



▶ Ouch!
UM-St. Louis Rivermen fall 85-64 to GLVC leader Southern Indiana to drop four games below .500 mark.
See page 5.



▶ Getting By: Ready for yet another semester? Check out our student survival guide.
See Page 3.



▶ Playing the field: An interview with violinist Pavel Ilyashov sheds some light on the making of a musician.
See page 6.

NEWS FROM ALL OVER

Study places U.S. twenty-third in education

(U-WIRE) ATHENS, Ohio - The United States has begun a gradual slide in high school and college graduation rates as compared to those in foreign countries, according to a November report put out by the Paris-based Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

The OECD study is based on statistics submitted by each of the 31 member countries' governments. According to the education arm of the OECD, in 1996 the United States ranked behind 22 other OECD countries in high school graduation rates, ahead of only Mexico. About a decade ago the United States held eighth place for high school graduation rates, but in the '40s and '50s, the U.S. topped the list.

"Our generation is not complete slackers, but we don't do the full amount possible to get good grades," Gina Horchkiss, freshman, said.

The current rate of high school graduation is 72 percent, trailing Belgium, Finland, Japan, New Zealand, Norway and Poland. These countries boast rates higher than 93 percent.

Shigeru Okada, the adviser for the Ohio University Japan Student Association, said the reason for higher retention rates in Japan is the motivation to get into the extremely competitive colleges. Graduation from these competitive colleges will ensure a good job.

High school dropout rates might also be related to a lack of motivation in students, said Trimble Local Schools Superintendent William White.

The United States also has one of the highest dropout rates for undergraduate programs. Thirty-seven percent of students who enroll in U.S. colleges never see graduation day. Okada attributes the United States' low retention rates to colleges accepting a wide variety of students, as opposed to the select few accepted in Japan.

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The Current

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

January 11, 1999

The University of Missouri-St. Louis

Vol. 33 Issue 941

Former campus officer sues, alleges racial discrimination

Fired officer acquitted on assault charge

BY DAVID BAUGHER
senior editor

A former campus police officer has filed suit against the University in U. S. District Court under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act alleging "unlawful employment practices" by the UM-St. Louis police department.



James Anderson, who was fired from the department in spring of last year after an incident in which Anderson was charged with assault in his treatment of a prisoner, filed the suit in November over his termination and his previously being passed over twice for promotion in favor of white officers the suit says had fewer qualifications.

Last month, Anderson was acquitted of the assault charges stemming from the incident with the prisoner. Justin Meehan, Anderson's attorney said it took only minutes for the jury to return a not guilty verdict.



Stephanie Platt/ The Current

The UM-St. Louis police department now faces two lawsuits and numerous grievances alleging unfair treatment of African-American employees.

"This is the fastest verdict I've ever seen in my life," Meehan said. "Every single juror on this case came up to Mr. Anderson and expressed their stunned disbelief that a case like this would even be brought."

The incident occurred in April when Anderson brought a suspect, Gary Howard, into the

police station after Howard allegedly urinated in a nearby parking lot. Anderson said he placed Howard under arrest because Howard was wanted on other charges by Ferguson police.

Anderson said that Howard became uncooperative and refused to sit down during the booking process. He said he put

his hand on the back of Howard's neck in an attempt to get Howard to sit down.

The next day Anderson said that Police Chief Robert Roeseler told him that another officer had seen Anderson slap Howard. He then asked Anderson to resign.

see POLICE, page 6

Campus senate may expand membership

BY JOSH RENAUD
staff assistant

Non-regular faculty members may be eligible to represent their schools, colleges, and departments in the University senate after the next meeting of the senate, Jan. 19.

William Long, chair of the Bylaws and Rules Committee, plans to present a change to the bylaws that the committee has been working on. The proposal would change the word "faculty" in section C.1 of the bylaws to include non-regulars for the purposes of senate membership.

"At present, non-regulars have no representation at all in University governance," Long said. "They are not eligible for the Faculty Council or the senate, nor do they have an organization of their own. This has been a long-standing concern and led to the formation of the senate ad hoc committee on non-regular status."

Deborah Larson was the chair of the ad hoc committee, and she explained that there were several reasons why this issue came up.

"What has happened over the years," she said, "is that a number of people have been hired in non-tenure-track positions. In some departments and schools, like the School of Nursing, the number of people who are hired non-tenure track is starting

see SENATE, page 6

U Center progress continues despite problems

Cold weather brings about brief delays

BY BRIAN DOUGLAS
of the Current staff

Work on the new University Center continues in spite of delays due to inclement weather and other problems.

Brian Wehmeier, a student in the civil engineering program and assistant construction project manager, said that if the weather cooperates, work for this week would include things like pouring the rest of the second floor, putting up the scaffolding that will serve as a temporary support for the third floor, forming and pouring more columns, back filling some of the grounds so they will be flush with the building, and installing some of the plumbing and electrical lines which must be embedded in the structure.

Wehmeier said the project was scheduled for completion on May 17, 2000 but was currently three weeks behind that date. He attributed much of the delay to the weather conditions. Wehmeier said cold temperatures set in the day after some of the second floor was poured, necessitating the use of propane heaters to keep the concrete from freezing.

