

University of Missouri, St. Louis

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Current (2000s)

Student Newspapers

2-19-2007

Current, February 19, 2007

University of Missouri-St. Louis

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The Current

February 19,
2007

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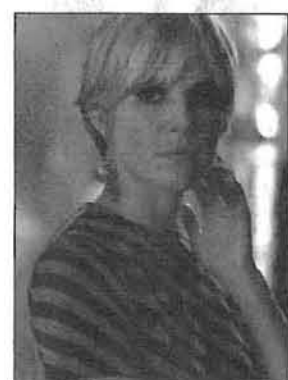
INSIDE



Exploring Black History Month

The Current takes a look at Black History Month and the figures that will be celebrated.

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'Factory Girl' falters despite all-star cast

Sienna Miller, Hayden Christensen, Guy Pierce and Jimmy Fallon star in the Andy Warhol biopic.

See page 8

Riverwomen come up short at final home games

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Oscar Predictions

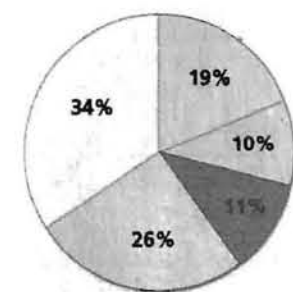
Check out The Current's predictions of the 2007 Academy Award winners.

The Current

ONLINE.COM

Web poll results:

Did you get what you wanted for Valentine's Day?



Yes, I got exactly what I wanted.

Pretty much, it's the thought that counts.

Not really, they were struggling this year.

No, and I now hate all men/women.

I don't celebrate the Hallmark holidays...conformist.

This week's question

What movie should have been nominated for Best Picture?

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Coach Buchanan resigns from women's basketball

Women's head coach resigns citing 'irreconcilable differences' with athletics director as reason

BY MELISSA S. HAYDEN

Managing Editor

Lee Buchanan resigned as head coach for UM-St. Louis' women's basketball team, according to an e-mailed statement sent last Friday from Bob Samples, director of university communications.

Buchanan had been placed on administrative leave Dec. 12, 2006. During this leave, allegations that had been brought to the attention of members of the Athletics Department and forwarded to Curt Coonrod, vice provost of student affairs, were under investigation by the Office of Equal Opportunity.

This investigation was not named

as the reason for Buchanan's decision to leave his position at the University.

"Coach Buchanan resigned from the head coaching position of the UMSL women's basketball team due to an irreconcilable difference of opinion between the athletic director [Pat Dolan] and Coach Buchanan over the direction of the women's basketball program," Samples said.

Dolan said Sheila Hering, interim head coach for women's basketball, will remain coaching the team until a replacement for Buchanan has been found. Hering, who was hired in August 2006, was formerly the assistant coach for women's basketball.

Dolan said as soon as the university's Human Resources Department approves of the hiring process for a

new head coach for the team, "our search will begin."

The search for a new coach could begin as early as Monday Feb. 19, but Dolan said the official start date for the hiring process "is up to HR."

According to Dolan, Hering said she was not interested in applying for the position of head coach. Hering was not available for comment regarding this decision.

Dolan said she was excited to begin the hiring process.



Lee Buchanan

Quick Read

Lee Buchanan has announced his resignation as head coach of the women's basketball team. Assistant Coach Sheila Hering will remain as interim head coach until a replacement for Buchanan is found.

"It is always exciting to hire new people." She said new hires bring "a lot of energy" and "a lot of enthusiasm" to the campus. "Sometimes we all need a bit of that," she said.

Buchanan was hired in August 2003 as the head coach at UM-St. Louis. He has been coaching collegiate basketball for 18 years. Buchanan was hired in with hopes of

bringing his past winning experience to UM-St. Louis' basketball program, according to a statement on the university's sports Web site at umsl-sports.com.

Buchanan replaced Shelley Ethridge, who resigned in June 2003, according to the statement, "to pursue other career opportunities." Buchanan was the ninth coach hired in the history of the women's basketball program.

"During the time Coach Buchanan was with the University, he implemented many good programs that benefited the women's basketball program and those programs will continue to be a good basis on which this program may continue to improve and progress," Samples said.

HIT ME WITH YOUR BEST SHOT



Carrie Fasiska • Associate Photo Editor

Nate Kistner, junior, biology, aims at JoJo Bello, junior, undeclared before throwing a snowball at him outside The Nosh last Tuesday. Campus was closed Tuesday afternoon due to poor weather conditions.

Stem cell bill jeopardizes funding for science labs

BY JASON GRANGER

News Editor

Criticism from Missouri pro-life groups has put the proposed sale of \$350 million in student loans in jeopardy.

The sale of the loans, held by the Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority, would go toward building projects for every public university and community college in Missouri.

Last week, a bill was introduced to remove any building project that could potentially house embryonic stem cell research, a move that has met with criticism from both Democrats and Republicans.

Republican Sen. Gary Nodler from Joplin has taken steps to get the billings included once again in the funding.

Groups led by Missouri Right to Life oppose the sale because they believe the money could indirectly fund embryonic stem cell research. At UM-St. Louis, the money would go towards renovations at Benton-Stadler Hall, as well as helping to fund the Center for Emerging Technologies, a scientific business incubator affiliated with the University.

See MOHELA, page 12

UM-Rolla's student paper budget cut

Newspaper threatens legal action against administration

BY ADAM D. WISEMAN & JASON GRANGER

Editor-in-Chief & News Editor

The leadership of the UM-Rolla student newspaper, *The Miner*, has decided to pursue legal action against that university for perceived first amendment violations.

The newspaper is claiming its budget was cut by Rolla's student council and its student budget committee over grammatical errors and editorial content and because *The Miner* printed too many papers.

The cut could be as high as \$13,069.66, or around one-third of the newspaper's budget, depending on enrollment.

Working with the Student Press Law Center, a pro bono legal firm that aids student media, the staff last week gave UM-Rolla and its chancellor, John Carney III, one week to come up with a solution. The deadline was Feb. 19.

University officials said they will not comment on pending legal action, but they released a statement saying they fully support the newspaper and the student council.

"Both *The Missouri Miner* and the UMR student council are important contributors to student life at UMR, and the UMR administration supports both organizations," the



statement reported. "In addition, UMR supports the principles that guide both the free student press and the representative form of student government. Neither the UMR administration nor student council has censored the content of *The Missouri Miner*."

The Miner Editor-in-Chief Christopher Stryker said the paper did not want to have to move forward with legal action, but at this

Quick Read

The *Miner* student newspaper at UM-Rolla is pursuing legal action against the university over alleged first amendment violations. The *Miner* had its budget slashed by nearly \$13,000.

point, it feels it is out of options.

"We haven't heard anything yet," Stryker said. "Hopefully they step up. Hopefully things roll forward [towards an amicable solution]."

The cut has forced the newspaper to scale back on expenditures, in an effort to save money. Before the cut, the newspaper, which is tabloid size, was printing between 24 and 28 pages per week. After the cut, the paper is down between 16 and 20 pages, and can no longer afford to print in color, unless an advertiser pays for the cost.

The Miner staff has not had to cut into staff pay as of yet.

One way or another, Stryker said the funding will be restored and *The Miner* will get back to the business of the news.

"Ultimately, the money will be reinstated," Stryker said. "If it comes down to a lawsuit, I am very confident."

See THE MINER, page 11

SGA election deadlines delayed

BY SARAH O'BRIEN

Assistant News Editor

Student Government Association announced Feb. 9 that the election process for 2007 would be delayed, due to a lack of forethought on behalf of the executive board.

The new dates for elections and campaigning are as follows: applications were due Feb. 16, while the filing period will begin March 5 and end on March 23.

Campaigning will begin April 2, with elections held on April 18 and 19.

At the last SGA meeting where this delay was announced, Thomas Helton, junior, political science, and vice president of SGA, as well as President Nick Koechig, battled criticisms from the SGA assembly that claimed the executives had not even read their own constitution.

"The election rules aren't a part of the constitution. They aren't even mentioned in the constitution," Helton said. "If it were in the constitution, it would have had to come in front of the assembly for approval."

The election rules are in place to ensure things run smoothly, and even without election rules, Helton and Koechig said, it is possible for SGA to still run elections.

The SGA elections are headed each year by an elections chair, who is in charge of the elections committee. This year's chair was elected two and a half months late, according to some assembly members.

Quick Read

UM-St. Louis' Student Government Association missed election deadlines for the second straight year. The executive committee is restructuring the constitution to change election dates.

Tanzeena "Taz" Hossain, senior, psychology, was chosen for the position during the fall 2006 semester.

"We all believed that Tanzeena was the person for the job, and we stick by that decision," Koechig said.

When the time for the original election dates approached, the executives realized that they were going to be late.

"We would have run into a problem running the elections on time because of committee members," Koechig said.

"Taz hadn't really been around," Helton said.

Koechig countered, saying the job does not really pick up until the second semester.

"Her job really doesn't entail all of that much in the first semester," Koechig said. "Her position is more geared towards the second semester."

After the meeting, the assembly decided to delay the due dates for election applications, and therefore all of the dates as specified in the election rules.

The election rules were also changed last year.

see ELECTIONS, page 3

CAMPUS CRIMELINE

The campus police were unable to access the computer containing crime reports used for the crimelime.

Anyone having information concerning these or any other incidents should contact the campus police at 516-5155.

CORRECTIONS

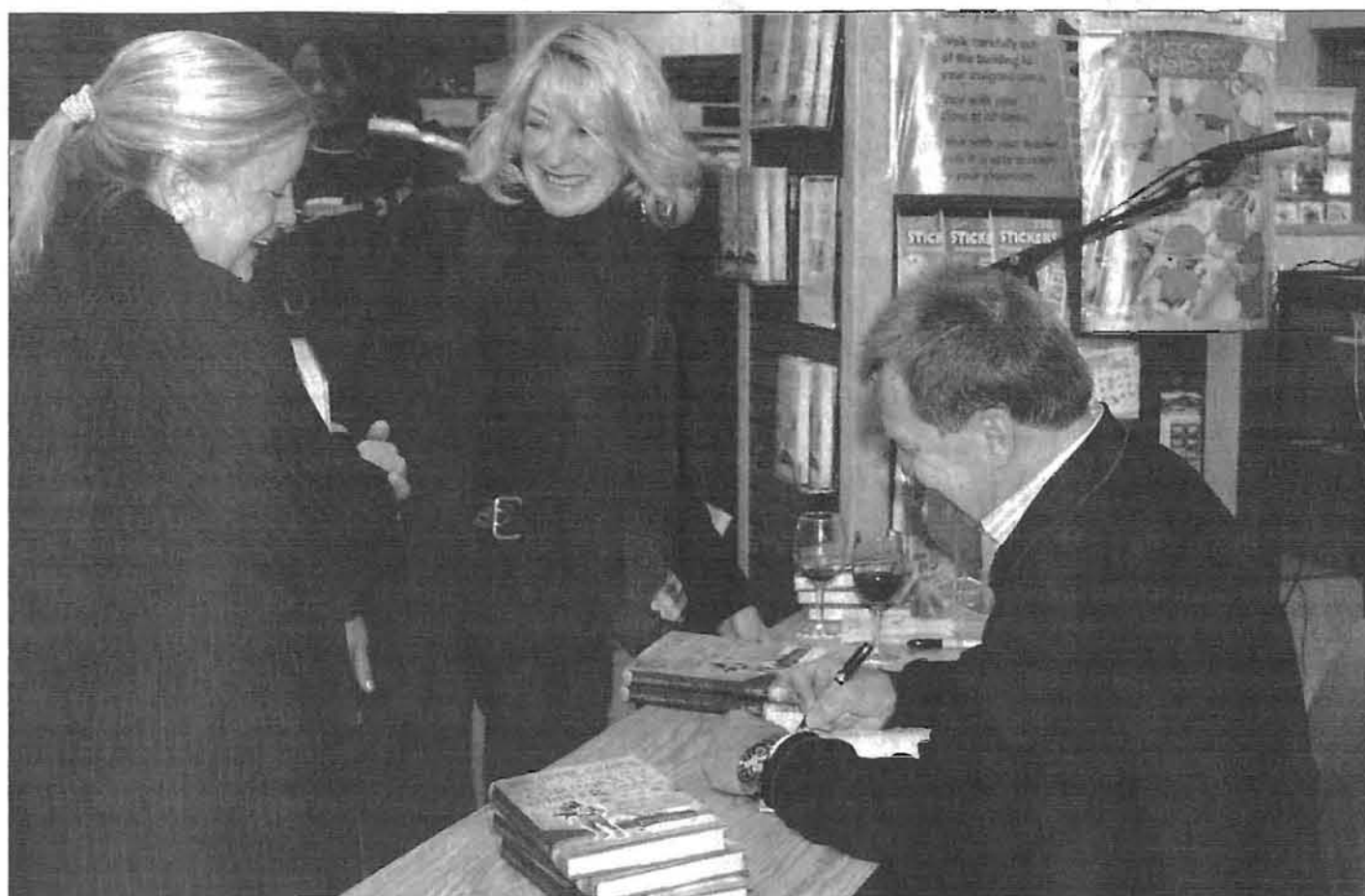
The Current regrets that sometimes in our making of this publication, we make mistakes. To report a correction, please contact The Current at 516-5174 or at thecurrent@umsl.edu.

