



Flogging Molly at Pop's  
See page 8

## Students would pay surcharge under new Metro plan

BY PAUL HACKBARTH AND  
HALEI PAIGE  
News Editor and Staff Writer

After Metro proposed three new plans for student passes, UM-St. Louis has proposed an alternate plan that hopes to be a compromise among students, the University and Metro. The current agreement with the University expires in August 2006.

Reinhard Schuster, vice chancellor of Administrative Services, outlined the new surcharge proposal in a fax memo dated Feb. 24.

The surcharge proposal is an alternative to the fixed price system that Metro proposed last month. Under the fixed price system plan, UM-St. Louis would purchase 26,000 passes at a rate of \$16.99 per pass. This amounts to \$441,740 for one year's worth of Metro passes for students.

Currently, the pass program budget totals \$155,000. This figure is based on the amount of money collected by students who currently fund the program through a 75-cent per credit hour fee built into the infrastructure fee.

That leaves \$286,740 in remaining costs, which would be supported by a new surcharge.

Schuster collected data from University files and records and used that data to propose this new surcharge plan.

In the memo, Schuster outlined how the surcharge would be divided. The plan calls for students who are part-time to pay one surcharge and students who are full-time to pay a different one.

According to Schuster's calculations, a part-time student would pay \$4 per credit hour and a full-time student would pay \$2 per credit hour. These surcharges would be added into the 75 cents that goes toward the infrastructure fee.

For example, a student with 12 credit hours would pay \$24 for the surcharge plus \$9 to be put toward the infrastructure fee, which would total \$33 with subsidy for a semester Metro pass.

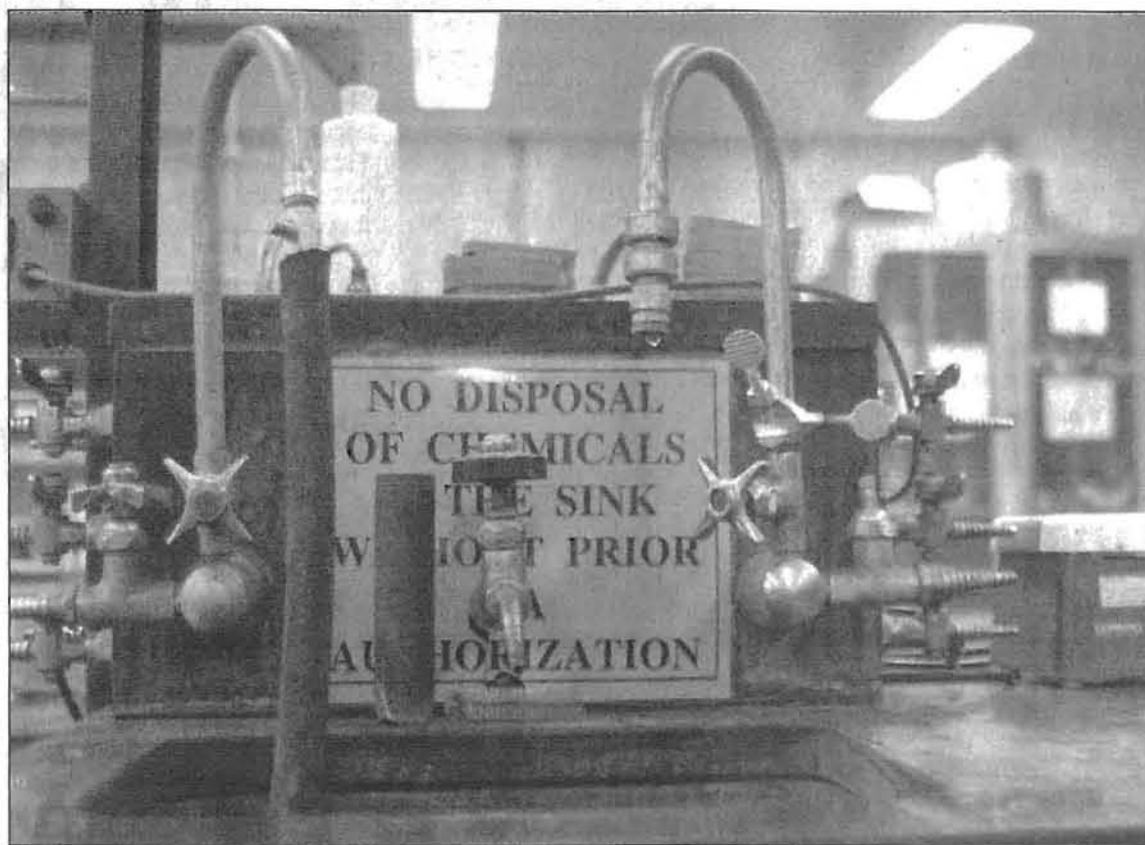
In the memo, Schuster noted that the purchase of passes would be voluntary and said the survey showed that only 1 in 3 students on campus favor "acquiring" a Metro pass.

This proposal has not been approved yet, so alternate plans for the future of Metro passes still hang in the balance, Schuster said. He added that keeping the passes would mean an increase in fees for the service of using Metrolink.

In addition to Schuster's study, the Student Government Association will distribute its own survey to shed light on the frequency in which students use Metrolink. "We want some sort of numbers for Metrolink when we sit down and talk with them about students passes," SGA President D'Andre Braddix said.

The SGA surveys will have students rate the importance of receiving a free pass and will ask students to voice their opinions on

see METRO PASSES, page 12



Adam D. Wiseman/The Current

For years, the Benton-Stadler Hall science complex has been in need of renovations. Now, UM-St. Louis stands to receive \$18 million from the proposed sale of MOHELA assets.

## MOHELA plan will help fund Benton-Stadler renovation

But many at UMSL want the plan to fully fund \$31 million project

BY MELISSA S. HAYDEN  
Staff Writer

The UM-St. Louis Faculty Senate and Student Government Association passed resolutions encouraging the Missouri legislature to use money from the Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative to fully fund renovations of Benton and Stadler Halls.

According to both resolutions, approximately \$450 million will be generated by the initiative "to support higher education and life sciences projects." This money will come from a portion of the sale of Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority assets.

The Faculty Senate's resolution states that renovations of Benton and Stadler Halls will cost \$31.5 million.

"The money has to come from somewhere, and I think the governor is being creative in where he's looking for sources of money to improve higher education in the state of

### Under the Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative:

\$18 million of the \$450 million sale of MOHELA assets would fund the renovation of Benton and Stadler Halls. Mizzou would receive \$80 million.

### What the SGA and Faculty Senate are calling for:

Full funding of the \$31 million renovation project. UM-St. Louis leaders say the campus should receive more, since UM-St. Louis students make up approximately 91 percent of MOHELA loan users in the UM System.

Missouri. Not everyone agrees," said Christopher Spilling, professor and chair of the chemistry and biochemistry department.

"I don't quite understand what all the implications are for students or if this would make it more difficult for students to get financial aid," said

Bruce Wilking, professor and chair of the department of physics and astronomy. "The claim is that it would not. The way it's being presented, it's kind of a win-win situation."

Wilking said the MOHELA sale appears to be the most immediate way to get the money needed for the renovations of these buildings.

According to Lawrence Barton, chemistry professor, Benton Hall is the oldest building on campus and Stadler Hall is "two years younger." He recalls talk of renovating the undergraduate teaching labs since 1990.

"The labs are beginning to show their age. It's getting to be more of a challenge for the instructors to teach in those facilities," Spilling said.

One of the biggest problems, according to Wilking, is the improper functioning of the hoods, which are used to remove gases from the chemistry labs.

see SCIENCE LABS, page 12

## Suspended baseball players back on team

BY PAUL HACKBARTH  
News Editor

Two weeks after arrests were made in connection with a theft from Dick's Sporting Goods in West County, no charges have been filed.

"Chances are, charges won't be filed until April," said Lieutenant Paul Banta of the Des Peres Police Department said last Thursday in a phone interview.

Banta said the reason for the delay is that a prosecuting attorney from the St. Louis County Court has not been assigned to the case as of yet.

The players' names will not be released until formal charges are made, Banta explained.

The decision was made to suspend the baseball players who were report-

edly involved in the theft. Five baseball players were suspended, but since then, all five players have been reinstated, according to Pat Dolan, director of athletics at UM-St. Louis.

Dolan released an official statement regarding the suspensions, which states, "Two players served one-week suspensions; three players served two-week suspensions, including missing the first four games of the season."

Dolan said the University plans to reassess the situation if a prosecuting attorney from the county court chooses to file formal charges against any of the baseball players.

The UM-St. Louis Rivermen baseball team will play with a full roster against Bellarmine on Saturday, March 11.

## Curtis testifies at Capitol in favor of legislation for voting student curator

BY SEAN MICHAEL  
Staff Writer

The Board of Curators passed a resolution in January opposing the student representative having a vote, but several bills in support of the student curator are moving along in the legislation process.

On Tuesday, Feb. 21, Reps. Bryan Pratt and Jim Avery testified before the Missouri House Higher Education Committee to roll their respective bills, HB1308 and HB1229, into substitute legislation. In addition, Senator Chuck Graham of Columbia is still waiting to have his bill, SB673, heard.

Student Curator Maria Curtis favors the proposal and testified for it in Jefferson City that Tuesday.

"We're working very hard to get these bills passed, and I think it's incredibly important to the students that they receive a vote on the Board of Curators," Curtis said.

"The students favor this bill, and they support it very strongly," Curtis

explained. However, one UM-St. Louis student disagreed with Curtis at the hearing.

Charles Stadtlander, senior, public policy, and president of the Log Cabin Republicans of Greater St. Louis, told legislators he agreed with the board's resolution.

"The Board of Curators is supposed to serve as checks and balances for the administration, and there is a problem when the administration applies direct pressure to the student committees who are also selecting the student curators," Stadtlander said.

see STUDENT CURATOR, page 12



Maria Curtis  
Student Representative to the Board of Curators favors legislation that would give the student curator a vote.

## Columnist focuses on gay rights and ex-gay reparative therapy

BY NAKENYA SHUMATE  
Staff Writer

Stepping out into the sea of applause, Dan Savage, author of the syndicated column 'Savage Love,' made his appearance at UM-St. Louis.

Shanna Carpenter, senior, communication, and member of the University Program Board, said Savage was chosen because "he stood out as someone young and close to the students' age and he would also draw a crowd." When Savage was selected to speak, the Office of Student Life, the University Program Board and PRIZM worked together to advertise his talk.

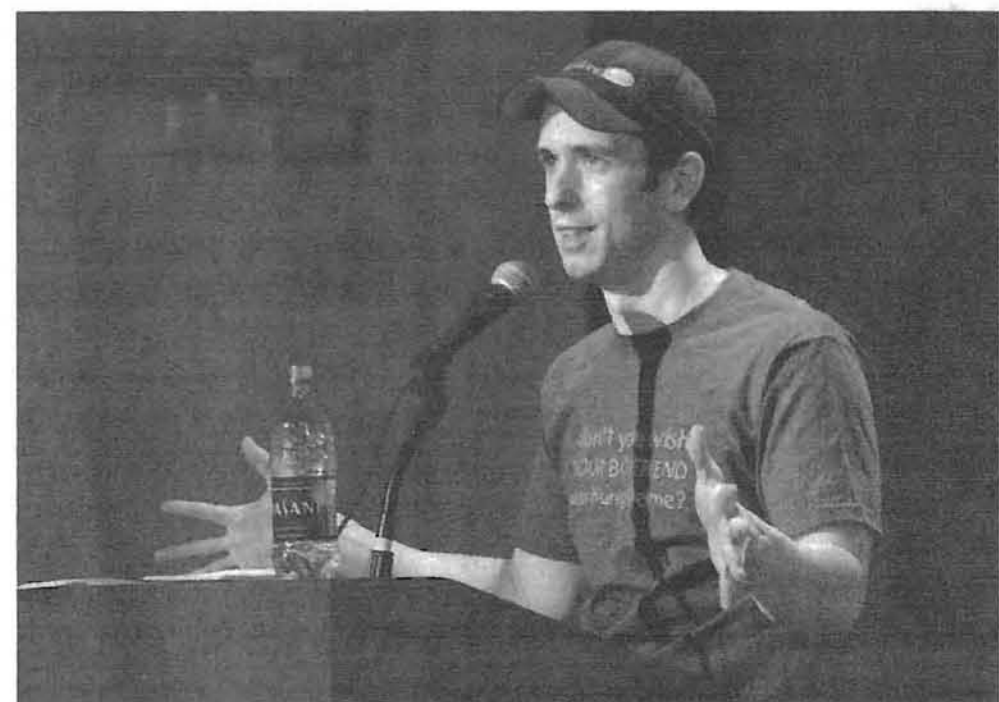
Carpenter said, "We are always trying to find people that students would be interested in."

"PRIZM has been very active in advertising and promoting the talk," said Carpenter.

Throughout his career, Savage has promoted gay civil rights and dispels the negativity of stereotypes against gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered individuals and couples.

At the heart of Savage's talk was the topic of ex-gay reparative therapy and Love Won Out, a movement promoting homosexuality as curable and preventable.

Love Won Out, according to Savage, "is about hardening heterosexuals' hearts toward gay people." Savage also focused on civil liberties



Author and syndicated sex columnist Dan Savage talks to a crowd of close to 200 on Tuesday night in the Millennium Student Center. His appearance was sponsored by the University Program Board, PRIZM and Student Life.

Mike Sherwin/The Current

for gay people. While the topics like these may seem like heavy subjects, the two hour talk was inspirational, light, moving and chock full of bursts of laughter from the audience.

Throughout the talk, Savage bestowed nuggets of insight onto the

crowd. "If you believe that someone can be ex-gay, then you believe that someone can be ex-straight," Savage said of the ex-gay reparative therapy and Love Won Out program.

Savage spoke out about gay versus straight marriage: "Marriage is what-

ever the two people married say that it is. There is no normal."

Jennifer Lowe, faculty member of the Mercantile Library, said she was definitely a fan of Savage.

see SAVAGE, page 7

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Riverwomen fall to  
NKU in GLVC  
tournament

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UMSL's most  
influential

See page 6



# Bulletin Board

**Put it on the Board!** Call 516-5174 for details or email [current@jinx.umsl.edu](mailto:current@jinx.umsl.edu)

**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](mailto:current@jinx.umsl.edu). All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.

## Tues., March 7

**"Declare Your Major with Confidence"**

Students will learn how to assess academic and personal interests, skills, values and connecting this valuable information to selecting a major and career. This free workshop will be presented in 335 SSB March 7, 8 & 9 at 2:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. each day. For more information contact the Center for Student Success at 5300. This event is free of charge.

## Wed., March 8

**Hurricane Relief Trip**

Campus Crusade for Christ will sponsor an informational meeting from noon to 1:30 p.m. today and March 9 in 314 Millennium Student Center. The meeting is for all UM-St. Louis students interested in participating in the Hurricane Katrina Relief Spring Break Trip to New Orleans, La., March 25-April 1. Call (314) 413-0354 for more information.

**Riverwomen Home Opener**

The UM-St. Louis women's softball team will play its home opener at 3 p.m. as part of a doubleheader against the McKendree College Bearcats. The Riverwomen play their home games at the UM-St. Louis Softball Complex, located next to the Fine Arts Building. Admission is free. Call 5661 for more information.