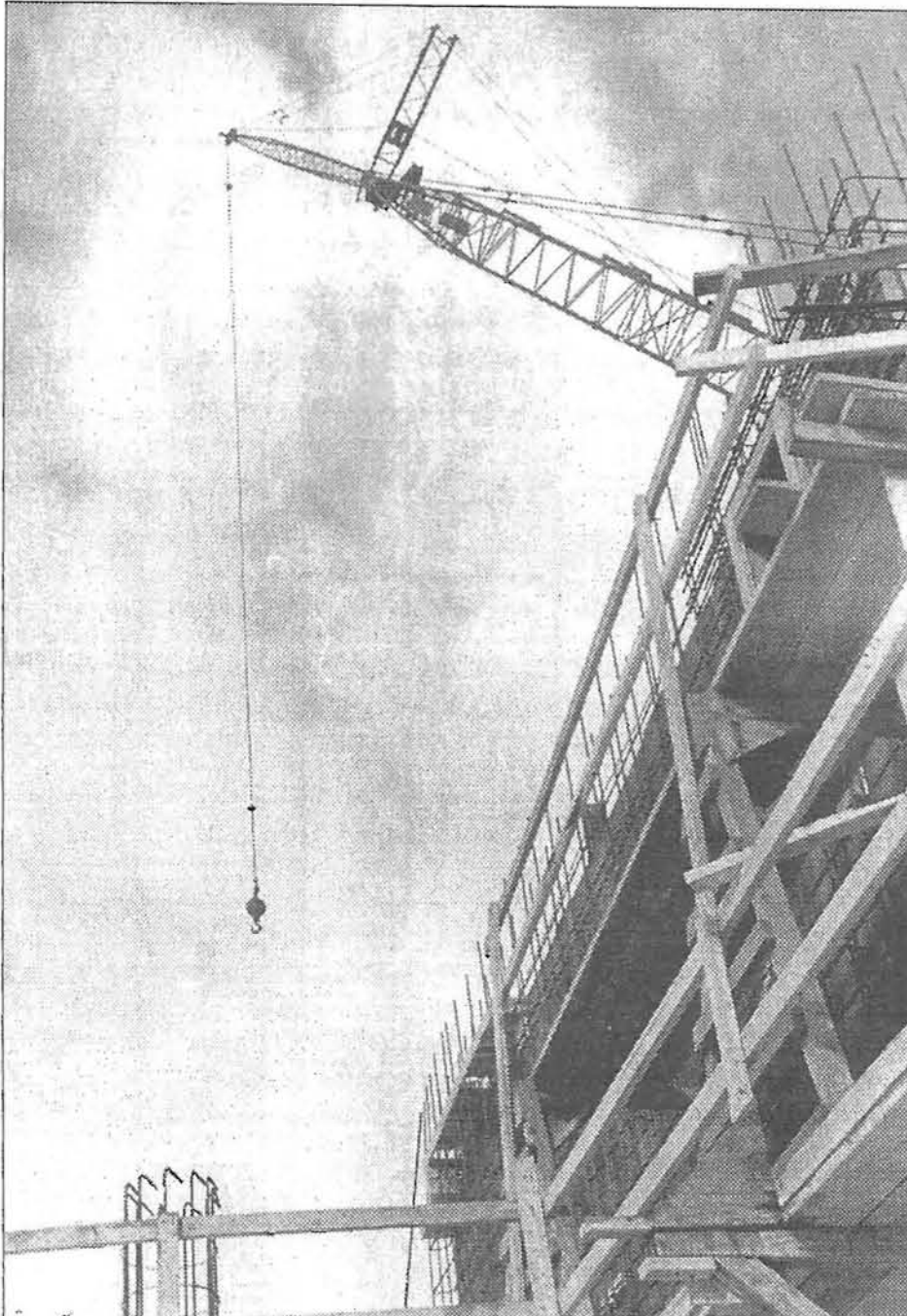
He said there had also been some problems earlier with the excavations in what used to be parking lot E.

"We lost probably a week to a week and a half during excavation because of rain," Wehmeier said.

Other problems also played a part, including trouble with the large crane used at the site.

Wehmeier said a flaw in the programming had caused the crane to misjudge the position of its boom and tip itself over.

The center has also faced problems in the legal arena when a lawsuit was filed concerning the number of minority personnel working on the project. Wehmeier said the University set a goal of 25 percent minority involvement in the construction of the center. He said KCI, the company hired by the University as the low bidder, has around 15 percent minority involve-



Stephanie Platt/ The Current

This Manitowac crane fell over at the University Center job site on Dec. 14. The crane accident was one of two incidents that day. The other accident injured two workers.

ment. "There were a couple of other companies who were at 25 percent, but they were... higher in price... The 25 percent was a goal; it was not a requirement," Wehmeier said.

Wehmeier noted that even when the construction is complete, some time will be necessary for the different offices and organizations to actually move into the

building. He said that barring unforeseen complications, he expected the new center to be in use by the fall semester of 2000.

According to the blueprints, the new University Center will be three stories tall with a large, circular atrium in the middle. Wehmeier said the first floor will have a cafeteria and three TV lounges. Escalators

see CENTER, page 6

Accidents injure two, cause little damage

BY SUE BRITT
staff associate

Construction on the new Student Center was the site of two unrelated accidents Dec. 14. The first involved the large crane on the site which fell over. There were no injuries in the incident.

