

## U Center Passes

### New U Center approved in student referendum

Matthew J. Forsythe  
editor-in-chief

Students have told the University, "build it and they will come."

The University Center vote on Wednesday and Thursday netted 939 votes, and 677 were in favor of the project.

That is a 72 percent approval rating with 8 percent of the campus voting.

The project proposes a new building to be constructed on the south end of Parking Lot "E" to house student services, improved study areas, the bookstore, the food service company, student activities and a new area created for student groups. The project cost is estimated to be \$26.3 million, and students will be asked to bear some of that cost through a \$6.05 fee to go into effect when the building opens.

Representatives from Brailsford Associates, the facilities planning

company hired by the University, said the percentage of approval was just what their research had predicted.

"We had predicted over 70 percent."

**677 'for'**  
**262 'against'**  
**939 total votes**

cent. It could have gone as high as 75 percent." President Paul Brailsford said. "We knew from our research that we would comfortably get [an approval rating] in the low 70s. I'm happy because our techniques to predict are still working."

Brailsford also said that the percentage of students who voted was similar to the percentage who had voted on similar student center projects at other Universities.

Brailsford said at colleges like Tulane and Waterloo, which are strong residential campuses with more on-campus mobilization, there was a turnout of just under 10 percent of the campus population. Brailsford said that without such advantages UM-St. Louis did very well having eight percent of the campus population vote.

Bob Schmalfeld, director of the present University Center, said he was pleased with the number of people who exercised their right to vote and with the results. He has seen the project develop over the span of several years.

Schmalfeld said the vote will send a clear message of what the students want to Chancellor Blanche M. Touhill who then can, "decide whether she wants to proceed or not."

The Chancellor's decision might rest in part upon how much of State funds the Missouri Legislature appropriates to UM-St. Louis and



photo: Ken Dunkin

Martha Belew casts her vote at a booth manned by SGA Vice President -elect- Clint Zweifel.

whether or not those funds can be used on this particular project. The Missouri Legislature will decide how much money is appropriated this May. If state funds are not available, the administration has the op-

tion to finance their portion of the project with bonds.

The project calls for the destruction of parking lot "D," Schmalfeld said. There has been an assurance from Vice Chancellor of Administra-

tive Services Reinhard Schuster that there will be additional parking spaces built to replace any parking places lost to construction.

see U center, page 2

## Guitar man



photo: Ken Dunkin

Peter Himmelman entertains as part of the Mirthday celebration last Wednesday.

## Omission in Post slights UM-St. Louis community

Matthew J. Forsythe  
editor-in-chief

In a town with Washington University and St. Louis University, each having exceptional research and development programs, the efforts of an institution like the University of Missouri-St. Louis can be easy to overlook.

At least that was the case in the April 23 edition of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

UM-St. Louis was left off a map entitled "Major Technology Sites In The St. Louis Region."

The University was marginally mentioned in the "High Wages, High Growth, High-Tech, But is St. Louis Losing the Race to Create the Jobs of

the Future" article that followed. Unfortunately it wasn't enough to satisfy some professors and students who took the omission from the map as an insult to UM-St. Louis' stature as a technological research facility.

"I was very surprised and disappointed," said Chairman of the Department of Chemistry Lawrence Barton.

Barton said there are a number of departments and projects that should have assured the University a spot on the map. A few he mentioned included the International Center for Tropical Ecology, the Chemistry Department, and the soon-to-be-completed Center for Molecular

see Omission, page 2

## O'Keefe threatens legal action

Michael O'Brian  
of The Current staff

Tom O'Keefe lost the Student Government Association Presidential Election, but he's not finished fighting yet. O'Keefe has filed grievances over what he calls "highly unethical practices from this (SGA Election) committee," and he is threatening legal action against the SGA Election Committee.

"I would like to see a class action suit for all Evening College and South Campus students to have their student activity fees refunded for not having an opportunity to choose their next SGA council," O'Keefe said.

O'Keefe filed a list of seven complaints with the Student Government Association, Student Affairs and Student Activities.

"I want student government to know that you can't run an election like this," O'Keefe said. "If you're going to run an election like this, why even bother having one?"