Nursing students can interview dean candidate

What: Come out and meet nursing dean candidate from 2:30-3:30p.m. at the Nursing Administration Building; Weinman Centre Auditorium.

### Web Design Seminars

Microcomputer Program offers free Web-design seminars from 6 to 8 p.m. at the UM-St. Louis West County Computer Center, 1715 Deer Tracks Trail. Participants may attend one of four hands-on seminars on choosing Web-design software, adding impact with Flash, enhancing a Web site with photos and artwork, and using ASP, PHP and XML. The evening is free, but registration is required by March 6. Call (314) 984-9000 for more information.

### Pizza with the Profs

The Institute for Women's and Gender Studies will hold an open house for students at 211 Clark Hall from 11:30 to 1:30 p.m.

## Thurs., March 9

**"New Career Strategies for Women: From 35 Female Executives"**

Pamela F. Lenehan, author of "What You Don't Know and Your Boss Won't Tell You: Advice from Senior Female Executives on What You Need to Succeed," will be presenting as part of the Distinguished Speakers in Business Series. The event is at 5:30 p.m.

in the Lee Theatre of the PAC. It is free and open to the public.

### Honors College Alumni Lecture

Peter Fuss, professor emeritus of philosophy at UM-St. Louis, will discuss "Liberal Education in Action: A Whale's Tale," at 6 p.m. in the Provincial House Chapel on South Campus. The lecture is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served after the lecture in the Museum Room of the Provincial House. Call 6870 to RSVP or for more information.

### Weightlifting Contest

The intramural weightlifting contest is scheduled for today from 1-4 p.m. in the weight room at te Mark Twain Athletic/Fitness Center. Participants must weigh-in between noon and 1 p.m. Call 5326 for information.

## Friday, March 10

**'Provost's Forum on Technology and Learning'**

The forum will offer an exchange of ideas about emerging technology tools and the supports needed to attract and retain students and sustain quality research and educational programs will be held from 9 a.m. to noon in Century Room A at the MSC. Lunch will be provided for those who pre-register. Visit <http://www.umsl.edu/ctl> to register in advance. Call 4508 for more information.

## UMSL Spring Job Fair

Participants will be able to discuss internship and employment opportunities with employer representatives from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Mark Twain/Athletics & Fitness Center. Admission is free if you pre-registered by March 3. Otherwise, admission is \$5 at the door. Stop by Career Services, 278 MSC, or call 5111 for more information.

### Scholar to Discuss Nonlinear Oscillators

Epaminondas Rosa Jr., associate professor of Physics at Illinois State University in Normal, Ill., will discuss "Competing Synchronization of Nonlinear Oscillators" at 3 p.m. in 328 Benton Hall. Coffee will be served at 2:30 p.m. in 516 Benton Hall. The colloquium is sponsored by the Department of Physics and Astronomy. Call 5030 for more information.

## Sat., March 11

**Aptitude testing for Intensive French, Spanish**

Aptitude testing for Intensive courses during the Summer Semester 2006 will be conducted at 9:30 a.m. in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, 554 Clark Hall. Call 6240 to register.

## Announcements

### Book Sale

The annual Phi Alpha Theta book sale will be held on March 13 and 14 from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. in the Third Floor entrance foyer of Lucas Hall.

### "Sight for St. Louis"

A fundraising event held by the College of Optometry at UM-St. Louis will take place from 6:30 to 9 p.m. March 23 in the Lee Theater in the Touhill.

### Counseling Internships

UM-St. Louis Counseling Services is now recruiting graduate interns for the 2006-2007 academic year. The application deadline is April 15. For information about applying, call Dr. Lori Tagger at 5711.

### Sue Shear Leadership Academy Accepting Applications

The Sue Shear Institute is once again accepting applications to its annual event, "The 21st Century Leadership Academy", a week long residential leadership program for Missouri college students designed to stimulate interest in public policy formation, and teach the skills necessary to succeed in this arena (visit [www.umsl.edu/~iwpl/leadership/cwlc.html](http://www.umsl.edu/~iwpl/leadership/cwlc.html)). The deadline for applications is March 17th.

Applications can be obtained by calling Mayra Flesner at X6643 or e-mailing [Ssiwpl@umsl.edu](mailto:Ssiwpl@umsl.edu)

Put your event on the Bulletin Board by emailing information to [current@jinx.umsl.edu](mailto:current@jinx.umsl.edu)

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## Campus Crimeline

The following incidents were reported to the UM-St. Louis Police Department between Feb. 25, 2006 and March 3, 2006. Remember that crime prevention is a community effort, and anyone having information concerning these incidents should contact the campus police at 516-5155.

### Feb. 24, 2006 - Stealing Under \$500 - 103 Social Science Building

A palm pilot PDA, which was kept in a Lost and Found area of the computer lab awaiting its owner, was stolen.

### Feb. 28, 2006 - Vandalism - Parking Lot T

The victim reported that she parked her vehicle on Lot T for the

weekend, and when she returned on Tuesday, Feb. 28, she found a window was broken out. Nothing was taken from inside.

### March 1 - Property Damage/Stealing Under \$500 - Parking Lot AA at the Fine Arts Building

The victim reported that he parked his truck on Lot AA at 3 p.m., and when he returned at 5 p.m., he discovered the vent window was broke out and his stereo CD player was stolen from the dashboard. There were people in the area practicing softball during the time frames. However, they did not see or hear anything suspicious. The Police Department Evidence Unit did process the scene and recover some evidence that will be sent to the lab for comparison.

**UMSL Police: 516-5155**

## CORRECTIONS

In the Feb. 20 issue of The Current, in regards to the article, "Statehouse Sisters event shows a different side of politicians," the moderator was incorrectly named as Amber Boykins. The correct moderator was Rep. Esther Haywood.

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EOE

# Student Court rules SGA used veto power appropriately

BY PAUL HACKBARTH  
News Editor

President, and Comptroller shall have veto power over Assembly decisions when these three officers are unanimous in their stance on the issue; this veto can be overridden by a two-thirds majority of SGA Assembly present."

In his initial small grievance two weeks ago, Johnson wrote, "The problem is that the assembly passed nothing to veto. The act by the president, vice-president, and comptroller was an override. They do not have the power to override; therefore, their actions were unconstitutional."

Chief Justice Bryan Goers said Johnson initially did not write out an appeal, but said, "we allowed him to come in and speak to us without having a full written statement because when he spoke with us, we asked him the questions that he would have written down." Goers explained the court reserves the right to hear oral arguments instead of written arguments.

Johnson argued that the SGA executive board did not veto a decision, so they had no power to veto.



D'Andre Braddix, president of the Student Government Association, testifies during a Student Court hearing on Wednesday in the MSC.

decision made by the Assembly." Goers said, to his knowledge, "This is the only time the Student Court has been asked to look at a decision made and see if it was constitutional."

"This decision was not made lightly," Goers added. "We took a long time deliberating and discussing before we put it to a vote."

Goers compared the veto power of the SGA executive board to the veto power of the president of the United States. "The president of the U.S. can only veto decisions that get to him, whereas here, our SGA the exec board can veto the Assembly's decision."

Goers did not reveal the one vote of dissent but noted, "I can say that they were concerned with the wording of the article." He said Student Court will make a recommendation about certain flaws in the wording of the article.

"What makes a constitution beautiful is the fact that sometimes it's vague and broad, however there is such a thing as too vague and too broad," Braddix said. He agreed that additional

wording needs to be included in the article. "It needs to distinguish what our idea of a veto is," he said.

Johnson, who served on the Rules and Operations committee last year, said, "When this was put in ... this was only to give the power to the members of the exec board to reject items passed by the assembly."

Johnson explained the committee members chose to use the word 'decisions' in place of specific items like 'bills' and 'resolutions.' Johnson said, "I guess we have to go back and write it out now."

Braddix said, "Certain people on the committee wanted to make it very specific, very laid out; however other people thought it would be more appropriate to make things more broad."

While Johnson understood the ruling, he disagreed with it. "I think it needs to be changed. As [Vice President Taz Hossain] said, it's a poorly written argument. There's no excuse for this," he said.

## News Briefs

### UMKC Chancellor strips SGA of power, dissolves student activity fee council

UM-Kansas City Chancellor Guy Bailey announced Wednesday that he considers that campus' Student Government Association to be 'dysfunctional' and 'not representing students on key issues.'

Bailey asked Mel Tyler, the associate vice chancellor of student affairs to name approximately 25 students to take part in a "Chancellor's Student Advisory Council" to consult with the chancellor on issues students find important.

He also said that he would not consider proposals from the UM-Kansas City SGA's Student Activity Fee Appropriations Committee. He said Tyler and SGA Comptroller Nhu-Quynh Hoang Tran would head a "Special Allocation Committee" which would assume the responsibility of recommending student activity fee allocations.

Bailey said Sofya Galich would represent UM-Kansas City at meetings of the Board of Curators, Intercampus Student Council and Associated Students of the University of Missouri.

Galich was elected last Spring as SGA vice president. She became SGA president after the elected president, Marcus Leach, was impeached and removed from office on Feb. 16.

The changes enacted by the chancellor effectively remove all major functions from the student government and transfer power to a council of students appointed by campus administrators.

### China Night packs the Pilot House

Around 200 students attended China Night on Feb. 25 in the Pilot House. The Chinese Student Association - Mainland held the annual event, which featured traditional Chinese music, drama and dance performances and a Chinese meal. Dancers between the ages of 5 and 15 from the St. Louis Modern Chinese School performed the Lion Dance and Waist-Drum Dance.

Several dignitaries from the University, including Chancellor Thomas George, and a representative from the Chinese Consulate in Chicago were in attendance.

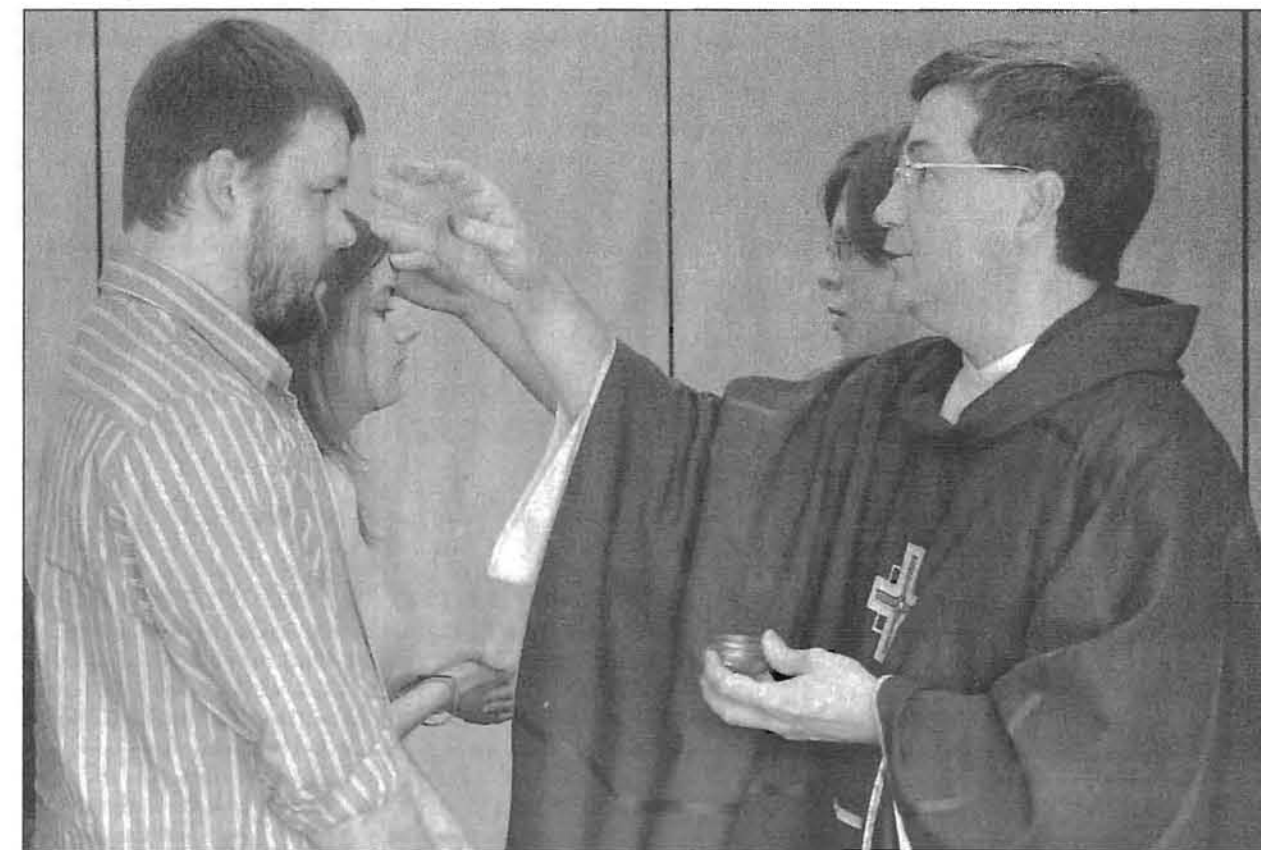
For more information about the Chinese Students Association - Mainland, visit the group's Web site at <http://www.umsl.edu/~csam/>.

### New UMSL ad club helps out at ADDYs

Members of the new UM-St. Louis student organization Ad Corps and students in the Introduction to Advertising course at UM-St. Louis participated in the ADDY awards last month. The students volunteered at the ceremony, hosted by the Ad Club of Greater St. Louis which is part of the American Advertising Federation, a national non-profit professional organization.

The ADDYs recognize creativity in the advertising industry.

Students interested in the Ad Corps group can contact Kristy Tucciarone, faculty advisor and assistant adjunct professor in the Department of Theatre, Dance and Media Studies, at [tucciaronek@umsl.edu](mailto:tucciaronek@umsl.edu).



## Campus Catholics celebrate start of Lent

Father Bill Kempf marks the forehead of Jason Hancock, senior, English, with ashes during the Ash Wednesday service in MSC Century Room A. Ash Wednesday begins the start of the Catholic observance of Lent.

Mike Sherwin/The Current

## Golden Key seeks sponsors for 54 Sri Lankan children

BY JAVI NADAL  
Staff Writer

Donating money through fundraisers and buying cards painted by Sri Lankan children were just some of the past ways of helping the children after the tsunami devastated their schools back in December 2004.

Now, concerned students at UM-St. Louis have a chance to help in a different way by joining to sponsor a student program at the University.

The program, which begins March 6, seeks to sponsor 54 children from the Sri Lankan schools that faculty, staff and students helped rebuild through donations.

This new program will allow students to provide Sri Lankan students

with the basic supplies for classes, such as backpacks, notebooks or pens. Participants in the program will receive a picture and biography of the child they choose to sponsor.

The Golden Key National Honor Society is leading the way in ongoing efforts for the tsunami reconstruction project.

Golden Key member Mary Ann Coker, student coordinator of the program, suggested the idea. She said she thought that creating a concrete program was the best way to get the students involved.

"Busy people don't think in abstract if you ask them for money to reconstruct a library," Coker said. "They think in concrete actions."

The cost of the program is \$20 to sponsor one child.

