

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI - ST. LOUIS

Student files discrimination case against **Grad School**

BY PAUL HACKBARTH

News Editor

When Colon Moore, a 48-yearold disabled Vietnam-era veteran from Steelville, Mo., enrolled in the graduate history program at UM-Rolla, he got more than he bargained for.

Moore registered in the co-op master's program in history between the UM-Rolla and UM-St. Louis campuses. He started classes at Rolla, but when he tried to enroll at UM-St. Louis, he was met with what he claims was discrimination.

Now, Moore is filing a grievance case against UM-St. Louis for age discrimination.

Moore claimed in an e-mail interview that the dean of the Graduate School, Judith Walker de Félix and two history faculty members discriminated against him in the application process for the graduate history program.

After applying at UM-St. Louis, Moore said, "They would not even give me the dignity of evaluating my credentials."

Moore received his bachelor's degree from Columbia College's Rolla campus through the Veterans Affairs Voc-Rehab program. He said he followed all of the requirements for the program, including a GPA of 3.9 in history and 3.4 overall. He also sent in three recommendation letters and a writing sample from his undergraduate years that he received 100 percent

In his e-mail, Moore claims that an adviser from the history department refused to admit him to the graduate program because he started at UM-Rolla first. Moore said he was unaware of any rule that exists regarding where to start the pro-

According to the UM-Rolla Web site, "through our cooperative program with the University of Missouri-St. Louis, students may initiate graduate work at UMR. Students may take up to 12 of the required hours for an M.A. degree before transferring to UMSL."

"They didn't like my age. They didn't want no Vietnam era disabled veteran there. They didn't want me," he said.

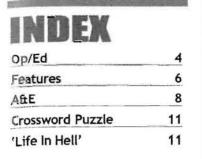
Judith Walker de Félix, dean of the Graduate School, said she could not comment on the case until it was finished. The Buckley Amendment prohibits school officials from releasing student academic records that could violate a student's right to privacy.

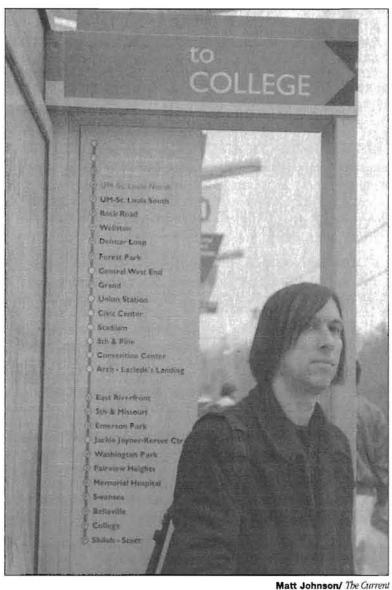
"I can say that the Graduate School doesn't discriminate against any applicant," Walker de Félix

She added that the Graduate School has a "safeguard of having more than one person make the decision whether or not to admit each applicant."

Moore contacted UM President Elson Floyd and Chancellor Thomas George, and both told him to file a grievance. After Moore filed one with Student Affairs, he said the department argued that his case was not a "grievable issue." After Moore contacted the Equal Opportunity Employment the Missouri Commission, Commission of Civil Rights and the U.S. Department of Education, Student Affairs met with him.

see DISCRIMINATION, page 10





Kevin Schneider, senior, business administration, waits for the MetroLink Thursday afternoon on North Campus.

Future of Metro pass program uncertain

BY PAUL MACKBARTH

News Editor

With the current contract for Metro passes ending by August 2006, a new proposal is needed, but none of the suggested plans from Metro work for the University.

Metro, University officials and Student Government Association met Friday, Jan. 20 to discuss the future of Metrolink passes for students.

SGA President D'Andre Braddix said Metro offered suggestions, none of which would work well for the University. Currently, the budget provides for about \$155,000 for Metro passes.

The first plan, which is similar to the fixed price system that students pay now, would allow Metro to issue 26,000 permits a year at the rate of \$16.99 per permit. This translates to students paying a total of \$441,700 for passes, almost doubling what students pay currently.

Students pay for the Metro pass-

Comparison of Current and Proposed Metro Student Pass Plans

Current Plan: Students pay 75 cents per credit hour into the infrastructure fee for a semester-long Metro pass. Cost: \$155,000

Plan I -Fixed Price Plan

UM-St. Louis would issue 26,000 Metro passes per year at \$16.99 per pass.

> Total Cost: \$441,700

Plan II -Variable Price Plan

UM-St. Louis would pay \$1 each time a student boards a train.

Total Cost: \$475,000

Plan III -Semester Plan

Full-time students age 22 and under would pay \$125 for semester long pass

Total Cost: \$3,250,000

es through the infrastructure fee, which is \$2.75 per credit hour. Schuster estimated that the Metro passes cost each student about 75 cents per credit hour. The new fixed price plan would cause the fee to jump to a \$1.95 fee per credit hour.

Under the second plan, students would not be charged per pass but would pay \$1 per boarding. Based on Metro's records, about 450,000

students ride Metrolink every year. In addition to the \$1 boarding charge, Metro would charge \$25,000 for surveys to accurately record the number of boardings.

With the third plan, full-time students ages 22 and under would receive a semester-long pass for

see METRO PASSES, page 10

No bones about it ...

Anthropology department offers new forensics class

BY BRIAN E. OLIVER

Staff Writer

If you were out walking and came across a bone, would you be able to tell if it might be from a homicide?

Would you even be able to tell if it was human?

Pamela Ashmore, assistant professor of anthropology, examines this issue in a new class the Department of Anthropology has begun offering this semester on forensic anthropology.

"In the class, what we work on is the ability to observe and critical thinking," Ashmore said. "Students need to differentiate bones of different species."

Ashmore said the bones of different species have distinct characteristics and that students with backgrounds in both anthropology and criminology and criminal justice need to understand these differences.

Although the class has no published prerequisites, Ashmore said it is important for students to have some background in biology and also recommended that students first take an introductory biology class.

An advantage of the class is that it has a lab component, which helps give students hands on experience working with and examining bones. A key exercise students in the class go through is look at a collection of bones and

determine what type of animals the bones

The class also features a series of forensic scientists as guest speakers who hope to give students a better understanding of what professionals working in forensics do daily. This semester, Ashmore's list of guest speakers includes a medicolegal investigator and forensic anthropologist, a criminalist and DNA analyst, a retired homicide detective and two college professors.

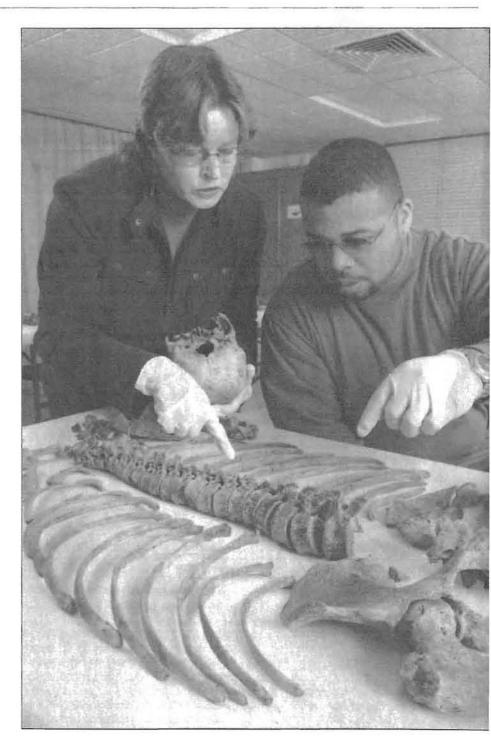
Jennifer Coffin is a medicolegal investigator and forensic anthropologist for the St. Louis County Medical Examiner's Office. She spoke to Ashmore's class on Jan. 30.

Coffin said her background in forensics was necessary because part of her job involves looking at bones brought to her by police and determining if they are human or non-human. She also said it is possible to determine gender, race and age within a certain amount of accuracy by looking at specific recovered human bones.

see FORENSICS, page 7

RIGHT: Pamela Ashmore, assistant professor of anthropology, and student Aaron Moore look over Moore's research display, which involves cataloging human skeletal remains.

Photo courtesy Jack Crosby



Curators oppose student curator receiving a vote

BY PAUL HACKBARTH

News Editor

While the Missouri House of Representatives passed legislation to grant a vote to the student representative to the UM Board of Curators last year, how far the bill will get this year is unclear.

Last May, the Missouri House approved HB 440 by a vote of 117-32. However, the Senate adjourned in

mid-May, delaying the bill. This year, three bills related to granting the student curator a vote (HB 1229, HB 1308 and SB 673) are waiting to be heard in the Capitol.

Thomas Helton, ASUM board member, said interns are continuing to working with legislators on the student curator bills. Students began lob-

bying for similar bills three years ago.

Helton explained interns "talk to legislators one on one. They go to their offices, talk to them about the vote and try to convince them that this is something that's good for the University of Missouri system." Helton added that interns testify at the

However, the three bills ran into a roadblock during the Board of Curators meeting in Columbia on Friday, Jan. 27.

Curator David Wasinger proposed a resolution to oppose the three bills that would give the student curator a vote on the board.

Curator Marion Cairns supported Wasinger's resolution. According to a transcript from the meeting, she stated, "My own feeling is that we have had wonderful input from the student

representatives, and I know they want the vote, but I feel satisfied that we are hearing from the students with a good

I think the student curator receiving a vote is inevitable.

> - Maria Curtis, student curator

strong student representative as the system works now."

The curators approved the resolution 8-0 with one abstention from

Curator Anne Ream. Ream said she abstained because "I think there are more solutions than what are outlined in these two bills. I don't think we have really put any thought into what we can do to give the students more of a satisfying voice," she stated. Ream said she did not feel comfortable voting on Missouri legislators' initiative.

Student Curator Maria Curtis was surprised about the resolution since it was not on the meeting agenda.

Helton named two factors that may have played a role in the curators' disapproval of the bills. He said the legislation would take away another curator's vote and replace it with the student curator's vote. He also said, "Some of the curators are concerned that the student may vote in matters of faculty," which would cause a conflict of interest if a student

voted on matters of his or her profes-

Curtis said both of those reasons are inaccurate.

"There is a misconception that one of the individuals on the board would lose a vote, and that is not the case,

Curtis said. If the bills pass, Curtis said the governor would appoint two individuals to be curators next round, instead of the usual three appointments.

She also said having a vote would not be a conflict of interest. "I have never seen any situation where the board voted on any faculty members individually," Curtis said. The board does not vote on tenure, promotions or salary of individual professors.

see CURATOR VOTE, page 3

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

Monday, Feb. 6

KWMU to air Senate Surveillance Hearings

Today at 8:30 a.m. KWMU will air National Public Radio's coverage of the Senate Commitee on the Judiciary's hearing on "Wartime Executive Power and the NSA's surveillance Authority." Call 5968 for more information.

Monday Noon Series: The Lawrence Lithography Workshop

Master printer Mike Sims will describe his work at 12:15 p.m. in the Gallery 210 auditorium. The lecture is free and open to the public and is part of the Monday Noon Series, sponsored by The Center for the Humanities. An exhibit of Smith's work will continue through March 11 in Exhibition Room B of Gallery 210. Call 5699 for more information.

Healthy Aging Colloquium

Jessica Logan, postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Psychology at Washington University, will discuss "Age-Related Changes in Memory and Language: Attentional Control and Strategy Use in Healthy Aging." This event begins at 3:15 p.m. and will be held in room 120 of the Research Building. This event is free and open to the public. Call 5393 for more infor-

Short Course Classes

Instructional Computing Labs will again be teaching 1 hour classes through March 3. These classes are FREE to UM-St. Louis students, staff, and faculty. Topics include Word Basics, PowerPoint Basics, Excel Basics, Web Page building/HTML, Photoshop, and more. To sign up and view a list of complete course offerings, visit umsl.edu/training.

Tuesday, Feb. 7

Study Abroad

An information session will be held in front of the University Advising Center in the MSC at 2 p.m. Session will cover programs offered, academic credit, scholarships, financial aid, and application procedures. This is the last session before the Feb. 24 application deadline. Call 6497 for information.

Wed., Feb. 8

"The Diversity Ball"

The dance will be held at 7 p.m. in the Century Rooms at the MSC. The event will feature a lecture by UM-St. Louis alumnus Mike Jones. A \$10 donation will be collected at the door. Call 4833 for more information.

Thurs., Feb. 9

"Homage to the Family" exhibition

"Gallery Visio is hosting an exhibition for Alfonso Fernandez of Santiago, Chile from Feb. 9-March 2, 2006. A reception for the artist will be held today from 4 to 7 p.m. and is free and open to the public. For more information call 7922.

Friday, Feb. 10

Awakening 2006

The Catholic Newman Center is hosting its annual awakening retreat on Feb. 10-12. All college-aged students are welcome. Call (314) 385-3455 for more information.

Business/Economics Lecture

Dennis Lopez, doctoral candidate in business at the University of Arkansas, will discuss "The Effect of Workload Compression on Audit Quality' at 11 a.m. in the Baird, Kurtz & Dobson Conference Room on the 12th floor of the Social Science & Business Building Tower. Free. Call 6142 for more information.

Sat., Feb. 10

Basketball Senior Night

The Rivermen and Riverwomen teams will wrap up their home schedule with a doubleheader against the Quincy University Hawks. The graduating seniors from each UM-St. Louis team will be honored. the women's game will start at 5:30 p.m. and the men's will start at 7:30 p.m. Games will be held at the Mark Twain/Athletics & Fitness Center. UM-St. Louis students are admitted free with UMSL ID. For more information call 5661.

Sunday, Feb. 12

Sorority Open House

Delta Zeta Sorority will hold an open house from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Delta Zeta House, located near the East Drive entrance to South Campus. The open house will include tours, refreshments and discussions of sorority life. Call (314) 803-2588 or e-mail beggg2@umsl.edu for more information.

Mon., Feb. 13

Tau Sigma Blood Drive

A blood drive will be held with the American Red Cross from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Century Rooms at the MSC.