The complaints identify a number of actions that O'Keefe feels constitute "a deliberate injustice perpetrated on my candidacy and that of my running mates." Cited in the grievance are the following items: not opening voting polls on campus as advertised, not receiving election rules until minutes before polls were supposed to open, being forced to follow rules not listed in the election rules, the attempted release of a ballot with a mark in one of his opponents boxes and other complaints.

"If people had shown up when they were supposed to and done what they were supposed to, it should have worked," Steve Bartok, election committee chairman, said in response to complaints against the handling of the election. "At this point we are just going to make some changes to make sure this doesn't happen again. We've been having meetings. We want to make it clear that booths must stay open the required time, and we cannot rely on the assembly to report what's going on. In the future, we are going to post signs and make announcements in classes."

Bartok relieved Election Commissioners Nkruma Zumberi and Benjamin Ash for not fulfilling their duties. Bartok said that they did not feel the need to continue to push this issue. Bartok said if O'Keefe wants to request a hearing, they can do that.

"This is not a matter for Student Affairs," Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Lowe "Sandy" MacLean said in response to the grievances filed with his office. "Nobody wants Student Affairs to be wrapped up in SGA elections. Administration doesn't want that and students don't want that." MacLean said this is a matter for the student court.

O'Keefe gave his list of com-

plaints to SGA President Chris Jones who then gave the list to Bartok who is also the chief justice of the student court. O'Keefe feels that Bartok's decisions during the election were done in an unethical manner to favor his opponent's ticket.

"I feel that there has been a deliberate attempt, with malice and forethought, to undermine our campaigning efforts," O'Keefe stated in his grievance. "The pattern seems too coincidental," O'Keefe said later in an interview.

"That's bull," Bartok replied to those statements. "That had nothing to do with the issue. The issue was getting the polls open. My job as

commissioner is to make the election as fair as possible regardless of who's running."

Julie Earhart, president of the evening college council, has also filed a grievance because that there were no polls opened in Lucas Hall on the first night of the election. Earhart said this election was inconsistent with the last three SGA presidential elections. She asked for another night for the evening college to vote, but Bartok refused telling her that it could cause a financial burden on the candidates.

Student Activities has not taken public action on the grievances filed with their office.

O'Keefe's Grievances	Bartok's Response	The Current Facts
1) The election committee attempted to issue ballots with a check mark next to my opponents name.	"I did not see the mark until it was brought to my attention. Benjamin Ash recommended we use a red pen to differentiate from the mark. My response was to shred them."	The marked ballots were turned over to Student Activities. Most were destroyed. Some marked ballots exist. None were used for the election.
2) Refusal on the part of the committee to give me a copy of the election rules until ten minutes after polls were supposed to be opened.	"At the time we were listening to Paul Degregorio. If there were election regulations, I'd like to know where they were."	The Election Manual is an 11 page document concerning election proceedings prepared by Jeep Hague in August 1993.
3) Insistence by the committee that I follow rules that were not listed in the aforementioned election rules.	"We will be putting the new regulations down on paper."	O'Keefe took down a banner posted on the side of University Center on the days of the election.
4) Refusal by the committee to enforce UM-St. Louis posting policies in regard to my opponents.	"Tom and Beth were upset about placement of campaign signs."	The Titlow ticket displayed many of the same campaign flyers on the bulletin board outside U-Center on the days of the election.
5) Refusal to open up all of the polling places on campus as advertised.	"There was a lack of manpower. We had problems there was no way all the polls were going to be open."	University Center, Barnes Nursing College and South Campus had polls on both days. Lucas Hall had a poll open on the second day of the election. Mark Twain and SSB never opened polls.
6) A delay of one hour and twenty minutes in the opening of the polling places.	"We had to print new ballots to replace the marked ones."	New ballots were typed at 10 a.m. April 18. The U-Center poll opened at 11:20 p.m.
7) A posting of an opponent's sign two feet from a polling place.	No response.	A campaign sign hung on a door next to the poll at Barnes Nursing College until it was noticed and removed at the end of the first day of the election.

### Putting it to bed for the last time



by Matthew J. Forsythe  
editor-in-chief

Last week for some reason or other, I was down in the basement of The Current looking through our newspaper morgue. After finding the paper I was looking for, I began walking out of the room and then paused. I turned and looked at all the files of old papers we have stacked up not so neatly down in that small room in the basement. I realized that all of the papers my staff and I had produced this year would soon be in these dusty files in the basement. That was when I realized that my time as editor-in-chief was over.

