



V is for Vendetta
See page 9

UM system, ASUM oppose Bearden's bill to shift funding

BY PAUL HACKBARTH
News Editor

House Bill 1865

- Rep. Carl Bearden's sponsored House bill would freeze state appropriations at the high water mark for public universities reached during 2001.

- Any excess funding over the 2001 level would be put into Missouri Access Scholarships for first-year freshmen.

A bill that would change the way the state distributes higher education appropriations moved out of a House committee two weeks ago, despite the objections from certain University of Missouri officials and student groups.

House Bill 1865 passed the Special House Committee on Student Achievement and Finance by a vote of 5-3 on Tuesday, March 7.

The bill's sponsor, Rep. Carl Bearden, R-St. Charles, said the legislation would give Missouri's higher education institutions a \$60 million increase in state funding.

After state appropriations reach the level that they were at in 2001 for public universities, the bill would set up a statewide scholarship fund called the Missouri Access Scholarship program. First-year students enrolling in Missouri universities and colleges would receive scholarships in amounts from \$250 up to \$1,000 eventually.

"The main focus of the bill is the student," Bearden said. "We need to share back and forth with keeping scholarships fully funded and giving direct aid to institutions so that [students] can be the ones that benefit."

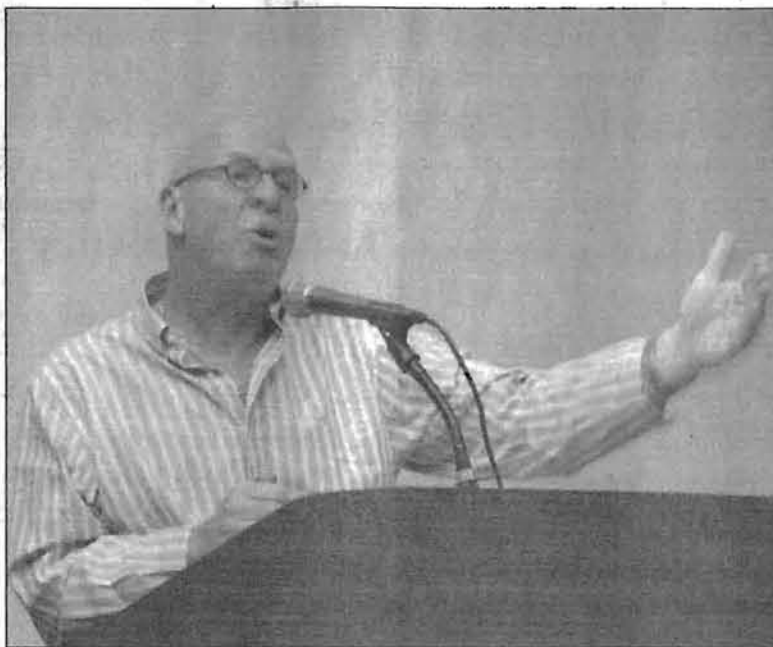
Nikki Krawitz, UM vice president of finance and administration, concedes that while nothing will happen

to funding until the high water mark is reached, she said that level will not be reached until 2011 if the state continues to appropriate 2 percent increases annually. In addition, she said if 2001 appropriations are restated in 2006 dollars using the Consumer Price Index, the cap on funding would not take effect until 2017.

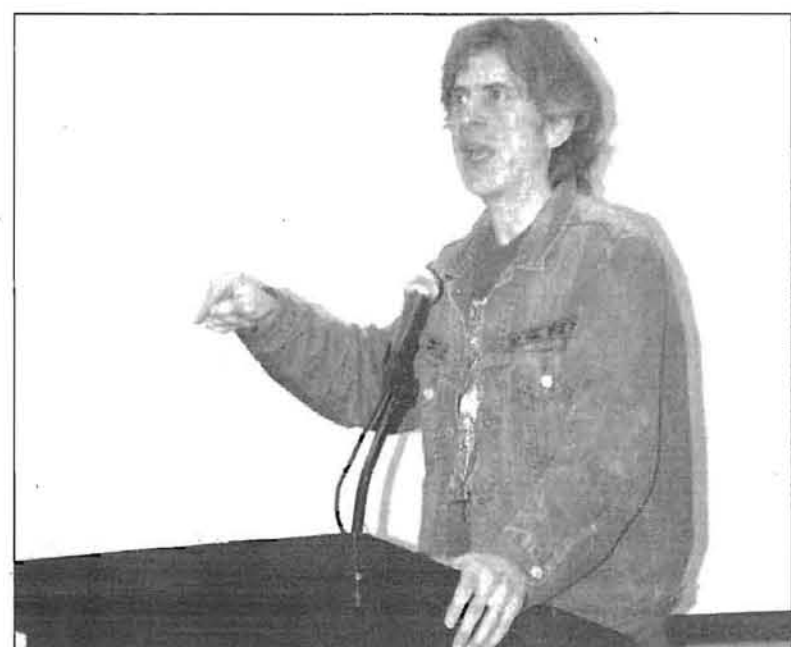
Krawitz and Stephen Lehmkuhle, UM vice president for academic affairs, testified at the Capitol in opposition of the bill for three reasons.

First, they said the State Aid Task Force recommended simplifying student aid. They claim adding another scholarship program "adds another layer of complexity for the parents and students."

see **BEARDEN**, page 3



Robert Stutman (LEFT), a retired special agent for the Drug Enforcement Agency, argued against legislation in support of legalizing marijuana while Steve Hager, editor in chief of *High Times* magazine, argued in favor of legalization.



The Great Debate

DEA agent, *High Times* editor debate marijuana legalization

BY MELISSA MCCRARY
Features Editor

Not surprisingly, a former DEA agent and the editor of *High Times* magazine had widely differing views on the question of marijuana legalization.

At "The Great Debate" on Thursday night in the Millennium Student Center, Robert Stutman, a retired special agent for the Drug Enforcement Agency, had a heated debate with Steve Hager, editor in chief of *High Times* magazine.

Stutman, who has been called

"the most famous narc in America," by *New York Magazine* and has made numerous television appearances including on "Today," "60 Minutes" and "48 Hours," became a special agent in charge for the New York City office in 1985. He worked for 25 years with the DEA, making more than 15,000 arrests on drug charges.

After retiring from the DEA, Stutman went on to found a consulting firm that works with substance abuse prevention programs. He has also made numerous presentations in 73 countries and has written a best-selling autobiography titled

"Dead on Delivery."

His opponent, Hager, grew up in Champagne, Ill., where in high school, he said he never really knew what drugs were. He moved to San Francisco and created the "Tin Whistle," an underground magazine that was distributed and banned from four high schools.

Hager worked as a reporter for the *New York Daily News*, where he became interested and began investigating works of graffiti art. After working as a reporter, he became the editor in chief of *High Times* magazine, the founder of the Cannabis Cup in Amsterdam and a member of

the Rainbow Family of Living Light.

Each speaker was given the opportunity to present their arguments for 15 minutes.

Hager went first, and gave five main arguments for the legalization of marijuana.

Hager said marijuana plants are good for the environment, have medicinal value and are tied closely to his own counterculture spiritual movement. He also argued that keeping drugs illegal promotes

see **GREAT DEBATE**, page 12



Students upset over Painting Annex problems

BY MELISSA S. HAYDEN
Staff Writer

Students taking the Painting II (Studio Art 1181) class feel they face several problems or what they call "health hazards" in the Painting Annex located in the bottom floor of the Hollywood Park Apartment Complex near the Bellerive Drive entrance.

"Wires are hanging from the ceiling. It's very hazardous," said Phuong Bang, senior, special education and elementary education.

As a student who uses the classroom, Bang said the "floor is disgusting" and the light source in the room is "too bright" for the work done

LEFT: Jennifer Simmons, junior, fine art, touches up her painting in the Painting Annex. She has to rely on lighting from a window and hopes that water does not ruin any of her paintings.

Adam D. Wiseman/The Current

there. She also said the building is not handicap accessible, the emergency door is blocked and cobwebs, bugs and layers of dust can be found in the room.

Laura Barton, senior, studio art, said the ceiling has a large amount of water damage. "There is possibly mold in the ceiling. The ceiling could fall down," she said.

Barton is also concerned because the room has no ventilation and the windows do not open.

However, she felt "the biggest health hazard" in the classroom is that the "toxic bin," a plastic bucket where old paints and oils are disposed, is not always emptied. "Sometimes you leave, and you just feel sick," she said.

Barton claimed she called Student Affairs about the problems, and the office gave her the phone number to housekeeping. After that, housekeeping stocked the classroom with paper towels and soap, items she said her and her classmates are usually left without.

Curt Coonrod, vice provost of Student Affairs, and Orinthia Montague McGhee, assistant vice provost of Student Affairs, said they

were not aware of or contacted about these problems.

"I'm surprised the faculty has not complained at all. This is the first I was aware of this," Coonrod said.

He said when students have concerns, his office staff is "more than happy" to get information to the appropriate person for taking care of the problems.

Lindsey Millikan, sophomore, art and biology, said she feels somebody should be checking in on the building. "It should be kept to the standards of the Fine Arts Building, which is spotless. This isn't acceptable with the money we're paying," she said.

In an e-mail, Jeff Sippel, coordinator of the bachelor of fine arts program and associate professor of art and art history, wrote he had not "heard complaints regarding the Painting Annex from faculty, staff or students."

"I can say, we, the studio art area, have been told to work with the resources we have available," he wrote.

see **PAINTING ANNEX**, page 9

SLA rejects ASUM plan for system budget

BY PAUL HACKBARTH
News Editor

While the other three UM campuses approved a "centralization" for the budget of Associated Students of the University of Missouri, the representatives from the UM-St. Louis campus are holding out to lower the increase in dues that the "centralization" is asking for.

Currently, "each campus, Kansas City, Rolla and St. Louis, pays \$3,000 in dues [annually] to Columbia," explained Thomas Helton, Student Legislative Association board member. "What that pays for, at this point, is part of the executive director's salary and other salaries" including those of the legislative director and board chair.

Annual expenses for ASUM total about \$92,000 a year. With three campuses paying \$3,000 into the budget, "Columbia pays nearly 90 percent of the budget," said Craig Kleine, ASUM board chair. "The proposed budget will give each of the campuses a larger stake in the organization, and it will make ASUM more equitable."

The ASUM board already approved the "systemization of the budget," and the change will take effect in July 2006, despite SLA's abstention.

see **SLA**, page 12

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Students launch new radio station 'The U' at UM-St. Louis

BY MELISSA S. HAYDEN
Staff Writer

A new student-run radio station is coming to UM-St. Louis with hopes of broadcasting campus related radio programming and creating a supportive atmosphere with 90.7-FM, KWMU, the station currently broadcasting from campus.

The Student Electronic Media Professionals Association is officially launching 101.9-FM, The U, on Monday, April 3. The broadcasts will run weekly, Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m.

Cadence Rippetto, sophomore, communication, is the marketing director of The U. She said the initial week, April 3 through April 7, will be The U's "coming out" week.

"That's what I keep calling it, and everyone keeps getting mad at me," Rippetto said.

The U is currently running preliminary tests and "a bunch of teasers" this week.

Bryan Goers, sophomore, secondary education, who is the program director for The U, said the music played is going to be "a mix."

He said plans are in the making for surveys to be conducted to find out what students want to hear.

Goers said, "Students' voices will be what determines the music played on The U, even if it's us (the staff of The U) going around table to table in the Nosh asking, 'what do you want to hear?'"

He said all of the programming at The U will have a UM-St. Louis angle, something he felt The U will not have in common with KWMU.

Shirley Kerley, development director at KWMU, said, "We carry national and international news as well as local and regional. We are licensed to serve the entire community. We take it to heart what really serves the community

best."

Goers said, "Their goal is to serve the community. Ours is to serve UMSL. There in lies the difference between us. They are community driven. We are going to be UMSL driven. I think that The U was born from that."

Despite contrasting services, Goers would like to see KWMU help The U and build a partnership between both stations.

"I would say the station is supportive of what they are doing," Kerley said. "We are always interested in opportunities for students to learn and grow in broadcast."

A statement from KWMU regarding its internships said that one to three students are selected for learning opportunities, and the students are chosen from UM-St. Louis as well as other campuses.

see **THE U**, page 7



Adam D. Wiseman/The Current

Ashland Tate, sophomore, communication, discusses what his show is about on the new student-run radio station 101.9 FM "The U." The radio shows go live on Monday, April 3 and can be heard online at www.umsl.radio.com and eventually in the Millennium Student Center bridge and bookstore.

Bulletin Board

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

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

Tues., March 21

Intensive French and Spanish Testing

Testing for summer semester 2006 will be held today at 10 a.m. To register for the testing call the Foreign Languages and Literature Office at 6240.

Wed., March 22

Society of Future Engineers

The SOFE is having its March meeting today at 12:30 p.m. Benton Hall, room 101. Bud Scott, director of avionics at Flight Test Associates, will be guest speaking. This event is free and will include pizza, cookies and soda.

The Structure of International Conflict

The Center for International Studies is sponsoring this event that will happen at 11 a.m. in the SSB building. Dr. George A. Barnett will discuss "The Structure of International Conflict, 1993-2001: the Role of Communication."

Trailblazers Ceremony
In celebration of Women's History Month, the 11th annual Women

Trailblazers Ceremony will be held at 2 p.m. in Century Rooms B and C at the MSC. A reception will follow the ceremony, which is free and open to the public. Call 5695 for more information.