"It's a wonderful way for students without a lot of money to help these children, especially because the 100 percent of the money goes to the program," Coker said.

The program also compels the participants in the program to write at least one letter to them.

Jody Miller, associate professor of criminology and criminal justice and head of the tsunami reconstruction campaign on campus, has continually assisted the students during her visits to Sri Lanka. She said she affirms that the program is a great opportunity for the children to learn English through letters, in addition to letting the Sri Lanka children get to know who is trying to help them.

"I have a colleague living there who is touring the whole island and is

choosing the places where the actions can be undertaken," Miller said.

Miller chose the school during her last trip to the island. Miller said she wanted to find a school with children who represent the different ethnic groups of the country.

The money collected from the sponsor a student program will be placed in an account, and the students who take the summer course in Sri Lanka will buy the items for the children.

Miller and Coker will have one information table set up between March 6 and 16 on the second floor rotunda of the Millennium Student Center and another table from March 8 to 14 in the Nosh. Students who are interested can stop by between 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on those days.



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Our Opinion

# UMSL deserves more from MOHELA sale

Although the editorial board of The Current has previously opined that Gov. Matt Blunt should not proceed with selling off billions of dollars in assets from MOHELA, it looks as if that plan is a near certainty.

So, now the question we face is: how should those funds be dispersed most equitably?

The UM-St. Louis Faculty Senate and the Student Government Association have rightfully passed resolutions calling for a change in the current plan, the Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative.

That plan would give the UM System \$141 million for capital improvements.

Of that, UM-St. Louis would get \$18 million for the Benton-Stadler Hall research complex and \$6.5 million for the Center for Emerging Technologies.

Twenty-four million dollars doesn't sound like a bad deal, does it?

However, while UM-St. Louis would get 17 percent of the funds for the UM System, our students currently make up a whopping 91 percent of MOHELA users within the system.

Our students have utilized MOHELA the most, and we have contributed 24 percent of the total MOHELA assets. That's not just in the UM System. UM-St. Louis students have made almost a quarter of MOHELA's statewide assets that will be sold.

So, our University's governing bodies have good reason to insist that if MOHELA is to be sold, UM-St. Louis should reap a considerable share of the benefits, or at least enough to fully fund the \$31 million renovation of Benton and Stadler Halls. That project has been number one on the Coordinating Board for Higher Education's capital improvement list for the last seven years.

Now, since UM-St. Louis students have proportionally invested into MOHELA in much greater numbers than our other UM campuses, we deserve to have the renovation of our science labs made a top priority.

While researching for this week's news story on the Benton-Stadler renovation plan, our reporter and photographer were given tours of the science complex. They saw badly deteriorat-

ing science labs, water-damaged ceilings and buckets set up to catch rain-water.

Our facilities are in complete shambles.

If the Governor and the Board of Curators toured Benton and Stadler, which are put to shame by even high-school science labs, they would surely revise their capital improvement list.

Not only have UM-St. Louis students disproportionately built up MOHELA's assets, our campus, science laboratories are in dire need of repair.

Rather than give Mizzou \$87.5 million for a new Health Sciences Research Center, couldn't the Governor instead shift \$13 million back to the students who actually used MOHELA loans in the first place?

On March 10, UM-St. Louis students and faculty can let the MOHELA board know our thoughts on the Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative and the MOHELA sale in general. A public hearing will take place at the Lodge of the Four Seasons in the Lake of the Ozarks at 12:30 p.m. Caravan, anyone?

Letters to the Editor

## CIA profs could better serve students

In the Feb. 27 issue of The Current, it was reported that faculty members of UM-St. Louis' history and political science departments opposed a planned on-campus CIA sponsored course.

As a UM-St. Louis graduate student, and one who has always believed that the best part of any university experience is the student's exposure to a free currency of ideas, I am disappointed at the demonstration of faculty arrogance.

Also, given the fact that our nation is presently engaged in a global war with Islamic jihadists, the faculty's opposition to the proposed CIA course reeks of left-wing intolerance, made all the more unseemly since

intelligence gathering is vital to the security of America's citizens.

Apparently some people believe it is fine for CIA field agents to risk and even lose their lives in foreign lands, so that certain "patriotically-impaired" people can sit safely in their academic havens and pontificate about the dangers of the CIA!

Indeed, Louis Gerteis, history department chair, was quoted as saying that the inclusion of CIA faculty members "would be bad for the University," because the CIA professors would not have the same objectivity as other faculty members.

Frankly, his comments are ludicrous. Does Gerteis really believe that all UM-St. Louis professors

staunchly adhere to a practice of objective fairness during their lectures? Most do, and I have been privileged to have met many wonderful UM-St. Louis professors.

Yet, I have also met some UM-St. Louis professors who hawked a virulent streak of anti-Americanism. I suspect that the disgruntled professors who now oppose the presence of the CIA on the UM-St. Louis campus might better serve their University if they actually practiced those oft-extended ideals of diversity and inclusion.

**Larry Blandino**  
Graduate student, Education administration

## President's fiscal policy is compassionate

When researching the fiscal policies of President George W. Bush, something Mr. Israel apparently failed to do for his piece last week, one clearly discovers that the President's fiscal policies have been tremendously compassionate and hardly conservative.

According to the Cato Institute, a comparison between President Bill Clinton, considered a champion of the entitlement society, and Bush shows that through the first three years of their presidencies, Clinton's total spending increase of 3.5 percent and non-discretionary spending decrease of 0.7 percent pales in comparison to Bush's 15.6 and 20.8 percent increases respectively. A chart from the House Budget Committee shows that all forms of spending virtually flatlined under Clinton and has ramped significantly under Bush. Also according to the Cato Institute, "... Bush has expanded a wide array of 'compassionate' welfare state programs." Bush's spending has been overwhelmingly compassionate and scarcely conservative, but some of his reforms have been both compassionate and conservative.

Bush's tax cuts were compassionate to anyone who pays taxes. The

permanent reduction on taxes on capital gains and dividends were compassionate to anyone who holds any investments. The compassion of these tax cuts has been reaped by helping our economy rebound from a recession and withstand a war. The proposed elimination of the estate tax is compassionate to those whose estates are large enough to trigger the estate tax. The estate tax is a favorite of the far left and is a socialist wealth redistribution mechanism, making it contradictory to all of the capitalist ideals that made and will continue to keep America a great nation.

President Bush's spending is virtually unparalleled in its compassion as only President Lyndon Johnson can compare to Bush in terms of spending; however, Bush's spending makes a mockery of conservative fiscal policy. Bush's income, capital gains, and dividend tax cuts and proposed elimination of the estate tax are both compassionate and are steps toward bringing his conservatism in line with his compassion.

Apparently President Bush's fiscal policy is not compassionate enough to satisfy Mr. Israel's socialist zeal, or maybe Mr. Israel has no clue about Bush's fiscal policy and merely pro-

duced an ideologically-driven rant void of any facts. Perhaps the only reason Mr. Israel could have for opposing these compassionate reforms is that they are in stark contrast to the socialist fiscal policy he seems to advocate and are perceived to primarily benefit the "rich," which would in Mr. Israel's mind be those who have over \$1.5 million in assets.

While \$1.5 million in assets, contrary to Mr. Israel's assertion, is not enough to be considered "rich," wealth accumulation has and hopefully will continue to be a cornerstone of the American socioeconomic landscape. Wealth redistribution by means of numerous, high, and unnecessary taxes that are socialist in their nature will only serve to undermine our prosperous economy. Mr. Israel appears unaware that America is the greatest capitalist economy in history, which has and will continue to play a large role in the nation's greatness as a whole. Perhaps Mr. Israel should not let the facts get in the way of his anti-Bush agenda and socialist ideology.

**Jonathan Maas**  
Senior, Accounting and Finance

Editor's Viewpoint

## Expose yourself to sex



**KATE DROLET**  
Managing Editor

I heard more sex in three days last week than I have over the course of three years in college.

Okay, so I didn't actually hear people engaging in intimate activities (thankfully). I did, however, attend three events that focused completely on some aspect of sexuality. While opinions in each seminar differed significantly, they all reinforced the same message: sex impacts our society.

The University Program Board hosted Dan Savage, author and infamous syndicated sex columnist, on Tuesday night. Not certain of the program's actual topic, I went with friends because I happened to be on campus and wanted to support UPB programming. Discussion ranged from homosexual rights to Savage's graphic recollection of lewd and bizarre questions asked by readers of his column, "Savage Love."

The audience, which comprised an equal number of hetero- and homosexual people, fielded questions that fueled Savage's presentation. While I found some of his political and religious labels offensive, I'm glad I exposed myself to cultural issues I don't normally encounter.

On Thursday afternoon, the Interfaith Campus Ministry office held 'Conversations and Controversy: what the sects think about sex.' Clergy from Islam, Catholicism, Judaism and Protestantism gathered to share their religions' beliefs on hot topics like premarital sex, birth control, abortion and homosexuality.

While panel members weren't quite so explicit in their explanations,

they still provided a peek into opinions of communities with which I'm not very familiar. This conservative look at sexuality gave me a very different perspective on sex's impact on society and how spirituality affects the intimate actions of others.

That same evening I went to the Student Life-seminar titled 'I love the female orgasm' program. The presentation fit right between the tawdry and tasteful two I had already attended. Focused more on women's health than a mainstream view of sex, the speakers brought audience members outside of the comfort zone just enough to expand the way we see sexuality.

At one point, they separated the men and women to discuss gender-specific concerns. I have to applaud the courageous few who openly talked about their concerns, embarrassing firsts and sexual preferences. 'I love the female orgasm' opened an educational dialogue and empowered both men and women to respect their sexuality.

Each of these programs highlighted a different side of sex. I felt offended during the first, comfortably interested during the second and a tad awkward during the third. But that's good. I came out of this week with a better grasp of and greater respect for this mysterious human force.

We all hold varying moral standards concerning sex. Regardless of how we regulate its existence in our own lives, we shouldn't ignore sexuality. Don't be afraid of it. You can expose yourself without actually exposing yourself.

Staff Viewpoint

## Roe v. Wade: the decision hasn't been overturned just yet

Back around 1970, when abortion was a crime in Missouri, my friend Mike got a call from a woman he knew. She had just had an illegal abortion and was bleeding badly. She called Mike because his father was a surgeon, and she was afraid to go to an emergency room.

Mike called his dad and asked him to help.

"I don't care if she bleeds to death," Mike's father said. "She had an abortion. She deserves it."

She kept calling around and finally found help.

To most UM-St. Louis students, those days may seem hard to imagine. But they may be on their way back.

As I write this column, South Dakota Gov. Mike Rounds seems on the verge of signing into law a bill making it a criminal offense to perform an abortion on a woman unless it was to save the life of the mother. Doctors could serve as much as five years in prison for performing an abortion.

State Sen. Jason Crowell (R-Cape Girardeau) introduced a similar bill in Missouri last week-only the maximum penalty for doctors would be 15 years.

The intent behind these bills is clear: the legislators want to challenge Roe v. Wade in the Supreme Court. The 1973 decision said that states could not outlaw abortions when the fetus is not mature enough to live outside the womb. Both South Dakota and Missouri already have laws that would make abortions illegal if Roe v. Wade is reversed. Illinois and four other states



**BENJAMIN ISRAEL**  
Staff Writer

do as well.

With two new Bush appointees on the Supreme Court, abortion opponents believe the court would overturn Roe. That is not a done deal. Four justices: John Paul Stevens, David Souter, Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Stephen Breyer are firm supporters of Roe. That block includes the two oldest justices, Stevens, 85, and Ginsburg, 72. A fifth, Anthony Kennedy, 69, is widely regarded as the swing vote.

It could take years to get to the high court-Roe took three-so it is possible that another new justice will be on the court by then.

By 1973, legislatures in New York, Washington, Hawaii and Alaska legalized abortion, and all but New York required 30 days residency before an abortion could be performed.

The pro-choice Alan Guttmacher Institute estimates that about one million women had illegal abortions in the United States in the 1950s and 1960s when every state criminalized abortion.

Women will get abortions. Making it illegal just means that the woman will have more difficulty finding a safe place to do so. Making it illegal means that the poor will have an especially hard time. Making it illegal means that women will have less control over when to have children.

In an ideal world, no unwanted babies would be born. In an ideal world, there would be no unwanted pregnancies. We do not live in an ideal world.

OPINIONS

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"Our opinion" reflects the majority opinion of the Editorial Board.

### 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

Who would you give \$1 million to if you couldn't keep it and why?



**Kevin Nelson**  
Senior, Business

Give it to my parents. I owe them for six years of college!



**Lauren Lamperti**  
Freshman, Business

Leave it to my mom, so that when she dies, she can leave it to me.



**Michele Landeau**  
Senior, History

Bono. He does great human rights work.



**Paige Estes**  
Junior, Biology

I would give the money to my mom. She has been a major influence in my life and has helped shape the person that I am today.

Science Column

Science or religion: which should be taught?

The recent American Association for the Advancement of Science conference in St. Louis addressed the issue of attacks on evolution. Rather than tip-toeing around the issue of teaching an "alternative" to evolution and fears of appearing to attack someone's religion, they did what scientists have been hesitant to do and approached the issue head-on. They took up the challenge of proponents of Intelligent Design to treat it as science.

The curious thing was that this produced a storm of complaints, notable in the letters to the editor in the Post-Dispatch, with cries of "intolerance" by the scientists at the convention. The complaints sounded much like someone had disparaged someone's religious beliefs, not challenged the data behind their scientific theory.

So this raised the question: which is it - religion or science?

In religion (or cultural tastes, music, politics, and any number of areas where opinions differ), it is best to show respect and tolerance towards other's beliefs, both because it is the polite thing to do but also because it cuts down on fights. But here is the funny thing, folks: scientists do not have to express respect or tolerance for the scientific theory of another scientist. Just the opposite: it is the right thing to do in science to demand that the other guy

"prove it" by producing the data to support it.

Any scientist is free to challenge the theory and in fact, it is their obligation to do so.

Scientists have even been known, on occasion, to call each other insulting names, in the heat of debate, but in the end, only the data matters. There is no "tolerance" for supporters of scientific theories, only data that supports the theory or not. That is the one unique thing about science.

If proponents of Intelligent Design want to have it taught in science classes, then it has to stand up to scientific debate and scrutiny, just like any other scientific theory. Supporters of Intelligent Design and Creationism like to repeat that evolution is "full of holes." Unfortunately for them, it simply is not true. There is no scientific debate about evolution because the issue was long ago resolved by overwhelming evidence. Intelligent Design, on the other hand, wants to cherry-pick which facts it accepts. But if it is science, you have to accept all the facts, not just the ones you like.

In religion, the rules are just the opposite. You can embrace or reject



CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER Science Columnist

facts or beliefs as you wish, because they are matters of faith, not something open to verification or testing. And no one can challenge you on that.

Science, on the other hand, can only comment on what it can test or verify. It has no comment, and no say in, matters of faith because those are things that cannot

be tested by science. They are different spheres, not competing theories.

So if Intelligent Design is religion, you have every right to expect tolerance, to not have people question or challenge your belief. But then you do not get to teach that belief in science classes to other people's children.

