



Beckoning:
The works of artist Max Beckman will be on display through May at the St. Louis Art Museum. For more information on the exhibit, see page 3.



Have a Heart: St. Valentine's day is just around the corner. For more info, see Page 6.

In a Rush: What's the new film "Rushmore" like? For a review of the movie and an exclusive interview with its director and star, see page 8.

NEWS FROM ALL OVER

Affirmative action bill makes waves at UC-Berkeley

(U-WIRE) BERKELEY, Calif. - Hoping to bring affirmative action back into the UC system, the ASUC Senate has passed a bill asking California Gov. Gray Davis to change the face of the UC Board of Regents.

The university's student government approved a bill Wednesday night, written and sponsored by Senator Arian White, that asks Davis to fill the five currently open seats on the board with affirmative action proponents.

A different form of the bill was originally written by Heather Bergman, a member of the Coalition to Defend Affirmative Action by Any Means Necessary, a campus pro-affirmative action group. White said Bergman approached him with the bill to try to get it through the senate. He later altered the bill and wrote the official draft.

White, who is not affiliated with BAMN, is not the only supporter of affirmative action policies in the student senate. He said he was approached because "they have seen me fight for affirmative action in the past, and I am a visible person."

He added that he appealed to Davis because "as of now, I see Davis as someone who has a responsibility to help because people who elected him are the people who would benefit from affirmative action policies."

The bill also asks for the voluntary resignation of UC Regent Ward Connerly, who led the campaign to ban race and gender preferences in the UC system in 1995 and state wide through Proposition 209 in 1996.

Further, according to the bill, "[Connerly] has done immeasurable harm to the lives and futures of countless numbers of students. He is an enemy of education."

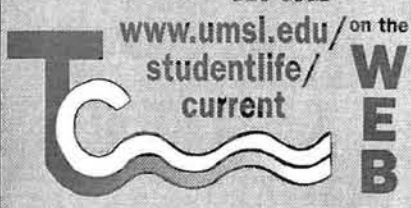
The bill was widely supported by the senators and was opposed only by senator Todd Dipaola.

"I, personally am not in favor of affirmative action," Dipaola said. "There are a lot of other senators who feel [the same] way but are not voting their conscience."

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The Current

THE AWARD-WINNING STUDENT VOICE OF UM-ST. LOUIS

February 8, 1999

The University of Missouri-St. Louis

Vol. 33 Issue 945

Comptroller removes himself from SGA constitution revision process

BY JOSH RENAUD
 staff assistant

Because of low attendance at his latest meeting on revising the Student Government Association constitution, comptroller Benjamin Ash has quit the project.

"I have decided to cancel the revising process," Ash said in an e-mail several days after the meeting. "I will bring it to the attention of the SGA at the next meeting that I am not going to continue to revise the constitution and that I am pulling my constitution from consideration."

At the Jan. 21 meeting of the SGA assembly, at which the meeting was announced, Ash told representatives of student organizations that he "expected them to come to this meeting."



Ash

Of 84 organizations, only five representatives showed up Tuesday for the gathering. Two of the five arrived late and didn't stay long because of scheduling conflicts.

Tuesday's meeting wasn't a first for Ash. In three previous meetings,

Ash blames poor turnout for process cancellation

he said, only one person attended. "I'm used to this," he said.

Ash had been spearheading the effort to revise the SGA constitution since the last academic year, when it was discovered that a 1993 revision of the constitution had never been ratified. Ash said it was decided to rewrite the constitution rather than ratify the 1993 document. Ash did most of the rewriting himself in July of last year, he said.

"What I wanted to do with this was just give people a skeleton thing to work off of," Ash said. "If people [wanted] to add things, they

[could] do it."

The meeting itself had some spirited discussion when Carrie Mowen, representing the University Program Board, said she thought Ash should have given incentives for student representatives to attend the meeting.

"I'm not doing [this] for bribery," Ash replied. "I don't want people to come because they feel they have to. I want people to come because they are members of the assembly."

see SGA, page 9

Accreditation team set to visit campus

BY SUE BRITT
 staff associate

The North Central Association of Colleges and Schools will visit UM-St. Louis the week of Feb. 8 to review the University for accreditation.

The NCA will review UM-St. Louis on four broad standards. The first is in regard to the mission statement of the University, its purposes and appropriateness. The second, whether the University has the human, financial and physical means to accomplish its purposes. Third, whether the University is accomplishing its educational and other purposes. Fourth, whether the University can continue to reach its goals and can strengthen its educational effectiveness. The last standard to be reviewed is if the University is demonstrating integrity in its practices and relationships.

"Every ten years they come by to see whether we're operating the way we say we're operating, that we are qualified to offer the degrees we say we're offering, that we have the physical resources, the financial resources available, that we have an independent external board that has oversight on what we're doing. That's, of course, our Board of Curators," said Dr. Douglas Wartzok, dean of the Graduate School and associate vice-chancellor of Academic Affairs.

The University began preparation for the NCA review two years ago. Each department spent time doing a self-study and passed on these studies to their respective schools and colleges. The schools and colleges then reviewed this information to form a self-study for their own colleges or schools. This information was given to the steering committee, which included representation from the facul-

see VISIT, page 9

African-American History Month starts with forum

BY JOE HARRIS
 senior editor

African-American History Month kicked off Monday on the UM-St. Louis campus with a roundtable discussion on the desegregation proposal that was voted on Tuesday. The discussion tied in with the theme for African-American History Month, "The Legacy of African-American Leadership for the Present and the Future."

KSDK channel five education reporter Sharon Stevens moderated the event.

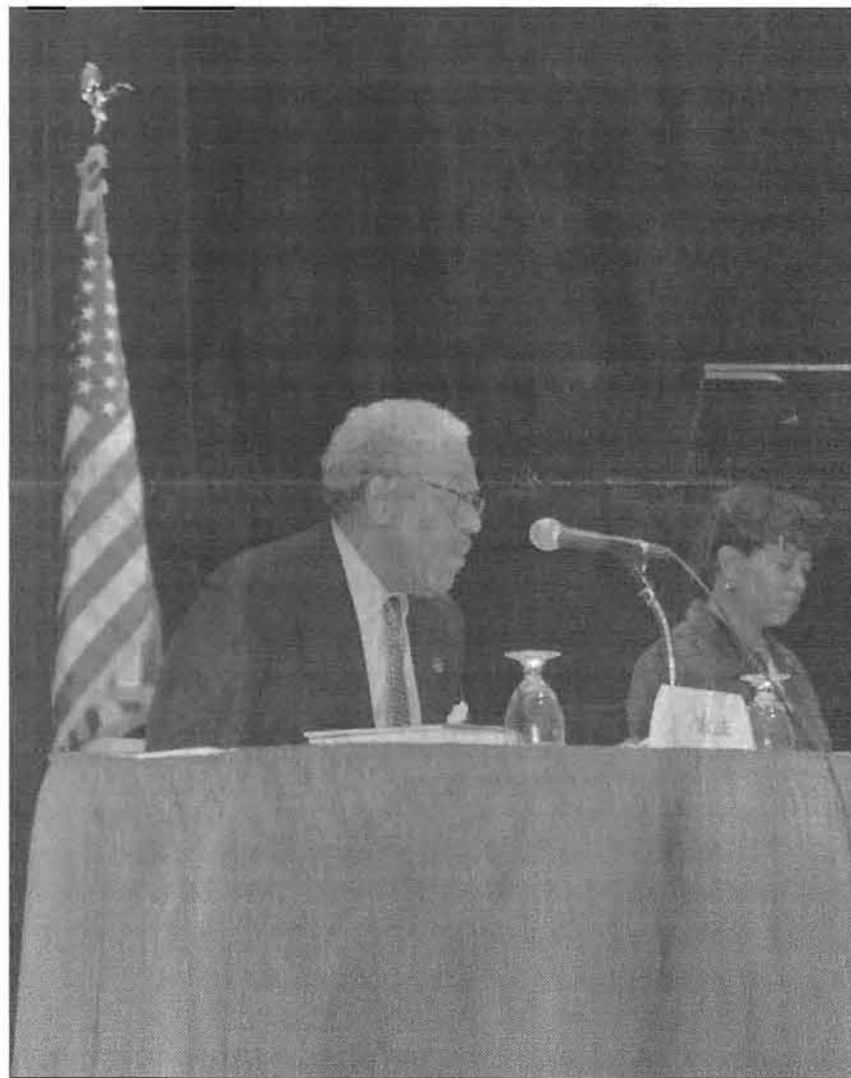
"The legacy that we are leaving to the future, unless we are very careful, is that there will be a slow dismantling of desegregation all over this country and we've seen it start already," said Dr. James A. DeClue, chair of the St. Louis branch of the NAACP education committee. "The most recent of the eight cities [that have stopped desegregation] was Nashville. St. Louis could be number nine depending on the vote tomorrow."

The desegregation proposal passed the following day by a 63% margin.

Sheryl Davenport, president of the St. Louis Teachers Union Local 420 had a problem with the tax framework of the desegregation proposal.

"We were not comfortable with the ability for the tax framework to be part of the desegregation discussion," Davenport said. "We felt then, and we still do, that the two things are separate; however, they were not," she said.

see MONTH, page 8



Mark Lodes/The Current

James DeClue, chair of the St. Louis NAACP education committee speaks at Monday's desegregation forum. Sheryl Davenport, president of the St. Louis Teachers Union Local 420 sits to his left. The debate was the kickoff event for African-American History Month on campus.

Committee passes budget resolution

BY DAVID BAUGHER
 senior editor

The Senate Budget and Planning Committee passed a resolution Friday that "recommends to the Chancellor that the campus follow a budgetary policy based upon a 'pay as you go' principle..." that would attempt to put checks on major funding reallocations.

Political Science professor Dennis Judd, who brought the resolution to the floor, said the proposal was an attempt to keep the campus from making cuts in existing programs in order to fund new ones.

"This resolution is really an attempt to strike a balance and to force administrators to develop the discipline that if they want to propose that the campus grow at a rate that is faster than the rate at which we get new revenues in then they've got to show us what programs they would cut and justify both the new programs against the cuts," Judd said, after the meeting.

The three-part resolution recommended to the Chancellor that "overall, campus-wide reallocations will occur only under

see RESOLUTION, page 8

Two unrelated lawsuits against Curators may soon see closure

BY DAVID BAUGHER
 senior editor

A potential settlement and a dismissal may bring to a close two unrelated lawsuits against the UM Board of Curators.

A suit brought by the St. Louis Minority Contractors' Association against the University in Federal District Court was dismissed late last year, according to the court.

Judge Stephen N. Limbaugh dismissed the case in early December, ordering that the plaintiffs "lack standing to bring this suit."

The suit, originally filed last summer, stemmed from a dispute over the University's awarding a contract to low bidder KCI Construction Co. to build the new University Center, scheduled for completion next year. The suit alleged that the contract was "part of the pattern, practice, and custom of the University to exclude minorities and women from entering into contracts with the University because of their race."

The University had set a goal of 25 percent minority participation for the project. KCI guaranteed 7.8 percent. At

the system's request, that was later upped to 15.5 percent.

In September, a University spokesman defended UM-St. Louis' "excellent" record of minority participation, calling it "probably the best record in the state." He said that the 25 percent figure was a campus goal but not a system rule.

Maureen Zegel, UM-St. Louis' manager of media relations, said the University could not comment on the suit's dismissal.

Eric Vickers, the attorney who originally filed the suit, could not be reached for comment.

In an unrelated case, a settlement may have been reached in a lawsuit brought by Gina Whitfield.

Whitfield, an officer with the UM-St. Louis police department, filed the 29-count complaint in mid-1996 against the UM Board of Curators and two campus officers, alleging "a hostile working environment due to racial and gender discrimination."

"We're still finalizing the documents," said Henry Branom, Whitfield's attorney.

Branom said that he could not com-



Whitfield

ment on "specifics" due to a confidentiality agreement but said the case was in the process of being settled. The U. S. District Court said the case is still officially pending and had not yet been closed.

Bob Samples, director of University Communication said he thought that the case was not yet officially settled.

Named UM - St. Louis' 1998 Best Campus Community Building Program

Bulletin Board

Put it on the Board: The Current Events Bulletin Board is a service provided free of charge to all student organizations and University departments and divisions. Deadline for submissions to The Current Events Bulletin Board is 5 p.m. every Thursday before publication. Space consideration is given to student organizations and is on a first-come, first-served basis. We suggest all submissions be posted at least two weeks prior to the event. Send submissions to: Todd Appel, 7940 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis MO 63121 or fax 516-6811. All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.

Monday, Feb. 8
 • **The North Central Association of Colleges and Schools Site Visiting Team** will hold an open meeting for students from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. in 75 J.C. Penney. Contact: 5898.

