

10-12-1998

## Current, October 12, 1998

University of Missouri-St. Louis

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# The Current

THE STUDENT VOICE OF UM-ST. LOUIS

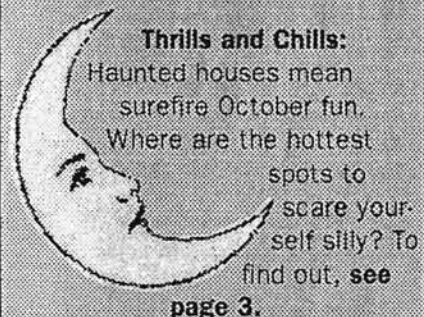
October 12, 1998

The University of Missouri-St. Louis

Vol. 32 Issue 932



**Almost Even:** Riverwomen win two of three in conference play to pull to two games under the .500 mark. See page 5.



**Thrills and Chills:** Haunted houses mean surefire October fun. Where are the hottest spots to scare yourself silly? To find out, see page 3.

**Local H:** Band's third album attempts grunge with charm. For a review, see page 8.

## Student court searches for new members

BY JOSH RENAUD  
special to the Current

The Student Court has lost members, said Chief Justice Steve Bartok, and it could slow the flow of traffic ticket appeals to a crawl.

According to the UM-St. Louis Student Association Constitution, the Student Court should be composed of five active members and two alternates. The Court had five active members and one alternate at the Student Government Association meeting on September 10. Since then, the Court has dropped to three active members and one alternate.

The Court is currently composed of active members Steve Bartok, Trish Bevins, and Steve Hausladen, as well as alternate member Chris Parks.

"If we can get three people to sit down together, we're lucky," Bartok said. "We have had a big problem with people who just

## Judge shortage may slow ticket appeal process

want something to put on their resume, or people who bite off more than they can chew."

Bartok said some members neglected to let him know what was going on.

"They don't bother to say they have a problem. I am tired of having to chase people down."

Rick Blanton, manager of student activities, said he imagined Bartok would be frustrated.

"The court requires such effort and commitment on the part of the people who volunteer to do it [and] there are so many traffic ticket appeals that court members are charged with processing. It's a thankless job."

The Student Court has many responsibil-

ities such as hearing grievances between student organizations, hearing grievances against student organizations from individuals, interpreting the Constitution, and dealing with student organizations that have had their funding frozen.

According to Bartok, though, it is processing traffic ticket and parking permit appeals that consumes the most time. Without an adequate amount of members, the process takes much longer.

"Last fall, I was getting a lot of comments from Student Affairs that ticket-processing was taking too long," Bartok said. "For the last several semesters, they have been on my case. They almost shut down the Student Court and hired someone to process tickets as a paid employee."

"I know [Bartok] has been receiving pressure from individuals who have received tickets and appealed them," said Student Services Coordinator Don McCarty. "Because of the lack of Court members, it's a slower process. I think he is doing a good job with the resources he has."

Bartok said that he has been trying to increase those resources. He has made announcements at SGA meetings, made announcements in classes, and asked the Office of Equal Opportunity if they knew anyone who might be interested.

In spite of its lack of members, the Court will continue its work of processing ticket and permit appeals. The next session will be held at 1 p.m. tomorrow at 272 University Center. The meeting is open to everyone.

## NEWS FROM ALL OVER

### Ohio officials target distributor after alcohol related melee

(U-WIRE) COLUMBUS, Ohio - After arresting 60 parties, state liquor agents are now going after the distributor that sold 42 kegs to a party held after Saturday's football game against Penn State. The Columbus Distributing Co. may face charges from the Ohio Liquor Control Commission for selling the kegs to a buyer without a permit.

Under the Ohio Revised Code, kegs purchased from wholesale companies must be for home use. Otherwise, a permit must be obtained from the Division of Liquor Control.

"It is the company's responsibility to ascertain this information from the buyer," said Patty Haskins, a spokeswoman with the Division of Liquor Control. "They should have questioned the buyer to protect their own privileges."

The Columbus Distributing Co. did not return calls made to it Wednesday.

Liquor agents confiscated a U-Haul truck full of kegs and arrested 60 people Saturday night at 70 E. 12th Ave. because of underage drinking and other charges.

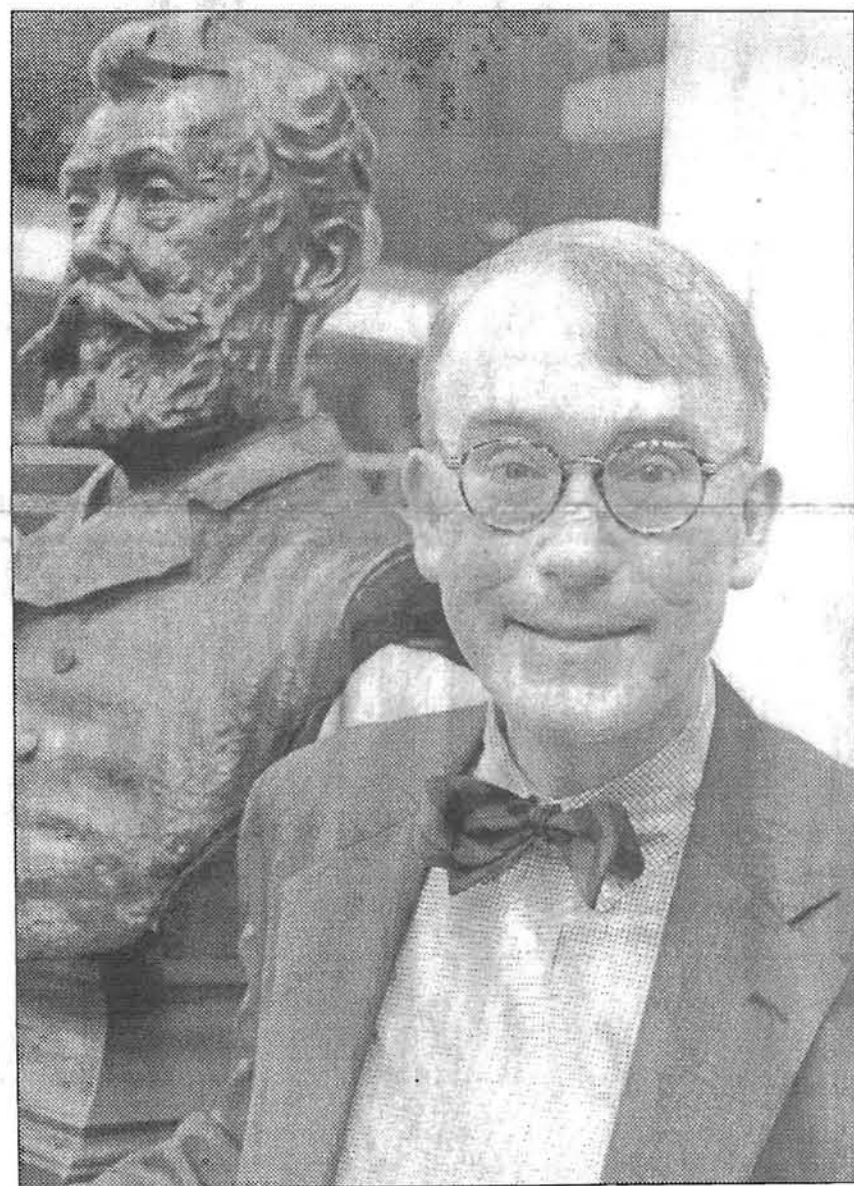
If the Ohio Liquor Control Commission finds that the distributor violated the law, it could have its license revoked or suspended and the company could also be fined. The other possibility is the charges could be dismissed.

In addition to the citation against Columbus Distributing Co., 60 people were arrested.

"Most of the charges were underage drinking," said Steve McIntosh, city attorney.

Other charges included resisting arrest, disorderly conduct, illegal selling of alcohol and possession of false identification.

## Welcome to Mercantile...



Stephanie Platt/The Current

John N. Hoover, stands in the Mercantile Library.

BY ASHLEY COOK  
senior editor

The newly relocated Mercantile Library at UM-St. Louis has set its goal to be as accessible as possible to the University community.

The Mercantile Library, established in 1846, recently moved from its original location downtown at 510 Locust Street into a newly-renovated area of the Thomas Jefferson Library.

John N. Hoover, director of the Mercantile Library and associate director, libraries, for special collections, said that the library's mission has expanded as it has "grown into" the affiliation with UM-St. Louis.

"Our goal when we've settled into campus is to make these collections available, as we've always done, [but now] to the campus community," Hoover said.

see Mercantile, page 6

## New mailroom head hired after resignation

BY BRIAN DOUGLAS  
staff editor

UM-St. Louis has hired a new mail room supervisor.