In our nation, with separation of church and state, you have the right to not have your religious beliefs challenged, which means you, or your children, can be excused from taking science classes, or at least biology. You are also free to send them to a religious school that teaches any subject anyway you like. Our history is full of those exceptions. But your rights end at the edge of other people's rights. If your neighbor does not embrace Intelligence

Design, he or his children are free to study biology in the public school and do not have to learn about your beliefs if they chose not to.

If Intelligent Design is science, on the other hand, it can be taught as science in public schools but only if it stands up to scientific testing, just like any other scientific theory.

Scientific theories do not get tolerance, they get testing. If it holds up to the rules of science and the data support it, it becomes the reigning theory. Theories shift all the time when new data comes to light. But they are not confirmed because we do not yet know the answer to a question, like the origins of life, or if the theory asks a question that cannot be tested by scientific means.

One of the first things one learns in science class is that some questions are testable, and are scientific, and other questions are outside the reach of science. That is religion. You do not get to pretend it is science.

So, supporters of Intelligent Design can have it either way but not both. Either it is religion, in which tolerance will be the rule but you do not get to teach it as science in science class. Or it is science, and it takes the same challenges as any other scientific theory.

So which is it - science or religion?

The Rogue Librarian

The weird case of social analysis using library catalogs

RALEIGH MUNS UMSL Reference Librarian

F-word and N-word, we stack up like this:

The overall UM System has an F/N ratio of .371. What does this

UM-St. Louis = .333 (31 F's to 93 N's)

UM-Columbia = .383 (70 F's to 183 N's)

UM-Kansas City = .452 (52 F's to 115 N's)

UM-Rolla = .042 (1 F to 24 N's)

On a couple of occasions I've published analyses of libraries by using the library catalog to see how many items they own using the F-word and how many using the N-word. You can read about my first foray into this area via "Nasty Word Score Card" in the book Alternative Library Literature 1992-1993 (5th floor of the TJ Library, call number Z716.4 .A47 1992/93).

First, I personally consider the F-word to be an overused and fairly harmless Anglo-Saxon epithet. Its use, for me, increased after my hitch in the Navy as I fondly recall going home from boot camp for Thanksgiving and asking Mom to "please pass the f\_ing butter." For purposes of my research I look for all variations of the F-word including the version that references one's female parent.

The N-word I consider to be a perfectly vile pejorative term commonly applied towards those with a surfeit of melanin in their skin. I recognize its existence, but refuse to utter it aloud in any context. The N-word is just mean.

The WorldCat database covers the library holdings of over 23,000 libraries. By searching WorldCat for keywords using the F-word (as well as the mother F-word), and comparing the number of items found to the results of a keyword search for the N-word, I came up with an arcane ratio which I posit loosely reflects library and societal comfort with topics of sex and racism. I call it "the F/N ratio of library social paranoia."

WorldCat indicates that there are 2,632 F-word titles in libraries world wide, and 1,931 N-word titles for a world-wide baseline F/N index of 1.36. You can use this F/N number for evaluating individual libraries.

So if we use the MERLIN Library Catalog to check out the four UM campuses by keyword searching for

mean? It's not clear, but feel free to discuss the possible implications amongst yourselves.

Literally, it merely means that the UM libraries are three times more likely to own a book with the N-word in the title than with the F-word in the title.

I personally think that a value approximating 1.0 is a good indicator of a well-rounded collection. A 1.0 library is neither afraid to collect items with problematic words in the title, and also doesn't lean one way or the other. Wash U, for instance, has an F/N ratio of .938. Harvard weighs in at a healthy .951 while my alma mater, UCLA, drifts downward with a .686 value.

I couldn't wait to see how Bob Jones University (BJU) measured up: BJU owns a single title with the F-word (tucked away in a chapter heading), and 9 titles with the N-word. No surprise that BJU isn't big on collecting controversial sounding titles of any type.

You can use this approach to do interesting analyses with any pair of terms, though you'll need a longer essay than this to establish your methodological bases. This was meant for thought stimulation purposes only, and in no way reflects the official opinions of UMSL's or any other library (except for maybe BJU's, I think).

Letter to the Editor

TABOR will not work for Missouri colleges

"Rocky Mountain Majesty" does not describe the current status of Colorado's education system. Since 1992, Colorado's TABOR legislation radically reduced funding for public education, driving up the cost of tuition at public colleges and universities 22 percent in only three years. I can't believe that politicians in

Jefferson City are actually considering following in Colorado's example. TABOR didn't work in Colorado—in November, voters decided to suspend the law for five years—and it won't work here.

I've dealt with tuition increases every year since enrolling in the University of Missouri - St. Louis.

Now I'm enduring financial aid cuts, increased student loan fees, and the risk of monstrous student loan interest rates through the sale of MOHELA to Sallie Mae. TABOR will only drain more money out of higher education and burden students like me further.

I urge our leaders in Jefferson City

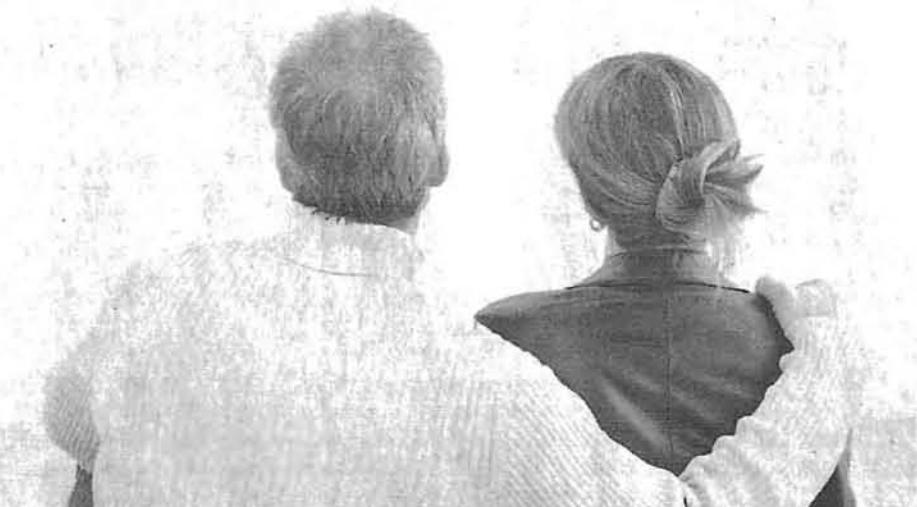
to oppose TABOR and think about the deserving students who will be denied the opportunity to go to college because of this dangerous legislation. TABOR is bad for students and bad for Missouri's future.

Dawn Berkbigler Senior, Sociology



March 9 • Thursday at 8pm

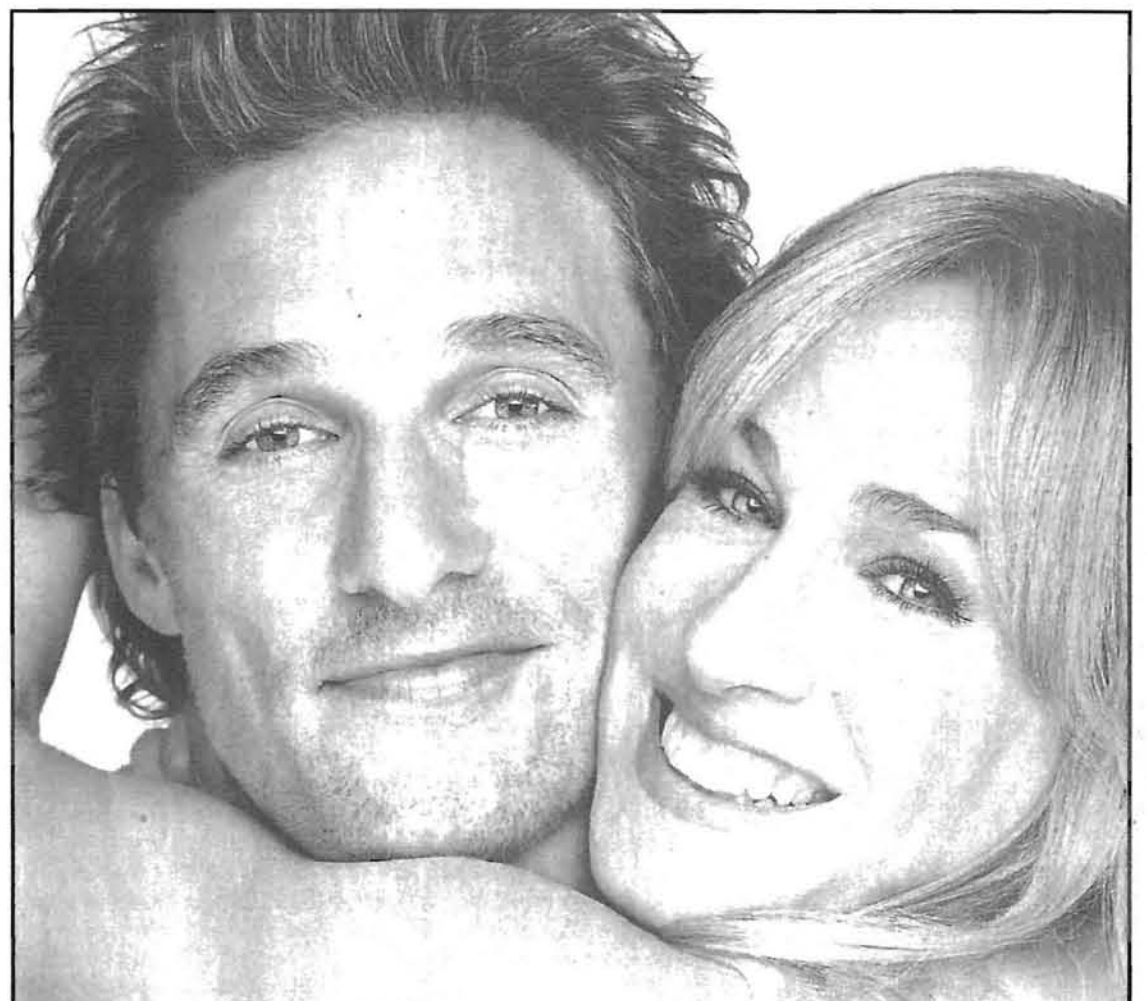
Pictures at an Exhibition contains all you can ask for: beautiful melodies played by a lush, full orchestra. Plus music inspired by van Gogh's "Starry Night" and a modern violin concerto played by a stunning young artist, Leila Josefowicz. Pascal Rophé conducts. The SLSO makes the music. You make the pictures in your mind.



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matthew mcconaughey sarah jessica parker

failure to launch

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# FEATURES

## EDITOR

MELISSA McCRARY

Features Editor

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Amnesty Int'l  
collects cell  
phones for  
women's shelter

BY ADAM D. WISEMAN  
Staff Writer

Amnesty International spent most of last week sitting out on the Millennium Student Center bridge collecting old cell phones for the third year in a row.

Members of Amnesty International were asking students and faculty to bring in old or unused cell phones so that they could be used to save lives for the Donate-A-Phone program.

Michele Landeau, member of Amnesty International, said, "People don't know about how giving a cell phone may save a life."

Once the cell phones are given to Amnesty International, they are taken directly to the Bridgeway Women's Shelter. From that point, the phone is sent to a refurbishing company, where the phone is brought back to working status.

The phones are returned to Bridgeway to be handed out to women that are leaving the center. The cell phones are programmed with emergency numbers and serve as a defense for the women who have been abused.

see AMNESTY, page 7

## UMSL's Most Influential - Part 2 of 5

Stories by Melissa McCrary • Photos by Adam Wiseman

### Braddix has become natural born leader

In addition to serving as Student Government Association President, being a member of Pi Kappa Alpha, working as a New Student Orientation mentor and being the former director of Horizon's Peer Educators, D'Andre Braddix worked with the Alumni Association to develop and create the organization Students Today Alumni Tomorrow.

Braddix, junior, criminology, received the "You Make the Difference 2005" award for his involvement in STAT's creation. When STAT began about a year ago, the organization only had three active members; however, membership has now risen to over 100 students. Moreover, in 2005 STAT received the "Organization of the Year" award.

As a child, Braddix did not always hold numerous positions or participate in many activities. Growing up in Illinois, he said that he watched a lot of television and often had to be forced to go outside and play. His interest in being involved began when he attended Gateway Christian High School in Souland and began to run track.

"Most people have a family like the 'Cleavers,' but mine is different," he said. "My family is hilarious. Sometimes my friends or my mom will just call and repeat a joke they heard and just hang up."

Because of the availability of majors and the affordability, Braddix decided to attend UM-St. Louis.

Braddix remembers his first day at the University and how his second professor that day became one of his favorites.

"My favorite class was criminology with Bob Bursik. When he came into the room, originally I thought he was the janitor, but then he started lecturing and he was brilliant. In his

class, the students with the top five scores did not have to take the final," he said.

"I was one of the top five out of 200. While some students often missed classes, he was a real interesting professor, which is why I kept going, even though I didn't have to. To this day, he still speaks to me and knows my name," Braddix said.

As SGA president, Braddix has numerous responsibilities and daily tasks.

Some of his job duties include attending many out of town engagements, meeting with the Board of Curators, organizing receptions and being a part of various committees such as the Student Advisory Board for the Touhill Performing Arts Center, the Trailblazer Committee, the Homecoming Committee Band the Martin Luther King Committee.

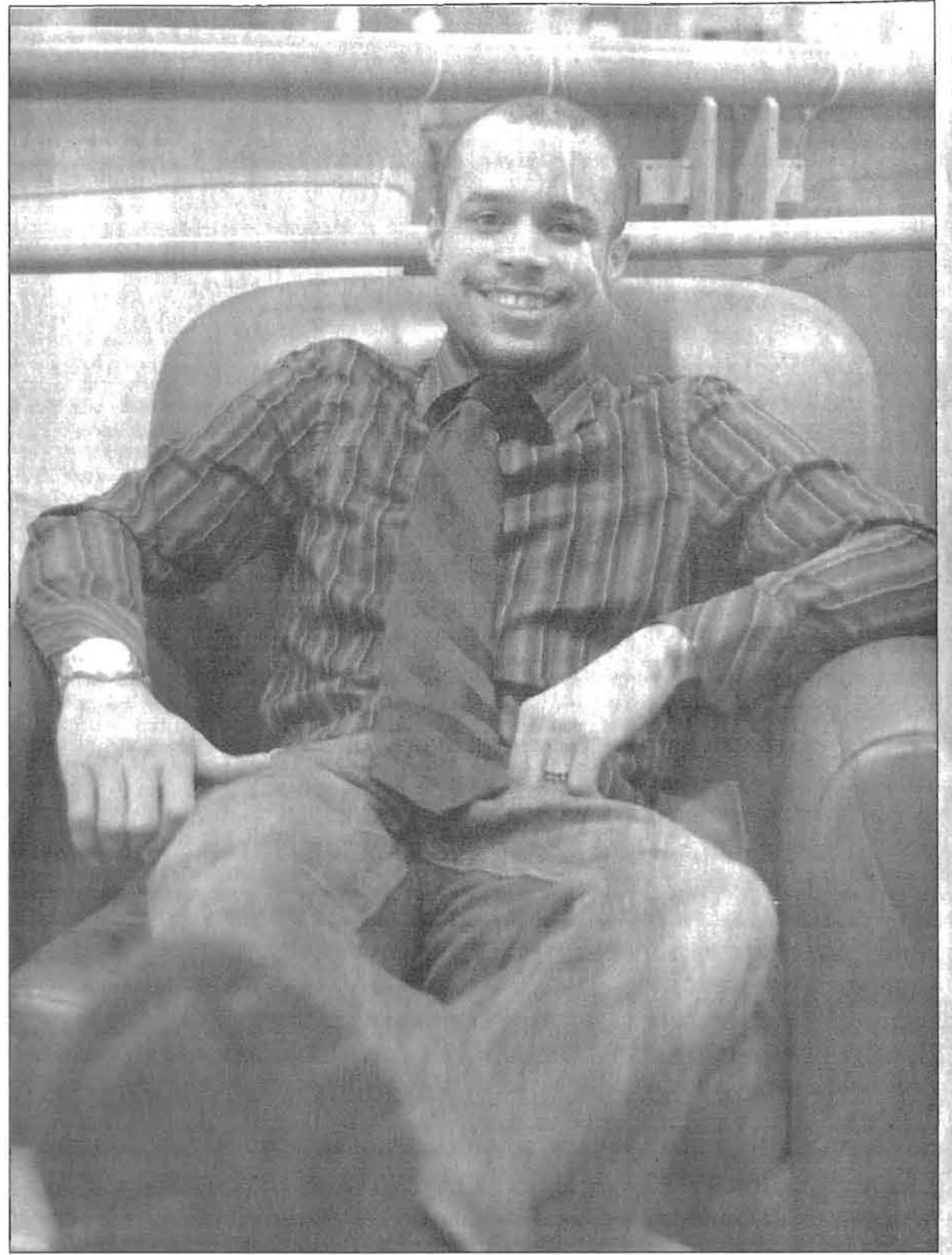
"Anything I do is to represent students and students' interests. I am the first student that a lot of faculty and staff go to for input on certain matters. I try to figure out the concerns of students and ways that we can adjust them," he said.