• **Chemistry Colloquium "New Directions: Naked Cluster Anions of the Post-Transition Metal."** John Corbett, professor of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Iowa State University, will discuss this topic at 4 p.m. in 451 Benton Hall. Contact: 5311.

Monday Noon Series "Sexuality in Art: Two Attitudes — A Slide Talk" will be presented by Yael Even, associate professor of art and art history. He will analyze "Images of Forbidden Desire" and Marilyn Heldman, adjunct associate professor of art and art history, will discuss "Sex and Struggle in the Desert" in 229 J.C. Penney. Contact: 5699.

Tuesday, Feb. 9
 • **The North Central Association of Colleges and Schools Site Visiting Team** will hold an open meeting for faculty and staff from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. in 75 J.C. Penney. Contact: 5898.

• **"Changing Relationships Between Men and Women and the**

Decline in Intimate Partner Homicide" will be presented by Richard Rosenfeld, professor of criminology and criminal justice, at 12 p.m. in the Kathy J. Weinman Center lower level auditorium. Contact: 6738.

Wednesday, Feb. 10
 • **SOUP AND SOUL FOOD** (free lunch and a time for prayer and meditation) from 12:00 p.m. to 12:50 p.m. at the Normandy United Methodist Church at 8000 Natural Bridge. Sponsored by the Wesley Foundation.

• **Andrew Becker, Hypnotist** will be practicing his craft at 8 p.m. in 126 J.C. Penney. Contact: Residence Hall Association, 6877.

• **3-on-3 Basketball Tournament** will be held from 12:15 to 2:30 p.m. in the Mark Twain Gym. Men's and Women's divisions are offered. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance Choices Group Open House from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in 119 Benton Hall.

Friday, Feb. 12
 • **Sig Tau Mardi Gras Party.** All UM-St. Louis students and girls over 18 are welcome.

• **Sexual Awareness Information Table** will be in the U-Center lobby from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. where information regarding sexual health will be distributed. Contact: Horizons Peer Educators, 5711.

• **"Social Exchange Behavior in Logistics Relationships: A Shipper Perspective"** will be presented by William Cunningham, professor of logistics management at the Air Force Institute and a candidate for the John W. Barringer III Professorship in Transportation Studies, at 2 p.m. in 401 SSB. Contact: 6126.

Monday, Feb. 15
 • **Homecoming Week Table Tennis Tournament.** Matches, scheduled according to player's skill level and availability, will be today through Saturday. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

• **Homecoming Table Tennis Tournament** this week. The Championship Game will be played at the half-time of the Homecoming basketball game. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

• **Fine Arts Exhibit "Witty City,"** an exhibit of humorous illustrations, cartoon art and sketches from the Collection of Bob Staake will be on

display in Gallery FAB. A reception will be held at 6 p.m. Contact: 6967.

• **"Herbal Supplements, Remedies, and Women's Health"** will be discussed by Cynthia Fauser, registered dietician and nutrition specialist with the University Extension, at 7 p.m. in 75 J.C. Penney. Contact: Debra Knox Deiermann, 432-3575.

Wednesday, Feb. 17
 • **Interfaith Ash Wednesday Service of Ashes** at 12:05 p.m. in 72 J.C. Penney. Contact: 385-3455.

Thursday, Feb. 18
 • **"The Numbers Game: Sports"** is part of the Math Club Film Series and will be shown at 2 p.m. in 132 SSB.

• **"Europe in the Twenty-First Century"** will be discussed by Lech Walesa, the Nobel Peace Prize winning former president of Poland at 8 p.m. in the J.C. Penney Auditorium with a reception to follow in the lobby of J.C. Penney. Contact: Student Activities, 5291.

Monday, Feb. 22
 • **African American History Month Event "I Am A Man"** will be from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in 229 J.C. Penney. Contact: Center for the Humanities, 5699.

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Campus CrimeLine

The Campus CrimeLine is a free service provided by the UM-St. Louis Police Department to promote safety through awareness.

January 6, 1999
 A maintenance employee reported that between 12:00 a.m. and 12:30 a.m., a six foot ladder was stolen from the bed of a maintenance truck. The truck was parked in the rear of the Mark Twain Building.

UPDATE: The stolen ladder was recovered from a vehicle parked at the U-Meadows at 4:20 a.m. The vehicle's owner found the ladder in the street on Mark Twain drive on January 14, 1999.

A student reported that between 8:50 p.m. and

9:00 p.m., a pair of men's shoes were stolen from an insecure locker in the men's locker room at the Mark Twain Building.

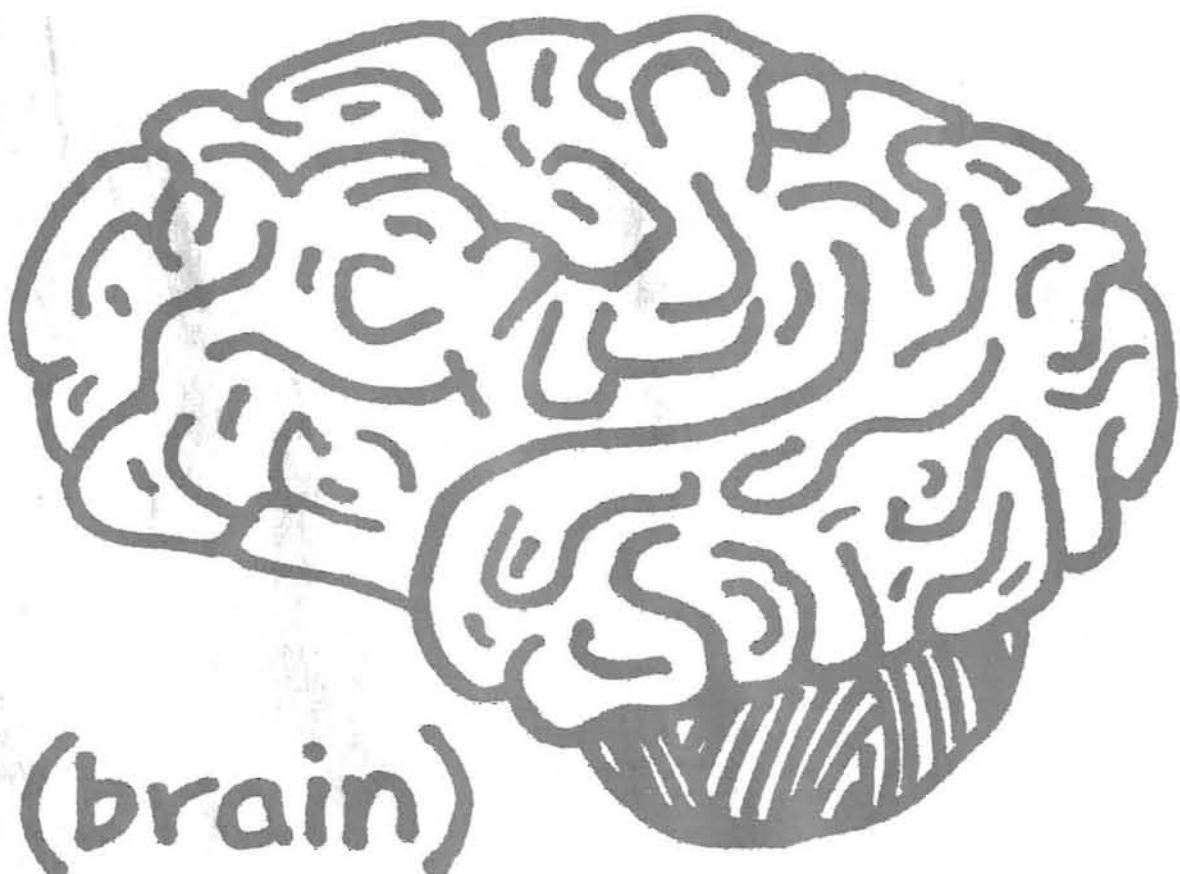
January 20, 1999
 A student residing at the U-Meadows reported that a Ralph Lauren shirt and a pair of Levi jeans were stolen between 8 p.m. and 9 p.m. from the clothes dryer at the complex laundry room.

January 21, 1999
 A student reported that on January 20, between 12:00 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. two Ford hubcaps were

stolen from her vehicle while it was parked on the second level of Garage "C". An Optometry Clinic employee reported the theft of two pair of eyeglass frames from the clinic display cases. The theft is believed to have occurred between 5 p.m. and 8 p.m.

A student reported that between 8:00 p.m. to 10:50 p.m. a Black Leather Binder valued at \$250.00 was stolen from 110 South Campus Classroom Building. Inside the binder was \$300.00 cash and a check-book. The student made the discovery after missing the binder on her arrival home.

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FEATURES

Amy Lombardo, Features Editor
Phone 516-5174, Fax 516-6811

GET THIS

Valentine's Day brings tough decisions again

I cannot believe it's already February. It seems like only yesterday I was writing out my New Year's resolutions, and now it's almost Valentine's Day.

The reason I bring this up is because I consider New Year's Eve and Valentine's Day to be the two most overrated holidays in existence.

Even Groundhog's Day serves a practical purpose. It answers that all-important question: Will there be six more weeks of winter or not? (Although this year I hear there was some heavy controversy between a few of the little varmints.)

New Year's Eve, however, is just a forced pressure on everyone to have an outrageous amount of fun and to kiss someone at midnight. As if having a good time under all that stress wasn't hard enough, you are then expected to lock lips with someone, whether you really want



to or not, **AMY LOMBARDO** Features Editor merely because the big hand on the clock has once again been successful in reaching the 12 at the precise moment the small hand is pointing in that very direction.

Forgive me if my utter amazement for this rare phenomenon doesn't show, I'm very guarded about such overwhelming occurrences.

My friends and I used to make the huge mistake of building our expectations so high that nothing could have ever lived up to them. It seemed that every year, the event became more and more disappointing.

I suppose it helps if you happen to have a guaranteed smooching partner on December 31, but even that doesn't necessarily equate a rocking good time.

On more than one occasion I have had all the necessary props, and still, the evening turned out to be a dud.

The same goes for Valentine's Day. Having a significant other/blind date/cousin-of-opposite-sex-visiting-from-out-of-town may make things somewhat easier, but not always. What if you are a relatively new couple? Then comes the tremendous dilemma of how to handle a day that holds such a romantic theme. Do you get a gift or just a card? If you do get a gift, what kind? Should it be funny (flavored body oil that heats up when applied) or imply sexy thoughts (actually, that again could be flavored body oil...)? Maybe just some flowers or perfume/cologne. But what's their favorite kind/brand? Are they allergic? Candy is always a good standby. Unless, of course, the recipient is worried about their weight. Or, they could be allergic. Do you go out to dinner or cook dinner at home? Going out will bring about hassles of long lines, wait lists, lost reservations and spending a considerable amount of cash. Cooking at home is sweet and thoughtful, but it could imply that a) you are cheap, or b) you want to have a bedroom nearby.

All of this, and for what? St. Valentine certainly didn't intend all this to happen, I'm sure. He would probably be a tad bit disgusted at the three-ring circus his name has become.

Where's the love? Where's the tenderness? Certainly not at the card shops and jewelry stores.

I suppose the trick is to simply enjoy the tradition and true meaning behind these two highly commercialized celebrations, and forget about the noise-makers and candy hearts. Maybe that's the best approach to all holidays.



Stephanie Platt/The Current

PICTURE PERFECT

BY AMY LOMBARDO
staff editor

A local art gallery is currently hosting their fifth annual show that provides area college students with the opportunity to display their work in a public venue.

Art St. Louis is a not-for-profit gallery located downtown in the Saint Louis Design Center at 917 Locust St. "Varsity Art V" exhibits pieces by 27 art students from 14 nearby universities from Jan. 25 through Mar. 12.

The featured work is a collaboration of many different media, including ceramics, computer generated artwork, mixed media, painting, sculpture, photography, installation work, and metal. Two of the select group, David Spear and Heath Wilson, come from UM-St. Louis.

Spear, a senior, is majoring in fine arts. He began his collegiate journey six years ago at the University of Missouri-Columbia. He transferred to UM-St. Louis three years ago and is currently taking his last course, a year-long senior seminar.

"I've done everything. I've been in school for six years! I've done pottery, I've done a year of metalworks... I kind of like to just do whatever I can get my hands on," Spear said. "If someone hands me a block of wood and some carving tools, I'll go at it and see what I can do."

Spear recently had two pieces, "Jazz on View," at the St. Louis Artist Guild. His work is also displayed at Cicero's on Delmar in University City.

The project at Cicero's consists of four four-by-eight foot murals, completed with some help from his parents and his girlfriend in three days.