I had a flashback to when I was still advertising director and applying for editor-in-chief. I remember having cold feet thinking of all the work that a leader of a campus newspaper has to deal with in his term in office. I guess the only thing that made me do it was something that my older brother used to tell me, "You are always better having taken a risk in life than avoiding one. Win, lose or draw you have somehow improved your situation by taking the risk."

So I took the dare, the risk and the job with its myriad responsibilities. There have been a lot of highs and lows since that decision was made.

I cannot describe to you the feeling every editor gets when he or she picks up a copy of a paper and sees a glaring error on the front page.

In my case it usually came after a marathon session on Sunday night. After going over the paper four times that night, it was still possible to pick up the paper on Monday morning and find errors I should have caught. To editors, errors are like tiny knives in the gut, and after this year I have a lot of stab wounds. I think my staff and I always honored our commitment to the students of doing a good job, but I know we often fell short of being perfect.

Then there were the moments I never want to forget. I often walked out of the office at around 3 a.m. while working for The Current. The campus looks different at 3 a.m. in the morning. It is silent, dark and eerily deserted. When I would turn off the lights in our computer room, the light from the floodlights on the Woods Hall building would shine through the windows casting odd shadows on the walls. The house The Current resides in is an animated place throughout the day. In the early morning darkness, it was a sublime experience. I liked the silence. At those moments I would be extremely tired and extremely proud. I had pushed myself to the limit, and beyond and could have some peace for a while, or at least until the sun came up the next morning.

I will remember the good times as well as the bad times. And I will always remember that it is only by taking the risks that a person, or an organization, will ever reach the highest level of the sublime.

I want to thank everyone on my staff, and throughout the UM-St. Louis community who helped me in my editorship. I wish you the best of all possible futures. Farewell.

#### Omission from page 1

Electronics.  
Barton said the research work done at the University, especially the work done in the Chemistry Department, "is known better outside of St. Louis, than inside of St. Louis."

"[The lack of coverage] just frustrates me," Barton said.

Barton said that part of the problem could be infighting within the UM system, but "the blame has to be passed around to all of us."

Director of University Communications Bob Samples released a statement to The Current explaining what his office had done in response to the article.

"I have discussed with the reporter the article in general and the map in particular," Samples stated. "The reporter indicated that the omission of the University of Mis-

## A report on UM-St. Louis sports Riverwomen sweep Bills in doubleheader

by Eric Thomas  
of The Current staff

The Riverwomen were hoping to take the field and clean house against St. Louis University at Afton Athletic Field Thursday afternoon, and that's exactly what happened.

### UM-St. Louis 8, SLU 0

Kristi Toppins, late in her first year as interim head coach chose Jill Stockdale, "the wild thing," to take care of business on the mound, and Stockdale didn't let her down. Stockdale allowed only one hit and pitched her second shutout

The rest of the Riverwomen rocked the Billiken's pitcher.

Stacy Rathbun stood tough at second and the platebatted 2-for-4 with one RBI. Tracy Kitrel wasn't shy with her Louisville Slugger either slamming in three Riverwomen across home plate. Freshman Audrey Kramme made her presence known to the Bilikens' fielders by adding three RBIs to her stat sheet.

"[The Bilikens] connected with the ball often, but luckily we had a lot of killer defensive plays by Nicki Barrett and Tracy Kitrel in the outfield," Stockdale said.

"With the wind blowing as hard as it was, fly balls were really hard to judge. Those two did great to ensure a victory and a shutout."

Nicole Kocis and Nicole Barrett both had a double and an RBI a piece, and the game was over in five innings.

### UM-St. Louis 4, SLU 0

For game two, Diana Mooney got the call to play catch with Kramme, and she completed the game allowing only two hits without letting any Bilikens' cross the plate.

Christ went 2-for-2 at the dish, and firstbasemen D.J. Martin went 2-for-4 with one RBI. Kitrel, Barrett, and Bianca all had RBIs also.

"It was a very unemotional game," Martin said. "We went, we played, we won."