Thurs., March 23

HIV Prevention for African American Women

Dr. Karla D. Scott, director of African American studies and associate professor of communication at St. Louis University, will speak at the YWCA Metro St. Louis from 5:30 to 7 p.m. This event is free and open to the public.

'Hellfire Nation'

James Morone, professor of political science at Brown University, will discuss his latest book "Hellfire Nation: The Politics of Sin in American History." The lecture and book signing will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the Century Rooms of the MSC. The event is free and open to the public.

Fri., March 24

'Playing with History in East Asia'

Frederick R. Dickinson, associate professor of Japanese history at the University of Pennsylvania, and Jinhee Choi, assistant professor of film studies at Carleton University, will discuss "Playing with History in East Asia" at 3 p.m. in the Alumni House Living Room at Washington University in St. Louis. A reception will follow the lecture that is free and open to the public. Parking permits are required and will be sent to those who RSVP. Call (314) 935-4448 to RSVP.

Sat., March 25

The Arianna String Quartet

The quartet-in-residence at UM-St. Louis, will perform "Get Smart!" a family concert and discussion, at 4 p.m. in the Lee Theater at the Touhill. Admission is free for faculty, staff and students and children age 17 and under, and \$10 for adults. Call 4949 or visit www.ariannaquartet.com for more information.

Scholar to Discuss Monastery Mountain

Douglas Demetrios Lyttle, author and professor emeritus of photography, will deliver slide presentation and book signing of "Miracle on the Monastery Mountain." This free event will be held at 7:30 p.m. in Century Room A at the MSC.

Announcements

Students Sought for University Assembly

The University Assembly is seeking student members for the 2006-07 academic year. Visit www.umsl.edu/~sso/elections/uasso.html to view the criteria and obtain an application. Applications are due April 7. Call 6769 for more information.

Talent Showcase

The Associated Black Collegians will present a showcase with a grand prize of \$200. There are also second and third place prizes. This event is free and will happen April 6 at 6:30 p.m. Call 5731 for more information.

Academic Bowl

The Honors College and the Office of Student Life will be hosting the Academic Bowl, an intellectual trivia tournament. This event is free and open to everyone. This event will be on April 4 in the Pilot House. Pick up applications from the Office of Student Life before March 31.

Social Justice Month

April is UM-St. Louis' Social Justice Month. The Catholic Newman Center will have activities to raise awareness. Visit them online at <http://www.umsl.edu/~newman> or call 385-3455 for more information.

Words On Purpose

A reading to benefit Women's Support and Community Services will be held Sat., April 8 at the Souldard Coffee Garden. The event will begin at 4 p.m. and will feature renowned poets Allison Funk and UM-St. Louis' Nanora Sweet. Award-winning fiction writer and MFA writing program director, Mary Troy, will also be reading.

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

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ANNOUNCING THE ANDALAFTE MATHEMATICAL COMPETITION

The Department of Mathematics and Computer Science will sponsor the **Andalafte Mathematical Competition on Thursday April 6, 2006 at 1:00 pm in 100 Clark Hall.**

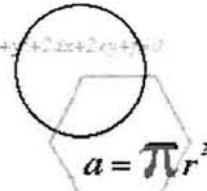
This will be a **three hour exam**, open to all UMSL Undergraduates, consisting of five challenging problems, accessible to students who have completed at least Math 1900.

Prizes will be as much as \$1000 and winners will be recognized at the 9th Annual Spencer & Spencer Lecture on Monday April 24 at 7:30pm in the Century Room of the MSC.

Further information and an application form can be obtained by visiting the department website www.umsl.edu/~mathcs/ or by contacting Dr. R. Dotzel at 516-6337

Applications must be received by Monday, April 3.

Win \$1,000



Campus Crimeline

The following incidents were reported to the UM-St. Louis Police Department between March 10, 2006 and March 17, 2006. Remember that crime prevention is a community effort, and anyone having information concerning these incidents should contact the campus police at 516-5155.

March 14 - Destruction of Property - Villa Residence Hall

It was reported that sometime overnight person(s) unknown apparently fired a pellet gun, and a pellet went through an outside screen and one pane of glass. The pellet did not penetrate the interior of the building

and was fired

from the location of an interior courtyard.

March 16 - Warrant Arrest - University Meadows

A student was arrested by the UM-St. Louis police and taken into custody on outstanding warrants from the Warren County sheriff's department.

March 17 - Stealing Over \$500 - Geiger Road Construction Site

The business victim, Big Boys Steel, reported that a welding machine, cutting torch and lead hoses valued at nearly \$2,500 were stolen sometime overnight from the Express Scripts construction site.

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'Hellfire Nation' author to speak on American mix of religion, politics

BY SEAN MICHAEL
Staff Writer

Politics and religious morals come together as one and are used simultaneously in America, according to James Morone, author of the book, "Hellfire Nation: The Sin in American History."

Morone, professor of political science from Brown University in Providence, R.I., will visit UM-St. Louis to speak about his book on March 23 at 7:30 p.m. in the Century Rooms of the Millennium Student Center.

Morone hopes that people reading his book will better understand how religion and politics intersect. "If you want to accomplish something great, put it in religious terms and Americans will respond," he said.

According to Morone's book, morals play a crucial role in American politics and society. "If moral fervor stirs our better angels, moral fevers spur our demons," he wrote in his book.

His book shares the message that with change comes fear of moral decline. "In the 1960s, adults were telling students that politics were not about moral causes, yet all the left conservative college kids were making moral arguments," he explained.

He said one of the great developments of the last 30 years is that ultra-conservatives have connected with their religious traditions and more

moderate conservatives have lost theirs.

Morone said that religion founded the United States, and he believes Americans use religion like no other country does, especially when it comes to politics.

During his visits to universities, Morone uses stories to provide entertainment for the students and to get his point across. "I would like the students and the general public to walk away with a new view of American politics and to have fun with it," he said.

Lana Stein, chair of the political science department, and Dave Robertson, political science professor, extended the invitation to Morone to speak at the fourth annual lecture series for the department.

Stein looks forward to the event. "We would like to encourage many students, faculty and interested people from the general public to attend," she said.

She hopes students will leave the lecture with a better understanding of the way politics work and possibly play an active role in the future. "I'm concerned that students and the majority of the general public do not take an interest in politics," she explained.

Robertson heard Morone speak before and read his previous work, so he figured Morone would be an ideal candidate to speak in the latest lecture series.

Following the lecture, Morone will sign copies of his book, which will be available for about \$20.

SLA BRINGS REP. BOWMAN TO UMSL FOR 'DINNER'



Mike Sherwin/The Current

Rep. John Bowman speaks about House Bill 1433 on Thursday night during "Dinner with a Legislator," hosted by the Student Legislative Association. The bill, which Bowman sponsored, would raise the minimum wage in Missouri.

IWGS discussion celebrates Women's History Month

BY HALEI PAIGE
Staff Writer

In the small town of Melton, Iowa, the Jenkins Family lived as the community's only blacks. Set in the 1930s, Cora Jenkins earned wages for her mother and her daughter, Josephine, as a housekeeper for the Studevant family.

This set the scene for a film based on an adaptation of author Langston Hughes' fictional work, "Cora Unashamed," from his collection, "The Ways of White Folks."

The Institute for Women and Gender Studies showed the film on Tuesday in Clark Hall in honor of Women's History Month to discuss the similarities and differences between the PBS film version and Hughes' fictional version.

Kathleen Nigro, assistant director and lecturer for the IWGS, said, "Discussing those differences highlights the strengths and weaknesses of media interpretation."

After the movie and looking over Hughes' original version, Nigro and the audience discussed the story and the film.

Nigro felt the discussion was very insightful and lively.

"We were very pleased that people attended from a variety of campus departments, students and faculty alike," she said.

She encouraged everyone who is familiar with Langston Hughes through his poetry to read his collection, "The Ways of White Folks."

"Cora Unashamed" is one of two events that the IWGS will host for National Women's History Month. Nigro said she plans to host more events like this in the future.

Women Trailblazers to be honored

BY MEREDITH TATE
Staff Writer

The 11th annual Women Trailblazers Ceremony celebrating Women's History Month will be held March 22 at 2 p.m. in Century Rooms B and C at the Millennium Student Center.

Glen H. Cope, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs will be honored for her work along with Maria C. Curtis, UM-St. Louis student representative to the UM System Board of Curators; Deborah Henry, director of

Continuing Education & Outreach at UM-St. Louis; Donna Morrow, mayor of O'Fallon, Mo.; and Chris L. Wright, superintendent of the Hazelwood School District.

"The women who receive these awards are wonderful role models to the other students and our community. To be in a category with them is amazing to me," said Curtis.

The theme of this year's celebration is "Women: Builders of Communities and Dreams." After the ceremony there will be a reception and Nicole Adewale, co-founder and president of ABNA Engineering will speak.

BEARDEN'S BILL WOULD SHIFT FUNDS FROM UNIVERSITIES TO SCHOLARSHIPS, from page 1

Second, Krawitz said, "It is difficult for us to reconcile the need for a new scholarship program when our current need-based financial programs, Missouri Guarantee and Gallagher programs, are currently woefully underfunded."

Krawitz outlined in an e-mail the four statewide scholarship programs. The Bright Flight program is currently funded at 100 percent while the Gallagher and Guarantee programs are

each funded at 25 percent.

With the addition of fully funding the Access scholarship, the state would have to pay \$156 million annually for all four programs.

"This year, the state is providing a total of about \$40 million for these programs. So it would take an increase of more than \$116 million to fund these programs," she said.

Third, Krawitz and Lehmkuhle claimed that any strategy to improve

financial aid should allow students to start and complete their college educations. Krawitz said the Access scholarship would cover less than 2 percent of tuition costs for private colleges and 4 percent for public four-year universities.

Krawitz cited a similar program in Colorado to what Bearden's legislation proposes. "In the end, to operate, they drove up tuition, as much as 27 percent," she said.

Krawitz added that under the Access program, students could choose their prospective college based on the scholarship money. However, she said the UM campuses are at a disadvantage since the scholarship money would not go as far as it would at community colleges that are less expensive.

"It's a shift from four-year institutions to two-years institutions," she said.

The lobbying group, Associated Students of the University of Missouri, also oppose "all measures that would cap funding for Missouri's public four-year institutions," which includes HB1865.

While other board members named increased tuition or small scholarships that would not cover the costs of books as reasons, Thomas Helton, ASUM board member, claims Bearden has a conflict of interest "because he works

for Lindenwood University, which is a private university, as a fund-raiser."

Helton said, "In a sense, lobbying for legislation that would help his school get funds is obviously in the capacity of his job at Lindenwood and his job being a state legislator."

Bearden has repeatedly denied in the past that his relationship with Lindenwood had any bearing on his decision to sponsor and move the legislation forward.



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Our Opinion

Bearden's bill would hurt public universities and colleges in Missouri

House Bill 1865 would dramatically shift the way the state funds higher education in Missouri.

While the bill's sponsor, Rep. Carl Bearden, says he would like to restore the 2001-level state appropriations to Missouri's public colleges and universities, he would divert any further funding into a voucher-like system of scholarships for all Missouri students to use at any university in Missouri, public or private.

If the bill's aim is to adequately fund public institutions of higher education, then why mix in a plan which would divert funds to private schools?

Yes, Missouri needs to stop the trend of stagnant state appropriations to higher education. But don't disguise a new voucher program within a promise to restore funding.

Plus, it's not even clear that the

2001 goal would really benefit public universities when you take into consideration the Consumer Price Index.

According to UM System administrators, Bearden's bill would start a new state scholarship program, the Missouri Access Scholarship, when two currently functional scholarships, the Missouri Guarantee and Gallagher scholarships, are "woefully underfunded."

Does that make sense to you?

Not to us, either.

After the bill restores funding for public institutions of higher education to those 2001 levels, the appropriations would be capped at that level.

In addition, the bill has vague language to create a set of performance goals, which public institutions would be required to meet after a contractually-set period of five years.

According to the bill, "Five major performance measures will be developed by the Department of Higher Education in conjunction with higher education institutions. Institutions will enter into performance contracts for up to five years."

Restoring funding: Good.

Capping funding, passing off future funding to private schools through a new scholarship program while old programs aren't yet funded? Bad with a capital 'B.'

HB 1865 was recently passed by the House Committee on Student Achievement and Finance and could be headed to a vote on the House floor this Spring.

ASUM, UM lobbyists, students and faculty should let legislators know that this is a bad idea for Missouri's colleges and universities.

Letters from London

Athens: an ancient adventure town perfect for a modern Spring break

After my adventures in Ireland, where the snow came down and the wind cut through bone, I was ready for some warm spring break fun.

Sunday night I caught a few winks in London before I made my way to Heathrow Airport. From there I had a non-stop flight on British Airways to Athens, Greece.

Considering the nightmarish experiences I had encountered with Air India and intercontinental carriers, I was looking forward to flying "luxuriously" with British Airways. Of course, when compared to colicky babies, broken seats, excessive turbulence and inedible food, it does not take that much to be luxurious.

Leaning back my seat, I was able to watch *The Family Stone* on a small television that unfolded from the ceiling. I eagerly dug in to my airline breakfast of powdered eggs, sausage, ham and roll.

I landed in the Athens airport with no problems. Since I didn't check any bags, I made my way through to customs.

After obtaining a new stamp for my passport, I entered the arrivals lounge. My friend Matt, who is with the UM-St. Louis group studying in Athens with Professor Cosmopolous, was there to greet me. He had agreed to show me around Athens while I was there.

