

UM Divests \$7 Million

by Kevin Kleine
managing editor

In less than a year the University of Missouri has divested a 12 percent of its holdings in companies doing business in South Africa as part of a five-year plan implemented last January.

The university's investments in South African companies declined from \$65 million in Dec. 1987 to a current figure of \$58 million.

Originally, the university had a policy of investing only in companies adhering to the Sullivan Principles.

When the new plan was implemented, UM President C. Peter Magrath said there were three compelling reasons for the divestment.

● "The decision to further divest flows logically from the 1985 policy and affirms a concern for the social and moral implications of the University of Missouri's investment policy."

● "The policies of the state of Missouri, and many other states and the nation, are based on an emerging consensus that the South African racial and political situation must change."

● "The university of Missouri in 1987 is unequivocally committed to equality of opportunity and to minority education and this action sends an indirect but exceedingly powerful message about our commitment."

Protests of the university's policies sparked the whole divestment movement over two years ago, but the protesters have been silent and the shanties that symbolized the plight of South African blacks have been removed from UM campus quadrangles, according to Bob Samples, assistant director of university relations in Columbia.

"The issue has cooled down since the activists got what they wanted," Samples said. "We're pretty happy with the progress so far."

Currently, the university has about \$643 million in total investments. The South African investments represent 11.2 percent of those monies. Treasurer Don Holm said that the report was based on retirement and endowment trust fund figure from Dec. 31, 1987 to June 30, 1988.

Specifically, the UM policy states:

1. That five years from Jan. 1, 1988, the University of Missouri will no longer have investment in companies with holding substantial investments in South Africa.
2. That the university's current policy for non-Sullivan signatory companies continues as operative until the phased divestment is completed in 1993.
3. That the definition of "substantial investment" in South Africa



BURNED OUT: This shanty, which stood in support of the people of South Africa, was claimed by arson two years ago on the UM-St. Louis commons. The university has begun to divest its holdings in companies doing business in South Africa.

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ABC Setting Lectures For Nov.

by Terence Small
reporter

In the spirit of Chancellor Marguerite Barnett's Partnerships for Progress program, a student organization on the UM-St. Louis campus is implementing its own community outreach program.

The Association of Black Collegians, along with Rochelle DeClue, assistant director of admissions, will start what it hopes will be a successful operation for promoting positive ideas in the black community.

Lectures on the need for blacks to continue their education will be given starting the second week in November for students at Vashon, Southwest, Sumner and Soldan high schools in St. Louis.

"We want to stress to these students the importance of going to college," said Veronica Jones president of the ABC. "If not at UM-St. Louis, then any school."

The ABC has had problems in the past with student involvement on campus. Many of the black students feel misrepresented by the organization.

"I don't think that we are well represented," said Sonya Washington, junior majoring in Business Administration. "If our beliefs don't match theirs [ABC's] then they won't have anything to do with us."

The ABC hopes this program will bridge the gap with the students.

"It is our hope to create more involvement by starting this program," said Darick Williams, political spokesman for the ABC.

The ABC's mission in this particular program, Jones said, is to present positive black role models in the community.

"We want the community to know that there are more great black people than just Booker T. Washington and Martin Luther King," Jones said.

The ABC is also delivering a message of confidence and strength.

"We also want to teach younger people perseverance," Jones said. "We want to put in the minds of students that they can get past any obstacle."

The ABC will spend about \$1,000 this semester for the program.

Many people on campus say the program is a step in the right direction for the organization. The ABC will work side by side with DeClue, who has vowed to give a good amount of time to the project.

In the spring, the organization hopes to branch out to eighth-graders and students in the county schools.

See ABC, page 3

U. Program Board Under SGA's Fire

by Kevin Kleine
managing editor

Student Government Association President Jerry Berhorst held an emergency meeting of the Executive Committee last Sunday to settle what the SGA sees as a serious problem with how the University Program Board is run.

The UPB is the body of students that selects and promotes entertainment on campus such as the concerts in the Wednesday Noon Live series. The UPB is in itself like a club, but in actuality is a standing committee of student government. Therefore, the UPB has a responsibility to SGA which Berhorst plans to bring more in line with student wishes.

Last year, the UPB suffered from lack of members and eventually was disbanded over the summer. About 20 students have applied this year to be on the board which has 15 seats available.

The controversy surrounding the issue stems from the fact that no members of last year's program board were present this year to choose a new UPB chair as their constitution says.

"Last week we found that Dave Thomason (Student Services Coordinator and adviser to UPB) organized sub chairs, but no single chair," Berhorst said. "So there is no student heading a standing committee of SGA."

Berhorst explained it was agreed that SGA, Director of Student Activities Rick Blanton and a neutral third party would rebuild the UPB and have it report monthly to SGA, but no one contacted Berhorst about the reorganization. "I didn't know about it until some people that are the sub-chairs expressed objections to how things were being run," Berhorst said. "That's part of my gripe; we were never allowed to be part of it."

"We're currently operating as close as we can to our constitution that was established in 1987," Thomason said. "As far as I've determined, the constitution does not grant them that right. It states

See SGA, page 7

Election A Concern To Women

by Cathy Dey
associate news editor

How women affect and will be affected by the upcoming presidential and other elections was the theme of a "Women and Politics" conference held at UM-St. Louis last Saturday. Topics presented included the abortion, problems of minority women, political campaigns and how women can have an impact on elections.

Jo Freeman, Ph.D., author of numerous books on women, politics and feminism, spoke of the historical background that led to the polarization of women's

movements in the two political parties—with democrats being seen as pro-feminist and republicans as anti-feminist. Freeman stated in her address, "American Politics and the Future of Feminism", that this was not always the case, however.

According to Freeman, feminism was originally identified with the Republican Party for two basic reasons. One was that republicans were stronger supporters of the suffrage amendment. The other was that the intense debate about the proposed Equal Rights Amendment (ERA), written in 1921, deeply divided the two major parties on

women's issues. Freeman said that as the ERA debate was waged over decades, women's groups began splitting from the feminist movement and opposing the proposed amendment. "By the 1960's, feminism as any kind of a political movement was dead," Freeman said. But this changed with the formation of the National Organization for Women (NOW), which caused a great deal of activity in 1972 by sending representatives to party conventions to push for the ERA.

It was during this time that the feminist movement began switching its support to the democratic

side, according to Freeman. She cited differences in the ways in which the two parties selected delegates to political conventions.

While democrats had made specifications that delegates to party conventions should be proportional to the mix in society with respect to age, sex, and race; republicans had no such rules.

"The Republican Party was facing a civil war because of the defeat of Goldwater, and later, the disgrace of Gerald Ford," Freeman said. She

See WOMEN, page 3

\$300,000 Given To UMMSL

by Tom Kovach
sports editor

Stanley C. Pace, chairman and chief executive officer of General Dynamics presented a gift to Chancellor Marguerite Barnett of \$300,000 towards Access to Success, a program designed to challenge grades six through eight in the Normandy, Wellston and University City school districts who excel in math and science but are economically disadvantaged.

"Students are to experience concentrated highly advanced courses over a seven year period as they move from their middle school year to high school," Barnett said. "This is the kind of ambitious program needed to meet the nation's demand for scientists as we stand on the threshold of a technological explosion."

Last Thursday, 270 students from all three school districts were at the J.C. Penny building, working on problems on probability and momentum. UM-St. Louis faculty and teacher education students will assist in developing academic activities.

"This program provides a rare opportunity to our school faculty and senior students to become engaged with the public schools in a very direct way and to be perceived as being of direct aid," said Donald Robinson dean of the School of Education.

Doris Trojak, a professor of science education in the elementary and early education department has been named the director of the project.

"There is a growing understanding and concern about the quality of education of our youth. These expectations must be realized at the national level and the local level," Pace said. "It is a program that builds bridges. The principal reason is the bridge from the university to the students. That bridge will prepare themselves for the future and their career."

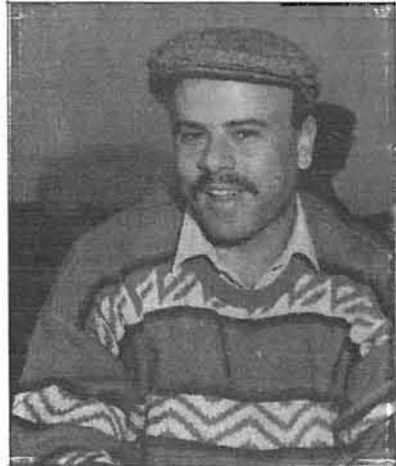
Pace later was awarded the Chancellor's Medallion: the highest award of recognition that UM-St. Louis can present to an individual in the community.

Opinion: Bush, Dukakis, or...?



Debbie Heller, soph.

Dukakis. He wants to increase money toward schools. And he's a people type of person. He wants to help the middle class; he doesn't want to make the rich richer.



Jamal Al Kobri, sr.

Bush for two reasons. First I had a chance to meet him. Secondly, I would like to go with the president who has the most experience.



Todd Blount, jr.

Dukakis. I don't understand how the Republicans can raise revenue without the deficit the way it is. In order to raise revenue you have to increase taxes. Bush promised not to increase taxes.



Areefa Hamdah, jr.

After seeing the debates and everything, I'm having second ideas. I don't know if I am going to vote anymore. I wanted somebody else, but that somebody didn't make it all the way up.

UMSL Presidential Vote Deadlocked

by Steve Ward
news editor

The last time the Current conducted an informal poll, its reporters were greeted with blank stares. No one seemed to know that the Mark Twain Building was on campus, much less that there was going to be a vote to renovate it.

But when the Current went to the University Center to find out who people planned to vote for in the general election Nov. 8, nearly everyone had an answer. There was one person who thought that Michael Dukakis was a senator from Massachusetts but at least she knew he was in the race for the presidency.

For the past month the candidates for the two top spots in the land have been stumping Missouri, calling it an "important battleground" and a swing state. Regardless of the fact that they say that everywhere they go, the poll the Current conducted shows that the decision is still up in the air: Bush and Dukakis are in a dead heat.