Monday Noon Series

Susan Brownell, associate professor of anthropology, will explore differences between Western and Oriental attitudes toward sports at 12:15 p.m. in 229 J.C. Penney Conference Center. She also discusses Western opposition to China's entering international sports, and China's promotion of Chinese culture through the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games. Free. Call 5699 for more infor-

Artemis String Quartet

Concert will be held at 7:30 p.m. at The Ethical Society of St. Louis, 9001 Clayton Rd. Tickets are \$23 for adults and \$18 for students. For more information call 5818.

Rec Sports Two-Ball Soccer Tourney Deadline

Registration deadline for Campus Recreation's 2-ball soccer tournament that will be held from 6:30 to 10 p.m. Feb.15 in the Mark Twain Building. This is a one-night soccer tourney in which six players per side use two balls on the field instead of one. Participation is free to all UM-St. Louis students, faculty, staff and alumni. Team and indientries are accepted. Register at the Campus Recreation office,

visit http://www.umsl.edu/services/recsport for more info. Chemistry Colloquium

203 Mark Twain. Call 5326 or

Raven Huang, assistant professor of biochemistry at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, will discuss "Molecular Recognition and Mechanisms of RNA Modifications that Require Breakage of Glycosidic Bonds" at 4 p.m. in 451 Benton Hall. Coffee will be served at 3:45

The Current Events Bulletin Board is a service provided free of charge to all

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submissions to the current Events Bulletin Foara is 3 p.m., every Thursday before publication. Space consideration is given to student organizations and is on a first cone first servery basic Was events to a submitted at least one track track to the submitted at least one track track. publication. Space consideration is given to student organizations and is on a Jirst-come, first-serve basis. We suggest all postings be submitted at least one week prior to the event. Send submissions ria mail at 388 MSC, One University Blud., St. Louis, MO 62121 few at \$16.6911 or angul at a proportion trust add.

Tues., Feb. 14

p.m. Free, Call 5311 for more

information.

Valentine's Auction

The second annual auction will be in the Pilot House from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. There will be two digital cameras given away as door prizes and you will be able to bid on fellow students for a chance to win a date. Also, stop by the International Business Club table in the MSC to purchase serenades and gifts for your Valentine. The event is sponsored by Students Today Alumni Tomorrow, The office of Student Life and IBC.

Wed., Feb. 15

Trivia Contest

An African-American History Month contest will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Pilot House. The event is sponsored the Associated Black Collegians. Call 5731 for details.

Friday, Feb. 17

Bellerive

The Pierre Laclede Honors College publication will debut from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Provincial House Common Room on South Campus. At 11:30 a.m., an award-winning author and UM-St. Louis professor will speak.

Refreshments will be served.

Announcements

Short Story Contest

The UM-St. Louis Wednesday Club and the English Department are seeking entrants for a short story writing competition. Open to undergraduate UM-St. Louis students. Stories should be typed, double-spaced with a detachable cover page, which should include the student's name, address, phone number, e-mail address and a title for

the story.

Put the story in a large envelope and hand it to an English dept. secretary. Deadline is Feb. 16. Winner receives a \$200 prize at an alumni party and awards ceremony in May.

'Litmag' seeks submissions

Litmag, the UMSL Literary Magazine, seeks poetry, prose, dramatic works and art. All submissions should be sent to the Department of English, 484 Lucas Hall, or e-mailed to psm2m5@umsl.edu. Prose must be 3,000 words or less, and each individual work must be submitted on a separate page. All submissions will be kept confidential, and authors and artists will be contacted directly by the Litmag staff concerning inclusion in the magazine. The deadline for submissions is Feb. 15.

CIS Photo Contest

The Center for International Studies is holding its first International Photo Contest for students, faculty and staff. Cash prizes will be awarded to first, second and third-place winners. Entries must be original work, taken outside the U.S. Deadline is March 15, 2006. For more information, e-mail: ellpr@umsl.edu or call 7299.

Undergrad Research Symposium deadline nears

Undergrads preparing a thesis paper or participating in a research project are encouraged to participate in the Golden Key Undergraduate Research Symposium, scheduled for April 28. Research conducted through UM-St. Louis by current or graduated student between WS 2005 and WS 2006 may be submitted. Visit umsl.edu/services/academic/urs/index.html for information and applications for the URS. The deadline for filing an Intent to Participate is Feb. 17. Deadline for applications is March 17. Email URS@umsl.edu for more information.

Study Abroad Deadline

The study abroad application deadline for summer, fall semester and academic year programs is Feb. 24. The Japan Study Tour has a deadline of Feb. 10. Call 6497 or visit umsl.edu/studyabroad for more information.

Put your event on the Bulletin Board by emailing information to current@jinx.umsl.edu

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The Current

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The following incidents were reported to the University of Missouri - St. Louis Police Department between January 29, 2006 and February 4, 2006.

Remember that crime prevention is a community effort, and anyone having information concerning these incidents should contact the Campus

January 30, 2006 Stealing \$500.00-University Meadows Apts.

The victim reported some items stolen from her apartment. The victim indicated that she had a lap-top computer, cell phone charger and a Nintendo game system stolen. The victim further advised that after her roommate moved out, the items were discovered missing. It is possible that the items were taken during the move by mistake. The Police are continuing the investigation.

February 1, 2006 Stealing

Under \$500.00-315 Clark Hall

The Instructional Computing Site Supervisor reported that sometime between Friday 1-27-06 and Wednesday 2-1-06 a VCR was stolen from a classroom in room 315 of Clark Hall. This VCR was secured with a steel cable to a cart that also had a TV on it. It appears that the cable was pulled from the back of the VCR, allowing the theft. The classroom is left unlocked at all

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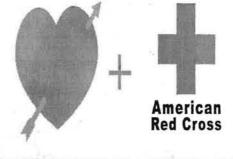
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Board of curators discusses PRIZM drag show drama

BY SEAN MICHAEL

Staff Writer

Should student fees be used to support events such as a drag show on campus?

This issue came under scrutiny at the University of Missouri Board of Curators meeting Friday, Jan. 27 in Columbia, Mo., regarding the controversy surrounding PRIZM's drag show, which took place on the UM-St. Louis campus last October.

PRIZM is the student organization of homosexual, lesbian, bisexual and transgender students. According to Student Curator Maria Curtis, the question of whether or not student organizations should be given student fees to spend on events they choose was raised.

"There was a Supreme Court case called Wisconsin Board of Regents v. Southworth, which is strikingly similar to what is going on now," Curtis said. "It was decided that student fees must be made available to organizations regardless of religious, political or ideological lifestyles."

According to Chancellor Thomas George, a lot of dissension in the gay community exists concerning the content of the drag show. He mentioned that Charles Stadtlander, senior, public policy, and president of the Log Cabin Republicans of Greater St. Louis, wrote a correspondence letter last October about the drag show. Stadtlander attended the event and voiced his objections in the letter.

George apologized for the conduct at the drag show. "We don't see this controversy happening again, but it did occur," he said.

Curator David Wasinger felt differently about the program. "If you don't like this type of event, you can just walk out; it's freedom of expression," Wasinger said, according to a

transcript from the Board of Curators meeting.

Curtis felt the students should be allowed to give their opinions on the issue. "If this topic is of true concern, then students with differing opinions on the drag show should be contacted," she said.

According to Curtis, some students felt the letter did not accurately describe the event.

Students want to feel their campus is safe and George said he wants to ensure the safety of the students. "It's their space to do with as they want, but someone signed off on this event to occur," he said. Wasinger was concerned about some of the activities at the drag show. He felt that some of the audience members might have found the material offensive. Wasinger said the host, a drag queen, told some obscene jokes and concluded the performance by giving one of the audience members a lap dance.

University to see a homosexual drag show with lap dances," Wasinger stated in the transcript. He said he was unsure how approval is granted to events like this drag show.

"I don't think of coming to the

"I would like to know the different types of programs that go on at

UM-St. Louis and other universities, and I'd also like to know whether or not any programs have been declined or not signed off on," Wasinger said.

or not signed off on," Wasinger said.

Curtis felt that despite the controversial content at the drag show, it would be a violation of the First Amendment if the board did not

allow differing opinions to be heard.

"There are other students out there who would be more than happy to speak on this subject who were at the event," Curtis said.

The topic of student fees will be one of the issues raised when the Board of Curators meets again in March at UM-Rolla.

Center opens its doors to public, future research

BY MELISSA S. HAYDEN

Staff Writer

"Fifty to 70 percent of people have experienced a traumatic event in their lifetime," according to Steven Bruce, director of the Center for Trauma Recovery.

The center focuses its research on the recovery of people who have suffered traumatic experiences and are dealing with the symptoms of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

An open house was held at the facility last Wednesday, located in the lower level of the Kathy J. Weinman Building on South Campus. The center, which is usually securely locked and can only be opened with a key card access, was open to the public.

Tristan Robinson, graduate student, clinical psychology, said the building is kept secure for the safety of patients and research participants.

"One study we did involved women who were affected by domestic violence," Robinson said. At the event, she and other employees of the facility conducted tours of the rooms and helped clarify the purpose of the center.

"We started the trauma clinic for people who wanted treatment but didn't fit our studies. We didn't want to just turn those people away," she said.

The center opened its doors in 1997 and operates on research grants and community service funding. The entire building was conceived for the assessment of therapy for both children and adults. The upper part of the building is used for studying sexually abused children and conducting employee forensic research.

Unlike the upper levels of the building, Robinson said the center's work is "strictly therapeutic." A display of quilts donated to the center is something she feels enforces the "cozy environment" it offers to patients.

The center's new director, Steven Bruce, discussed the center itself and its ongoing research on PTSD. Bruce has been with the center for approxi-

mately six months.

His goals as director are to expand the understanding of trauma and PTSD through clinical research and to increase the collaboration between the center and university programs.

He said PTSD has serious ramifications, including that it can lead to pain, stress, suicide attempts and suicide itself.

"This disorder really needs to be treated effectively and efficiently," he said.

The center uses a treatment called Cognitive Processing Therapy for PTSD. Patricia Resick, who holds a doctoral degree and is a licensed clinical psychologist and professor of psychology, developed the therapy.

"It's a little different than other methods. It's primarily focused on how the victim of the trauma is perceiving their event, things like dealing with self-esteem, pain and control," said Tara Galovski, assistant research professor of psychology.

According to Galovski, CPT is a

12-session therapy specifically designed for the treatment of PTSD. Two main components of the therapy are exposure and cognitive restructuring.

"Right now we're looking at the variables we've been testing, deconstructing the therapy to see if it is all of the components or just one part that is having the desired effect," she said.

Recent studies conducted at the center tested reactions of the brain to trauma and treatment. Another examined reasons why or why not female victims of domestic violence reported the incidents to the police and what was the outcome if they did or did not report. Bruce hopes the data collected at the center can be used to shift and modify public policy.

"New technologies are really coming together nicely. We have a broad range of research interests here at the center," Bruce said. "We hope that we get funding for all of these things and we'll go from there."

News Briefs

Call Center to open in Woods Hall

UM-St. Louis recently hired the telemarketing company Ruffalo Cody to help open and manage a calling center on the second floor lounge of Woods Hall. The calling center will hire students to work as staff to call University alumni and ask for donations. According to Tom Eschen, vice chancellor of development, "Other than personally visiting our alumni and friends, having our students talk to them on the phone is the most effective way of contacting them and asking for financial support."

Eschen said four students and an onsite manager were already hired, and according to Career Services, 20 total positions will be filled. Students must work at least 12 hours per week and will get paid \$6.75 per hour plus bonuses. Donations will go to scholarships and building repair and mainte-

nance on campus. The call center is scheduled to open Monday, Feb. 6. For more information or to apply for a position, call 516-4755.

ASUM now called SLA

The local chapter of ASUM is now called Student Legislators Association. Thomas Helton, St. Louis board member, said, "Our campus decided to adopt the chapter name of ASUM, SLA, just in an effort to launch new programs and a new visibility campaign, something that didn't seem as professional and something that could relate to the students a little bit more."

In addition, Helton said a group of students from Kansas City and Columbia are trying to create a statewide organization similar to ASUM for the 14 public universities in Missouri. "The reason they wanted to form that is because they feel that ASUM doesn't represent their views appropriately," Helton said.

CURATOR VOTE, from page 1

ASUM Board Member David Dodd said, "It's unfortunate that they [Board of Curators] have taken a negative stance on the issue. I know that they disagree with how the board would be reorganized in order for the student to get a vote. The fact remains

that the student curator deserves a vote."

Helton said the resolution might have some impact on the legislators.

"Since it deals directly with them [Board of Curators], there's going to be a lot of legislators that are on the

fence and this might push them to say ... we don't want to do anything that they're uncomfortable with because it's their board," Helton said.

If the legislation passes, a student curator would receive a vote by as early as August 2007, which means

the next student curator chosen from UM-St. Louis may have a vote.

"I think the student curator receiving a vote is inevitable," Curtis said. "I do not see them [students] giving up even if it takes 10 more years. It will happen."





