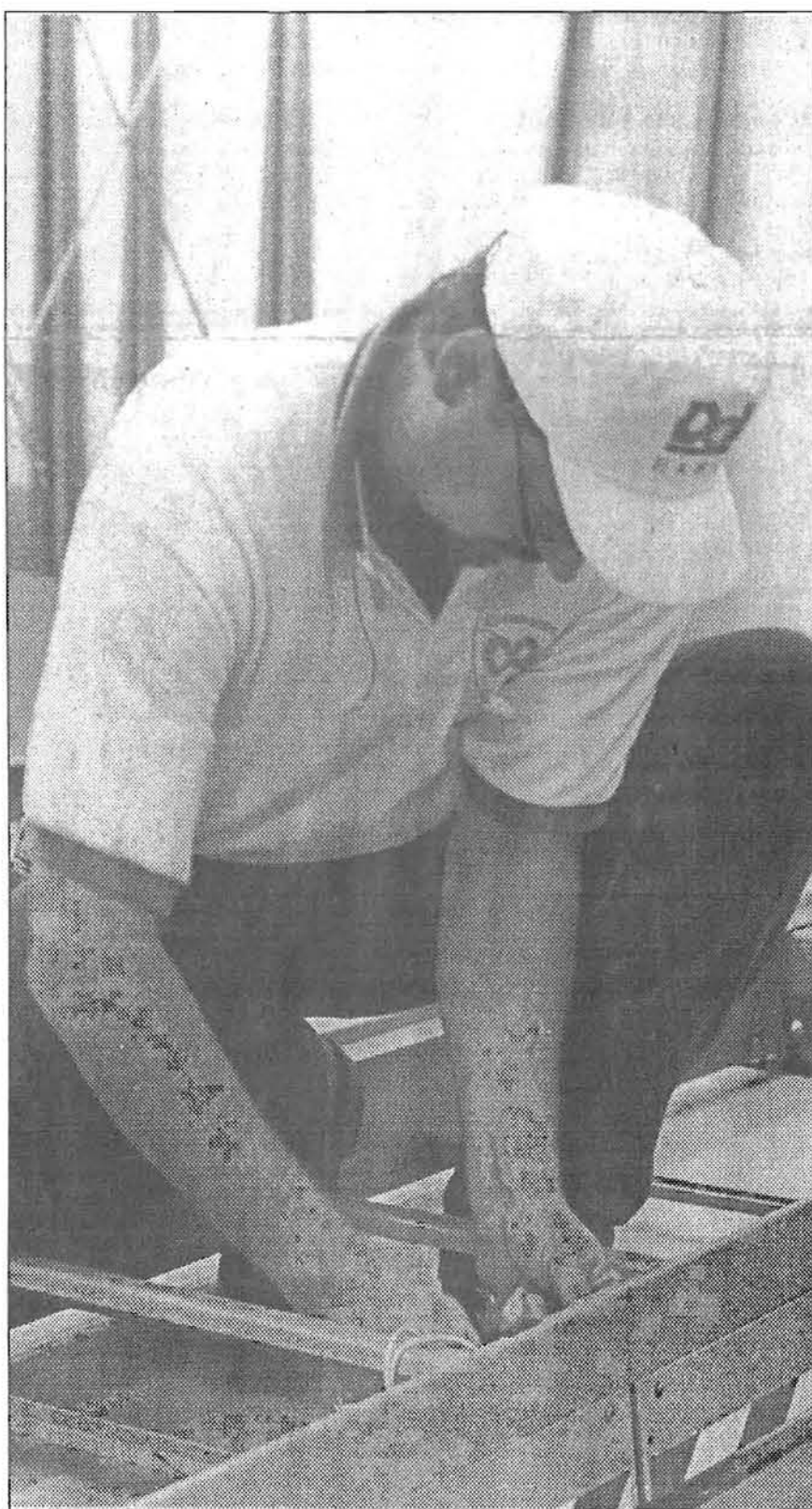
Rapp estimated that about 3 percent of the library's books have been removed in order to fit all of the books on one floor. Faculty members plan to review the titles that have been eliminated to ensure that they won't be needed in the future.

In the meantime, Rapp said that the final design plans for the renovation of the first and second floors are now being finalized. She said Chancellor Blanche Touhill will

Collector's Items

The St. Louis Mercantile Library is the oldest library west of the Mississippi River. The collection consists of:

- *The General (Core) Collection of 210,000 books.*
- *The Barriger Collection of 40,000 books, documents and photos on American Railroad history.*
- *The Pott Waterways Collection on river and inland waterways history.*
- *Periodicals and current newspapers.*
- *Reference collections with general, local and historical materials.*
- *Special collections including original manuscript sources, archives, photo and clipping files from the St. Louis Globe Democrat, historical newspapers, and rare book and art collections.*



Stephanie Platt/The Current

Mike Ort of M&W Construction Co. installs high density storage systems for the new Mercantile Library collection to be housed in floors one and two of the Thomas Jefferson Library. All periodicals from those floors were moved to level five; all books were moved to level 4. According to Ort, installation of high density shelving increases capacity by over 200 percent.

see MERC, page 10

Construction projects will allow freer space allocations, change department locations

BY DAVID BAUGHER
staff writer

The year 2000 may bring radical shifts in the way space is allocated on campus, according to University officials.

The changes are due to the construction of the new University Center, which will virtually empty the present University Center, currently home to the Office of Student Activities, the Bookstore and the offices of many student organizations, says Reinhard

Schuster, vice-chancellor for Administrative Services. According to Schuster, the Underground dining facility will also be eliminated by plans for a large food court in the new facility.

Schuster said the lower floors of Woods Hall will be vacated as well since University Health Services, Financial Aid, the Cashiers' Offices and other student-related services are slated to move to the new center.

Schuster said there are at least two plans for using all the extra space.

"One idea is to take the top two floors of Woods Hall, which is all administrative, and move that into part of the [existing] University Center, then bring the School of Education from the South Campus and let them occupy all of Woods Hall and part of the [existing] University Center," Schuster said.

Schuster said the plan made sense due to the rapid growth of the School of Education, which is currently scattered across several South Campus buildings.

"That kind of helps us fulfill the Master

Plan which says that in the future we should try to move all the academic activity to the North Campus," Schuster said.

The move would also bring Marillac Hall one step closer to being converted into a residence hall.

"We've already moved nursing out of it," Schuster said. "If we could move the School of Education out of it, all we'd have to move is optometry."

see SPACE, page 3

SGA president: U should 'buy' existing U Center from students

Administrator says show us your deed

BY DAVID BAUGHER
staff writer

Ground has not yet been broken on the new University Center, but controversy may already be brewing over what to do with the facility it will replace.

Jim Avery, Student Government president, said he feels the present center belongs to the students and that they should be compensated for its use. The building is likely to be converted to other uses after the new center opens around 2000.

"We own [the old center]. We paid for it," Avery said. "I would like to see that money returned to the students in the form of putting it towards the University Center that is being built."

Avery said he feels students should receive fair market value for the building. He said that the money could go to expanding the new center or to decreasing student fees. He added that if no compensation were offered, the student center should continue as a "student-use building."

"I'm going to make a strong stance that if they don't want to pay us for it, then we won't unoccupy



Jim Avery

Bulletin Board

Put it on the Board: The Current Events Bulletin Board is a service provided free of charge to all student organizations and University departments and divisions. Deadline for submissions to The Current Events Bulletin Board is 5 p.m. every Thursday before publication. Space consideration is given to student organizations and is on a first-come, first-served basis. We suggest all submissions be posted at least two weeks prior to the event. Send submissions to: Todd Appel, 7940 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis MO 63121 or fax 516-6811. All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.

Monday, Feb. 2

- **The Dead Donor Rule** part of the Monday Noon Series. Ronald Munson, professor of philosophy, UM-St. Louis, will discuss when it's morally legitimate to use transplant organs from anencephalic infants. Contact: Karen Lucas, 5699.
- **Dubravka Tomsic**, piano, will be performing for the Chamber Classics at the Ethical Society as part of the Premiere Performances at 7:30 p.m. Contact: 5818 for tickets and information.
- **Career Resource Center Open House** from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Career Resource Center in 427 SSB. Come for information on careers and enjoy some refreshments. Contact: Horizon Peer Educators, 5730.
- **Chemistry Colloquium "Photonics: A Fertile Field in Materials Science"** at 4 p.m. in 451 Benton Hall given by Sastry Pappu. Contact: 5311.
- **Biological Society Meeting** at 1:30 p.m. in 111 Benton Hall. Anyone is welcome. Contact: 6438.

Tuesday, Feb. 3

- **Career Resource Center Open House** from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the Career Resource Center in 427 SSB. Come for information on careers and enjoy some refreshments. Contact: Horizon Peer Educators, 5730.
- **Chemistry Colloquium "Unique Surface Chemistry of Nanoparticles. A New Weapon Against Chemical Terrorism"** at 3 p.m. in 451 Benton Hall given by Professor Kenneth J. Klabunde of Kansas State University. Contact: 5311.
- **Biological Society Meeting** at 4:30 p.m. in 111 Benton Hall. Anyone is welcome. Contact: 6438.

Wednesday, Feb. 4

- **Eat Drink Man Women** part of the UM-St. Louis Rivermen Film Series at 8 p.m. in the

U-Meadows Clubhouse. Free Admission with a UM-St. Louis ID. Contact : Student Activities, 5291.