"I was on a ladder for 16 hours a day. I lost the feeling in my right toe," Spear said. "They were going to have an artist each do a different one, and they just asked me to do them all."

In the past, Spear's art has been influenced by music, specifically jazz. He attempted to create a visual equivalent of

the sounds he heard. For the show at Art St. Louis, he went in a different direction in his painting.

"I tried to dig a little bit deeper when I did (the "Varsity Art V" pieces)... It's more surrealistic and more confusing than the jazz ones probably are," Spear said. "It's so cliché-ish in one point, and so absolutely real and true at the other end of the spectrum... You can see a big block on the wall and think, 'Wow, that's really creative and true to what it is!' or 'It's total crap!'"

Wilson is a senior, majoring in photography. He also began at an alternate university - and with a very different major.

"I started my first year at UM-Rolla. I was in nuclear engineering, and I decided it wasn't for me," Wilson said. "I knew photography was something I wanted to do, so when I noticed that [UM-St. Louis] had this new program here... I jumped into it real quick."

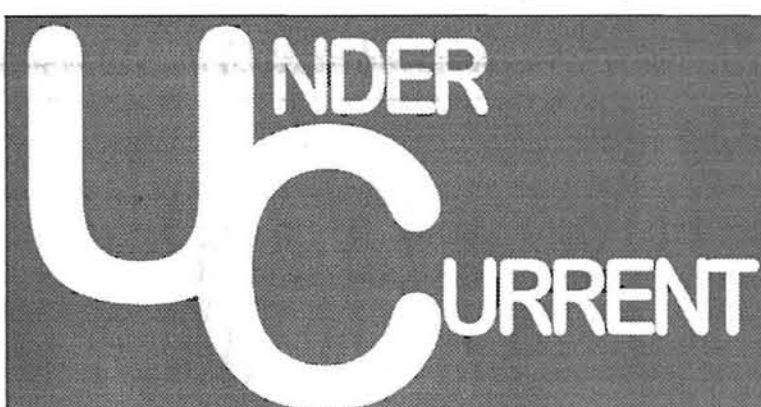
Wilson takes pictures of things that people may have seen before, but at unusual angles or extreme close-ups to make them appear abstract, to make the ordinary extraordinary.

"First, I just started off doing close-ups of body parts, mainly my fiancée, because I just like finding all those little features on your body and capturing those," Wilson said. "I tried to develop further on to that. I wanted to keep it life-related, whether it was human or whatever."

Wilson's piece for "Varsity Art V" grew from a set of small works into one large finished product. It's a combination of 18 images, with three images layered on top of each other. The top and bottom are of the human anatomy, and the middle is made up of deer innards - the heart, the outside lining of the stomach, the intestines - that Wilson snapped after a hunting trip last November.

"It's just to see the beauty in the little things that are surrounding you, the things that you think are ugly or disgusting or have nothing to do with beauty. I try and select out the surrounding areas so you don't know what it is and [you can] focus on the beauty," Wilson said. "But once people figure them out, they don't like them anymore because all they can see is that it was guts."

UM-St. Louis senior David Spear



compiled by Jeremy Pratte/staff photographer

If you could have any product named after you, what would it be?

"Have my own condom company; Lewis Latex 'Just in case.'"

-Chris Lewis
Sophomore/Business



"If I could have any product named after me, I'd have to say boxer shorts."

-Britt Gill
Freshman/English

"My own clothing label."

-Melissa Royster
Junior/Psychology



"Have my own car company."

-Brian Sciuto
Freshman/Graphic Design

"A bicycle."

-Aya Nemoto
Freshman/English



Beckmann display gives window on early Paris

BY ANNE PORTER
staff associate

If one was an artist and wanted to achieve international status in the 1920's and 1930's, Paris was the place to be.

Max Beckmann in the early 1920's had already earned fame in Germany for his artwork, but Beckmann wanted to compete on an international level with renowned artists such as Pablo Picasso, Henry Matisse, Georges Braque, and Fernand Leger.

In 1925, Beckmann lived in Paris for many months of the year. In 1929, Beckmann settled in Paris for an extended time period, accompanied by his second wife Mathilde von Kaulbach.

Von Kaulbach, nicknamed "Quappi," was 20 years younger than Beckmann and brought a much lighter and brighter side to Beckmann's art.

In Paris, Beckmann and Quappi, with the goal to enter Parisian society, drank champagne, explored the boulevards, and visited Paris' attractions.

Beckmann and Paris, an exhibition at the St. Louis Art Museum, combines the work of Beckmann, Picasso, Leger, Braque, Matisse, and Rouault to show Beckmann is an equal contemporary.

Nearly one hundred paintings, compiled from public and private collections, can now be seen together for comparison. This has never been done before.

The curators of Beckmann and Paris are Cornelia Homburg, curator of Modern Art and the St. Louis Art Museum, and Tobia Bezzola, curator of Exhibitions at Kunsthau Zurich.

The St. Louis Art Museum has the largest collection of Beckmann in the world which numbers about 42. This is because of contributions from St. Louisians that became interested in Beckmann's work when he taught at Washington University.

"What I feel is this is the first time an exhibit has brought together artists of France and Beckmann," Homburg said.

Beckmann is seen as the typical German painter - dark, heavy, mythological, serious. Beckmann and

Paris shows a complete different side to Beckmann, which perhaps was inspired by Quappi.

"His paintings reflect a greater sense of color when in Paris," Homburg said. "I feel most of the work here did reflect this competition he felt with his contemporaries."

It is interesting that Beckmann did not attempt to meet Picasso, Matisse, or his other contemporaries in Paris, which makes the comparisons so amazing.

Much similarity can be seen in the portraits of women. In the comparison between "Odalisque" by Matisse and "Resting Woman with Carnations" by Beckmann, the same reclining position and blue-green and yellow color schemes are used.

It's not a purposeful copy, but just reflective of the ideas of Parisian art at the time. The effect given is different because the "Resting Woman with Carnations" presents a much more seductive image.

In the "Portrait of Minna Beckmann-Tube" by Beckmann and "Woman in a Blue Veil" by Picasso, the similarities in color scheme and heavy curviness of arms is astonishing. The Beckmann portrait casts a more realistic and lifelike light to the viewer which is quite refreshing.

Another comparison of Beckmann's "Portrait of N. M. Zeretelli" and Picasso's "Harlequin," show the same likeness that reminds the viewer of the same image, although the way the images are presented is completely different.

"We wanted inspiration of competition and life in that city which made [Beckmann] feel the way he did and paint these things," Homburg said.

The Beckmann and Paris exhibit will be displayed until May 9 at the St. Louis Art Museum. Admission to the exhibit, which includes the audio tour, is \$8 for adults, \$6 for students and seniors, \$4 for children 6-12, and free for children under six. The exhibit is free for all on Tuesdays; with the audio tour, it is \$3 for adults and \$2 for seniors and students. For Museum members, the tour and audio tour are free at all times. For more information on Beckmann and Paris, call (314) 721-0072.



Portrait of Minna Beckmann-Tube, 1924

COMMENTARY

The Current

THE STUDENT VOICE OF UM-ST. LOUIS

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OUR OPINION

History month deserves participation

The Issue:

UM-St. Louis students and faculty have long held on to strong feelings of apathy.

We Suggest:

Attend activities on campus in celebration of this month.

So what do you think?

Let us hear from you on this or any issue in a letter to the editor.

The lack of student and faculty involvement at the UM-St. Louis African-American History Month kick-off event is alarming, but not surprising.

Student apathy has long been an affliction of which this campus cannot rid itself. It is not only contained within this one event; it stretches across the board into all aspects of UM-St. Louis campus life.

Fortunately, if there is a time to cure this apathy it is now, during African-American History Month. This month not only affords us the opportunity to look at the contributions of African-Americans to society, it gives everyone a chance to understand a different culture.

This month affords students and faculty alike a chance to break down these communication barriers

together. Black, white, Native American, Asian, men, women, it doesn't matter. The important thing is that people from different cultures are communicating with each other when they otherwise would not.

In turn, matters like racial and sexual discrimination can eventually be overcome. It will be a long road and it will take years of effort, but through constant communication and interaction it can be done.

It starts now, though. There are still several activities relating to African-American History Month that students can take part in and the Office of Equal Opportunity in Woods Hall will be more than willing to assist interested students.

Fight apathy, expand your boundaries, and make this campus a better place to be.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Clarification for the last campus senate meeting

In *The Current's* January 25 article on the proposal to grant Senate voting rights to non-regular faculty, Prof. Joseph Martinich was quoted as saying at the Senate meeting on January 19, that "a secret ballot was requested and was denied." I would like to offer a clarification of this matter.

According to University Rules and Regulations, the Senate follows Robert's Rules of Order, and those rules state that a ballot procedure

must be "ordered by the assembly." The request for a ballot was put to a vote, and a strong majority of the Senators present were opposed to a ballot. Therefore, the motion under debate was decided by the normal procedure, i.e., a voice vote. The motion in favor of voting rights was passed, also by a strong majority.

-Dr. Jeanne Zarucchi
Chair, University Senate

Sexual orientation not so private and invisible

Speaking at the Board of Curators meeting Friday, January 29, University President Manuel T. Pacheco warned students and faculty to stay in the closet. No, he did not say it explicitly. Instead, he recommended Executive Order #3, which subsequently passed; this order substitutes vaguely worded guarantees of a "positive work and learning environment" for the direct disavowal of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. Hundreds of students, staff, and faculty had sent letters and made telephone calls to seek full inclusion. Refusing to specify sexual orientation by name, one curator added importantly that sexual orientation should be, in any case, private and invisible.

In keeping with the board's desires, we would like to make a modest proposal for full implementation. Starting on Valentine's Day, February 14, we request that all signs of sexual orientation be excluded from campus. Of course, no one minds if you keep photographs of your spouse in your wallet, but please, please do not subject the academic community to unneeded information about what you do in bed. All signs of sexual orientation should go private. No "Miss" or "Mrs." used on campus; no off-handed references to "my wife" or "my husband" in the classroom or during office hours; no requests to take a personal day to get married or go on a honeymoon. This sort of behavior needlessly contributes to heterosexual stereotypes.

Some details still need to be worked out. The Heterosexual Agenda is notoriously subtle in its devices. Fraternities and sororities must comply. An orientation-neutral campus has no room for provocative

parties. Human Resource Services would be expected to modify everything from library privileges to pensions in accord with the new closet mandate. University social events should be strictly limited to people employed here, and we respectfully request that top administration officials model this behavior for the impressionable young. We look forward to the day when we shall know nothing, absolutely nothing about one another's private lives.

The absurdity of this modest proposal demonstrates the inadequacy of the board's recent action. The board's executive resolution, while seemingly innocuous, sets a dangerous precedent. Instead of forthrightly banning discrimination based on sexual orientation, it panders to homophobia. The executive order leaves the door open to discrimination based on sexual orientation and asks that only lesbians and gays crowd the closet-hidden sexual identity. The brutal murder of Matthew Shepard, a University of Wyoming student, spurred the most recent effort to protect gay rights on University of Missouri campuses. It seems, however, that his October 1998 killing has already lost its impact.

So, until the University implements a genuine non-discrimination policy, we invite everyone, regardless of sexual orientation, lack thereof, or obsession with, to join with us in the consistently applied policy outlined above.

-Gerda W. Ray
John Works

GUEST COMMENTARY

The problems with Student Government

Jeanne Zarucchi's much deserved tongue-lashing of student politicians at the recent SGA meeting was on target. In fact, it was appreciated by some of the assembly who understand the importance of student representation at policy-forming bodies on this campus. The manner in which it was conducted, however, left much to be desired. Professor Zarucchi should not have been allowed to simply walk into the meeting, chew us out, and then duck out of the room before any of the representatives had a chance to respond. The major reason I bring this up is not so much because I wish that those who disagreed with her had had a chance to argue their points (I do, in fact, support wholeheartedly the content of her presentation); rather, it's because most SGA reps are probably unaware of the feeling of the Faculty Council toward the students. What Zarucchi failed to mention Thursday, and what only about the 12 people on this campus who read *The Current* are aware of, is that the general feeling among the Faculty Council is that students should be ousted from the senate altogether, and the lack of participation that Zarucchi described is the major support for these feelings. Now, had Zarucchi brought this up at the SGA meeting, she definitely would have had a debate on her hands. By counting on our ignorance, however, she felt she could simply say her peace and leave.

This kind of thing should not be tolerated by the SGA, especially when Zarucchi was never on the meeting's agenda in the first place.