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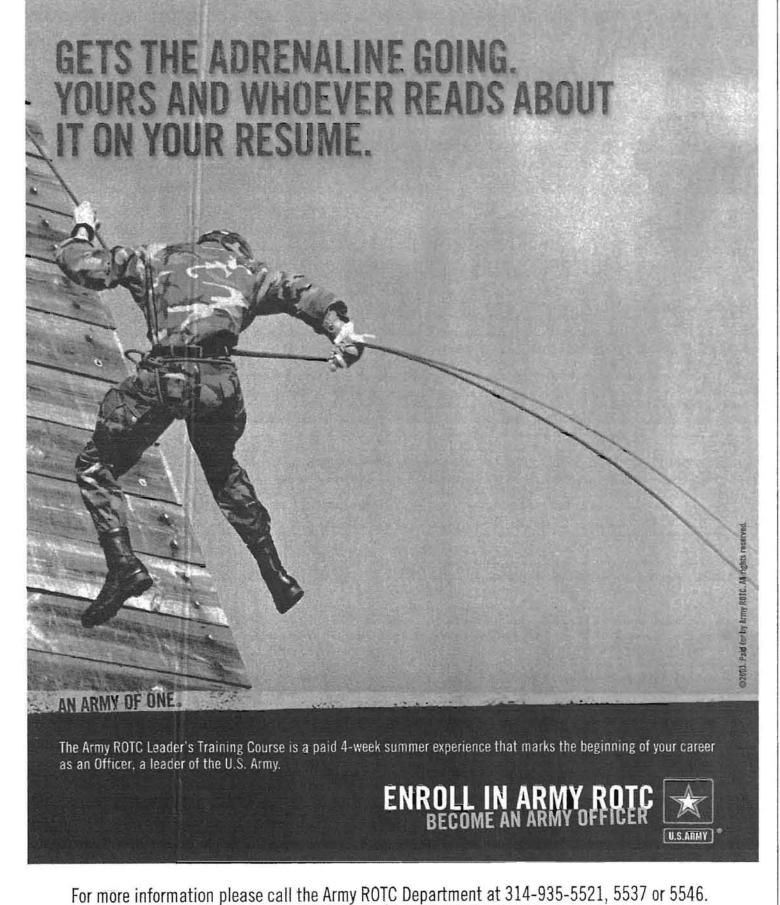
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388 Millennium Student Center

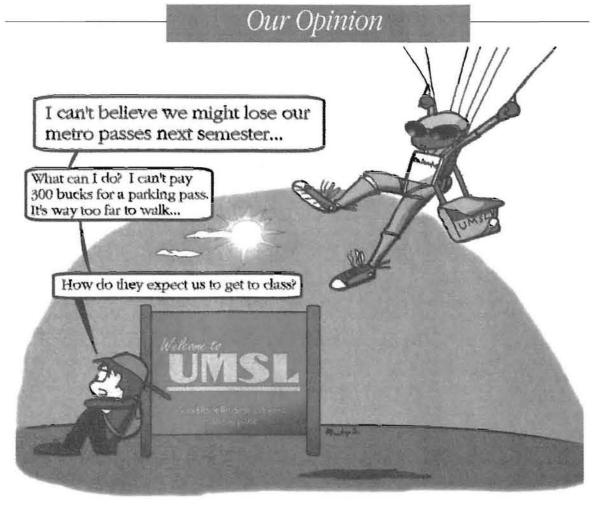
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Letters to the editor should be brief, and those not exceeding 200 words will be given preference. We edit letters for clarity and length, not for dialect, correctness, intent or grammar. All letters must be signed and must include a daytime phone number. Students must

include their student ID numbers. Faculty and staff must include their title(s) and department(s). Editor-inchief reserves the right to respond to letters. The Current reserves the right to deny letters.



Save our Metro passes!

Since the North and South campus station construction, UM-St. Louis and Metro have informally agreed to provide public transit passes to the University's students.

That is, they agreed until about 18 months ago. Metro has proposed formal agreements, and its newest goal involves making the pass distribution fair to all college campuses near Metro

According to Metro, "fair" means offering UM-St. Louis three new plans. All of them will cost more than current prices. One will coast a laughable \$3.095,000 more.

Plan I is similar, costs aside, to the one in place now. This fixed price plan allows the University to distribute passes to students on a first come, first serve basis. We would fund this program with a flat rate paid through the infrastructure fee.

The similarities to our current situation end there. This plan cannot work for the University because students would have to pay a higher rate, and the budget currently does not allot enough funding for the rate increase.

Plan II, the variable price plan, would base distribution on the number

When a hijacked airliner crashed

into the Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001, I

worried about Khalid, my nephew,

who worked there. I did not know

until the next day that he was all right.

work that day. My family is as

opposed to Al Qaeda as anyone. They

tapping plan does not make us feel

President Bush said, "This terrorist

surveillance program has helped pre-

vent terrorist attacks. It remains essen-

tial to the security of America. If there

are people inside our country who are

talking with al-Qaida, we want to

know about it - because we will not

What Bush did not say is why he

The president can legally wiretap

suspected Al Qaeda members, their

associates and other terrorists. Under

the Federal Intelligence Surveillance

Act, however, he must ask a special

secret court set up under the act for a

The FISA court is a secret court.

Asking that court for a warrant would

sit back and wait to be hit again."

refuses to obey the law.

almost murdered Khalid.

safer.

Khalid was lucky: he was late for

But President Bush's illegal wire-

In his State of the Union address,

of boardings per year by UM-St. Louis students. Each boarding would cost \$1, which is \$0.75 less than the standard adult one-ride fare.

This plan would not fit into the current budget either. According to Metro, UM-St. Louis transit users board around 450,000 times per year. The biggest drawback to this plan is that it would add \$25,000 to the price of the plan in order for accurate surveys to be conducted to determine the number of boardings.

Plan III, the semester plan, would provide only full-time students less than 22 years of age with a Metro pass. The semester plan would cost a ridiculous \$3,250.000. This plan would not allow the

majority of UM-St. Louis' students to even receive a pass, since the average age of students is 27. Additionally, the plan does not consider the many parttime students enrolled at UM-St. Louis.

We also have the option to cut the program altogether. Losing our transit privileges would have serious consequences for our commuter students, faculty and staff. A monthly Metro pass costs \$55. For this price, local commuters might find it cheaper to drive.

Staff Viewpoint

Laws apply to everyone, even Bush

BENJAMIN ISRAEL

Columnist

If there is not time for the warrant,

The court has authorized thou-

the president can authorize the tap and

apply for a warrant in three days. So

sands of wiretaps, and according to

press reports only turned down five in

its lifetime. It's not like following the

law would hamper the legitimate use

of surveillance against potential ter-

President Bush insist on breaking the

ance stand covers up surveillance that

So we must ask, "Why does

I can only conclude that his defi-

not alert terrorists of the wiretap.

time is not a question.

Our growing University population would inevitably require more parking

And what about the environmental consequences? If half of our 450,000 riders decide to drive rather than use the Metro, then 225,000 more vehicles would contribute to local air pollution.

We certainly understand that Metro needs money to operate, especially with the construction of another MetroLink line. Rather than burden UM-St. Louis students with such an extreme price spike, could the company offer some kind of five-year plan?

Student Government Association voted not to recommend an increase in the University's infrastructure fee this year, partly because members did not have specific financial information regarding the cost hike. If Metro suggested a five-year plan to raise the cost, the SGA would have a justifiable reason to vote in favor of future infrastructure fee

The current situation calls for collaborative efforts, and both University and Metro officials should conduct intensive cost-benefit analyses to find a solution that benefits both parties.

the court would not approve.

Katrina? Democrats?

ing the Vietnam War.

Who is he monitoring? Opponents

to the Iraq War? People giving Dick

Cheney's former corporation

harassment I faced from the FBI dur-

In the weeks following the

September 11 attacks, hundreds of

people, most of them foreign nation-

als, were rounded up and held in pris-

ons here, sometimes without their

families knowing what happened to

them. No courts in this country have

charged them with any crimes of ter-

One reason this is a great country is

our Bill of Rights. The Fourth

Amendment guarantees all people's

right "to be secure in their persons,

houses, papers, and effects, against

unreasonable searches and seizures."

We can only be searched with a war-

Not even for the president. The

whole point of the Bill of Rights is

that no one in this country has

rant backed by an oath.

There are no exceptions.

unchecked absolute power.

Editor Viewpoints

Can you major in a little bit of everything?

When I grow up, I want to be a marketing professional, journalist, yoga master, teacher, mother, stage musician, actress, fighter pilot, page designer, travel writer. small business owner, charitable benefactor, butcher, baker and candlestick maker.

That list sure made it easy to choose a

major.

For the last three years, I embraced my mass communications field of study as a broad program that would give me flexible job opportunities. Last semester, though, the force behind two words hit me between the eyeballs: real job. I needed to find one. Soon.

Suddenly my degree's flexibility looked more like a curse than a blessing. People started asking me what I wanted to do after graduation. My list of life aspirations would flash through my head, and I'd shrug. "Get a fun job that pays the bills," I'd respond, secretly wishing I had a brown bag into which I could hyperventilate.

Degree requirements completed, I enrolled in a few random classes last semester, including graphic design 1. My initial interest quickly turned into unabashed love. I had discovered my academic soul mate.

While some brave intellect-lovers have the courage to change majors one semester before graduating, the idea of abandoning my communications degree at the last minute didn't fit into my plans for the next year. At 21 years old, I felt tied down and doomed to walk an eternal career path without my beloved design. I, the moony-eyed Juliet, would have to live with the loss of graphic arts, my ill-fated Romeo.

Okay, that's a little extreme.

Seriously though, I always imagined I would end up with one career, a perfect job I'd find right out of college. After all, my dad joined the Army after college. and will celebrate 23 years soon. To my knowledge, job security was never an issue. Growing up in the military community made

Managing Editor me self-impose those

KATE DROLET

reality check. Do civilians start their careers the day after graduation?

lifestyle expectations, so I needed a

Thankfully, the answer is mostly 'no.' Not alone in my professional anxieties, I've discussed this perception with other soon-to-be graduates. We're all freaked out. The existence of this mutual distress calmed me, and I started thinking about my own career possibilities.

A whole group of UM-St. Louis students has refused to get stuck in an unsatisfying professional grind. Whether they're in college for the first time or seeking another degree, our non-traditional students serve as a reality check for the nervous career

If your schedule allows, don't be afraid to change majors. If you discover another passion late in the academic game, take a page from the non-traditional book and consider going back to school later in life.

For seniors without a job lined up, anxiety can mount and graduation can loom like an execution day. Let's get real. We'll get jobs. If we hate them, we'll quit. We can go back to school, we can find different jobs and, as long as we're willing, we will live up to our childhood aspirations.

Bizarre buys abound for bidders on Ebay

The Internet has become more than a research tool. The web is a place where people can kill time, chat with others and shop without leaving home.

While the Internet provides numerous retail websites where people can buy virtually anything they

Halliburton sweetheart contracts? Critics of his response to Hurricane want, millions of shoppers and sellers Two weeks ago, I wrote about the auction items daily on Ebay.

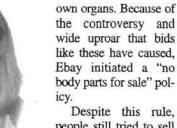
Ebay has become a popular destination for those in search of antiques, collectibles, memorabilia and hard to find items. Like thousands of people, I have bought some unique items through Ebay, like a Led Zeppelinsigned poster for my dad and an autographed baseball for my boyfriend's Christmas present.

I am definitely not against Ebay, but I have seen some items up for bid that have made me wonder about the people who actually buy and sell such bizarre things.

In the past five years, some weird items listed for sale on Ebay have made national news headlines.

In 1999, for example, a maximum donation of \$2.5 million was being asked for a fully

functional human kidney. Many such listings have turned out to be pranks or practical jokes, but several people have actually tried to sell their



MELISSA MCCRARY Features Editor

people still tried to sell human parts. Jeff Nelson, Seattle Mariners player, put his own bone chips up for sale, after having elbow surgery in 2002.

Although Nelson's bone chips reached a bid of over \$20,000, Ebay pulled his listing.

I can only imagine if this listing hadn't been banned. What the winner of these bone chips be thinking? I can picture Nelson's bone chips sitting on top of someone's fireplace mantle for everyone to see. I imagine the owner thinking, "Don't these bone chips make great décor?"

Another interesting sell made world news recently. Andrew Fischer made over \$50,000 by selling his forehead for advertising space in January 2005. Fischer's forehead was listed under the temporary tattoo section, which is why it was able to surpass Ebay's regulation.

When surfing through Ebay's odd listings, I came across a few items that made me wonder and some that made me laugh out loud.

see EBAY, page 9

by Adam Wiseman

Photo Director If you had a radio show, what would it be about



Sai Vamsy Palakollu, Computer Science, Graduate Student

Not appropriate to serve alcohol on campus.



Nicole Wolf, Criminology, Graduate Student

66

Age permitting, why not. Gotta be better than the coffee.



Rob Budach Coordinator, Office of Student Life

My job is on the line, so I'll take the fifth for now, but it would sure change how lunch goes.



Jamin Palmer, Criminology, Graduate Student

66

Ya, if they are old enough, serve it up! It would be great to relax between classes with a beer.

Science Column

Chocolate shows your love for Valentine's Day

Roes and chocolates are taditional gifts for Valenne's Day. But you mightwant to buy a single rose ad splurge a bit more on th chocolate to really showyour love.

Cocolate tastes good, make us feel good and is goodfor us, too. No joke. Choolate is known to incruse feelings of wellbein but studies show that it ha health benefits as well.

Irown tops red and green: Choolate has more cancer-preventing compounds than red wine or gren tea, according to a 2003 Cornell Unversity study. Specifically, the resarchers compared drinking hot cooa to red wine and green tea, in a stuly that looked at the anti-cancer chenical activity of drinks that were known to contain antioxidants. They wee surprised to find that hot cocoa hal double the level of antioxidants conpared to red wine and three times th level in green tea.

Cocoa tops these other beverages beause of its levels of phenolic phytchemicals, known as flavonoids. Favonoids have beneficial effects a;ainst heart disease and other diseses, as well as against cancer. The sudy found a serving of cocoa contins 564 milligrams of the flavonoid eicatechin and 611 milligrams of the phenolic compound gallic acid. A anuary 2006 study from University of California found that epicatechin is he compound linked to the heart benfits of chocolate.

It is well worth it to spend a bit more and get a high-quality, dark chocolate, like from Bissingers or another chocolate shop. Chocolate is a mix of cocoa, sugar and fats but it is the cocoa solids you want. There are more of them in dark chocolate and in higher-quality chocolates. Cheap chocolates have much less health benefits (in cases, maybe none, due to the fats and sugar).

Go for the dark:

Dark chocolate has more flavonoids, because it has more cocoa solids. A small Jan. 2006 study showed heart benefits, by preventing artery hardening, for smokers from eating even small amounts of dark chocolate, with 74% cocoa solids. There were no health benefits from white chocolate, which lack these solids. Other studies support the health benefits of dark chocolate specifically.

Chocoholics: Women who are very fond of chocolate might call themselves chocoholics but craving for chocolate might have more in common with craving for drugs than you might think. Chocolate craving overlaps with drug craving in the brain. In a 2001 study at Northwestern University Medical School, researchers used positron emission tomography (PET) scans to measure brain activity and compare that activity to people's ratings of enjoyment as they are chocolate. They found a correlation between reported levels of pleasure and increased blood flow in the brain in the areas of the orbital frontal cortex and midbrain.