We spent the first few hours just wandering around in Plaka, the old district. The first thing that struck me as we came up from the Metro was the weather. It was almost 70 degrees and it felt like heaven to me after the cold of Ireland and England that clings to you even when you're inside. It was wonderful to actually feel the heat of the sun after many months of cold sunshine.

After I got a grip on myself I looked around outside the Metro station. And there was the Acropolis. It's right there. That may sound a bit obvious, but it would be like if the Statue of Liberty was in the middle of downtown New York, and not on Ellis Island. The symbol of the city right in the middle of it, instead of off to the side.

For those who don't know, the Acropolis is the big hill in Athens that has



London Correspondent

Parthenon, Ancient Greek temple to Athena, patron goddess of Athens. Plaka, where I stayed, is at the base of the Acropolis. The streets are rather narrow and all tend to lead uphill towards the Acropolis. Street vendors and kiosks line the streets while men, women and children talk about their wares in Greek and English.

I had been afraid of how I would cope since I don't speak a single word of Greek. Fortunately, many people in Athens are fluent in or speak enough English to help with transactions and directions.

We went first to see where Matt was staying, about a 20-minute walk from my hotel. A recently built Hilton sticks out among the smaller hotels and was a good landmark for the Hotel Delice, the students' home for three months.

I met Matt's roommates, one of whom I had known before from class, and we hung out for a time talking about our study abroad experiences. Since I had been up at 5 a.m. to go to the airport, I called an early night and left to find my hotel.

For some reason, the hostel I had booked was unable to house me. I believe the man mentioned something about central heating, but I'm not sure. He directed Matt and me to a sister hotel where I would be staying. He gave us a

map, directions and several unsolicited pieces of advice on what to see, where to go and what to eat. All smiles and thanks, we finally escaped this nice man's advising to set out again. The new hotel wasn't that far, and Matt left me at the doorstep.

I checked in and learned that someone was already in my room and to just go up. I entered the room to find a boy, maybe 18 or 19 years old, sprawled out on the middle bed. I smiled and shut the door behind me and said hello.

He looked up and said, "You're American aren't you?" It will never cease to amaze me how easy it is for people to spot Americans; we're just that obvious, I suppose.

I chatted with Mark, an Aussie, and told him that I was studying in London and was on spring break. He had just graduated high school and was spending a year traveling Europe. He left for a night out in Athens, while I quickly went to bed.

The next morning Mark and I stumbled through our doorway into the kitchen area. I didn't know what time Mark had gotten back, but we both grumbled about the various drunken groups that had barreled their way past our door at all hours of the morning. I sat down with my mandatory bread and butter and perused my guidebook. Mark sat down with a plate of bread, but instead of packets of butter, he produced a yellow tube with 'Vegemite' written on it.

Studying the tube, I declined his offer to try some. He spread the thick brown paste lavishly onto his bread. After coming back to London, I've learned that Australians are simply crazy about Vegemite, and no one else in the world understands it. A friend of mine with her mouth twisted disdainfully as if she could still taste it, described it as 'liquid salt spread on bread.'

After breakfast, Mark and I parted ways. I was set to meet up with Matt and the group at their hotel to tag along on their fieldtrip to the Acropolis. Tune in next week for the conclusion of my Athenian adventure.

You can make **your** voice heard in a letter to the editor!

email us at current@jinx.umsl.edu



Muhammed LaMotte Junior, Social Work

Kim Jong-il, because he might try and take over the world and if he does, I want to control him.



Kelcy Siddall Junior, Economics

Barry Bonds. Maybe if I take out his knees, then he would not break the home run record. That whiny SOB.

Staff Viewpoints

No such thing as a free ride

Last time on UM-St. Louis versus Metro ...

University officials announced that by August, our current program with Metro regarding 'free' passes would expire. As of this year, students pay 75 cents per credit hour toward the Metro program to receive a pass.

That is all about to change. Starting in the fall semester, UM-St. Louis and Metro will try a new compromise, in which students will pay a voluntary \$45 fee plus the money collected from the infrastructure fee, which would be 50 cents per credit hour. All that money to get a Metro pass in the hands of the students. For a full-time student carrying a load of 12 credit hours, that translates to \$51 for a semester-long pass.

In addition to announcing the compromise, they also announced that they expect to sell 3,000 to 4,000 passes each semester. Normally, the Cashier's Office gives out close to 8,000 passes each fall and winter semester. So, why does the office expect to hand out half the number they usually do? Maybe it is because the University, like me, realizes that not as many students will pay that additional fee.

While the University has been getting a good deal since 1993 when the tracks crossed campus for the first time, Metro now wants each university near a Metrolink stop with a Metro pass program to pay a similar price. How similar is it? Let's compare it, shall we?

Take the train to the Central West End near Washington University, where a new program beginning this summer would put a pass in every hand of a full-time student, benefit-eligible faculty and staff members and full-time employees at the college. How much will they pay? Nothing out of their own pockets. The program will be funded through Washington



PAUL HACKBARTH News Editor

University's operating budget.

Ride down the rail near St. Louis University, and you will find that the college does not even have a Metro pass program. Students must pay \$17.50 for 10 tickets at the bookstore there if they want to ride the train to school.

Travel over the bridge to Illinois and get off at the Southwestern Illinois College stop. Students there pay \$5 for a Metro pass that lasts one semester.

I concede that our University's compromise is a better deal than SLU and at least part-time students at UM-St. Louis can get a pass, but across the board, the amount that students pay for Metro passes is by far not more uniform than what it used to be.

Perhaps Metro forgot that back in 1993 when the light rail was first built on campus, UM-St. Louis allowed Metro to use the University's land. Perhaps Metro forgot that when it initially needed the ridership, students provided that much needed ridership for Metro.

I ride Metrolink almost every day to UM-St. Louis, as do other students who rely on it and the handy pass that costs a mere 75 cents per credit hour. In fact, that pass is one of the reasons I chose this school.

However, it is unfair to ask students to go from paying about \$9 per semester (75 cents x 12 credit hours) for a pass to \$51 (50 cents x 12 credit hours + \$45), an increase of almost five and a half times what students pay now. A student taking 12 credit hours is paying \$51 so that Metro can give a fair deal to every University and so that students have to bear the brunt of making up for the rising costs of Metrolink construction.

It just goes to show that there's no such thing as a free ride, especially when it comes to Metro.

Three years of reflection

Three years ago, the United States of America started a war against the Iraqi regime.

The focus was put on weapons of mass destruction and national security. Our government gave us propaganda. The country was induced into fear by the visions of another Sept. 11. Remember when Saddam Hussein had weapons that could obliterate the western world?

President George W. Bush has continued to ask U.S. citizens to stand by him. He asks us to let him and his White House officials handle the job.

Three years ago, our soldiers were told to head to Baghdad, and that the war would be quick and easy. The president asked the soldiers to stand by him and lay down their lives for the sake of a "democratic" Iraq.

Three years ago the Iraqi people were told that the U.S. soldiers were to help them. The president asked them to continue their daily lives, and soon they would have their own democracy.

Three years later, these groups of people realize the president is a liar. The American public is tired of the war. The soldiers are tired of the war. The Iraqi citizens are tired of the war. But yet, President George W. Bush keeps pushing on. He pushes on because no one will stand up and fight against what he is doing.

Some will say to me that George W. Bush is not the problem. That he



ADAM D. WISEMAN Photo Director

has had a tough time with all of the tragedies that have come during his presidency. They might say that he didn't make all the decisions regarding the war. They might watch the Christmas video of him with his dog and say, "He isn't such a bad guy." They might even say that he is helping the security of our nation.

The people that think and say these things are detached from reality and need to wake up.

The handling of hurricane Katrina has been blamed on everyone under the sun except George. Michael Brown was the fall guy for the administration. Now there are videos explicitly showing that he was not the only one responsible.

Some blame needs to be placed on the guy we all put in office. Saying that President Bush did not know how bad it really was is a lame excuse. Everyone in the world knew how bad it was. Fidel Castro sent aid into the region before we did. Americans were hung out to dry because of a failure in our government. That failure was George W. Bush.

We can storm the beaches of Normandy, saving the world from the Nazi regime, but we can't get food and water to Americans pleading for their lives, on our own precious soil? Please.

see **THREE YEARS**, page 5

MISSOURI PRINZING

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LETTERS

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

Under Current

by Adam Wiseman
Photo Director

If you could use a voodoo doll against anyone, who would it be and why?



John Waterhouse Senior, Electrical Engineering

I would have Chuck Norris. I am getting so sick and tired of hearing about him that I am about to throw down a round house kick on that Voodoo Doll.



Damien Johnson, Senior, Criminal Justice

All of my political opponents. It would be nice to have them out of the way.

Science Column

Humans are still evolving



CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER
Science Columnist

The general assumption about human evolution is that we stopped evolving when we developed culture.

Instead of evolving physically, our cultures adapted to our environment for us. However, a recent surprising discovery shows we may still be evolving after all.

Studies published in October and December last year, and a more recent one published on March 7, all show signs of response to natural selection, the force by which evolution works, as recent as 15,000 to 5,000 years ago.

When conditions in a species' environment favor a certain form, or forms, of a gene, then that gene is said to be under selective pressure.

The changes appear to coincide with the human transition from wandering hunter-gatherers to settled farmers, and may be adaptation to the change in diet. The transition to agricultural life was underway in Europe and East Asia 5,000 years ago.

The March study, published in PLOS-Biology by population geneticists Dr. Jonathan Pritchard, Benjamin Voight, Sridhar Kudaravalli and

Xiaoquan Wen, found 700 regions of the human genome that showed evidence of recent selective pressure.

They studied changes in DNA in three populations, in East Asia, Europe and Africa, from data gathered by the HapMap project, whose results had been published in October 2005.

The HapMap project was based on the sequencing of the human genome in 2003.

Among the areas that showed responses to natural selection were skin color, bone structure, digestion, smell and taste and brain function.

Although people differ widely in appearance from place to place, genetically they are surprisingly similar.

These new findings point to more recent appearance of some of the differences in skin color and bone structure between populations in differing areas of the globe.

Race is genetically more apparent than real and a more recent occurrence might explain that.

Genes showing evidence of recent selective pressure that had been identified previously included those that

confer some resistance to malaria and the inheritance of the enzyme lactase that allows adults to digest the sugar lactose, found in cow's milk.

This gene was commonly found in Northern Europeans, whose ancestors herded cattle.

Pritchard's study identified more recently spreading genes by finding blocks of DNA that showed little change between people with a certain trait.

New genes are inherited within a block of DNA, which over time become more diverse. While the gene is recent, the blocks of DNA remain largely the same in people who inherit that gene.

Frequent occurrence of these consistent blocks of DNA in people with the trait indicates a recently acquired gene.

Among the more recent genes are those for fair skin in Europeans, which the study indicates occurred as recently as 6,600 years ago, contrary to early assumptions. This was an adaptation to allow more sunlight to make vitamin D in more northern latitudes.

Previously, it was thought that the change from their ancestral dark skin had occurred soon after human spread from Africa to Europe, about 45,000 years ago.

The Pritchard study found five genes involved in skin color in Europeans that showed evidence of recent selective pressure but could not tell if other genes involved in skin color had made earlier changes.

Since the five genes showed no evidence of selective pressure in Asian populations, which also have lighter skin color, other genes may have been involved in those populations or changes may have occurred earlier.

Changes in bone structure in both European and Asian populations coincide roughly with the rise of agriculture in those areas, according to paleoanthropologists, 6,000 to 7,000 years ago.

Dr. Bruce Lahn at University of Chicago published results last September on another case of recently evolving genes.

He found recent changes in brain genes that when, disrupted cause

microcephaly, a condition where people are born with abnormally small brains.

Dr. Lahn speculated that the microcephaly genes may have been involved in the evolution of the large human brain but the exact function of the microcephaly genes is not known.

One member of this group of genes had apparently changed recently in European populations and another one showed evidence of recent change in both European and Asian populations.

Dr. Pritchard's study found indications that a different brain gene, SNTG1, is under selective pressure in all three populations. The function of this gene is not yet understood.

Dr. Pritchard's study found that different genes had experienced selection in different racial populations, reflecting the different local conditions and environments.

His study found 206 regions of the genome that had been under selective pressure in the Africans, 185 regions in East Asians and 188 in Europeans.

The Rogue Librarian

Those darn nuns are at it again ... and God's got their back

RALEIGH MUNS
UMSL Reference Librarian

The Cincinnati Post (March 8, 2006) is reporting that a group of nuns from Kentucky are coming out of retirement in order to kick some librarian butt at a charity spelling bee.

Bring 'em on. This librarian's gonna be talkin' smack to a bunch of nuns.

After dominating the annual competition for years, the Benedictine Sisters of St. Walburg Monastery "retired" from the contest in 2001 claiming that they wanted to give others a chance to win. I think they just wimped out. They never had to face the obviously superior spellers, and defending champions, from the Boone County (Kentucky) Public Library. I may be biased, but I'm betting the

nuns are going to get their habits handed to them on a platter and be sent packing. Yeah, you BETTER pray sisters! You're falling for one of the classic blunders. The most famous is never get involved in a land war in Asia, but only slightly less well-known is this: never go in against a Librarian when spelling is on the line! (Nods to The Princess Bride.)