Unfortunately, this is just one more symptom of an SGA whose meetings have been getting harder and harder to endure since the beginning of the school year. Part of the blame for the Zarucchi incident should fall on the SGA chairperson, who I understand resigned afterwards. The chair could have spoken up quickly and asked if there was a response, but this didn't happen. Many reps wonder why we even have a chairperson, as it seemed like every word out of her mouth was whispered up to her first by the members of the executive board, making her nothing but the board's puppet. This created an unfortunate situation where the executive board had complete control of the meetings, instead of an impartial chair. It allows for scenarios such as that at the most recent meeting: a badly run debate about the University

Center, where questions were repeated by people who hadn't listened when someone else asked the same thing, where non-members of the assembly were allowed too much time to speak, and where no one understood the situation any better than they had before. We student government representatives should not permit this situation anymore.



D. MIKE BAUER
Guest Commentary

Caution: Do not use this product

By now you've probably taken down your Christmas lights. (At least we hope you have, otherwise the tree is getting awfully brown by now.) What you may have missed is an odd warning on the side of the box telling you that your lights should not have been on your tree at all.

"CAUTION: To reduce the risk of fire and electric shock . . . Do not install on trees having needles, leaves or branch coverings made of metal or materials which look like metal."

Interestingly enough, virtually every light string I found in my local department store had this warning or some variety of it protecting me from the dangers of having Christmas lights on my Christmas tree.

This leaves me with only one question: What exactly is it that I'm supposed to do with my brand new set of Christmas lights? Correct me if I'm wrong but the evils of "needles" and "branch coverings made of metal" would seem to rule out mounting them not only on most man-made trees but on pretty much all of those produced by nature as well, so unless your idea of a warm, traditional, yuletide experience involves singing carols with the family while decorating your old freestanding hat rack, you may be in for some disappointments next holiday season.

You could always take your life in your hands, of course, and risk marring your holiday with "fire and electrical shock" ("Okay, Timmy, Susie — daddy's going to dress the tree now, everybody put your safety goggles on.") but is it really worth it?

Even the packages themselves seem to suggest that you won't obey their directions. One had instructions for putting the lights on the tree on the same panel of the box which warns you of the dire consequences of doing so.

I'm not suggesting that you shouldn't unplug your tree at night nor am I denying that there is a real risk in the odd, Western tradition of wrapping a rapidly drying piece of tinder wood in live electrical cord, studded with hot bulbs. I only wonder if maybe these warnings shouldn't be taken for granted. Don't most of us understand and accept life's risks or at any rate decide to avoid them by celebrating the season without a tree? Must we be told that life is dangerous on the side of a holiday light box?

Maybe we must, but I suppose none of us have to worry about it right now. Fortunately, it'll be another nine or ten months at least before we again take our lives in our hands and hang our stockings with care.

CAUTION: To reduce risk of fire, do not hang stockings directly over fireplace.

Policy threatens everyone's freedom

I'll start off bluntly: last month's decision by the UM Board of Curators not to include sexual orientation among the list of protected groups in the system's discrimination policy is a subtle outrage.

You may ask what a subtle outrage is; I don't know myself, but it is the best way to describe my feelings on this issue. What I'm trying to say is that I wasn't totally outraged at first. I felt that it didn't affect me since I wasn't included in this group.

However, the more and more I thought about the issue and all of its ramifications, the more upset I became. I realized that this does affect me, and it affects every other student in the UM system.

The board's failure to include sexual orientation leaves students in this group vulnerable to attack, persecution, and hate. It denies these students equal opportunity to learn and to participate in campus life.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said it best, "Freedom denied anywhere, is a threat to freedom everywhere."

If the Board of Curators is allowed to deny this particular group inclusion into the discrimination policy, what will they do next?

None of our liberties and rights, not only as students but also as human beings, should be discarded because of an unpopular belief or preference. If we, as students, continue to lie down and close our eyes to this injustice because we feel that it does not affect us, then our freedom as students and humans is all but gone.

Believe it or not, it does affect us. The issue isn't about sexual preference; it's about equal rights for all.

Curator Paul Steele was quoted in this publication a week ago as saying, "Sexual orientation is a private matter, a personal inner matter, and I believe it should stay that way." That's perfectly fine and I actually feel the same way. Unfortunately, others do not.

I would like to see Steele say that to a homosexual who has been constantly harassed, ridiculed, and denied basic human dignities that we as heterosexuals take for granted.

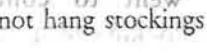
I'm also sure that the individuals that this ruling mostly affects would also like to agree with Steele. Intolerance and bigotry, though, have no care for privacy, and this is why this group of people are fighting desperately for their rights.

Homosexuals, and bisexuals, are a target group for hate groups. They are a targeted group just like race, gender, and people with disabilities are targeted groups. How is this group different?

It is time for the student body to bond together to not only support the inclusion of sexual orientation into the UM discrimination policy, but to come together as human beings. We may be different, but we are all here for the same thing: a right to learn and grow in a non-threatening environment. Inclusion now.



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OFF THE WALL

Young players fuel wide open NBA race

The NBA burned many fans during their season threatening strike. Unlike many fans though, I watched last Friday's games with much anticipation.

Many people are going to stay away from pro basketball as a boycott. Those who do will miss one of the best seasons in recent memory.

Throughout the league many of the teams will have a good opportunity of getting to the NBA finals. With the retirement of Michael Jordan, most teams are going for broke and building their teams to win this season.

The New York Knicks went out and took a chance on bad boy Latrell Sprewell and it seems to have paid off. With Sprewell back in all-star form, the Knicks are a heavy favorite in the Eastern Conference.



The move is just one example of the

major moves in the league following last season's finals. Big name players like Scottie Pippen, Chris Webber, Charles Oakley, Steve Kerr, John Starks, Antonio McDyess, and Tom Gugliotta all changed teams in recent months. All went to contending teams looking to make a run for the championship.

Throw in the cast of young lovable players like Larry Hughes, Kevin Garnett, Robert Traylor and Keith Van Horn and this season could be the year to watch.

The young guys are head and shoulders above their predecessors of years past. Maybe coming into the league a few years early helped them mature faster.

There are also some really good stories this season. After playing for what seems like an eternity, Dominique Wilkins will return to the big league. The really cool thing about this story is that he will join the Orlando Magic where his brother Gerald plays.

Both Wilkins brothers will have the chance to play on the same team while both are in the twilight of their careers.

Another interesting story is the return of Charles Barkley for what could be his final year in the league. Barkley has played for several clubs and has even been in the NBA Finals, but has always seemed to fall short of winning it all.

With Pippen joining an already solid team, the Houston Rockets could be a team to win it all. They will, however, run into an even stronger opponent: the Utah Jazz.

In my opinion though the finals will be academic. The Indiana Pacers and Utah Jazz will face each other.

They are two of the deepest teams in the league and are the two most fundamental teams in the league. The Jazz have fallen short of the Jordan-led Bulls the past two seasons while the Pacers felt the wrath of Michael in the conference finals.

This year both teams will finally get their chances to shine. For the first time in years, the league isn't going to be decided by a one-man show.

That is the way pro-sports should be decided.

Thawing out . . .

After playing pro ball in Iceland, ex-Riverman Tuckson helps the Riverwomen scorch opponents

BY KEN DUNKIN
staff editor

Kevin Tuckson played his final game for the Rivermen basketball team almost two years ago. Last fall he made his return to UM-St. Louis as an assistant coach for the Riverwomen basketball squad.

Tuckson was once the leading scorer and rebounder for the Rivermen. He led the 1996-97 squad with 15.8 points and 10.9 rebounds per game. This has been his first season of coaching.

"It was weird early in the season," Tuckson said. "When it would come crunch-time I would want to put on a jersey and go out there and play. That is one thing that hasn't gone out of me. I still love basketball."

The love of basketball for Tuckson started at age 4. He began playing on club teams, and in high school he played on the varsity team. He played for UM-St. Louis for four years.

Last year he wrapped up his basketball career playing for a pro team in Iceland. The experience of playing overseas combined with his college career was very fulfilling for Tuckson.

Coaching has given him a different look at basketball, something he hadn't gotten as a player.

"If I hadn't had the chance to be on the flip side by coaching, I may not have known all the reasons as to why we did things," Tuckson said. "When I first started coaching I didn't want to do all the drills and the little things in practice. After a while I realized that we had to do the small things in practice to win."

Suddenly all my old coaches got a lot smarter in my eyes."

One of Tuckson's former coaches at UM-St. Louis said his coming back to the school is a good thing for the women's program.

Rivermen Head Coach Rich Meckfessel should know the benefits of his return to the school. Meckfessel coached Tuckson in his years of playing for UM-St. Louis.

"Kevin will bring a lot to their program," Meckfessel said. "I think it is great."

Tuckson has worked with the women on their inside and post play. Head Coach Shelly Ethridge said that Tuckson has improved the team's play inside the paint.

"All the girls know about Kevin's ability to rebound," Ethridge said. "They really look up to him. Plus he played in the past few years which gives him some of the newer look plays. It has really helped give our players some different ideas to use in game-time situations."

Since Tuckson has joined the coaching ranks, the rebounding for the Riverwomen has greatly improved.

"He takes a lot of pride on his inside game. I think that is why he has focused so much on the inside drills in practice. It has really paid off for us too. We have greatly improved because of Kevin," Ethridge said.

Throughout the coaching experience, Tuckson has realized that he has gotten a great opportunity at an early age. He is coaching at the Division II level at age 23.

"I am really glad I've had the opportu-



Stephanie Platt/The Current

Tuckson explains strategy to a Riverwoman player in practice earlier this season.

nity to coach at such an early age," Tuckson said. "Hopefully I'll have the chance to continue working my way up and stay in basketball for a while. This is a dream come true for me. It keeps the basketball dreams alive for me."

Tuckson is helping put his basketball dreams into many of the Riverwomen players.

He said when he sees some of the players doing things he has taught, it gives him a big thrill.

"It is so much fun working with all the girls," Tuckson said. "I get such a kick out of seeing them do some of the little things that I taught them how to do. Some really small things that no one else may notice. It feels good to know that I had some sort of influence on them."

Women steamroll Panthers

92-70 win moves UM-St. Louis up to third in GLVC

BY KEN DUNKIN
staff editor

Riding off of its five game winning streak, the women's basketball team defeated Kentucky Wesleyan last Thursday 92-70.

The Riverwomen forced Wesleyan to make 24 turnovers in the rout. The defensive game is something the team has done well this season, often keeping opponents to 70 points or below. This is something they must do to keep winning, Head Coach Shelly Ethridge said.

"If we keep playing the way we have been we will be fine," Ethridge said. "One of the biggest strong points of this team is they play with a lot of heart and desire. They dive for loose balls and jump out of bounds to make a save. They really want to win. They carry a lot of desire with them every game."

The desire has shown on the score board. The team is currently 12-8 overall and 11-5 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference; they rank third in the conference.

"We're looking one game at a time. We have some big games coming up, and we need to play 40 minutes of good defense. Bellarmine is going to be a tough opponent, but if we play hard we will always be in the game," Ethridge said.

The team played one of its better games against Wesleyan. They had four players score in double digits. Lindsay Brefeld led the team with 20 points. Amanda Wentzel had 19 points, and Melanie Marcy had 18 points. The team was also strong on shooting from the outside. They shot 52 percent from the 3-point arc.

"Overall it was a picture perfect game," Ethridge said.

"I couldn't be happier."

Ice men rebound, declaw Tigers

Win, resolve keep team in national tourney hunt

BY DAVE KINWORTHY
staff associate

The Rivermen hockey team rebounded from a loss to the University of Missouri and defeated the Tigers 5-3 the following night.

UM-St. Louis was manhandled in its first match against the Tigers, losing 7-3, but the rematch went a little bit differently.

"The difference in this game was attitude," team captain Jason Hessell said. "The guys came out ready to play and had a better performance on the defensive side. We knew we could win, and we did what we had to do to get the job done."