Other studies have found that



BY CATE MARQUIS Science Columnist

these same areas are activated by addictive drugs like cocaine.

However, if you have eaten too much chocolate and are no longer enjoying it, this is no longer true. The researcher found that other areas of the brain are activated when you are over-full of chocolate. Food scientists

have reported that chocolate may be the most craved food. Some of these scientists have suggested that chocolate can be addictive.

Chocolate love:

A 2004 study from researchers at University of Pennsylvania used functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) to study food cravings, like for chocolate. They found that those cravings activate parts of the brain associated with emotion, memory and reward. This is also true for drug cravings, and the researchers suggested that all cravings share this effect and the food cravings may be the evolutionary basis for other crav-

Some tastes are acquired but not for chocolate:

A taste for chocolate may be hardwired in the brain. In a Jan. 2006 study published in the journal Neuron, researchers looked at the genetic basis for instant positive response to sweets, like chocolate, at first taste by looking at taste genes in

Researchers had postulated that No drug-store sampler box our immediate liking for the sweet taste of chocolate was too complex a behavior to be learned and likely had a genetic basis. Their study confirmed the link between behavior and preference for sweet taste by genetically engineering fruit flies whose taste neurons for sweet were activated by a compound that fruit flies do not naturally have the ability to taste. They found that the engineered flies spent as much time tasting this new substance as they had real sweet ones, indicating that the preference behavior was genetically determined.

Chocolate overcomes other

Previous research has indicated that an extreme sensitivity to bitter tastes may be an inherited trait and a 2001 University of Washington study expanded on this. Even women who had the trait for sensitivity to bitterness enjoyed bitter chocolate when a little sugar or a lot of fat was added. So while they did not enjoy bitter, bitter-sweet or white chocolate, all women with the trait liked chocolate's classic combination of bitter, sweet and fat flavors. They just might prefer sweeter chocolates.

A final thought: surprise her with those chocolates:

Brain research shows we love surprises. A 2001 Emory University study showed that previously identified pleasure centers of the brain did not respond equally under all circumstances to enjoyable stimuli. Instead, pleasure centers, particularly the nucleus accumbens, responded more strongly to unexpected pleasures, even in people who had not expressed preference for surprises. Just make Staff Viewpoint

Remembering Coretta Scott King

The world should never forget King's legacy, apart from that of her husband



Staff Writer

In remembering Coretta Scott King, who died on Jan. 30, we should take the time to remember her great-

say thanks for her contributions to the civil rights movement.

We should remember the legacy she leaves behind: a legacy separate from her contributions as the wife of Martin Luther King, Jr. Coretta Scott King pushed for the

commemoration of her husband's legacy by demanding his birthday become a national holiday. King designed and produced the

Martin Luther King Jr. Center for

Nonviolent Social Change in Atlanta. She also raised funds for and managed

One of the last qualities we must We should pay tribute to King and remember about Coretta is her

> It took courage to marry a man of Martin Luther King's caliber.

It took courage to support him and the Civil Rights movement in the face of turmoil and death threats. It also took courage to raise a family in these circumstances.

King marched with her husband on several occasions, traveled abroad with him and she also gave speeches in his place when he was unable to appear for speaking engagements.

It took courage to accept the tragic death of her husband and four days later, lead a march of 50,000 people through the streets of Memphis, to further the cause of civil rights.

In the years following the tragic death of her husband, she continued to speak out against racism and social injustice.

Although, we lost Coretta Scott King in the physical form, we have her work and her legacy to remind us of her greatness. She was, is and forever will be a great woman of courage and justice.

The Rogue Librarian

What do librarians want most for Christmas?

RALEIGH MUNS

UMSL Reference Librarian

So, what DO librarians receive as gifts from friends and family at Christmas time? I had been pining all year for the "Nancy Pearl Librarian Action Figure with amazing shushing action" and was not disappointed to find it in my stocking on Christmas morn. I had to take her out (she's modeled on a real librarian from Seattle) and run around the room using the "amazing shushing action" on the kids. I even shushed the Baby Jesus in our diorama on top of the fireplace. (1) Lock left arm in lowered position; (2) push button in Nancy's back and watch the extended index finger flash up to her pursed lips; (3) Shush, Baby Jesus, Shush!

I was especially touched when I realized that I had not been given the pedestrian common Nancy Pearl action figure. My sister-in-law sent me the DELUXE version! The divine Ms. Pearl's dress has been upgraded from the earlier version's frumpy black dress to a frumpy burgundy one; this new, improved version also now comes with a tiny book cart, reference desk, and desk-top computer. At five inches tall, you can get your very own Nancy Pearl action figure at the Archie McPhee web site (www.mcphee.com). If you're uncomfortable playing with a librarian doll, McPhee also offers the "Deluxe Jesus Action Figure" which comes with "five loaves of bread, two fish and a jug for turning water into

wine (not guaranteed to work for real). Also features 'glow-in-the-dark miracle hands!" I may get that for my birthday so I can have "Godzilla vs. Mothra" kind of battles with Jesus vs. Nancy Pearl. I know that wouldn't be a fair fight - the powers of Jesus vs. mere shushing?

No surprise, but I also get books as presents. This season I was given another copy of "The Von Hoffman Bros.' Big Damn Book of Sheer Manliness" (1998 and out of print) which I can't recommend highly enough if you can find a copy. With this book in hand you can learn how to build potato cannons, find out about the histories of WD-40 and McIlhenny Tabasco Sauce, and discover that "Spartacus" is deemed the manliest movie of all time. I consider

myself a manly librarian, ignoring the fact that you might catch me playing with my "Nancy Pearl Librarian Action Figure" now and then at the reference desk. And if you don't like that, I will just shush you.

What does a librarian give as gifts you may ask? I gave my teenage son duck-down filled slippers; my 8 year old daughter a gift certificate to Build-a-Bear; and my wife a copy of "The Beatles - Complete Scores." It was each what they wanted. And then I shushed them all a Merry Christmas and Happy 2005-2006 Holiday Season!

Raleigh Muns' column, "The Rogue Librarian" appears every other week in The Current.

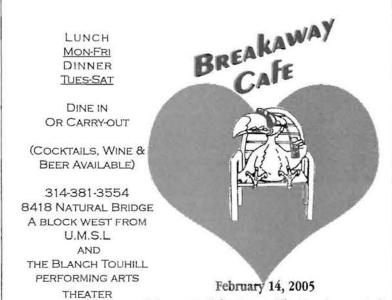
Letter to the Editor

Solicitors at MSC entrance are a nuisance

I know that this issue was brought up last semester, but it isn't getting any better and in fact it is getting worse. The problem I am referring to is the solicitation that is conducted in the walkway of the bridge of the Millennium Center. I have no problem with people trying to get students to support their cause or business, but do we need all of them there at once?

One day last week there was a petition drive, a representative from a school for chiropractors, and fraternity members handing out invites to their "exclusive" party for Friday night making my commute to class rather difficult. All that these solicitors were doing was slowing down the walk from the MSC to the rest of the campus. It is just down right annoying. I just don't want to have to snap at the lady who asks me if I'm a Missouri voter one more time, basically I'm sick of lying to her and telling her I'm from another state. Wouldn't it make sense if the school limited these solicitors to say only one a day, or do I have to keep telling people I'm from Nebraska?

Chuck Murphy, Junior, Political



Bring your Valentine to The Breakaway Cafe

opinion?

What's your Write a letter to the editor. sure it is a pleasant surprise, like real-



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13

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Melissa McCrary

Features Editor

phone: 516-5174 fax: 516-6811

the week's

best

Last Rivermen and Riverwomen Basketball Teams' Home Games

Support the UM-St. Louis basketball teams by attending the games on Thursday, Feb. 9 and Saturday, Feb. 11. The women's games start at 5:30 p.m. and the men's games start at 7:30. Games are free for students with UMSL identification.

Delta Zeta Open House

You've probably always wondered what Greek life at UMSL is all about, and now is your chance to find out. The Delta Zetas are hosting an open house on Sunday, Feb. 12 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Delta Zeta House, near the East Drive entrance to South Campus.

BY BRIAN E. OLIVER Staff Writer

When most people watch television shows such as "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation" and "Bones," they are left with the impression that most crimes are solved in 45 minutes by a seasoned crime scene investigator who also works as a detective, forensic anthropologist, lab technician and medical-legal death inves-

According to Anna Buechter, who recently received her bachelor's degree in anthropology, criminology and criminal justice at UM-St. Louis and is currently working on her master's in anthropology at UM-Columbia, this simply is not

> She said that most of the work involved in crime scene investigation is slow and tedious.

"You don't quickly," Buechter

said. "Sometimes one has to wait weeks to get a DNA report back. The job's not as glamorous as it looks. Plus, half of the equipment seen on TV doesn't even

She also said that in real world police departments, crime scene investigators do not do police work - such as interrogating subjects - and police officers do not do crime scene investigation work - such as DNA or blood splatter analysis.

Buechter said the job of a crime scene investigator involves recording the position of the body, taking the temperature to help determine the exact time of death and working with a lot of people.

"It's very tedious work. You have to be in charge of the crime scene. It's extremely detail oriented," she said.

· Buechter's interest in working with the dead began during her childhood in

"I was always fascinated with anything dead. I dissected animals since age six. As a teen I came across a book about infamous crimes and was fascinated," she

As a young woman, she started medical school in Russia and spent seven years in the country, although she never practiced medicine. Instead, after a few years, she spent a week studying forensic pathology and instantly knew that was what she wanted to do.

She graduated from medical school in June 1989, and then came to the United States for a vacation a few months later.



The vacation became more that tion, however, and she ended untaying. She later met her husband here; married and currently have three ins and a daughter.

The idea to become involved crime scene investigation came who she enrolled in an undergraduate anti-pology class taught by Pam Ashmor assistant professor of anthropology at M-St. Louis. The summer following thaclass, she worked as an intern in the holicide processing unit of the St. Loui City Police Department. Her duties s an intern included helping an examine organize a case before examination; brause of her medical background, she also helped interpret medical records.

see CSI STUDENT, page 7

Winter is no excuse to stop working out, getting in shape

Student shows

real side of

crime solving

BY CHRISTINE ECCLESTON

Copy Editor

It is not as easy to go for a run in the park when there are two inches of snow or go mountain biking when the trail is covered in ice. With the temperature less than sizzling, exercise can lose appeal. However, there are ways around

The obvious way to avoid the cold is to work out indoors. Those not on a budget could purchase exercise equipment for their home. Those not willing to spend a lot of money will have to be more creative. Some free or inexpensive ideas: grab a friend or two and head to the mall to power walk; get up and walk to the television to change the channel; use a lunch break at work or a gap between classes to walk up and down a few flights of stairs.

A more conventional option, of course, is a gym or fitness center. For students, staff, faculty, and alumni who live close to UM-St. Louis, The Mark Twain Center, located on-campus, is a valuable option. It has a gymnasium, pool, and fitness area with cardiovascular equipment and weight machines. There are also four racquetball courts, a free-weight room, and fullsized men's and women's locker rooms that feature dry saunas.

For those who enjoy working out in a group, Campus Recreation offers numerous Wellness classes, such as Abs, Buns & Cardio, Interval Training, Spinning, and Yoga. All classes except Spinning cost \$25 per session for students, \$35 per session for faculty, staff and alumni and \$45 for others. Spinning, however, can be purchased per spin, for \$5, \$6 or \$8 or a 10 Spin Series card (which does not expire) can be purchased for \$30, \$40 or \$70 for students, faculty, staff and alumni, and others, respec-

For a fee, Campus Recreation also offers Complete Fitness Consultations and Body Fat Analysis and Personal Training/Fitness Instruction. To set up an appointment with a Personal Fitness Specialist, call either Heather Bell at 314-831-0294 or Melissa Baumgartner at 618-566-9418.

Students who have time restrictions or do not live close to campus or an independent gym

or fitness center may choose to use at-home exercise videos. Recently, 8 Minute Abs, Billy Blanks' Tae Bo tapes and Carmen Electra's Aerobic Striptease have been popular. However, Paula Z, an exercise video advocate and ACE-certified personal trainer, warns that video descriptions are not always accurate. Finding the right video requires trial and error, and she warns that even after finding a helpful video, "You may need to make adjustments based on your fitness level and your fitness

For those whose schedules make it difficult to find time to work out, or those who do not like to set aside a certain amount of time to exercise, there are easy ways to implement exercise into daily life. Taking the stairs instead of the elevator or escalator, for instance, helps burn calories and works your heart.

If you do plan on exercising outdoors during the winter, be sure to dress properly. The first layer of clothing should be synthetic in order to draw moisture away from your body. Cotton holds sweat close to your body and can chill your muscles, increasing the risk of injury or frostbite. The second layer provides insulation and, if necessary, a third layer protects your body from wind, rain or snow.

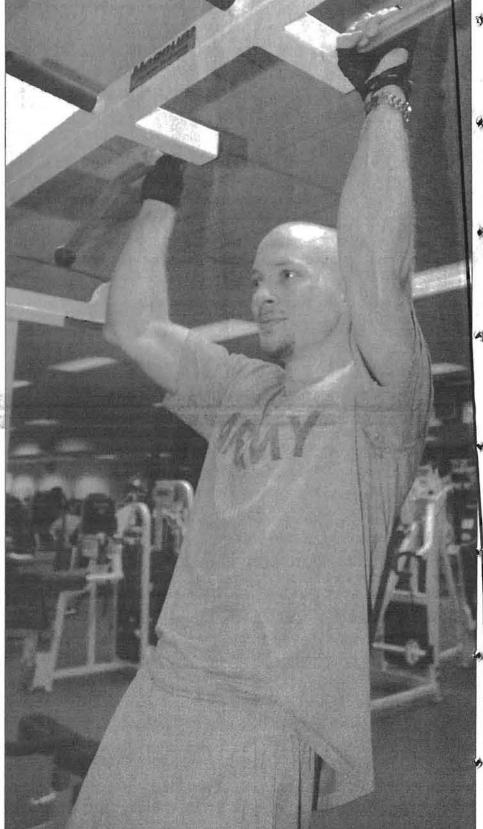
Susan Kunz, senior, general studies, said she feels like many people use the winter as an excuse not to exercise.