Allow me to illuminate and ruminate on why we will dominate. A local tradition at the Thomas Jefferson Library is to celebrate a librarian's birthday with cake, ice cream, a keg of beer, and a few rounds of Trivial Pursuit. We sometimes entice student employees to play, and they usually win - at first. THEN we make things interesting. "Hey, want to play another game for \$5 per correct question?" Sweet. This supplementary income of librarians fleeing hapless undergrads

comes in handy. I use it to finance my gambling habit of betting against nuns every chance I get.

Float like a butterfly, sting like a bee? Never take on a librarian in Jeopardy! One of my friends at Library School at UCLA actually paid for his education from his winnings on the television game show Jeopardy. Twenty-five grand went a lot further in the early 1990's than it does now.

Though, I am keeping my fingers crossed that the Walburgians don't have a ringer. Several years ago one of our reference librarians decided to change careers and joined the Carmelite Order.

For those of you who don't know, Carmelites can best be described as "a nun's nun" (which I mean sincerely and affectionately). I can vouch for the commitment and piety our ex-librarian brought to the nunnial profession. So,

if these Benedictine Sisters from Kentucky also have one of these hybrid nun-librarians, the game is over and I'm going to have to recall my Vegas bets already placed against the nuns. Not fair. Half nun, half librarian is like half Spiderman, half Batman - invincible.

So, I'm not taking any chances. I just went to the good sisters' web site at <http://www.stwalburg.org/> and found the following: "Each day during Evening Prayer we include our relatives, friends, associates and benefactors in our intercessions. We would be pleased to include you and your prayer requests in our prayers. Your prayer request text will be posted on our prayer board at the Monastery."

I asked them to "Pray for the success of the Boone County Librarians in the upcoming Spelling Bee." I think God's going to punish me for this.

Letter to the Editor

F-word is not harmless

Dear Editor,

In the Opinions section of March 6 issue of *The Current*, Raleigh Muns states, "First, I personally consider the F-word to be an overused and fairly harmless Anglo-Saxon epithet." The f-word is overused, absolutely! The f-word is fairly harmless, I think not.

I once overheard the following, "That f***ing concert was so f***ing good, but, can you f***ing believe the f***ing idiot who blocked our f***ing view." If you consider this "fairly harmless", I wish you would re-think your position. To me, the use of the f-word shows a complete lack of creativity and disregard for the proper use

of the English language.

In the Features section of the same issue of *The Current*, Melissa McCrary has written an article entitled, "Braddix has become natural born leader"

How does one become a natural born anything? The wording natural born denote a person is born with an attribute. Would anyone write he became a natural born man? No, he is a natural born man. A better title for this article would have been "Braddix has become a dynamic leader".

Sincerely,
Anne L. Lornson
UMSL student, Biology major

www.thecurrentonline.com

THREE YEARS LATER, from page 4

Here is a scary thought; what if we sold the security of our ports to a country that at one time harbored terrorists?

Here is a scarier thought, what if the first deal folds, as many in the White House may have suspected, and the deal is sold to Halliburton. Sounds like another win for some white, rich man in a business suit that happens to be friends with George W. Bush.

If these are not enough issues, then how about our beloved economy being flushed down the toilet. The total cost of the war is projected to cost over one trillion dollars. Some analysts have also stated that if we would have put that amount of money into Social Security it would be secure for another 75 years. Another costly, bad decision by the White House.

Three years ago "we" started a war together with George W. Bush. We went to war with the idea that it would be swift and make us safer. The last

three years have shown us a myriad of reasons why we can no longer tolerate the actions of our commander in chief.

Over 2,300 soldiers are dead, that's more than two soldiers every day. That number is rising as we hear the latest news that we may be preparing to go into Iran and remove the regime there. Let's think ahead three years from today. Let me paint the picture for you.

Three years from now: The United States citizens are still wondering when the war is going to end. The death toll of American soldiers is over 6,000. The Iraqi civilians are fighting on either side of a civil war. George W. Bush is sitting back in a lounge chair somewhere in Texas thinking to himself, "I wonder if I should have done something different ... nah, I got my money and my health."

For those of you that voted this man into office, please do your homework next time. We literally cannot afford another president like this one.

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TRIBUNES

UMSL's Most Influential - Part 4 of 5

Stories by Melissa McCrary • Photos by Adam Wiseman

Carpenter keeps UM-St. Louis entertained

Five years ago, Shanna Carpenter left behind the year-long tropical climate of Trinidad to come to the United States to begin college.

"Coming to UMSL was a big coincidence. I decided that I wanted to go to college in the United States," she said.

While Carpenter was looking for colleges, she met Hannibal Najjar, a former UM-St. Louis soccer coach. "He talked to my family and told them that they were trying to get more international students here."

Carpenter, who currently serves on the University Programming Board (UPB), has had to make several adjustments living in another country. She said that life in the U.S. is very different from life in Trinidad, an island off the coast of Venezuela, between the Caribbean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean.

"The people are more laid back and easy going in Trinidad. Families are closer."

Not knowing anyone here and being thousands of miles away from her family is one of the things that Carpenter has had to adjust to. Every year, during Christmas, she takes the journey back to reunite and visit with her family.

During high school, she sang in choir, did solo performances, played piano and participated in a theater group.

"I thought that I was going to be a vet. In high school, I worked as a receptionist at a veterinary clinic and then started getting involved in politics and media," she said.

"My father has worked on a newspaper his whole life," Carpenter said. "I realized that if you want to change something, you can do it through the media."

Over the last five years, this senior and communication major has lived



Shanna Carpenter, senior, communication, is a co-chair of the University Program Board. She is originally from Trinidad and enjoys being involved on campus.

in Seton and Legras halls and was a residential advisor one semester for Normandy Hall.

She said that she began looking for on-campus employment and saw an open position with UPB. She discussed the position with Orinthia Montague, director of the Office of Student Life.

Carpenter started out with UPB as a secretary, but worked her way up to become president. This year, UPB has changed the way it is organized, dividing the presidency into three co-chair positions (one of which is filled by Carpenter).

During her time at UPB, Carpenter has seen the organization

grow. "The programming board was first very small and they carried out maybe one event per month," Carpenter said. "It wasn't only me who made changes. Jill Henke and Jonathan Lidgus also had a big hand in its success. It makes me proud to finally see the board flourish and makes me want to be a part of all the events."

Working with UPB, some of Carpenter's primary responsibilities include supervising and coordinating all UPB programs on campus, including Mirthday, and major speakers like Dan Savage and Ben Stein.

"Mirthday requires so much planning. We also try to coordinate cultur-

al and social awareness programs," Carpenter said.

She said last year's Mirthday was her favorite event that she helped coordinate.

"Except that it rained, the people who stuck around to see Twista perform really enjoyed it and I was really proud for all of us working hard to get that done."

In addition to planning these events, Carpenter has also served on different committees such as the Task Force on the Status of Women. Carpenter said she hopes her involvement on campus changes things for the better.

"UMSL is a growing school and is

still young. Being a part of the University allows you to have an influence on where the school is going and makes you closer to it," Carpenter said. "It will be nice to be an alumni and to be able to come back years later and to see people enjoying some of the changes that you have effected."

Carpenter said she is proud to be finishing school and graduating.

"I feel like I've grown a lot. My work ethic has changed and who I am has changed."

After graduating this semester, Carpenter wants to apply for graduate school to receive a master's degree in mass communication and media studies.

"I intend to eventually go back to Trinidad and probably work in media. It is a third-world country and there are systems that need improvement. The newspaper and media systems are not the best," she said.

Along with being a full-time student and working full-time with UPB, Carpenter has also volunteered at Planned Parenthood and other non-profit organizations and has attended political rallies with a group called "Act for Peace."

Carpenter said that she she has a strong connection with her life influence, Terry Wilcox, a Nobel Prize-winning poet and writer from St. Lucia.

"He came from a small island and became someone known to a lot of people because he represented his culture."

Carpenter's Favorites ...

- Book:** God of Small Things
- Movie:** Annie Hall
- Music:** Reggae, Latin, Hip-Hop, older Blues/Jazz, "Everything"
- Color:** Red
- Food:** Vietnamese

Students make work fun for Cope

"Because of my job, I go to lots of events on campus. I try to go and meet with various people. My job and involvement are connected."

Glen Cope, provost and vice chancellor for Academic Affairs and professor of political science at UM-St. Louis is primarily concerned with academic and student functions.

Cope received her bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. After receiving her bachelor's degree, she then received a master's degree in public administration from Syracuse University in New York. She also received her doctorate from Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio.

She has worked for the state governments of Virginia and Michigan, was a professor at the University of Texas in Austin for 15 years, the associate dean for five years at the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas and served as dean of the College of Public Affairs and Administration at University of Illinois Springfield.

"I worked in the office of Economic Opportunity with the State Government," she said. "I also worked with the War on Poverty Agency, a little organization that tries

to help people get out of poverty and provides assistance to local agencies."

Cope said that she decided to work at UM-St. Louis because of the job opportunity a year and a half ago and because the particular job was attractive to her.

As provost and vice chancellor for

"I never imagined that I would be a professor or a university administrator."

**-Glen Cope
Provost of Academic Affairs**

academic affairs, she has had the chance to work and be involved in many major projects.

"I have been involved in the Express Scripts project. The biggest project that I have had the opportunity to work on is to increase student

retention and the graduation rate. This will be an on-going effort," she said. "I want UMSL to grow and to develop. We're on the right track. We just need to keep moving forward. We are here for the students and to give them what they need."

Cope has held past open forums discussing the ways in which integrating technology with learning can help advance UM-St. Louis, meetings about increasing student retention and has been involved with other various committees including the Taskforce on the Status of Women, the University Assembly, Forum for Academic Leaders, the What is a City Conference and the State of the University.

She said the people that she has had the chance to work with and the students are what makes her job fun.

"The only thing that I would probably change or ask for would be more money and funding for events and projects. We are always restrained."

The major campus events such as Homecoming, the parades and the commencement ceremonies are her favorite UM-St. Louis events.



Glen Cope, professor of political science, provost and vice chancellor of Academic Affairs, has held her current position since Aug. 16, 2004.

see COPE, page 7

EDITOR
MELISSA MCCRARY
Features Editor

phone: 516-5174
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the week's
best bets

California Pizza
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The Catholic Newman Center at UM-St. Louis will hold California Pizza Kitchen Night from 4 to 10 p.m. at CPK, 10590 Olive St. Road in Creve Coeur, Mo. Twenty percent of qualified purchases at CPK will go to benefit the Newman Center. Call (314) 385-3455 for more information.

"Battle of the Sexes"

The trivia contest will be held at 6 p.m. in the Museum Room at the Provincial House on South Campus. Teams will consist of four members, with sign-up beginning at 5:30 p.m. The event is sponsored by the Office of Student Life, is free and open to the public, and will feature prizes and refreshments. Call 5270 for more information.



Adam D. Wiseman/The Current

Kathleen Nigro, lecturer of Women's and Gender Studies, presented "Women on the Move," an art exhibit in Gallery Visio, on Wednesday.

Gallery Visio celebrates Women's History Month with new exhibit of UMSL artists

BY MABEL SUEN
Nightlife Editor

Dozens of artists and art enthusiasts filled Gallery Visio during the opening reception of their fourth annual "UMSL Women on the Move" exhibition, featuring a variety of artwork by UM-St. Louis staff, students and alumni.

In addition to UM-St. Louis related works, the exhibit also included camouflage and burlap dresses by St. Louis fashion designer Courtney Castelli, and pieces from local self-taught painter Kim Richardson, who was discovered by the gallery at the

"Art for AIDS" show.

"She's a hidden treasure like most of our women here," said gallery manager Pat Johnson. "When the gallery opened its doors in 2002, we wanted to have a strong showing of students and it kind of evolved out of that and built on it itself."

With small beginnings, the exhibit in commemoration of Women's History Month has developed into a full-scale showing of talent, creativity and even historical relics.

Entitled "The Fascinations of the World," a display of artifacts such as dresses, photographs, fans, books and a sampler chronicling the life of

St. Louis socialite Virginia Campbell (1822-1882) were arranged by Kathleen Butterfly Nigro, lecturer in the Institute for Women's and Gender Studies at UM-St. Louis.

"The director of the Campbell House pointed out how Virginia's sampler was juxtaposed next to the art of the other women [in the gallery], and how that really was the way that women in the 19th century could express themselves creatively," said Nigro.

see ART, page 7

ART, from page 6

"I think that the idea of the exhibit being about recognizing a woman about whom there was nothing written or researched really underscores one of the goals of the institute in a sense that we're really not asking to exclude men, but to include women in the consideration of history and culture in society," Nigro said.

A CD of Bach's harpsichord playing could be heard in between the sounds of people mingling about the petite gallery, edging by cautiously to view paintings, sculptures, photographs and much more. Some common themes in the art included images of faces, flowers, figures and abstractions.

With a variety of mixed mediums such as paints, charcoal, lithographs and even latex, the gallery had everything from paintings and prints to pottery and plywood pieces.

For instance, Heather Corley's work "The Things I Say to You" utilized candy hearts, latex and polymer

on wood in interesting patterns resembling flowers, snowflakes and knives in an arrangement reminiscent of a patchwork quilt.

Pat Johnson's favorite piece was "Tiffany Lamp, Gallery 129" by Lebecca Peterson, a vibrantly colored oil painting. "As the manager of the gallery, I have to say I love them all," said Johnson.

Some other notable works included a sculpture made of forks and spoons by Barbara Shaffer. In this piece, charred and melded metal forms the shape of something that looks like a wickedly enticing tree from a fairy tale.