In the Feb. 12 issue of The Current, the following corrections need to be made:

The article titled 'SGA pushes for more Metro pass support,' incorrectly stated Metro's student-discounted price for a pass. The pass costs \$125 per semester, not per month.

Also, in the article titled, 'Nicknames suggestions are in' the Web site for the Identity Project was incorrect. The correct address is <http://nickname.umsl.edu/>

LOVE AND PEACE FOR A HIPPY AUTHOR



Skip Yowell signs his new book, "Hippy Guide to Climbing the Corporate Ladder & Other Mountains," for Gloria Schultz, director of Auxiliary Services and Carol Wright at the bookstore last Thursday.

Angela Clouse • Staff Photographer

What's Current

Your weekly calendar of campus events

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Monday Noon Series

Artist Eric Post will display and discuss slides from his book of photographs "Ghost Town: While Saint Louis Sleeps" at 12:15 p.m. in 229 J.C. Penney Conference Center.

Light refreshments will be served. This event is free and open to the public. For more information call 5699.

Chemistry Colloquium

Ronald K. Castellano, assistant professor of chemistry at the University of Florida in Gainesville, will discuss "Unconventional Donor-Acceptor Architectures for Supramolecular Applications" at 4 p.m. in 451 Benton Hall.

Coffee will be served at 3:45 p.m. The colloquium is free and open to the public. Call 5311 for more information.

University of Iowa musicians to perform at UMSL

UM-St. Louis artist-in-residence Robert Meyer will be accompanied by the Matisse Trio from the University of Iowa in a performance at Touhill Performing Arts Center at 7:30 p.m.

This event is free and open to the public. The concert will feature works from Beethoven, Brahms and Gaspar Cassado. Meyer, who is a member of the Arianna String Quartet, will be playing the viola with the visiting students.

For further information call 4257.

Female artists submissions needed for Gallery Visio show

The Gallery Visio is hosting the 5th annual UMSL "Women on the Move" Exhibition and is currently looking for female UM-St. Louis students to enter artwork for this exhibition.

Original pieces will be accepted through Saturday, February 24, until 8 p.m. Entry forms are available at Gallery Visio. For more information contact Pat Johnson at 7922.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Businessman to discuss earnings tax at UMSL

Rex Sinequfield, president of Show-Me Institute is set to lecture on "Earnings Tax: Issues and Alternatives."

The event takes place at 5:30 p.m. at the E. Desmond and Mary Ann Lee Theatre. This event is open to the public. For further information call 5883.

Deadline for Teacher Job Fair

Students planning on attending the UMSL Teacher's job fair need to preregister. The fair is scheduled from 10am to



Rex Sinequfield

2pm Feb. 23 at the Mark Twain Gym. Admission is free for preregistered UM-St. Louis students and alumni. Admission for all others is \$5. Call 5111 for more information.

Book-reading, signing and reception

The University Bookstore presents local author Edna Campos Gravenhorst at a book signing ceremony at 4:30pm. The book is titled "Ay, Mijo! Why do you want to be an engineer?" This is event is free and open to the public.

Former County Executive to speak in Clayton

Joseph Ortwerth, interim co-director for the Center for Ethics and Public Policy at UMSL will be speaking at Professor Marty Rochester's Home at 7:30 p.m.

The topic will be "Ethics in Government." This is event is free to all members of the UMSL community and refreshments will be served.

Maps to Rochester's home are available in the Political Science Department 347 SSB.

Deadline for Trivia sign-up

Students need to sign up for Campus Recreation's "Trivia Night," to be held from 7 to 10 p.m. Feb. 22 at the Provincial House on South Campus.

Teams consist of 10 members. The event is free and open to students, faculty, staff and friends. There will be prizes and free refreshments.

Call 5326 for more information.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Diversity Issues Film Series

"The House We Live In," an hour-long film from a three-part series called "Race: The Power of an Illusion," will be screened at 4 p.m. in the Student Government Association Chambers at the Millennium Student Center.

A discussion will follow the film. The event is free and open to students, faculty and staff. Call 5270 for more information.

Community-Building Partnerships Discussions

Terry Jones, professor of political science at UM-St. Louis, will discuss the Affton Community Partnership at noon in 78 J.C. Penney Conference Center.

Drinks will be provided at this free program, which is part of the Lunch & Learn series. Call 6775 for more information.

Ash Wednesday Mass

The Catholic Newman Center will hold a service of ashes and mass at 12:20 p.m. in Century Room C at the Millennium Student Center. Call (314) 385-3455 for more information.

"What's Current" is a free service for all student organizations and campus departments. Deadline for submissions is 5 p.m. the Thursday before publication.

Space consideration is given to student organizations and is on a first-come, first-served basis. We suggest all postings be submitted at least one week prior to the event.

Email event listings to thecurrent@umsl.edu.

All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.



File Photo

China Night this year will be held Sunday, Feb. 25 in the Pilot House of the MSC. The evening will begin at 5:30 p.m. and tickets cost \$8 per student.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Deadline for table tennis

Students need to sign up for Campus Recreation's table tennis tournament, scheduled for 6:30 to 9 p.m. Feb. 27 at the Mark Twain Gymnasium.

Men's and women's A, B and C divisions are offered. The tournament is free and open to students, faculty, staff and alumni. Call 5326 for more information

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Bellerive Launch Party

The seventh annual edition of Bellerive, a Pierre Laclede Honors College publication will be unveiled at a launch party from 12pm to 2pm at the Provincial House on South Campus.

Special guest will be writer Whitney Terrell. The event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served. For more information call Nancy Gleason at 6629.

Safe Zone Training

Jamie Linsin, counseling psychologist at UM-St. Louis and Lori Curtis, lecturer in social work at UM-St. Louis, will conduct Safe Zone training from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. in 225 Millennium Student Center.

Safe Zone is a university program to identify faculty, staff and students who are sensitive and affirmative to the needs of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender persons at the University. Call 5711 or e-mail james@umsl.edu for more information.

Physics, Astronomy Colloquium

Yoram Rudy, director of the Cardiac Bioelectricity and Arrhythmia Center at Washington University in St. Louis, will discuss "From Genetics to Cellular Function Using Computational Biology" at 3 p.m. in 328 Benton Hall. Call 4145 for more information.

Statehouse Sisters

The panel discussion "Pondering the Presidency: Is that a Crack in the Glass Ceiling?" will begin at noon in Century Room C at the Millennium Student Center.

Panelists include Missouri Reps. Connie Johnson, Robin Wright-Jones and Maria Chappelle-Nadal and Missouri Sen. Rita Days. Call 4727 for more information.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Arianna String Quartet to perform

The Arianna String Quartet, the quartet in residence at UM-St. Louis is set to perform "Beethoven: Full of Surprises," a family concert at the E. Desmond and Mary Ann Lee Theater. The event takes place at 4 p.m. and tickets are \$10 for adults and free for children under 17, students and UM-St. Louis faculty and staff. For more information call 6690.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25

China Night at UMSL

Come enjoy China night at 5:30 p.m. at the Pilot House in the Millineum Student Center. The event will feature a Chinese buffet, singing, dancing, games and kung fu demonstrations.

Tickets are \$8, and they are on sale from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily through Feb. 24 on the second floor of the Millennium Student Center. Call 5095 for more information.

Black History Celebration

Vocalist Brian Owens and Chancellor Thomas George will perform at the Black History Celebration.

The event will take place at 6:30pm in the E. Desmond and Mary Ann Lee Theater.

Tickets are \$15. Special guests Marc Thayer, vice president for education and communication partnerships at the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra and Jim Henry, associate professor of music at UMSL will be present.

For more information call 4949.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Monday Noon Series

Rita Csapó-Sweet, associate professor of media studies at UMSL, will discuss her 30-year career at 12:15 p.m. in 229 J.C. Penney Conference Center. Call 5699 for more information.

The Current

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

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Unsigned editorials reflect the opinion of the majority of the Editorial Board. The Current requests the courtesy of at least 24-hour advance notice for all events to be covered. Advertisements do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Current; its staff members or the University.

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AFFILIATIONS



LOVE FOR SALE



Patrice Burton laughs as Jason Bockman auctions her off during the Valentine's Day Auction sponsored by the International Business Club. Patrice sold for \$12 dollars which goes toward the group date at The Boat House and other events put on by IBC.

Carrie Fasiska • Associate Photo Editor

Kiosk at Express Scripts to detail eco-friendly efforts

BY JASON GRANGER
News Editor

Plans to emphasize the eco-friendly nature of the new Express Scripts building continue at UM-St. Louis. The Green Committee, which was formed to encourage the University to become more ecologically friendly, has been working on an informational computerized kiosk that will be installed in the new ESI building in the future. The point of the kiosk, Thomas Helton, Student Government Association vice president and Green Committee member, said at a recent committee meeting, is to inform the public about how the new building is eco-friendly. "The ESI building has a lot of different ecologically friendly things in it," Helton said. "We think the public

should be aware of that." Plans for the kiosk include touch-screen technology so visitors can easily navigate through the presentation. Jonathon Yordy, coordinator of public relations, said the touch screen will be simple to use, so any visitor to the building can see the efforts ESI and the University have put in to make the building environmentally sound. "We want this to be simple," Yordy said. "We want to make sure everyone can use this. It won't be too complicated, just informational. The ESI building is being constructed under LEED certification guidelines. LEED stands for Leadership in

Energy and Environmental Design. Green buildings, as LEED certified buildings are labeled, utilize different design concepts to make the buildings more eco-friendly. For instance, LEED buildings use more natural light to illuminate buildings, make use of low-flow toilets, high efficiency shower heads and energy efficient electrical lighting to reduce the impact to the environment. Helton stressed, however, that efforts are underway during the construction of the building to cut down on environmental impact. Part of this includes minimizing waste by recycling as much as possible

at the site. "So far, 47 percent of the waste generated at the site has been diverted from the landfills," Helton said. That figure does not include land clearing materials, such as branches and tree refuse. This material cannot be thrown away, and to the end, Helton said the committee would like to investigate having an industrial wood-chipper at UM-St. Louis to recycle the materials into mulch. A concerted effort to make not just UM-St. Louis, but the UM System as a whole, more eco-friendly has been underway for a while now, with all four school SGAs recommending any new building in the system be LEED certified. Helton had previously said the new buildings would not only aid the environment, but the school's public relations as well.

“So far, 47 percent of the waste generated...has been diverted from the landfills.”

— Thomas Helton, Green Committee Member

ELECTIONS, from page 1

The rules originally allowed longer periods of time for campaigning and shorter periods for filing, but they were changed so that the application process spanned a larger period of time, and campaigning a shorter one. The SGA executives are currently discussing numerous options as to how to remedy this reoccurring problem. "One of the things we are discussing doing is adding a bylaw, which would require the election executive to create a timeline for all

of the election date for that year," Helton said. "That way, when the elections chair is appointed they will know exactly when the dates are." In response to claims that the delayed election times lead to corrupt campaigning, Helton said he did not believe that idea was well founded. "I've never seen a change in election dates lead to corrupt campaigning," Helton said. "It's a blanket statement that does not necessarily hold true for this situation."

NEWS BRIEFS

UMSL students recognized at ADDY awards

Three UM-St. Louis students were recognized at the 2006 ADDY awards ceremony that was held last Thursday in the Living World at the St. Louis Zoo.

The ADDY awards ceremony is held annually by the Advertising Club of Greater St. Louis to award local advertisers for their work from the previous year.

Jamie Clark, junior, communication, received a Certificate of Excellence for a poster she designed for Student Life's Turkey Bowling event that was held last semester. A certificate was also awarded to Katie Magraw, freshman, business administration, for her piece titled "Louie AD Small Sock."