"I know the cold wind makes a difference, but if you get out there and start exercising, you'll warm up," she said. "Besides, if you layer you won't even feel the cold."

During cold weather, it is especially essential to protect your hands, feet and head. The hands and feet are the most vulnerable to frostbite and should be covered. The head should also be covered because it lets off a great deal of body heat.

Though there are ways to avoid the cold, there are times when it is too cold to exercise outside. Just as it is dangerous to exert yourself physically in extreme heat, it is also dangerous to exert yourself in extreme cold. Experts advise people not to exercise outdoors if the wind chill is more than 15 degrees below zero.

For more information about exercise facilities or programs on campus, contact Larry Coffin at 516-5326.



Matt Johnson/ The Current

Noah Poeling, UM-St. Louis alumnus, finds time to work out during the winter months in the Mark Twain Center.

Two new offices supply assistance for student success.

BY MELISSA MCCRARY

Features Editor

When they register at UM-St. Louis for the winter 2006 semester with an academic advisor, most students probably noticed how the main advising center in the Millennium Student Center has undergone extensive remodeling and how the basic advising process has changed.

While the office still assists those who would like to drop a course, students who wish to add courses, speak to an advisor about course selections or need assistance with degree preparation must now meet with an academic advisor in their particular college or department.

Greg McCalley, assistant vice provost for Student Affairs and Student Success, said these changes were implemented after a group of consultants from Noel-Levitz recommended that advising responsibilities be transferred to the individual faculty departments and

academic units.



Margaret Clarke/ The Current

Melissa Hattman, director of Transfer Services and Articulation, prepares information for students on Feb. 3 in the new combined offices of the Center for Student Success and Transfer Services.

Although the decision of the move was suggested after Noel-Levitz made a campus consultation visit during the spring of 2005, McCalley said that many factors, thought would be better for campus

voices from students on what they

including student surveys on campus retention, influenced the move. "We were listening to a lot of

improvements," McCalley said.

The main Academic Advising Center recently has been transformed into the Center for Student Success. Advising, Career Services and Disability Access Services are the trio program that makes up the new Center for Student Success.

"The purpose of the Center for Student Success is to advise and help all undecided students, transition students and those who are dismissed from a program," McCalley said. "Our focus is to help students who encounter academic difficulties and to assist those on academic probation to get on the right path and to succeed.

Some of the current projects of the Center for Student Success include: "Path 2 Success," seminar series, residential outposts, career counseling, probationary processes, athletics and the Vashon partner-

McCalley said that the "Path 2

Success" program is designed to address the needs of freshman who are having academic problems. Those students who are having

problems and who have a GPA

below a 2.0 will be advised and

gram. This program consists of a 16 week seminar with eight to 10 meeting sessions conducted by the trained and specialized counselors at the Center for Student Success "We will be partnering with students who live on campus in resi-

mandated to participate in this pro-

dential halls, students involved on campus and with student athletes, to provide them any needed academic assistance," McCalley said. "The office will be absolutely beneficial for students. Students who have been on probation and just float out there, can now get on the right path for success."

In addition to the evolution of the Center for Student Success, the Office of Transfer Services and Articulation has been established.

According to OTSA's mission statement, "The office was created and is driven by the University's goal to improve the quality of student life and learning and foster student success, thereby increasing retention and graduation rates."

PPRC showcases photos from Bosnian students

BY MELISSA MCCRARY

Features Editor

"From Bosnia to Buerkle Middle School," a photo exhibition on display in the Public Policy Research Center (PPRC), at UM-St. Louis, exposes the Bosnian heritage and photography skills of eight students.

Each photograph was taken by a student from Margaret Buerkle Middle School in Mehlville. All of the photographers are sixth and seventh grade girls between the ages of 12 and

This exhibition is a part of the PPRC's Point-of-View series and was completed as a photography project. The Point-of-View photography project is organized by volunteers from three community groups, teaching students how to take quality photographs to make St. Louis a "more livable community." The photographs within the series are taken by people who live and work in urban areas around St.

Mel Watkin, director of PPRC Gallery and Photography Project, said that some of the students who participated in this project were born in Germany, while the others were born

"All of the students have memories of the war and share admiration for their country," Watkin said. "Their pictures not only show daily life and the beauty of nature, but how they enjoy being American teenagers."

Watkin said that when she began

this project, her main goal was to train the children and teach them how to take pictures of their lives, family and community from their own perspec-

"I enjoyed working with the children the best. They are very serious and mature children," she said.

Throughout the project, the students became familiar with how to operate different cameras, studied composition and lighting techniques and learned the basics of fashion photography, Renaissance portraiture, self-portraits and formal portraits.

The various photographs hanging on the main wall in the PPRC Gallery demonstrate the results.

Some of the pictures range from family portraits, self-portraits and pic-

with floral backdrops. "Beautiful Nature" and "The Older One" are two of the photographs that show the girls' talents.

Scott Hayes, Buerkle Middle School Principal, said that the exhibition and project was a wonderful experience for the children.

"We try to take on any situation that we can," Hayes said. "It's a great start to showcase what our kids can do. It provides a window for this culture and opened the door for awesome opportunities."

Hayes said that Buerkle Middle School has had a rich history with welcoming immigrant students from across the world.

"Out of the 700 students, 125 students are immigrants. Thirteen different nationalities make up the student body, where Yugoslavian is the largest sub-group," he said.

Watkin said that the next project she plans to work on with children will be the "2Read+2Write=Music4Music"

program that will be finished in May.

This program will focus on music composition. Students will write songs, visit a professional studio and will perform them at the Blanche Touhill Performing Arts Center," she said. "We will also be taking pictures of the entire process."

The Point-of-View: "From Bosnia to Buerkle Middle School," will be on display at the PPRC and at Grbic Restaurant in St. Louis until April 26. The PPRC is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m.

NEW CENTERS,

from page 6

This office will provide assistance to prospective, new and current transfer students, returning students and non-traditional students who need help with campus resources, referrals and uncertain-

Melissa Hattman, director of Transfer Services and Articulation said that the office will serve as the "home" for transfer students.

"If students are having problems, want to know what is going on around campus or need questions answered, we want to be where they come first," Hattmar said. "Our purposes are to promote the University, support recruitment bring new students to campus and to provide support and resources Students can use the office any time. This will be a one-stop place for students."

Both the Center for Studen Success and OTSA should be positive additions to a growing UM-St Louis campus.

CSI STUDENT,

from page 6

Those who have worked wit Buechter have praised her and hav said how greatly impressed they ar

criminalist of the St. Louis City Police Department, worked with Buechte

"She was dedicated. Always pro fessional. She was looking to expan her knowledge of the field. She was pleasure to work with and very help

assessment.

"Her work as a student was excep tional. She always went above an beyond my expectations," Ashmor said. "She was amazingly thorough She was really excited and enthusia tic in the field. She has a passion for

Buechter also worked with Ashmor to develop a St. Louis Science Cente program called, "You Solve It," which had adults go through a series of ster to solve a crime. These steps include DNA, fingerprint, ballistics and skeltal analyses and helped show adul how detailed crime scene investiga

Although Buechter loves the wor involved in crime scene investigation her long-term career goals involve ge ting a doctorate and going into teach ing and research. She wants to be abto pass the experience and training sh has on to other students who wish t become crime scene investigator Specific courses she would like t teach include forensic pathology and forensic course with a biologic aspect.

Along with these goals, she ma also do consultation work with police prosecutors and criminal defens attorneys and also has a long-terr ambition of developing an exchang program in Russia, where she woul spend time training and teaching a universities and institutions in Russia

with her abilities. Harold Messler, manager an

while she was an intern.

ful," Messler said. Ashmore agreed with Messler

this." In addition to schoolwork

FORENSICS, from page I

In her speech to Ashmore's class Coffin said, "I talked about the differ ent levels of investigation, what w look for, the process. We spent th last third of the class examinin bones and determining what type of animal bones they were."

Coffin also said they talked about skull trepidation and looked at som charred remains.

"The students seemed to enjo examining the bones."

While Coffin said the work sh does is at times gruesome, she adde that the work fascinated her and that she felt it was her calling "because s many people can't do this."

Samantha Webb, who works for the St. Louis Metropolitan Crime La as a criminalist II and DNA analys will be a guest speaker for Ashmore class in April.

Webb said that when she talks t Ashmore's class, she will help give students insight into what she does a the crime lab, which involves gather ing profiles from evidence gathere at crime scenes. She will also give examples from specific cases she ha worked on and will help show how DNA analysis can be used to pinpoir a perpetrator in rape and homicid

Webb agreed with Coffin's assess ment that the work she does is not for everyone and said, "the main advic I'd give to students is to be an inter before you go into the field."

While the forensic anthropolog class has already started this semes ter, Ashmore stated that it will b offered annually, in the winter semes

Students hope to bring ballroom dancing back with new club

BY MELISSA MCCRARY

Features Editor

Although there are three student organizations at UM-St. Louis that focus on and promote dancing, one student hopes to form a ballroom dancing club in the future.

J.B. Bello, sophomore, nursing, and four other students have been holding weekly ballroom dance practices, usually on Wednesdays, in the aerobics rooms in the Mark Twain Building.

The UMSL Flames Dance Team, the UMSL Cheerleading Squad and the JETE- UMSL Student Dance group are recognized student organizations that dance for social events and in competitions.

Bello hopes to recruit more interested students and would like for his own group to expand and become more advanced this semester.

"Students are constantly stopping by and watching our practices and some have asked us if we could teach them some of our routines," Bello said. "Students who are interested can

come to our practices." Bello said that there have been numerous instructors who have encouraged them to start their own organization and perform in public competitions. Despite the fact that they are beginners, they are already planning to enter competitions within

dancing anymore, but many retro things are coming back and we want to bring back this type of dancing," he

Monique Weber, sophomore, nursing, has been dancing her whole life and after meeting Bello in a class, she discussed her plans to him and they started holding practices together.

"I have done line dancing, couple dancing and ballet throughout my life," Weber said. "I have thought about bringing ballroom dancing back for a long time."

Growing up, Bello practiced folk dancing, but it was not until November that he started focusing on ballroom techniques. Bello began to learn this form of dancing after he joined the St.

"Nobody really does ballroom Louis Ballroom Dancers Organization and began practicing with Weber.

The St. Louis Ballroom Dancers Organization is a non-profit organization with over 350 members that have been dancing in the greater St. Louis area for over 15 years. This organization holds special dance events, group classes and workshops for beginners and intermediate levels at the Kirkwood Community Center and in Creve Coeur.

Bello said that ballroom dancing is magnificent to watch and is a different

form from most typical dancing styles. Ballroom dancing began before the 1800s and was performed to entertain European royal courts and also used in

classical plays and ballet productions. The Viennese Waltz, Modern GOT YOUR
PASSPORT
READY?

Waltz, Tango, Fox-trot and Quickstep are some of the different kinds of dance styles that have been combined to create ballroom dancing.

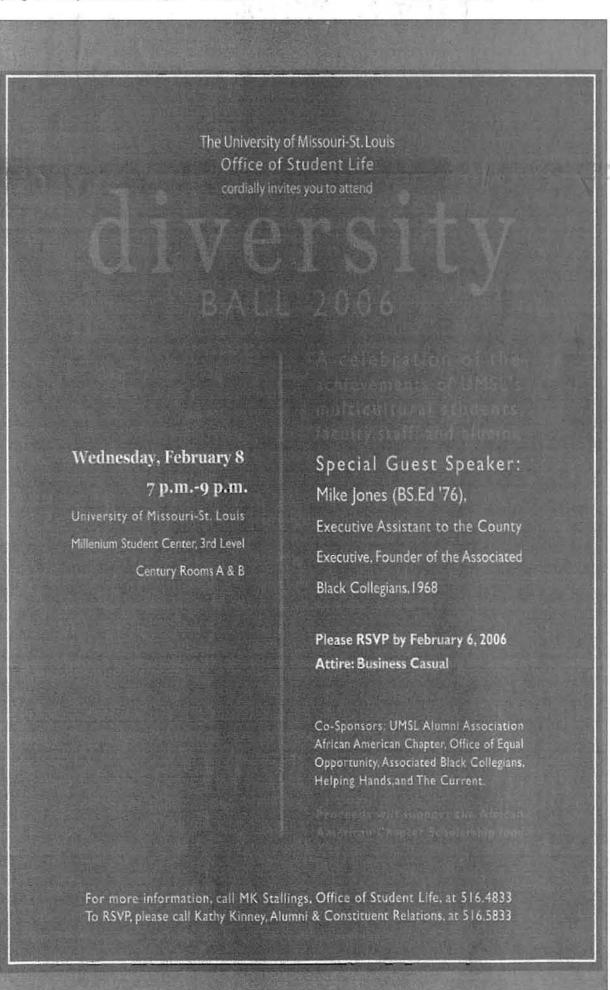
"Ballroom dancing is a mix of everything together. Certain parts of Maranga, Cha Cha and Fox-trot are used," he said. "This form of dancing is more formal, whereas Hip Hop that you see on television is more modern."

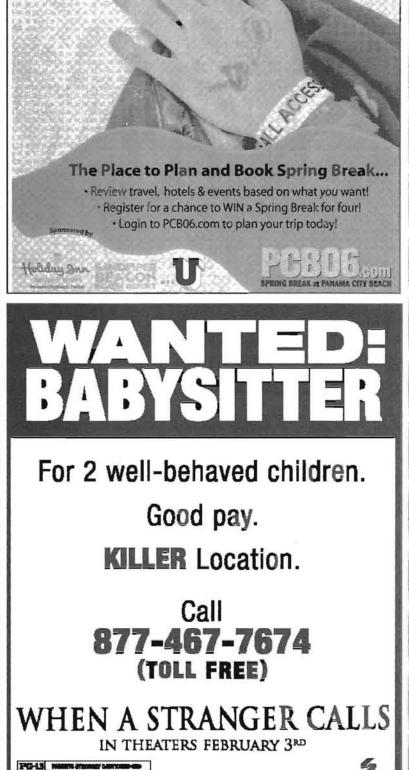
Weber said that this type of dancing is not only a great form of exercise, but is also extremely fun.