Many of the people who back the Bush-Quayle ticket cite the republican's stand on defense and their experience with the national economy.

"I like [Bush's] views as far as his defense plans," Wayne Klenke.

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MALAYSIAN WEDDING

Malaysian student group performs a traditional Bersanding during International Week.
See page 4

SHOOTING FOR THE STARS

The men's soccer team wins two more on the road.
See page 6



CAMPUS REMINDER

Friday, October 28 is the last day to apply for campus jobs: administrative, secretarial, custodial and others. Contact the Human Resources Department, 553-5926.

Campus Events

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27

● "The United States and the Developing World" is the theme for the 15th Annual Conference on International Relations, sponsored by the UM-St. Louis Center for International Studies, the School of Education, and Continuing Education-Extension. The program is designed for elementary and secondary social studies educators.

The conference will be held at 3:30 p.m. on the UM-St. Louis campus, 8001 Natural Bridge Road.

A recent study shows that though Americans are concerned about the Third World and its problems, they know little about these countries or U.S. policy toward them. Through lectures and workshops led by experts, university scholars and classroom teachers, the UM-St. Louis program will help participants understand the Third World's growing impact on the U.S. and will examine development as a social, economic, and political process.

For more information, call Joe Williams at 553-5961.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28

● There will be a Disabled Students Union (DSU) meeting at 1:00 p.m. held in 225 JCP. They will finalize their plans for Awareness Day. Please plan to attend.

● Lecture and demonstration by Namsadang: Korean folk music, puppetry and masked dance. J.C. Penney Auditorium, 1 p.m. For more information, call 553-5753.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29

● The St. Louis Black Leadership Forum will hold its first session from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., in the J.C. Penney Building.

Problems associated with the black community in the metropolitan St. Louis area are often talked about, but little is actually done to meet the needs of residents. However, the St. Louis Black Leadership Forum, funded by a UM-St. Louis, Con-

tinuing Education-Extension, and University Extension grant, will challenge that convention. More than 250 black leaders will meet this month to start developing solutions and an action plan which will address specific needs of the community.

Speakers for the Oct. 29 session will be Les Brown, a motivational speaker from Detroit, and Rep. William L. Clay, D-St. Louis. Brown has presented programs on personal development for Proctor and Gamble, the Defense Department, McDonald's and numerous other Fortune 500 companies.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29

● International Studies Conference: "U.S. Economic Security Interest in Asia-Pacific Regions" will be the topic of the 10th Annual National Strategy Conference presented by the UM-St. Louis Center for International Studies in the J.C. Penney Building. William Clark Jr., U.S. principal deputy assistant secretary for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, will be the keynote speaker. For more information, call 553-5755.

● Namsadang: A troupe of Korean folk musicians, puppeteers and masked dancers on a post-Olympic tour will perform at 8 p.m. at the St. Louis Art Museum. The event is co-sponsored by the UM-St. Louis Center for International Studies. Tickets are \$10 for the general public; \$5 for students with valid ID, or \$7.50 for sponsoring organization members.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 31

● Chemistry Seminar: "Chemistry in the Industrial World." Dennis Forster of the Monsanto company will speak at 4 p.m. (coffee at 3:30 p.m.) in room 120 Benton Hall. Call 553-5311 for information.

● Happy Halloween!

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1

● Invest In Your Life: Rita M. Navarro, agent for Northwestern Mutual Life, will discuss how an insurance policy can give you extra financial muscle. The discussion will run from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. and is held in 211 Clark Hall. Call 553-5380 for more information.

● Mass in celebration of Catholic Feast Day will be held from 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. in J.C. Penney. Everyone is invited.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2

● AIDS: Changing the Rules: 10 a.m., 2 p.m., 7 p.m.; and Thursday at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. A 26-minute film featuring Ronald Reagan Jr., will discuss how the AIDS virus is transmitted and the methods of protection available to sexually active persons. Condom use is graphically demonstrated. On Thursday from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., Denny Lisenby of the UM-St. Louis psychology department will facilitate a discussion on the film and answer any questions. The film and discussion will be held in 211 Clark Hall. For more information, call 553-5380.

● Nurse managers, administrators and educators will learn about current financial planning and specific ways in which nursing personnel may plan and budget effectively at Financial Management for Nurses, a conference scheduled from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday, November 2 and 3, at UM-St. Louis, 8001 Natural Bridge Road.

The conference, sponsored by the School of Nursing and Continuing Education-Extension, will feature Nanette Goddard, RN, MS, currently president of N.L. Goddard Management Resources in Houston, Texas. Goddard will discuss a variety of topics on budgeting, staffing and financial management.

More information about the conference and a complete agenda can be obtained by calling Continuing Education-Extension, UM-St. Louis at 553-5961.

Newsbriefs

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UM-St. Louis sophomores interested in a career in government service at the federal, state, or local level are invited to apply for a 1989 Harry S. Truman Scholarship.

Established by Congress in 1975, the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation operates an ongoing educational scholarship program designed to provide opportunities for outstanding U.S. students with potential leadership ability to prepare for careers in government service.

In April 1989, the Foundation will award 105 scholarships nationally. The deadline for all 1989 application is December 1, 1988.

UM-St. Louis can nominate three students for the 1989 competition.

The scholarship award covers eligible expenses up to \$7,000 per year for the junior

year, senior year, and two years of graduate study.

To be eligible, a student must be a full-time sophomore working toward or planning to pursue a baccalaureate degree, have a "B" average or equivalent, stand in the upper fourth of the class, and be a U.S. citizen or U.S. national heading toward a career in government.

Interested students should submit a letter of application, statement of career plans, list of past public-service activities or other leadership positions, current transcript, and a 600-word essay discussing a public policy issue of their choice to Deborah A. Larson, Assistant Dean, College of Arts & Sciences, Truman Scholarship Faculty Representative, 303 Lucas Hall, by November 21, 1988.

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"Cityscripts," a collection of calligraphic works by the St. Louis Calligraphy Guild, will

run through Nov. 4 at the Center for Metropolitan Studies on the UM-St. Louis campus.

The works, which exhibit skills in illustration, painting techniques and calligraphy, touch upon the city or aspects of the urban experience as chronicled by such writers Whitman, Camus and Wordsworth.

The exhibit may be viewed at the center, which is located in room 362 of the Social Sciences and Business Building, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free.

For more information, call 553-5273.

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Graduate Management Administration Test preparation course is being offered by the Stanley H. Kaplan Educational Center Ltd. This course prepares graduates for admission to the school of business of their choice. It begins Saturday, Nov. 12, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Classes are

held at Kaplan Educational Center, 8448 Delmar, St. Louis, Mo.

This test preparation course is eight 4-hour lessons and is taught by experienced Kaplan instructors who sharpen your business, math and English skills. The course begins with a diagnostic test which gives you a customized computer report, including score correlation and evaluation of your strengths and weaknesses in each test area.

Kaplan Educational Center is the largest and most successful test preparation company in the nation. All students are given home study kits and use of hundreds of hours of audio tapes at the Kaplan Test-N-Tape Center in University City days, evenings, and weekends. This is Kaplan's 50th Anniversary.

This course will prepare students for the National G.M.A.T. exam.

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To meet the demand for information and skill training in the computer field, UM-St. Louis has developed several new courses on the Macintosh personal computer and PageMaker, the most widely used desktop publishing software package.

The courses will be held at the new UM-St. Louis West County Computer Facility located at 1715 Deer Tracks Trail, near the intersection of I-270 and Manchester Road. Each course will be offered in several sections beginning in October, November, and December.

The new classes are Introduction to the Macintosh Computer, Desktop Publishing Using PageMaker, Intermediate Applications of PageMaker, and Advanced

Applications of PageMaker.

The fee for each of the courses is \$149. Each student is provided with a computer for use during class. For more information on class dates and times, call 553-5961.

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The following have been elected to the Board of Directors of the UM-St. Louis Retirement Association: President, Dr. Harold E. Turner; Vice-President, Eugene P. Schwartz; Secretary, Elsie L. Urban; Treasurer, Thadene S. Dorn. Board Members: Ruth Thoele, David Lane and Chris Graham. The Board will conduct its first meeting of the fall on Wednesday, October 26 in the office of Dr. Harold Turner.

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KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI
Wednesday, Nov. 9, 1988, 12:00-3:00 p.m.,
University of Missouri, The University Center,
Pierson Hall.

Bush Boosts ACLU Numbers POLL

from page one

(CPS) — George Bush may be the best recruiter the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) ever had for campus chapters.

ACLU campus coordinators say the Republican presidential candidate's attacks on their group have increased their visibility, and that's resulted in increased membership in recent weeks.

Harvard Law School students "have shown an awful lot of interest in becoming card-carrying members of the ACLU," Warren Asher of the Harvard Law School Civil Liberties Union said. "People who always intended to join now do."

About 100 students, for example, attended an ACLU speaking event at the University of Maryland last week, a 100 percent increase over previous events.

"If anything, his attacks helped," added Mindy Kaiden of American University's ACLU chapter.

"We've had a substantial increase in requests for information about memberships," Lisa Beattie of the ACLU's New York office reports.

Bush persistently has attacked Democratic opponent Michael Dukakis for being a "card-carrying member of the ACLU," a group Bush characterizes as too left-wing for most Americans.

Dukakis joined the ACLU as a student at Swarthmore College, in part because he was angered by Sen. Joseph McCarthy's mid-1950s hunt for "card-carrying communists." McCarthy, whose red-baiting galvanized civil libertarians, was "our greatest membership recruiter," Dukakis told an interviewer last May.

Thirty years later, ironically enough, Bush's cries against Dukakis as a "card-carrying member of the ACLU" have done the same thing on campuses.

"There's a smell of McCarthyism about these kind of attacks," ACLU Executive Director Ira Glasser said. The ACLU — which says it's a nonpartisan, non-ideological organization devoted to defending the Constitution and the Bill of Rights — is fighting back.

An advertising campaign, featuring actors Michael Tucker and Jill Eikenberry of "L.A. Law" and Burt Lancaster, will soon be waged to battle what the ACLU calls misrepresentations by the Bush campaign.