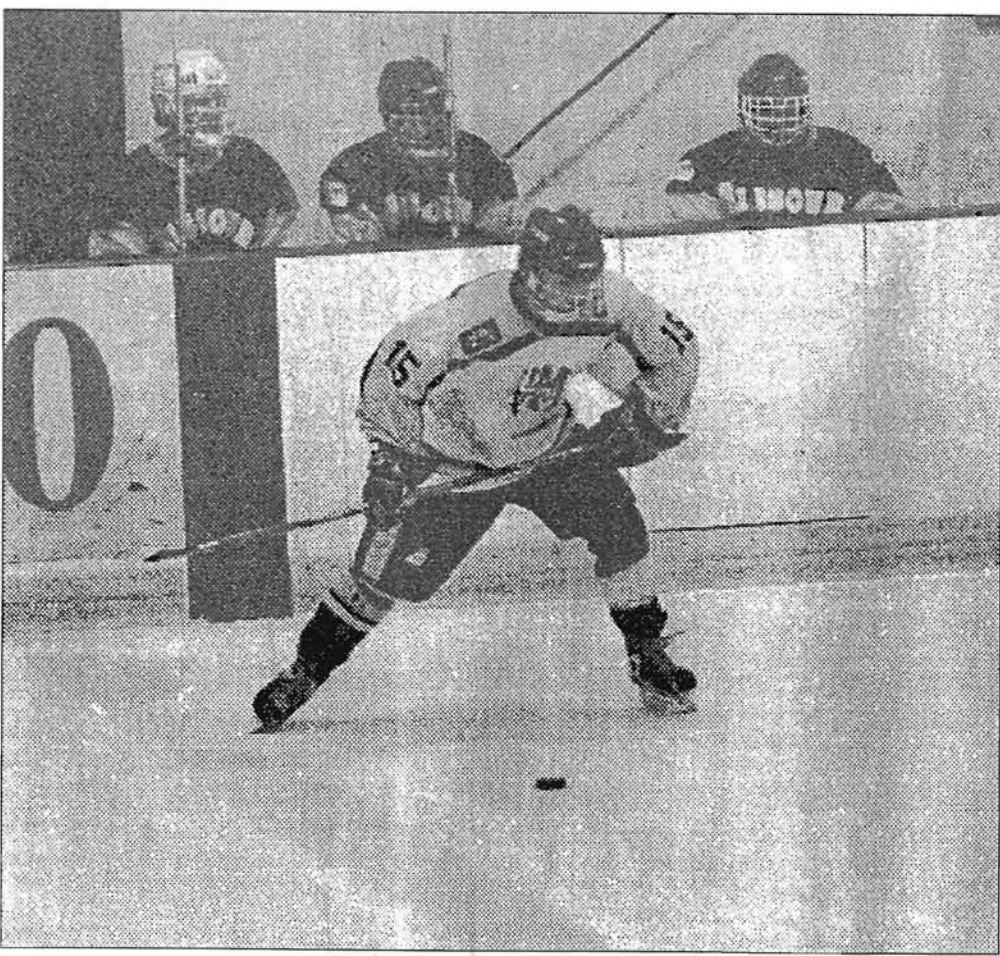
The Rivermen got goals from Ben Gilbertson and Gavin Ott, and Ryan Craig added a pair of his own. The remaining goal was scored by Matt Hessell.

The rebound from the Rivermen posts good signs for the future.

"We were really disgusted with the way we played Friday," Jason Hessell said. "Coach [Greg Gevers] installed a system and since early on, the system has been difficult to adjust to, but I think we are seeing the benefits of it."

The Rivermen are currently ranked 12th in their region, but with the victory against the Tigers, the Rivermen expect to move up.

see HOCKEY, page 10



Stephanie Platt/The Current

Rivermen team captain Jason Hessell winds up for a big slapshot from the point in the first period of last Friday's game against the Missouri Tigers. The Rivermen lost Friday's game 7-3, but rebounded the next night against the Tigers to win 5-3. The victory keeps the Rivermen's national tournament hopes alive. The Rivermen have two more games against the Tigers this week in Jefferson City.

Game at a Glance

Kentucky Wesleyan	36	34	—	70
UM-St. Louis	42	50	—	92

Kent. Wesleyan	PT	FG	3FG	FT	RB
SaDrina Sanders	9	3	1	2	5
Kara Meyer	10	5	0	0	10
Carrie Bridgeman	5	2	0	1	3
Kelly Brewer	17	6	1	4	4
Angie Johnson	13	5	1	2	3
Stephanie Jarvi	0	0	0	0	2
Mary Beth Wolf	10	3	0	4	1
Demetria Tutt	6	1	1	3	2
Tamara Zaborac	0	0	0	0	1
Allison Estes	0	0	0	0	1
Aimee Martin	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	70	25	4	16	42

UM-St. Louis	PT	FG	3FG	FT	RB
Amanda Wentzel	19	6	4	3	1
Krystal Logan	0	0	0	0	1
Sara Mauck	3	1	1	0	3
Melanie Marcy	18	7	0	4	6
Tawanda Daniel	14	6	0	2	5
Jennifer Littleton	6	3	0	0	0
Trish Ackerman	3	1	1	0	0
Pauline Harris	1	0	0	1	2
Melanie Fisher	0	0	0	0	0
Katy Gwaltney	6	2	0	2	2
Lindsay Brefeld	20	7	6	0	2
Keely Klaas	2	0	0	2	0
Lynette Wellen	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	92	33	12	14	38

THIS WEEK IN SPORTS

Contact the Athletic Department for information about these and other events.

	Tuesday	Thursday	Saturday
	9	11	13
Men	vs Quincy 7:30 p.m.	vs SIU-Edwardsville 7:30 p.m.	vs Southern Indiana 7:30 p.m.
Women	vs Quincy 5:15 p.m.	vs SIU-Edwardsville 5:30 p.m.	vs Southern Indiana 5:30 p.m.

GLVC Basketball Standings

	Men		Women	
	GLVC	Overall	GLVC	Overall
Kent. Wesl.	15-1	22-1	N. Kentucky	14-2 18-2
S. Indiana	13-3	17-3	SIUE	12-4 14-5
Lewis	11-5	14-6	Bellarmine	12-4 14-6
N. Kentucky	10-6	13-7	S. Indiana	12-4 14-9
Indianapolis	9-6	11-8	UM-St. Louis	11-5 12-8
Quincy	9-6	11-8	Lewis	9-7 12-8
SIUE	8-8	9-11	Kent. Wesl.	8-8 12-8
St. Joseph's	6-10	7-13	St. Joseph's	8-8 11-9
IUPU-Ft. Wayne	5-11	8-12	Indianapolis	2-13 6-14
Bellarmine	5-11	8-14	Quincy	2-13 3-16
UM-St. Louis	3-13	5-15	Wis.-Parkside	2-14 3-17
Wis.-Parkside	1-15	2-18	IUPU-Ft. Wayne	2-14 2-18

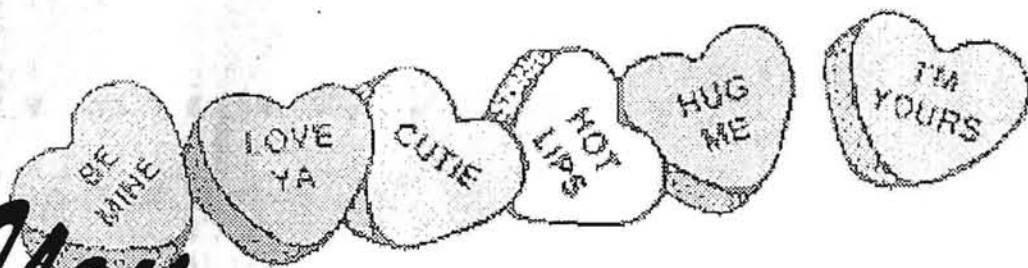
as of February 6, 1999

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SPECIAL FEATURE



Because, I Love You...



UM- St. Louis students share their memories of special Valentine's Days

BY LISA M. PETTIS
special to The Current

Traditionally, Valentine's Day has been a day for lovers or those who wish to be lovers. Cupid shoots his arrow, in some, to deepen their love, and in others, to awaken their love. And although Valentine's Day gifts tend to cater to lovers, there are some that do not exclude those who simply want to show someone you care or that you are thinking about them.

Several UM-St. Louis students shared their unique gift ideas or unique Valentine's gift experiences. Here are some of their responses.

1) Most people are in such a hurry when it's time to buy holiday gifts; they wait until the last minute and still can't find anything they really want. And they definitely don't have time to make anything. Well, that was not the case with Shauna Pitzer who is a senior, majoring

in biology and French.

"My boyfriend made a heart-shaped strawberry cheesecake from scratch. It was delicious!" Pitzer said.

But the love didn't stop there, Shauna shared it with her friends.

2) Alvaro Martin Guerrero is a graduate student in public policy administration. He found a large heart-shaped leaf (this is a true story) around Forest Park. On this leaf, he wrote a letter to his love in France; however, because of the size of the box, this package could not be sent first class.

"Sending it any other way would be too expensive," Guerrero said.

But that's not the end of the story. Alvaro's love will be here to visit him just in time for Valentine's Day where he will personally deliver this special letter.

3) Not only is Alvaro a creator of a unique gift of love, he experienced a unique expression of love in his homeland of Spain. There was a teenager who

had always walked with his girlfriend to the MetroLink, but he could not meet her on this particular day. Alvaro was walking along the Metro Link when he saw a line drawn with chalk on the ground. Alvaro curiously followed this line for 15 to 20 minutes until he ended up on the girl's doorstep, and read the message.

"Sorry, I cannot go with you today, but my line will be with you," Guerrero said.

4) Lisa Woodson is a sophomore in MIS.

"Give them an 'I owe you' coupon," Woodson said.

Lisa said it didn't matter what the message was; you can promise to wash their car or massage their feet—whatever you want to do for that special someone to make them feel good on this special day.

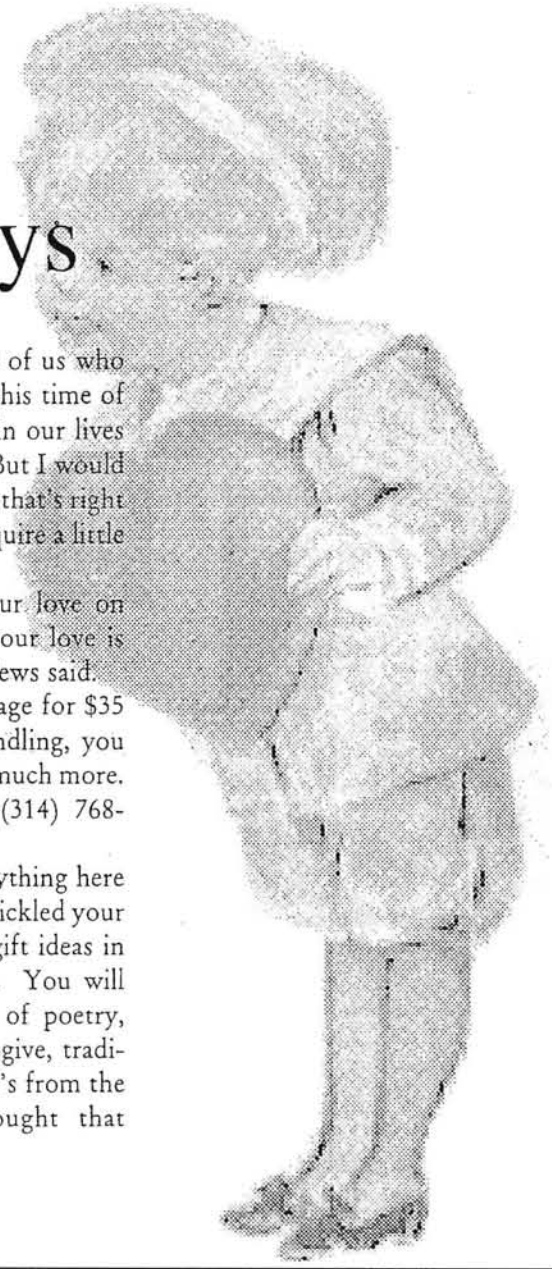
These were the unique gift ideas from some of your peers. They require little

or no money at all, for those of us who have limited budgets during this time of the year or during this time in our lives (being students, of course). But I would like to share a unique gift idea that's right here in St. Louis that does require a little do re mi.

5) "Adopt a lion for your love on Valentine's Day, and show your love is king!" the Saint Louis Zoo News said.

With this special gift package for \$35 plus \$5 for shipping and handling, you receive "two plush toys" and much more. For more information, call (314) 768-5450.

Now if you didn't read anything here that sparked your interest or tickled your fancy, there are many more gift ideas in town, even here on campus. You will find stuffed animals, books of poetry, and more, but whatever you give, traditional or unique, make sure it's from the heart because it's the thought that counts.



EAT OUT:

Melting Pot offers intimacy and good food

The Melting Pot in the U. City Loop is the romantic, intimate, fun, and unforgettable restaurant you've been looking for.

The Melting Pot is a fondue restaurant that specializes in making good food fun with their beautiful atmosphere and table-side cooking techniques. The restaurant opened Jan. 18. Reservations are highly recommended.

The entire restaurant is composed of private booths, recessed lighting, dark stained wood, and beautiful art work. The tables are covered in stone tiles with a heating element in the center on which you put your fondue pot.

Jennifer Hohenberg, owner and native St. Louisian, said she is "trying to create a romantic, yet exciting, yet intimate, yet fun atmosphere."