"I think a lot of other college students would find it fun and I think that it would make a great comeback, since it is kind of lost," Weber said.

Bello hopes the group will continue to have fun and improve their dance

SPRING BREAK 2006





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EDITOR

CATE MARQUIS

A&E Editor phone: 516-5174 fax: 516-6811

The top hip-hop singles of 2005

BY MYRON MCNEILL Staff Writer

2005 was a year of great hip-hop music. A lot of rap albums were released by top artists, but most albums were not complete. So, rather than hype up incomplete albums, let's take a look at some of the top singles that were constantly on the radio and music video stations. In hip-hop, there exists the strong need for catchy hooks and memorable beats and the songs selected for this list possess these qualities.

Gold Digga-By Kanye West and Jamie Foxx. This is one of the most memorable hooks (chorus) in 2005. The hook, performed by Jamie Foxx goes like this, "She gives me money/ When I'm in need," based off of Ray Charles' original song "I Got A Woman." Kanye West is in the background saying "Now I ain't saying she a gold digga..." This song was fun and catchy. It talked about the many ways people manipulate relationships to get the upper hand finan-

Just a Lil' Bit-By 50 Cent. This is one of those songs that possessed a great beat and memorable sounds. The song begins with a flute that is enchanting and then during the breakdown of the chorus the beat utilizes an Arabian sample or sound that is very exotic. While 50 exclaims "We can head to crib in a lil' bit/ I can show how to live in a lil' bit."

Dreams-By The Game. The West Coast landed smack dead on the map with this track by Game. This song has a nice a hook and views life as a dream that one can make a reality. The drums are hard and the beat is typical of Dr. Dre, who has established himself as a master in the design of music. Game displays his lyrical ability by saying that "They say sleep is the cousin' of death/So my eyes is wide open cuz a dream is kin to ya last breath."

I'm a Hustla-ByCassidy. Philadelphia-born Cassidy hit us with this head-banger over the summer. This is truly a hustler's anthem. Cassidy sampled Jay-Z's voice for the hook and the song begins with a snare that reaches out and grabs you. Throughout the song, Cassidy reinforces his idea of an uncanny ability to make money through several ways in the record industry. Cassidy says "I can sell raid to a bug/I'm a hustler, I can sell salt to a slug."

can sell salt to a slug."

Back Then-By Mike Jones. Of course, H-Town has to be included. Mike Jones, a newcomer to the limelight but not the industry, expresses the age-old adage of what fame brings to people. One listen to the hook and everyone thinks of this common saying. The hook simply states "Back then they didn't want me/ Now I'm hot they be all on me." It is similar to Biz Markie's 80s hit song titled "The Vapors." Mike helps us remember that fame and fortune brings a lot of attention, even from those who did not value us before we had it

This wraps up the top five singles for 2005. There were a lot of great songs by artists not mentioned. However, most hip-hop heads know that 2005 was a year of great music and songs with hooks and memorable beats.

Elephant art auction supports conservation

BY JASON WENDLETON

Staff Writer

What is art? What kind of power do artists have? These timeless questions have haunted human kind since people first started creating art. Perhaps the answers can be found in the least likely place of all-among elephants. Recently, the University of Missouri-St. Louis hosted an art exhibit of paintings done by elephants, Asian elephants, to be precise. The Gallery Viso, located on the bottom floor of the Millennium Student Center, displayed the artwork from Jan. 19 to Feb. 2. The exhibit was a labor of love for Fine Arts Adjunct Lecturer Scott Tjaden, who helped bring the pachyderm art to the University's gallery.

The exhibit featured several paint-

ings by over 10 different elephant artists. Styles ranged from frenetic, messy works to those that seemed very controlled and stylistically advanced. One artist, Dunapen (which is pronounced Juon Pen) is regarded by many to be the very first elephant to paint utilizing a technique know as pointillism. Using a brush and a few colors, Dunapen has created several paintings of carefully arranged dots. Looking at her work, it's hard to believe it was created by an animal so large and clumsy looking. Critics of the elephant art will no doubt scoff and say animals cannot create works of art. Others will quickly point out that all of the elephants were specifically trained by human artists. While the artistic merits of the animals art is

debatable, Tjaden says those who question to merits of elephant art miss the point of his exhibit.

"It's not about elephants painting," Tjaden said. "The exhibit is really about art as a way of making change in society. I hope that's what students get out of this." Co-sponsored by the Asian Elephant Art & Conservation Project, all of the paintings sold directly help improve the living conditions of elephants living in Asia. Money raised by the exhibit and others like it across the globe help contribute to this goal. Many of these poor creatures are abused, and exhibits like the one at the Gallery Viso are trying to bring this problem to people's attention. At the same time, the exhibit is touted by Tjaden as a good example of performance art with a message. Tjaden stressed that exhibits like the elephant art were especially important for art students. "Their voice is important, and can instill change," Tjaden said. "It's not about elephants painting."

Besides helping raise the profile of the plight of Asian elephants, the exhibit has also raised awareness of the Gallery itself. Gallery Manager Pat Johnson was very pleased that the elephant art has been so popular. "We've had 30 to 40 people a day visit the exhibit," Johnson said. This type of activity is unusual for the gallery, which is tucked away on the bottom floor of the Student Center, near the Nosh cafeteria. According to Johnson, people as far away as Kansas City came to the gallery to view the exhibit. So despite the seemingly flippant notion of elephants painting, this art show was extremely important for both the Gallery Viso and the



Adam D. Wiseman/ The Current

Provost Glen Cope browses the art made by Elephants on display in Gallery Visio.

University in general.

As the exhibit drew to a close on Thursday, Feb. 2, a painting, done by an elephant named Ramona was auctioned. The work, which featured reserved curving lines, fetched \$240 for the cause. After this rather informal auction, there was a small reception attended by a handful of art (and animal) lovers

Anyone who missed seeing the exhibit while it was at the Gallery Viso

can view some of the artwork at the Asian Elephant Art & Conservation Project's website at www.elephantart.com. Visitors to the site can learn more about the group's mission, as well as purchase some of the artwork. Besides purchasing existing artwork, patrons of elephant art can also commission the elephants to paint something on large canvases. Prices for the art start at \$100 and run upwards of several thousand dollars. For those

with smaller budgets, the group also sells a coffee table book of the elephant's art for a more reasonable price. Those wishing to make a donation to the not for profit group can also do so on the site via the internet payment service Paypal.

So while humans may forever debate the exact nature and power of art and artists, the noble elephant will continue to paint—and change the world.

Behold the beauty of 'The New World'

BY CATE MARQUIS

A&E Editor

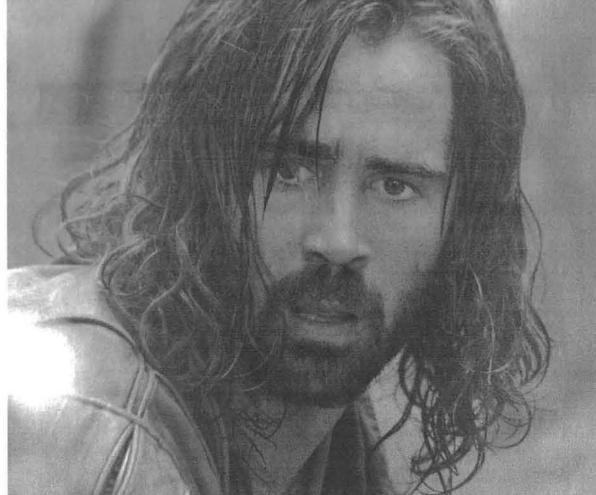
If only I could write as beautifully as this film looks.

Terrence Malick's new visual cinema masterpiece about the founding of Jamestown in 1607 is a lyrically beautiful meditation on the clash of cultures, contrasts of the natural world and man's civilization, natural man and society, with a heartbreaking romance.

Written and directed by legendary filmmaker Terrence Malick, "The New World" is breathtakingly beautiful, languid, romantic and thoughtprovoking. Malick's film is a retelling of the founding of the Jamestown colony that focuses on a romance between John Smith (Colin Farrell) and the Native American princess (then 14-year-old Q'Orianka Kilcher). There is no real historical basis for the romance but director Malick uses it, and the founding of the colony, as a metaphor for the loss of innocence, the clash of cultures and the impact of human civilizations on the natural world. The name Pocahontas is never used in the film. Malick takes a topic that has been overdone and made sappy, and turns it into a fresh and astonishing film. The film is simply gorgeous to look at, like a moving work of art. It is filled with lush images of the natural world and the Native Americans' lives, contrasted again the power, squalor and

weaponry of the invading Westerners.

Malick, who also directed "The Thin Red Line" and "Days of Heaven," is a renowned filmmaker but not a prolific one. The New World is his fourth film in three decades. Like all his films, this is visually lush, with a dreamlike beauty that embraces the natural world. The film combines its beautiful images with a soundtrack mix of stately, stirring classical music, nature sounds, and poetic narration to create a mood and



give a sense of the different views of the two people and two cultures. The British accents and whispery, meditative narration, which often serves more as poetic back drop, might mean that you miss a few words, but it is not necessary to catch every word to follow the story.

The film is full of contrasts and heartbreaks. The English settlers see the New World as a clean slate on which they can create a more perfect society that corrects the flaws of their homeland. While the colonists see this new place as Eden and talk about making a new start in a new world, they recreate a squalid and class-dri-

ven mirror of their homeland within their compound. By contrast, the Naturals, as the colonists call them, live in a peaceful, clean, more egalitarian world better integrated with the natural one. They are drawn, in a mix of fascination and repulsion, to the exotic, dirty invaders and their amazing tools, but are torn between that and a precedent foreboding of a coming invasion and the price they will pay if the invaders stay. However, they do not yet know how large the price will be. Their simpler, near-idyllic lives and the natural world are the counterpoint to the colonists' violence and jealousies.

Malick speaks through his images, often presenting contrasting pairs of images. In pair, the first shot shows us the view through the gate of the colonists' fort into its muddy and grey interior, while in the next shot, we see the reverse view, looking out at the natural beauty of the grass and field beyond the gate.

Discovery and loss, the meeting of old and new worlds, Western civilization's ideas and native culture, even man versus the natural world are running themes.

see NEW WORLD, page 9

Musical celebration kicks off Black History Month

BY MYRON McNEILL

Staff Writer

The annual celebration of African American History Month at UM-St. Louis began with "An Elegant Evening of Music" at the Desmond Lee Theatre on Feb. 1. Gwendolyn Packnett, director of Multicultural Relations, emceed this event that featured several forms of musical expression.

Those in attendance were able to experience the traditional sounds of African music by way of UM-St. Louis' Percussion Ensemble. The sounds of the drums of the UM-St. Louis Afro Cuban Ensemble, a group

that included Coordinator of Percussion Studies Matthew Henry, were also enticing, moving and eclectic. Next, Dr. Adeniyi Niyi Coker explained the meaning of Nkosi Sikelel' 'Afrika (God Bless Africa), 'which is South Africa's National Anthem. Both the African-American and South African national anthems were sung on this night.

The celebration also featured acts

The celebration also featured acts from the St. Louis metropolitan area. Matthew 18:20, a Mime ministry group from St. Louis, mimed to music by Kurt Carr. Miming is an expression that makes messages of God more vivid through action. Their act drew a standing ovation and was one

of the night's highlights.
The St. Louis Youth Chamber

Ensemble also performed a few selections. Chancellor Thomas George, Brian Owens and Angela Keely performed a few jazz pieces in memory of Duke Ellington and George Gershwin. Keith Miller (string bass) and James Young (guitar) presented an original composition called "Meditation for Guitar and Bass."

"Meditation for Guitar and Bass."

The event concluded with a presentation of the "History of Gospel" by Rosalyn Robinson and the performance of music by Robert Ray. Members of the University Singers, including Professor of Music and

Coordinator of Choral Studies James

Henry, and Members of Saint Louis Symphony In Unison sang "Try Jesus," "Land of God from Gospel Mass" and "He Never Failed Me Yet."

The night was entertaining and educational. Several forms of musical expression were exhibited. Musical forms that span through years of culture were presented to the audience, from African tribal music to 20th century gospel and jazz music. All of these expressions were on display by local artists. Most of all, this night was a tribute to the artists and the art forms created by Africans and African-Americans to celebrate the rich heritage and culture in the arts.

Samite lets UMSL see Uganda's musical heritage

BY JASON WENDLETON
Staff Writer

Ugandan musician Samite brought his culture's unique musical style to the Touhill Performing Arts Center's Lee Theatre. Now living in Ithaca, New York, Samite is a man familiar with two different worlds. Samite and his musicians tour the world bringing music to people, trying to "raise their spirits." I wasn't exactly sure what I was getting into when I walked into the Touhill Performing Arts Center. All I knew was I'd be hearing African music. What I didn't realize was how exciting, touching and powerful this music would be.

The show began at 8 p.m. as Samite and two drummers took the stage. Playing a wooden flute called an endere, Samite transported the audience to a strange, far away land-Africa. Using gourds and shakers, as well as a few items I didn't recognize, Samite's drummers recreated a jungle atmosphere. After finishing the song, Samite told us a story about when he first arrived in New York. Expecting to see a clean, peaceful city, Samite said he was shocked to see so many dirty, homeless people. Warned by his friends to stay away from the homeless, Samite told the audience he wrote a song called "My Name is not Homeless, My Mother Calls Me Baby." This song, which he then played for us, was both joyful and sad. The song's title best describes the music-simple but powerful songs that celebrate all people.