Another interesting piece that I enjoyed was Jennifer McKnight's "Monster book," a stand up, zigzagged foldout, which used sewing and Xerox on paper. Each portion of the book represents a different likeness such as patterns and images of animals, people and shadows.

"Women's History Month has not really been emphasized on campus and the Women in the Arts celebration really helped promote this," Johnson said.

"People have come to expect to celebrate Women's History Month a little bit more seriously than in the past. I see it growing and growing like Black History Month and Hispanic Heritage Month. My vision is to get away from all these months and just have shows whenever," Johnson said.

Nigro urges students and staff alike to partake in the art themselves and to visit the Campbell House, located at 1508 Locust Street.

"I want everybody to come and see the exhibit, and I would like everyone to consider going down to see the Campbell House and the wonderful restoration of a very important St. Louis landmark," Nigro said.

"UMSL Women on the Move 2006," will be on display at Gallery Visio until March 30.

COPE, from page 6

Throughout Cope's academic, political science and public policy and administration positions and experience, she was elected as president of a national organization, The American Society for Public Administration, in 2002. She was also elected a fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration.

Growing up, Cope said that her parents were a strong influence on her because they thought that education was extremely important.

"One of my professors as an undergraduate influenced me, which was important in steering me

towards my field and eventually with this career," Cope said. "I have had several mentors and people, who I have worked with over the years, that have also been important to me."

"I grew up in a small town in Michigan. Growing up I assumed that I would be a school teacher," she said. "At the time, there were not that many options for women, in that city. Women worked as either a nurse, a social worker or as a teacher. I never imagined that I would be a professor or a university administrator."

Cope's Favorites ...

- Movie: A League of Their Own
- Food: Chocolate
- Holiday: Thanksgiving
- Motto/Saying: "Carpe diem- Seize the Day"

NEW STUDENT RADIO STATION 'THE U', from page 1

According to KWMU, "In the last two years, KWMU has provided internships to six UMSL students."

Laura Daiber, administrative assistant of KWMU, said, "At this time we have one (UM- St. Louis) graduate student doing it for credit."

Goers said The U will offer twenty-five spots or more to UM-St. Louis

students. In addition, plans are being made to include internship and practicum opportunities.

He said other long-term goals are hear The U through Pod casting and streaming Internet. He added that he hopes for the station "to not just be heard on campus."

Currently, The U can be heard only on campus at

www.umslradio.com. According to Rippetto, the staff of The U hopes to be involved in promotional activities around campus during the "coming out" week, but no official plans have been made at this time. "That week, you'll see us around. You'll know that we're there that week," she said.

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EDITOR

CATE MARQUIS

A&E Editor
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'Witness' stumbles in opening night show

BY CATE MARQUIS

A&E Editor

Maybe it was opening night nerves, but the Repertory Theatre of St. Louis' new production of Agatha Christie's classic play "Witness for the Prosecution" did not completely gel or connect with the audience in its opening night performance on Friday, March 17. The play runs through April 14 and bargain priced "rush" tickets for students are offered.

While the Rep's choice of play may sometimes falter, it is rare when its production does not come together. The cast seemed strong, including audience favorite Joneal Joplin, and as always, the full-production sets were breathtaking and the costumes perfect.

In "Witness for the Prosecution," a young man, Leonard Vole (Christopher Kelly), befriends a wealthy older woman and is accused of her murder when she is found bludgeoned to death in her ransacked parlor. Joneal Joplin plays Sir Wilfred Roberts, the barrister that the young man employs to prove his innocence. The main cast of characters includes Vole's wife Romaine (Deanne Lorette), his solicitor Mr. Mayhew (Robert Langdon Lloyd), and the victim's crusty Scottish maid Janet McKenzie (Dale Hodges).

A few sexist comments reveal that this is an old play, but it is set in post World War II London. While things have changed in society's attitudes since it was written, the play's clever plotting and understanding of human nature still make it fresh and engrossing.

This is a classic high-quality example of how courtroom drama continues to work for audiences. The play is full of twists and intrigue as the characters weave their schemes and barrister Sir Wilfred tries to find the truth.

The age of the play is less the problem than its presentation. Apart from its first-rate production values, high-lights of the play include Joneal Joplin's performance and Dale Hodges' feisty old maid.

Everything appeared to be on track in a first act, although it seemed a bit too dull but the performance fails to catch fire dramatically in the second act.

The play has some laugh lines but the audience's lack of emotional engagement led to a few unwanted laughs at what should have been dramatic lines in the final act. Deanne Lorette's performance seemed a bit weak in the first act but she comes into her own in the final act. As always, Joneal Joplin's performance is strong but in this supporting role, he can only do so much to help out.

Of course, one stumble is no reason to think that the play will not come together for the rest of the run. Mostly likely, the cast will work through these kinks and the rest of the play's run will deliver all the drama the play promises.

Eisenhower's warning sheds light on 'Why We Fight'

BY CATE MARQUIS

A&E Editor

When he left office in the late 1950s, President Dwight Eisenhower, a World War II general, felt compelled to warn the American people about the dangers in establishing a permanent war industry, and about the growing power and influence of that military-industrial complex.

Prior to that time, nations at war had switched over to a wartime economy but had dismantled it and returned to peacetime production after the conflict. The Cold War left the wartime industries intact and Eisenhower, as a former general, saw a potential danger in that change.

"Why We Fight" was the name of a series of World War II films produced by Hollywood director Frank Capra, explaining to the American people why we were at war. The new documentary "Why We Fight" takes a look at the influence of the military-industrial complex since Eisenhower's warning, and how it has affected our society, economy and the world.

This well-reasoned and balanced documentary film presents a number of experts on the military industrial complex from across the political spectrum. Included are necons such as Richard Perle, of Project for a New American Century and

formerly the Bush administration, two Eisenhower descendents now associated with a think tank that examines government policy, and a host of military experts.

Director Eugene Jarecki shows great skill as a documentary filmmaker, always engaging his audience. The remarkable breath of interviews in the film include Senator John McCain, Gore Vidal and William Kristol. Much of the military analysis comes from former colonel Frank Spinney, who offers a telling and powerful insider view.

Eisenhower's son John S.D. Eisenhower and granddaughter Susan Eisenhower offer their analysis of what has happened to the military business and policy in the past 50 years, and what General Eisenhower may have thought about those developments.

The film examines to expansion of power of the military industry during the Cold War, the growing budgets and repeated wars of the second half of the 20th century. Since the end of the Cold War and fall of the old Soviet Union, the military industrial complex has remained and its budget has continued to grow.

Over half of the discretionary budget, the amount apart from set financial commitments such as Social Security and Veterans benefits that Congress can spend, goes to the military.

Maintaining a constant state of



Photo courtesy Sony Picture Classics

war and finding enemies all around us is good business if your business is selling large, expensive weapons systems.

The extent to which this tail wags the dog is important to understanding U.S. policies, especially post-Soviet Union. This informative documentary film is packed with facts that tax payers and citizens need to know.

It is skillfully made, with

archival footage mixed with interview footage to sum up what has happened to our nation and its military since Eisenhower's warning and to give an excellent snapshot of where we are today.

Arms contractors' influence is extended into the military through a revolving door policy that lets ex-military find second careers in the industry, giving colonels and generals a vested interest in the financial

success of those companies.

Arms manufacturers use a system that divides up military contract work on any project.

A little bit is done in every state to maintain their lobbying influence and power with Congressmen in every state, as part of the pork-barrel system of earmarks. This makes it nearly impossible politically to cancel or trim military spending on most projects.

Theater Review

'Before It Hits Home' explores AIDS, family and hidden truths

BY MYRON MCNEILL

Staff Writer

"Before It Hits Home," the current production at the Black Rep, shows us the long reach of the AIDS epidemic. The play runs through April 9.

Slowly dying in a world of lies and loneliness, savvy jazz musician Wendall (played by Eugene H Russell IV) has AIDS.

Wendall lives in denial, in his life as a closeted homosexual. More specifically, he is on the "Down Low," trapped in between two lovers: Simone, his girlfriend (played by Richon May) and Douglass, his boyfriend (played by J. Samuel Davis).

As the disease takes his course, Wendall becomes very sick and is forced to confront the reality of his lifestyle and the results it has produced. Finally, Wendall must admit to his two lovers that he is sick. He must also break the news to his family that he is sick.

Stuck in a world where a disease like AIDS feels like the ultimate mistake, he feels lonely. Being the invincible, attractive African-American, incapable of making mistakes and supposedly invincible, Wendall is forced to confront these expectations he lives by. But he must first come to grips with accepting the disease himself.

Not willing or ready to reveal the truth of his lifestyle, Wendall allows

the disease to keep distance between himself and his family. After seeing the doctor for the flu and being informed he must reveal his status to his sexual partners, he sets out on a quest to come clean.

Nonetheless, this task is made harder because his lover Douglass, who is also on the "Down Low," wants more of a commitment outside of sex, while his girlfriend Simone wants matrimony. ASAP!

Wendall reveals the disease to Douglass, yet conceals it from Simone. In a passionate scene, the trio shares the stage as Wendall goes from side to side in dialogue and action.

On one side, Simone speaks of matrimony and the discovery of a wedding ring that she feels is his way of showing some undying love for her.

On his other side, Douglass is upset about getting the lesser end of the commitment. Douglass transforms into the estranged lover once Wendall reveals his status and informs him about the strong possibility of being infected. Douglass storms off and the scene concludes with a confused Wendall making love to Simone, where we come to find out in the conclusion a child is produced.

After this revelation to Douglass, Wendall's status worsens and he is hospitalized. Here, he comes to grips with the disease and himself. Alone and realizing that the disease does not mean death, he decides to journey home for solace and

strength rejuvenation.

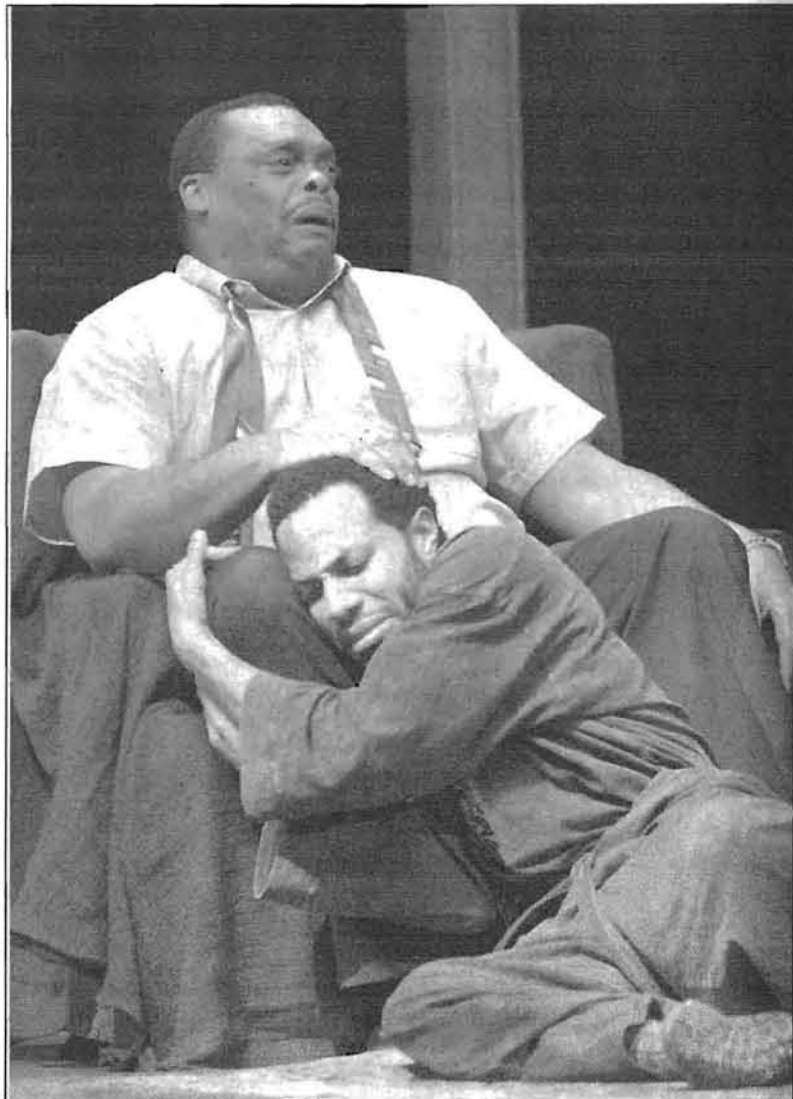
He has not seen his family in a while. Feeling that maybe he can visit his mother, son and dad for love and a few home cooked meals, he leaves the hospital early and catches a train home. However, home is not the place where Wendall is the most accepted.

His mother Reba (Starletta DuPois) has an unreal expectation of family. Everything to her has to be perfect. His father Bailey (A.C. Smith) feels that he has been the perfect dad and his children are a reflection of this. Junior (Kelvin Roston), his son, is an officer in the Army and Wendall is an acclaimed musician even though he did not follow in his dad's footsteps.

Never in a million years would they expect for Wendall to have AIDS. Therefore, Wendall, who is a hit with ladies, being gay makes the revelation more compounded and hard for the family to swallow. Wendall reveals to his mother the status of the disease and she becomes consumed with how he acquired it. She also lives in a dream of the perfect family and wishes to keep the secret from her husband.

Bailey, the father eventually finds out and as Wendall sickness worsens as he lay dying on the couch. The sickness and eventual death of their cherished son makes the family come to grips with the true meaning of love, family and acceptance.