- **Career Resource Center Open House** from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the Career Resource Center in 427 SSB. Come for information on careers and enjoy some refreshments. Contact: Horizon Peer Educators, 5730.

Thursday, Feb. 5

- **Eat Drink Man Women** part of the UM-St. Louis Rivermen Film Series at 10 a.m. in the U-Center Lounge. Free Admission with a UM-St. Louis ID. Contact : Student Activities, 5291.
- **Senate Committee Meeting.** University Senate Budget and Planning Committee will be at 10 a.m. in 222 J.C.Penney.
- **Korean Student Organization meeting** at 3 p.m. in 75 J.C.Penney. Contact: Christina (Aeilan) Kang, 521-7196.

Friday, Feb. 6

- **Club Sig Tau.** Sigma Tau Gamma rush party. Open to all students with UM-St. Louis ID. Free. Contact: 428-3364 for more information.
- **Business/Economics Seminar "Did the Fed's Founding Improve the Efficiency of the United States' Payment System"** at 12 p.m. in 212 CCB. This Seminar will be given by Alton Gilbert vice president and banking advisor with the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. Contact: Nasser Arshadi, 6272.
- **"Images of the Blues"** photographic exhibition opening reception from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. featuring live music played by Silvercloud and Edwards, on piano and slide guitar. There will also be informal lectures on the blues given by Robert Ray, Associate Professor of Music, and Bill Greensmith the photographer. Contact: Jean S. Tucker, 5273.

Monday, Feb. 9

- **Governing Board Meeting** for the Institute

for Women's and Gender Studies from 2:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Contact: Nan Sweet, 6383 or Deborah Bowman, 5581.

- **Poetry and Short Stories—Readings From Litmag.** Students, faculty, and staff contributors to the campus literary journal will read from their recent works at 12:00 p.m. in 229 J.C.Penney. Contact: Karen Lucas, 5699.

Tuesday, Feb. 10

- **Red Cross Blood Drive** from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the U Lounge on the South Campus. This blood drive is sponsored by the American Optometric Student Association walk-ins are welcome. Contact: Angela Ernst or Kay Smarzinski, 839-3052.

- **Introduction to Weight Training:** Learn how to use the Fitness Center and weight room to achieve the goals you desire. Fee is \$5.00. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

- **Racquetball Clinic for Beginners** will be held at 12 p.m. at the Mark Twain Racquetball Courts. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

Wednesday, Feb. 11

- **Rosewood** part of the UM-St. Louis Rivermen Film Series at 8 p.m. in the U-Meadows Clubhouse. Free Admission with a UM-St. Louis ID. Contact : Student Activities, 5291.

- **Floor Hockey Leagues.** Men's, Women's, and Coed teams will begin today. The games will be played in the Mark Twain Gym. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

Thursday, Feb. 12

- **Rosewood** part of the UM-St. Louis Rivermen Film Series at 10 a.m. in the U-Center Lounge. Free Admission with a UM-St. Louis ID. Contact : Student Activities, 5291.

- **An Intramural 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament** sponsored by Schick Super Hoops will be held from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Mark Twain Gym. Men's and women's divisions are offered. Free Schick razors will be given to all participants and tournament

winners will take home t-shirts. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

Friday, Feb. 13

- **Mardi Gras** Sigma Tau Gamma rush party. Open to all students with UM-St. Louis ID. Free. Contact: 428-3364 for more info.

Monday, Feb. 16

- **"It's Time to End the Economic War Between the States."** Assistant Professor Kenneth Thomas reports on the research of his upcoming book *Competing for Capital: European and North American Responses* at 12 p.m. in 229 J.C.Penney. Contact: Karen Lucas, 5699.

- **The Muir String Quartet** will be performing for the Chamber Classics at the Ethical Society as part of the Premiere Performances at 7:30 p.m. Contact: 5818 for tickets and information.

- **The Rec Sports Racquetball Tournament** is scheduled to begin today. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

- **"Teen Pregnancy Prevention"** American Association of University Women, Ferguson-Florissant Branch will present a program on Teen Pregnancy Prevention Education, featuring Leah Edelman the Public Relations Coordinator for Planned Parenthood, at 7 p.m. in 838-8917. 75 J.C.Penney. Contact: Debra Knox Deiermann, 432-3575.

- **"The Traditional Music Maker in Irish Society."** Seminar by: Dr. Gearoid O Allmhurain, Lecturer, University of San Francisco. from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the McDonnell Conference Room (331 SSB). Sponsored by the Center for International Studies, Anthropology, History, and Music, UM-St. Louis, and St. Louis Irish Arts. Contact: International Studies, 5753.

- **A Millennial Retrospective of the Twentieth-Century Woodwind Chamber Music-A Performance.** Eastwinds, a local quintet, will play a variety of pieces from this century. This event will be held in 229 J.C.Penney. Contact : Karen Lucas, 5699.

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Students convene forum to discuss proposed facilities

BY BILL ROLFES
staff writer

In an effort to promote discussion of major decisions on campus, a group of students met to discuss possible forms of communication between the administration and the student body.

Tonya Hutchinson, a social work major, and Gail Babcock, coordinator of Students for Quality Education, invited all students to express their opinions about fee increases and new buildings at a noon meeting Wednesday, in room 72 of the J.C. Penney building.

At the beginning of the meeting, Hutchinson expressed the need for "dialogue" between stu-

dents and the administration.

"Basically this was a meeting called by a couple different groups of concerned students in terms of students not having a voice on campus," Hutchinson said.

She explained that students do not have a voice unless they attend Student Government Association meetings.

Babcock expressed her disgust for the way the administration presented fee increases to the students at November's SGA meeting. She said the students did not have enough time to discuss them.

"The way that was handled at the SGA meeting shows what kind of respect [the administration]

has for the students," Babcock said.

The group tried to find ways to communicate with students. Students suggested voice mail messages on all campus phones and Listservs.

Both Hutchinson and Babcock expressed disappointment at the number of people at Wednesday's meeting - 10 people showed up.

"We've got to get more people involved if we want to have a voice," Babcock said.

Babcock explained, however, that many of the students who had shown an interest in attending Wednesday's meeting were in class.

The group did not set an exact date for the next meeting but agreed that it should be on a Tuesday or Thursday at 1 p.m. □

A Celebration of Heritage

Feb. 2 Kick-Off of African-American History Month

"Reflecting Upon Our Legacy, Preparation to meet the Challenge of the Future" Speaker: Dr. James H. Buford, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Urban of Metropolitan St. Louis 7:30 p.m.

Feb. 10

UM-St. Louis Symphonic Band will perform, Professor Michael Elliott will put on a presentation at noon

Feb. 15

Differences and the Portrayal of Blacks: A Content Analysis of General Media Versus Culturally Targeted TV Advertisement, Geronimo Pratt will speak 4 p.m. in the J. C. Penney Auditorium

Feb. 18

Dr. Patricia Holmes will put on a presentation "A Salute to Ghana," West Africa and UM-St. Louis"

Feb. 23

The Black Repertory Theater with Ron Hines along with DMG.

Feb. 25

Africa in the 21st Century: The American Connection by Dr. Jean-Germaine Gros

Feb. 27

A Jazz Festival, artist-Ndugh Chanler of Los Angeles drummer, percussionist and songwriter

SPACE, from page 1

The South Campus Music Building may also become a residence hall, due to the construction of an unrelated project - the proposed Performing Arts Center - adjacent to the General Services Building. The Music Department might then be shifted into General Services with the art center's completion, expected in about five years.

Another proposal would keep the School of Education where it is and instead move psychology and criminal justice into Woods Hall. Under this plan, the administrative offices would still move to the old University Center but would share it with Continuing Education.

The Underground would be converted to classroom space under either proposal, but Schuster said that The Cove might be preserved if the existing University Center were given to Continuing Education.

Also in question is the fate of several smaller buildings along the south side of Natural Bridge Road.

Schuster said the buildings would be assessed on

an individual basis and most would probably be kept, depending on their condition and the need for space. In the long term, however, the University may have other plans for the area.

"Our intention is to someday take that whole block and put in a new alumni center," Schuster said.

Both Schuster and Donald Driemeier, deputy to the chancellor, stressed that none of the ideas had yet been approved. Driemeier said that the process of deciding space issues had only begun and the plans were some of many ideas under consideration.

"I don't think a decision has been made," Driemeier said.

"There are a number of alternatives that have been explored." □

A decision has not been made. There are a number of alternatives that have been explored.

-Donald Driemeier
deputy to the chancellor

CURATORS, from page 1

"As we move more and more into the use of technology for educational purposes," Pacheco said, "it puts a stress on both the laboratories that we have and the computers that we have available for students."

Mission Enhancement gets funds

Pacheco detailed Governor Mel Carnahan's budget proposal for the UM System. Part of the \$394 million operating budget includes \$15 million for "mission enhancement," a plan to support both the endowed chairs and professorships programs as well as various

research initiatives.

"The state has said that the only way budgets are going to increase is if we strengthen and enhance our mission," Grace said. "Part of our mission, as a land grant university, has been research and public service in addition to teaching."