In between songs, Samite's humanity and sincere love of all people warmed the audience's hearts. A few of the songs performed were traditional numbers with messages or lessons. One song was about a shape changing creature that assumes the form of a musician to lure children to their deaths. Morbid material, but in Samite's hands, the song took on a lighthearted poignancy. The moral of this song was, of course, for children to be wary of strangers. After the first song ended, a fourth musician, a guitarist, also joined Samite on stage. After putting away his endere, Samite removed a strange looking handheld device called a kalimba. This became Samite's instrument of choice for the rest of the program.

see SAMITE, page 9

Rolling Stones turn in rocking performance at Sawis

BY JASON WENDLETON

Staff Writer

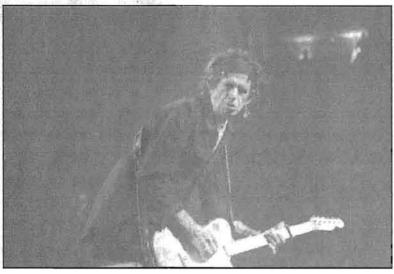
On Jan. 27, the Rolling Stones played a sold out show at the Savvis Center. Over 15,000 fans packed the arena to witness the spectacle that will not die-the Rolling Stones. Shortly after 9 p.m., the band took the stage and immediately began playing their classic, "Jumpin' Jack Flash." As a rock 'n' roll connoisseur, there will never be a moment greater in my life than seeing this legendary band live and in person. What makes the Stones so special? They certainly are not the most innovative band ever (The Beatles). Nor are they the heaviest (Led Zeppelin) or the loudest (The Who). No, what makes the Stones so great is their perseverance and longevity. When the world ends all that will remain are cockroaches and the Rolling Stones.

When one thinks of a senior citizen, one does not think of Mick Jagger. At 62 years old, Jagger is easily old enough to be most college students' grandparent. Yet this man, who has fronted a rock band for 44 years, could not have had more energy or enthusiasm as he sprinted back and forth

across the stage. Equally in good health were Keith Richards and Ron Wood, who effortlessly kept pace with Jagger. Beginning the show with a glittery black jacket and bright pink shirt, Jagger looked the part of the glamorous rock star. Jagger's voice was as strong and powerful as it is in the band's extensive recordings.

After finishing "Jumpin' Jack Flash," the band kept the show going full steam with "You Got Me Rocking." From there, the concert went exactly as you would imagine it would go. The band played a couple of songs from their new album, "A Bigger Bang," but for the most part, stuck with the classics. About halfway through the show, stage hands brought out a keyboard for Jagger. The first song he played, "Midnight Rambler," featured his famous falsetto (which sounds even stranger live). More interestingly, however, was the second song he played, which was the night's only cover song, "Night Time is the Right Time." As Jagger began the song, black and white photos of Ray Charles appeared on the screen behind the band. The song was nicely done and was a fitting tribute to a fallen

Once the roadies had hauled the



Adam D. Wiseman/ The Curren

Keith Richards performs at the Savvis Center on Jan. 27.

keyboards off stage, Richards stepped up to the microphone and sang two of his own songs. I love Richards; the man is a total genius when it comes to playing guitar. His riffs are some of the most memorable and catchy ever recorded by man. That said, the man cannot sing. Warbling through "This Place Is Empty" and "Happy," I was almost embarrassed for Richards (who desperately needs to give up smoking). The up-tempo "Happy" was much bet-

ter than the painfully slow "This Place is Empty." Both songs, however, were probably the worst part of the show (sorry, Keith).

Right after his little set, the band began the song "Miss You," at which point something interesting happened. A large piece of the stage was slowly pulled to the opposite end of the arena, giving fans sitting far away an up-front view of the band. There they stayed, on a little island for four songs (which

included the classics "Start Me Up" and "Honky Tonk Woman"). While some people may dismiss such gimmicks, I happen to think it was a wonderful gesture. The tickets for this concert were extremely expensive. Playing both ends of the arena gave pretty much all the people in the audience their money's worth. So say what you will, the Stones are considerate of their fans.

Once the stage was reassembled, the final act of the show began. Jagger led the crowd in an extended singalong of "Sympathy for the Devil." Augmented with demonic red lighting, the song was both creepy and fun. "Paint It Black" and "Brown Sugar" followed and then the show was over.

Then, one of the oldest rock traditions ever began - the audience plea for an encore. No matter how many times I go to a show, I am still amazed by this phenomenon. Everyone in the stands knows the band is not really done when it says, "Thank you and good night!" They know they are coming back, we know they are coming back, we know they are coming back, the whole thing always strikes me as a bit silly. And yet, the one time the encore was denied me (The Strokes back in Kansas City), I was angry and felt cheated. The Stones said good-

night, then waited for what seemed like an eternity before swaggering back on stage for two final songs.

What would a Rolling Stones concert be without "You Can't Always Get What You Want?" Despite the lack of a choir (for the opening), this song was reproduced perfectly (thanks in part to back up musicians playing horns). It was not until that very moment that I realized that this is my all time favorite Stones song. For its final song, the band played the one it is most famous for: "Satisfaction." Everybody went nuts for this one, and the Stones were right to save it for the end. The anticipation of "will they or won't they play it" kept us on our collective toes all night.

Two hours after they began playing, the Rolling Stones took a bow and were gone. I am a young man and I know I will go to a lot more concerts in my lifetime, but I do not think I will ever experience anything like I did at this concert. The Stones are more than a rock band; they are historical (perhaps even mythic) figures infused into our popular culture like few bands are or ever will be. It was a privilege and an honor to see them. And if you missed the show, do not worry, they will be back.

THE NEW WORLD, from page 8

Malick uses the romance between Smith and the princess to explore his themes. The princess is torn between loyalty to her people and her father's concerns about the newcomers' intentions and her fascination with Smith. Likewise, Smith seems torn between his attraction to both the princess, the lives of her people, and the attractive countryside, and his own guilt and fears about the damage he might inflict on her and them, and his own ambitions as an explorer.

The real center of the story is not Colin Farrell's Captain Smith but the princess herself, who embarks on a journey of self-discovery and loss that reflects both her experience and her peoples'. Near the end of the film, she travels to England where she is presented to the King, along with wildlife from the New World. As she walks the streets, people bow to her as royalty but they also gawk at her as exotic. Dressed in Jacobean garb and with the

regal, relaxed carriage of a princess, she is greeted with respect by the King and Queen, but she is clearly as foreign and unusual as the America eagle also on display, an irony that does not seem to escape her.

The film is filled with such ironies, such as why the colonists recreate the flaws of their old world after recognizing their opportunity to carve a new path.

The film is as filled with good performances as it is with beautiful photography. Colin Farrell plays the conflicted, ambitious Smith well but the really acting surprise is young Kilcher, whose portrayal is deep and compelling. The young Hawaiian-born actress, reportedly a cousin of singer Jewel, has a long resume of acting roles but this is her first film. Good supporting work comes from the mostly British cast. Christian Bale as John Rolfe, is warm and open, the right counter balance to Farrell's Smith.

Other good performances of note are Christopher Plummer as the captain of the colonists' ship, who continually evokes the image of a new start, Wes Studi as warrior Opechancanough who is far more wary about the colonists' intentions, August Schellenberg as the princess' father and tribe leader Powhatan, and David Thewlis as the corrupt and brutal Captain Wingfield. The film also features Ben Chaplin, Jonathan Pryce and Noah Taylor.

"The New World" is a multilayered, nuanced film but it moves at its own dreamlike, lingering pace. The film is gorgeous, poetic and moving but has a stately pace that mirrors its classical music and natural sounds soundtrack like a quiet float down a natural stream. This is the best choice for art lovers and serious film aficionados, both for its heart-stopping beauty and because it is a masterpiece of filmmaking. EBAY, from page 4

Listings included drug-free urine, penis bones from a dog, a jar of dirt from Woodstock, a dozen of used toothbrushes, a backspace key off of a keyboard, a "make your own dentures" set, three real human bone vertebrae, a hot dog from the Super Bowl in Atlanta, a vintage art print toilet seat, a handle that hold handles, a broken flashlight and a lot of 500 packages of Q-Tips.

Why in the world would a person

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need a 500 package supply of Q-Tips or an old stale hot dog?

The weird listings don't stop there. I also came across a 17-year-old boy who posted his virginity for sale. Someone else listed a signed document to sell their soul.

In my opinion, Ebay has become a great marketing tool for people and future entrepreneurs trying to make a buck. In this day and age, everyone is trying to make a dollar. Obviously people actually buy this hideous stuff.

It is those people, the one who are actually purchasing the stuff, who worry me. Either these bidders have a serious auctioning problem, or they are just simply crazy for feeling the need to have these items.

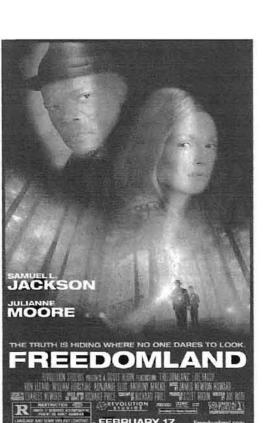
Ebay might have some valuable products at reasonable prices, but look closely and you will find the super-center surplus of flea market junk.

SAMITE, from page 8

Halfway through the show, I happened to notice a familiar figure in the audience...none other than the St. Louis legend Beatle Bob (who was soon dancing right along with the music). For those not familiar with Beatle Bob, he's a really enthusiastic St. Louis concert fan whose trademark is crazy dancing. If you go to a concert and see Beatle Bob, you know you're at a good show. Seeing Bob, Samite said jokingly, "Music is only Western if no one dances." Encouraging anyone who

felt the urge to get up and dance, Samite and his band began playing another song. Two songs later, nearly half of the theater was up and dancing in the aisles. After failing to get the crowd to sing along (in an African language no less), Samite had everyone get up and dance. At this point everyone was smiling, clapping, and dancing. The crowd ran the gambit in both age and ethnicity—yet as the music played the audience was united in a way words cannot communicate.

Samite is a remarkable musical talent and a gifted singer. He's also a charming, disarming story teller. The thing I'll remember the most about him was what a good teacher he is. I can honestly say I learned a lot from his performance. I learned that music really is a universal language, one that speaks to the hearts of all people. Anyone interested in Samite or his charity, Musicians for World Harmony, should visit their website at www.musiciansforworldharmony.com.



PICTURES

REVOLUTION

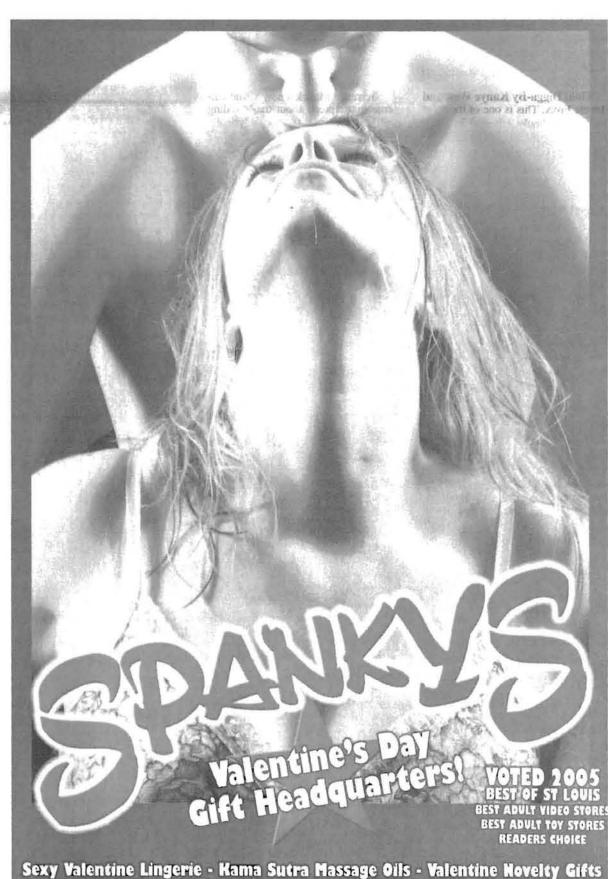
Current

invite you to stop by The Current's table on the Millennium Student Center Bridge on Thursday, February 9th from 12:00-12:30 PM to pick up a pass to see

FREEDOMLAND

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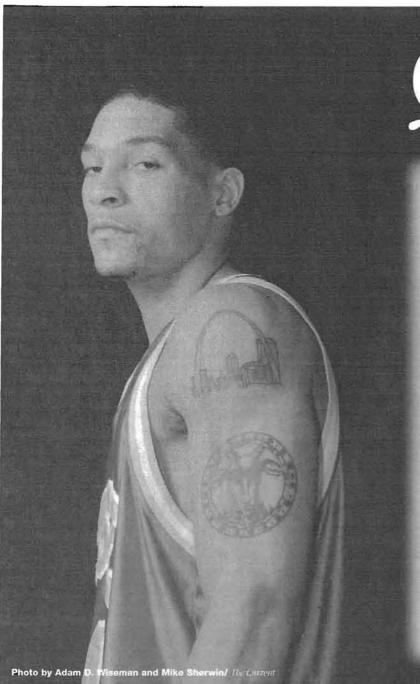
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With The Rivermen's star guard, Jonathan Griffin

BY JEFF ANDERSON

Staff Writer

He is a senior shooting guard and a team captain. He leads the Rivermen in points per game with 18.6. He is a competitor and a leader but who is the real Jonathan Griffin?

Who influenced you the most growing up?

My parents, definitely. They paved the way for me the most. Growing up was kind of hard but they helped me the most and I'm really grateful for them.

How many times a day do you practice?

About two or three times a day. Usually, if I have time I'll practice before I practice with the team and then again after. I usually try to work on dribbling, shooting and stuff like that.

Any pre-game rituals or superstitions?

Well, I always take a shower before the game! I don't know: I just always have to take a shower before every game. But I'm also a very spiritual person and I try to read the Bible too before games.

Who is your favorite NBA player, past or present?

I think right now it would have to be Allen Iverson because he always plays with passion. He's got good size and great ability and he always plays with heart every time he steps on the court.

Do you think UMSL can compete this year and/or in future years for the DII title?

At this point this year, we feel like we have a solid chance. We didn't start off the season well but we know that we have to work hard to make it into the tournament. And once we qualify for the tournament, then anything can happen. We feel like we can do some damage.