Sharon Schweizer received a certificate for an Internet advertisement she designed for this ADDY awards ceremony. Schweizer said being a part of the 2006 ADDY's was "great" for AdCorp because, according to her, others will now see the club's members produce work that is professional and trustworthy.

In attendance at the event was Kevin Johnson, motions and graphics editor for Cool Fire Media, a St. Louis-based firm that specializes in video and film production. Johnson

said even though the ADDY's were only awarded to professionals, students are also recognized for their efforts. "Students of today are the professionals of tomorrow," Johnson said.

KWMU Valentine's Day donations up 6 percent

KWMU, 90.7 FM, the radio station that broadcasts from the bottom level of Lucas Hall, held its annual Valentine's Day fundraising drive.

The station raised \$211,241 during its drive, "For the Love of KWMU," that was held Feb. 1 through Feb. 12. This was an increase of 6 percent from the 2006 drive.

More than 1,600 listeners pledged their support to KWMU, in turn, they receiving chocolates, roses, a night at a St. Louis-area bed-and-breakfast or jewelry designed by Diane Katzman especially for KWMU. Katzman is a renowned designer based in St. Louis, she designs jewelry, accessories and gifts for fine retailers and businesses.

Proceeds from the drive purchase syndicated National Public Radio, other public radio programs, fund local programming and fund the station's general operations.



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CAMPUS INTRAMURAL UPDATE



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2 Ball Soccer

Date: 2/21
Time: Wed 7p-10p
Place: MT Gym
Sign up by: 2/15
Division: Open

Table Tennis

Date: 2/27
Time: Tues 6:30-9pm
Place: 221 Mark Twain
Sign up by : 2/22
Division: W & M

Basketball

Date: 3/8
Time: Thurs 6:30-9pm
Place: Mt Gym
Sign up by : 3/1
Division: CoEd

Trivia Night

Date: 2/22
Time: Wed 7p-10p
Place: Provincial House
Sign up by: 2/20
Division: Open

Skyzone Dodgeball

Date: 3/7
Time: Thurs 7:00-9pm
Place: Skyzone
Sign up by : 3/1
Division: Open

Weightlifting

Date: 3/8
Time: Thurs1-4pm
Place: MT Weight Room
Sign up by: Just Be there
Division: M & W

OUR OPINION

Is black history being exploited?

To think of Black History is to think of more than angry chants, fights for rights, riots, militant groups and broken-hearted individuals constantly mired in struggle.

Black History is more than the sheer cries of repression from inner city ghettos or whispers from displaced feelings in middle class neighborhoods, which at one time were labeled "places for those who assimilated."

Black History must never lose its context or relevance, and it's representatives must never lose their value and the messages they stand for.

It is easy to think of these characters that 'time', Hollywood and local T-shirt shops exploit as gun toting, wise quoting, rebellious always itching to fight outlaws.

You've seen them on T-shirts. Bob Marley, one of the greatest humanitarians who was against blatant oppression and racism is always on a T-shirt with joint stick of marijuana. Huey Percy Newton, a member and founder of The Black Panther Party for Self Defense is always seen posing with a gun. And Fredrick Douglass, a slave who bought freedom and later established anti-slavery movements is seen revealing his back, which had lacerations and scars from a harsh whipping from a slave master.

\$19.95 plus tax cannot cover the extent to what is and was the meaning or significance of these lives of these individuals and their work. A

screen print of one incident in the lives of an individual does not cover the extent. A two-hour film does not cover the extent. And Bob Marley followers should know that promoting marijuana was not his main objective.

This illustrates why revisiting Black History is relevant. This is why so much of Black History is labeled cliché or stylish.

Dignity, struggle, love for one's fellow man, uplifting of one's race in the midst of oppression wasn't stylish. Muhammad Ali's life was not full of actions to be later considered antics for show. Malcolm X said more than "by any means necessary" ... believe it or not, this was actually the beginning of a much longer quote that had substantial meaning.

Have we lost our appetite for substance? And please don't say the next commercialized effort of someone who wishes to tone down what was a reality that these individuals faced is the way to get the message out.

Frederick Douglass was a slave. Malcolm X and Muhammad Ali experienced firsthand what it was like to live in the trenches of racism, segregation and oppression.

Listen up and listen clearly, black people were slaves in the first corporations of America, that were never deemed 'illegal'. Black families were broken up and mothers saw their sons beat, maimed and sold to other parts of the country. Blacks were lynched and killed for trying to eat at restaur-

ants, vote in elections or pursue higher virtue. Blacks were undereducated in certain neighborhoods.

These were "real life-experiences" with "real people," who applied "real effort" in the face of "real struggles."

No director said "cut" after Harriet Tubman entered and re-entered the confines of slavery to help free other slaves.

No photographer told Malcolm to pose for a photo shoot in the midst of racial oppression and turmoil in the '60s, concluding that that would be the extent of his actions, a picture. If a picture is worth a thousand words, we need some visual upgrades. We need some "next level," futuristic x-ray lenses that calculate words in the billions.

Seriously, we really should revisit Black History and the lives of the African Americans who created a rich tradition of work directly in the face of struggle.

There are no motivating factors. None should be needed. This is not an assignment or homework. This should be done as a reminder of the whole truth. This should be done so you can familiarize yourself with the entirety of their lives and the backdrop of the reality that they faced.

Remember the next time you see a photo and think, "Marley," "Huey," or "Malcolm," oh what outlaw-ish men they are."

There is more to the story ... go look.

STAFF VIEWPOINT

The presence of courage

There is something to be said about character and those in the constant face of loss who find a way to attempt to perform and do their best.



By Myron McNeill
Opinions Editor

No matter what your occupation or walk of life is, courage, character, integrity, perseverance and dignity are hard to preserve when our actions are concerned. Why, because it is so easy to give in or roll over and throw the towel in when suffering. But we must say something about those who do not, when the option is there for the taking.

Confused as you may be about what I am talking about, I bring clarity by saying that I am talking about the Men's and Women's basketball teams and the coaches who sacrifice and show up every day in hopes of garnering success and the joy that victories bring.

Sure, they are having a down year. And yes, the games are so close and as fans we all think we know what would ensure victory. Every ex-ball player and basketball affiliates begin their statements of advice with "if they could just" or "if they would." And this is no offense to us advice givers, because some of us are really interested in helping.

However, this virtue of courage and its close associates became vivid at a basketball game. I experienced one of the strongest epiphanies of my life at the men's and women's games versus Drury College on Thursday, Feb. 16. Yes, each team loss. But something more important was in the airwaves of human activity at the games. I saw something different. The players and the coaches from our school looked different.

They exuded courage. They exuded dignity, pride, perseverance and integrity from the tip ball to the end of game. They were winners, even in the face of losing.

I remember being an athlete on a few losing teams (hey watch that, I won more than I lost). I remember the drudgery of suiting up, thinking this would be "the night," only to experience a humiliating loss of the worse kind, and then have to pick up and play again the next night and maybe lose again. And I remember having to do this with support sometimes and little support on other occasions.

see COURAGE page 12

STAFF VIEWPOINT

What can be done to solve the SGA election schedule problem?

Last year, the deadline was "no later than the second Thursday in February" when the election committee decided that applications would be available to students interested in running for student government elections.



By Paul Hackbarth
Design Editor

When that date came and had gone this year, and the Student Government Association had yet to name the entire election committee that would oversee this year's elections, certain changes to the timing structure had to be made ... again.

For the past two years, SGA Administrations have had problems with scheduling the numerous processes that are used for the elections to run smoothly or what some may argue, "constitutionally." The problems are in the election rules however, not the constitution.

For the last two years, SGA and the election committee have battled over how the timing structure is spelled out in the election rules, and each year they run into trouble because of problems specific to their year in office.

What were previous solutions to the problems? Past SGA administrations have solved the problem by fitting the time schedule to the present year. So last year, when SGA was late in starting the election process, they decided the deadline for the start of the application process would be the second Thursday in February.

In previous election years, candidates were allowed to campaign for at least a month. Even when the SGA Executive Committee and the election committee felt four weeks was too long for campaigns, they cut the campaigning period to two and a half weeks. Once again, this meant that the orchestrated timing of things, from applica-

tion deadlines to the appointment of the election committee had to be altered.

This year, while a chair of the election committee has been chosen, the other four members will not be approved until the next SGA meeting on March 2.

So what can be done to fix this recurring problem of conflicting dates and bad timing that plagues SGA every year?

One solution, which is an idea that came from the SGA vice president, is to create a bylaw that would allow SGA to draw up a timeline for when certain deadlines would be set for the election process during October. This, he proposed, would allow the election's rules committee more time to concentrate on other items on their agenda.

Our current vice president is taking the first step in the right direction with the goal of fixing the problem for future SGA leaders, not just problems occurring at the moment.

Setting up deadlines earlier would be a start, but perhaps choosing the election committee earlier would also be more beneficial. The election committee was originally selected during the first SGA meeting of the new academic year, but in the 2004-2005 school year, the election committee was selected later than usual, a change most likely done to avoid "unconstitutional" elections that year.

Early planning of the SGA elections by the SGA will avoid future administrations to change the rules to fit their schedules. Tie a string around your finger. Use Post-it notes, whatever it takes. An early start works. Just ask the early bird that caught the worm.

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STAFF VIEWPOINT

Personal attacks destroy intelligent debate

By Rachael Yamnitz
Staff Writer

The flat screens in the lobby are sweet, but living in the age of "Need to know as it happens" has caused me more than one headache at my job.

This mainly stems from the actual noise of the televisions my boss had installed in the lobby of our particular fast-food joint. Maybe it is the jabber that spews forth from the personalities that have made themselves at home on the screen that gives me a migraine or 12.

Let me explain. The main channel we air at our establishment is CNN Headline News, and I use the term "News" lightly. Most of my evenings are spent with Nancy Grace annoying the crap out of me via satellite. Although I've gotten rather adept at tuning her out, every once in a while something she says will just make me think, "Wow, I wish she would shut up."

I must admit that there is another program that airs on Headline News that I do tolerate and at times enjoy watching - Glenn Beck.

Beck speaks quickly and I find his rapid fire delivery both enjoyable and annoying at times. In one sense, he

shows off his quick wit and sharp tongue, which I enjoy, but sometimes he seems to rush to make his points and not allow anyone the chance to contradict him. By the time it reaches his viewers, he's made two other non-related points.

The other day, however, I caught part of Beck's show and heard something that truly irritated me. I wanted to make sure what I heard was right so I went to CNN.com to find a transcript from the Feb. 12 episode.

After the Grammys on Sunday, where the Dixie Chicks took home several trophies for their album "Taking the Long Way," Beck had this to say:

"The Dixie Chicks have paid just a horrible price for not being able to keep the fat one's mouth shut in between songs. Terrible price. They only won five Grammys last night. This is blatantly the Dixie Chicks getting rewarded by the entertainment industry for standing up against our evil president. Now the academy gives them the Grammy because, well, now it's popular. We can do that. Bravo, Dixie Chicks, bravo."

Am I upset that Beck has a particular opinion about the Dixie Chicks that might be contrary to mine? No! Actually that is the one thing I enjoy

about shows like his or Bill O'Reilly's. They have strong opinions, and I think that differing opinions are important because they bolster free thinking and can stimulate intellectual debate, which is vitally important in society.

My problem is the way in which Mr. Beck framed his first sentence. I saw the clip and that is what Mr. Beck said: "...a horrible price for not being able to keep the fat one's mouth shut."

A difference of opinion is well and good, but to take the angle of personal attack is childish and petty. And this kind of maneuver deflates any point he was trying to make.

When will people get past the playground and actually act like adults more often than not? Is this too much to ask?

It bothers me that someone, whose popularity is growing at the rate of Beck's, is still reverting to such demeaning and ignorant tactics. What if someone says: "Maybe he was implying that they couldn't keep her 'fat mouth' shut?" To that I would say, "if a person is going to take certain things others say literally, as Mr. Beck often does, that usually intends everything in the precise way they say it."

It's time to grow up, or the chance for intelligent discussion or debate is going to disappear.

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UNDERCURRENT

By Carrie Fasiska • Associate Photo Editor

Who is the best looking President of all time?



Gilvanna Mendoza
Freshman
International Business



Chris Bishop
Freshman
Physics



Leesa Althen
Doctorate Student
Political Science



Madison Hayes
Freshman
Astro Physics



Caiti Clark
Freshman
Marketing/Management

What do you think? Send your own response to thecurrent@umsl.edu. The person who submits the best response each week wins a free T-shirt.