The governor has also recommended \$50 million for capital improvements, including \$23.1 million for the proposed Performing Arts Center. "We're just delighted Governor Carnahan understood and recognized the value [of the project] to this campus," said newly elected board president Theodore Beckett.

"I trust we are going to be fully supported by the legislature." □

The Current Newswire

Faculty, staff and students are encouraged to attend the Student Dialogue Brown Bag Series III, "Concerning Race Relations," from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Thursday in Room 126 of the J.C. Penney Building. International consultant Marlon Smith will be the guest speaker. Call Linda Sharp at 6807 for details.

The 22nd annual Chancellor's Report to the Community will be Friday, May 1, in the Grand Ballroom of the America's Center downtown. The day will begin with a reception at 11:15 a.m., followed by a luncheon and a program at noon. Call Cindy Vantine at 5442 for details.

Douglas Wartzkok, associate vice chancellor for research and dean of the Graduate School, has been appointed to a three-year term as a member of the Committee of Scientific Advisors to the U.S. Marine Mammal Commission. He was also reappointed to a second term as a member of the Outer Continental Shelf Scientific Committee of the Minerals Management Service, U.S. Department of the Interior.

Two alumni of the School of Education have received the President's Award for excellence in teaching math and science. Patricia Burkhart ('76), a teacher at Hazelwood Central High School and Jan Davenport ('74), a third grade teacher at Parkwood Elementary School, were among the 214 honored across the United States. Winners were selected for performance, leadership, continuing education and dedication.

A series of faculty library clinics will be held from noon to 1 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, Feb. 9, 10, 11 and 13 in the Thomas Jefferson Library Instruction Room. Sessions will include demonstrations of advanced techniques for using the Library Catalog. Contact Franny Behrman at 7008 or by e-mail at sbhrm@umslvma.umsl.edu.

Contact Mary Lindsley at 516-5174 to submit items for Newswire

Inflatable Fees

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\$2,995.20

1997-98 student fees for one year (24 hours)
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1998-99 tuition for one year undergrad (24 hours)
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Sub-Zone

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Wendy Verhoff
community relations director

"Our Opinion" reflects the majority opinion
of the editorial board

How to Respond

Your response is an important part of the weekly debate on this page. Letters should be brief and those not exceeding 200 words will be given preference. We ask letters for clarity, length and grammar. All letters must be signed and include a daytime telephone number.



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OUR OPINION

Arts center begs one question: Why?

The Issue:

With Gov. Mel Carnahan's recommendation to the state Legislature, the proposed Performing Arts Center most likely will be a reality.

We Suggest:

Students should begin seriously questioning the larger forces at work that, like dominoes, affect almost every aspect of their education.

So what do you think?

Let us hear from you on this or any issue in a letter to the editor.

This week, in order to comply with the Hancock Amendment, Missouri will begin mailing taxpayers refund checks. Because money generated from taxes and other sources has surpassed the revenue ceiling set forth in this amendment, the state must give excess revenue back to Missourians.

Meanwhile, UM-St. Louis is laying the groundwork for a new Performing Arts Center, and it promises to yield a number of benefits that make it worthy of student support. On a campus that opened 35 years ago as a one-building operation with only a handful of students on the premises of a former country club, the construction of such a facility should mean the dawning of a new era of growth.

The fact that this building will, in reality amount to something less should compel every student to ask why. Why will this project fall short of all that it might be?

True, funding for the \$50-million facility will come entirely from state resources or private donations, and as a result, students will pay nothing.

Doubtless, the new building will also spur the development of a first-rate drama program at the same time it provides a venue for students in the music department.

While it attracts new students planning careers in fine arts, the 1650-seat auditorium and 400-seat recital hall will also provide an opportunity for prominent speakers and popular shows to visit cam-

pus more frequently, enhancing the university experience for all students. Many of these events might even provide a source of revenue. Moreover, its very construction will generate hundreds of jobs for the metropolitan area.

However, in consideration of the fact that enrollment has consistently failed to meet expectations and budget shortfalls only last year led to the consolidation of several departments, the proposed expansion will occur under a pall of controversy.

The question remains as to whether the building's operational costs and that of the expanded programs which will occupy it can be met without diverting funds from other already strained departments, resulting in a kind of zero-sum game.

Students should indeed ask why.

Why must the University risk more financial hardship to pursue the Performing Arts Center, an obviously beneficial addition to the campus at the same time the state mails away money. This question transcends the authority of administrators and even the chancellor. It falls instead under the jurisdiction of the highest authority in the state.

As UM-St. Louis has been placed in such an awkward position by a lack of adequate financial support, the Student Government Association on this campus should play a vocal part in organizing student opposition to the misguided Hancock amendment, a campaign worth far more than the usual discussions about parking and student involvement. □

Making Watergates out of molehills

For those of us whose first political frames of reference came after that infamous bungled burglary in 1972, this premature talk of presidential resignation and impeachment rings particularly hollow. It's not that we doubt the profound effect our elders assured us Watergate had on the presidency and the country.

But it seems that many of the journalists, the politicians, the Republicans involved in this latest Watergate impostor possess an obscene predilection to catch, ensnare or even entrap by any means possible the first successful two-term Democratic president since Harry S. Truman in some "impeachable" offense, as if to exorcise whatever political demons Watergate left unresolved.

Perhaps our youth has left us with an incomplete appreciation of all things sexual, but we find it a little perplexing that older men and women are so enthralled with the dalliances of the president. And as for Kenneth Starr, who so desperately needs to unearth presidential culpability in something more than sordid passion, he and his carte blanche investigation have proven only that subsidized, litigious witch hunts are as ineffective as tabloid journalism.

For those of us unimpressed with Mr. Starr's "investigation" so far, we have only to marvel that America allows the world to watch us humiliate ourselves far more than Bill Clinton or Monica Lewinsky ever could. □

Clean water: I'll drink to that

Sometimes I think that history will call ours "the period when man could identify a thousand problems and only a few simple solutions."

Or at least it seems that way to me. Last week the health department sent this innocuous looking letter to our home. It's basic thrust was that water safety officials had identified "fecal matter" in our drinking water.

I could imagine the letter before even looking at it: "Such contaminants, while harmful in large quantities, have proven to have no adverse effects to humans in the levels currently found in your water."

Well, fine.

Even before the official announcement, our family started filtering its water with one of those impressive looking devices that purports to purify regular tap water to pretty near perfection.

Not that it's necessarily helping.

I've thoroughly examined this device and, though I admit my scientific and mechanical literacy is especially basic, this water filter we're using doesn't impress me. Not one bit.

In fact, it looks like glorified chicken wire encased in a plastic doohickey that makes the water drip, drip, drip out of the "filter" really slowly, as if it's eking out every last bit of "fecal matter." What's more, the post-purification water doesn't taste any different than tap water, but then I guess "fecal matter" is not especially tasty.

Water purification for dummies, you could call it.

For my part, I'd just as soon not have known with this much scientific certainty about the intestinal waste products in my drinking water. It only confirms what I suspect every day when I drive across the Poplar Street Bridge: that water is really nasty, and it stinks.

Not a "pew wee; that's odoriferous" stink. I'm talking "roll up your windows and hold your breath till your face turns blue" stink. (In the four years since I began my commute, I've narrowed the stench down to somewhere between rotting animal carcass and sulfur.) Besides that, it just looks septic. And since we get our water straight from the Big Muddy (or the Big Fecal), the only surprise is that we didn't find a strain of the Ebola-virus along with solid animal waste.

Still, it's more than I wanted to know. Ever since that letter arrived, showers and face-washings and tooth brushing seems a little pointless.

What I would really like to find out is that, lo, we have discovered a way to eliminate "fecal matter" and other undesirable "matters" from drinking water.

Until we make that discovery, I'll just drink a little more orange juice. □



DOUG HARRISON
editor in chief

Blame it on the infamous 'they'

I feel sorry for whoever "they" are. "They" are always getting blamed for problems that occur when people don't know who for sure to blame. For example, when road construction is holding up traffic on the highway, I will say, usually: "They are always doing construction on this highway."

But I don't know who "they" are. I just feel like complaining when traffic slows me down, and blaming "they" is convenient enough to satisfy my crave.

The makers of "South Park" seem to parody this need to place blame. In every episode, except for the Christmas episode, one of the character's says, "Oh my God! They killed Kenny!"

We are always searching for someone to blame for any unfortunate incident.

When I'm sitting in traffic and running late I usually curse all of the other drivers for not going at least speed limit. I wonder how traffic can be jammed even when there aren't any accidents on the highway.

As far as the eye can see, cars are lined up in a stop and go procession. Somebody has to be causing this. I usually imagine four old guys putting down the highway at about 10 miles an hour, causing everybody else to be late for work.

Many times we try to figure out who is to blame for an incident simply so we can hold someone accountable. We spend a lot of time and energy searching for a culprit rather than a solution.

When I was working at my old job (in an engineering department for a small company) we had to change assembly drawings on a daily basis - either parts were changed, someone found a better way to put together different products or the drawings were wrong. If a drawing was incorrect we would try to figure out who screwed it up, and curse him or her if that person was not around.

If the error was my fault, I usually had a pretty good excuse. I'd blame ignorance - I was just some dumb college kid pursuing a degree in English. I've never had any schooling in engineering or design.

On Wednesday I was refereeing a freshman boys basketball game. I missed a completely obvious call. The coach complained about the call, and I apologized and told him it was "my bad."