As for future years, I know we have a good recruiting class coming in and that will definitely help out the basketball program a lot. We only had one freshman this year but we had a lot of sophomores, too. And they're getting a lot of game experience this year so that in two or three more years, they'll definitely be improved and able to compete.

What are your plans after graduation?

I plan on playing pro ball somewhere but I know I can always fall back on teaching. I would like to teach high school but I could also do elementary school. I've done a lot of basketball camps and worked with little kids so I know can always do that.

Last question. There's 10 seconds left, you're down by one and you've got the ball. What do you do?

If I have a good look at the basket then I'll take the shot. This happened in a game recently but instead of being one-on-one, they sent two men at me to pressure the ball. And I just stepped back and found the open man and he drained the shot. A lot of teams will do that because they know I'll take that shot. So I have to find that open man and get the quick

Griffin was recently named UM-St. Louis' Student-Athlete of the Month by the Athletics Department. He and the Rivermen will be in action this week to face SIU-Edwardsville on Thursday and Quincy on Saturday. Both games will be at home and will start at 7:30 p.m.

Men's, women's basketball teams split their games on the road

BY LINDSEY BARRINGER Sports Editor

The Rivermen traveled to Indiana and took one GLVC win and one loss. On Thursday, the men visited St. Joseph's and were defeated 107-85.

UM-St. Louis only had the lead in the first six minutes of the game. Troy Slaten started the game off with a three pointer that was followed by a shot from Nathan Whittaker.

At the half, St. Joseph's had a 14 point advantage and the Rivermen could not recover. The January Athlete of the Month had 20 points on the

The Rivermen quickly recovered and took a win from Indianapolis. With an attendance of over 600, the men stomped on the home team and gave the home team fans another reason to go home upset. The Rivermen took the lead early with the game starting shot by Whittaker for three points followed by a layup from Joey Paul. UM-St. Louis held the lead throughout the game. Indianapolis tied the game at 43 in the second but another three pointer from Whittaker put the Rivermen back on top. Paul scored 20 points on the game with three assists Upcoming home games:

Women's Basketball:

Feb. 9 vs. SIUE 5:30 p.m.

Feb. 11 vs. Quicy 5:30 p.m.

Men's Basketball:

Feb. 9 vs. SIUE 7:30 p.m.

Feb. 11 vs. Quincy 7:30 p.m.

and Griffin scored 19 with four assists. The win and loss brings the Rivermen's record to 13-8 and 6-7 in the GLVC, the hardest Division II conference. UM-St. Louis takes on SIU-Edwardsville at home on Thursday and Quincy on Saturday. All students are invited to attend a rally before the Rivermen take their next win from

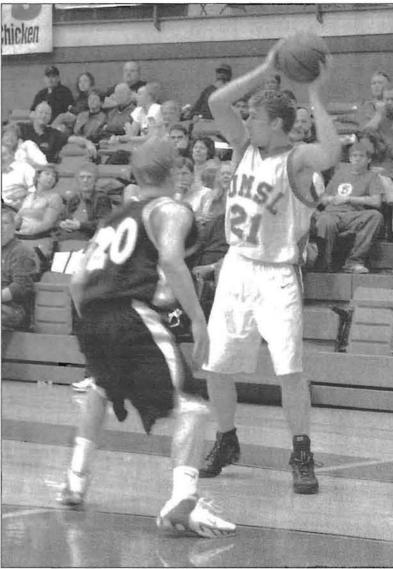
The Riverwomen also took one win

and one loss in Indiana. On Thursday, the Riverwomen were defeated by St. Joseph's College 74-67. Taylor Gagliano started UM-St. Louis' lead with a layup. The Riverwomen dominated the first half. Going into the second, the Riverwomen had the lead 24-27 after a foul shot by Megan Alberts. In the second, after a foul by Jennifer Martin, the Riverwomen lost their momentum and could not regain the lead. Crystal Lambert had the team high of 17 points and three assists.

On Saturday at Indianapolis, the Riverwomen took the first of the two UM-St. Louis wins. At the half, the Riverwomen had the lead of 33-35. The second half started with a three pointer by Courtney Watts.

With less than 16 seconds left in the game, Indianapolis fouled Watts and Lambert giving them an opportunity to score four points. After securing the final four points, the Riverwomen took the "W" 69-61. Lambert, again, had the team high of 15 points. Martin and Watts each had 14 points and Watts had eight assists.

Along with the men, the Riverwomen will host Edwardsville on Thursday and Quincy on Saturday. The Riverwomen are now 12-9 overall and 5-8 in the GLVC.



Kevin Ottley/ The Current

UM-St. Louis guard Nathan Whittaker protects the basketball from his opponent while looking for a passing option from his teammates during a game against Drury University in January.

DISCRIMINATION, from page 1

Student Affairs Vice Chancellor Curt Coonrod said, "In all cases, we follow the prescribed process to give everyone a fair hearing of their complaint." He could not discuss the case further to "protect the integrity of the process and respect the confidential nature of such matter."

Walker de Félix outlined the process for filing a grievance. All grievance cases are filed with Student Affairs and follow the Student Discrimination Procedure.

"Students that believe that they've been discriminated against also have the resources of the Office of Equal Opportunity," she said.

In a typical grievance, an informal discussion between the student and administrators takes place. If that does not resolve the situation, students fill out a grievance form.

"If a committee finds evidence of

discrimination and the chancellor agrees, students that have been discriminated against have the right...to ask to be restored to the state they were in before they experienced the discrimination."

For example, she said if a program rejected a student because of age, the student can be readmitted to the program but cannot ask the University to fire the director of the program.

Moore said his grievance is not a personal grudge. "I don't want to make waves. All I want is to finish my education," he said.

Moore said an institution denying the entrance to a student is unheard of. Rolla admitted him "with open arms," he said. "They treated me with dignity and respect.'

"I want to fight it all the way," Moore said. "What they're doing is wrong.'

METRO, from page 1

While this is cheaper than buying a \$55 monthly pass, 26,000 passes at \$125 per pass, this option would cost \$3,250,000.

The reason for the change stems from previous contracts going all the way back to 1993, when Metrolink first came to the campus.

In the past, the contract between Metro and UM-St. Louis was informal, said Reinhard Schuster, vice chancellor of Administrative Services. "It was more of a handshake. There really was an informal contract to start with."

When the Metro pass program began at the University, Metro gave UM-St. Louis students a discounted rate compared to other colleges near the Metrolink. Starting in 2000, Metro gave the University 11,000 passes for the fall and winter semesters each and 4,000 for the summer.

When Southwestern Illinois College, Washington University and St. Louis University joined the pass program, Schuster said, "It became a negotiating difficulty for them...it became difficult for them to give them as low a rate as UMSL."

Todd Plesko, chief of planning and system development at Metro, said, "Over the past few years, we've been trying to get the pricing of these consistent and more reflective of the value." He said with the extension of Metrolink into South St. Louis, more students will take the train. "We think there's more value now," he said.

Plesko said Metro must move from the model of giving discounted rates to certain universities to providing the same basic pricing and plan to all. "These [rates] are still favorable, but they're more in line with what everybody else is paying," he said.

Leah Gossage, junior, psychology, relies heavily on Metrolink. "I ride it two times every day," she said. "I don't think it's fair they're doing this. There's no other choice for people who couldn't pay for parking passes. It hinders them."

Carolanne Coleman, junior, history, takes Metrolink two days a week. "It's cheaper to take Metrolink than to get a parking permit," she said. Coleman does not use a pass, however. Instead, she buys a monthly pass, an option students may have to resort to next fall.

Schuster warned that the program may be cut altogether if students cannot find a solution. "If we want to keep the plan, I think we should, it's a matter of how to modify it where we get the most that we can out of the plan," he said.

Schuster suggested a compromise that would include keeping the 75-cent fee and having students pay a surcharge if they want the pass.

According to Parking and Transportation, around 8,400 passes were handed out last fall and 6,900 were given out this semester so far.

Whom do you most enjoy to watch play in UMSL basketball?

by Kevin Ottley Photography Associate



Marisha Griffin-Essex

You might say I'm biased 'cus im Jonathan (Griffin's) sister, but he always puts out 100% in every game he plays and you can see that commitment in his performance.



Bob Reid

Jonathan Griffin is great to watch when he's one-on-one, David Ward has some quick moves under the basket and I like the newcomer (Nathan) Whittaker too.



Tammy Hamilton

I love to watch Sherome (Cole), he always has a great time on the court no matter what.



Tom Wilcher

l like to watch Andrew (Cagle) #22 when he comes on.



Michael Riggins

#32 Troy Slaten. He's solid.

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February 6, 2006





ARIES (March 21 to April 19) A gracious Lamb can learn more about a problemfilled situation than one who is openly suspicious of what could be happening. A friend might offer some well-directed advice.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Getting adjusted to an unexpected change might be difficult for the Bovine who prefers things to go according to plan. But help could come from a

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) This could be a good time to get a head start on those career-related plans. The sooner you check out the pluses and minuses, the sooner you can act

on your information. CANCER (June 21 to July 22) A personal situation you thought would no longer present a problem could suddenly produce some surprises. Try to sort things out with the help of trusted colleagues.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) An upcoming move holds both anticipation and anxiety for Leos and Leonas who have some big decisions to make. Advice is plentiful, but it's up to you to decide which way you want to go.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Someone from a previous project could provide valuable guidance on how to handle a current problem, especially where it might involve

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) A business situation presents some unexpected complications. But rather than try to handle them all at once, it would be best to deal with them one at a time.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) You just might get what you want, despite the odds against it. In any event, be sure to

thank all those people involved who believed in you and went to bat for you. SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Before you even hint at an

accusation, remember that you'll have to prove what you say. So be sure you have what you need to back up your comments. CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) A romantic situation takes an

unexpected turn that favors some Sea Goats, but causes others to reassess how they've been handling the relationship.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) A surprise turn of events could unsettle the Water Bearer. But it might also help open up an entirely different way of working out an impor-

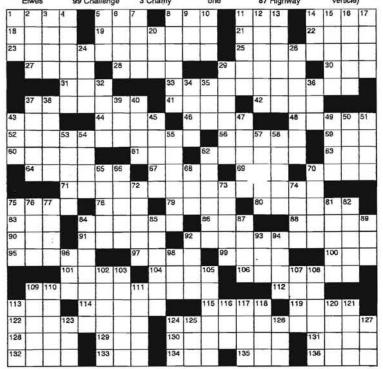
PISCES (February 19 to March 20) A smoothly running operation could bump up against an obstacle. This is where your ability to assess situations and make adjustments can

restore things to normal BORN THIS WEEK: Your kindness is legendary, and so is your strong sense of

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POETIC Super Crossword PEOPLE

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ACROSS	59 Muckraker	100 RN's	4 Home on	43 Eckerd	89 MBNA
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SCONEBOROUGH









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Moving Sale Entire Contents of House Kitchen items, Microwave, Table and chairs, Swivel rocker, TV, Microsuede loveseat. Brass/Glass Tables, 26 Gallon Aguarium, 8Ft fireplace mantel, Transylvania folding bookcase, Office supplies, Cd, DVD, Much more... 664-2548

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Spacious luxury

Spacious luxury Creve Coeur condominium for rent Conveniently located near highways 70, 40 and 170. Two bedrooms, 2 full bathrooms, plenty of closet and storage space, sunning patio, covered parking, clubhouse and pool. Only 750 per month. Call

Car for sale

2001 Ford focus Zx3 , white color, just 52000 miles low gas consumption, great for student. \$ 5400. Call for any info (314) 480 2500.

Wholesale HOT TUBS

Wholesale HOT TUBS that have full warranty starting at \$2750! Please call David at: 314-494-5268 or ail hottubs4less@gmail.com to find out about our diverse selection.

Services

Ic Short Course Classes

Startng Monday Feb. 6th, Instructional Computing Labs will offer free one hour classes at a variety of times on several topics, including Microsoft office, HTML & Web Page Building, File Management, UNIX/Macintosh. Adobe Photoshop basics 1 and 2, Viruses & Spyware and Studentmail Basics. The classes will also be taught on various "Instructional Computing Fridays*. To sign up or view a course list, visit www.umsl.edu/training or ask a computer lab

RATES

(40 words are free for students,

Interested In Rugby

staff, and faculty.) Otherwise, ad rates are:

1 ad or issue - \$15

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Competative / Social Stl rugby team seeking new players of all skill and experience levels come out to a practice or a game to see what its all about. Contact: Brian (314) 443-4345, briantoedebusch@hotmail.com.

Attitudes: Food, Body and Self

If you ever struggle to change your body, control food, or feel good about yourself-you might to try something different. You might want to try the "Attitudes" group sponsored by University Health. Wellness and Counseling Services. Contact Lori @516-5711 or Michelle @ 516-5414

Would you like to quit smoking? Contact the Wellness Resource Center at 516-5380 for free, on-campus smoking cessation resources.

Join PRIZM PRIZM is UMSL's GLBT & Ally Student Organization

committed to defeating negative Gay Lesbian Bisexual and Transgendered stereotypes through or E-mail prizm@umsl.edu Military Entrance Consulting

Considering the military? To learn more, discuss your

future with a G-RAP Independent Contractor. For

free information without any obligation call Jason (573) 760-3950 or John (314) 575-7136. Personals

CAMPUS RECREATION! COME PLAY WITH US! UMSL Intramural BASKETBALL

3-on-3 BB, ARENA FOOTBALL, BOWLING, and COED VOLLEYBALL. To play, sign up in the Campus Rec Office, 203 MT. Deadline is Wed, Jan. 26.

AEROBICS, AIKIDO, TAI CHI, SPINNING Check the UMSL Campus Recreation website for class schedules, fees, and more informationwww.umsl.edu/services/recsport

FREE TRIVIA NIGHT!

Campus Rec's Trivia Night will be held Thurs, Feb. 2. 7:30-10 p.m. at the Provincial House. Max. 10 team members. Free snacks/drinks & lots of prizes! Register at the Campus Rec Office, 203MT. 516-5326 by Tues, Jan. 31.

Seeking Performance Poets The Office of Student Life is seeking individuals to

perform for poetry night to celebrate Women's History Month (tentatively set for March 23). Contact 5270 or oda302@umsl.edu.

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