"It was great that we won, be-

cause that will only lift our spirits for the tournament this weekend," Stockdale said.

bottom of the eleventh inning.

The MIAA tournament is a double elimination tournament, so the Rivermen still have a chance to come back to the finals. They made a great effort as they defeated Northwest Missouri State 5-1. Trevor Wolfe threw a complete game allowing only five hits.

The Rivermen were still alive in the tournament but the results were not available at press time.

The Rivermen got a dose of their own medicine in the first round of the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association (MIAA). Against Missouri Southern the Rivermen again went to extra innings, this time the Rivermen took a 6-5 loss in the

### Baseball

by Ken Dunkin  
sports editor

Live by the extra inning victory, die by the extra inning victory this has been the case for the UM-St. Louis Rivermen baseball team in the last week.

The Rivermen pulled off a thrilling victory last Tuesday against Washburn. In the third and final game the Rivermen went to extra innings. With the game tied 5-5 in the bottom of the tenth inning Todd Schmidt blasted a solo home run to win the game 6-5 for the Rivermen.

"What a time to hit your first college home run." Rivermen head coach Jim Brady said. "I told Dan Archer to tell Todd first pitch fast

competition isn't as tough as the MIAA.

"I don't think the GLVC is as good of an all-around conference as the MIAA," Meckfessel said. "It isn't as recognized on regional and national levels as the MIAA. The GLVC is very good in basketball. They aren't as good in baseball and softball."

"We voted by sports, I think the vote was six in favor and five against."

## GLVC decision to come in May

by Ken Dunkin  
sports editor

The decision on whether to make the move to the Great Lakes Valley Conference (GLVC) will be decided in mid-May.

UM-St. Louis is considering a move that would change the area and teams we compete against. Currently, the athletic teams com-

pete in the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association. The move would have several advantages for UM-St. Louis.

"Overall the GLVC is somewhat better academically than the MIAA," Meckfessel said. "I think the philosophy of most of the GLVC is more in keeping of this institution."

The disadvantages of the move are tough on several sports as the

responsibility of deciding will first go through the athletic committee. The final decision is in the hands of Tom Schnell the faculty athletic representative, Lowe "Sandy" MacLean Vice Chancellor of student affairs, and Meckfessel. The decision will be subject to approval of Chancellor Blanche M. Touhill.

## Registration time is here

by Amy Pierce  
associate news editor

As the semester winds down it's time for students to register for summer and fall classes. The process has been made easier this year, and there are now three easy ways for a student to register.

Students who have currently been enrolled in classes should have received forms in the mail with a pre-registration time set up with their advisor. After meeting with an advisor and selecting courses students are then ready to actually register.

"Students can still register the good ole fashion way," Don Morris, assistant register said. Morris said all students need to do is to go to 230

Woods Hall and all of the paper work will be done there. "About 45 to 50 percent of the students register this way," Morris said.

When filling out the registration papers, Morris said students need to remember that there is a box on the registration form for students to check if they do not want any of their information released.

"There is one thing that students must remember, once they check that box the university cannot release any information about the student at all" Morris said. By law the University only has to release information to lending agencies. "When a student is applying for a job the company may call the University to find out if the person is a student here and other

information, but unless the box was not checked then information cannot be released." Morris said.

The second way a student can register is by phone. Touch-tone Registration And Inquiry Network (TRAIN), which is the touch tone registration system allows student to register over the phone by calling 516-7000 and following the directions of the automated system.

"The only thing different about registering on the phone rather than in person is that there is no option of withholding information," Morris said. "If a student does use the TRAIN system to register and does not want their information released then they need to go to room 232 of Woods Hall and let [the Registrars office]

know."

This year a third option of registering has been added. Students at the School of Education, College of Arts and Sciences, Evening College, School of Business, or involved in the UM-St. Louis/Washington University Joint Undergraduate Engineering Program can register in those offices.

"This year the registration process has ran a lot smoother than previous years because of the added ways to register," Morris said.

The deadline for undergraduate students to register for summer classes is June 16, and the deadline for students to register for Fall is Friday, September 1.