"It laid down very softly and caused minimal damage," said Rick Grebel, the project manager of KCI Construction.

The crane was new, was manufactured by Manitowac, and was leased from Central Contractors located in Chicago.

"[The Manitowac crane] is supposed to be the Cadillac of lift equipment," Grebel said.

Grebel said that the computer system on the crane has many safety features and that the accident may have resulted from a programming problem. He said that the computer read the operator was on a 123 degree radius when he was actually on a 160 degree radius. The computers on board monitor the radius and the amount of weight that is allowed to be lifted. Grebel said that none of the safety features activated when the crane was in danger of overturning.

"The load is based on how far out you are, how much you can boom or swing... All the new hoisting equipment has so many safety features," Grebel said. "It's supposed to lock the machine so [it can't be changed.] The computer was misprogrammed."

John Martello, general manager of Central Contractors, said they had no comment in regard to the accident or the cause at this time.

"We haven't finalized the investigation," Martello said.

Grebel said that people from Central Contractors and a representative from the manufacturer of the crane came after the accident occurred. He said those from Central Contractors were a help in planning the process of getting the crane back up and that the representative from Manitowac merely observed.

"The problem was getting it up," Grebel said. "It took about a day [to erect the fallen crane], but it took about two days to plan it."

According to police the second accident injured two workers when a strap broke holding a supply of tubing. The tubing then tumbled onto the workers.

One of the workers suffered a broken arm, leg and fractured pelvis, while the other suffered a broken arm, police said.

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, Jan. 11

• **SPINNING:** Spin your way into shape. All January classes are FREE! Check out the schedule on line at www.umsl.edu/services/recsport/index.html, reservations are recommended. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

• **WELLNESS CLASSES:** Aerobics, Water Exercise Training, Boot Camp, etc. begin today. There are 17 classes to choose from and you can take them all for one low fee. Check out the schedule on the web at www.umsl.edu/services/recsport/index.html for schedule, fees, and more info. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

Campus CrimeLine

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

November 13, 1998

A staff person reported at the Underground Cafeteria that between 12 p.m. and 1 p.m., a Nokia cellular phone was stolen from her jacket pocket. The jacket had been left on the back of a chair.

November 15, 1998

A student reported that between 3:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m., a brown suede jacket was stolen from 103 SSB. The jacket had been left on the back of a chair.

A student reported that between 3:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m., a blue leather jacket was stolen from the back of a chair in 103 SSB.

November 16, 1998

A student complained that another student took her food and threw it on the ground outside the Mark Twain Building entrance. The incident was referred to the Student Affairs Office.

November 19, 1998

A student reported that at 9:30 p.m., she was sexually assaulted and robbed at knife point of \$21.00. The incident occurred on the South Campus near parking lot "Y". The investigation into the incident continues.

A student reported that at 10:30 a.m., her coin purse was stolen from the first floor women's rest room at Benton Hall. A possible suspect was described.

A student reported that between 2:25 p.m. and 2:35 p.m., her purse containing cash, credit cards, two cellular phones, keys and identification was stolen from the floor of the U-Center Student Lounge. A possible suspect was described.

December 1, 1998

A Pony Express worker reported that between November 30 at 8:30 p.m. and December 1 at 7:30 a.m., \$100.00 in cash had been stolen from the stand at Marillac Hall.

A person on the Campus reported that between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., an unknown person removed from her purse \$80.00 in cash and a credit card. The exact location of the incident is unknown due to the victim being at both 489 SSB and the Summit Lounge.

December 4, 1998

A student reported that between 1:30 p.m. and 2:00 p.m., her purse was stolen from the U-Center Lobby. The purse contained cash, ATM cards, a calling card and identification. The purse had been left by its owner.

A person riding the MetroLink reported that his auto was stolen from the UM-St. Louis North MetroLink parking lot between 3:20 p.m. and 11:25 p.m.

December 7, 1998

A University maintenance employee reported that between 4:00 a.m. and 4:35 a.m., the driver's door glass was broken on a University truck.

December 8, 1998

U-Mart employees reported that at 7:30 p.m., four teenage juveniles stole candy valued at \$10.00.

December 9, 1998

A student reported that between 12:30 p.m. and 4:20 p.m., his auto was stolen from West Drive, near Garage "N".

A coin purse was stolen from the Mark Twain Building Rec Sports office.

December 10, 1998

A person was arrested at the U-Meadows after it was learned that he was wanted by the City of Vinita Terrace on outstanding warrants.

December 11, 1998

A vehicle parked on parking lot "P" was broken into and a CD player was stolen.

December 14, 1998

A student reported that at 10:45 a.m., an unknown person tried to steal his jacket from the fourth floor of the Thomas Jefferson Library. A fight took place between the owner and the unknown person. The jacket was returned to the student and the other person was arrested.

December 15, 1998

A student reported that between 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m., unknown persons broke into her auto by breaking the passenger window out. Taken from the vehicle was cash, a Motorola cel-

lular phone and a black purse containing a credit card and identification. The incident occurred on the gravel lot at the entrance to Garage "C".