"JFK is the best looking. Most of them are ugly and I guess he's alright."

"Taft, he was a whole lot of man."

"Kennedy, that's pretty much hands down although George Washington was pretty good looking for his

"Theodore Roosevelt because he had that certain rugged quality about him."

"Lincoln, he looked like a gentleman."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Shuttle schedules

I cannot express in strong enough terms how very disgusted I am with the current shuttle bus schedule. Frankly I had assumed that a school of our stature could produce a better service, and I was saddened to discover that we cannot. The schedule and the management of the busses and their drivers are engineered in a manner to be most inconvenient. Buses leave one minute before classes let out and then do not come again for another fifteen minutes. This makes it impossible to get to back-to-back classes on both campuses by utilizing the shuttle bus system. I have found that even with the impossible hunt for parking I am still closer to on-time when I drive myself from North to South campus. When I called the Transportation Department to complain I was told that an "overflow" bus takes care of the gaps in the schedule. I have yet to see the "overflow" bus do anything except sit in the circle, idling. It was my understanding that the student body's money, in the form of collected student activity fees was being used to pay for these shuttle busses in order to be of use to the student body. I have yet to see any good and competent use of these shuttles. Last semester there were enough busses to go from one campus to another and make a class on time, this semester the schedule is not only inadequate but the drivers are eating their lunches, leaving the running busses to take personal phone calls, and reading the newspaper all while busses full of students on a schedule wait and wait and watch as the minutes slide away into tardiness. I was under the impression that the shuttle bus was offered to service the student body, not the shuttle drivers; how upsetting that I was apparently wrong. There are several professors on campus who state

in their syllabi that if you are late a) don't bother coming to class or b) an accumulation of tardies will ultimately culminate into a failing grade in the class. One of two things needs to happen, either the schedule needs to be adjusted appropriately or the professors need to realize that each and every student in their classes are all adults and paying to be there and as paying adults have the right to attend class in any fashion they choose. But I digress, because the problem isn't truly that of the professors, but rather the deplorable "service" of the shuttle busses and their lackluster drivers. If the solution is for the purse minders of our student activity fee funds to open said purse then by all means do so! There won't be much of a student activity fee fund in order to pinch pennies for if most of the student body has been flunked due to late shuttles. The University of Missouri - St. Louis can do better.

Hannah Stanfield
Senior
Secondary Education

Snow on roads

Considering the large percentage of students that commute to UM-St. Louis, especially those for whom MetroLink is not an option, the maintenance (or lack thereof) of Natural Bridge Road was unacceptable this past Tuesday, Feb. 13. As a student involved in a fender-bender on Natural Bridge Tuesday afternoon- after the ice and much of the snow had fallen- I found the status of this major road deplorable. The UMSL administration needs to demand- for the safety of their staff and students- that Natural Bridge and the entrance and exit ramps for nearby highways be maintained in inclement weather. The Normandy

and Bel Nor townships should be maintaining them for the safety of their citizenry. If they will not, then UMSL's administration must insist, if not demand that road conditions be more safe. If Bel Nor and Normandy are unable to treat the roads, perhaps the administration can petition MoDOT for assistance. When examinations are scheduled, students will be coming to UMSL regardless of weather conditions. Asking students to come to UMSL in hazardous conditions is unreasonable. I had two exams that day, so I braved the roads and returning home proved to be more dangerous than coming. Perhaps the administration needs to have more foresight when canceling classes due to weather conditions. If the roads are not safe, then students should not be driving on them and classes should be cancelled BEFORE driving conditions reach an unsafe level - not at 4pm, well AFTER driving has become unsafe.

Catherine Zlvnuska
Senior
Secondary Education & Biology

Identity Project Cost

Rivermen? I didn't even know that was the mascot when I first started here at UMSL. Did I care? No, and I certainly don't care now. I was not thinking "Hmmm...I want to go to school where they have the coolest, fiercest mascot that scares the spirit out of our contenders". No, my thought was "wow, they have a great educational program for MIS students". After a career fair and being hired at one of the best companies in the St. Louis area, I know that UMSL has valuable students that are marketable to the workplace. Do the companies care if we are the

Rivermen, the Mudcats, or whatever? No! They don't look at the résumé asking "what is the mascot?" They want to know what classes you took and your GPA. So, the \$17,000+ they are having a committee, paying for designs, etc. should be spent towards more beneficial investments. This money could be allocated towards scholarship opportunities, adding another class that is needed, or perhaps even raises or recognition to faculty and staff that deserve it. I love UMSL. I went to Mizzou and never had the same loyalty toward Mizzou as I do UMSL. But spending money on a new mascot drowns my team spirit.

Carin Bealmear
Senior
MIS

MetroLink passes

So... why can't a \$10.00 fee be added to tuition costs. It would cover the nearly \$150,000.00 burden they are currently asking less than a quarter of the student body to shoulder. I don't see why transportation, one of the most essential elements of a college with a majority of commuting students, is not included as a small fee. I mean I am already paying for plenty services that I do not and will not use. Now if UMSL is not willing to be even a little thoughtful about this matter than why doesn't MetroLink address the problem of people who do not pay to ride? This is the only city where a person can literally walk right on a train without passing through a rider pass operated turn style. Apart from being an awkward service that does not meet the needs of most citizens and being embarrassingly over budget, MetroLink does little to ensure that the people on the train are paying. I just don't see how both the college

and the transit system can be so near sighted when it comes to resolving problems. It is laughable. As to all this focus on changing the "image" of the campus, who is behind this? I mean what would posses any presiding board to think that this sort of thing carries any weight with the student body. Can these high- minded people not grasp the importance of dealing with issues of consequence rather than this identity fluff?

Matthew
Senior
Nursing

Fee Increase

Increasing fees for student groups is a waste of money for several reasons. First, UMSL is a commuter campus in a metropolitan area; therefore students have many housing options when compared to a rural setting. Solidarity, which may exist elsewhere, is not as prevalent. Also, UMSL is hindered by a surrounding built environment which is undesirable by design. It is entirely suburban thus not pedestrian friendly. It is rather hard to walk anywhere assuming there is a fun destination. Compared to St. Louis University and Washington University, UMSL's campus is easily the least walkable. These private universities have a much greater capacity in planning due to endowment; however the end result being a pedestrian friendly environment with entertainment is notable. This walkable environment anchors students on campus or in the surrounding areas.

Redevelopment of Natural Bridge could provide an opportunity for this to occur. New Urbanism, which is a pedestrian-friendly district consisting of entertainment, housing, and retail, could be implemented. I am sure the employees of Express Scripts, and newly announced North Park Office


Park, would take advantage of this as well. The fraternities and sororities would also appreciate being incorporated into a vibrant district as it would provide a more appealing atmosphere. Perhaps this regional appeal might justify a tax, or revenue sharing among the surrounding municipalities?

Presently, UMSL students spend time off campus because areas like the University City Loop, the Central West End, Midtown, Grand South Grand, and finally downtown, provide actual pedestrian access and entertainment. UMSL is at a disadvantage due to design, thus limited in its capacity to compete regardless of our diverse student groups. For UMSL to compete with these areas it needs an urban walkable design that would serve as a draw. Student groups, suburban parking garages, and marketing, are not the remedy. These methods clearly are not producing results. Planning is the variable that predetermines success. When the environment is inaccessible, much less exciting, students will go elsewhere for both housing and entertainment. Spending money on student groups while funding 4.5 million dollar parking garages is counter-productive. UMSL should transition away from a suburban commuter campus if it wants to be vibrant when classes end. Planning provides the solution which is worth my extra dollar, yet incremental decision making is much more comfortable.

Douglas Duckworth
Senior
Public Policy


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UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI

- TOP 10
- Notable African Americans to learn more about
1. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

2. Barack Obama

3. Booker T. Washington

4. Maya Angelou

5. Josephine Baker

6. Carl Lewis

7. Jean-Michel Basquiat

8. Frederick Douglas

9. Eleanor Holmes Norton

10. Charles Drew

If you have an idea for the next top ten list or any suggestions of what you would like to see us cover in our Features section, please send your ideas to us:

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MORE BLACK HISTORY EVENTS ON CAMPUS

Other events this month to commemorate Black History Month on campus include:

A display in the Media Hall of Fame at the Merchantile Library.

A display of African-American titles with special discounts on select items can be found in the University Bookstore.

A special display of educational material with a focus on African-American history can be found in the Ward E. Barnes Library on South Campus.

Celebrating African-American History Month

Multicultural Relations Office to hold events all month long

By Tobias Knoll
Proofreader

The Office of Multicultural Relations celebrates Black History Month this February by sponsoring several special events beyond the normal services provided. Gwendolyn DeLoach-Packnett, director of the Office of Multicultural Relations, said that the purpose of the Office of Multicultural Relations is to "support students academically and support academic enrichment on campus."

Working with the office has given her the "opportunity to connect with the campus at all levels."

Benefits of the services and programs offered are students finding work in various leadership roles as mentors and tutors, opportunities to volunteer time on campus and opportunities to help with the University's efforts to retain students of many

diverse multicultural backgrounds. Elona Johnson, senior, mass communications, is a mentor at the Office of Multicultural Relations. She said the mentor program offers a chance for students to "improve and grow." Her experience has introduced her to "a lot of resources I would not have known about, like tutoring and mentoring."

Johnson said the main advantage of the Office of Multicultural Relations is having "somewhere to go where you feel comfortable, where you're free to come talk about school and personal problems."

The mentors work with assigned students with similar majors and interests, usually four or five freshmen or new students, and help with class work and answer questions.

The Office of Multicultural Relations works with campus organizations to promote events and raise awareness about Black History Month. "We are given the responsibility of promoting and acknowledging Black



Missouri Sen. Rita Davis (left) chuckles at a comment by Missouri Rep. Esther Haywood during "Lunching With Leaders" held in 2004. Davis will be one of the guest speakers at this year's "Statehouse Sisters" event on Feb. 23 in the Century Rooms of the MSC.

History Month," said DeLoach-Packnett. "It's our responsibility to raise awareness."

On Monday, Feb. 19, the College of Education and the Dean's Committee on Social Justice presents "Ain't Scared of Your Jails," a film from the award

of transportation and public facilities. On Thursday, Feb. 22, the Institute for Women & Gender Studies presents "Mighty Time: The Legacy of Rosa Parks." The film will be in 211 Clark Hall at 3 p.m. and a discussion led by Dr. Kathleen Nigro will follow.

"Mighty Time" is an award winning documentary about the history of Rosa Parks with interviews, dramatizations and narration by young people about Parks and the Montgomery Bus Boycott that has made her name famous.

"Pondering the Presidency: Is That a Crack in the Glass Ceiling?" will be presented by the "Statehouse Sisters" Friday, Feb. 23 in the Millennium Student Center-Century Room C at 12 p.m.

The event is sponsored by the UM-St. Louis Alumni Association African-American Chapter, The Sue Shear Institute for Women in Public Life, and other campus organizations. It will feature discussions by senator Rita Davis and representatives Connie Johnson, Maria Chappelle-Nadal and Robin Wright-Jones.

See MULTICULTURAL page 7

How February became Black History Month

Carter Woodson credited for founding month-long holiday honoring African Americans

By Amy Recktenwald & Stephanie Clines
Features Editor & Staff Writer

While black history is something to be celebrated all-year round, Black History Month was created to shed light on the important African Americans who were often left out of history books. The founding of what is now known as Black History Month is attributed to a Dr. Carter G. Woodson.

Woodson was born to two former slaves on December 12, 1875 in New Canton, Virginia, according to biography.com. He began high school at age 20 and earned a doctorate from Harvard in 1912.

During his studies, Woodson was disturbed by the fact that African Americans were left out of history books and lobbied to see black history taught and studied.

In 1915, Woodson created the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (now called the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History). He created the "Journal of Negro History" the next year.

In 1921, he founded the African-American owned Associated



Publishers Press. This press published some of his works, including "The Negro in Our History" in 1922 and "Mis-Education of the Negro" in 1933.

On Feb. 12, 1926, Woodson started the tradition of Negro History Week to educate people on the contributions made by African Americans throughout American History.

According to history.com, the date was selected to coincide with the birthdays of abolitionist Frederick Douglass and President Abraham Lincoln. Other historical events in February coincide with the celebration.