To that he responded with a somewhat harsh, "You gotta watch that."

I nodded my head and thought to myself, "Geez, I told him I was sorry." I began to feel sorry for myself, but I quickly changed my mind. (It's very rare that I will let a coach know that he is right.) I figured I was to blame for the mistake, and I deserved to get bitched at.

For once, putting the blame on someone turned out to be productive. I worked extra hard at calling a good game. It was nice having some kind of motivation when refereeing a freshman game. □



BILL ROLFES
managing editor

GUEST COMMENTARY

Get involved

I have been given the honor of being able to be a part of the guest commentary. At first I was not going to take advantage of this opportunity but then (obviously) I changed my mind. Why not? The only people that read *The Current* are students that are involved with this campus or at least in

their mind want to be involved but for some unknown reason feel they just can't.

UM-St. Louis has many problems when it comes to student participation and yet the students still complain about how lame or "non-college"

like the atmosphere is here. Personally, both faculty and students are to blame but more so the students. Why? Because we do not support crap, not even our pretty decent baseball and soccer teams!

Some students and faculty arrange for activities and put time and effort into events that end up entertaining only a handful of students. Imagine if you were that individual organizing a function and each time hardly anyone shows their face (Don't you feel productive). I would definitely say screw this and probably convince myself that this is a commuter campus! Well no ####! But please only whine if you are involved in some sort of organization whether it be Greek or the Heterosexual awareness club! My point is there are 120 organizations on campus; I am sure you can find your niche. It doesn't matter what you get involved in, just GET INVOLVED. I know sometimes it's a pain in the buttocks and you might attempt to join something and figure out everybody within this group is a complete moron! Well, guess what - that moron might be on the SGA. Therefore, speaking for the student body! Oh, but wait. We as students are too busy, we have class, then work, then South Park and then maybe even a good Jerry Springer fight on later! Sorry to vent and yes I am hooked on South Park (no comment about Jerry).

I apologize for offending anyone but every semester we go through the same sequence of events. First the Sexy Legs scandal then the intermittent flashers from the library to UM-St. Louis is raising fees again. This whole menu needs to change but nobody can make a difference on campus until we The Student

see GUEST, page 8



READER RESPONSE

Despite editor's comments, SGA resolution will make a difference

It is standard practice among government bodies to use a certain style of English when formally presenting resolutions. They are, after all, legal documents, not confabulations. A rather elegant example of this usage, of which you might have heard, is known as the Constitution of the United States of America. I had assumed that as well educated students at a university which I feel is thorough in its English requirements for most majors, all members of the Student Government Association could easily comprehend, and indeed be amused by, a flowery three-quarter page form of this country's primary language. However, the rigor of reading comprehension on this level was apparently intimidating to one Doug Harrison, who expressed his disdain in no uncertain terms by means of one of his weekly editorial columns. No doubt, the disquiet felt by one so challenged by the composition of such commonplace resolutions must be particularly acute when experienced by the editor in chief of the campus newspaper. But of course, we have noticed the vernacular dialect which characterizes some articles in *The Current*. For those infernal spells of aphasia and agnosia which leave one derelict in the sea of vocabulary, I suggest a refresh-

er course in the English language, as well as one of the rather intriguing courses in Antebellum literature offered by our fine institution of higher learning. Of course, that still may do little to improve the proof reading, the misquotes or the misinformation...

Now obviously this letter is written with a light heart and with a big smile, for of course it is well known that I have historically been a strong supporter of *The Current*. Additionally, I am quite sure that you must be both articulate and well-versed, or no doubt surely another would presently fill the spot of editor in chief. Furthermore, the resolution, although perfectly appropriate in its wording, was certainly somewhat dramatic. Nevertheless the unwritten rule around these parts has historically been that if one can dish it out, one had better be able to take it. Throughout the whole of last semester, I have remained in good humor over here in SGA while upon a platter before me you have dished out quite a mound of corruption, and little did I say. It is apparent that this semester will be more of the same. Therefore, my dear editor... bon appetite!

Incidentally, we here in the SGA are fluent not only in the wording of such resolutions, but also in

see LETTERS, page 8

Becky Rickard, features editor
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Odds & Ends

column
a generic offering



JILL BARRETT
columnist

My academic path has been a long string of misguided attempts to reach an unwanted goal. Take my first major in college. I started college with the somewhat ludicrous idea that I would start in pre-med. It all began in my early high school years when I discovered that nothing really interested me except for biology and French. I didn't like English classes until my junior year, when they finally started teaching contemporary literature. As a major, French didn't seem to be an option because nobody seemed to make a living at speaking French, except maybe French salesmen.

Being a girl who won science awards, I seemed destined to a life of a high-paying career. What nobody told me until college was that science loses its charm immediately after you fill the chem lab with a noxious-smelling yellow smoke and set off all the smoke alarms in the process.

I stuck it out though, until my first year at college. My most memorable science class has to be my journey through advanced-placement biology. In this class, we had the spooky task of dissecting any number of once-living creepy-crawlies — a job to which I was grossly ill-suited.

Although I did not become a vegetarian until I was nineteen, I had the soul of a vegetarian. I had a problem eating meat from the time I finally figured out where it came from, and almost refused to take my first Communion after I found out it was supposed to be the Body of Christ. Romping around in the innards of dead animals in the name of science left me retching more often than not.

I didn't spend the entire school year this way. During the genetics unit, I managed to kill off my little city of fruit flies in less than thirty minutes and was relegated to watching other students' insect populations multiply. I thought something was wrong when — unlike the other kids — I did not find this at all exciting. Looking back, I should have realized that my adolescent male lab partners would have been happy to watch anything breed.

My all-time bizarre experience in this class was the cat dissection unit. My cat apparently had a lot of personality in life and died in the midst of some riotous living, if the expression on his face meant anything. It was somewhat reminiscent of Bill the Cat from the Bloom County comic strip. In fact, my lab partner and I named it Bill the Stiff in tribute.

On the Friday night before a big exam, I took the cat home with me to study. My parents were out of town for the weekend and I shoved the formaldehyde-reeking corpse into my parents' bathroom, where I promptly forgot about it. Forgot about it, that is, until my mother came home and got one good look at it wedged between her sink and towel rack. After my mother became conscious again, I kept telling the 'rents that none of this would have ever happened if they had only let me have a pet as a child.

And they bitched about dog hair on the furniture. □

Jill Barrett's column appears every other week. Write her at 7940 Natural Bridge, St. Louis, MO 63121; call her at 516-5174 or e-mail at current@jinx.umsi.edu

Walking in a winter wonderland

could be less than wonderful

BY AMY LOMBARDO
staff writer

It's springtime. The sun is shining, the birds are singing and the weather is warm. It's not hard to get motivated to go outdoors and exercise. In the winter months, however, the situation is significantly different.

Exercising outside when the temperatures are freezing is not usually a tempting option, due to the many physical hazards. It is possible to make it more enjoyable by knowing some sensible tips.

Bruce Clark is an exercise physiologist and associate professor of physical education at UM-St. Louis. He shares a few guidelines for students to follow when faced with chilly circumstances.

"The most common mistake people make when preparing for exercise in the cold, is overdressing," Clark said.

The amount of clothing worn is key in remaining comfortable. It is best to wear layers of breathable clothing to provide insulation and allow the sweat to evaporate.

"What I recommend people do is dress in layers, and make the layers fairly lightweight so they can take

them off if they want to," Clark says.

Materials like wool and synthetic fabrics such as poly-propylene are excellent for winter work-outs.

"They basically draw the moisture away from the skin so that it doesn't sit right on the surface. That way it tends to keep you

warmer because you've got two or three layers of clothing that has a real small, basically a molecule, layer thick of air to act as insulation," Clark explains.

Another thing to consider is the wind chill factor. Clark said that the worst thing to do is to start out with the wind coming