### Rat's Reviews

Blues  
Rory Block—  
"When A Woman Gets The Blues"

Rory Block is something of an anomaly in the world of blues, not because she's a woman, but because she's a white woman who plays old country blues. For over 20 years, she has studied, performed and recorded some of the best blues and blues influenced material available.

On her latest release, "When A Woman Gets The Blues," Block pays tribute to legends Son House, Robert Johnson, Kansas Joe McCoy, Hattie Hart and others.

Block leads off with the Son House classic, "Preaching Blues," featuring nothing but Block's emotionally charged vocals and guitar. Next comes Charlie Patton's "Peavine Blues" and Kansas Joe McCoy's "Joliet Bound," each done in the same tradition as the first.

Block is joined by her son Jordan Block Valdina on "Be Ready When He Comes," a fiery a cappella gospel number written

by Nehemiah "Skip" James.

Other highlights on "When A Woman Gets The Blues" include Robert Johnson's "Hellhound On My Trail," Skip James's "Cypress Grove" and the final "Railroadin' Some" by Henry Thomas.

My favorite track is Hattie Hart's "I Let My Daddy Do That," a sexually euphemistic number done in the Memphis Minnie or Victoria Spivey tradition. It contains such verses as:

I got a range in my kitchen  
I got a strict rule  
When it gets too hot  
I want my oven to cool

(refrain)  
I let my daddy do that  
I let my daddy do that  
I let my daddy do that  
'cause it satisfies my worried mind

If you love traditional blues and country blues music, you won't be disappointed by Rory Block or her "When A Woman Get The Blues."

--Michael J. Urness

### Cram Time



by Scott Lamar  
features editor

Some random notes to conclude the '94-'95 school year.

Not a whole lot is left to say or do this semester. The only things that remain are finals. If you have not yet begun to study, the time to begin is now. In most cases, a week separates the last class from the final examination, which is ample time to forget much of the material.

I'm sure most students will be cramming chemistry formulas or historical dates into their heads until the wee hours of the morning. To help you on your last minute attempt to grasp the material, here are a few tips.

\*Never study in bed! In fact, do not make any attempt to get comfortable. The room you study in should be cold and the chair you are sitting in should be like granite.

\*Eliminate every possible distraction. TV's and radios should be turned off and out of sight. I know it's a lot to ask, but you have got to resist watching Ricki Lake.

\*No-Doz and Vivarin usually work well, but these drugs are too expensive. I have discovered that a few cans of Pepsi will keep you awake for hours.

\*Start studying at least 48 hours before the exam, although starting as soon as possible is recommended. If you have time, read over your notes and then rewrite them.

\*Get someone to study with you! A fellow procrastinator is a great help with quizzing you over notes. They are also helpful in keeping you awake.

\*If you can't get at least four hours of sleep, don't even bother going to bed. Trying to get two and a half hours of sleep will do more harm than good.

Writer's Aside: Last-minute cramming can take an enormous toll on the body. It throws your internal clock out of whack and, if you do it repeatedly, will make you sick. Keeping up with the text and the lecture notes is always the best policy. However, you've gotta do what you've gotta do to pass the course.

Another note: If you haven't yet registered, jump to it. For next semester, it looks like students will be given the chance to take some rarely offered classes.

More on scheduling: If you have failed to notice, the Fall schedules are full of one hour and 15 minute classes. It seems that more and more, Monday-Wednesday-Friday classes are going to just Mondays and Wednesdays. I don't know about you but I'm for the 50 minute class. I think that the latter is more effective in keeping your attention.

A personal note: I'd like to thank my favorite study partner, Kathy Tighe, who has "carried me through the semester." What will I ever do without you? Good luck out in the real world.

One last bit of advice before I sign off—start studying earlier so you never have to cram again. I hope your summer is relaxing and enjoyable.

P.S. If any of you enjoy writing and want to get some practical experience in journalism, come up to The Current next semester. The Current will be sporting a new look—both in content and design—next year with Michael O'Brian and myself running the show. The more the merrier!

#### U Center from page 1

If the Chancellor decides to go ahead with the building as planned, the Board of Curators will have to approve the project and hire an architect this summer. The tentative schedule calls for the final designs for the building being to be completed in January 1996 and bidding among construction companies to begin in September 1996.

If all goes according to schedule, the University will break ground on the project in September 1996. Sometime between January and March of 1998, the building would be completed, and the process of moving in could begin.