In February 1870, the Fifteenth Amendment, giving African Americans the right to vote, was passed. W.E.B. DuBois, co-founder of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, was born in February 1868. The NAACP was founded in New York City in February 1909.

The holiday possibly began by the efforts of the African American collegiate fraternity Omega Phi Psi and

established a "Negro Achievement Week" in 1924, and Terrell had a practice of observing Frederick Douglass' birthday on Feb. 14.

Woodson was both a member of Omega Psi Phi and friends with Terrell. He assisted Terrell and the National Council of Colored Women to preserve the personal papers and home of Douglass. Her observance of Douglass was a local effort only, and the fraternity's Omega Achievement Week was part of community outreach.

See BLACK HISTORY page 11

Human disaster followed Katrina disaster, says Michael Dyson

By Stephanie Clines
Staff Writer

Hurricane Katrina struck the Gulf Coast region during early morning on Aug. 29, 2005. Two years later, people are still talking about the day the levees broke. The devastation of the storm still impacts the lives of residents who were forced to flee, as well as those who had no other choice but to stay.

On Feb. 12, the Associated Black Collegians of UM-St. Louis welcomed Dr. Michael Eric Dyson to Century Room A at the Millennium Student Center to discuss his book, "Come Hell or High Water." Dyson is the Avalon Foundation Professor in humanities at the University of Pennsylvania.

Katrina caused not only structural devastation, but also emotional, economical and cultural devastation. A disaster itself, Dyson said Katrina was followed by a "human disaster."

According to Dyson, the human disaster was the failure to respond to the vulnerable in a timely manner. It took no more than 24 hours for the United States to respond to the tsunami disaster that struck off the coast of Sumatra on Dec. 6, 2004, but after four days, the citizens of New Orleans were without any assistance.

Dyson pointed out the fact that the news crew was able to get close enough to film what was going on, but the government found it difficult to get food and water into the city.

Incompetence on the part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency is blamed for the slow response to the hurricane victims, according to Dr. Dyson.

"FEMA didn't have experience," said Dyson. 15 of the top 20 FEMA workers did not have experience in a disaster relief related field. Michael Brown, the head of FEMA from 2003-2005, had previously spent 11 years overseeing horse trial judges and stewards for the Arabian Horse Association.

Dyson said the poor of New Orleans were the same people who turned down the bed sheets of the hotels we slept in when we visited for Mardi Gras. He said that they were the same ones sleeping on the streets of downtown New Orleans and that they were not hiding. He added that New Orleans is one of the poorest cities in America.

The poor have been ignored and disregarded for years, said Dyson. They are often blamed for being poor, according to Dyson.

"They are considered lazy. The sad part is that most of our country's poor work everyday. Some work two and three jobs to survive," Dyson said.

The question of why people stayed in the city even though they knew a storm was coming arose. The answer -- over 100,000 people in New Orleans did not even own a car. Many did not leave because they had no where to go.



Michael Dyson

'Parts of Speech' teaches how to handle difficult dialogues

By Amy Recktenwald
Features Editor

Communication can be tough, and effective communication can be even harder, if not outright difficult sometimes.

"Parts of Speech," an interactive play performed by the University of Missouri-Columbia Interactive Theatre troupe explored ways to conduct difficult dialogues in the classroom.

Held in the J.C. Penney Summit Room, audience members, comprised of faculty, staff and students, were encouraged to participate in the performance of the skit.

The workshop session began with a scene with two individuals mirroring each other for a handshake.

After audience interpretation of the scene, one member was taken away while the other remained unmoving to visibly demonstrate how having only half a picture changes the perception of what is going on.

"I liked the beginning when they had the students shake hands," said Kim Redeker, senior lecturer in the Department of Communication.

She added that it showed "how some people have one perspective and one person could have another. There is a different interpretation based on half or whole."

According to Peggy Cohen, director of the Center for Teaching and Learning, the purpose of the workshop was to create a dialogue on cam-



Members of the UM Columbia Interactive Theatre Troupe perform during the Difficult Dialogues workshop on Wednesday Feb 8. The "Parts of Speech" play is based on the idea that education should be interactive where teachers and students discuss and learn together.

pus around diversity. "We don't talk about -isms, but we know they impact communication. If we create forums where they can be conversed, it will improve campus."

The dialogue was portrayed in a skit where students had different belief systems of faith. The dialogue

becomes heated and then is paused for audience response. Students and faculty were allowed to question the characters about their actions and feelings during the difficult dialogue.

Following that, the skit was performed again, with students and faculty invited to pause the action and

enter the skit to attempt different interventions that would improve the progress of the conversation.

Redeker said she requested her students attend the workshop after covering diversity in the classroom.

See DIALOGUES page 11

See DYSON page 11



Photos by: Jessica Morris • Staff Photographer

Above are some of the exhibits on display in the African Cultures Lab, it is open by appointment only and costs \$9 per students.

No longer primitive:

African Cultures Lab on campus shatters myths through exhibits

By AMY RECKTENWALD
Features Editor

What better way to observe Black History Month than to delve into the cultures of African people? Students had this opportunity as the Center for Human Origin and Cultural Diversity held an open house in the African Cultures Lab.

The ACL was open for students to observe and interact on Feb. 15 from 1 to 3 p.m. The lab is normally used by education majors and students on field trips.

The majority of the users, however, are young children who are exposed to African culture and challenged to compare that culture to their own.

According to Joni Hoscher, program coordinator for the CHOCD, approximately 30,000 people have gone through the program since the lab opened 10 years ago.

The lab is divided into three rooms which represent two villages and a city apartment in Africa.

The first room, the Village Room, has a small hut and several working utensils used in everyday life, including a wooden mortar and pestle, a gourd basket, metal pots, gardening equipment, and rice winnowing baskets.

According to Hoscher, discussion in that portion of the lab specifies the difference in gender roles in Africa. For example, women are the potters and men are the blacksmiths.

The Hunting Room discusses village life in the context of hunters. Hoscher said that being a hunter is a prestigious position within the village, and "like a police officer." The key attributes to earn the status of a hunter are honesty and the ability to be a team player.

The hunter section of the lab discusses the importance of teamwork and honesty, both in Africa and in the lives of the students who use the lab. This room also educates participants in the use of storytelling in village life. At the end of the session, a section on music and dance is presented, and students participate in both.

The third room in the lab is designed to look like a normal living room or apartment in Nairobi, Kenya. Hoscher said that this challenges the students' perceptions of Africa as primitive.



Joni Hoscher

Included in the room is a small sofa, a table with a tablecloth and place settings, a black and white television and a rotary phone. A collection of toys, clothing, decorative pottery and jewelry are on display.

The toys provide an interesting look into the blend of East and West that occurs in Kenya. Recycling materials into other items is a common practice in Africa. Planes and cars, crafted from recycled tin cans, still show the colorful designs and labeling of Western products, such as Nescafe.

Hoscher said another sign of the recycling that occurs is with the sandals present in the lab. Old tires are made into sandals which are durable, and according to Hoscher, do not wear out.

Recycling of Western goods is not the only blend of East and West. Many aspects of African culture were brought with the people that were enslaved during the American colonial period. With the people came products of their culture, including rice, yams and peanuts, which were called "goobers."

Architecture has also been influenced by Africans who crossed the Atlantic.

"They built Monticello," said Hoscher. Other influences are seen in

the use of batik, a traditional method of cloth painting using wax to mark off pictures on the material.

The Cajun language and the practice of voodoo in Louisiana are also attributed to the African influence in the Americas.

According to Hoscher, "Voodoo is West African religions mixed with Catholicism." She attributed Cajun to the blend of West African languages and English.

"It comes out another language entirely," Hoscher said.

Examining the differences and similarities between the two cultures is a major goal of the lab.

"The first goal is to bring cultural anthropology to the masses," said Hoscher. "The other is to encourage people to think differently about the world around them, then turn it around on themselves."

Hoscher summed up the aim of the lab -- to build critical thinking skills and show there is another side to everything. An important reason for the lab is "to fight racism in a factual way." She also said that the children today live in a multicultural world, and that the lab explores the similarities of people.

The lab is open by appointment, for \$9 per student, in group settings of 10 to 30.

Race is America's most powerful illusion

Part two of a series of films discusses the development of the idea of races

By RACHAEL YAMNITZ
Staff Writer

What is race, does it even exist? After watching the short film, "The Story We Tell," and listening to a discussion of the topic with Teresa Guess, associate professor of sociology, it is easy to see that race is an only an idea.

However, according to the film and discussion, ideas are very powerful, and the idea of race has become one of the most powerful in the American society.

"How long has the idea of race been around and where did it come from?" Guess said.

The answer to that was at the heart

of the hour-long film. Both the film and Guess said race was basically created in America for political reasons. When things or people are categorized, it becomes easier to think that one category must be inherently better than the others.

In part two of a three-part California News Reels documentary, it was said that many ideas on race came about in conjunction with the need for labor in early post-Revolutionary War America.

The idea of enslaving someone who is equal seems uncivilized. However, enslaving a lesser being, and trying to convert them into civilized persons can be seen as noble.

Class division can provide pseudo-strength because it provides structure, but only on the surface. The lasting effect of creating a concept of race where one race is superior to another is something still going on today.

The documentary was about how race is an illusion that still has power. Episode two filled in the gaps of where race came from, and was a continuation of the series that began on Feb. 7.

The final episode of the series, "The House We Live In" will be shown on Wednesday, in the Student Government Association Chambers in the Millennium Student Center at 4 p.m., a discussion will follow the film as well.

MULTICULTURAL, from page 6

The final event of Black History month will be the Black History Music Celebration featuring nationally renowned artists, Grammy award-winning soprano Christine Brewer, Brian Owens, and Chancellor Thomas F. George.

The event will take place Sunday, Feb. 25 at 6:30 p.m. in the Lee

Theater of the Touhill Performing Arts Center. Admission is \$15 per person or free to all UM-St. Louis students, faculty and staff with valid ID. This event is sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Relations, the Department of Music and the Office of Equal Opportunity.

DeLoach-Packnett said it is excit-

ing to have a calendar of activities to choose from, but adds that it is important to not relegate African-American history just to the month of February.

"Every day speaks to the history of America, and that history does include African-American people," DeLoach-Packnett said.

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Local actor stars in Oscar-nominated ‘West Bank Story’

By Cate Marquis
A&E Editor

When the Oscars award ceremony rolls around on Feb. 25, you likely have had an opportunity to see many of the nominated movies.

But while the major nominated films have played local theaters and we got the chance to see most of the foreign film and documentary nominees, almost no one here has seen the films in one award category: short films.

This year is different. A program of Oscar-nominated short films is now playing at the Tivoli Theater for a one-week run before the Oscars. “Academy Award Nominated Short Films” includes all the Oscar nominees in two of the three categories, documentary, live-action and animated short films.

A live-action short film with a local link is included in this year’s nominees. “West Bank Story,” the all-singing, all-dancing musical parody of “West Side Story” set in the Israeli-Palestinian West Bank, stars St. Louis native Ben Newmark, as David, an Israeli soldier who falls for the beautiful Fatima (Noureen DeWulf).

Fatima is the sister of the owner of the Hummus Hut, the fierce restaurant rival of neighboring Kosher King, David’s family’s restaurant. It is

Israelis versus Palestinians for fast-food business in this gentle parody.

Ari Sandel directed this farcical comic look at conflict, reduced to a rivalry between fast-food restaurants and the love of a soldier and a cashier. The film is cute, clever, silly and a bit wise, and Newmark and DeWulf are appealing as the couple brings the families to cooperation.

“West Bank Story” premiered at the Sundance Film Festival and went on to screen in more than 100 film festivals, winning several awards.

Newmark has been an award-winning actor since high school. He won Best Performance for “Fiddler on the Roof” at Interlochen Arts Academy and Best Actor and Best One-Act in a Missouri State competition. The actor’s TV credits include “Days of Our Lives” and “The Division,” on Lifetime.

Sandel hails from California, but studied media in Arizona, where he also received a certificate in Middle Eastern Studies. He has a long résumé of works in TV but also has traveled extensively, particularly in the Middle East, where he is involved with various political organizations working toward peace in the region.

As good as “West Bank Story” is, it faces some fierce competition for the Oscar for live-action short, with plot twists and surprises everywhere.

“West Bank Story” is the lone musical but “Binta and the Great Idea” has a lot of music, in an African story about an irrepressible little girl who wants to help her cousin.

Australian short “The Saviour” has a young door-to-door evangelist falling for a housewife.