The family realizes that the



dynamics of reality can change or become altered, but what must remain true for a family to love is whole hearted non-judgmental acceptance of the good and bad.

For more information on the production "Before It Hits Home" or the Black Rep, you can visit their website at www.TheBlackRep.org or call them at 314-534-3810.

Music Review

'Black on Black' is a worthwhile tribute to Black Flag

BY PATRICK FLANIGAN

Staff Writer

Nostalgia is on a 20-year cycle. Twenty years from now you can bet on a Sopranos movie and American Idol tribute bands in every city. Music, movies, television, and sports apparel are the most common venues for nostalgia exploitation.

Just over 20 years ago, I had tickets to see Black Flag play a show around New Years Eve in Fresno. This was a big deal for me at the time.

Fresno was the biggest city among tiny agricultural towns in Central California, so there weren't too many punk bands that came to play, let alone Black Flag. The show never happened because the Fresno

City Council pulled the plug, fearing the punk element. By the time I had moved to a bigger metropolis, San Diego, Black Flag was no more.

"Black on Black: A Tribute To Black Flag" brought back a lot of memories for me. Almost all of them would have been good, except I had to remember my hatred for the Fresno City Council.

I wasn't sure what I'd want from a Black Flag tribute album before I listened to it. Part of me thought I might want to hear from contemporaries of Black Flag such as Sonic Youth, X, Mike Watt, Dead Kennedys, or even Green Day.

But after further thought, it seemed a good tribute album should really open your ears to musical acts you may not have heard. I have found some really good bands via

tribute albums. It gives many bands a chance to put their sound out to an expanded audience.

The CD raised the question of how Black Flag would feel about a tribute album. I figure they would be only upset with the fact that it wasn't done for charity. Both founding member Greg Ginn and Henry Rollins have each done Black Flag tributes in the past five years for charity.

All I can be sure of is how I feel about it, and I like "Black on Black" for the same reason I liked Black Flag. Black Flag was a gateway band for me. Both they and their record label, SST, were crucial in exposing me to bands like The Minutemen, Sonic Youth, and Dinosaur Jr.

"Black on Black" in a sense does that, too. Many of the bands on

Black on Black were unfamiliar but the CD sparked curiosity about many of them. Whether it's Burnt By The Sun who cover "Drinking and Driving" or The Black Dahlia Murder doing "I've Heard It Before" their performances are good enough to make me want to give them a listen next time I shop for music.

What is also important for a Black Flag tribute album, and where "Black on Black" really comes through, is you feel that essence of Black Flag. You are not listening to acoustic guitars and a girly voice singing the lyrics to "Loose Nut" and saying to yourself, "wait, I know this song."

"Black on Black" is filled with razor guitars, pounding drums, and intense vocals. This is an album where you want to turn it up, roll

the windows down, and piss people off. Bleeding Through's "My War", The Hope Conspiracy's "Nervous Breakdown" and Zao's "Black Coffee" are great interpretations.

The other good thing about "Black on Black" is my favorite song, "Wasted," is done perfectly by Planes Mistaken For Stars. Also, they did not include "TV Party" which really should not be remade.

Do not be confused if you listen to "Black on Black." By no means is it Black Flag. The production and the musicianship is better, but the feeling is there so if you miss that Black Flag feeling or want to feel it, you cannot go wrong with "Black on Black."

For more info on "Black on Black: A Tribute To Black Flag," visit www.reignition.com.

A society divided: Literary heroes and futuristic action intersect in 'V for Vendetta'

BY CATE MARQUIS
A&E Editor

"V for Vendetta" is a terrific, entertaining combination of futuristic fiction and classic, swashbuckling action drawn from literary sources, with an undercurrent of political commentary.

The film is good enough to redeem its writers, the Wachowski Brothers, after the disastrous Matrix 3. In this film, they bring us another rebel fighting against steep odds, a masked man engaged in an altruistic lone battle against a near-future totalitarian British government and a personal vendetta against his enemies.

Set in the near-future, "V for Vendetta" presents a world where a killer virus has devastated the globe. The U.S. has collapsed in chaos and Britain is a totalitarian state where freedom has been traded for security.

In this tense new world, a young woman named Evey (Natalie Portman) is caught after curfew by some corrupt policemen set on rape. She is rescued by a mysterious man (Hugo Weaving) in a mask and black cape, who calls himself V.

With verbal fireworks and graceful style to match his knife-wielding, lightning-fast martial arts skills, V whisks Evey off, to join him as a witness as he blows up Britain's venerable Old Bailey.

The attack is part of a plan that positions V as a lone force for freedom against the country's fascist dictator,

Chancellor Sutler (John Hurt) and his oppressive regime, who control the media, spy on and use fear to manipulate people, while enriching themselves.

"People should not be afraid of their governments. Their governments should be afraid of their people," Sutler tells Evey.

V's mask is the face of Guy Fawkes, the Englishman who tried to blow up Parliament in 1605. On the eve of Guy Fawkes Day, Nov. 5, Britons commemorate the thwarting of this plot with fireworks and the chant "Remember, remember the fifth of November, the gunpowder treason and plot. I know of no reason, why the gunpowder treason, should ever be forgot," a running theme in the film. V is determined to carry out that failed attack. While he takes Evey on as a protégé, he is tracked by a relentless policeman, Finch, played well by Stephen Rea.

While the setting and sets are futuristic, "V for Vendetta" has roots in literary sources, from the Count of Monte Cristo, Zorro, even a touch of Les Misérables, and of course, Phantom of the Opera.

There is plenty of Big Brother in the film's dictator, but "V for Vendetta" is more often an action film retelling of "The Count of Monte Cristo," with a bit of "Phantom of the Opera," than "1984."

It is one heck of an entertaining action film, but its combination of futuristic dystopia and old-fashioned heroic adventure adds the irony of taking classic hero tales of the past and showing how, in the modern definition of terrorist, some of literature's great heroes

might now be called terrorists.

The best kind of science fiction story reflects our own society while putting fresh perspective by putting it in alien enough situation. Classic literary characters in this futuristic nightmare world might do that.

Is V a terrorist or a freedom fighter? One man's terrorist is another man's freedom fighter.

The man behind the mask is a complex and contradictory person, literate and intelligent with remarkable skills as a fighter.

While he has the noble goal of freeing his fellow countrymen from tyranny, he is also fixed on violent revenge. Whether he is an iconic, tragic, flawed hero or a madman is not clear.

This entertaining film is fast-paced, violent, and action-filled but less-special effects dominated than the "Matrix" movies. Directed by Wachowski brothers' protégé James McTeigue, its action/adventure has a touch of tragic romance but it has some ambiguity about its obsessed and perhaps unbalanced central character.

Based on a 1989 graphic novel, written during the Margaret Thatcher era, it is not surprising that the hero, the lone man standing against tyranny, plays differently in the post-9-11 world.

Its creator, Alan Moore, distanced himself from the film adaptation, just as with the film adaptations of his other two graphic novels, "From Hell" and "League of Extraordinary Gentleman."

The cast is first rate. V's rigid, ceramic-like mask is always smiling, but gifted actor Hugo Weaving still expresses his character's range of feelings clearly



Set in the near-future, "V for Vendetta" presents a world in which Britain is a totalitarian state where freedom has been traded for security. 'V' (Hugo Weaving) fights to regain his freedom from the evil regime.

Photo courtesy rottentomatoes.com

with his distinctive voice and through body language.

Natalie Portman, who her head shaved in the role, skillfully takes her character from a frightened, loyal citizen to one of defiance and courage.

The always remarkable John Hurt turns in a splendid and fiery performance as the Sutler, and Stephen Rea is equally good as the thoughtful, dogged policeman Finch.

The film is visually stylish, with foreboding black and red tones throughout, and an atmospheric, foggy, grey London that may put you in mind of Jack the Ripper.

Costumes are striking, especially V's

pale mask, black broad-brim hat and booted costume. Rooftop views of a computer generated city are appropriately gothic in tone.

There seems to be a love it or hate it reaction to this action film. "V for Vendetta" is more entertainment than pithy political statement, yet its futuristic nightmare Britain has enough modern parallels to anger some people who see it as an attack on current policies or governments.

On the other hand, its use of classic, literary characters has drawn derision from others looking for a deeper, more philosophical treatment of political landscape it skirts.

The film is more a heroic tale in the style of "Lord of the Rings" than a dark, more serious, philosophical "1984," although those references are there as well.

Still, by referencing the hero of "The Count of Monte Cristo," we are challenged to ask ourselves whether such a classic character is a terrorist or a hero, by our current definition. The film does have something to say but it keeps us in doubt about how much it intends to be just an action film or a commentary on our current situation.

Rather than try to puzzle that out or fume about it, it is best to just enjoy its first-rate entertainment ride.

PAINTING ANNEX, from page 1

Millikan wants students and faculty to know about the problems she feels she and her classmates are facing because she wants them to be fixed.

Coonrod said students can give him a call, stop by his office or access the website to the Office of Student Affairs (<http://www.umsl.edu/studentlife/dsa/>) to address their concerns and share things they like and do not

like about the campus. "It has a way for us to capture feedback," he said.

After Coonrod or fellow staff members in his office receive feedback, the information is forwarded to the deans' offices and any other office the staff feels should be contacted for the problems to be looked into or fixed. "What I would like is for the students to make contact," he said.

Bang said she shared her concerns with Daniel Hollander, president of Golden Key National Honor Society and alumnus of the Student Senate and University Assembly.

Hollander wrote in an e-mail that he "offered to assist Phuong in her efforts," but "Golden Key has not taken an official position on this matter."

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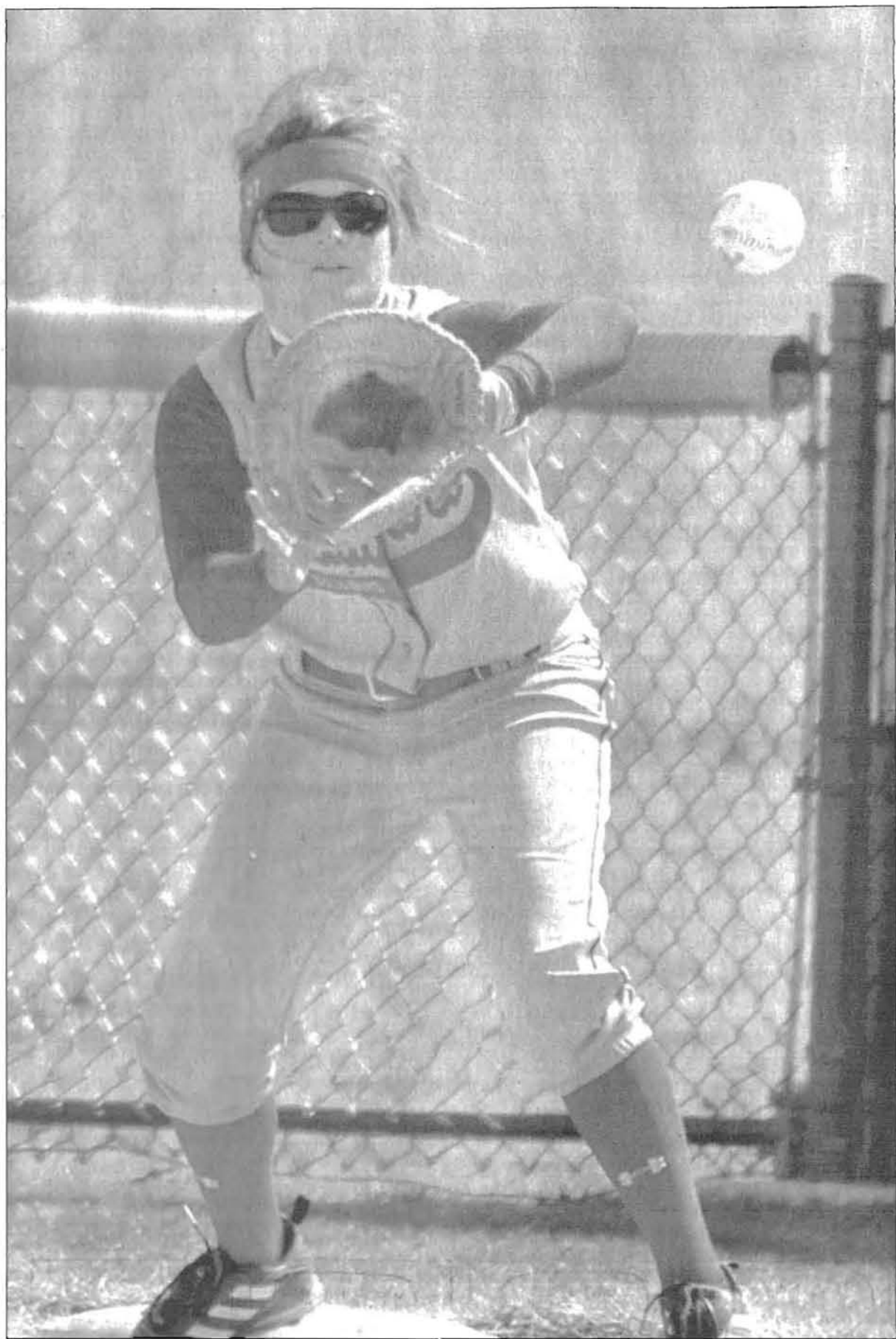
UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-ST. LOUIS

UMSL softball picks up doubleheader win against SBU



Matt Johnson The Current

Emily Wagoner, junior, communication, pitches during UM-St. Louis' match against Wisconsin-Parkside on Saturday.