A student reported that between 10 a.m. and 12 p.m. while his vehicle was parked on parking lot "K" it was broken into. Taken was an in-dash CD player, a sub-woofer speaker and his wallet.

December 18, 1998

A person was arrested on Mark Twain Drive on outstanding arrest warrants from the St. Louis County Police Department.

A person was arrested at the U-Meadows on an outstanding arrest warrant from the City of St. Louis.

At 4:30 p.m., a University Police Officer on Foot Patrol discovered Gang Graffiti on the walls of the third floor men's rest room at the Thomas Jefferson Library.

December 23, 1998

An Honors College Resident reported that on December 22, between 12:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m., a Sanyo refrigerator was stolen from 319. The refrigerator was last seen on top of a hallway trash can.

December 28, 1998

At 1:55 p.m., a juvenile was reported to have broken several coffee mugs at 301 Marillac Hall. The office was insecure.

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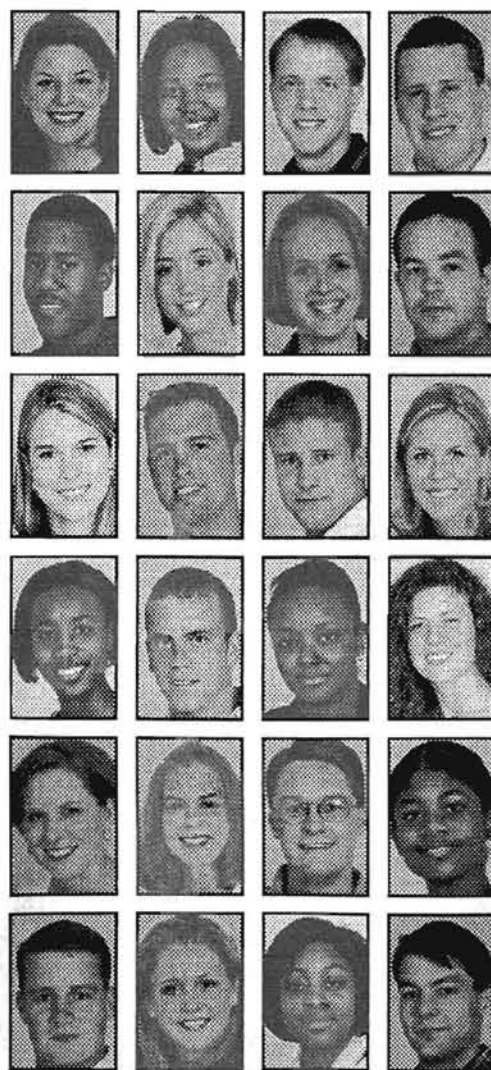
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FEATURES

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Student SURVIVAL Guide

GET THIS

New Year's resolutions made easy

Well, it's 1999. So far everything seems to be going smoothly.

Winter break has drawn quickly to a close, and classes are suddenly upon us. This is usually about the time that all of those good faith New Year's resolutions start to fall apart at the seams.

At least that's how it usually goes with me. Around the first of January, I create a list of life improvements that I plan to make in the coming year. They are well thought out and delivered with only the best of intentions. It can actually be a very therapeutic and cleansing process. It gives people an opportunity to start over with a blemish-free clean slate.

The problem is, my slate usually starts developing pimples by Week #2.

After the initial lapse in character, it's pretty much a downhill ride. I begin to feel guilty and depressed about what a weak human being I am. By that point I've lost the will to maintain self-discipline, and I fold accordingly under the pressure.

I now realize that I've simply been going about the entire situation the wrong way. That is why, this year, I've decided to change my approach.

I suppose it would be easier to simply not make any resolutions at all (I hereby resolve to never again make a resolution!). But that's like letting the system win, and I prefer to find a way to beat it.

I do believe that I have found a small loophole. You see, there are no rules about the degree of difficulty the resolution must have. Nor are there any specifics about the actual content. I suppose this means that one could be inclined to make inane statements—I will walk with one foot in front of the other, I will breathe in and out regularly, I will blink at least once a day—and technically call these "resolutions." But tradition shows that these should, in some way, improve the quality of life. I feel this is a very important part of the whole idea.

In the past, I made really challenging resolutions—quitting smoking, exercising more, eating less, being on time—things that one human being cannot be expected to keep up with on a regular basis. Sure, they look good on paper, but this is reality, folks! Plus, these are not very exciting life changes. These are all things I should do whether it be the beginning, middle, or end of the year. Why shouldn't we have a little fun with our New Year's pledges?

So this year, I made my resolutions relatively less challenging, and considerably more enjoyable.

I resolve to spend more time with people that make me happy and less time with people that bring me down. I resolve to smile and say "hello" to people that I don't know all that well. (This particular one will probably not be appropriate when I find myself alone in a dark alley or a deserted parking lot.) I resolve not to get caught up in things that are really not important in the ultimate scheme of things. I resolve to take time for myself as often as possible.

These are just a few ideas to illustrate my point. By the way, my point, in case you missed it, is that life changes can be for the better, but they don't necessarily have to cause emotional suffering.



AMY LOMBARDO

BY AMY LOMBARDO
staff editor

The beginning of a new semester brings with it many trials and tribulations for students to deal with. It can cause unnecessary stress and irritation for those who are not ready to deal with the problems. There are ways to make the entire process a lot easier for all individuals involved.