David Ringkamp was hired to replace Beverly Bateman, who resigned Sept. 11. Bateman attributed her resignation to a lack of sufficient staffing and a perception of unwillingness on the part of the administration to listen to her requests for more personnel. Vice-chancellor for Administrative Services Reinhard Schuster said he had not been aware that there was a problem and that Bateman's resignation came as a surprise to him.

The situation led to brief delays in mail service.



Ringkamp

Ringkamp said that as supervisor he was going to focus on making sure the mailroom runs properly and on getting mail sent and delivered.

"That's what people expect so that's what we're going to give them," Ringkamp said.

Ringkamp said he had not encountered any problems thus far.

Schuster announced the acquisition of the new supervisor at Tuesday's senate meeting. He also announced the formation of a new full time position to act as a back up to the supervisor.

Emil Woolley, manager of custodial and general services, said the new position

see Mail, page 6

## Faculty Council may call for debate on Arts Center

BY BRIAN DOUGLAS  
staff editor

At its next meeting, the Faculty Council will consider the adoption of a resolution to foster campus-wide debate about the proposed Performing Arts Center.

Dennis Judd, presiding officer of the Faculty Council, said the resolution would be considered for approval at the Council's Nov. 5 meeting.

Judd said that support for performing arts programs on campus and for a performing arts center was not in question; he said the conflict arose over the proposed Center's design.

"The only meaningful process would be one that could change the scale and the design of the building, because in the end, all the issues come down to that," Judd said.

At Tuesday's senate meeting, Chancellor Blanche Touhill said questions about the

facility would be answered at future meetings of the budget and planning committee. Touhill expressed willingness to discuss the use of the proposed Center.

"I think it's who's going to use the facility, how often are they going to use it, how can we work together to have it used as efficiently as possible — things of that nature," Touhill said.

Touhill said she would not consider altering the design of the facility.

Judd said that the debate would become increasingly divisive if the administration refused to compromise on the plan of the building.

"Unless they're willing to put [the design] on the table, the debate will become more and more conflictual because the administration would in effect be saying we won't talk about the very things that you're

see Center, page 6

## UM president decries high school dropout problem

BY DAVID BAUGHER  
senior editor

UM System President Manuel Pacheco emphasized the importance of education in an address to a crowded J. C. Penney Auditorium Friday night.

The address was the keynote to an event celebrating Hispanic/Latino Heritage Month, which also included performances of traditional Latin music and dance. Hispanic/Latino Heritage Month began in 1968 as a week-long observance. It was expanded to a full month in 1988.

Other events commemorating the month are in the works. A Hispanic/Latino film festival, "Inca: Secrets of the Ancestors" is scheduled for today in 126 J.C. Penney. On Oct. 28 Peruvian folkloric dancers and a ceramic artist will be featured from 6 p.m.-7:45 p.m. at the Evening College on the third floor of Lucas Hall.

Pacheco's remarks focused on the problem of Hispanic high school dropout rates, which he called "a tragedy whose costs it is difficult to overestimate."

He cited a recently released report which noted that one-third of all Latinos fail to finish high school and that Hispanics, who make up 56 percent of U. S. immigration account for 90 percent of immigrant dropouts. Pacheco said that Hispanics dropped out of high school at a rate two-and-a-half times that of African-Americans and three-and-a-half times that of whites.

"The Hispanic dropout rate is higher than for any other major segment of the U. S. population and shows no sign of improvement in recent years," Pacheco said.

Pacheco said that a combination of factors maybe to blame for the problem including a lack of teachers, substandard facilities and unresponsive school bureaucracies.

"For many Hispanics . . . America does not seem to be a land of opportunity," Pacheco said. "Eventually they conclude that the American Dream is not for them."

Despite the mounting problem however, Pacheco warned against dropping expectations in an effort to stem the tide.

"I do not believe that anything constructive is accom-

plished and that great damage is done by lowering standards as a response to stereotypical judgments," Pacheco said. "Those of us in higher education who have witnessed this phenomenon over the last several years have seen that when the academic bar is maintained and raised the demand for academic programs increases and the program attracts not only more students but students who are more interested and who are better prepared to succeed."

He suggested that high expectations combined with a solid support system would help alleviate the difficulties.

"If you don't provide in the schools and in the colleges and universities the support system that is needed for these students to make that grade, to be able to be successful, then we have not done our job."

Pacheco cautioned that declining high school graduation rates are closing off opportunities for youth and sowing "the seeds of city breakdown."

"Our society prospers only to the extent that all citizens have a fair chance to reap its rewards," he said.

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# Bulletin Board

## Monday, Oct. 12

• **Monday Noon Series: Corruption and Contraband: The Underside of Spanish Colonial History.** Mark Burkholder, professor of history, UM-St. Louis, discusses characteristic aspects of Spanish colonialism in 229 J.C. Penney. Contact: Karen Lucas, 5699.

• **International Seminar:** Annabelle Sheehan, Australian Film, Television, and Radio School, Australia. "Education and the Film Industry: An Australian Perspective." This event will be from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in 331 SSB. Contact: 5753.

## Tuesday, Oct. 13

• **Poetry and Short Story Reading Series.** Poetry reading by Michael Castro at 12:30 p.m. in 206 Lucas Hall. Contact: Karen Lucas, 5699.

• **Student Social Work Association Meeting** from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the Evening College Conference Room on the third floor of Lucas Hall. Contact: Terri Kettenbrink, 838-3953

• **Introduction to Weight Training,** learn how to use the Fitness Center and weight room to achieve the goals you desire. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

• **AfricanStudies Lecture:** Barbara Cooper, Gallatin School of New York University. "'People of the Church' in the Land of Islam: Current Research in

the Niger Republic." This event will be held from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. in 331 SSB. Contact: 5753.

## Wednesday, Oct. 14

• **Litmag Poetry reading** at 3 p.m. in the Cyber-Cafe featuring Hari Sky Campbell, Dale Dehny, Spencer Hurst, and music by Kim Hudgins. Litmags from last year will also be sold for \$3.

• **Walking Clinic,** learn how to make your walking workouts more effective for you. Bodywalk techniques will be demonstrated. The class meets from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

## Thursday, Oct. 15

• **SOUP AND SOUL FOOD** (free lunch and a time for prayer and meditation) from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Normandy United Methodist Church at 8000 Natural Bridge Rd. Sponsored by the Wesley Foundation Campus Ministry. Everyone invited. Contact: Roger Jespersen, 385-3000.

## Monday, Oct. 19

• **Monday Noon Series: The Ethics of Virtue and the Value of Change in the Hunters Society of Ivory Coast, West Africa—A Slide Talk.** Joseph Helliweg, lecturer in anthropology, UM-St. Louis, explains why hunters recently transformed their regional, secret society into a national anti-crime force. This event will be held in 229 J.C. Penney. Contact: Karen Lucas, 5699.

• **Alcohol Awareness Week:** The Point at 105.7 will be here from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the U-Center Patio. Contact: Horizon Peer Educators.

## Tuesday, Oct. 20

• **Introduction to Weight Training,** learn how to use the Fitness Center and weight room to achieve the goals you desire. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

• **Spanish Club Meeting** at 2 p.m. in 542 Clark Hall.

• **Alcohol Awareness Week:** Fatal Vision Goggles will be available to show how alcohol affects driving abilities from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the U-Center Patio. Contact: Horizon Peer Educators.

## Wednesday, Oct. 21

• **Domestic Violence:** Jolene Understall (Women's Self Help Center) discusses the occurrence and impact of domestic violence in our society. Come get the information you need to know about services offered to the victims as well as what family and friends can do to help someone in a violent situation. This event will be held from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. in the Women's Center. Contact: 5380.

• **Alcohol Awareness Week:** Information Table from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the U-Center Lobby. Contact: Horizon Peer Educators.

## Thursday, Oct. 22

• **Poetry and Short Story Reading Series.** Poetry reading by Spencer Hurst at 12:30 p.m. in 206 Lucas Hall. Contact: Karen Lucas, 5699.

• **SOUP AND SOUL FOOD** (free lunch and a time for prayer and meditation) from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Normandy United Methodist Church at 8000 Natural Bridge Rd. Sponsored by the Wesley Foundation Campus Ministry. Everyone invited. Contact: Roger Jespersen, 385-3000.

## Alcohol Awareness Week:

Information Table from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. with a Mocktail Party from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the U-Center Lobby. Contact: Horizon Peer Educators.

## Friday, Oct. 23

• **Alcohol Awareness Week:** Information Table from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the U-Center Lobby. Contact: Horizon Peer Educators.