“Helmer and Son” has a son called to the retirement home, where he recently has placed his reluctant father, to try to coax him from a closet.

In “One Too Many” (Eramos Pocos), a slovenly father whose wife has left him, and his equally sloppy teen son, find themselves unable to cope with cooking and cleaning and hit on the idea of going to get his mother-in-law from the nursing home as the solution.

In the animated nominees, the only one that many of us already have seen is “No Time For Nuts,” the short that played before last summer’s “Ice Age,” about a prehistoric squirrel-like creature’s comically relentless quest for an acorn, almost an homage to silent movie comedy.

No one has seen “Lifted,” a five-minute, 3D Pixar animation that will debut with this summer’s animated “Ratatouille.” The story is reportedly about an alien student taxing the patience of his teacher as he fails to learn the art of alien abduction.

The short animated films are not



Photo Courtesy: www.westbankstory.com

St. Louis native Ben Newmark stars as David, an Israeli soldier in ‘West Bank Story,’ a short film up for an Oscar next Sunday. The film is currently being shown at the Tivoli Theater.

just comedies and have a surprisingly number of twists. “Maestro” is another 3D animated comic film, also with a clever plot, from Hungarian filmmaker Geza Thoth.

“The Little Matchgirl” is a retelling of the Hans Christian Anderson story, with a classic, Disney-esque look for the touching story. “The Danish Poet”

is a Norwegian film full of twists and sweet humor as a narrator (Liv Ullmann) recounts how her parents met.

This week is your chance to see these very entertaining little treats. When you watch the Oscars on Sunday, you can pull for your favorite, since you have seen what most others have not.

MOVIE REVIEW

Disappointing ‘Factory Girl’ exploits Edie Sedgwick, Warhol

By Cate Marquis
A&E Editor



Photo Courtesy: www.tivpublicity.com

Sienna Miller and Guy Pearce star as Edie Sedgwick and Andy Warhol in George Hickenlooper’s ‘Factory Girl.’

The ads for the new movie “Factory Girl” look like old-time B movie come-ons, with a scantily-clad blonde, words like “sexy” and the breathless “everything you’ve heard is true” splashed across the space.

Like those ads, “Factory Girl” delivers far less than promised. The movie review blurbs in the ad list a number of top newspapers, saying they are “raving about Sienna Miller in ‘Factory Girl,’” but omit the fact that the film itself is garnering poor reviews in the same papers. And with good reason.

Bob Dylan is the hero of this tale, yet he has threatened to sue the director, former St. Louisan George Hickenlooper, and blocked use of his name. That should tell you something, too.

The ad campaign says a lot about this more-sizzle-than-steak movie. Some nudity is in the movie, but how appealing are shots of Sienna Miller’s (presumably) bare rear covered in bruises from injectable drug abuse? Not quite the titillation promised by the ads.

See **FACTORY GIRL**, page 10

CD REVIEW

New Freya CD sounds like organized yelling

By LaGuan Fuse
Sports Editor

Freya’s CD, “Lift the Curse,” which is now in stores, is slightly disappointing.

Freya is formed by ex-members of the band Earth Crisis. Karl Buechner is the band’s vocalist, Erick Edwards is the lead guitarist, Ian Edwards also plays guitar, Ethan Henry plays bass in the band and Dennis Merrick is the drummer.

The Syracuse-based band played under the name Earth Crisis for 10 years and sold over 300,000 copies worldwide. The band toured many countries around the world, including the U.S., Europe, Japan and South America.

Freya released its debut CD “As the Last Light Drains” in 2003. Freya’s second CD was entitled “Hoods/Freya Split.” “Lift the Curse” is the third album by this band and according to the band’s press release, the songs are “concise musical soundscapes that tell personal stories using imagery from the Norse Myths.”

The first thing that caught my attention about this CD is the album cover. It is a drawing of someone getting hit with a brick. I am probably sure that it has some kind of specific meaning, but I saw someone getting hit with a brick. Actually, that is

exactly what I felt like after listening to the CD.

“Lift the Curse” sounded like organized yelling with instruments in the back. I read some of the song lyrics and I like what they are saying, but not the way they are saying it. I was not too sure what to expect when I opened the CD, but somehow I expected more. The music was OK, but not perfect and the lead vocalist spent most of his time screaming.

Overall, I was bored with this CD and actually had to force myself through it. This was the first CD I heard from this group and I am pretty sure that it will be my last. I am a fan of rock music, but this music can kick rocks.

Rafal Wechterowicz did the artwork for the album and the album cover seems to be my favorite thing about the CD. I checked out Wechterowicz’s Web site to see some of his other artwork and my, the few minutes I spent looking through his T-shirt designs and tattoo designs were much more enjoyable than the time I spent listening to Freya.



Freya

“Lift the Curse”

★☆☆☆☆

CD REVIEW

Oasis ‘Stops the Clocks’ with look back at 13 years of rock’n’roll in latest album

By Jason Granger
News Editor

Cast your mind back to the mid-1990s music scene. What groups stand out? Pearl Jam, perhaps? The Foo Fighters were big, too. In the rock and roll scene, however, one band stood out among the rest: Oasis.

The self-proclaimed greatest band in the world had platinum albums and songs that were inescapable on the radio (see “Wonderwall”).

Then, almost as soon as they arrived, they were erased from the American listening public’s mind, washed away by a tidal wave of bubblegum pop and boy bands.

Unbeknownst to many in America, Oasis remained one of the biggest and most popular bands in the world, selling millions of copies around the globe and playing to sold-out crowds.

Recently, the band released their first-ever “best of” compilation, called “Stop the Clocks,” continuing the bands penchant for oddly titled albums.

This retrospective spans 13 years of music-making, starting with their first hit, “Supersonic,” traveling years into the future to “Lyla” and “The Importance of Being Idle.”

Now, “best of’s” are usually only good for the car — pop it in and go.

This album, however, stands out because the scope of Oasis’ music is so good, this compilation becomes a must-have.

Oasis, at its basest, is a rock and roll band. Pure and simple. Plumbing the past, their influences are never far from mind. Groups such as the Stone

Roses, T-Rex, The Rolling Stones and especially The Beatles are constantly evoked, and Oasis have been panned for it in the past. But if you think about it, why is that? Who better to sound like?

Take the song, “Live Forever,” for instance. This song came out in 1994, and is a homage to those who laid the groundwork for Oasis, calling to mind Kurt Cobain, Sid Vicious and John Lennon.

“You and I are gonna live forever,” lead singer Liam Gallagher wails. From the start of their career, Oasis was intent on being remembered with these giants.

Like a great rock band (see The

Beatles for proof of this theory), Oasis can switch ably from rockers like “Some Might Say” and “Acquiesce” to ballads like “Talk Tonight” and “Champagne Supernova.”

On a greatest hits album, it’s hard to say what the best song is. With this one, it would have to either be “Live Forever” or “The Masterplan.” Incidentally, the video for “The Masterplan” can be seen on the televisions in The Nosh.

Unfortunately, nowhere on this album are the great songs from their third album, “Be Here Now.” That album witnessed a backlash unlike any other since Billy Joel’s “Storm Front.”

It is unfortunate because there are some great tracks missing. “Don’t Go Away,” “Stand by Me” and “D’Ya Know what I Mean” are all great tracks. The best track missing, however, is “All Around the World,” currently heard on the AT&T commercials.

Despite the missing tracks, this is a must-have. Oasis does not get the respect it deserves in the States, but their music is timeless.

If you already are an Oasis fan, this is a great way to keep from having all their CDs in your car.

If you are an Oasis novice, this is a great start. From here, you can dive into their deeper tracks.



Oasis

“Stop the Clocks”

★★★★☆

Feb. 19: Monday Noon: Photographer to share night images Artist Eric Post will display and discuss slides from his book of photographs "Ghost Town: While Saint Louis Sleeps" at 12:15 p.m. in 229 J.C. Penney Conference Center. Call 5699 for more information.

Feb. 19: "Ain't Afraid of Your Jails," will be shown at 6 p.m. in the auditorium at Marillac Hall. Following the film, a panel discussion will be moderated by Lynn Beckwith Jr., professor of education at UMSL. Call 6097 for more information.

Feb. 20: Author Edna Campos Gravenhorst will read from and sign copies of her book, "Ay, Mijo! Why do you want to be an engineer?" at 4:30 p.m. at the University Bookstore. This event is free and open to the public. Call 5800 for more information.

Feb. 21: "The House We Live In," an hour-long film from a three-part series called "Race: The Power of an Illusion," will be screened at 4 p.m. in the SGA Chambers in the MSC. A discussion will follow the film.

Feb. 23: Whitney Terrell, author of "The King of Kings County" will be the guest speaker at the launch of "Bellerive: Everything Can Change," a publication of original artwork and writing by UMSL students, faculty and staff. The launch will be from noon to 2 p.m. at the Provincial House.

TOP ITUNES DOWNLOADS

1. What Goes Around... Comes Around- Justin Timberlake
2. Not Ready to Make Nice- Dixie Chicks
3. Cupid's Chokehold- Gym Class Heroes feat. Patrick Stump
4. This Ain't a Scene, it's an Arms Race- Fall Out Boy
5. It's not Over- Daughtry
6. Say It Right- Nelly Furtado
7. The Sweet Escape- Gwen Stefani
8. Don't Matter- Akon
9. Here (In Your Arms)- Hellogoodbye
10. Waiting on the World to Change- John Mayer

Riverwomen drop last home games of regular season

Women's team fall to 6-18 record overall

By Rachael Yamnitz
Staff Writer

The UM-St. Louis Riverwomen basketball team lost at home, 52-75 to Drury University's Lady Panthers on Feb. 15. The Riverwomen's overall season record dropped to 6-17 and 2-14 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference.

The official box score listed the attendance at 280, of which approximately 220 were there to cheer on Drury. The Riverwomen scored the first point of the game on a free throw by Jennifer Martin, but would only regain the lead two more times in the entire game.

The Lady Panthers took the lead back for good seven and a half minutes into the first half. Despite playing from behind, the Riverwomen did not give in easily, pulling to within six points at the end of the first half, with the score 36-30.

The Riverwomen scored 10 unanswered points in the last three minutes of the half. Forward Megan Alberts spearheaded the rally, scoring eight of the 10 points.

When they re-emerged from the locker room, that spark flittered and then went out. UM-St. Louis pulled to within five points with just over 16 minutes to play in the second half, but were unable to get any closer to the rival Lady Panthers. As the Lady Panthers pulled away in the second half, the Riverwomen bench cheered each other, trying to battle back to no avail.

Despite the loss, several UM-St. Louis players had productive nights. Center Jennifer Martin scored a double-double in the loss, scoring 14 points and reigning in 10 rebounds. She also added four more blocked shots to her all-time record at UM-St. Louis.

Other UM-St. Louis players making big contributions were Nichole Helfrich, who had a game-high 11 rebounds, and Leslie Ricker, who scored 12 points for the Riverwomen.

UM-St. Louis put up a fight but was out-matched in all three major areas, field-goal percentage, free-throw percentage and three-point percentage.

Drury also capitalized on turnovers, scoring 27 points on them, compared to UM-St. Louis' nine points off turnovers.



Matt Johnson • Photo Editor
Taylor Gagliano passes the ball to her teammate across court on Thursday night against Drury.

OBSTACLE COURSE AT THE HALFTIME SHOW



Matt Johnson • Photo Editor
Aaron Golchert, senior, business management, gets ready to shoot a basket during the halftime show during the men's basketball game. The halftime show featured the Greeks competing in an obstacle course.

Men's tennis gets back to swing of things

Coach hopes players from abroad will help lead team this spring

By Tom Schnable
Staff Writer

The UM-St. Louis men's tennis team is preparing to take its first serve and volleys of the year. Coach Rick Gyllenborg is hoping that the success of the fall season built confidence and will transfer into wins in the spring season. The team received a national ranking after a fall season that saw new faces complement old ones.

The team looks to Francis Lam, a senior from Kettering, England, to take charge when it comes to leadership.

Lam is the team's only senior, and a two-time all-conference selection. At the end of the fall campaign, Lam finished ranked fifth in the region for his singles play, and combined with Boris Simic to achieve the fourth ranking in the region for doubles

play.

Although Lam has been a '1' his last two seasons with the team, a position given to the player who matches up against the opposition's best player, this year he has relinquished that job and will compete as a '2.'

The man Lam conceded that spot to is Andy Dimke, a freshman from Nuremberg, Germany.