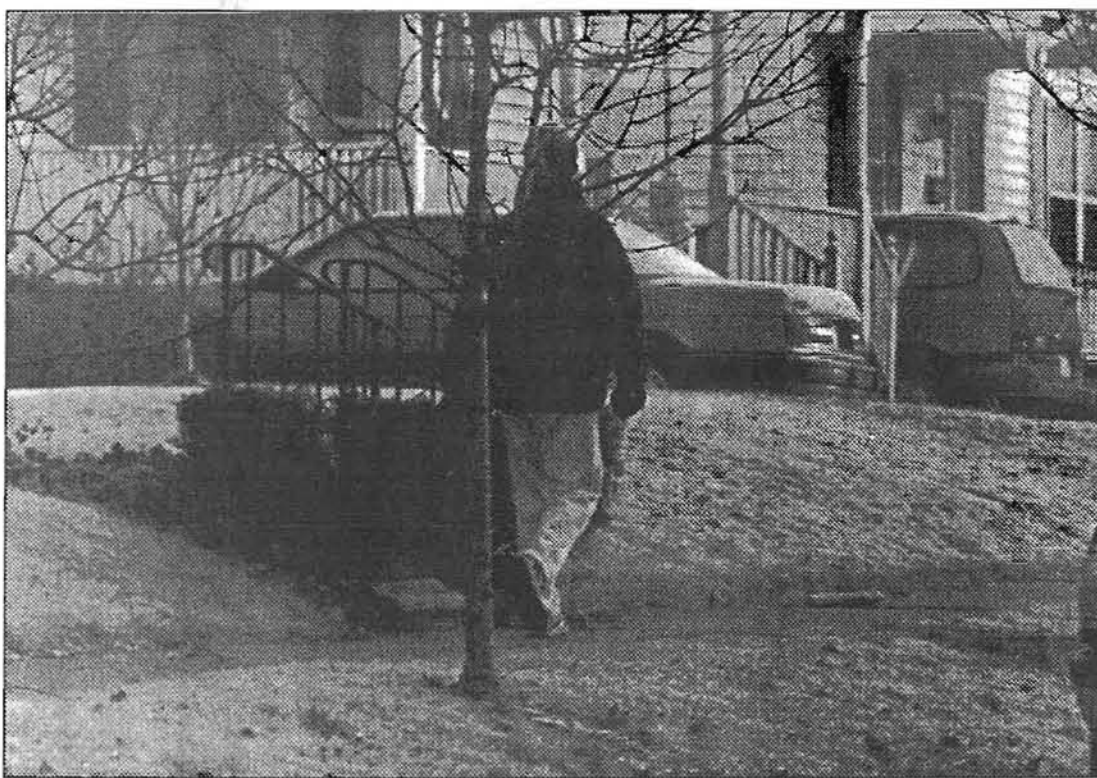
from behind. This will make a person feel warm, and when the return trip is facing the wind it will cause a loss in body core temperature.

It is beneficial to insulate hands and feet well for shorter periods of exercise, while the torso is more important for longer exposure to the elements. Clark recommends mittens instead of gloves because they allow the fingers to be next to each other and able to generate more body heat.

The discomfort felt from breathing in extremely cold air is due to the dryness of it. The solution to this phenomenon is to simply wear a scarf or mask-type face cover.

"People think you lose about half your body heat from your head, and that's pretty high, unless you have a really big head," Clark says. "You do lose probably somewhere between about 10 to 15 percent, maybe up to 30 or 35 percent, of your heat from your head depending on how much heat you're generating. Therefore, wearing a cap or a hat or something on your head is a good idea."

Following Clark's guidelines can help prevent dangerous conditions, such as frostbite and hypothermia. Moist and windy weather can increase the risk of hypothermia. □



Daniel Hazelton/The Current

Discovering the global woman

Speaker discusses feminist potential of new world economy

BY BECKY RICKARD
staff writer

Globalization, new conservative agendas, marriage and family and the growing U.S. prison system seem at opposite ends of the academic spectrum, right? According to the Margo Okazawa-Rey, visiting social work professor from San Francisco State University and recent feminist text book author, these issues have a large impact on the security of women and children.

In her presentation, "Globalization: Redefining Security for Women and Children" which was cosponsored by the Institute for Women's and Gender Studies and The Center for International Studies Monday, Okazawa-Rey confronted issues within the spectrum of the growing economic world market and it's effect on women and children.

"[Okazawa-Rey's] work recognizes the realities of a global economy of a free trade, post-communist world as a context for U.S. feminism," Nanora Sweet, director of The Women's and Gender Studies, said.

Okazawa-Rey discussed the "amazingly militarized economy" revolving around the national security of the U.S. She believes that the U.S. is deceptively taught to fear South American drug traffickers, North Korea and the Middle East, resulting in an economy designed to protect against war.

"Much of the funding that could go toward socially useful spending, instead is siphoned off to the military," Okazawa-Rey said.

Okazawa-Rey also believes that the globalization of the economy has a severe backlash on women. International companies, such as Nike, contribute to the feminization of labor in substandard factories and sweatshops in Third World countries like Malaysia and Indonesia or women living in Third World countries must move from their homes to find jobs.

Okazawa-Rey also criticized the belief that marriage and family creates security.

"All kinds of statistics show that the home is one of the least safe places for women and children," Okazawa-Rey said.

Okazawa-Rey revealed to the audi-

ence that the U.S. has the second highest rate of imprisonment in the world. However, she believes the "we need more [prisons] or else" syndrome isn't helping solve criminalization.

"In the 1970s, crimes committed by African-Americans decreased steadily while the number of African-American prisoners has tripled. Crime is going down and criminalization is going up," Okazawa-Rey added.

Although Okazawa-Rey criticized many tenets of U.S. society, she also offered ideas as solutions. Some of her solutions involve "reframing the policy split" between domestic and foreign policy, redefining personal security and safety, constructing genuine democracy, demilitarization and promoting a world view instead of individualism.

With the growing influence of the Institute of Women's and Gender Studies, Okazawa-Rey's presentation broadened the range of issues typically covered by feminist philosophies. However, the imbalance of gendered studies seems to be narrowing.

"It really calls upon the whole student. It is really a form of humanist education," Sweet said. □

Cross-over to 210

Duo's work featured at gallery

BY AMY LOMBARDO
staff writer

A new exhibition, Crossings, came to Gallery 210 on Jan. 20, 1998. It features a combination of works from two artists, Tanja Softic and Tom Koole. The gallery is located on the UM-St. Louis North Campus in Lucas Hall.

The title Crossings reflects the joining of two unique ways to look at the world through artistic expression. Softic creates large drawings that visually reflect on her struggles, issues and her cultural roots. Koole relates today's technology to the primitive artifacts from the past through his sculptures.

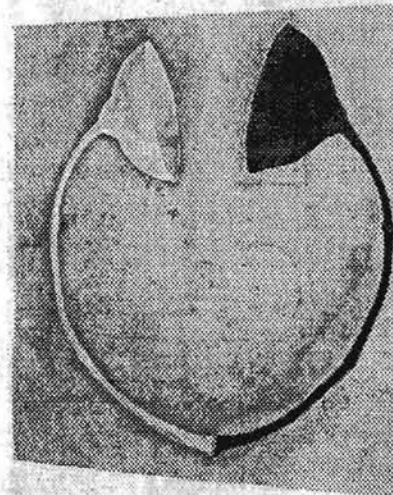
Softic, a Yugoslavian, is a native to the city of Sarajevo. She came to the U.S. in 1989 to attend graduate school at the University of Virginia. She found that the professors in the U.S. were not interested in her purely visual style, but in social issues in art.

"I was really surprised. Everyone wanted to hear about Bosnia, everyone wanted to hear my story, but nobody was really interested in looking at the slides. They were wondering why I was doing this abstract form," Softic said.

Initially, after moving to Winterpark, Florida, she did not have a studio to work on large pieces, so she focused on smaller mediums. She compiled books that showed, through pictures and a few select words, the conflict in Bosnia and the world in general.

What Softic dubs her "angry period books" came from her feelings of helplessness and despair about Bosnia, and the indifference she found in people. She saw the war becoming nothing more than party conversation for some.

Her work is a collection of skeletal and floating forms that show, not necessarily death, but possibility. She



One of the exhibits now showing at Gallery 210 by artists Tanja Softic and Tom Koole.

remarks, ironically, that she seems to fall in love with things that show their perishability.

American Koole agrees with Softic's observation about the United States' need to bring social and political issues into art. He strives to understand human nature and find why behavior is so full of contradiction.

"[I am] looking for knowledge in different places, trying to find alternative ways of understanding," Koole said.

He feels that society does not learn from history, and has not progressed emotionally as far as it has technologically. He mixes primitive tools with pieces of technology to make a complete piece. Koole believes that simplicity and balance are the important factors in life.

Softic and Koole traveled to Sarajevo together in the summer of 1996. For Softic it was a return home after six years, but it was Koole's first visit. They were invited to exhibit in the city, and donated some pieces to the museum permanently.

Their show Crossings will remain at UM- St. Louis through February 21, 1998. □

UNDER
CURRENT

compiled by Daniel Hazelton/staff photographer

What do you think about the proposed 'stop hour'?

"I don't think that giving people time to be involved or making it more convenient will necessarily increase involvement."

-Marcus Jimerson
no major

"Build, build, build. We don't need 'stop hour.' We need dorms. If we get people to move on campus, they'll get more involved."

-Marquida Y. Bacon
sophomore/educational psych.

"I think the University will do whatever the University wants."

-Christine Hostedde
junior/underwater marksmanship

"[Stop hour] is a dumb idea, especially for a commuter campus... Build more dorms, or at least institute some interesting activities."

-Brian Gracey
junior/English

"Stop hour would be extremely helpful as a nap time. Then, perhaps, I will not sleep through all my classes."

-Susan Kiwala
unknown/pyschology

You read The Current and we'd like to thank you.

The Current's own features associate will be at a different location each Monday from 1 to 3 p.m. with FREE movie passes. Find her and the passes are yours. This week's movies are Blues Brothers 2000, The Apostle and Oscar and Lucinda. Tickets are courtesy of TCI Cable and its new half-hour entertainment show, EQ, hosted by FM 101.1 The River's Ken Williams and Dave Doerre, premiering this month on TCI channel 3 and Charter Cable channel 8.

Dickens RIP

Poor adaptation disgraces text of author

Great Expectations
Twentieth Century Fox
Rated: R
Running time: 93 minutes
Now Playing

"There either is or is not the way things are," Ethan Hawke's annoying, far-too-scripted sounding voice-over intones near the beginning of *Great Expectations*. "I'm not going to tell this as it happened but how I remember it."