But on many campuses, such a campaign would be a waste of time.

"We have about 40 or 50 new members this year," Christ Langone of the Cornell ACLU said.

senior, said. "Dukakis is opposed to everything like that. I feel that republicans run our national economy better than the democrats would."

Sophomore James Pellikaan has the same opinion as Klenke. "I don't like Dukakis's policies. I am for a broader defense."

Some back Bush because of his time spent in the national government. "Dukakis doesn't have enough experience," Lana Vierck, junior, said. "Bush was vice president so he knows what is going on."

On the other hand, it is Bush's past record that students like James Stewart, senior, are voting against. "A lot of people have forgotten that he was the director of the CIA during Watergate. He has always been on

the scene."

Freshman Alisa Washington, who is black, is taking the Dukakis side for a more personal reason. "I don't think Bush is for black people," Washington said. Washington went on to say that Dukakis may not have much to offer either, but that he is "the lesser of two evils."

Dukakis may be slipping in the national polls, but the vote in Missouri can still be swayed by people like junior Rob Forbes. "I really don't know who I am going to vote for yet," Forbes said. "I don't like either one of them."

How do people from the outside view our election process? Annemarie McGlinchey, a freshman from Ireland, enjoys the process for reasons most Americans dislike

them: mudslinging. "[The process] is pretty impressive," McGlinchey said. "I am getting tired of watching all of the ads on TV, though. But the ads are good because they can say things against each other. In Ireland, we don't have that freedom."

Jamal Al Kobri, a senior from Palestine, is also impressed by the elections — mainly because they are held. "In the country where I lived we never had any elections or democracy. We don't have a country." Palestine is currently occupied by Israel. "This is the first time I will enjoy my democracy and freedom." Kobri became a United States citizen last July Fourth.

UM from page one

be that of the Investor Responsibility Research Center: businesses that are deemed to have left South Africa are those that do not have substantial direct investments in South Africa and have announced their intent to withdraw their investments and are in the process of doing so.

4. That the university officials responsible for investment policies continue to have full responsibility for maximizing the return on university investments, working with prudent and flexible investment managers, so that there is record of good return on university investments for the retirement and endowment fund.

ABC from page one

Anticipating a possible reluctant attitude by some of the county schools, Williams addresses this situation.

"The time has come for us to live out the common philosophy of the freedom of speech," Williams said.

People involved with the ABC agree that this community outreach program will not be a short-lived endeavor.

"We intend to simplify the complicated agenda for the black high school students, so that they can have a good approach to learning and what it means to succeed," Williams said.

The ABC is looking for about 20 students for the fall program. Interested students should call Darick Williams at 553-5731.

WOMEN from page one

added that the party began gathering conservative forces and supporting Reagan—an opponent of the ERA. These events switched feminist approval to the Democratic Party.

"By 1980, the polarization could be seen," Freeman said. "By 1984, the polarization was complete. You would see diametrically opposed viewpoints on issues and even in language: while democrats would speak of the 'feminization' of poverty, republicans spoke of the 'maternalization' of poverty. In the Democratic Party feminist groups wrote the platform on women's issues, whereas in the Republican Party the right wing wrote the platform."

Freeman noted that feminists have won the right to speak for women in the Democratic Party, and have become effective operators within it. "What does this mean for the future?" Freeman asked. "It means that with a democratic administration, feminists will have influence no matter who the president is. The future of feminism lies very much in which party wins the presidency."

A panel of speakers at the conference also decided that the election of Dukakis and other democrats is important for the well-being and equality of women, and therefore, important to families and the future of the United States.

"This is the first (presidential) campaign where the candidates have given more than lip service to women's issues," said Martha Shirk, a reporter for the "St. Louis Post-Dispatch." Shirk was referring to several issues having to do with children, in particular.

Prenatal care for women who cannot afford it, a nationally regulated day care system and parental leave from jobs to care for newborn, sick or newly adopted children are all proposals that Shirk said Vice-President Bush opposes.

The impact of the presidential election on black families was discussed by Betty Lee, editor of "Proud" magazine. Lee said that a commission on minority conditions has found that America is moving backward, not forward. The commission's report stated that the gap between blacks and whites is widening in such areas as education, employment, health and longevity.

"But this bleak report is not surprising, after eight years of neglect," said Lee, in reference to the Reagan administration. "It is not surprising that blacks usually vote democratic." Lee also said that historically, democrats have been more sympathetic toward the needs for education and housing.

An issue that is important to feminists—the right of a woman to have reproductive freedom—was also cited by the panel as a reason why women should vote for Dukakis, who has stated that "I believe that abortion is a personal decision that can only be made by the individual woman."

"The right of an individual to make reproductive decisions is the right of a free people," said Sheila Lumpe, Missouri State Representative. "The assumption being made is that women are not morally equal; that they must have the government make decisions about reproduction for them."

Ethel Klein, Ph.D., a political consultant and author from Columbia University, said that abortion is not so much a political issue anymore, but a character issue. Dukakis has shown that he can take a stand; that he is decided and clear on the issue of abortion. "If he had similar firm responses to the death penalty and being called a 'liberal,' he'd be in a lot better shape," Klein said.

Klein warned that the polls which show Dukakis to be losing are misleading, and if people give in to the belief that the race is not winnable, they will fall prey to a self-fulfilled prophecy.

"What is disempowering is when we let ourselves feel like the victims," Klein said. "What is important is that I make a difference and you make a difference. We may not

win, but we're going to make a hell of a lot more difference than they think we are."

The conference on "Women and Politics" was sponsored by the Women's Studies Program, College of Arts and Sciences, 25th Anniver-

sary Committee, Department of Political Science and Women's Center at UM-St. Louis, as well as the Coalition of Labor Union Women, Older Women's League and St. Louis Metropolitan Women's Political Caucus.

SHOWDOWN '88

On Election Day, November 8th, students have an unprecedented opportunity to shape our nation's course on such issues as arms control, foreign policy, the environment, the family, the economy and civil rights. As a service to student voters, the National Student Campaign for Voter Registration offers this guide to the positions of the Democratic and Republican candidates for President, Michael Dukakis and George Bush.

DEFENSE & FOREIGN POLICY		THE ECONOMY	
	DUKAKIS	BUSH	
Ending nuclear weapons testing	YES	NO	Deficit Reduction Plan (first priority)
Increased funding for the Strategic Defense Initiative	NO	YES	Flexible freeze on spending
MX Missile	NO	YES	Increased income taxes
Production of chemical weapons	NO	YES	LAST RESORT
Tougher economic sanctions against South Africa	YES	NO	Minimum wage increased to \$4.55/hr.
Military aid to the Nicaraguan contras	NO	YES	
THE ENVIRONMENT		CIVIL RIGHTS	
	DUKAKIS	BUSH	
Acid Rain	Reduce annual sulfur dioxide emissions by 12 million tons.	Reduce annual sulfur dioxide emissions by millions of tons.	Equal Rights Amendment
Clean Water	Ban ocean dumping by 1991, supported renewal of the Clean Water Act.	Ban ocean dumping by 1991; supported Reagan veto of the Clean Water Act.	NO
New Nuclear Reactors	No, until new safety measures are devised.	Yes, with high safety standards.	Constitutional amendment to prohibit abortion
Offshore Oil Drilling	No, except where environmental quality will not be compromised.	Yes, except in sensitive areas.	NO
			Universal Voter Registration Act
			YES
			NO POSITION
		THE FAMILY	
	DUKAKIS	BUSH	
			Child Care
			Federal assistance and standards
			Tax credit for working parents
			Parental Leave
			Guaranteed 12 weeks
			Up to employer
			Increased federal student loans
			YES
			Guaranteed basic health insurance
			YES
			NO

Sources: Candidate position papers, 1988 Democratic National Platform, 1988 Republican National Platform, The New York Times, Washington Post, Produced by The National Student Campaign for Voter Registration, 315 Pennsylvania Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri, 63102. (202) 546-9707. NSCVR is a project of the Public Interest Research Groups (PIRGs).

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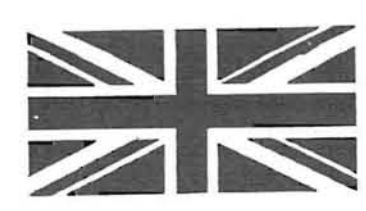
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International Week Is More Than Belly-Dancing

by Paulette E. Amaro
associate features editor

UM-St. Louis' International Students Organization was just one of this campus' groups that sponsored International Week, during the week of October 17th-21st.

The week began with a Tai Kwan Do demonstration on Monday, Oct. 17, followed by the film "Enter The Dragon."

Tuesday, Oct. 18, the Malaysian Student Group reenacted a traditional Malaysian wedding ceremony.

Wednesday, Oct. 19, University funds sponsored an International Festival which ran from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 20, the University showed Monty Python's "The Meaning of Life."

Friday, Oct. 21, the last day of International Week, offered a Middle Eastern Dance presentation.

Aside from the International Students Organization, groups such as the Office of Minority Affairs, and the Student Government Association also contributed.

International Week was initiated, in part, to celebrate UM-St. Louis' 25th anniversary.

"Normally, the International Festival is held in November, but we decided to incorporate it into this year's International Week," said Marilyn Ditto, Special Student Programs Administrator.

The International Festival generally covers all ethnic communities, with the different foods and the symbols of the nationalities.

The Malaysian Student Groups' reenactment of a traditional wedding ceremony was detailed down to the costumes and the ceremonial gifts.

Though the ceremony is complex, and involves many stages, the organization focused on a very special, traditional ceremony, the Bersanding.

"This ceremony is not a requirement," said Fauziah Hamlawi, Secretary of the Organization. "But it is a highlight."

Much like the American wedding reception, the Bersanding is held, usually, the day after the wedding.

"Both sides will have a feast," Hamlawi began. "There are usually more than 500 people, including friends, relatives, and even co-workers."

Hamlawi, along with another organization member, Razif Abdul Razak acted as the "pengapit," the American equivalent of the maid-of-honor and the best man.

The entire ceremony, itself, begins even before the couple is engaged.