"I think that we [UMSL] have a lot going for us. The people who are my friends are administration too, not just students," he said.

In addition to his involvement with different on-campus organizations, he also works in University Relations and is in the process of getting a job with University Development.

Braddix hopes to pursue a master's degree in criminology at UM-St. Louis and said that he is contemplating working in the future with probation or parole on the federal level, but his dream job would be to work for the FBI.

see BRADDIX, page 7



D'Andre Braddix has become known as a student leader on campus, not only for his role as SGA president, but also as a leader of many other campus organizations.

### Professor reflects on 37-year career at UMSL

Having worked at UM-St. Louis since 1969, Dr. E. Terrence Jones, professor of political science, has taught approximately 5,000 students and has had the opportunity to meet many significant people throughout his career.

Before working at UM-St. Louis, Jones received his doctoral degree from Georgetown University and taught at Kansas City State University. Jones began working at UM-St. Louis 37 years ago.

In addition to being a professor at UM-St. Louis, Jones also has an extensive background working in administration positions.

He was the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences for 14 years and currently is the internship coordinator for Fellow Public Policy Research Centers and is the chairperson of the University's Budget and Planning Committee.

Working with the Budget and Planning Committee, Jones has to make major decisions about strategies that the University must use to set goals for itself and contribute to the budget proposals for each year, including parking money, Touhill finances, administration and department budgets.

Comments and reviews regarding the budgeting of the University are brought up at the committee and the University Assembly and Faculty

Senate. Many suggestions are made to Chancellor George.

"Chancellor George is a firm faculty governance," he said.

Other than working on the Budget and Planning Committee, Jones has also served as a consultant to more than 50 governmental and non-profit

“  
I was 28 years old,  
and the University  
was only six years  
old.

— Terry Jones  
Political Science Professor

“  
organizations and has had a book, "The Metropolitan Chase: Politics and Policies in Urban America," published.

One of the organizations that Jones has worked for over the last 20 years is the Leadership in St. Louis Program. This organization selects 60 individuals involved in administration and puts them in a nine month program that runs from Sept. to May. The program is designed to help members understand the challenges

to working in the St. Louis region.

Jones said that he was enthusiastic when he began working at UM-St. Louis.

"I was only 28 years old and the University was only six years old. I was excited about building the political science building and assisting with the forming of other departments like tropicology and criminology."

In his career, he has received an "Outstanding Teacher" award and various other honors for his administration involvement.

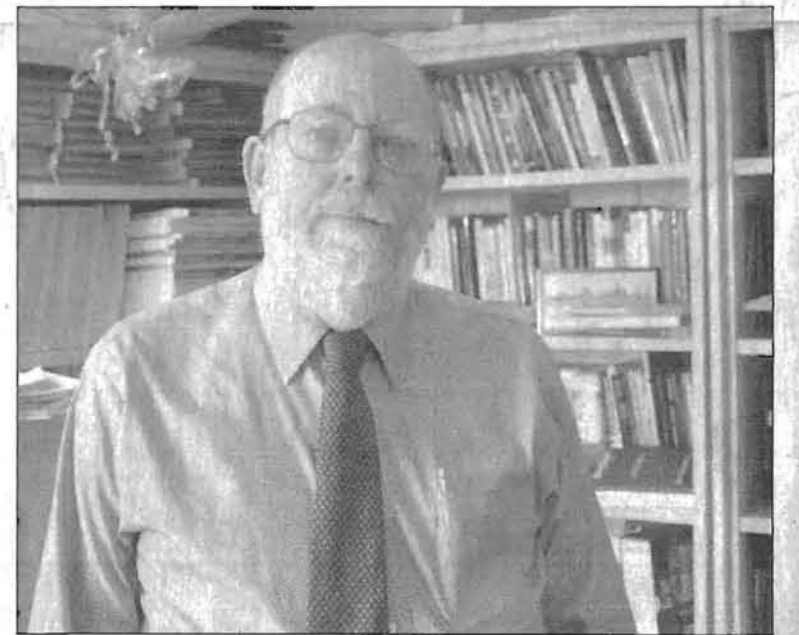
All of his favorite University memories are people-based.

"I have had numerous students from classes who have gone onto be influential in their own areas of work. I am happy that I had a part with helping and teaching them. I take great joy in watching my former students succeed," he said. "Teachers accomplish more through others than directly themselves."

Jones described where he is from and what his family is like.

"I grew up in Brentwood. Less than 10 percent of UM-St. Louis's faculty are native St. Louisans."

In 1999, Jones married Lois Pierce, director of the School of Social Welfare at UM-St. Louis. His son, from a previous marriage, is a political science professor at Brice University in Houston.



Terry Jones, professor of political science, has served in various administrative positions at the University, in addition to writing a book about politics and policies in urban America.

Jones said he loves his job and appreciates the University for its overall objective.

"I like the people and the mission of the University. It has been rewarding and I have been very fortunate to be at a University that thinks that making the community is good and whose main mission has been to provide services to the community," he said.

"I hope that we can continue with our mission, become even better known and help the performance of the Metropolitan area."

When he is not busy at school, Jones enjoys hiking and biking and is a big baseball fan.

#### Jones' Favorites ...

**Book:** A Canticle for Leibowitz by Walter Miller  
**Movie:** Bull Durham  
**Music:** Scott Joplin, 1960s-era Folk Music  
**Motto:** "The world is run by those who show up"

### 'I Love Female Orgasm' teaches UMSL students some sex education

#### Fun Female Orgasm Facts

- Average length of time it takes a woman to have an orgasm: 20 minutes.
- Average length of time it takes a man: 2 to 5 minutes.
- Sixty-three percent of college women say they have had multiple orgasms.

Source:  
- www.sexualityeducation.com

BY MEREDITH TATE  
Staff Writer

Sex educators Marshall Miller and Dorian Solot provide UM-St. Louis students with the know-how to have safe, healthy, fun and rewarding sex.

"We don't ask that you turn off your cell phones before we begin," said Solot, "just that you set them on vibrate."

With that being said, the Pilot House-full of guests last Thursday erupted in laughter.

The sex talk was full of funny puns intended, but also covered topics in a serious and appropriate way.

Solot and Miller touched on the mysterious g-spot, the clitoris and

how to jump over orgasm obstacles.

They also encouraged the audience to share and learn from each others' experiences, which was entertaining in itself.

Solot and Miller have mastered the art of creating a comfortable atmosphere where sex is a welcomed topic.

More often than not, the clitoris is ignored in sex education, and the female orgasm is considered a taboo topic.

Olivia Ayes, of the Office of Student Life said, "I expect complaints, but the students need a variety on campus."

The variety was greatly appreciated judging by the lack of open seats.

The presentation may have seemed like a female topic but an

equal if not greater number of males were in attendance.

One male student, who would like to remain anonymous said, "We learned that it's important to take your time, slow down and most importantly, practice, practice, practice!"

The program offered by Miller and Solot provided men, women, gays and lesbians alike with sound information to make healthier decisions.

Miller said, "Almost everyone is going to be sexually active at some point in their life, those who are more informed make healthier decisions."

The educators aim to educate, not encourage, which is an argument against sexual education in schools. They present factual information to their audience and what they do with it is up to them.

"The problem with having no sex education, or constantly being told to say 'no,' is that when we're ready to be sexually active, we can't even begin to know how to say 'yes' [[[in a healthy, safe, responsible way]]] ." said Solot.

The popular duo from New York met while attending Brown University where they discovered their interests in orgasms. They have been traveling around the country stopping to talk with students and other organizations. They have visited over 200 schools and made appearances on NBC, CBS, The O'Reilly Factor and more. To catch them on their tour, or to learn more about the topics they teach, check out their website at www.sexualityeducation.com.

# UMSL student releases first CD

BY MELISSA MCCRARY  
Features Editor

Brian Owens, senior, music, has been involved with music since he was a child, but it was just recently that he has started to make his love for music a professional career.

Growing up, Owens shared his passion for music by participating as a singer for his church. Once he reached junior high, he put his vocal talents to work.

"I was really shy when I was younger and I didn't like performing in front of people at first," he said. "My senior year in high school was when I became really involved, after I found that I could make money doing it."

After graduating from high school, Owens entered the United States Air Force and became a lead vocalist for their band of Mid-America at Scott Air Force Base in 2001.

"I was stationed at Scott Air Force Base for three years and became more and more comfortable with singing. I also became a solo singer in networks of music and for a band called CommonWealth, in 2002," he said. "At that point, making a CD wasn't an option. I needed to promote what I do and I love recording, getting into the studio and having things created."

This 25 year-old, Belleville, Ill. resident recently released his first CD, "B

Natural," in January.

"The release of the CD is fulfilling since I have been working on it since August of last year. I couldn't have planned it better. I am only 25 and never had to work a 'nine to five' job other than music and the military," Owens said.

The music on his CD is a combination of contemporary jazz, blues and gospel. Some songs on the track include "Come Rain, Come Shine," "Sunny Side of the Street" and the title track "B Natural."

Owens said that his favorite song is "B Natural" because it is inspirational.

"The name 'B Natural' comes from my first name being Brian and the first letter is B and being natural can be described as a theme or state of existence," he said.

Fellow members from CommonWealth helped provide the music for the CD. The other musicians on the album include Adaron Jackson on piano and organ, Miles Vandiver on drums and percussion, Zeb Briskovich on bass, Jason Swagler on saxophone and flute, Shaun Robinson on guitar, Bob Borgsted on guitar and Anthony Wiggins on trumpet.

Acupelo Music has had a huge influence on Owens' life. Groups such as Take 6, a Grammy-winning Christian vocal jazz group, and Jim Henry's and the Acupelo Gang have been some of his favorites.

"I like Nat King Cole, Ellen



Margaret Clarke/The Current

UM-St. Louis student Brian Owens, senior, music is elated about his recent CD release. He sits at the piano March 4 in the Music Building's studio located on South Campus.

Fitzgerald, Sam Cook and Otis Redding. I definitely admire James Taylor as a musician."

Owens said that there are quite a few musicians in his family.

"My dad turned down a professional music career at about the same age as me. He sang in the army and it saved his life. My brother is a good gospel singer and is in the stage of pursuing his own career. Everybody in my family sings."

In the past four years, Owens has had the opportunity to open for legendary jazz artists like Ramsey Lewis, Boney James and Spyro Gyra. In March of last year, Owens did a performance in O'Fallon, Ill., where he

shared the stage with Christine Brewer, Grammy-nominated mezzo-soprano. Owens also did a tribute concert for jazz vocalist Dianne Reeves, in Denver in November 2005.

Since 2002, Owens has made guest appearances on ABC's "Good Morning America," BET's "Jazz Discovery" and "The Wayne Brady Show."

Owens said that being on "The Wayne Brady Show" was really interesting.

"I was a music guest on this nationally syndicated talk show. I got to spend time in L.A. and it was funny because while we were having our own music competition for vocals,

'American Idol' was across the hall from us."

In St. Louis, Owens has performed at the Bistro, the Pageant, the Sheldon and the Orpheum Theater.

At UM-St. Louis, Owens is under the direction of his vocal teacher and trainer, Jermaine Smith. Smith, who also teaches and specializes in performance arts, has been Owens' music teacher for the past year and a half.

"His album is excellent. He is a wonderful performer vocally and visually," Smith said. "He is not just a great singer, but has the gift to give visual stimulation while performing."

"B Natural" can be bought online at <http://cdbaby.com/cd/brianowens>.

## BRADDIX, from page 6

Tailgating has been one of his favorite memories here.

"Identifying the sense of a community and rallying together against other competitive teams has been great."

When asked about what he likes to do in his free time, he said, "What free time?"

Braddix believes that his aunt has been the greatest influence in his life. She contracted Hepatitis C from a blood transfusion in the 70s and has been battling and struggling with illnesses ever since. Her courage inspires him: "She's a fighter," he said.

Whether people are looking for someone to listen to their suggestions for or concerns about the University, or is just looking for a friend, Braddix is there.

## Braddix's Favorites ...

Movie: Anchorman

Food: Sushi

Color: Blue

Music: Country

Motto/Saying: "If you're early, you're on time. If you're on time, you're late and if you're late, don't bother showing up." "Worry about the things you can change and not the things you can't."

Pick up The Current  
Every Monday

## AMNESTY, from page 6

Although this past week the group was looking for phones on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Amnesty International accepts cell phones all the time.

"We want to make people aware of how they can help," Landeau said, "and it's not only when we are on the bridge that people can turn in their old unused cell phones."

Organization members said last week's event was successful. The group collected nearly 20 cell phones while out on the bridge and many other students told the club that they would bring their old phones to the Office in Student Life.

Landeau was happy with the collection of cell phones.

"The event was successful not only

for getting phones but also [for] getting out the info about abuse towards women in our society," she said.

Amnesty International will be hosting several events soon on campus. Amnesty will be sponsoring a speaker on torture concerning the war on terror, in addition to showing the movie 'Lord of War.'

This event and others are similar to

the cell phone drive because they try to make the public aware of abuse but also provide ways to help.

The UM-St. Louis chapter has been on campus since 2003 and works closely with the St. Louis division of Amnesty International.

The organization's mission statement is to undertake research and action focused on preventing and ending grave abuses of the right to physical well-being and the right to mental integrity, on protecting the freedom of conscience and expression and on ensuring freedom from discrimination within the context of its work to promote all human rights.