One of the major hassles we face is the crowds of people all wanting to accomplish the same thing at the same time. Most UM-St. Louis veterans can remember the long, winding lines in the book store or at the cashiers' windows in Woods Hall.

Ideally, the best thing one can do is to simply avoid the obstacles. Do not procrastinate; do things ahead of time. This is a very simple statement, and yet so many people wait until the last minute to complete tasks that could have been taken care of before the rush.

For those who have bought their books, registered for classes, paid their fees, and obtained a parking permit well before the first week of school, there is no problem. For those still struggling to make deadlines and cut-off dates, take a tip from the aforementioned group next semester, but for now, keep reading.

If your main goal is to avoid the gridlock entirely, one option is the Internet. By visiting the University Bookstore website (<http://www.umsl.edu/services/bookstor/>), students and faculty can buy textbooks and supplies online, and get



additional information and updates. If you decide to brave the crowds, do it sensibly. Allow yourself plenty of time for unforeseen events. Try to have a Plan B on the back-burner in case things don't go exactly as planned.

Don't forget to be polite and gracious, especially in less than desirable situations. That old proverb, "You catch more flies with honey than with sandpaper," is incredibly corny, but true. Keep in mind

that everyone is under the same pressures and deadlines this time of year.

With the unpredictable weather and parking situations, it is smart to leave extra early for classes. Plan ahead! This is most important the first few weeks of classes since that always seems to be the busiest time and people are adjusting to new schedules. If you are taking evening or morning classes for the first time, consider the difference rush hour can make on

your commute time.

It is always a good idea in the winter months to be prepared for snow and ice. Keep supplies—ice scraper, salt—in your car at all times.

As for the classroom atmosphere itself, first impressions really do matter. Say "hi" to classmates and try to get to know a few of them on a first name basis. It's good to have someone to copy notes from on sick days or study with for tests (midterms will be here before you know it.)

Let your professor know who you are by asking questions and paying attention during lectures. Just listening and participating in class discussion could play a positive role in your final grade.

Plus, you may actually learn more. Don't just fake an interest—be interested! It's your money, so you might as well get something out of it.

As a final thought, don't take on too much in the beginning of the semester. Fresh out of the freedom and ease of the recent break, feelings of boredom and bottled up energy can accumulate. Try to do a reasonable number of things well instead of an outrageous amount of things badly. Nobody wants to burn out in March.

UNDER CURRENT

compiled by Stephanie Platt/staff photographer

What are your goals for the next semester?

"To pass Organic Chemistry."

-Robin Clark
Senior/Biology



"To broaden my course of study."

-Les Owens
Junior/Criminology

"To raise my G.P.A."

-Charles R. McIntyre
Junior/Marketing



"To be more organized and study more."

-Ragini Ray
Senior/Music

'Man' revitalizes musical program

BY ANNE PORTER
staff associate

For over 13 years there has not been a musical at UM-St. Louis. Mark Madsen, an associate professor in the music department, decided to change this.

"I have been teaching an acting class for singers and we have done scenes from operas and musicals," Madsen said. "We have really good talent."

The UM-St. Louis music department has grown dramatically over the past few years, and there has been a great desire to perform a full production. Madsen credited Chancellor Blanche Touhill for much support in the staging of a musical at UM-St. Louis with the hopes that this will be good practice for shows to be performed at the new performance center.

"[The Chancellor] is eager for the performance center and supportive of its growth," Madsen said.

Madsen also highlighted that this play will be an excellent student opportunity to perform in a theater production and for students to see and hear a performance on campus.

Madsen said what really made this possible is the budget provided for the program.

"[It is] largely due to her financial support we are able to do this now," Madsen said.

The next problem encountered was the location where a musical can be performed. Madsen said that there is clearly a lack of good theater stages, and in the past many productions have been held off campus. In order to solve this problem, a committee of professors was created to discuss what show to perform and where to perform it.

Madsen said the committee discussed off-campus locations, but they felt it necessary to develop more campus awareness of the music department's productions. In order to accomplish that goal, the J.C. Penney Building was chosen, and the musical "The Man of La Mancha" was selected to be performed.

The choice of plays to perform was limited

because of the location where the play was to be put on. In order to put on a full production, an orchestra pit, a backstage area, and an open stage for moving scenery are usually required. The musical "The Man of La Mancha" was selected because it is a unit set.

"[The Man of La Mancha] is a wonderful play [and] a great story with great music," Madsen said.

The "Man of La Mancha" also has a small orchestra that is actually supposed to be on stage, eliminating the need for an orchestra pit.

There is little scenery and only one stage.

Although "The Man of La Mancha" is a unit set, it has many roles with many characters. Many medium sized roles—some with dancing and no singing, some with speaking and no singing, and some just singing—are provided by the musical.

The musical will be directed by Milton Zoth, a renowned director in the St. Louis area. Zoth has directed plays for the St. Louis Shakespeare Company, The Muni 1st Stage, The New Theater, and many other venues in the St. Louis area. Madsen will play Don Quixote and will produce the musical.

The final approval was not received until last November for the production.