At this time, the intended groom asks the permission of the bride's father. If the father gives his consent, the families begin to plan the details of the ceremony, including, the feast expenses as well as the wedding date.

The wedding ceremony takes place at the bride's home. Here, the groom repeats his vows to the bride's father.

"Usually, the 'pengantin,' or the groom, asks for the 'pengantin's,' or bride's hand, in the presence of the 'pengatin,' the parents, and four witnesses," Hamlawi offered.

When the ceremony is completed, the couple signs the marriage certificate, and the bride and groom exchange gifts such as hand bags, shoes and clothing.

At the Bersanding, the following day, friends and relatives bring their gifts of good-will, such as ornately decorated fruit baskets



Scott Brandt

I DO, I DO: Members of the Malaysian Student Association reenact a traditional wedding ceremony highlight, the Bersanding and sweets.

"For instance," Hamlawi explained, "for this ceremony we made a basket out of Snickers bars, and filled it with small flowers and fruit."

The Malaysian wedding ceremony was just one of the many events sponsored by the different student groups.

As well as celebrating UM-St. Louis' 25th anniversary, the event

allowed students the chance to experience different cultures and ideas.

One student who viewed the Middle Eastern Belly-dancers, offered his opinion.

"I was looking forward to the whole week, but I really only wanted to see the belly-dancers. They were quite spectacular and energetic. It was fun."

Mixed Reviews: 'Gorillas In The Mist' Draws Opinions

by Eileen Pacino
movie reviewer

"Gorillas in the Mist: The Adventure of Dian Fossey" could have been a zinger of a film if the Hollywood factory hadn't decided to limit its vision to the most simplistic, action-oriented part of the primatologist's story: her one-woman war against poachers; who, together with encroaching, cattle-herding tribes and hunter-gatherers, threatened habitat and the lives of the magnificent Gorilla gorilla beringei—the mountain gorillas of central Africa.

Their focus was so narrow that at one point during the film, the massive squatting primates filmed through romantic haze seem like so many extras kicking back, waiting for someone to give them something to do.

The cinematographer is so enamored of the volcanic Sigourney Weaver, who portrays Fossey, that less than a third of the movie is spent on what Fossey devoted 18 years of her life to: saving the endangered species by learning about them, observing and recording every minute detail about their mating, range patterns, social behavior and diet.

Dull stuff for a drama? But consider the falseness of claiming you've presented "the adventure" of someone whose life literally was

absorbed by the thing she studied.

After sitting through this finely crafted, well-scripted, astoundingly acted film, (arduously shot on location), you are suddenly struck with the realization: "I didn't learn a thing about the gorillas, not a thing."

Isn't that what Dian Fossey's "adventure" was about? Fossey had problems relating to her fellow scientists, Rwandan officials, poachers, the academic community, her own African assistants, and the tourists whom she called "idle rubbernecks." Her problems were enormous. Her behavior bordered on the paranoid, and ultimately cost her her life—but why must this be the entire thrust of the movie?

Fossey learned some remarkable things about gorillas, including their practice of infanticide and of even killing an aging, diseased member of their band.

Couldn't there have been provisions for a voice-over by Weaver reading excerpts from Fossey's field notes, journals, even the articles she wrote for the "National Geographic," which funded her studies?

It would have added a special richness to the few scenes we have of Weaver interacting with the



MONKEY SEE...: Sigourney Weaver portrays primatologist, Dian Fossey, in "Gorillas in the Mist: The Adventure of Dian Fossey."

by Christopher A. Duggan
features editor

I was hoping, going into "Gorillas in the Mist," that they hadn't made a documentary about the work of Dian Fossey. If I wanted to see that, I would have watched the National Geographic specials.

I was pretty sure that with Sigourney Weaver in the starring role that would not be the case, and it wasn't.

What we had instead was the story of an astounding woman and the things that drove her to devote her life to the study and protection of the rare mountain gorillas, the population of which was quickly being pared down by poachers.

The movie begins with her begging anthropologist Louis Leakey to send her to the mountains in Central Africa to study the mountain gorillas there, "...before they disappear completely," as Leakey said.

After parting with her appendix and leaving her fiancé in the states, Fossey headed out for Africa, where she picked up a tracker (experienced in the tracking of elephants, but not gorillas) and set up a base of operations for her studies.

Shortly after that, she was thrown out by the Ugandan government.

Shortly after that, she set up another base on the other side of the mountain, across the Ugandan border.

"Gorillas don't recognize boundaries," she said.

It was there that she did most of her work over the next 20 or so years, never really leaving the mountain for any significant amount of time.

During her time there, she developed a close bond with some of the gorillas, especially Digit, a huge silverback gorilla that has two of its fingers webbed together.

One of my only problems with the film is that there is very little sense of time in it. We know in the beginning that it is 1967, but aside from a "Five Years Later," which is flashed on the screen later on, there is no hint as to how much time she actually spent there.

There is no visual indication of aging on the part of Weaver. She does, however change somewhat during the course of the film, becoming increasingly obsessed with the gorillas and the halting of the shrinking of their population.

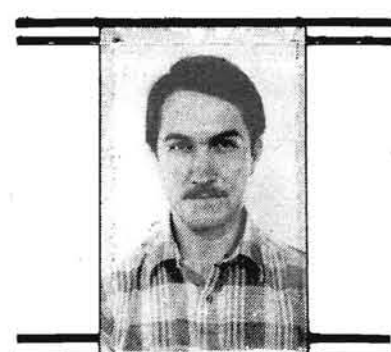
She turns away from most of the things she held dear, including a photographer (Bryan Brown) whom she has an ongoing affair with for a while.

Weaver deserves a great deal of praise for her portrayal of the transformation in Fossey.

In the beginning, she is driven by

See DUGGAN, page 5

Don't Like My Column? Call 1-800-...



Don't Panic

by Christopher A. Duggan
features editor

I have been writing this column for over a year now, not knowing whether or not anybody reads it.

Lately, however, I have gotten a smattering of comments, mostly good from a variety of sources: a cashier at the bookstore, new acquaintances I have made, my logic and language instructor, and a service counter employee at Venture.

I appreciate these comments, because any feedback, good or bad, means that people are reading this.

I heard one the other day that kind of bothered me though. A friend of mine, who wished to remain anonymous, said he knows someone who knows someone who reads my column, then edits it down to one paragraph and says, "This is all he had to write to say what he was trying to say."

All I can say to that is I always

make a concentrated effort to keep my text brief and to-the-point, and furthermore never ever, ever add anything that I think would be extraneous or difficult to understand for the common, everyday, average, semi-intelligent, English-speaking, sober and responsible college student and that if I cut down my columns to one paragraph a lot of the one-liners and other bits and pieces that are thrown in would get lost, and if you think you can do a better job of writing a different column every week, trying to make it funny or interesting, then I suggest you come in and give it a try, okay, alright, understand, comprende?

So there, that's what I think of your opinion, in one paragraph.

The subject I really want to write about this week is one that I had been thinking about this summer—bumper stickers. Before now I had rejected it in favor of something more timely.

First of all, I don't understand why people want to display their ideologies on the bumpers of their cars, and when they do, how come it is seldom anything intelligent?

This is the season for political bumper stickers. People put an endorsement for their candidate on their bumpers. For what reason?

Do they expect other people to see that and say, "He's driving a '68 Ford pick-up, and he's voting for Bush. I'd better vote for Bush too."

I saw one the other day that said, "Protect Firearms, Vote Republican."

It took me a while to figure out whether that was an endorsement for the Democratic party, or for the Republicans.

The use of profanity on these stickers seems to have become popular in recent months.

My favorite is one that says "S**t Happens."

This one is fairly common in Rolla, Missouri. My question is, what is it supposed to mean? I've seen creative use of this one over body damage and such, but most of the time it's just stuck there on the bumper for all preschoolers and first-time readers to see.

I tend to think that it is fascination with the discovery of freedom of speech that we have enjoyed in this country since 1776.

Someone sees such a bumper sticker and says, "I didn't know you could do that," and gets one. Next thing you know, they're everywhere.

Well, that's fine, if you are not bound in the slightest bit by the limits of good taste. Just because you can do something doesn't mean you should.

Another good one, also common to the area of Rolla is the famous, "Don't Like My Driving? Call 1-800-EAT-S**T."

This, of course, is a play on the bumper stickers you see on some delivery trucks, which have an actual phone number instead.

Bumper stickers became less popular when cars began to have fancy bumpers. Unfortunately, however, someone figured out that

suction cups stick pretty well to glass.

The first innovation from that discovery was the famous "Baby On Board" sign, which was a serious attempt at a safety measure.

Right. I don't know about you, but I have never once had the option of choosing the people I wanted to have an accident with.

So in came the various spin-offs of this idea ("Jogger on Board," "Health Nut on Board" and so on).

I think that you're asking for it if you label yourself though.

Once saw a car all smashed up in the ditch on a country highway, and, sure enough, there was a "Crazy Driver on Board" sign in the back window.

As if that wasn't bad enough, we now have stuffed animals, most commonly a popular cartoon cat, and various other things stuck in the windows of automobiles.

The Russians must be laughing their heads off.

What's worse is that the potential for this sort of thing is limitless. The suction cup could bring about a total lack of visibility out the back windows of cars.

Accidents will be on the rise, insurance companies will raise their rates. Who knows what could happen?

See The Big Picture

20-Something

by Julio West
columnist

I have tried to stay out of the political mudslinging and all the other stuff that goes along with a political campaign, but I can't any longer.

There are at least 1,000 different issues on which to base your vote. And 1,000 different voters could give you their reason's for their choices.

I do not intend to endorse either candidate. Instead, I want to stress two things.

First, I strongly believe that everyone should vote. I was brought up to believe that it is not only your right, but your duty.

For many college students this will be the first chance to vote for the president.

A big step when you think about all the things that this man (whoever he may be) will have to handle.

Which brings me to my second point. It seems to me that both candidates are bowing to too many interest groups trying to capture one segment of the population...or address one issue.