Dimke used an appearance in the Final 16 of the Intercollegiate Tennis Association's Fall Regional tournament to gain the 12th ranking in the region. Gyllenborg is hoping that Dimke, among other players, can utilize the fact that they are new to the team to surprise some conference foes.

Among those players is Simic who, as was mentioned earlier, teams with Lam for a tough doubles pair. The junior, who transferred from Lander University, is originally from

Brisbane, Australia, and he looks for a successful season in his first campaign with the Rivermen.

Another player is Andre Chemas, a freshman from Cali, Columbia. Gyllenborg is expecting big things from all these players in the spring campaign.

The team is coming off a fall season that saw them jump all the way to 10th in the regional rankings, and fifth in the Great Lakes Valley Conference. Gyllenborg hopes that last weekend's Principia Tournament will be a good barometer for where exactly the team stands in relation to conference opponents.

Whenever the team takes the court, Gyllenborg expects to see, "A lot of hustle, a lot of knowledge of the game, a lot of enthusiasm, and more wins than losses." After last weekend's tournament, the team will have to wait until March 13 for its next action, when they host Lewis.

Rockhurst outshoots UMSL as team says goodbye to seniors

By LaGuan Fuse
Sports Editor

The UM-St. Louis Riverwomen's record falls to 6-18 (2-15 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference) after losing on Senior Night, 82-67 to Rockhurst. The Riverwomen played their last home game of the season on Saturday night and for a few players, that was also their last home game as a Riverwoman.

The team will be losing three seniors at the end of the season, Jennifer Martin, Megan Alberts and Jennifer Dewell.

"It was a tough game," said Coach Sheila Hering. "We really wanted to win on Senior Night, but Rockhurst is a quality team. They came out ready to play. They were due for a win."

The seniors started the game strong for UM-St. Louis, taking a 9-2 lead in the first five minutes of the game. Both teams battled for the lead during the first half, but Rockhurst was able to pull away and end the first half leading by four.

Rockhurst came out of the locker room looking to expand their lead and they did just that as they took a 10 point lead in the opening five minutes of the half. UM-St. Louis tried to cut into the lead but was unsuccessful as Rockhurst continued to add to the lead, going up by as much as 18.

Taylor Gagliano finished the game with a team high 15 points. Gagliano shot 4-7 from the field and 2-3 from behind the arc.

Rockhurst was able to out shoot UM-St. Louis during the game. The Hawks shot 50 percent during the game while holding the Riverwomen to 40.8 percent. The Hawks also dominated in the paint, scoring 30 points compared to the Riverwomen's 20.

"I am proud of the way we played," Hering said.

"It has been a tough season," Dewell said. "We have won, we have not really won a lot, but I really love the team I am on. It is a sad time just because leaving them as friends. It was a tough year for us."

Dewell finished the game with 10 points and five rebounds. Dewell shot 3-6 from the field and 2-4 from behind the arc. She also was perfect from the line, shooting 2-2 and ended the game with one turnover.

"It would have been nice to win on

Senior Night," Martin said. "It was a disappointing year for us. Coming off such a good year (05-06 season) and then to finish where we finished, it is disappointing but you have to look at the positives."

Martin ended the game with 13 points and six rebounds. She also recorded three assists, three turnovers, one block and one steal during the game. Martin shot 4-6 from the field and was able to hit 5-9 from the free throw line. Martin was called for five fouls during the game and was fouled out in the last home game of the season.

"This whole year has been kinda crazy," Alberts said. "I absolutely love every girl on the team, we are really close. Senior Night was awesome. It was just fun to spend time with the team after the game. It was a great time. I was really proud."

Alberts finished the game with four points, shooting 1-9 from the field and 2-2 from the line. Alberts finished the game with three rebounds, two assists and five turnovers.

"It has been a fun four years. I would not have rather gone anywhere else," Alberts said. "This is where I belong. Everything has worked out academically and with sports. This is absolutely the place for me. I am very happy that I went here and I thank UMSL for this opportunity."

Two games are left in the season for the Riverwomen. They will travel to Quincy on Feb. 22 and then to SIUE on Feb. 24 for the final game of the year.

"We play for pride," Martin said. "We are not going to the conference tournament, but you do not want to be out there losing."

"We are basketball players and we are competitors and the competitive nature inside all of us does not allow us to give up," Hering said. "You just keep on going. Every win is important. At this stage we look to come together as a team and end on a good note, on a positive note. That is our goal for the last two games. We definitely play hard every game. That is what is exciting about UMSL basketball."



Jennifer Dewell

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



Alex Pepin, senior, outfielder for the Riverwomen softball team, not only is deserving of Athlete of the Week for *The Current*, she was also named GLVC softball player of the week.

Pepin hit an average of .467 (seven-for-15) in the first four games of the season with two doubles and two triples.

In the team's 6-3 win over Arkansas Tech on Feb. 10, Pepin went one-for-four with a two-run double as UM-St. Louis rallied from behind for their first win of the season.

UPCOMING GAMES

Women's Basketball

Feb. 22
at Quincy
7:30 p.m.

Feb. 24
at SIU-Edwardsville
7:30 p.m.

Women's Basketball

Feb. 22
at Quincy
5:15 p.m.

Feb. 24
at SIU-Edwardsville
5:30 p.m.

Softball

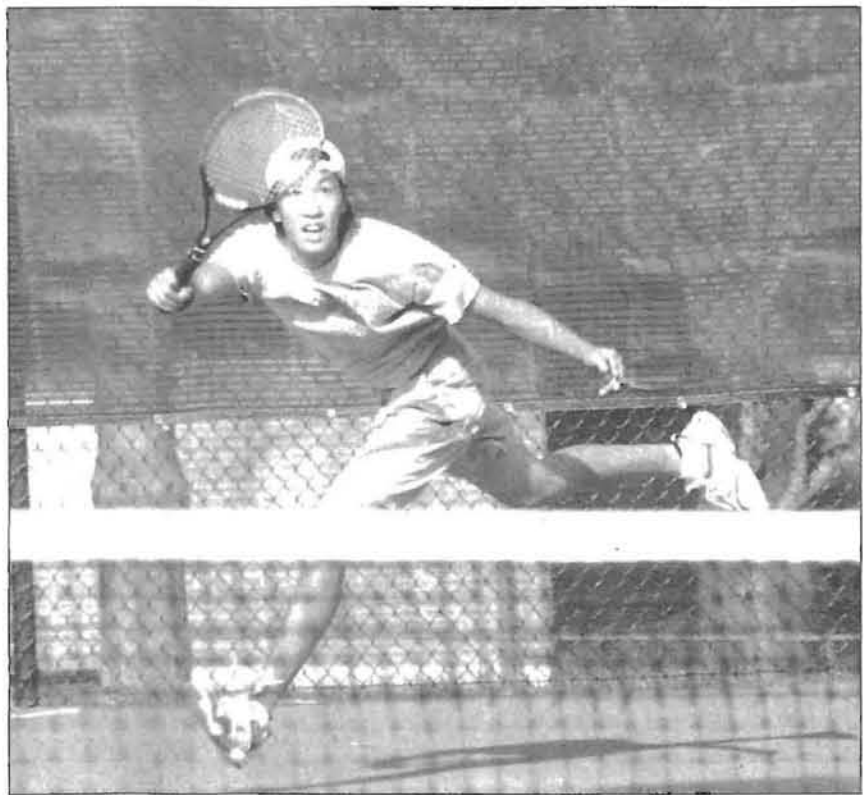
Feb. 22
vs. Olivette Nazarene
2 p.m.

Feb. 24
vs. UNO at
Edwardsville, Ill.
9 a.m.

Feb. 24
vs. Emporia State at
Edwardsville, Ill.
11:15 a.m.

Feb. 25
vs. Lewis at
Edwardsville, Ill.
2:45 p.m.

Feb. 25
vs. SIUE at
Edwardsville, Ill.
4:30 p.m.



Francis Lam, senior for the men's tennis team, springs into action during a tennis match last year against Lindenwood.

If you want to add school spirit, add some spirits

See **SHORT FUSE**, page 11

MEN'S BASKETBALL				WOMEN'S BASKETBALL				SOFTBALL				
GLVC standings:				GLVC standings:				GLVC standings:				
Team	Overall	W	L	Team	W	L		Team	W	L		
West Division				West Division				Women's Division				
Southern Indiana	25	3		SIUE	19	6		SIUE		3	2	
Drury	18	7		Drury	18	7		Northern Kentucky		2	2	
Quincy	17	8		Quincy	15	10		Southern Indiana		1	3	
Rockhurst	16	9		Southern Indiana	15	10		UM-St. Louis		2	6	
SIUE	13	12		UM-Rolla	15	10		Lewis		1	4	
UM-St. Louis	9	16		Rockhurst	9	16		Indianapolis		0	1	
UM-Rolla	7	18		UM-St. Louis	6	18		Bellarmine		0	2	
East Division				East Division				Kentucky-Wesleyan		0	0	
Northern Kentucky	18	6		Lewis	22	3		UM-Rolla		0	0	
UW-Parkside	18	10		Northern Kentucky	18	5		Quincy		0	0	
Lewis	15	10		Bellarmine	17	7		Rockhurst		0	0	
Saint Joseph's	13	11		Kentucky Wesleyan	17	8		Saint Joseph's		0	0	
Indianapolis	12	11		UW-Parkside	15	10		UW-Parkside		0	0	
Bellarmine	12	12		Indianapolis	14	10		Box Scores:				
Kentucky Wesleyan	11	13		Saint Joseph's	4	20		<i>February 10</i>		R	H	E
Box Scores:				Box Scores:				Arkansas Tech		3	6	1
<i>February 15</i>		1	2	<i>February 15</i>		1	2	UM-St. Louis(W)		6	7	1
Drury (W)		37	40	Drury (W)		36	39	<i>February 10</i>		R	H	E
UM-St. Louis		42	35	UM-St. Louis		30	22	UM-St. Louis(W)		13	15	5
<i>February 17</i>		1	2	<i>February 17</i>		1	2	Arkansas Tech		12	14	3
Rockhurst (W)		39	37	Rockhurst (W)		43	39	Team Leaders: Batting Avg.				
UM-St. Louis		33	34	UM-St. Louis		39	28	Player		Avg.		
								Alex Ogile		.667		
								Jennifer Beckmann		.500		

While you are there, also check out the coffee-table book "Andy Warhol Screen Test," with photos of an array of stars like Dennis Hopper, Salvador Dali, Susan Sontag, and yes, Bob Dylan and Edie Sedgwick. It is a better use of your time and money than "Factory Girl."

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SHORT FUSE, from page 10

This was a tough year for our basketball teams and they still have two games left.

Neither team will make it into the conference tournament this year, but hey they can't win them all. Next season, they just have to work on winning a few more.

So at the end of our home sea-

DYSON, from page 6

"They weren't stupid, they were stuck," Dyson said.

Dyson addressed the comment that George Bush did not care about African Americans and said that the question is not whether George Bush cares about black people, but if black people care about black people.

The black elite, namely Bill Cosby and Oprah Winfrey, were criticized for their lack of loyalty toward the poor blacks. Cosby publicly criticized black youth while Winfrey openly admitted to having given up on inner-city youth. She says that they are more interested in Apple iPods than they are in education.

According to Dr. Dyson, they are

BLACK HISTORY, from page 6

Woodson expanded the scope of the holiday by sending out circulars across the country, attempting to convert it into a national celebration that would improve racial relations. He had hoped that in time, the week would no longer be needed as black history would be commonly studied.

He did view the week as a part of the ASALH's attempts to educate the world that peoples of African descent had contributed to society and history. Negro history week was a vehicle to undermine the concept of black inferiority through scholarship.

The holiday was celebrated ini-

DIALOGUES, from page 6

She wanted them to "see interaction between speaker and audience, and how content changed for different audiences."

The event was originally scheduled as a faculty workshop, but from the start, the faculty was invited to bring their students to the session as well, according to Cohen.

"I wish there had been more time for the interactive part," said Cohen. "Students were taking risks and getting involved." She would have liked there to be more time and opportunity for the faculty and students to interact with the cast, but thought that the workshop itself was "terrific."

The workshop included information on communication and how perception impacts it. Out of all the available information, people make

son, I have this to say: fans have not shown up to basketball games because 1) our teams lose a lot, 2) we do not serve alcohol and 3) the music sucks.

The only thing that really brought more people into the games was giving away free stuff. Those were the games that were

packed with UM-St. Louis students.