Adia Brown, senior, Spanish, stops to see what Amnesty International's table was needing Thursday on the MSC bridge.

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## Rogers Sisters album dwarfs past legends

BY ZACH MEYER  
Music Critic

Comprising two sisters that can rock ten times as hard as Gwen Stefani, and a Hawaiian guy that sings like Dave Dederer from The Presidents of the United States of America, The Rogers Sisters make the B52's look like a bunch of pansies.

Their newest release entitled, "The Invisible Deck" is an ode to minimalist rock and roll, a capturing of what music was like just before, during and after Nirvana came out.

"The title comes from a card trick our father used to do when we were kids," says Jennifer Rogers. "It's mind-blowing, like real magic. Plus, we thought the word 'deck' had a lot of different implications — decks are stacked and played, people and halls are decked, there are tape decks. The word 'invisible' has a double meaning too; it can mean powerless or it can mean sneaky."

Starting from the opening track of "Why Won't You?" the album demands the listener's attention with lyrics like, "Why won't say what's wrong/ Why won't anyone believe your story?"

"The Invisible Deck" takes a slight turn from The Rogers Sisters' previous albums. Perhaps the most obvious change is the emphasis on Jennifer Rogers' sultry guitar. Laura Rogers, drummer and backup vocalist has also improved her skills, upgrading from ferocious and primal beats to ferocious and primal complex beats. Also, Miyuki Furtado, bassist, lead singer and front man, has suddenly and dramatically increased his vocal talent. If on previous albums he sounded more like a drill sergeant making demands of his troops, Furtado now sounds as if he's been rocketed into a rock-god status.

Another good addition to the album is that Jennifer Rogers sings far more than on previous albums. The stifling "Never Learned to Cry," mainly sung by the two females shows the darker side of Jennifer Rogers, as she pants, "Do yourself a favor/ and never learn to cry."

"You're Littlest World" is an ethereal tune, with flowing bass lines and piercing guitar riffs that sound as if Jennifer's amplifier is about to explode. Flanked with ghostly lyrics, the song is a huge difference from their previous hits like, "I Dig a Hole."

However, the best song on the album by far is "Money Matters." With down-stroke bass riffs mixed with blasting chorus, The Rogers Sisters are exploring completely new territory but still maintaining their hard-pop-rock roots. The song sounds as if The B52's and U2 collaborated to pump out one of the best songs of 2006.

While The Rogers Sisters are still mainly underground, their following has started to grow vastly. In 2004, they toured with The Hives, thus winning them the favor of rock critics from Seattle to their hometown of Brooklyn, New York. Be on the lookout for their upcoming album which will hit the U.S. March 27th.

# Quarts of spilled beer and even more cheer

■ Flogging Molly performs Irish punk at Pop's

BY MABEL SUEN  
NightLife Editor

Smack dab in the middle of its "Black 17 Tour," Flogging Molly made its stop at Pop's in Saugeit, Ill. on March 2 where the mid-size venue was as packed as a can of sardines (and would smell just as pleasantly later on). Projection screens on either sides of the stage captured on-stage activity while fans of all ages overflowed the floor, balcony and bar areas.

The opening band, a 3-piece punk rock/alternative outfit called Steerjockey, hailed from Cape Girardeau, Mo. While putting on a decent display, their backwoods demeanor was not enough to get the pre-St. Patrick's Day party started.

The Dead Pets, a punk rock sextet complete with saxophone and trumpet, came out clad in red, black and pinstripes. Showing their obvious dislike towards emo bands and even urging all emo kids to jump off of a nearby railroad bridge, they amped up the noise with plenty of "oi's" and paid tribute to Jerry Lee Lewis with a rockin' rendition of "Great Balls of Fire."

While their lovable thick United Kingdom accents sometimes made me wish that the screens came complete with subtitles, actions spoke louder than words as the singer leapt off of a speaker into the audience mid-set. They finished their set of group vocals and audience shout-alongs for the slightly buzzed crowd with an anthem-like song containing the lyrics "We're coming back/We're coming back/We're coming back to you."

The next to take the stage was The Briggs, a four-piece street punk band from Los Angeles that played a set of feel good punk with stereotypically gravelly, guttural vocals that would make their London punk rock precedents proud.

As the disc jockey's music in the



Mike Sherwin/ The Current

Dave King, guitarist and vocalist, and Bob Schmidt, mandolin and banjo player with Flogging Molly rock Pop's on Tuesday night.

club between sets died down and an opening western theme with mariachi trumpets played over the speakers, an uproarious and slightly intoxicated crowd erupted into a chaotic fervor of beer showering madness and arm-in-arm action as Flogging Molly took to the stage with "Drunken Lullabies."

Even in the outer skirts of the audience and as quite possibly the least Irish person in the entire place, I was knocked sideways by the experience and pride of traditional Celtic music combined with punk rock at its absolute best. In addition to the standard bass, drums, and guitar, an acoustic guitar, tin whistle, fiddle, banjo and accordion fused the two styles together.

Alternating between slow swaying, harmony-filled laments such as "Whistles the Wind" and fast-paced, jig-inducing tunes such as "Devil's Dance Floor," the talents of each musician in the mighty septet complemented each other whether through furious fiddling or amorous accordion breakdowns. Time-honored traditional acoustic ballads were countered with electric guitar solos and the like.

Playing audience favorites such as "Salty Dog" and "Rebels of the Sacred Heart" from all three of their studio albums "Swagger," "Drunken Lullabies," and "Within a Mile of Home," the entrancing Irish rasp of lead singer Dave King emphasized

topics of politics, heritage and simply just having a good time with a pint or two or three or more.

"Bring back our troops from Iraq. I think we should send Dick Cheney over there with a gun instead," said King in light of the vice president's recent shooting incident to a profusion of applause.

With drink in hand and fist in air, raucous fans became more and more uninhibited as the night progressed. The floor became a mess of beer bottles and nearly passed out bar patrons huddled closely and dizzily bumping, bashing, dancing and chanting along happily with neighbors.

Towards the end of the set, I thought I had seen everything, but

apparently I was wrong as an overly enthused crowd member bared his behind for all within a closely knit 3-foot radius to see. As the band thanked everyone from the bottom of their hearts and proceeded to dedicate one of their final songs to each and every last individual in attendance, I couldn't help but wonder, "Even that guy?!"

Flogging Molly returned to trumpeting applause (and with an actual trumpet) to do a much anticipated encore ending with "Sentimental Johnny." Most left drenched in cheap beer and the sweat of strangers, with smiles on their faces, nonetheless, and a sense of unity and good times had in mind.

## Film Review

# Now-showing 'In Cold Blood:' Perfect companion to 'Capote'

BY CATE MARQUIS  
A&E Editor

"In Cold Blood," the 1967 film adaptation of Truman Capote's landmark book of the same name, is the perfect companion piece to the Oscar-nominated film "Capote." "In Cold Blood," starring Robert Blake, is showing at the Tivoli Theatre for one week only, through Thursday, March 9.

This is a rare chance to see this classic film on the big screen, as it was meant to be seen, and an excellent bookend to the current Oscar-nominated film. "Capote" tells the story from the viewpoint of its author, while "In Cold Blood" tells the story of the same crime from the viewpoint of the killers. Together, they are a perfect cinematic set.

"Capote" has the Oscar-worthy performance of Philip Seymour Hoffman as author Truman Capote, and seeing the films, "In Cold Blood" and "Capote," side by side is a fascinating look at two sides of the same story, both for where they intersect and where they diverge.

Truman Capote broke new literary ground with his "non-fiction novel." "In Cold Blood" features Perry Smith (Robert Blake) and Dick Hickock (Scott Wilson), two small-time criminals recently released from prison who break into the remote, rural home of the Clutter family, wealth, respected Kansas farmers, and kill them all during a 1959 robbery that netted the killers about \$40.

The senselessness, the randomness, and cold-bloodedness of the crime gripped that area, but after Capote's book, it gripped the world.

Then there is the chill in the surprisingly strong performance of Robert Blake, now notorious for his own murder trial. His riveting performance is a central factor in the emotional power of this classic film. His obvious talent raises questions of why the young former child star did not go



Photo courtesy United Artists: Sony Pictures Classics

Seymour Hoffman plays Truman Capote in the Oscar-nominated film "Capote." The film's complement "In Cold Blood" is playing at the Tivoli through Thursday, March 9.

on to more film successes.

In his search for realism, director Richard Brooks shot much of the film in the actual location of the murders. Actual pictures of the Clutter family appear in the house and the horse in the film was actually the daughter's horse.

"In Cold Blood" and "Capote" differ in viewpoints and the films both start and end in different ways, but in the middle they converge in an eerie overlap.

Many of the scenes in "Capote" are nearly reproduced from the earlier black and white film, in a clearly deliberate homage, with some shots carefully reproduced, and similar sections of dialogue from Capote's non-fiction novel used in the overlapping central portion of the film. Many of the film's carefully and artistically composed shots became iconic, as are the film's shots of windswept, desolate landscapes, and foreshadowing in sounds.

Clever crosscutting ties together the parallel storylines of the clean-cut Clutter family and the ex-con killers

as they hurtle towards their fateful meeting.

Another area where the two films diverge is in the reporter who appears in "In Cold Blood," clearly a stand-in for Capote, but strangely, without either his name or flamboyant personality, a sort of placeholder for his role, a hidden person in a more homophobic era. The local police chief Alvin Dewey, played by John Forsyth, is teamed with a writer, just as in "Capote," but actor Jeff Corey's writer, Jensen, looks and sounds more like another policeman than the colorful Capote.

The director chose this route, clearly, to keep Capote's own persona from distracting from the criminals' tale, but it makes it all the more surreal to watch it after seeing the contemporary "Capote."

The 1967 film still retains its power, especially in its visual tone and as it reaches its dramatic conclusion. The musically score by Quincy Jones is heavy on dissonance and jazz

see **COLD BLOOD**, page 9

## Theater Review

# Black Rep's "Relativity" riddles protagonist with internal dilemmas

BY MYRON MCNEIL  
Staff Writer

Ever had to choose sides? What would you do if one of the sides separated you from your family? Would you choose that side? These are some of the dilemmas examined in the play "Relativity," which ran at the St. Louis Black Repertory Theatre through March 5.

The main character Kalina Davis, who is played by Bianca Jones, is a young African American female who is forced to choose between a new scientific way of thinking versus an old scientific way of thinking. However, the older way of thinking about science connects to her past and—more importantly—her family.

Dilemmas. The play, which was written by playwright Cassandra Medley, is full of dilemmas. Not only is Kalina, forced to choose between competitive sides of scientific philosophy, she is forced to deal with the fact that one side will promote her further into her career, while the other will help promote her mother's book and the family's ideal about science and African Americans.

However, joining this side would be like committing scholastic suicide. The ideals of her family go against her scholastic achievements and show her direct defiance to her scholarly peers and elders, who favor loyalty also.

Okay, what are the sides? One side of the scientific fence is an idea that early social scientists shared about what it meant to be Black.

One of the central themes of this idea was that black people were genetically superior, due to their direct lineage and connection to

Africa—hence, African Americans.

The other side of the argument is current genetic science, which does not support the idea of either races or racial superiority, and sees race as more cultural than biological. These biologists feel that if an ideology is to label and categorize itself as a science, it must follow scientific procedure. More importantly, have accurate proof to back your assertions.

The feud of these opposing sides has a history. Kalina's mother and father shared the belief that blacks were superior and brought up their daughter under this tutelage. However, she excels in school, earns degrees and is promoted several times. The catch comes when she is informed that her graduate/professional work will be with Iris Preston, who is played by Monica Parks. Iris Preston, a highly acclaimed scientist, is also the lifelong nemesis and enemy of her mother and father's scientific ideology.

So, what do you do? Betray your family for academic honors and join in with the enemy? Or support your family's assertion about science and help write the book?

Freeing herself from the grips of racist doctrine and the overly protective thoughts of her mother, Kalina chooses to work with Dr. Preston. By doing so, she confronts the notion of supporting racism or a scientific thesis without proof. She also establishes her own identity by breaking away from her mother's extreme influence.

The play offers several insights into racism, science, family allegiance, social allegiance, identity and success. All of these ideas and qualities are presented in the form of dilemmas.

Ask yourself, "What would you choose?"



# Police rely on extra eyes, ears for safety

BY BRIAN E. OLIVER  
Staff Writer

Crime rarely occurs on the UM-St. Louis campus and Detective Tony Griemel of the UM-St. Louis Police Department made it clear that one of his goals is to ensure that violent crime continues to remain an uncommon occurrence.

"We have a minimum of two uniformed officers on duty at all times," he said. "I do a monthly crime analysis and I may do more if there's a pattern of offenses. If I have a problem, I'll make a recommendation for extra police."

Griemel added that the safety of the students is the primary concern of the UM-St. Louis Police Department and that one way the police try to keep crime low is by keeping in touch with police departments from other St. Louis universities. They share information about crimes that have occurred and the individuals who may have committed these crimes. This way, individuals who target universities are less likely to be successful in crime and are more likely to be caught.

He said, however, that the police can only act when they have information. They receive information from staff, faculty and students who report

the information to the police. That is why he suggests people report anything even remotely suspicious to police.

"Anytime anyone's on campus and sees something relevant, call the police. Get involved. Police can't solve as many crimes without the help of the community," Griemel said.

Another way students can reduce the likelihood of becoming a victim of a crime is by not being an attractive target for an offender.

To avoid being an attractive target, Griemel offered these suggestions: "Park under a parking lot light. Walk in groups. Park in the same area as your group. Keep your eyes open, people."

According to Griemel, most property crimes are crimes of opportunity. Therefore, people can reduce their chances of being victimized in this way by always locking their cars, houses or apartments, never leaving windows open when they are not home and never leaving valuables in plain sight.

Officer Gary Clark of the UM-St. Louis Police Department offers a presentation every year for UM-St. Louis students and faculty called "Streetwise Survival." He explains that there are four things people can

do to reduce the chances that they will be victimized.

"First, be a hard target," Clark said, "like the way you dress, act and behave. Criminals will examine behaviors of victims. Maintain eye contact with people. Don't leave valuables out. Keep your wrist watch in your pocket; carry your person close to your body when you're out in public."

"Second, stay public. Stay with other people. If you ride the Metrolink, stay at the front. Wait with others. Give the illusion that other people are there."

Clark explained that one tool people can use to reduce the likelihood of being victimized is to get on a cell phone and act like they are talking to someone.

"Third, have a plan. Program your cell to call the police. Give up your money, but don't necessarily agree to get in anybody's car. And if you feel threatened but are around other people, yell 'fire.'"

A good idea if you are approached by someone who demands your money is to take all the money out of your wallet or purse and drop it or throw it on the ground and then walk away. This way, since the criminal is usually just after money, he or she will not also have a wallet or purse



Kevin Ottley/The Current

An emergency call box stands illuminated after dusk outside the Millennium Student Center. The call boxes are scattered throughout the campus to be used by students, faculty and staff in events of crises.

with credit cards and a driver's license.

A final way Clark recommends reducing the chances of being victimized is to do something to the would-be criminal before a crime occurs.

"Notify somebody if someone starts annoying you. Don't tolerate annoying behavior. Let the police know about it," Clark said.

Later this semester, Clark will offer the "Streetwise Survival" class for faculty and staff.