Hohenberg said she fell in love with the concept when she was a student at American University in Washington, D.C. She worked at The Melting Pot in Washington, D.C. and then went to Florida to train to own her own.

"I didn't want to be an elementary school teacher, and this is the only time in my life that I'll be able to take a risk like this," said Hohenberg. "I decided to jump in with both feet. It's been very successful."

The cheese and dessert fondues are prepared by your server at the table. Entrees consist of prepared

raw meats and vegetables that you cook in oil or broth at your table. Cheese fondues range in price between \$8.95 and \$12.95. Entrees range between \$12.95 and \$19.95. Desserts range between \$8.95 (feeds 1-2) and \$17.90 (feeds 3-4).

Expect to spend between one-and-a-half and two hours for a couple and two-and-a-half to three hours for parties of four or more. This relaxed atmosphere is a pleasant contrast to restaurants that try their hardest to get you in and out as soon as possible.

My companion and I went on a Wednesday night at about 6 p.m. The restaurant really started to get busy by 7 p.m. But because of the private booths, the restaurant never lost its intimate atmosphere.

We started the dinner with the Traditional Kirschwasser Cheese

Fondue (\$8.95). It is a combination of Gruyere and Emmentaler Swiss cheese, white wine, Kirschwasser (cherry brandy), lemon juice, garlic, nutmeg and pepper. It is served with rye and French bread, green apple and fresh vegetables. It was an excellent combination of flavors. The preparation was intriguing.

They have excellent salads. We sampled the mushroom and the California salads (\$4.50 each). The mushroom salad is fairly plain; fresh sliced white mushrooms served over

a bed of lettuce with an Italian dressing. The California salad on the other hand was a fantastic combination of flavors; walnuts, gorgonzola cheese, plum tomatoes, served over mixed greens with a raspberry walnut vinaigrette dressing.

For a main entree I had the French Quarter (\$16.95) and my companion had the Tuscan (\$13.95). The Tuscan consisted of chicken, breaded eggplant, zucchini, onion and spinach ravioli. It was served with gorgonzola, pesto and marinara sauce. It was good, but the breading didn't stay on the vegetables very well and it was relatively bland. However, the French Quarter had much more spice and texture. It consisted of shrimp, chicken, and beef rubbed in Cajun spices and fresh vegetables that could be battered and cooked. They serve a tempura and a sesame seed batter with the vegetables. The French quarter was served with a light cucumber sauce, a Cajun sauce that was a little too sweet for my liking.

We finished the meal with the Flaming Turtle dessert fondue (\$8.95). It was a combination of chocolate, caramel, and pecans. They serve a dipping tray of bananas, strawberries, pineapple, pound cake and cheesecake. It was an excellent dessert, except our waiter never brought us the pecans for the dessert.

The Melting Pot is the perfect restaurant to impress a first date, spend quality time with a lover or just to have a good time with friends. Be sure to make reservations. This is bound to be a St. Louis favorite in no time.

The Melting Pot

In The "Loop"

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Reservations

Recommended

'Old 66' is a trip for the tastebuds

Old 66 Brewery and Restaurant
9846 Watson Road
(314) 965-8866

Let's face it - restaurant food can be pretty standard fare sometimes. If we go to a restaurant and order a particular dish (say, a burger), we know it's going to taste pretty much the same from one restaurant to the next. While some of us take comfort in always knowing what to expect, for others, this pattern can get rather dull.

If you're in this latter category of restaurant-goers, take heart - the Old 66 Brewery and Restaurant, which opened in Crestwood last spring, is just for you. Here, a burger isn't just a burger; Old 66 makes one from portobello mushrooms instead of meat. Likewise, most of their menu items take tried and true favorites and add a special twist that sets them apart from generic restaurant offerings.

One example of Old 66's unique dishes is their shrimp and logostino pasta. This one is distinctive because of its main ingredient: jalapeno fetucini. It has a milder taste than you'd expect, but enough of a kick that it adds flavor to the shrimp without being overwhelming.

Another entree worth trying is the aforementioned portobello mushroom burger. Served with veggies on a whole wheat bun, this is a good meat alternative for vegetari-

ans or for anyone who wants to experiment with something a little unusual. Even if you're not quite as adventurous, there's still menu items like burgers and fries to accommodate your tastes. Regardless of what you order, you'll find all the meals are served in large dishes with creatively placed garnishes (check out the way the custard is served with the chocolate bread pudding dessert).

One of Old 66's major distinctions is its selection of microbrewed beers, brewed right on the premises. If you find the array of selections on the menu a little confusing, try the sampler - you'll get six small glasses of beer for \$6. The beers range from the Light Golden Ale, which tastes similar to many regular microbrews, to the Oatmeal Stout, which is higher in alcohol content and definitely not for those who prefer bland-tasting beer.

The downside to this restaurant is the prices. Most of the entrees fall in the \$9-\$14 range, and the portions aren't always worth what you pay for (skip the appetizer sampler - you get very little food considering the \$9 price tag). Overall, however, you'll find Old 66 and its casual, comfortable atmosphere to be worth it if you're craving something a little out of the ordinary.

-Mary Lindsley

UNDER
4c
CURRENT

compiled by Mark Lodes and Jeremy Pratte
staff photographers

What is your most memorable Valentine's Day experience?



"It's going to be this V-Day when I'm in Jackson Hole Wyoming, cuz I'm gonna carve a phat heart in the snow with my snowboard for my dog Spuma."

-Bill Scherer
Junior/Business



"Last year I went to Mardi Gras in LA. It was a surprise."

-Vanessa Tryon
Senior/Communication



"A big fight with my ex-wife."

-Trent Switzer
Junior/Business



"One year, my boyfriend and I had very elaborate plans. None of them turned out and we had a great time just staying in."

-Joanne Rieff
Senior/Biology

Concert Preview

'Heart and Soul' German Style

It's Valentine's Day. You want to impress that special someone. You reach for the phone to make reservations for that expensive new restaurant when suddenly you realize that you're a student and you're broke.

Do not fear, young lovers. Premiere Performances will be presenting the group Die Singphoniker at the Sheldon Concert Hall on Sunday Feb. 14. Combine the beauty of the concert hall and the amazing voices of a male cappella ensemble at a very reasonable price, and you're bound to create an unforgettable Valentine's Day. For all of you that strongly dislike Valentine's Day; get out of the house, bring a friend and experience all of the above without any commitment at the same reasonable price.

The group Die Singphoniker started in 1980, when six students at the Academy of Music in Munich formed a vocal ensemble for a concert tour in Italy. Their first public performance was in Munich in 1982. They have traveled all over Europe with great success. This is their first tour to the United States.

The group has an extensive repertoire that they continue to add to. It encompasses anything from plain chant to romantic ballads to modern jazz and popular standards.

Christian Schmidt, bass, said that the ensemble had an interest in the music of the Comedian Harmonists

of the 1920s.

"We had a few songs that we performed," Schmidt said. "They were so well received that we continued to find more pieces to perform."

The music of the Comedian Harmonist became a central feature to their performances. The Comedian Harmonists were a group of musicians during the 1920s who's music reflected the social phenomena that occurred during the '20s and '30s before the Nazis put them out of business. It is a combination of careful arrangements and witty German songwords.

The group will sing this in contrast to Kurt Weil's "Berliner Requiem." This secular requiem also reflects on the changing social climate of Germany. Weil parodies the old-fashioned customs with light musical sections.

"At that time, you could hear the Requiem played on the radio and at the same time go to the clubs and hear the Comedian Harmonists. It was a very interesting period of time," Schmidt said.

The ensemble will also sing pieces by Schubert and Rossini.

The award winning group, with their warm voices, should be a delightfully unique way to spend Feb. 14 with friends and loved ones. For more information or tickets, call 516-5818.

-Stephanie Platt

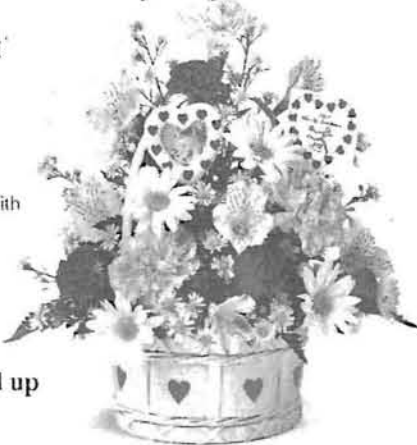


Die Singphoniker

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Corrections

In Issue 942, the College of DuPage was misidentified.

In Issue 944, a schedule of African-American History Month events listed the performance of "I Am a Man." In fact, the play will be discussed, not performed at the listed time.

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University of Missouri-St. Louis *Premiere Performances 1998-99*

Movie Review/Interview

'Rushmore' has Keaton-like feel

"Rushmore" (rated R)
(Opening on Feb. 5 at the Esquire; running time 95 minutes)

Sometimes a person finds something they love—something they want to do for the rest of their life. But what if the thing they love doing is going to their high school?

Rushmore, a new comedy, is the name of the private school Max Fischer (Jason Schwartzman) attends and which he dearly loves. Max seems to be president or founder of every club, writes and directs plays on campus, and is involved in every school activity, presenting the perfect prep school image in his crested blazer. There is one small problem. . .with all his activities, he doesn't have time for actual school work. He gets placed on "sudden death" probation ("Again?" his friend asks) for his F average, but Max is confident that he can schmooze his way out of it.

Max cultivates a friendship with wealthy industrialist Herman Blume (Bill Murray), whose sons attend Rushmore, and then develops an infatuation with a first-grade teacher at the school. The plot evolves around the three of them and the school itself.

This quirky comedy is very funny and unusual. Excellent performances were turned in by all cast members, with especially good dramatic work by Bill Murray, and a wonderful debut for Jason Schwartzman (who was highly praised by co-star Murray in notes about the film). Director and writer Wes Anderson appears to have been influenced by both Charlie Chaplin and Buster Keaton comedies, as a lot of the humor is very visual, with camera effects, framing, and timing generating as much humor as the actors, giving the film a Keaton-like look, and with an underlying serious and even somewhat sad story, giving it a Chaplinesque feel, with a very Chaplin-like ambiguous ending. The overall effect of this combination is an excellent, funny, visually-entertaining film, with fantasy-like elements that work on many levels but with an undercurrent of tragedy that was somewhat disturbing, too.

—Catherine Marquis-Homeyer

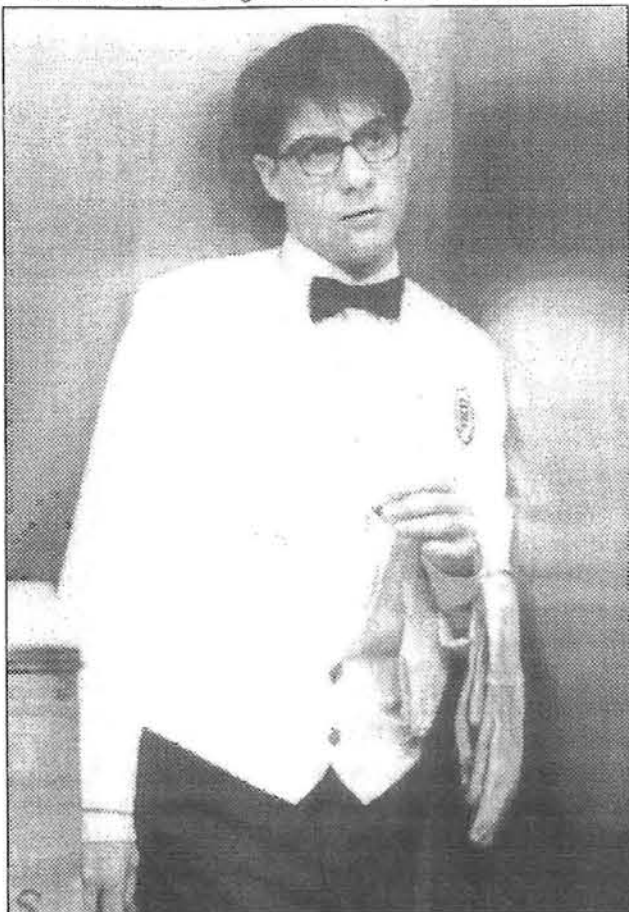
'Rushmore' writer, star speak about movie

BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER
of the Current staff

The new comedy film *Rushmore* stars Jason Schwartzman and Bill Murray, and is directed and co-written by Wes Anderson. Anderson and Schwartzman recently came through St. Louis to promote their new film, and *The Current* was able to interview them. What follows here are excerpts from those interviews, along with some information *The Current* received about them and the film.

Wes Anderson:

Wes Anderson is a young filmmaker whose first film *Bottle Rocket* won critical acclaim. He co-wrote *Rushmore* along with his collaborator on that previous film, Owen Wilson. The inspiration for the film was Anderson and Wilson's interest in people who get obsessed with things, like Bobby Fischer and chess.