## Monday, Oct. 26

• **Monday Noon Series: Making History: Some Philosophical Reflections on Holocaust Historiography.** Paul Roth, professor of philosophy at UM-St. Louis will discuss some of the reasons for the controversy surrounding Daniel Goldhagen's recent book, Hitler's Willing Executioners. This event will be held in 229 J.C. Penney. Contact: Karen Lucas, 5699.

## The Current

The Current is now seeking a business associate. You'll learn how to:

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## Other open positions include:

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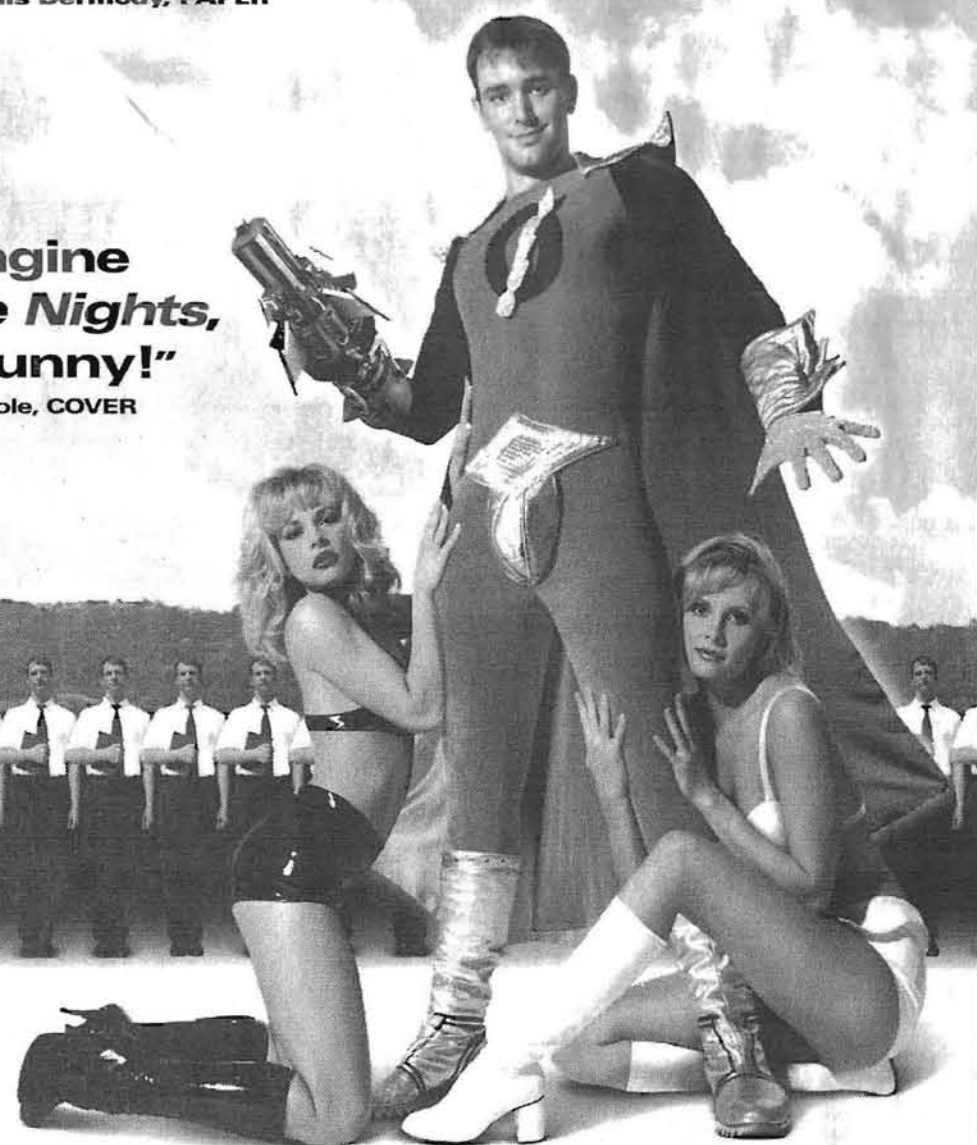


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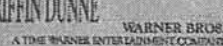
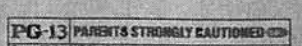
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FEATURES

Amy Lombardo, Features Editor  
Phone 516-5174, Fax 516-6811

**Sick days just aren't what they used to be**

I remember a time, not so many years ago, when I could actually get sick without suffering any consequences.

In elementary school if I was running a fever or had a sore throat, I spent the day in bed, warm under my covers, being doted on by my mom or grandma. They would make me hot cocoa to soothe my swollen glands, and regularly place a fresh, cool washcloth on my forehead.

If my condition didn't confine me to my room, I was allowed to lay on the couch and watch cartoons for hours.

Later, my daddy would come home from work with some orange sherbert or a strawberry ice cream especially for his poor little princess. Even my sister, bless her heart, would bring me my homework to complete.

But all of this is now a distant memory.

Once I reached a certain age, all of the special treatment stopped. In high school, I no longer received the prior indulgences from my parents or grandparents. My sister kept bringing me my assignments, which was beginning to be a little irritating. What good was having a day off if you still had to do all the work?

My point is that being a responsible adult is not always as fun as a barrel of monkeys. And it's not always as logical either.

I have spent the past week and a half, drudging along through fever, chills, sore throat and coughs. What exactly have I accomplished? Nothing worth a hill of beans (pardon the use of my mom's expression).

At work, I am completely useless. I work in a retail store and I forgot to put an item into a customer's bag on two separate occasions. I would have never known because my sudden lack of concentration prohibits me from thinking about anything for more than 30 seconds at a time. Unfortunately, the customers noticed, and called back up to complain. I have also caused my managers countless numbers of re-rings due to my carelessness, forgetting to add a discount or putting in too many items. Silly little things that I would not normally do.

As for my classes, forget about it. I took two tests this week and I remembered little-to-none of the information covered. I guess my long-term memory was affected as well as my short-term.

All of this could have been prevented if I would have been able to spend one or two days in bed, doped up on medication. Adults are not given the luxury of recuperation, which is slightly strange when I think about it. Maybe I'm just recalling it romantically, but when I was a child I had a lot more energy and resistance than I do now.

In an economic sense, two days out of service would make better sense than 12 days of lack-luster production. I know that the world cannot stop because I have the sniffles, but where are our priorities? Is it really so important that we keep going and sacrifice fast recovery? So a few things don't get done right away. At least when they do get done, they will be done properly.

And at least I'll have my health . . . and maybe some hot cocoa.

# Honored

## UM-St. Louisan is National Merit scholar

BY ANNE PORTER  
of the Current staff

The Underground may appear to be a dull place at 8:15 A.M. on a Wednesday morning, however, interesting people are there lurking inside. One of these people is Charlie Bright.

Bright is a National Merit scholar and he earned a 36 on the ACT, the highest score possible. He was courted by MIT, Harvard and Yale. Despite these prestigious recruitments, Bright chose UM-St. Louis. When asked by his guidance counselor Bill Gegg what he was looking for in a college, Bright said a Biology department with a focus in genetics. Gegg suggested UM-St. Louis.

Bright proceeded to take three or four tours of the campus. His first impression of UM-St. Louis was a good one. "The campus looked incredible. I loved it," he said. Bright also applied and was accepted at Washington University, but it was too expensive because not much money was available for scholarships.

Bright attended St. Borgia High School. It was there that he began to build his list of achievements.

"Borgia, in my opinion, is one of the best high schools as far as preparation for college," Bright said.

In high school, Bright was a member of eleven clubs and president of both the Competitive Scholar Team and the Drama Club. He most is referring to his professor as "Dr. Jones", just like Indiana Jones is referred to by the students in the film. In the class there has been discussion concerning the process of impeachment, but not really concerning value judgments of President Clinton.

"He [President Clinton] was an idiot and he got caught—leave him alone," Bright said.

Bright attends the Pierre Laclede Honors College at UM-St. Louis. He admires the dean, Robert Bliss, and Native American Literature professor, Dennis Bohnenkamp.

"All the guys in charge are really cool," Bright said.

He appreciates the entire atmosphere of the Honors College a great deal.

Lynn Venhaus, a information specialist of the Office of University Communications said Bright is "excited to be here" and "very sure of himself." Venhaus hopes that Bright's attendance at UM-St. Louis will encourage other potential Merit scholars to compare UM-St. Louis to the "prices of Harvard and Yale, and for people to look at us as reasonable alternative."

Venhaus added that the Honors College is a "wonderful experience" and a "well-kept secret."

Bright agrees, and would like to see UM-St. Louis become a nationally recognized Merit school.