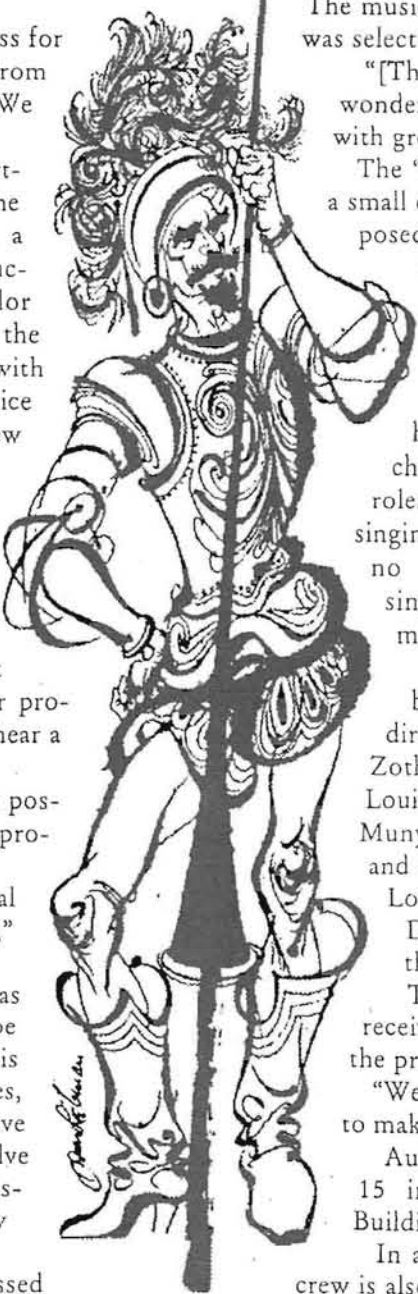
"We have really had to scramble to make it all happen," Madsen said.

Auditions will be held Fri., Jan. 15 in Rm. 205 of the Music Building at 4:30 p.m.

In addition to performers, stage crew is also needed, as well as costume, publicity and make up help.

The "Man of La Mancha" will be performed Apr. 8, 9, and 10.

"This is an opportunity for students to act, and if they get in to work for a professional, and . . . to possibly do other shows in the area," Madsen said.



Comments

The Current
THE STUDENT VOICE OF UM-ST. LOUIS

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OUR OPINION

Constitutional reform overdue in Assembly

Constitutional reform is again taking center stage at the SGA, and again little seems to be happening.

Overhauling the constitution has been a perennial item on the SGA's agenda at least dating back to the days of Bob Fritchey. At the end of Fritchey's term, however, the assembly voted to delay reform until the new SGA president could spearhead the effort. That was more than a year and a half ago. Little immediate action was taken.

This year, however, the climate looked more promising. After serious discrepancies were discovered in the SGA's governing documents in spring, Jim Avery's administration appeared poised to take concrete steps toward truly reforming the constitution. Members were recruited. A task force was formed. Discussions were held. In a spurt of summer activity, the document was rewritten and readied for revision. Real progress seemed imminent. Then, silence.

Despite an announcement by Comptroller Ben Ash in September that the document would be revised at a series of meetings tentatively set for mid-November, little has been done. No meetings have taken place. At Ash's request, the document has not even been brought up at regular meetings so as not to distract from the SGA's normal business.

Ash has said that he will not rush the process of constitutional reform. This is a sensible attitude. Unfortunately, since September there seems to be little process in existence to rush. Ash's request that the issue not be brought up at regular meetings is sensible as well—but only if special meetings are held for that purpose, which to date they have not. We urge that the SGA begin setting up meetings on the constitution as soon as possible, perhaps as soon as this month's meeting. It is imperative that progress restart on the new constitution.

While delays in any major undertaking are inevitable, the constitution's hold up threatens to undermine the Avery administration's promising efforts on the issue. The good work done by Ash and others on the document should not be wasted.

The constitution should not be rushed, nor should it be bogged down. It would be a shame to see yet another incoming SGA president saddled with an issue that should have been dealt with a long time ago.

The Issue:

SGA has been avoiding a constitutional reform that it's been planning on implementing for the past couple of years. SGA Comptroller doesn't want it interfering with other SGA matters.

We Suggest:

Reform of the SGA constitution is long overdue. Meetings should be organized in an effort to update the present constitution rather than putting it off for yet another SGA president to handle.

So what do you think?

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

Give us a break

With the onset of winter, the days may be getting longer again, but the break between semesters certainly isn't.

The fall semester's finals ended only three days before Christmas, with the winter semester's classes beginning today, giving students, faculty, and staff less than three weeks of down time to unwind between the termination of finals and the onset of the back to school rush.

This break is simply too short and packed with too many things to do. Students, fresh out of finals week, have less than three weeks to clean up the last minute details of advising, registration, financial aid, and book acquisition. Faculty must mark papers and compute final grades. Meanwhile, there is always work for administrators and staff to do over the break, preparing the University for the end of its New Year's hibernation. Worse yet, everyone must deal with the hectic holiday crush of shopping and travel. Certainly all segments of the campus could benefit from a little more free time.

Some would argue that an extended break would only deprive faculty and students of time more usefully spent in class. True, but the benefits of an extra week's relaxation to the psyches of UM-St. Louisians would more than make up for any dent put in the syllabus.