Jason Schwartzman in "Rushmore."

The Current: The main character in the film, Max Fischer, wrote a play as a kid and continues to do that. I read that you also wrote plays as a kid. Is the character Max partially based on yourself?

Anderson: No, he's entirely made up. I did write plays as a kid, but I'm no longer interested in that. I just thought this odd character who's so obsessed with one thing was interesting. There's something funny about those characters; they don't have self-awareness of how they come across to others. Max wants to be considered an expert in every conceivable field. He wants to run the whole operation. And he doesn't allow the fact that he's not very skilled in most of these areas to dampen his enthusiasm or prevent him from trying to dominate all of them. The reality is there's something wrong with him, but in this case, this pathological resilience is a condition I tend to admire.

TC: Where did you get the idea for the film?

A: From the character and from my and Owen's experiences at school. We shot the film at St. John's in Houston, where I went to school.

TC: Although this is a comedy, I thought a lot of the story underneath it was sad. Was that your intention?

A: Bill Murray's character had a lot of sadness in him, despite his wealth. And I thought Max's father had some sadness in him too.

TC: I thought Max's character was sad too, in that he loves all the image aspects of his school, but he has no interest in learning anything academic. He seems to think he already knows everything and he can just participate in adult activities, like running the school. He doesn't see that he can't have the life he wants without doing some schoolwork. I was left wondering what would happen to him. Did you mean for him to be seen that way?

A: No, I saw him as a resilient character who needed to accept some things about himself, like his poor background. He's a guy who doesn't do well in school—maybe he's learning disabled in some way—and he doesn't do well in math. But I think the character would go on to be a success on Broadway.

TC: I thought that the way Max's character was played was Keaton-like and that the underlying sadness was like a Chaplin film. Are you familiar with those filmmakers and was that a deliberate effect?

A: I like the work of both of them, but I'm more familiar with Keaton's work. But it wasn't a deliberate effect.

TC: Do you think the Max character would benefit from therapy when he becomes so obsessed?

A: In one version of the story, we did have him hospitalized, but we decided against that. I guess he's the kind of character who could have therapy, but I don't know if anyone really benefits from that.

TC: What is your next film about?

A: It's going to be an ensemble film, with some of the same cast as *Bottle Rocket* and *Rushmore*.

Jason Schwartzman:

Jason Schwartzman, who is 18 and recently graduated from high school in Los Angeles, is the drummer in the band Phantom Planet. His band recently completed an album, "Phantom Planet is Missing," for Geffen Records, where they are under contract. This is his first role in a film.

TC: What was it like to work with Bill Murray?

S: I admire him, so it was terrific to have the chance to watch him work. It was a joy to work with him.

TC: Did you learn a lot from [director] Wes?

S: Yes. If you have a clear vision of what you want, don't compromise it. I enjoyed working on creative ideas with him. We have a lot of the same kinds of ideas and likes.

TC: Your band recently released an album. How is it doing?

S: The album is doing well. We're planning on touring soon.

TC: Who are your favorite bands?

S: I like the Beatles and an old '70s band called ELO. I also like Built to Spill, Ben Folds Five, Blur—stuff like that. And Metallica, of course.

TC: Would you like to make another film?

S: My first interest is in music, but yes, I'd like to do another, if it's a film that has a vision, and doesn't compromise that. I thought *Rushmore* was that kind of film.

TC: I read that Wes was very particular about casting Max. Do you feel like you have anything in common with Max?

S: Well, we both write plays and I like older women, but not much really. I don't go around wearing suits like that.

RESOLUTION, FROM PAGE 1

exceptional circumstances" that such reallocations should be brought before the committee for its recommendation. The resolution also mandates that such "reallocations must not be imposed on a percentage basis across units but must instead identify the specific programs and services to be cut."

The phrase "overall, campus-wide" was added by amendment after some raised concerns over the authority of deans to make reallocations.

Judd said that he did not oppose growth on the campus but that such growth should not occur at the expense of what the resolution called "weakened core programs and services." According to the proposal "a primary cause of reallocations has been the fact that

the cost of new initiatives has exceeded the rate of increase in campus revenues."

Jim Krueger, vice-chancellor for Managerial and Technological Services, said during the meeting that he disagreed with some of the resolution's background reasoning asserting that it was enrollment issues more than new programs which prompted the reallocations.

"I wanted simply to be on record saying that in my view the reallocations for the last two years are not due to new initiatives as much as they were due to a shortfall in the student credit hours," Krueger, who is a non-voting committee member, said, after the meeting.

MONTH, FROM PAGE 1

Davenport worries about the quality of education her students will receive under this system. The settlement that passed on Tuesday will mean \$7 million fewer dollars a year for participating schools.

Aside from education quality, Davenport raised issues about the quality of instructors and larger class sizes under the strained funds.

Richard K. Gaines, chair of the St. Louis Black Leadership Roundtable, took a different approach to the proposal.

"I don't like a large number of things that I know about this settlement," Gaines said. "But I'm a business man, and sometimes you can get what you can get, and fight for what you want."

"You cannot continue to run a school system under federal rule. I have attempted to do it. It is hard. This school board needs to be given the right to run this school system or to fail in doing it and get rid of it."

Gaines believes this proposal, even with its flaws, allows this to happen.

After Gaines' opening remarks, Stevens asked the

participants to list a couple of the proposal's advantages.

DeClue responded that the proposal still allows for desegregated schools, which he said in time could lead to integrated schools. He also pointed out the St. Louis magnet schools' high success rate.

Stevens then asked the participants about ideas on how to raise additional funds for the City of St. Louis school system, since they still would not get the amount of money they are accustomed to.

The panelists gave several ways the school district could balance its budget. They include abandoning unsuccessful programs, decreased transportation and legal costs, along with some ingenuity.

"Once the superintendent and the school board regains control of [the school district]," DeClue said, "they have just that, control. So we look to their ingenuity and to their expertise to do things to reduce costs."

Stevens then took questions from the audience. The drop out rate and truancy were among other topics discussed.

Go for it.

The Current is now accepting applications for its Editor-in-Chief for 1999-2000.

To qualify students must:

- be enrolled in good standing
- not be on disciplinary probation
- have a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 scale
- must have completed a minimum of nine academic credit hours at UM-St. Louis

To apply students must submit:

- a resume
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- three letters of reference (must be able to prove academic eligibility upon demand; experience in journalism and management strongly recommended but not required)

Please submit application materials to the Editor-in-Chief at The Current at 7940 Natural Bridge Road by 5 p.m. March 8, 1999
E00

NCA

SITE VISIT

MONDAY • TUESDAY • WEDNESDAY

The University of Missouri - St. Louis is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. Every ten years this accreditation is reviewed. A team of evaluators from nine universities will be on campus February 8 - 10 to conduct that review and make a recommendation regarding continued accreditation. Accrediting bodies do not have a uniform standard that is applied to all universities. Rather, they review what a university says it is and wants to be and apply appropriate standards for those realities and aspirations. UM-St. Louis has continued to mature as a university presenting a full range of programs from an undergraduate honors curriculum through doctoral education within the context of a research university with a growing national and international reputation. Thus the standards for accreditation are raised as our results and aspirations rise.

Site visit team members will meet with various faculty, staff, students, administrators, and community leaders during their three day visit. In addition to already arranged meetings, site team members may request meetings with individuals or entire departments at any time during their review. If contacted, please make every effort to meet and cooperate with site team members.

There are two open meetings scheduled with the site visit team.

- An open meeting with students is set for 2 to 3 p.m. on Monday, February 8, in Room 75 of the J.C. Penney Building.
- An open meeting with faculty and staff is set for 2 to 3 p.m. on Tuesday, February 9, in Room 75 of the J.C. Penney Building.

Site Visit Team Members

Dr. Otto F. Bauer

Chair of the Site Visit Team
Professor of Communication, Vice Chancellor Emeritus, University of Nebraska at Omaha

Dr. Joel E. Anderson

Vice Chancellor and Provost, University of Arkansas at Little Rock

Dr. Narbeth R. Emmanuel

Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville

Dr. Suzy Fletcher

Professor of Nursing, Indiana State University

Dr. Michael H. Heiberger

Director of Planning and Evaluation, State College of Optometry, State University of New York

Dr. Janet K. Lewis

Dean of Continuing Education, University of South Dakota

Dr. Tom Seymour

Professor MIS, College of Business, Minot State University

Dr. Claire A. Van Ummersen

President, Cleveland State University

Dr. Faye P. Whitaker

Assistant Provost, Associate Professor of English, Iowa State University



VISIT, FROM PAGE 1

ty, the senate, and students, and was put into a coherent whole to present to the NCA.

"That part of it, we've kind of geared up where we're meeting for a couple hours every week through most of 1998," Wartzok said. "In the fall... we had some local meetings for everybody to look at a draft of this and they all commented on it. And then we put, basically, the final draft together."

In the first chapter of the self-study the University responds to the eleven concerns that were raised by the 1989 Site Visit Team. Concerns expressed by the team of ten years ago were as follows: 1) The low faculty salaries, 2) The low ratio of African American faculty, 3) The low number of awards to research, 4) Inadequate funding, particularly for journals, in the library, 5) Lack of a long term plan for academic computing, 6) Further development of international and

non-curricular student experiences, 7) Appointment of a new graduate dean, 8) Increase maintenance funding, 9) Adjust budget for equipment, 10) Provide competitive stipends for graduate assistants and, 11) Improve academic advising. Each of these issues was addressed as to the progress made, how it was made, and the plans for further progress. Also included in the first chapter of the study was a list of the new programs offered since the last review.

In addition to reporting each of the criteria for accreditation, the University added one chapter detailing the area of assessment of educational outcomes and one reporting on the residence centers in Jefferson and St. Charles counties.

"They will be here all day Monday making visits, all day Tuesday visiting, then Wednesday morning they will be putting

their thoughts together and then about 11 o'clock Wednesday, they will have a wrap up session with the chancellor and tell her what their decision is," Wartzok said.

An open meeting is scheduled with students today, from 2-3 p.m. at 75 J.C. Penney, and for faculty on Tuesday, at the same time and meeting room.

"We've been continuously accredited ever since the institution was founded, and we expect to continue to be accredited," Wartzok said. "The interesting thing about the way the accrediting agencies work is that they basically look at what you say you want to be and then they hold you to that standard. [Because of the addition of all the new graduate programs], they will hold us to a higher standard this time than when they were here 10 years ago."

SGA, FROM PAGE 1

Mowen agreed with Ash and added that "this campus is so apathetic and nobody wants to be involved, but if you could give them a little bit of a push and a little incentive, you would have people here."

Low attendance didn't stop Ash from going ahead and dissecting the constitution line by line. He read each section of his working version of the revised constitution, explaining where he made changes, taking questions, and seeking suggestions.

After the meeting was finished, though, Ash said he decided it wasn't worth the trouble anymore.

"I for one am finished with attempting to revise the constitution alone," he said in the e-mail, "and I hope that the SGA will find someone to take the reigns and revise the constitution."

"I always said that I am not going to go and do this by myself," he said. "This is not a process that should be done by one person."

Movie Review

Ending distorts good 'Message'

Message in a Bottle
Warner Bros.

Message in a Bottle, starring Robin Wright Penn, Paul Newman, and Kevin Costner, is a romance about two people who have never met.

Theresa Osborne (Wright Penn) is a young divorcee working in the research department for the Chicago Tribune. While on vacation, she finds a bottle on the beach containing an emotional letter addressed to "Catherine" and signed only as "G."

Moved by the letter, Theresa convinces her boss to let her track down the author under the pretense of material for the newspaper. She eventually finds Garret Blake (Costner) and his very lovable father, Dodge (Newman), in a small town in the Outer Banks of North Carolina.

The story begins as a passionate tale, overcoming past tragedies, and fighting to start fresh with something wonderful. Unfortunately, the tale takes an over-dramatic twist at the end which pushed the film over the edge. The melodrama of the last 15 minutes didn't seem to mesh with the rest of the picture. Wright Penn and Newman are both brilliant. They both bring real life into their characters and truly connect with the audience. Costner lacks his co-stars' luster, but his performance is good and his character is likeable.

-Amy Lombardo

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THE JOB INTERVIEW: 5 shocking truths that can help you nail your dream job

Let's face it. Nobody looks forward to job interviews. A total stranger stares you down for an hour while you sit there uncomfortably in your pantyhose, trying to sound super-intelligent while also remembering to keep your legs crossed correctly. While you'd prefer to avoid thinking about the whole thing, and just get through it when the time comes - Don't! Here are a few "insider" insights about the whole process that may shock you, but can help you better connect with your interviewer and distinguish yourself from the competition.