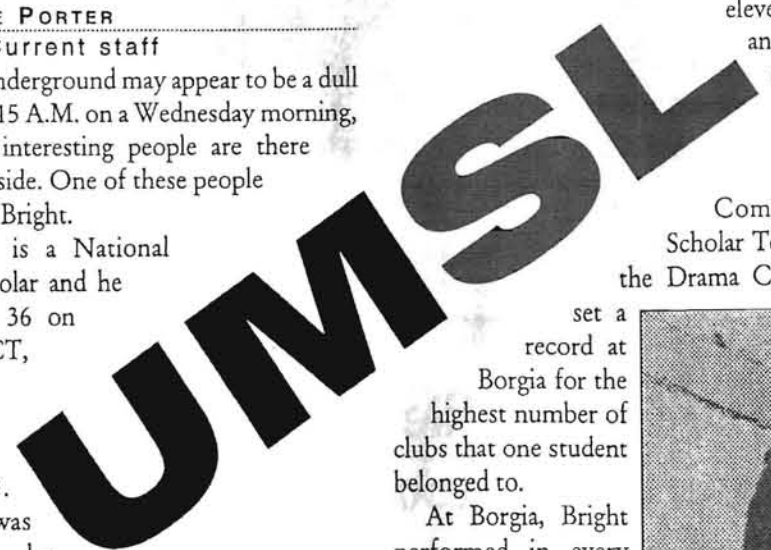
"[It is] something I would not only enjoy seeing come to provision, but I'd be happy to do anything I could to make it happen," Bright said.

Bright spent his childhood in Washington, Mo. His father and step-mother, Chuck and Sue Bright still live there with his younger sister, Caitlin. His father is an English teacher and his step-mother is a band director, both at Borgia. His step-mother has influenced his musical development. Bright has played the oboe since sixth grade and the saxophone for about three years.

Bright returns home to visit his sister, Caitlin, almost every weekend. He likes to think that he has major influence in her life.

"I take her to the park a lot and she likes that, and the movies, although not [too] many movies for a four-year-old," Bright said.

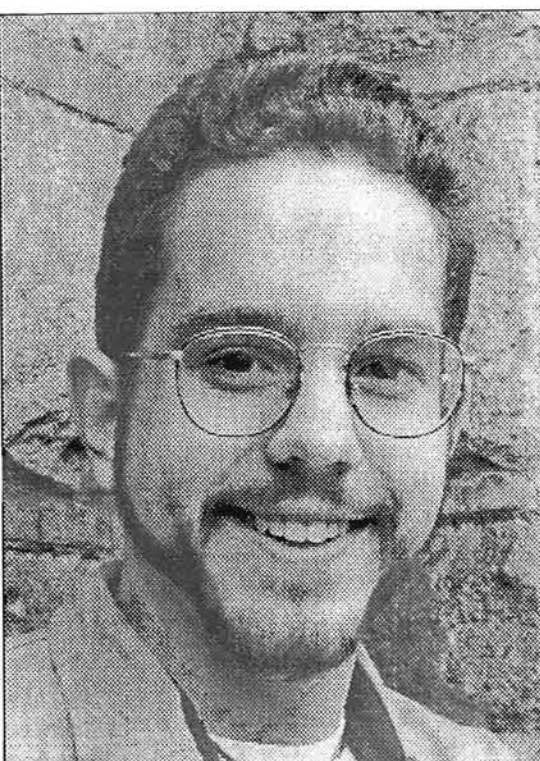
There is a 14-year difference between Bright and his sister as Bright concluded when he said, "The only thing I do not like is that she watches Barney."



Harvard

Yale

M.I.T



Bright

# UNDER CURRENT

compiled by Stephanie Platt/staff photographer

## If you met the president, what would you ask him?

- "Are you ever able to escape your job for a time? If so, what do you think about/occupy yourself with?"

-Andrew Strong  
Sophomore/Mechanical Engineering
- "Why do we have to pay for secondary education?"

-Dante Jones  
Sophomore/Communications
- "Was it worth it?"

-Leslie Fox  
Junior/Communications
- "Why don't you just resign and get this over with and the country can get back to normal?"

-Ruth A. Maassen  
Art History/Research Asst.
- "So Bill, what are you going to do after you get impeached?"

-Tom Fischer  
Business

# Haunted Houses are Halloween tradition

BY BRENDA GUYNES  
special to the Current

The regular baseball season is over, football is beginning; it is getting colder outside and the leaves are starting to change colors. These are all sure signs of fall. Another sure sign of fall is the Halloween decorations all over stores and Halloween candy everywhere. With the beginning of fall it is clear that Halloween is finally coming.

Halloween is one of my favorite times of year. It is fun for children and adults alike. Kids go out and panhandle from their neighbors for the biggest sugar high all year. Adults get to dress up and try to scare the pants off their friends.

The ultimate Halloween experience is to go to a haunted house, so I decided to go to one for the first time since I graduated from high school.

Haunted houses have sure changed. I went to The Darkness Haunted Theme Park in Soulard. It is located at 1535 S. 8th Street, next to the Farmers' Market. On the way there, I wondered if haunted houses would be fun for anyone old enough to vote, or if they were just for adolescents. The Darkness Theme Park did not let me down.

Larry Kirchner is the president of Halloween Productions.

"The Darkness is the biggest indoor haunted attraction in the country," Kirchner said. "We have 50,000 square feet of interactive experiences all in one place."

The Darkness has a large entertainment area with scary-oke to put everyone in the mood for a scare. They have a gory 13-hole miniature golf course. There is a movie theater showing scary movies. The ghouls sell refreshments and there are places to get a picture taken with a creepy creature. But the best part, besides the haunted house, was the Horror Movie Memorabilia Museum. It had great props and recreations from some of the most famous horror movies. The museum is a must-see.

After examining the waiting area, I went into the haunted house and screamed my head off until I was hoarse. I was impressed with the amount of effort that has been put into this house of terror. It was elaborate and detailed, as well as being frightening. It was an adult Halloween attraction.

The haunted house is by far the main attraction. They had lots of scary robots, ghosts and ghouls prowling around. They had great effects using lighting and fog machines. They had halls and halls of recreations of movies, creepy creatures, and scary stuff. There is even a new section with the theme of "Escape of New York" where visitors can experience an abandoned subway, vortex tunnel, Gothic underground nightclub and the most frightful subway ride of your life. I could not believe that we weaved and walked around as much as we did. It took at least half an hour for the haunted house itself, and it was well worth the trip.

Halloween Productions also has two other sites to visit for a scare. SILO-X is a nuclear test site gone horribly wrong. It is located at 141 and 44 at Valley Park. Terror Visions-3D is the World's largest three-dimensional haunted attraction. It is downtown at 19th and Washington.

The Darkness is open from 7:00p.m. to 11:00p.m. weekdays and from 6:00p.m. to 1:00a.m. weekends, as are the other Halloween Production's haunted attractions. To get information about any of the Halloween Production's freaky family of fright attractions call (314) 631-8000.

So go and have a good time at a haunted house this year, and remember to watch your back.

## CD Review

### '80's survivors create a masterpiece

**Alternative**  
**Beastie Boys**  
**Hello Nasty (Grand Royal)**

The evolution of the Beastie Boys can be summed up in very few words. They were meant to be a joke.

In the mid '80's the Beastie's were young, wired, and crazy. When they put "Licensed to Ill" out in 1985 the group did the disc as a joke. No one expected anyone to relate to these guys let alone that they would soar to the heights they have today.

After 13 years in the rap game the famed Beastie Boys finally put together a disc that sounds like them. This disc is complicated without being smart, and stupid without being dumb. It is a masterpiece.

It took them four years to assemble the 22 tracks on the disc. It has been well worth the wait. "Three MC's and One DJ" is a track that exemplifies the discs great tracks. The song features one of the top DJ's in the world, Mix Master Mike of the Invisible Scratch Piklz. It has a very underground feel to the beat but the Beasties throw in a flavor of old school lyrics.

Everyone has heard the first single "Intergalactic" the track has overshadowed many other great songs that will never be heard by the mass public, unless they buy the disc. "Super Disco Breakin'" and "The Move" blew my mind on first listen and have grown to be two of my favorites.

Give this disc a shot, all the hype is worth it and you'll be better off for having listened to the best group to survive the '80's.

-Ken Dunkin



# Comments

**The Current**  
THE STUDENT VOICE OF UM-ST. LOUIS

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Editor in Chief

**Ashley Cook**  
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**Brian Douglas**  
News Editor

"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 edit letters for clarity, length and grammar. All letters must be signed and include a daytime telephone number.