While no one can overestimate the importance of class time, no one should ignore the value of down time either. A week's extension of winter break is certainly not too much to ask.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Students should stand up for due representation

Is there anything on campus that you think needs to be improved? If so, you need to speak up now—you may not get the chance to do so later on.

Although students have the Student Government Association as a forum for making their ideas and concerns about campus issues heard, we may be in danger of losing another important outlet in which we have a voice: the University senate. Students currently hold 25 of the senate's 100 seats, while the remaining 75 are occupied by faculty members. If some faculty senators get their way, we may wind up with half as many seats, or perhaps none at all.

Last spring, Dr. Herman Smith (a faculty senator) announced the results of a survey he had conducted of senate faculty members claiming that a majority of them would like to see all the student senate seats turned over to faculty members. The issue was brought up again at the most recent senate meeting on December 8 when Dr. Joseph Martinich, another faculty senator, proposed that some student seats be given to non-regular faculty members who currently do not have representation in the senate.

As one of the 25 student senators, I find Dr. Martinich's suggestion to be infuriating. As my luck would have it, December's meeting was the first one I was unable to attend. I had decided to use my time that afternoon to work on a final project that was due the following day, and I'm guessing that with the meeting being so close to the end of the semester, other students may have been absent for similar reasons. It angers me that so much attention is focused on student attendance at meetings while a resolution to take attendance at senate meetings and post the results on the Internet was deemed insulting by some faculty members and defeated at November's meeting.

I'm also angered by the attitude some of the faculty senators have toward the student senators. My introduction to being a senator came last April during a meeting to elect members to the sen-

ate's committees. As we were preparing to vote, a faculty member asked, with unmistakable disdain in his voice, "Are students supposed to vote on this too?" I recall another meeting in which faculty members were allowed a great deal of time to discuss adding or deleting a word here and there to the University's grade change policy, but when a student asked a question relating to who would ultimately have the authority to change a grade, his question was hastily answered, and a move was quickly made to vote on the issue (God forbid another student decides to ask a question). Student senators are continually being given signals by some of the faculty members we're supposed to be working with that we're not good enough to serve on the senate, just by virtue of being students.

I wish I could say that the students are completely blameless for the way we're treated by some of the faculty senators, but I can't. The fact that we couldn't even get 25 students to run for senate seats in previous years certainly doesn't make us look very good. And while there are students on the senate who have legitimate reasons for missing meetings (such as study abroad), I know that some don't have valid excuses. I do believe, however, that this maybe due in part to a self-fulfilling prophecy. If you expect little from someone, that's just what you're going to get in return. If some faculty senators expect nothing from the students who are elected, then they shouldn't be so dismayed by the students who do exactly what is expected of them.

I agree with the idea that non-regular faculty members should be in the senate; anyone who has a stake in campus issues (including students) should be represented. But if Dr. Smith's survey is accurate and a majority of faculty senators truly don't want student representation on the senate, then we certainly can't rely on them to act as advocates for students in the event our seats are taken away from us. We need to stand up for ourselves.



MARY LINDSLEY
Guest Commentary

Fact versus Truth

There is a really great scene in one of the old Indiana Jones movies where Indy, teaching an archeology class, exhorts his students that archeology is not the search for truth but rather the search for facts. If you want truth, he told the group, philosophy class is down the hall.

I got to thinking about that quote during coverage of Operation Desert Fox, when I heard the Fox News reporter give a list of Iraqi losses ending with the charming phrase, "The Pentagon said we suffered no casualties." [emphasis mine]

We!!!! Mind you, this was the reporter speaking, not the Pentagon spokesman. What is this "we" business? Since when is quality war reporting done in the first person plural?

This was not an isolated incident. The term "we" or "our" was used several times by the network's talking heads. It seems we have come a long way since the days of CNN's Peter Arnett and the journalistic hand-wringing over whether to cover a battle from the enemy's perspective. Now news organizations apparently feel comfortable identifying themselves in the same pronoun with the Pentagon as though Fox News correspondents were flying sorties over Baghdad. So much for journalistic independence.

Granted, I am not saying that I or most of Fox News' viewing audience were supposed to be cheering for Saddam, but while average citizens may be allowed to identify with one side of a conflict over another, reporters are not. This is Journalism 101.

It's true that even the most hardened correspondent must have his true feelings. You can't cover the blood and guts of war without having a preference on who wins. Still a certain amount of detachment is necessary, even in the most opinionated news program. Journalism, like Indy's archeology class, is the search for facts, not truth. A good reporter should tell you what happened, not whether it's good or bad, or whose side you should be on. These are issues of truth, which despite those who would claim otherwise, is anything but absolute. Truth varies depending on who you ask. Facts are indisputable. We may argue over the truth of who or what created the Universe but not over the fact that it is here.

Because it is completely possible for two people to see the same facts and arrive at different versions of the truth, the objectivity of news reporting is vital to its mission. If a news outlet begins to identify with those it covers, the coverage, the presentation of facts, inevitably suffers. In the end, Fox News ought to take a lesson from its own motto, "We report. You decide."

Indy couldn't have said it better himself.