Matt Johnson The Current

Lindsay Reinagel, sophomore, nursing, catches a ball during the game on Saturday afternoon. The Riverwomen split the double header with Wisconsin-Parkside.

Riverwomen even the score

BY LAGUAN FUSE
Sports Associate Editor

The UM-St. Louis softball Riverwomen picked up both wins in a doubleheader against the Southwest Baptist University Bearcats on Thursday.

The two wins brought the Riverwomen's season record to 5-5. The teams last faced each other on March 10 during the Missouri Southern Tournament, when Southwest Baptist shut out UM-St. Louis 8-0.

During the first game on Thursday, Emily Wagoner pitched eight shutout innings for the Riverwomen, leading them to a 1-0 extra-innings win.

Wagoner retired eight consecutive batters during the game.

The only run of the game was a solo home run by Lindsay Reinagel during the top of the eighth.

The solo shot was Reinagel's first home run of the season.

The second game of the doubleheader started off in favor of Southwest Baptist. Southwest Baptist scored a run during the first inning and another during the third.

The Bearcats took a 4-0 lead after a two-run triple during the fourth.

The Riverwomen did not start to come alive at the plate until the final three innings.

Jessica Keim hit a two-run double in the fifth, putting UM-St. Louis on the scoreboard for the first time in the game. Stephanie Kelly hit a two-run homer during the sixth to tie the game at four.

Lisa Neukirch hit an RBI double in the seventh, giving the Riverwomen

the lead for the first time during the game. Kelly made another big appearance at the plate when she hit a two-run single during the seventh to give the Riverwomen a 7-4 lead.

Reinagel picked up the win for the Riverwomen, pitching four innings and giving up two runs on four hits.

The Riverwomen were unable to pick up a win in the Missouri Southern Tournament on March 10-11.

UM-St. Louis went 0-4 during the two-day softball tournament. The first game of the tournament for UM-St. Louis was against Southwest Baptist on Friday.

Southwest Baptist scored runs in the first three innings while allowing UM-St. Louis to get only three hits. The final score for the game was Southwest Baptist 8, UM-St. Louis 0.

The second game on Friday was against UM-Rolla. UM-Rolla scored

the first run of the game after an RBI double to right by Lauren Feltmann.

The Riverwomen tied the game after an RBI single by Danielle Votrian in the bottom of the third. UM-Rolla answered back in the top of the fifth with three runs scored.

UM-St. Louis scored two runs in the bottom of the sixth, but was unable to pick up the win.

UM-Rolla won the game with a final score of 5-3. The Riverwomen's bad luck carried over to Saturday's game against Pittsburg State.

The Riverwomen were able to put the first run on the board after a RBI single by Votrian, but were unable to hold on to the lead.

Pittsburg State scored three runs off five hits in the bottom of the first. The Riverwomen's Megan Raney hit an RBI single in the second, bringing the Riverwomen down by one run. UM-

St. Louis rallied during the third after a triple by Kelly and then a single up the middle by Votrian.

Kelly scored, tying the game at three. Keim doubled to left, allowing Votrian to score the go-ahead run.

Pittsburg State answered right back with a triple to start the bottom of the third. Pittsburg State scored three runs in the third and was able to hold on to the lead for the rest of the game. The final score for the game was Pittsburg State 6, UM-St. Louis 4.

The Riverwomen's final game of the Missouri Southern Tournament was against Central Missouri State.

UM-St. Louis did not get a hit in the game until Wagoner singled in the top of the fourth inning. The team's only run of the game came on an RBI by Lindsay Reinagel in the seventh.

The Rivermen play next at Central Missouri State University on Tuesday.

Rivermen win some, lose some

BY LINDSEY BARRINGER
Sports Editor

After losing five straight games, the UM-St. Louis baseball team took the final game from Rockhurst University in Kansas City, Mo. on Tuesday.

The Rivermen started the season out on a rocky patch with losses to St. Joseph's and Bellarmine. Their first win was the first game of the season hosting St. Joseph's. The score was 5-4.

St. Joseph's came back to win the second game 12-4 and the next two games on Feb. 26 with scores of 3-2 and 7-6. The Rivermen also lost on March 11.

Going to Rockhurst, the Rivermen were determined to come back to St. Louis with a win.

During the first game, Jeff Luksza scored the only run for the Rivermen in the seventh with a single. He advanced to second after Mark Sanders singled and went home when Adam Whitehead singled.

The first run for Rockhurst was unearned by Colby Parks in the

third. They also scored another unearned run by Tyler Knust in the seventh. Two walks and two infield errors gave Rockhurst the win.

The Rivermen's second game win of the season came after hard play from both teams in 10 innings. In the first, Whitehead doubled and advanced to third when Jake Neely grounded out. Whitehead scored when Matt Tesson singled. Tesson scored after Nico Gregali walked and Scott Lavelock singled.

Rockhurst finally took the lead in the fourth with three runs from Knust, Jared Pitts and Michael Walczuk. The scoring spree started with a double, followed by a single, then a double by Walczuk.

In the fifth, Whitehead stole home and Tesson scored after getting on base with a single.

Rockhurst scored once in the fifth inning to tie the score 4-4. They then scored two in the sixth for a 6-4 lead over UM-St. Louis.

UM-St. Louis tied the game in the seventh with Neely scoring an unearned run and Gregali scoring on a wild pitch after being walked.

Going into the tenth, tied 6-6, Tony Soab scored, unearned, after a single on a passed ball. The

Rivermen won 7-6, ending their losing streak and Rockhurst's five game winning streak.

The Rivermen traveled to Fort Myers, Fla. over the weekend for several days of play. On Thursday, UM-St. Louis lost the first game of the tournament to Florida Gulf Coast University 7-1.

Florida Gulf Coast scored two runs in the first and two in the second inning. The only run for the Rivermen came from Tesson on a fielding error in the sixth.

On Friday in Florida, the Rivermen lost another game to Westchester. Mike Lantzy pitched six innings, only giving up three runs. Westchester came back to score five more allowing UM-St. Louis five runs. The final score was 8-5.

The Rivermen look for a double header victory to improve their 2-5 GLVC score when they host Rockhurst at home on Wednesday. They will also host Northern Kentucky University for a weekend tournament of double headers on March 25 and 26. The Rivermen do not go back on the road until April 1 when the team travels to Indianapolis.

Can Favre save the Packers during his last NFL season?



BY LAGUAN FUSE
Sports Associate Editor

Will Brett Favre return to the Green Bay Packers next season?

I sure hope so. Last season was pretty bad, but I know he has one more year in him.

The Packers finished last in the NFC North.

I've been a Packers fan for the last few years and last season was terrible. I really don't want to see what will happen to the team if Favre decides to trade in his play-book for a fishing pole.

I don't think Favre will be satisfied with his final season ending with a 4-12 record.

Favre is the NFL's only three-time MVP and if the rest of the Packers keep up, Favre could be named MVP for the fourth time.

That is, if Favre decides to come back.

The Packers need to get rid of Javon Walker.

He doesn't want to be in Green Bay, so the Packers should send him packing. Then they need to get a receiver in there who actually wants to be in Green Bay.

If Favre decides to come back, it will more than likely mark his final NFL season.

For that reason alone, he will play harder than he has in his 16-year NFL career. If the rest of the guys in the locker room play with the same intensity, next year could be a great year for Green Bay.

There is no guarantee that Favre will even return to the Packers.

Last season could have been just that, Favre's last season.

Hopefully #4 will give the NFL and his fans one more season.

SPORTS

EDITOR
LINDSEY BARRINGER

Sports Editor
phone: 516-5174
fax: 516-6811

Upcoming Games

Baseball

March 22
♦ vs. Rockhurst in Sauget, Ill. 5 p.m.

March 25
♦ vs. N. Kentucky in Sauget, Ill. Noon

Softball

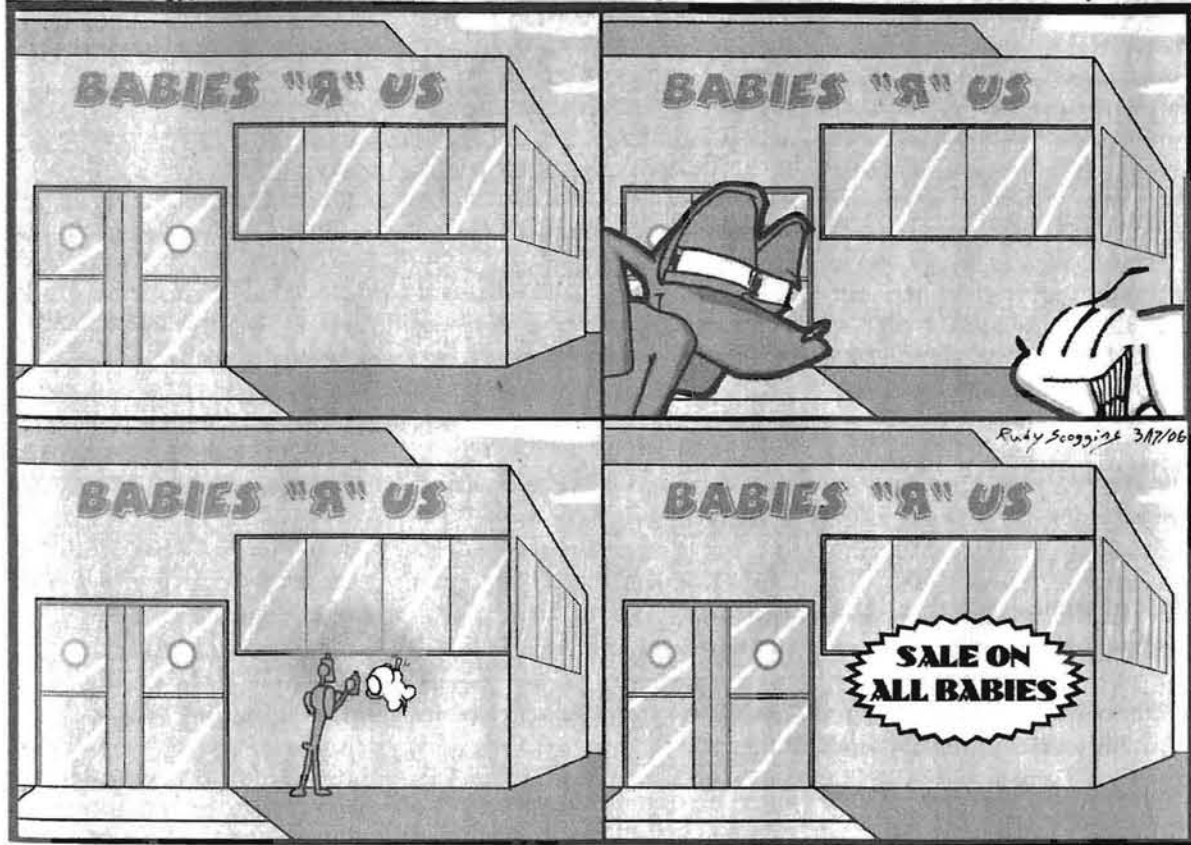
March 21
♦ at CMSU 3 p.m.

March 25-26
♦ at Quincy Quincy Tourn.

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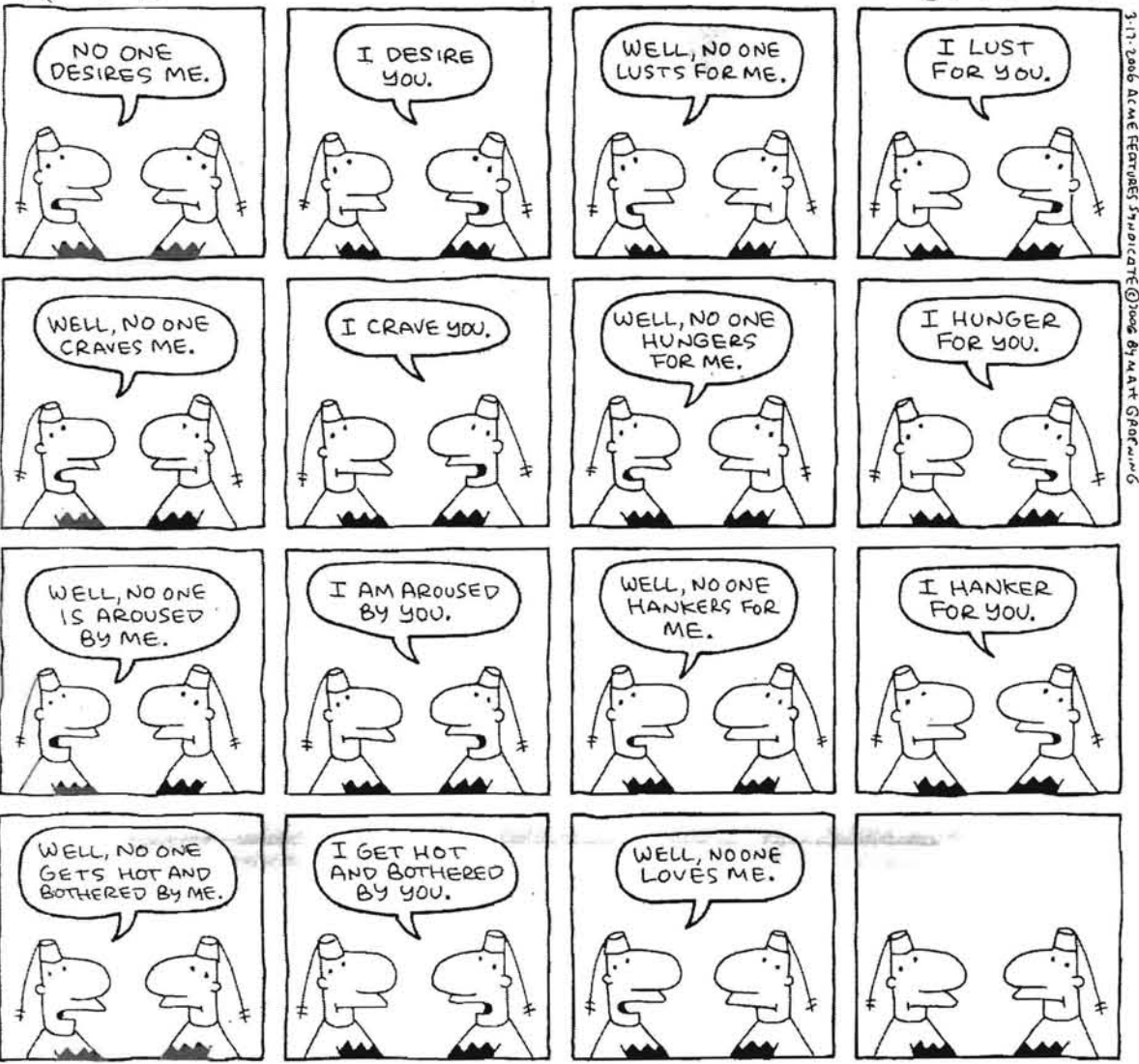
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4 bar stools for \$45.00. Contact Chris at 314-920-2762

The Current Newspaper Advertising
516-5316

Services
MSA
Muslim student Assoc. welcomes all students on campus to a friendly meeting at 3:30pm at the Pilot house (located on the 1st floor of MSC) on 21st Tuesday and 22nd Wednesday of March.