## COLD BLOOD, from page 9

watch it after seeming the contemporary "Capote."

The 1967 film still retains its power, especially in its visual tone and as it reaches its dramatic conclusion. The musically score by Quincy Jones is heavy on dissonance and jazz influences but, as was common in that era, sometimes seems a bit heavy-handed. "In Cold Blood" bears some datedness and marks of its era, in stiffness in early dialog, in a self-conscious, studied film noir style, and in its Freudian-inspired pop psychology, but the film is still compelling and absorbs the viewer.

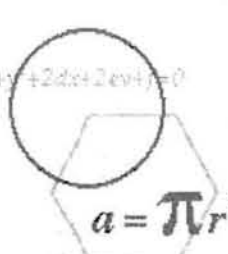
Regardless of its flaws, one should also note that this very successful film was made in an era much closer to the one in which Capote wrote, and therefore reflects some of the contemporary view of the book's subject. That alone is worth something, for it gives us a window back in time.

Seeing both "Capote" and "In Cold Blood" is highly recommended for both film and literature buffs, although I suggest seeing "Capote" first. They are like bookends, a Rashomon-like attempt to see the many facets of the story. The only perfect topper would be to read Capote's book, if you have not already, or re-read it, if you have.


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 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.umsll.edu/~mathcs/](http://www.umsll.edu/~mathcs/) or by contacting Dr. R. Dotzel at 516-6337.  
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# Riverwomen close out season

BY LINDSEY BARRINGER  
Sports Editor

On Thursday, UM-St. Louis guard Courtney Watts shot a jumper for the final shot of the season at the GLVC tournament quarterfinals against the Norse of Northern Kentucky University.

The Riverwomen got the bid as the #4 seed in the West Division after winning their last regular season game 61-56 at Southern Indiana. NKU was the #1 seed from the East Division.

The Riverwomen's Jennifer Martin started the game against the Norse with a lay up that was shortly followed by two foul shots from Jennifer Dewell. After a shot by Nicole Chioldi of NKU, however, the Norse went on a 10 point scoring spree and UM-St. Louis never had

the lead again. At times, the Norse led the Riverwomen by as many as 13 points. At the half, the Riverwomen were down by seven. The final score was 72-62.

"It wasn't one of our best games, but it was still an accomplishment," said Riverwomen guard Crystal Lambert.

The trip to the GLVC tournament ended the college basketball careers of seniors Lambert and Nikki Jerome, who have been plagued with injuries throughout the season. Lambert played on Thursday but Jerome, who was unable to play because of a torn ACL, cheered for her team from the bench.

"It was hard being a senior and making it to the tournament and not playing," said Jerome. "I have mixed emotions, but regardless of my injury, I am happy for the team and it

was fun to be part of such an achievement."

Jerome injured herself in the Pittsburgh State game but did not know it would be her last official game. For a few games following, she played roughly five minutes and last faced an opponent during the Wisconsin-Parkside game.

Jerome said despite her injury, her coach and teammates made her final season memorable.

Lambert also had mixed emotions about the season coming to an end.

"I'm hurt that [the NKU game] was my last game and because I love the game so much, but I'm also blessed because of all the pain I have endured," Lambert said.

Head Coach Lee Buchanan said that the seniors have meant a lot to the team. He said they will remember this season for the rest of their lives because this was the season that UM-

St. Louis Women's Basketball earned back some respect.

The 2005-06 Riverwomen team improved from a 6-21 overall record during 2004-05 with no wins on the road to 16-12 and 9-10 in conference play. This season marks the first winning season since 2000-01 and Coach Buchanan's first trip to the tournament since coaching UM-St. Louis. The Riverwomen also had the most wins since the 1999-2000 season.

"Last year at this time, we finished a poor season but we set goals and began work on reaching those goals last March," said Coach Buchanan. "It has taken a lot of sacrifice and dedication in order to turn this program around."

The Riverwomen started their season on Nov. 17 with a win over Saginaw Valley State. They went on to win the next four games, with their first loss to Southern Indiana. The

Riverwomen also won five of their last seven games.

"I am proud of the players for their commitment and for helping me build this program," said Buchanan. "I am thankful for my coaching staff for their time, effort and continued belief in me, the players and the dream."

The Riverwomen ended the season without a win in tournament play, but the players are happy with their achievements.

"We had a lot of goals this season and we reached them. Our main goal was to make it to the GLVC tournament and we did that. We are proud of ourselves and so is the faculty and school," said Jerome.

Buchanan is already preparing for another winning season. "We will continue to work hard, play hard and represent UMSL in a first class manner," he said.

SPORTS BRIEF

EDITOR  
LINDSEY BARRINGER  
Sports Editor

phone: 516-5174  
fax: 516-6811

## SPORTS BRIEF

### Lambert and Griffin named athletes of the month

Crystal Lambert and Jonathan Griffin were named the UM-St. Louis athletes of the month for February. Lambert, after starting the season on the bench because of surgery, averaged 12.3 points per game. She started in seven of eight games during February. Lambert also helped the Riverwomen get a bid to the GLVC tournament with a win against Southern Indiana, the final game of the season.

Jonathan Griffin averaged 17.5 points a game. He had three 20 point games for the season. He is the second best leading scorer in UM-St. Louis history with 1,723 points for his career with the Rivermen.

Both athletes of the month finished their basketball careers with UM-St. Louis as now they will focus on graduation.



Lambert



Griffin

## Catching up with the Rivermen ...



Matt Johnson/The Current

Tony Soaib, Rivermen sophomore, receives a pick off throw at first base during the game Sunday against St. Joseph's. Rivermen lost three of four games during a pair of doubleheaders during the weekend.

## Yankees to make a comeback



BY LAQUAN FUSE  
Sports Associate Editor

It is time for the New York Yankees dynasty to reclaim its throne. It has been too many years since the last Yankees' World Series victory. However, all of that is going to change in 2006.

I know a lot of people may be surprised to find out that I offer my full baseball support to the New York Yankees, even though I live in St. Louis. Honestly, the last time I was a Cards' fan was when Ozzie Smith was playing at shortstop. Since then, it's been all Yankees.

The end of December was big for the Yankees' roster. In my opinion, the Yankees outfield will be a very important factor to the success of the team. Two transactions helped to guarantee depth in the Yankees' outfield.

First, New York re-signed veteran outfielder Bernie Williams to a one-year contract on Dec. 22. The next day, in one of my favorite off-season transactions, New York signed former Red Sox outfielder Johnny Damon to a four year deal.

Signing Damon may have come as a shock to some people, but isn't this why people hate the Yankees. I hear a lot of Yankee-haters, usually Cardinals' fans, complain that the Yankees "buy" players instead of "actually recruiting them." Yeah, so? If I was a MLB owner and I had as much money as George Steinbrenner, I would do the same thing.

Damon is a great lead-off hitter and last season he had a .316 batting average with 35 doubles and six triples. Damon has a .290 lifetime batting average and 130 home runs in his career.

Williams has played for the Yankees since his MLB debut on July 7, 1991. Last season, Williams played in 141 games and started 99 of those games in center field. He had a .249 batting average with 64 RBIs.

The 2006 season will mark the 16th consecutive season for Williams in New York.

Williams will become only the seventh player in franchise history to play for at least 16 seasons. The other six players are Lou Gehrig, Bill Dickey, Frank Crosetti, Yogi Berra, Mickey Mantle and Whitey Ford.

By signing Damon, the Yankees will be able to use Williams in a variety of positions. He may spend some time in the outfield as well as being designated hitter.

Let's not forget about the other big names in Yankee Stadium's outfield, Hideki Matsui in left field, Gary Sheffield in right and Bubba Crosby as a back-up.

Overall, the Yankees' outfield is solid for the 2006 season. Will the addition of Damon give the Yanks the boost they have needed for the last few seasons? I guess I have 162 games to watch to find out.

## Getting to know Riverman Scott Lavelock

BY KIMYATA JARRETT  
Staff Writer

With a year of UM-St. Louis baseball under his belt, Scott Lavelock, sophomore, communication, is back to play first base for another season.

Lavelock has had a passion for baseball since he was six years old. "I started playing baseball at six years old and have loved it ever since."

Lavelock comes to the UM-St. Louis from Pleasant Hill, Mo, where he played three years at Pleasant Hill High School. During his senior year, he was a first team all-conference selection, played in the state All-Star game and was named the most valuable player.

Last year, as a freshman, Lavelock

started in 29 games. He ended the season with 20 hits and 15 runs. He was also named a GLVC Academic All-Conference selection.

This season, Lavelock has started in three of the four games and has gotten off to a good start. He is tied for third in runs and RBIs. His batting average for this year is already .300, compared to last year's overall .215.

Lavelock said that there is a big difference in playing now as a sophomore versus playing as a freshman. "I had no idea what to expect my freshman year," he said.

When it was time for this season, he was much more prepared. "I was so much more comfortable at the plate and I knew what to expect," Lavelock said. "I have learned how to handle pressure

and still continue to learn."

Last year, UM-St. Louis fell to Quincy twice. Lavelock said he "cannot wait to get back at them."

"Each time that [Quincy] beat us, it was by one run," he said. The team plans to prevent a repeat of last season.

Outside of playing baseball, Lavelock just likes enjoy having free time. "I like to hang out with my teammates. We have fun when we hang out together," he said.

Outside of practice and games, Lavelock does some sports announcing.

"I announce for Prepcast, which is an organization that announces high school games," Lavelock said. He hopes to be a sports announcer when he graduates.

Every baseball player has dreamed of playing for the major leagues. "We all work for that, but if I could play for the major leagues I would play for the Kansas City Royals or any team that wants me," Lavelock said.

His favorite player is Mike Sweeney. "I met him one day when I was working out and he was a very nice person."

Lavelock chose to come to UM-St. Louis because it was the best opportunity for him to get a lot of playing time and a way to get better. "I work as hard as I possibly can to make myself better therefore, I won't have any regrets," he said.

The UM-St. Louis baseball team is looking for a win Saturday on the road against Bellarmine.

## What Does March Madness Mean to You?

BY ADAM D. WISEMAN  
Photo Director



Clay Mitchell  
Junior, Communication

There is money to be made off of my friends. Also having a reason to get drunk on a school night, in one word 'everything'.



Lisa Newmark  
Senior, Psychology

What is March Madness?



Brad Kasper  
Sophomore, Communication

It consumes my life for a month!

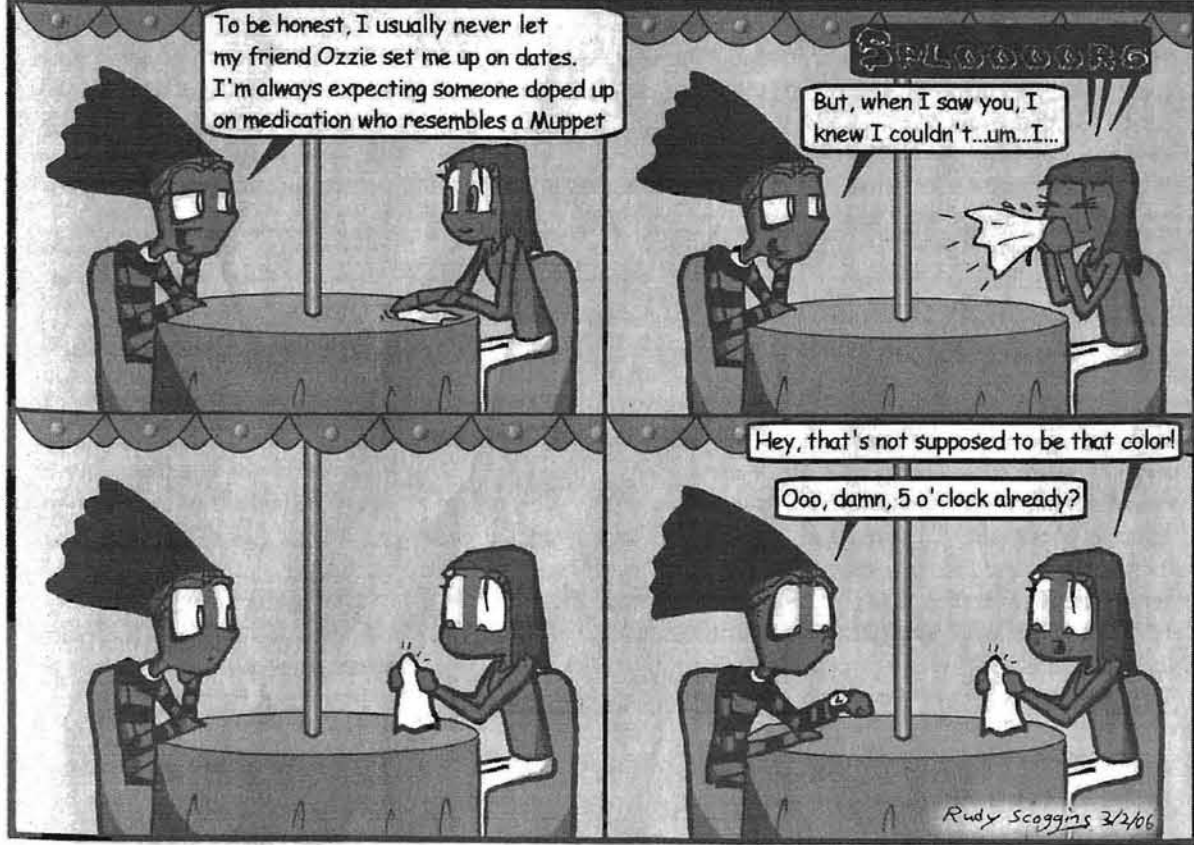


Cas Koziatek  
Freshman, Business

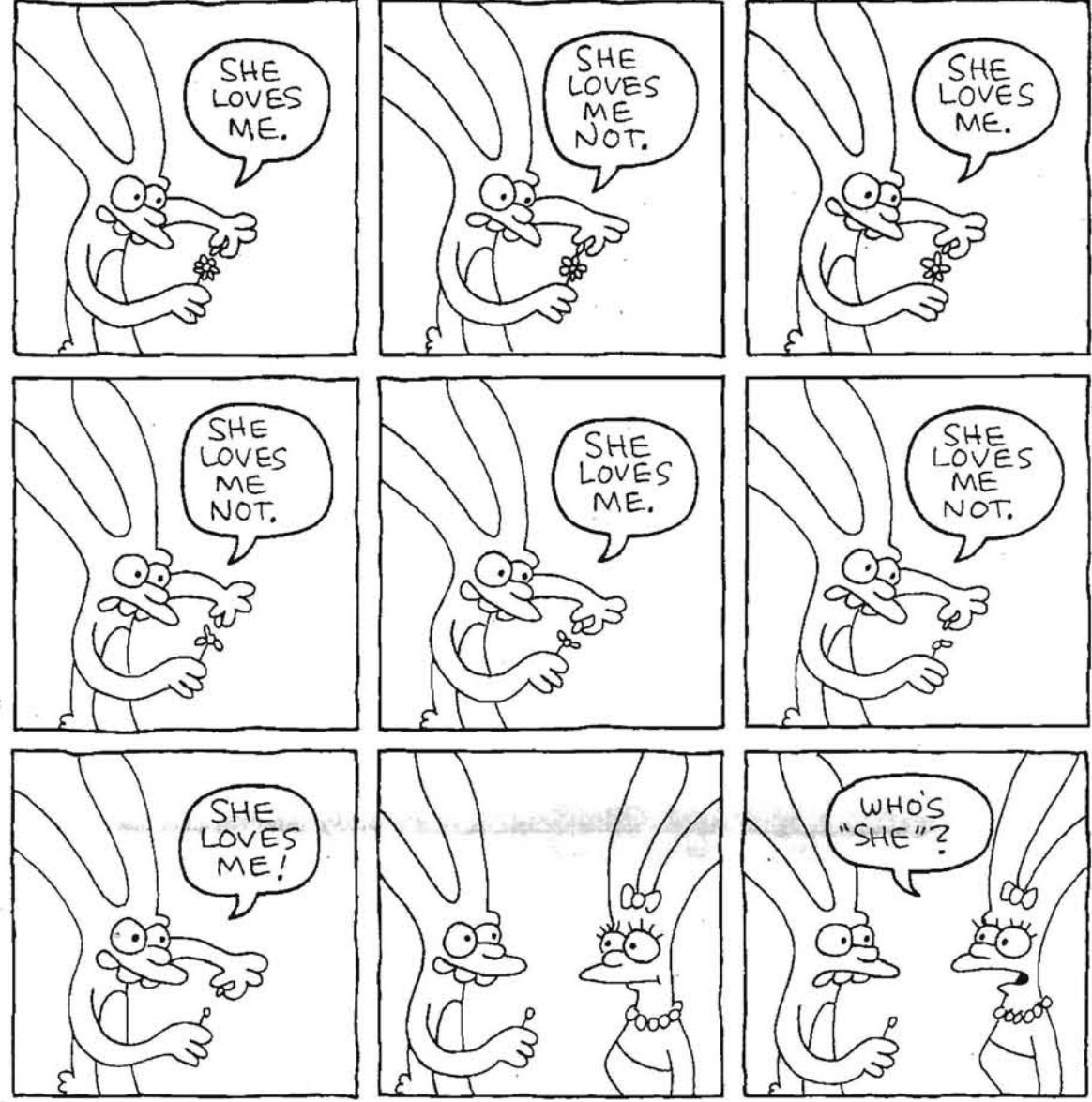
Kick ass basketball, especially when Kansas loses.