Well that's too bad. Maybe if he had told it the way it was, (vis a vis the way Dickens intended it to be in the first place) Hawke and co-star Gwyneth Paltrow might not have made such perfect fools of themselves.

I wish I could isolate some particularly telling incidents in this rambling disconnected miscarriage and cite them as proof, but the whole movie was so thoroughly discombobulating that my mind swims just recalling it now.

As for plot, there is none. A young Finn Bell catches the eye of the terribly senile and terrifically hideous old crank, Ms. Dinsmoor (Ann Bancroft), who lives in a rundown estate (Paradiso Perduto) near the edge of town. She pays Finn and his cobbled together fam-

ily (a white trash sister and her unskilled laboring boyfriend) large sums of money to entertain her and her niece, Estella (Paltrow). But this isn't what the story pursues and neither is some ridiculous encounter Finn has with an escaped con (Robert DeNiro). They just kill time until the movie starts making some poorly chosen transitions through the next 10 years ("segue" must never have cropped up in the film school director Alfonso Cuarón attended) Finally, after a separation of several years, Finn and Estella reconnect in New York;

In the end, tone was one of only several other basic elements . . . missing from this atrocious adaptation.

Finn a successful artist (or so he thinks), Estella a grown up version of the tease we were supposed to believe she was in her childhood.

Again, more pathetic attempts at enlightened, self-aware introspection from the narrator ("Get those cue cards higher," came to mind every time he started babbling) who seems more interested in doing anything with these voice-overs than the one thing a narrator is supposed to do: establish tone.

In the end, tone was one of only several other basic elements (along with acting ability, decent writing and a manageable story) missing from this atrocious adaptation. For my money (or rather, the promoter's money that sent me to the



Ethan Hawke as Finn Bell and Gwyneth Paltrow as Estella in *Great Expectations*.

screening for free, thankfully), Cuarón could have cut the cord completely and disassociated this disaster from the still respectable name of Dickens and his novel on which this movie purports to be based.

Save your money. Don't go see it. Don't wait for it on video. Stick to Dickens and just pretend this movie was never made. Everyone else will.

-Doug Harrison

New 'dark comedy' isn't a complete Zero

Zero Effect
Rated: R
Running time: 90 minutes
Now playing

The Usual Suspects meets Inspector Cleuseau of *The Pink Panther* — that's probably the best way to describe *Zero Effect*. The film's leading role is played by Bill Pullman, probably one of the most underrated actors out there today.

Zero Effect takes the audience through your basic blackmail case

from the files of "the world's greatest private investigator," one Darrel Zero: an extremely eccentric "master of observation," as he would call himself.

The film is dark comedy, but unusually, the plot is put together well, and it follows the case through various twists and turns that actually add suspense. Zero's narrative interludes prove distracting though end with clever witicism, and although these are laugh-out-loud moments, you find yourself looking around to

see if anyone else is laughing.

Ben Stiller surprisingly delivers an excellent performance as the assistant lackey. His character is comically and truly the sane one of the pair.

All in all, the film is not bad, but not great. The bottom line is this: if you decide to pay full price to see this movie, you won't feel cheated. But if you want to wait to catch it at the dollar show or off the video shelf, you won't feel left out.

-Bill Clifford

Good cast helps Desperate Measures

Desperate Measures
TriStar Pictures
Rated: R
Running Time: 1:40
Now Playing

Deep in the city of San Francisco, officer Frank Conner (Andy Garcia) is has been looking frantically for a bone marrow donor for his cancer stricken son. After his wife's death, Conner sees his son as the only thing he has left and is willing to do anything for him. At first, it appeared to Conner that fate had dealt him a good hand when he discovered there was a compatible donor for his son. On the other hand, this potential donor was the convicted multi-murderer, Peter McCabe (Michael Keaton). McCabe agrees and sees this simple trip to the hospital as the chance for freedom.

Officer Conner spends the majority of his time running around throughout the hospital, then the San Francisco police headquarters, and finally a car chase through the streets of San Francisco, all the while chasing McCabe and trying to keep from killing him.

An excellent cast was chosen for *Desperate Measures*. Although Conner's obsession of saving his son's life was carried a little too far at points, it still made for an action packed adventure of chases, torture, and even a little singing by Keaton himself (man sings like a crow).

Desperate Measures is a good movie for anyone who enjoys Michael Keaton as a psychopath, or anyone who just wants to go see another action flick.

-Tom Wombacher

Music Review

Standout single may outshine Creed's debut album

My Own Prison
Creed
Wind - Up Records

Just when you think grunge is dead, along comes Creed and their debut album, *My Own Prison*. This album sounds as if it comes straight from Seattle around the turn of the decade. However, it is not the heavy grunge which Seattle is so famous for; it is on the lighter side.

The first single off the disc is the title track of the album. It is a great testament to the band's ability to write incredible songs. However, the

rest of the album seems to blend into one. The remaining songs do not have the distinct personality that makes "My Own Prison" a stand-out.

Hailing from Tallahassee, Creed is far removed from the grunge scene in Seattle, but the influence can be heard in all of the songs. At times, lead singer Scott Stapp can be easily mistaken for Eddie Vedder or Scott Weiland. Creed, however, is missing the distinct guitar riffs of those bands. Everything taken into account, Creed's debut album is not as good as the single. It definitely

lacks the likability of the title track.

-Matthew Regensburger

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BLUES BROTHERS 2000

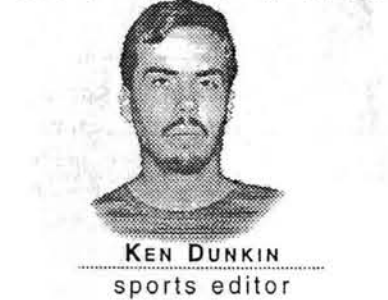
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Sports

OFF THE WALL



Some things stick out in your mind forever. The first car you drove, your first girlfriend and your first sporting event.

For me the first game I went to was an adventure. It was 1983, a year after St. Louis had been Cardinals crazy. I was one of the many grade school kids who dreamed someday of playing in Busch Stadium.

I watched all of the games on television and listened to the games on the radio, though I never understood why Jack Buck and Mike Shannon always were talking about drinking cold frosty Budwiesers.

I was a obsessed fan.

After pestering my dad for months he finally broke down and took me to a game.

My dad doesn't really like sports. He would watch sports casually when the local teams were winning. So it was quite an achievement to get him to take me to the game.

The San Francisco Giants were in town. The Giants at the time were a poor team. Joel Youngblood was one of their few good players.

They also had Jack Clark who would later star for the Cardinals and who I would later learn to hate. In 1987 he and Steve Lake refused to sign an autograph for me. There was no one else around and they kept walking. Clark played but I prefer to leave him out of my memory.

The Cardinals went on to defeat the Giants. There was a major collision in which two Giants players had to be taken off the field by the trainers.

The one big thing I remember though was how much fun the game was. My dad and I had a blast.

Sure the ushers kept making us move. We had nose bleed seats and the players looked like ants. It didn't matter to me though, I was at a baseball game.

I loved everything about the game. The parking lot before the game that is called I-70 and the parking miles away didn't matter to me. The game was fun.

I don't think a game has been as fun since. I've been to plenty of games, I've seen Lee Smith break the saves record, Mark McGwire crush two home runs. I saw both games the Seattle Mariners played at Busch. Those games just don't match up.

The first game broke me in I guess. It was so much fun.

Don't get me wrong I love to go to games. The Cardinals aren't my team anymore. I don't idolize the players.

Tom Herr is long gone but the memories of the 1983 team and the greatest second baseman of the '80s live on.

Maybe it was myself being in awe of the game, maybe it was going to the stadium with my dad, I think it was a combination of both.

The stadium was cut from the same cookie cutter mode as every other stadium, it looks tons better now.

The team has bigger-name players and the ushers are more people friendly.

I'll take the basic plain setting of that summer day in 1983.

Some memories just don't fade away. ☐

Want another look into the world of sports? Check out the Sports Analysis on page 8.

Riverwomen split on road

Women's basketball falls to St. Joseph's and beats Quincy in two away games

BY DAVE KINWORTHY
staff writer

The women's basketball team came home after two road games with a 13-6 record.

The team lost to St. Joseph's 93-69 in the first game.

The team was down at halftime 40-30 and never rebounded from that deficit. St. Joseph's then outscored the Riverwomen 53-39 in the second half.

"It was one of the worst games we have played all year," head coach Shelly Ethridge said. "We did not seem prepared for the game at all."

Ethridge also pointed out that being down early in the game spells problems for the team.

"It puts pressure on them," Ethridge said. "When the pressure is on, we do not handle it well. We make foolish mistakes. It has been a learning experience with seven games left."

Melanie Marcy exploded with a huge game as she scored 24 points and had 18 rebounds. The 18 rebounds ranked fourth all-time in Riverwomen history.

Although the team lost by 24 points, Ethridge commended Marcy on her effort.

"[Marcy] is a tremendous athlete. Ask her to play any sport and she will," Ethridge said. "She is — no question — the best rebounder on the team. Without her, we would not be where we are today."

"She is getting double and triple teamed in the inside and handling it well."

The team then traveled to Quincy, a team with a 0-20 overall record.

“Whether a team is 0-20 or 20-5, you do not know if you will win on the road. It is a scary thing when you go on the road.”