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## OUR OPINION

## Board should approve Fine Arts Building extension

### The Issue:

A proposed new wing for the Fine Arts Building will go before the Curators this month.

### We Suggest:

The Curators should approve this project since its goal clearly meets the academic mission of the campus

### So what do you think?

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

A final decision is expected from the Board of Curators later this month on the proposed expansion of the Fine Arts Building. According to Dan Younger, assistant professor and BFA coordinator, the proposed extra wing for the building would allow more classroom space, more storage space and room for a new printmaking facility.

Younger said that UM-St. Louis is planning to offer a degree in printmaking by 1999 and has already pulled old equipment out of storage and begun teaching courses in the specialty this semester. The Art Department has already hired a master printmaker from the well-respected Tamarind Institute in New Mexico to spearhead the new program.

While disputes over an unrelated project, the Performing Arts Center, seem to have made any kind of campus expansion a controversial topic, we encourage the Curators to give final approval for this well-planned and much needed BFA addition. Many concerns over the Performing Arts Center have focused on whether it meets

the campus' academic needs. In contrast, the Fine Arts project has generated little discord because its scope and goals clearly suit the institution's academic mission and it's completion, expected by mid-1999, will benefit the campus as a whole by acting as a magnet for the attraction and retention of quality art faculty. It will also help expand UM-St. Louis' presence in the field, and make the campus more competitive with other institutions in the enrollment of new students.

The point that differentiates this project from more controversial ones is that its purpose is clearly an academic one geared toward providing more choices and a high quality learning experience for students.

While an institution's research mission is of no small importance, no campus can forget the real reason for its existence, the education and promotion of its students. Any proposal which meets those ends should be given primary attention by the powers that be.

## The Mercantile is your library, too

Have you ever wanted to read a narrative account of American Indians in captivity, or to look at an original illustrated book by John Audubon? How about having access to in-depth local history for your next report?

Something of great historic importance occurred recently on the UM-St. Louis campus - the most famous of the three remaining mercantile libraries in this country has moved into part of the main University library.

The St. Louis Mercantile Library is now open and waiting for students and faculty to make use of its interesting and varied collections.

The cultural and historical information available on this campus has just taken a giant leap forward, and students and faculty should take advantage of this resource to its fullest extent.

The library really does have some great facets, so don't be afraid to head down those stairs and explore. Marble statuary and comfortable lounge areas combine to create a peaceful museum-like atmosphere warmed by the presence of inviting items like popular reading material and a chess board.

The Curators are very hopeful that students will come to the library seeking material for projects, or just to browse. We encourage this campus to show them that UM-St. Louis is appreciative of this great cultural contribution by patronizing the library in impressive numbers.

The University is often plagued by a lack of student involvement, so make an effort to fight that image by making an appearance at the Mercantile Library.

## GUEST COMMENTARY

## Wanna Know A Secret?

I know a secret most of UM-St. Louis doesn't know. I know how to gain entrance into the glamorously catered dinners of the Ritz-Carlton. I know how to get invited for hors d'oeuvres at the Chancellor's residence. I know how to shake hands with politicians and smile at distinguished Alumni. I'm a woman about town and my job is very easy. In fact, the invitation to this prestigious honor was offered to me just for being a devoted UM-St. Louis student. What's my secret? I'm a Student Ambassador.

The Student Ambassador program is truly one of this campus' best kept secrets. I'm lucky I even found out about the program. The Guest Commentator opportunity came to me rather accidentally. I was walking around at the EXPO last year and someone handed me an application. I was new to the university and eager to join an organization. I am so glad I did. The Ambassador program has rewarded me richly. Not just with great opportunities, but with great experience. I have a particular affinity for public relations as a result of my membership in the organization. I have gained more confidence with my communication abilities and I feel particularly honored to be looked upon as a representative of UM-St. Louis. The program isn't based on the student being catered to. It's based on the student catering to those in attendance at events hosted by the University. Ambassadors must show professional demeanor in terms of giving UM-SL a distinguished reputation. Ambassadors are truly representatives of UM-SL, and as such, we are counted



STEFANIE ELLIS

on to put our best foot forward. Our main duty is to meet and greet guests for various events on and off campus. Jobs entail such things as directing guests to the proper place, handing out programs and basically making ourselves presentable and approachable as liaisons to our school. The perks of the job come as a result of our assigned duty for the evening/afternoon. When we've finished our duties, we are invited to take part in whatever event we're hosting. If we sign up to host a dinner at the Ritz, we get to eat dinner as a benefit. Ambassadors are required to commit to two events per semester and events usually require 1-2 hours of time. This is not a particularly demanding schedule, especially for those who work and go to school.

In my opinion, being a Student Ambassador is very rewarding and offers many benefits. I particularly like the opportunities for interaction with prominent citizens such as politicians and Alumni. This advantage may be especially helpful for those pursuing business or other related careers. I'm an English major, and I do it not only for the great experience and public relations practice, but for the fun. I love being a Student Ambassador. This is a great opportunity no matter your major. If you're looking for a chance to be involved on campus and show your pride at being a UM-St. Louisan, here's your big chance. You can join at any time during the school year. Contact Nicole Ambos in University Relations @ 516-5446 for information or an interview. Good Luck!

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Credit where credit is due

I join the Current in applauding offering Latin courses but wish to correct what seriously misrepresents my actions as Dean.

I did not permanently cut Latin courses in May 1997 but instead decided, in consultation with the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, to delay starting another Latin 1/2/101 sequence until Fall 1999 so that the critical mass of students (12-15) would exist. Latin 101 was offered in 1998-1999 so that those students who had started the sequence in Fall 1997 could complete it.

In short, the decision to have Latin 1 in 1998 was made by me in May 1997. It was known then that Latin was not being eliminated.

On a historical note, one of my first decisions upon becoming Dean in 1983 was to reintroduce the Latin sequence. I believe then, as I do now, that it should be available for UM-St. Louis students.

**-Terry Jones**  
Professor of Political Science

## Spring before March

It may be a little early to start being concerned about this, but I was just wondering why our glorious institute of higher education continuously finds it necessary to segregate us from the rest of the college students in the U.S. by making our Spring Break so early. This year they have decided to not even wait until March actually begins. Are they worried that if we interact with students from other schools, where there actually is a campus social life, we will be out of our element and not know how to react? Or maybe they just don't really want us to see a true college party atmosphere so we never realize what we are missing.

**-Ryan Kolkovich**

## Food you need a calculator for

I have to admit that I'm not watching my weight the way that I used to. It's not the exercise that bothers me or the special low-flavor diet. Actually it's just too difficult to do the math when calorie counting. Take microwave popcorn labels for instance.

According to its label, Pop Secret's butter-flavor Jumbo Pop has 170 calories per serving, while Orville Redenbacher's RedenBudders (isn't that cute?) also contains 170 calories per serving, so they're the same right?

Wrong. The key words here are "per serving." A "serving" is defined as an unreasonably tiny amount of food that you would never think of serving anyone. For Pop Secret a serving is three tablespoons while Orville measures his servings in two-tablespoon increments and since both come in 21 oz. packs of six bags each obviously RedenBudders contains more calories.

Well, not exactly. A closer reading reveals that two tablespoons of RedenBudders (I just love that name!) weighs 35 grams while three tablespoons of Pop Secret weighs 36 grams, making me believe that Orville's kernels are slightly heavier. So maybe RedenBudders aren't so calorie-filled after all.

Except that to get totals for the entire bag, you have to multiply by three, the number of servings in the bag, to get 510, not 170.

But before you start popping, the label throws you another curve. All of these figures are for a serving of corn as packaged, that is unpopped, so unless you grow a beak and decide to peck at your food you'll need to read the part of the label that gives you popped totals. For Pop Secret that's 40 calories while for RedenBudders it's 30 calories per one cup popped. Multiply by three to get 120 and 90 respectively. Gee, it sure seems mysterious to have lost so much in the popping process to go from 510 to 120 or 90 in only a few minutes.

It seems mysterious at least until you look at the fine print and realize that while unpopped portions are measured in serving sizes, computed in grams or tablespoons, popped portions are figured in cups, not serving sizes (or grams or tablespoons.) Pop Secret helpfully informs you that its bags, measured (why not?) in ounces, contain three servings of popped corn and each serving of two tablespoons or 35 grams yields 3.5 cups of popped corn. So 40 times 3.5 equals 140 times three which equals 420 total calories in a 3.5-ounce bag of popped corn, as opposed to RedenBudders which makes four, not 3.5, cups of popped corn in it's 3.5 ounce bag and makes you multiply 30, not 40, calories times four (the number of cups) times three (the number of servings) for a total of 360 calories per bag, which proves that RedenBudders has as many calories in its 6 tablespoons (115 grams) of unpopped corn as Pop Secret has in 8 tablespoons (108 grams) of unpopped corn. Or maybe not.