**NUTN BUT THE FUNK**

**"Conversation Stopper Theater"**



**LIFE IN HELL**



**Salome's Stars**

**ARIES (March 21 to April 19)** Consider moving beyond the usual methods to find a more creative means of handling a difficult on-the-job situation. Avoid confrontation and, instead, aim for cooperation.

**TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)** Seasonal change creates a new look for the outdoors. It also inspires Taurians to redo their own environments, and this is a good week to start redoing both your home and workplace. Enjoy.

**GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)** A misunderstanding needs to be straightened out so the wrong impression isn't allowed to stand. If necessary, offer to support the use of a third party to act as an impartial arbitrator.

**CANCER (June 21 to July 22)** A career change offering what you want in money and responsibilities could involve moving to a new location. Discuss this with family members before making a decision.

**LEO (July 23 to August 22)** Feeling miffed over how you believe you were treated is understandable. But before you decide to "set things straight," make sure the whole thing wasn't just a misinterpretation of the facts.

**VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)** Showing you care makes it easier to build trust and gain an advantage in handling a delicate situation. What you learn from this experience will also help you understand yourself better.

**LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)** Planning for the future is fine, especially if you include the roles that family members may be asked to play. Don't be surprised if some hidden emotions are revealed in the process.

**SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)** Making choices highlights much of the week, and you have a head start here, thanks to your ability to grasp the facts of a situation and interpret them in a clear-cut manner.

**SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21)** Carrying a torch can be a two-way situation: It can either keep you tied to the past or help light your way to the future. The choice, as always, has to be yours.

**CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)** Your watchwords this week are: "Focus." "Focus." "Focus." Don't let yourself be distracted from what you set out to do. There'll be time later to look over other possibilities.

**AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18)** A workplace opportunity might require changes you're not keen on making. Discuss the pluses and minuses with someone familiar with the situation before you make a decision.

**PISCES (February 19 to March 20)** Love and romance are strong in your aspect this week. If you've already met the right person, expect your relationship to grow. And if you're still looking, odds are you'll soon be finding it.

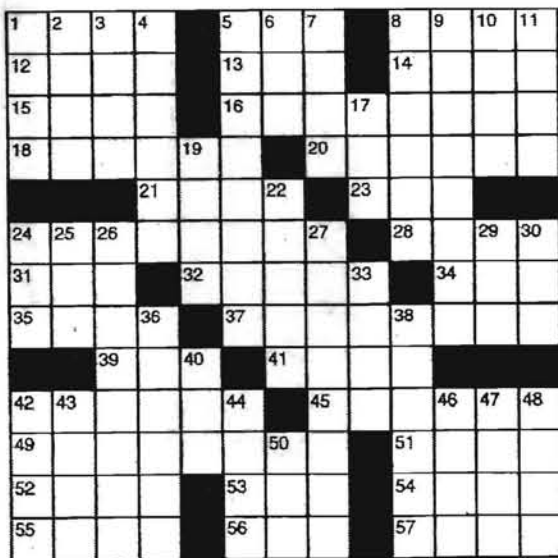
**BORN THIS WEEK:** You approach life in a wise and measured manner, which gives you an edge in many areas.

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**King Crossword**

**ACROSS**

- 1 Wound cover
- 5 Favorite
- 8 Robin Cook novel
- 12 Sites
- 13 Raw rock
- 14 "Planet of the ..."
- 15 A Baldwin
- 16 Rose Parade venue
- 18 Hoodlum, e.g.
- 20 Appear
- 21 Brazilian river
- 23 Nourished
- 24 NBC soap opera
- 28 Fly with the eagles
- 31 Illustrations
- 32 African capital
- 34 Hooter
- 35 "Yup!"
- 37 Meadows
- 39 - long way
- 41 Luminary
- 42 Exaggerate
- 45 Undergoing recession
- 49 Jewish holiday
- 51 Seed coat
- 52 Sheltered
- 53 Puncturing tool
- 54 Cleo's water
- 55 Reply to "Shall we?"



- 56 Grazing land (Var.)
- 57 Being, to Brutus
- 10 Diner's card
- 11 Pronto, in an e-mail
- 17 Wiedersehen preceder
- 19 Pace
- 22 Nicole Smith and Devere Smith
- 24 Remuneration
- 25 Exist
- 26 Play area
- 27 Sororal
- 29 Shock and -
- 30 Literary mono-
- 33 gram
- 36 Cinderella's mice
- 38 Suave
- 40 Fuss
- 42 October stone
- 43 Crooner Jerry
- 44 Squashed circle
- 46 Rainbow
- 47 Zeroes
- 48 Merriment
- 50 Farm female

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Crossword and Sudoku answers online at [www.thecurrentonline.com](http://www.thecurrentonline.com)

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UNFORTUNATELY, NORMAL MEASURES WEREN'T WORKING. I NEEDED SOMETHING MORE DRASTIC.



YOU HAD THE HOUSE FUMIGATED BECAUSE THERE WERE ANTS IN YOUR T.V.



OH GOD! MY COMPUTER'S IN THERE!



AREN'T YOU GOING TO GO AFTER HER?



by E. Gearhart

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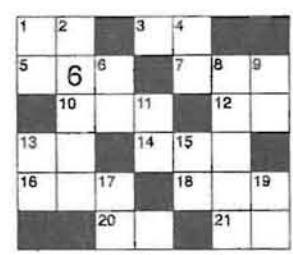
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**Rational Numbers** by Linda Thistle

Using the clues, simple arithmetic, and a little logic, place a single digit (0 to 9) in each empty box in the diagram. To help you get started, one digit has been entered in the diagram.



- ACROSS**
- 1. One-fourth of 12-Across
  - 3. 4-Down plus 11-Down
  - 5. Digits of 7-Across rearranged
  - 7. 3-Across plus 20-Across
  - 10. One hundred more than 14-Across
  - 12. Ten less than 13-Across
  - 13. 1-Across plus 3-Across
  - 14. Two times 5-Across
  - 16. 1-Across plus 18-Across
  - 18. 5-Across plus 10-Across
  - 20. 1-Down plus 4-Down
  - 21. 1-Across plus 15-Down

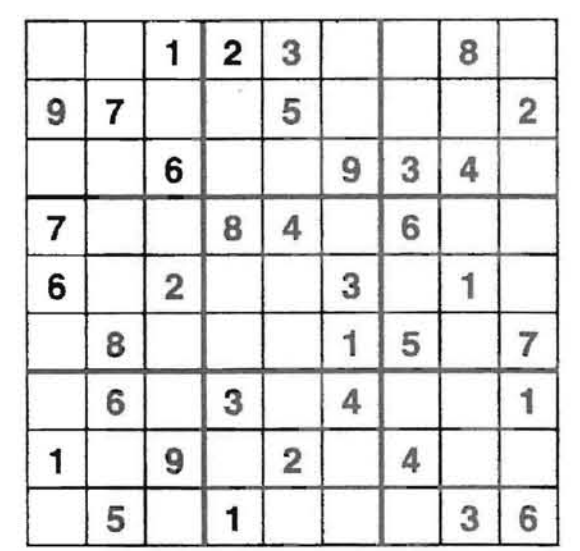
- zero, in descending order
- 4. The first digit is four times the last digit
- 6. Fifty less than 9-Down
- 8. One-fifth of 2-Down
- 9. The first digit is three times the last digit
- 11. 1-Down plus 6-Down
- 13. Two times 21-Across
- 15. Eight less than 19-Down
- 17. 19-Down minus 1-Across
- 19. Same digit repeated

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**Weekly SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle



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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**STUDENT CURATOR, from page 1**

According to Stadtlander, the administration also has the ability to lobby the legislature to support or oppose a particular student. He said he feels the purpose of the board would be defeated and a hostile environment would be created.

"It's inappropriate for the administration to actively work against the student who pays tuition to go to the University," Stadtlander said. He expressed his concerns about this extreme conflict of interest with the legislative director of ASUM before he testified. He said if the legislation changed, then he would support it.

Curtis said, "If a conflict of interest does occur, the student would simply abstain from voting, similar to the practice of other curators when put in a compromising situation," she said.

She believes students possess the maturity and experience required to serve as a member of the board.

"By the time a student is qualified to apply for the position on the board, they have put years of their time into the University. A rigorous application process and three rounds of interviews are among the items required," Curtis said. She noted the average student age on campus is 27 years old, and certain students have full-time jobs.

As Curtis explained, the curators' resolution came because certain members on the board believe a student is too young or immature to handle the responsibility.

"Another argument is that students lack the necessary experience or might be put in compromising positions because they vote on the board and attend one of the universities. From my perspective, none of these arguments hold water," she said.

She added that a student could be more qualified to serve on the Board

of Curators than an individual from the community or a member of the alumni.

"I believe that a student curator receiving a vote is absolutely necessary. We are the major shareholders," Curtis explained.

However, Stadtlander said, "It is my belief that the legislation in its current form does not have the votes to pass out of the Higher Education Committee and reach the floor for consideration."

Against his opposition of the student curator vote, Curtis holds fast to her beliefs.

"I believe a voting student will make the board much stronger and more accountable to the other students," she said.

No tentative date has been set yet, but the Higher Education Committee will most likely meet to discuss the proposed bills within two weeks.

**SAVAGE, from page 1**

"I missed going home to dinner with my fiancé [so I could see him]," Lowe said as she waited for Savage to appear on the stage. "I have been reading his column for a long time." Her impression of Savage was that he was "brutally honest [and] sort of insulting and helpful at the same time."

"He is a master rhetorician, much warmer in person than in his column. He gets to the bottom of gender issues by using examples and analogies that everyone can understand. I wish he'd run for office," said Lowe.

Michele Wiese said, "I've been a fan of his column and I also read one of his books. I was hoping it was a blend of politics and gay issues, which I believe it was."

Wiese's impression of Savage remains positive. "I thought he was eloquent and quick-witted, yet I wish he would have talked more about the

feelings of transgendered people—they do get overlooked, as one listener commented," she said after the talk.

Helen Al-Jureidini, senior, art education, said simply that she came to see Savage.

"I read Savage Love every week," she said. Al-Jureidini said that her general impression of Savage is "that he is extremely intelligent and extremely funny."

She was satisfied with his advice to people, and said, "I think he's got a level head."

Was everyone delighted and impressed by Savage's talk? Perhaps. Wiese had this to say to Savage about his comment that St. Louis was not a "real" city,

"Come on, St. Louis gets a lot of crap for not being a 'REAL' city—a lot of 'real' people were listening to you, Dan!"

Naturally, the author of a sex advice column answered questions from the crowd during the last half of the talk. Those not present missed personal answers to questions, including, "Where can I find a nice guy to hit me, and how can I reintroduce anal [sex] into my relationship?"

With laughter and attention to each, Savage responded to over a dozen anonymous and public questions. The talk was ultimately a blend of good-natured humor, insight into sexual issues and awareness of what he described as "elimination homophobia."

Even with challenging and opposing views, Savage kept his message balanced and positive. To believers of ex-gay reparative therapy, the advice author posed a question of his own. "Would you want your daughter to marry one [an ex-gay]?" he asked.

**SCIENCE LABS, from page 1**

Spilling believes he and his students face a challenge in the organic chemistry lab in Benton Hall because they do not have sufficient hood space "to do any terribly sophisticated chemistry."

"Typically students in organic chemistry have a fume hood at each work station, and we have one for about six or seven students," Barton said.

"I think we're doing a good job teaching in our labs in the space that is available, but the space isn't optimized for what we would like to do, so we could do a better job," Wilking said.

A different kind of problem developed for Wilking because physics labs were overequipped. He explained all of the physics labs are equipped with gas and water lines, which are never used for the classes taught in them. One time, students had accidentally kicked or bumped one of gas pipes on the benches until it developed a leak.

"It was an electronics lab, so you do have the potential for sparks and things to ignite the gas. It was a pretty touchy situation there for a while," he said. The gas lines were permanently shut off following the incident.

In addition to the teaching labs, many professors have offices in these buildings that are becoming a breeding ground for problems.

Some professors have resorted to using space heaters to keep warm since the heating units in the buildings do not always work properly.

Barton feels the administration has been cooperative in getting minor and cosmetic repairs accomplished, but the renovations of the undergraduate labs has to be the number one priority.

"The issue is not whether this should be done or not. We've got the support of the administration on this. We've got plenty of the support of the Senate. The problem is that there's been no capital funding from the state legislature for capital improvement," Spilling said.

**METRO PASSES, from page 1**

the increase and whether or not they support the current Metro pass program. Many students are already looking at the consequences of the uncertain future of the Metro pass program.

Kevin Arrington, sophomore, nursing, said, "If I'm forced to buy a Metro pass, I will probably purchase a parking pass instead." Arrington said she appreciates the free passes she has been receiving each semester because they allow her to save money while she finishes school.

Bernard Owens, senior, English, said, "Students who have no other methods of transportation in order to get to school have no choice but to pay for the pass." He said the free passes are helpful especially for students who already spend a great deal of money each semester commuting to campus by alternate means.



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