There are too many things going on in this ever-shrinking world to tie the future of our country to one

issue. Look at the big picture, as A. Whitney Brown says on Saturday Night Live.

Can you vote for a man who says he is against abortion? Many would say yes. But what if this same man was a party to the reduction of every social program that helps kids and mothers.

Can you vote for a man that has a prison furlough system? What if it is basically the same as most other states?

These are part of the big picture but not the whole picture.

I can't answer all the questions even to myself. But we all have to make an effort to weed through all the shit and make an informed choice.

Granted some issues may be more important than others but look at things in terms of the whole and not just the parts. This will be hard since this is the most selfish decade in history.

This will also be difficult considering the amount of shit heaped upon us by both sides.

Good luck making this decision. Many of us will be out of college when the next election rolls around. So in a sense, this election is doubly important because the real world is vastly different from life here.

I'm sure that with enough forethought and information we will all make a decision that we can all live with.

At least I hope we can and will.

TJ Library Ghost Story Finally Put To Rest...Maybe

by Christopher A. Duggan and Paulette E. Amaro features detectives

I can't say that we actually expected to find anything down there, but all those stories, who could really say?

The beginning: that's always a good place to start.

Okay, the stories date back to a long time ago, when employees of the TJ (Thomas Jefferson) Library often had run-ins with a poltergeist in the basement.

Some heard voices, others were scared by falling books or an elevator that moved on its own accord.

It was with great enthusiasm that my faithful associate Paulette and I took on this case.

How does one verify the existence or absence of any entity? The only real way is to check it out for yourself. That's what we did.

It was a cloudy night, with a chilly wind blowing out of the southwest. The half-moon was ducking in and out of the clouds, forming eerie shadows among the trees.

DUGGAN

from page 4

her enthusiasm, and later, by her love for the species, and perhaps something more. No one can really say.

Bryan Brown has a fairly minor role, only appearing occasionally, but when he is on the screen, he has an incredible presence.

This is a vastly more impressive performance for him than anything he has done so far (that I have seen). It's better than "Cocktail" and "F/X."

Aside from the acting, there are other considerations that make this movie a wonderful experience.

First of all, there is some actual footage of the gorillas, which is astounding. One can almost see

PACINO

from page 4

gorillas, specifically a huge male silverback, "Digit," one of Fossey's favorites, who was killed by poachers and mutilated.

Their first scene together, face-to-face, is breathtaking.

The mountains bordering Rwanda, Uganda and Zaire reach above 14,000 feet and are covered with dense vegetation, much of it hard on human skin—not to mention the torrential rains, thick mud, marauding cattle, and hidden animal snares.

The atmosphere was perfect; unfortunately, we couldn't take that inside with us.

With great trepidation, we approached the ominous-looking library. Our source had told us to ask for someone named Barb, which we did.

She appeared from a dark corner of the circulation desk and directed us to the haunted elevator, which would take us to the dark and spook-infested cellar of TJ.

After dropping us off, she left, instructing us to do as we wished.

I could picture, after she left us, a host of spectres spilling in from every crack in the walls to suck us down into the deepest burning depths of hell, into the abode of the damned.

It didn't happen.

Instead, the basement of TJ ended up being pretty well-lit, smaller than I'd imagined and altogether unspooky.

Paulette and I exchanged glances that said, "This is stupid, there's nothing down here, and we will end up looking stupid."

Paulette turned on her tape-recorder, set it on a shelf, and we



proceeded to look around, not wanting to waste the experience entirely.

Not only were there not any cobwebs or anything else like that, but there was not a single dark corner.

Still, we looked everywhere, trying against all hope to uncover some

dark secret, an unburied body, or some other evidence that the library staff is covering up the existence of the unseemly spectre.

We remembered some of their comments:

"I've been working here for a year, and I've never even heard of

there being a ghost down there."

"I close down here all the time, and I've yet to be spooked."

In fact, there is not a single employee of the library now that has a story of the ghost's occupation of TJ.

It all sounded pretty fishy to me. Most of the stories, in fact, come from a period about 11 years ago, prior to the term of a library director named Miller.

I'm afraid that we came up with nothing, aside from one locked door, while we were down there.

"It looked a lot more like a cellar back then," Barb said.

After about 15 minutes of looking around the small space, the walls of which are covered with shelves filled with government documents and other books, we decided to call it a night.

"You frightened at all?" I said, turning to Paulette.

"No, 'fraid not," Paulette replied.

"No feelings of foreboding at all?" I said.

"Not a single shiver of fear, no chills, no shakiness or knocking knees?"

"No...sorry."

"Damn, well, how 'bout we get a pizza?"

"Sure."

We left the library by the stairs, sending the elevator up by itself, hoping to baffle the employees of the library.

I'm afraid we failed to raise even an eyebrow.

Either they didn't notice the empty elevator returning, or they're so used to paranormal activity by now that it's no big deal.

We walked back to the office, through the chilly breezes of the October evening, disappointed in the visit to the famous basement of TJ library.

Still, later, when we listened to the tape, we could hear a gentle tapping above our distant voices, something we couldn't hear when we were down there. It stopped when we left the library.

Chances are good that this was the result of a malfunction in the tape or the machine.

But maybe it wasn't. Maybe.

'The Family Of Words'

Stringing sentences together
As garland on the Christmas tree
Crafting them
To your purpose
To your every whim
If it pleases you
See them dance
The dance of life
See them come alive
Out of the grave;
See them whirl around
Like mad dervishes.

more
You will never cease
To find delight
In their constructions
Maybe you have not dipped
In this well of harmony
Come now
And join in
Their festivity
Or you will be stalked
In the night —
Speechless

— Levon

Afraid,
You need not be
In their quivers
Are the arrows of peace —
These creatures
Conspire with gladness
The bee will sting
The adder bite
But the natives
Fear them not.

On their lips
Is the sweet balm
Although you labor
Till the constellations appear no

It has been the practice of the features section in the Current to accept creative submissions. This poem, "The Family of Words," by one known to us as Levon, is one of those submissions.

Future submissions (poems, essays, short stories, photography) should be sent to the Current to the attention of Chris Duggan or Paulette Amaro.

Publication is not guaranteed.

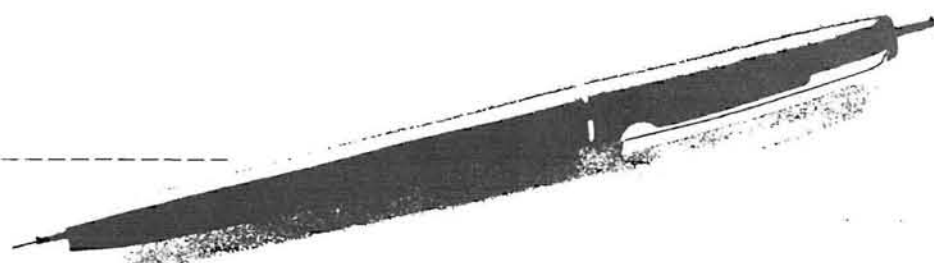
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By Leigh Rubin



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Scott Brandt

ANOTHER SET UP: Paul Bielicki going for a goal as Mike Dempster jockies for position.

15-2

Rivermen Stymie Florida Teams Finish Season Against SIU-E

by Tom Kovach sports editor

After the 3-2 loss to Oakland University, the men's soccer team didn't ponder the upset nor their fall in the rankings. Rather they went on to Florida and beat Division I Jacksonville University 2-1 and the South Florida Bulls, 1-0.

While goalie Jeff Robben recorded his eighth shutout of the season, John Galkowski scored the only goal at the 17:23 mark off a pass from Warren Dey to give the Rivermen a 1-0 lead and the eventual win. Robben turned away three shots and now has 29 carrier shutouts. Against the Bulls of South

Florida, the Rivermen picked up their 15th victory of the season with a 2-1 win.

The Bulls got on the board first when Seng Phomsaka took a pass from Craig Fossett at the 36:42 mark of the first half.

But the Rivermen struck less than one minute later to tie the game. Tim Gauvain saw a Dey open and he blasted a shot past goalie Mike Coons.

The Rivermen would win the game at the 12:44 mark of the second half. John Galkowski took a corner kick that went right to Scott Wibbenmeyer. Wibbenmeyer scored on one of his patented head balls to give the

Rivermen a 2-1 lead. "I am pretty pleased," said Head Coach Don Dallas.

On Wednesday November 2, the Rivermen end the season with a contest against the Southern Illinois-Edwardsville Cougars in Edwardsville.

Dallas said that the rest of the games left and that it is important that the Rivermen play well.

"If we falter in any of the games, we don't have a good chance in any post-season games," said Dallas. "The teams are pretty tough in the playoffs."

Women Beat Rolla, Lose To SIU-E Will Finish Year Below .500

by Tom Kovach sports editor

Three days after the Riverwomen blanked Missouri-Rolla 2-0, the Southern Illinois Edwardsville Cougars denied any hopes of the Riverwomen finishing at the .500 mark, winning 4-1.

Head Coach Mike Kelley said that the score wasn't a major factor in the game.

"Everything we hit (in the first half) went in," Kelley said.

One of players that the Riverwomen saw a lot of was Julie Miller. Miller scored twice and assisted on another goal.

Her first goal came occurred at the 7:22 mark when she took a crossing pass from Maria Para from five yards out and blasted it past goalie Linda Allen.

At the 13:43 mark, Lisa Duenow

stole an errant pass and saw Miller open. The shot eluded Allen, giving the Lady Cougars a 2-0 lead.

Twenty seconds later, Jean Thompson took a lead pass from Kim Bozarth that skipped by Allen.

Then Miller, at the 30:04 mark, passed off to Julie Macios, who knocked a head ball over Allen's head. Soon the Lady Cougars were up 4-0 and Hudson put in Anna Poole to replace Allen.

While the Cougars scored four unanswered goals, the Riverwomen had trouble scoring. The best chance came early in the game when, on a breakaway, Laurie Aldy hit the left goal post. Stephanie Gabbert also took two shots that just went wide right.

Finally, the Riverwomen got on the board at the 39:46 mark of the second half. Off a free kick,

Stephanie Gabbert took a shot that was blocked. But Ainsworth picked up the ball and shot it past goalie Maryilyn Kastner.