You figure it out. I'm going out for chips.

DAVID BAUGHER

Editor-in-Chief

## Campus crosswalks always an adventure

Every weekday at some point during the day, I take life and limb in hand to perform a daredevil stunt - I use the crosswalk at Benton and University, just past the main campus entrance.

Now, you might think that crossing the street is a relatively simple operation; check for a car from the left, check the right, check the left again quickly and go.

Not so on our campus. Here, you check the left, step into the crosswalk, wait for the two cars to pass who moved after seeing your foot in the crosswalk, then check the right, then check the left again. Now, walking across as quickly as possible, while trying to look ahead so you don't crash into another terrified pedestrian, scurry across, ever mindful of the fact that a student who has left himself two minutes to find a parking space and sprint to class and could care less about your safety will be roaring through at any moment the space your body presently occupies.

I'm not the only target of this daily automotive aggression, as I have heard numerous people from fellow offemates to classmates describe their personal duels with crosswalk-careening cars.

I was under the impression that once having entered the crosswalk, the pedestrian was to be given the right-of-way. Instead, pedestrians attempting to cross legally get into a dangerous game of Frogger, likely to be squashed at any moment.

Hurried students are not the only ones who make this perilous crossing a daily endurance test; last week while in the center of the crosswalk, I had to hurry to get out of the way for an administrator who didn't want to wait for me to reach the safety of the curb before joining the flow of traffic.

St. Louis has seen its share of road rage in the headlines recently. To avoid a tragedy on this campus, I suggest pedestrians and drivers work together. We pedestrians will try to speed up if you drivers will attempt to slow down.



ASHLEY COOK

Managing Editor



## SPORTS

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## Latest Scoop

## Braves can't handle upstart Padre team

The baseball regular season is already over, but the playoffs have just begun. The McGwire mania is over and now our attention has moved on to seeing whether or not the Atlanta Braves will blow another World Series.

Do not get me wrong, I like the Braves and their outstanding pitching staff, but I am just getting sick and tired of seeing the Braves going to the World Series and losing once again time after time. I mean, look at even the fan support that the Braves have presently. They are amidst a huge playoff series and Turner Field is not even sold out. How pathetic is that?

The Braves have a barrage of top-of-the-line players in their lineup, but are choke artists when it comes to the big time.

Andres Galarraga, Chipper Jones and Andruw Jones strike terror into the hearts of many opponents, but not this year.

The San Diego Padres are not a team to be taken lightly. Everyone has overlooked the Padres and have assumed that the Braves will face the Yankees in the World Series.

To those who believe this, I say "YOU ARE WRONG." The Padres have a lineup that consists of Tony Gwynn, a player who has been one of the most consistent .300 hitters in this era, Greg Vaughn, who led the team in homeruns and do not overlook first baseman Wally Joyner. This man has been around in the league for what seems to be an eternity, but he is still a large threat to the Braves dominating pitching staff.

Oh, did I forget to mention that the Padres staff has dominated the National League this year.

Pitchers like the strikeout king Kevin Brown, a player whom the Cardinals should have signed and now regret it, Sterling Hitchcock who has improved and pitched well in the playoffs so far and Andy Ashby who dominated the Braves in the first game of the NLCS. They are not pitchers who should go unmentioned.

The main reason though that I want the Padres to emerge victorious is for the sake of Tony Gwynn.

Gwynn is a role-model in my eyes. He could be like Albert Belle and create a mess for the media to convulse upon, but he remains quiet. He goes about his business day in and day out with the intention to be the best. He is not a hotdog, rather he is just an All-Star who is people friendly. He does not complain when he is in a slump or the Padres are playing terrible, he just keeps working and perfecting his swing and adjusts.

I just would like to see a World Series ring on Gwynn's finger. He has done nothing but positive stuff for Major League Baseball and deserves it more than anyone.

So when the choke-artist Atlanta Braves lose to the up-and-coming San Diego Padres, just be happy because a new team and a good player is moving on to the World Series to better represent the National League.

DAVE KINWORTHY  
Sports Associate

## Riverwomen go 2-1 in conference play

BY DAVE KINWORTHY AND KEN DUNKIN  
of the Current staff

Coming off the loss to Rockhurst, the Riverwomen's soccer team has won two of three in conference play and boosted their record to 5-7 overall.

UM-St. Louis faced Bellarmine in its first game and emerged victorious in overtime 2-1.

In the first half, the Riverwomen jumped out to an early lead on a Jennifer Terbrock goal.

Then in the second half, the Riverwomen allowed a goal that evened the score.

"We just ended up with a mental breakdown and that led to the first goal," Head Coach Beth Goetz said.

Towards the end of the second half, Wendy Holland received a red card and the Riverwomen played a player short for the rest of the game. The card was issued when Holland, playing sweeper at the time, tackled a player from Bellarmine as she was on a breakaway.

The Riverwomen did not hold back though in overtime. The decisive goal was scored by Cory Chik on a one-timer from a cross.

Overall, Goetz believed her team played well. "We pretty much dominated the game," Goetz said. "We had trouble finishing and one goal is enough to get the other team back in the game."

UM-St. Louis then traveled to Kentucky-Wesleyan and emerged victorious 6-0 with Sam Grashoff posting the shutout.

Carrie Marino had a big offensive game as she

posted two goals along with two assists. The other goals were scored by Julie Reiter, Lynn Lueddecke and Sarah Kalish added two of her own.

The Riverwomen jumped out to an early lead as they scored two goals in the first ten minutes of play.

Goetz was pleased with the number of goals the Riverwomen scored and hopes that it is a sign of things to come.

"We built some confidence and it allowed us to score more than just two goals," Goetz said. "We concentrated in the second half on getting better control of the ball towards the lines and had good opportunities with two of our goals coming off of headers."

Up next for the Riverwomen was the challenge of taking on heated rival SIU-Edwardsville.

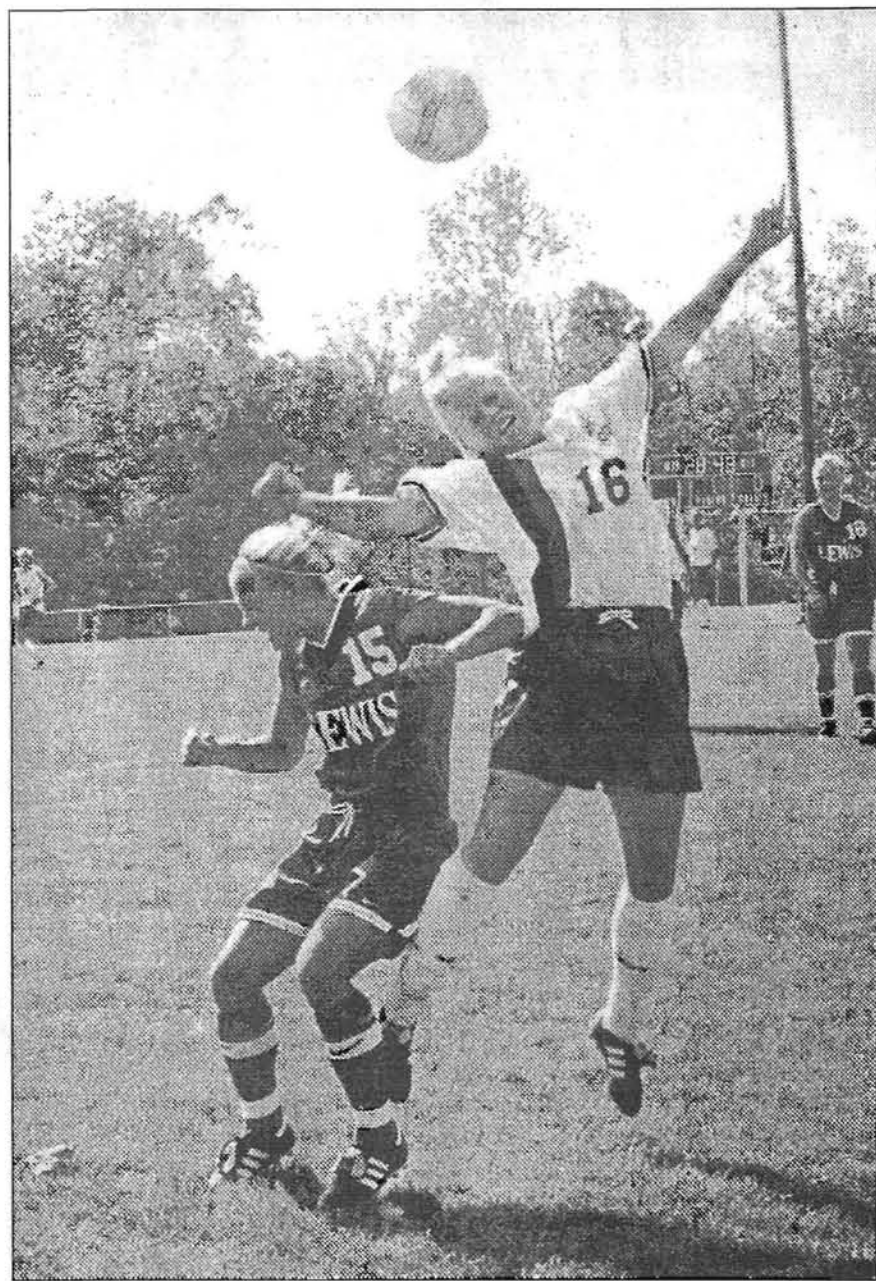
The Riverwomen took one on the chin as they lost to SIU-Edwardsville 3-1 Saturday.