—Shelly Ethridge
head coach

One would think this would be an easy road victory for the Riverwomen, but Ethridge disagrees.

"Whether a team is 0-20 or 20-5, you do not know if you will win on the road," Ethridge said. "It is a scary thing when you go on the road."

The Riverwomen defeated Quincy 92-73.

The team was led by Annette Brandy and Beth Ragsdale who each had 21 points. Marcy added 13 points, 8 assists and 6 steals to the winning cause.


Coach Ethridge seemed pleased with the effort that Ragsdale gave the team.

"She was a great lift for the team," Ethridge said. "When she is on, she is on. If she had not been [on], the four-point lead at halftime could have been turned around."

The team now faces Southern Indiana, the number five ranked team in the region.

Southern Indiana has 6-0 forward Eileen Weber who is averaging 27 points and 13 rebounds a

I Got All Ball!



Daniel Hazelton/ The Current

Freshmen guard Kyle Bixler feels the aftermath of a collision with a Southern Indiana player Saturday night. Bixler was charged with the foul. The Rivermen lost 92-73.

Hawks soar past Rivermen 87-68

BY JOE HARRIS
Special to the The Current

The Rivermen endured another long bus ride home Thursday night after the team was defeated 87-68 by the Quincy University Hawks.

The team was victimized by 19 turnovers, with 12 of those coming in the first half alone.

The early turnovers put the Rivermen in a hole early. Two turnovers in the span of 24 seconds found the Rivermen trailing by nine points with 4:12 remaining in the first half. At halftime the Hawks had built a 43-32 advantage.

The deficit was too much for the Rivermen to overcome. In the second half the team could only get within eight points before the

Hawks put the game away for good. Kyle Bixler led the Rivermen with 26 points and Jeremiah Foots had 18 points. Both players came off the bench. Bixler and Foots were 7-11 and 6-12 from the field and 4-7 and 4-8 from three-point land respectively.

The loss dropped the Rivermen's record to 6-13 and 2-9 in Great Lakes Valley Conference play. It also makes the second loss in a row for the Rivermen who fell 88-79 to the St. Joseph University Pumas.

The road does not get any easier for the Rivermen as the team faces Wisconsin-Parkside on Thursday. The squad has already dropped a game to Wisconsin-Parkside this year. ☐

Local high school athlete signs with softball team

BY JOE HARRIS
special to The Current

The Riverwomen softball team received a shot in the arm recently as Melissa Curley signed a National Letter of Intent to play softball for UM-St. Louis next year.

Curley, a standout third baseman from Pattonville High school, figures to be big in head coach Charlie Kennedy's plans. "She's [Curley] a Division I caliber player," Kennedy said.

Curley is a three-fold player. She has power, speed and she is good defensively. She is a very consistent player and under her leadership the Pattonville Pirates have won the Suburban North Conference two years in a row, including a perfect 7-0 conference record this year.

After the season, Curley took All-Conference, All-Metro and All-State awards for third base. During the season, she hit a pair of home runs, had 27 RBIs and scored 29 runs.

Kennedy looks to use Curley right away. After this season the Riverwomen lose two pitchers, a catcher, a third baseman and a center fielder to graduation. "There's no doubt that Curley will start," Kennedy said. "It's just a matter of when."

That could be at the beginning of the season or towards the middle depending on Curley's adjustment to the level of play. The fact that she is versatile will help her cause, she can play center field and first base as well as third.

Curley made trips to Ohio University and St. Louis University before visiting and deciding on UM-St. Louis. One of the reasons she decided to play for the Riverwomen is so she would be closer to home. ☐

Junior college transfer aids women's successful season

BY DAVE KINWORTHY
staff writer

Junior guard Annette Brandy has come to the aid of the Riverwomen's basketball team and been a major asset to the team in conference play.

Brandy grew up in Chicago where she played on an all boy's basketball team in grade school. In eighth grade, she was the best defensive player on the team.

"There was no girl's team in grade school," Brandy said. "I was the only child and all of my cousins were boys. I was not accepted until I was in eighth grade."

From there Brandy moved to Roberto Clemente High School where she was a three-time all-state selection. She led the city in scoring two years in a row while averaging 38 points and 9 rebounds a game.

Brandy helped her school to its first conference championship while making her mark in the record books. She scored 63 points in a single game.

"I was just in a zone," Brandy said. "I only missed a few shots all game."

The point total placed her fourth all time in a single game in the state of Illinois. The record is currently held by Lisa Leslie, a WNBA player who scored 101 points in one game.

From high school, Brandy went on to Illinois Central Junior College where she averaged 26 points, was named a



Junior College All-American and led her team to a third place finish nationally.

Brandy says the difference between junior college and Division II is the intensity.

"There is more aggressiveness in the GLVC," Brandy said. "At junior college, there is a lot of talent and good, fundamentally sound players, but here you have to guard everybody respectively."

In her first season at UM-St. Louis, Brandy is averaging 20 points, 6 rebounds and 3 assists per game. Her current season high is 28 points. Brandy came to the Riverwomen hoping to make a difference.

"I just wanted to come in and be a contributor," Brandy said. "I felt that my defense and intensity would help the

“There is more aggressiveness in the GLVC. At junior college, there is a lot of talent and good, fundamentally sound players, but here you have to guard everybody respectively.”

—Annette Brandy
guard

team."

With the team currently standing at 13-6 overall, Brandy believes the team is finally getting the recognition that it deserves.

"People in the conference did not have respect for us," Brandy said. "We were seeded last, but conference opponents are starting to recognize our talent."

With the motto "Basketball is life, the rest is just details," Brandy feels the sky is the limit as far as the future is concerned.

"More women are playing and competing for a reason," Brandy said. "The WNBA, ABL and overseas are opportunities for women. If given the opportunity, I would just hope to make a difference." ☐

| THIS WEEK IN SPORTS | | | |
|---|------------------------------|----------|-----------------|
| Contact the Athletic Department for information about these and other events. | Thursday | Saturday | |
| | 5 | 7 | |
| | Men | vs | vs |
| | Wisconsin-Parkside 7:30 p.m. | | Lewis 7:30 p.m. |
| Women | vs | vs | vs |
| | Wisconsin-Parkside 5:30 p.m. | | Lewis 5:30 p.m. |

Sports Analysis

Giving cross country the credit it deserves

When people talk about Division I athletics, certain sports come to mind. Dominating football with Michigan and Nebraska and basketball with powerhouses like Kansas, North Carolina and Duke are quick to one's memory.

But some sports are overlooked due to the lack of public interest and the amount of revenue they bring to the school.

The sport of cross country is not well known over the state of Missouri. Spectators see this sport as a bore. People running, who cares? But to their amazement, this sport is one of the hardest to train for.

When I was in high school and attended CBC, I had the luxury to take part in this grueling sport. Running six days a week and competing against fierce competition was unbearable. Hills as big as mountains and frozen terrain were obstacles on the 3.1 mile course.

Competing against the likes of Tom Brekenridge(SCW/Indiana U) and Adam McDowell(Parkway South/MU), two runners who in 1995 and 1996 went undefeated in the state, was a dream come true.

The rivalries of the Metro Catholic Conference with powerhouses SLUH, DeSmet and CBC were thrilling. Seeing the likes of Owen Donahue(CBC/MU) and Pat Hamel(SLUH/UM-St. Louis) battle it out for first place with 200 meters left was heart-wrenching.

The challenging courses such as Sioux Passage, with hills named things like "The Man Maker," always were a struggle to climb.

Just going to the state meet in Jefferson City to watch the best of Missouri battle it out for the title and All-State honors was emotional. Runners gutting it out and giving all that they had to cross the finish line was memorable. People falling down, passing out, tripping or even vomiting showed how hard this sport really was.

The state meet this year showed promise as far as attendance was concerned. Crowds formed at every turn to encourage the runners on. Team spirit was portrayed everywhere. The rows of tents, banners and people who painted themselves blue like Smurfs were everywhere.

When the question arises of why do you like to run, the answer is quite easy. It is for the entertainment and enjoyment of running that I do it. The competition is great and the accomplishments are many. Staying in shape and being healthy is good for the mind and body.

People know who won the NCAA basketball tournament last season, but few know who won the cross country championship. The answer to this is Stanford, with all of their academic know-how, finished four points ahead of the Arkansas Razorbacks to win the title.

I am not asking for people to go out and run or anything like that. I just want this sport to get the credit that it deserves. These athletes work hard at what they do and should be acknowledged for their accomplishments.

-Dave Kinworthy

openings, contact student activities, call Pam at Rec. Sports or just stop by your local fraternity house and joke about Clinton or whatever. Take care and good luck with classes. By the way if you have spare time and still don't give a hoot about this school there is a pool table and a dart board located on South Campus inside the U-Mart. Oh and yes I do know that the faculty leaves a sour taste in our mouths but so does Taco Bell and I still get my "number 2" once a month. ☐

GUEST, from page 4

Body start caring about what goes on here at UM-St. Louis. HELLO, there are usually more visitor team fans at our home sporting events than our own! That is so crazy that it is actually humorous.

I challenge anybody who gives a festively plump ### to join something, run for student senator there are 25

Corrections

In issue 910 of *The Current*, an item in News Wire should have read: "individuals using a personal vehicle for official business will be reimbursed at a rate not to exceed 32.5 cents per mile."