The second half found the Riverwomen dominating field position, outshooting the Cougars 9-1. However only two of the shots were directly on goal and Kastner made three of her six saves in the second half.

Kelley can sympathize with Hudson on a frustrating season. His team has a 5-12 record with only one goal left.

"It's tough to go on top when everybody keys on you," Kelly said. "This is a tough season for us and UM-St. Louis and I know what he (Hudson) is going through."

As far as the Cougars are concerned, the win, "was a real good one for us. Anytime we can beat

UMSL, it's a major accomplishment because of the fine tradition in soccer."

In the victory over the Miners from Missouri-Rolla, the defense held the Miners to only two shots, both by Sally Phulick.

One of Phulick's shots was a penalty kick, but Allen turned it away.

Ann Marie Mangin scored on a pass from Anne DeGunia at the 25:00 mark.

Laurie Aldy, who had eight shots on goal, managed to put when past goalie Greta Stromberg.

The win capped off a night in which seniors Aldy, Gabbert, Mangin and Donna Barbaglia were honored before the game.

The next three games, all on the road, will be the last games of the season. The team will play Vanderbilt, Louisville, and Cincinnati.

Yale Cheerleader Claims Sexual Harrassment

CPS--Cheerleaders from Yale University say that during a October 1 football game between Yale and Navy, midshipmen from the academy sexually assaulted them although officials at the Naval Academy say that passing cheerleaders from opposing teams through the stands is harmless fun.

"I don't care if the Navy considers it a common practice," said Betty Trachtenberg, Yale's Dean of Student Affairs. "I don't find it justifiable at all."

But Navy officials say that "body passing" is done in clean fun.

"There is always horseplay going around" said Jim Kiser a academy spokesman. "These guys are just fun-loving men."

Sophomore Kim Reeder told the Yale Daily News that she suffered

bruises and scratches when she was passed feet-first into the stands and her skirt was rolled back.

"I guess it's possible to be transferred up to the stands without any sexual contact," Reeder said. "But that wasn't the way it happened here."

Anna Chavez, captain of the cheerleading squad said that her team was unable to go through normal routines for the rest of the game.

Campus officials at other universities have cracked down on "body passing" because many women consider it degrading and because of the potential for injury.

The cheerleaders said they want an apology from the Midshipmen with a promise that this will never happen again.

Netters Set For Area Classic

by Michael McMurrin reporter

This past weekend the UM-St. Louis Women's Volleyball Team traveled to Warrensburg, Mo. to participate in the Central Missouri State Volleyball Tournament. The Netters entered the tournament with hope of improving their 16-11 record.

The competition that Head Coach Denise Silvester's squad had to face in the tournament was some of the toughest in the nation. Three of the top twelve ranked Division II volleyball teams also had expectations of coming away from Warrensburg with a first place trophy.

In the first game, the Riverwomen faced the 12th ranked East Texas team, and almost pulled off an upset before finally falling 8-15, 8-15, 15-11, 15-13 and 13-15. Unfortunately, the competition did not get any easier.

In the second game of the tournament, the Netters challenged the 10th ranked Nebraska-Omaha team, and again found themselves on the short end of the score board. The Riverwomen could manage only one match victory before dropping the game 13-15, 9-15, 15-13 and 13-15.

Things would only get worse for Silvester's squad before they got better. Against the 7th ranked Central Missouri State team, the Netters dropped three straight matches 8-15, 11-15 and 14-16, before taking out their frustrations on Northeast Missouri 15-7, 15-9 and 15-9.

Considering the level of competition, the Riverwomen could have done worse. "We looked much better," Silvester said of her club's performances last weekend. "The girls played hard and played with a lot of enthusiasm. I was pleased with how

they played." Later on Saturday evening, the Riverwomen defeated Missouri-Kansas City 15-13, 15-12, 10-15 and 15-7 to improve their '88 record to 17-14.


The Riverwomen will host the UM-St. Louis Classic this weekend at the Mark Twain Building. The field will consist of nationally ranked Tampa, Rollins, Southeast Missouri, Southwest Baptist, St. Francis, Northwest Missouri and CBC of Memphis.

"I am really looking forward to the tournament," states Silvester. "Our players are getting road weary, and they will appreciate being home." The tournament will consist of pool play for the first three rounds, then the teams will be reseeded and regular tournament play will begin. Action begins Friday afternoon at 2:00 p.m. and will continue Saturday morning at 10:00 a.m..

Player Of The Week	Last Week	Next Week
Carla Addoh-Women's Volleyball	Men's Soccer	Volleyball
	Def. Jacksonville, 1-0 (Galkowski, Robben-SO)	Oct. 28-29 home for UM-St. Louis Classic (4 p.m.)
Jeff Robben-Men's Soccer	Def. South Florida, 2-1 (Dey, Wibbenmeyer)	Nov. 1 home vs. McKendree College (7 p.m.)
	Women's Soccer	Men's Soccer
Laurie Aldy-Women's Soccer	Def. Missouri-Rolla 2-0 (Mangin, Aldy, Allen-SO)	Nov. 2 home vs. S. Illinois-Edwardsville (7:30 p.m.)
	Lost to SIU-Edwardsville 4-1 (Ainsworth)	
Jeff Robben-Men's Soccer	Volleyball	Women's Soccer
	Lost to E. Texas St. 8-15, 8-15, 15-11, 15-13, 13-15	Oct. 28 away vs. Vanderbilt (5:30 p.m.)
Laurie Aldy-Women's Soccer	Def. Northeast Missouri St 15-7, 15-9, 15-9	Oct. 29 away vs. Louisville (3 p.m.)
	Lost to Nebraska-Omaha 13-15, 9-15, 15-13, 8-15	Oct. 30 away vs. Cincinnati (3 p.m.)
Laurie Aldy-Women's Soccer	Lost to Central Mo. St 8-15, 11-15, 14-16	Swimming
	Def. UMKC 15-13, 15-12, 10-15, 15-7	Oct. 28 home vs. Louisville

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AKC Registered Chinese Chow Chows for sale. Males and Females with papers. Tan/Cinnamon/Red in color. Please contact: Denise C. (231-5613 after 5 pm on weekdays).

Miscellaneous

??TERM PAPER, THESIS DUE?? Then it's time to get serious about getting first rate assistance. Let me help you with that report, paper, thesis, whose deadline is fast approaching. Word processing at student rates. CALL R.A.M. EVENINGS, 863-2241.

LITMAG, the UM-St. Louis student literary magazine is seeking submissions. Would you like a chance to see your work in print? Submit a poem, short story, photo, etc. to LITMAG. Leave submissions in the LITMAG box in English dept. 4th. floor Lucas or 2nd. floor University Center.

Personal
Aimee, a dress only a vision of beauty could wear. I could score it an A plus! J

Mort Mort, Good Luck. See you 9th. floor - tower. Radical F.

To the tall, dark, and handsome guy with the gray snooty gym bag - Don't be so shy. I'd like to get to know you better! From the lady in red with dark brown hair.

The H-men of GRUMASS say why the censorship boys? Drug testing is a hot topic these days. So instead the band had to quickly release the B-side "The Ballad of the Vending Machine Condom". P.S. Never say forever babe.

To the Schmitt dog comes this dedication, "Urine Sample Syndrome (The empty cup fallacy)". Nice display of body control you throat pile up! P.S. Hey its tough to fill up. Signed, the lads of H-men.

Connie from Baldini's Spanish. Hello! Mark just wanted all of UMSL to know life ODDS is wonderful with you. MMKH. Hese, cheer up guy! Brad, get a woman who likes Polol Kim, Sue, Tina, Doris, Danita Hello. TKE Woman.

DELTA SIGMA PI - A Professional Business Fraternity. Come join us.

In the Halloween mood, Grumass released their seasonal offerings to all the little tykes out there. "Dressed up as the Huber bottle" and "Bobby, Bobby, Pumpkin chucker" are just in time for your trick or treat listening pleasure. Signed H-men.

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SGA from page one

that the program board will select its own chair."

In a memo to the Office of Student Activities, Berhorst stated that SGA does have the right to select a chair since UPB is a standing committee of SGA.

The SGA bylaws state: "Standing Committee chairpersons shall be elected by the Assembly from among the Assembly at the first meeting of the Assembly or when a vacancy occurs."

In the memo, Berhorst also explained that UPB would be like other standing committees in that they would be "separate but equal."

Jennifer Horan was elected to be the interim-chair of UPB until a motion can be made in the General Assembly seeking further nominations. Horan will organize the group and establish operating guidelines that the UPB can operate under.

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Praise For ABC Effort

Several of our editors the other day were discussing something that we could all agree on: education and the need to instill a desire to learn in schoolchildren. When a group of individuals as diverse in views as this newspaper staff can concur on anything, the issue is perhaps as close to universal as it can get.

The discussion arose from a news item on today's page one, written by Terence Small, discussing the Associated Black Collegians' plan to visit four predominantly black St. Louis City public high schools to stress to students the importance of advancing their educations.

ABC should be commended for their initiative. The plan, a student auxiliary to Chancellor Marguerite Barnett's Partnerships For Progress, will help poor students see the value of education in advancing themselves from lives that can certainly be described as grim.

But, as our editors agreed, the prospects of making a great impact are not good. Many students in today's public schools are not going to be very receptive to the idea for one key reason: the decline of discipline in the classroom.

As one of our editors pointed out, discipline, even in the few short years since he was attending high school, seems to have declined tremendously. A few years ago, a student who swore at his teacher or blurted out inappropriate remarks would have been severely disciplined. Today such behavior is commonplace.

Many public schools, however, have taken steps to improve the learning environment by enforcing strict, school-wide disciplinary practices, commonly known as assertive discipline.

These steps are vital if teachers are to be allowed to teach and students are to be allowed to learn.

The organization's effort is a noble one in the face of the classroom chaos that some ABC members can expect. The sense of community expressed by ABC members — students helping other students — is praiseworthy.