Edwardsville came into the battle with a near perfect 4-0-1 record. The Riverwomen gave them a tough battle. The Riverwomen played them well for most of the game allowing a late goal to seal the victory for the Cougars.

Head Coach Beth Goetz said the team needs to improve on their play early in the game. That would have made the difference.

"I'm not disappointed at the way the team played in the second half. They need to come out that same way early," Goetz said.

The Riverwomen's goal was scored by Sarah Kalish with an assist from Carrie Marino.



Stephanie Platt/The Current

UM-St. Louis' Jennifer Terbrock heads a ball in a game against Lewis.

## Panama makes a difference with Riverwomen

BY JOE HARRIS  
of the Current staff

Adjusting to a new team is difficult for any athlete, but try adjusting to a new country and culture at the same time. That's what Yorhena Panama did.

Despite language barriers and being thousands of miles away from her home in Samoa, newcomer Panama has emerged as an impact player on the Riverwomen volleyball team.

Panama has 93 kills this year and is second on the team with 2.11 kills per game. Her .304 hitting percentage is also second best on the Riverwomen.

"I had to adjust to my new teammates and seeing a new coaching style," Panama said.

Panama took the scenic route to UM-St. Louis from Samoa, with a stop at Eastern Central College in Union, Missouri.

"At Eastern Central there was only one coach for 13 girls and that's not enough," Panama said. "Here [at UM-St. Louis] there are two coaches and two more helpers so you get more one-on-one instruction."

That instruction has helped Panama to become one of the Riverwomen's best blockers and top offensive threats.

"I think she's a natural blocker at the net, that was one of the reasons we recruited her," Head Coach Denise Silvester said. "We felt she would have a big impact in that



Panama

area [up front]."

Panama has made an impact up front with eight solo blocks and 17 block assists this season.

Riverwomen Assistant Coach Eric Kaseorg was instrumental in not only bringing Panama to UM-St. Louis, but for helping her develop into the player she is now.

"He [Eric] does a tremendous amount of recruiting," Silvester said. "He's a great judge of talent and he has had a big part of working with Yorhena and developing her."

Along the way Panama has had to make a few adjustments not only in her game, but in her way of life.

"In Samoa, everybody knows their neighbors and it's a culture based on respect for one another," Panama said. "In America, it is a culture based on themselves. There is less trust. Nobody talks to strangers."

There were other adjustments on the court as well.

"The intensity here is much higher than in Samoa," Panama said. "Here it is 'winning is everything.' In Samoa nobody really cares who wins and loses. They just care whether or not you played hard."

Panama has also had to adjust to practice lengths. In Samoa, practices last only for an hour and were not intense. In America, practices can be four hours of intense work.

Panama has made all of the necessary adjustments so far and looks to finish the season on a high note, hopefully with a high finish in conference.

"We have to keep the momentum of winning going," Panama said. "I am still adjusting to my teammates, but we are looking to get there together."

## UM-St. Louis takes 1-1 split

BY JOE HARRIS  
of the Current staff

The Riverwomen volleyball team split two crucial conference games this week with a win over Saint Joseph's and a loss to IUPUI-Fort Wayne.

The Riverwomen cruised through the first game against Saint Joseph's winning 15-4. The momentum carried over to the next two games which were won 15-10 and 15-13 respectively.

Susan Kleinschultz and Yorhena Panama led the Riverwomen in hitting percentage with a .444 and a .667 respectively. Holly Zrout added ten kills and Leslie Armstrong had a remarkable 32 of the team's 38 sets in the winning effort.

"Saint Joe's we nicknamed the 'Pesky Pumas,'" Head Coach Denise Silvester said. "They are a very good defensive team and they have a lot of variety on offense. It was a tough match and the scores indicate that."

The win was also impressive considering two of the top Riverwomen players, Kristen Brugnara and Susan Claggett, were out due to injury and Panama was limited to only one game due to illness.

Brugnara sprained her ankle the previous week. The ankle's getting better but it has limited her mobility and she was used as a defensive specialist. Claggett's injury is more serious, however. She has to shut down completely for two weeks due to a shoulder injury.

"It's a loose shoulder and a rotator cuff problem," Silvester said. "We're going to try to get her through the season and then reevaluate it in terms of possible surgery in the off-season."

Saturday night's game against IUPUI-Fort Wayne wasn't as kind to the Riverwomen. They fell in three straight games 15-13, 15-9, and 15-10. Nicole Wall had 14 digs and Brugnara added ten digs in the loss. Wall had 24 total digs this past week and is among the Great Lakes Valley Conference leaders in digs per game.

"You can't always contribute in all areas, but [Wall is] making a big contribution in the back court," Silvester said.

Armstrong had all 32 sets for the Riverwomen.

"We played very well against Fort Wayne and they are one of the top teams not only in conference but in the region," Silvester said. "We had very big leads in games one and three but we were not able to close it out."

Silvester attributes the squandered leads mostly to inexperience, but a little bit to the team's not believing that they could win the match.

"What we now have to do in practice is work on games where we are ahead and don't give up leads or at the end of games when the score is very close try to close it out," Silvester said. "It's a matter of learning how to do it and believing you can. They have to have confidence and believe that they can do it."

The Riverwomen are off this week and do not return to action until Saturday, October 17 against Quincy. The match is pivotal to the Riverwomen's success in conference this year. It will also be alumni and family day for the Riverwomen. An alumni reception will be held after the match at Mark Twain Gymnasium.

## Rivermen's record moves to 7-5

BY KEN DUNKIN  
staff editor

The men's soccer team had been aiming towards their battle with SIU-Edwardsville since the schedule had been made. Saturday they rolled over the Cougars 2-0.

The Rivermen took the long-standing battle between the two rival teams with a solid team effort.

"There were some really great performances today," Riverman head coach Tom Redmond said. "We started slow but really got it going later in the game."

Part of the team's success came from the

play of goaltender Kevin McCarthy. He made many saves to keep the team in the game.

"Kevin really played great," Redmond said. "We came in from the half at 0-0, it probably shouldn't have been that close. Kevin made the difference."

Redmond's biggest praise came for the other McCarthy, Kevin's older brother Greg.

"More than anyone else Greg made a huge difference," Redmond said. "We put him in with four minutes to go in the first half and he worked his way into more play-

ing time."

With the added playing time Greg McCarthy got the ball to Joe Stdko for the first goal of the game. The second goal came on a penalty kick by Scott Luczak.

"This was a huge victory. We knew going into the game that it was going to be tough. They may have a 3-8 record but they are a better team than it indicates," Redmond said.

The Rivermen improved to 7-5 overall and 6-1 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference.

## Sports Analysis

## 'The Quiz' will always be remembered

The world was silent on Sept. 30 when Dan Quisenberry died of a brain tumor that had lingered on for nearly six months.

Quisenberry was noted for his awkward pitching style while he was one of the game's superior closers. He competed against the best there ever was and the best there ever will be.

Quisenberry began his pro career as a man who studied the game of baseball and later perfected the role of what a "closer" should be.

"The Quiz" as people called him, helped the Kansas City Royals defeat the St. Louis Cardinals in the 1985 World Series.

His brilliance on and off the field was nothing short of a mira-

cle. His valiant efforts when the game was on the line, when he had to shut down a deadly power hitter, or even his battling the brain tumor down to the very end showed the competitive spirit that Quisenberry exemplified.

Quisenberry eventually played for the Cardinals in the late 1980s with the likes of Willie McGee, Tom Brunansky, Ozzie Smith and Jose Oquendo.

We will never see "the Quiz" in action anymore, but the moments that he has bestowed in baseball lovers around the country will never be forgotten.