1. RESUMES ARE OBSOLETE

Well, they're not really obsolete, but they are only one piece of the job puzzle. "Most people spend much more time on their resume than they do preparing for each interview. That's a huge mistake," says Bruce Tulgan, the author of *Work this Way*, a book about how to thrive in your first few jobs. "People can easily lie on resumes. The interview is much more important, which is why recruiters spend so much time doing them - and why you should spend time getting ready."

What to do:

- Think about all the time you will spend on your job search; then, carve out a chunk of those hours to prep for your interviews.

2. WORK EXPERIENCE NOT REQUIRED

Okay, so you may not have a ton of real work experience. But that's not what recruiters are really looking for when they are hiring new college grads. Believe it or not, the very fact that you are young can be worth a lot to many companies. They're in search of a 22-year-old's energy and fresh perspective. You may have a whole new way of looking at things, and that's invaluable to most companies. "Frankly, experience is not very important to us," says Tom Scott, co-founder of Nantucket Nectars, a booming small beverage company with current annual sales over \$50 million. "We can teach you to do the things you need to do here. What we're looking for is hunger." As Scott suggests, entry-level job interviews are not designed to weigh your experience, they're supposed to measure your smarts, enthusiasm, personality and passion.

What to do:

- Instead of just describing your past summer jobs, focus on stories that showcase your energy and passion for the activities you really care about. Or, talk about how your leadership has made a difference. While your examples may be summer jobs, they may also be a concert you organized, a paper or project for a favorite class, or

a team sport that you play. Make it clear that you will be just as hungry and passionate about the job for which you are interviewing.

3. GOOD QUESTIONS, NOT GOOD ANSWERS CAN CLOSE THE DEAL

Most people spend time preparing answers that will showcase their intelligence, savvy and interest in a company. This is important. But preparing some thoughtful, well-researched questions can accomplish the same thing - and often with greater impact! When the interviewer gets around to "Any questions?" (and he or she will), that's your chance to strut any stuff that you haven't been asked about during the course of the interview. What you

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Watch for the rest of this series in future issues of your school newspaper.

reveal in a well-thought-out question might even nail you the job. Jodi Kantor, a New York City college grad, used this strategy to beat out heavy competition for a job as political aide to the Mayor. When she interviewed for the position she wanted to highlight her passion for and understanding of the job. She called on her own experience with New York's parking ticket and birth certificate bureaucracy to make her point. "I made sure to ask specific questions about whether I could work on customer service projects that would fix problems similar to the ones I had faced as a city resident," she says. Turns out that the Mayor was launching some big service initiatives in that area. Kantor's interviewer was so impressed with her genuine interest in the city's problems that he hired her and put her on the team to help solve them.

What to Do:

- Stay away from obvious questions (i.e.; the ones answered in the company literature). Instead, find out what your interviewer thinks about a relevant company or industry issue. Or, ask about a specific part of the job that is of particular interest to you.

4. YOU CAN KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT A COMPANY

Many people look at prepping for an interview like studying for an exam. They read all the obvious material to make sure they know "who, what and where." This is a great start, but it's just the tip of the iceberg. Reading a company's recruiting brochure and spitting it back in the interview won't impress anyone. To really

stand out you need to arm yourself with current and substantive information about the company and industry. Thanks to today's technology, this does not have to be a daunting or time consuming proposition. You can learn a lot with minimal effort and make a great impact because most other undergrad candidates won't take the extra step.

What to Do:

- Read the newspaper! See what's happening in the world that might be relevant to the respective company or industry.
- Call and ask for a company's sales materials to see how they talk to their customers.
- Use on-line info like company or news web sites. Sites like www.wefteetpress.com and www.vaultreports.com carry great company and industry profiles for sale.
- Utilize free news information resources at your school library like Lexis/Nexis or the Bloomberg News Service.

5. FUN, NOT FACTS MAY MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

Probably the most important piece of information a recruiter will want to know but will never ask directly is "What is this person like to be around?" A good recruiter knows you will be working some long hours in a closed room with other people. You better believe that a key question on his or her checklist is "Do I want to work with this person? Would my colleagues want to work with this person? Let's face it, many people will have the same skills as you, but not everyone can package those skills with your personality. You want the recruiter to walk away wanting to work with you!

What to Do:

- Make sure pieces of YOU come out in the interview! Be confident about yourself, and communicate with energy and enthusiasm. Don't be afraid to laugh when appropriate or talk about a personal issue to make a relevant point.



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HOCKEY, FROM PAGE 5

"We should not be ranked 12th in the region," Jason Hessel said. "We beat four top ten teams. The top four teams go to the national tournament from our region, and hopefully we will get a fair shot at it. We have definitely deserved it."

The Rivermen conclude their season Feb. 12 against Illinois State.

Rivermen lose again

BY DAVE KINWORTHY
staff associate

Going into their match-up with the number one ranked team in the nation, Kentucky-Wesleyan, the Rivermen's season has dwindled down to a few remaining games.

UM-St. Louis lost their game against Kentucky-Wesleyan 85-58, moving their record to 5-15, 3-13 in the CLVC.

Greg Ross and Durrell Robinson led the Rivermen's charge by each scoring 17 points while Gene Stewart added ten points of his own.

Kechan Johnson led the Rivermen with nine rebounds while Terrell Alexander had five rebounds to his credentials.

Kentucky-Wesleyan led the game from the start, jumping out to a 41-27 halftime lead. They continued to dominate the second half, outscoring the Rivermen 44-31. The Rivermen were 23-65 from the field for the game.

Cervical Cancer Vaccine Study

Volunteers are Needed to participate in a research study evaluating an investigational vaccine that may reduce the risk of cervical cancer

A specific type of human papilloma virus (HPV), the nation's most common sexually transmitted disease, is responsible for as many as half of all cervical cancer cases. This study evaluates an investigational vaccine that may reduce the number of cervical cancer cases.

Women between the ages of 18 and 25 who are generally in good health, not pregnant and do not expect to conceive within seven months, may be eligible to participate. Participants will be compensated for time and travel and receive at no charge:

- office visits
- physical examinations
- laboratory tests
- study vaccine

For more information about participation in this study, please call:

Sharon Moore, R.N., Recruitment Nurse, or
Jan Tennant, R.N., B.S.N., Study Coordinator
(314) 577-8649

Division of Infectious Diseases
Department of Internal Medicine



SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY

School of Medicine

NBA ends lockout, but fans have little to care about

The NBA has finally worked out a contract to begin its delayed season, but who honestly cares anymore?

This NBA season is a washout anyway, so why even bother to watch it anymore?

So many things have hurt the NBA.

The Michael Jordan retirement will hurt spectators all around. The man was God when it came to basketball. He was courteous to the media off the court and even contributed to charitable funds for those less fortunate. He also was a role model on and off the court for the youth of America.

Along with the Jordan retirement came the disassembling of the Chicago Bulls. With the Phil Jackson departure and the Tim Floyd arrival, what will happen to the winningest team in the 1990s?

They already lost Scottie Pippen who is headed to the Houston Rockets and Dennis Rodman who just recently announced he would not play in the 1998-99 season. With the departure of these key players, even national networks have decided to not air many Bulls games this season. The bandwagon fans will jump off of this team as quickly as fans jumped on and off the Green Bay Packers' wagon.

The drafting of these young kids (high-schoolers) has put a damper on an irresponsible outlook towards the NBA, as well. When I look at the NBA as a 19 year old and realize that there are kids my age making millions of dollars while neglecting to go to school, I just wish them the best of luck.

The last thing that has hurt the NBA is college basketball. Any avid basketball fan has to admit that college basketball is, by far, more exciting and fan structured.

These athletes do not get paid for their services to their local universities and are doing it for themselves and their education. Sure, there are the unusual talents like Kobe Bryant and Kevin Garnett, but typical high-school athletes should focus more on their college career and not on the NBA.

The NBA lockout may be over with, but will the fans come back to a sport that is promoting its youth to leave college early and bask in the glory of its riches and fame? I doubt it.

-Dave Kinworthy



Pulliam Journalism Fellowships

Graduating college seniors are invited to apply for the 26th annual Pulliam Journalism Fellowships. We will grant 10-week summer internships to 20 journalism or liberal arts majors in the August 1998-June 1999 graduating classes.


Previous internship or part-time experience at a newspaper is desired. Winners will receive a \$5,250 stipend and will work at either *The Indianapolis Star* and *The Indianapolis News* or *The Arizona Republic*.

Early-admissions application postmark deadline is Nov. 15, 1998. By Dec. 15, 1998, up to five early-admissions winners will be notified. All other entries must be postmarked by March 1, 1999.

To request an application packet, write: Russell B. Pulliam
Fellowships Director
The Indianapolis News
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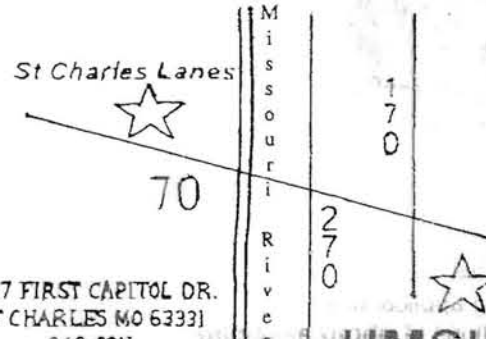
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Through the Looking Glass

Homecoming Week

Monday, Feb. 15

Visit the Homecoming information table from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the U Center Lobby

Tuesday, Feb. 16

Arresting Day donation tables in U Center and Marillac lobbies 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Ping Pong Tourney in Mark Twain. See Athletic Dept. (516-5661) for sign-up and times

Wednesday, Feb. 17

Arresting tables open, same time and location
Ping-Pong Tourney continues in Mark Twain
Rec Sports Day - various athletic games students can participate in and receive prizes, held in JC Penney
Bonfire 6:00 p.m., by C/D garages - pep rally for Homecoming basketball games, will include both teams, Riverettes, pep-band, hot chocolate and roasting marshmallows

Thursday, Feb. 18

Arresting tables open, same time and location
Speaker, Lech Walesa at JC Penney at 8:00 p.m. (SOLD OUT)
Basketball Games in Mark Twain at 5:30 p.m. - includes championship game of Ping Pong Tourney, recognizing Homecoming Court and attendance prizes; selection of three students to shoot three points for \$1000 payoff

Friday, Feb. 19

Arresting Day, N. Campus, JC Penney lobby 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
Arresting Day, S. Campus, from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Alumni Happy Hour, America's Center, begins 5:00 p.m.
Homecoming Dance, America's Center, begins 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 20

Alumni Family Day and basketball games, begins 1:00 p.m.
LAST YEAR'S HOMECOMING WAS SOLD OUT - DON'T MISS YOUR CHANCE AGAIN THIS YEAR!
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1 person = \$10, Couple = \$17, Table (10) = \$75
Call 516-5291 for questions



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CERTIFIED LIFEGUARDS needed for UM-St. Louis Indoor Swimming Pool this Winter semester. Afternoon, evening and weekend hours available. Pay is \$6.00/hr. Interested individuals can apply in the Rec. Sports Office, 203 Mark Twain. Call 516-5326 for more info.

GET THE RESUME EXPERIENCE YOU NEED

The Current is now accepting applications for the positions of **photo associate and advertising representative**. Volunteer writers and photographers are also needed. Call 516-6810 for more information. EOE

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ry, Stylewriter printer, \$750. Call Linda: 664-8710.

For Rent

21-year-old nonsmoking, responsible male looking for similar to share 2-bedroom apartment in West Port/St. Charles/Earth City area. Part-time UM-SL student w/ part time job, likes to have fun but also needs study time. 516-7600 / 750-5564.

Misc

Volunteer help needed! The Missouri NASA Space Grant's Science Mentors are looking for volunteers to do hands-on astronomy activities with younger students at local schools. Prior science teaching experience is great, but not necessary. Contact Brandie at 972-9020 for details.

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
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 The Board of Directors of the St. Louis Office for MR/DD Resources (MR/DD) seeks an Executive Director. As a taxing district, MR/DD uses city tax dollars to develop, fund and monitor programs and services for residents of the City of St. Louis with developmental disabilities. The annual funds distributed are approximately \$5 million. Salary is commensurate with experience and education. Fringe benefits include sick leave; medical, dental and life insurance; and retirement. Minimum qualifications are a Master's degree in administration, social work, special education, business or other closely related fields. Seven years of professional experience, of which 5 must have been in supervisory or administrative capacity in the direction of habilitation programs or administrative services for the developmentally disabled. MUST BE CITY RESIDENT OR WILLING TO RELOCATE. Submit resumes by Feb. 26, 1999 to:
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