Intern Needed
Market research position part time \$10/hr. Edgen Corporation (www.edgencorp.com) leading supplier of steel pipe & components is looking for a person to perform Market Research. Strong Verbal, written communication, and computer skills are a must. Close to campus. Email resume to hre@edgencorp.com or contact Dawn Martin-Tolen @ 314-524-0001 ext 109

Pro Pool
Pro pool managements and service is currently hiring managers and lifeguards for the 2006 pool season. Pool locations include: west County, North County, Jefferson County, and St. Charles County. Pro Pool management will be holding lifeguard training and CPR certification courses in March, April and May. For more information, please contact Pro pool management and service at 314-PRO-POOL or visit www.swimpropool.com

Ultimate Part time Job
Want the Ultimate Part-Time Job? Limestone's Restaurant in Maryland Heights is looking for part-time servers to work lunch shifts Mon-Fri. Great way to earn quick cash in between morning and evening classes. Call Greg at 314.344.3000.



ARIES (March 21 to April 19) The week promises a calmer aspect. Although there might be some lingering effects of a recent job problem, things should continue to ease up. Also expect a change in a home-based situation.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) If you feel uneasy about a colleague's suggestion, it might be that your wise inner Taurean guide is alerting you to a potential problem. Stepping away could turn out to be the right thing to do.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) A family get-together opens up new opportunities for renewing ties. It can be especially effective in dealing with disagreements that should have been, but were never fully resolved.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) You might be surprised at the response you get to a recent decision. You might be even more surprised by the reasons behind it. In any event, you'll learn something important.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Your aspects favor resolving any tensions left over from a recent incident. You might want to consider having a "clear-the-air" talk as soon as you can. A call can lead to a change of plans.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Avoid repeating yourself. If your first few efforts fail to connect, maybe it's because you haven't found the right way to get your message across. Try changing your approach.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Good intentions plus a strong resolve to succeed can take you where you want to go. Don't give up just because someone suggests you might be pursuing an impossible cause.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) An unexpected setback can be a blessing in disguise. Use it to recheck your facts and how you've presented them. Meanwhile, look for ways to expand your contacts.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) You should finally be seeing a positive change in a recent personal situation. However, an on-the-job matter might need more attention than you realized. Stay with it.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) While you should be close to completing an important matter, you still need to focus on being focused. But things

King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Entreaty
5 Aries
8 Grain storage site
12 Disadvantage
14 Acknowledge
15 It may be popped
16 Doily fabric
17 Existed
18 "Much obliged"
20 Westminster, for one
23 "The King and I" setting
24 Burn a bit
25 Spicy pork sausage
28 Chum
29 Mutton cut
30 --Locka, Fla.
32 Little accidents
34 Freshly
35 Clinton hometown
36 Where the action is
37 Main course
40 Melody
41 Gilpin of "Frasier"
42 See 4-Down
47 Egg
48 Skipper's result?
49 Leak slowly

DOWN

1 Promptly
2 Bud's partner
3 Cohort of 5-Across
4 Reply
5 Reformer Jacob
6 Hubbub
7 Brings up
8 Deli meat
9 Terrible guy?
10 Tress

11 Has bills emotion
13 Command to Rover
19 "Listen!"
20 Cleo's slayer
21 Shaft of light
22 Java Sea island
23 Form
25 School-dance overseer
26 Region
27 Admitting customers
29 Old woman's home?
31 Idolater's

33 Prawn
34 Not this way!
36 Tries the Tokay
37 Classic poetry
38 Actress Campbell
39 Verifiable
40 Unrepaired
43 Ostrich's kin
44 Goose egg
45 Old French coin
46 H.S. subj.

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: *

* Moderate ** Challenging *** HOO BOY!

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SLITHER

Invite you to **SLITHER** your way to The Current's table on the Millennium Student Center Bridge on **Thursday, March 23rd from 12:00 - 12:30 PM** and tell us your most disgusting encounter with a bug to win a pass to see **SLITHER**

Passes are available on a first-come, first-served basis. No purchase necessary. While supplies last. Employees of all promotional partners and their agencies are not eligible. One pass per person. This film is rated R for strong horror violence and gore, and language.

OPENS MARCH 31

Washington University in St. Louis

Healthy Volunteers Needed for Research

HSC #: 05-0849

Healthy Volunteers are needed for a study of how the body eliminates drugs and drug effects. Volunteers must be 18-40 years old, in good general health and of average weight. All drugs are FDA approved or FDA approved for investigational use.

Studies will take place at Washington University School of Medicine and Barnes-Jewish Hospital.

Volunteers must be available for eight 1-day (not overnight) visits (sometimes including two or three consecutive days) and some short follow-up visits over a 2-3 month time period.

Volunteers will be compensated up to \$2000 for their time and effort.

For more information please contact: **Darain Mitchell**, Study Coordinator, 314-454-5967

Investigator: **Evan Kharasch, MD, PhD**, Director, Clinical Research Division, Department of Anesthesiology, Washington University School of Medicine

GREAT DEBATE, from page 1

corruption in law enforcement and government and that imprisoning drug users promotes the cycle of criminal behavior.

He said that marijuana is the most useful treatment than any substance under the sun and that he has known people who are alive and can now see because of the drug.

Hagar went on to discuss how healthcare systems are reaping in billions of dollars out of the system and how the costs of healthcare has been skyrocketing and their quality has been declining.

"I believe this system is broken," he said. "The life expectancy is going down, not up. They don't care if you become addicted or if you choose to get high; they have drugs to give you as long as you pay for them."

Prozac, Zoloft and Adderall, were just a few of the examples of other highly addictive drugs that he said can cause problems.

"After 15 years, they are giving you medicines to counteract and to correct problems from original medicines," he said. "They are force feeding the generation these drugs. When I hand you a marijuana seed, I'm handing you free medicine for the rest of your life."

His next point of view brought up the fact how there have been numerous things made out of hemp.

"Every soldier at Valley Ford wore uniforms made out of marijuana. The first American flag was made out of marijuana. Over 20,000 different things were being made when they decided to legalize it."

He said that cellophane, paper, plastics, dynamite were made out of it

and now they are being made out of petrochemicals, which has been the major cause of pollution and cancer.

"We are living in a petrochemical soaked society and we need to get to a new natural society."

People being charged and locked up in prisons is a major concern to him because he feels that when a judge gives someone a mandatory minimum sentence in jail, they do not come out rehabilitated. In his opinion, locking people up creates bigger problems down the line.

"We don't have mandatory minimum sentences for people who commit rape or murder, but we have them for people who cultivate marijuana."

He said that the personal reason why he thinks it should be made legal has to do with his culture.

"I went to the first Woodstock concert. We shared everything. I never saw a fight or an argument. Every year we have a National Rainbow

Gathering, where we pray for world peace. We don't do marijuana in front of our kids," he said. "We are profiled up and down in America and are hated because of our culture."

Stutman began his argument by saying, "The most important thing I will say tonight is that we disagree about this subject, but you will never see us attack each other. We are very close and personal friends. He believes in this issue, but he forgot to mention a few things."

Immediately attacking Hagan's view, Stutman said how Hagan said that drug companies will never back America because it is not a synthetic, but how he forgot to mention that a brand new synthetic device was approved eight months ago.

"It isn't because of hemp or cultural reasons, most people want it legalized so that they can get high. His magazine is called *High Times*, not religious times or cultural times." Stutman said. "He intellectualized the debate. He told you that its a great medicine, but of the 435 chemicals in

marijuana, one of them- maybe two might be good medicines."

According to him, any doctor who tells people to smoke something to make them healthy, is a fool. He said that he does not think people should have the right to vote for medicines when they are not doctors. He said that if marijuana is legalized, it will have far more users.

The risks of using the drug included how there are 10 times more users of alcohol than marijuana, it affects the sense of depth perception, causes dependence and interferes with one's ability to learn and think.

Losing his sister, who died of breast cancer at the age of 42, is Stutman's personal reason why he wants marijuana to stay illegal. He said that right before she died, she asked him, "Why me?" He said that three peer review medical studies and scientific journals have all said that marijuana probably contributes to lung cancer.

"If this research is right, some of you, 20 to 25 years from now will die of lung cancer. Seventy-one percent of

Americans believe that it should not be made legal. I absolutely support Steve for wanting to do it, but he has tried 19 times and has lost," he said. "The day that the majority of the people, the courts and scientists decide to make it legal, I will support it."

Before opening the discussion for audience questions and comments, Stutman warned the group, "I look forward to your challenges."

One of the comments disputed had to do with healthcare and tax revenues.

Stutman said, "They won't have health care, but give them marijuana and they will be too damn happy to care about it."

"You are talking about marijuana health issues, but what about the health concerns of alcohol and nicotine," said Justin Williams, senior, pre-med and engineering.

Over 10 students stood in line to ask a question at the podium, including Dan Dilber, junior, secondary education.

Dilber directed his remark towards Stutman and said that imitating choices

is tyranny.

"If there was no black market with cocaine, your buddy would be alive, so why are you denying this free market," Dilber said.

The question and answer became intense when Stutman interrupted Dilber and Dilber said that it was his turn to speak.

"This is a democracy not an anarchy," Stutman said. "We have a system in the country to change rules. When you are on the Supreme Court, you can make that decision."

Towards the end of the debate, Hagar tried making a proposition with Stutman, that made the audience laugh hysterically, including Stutman himself.

"Bob has your best interests at heart, but I would like to formally invite him on an all expense paid vacation, to go to Amsterdam and attend the Cannabis Cup. I am looking forward to getting high with Bob," Hagar said. "And we are not going to smoke it, we are going to vaporize it and listen to Bob Marley."

SLA, from page 1

Under the system budget, each campus would pay a portion of the \$92,000 cost based on the campuses' percentage of enrollment in the UM System.

The UM-St. Louis chapter of ASUM would pay \$17,500 if the new budget is implemented.

Kleine noted the change is not a centralization, however. "The budget is being moved to the system level, not centralized," he said.

Student Curator Maria Curtis said, "ASUM is a system organization, and for it to be equitable between all four campuses, all four campuses need to take ownership and that means financial ownership too."

The change would mean that one campus will not have the responsibility of carrying the "full burden of funding the organization," Kleine said.

Helton stood firm in the campus's stance during the last board meeting and reaffirmed that the St. Louis chapter, SLA, would not participate in the proposed change to a system level budget.

"The problem is that we only pay \$3,000, so that would be a 600 percent increase," Helton said.

Helton hopes to "hash out" a compromise with Kleine, so that the UM-St. Louis chapter would contribute about \$8,000. Helton said this amount "would cover all the system costs minus the executive director's salaries and benefits."

Helton said if the compromise were reached, the additional \$5,000 toward the system budget would come from a rollover of about \$17,000 accumulated during the past five years.

Based on these figures, SLA would be able to pay into the system budget for another three years using the rollover and not even touch its budget.

Curtis also suggested an alternative plan that she has been advocating for, "a plan that takes into account a number of years with a smaller increase every year to get us up to the place where we want to be and to not assume all of this change would occur in one fiscal year."

She added, "If you try to rush it too much, sometimes you don't take into account all of the factors."

While each campus will contribute more to the system budget, Kleine said, "Each campus will have its own budget and be autonomous."

The current budget for SLA is roughly \$36,000. If the compromise were reached, \$8,000 would go toward the budget while the remaining amount would be spent on programs such as the Lunch with a Legislator series or internship fairs.

Although less money would be available for such programs, Helton said, "In contributing more to the system budget, we're expecting more from the system."

SPEEDTALKSM

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