Next season has the chance to be a lot better than this one, but in reality, I don't think fans are going to start pouring in.

That is unless we go undefeated or if Jack Daniels buys out the Pepsi contract.

he believed that there could be some legitimacy to that.

Mark Albrecht, a former UM-St. Louis student, asked what we could do to hold the media accountable for its portrayal of events.

Dr. Dyson said that there are three things we can do -- let the media know how we feel, boycott certain outlets if we have to and create alternative outlets like YouTube.com.

Dr. Dyson kept the audiences' attention by telling a joke or throwing bits and pieces of his own experiences in the speech. He would also incorporate some pop culture or hip-hop antics while remaining professional. His speech was followed by a book signing.

Despite slavery, segregation, and racism, African Americans have contributed to make an impact on our country and world in all fields.

To learn more about Black History Month and important African Americans in history, go to The History Channel's Black History Month Web site (www.history.com/minisites/black-history), the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History (ASALH.org) and to A&E's Biography Black History Month Web site (www.biography.com/blackhistory).

ing defensive.

This helps to define a dialogue, which has a goal to understand by the sharing of perspectives, instead of debate which seeks to persuade by arguing a position.

By giving the audience tools in the workshop to facilitate difficult dialogues on campus in a positive manner, cross-cultural awareness can be raised and improved.

"We live in an increasingly diverse metropolitan region where who we are is defined by our culture, ethnicity, income, where our homeland is, where our neighborhood is, where we worship, and where we went to high school. We live in a world tense with these differences," said Cohen. "Those are the issues that divide us regionally, nationally and globally."

THE MINER, from page 1

The Miner staff is up against a backlash from the student body, however. A forum started on the Web site www.seek42.net, has pages of anonymous comments criticizing the newspaper.

"Are you claiming a violation of the state constitution or the U.S. constitution? I can't speak to the state constitution, but the First

Amendment only guarantees that the government will not attempt to suppress your speech provided by your means," one person asked. "It does not require the government to fund your speech. And it certainly doesn't mandate an audience. I can't imagine any judge listening to this case for more than five minutes, certainly not any judge in the middle of Missouri."

Despite comments such as these, Stryker said the newspaper will continue to work on the paper, and fight the get the money back.

Laura Hutchingson, UM-Rolla's student council president, said she could not comment on the situation, as the matter has been referred to the university's legal department.



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- Redditt Hudson, Racial Justice Manager, ACLU of Eastern Missouri
- Sydell Shayer, Death Penalty Chair, League of Women Voters of St. Louis and League of Women Voters of Missouri
- Herman Jimerson, Jimerson Law Firm
- A representative from Justice for Reggie Clemons

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COURAGE, from page 4

Let us use our imaginations for a second. Imagine playing a sport with no fans in attendance. Imagine the opposing team having more fans at a game on your campus. Imagine suiting up knowing that the favor strongly projects the victory of your opposition, and yet you rise like a warrior and not back down from the challenge.

Imagine being the coach, who can smell, see and taste victory for a team, only to see it lose. As a coach or player, you still wake up the next day and practice and hold your head as high as you can and give 100 percent of your effort.

Ladies and gentlemen, that is called being tough, tenacious, prideful, courageous, persevering, strong, dignified and other names of association with this virtue. This was vivid after the game was over on Thursday.

As we cheered for the men's team when they left the court, many of us knew they gave a strong effort and in some strange way there was a sigh, a breath or new feeling of what victory means.

Coach Pilz shook some of our hands and was with us as we were with him. We were winners, regardless. Why, because we did not quit. We gave an effort. Just ask the Greeks on

both ends of the court.

Not to mention, our regular fan base of the parents, students and others and did I say the "U-M" "S-L," "U-M" "S-L," "U-M" "S-L," yelling Greeks who screamed and heckled the entire length of the game. You're thinking, what is "U-M" "S-L," what is that? You had to be at the game to know and feel it. It was the essence of sheer support.

Finally, I must say to the players who I have inundated with my sheer, rugged advice on the game, I have been there with you and you are all "winners," regardless. I must say to the coaches, that you have exhibited courage in times of change, and this is victory. It doesn't show up in the win column of the conference, but it shows up in the win column of life. What better message can be sent to the players and our community, than that of having courage and dignity day after day, even if the results do not work in our favor?

Oh yeah, and once again don't forget those Greeks, The UMSL Flames, The UMSL Band, and the regular fans, who show up to support. This makes for a hell of supporting cast, I might add. Real support shows its face in times of victory and defeat, so does courage!

MOHELA, from page 1

Chancellor Thomas George is not happy about the stall in the sale. He said the funds are desperately needed, especially for Benton-Stadler.

"That building is desperately in need of renovation," George said. "That is money that could really help."

Part of George's frustration comes from the fact that no aspect of UM-St. Louis is engaged in embryonic stem cell research, he said.

"Benton-Stadler and the Center for Emerging Technologies are the areas that would potentially be involved in the research," George said. "That is, if we ever decided to get into that."

Pam Fichter, president of Missouri Right to Life, said the situation is cut and dried to her group and other pro-life activists.

"The MOHELA sales would fund buildings that fund life destroying research," Fichter said. "We oppose creation of human life to destroy it."

While the issue seems clear to Fichter and those in her group, Molly Tallarico, director of government relations for UM-St. Louis, said the issue is more complicated, and the pro-life groups are intimidating legislators.

"If you vote for it [the sale of the loans], they'll let the whole world know," she said. "They're threatening the legislator, that's what it comes

down to."

Fichter disagrees, and says her group is just taking a stance on an issue about which it feels strongly.

"We've taken a position on this bill, we're not threatening anybody," Fichter said. "Our founding principle is to restore the inalienable human rights of life."

The controversy is raging, despite the fact that Missouri voters approved a constitutional amendment in November approving embryonic stem cell research in the state, a measure Republican Gov. Matt Blunt endorsed.

In response to the controversy, UM-System President Elson Floyd recently announced that the proposed life sciences building has been scrapped, and the System would instead build a medical education and cancer treatment center.

Blunt was in favor of the life sciences building, and said the building could lead to hundreds of high-tech jobs in Missouri. Recently, he said he fears the medical education and cancer treatment center would not have near the economic boon as the life science building.

No vote has as of yet been taken on the senate floor. Threats of a Democratic filibuster were scuttled after Nodler introduced his version of the bill.

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CURRENT CARTOONISTS

NUTN BUT THE FUNK

Rudy Scoggins

"Fix from a Rose"

I was watching this movie, where this guy's entire life was taken over by heroin. All he kept saying something about how he wanted a 'fix'

It means he wanted more drugs

Oh

Wow, Sid, that's really deep. I never knew how...

Hey, you know that singer Seal? Do you think that he calls his kid 'Baby Seal'?

Um...

Do you think he'll go clubbing someday?

Okay, stop

I figured it was him trying to get somebody to help 'fix' his life

Maybe that's what people really mean when they say that

"Nut'n But the Funk" is drawn by Current cartoonist Rudy Scoggins.

SCONEBOROUGH

by E. Gearhart

OH, IT'S JONES. HELLO, JONES!

IT IS SUCH A NICE DAY TODAY, BRONSTON. INDEED, CECIL.

...CECIL, DOES JONES SEEM A BIT... OFF TODAY?

JONES IS ALWAYS A BIT OFF.

OH, DON'T LOOK, CECIL. IT'S AWFUL. JONES IS... WELL, HE'S DEAD.

...WHAT?

I'M PRETTY SURE YOU CAN LIVE WITH HALF A FACE.

OH, I COULDN'T! IT WOULD BE DREADFUL.

ARE YOU SURE?

HE'S ONLY GOT HALF A FACE, DEAR.

WHAT IS IT, BRONSTON?!

THIS NEVER WOULD HAVE HAPPENED TO EDWARD. HIS BRAIN ISN'T THE SIZE OF A WALNUT.

WOULD YOU WANT TO?

Jo...

AAAAIIIEEE!

"Sconeborough" is drawn by Current cartoonist Elizabeth Gearheart.

Shakeia's Hair Salon by Sherry Holman "Going Out"

So do you want the usual today Denrick?

Naw! Give me some big finger waves this time.

What's the big occasion?

I'm just taking my girl to see this play at the Fox.

Make sure you stay close to your girlfriend because you're going to have all ladies checking you out with that hairdo.

Hah hah.

"Shakeia's Hair Salon" is drawn by Current cartoonist Sherry Holman

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HUMAN RESOURCES

"Your application seems to be in order. May I ask you to take a drug test?"

I don't know. Are there a lot of questions?

King Crossword

ACROSS

1 "Planet of the -"

5 Urban transport

8 Analgesic target

12 Emotionless-ness

14 Discourteous

15 Aussie critter

16 Earthenware pot

17 Third-party abbr.

18 "Cabaret" composer John

20 Poolroom necessities

23 Fourth canonical hour

24 Summertime desserts

25 Frog-dissection class

28 Bikini half

29 Musical transition - the

30 "the ramparts ..."

32 Bewitch

34 Old coot

35 Ostentatious display

36 Tiny fly

37 Dorothy's home

40 Author Fleming

41 Send forth

42 Illinois city

47 Admonition to Nanette

48 Overbearing

49 Despot

50 Writer

51 Hentoff

51 Shoulder band

the public eye

8 Now

9 "- Lang Syne"

10 "Spamalot" creator Eric

11 Approach

13 Supermarket stack

19 Wheel-base terminus

20 Chest protector

21 Land

3 measure

22 Slender

23 Autographs

25 Rug tradition-ally seen in baby pictures

26 Acceptable

DOWN

1 Request

2 Bake-sale grp.

3 A billion years

4 Magical symbols

5 Robin, e.g.

6 GI entertainers

7 Force into

27 Safecracker

29 Actor LaBeouf

31 "Catcher in the -"

33 Pollux's twin

34 Exams

36 Kind of shark

37 Superman's alter ego

38 Biblical prophet

39 Pinta partner

40 "Meet Me - Louis"

43 Literary collection

44 One of Hawaii's Maunas

45 Type units

46 Ordinal suffix

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

		4	7			3	9	
9	8			1		5		
	3		9		5			6
6					7		1	5
	4		2		1		8	
7		8		9		6		
		3		5			6	8
1			4	2		9		
	2	9			3			4

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging

★★★ HOO BOY!

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MAXIMO PREDICTS

Horoscopes for Feb. 19 - Feb. 25

Aries
March 21-April 19

Awww, somebody gave you a Valentine, that's so sweet. I guess even uggos like you can get love.

Taurus
April 20-May 20

The itsy bitsy spider crawled up the water spout, then, it leaped into your head through your ear. It liked all of the vacant space that it could fill by weaving its webs.

Gemini
May 21-June 21

Don't look now, but that boy you like in your biology class is looking at you. Probably because he is staring at that ghastly zit on the back of your neck and wondering when it will burst and flood the campus.

Cancer
June 22-July 22

Seriously, what is wrong with you? Have you been huffing Windex again? Maybe hair-spray?

Leo
July 23-Aug. 22

Help make our campus a better place, lovelier place to attend classes, and go enroll at Webster University. Leave UMSL alone, we don't like you here.

Virgo
Aug. 23-Sept. 22

Stop shaking your groove thing, it causes earthquakes and flooding for up to a 37 mile radius.

Libra
Sept. 23-Oct. 22

I see oodles and oodles of clowns in your future, in fact one day you will decide you want to be a clown. You will throw away all your normal people clothes and buy oversized yellow pants with rainbow suspenders, wigs in various colors, red noses that honk, white face paint, etc. You are such a freak.

Scorpio
Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

Speaking of freaks, get in the kitchen and make me a sammitch! Okay, that has nothing to do with freaks, my belly is just hungry. Makey with the sammitch!

Sagittarius
Nov. 22 - Dec. 21

Twinkle, twinkle, little star, what a giant dork you are.

Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 19

There is a giant mango in this world for you, somewhere. And someday you'll find it, the mango connection.

Aquarius
Jan. 20 - Feb. 18

Your momma and I got it on like rancor beasts in heat last night. Oh, I guess you heard from your bedroom down the hall. Well ... mind your own business you weird little pervert.

Pisces
Feb. 19 - March 20

How are things going for you in your school?

DISCLAIMER:
Maximo Predicts is brought to you by the letter "shut up" and the number "bite me ." If you have a problem with that, you can send Maximo a letter, which he will promptly respond to by telling you to shut up. If a number of you send in letters to Maximo he will not respond and just assume that you know his response will be "bite me you dirty hippy." Thanks.

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