Government is often criticized for failing to end poverty, illiteracy and many other social evils. Yet even the most ambitious government programs cannot work without additional support and effort from the community. People who have overcome obstacles peculiar to their community can offer both insight and reassurance to those struggling within their communities. This is something no amount of government effort can be expected to achieve.

Nevertheless, if ABC's effort makes contact with 1,000 students and has an impact on only 10, their effort will not have been in vain.

Be Informed And Vote

In less than two weeks, Americans will be going to the voting booths by the millions to cast their ballots for candidates for president, for U.S. senators and representatives, for countless local and state offices. But amid the flurry of excitement on Election Day is a uniquely American tragedy: far fewer voters than are eligible will vote.

By some estimates this year's election turnout is expected to be one of the lowest in 40 years. As few as 40 percent of voting-age citizens are expected to vote for the most significant offices in this country. Many of those who will not cast ballots are college students. This is indeed shameful.

One would expect college students to be among the most well-informed and concerned about political issues of the day. One would also think college students would be some of the most concerned citizens regarding the direction their country, their states and their cities will take in the future. They are, after all, the future leaders of this nation.

While it is too late to register to vote, those students who have registered should consider their duty and get out and vote.

One more consideration: voting without being informed on the issues is a dangerous game. Time is still left at least to read up on some of the most important issues to be decided in the Nov. 8 election.

Take the time to be informed and be sure to exercise your national right.



'Bullwinkle' Bush Pulls His Policies Out Of A Hat

Lawrence Mosblech

Guest Editorial

As a product of the television age I relate modern times to Saturday morning cartoons of my youth. When I listen to Vice President George Bush talk about using a "flexible freeze" to reduce the federal deficit I think of Bullwinkle's famous line: "watch me pull a rabbit out o'my hat." Many other things about the Republican candidate's campaign also remind me of a would-be illusionist.

In the years of the Reagan administration the national debt has grown faster and farther than ever imaginable when the 1980 Republican candidate for president made campaign promises to balance the budget and reduce trade deficits with leading industrial nations. The vice president learned a valuable lesson about campaign promises from his boss.

In 1988 Vice President Bush proposes to "stay the course" of the present administration which will send us deeper into debt on paper and in the goods traded. The benefit of this policy is that the Yen will grow in value, and we can expect increased tourist trade from Japan.

Of course, increased tourist trade will open up more employment opportunities for service workers in hotels and restaurants. The special

incentive in this is that service industry jobs involve a lot less training than all those technical jobs being eliminated by trade sanctions still imposed by U.S. trading partners. This allows us to cut back even more on federal aid for education. It takes imagination but we can see how domestic needs are reduced by excessive spending on superfluous defense systems.

This is not the way that Mr. Bush talks about his plans to balance the budget and reduce the national debt, but it is a possible translation of "stay the course and incorporate a flexible." Perhaps what Bush really means is that he doesn't know how to balance the budget without raising taxes, reducing defense spending or cracking down on corporations that don't pay taxes.

What the vice president does know and has been able to state firmly is that the Democratic candidate for president, Governor Michael Dukakis of Massachusetts, would make a bad president because he is weak on crime.

However, Bush's reasoning is faulty in this assertion. He accuses Dukakis of being responsible for the furlough program that allowed a convicted murderer to escape and rape a woman. The furlough program had been set up by Gov. Dukakis' Republican predecessor; Dukakis was in no way responsible for the convict's escape. Reviewing the negativity of the Bush campaign we might assume that he learned his lessons about political ethics from the Nixon administration whose 1972 campaign was successful even though it was full of bugs.

It was probably from the Nixon administration that Bush learned to be so conservative. Once considered a liberal Republican, Bush lost his bid for the Senate to conservative Democrat Lloyd Bentsen in 1970. Spiro Agnew, then vice president to Richard Nixon, offered to campaign for Bush but the congressman refused to allow himself to be aligned with such a conservative administration.

Now tied to a conservative administration, the lesson Bush has learned best from President Reagan is his "shoot from the hip and ask questions later" style of decision making. This is apparent in his choice of running mate for 1988.

When the selection of Senator S. Danforth Quail of Indiana was announced many political analysts agreed that Bush had made a mistake by not choosing a more experienced candidate for vice president. It was believed that voters would have trouble imagining Sen. Quail as a commander-in-chief of our proud nation. However, those doubts have been magically erased and the vice president is taking a commanding lead in the polls despite what was thought to be a major political blunder.

The Republican ticket has magic on its side. It took magic to get Sen. Quail into law school and magic to make Vice President Bush conservative. They use magic to make Gov. Dukakis look unqualified, even though he has more experience at balancing budget than Bush has silly names for make-believe policy.

The illusion can end November 8. "Hey Danny, watch me pull a victory out o'my hat. Nuttin' up m'sleeve..."

LETTERS LETTERS LETTERS LETTERS LETTERS

Being Liberal Isn't So Bad, But Then Again...

To the editor:

I would just like to start by thanking John Kilgore, specials projects editor of the Current. I have been just about to write a piece for this paper for about six weeks; but it wasn't until I read his editorial entitled "How Do You Spell No Respect? L-I-B-E-R-A-L" [Oct. 20] that I finally had to talk back.

The only trouble was, I didn't know where to begin. While Mr. Kilgore's article contains many catchy phrases and certainly seems heartfelt, it didn't seem to me to focus on any particular point. However, being an English major, I was not daunted by a difficult writing assignment and decided to try another approach.

Instead of launching a counter-attack, I will try to respond to the editorial point-by-point. To begin then...

I knew I was in trouble when, in the second paragraph, I caught a reference to Vice President Bush's "desperate attempt to get himself elected president." I agree that the vice president is working very hard in his campaign, but Governor Dukakis seems to be working hard, too.

I wonder what criteria you used to distinguish a "desperate attempt" from a legitimate bid for the White House. After all, it isn't like Mr. Bush needs the work.

Now, before I get to the part where you list the liberal's gifts to society, I would like to state the official Republican position of taking offense at the opposition's beginning two thirds of its sentences with, "But, George..." or "Listen, George..." or some derivative. We try to show our respect for you candidate by referring to him by an appropriate title rather than, "Hey, Mike..." I would hope that, in the interest of keeping a little dignity in the campaign, you could do the same.



But getting back to the article — I won't try to argue with you claiming all social and civil rights issues as liberal territory. That would require a more detailed discussion, and since you mostly stayed away from details, I'll do the same.

However, to exchange tit for tat, I should point out that the liberals are also the ones who brought us the Soviet grain embargo (Carter), the Iranian hostage crisis (Carter), the Vietnam War (Johnson), and the Korean conflict (Truman). And, while we're on the subject, Democratic presidents were in office when we entered World War I (Wilson) and World War II (Roosevelt).

The only time since the rise of the two-party system that a Republican president has ushered America into a war was in 1861 when Abraham Lincoln led us into battle over that liberal ideal, civil rights.

As far as liberals promoting friendly relations with the Soviets, I have to wonder. Toward the end of your editorial you refer to them as the "Evil Empire." For someone promoting friendly relations I think you might have picked a friendlier term.

But for good relations with the U.S.S.R. let's talk INF Treaty. I can't

"It wasn't until Dukakis started stomping his foot and holding his breath every time the 'L' word was mentioned that it became an effective insult. I have plenty of liberal friends who will say so freely and proudly. This is their ideology and they like it."

I think of a better way to advance friendship than beating swords into plowshares — or medium-range missiles into scrap iron. I have heard people slamming the treaty, saying that it is "an illusion," but the fact is that there used to be U.S. and Soviet missiles in Europe and there aren't any more.

I don't care if the agreement was for each side to throw away one bullet. The treaty is an important accomplishment because a) that's one less bullet to worry about and b) it set a precedent. It is a place to start. This solid, on-paper, practiced agreement is incomparably better than the most ambitious nuclear and conventional arms elimination act that is only dreamed of, for the simple reason that it is real.

On to the topic of balanced budgets. I won't argue the facts that the federal budget is a mighty big number and that Governor Dukakis has managed to balance his state budget since the time of dawn.

But let me refer you to that liberal guru Gene McCarthy. In his book "Required Reading" (have you read it?) he says that governors should not be elected president on merit of having balanced their state's budget

a dozen years in a row. He points out that a) the federal budget is a completely different species of animal and b) governors are required by law to balance their budgets.

Now since McCarthy said it, I feel compelled to doubt it, but I suppose I should take it as gospel. By the way, both Ronald Reagan and George Bush support a constitutional amendment requiring a balanced federal budget.

I'm going to pass over your comment about conservatives "stealing all the good ideas." Considering the last time I heard an argument like that, the only appropriate response seems to be "Oh, yeah?"

After this comment you get to what I thought was going to be the point of the article — why is the term "liberal" being treated as an insult in this campaign? You asked the question and then steered off into a commentary on the American taxpayer being too dense to see the truth about defense spending.

But in case anybody who read your piece was disappointed in not getting the question answered, I'll answer it now. George Bush did not intend to use "liberal" as a snappy put-down suitable for those "sound bites" that the evening news programs are so fond of. He simply wanted to point out the differences between himself and the governor of Massachusetts and their approaches to major issues.

It wasn't until Dukakis started stomping his foot and holding his breath every time the word was mentioned that it became effective as an insult. I have plenty of liberal friends who will say so freely and proudly. This is their ideology and they like it. I don't get bent when people call me a conservative. So it is your presidential candidate who has given "liberal" a bad name. If you want to know why he hates it so much you'll have to ask him.

Jessica Hereford

CURRENT

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Letters Policy

The Current welcomes letters to the editor. The writer's student number and phone number must accompany all letters. Non-students must also include their phone numbers. Letters should be no longer than two typed, double-spaced pages. No unsigned letters will be published, but the author's name can be withheld upon request.

The Current reserves the right to edit all letters for space and newspaper style considerations. The Current reserves the right to refuse publication of any letter.

Vice, Virtue Still Found In Government

by William J. Bennett

When I was a professor of law and philosophy, my area of special interest was ethics and political philosophy, and in particular, American political thought. In my undergraduate courses, my students and I always read at least some of "The Federalist."