I had no idea that anything of this sort was going on today.

-UM-St.Louis student Peggy Messelra

# Mirthday

by Eric Thomas  
of *The Current* staff

As most of the UM-St. Louis students realized, last Wednesday, the 26th of April, was Mirthday on campus.

Mirthday consists of numerous booths manned by various student groups, each displaying signs and banners. Everyone noticed—but not all dared to ride—the Rocco Plane (dubbed the spin-and-puke by some), a caged in, turn-you-upside down carousel ride.

A great number of passersby loved the dunking booth sponsored by UPS (or maybe they just dug the idea of soaking Maureen Voyles), as well as the Songsations karaoke booth which cranked out the tunes all day long.

One of the favorite hot spots for some frat members was the Bouncy Boxing. This was a "grudge match" style boxing ring, where gloves fit for Kong were worn, along with protective head gear, by the participants. Pike president Nav Thakur was the reigning heavyweight champion for a time during the afternoon.

A Business fraternity Delta Sigma Pi was under par with a putting booth, from which I received one pencil and a miniature baseball hat. Special thanks to president Adam Brenner and Jennifer Gannon for their efforts this year. For those who were more apt at putting than myself, there were stuffed animals, baseballs, small and regulation size basketballs as prizes for keeping the ball out of the water and sand traps.

The Horizons' basketball hoop-it-up booth offered contestants sunglasses, promotional cassettes, key chains and Budweiser painter's caps as prizes. High scorers were given a choice of two of the aforementioned goods. For more info on the Horizons organization, hit 427 in SSB, or have a chat with Nikisha Bridges.

The Bible Study group had the shoot-the-dart-on-the-board booth called *The Mark of Perfection*, and offered encouraging words of how to be saved from eternal damnation.

"The key isn't what you personally can do for salvation, rather what you let God do," UM-St. Louis Corporate Communications graduate and bible student Joe Bebor said.

UM-St. Louis' Lit-Mag publication also had an informational booth. Lit-Mag has just released their magazine for this year loaded with countless poems, short stories, and works of fiction. Don Barnes manned the booth most of the day.

"We're celebrating the release of the issue this year at The Way Out Club, a south city bar famous for readings and open mics," Barnes said. "It's gonna be a blast. I'd like to thank all those who submitted literary works this year."

Neighboring the Lit-Mag Booth was *The Current*. In addition

to handing out that week's issue, there was a free drawing for concert tickets to four Riverport shows. The winners were Brandy Berry, Ann McCarthy, Joe Cullen and Jason Peery.

The Chemistry Club had Peter Kim perched at their booth. Kim displayed the sublimation process in a beaker between soap, dry ice and food coloring.

The Students with Disabilities Organization had the guessing game at their table. The game entailed grabbing a celebrity's name and matching the disability that the celebrity has.

The Alpha Xi Delta sorority booth contained scrap books with hundreds of photos of the 34 sisters. The sorority had information concerning their organization, which is devoted to children, and a raffle. For less than one dollar, an individual got the chance to win \$50 or a pair of Oakley sunglasses.

"We go to hospitals and have picnics for foster children, and hold fund raisers, such as bake sales, to raise money for the less fortunate children in the St. Louis area," said member Lisa Lupo. "Today, we were selling cupcakes and brownies, but the Sigma Tau Gamma guys ate them all."