-Dave Kinworthy



CENTER, FROM PAGE 1

concerned about," Judd said.

Judd said it was his intention to persuade the Chancellor to seek middle ground on the issue.

"I don't believe any Chancellor would want to ignore a very clearly articulated preference if it was backed by a large proportion of the campus community," Judd said.

Don Driemeier, deputy to the Chancellor, rejected the idea of stopping to reconsider plans for the facility on the grounds that it would not benefit anyone to generate doubts as to whether the Center would be built while trying to raise private funds to support it.

Judd said it was worse to give legislators and potential donors the impression that the administration ignored campus sentiment

about the issue.

"Yes, I recognize, and anyone would recognize, that there would be some explaining to do in a redesign of the Center, but it's a course that's a lot better than proceeding on a project that has the potential to be divisive and to be done in an atmosphere of division and rancor," Judd said.

While Judd remained adamant in his position that the Center as currently conceived of was not appropriate to the campus, he said that if the Chancellor were willing to compromise in order to reach a consensus, he would support her.

"When and if the Chancellor asserts that kind of leadership, I'm on board . . ." Judd said.

MAIL, FROM PAGE 1

should be posted for union members next week and then opened to the general public the week thereafter. Woolley said that before the new position had been created, there was no one else to fill in when the supervisor was absent. He said this had caused the supervisor to put in lots of hours, and made vacation time problematic.

Woolley said that Mail Services did not wish to be put in that position again.

"We learn from mistakes," Woolley said.

Dennis Judd, professor of political science, criticized the administration's handling of the situation. At Tuesday's senate meeting, he said that "having one full time employee in the mailroom . . . was an accident waiting to happen."

Schuster was also asked at the senate meeting about the amount of time he allowed to elapse before he notified the campus of the problem and the delays in service.

"Well, as always, I do not tend to notify the campus if I think I can rectify [the problem] in a prescribed timely method, and as of

the fourth, I knew there were problems — again I had no complaints prior to that and so I did seek backup, but nothing really alarmed me at that time."

Schuster said he issued a memo Sept. 17 in response to the complaints.

**Pulliam**  
Pulliam Journalism Fellowships

Graduating college seniors are invited to apply for the 26th annual Pulliam Journalism Fellowships. We will grant 10-week summer internships to 20 journalism or liberal arts majors in the August 1998-June 1999 graduating classes.

Previous internship or part-time experience at a newspaper is desired. Winners will receive a \$5,250 stipend and will work at either *The Indianapolis Star* or *The Indianapolis News* or *The Arizona Republic*.

Early-admissions application postmark deadline is Nov. 15, 1998. By Dec. 15, 1998, up to five early-admissions winners will be notified. All other entries must be postmarked by March 1, 1999.

To request an application packet, write: Russell B. Pulliam, Fellowships Director, The Indianapolis News, P.O. Box 145, Indianapolis, IN 46206-0145

Web site: [www.starnews.com/pjf](http://www.starnews.com/pjf)  
E-mail: [pulliam@starnews.com](mailto:pulliam@starnews.com)

MERCANTILE, FROM PAGE 1

"That's our first and foremost goal."

Hoover said that the library has several areas of interest, including both rare books that require special handling, and an easily accessible browsing section.

"I envision students studying and finding a good quiet place to study for a paper, but also [coming] to learn about the collections and work with us, and asking what these collections might mean for a paper. . . they're circulateable, and we just really hope that people will bring them to life again that way," Hoover said.

The Mercantile Library houses several collections, including the John W. Barriger III National Railroad Library, the Herman T. Pott National Inland Waterways Library, clippings and photo files of the St. Louis Globe Democrat, plus the core collection in various subject areas. The primary focus of the library's material is Western Americana, but there is a lot of information on other topics such as natural history, social sciences, and St. Louis history. Culturally historic information available at the Mercantile Library includes information on slavery and abolition, and archeology and captivity narratives of Native Americans.

Level one of the library includes a

gallery which is currently showcasing an introductory exhibition entitled "The Cultural Cornerstone: 1846-1998," which portrays the growth of the library's collections.

Hoover said that they planned to bring several exhibitions to the gallery, which was designed to accommodate large-format pieces.

"We'll be bringing exhibitions to the floor on anything from American literary topics such as Indian captivity literature. . . to almanacs. . . and maps," Hoover said.

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see Mercantile, page 8

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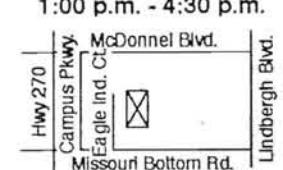
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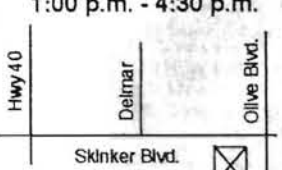
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# MERCANTILE, FROM PAGE 6

materials with students.

"Those are cloistered books and I felt very adamant that we could at least have a gallery wrapping around the vault so that people could periodically see what's in there through a window," Hoover said.

According to Hoover, the library will continue work on the automation, or "retrospective conversion," of the library's materials into an electronic catalog, and that getting the browseable books cataloged will take about a year or more.

"Where the book stock is, [we expect] too have 100 percent of that within that timeline. . .we'll depend on the card catalogs as our backup throughout this period," Hoover said. "We'll be working simultaneously and subsequently on the rare book catalog."

Hoover said that he hoped that students with projects in humanities would stop by and talk to curators to see what's available.

"I'm hoping that. . .they'll not be shy and come right in and talk to the curators about research needs," Hoover said. "Those books in the vault are not just for the rarefied scholar in London, but for the campus right now, in undergraduate and graduate studies."

The library's images are on a database currently searchable only by in-house staff.

Hoover said that his goal was to eventually make the database available for patrons during library visits.

"My goal is to have totally dedicated terminals for that here, just as you would browse a catalog. . .to let it be so user-friendly that a person could look through those pictures on their own," Hoover said.

Hoover said that although the library's space was cramped, that they had maximized the space through compact shelving. He said that the library wanted to be

able to add to its collections and continue in that space for a generation.

The university plans to expand the Mercantile Library in the future with a new wing.

In what Hoover calls "phase two," the library would use some of that space to recall the history of the old building downtown by recreating a reading room, complete with the original paneling, and even an original fireplace now in storage on campus.

"[The reading room] will be part of our art collection, because it would show how the library used to look," Hoover said.

Hoover said that he wanted to encourage students and faculty alike to stop by and talk to the curators about any of the library's material.

"All of that is the students' property. It's their library right down to the statues," Hoover said. "If the students understand that and know that, then I view them as part of the Mercantile family and they'll care for it just the way we've loved it ourselves."

Senior biology majors Joanne Rieff and Kirk Behymer were reading on a couch in one of the library's lounge areas, and found the atmosphere a welcome change.

"I like the artwork; it adds a little bit of culture, and it's very quiet," Rieff said.

"It's a nice alternative to the desks and tables upstairs," Behymer said.

Hoover said that the library has open lounge areas, with 40 seats and some table space in the atrium, and more tables were expected soon.

Hoover said that the library would have the same hours as the Thomas Jefferson Library, with more staff available during peak hours.

## CD Review

# Local H tries a grunge revival

**Local H**  
**Pack up the Cats**  
**Alt-rock, Island records**

Grunge may be dead, but it lives on in countless variations. Local H's third effort, "Pack up the Cats," is a variation of grunge, but still has a sort of charm instilled in it. Local H is a suburban Illinois band that formed in 1995 wanting to create their own sound within the grunge genre. That sound was stumbled upon when singer/guitarist Scott Lucas and drummer Joe Daniels couldn't find a bass player, so they went on without one.

While the two man band is a unique idea, it creates a somewhat limiting sound that Lucas attempts to make up for by playing a guitar with two bass strings attached. With this addition, he can play simplified bass lines and guitar riffs simultaneously.

Just as the lack of a bass player limits Lucas, Daniels shines with the extra attention pointed

his way. Local H creates some of the most impressive drum parts in recent history, which saves them from some of their shortcomings.

Even with these faults, "Pack up the Cats" is a worthy effort, with more than a few good songs. Engineer Nick Didia might be accountable for some of the emotional and angst-hidden feel, as he has worked with Pearl Jam and Rage Against the Machine in the past.


One notable improvement from their last efforts is the newfound songwriting quality not present on 1996's "As Good as Dead." The lyrics are worth listening to on the majority of the 15 songs, yet still retain the catchy feel that Local H cherishes.


Overall, the CD is worth buying, but if you are particularly low on cash, save the money to check out Local H in concert the next time they are in town, and experience one heck of a live show.

-Cory Blackwood

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