In the same issue, two articles should have identified David Ganz as

associate dean of the School of Business Administration.

The Current apologizes for these mistakes and any confusion they may have caused

-The Editor

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LETTERS, from page 4

their implementation. Therefore, the same chryselephantine resolution which elicits such appreciation from connoisseurs of the English language, but which is the bane of those abhorrent to all but gutter slang, also stands as a declaration of war to those who would oppose it. You may believe now that this florid resolution will make no difference to the Administration (with a capital A, not a "big" one), and perhaps they believe that as well. But make no mistake that the next time SGA is approached for

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approval of another shafting of the student body by means of more spending increases, I will have ample time to make my case against it, whether my demand of such time allowance is popular or not. Of course, I am only one person. I voted against all of the fee increases in this fiscal year. I have signed the petition to reconsider the manner in which fees are reviewed by the students.

I can do little about the plethora of fee and tuition increases over which

SGA has no sway whatsoever. But I can guarantee that members of the assembly will have ample time to consider their own votes on matters of spending increase and will have the opportunity to consult with the members of their student organizations before being forced (yes, forced) to cast official votes regarding the increases. Of course, my time here is finite, and one day I shall pass from this office. I suppose that my work may someday be undone. But perhaps

I will linger for a while yet, in one capacity or another, just to ensure that at least one individual on campus will espouse the needs of the repressed. Therefore, I suppose it might be prudent of you to purchase a better dictionary. Just in case.

-Michael S. Rankins

More letters on the web

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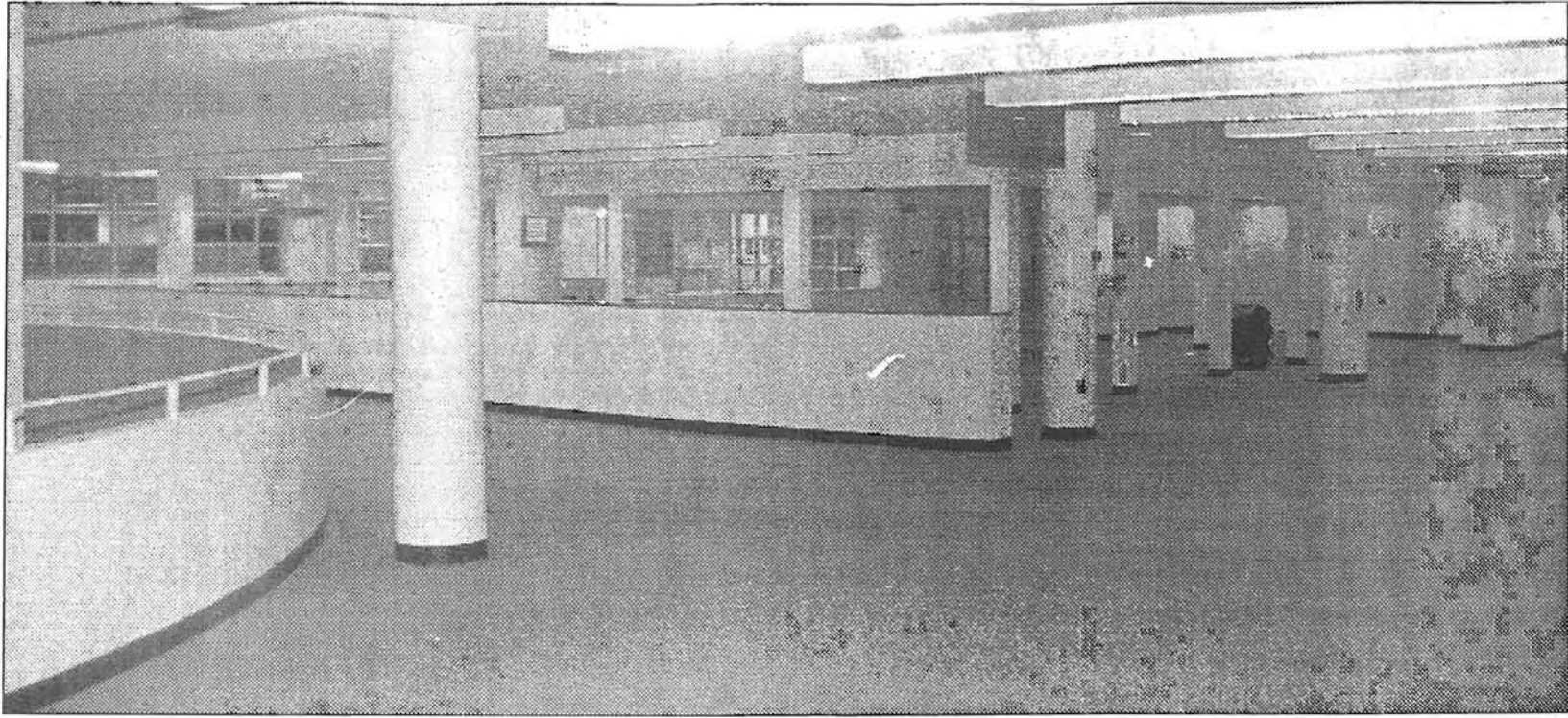
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The once-bustling level two of the Thomas Jefferson Library is now largely vacant, ready and waiting to be filled with the Mercantile Library collection.

MERC, from page 1

likely review the final design in the next couple of weeks.

"It's such a beautiful area," Rapp said of the current layout. "We want to try to keep the lightness and openness of the space, to maintain the

aesthetic quality of the original design."

Some of the collection's materials will be stored in a temperature- and humidity-controlled vault on the first floor.

Other materials can be accessed in secured reading rooms, while the remainder of the collection will be available on open stacks and can be checked out.

Rapp said that workers will be hired temporarily

to add the new materials to the University's library database.

Employees who currently work at the Mercantile Library downtown will transfer to the campus by next fall.

Rapp said she felt the University was fortunate to have acquired the collection. "This really is an extraordinary collection," Rapp said. "It will add a rich environment all over the library." □

BUY, from page 1

the building," Avery said. "Who's to say that they can just kick us out?"

Avery said students should not give up the building with out being reimbursed, even if it meant a student fee increase to pay for upkeep.

"To me that's worth it rather than just giving [the building] up," Avery said.

Gary Grace, vice-chancellor for Student Affairs, said that he had talked to Avery about the issue and explained that according to the system's Collected Rules and Regulations, the building belonged to the University, not students.

"In other instances in other states when this has come up generally what has been said by attorneys...is 'Go get your deed. Go get your mortgage and see what it says,'" Grace said. "Unless you have a piece of paper that says you own the building you don't have an argument."

Grace said he felt that no compensation was due since who funded the building originally is irrelevant.

"Student fees are treated as any other source of income," Grace said. "Whether its tuition or revenues generated [elsewhere], its still University of Missouri funds under the control of the curators."

Jim Krueger, vice-chancellor for Managerial and Technological Services, said he didn't know whether student monies were the only source of funding for the cen-

ter but stressed that "construction is separate from financing."

"Once its there, its University property," Krueger said. "The chancellor controls all space on campus."

Krueger said it was "unlikely" that the old center would be kept as a student facility.

"We believe there is adequate space in the new building for all the student activities that we envision," Krueger said.

Donald Driemeier, deputy to the Chancellor, praised Avery for raising the issue but said the question was still "open"

"I don't think we have the answer right now," Driemeier said.

Avery said he planned to investigate the matter deeper.

"I feel like if the administration doesn't want to work with us on it, I'm looking into any legal aspects and system rules about who takes over buildings," Avery said.

"He's going to have a hard time standing on any sort of legality because the policies and laws don't support it," Grace said. □

Crossword Companion

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
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| 30 | | | 31 | | | | | 32 | | |
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| 42 | | | | 43 | 44 | | | 45 | 46 | 47 |
| 48 | | | | 49 | | | | 50 | | |
| 51 | | | | 52 | | | | 53 | | |

ACROSS

1 Fair

5 Ballet step

8 Fears

12 Beers

13 Era

14 Tardy

15 Horse

17 Small hawk

18 Over (Poetic)

19 Said

21 Probe

24 Rotatable disc

25 Anger

28 Openly

30 Baba

31 Husk

32 Fish eggs

33 Vent for release of gas

35 Turner

36 Atilia was their king

37 Iliad author

38 Chasm

41 Heat source

42 Ireland

43 Wire

48 Snow at head of glacier

49 Frost

50 Tides

51 Former Russian emperor

52 Food chewed a second time

53 Edges

DOWN

1 Fuel

2 Altitude (abbr.)

3 Meadow

4 On an incline

5 Two

6 Past

7 Sane

8 Caustic substance

9 Stay

10 Female (suf.)

11 Sow

16 Shelter

20 Lofty

21 Snatch

22 Small stream

23 Stew

24 Disputes

26 Speech sound

27 Crowd

28 Sole

29 Leap

31 Avoid

34 Complainer

35 Extended time

37 Color

38 Lease

39 Greek God of War

40 Long live (it.)

41 Winter vehicle

44 Old coin

45 Hitler's average (abbr.)

46 Type of weapon (abbr.)

47 Manuscripts (abbr.)

Answers on page 9

If you can find a certain Current writer on campus, you can win free movie passes. But you can't win, if you can't read.

See page 5.

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