One of the issues we inevitably discussed was the founders' view of the importance of character in government, what they unembarrassedly called the need for virtue. We debated whether men of good character could be active in politics, given the compromises so often demanded of those in politics.

I've since had the unusual opportunity to be a professor of political philosophy who has now lived for a time in the political world. And as I prepared to leave my government post, I found myself again reflecting on the questions of character and American political life that my students often asked — that I often asked — more than a decade ago.

The founders were realistic people. They knew about human frailty, so they gave us a system of government to protect against the weaknesses and "duplicities" of human nature. "Enlightened statesmen will not always be at the helm," Madison conceded. But clearly he expected men of virtue — he had before him, after all, the example of George Washington — to be active in politics.

The principle is summarized in "Federalist" 55: "as there is a degree of depravity in mankind which requires a certain degree of circumspection and distrust, so there are other qualities in human nature which justify a certain portion of esteem and confidence. Republican government presupposes the existence of these qualities in a higher degree than any other form."

During my academic years, I remember detecting in my colleagues and students a fair amount of suspicion about the founders' hope. Should Madison and company have presupposed even a modest portion of virtue in our leaders?

My government experience over the last several years convinces me that the founders' hope was well placed, their realism well justified. What one finds in Washington today is exactly what Madison found some two centuries ago: some degree of depravity, self-interest, and ignorance of the



public good, but also a fair degree of honesty, character, and constancy. In short, some vice and some virtue.

I've seen public officials of diverse political stripes with the virtues the founders described: reliability, resiliency, integrity, a steadiness of disposition. These are individuals who can't be daunted or bribed, men and women who express the same view in one part of the country that they express in another part of the country, who don't change their views for reasons of self-interest, but only by force of sound argument and evidence.

My observation stems not from partisanship, because I've seen vice and virtue distributed on both sides of the aisle.

Character is an individual matter, not a party or ideological matter. You will find character in individuals like Representative William Natcher of Kentucky and Senator Bill Bradley of New Jersey, both Democrats, and you will find character in Representative Henry Hyde of Illinois and Senator Alan Simpson of Wyoming, both Republicans. My dealings with these men have provided encouraging lessons about the very questions of governance that so worried my students a decade ago.

These individuals and others like them — not only in Congress, but also in the executive and judicial branches — prove that when you go to Washington you needn't leave your character behind. They also explode the myth that you can't be effective and decent and honorable at the same time.

My time in Washington has reminded me of the good sense — the common sense — of the American people. As secretary of education I traveled up and down and back and forth across this country, talking to students, teachers and parents. And everywhere I've gone, I've found our people to be thoughtful about their own lives and about national affairs. I suppose the thing that I've been most surprised by is how many politicians continually underestimate the intelligence of the American people. They think they have to speak down to them, to make political issues simple, to put everything in terms of slogans. But you can speak directly to the American people. You can tell them what is on your mind. You can engage in a vigorous public debate about important public issues.

Paul Buchan wrote long ago that "politics is still the greatest and the most honorable adventure." Public life affords you the opportunity to act on your convictions, to act on your ideals, to act on your ideas.

Take it, then, from a product of the academy. Don't pay heed to the cynics, many of whom make their home within the academy, who disparage or belittle public service and public servants. If you're inclined to enter public life, my advice is: do it. Do it with honor, do it with pride, and do it with a high sense of public duty. I haven't regretted my public service for a moment. On the contrary, I've had the time of my life.

(William Bennett left his position as U.S. secretary of education on Sept. 20. This article was distributed by the Collegiate Network.)

Fear And Loafing At The Polls; Loathing At The Lots

Life During Wartime

J. Sih reporter

I'm disappointed, campers. Really, really disappointed. Looks like our campus has the same damn problem as the rest of the U.S. Namely, that voter apathy which allows an inexcusably small fraction of the voting population (one-twelfth of the student body, in UMSL's case) to make a decision for the rest of the community. If it's not apathy, what the hell IS IT then? Lethargy? Disenchantment? Lazi-

ness? Bad biorhythms?

Sure, the voting system here on campus could stand some improvements. More and bigger voting tables with more people to attend them. Putting those ballot boxes and those tables in more buildings on the two campuses. Holding the elections during midterms so that the maximum number of students could be reached. . .

Those who don't vote give up a considerable measure of autonomy. To those of you who do vote in UMSL issues and also in the regular national and local elections, much thanks. I encourage you to bring a friend who is a registered voter with you on your next journey through the democratic process.

Voting can be pleasant. If time permits, you and your friend can go to lunch or something. Restaurants don't sell liquor during national and

local elections; they have to wait until the polls close. But it can still be a fun lunch anyway. You don't have to talk politics (even if you are friends). JUST FIND SOME TIME to do something for yourself and your country. If your boss won't let you have some time off for you to exercise your right to vote, quit your job. Your boss is a goon. Tell him I said so.

Or dare him to come with you to vote. I guess what I'm trying to say is that I don't want a repeat of this ten or twenty or thirty percent voter turnout in November when we have to choose between Mike and George. Yeah, I read the papers. I know that this referendum had the largest voter turnout in a long time here on campus. BUT 1,000 OUTTA 12,000 AIN'T GOOD ENUFF. I don't want to hear this "voting is the opiate of the masses" jive either. If you're for a

revolution, go ahead and start. It's easier and faster to work with the system in place. I'm not energetic enough to properly overthrow the government. And I protest the besmirchment of opiates.

A fragment from a dream I had a few days ago during that big thunderstorm. . . The year: 1990. The place: here. There is a war on.

The chancellors' meeting in Columbia claimed to be "productive, really a success." The vote to raise chancellors' salaries was unanimous. Various members of UM faculty slump a little more at their desks. The last bit of spring has gone out of their step. They've been forced to live on instant Ramen, peanut butter sandwiches, and macaroni and cheese ever since the referendum for the ten-story parking garage went through on the St. Louis campus.

The plans call for a stately pleasure dome, uh, I mean a stately PARKING GARAGE to be built next to the sewer line on the northernmost edge of the campus. It will not have an elevator.

The whole thing started when the student death toll reached what the UMSL chancellor called "unacceptable proportions." Students were doing drive-by shootings for a parking space. The usual method of coming at 6 a.m. to find a place in Lot H no longer worked. People were sell-

ing prime parking spaces to each other during the peak hours, 8 am to 2 pm. The practice of following a student to his/her car and then zipping into the freshly vacated space was not working—too many bystanders were getting hurt in the crossfire.

The 1990 enrollment, fall semester: 18,403. The new ten-story park-

ing garage is scheduled to be finished in 1992. The estimated enrollment for that year: 20,000 students. Students from areas with a high census of fellow UMSLites must comply with mandatory car-pools or face a revocation of library privileges. For repeat offenders, hours of university service, like spot-welding the existing UMSL garages. The body count goes down.

. . . temporarily. Calm seems to be restored. The accusations that the university was overenrolling fade like so much RUSTOLEUM over rust.

My dream ended with a knock on the door. The Boss was calling me to fill more sandbags.

True-Life Confessions: A GPA Junkie Tells All

by E.C. Earth-Spirit contributor

"I'm working on stage three. Where are you?" the man next to me boasts.

"Oh, I'm clear to stage seven," I smugly reply. "Before the semester is over I plan to be all the way to the thirteenth, and final, stage."

Then I lean back in my chair and gloat a whole lot. That's where my dream ends, and mid-semester reality set in.

Fresh (?) from four and a half hours sleep I careen off the wall on my way to the bathroom. After splashing copious amounts of icy water in the general direction of my face, I practice orienteering to discover the whereabouts of my kitchen.

While waiting for the water to boil I hold up the south wall with my shoulder and muse on the meaning of my dream. What if there really were a GPA Anonymous group meeting? What if I actually could

shake the notion that a "C" is fate worse than death? What if — but no, that would be totally impossible.

Still, it wouldn't hurt to try to make it from one class period to the next without thinking that one wrong answer to an instructor's query means virtually the end of the world.

Also, it might not be such a bad idea to entertain the notion that it's not absolutely essential to record every syllable of wisdom wending its way from the professor's vocal cords to my auditory receptacle.

And maybe, just maybe I could eventually find myself in the place where I would not feel the urgent need to read every book that the library possesses on a particular topic before writing a three-page paper.

While I'm daydreaming the kettle boils dry and I burn my hand rescuing it from the flame. Well, no time for breakfast anyway. If I hurry I can just catch that genius in the first row and beg to see her history notes.



Then, if I skip lunch I can practice my Spanish with Raul before he goes to work.

And if I'm really lucky I can get a

seat at the table in the library where the math whizzes do their homework.

Or maybe I'll catch my English

instructor before she leaves and offer to wash her car. If that won't work I'll grovel just a bit. Nothing too obsequious, you understand. My experience says a light touch works best. No tears. That's been overused. Also, easy on the sad stories.

Just one itty-bitty point more and I'll be happy. Well, maybe two. Two, that's it. No need to be greedy. But wait, maybe I should work for three more points, since it never hurts to have a little GPA in reserve for those unforeseen emergencies. What if the instructor in the philosophy course that I've signed up for, the one that I've been assured is an easy grader, goes off to the Far East, to be replaced by Attila the Hun?

What if I contract a mysterious viral disease that causes amnesia of the written word forty-seven minutes after I read it?

What if — but now it's heavy sweat and hand-tremble time.

If only I had started out with a

light load those first two semesters. But no, nother but maximum credit hours would do.

If only I had had a more competent lab partner in chemistry instead of one who caused the building to be evacuated twice before dropping out.

If only I hadn't sold that old junker of a car to the TA who ended up teaching my general psych class.

Well, there's no hope for it. Unless — unless, yeah, that's the ticket! Now, where's that brochure I had for all those services the Counseling Office provides? Peer counseling, test anxiety sessions, short-term counseling — hm, maybe they've got something over there in 427 SSB for GPA junkies. Wouldn't hurt to call. Let's see — oh, there it is, 553-5711.

Do you suppose they take basket cases? No harm in trying. I've got no place to go but up, or is that down? I'm so confused. Somebody held the poor student.

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