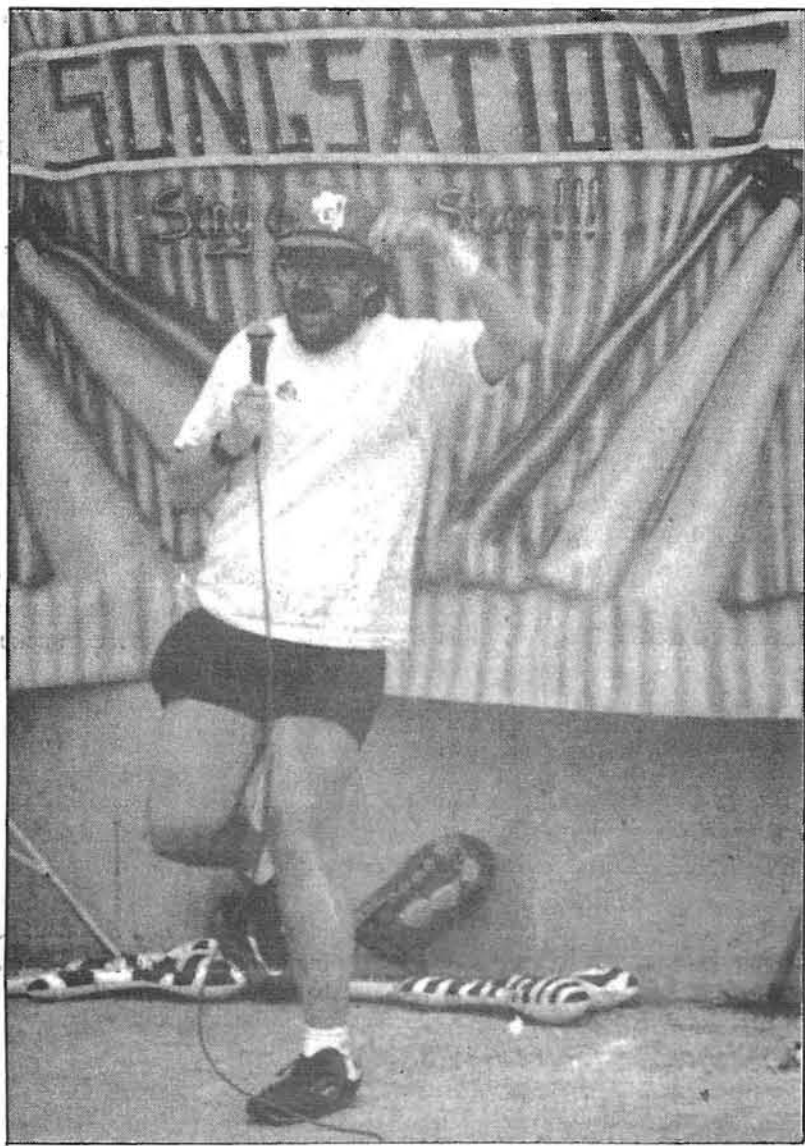


photo: Monica Senecal

Steven Wolfe sang a few verses for his adoring fans.

## One of the favorite hot spots...was the Bouncy Boxing



Photo: Monica Senecal

Joanne Webb, Wendy Verhoff, Jennifer Bullock and Todd Appel croon away at the Songsations karaoke station.

Meandering across the festival grounds, one came across an inflatable dragon maze/obstacle course. Not too far from that was the Bungie Run—all entertainment for the young and older members of the crowd.

Floating around all day was the newly elected president of the Student Government Association, Beth Titlow.

"This year's Mirthday is a tremendous success," Titlow said. "I think this just might be the busiest I've ever seen it."

The New U-Vote booth was smack-dab in the middle of things. Almost everyone stood in line to cast their vote for the proposed U. Center. Things held up rather well until the end of the fair, when mother nature blew a gust of wind which demolished the booth.

The UM-St. Louis Hockey Club was recruiting for the 1995-96 season at their lot.

"We have lowered the fees from \$500 to \$400, which is only \$200 per semester," winger P.J. Martin said. "With the fundraisers we have going on, theoretically, one could sell all possible ads and play for free."

"The first game is Oct. 20, and our ice time is killer this season," team captain/player Dan Dagenais said.

"Our games are at 9:30 p.m. on Friday and 12 noon on Saturday, so we hope to see all the students cheering us on."

Those of you who were hanging around by the hockey booth had to notice a dude juggling seven balls at one time.

"I've been juggling for 18 years, but I get real tired of hauling the bowling balls around," Al Stanger, a mathematics major said.

"I get hired to do picnics and carnivals, and even flaming torches are on my agenda," Stanger said.

Many students were enthusiastic about the event.

"I think this is all really cool," Lisa Burnett, a biology major and a Texas A&M transfer student said. "I just wish I had known about it earlier. I have to go to work right after my class, so I can't hang out and see what's all going on. It's a great idea, though."

Peggy Messelra, a Spanish major, is in her first year here at UM-St. Louis. She said she was attracted to the affair by the helium balloons flying all over campus.

"I had no idea that anything of this sort was going on today, so I'm glad I came down to check it out, since I'm graduating this semester," Messelra said.

President of the Program Board Shannon Pack was on campus for 12.5 hours that day, and after it was all said and done, she was extremely pleased.

"The only complaint that I have was the weather. It looked as though it might rain, so we were forced to set the band up in the J.C. Penney Building," Pack said.

Pack was in charge of arranging the Mirthday affair, and wished to thank SGA president and coordinator of Mirthday Chris Jones for all his time and effort. Jason Peery also got a big thank you from Pack.

"Chris and Jason did a really great job in pulling this all together, and I was relieved that they helped."

Peery's main function was to obtain a band, which he did. Peter Himmelman is a "straight up guitar rocker from Minneapolis who now lives in LA," Peery said. "He was real hip on the idea of coming to a college campus in St. Louis for a show."

Himmelman was rather entertaining, creating songs around the audience. Even members of *The Current* were not exempt. Sports Editor Ken "Doughboy" Dunkin was the subject of a tune.

"Mirthday is the one day in the year that brings various facets of student life together and promote harmony among the diverse student organizations on campus," Peery said.

"I'm glad that I could book Peter to provide this campus with some desperately needed killer tunes."

Pack and Co. started planning the event back in February, and she said that the hardest part was contacting all of the student organizations. She regretted the absence of sand volleyball, but sand was not obtainable by showtime.

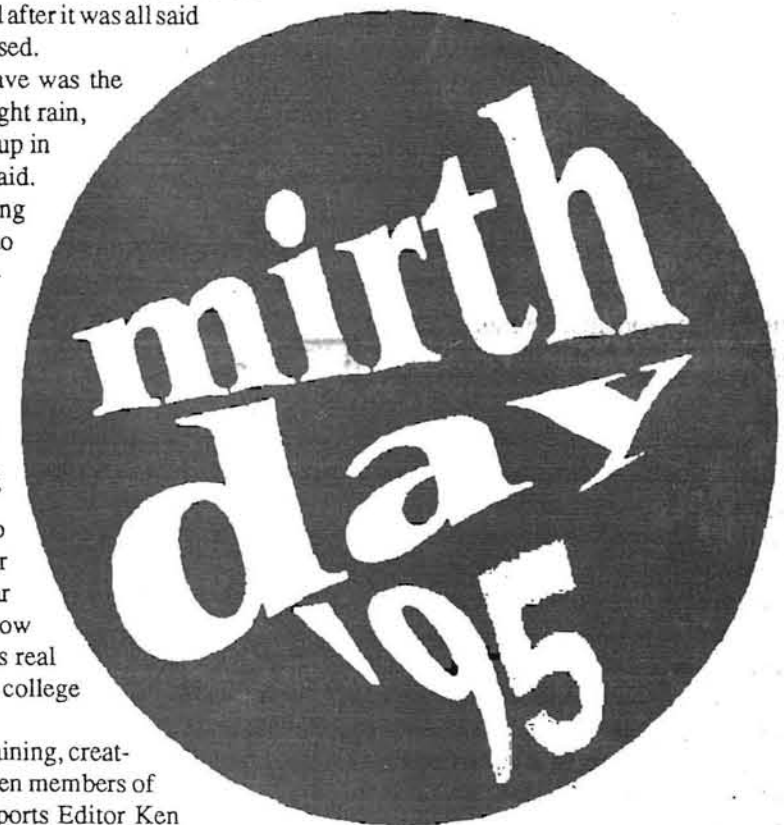
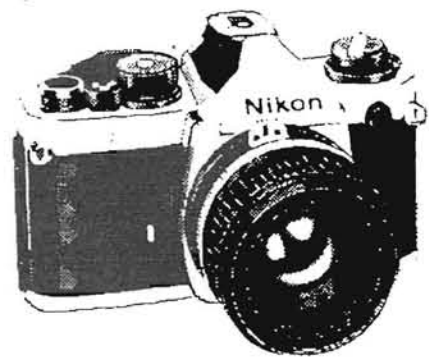


photo: Monica Senecal

Newly elected editor Michael O'Brian slugs it out in the Bouncy Boxing ring.

See you next year!

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