DAVID BAUGHER
Editor-in-Chief

America gets lost in "soap opera" news

Watergate, Iran/Contra, Monicagate, wag the dog. When will this end?

The news has become more saturated with presidential philandering than with essential news.

In turn, America's collective consciousness has been turned to mush. The coverage of the president's affairs have brought the American public as a whole down to elementary-level intellect and fascination. Our morbid curiosity for what has or hasn't happened in the Oval Office makes Jerry Springer's guests look like intellectual giants.

Wake up!

While politicians are debating along party lines whether to impeach or not impeach, and whether to back or not to back Clinton's air strikes against Iraq, the American public coincidentally has forgotten about the brave men and women risking their lives in the Middle East.

What happened to closing ranks in times of conflict?

Who do these brave soldiers have to look up to when their leader is being attacked from all sides, discredited, and impeached?

Most importantly, how can we as a people ask these people to risk their lives for us when we are more occupied with the color of Monica's beret.

All sides are at fault for discrediting the U.S. troops' actions against Iraq.

The Republicans are guilty for creating the wag the dog controversy. They believe that Clinton attacked Iraq solely to take some heat off of himself.

The Democrats are guilty for waiting too long to attack Iraq. This was something that should have been done at least a month earlier, if not sooner. If it was done then, wag the dog would not be an issue.

The public is at fault for creating this tabloid-like, frenzied atmosphere in which the media languishes. If the public would demand more from its news outlets (the one currently in your hands included), then the media would have no choice but to upgrade their news gathering. Instead, the sensational still takes the place of substance.

It's time to stop the politics. I claim no political affiliation during this miscarriage of justice. Not while my friends, peers, and loved ones have their lives on the line.

I hope this country has grown up since the 1960's when flower power slapped this country's brave Vietnam veterans in the face by branding them "baby killers."

This conflict isn't about oil or any other resource. It's about the security of the free world. Our soldiers are essentially freedom fighters.

If Saddam Hussein is allowed to create weapons of mass destruction, he will use them and none of us will be safe.

Remember Pearl Harbor? This generation's anti-war protesters apparently don't.

History cannot repeat itself. We can change it. It is not too late to rally behind our brave freedom fighters in the Middle East.



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SPORTS

Riverwomen upset Southern Indiana

BY KEN DUNKIN
staff editor

Conference games seem to come easy for the Riverwomen basketball team. They won their sixth last Wednesday and currently sit tied for third in the GLVC.

One of the team's more impressive victories of the season came last Wednesday as they defeated powerhouse Southern Indiana. The Riverwomen won 74-64. They were led by guards Tawanda Daniel and Amanda Wentzel. Daniel led the way with 19 points. Wentzel, an Indiana native, scored 17 points.

This wasn't the first time the Riverwomen had given Southern Indiana a good challenge at the Mark Twain Building. Last season the Riverwomen lost 84-76 in one of the closest games of the season for the eventual GLVC champion.

The victory put the Riverwomen in good position in the conference. They are in the jumbled up list of teams within reach of the conference lead. Seven teams are within two victories of the GLVC top spot.

The Riverwomen will have a great opportunity to improve in the standings as they will play two of the top teams this week. They will play area rival SIU-Edwardsville today. Edwardsville is tied with UM-St. Louis with their 6-2 conference record. Thursday they will go to Bellarmine to play the 6-3 Knights. The team will get a break on Saturday when they play 3-6 Kentucky Wesleyan.

The Riverwomen are currently 7-5 and are on a pace to better their 14-12 record of last season. With a victory they will match their school best total of victories in the GLVC.



Stephanie Platt/The Current

Katy Gwaltney (41) takes it up strong against Southern Indiana Wednesday night.

OFF THE WALL

A legend is remembered

Excuse me this week as I mourn the death of a St. Louis legend. I've never been one for big memorials for people. Death happens and often writing long articles only rubs salt in the wounds for the mourners. Sam Muchnick, former journalist and wrestling promoter, is different. He should be mourned in print where he started his career off in 1926; that is the only way to do him justice.

Don't get lost on me. I'll explain who Muchnick is for you first. He was a former Cardinals' beat writer in the 1920's and '30's. He covered the greats, Babe Ruth, Frankie Frish, Dizzy Dean—basically the who's who of professional baseball at that time. Being the Cards' beat writer isn't where he would gain his fame though; that would come later.



Sam Muchnick promoted sports editor his first professional wrestling match in 1942. It was the beginning of wrestling as we know it today. It didn't happen in a day though. Over the next 50 years Muchnick and his friends in the St. Louis Wrestling Club would build wrestling into the major industry it is today.

He was a visionary before his time. He gave many future stars an opportunity to shine. The likes of Ric Flair, Harley Race, Roddy Piper, and Dick the Bruiser graced The Arena and The Chase under Muchnick's management. From every wrestler I've ever talked to, all have had great things to say about the wrestling legend.

The reason? He told his workers what the situation was, and they respected him for it. He always dealt with people the way he wished to be worked with, and it paid off. In his 50 years of promoting, only two of his main events had to be changed, the first because of a broken arm, the second coming via a stroke. Both times he had wrestlers fly in on short notice because it was Muchnick that had called, which goes to show what kind of pull he had on some of the wrestling greats at the time.

His management skills aren't the only thing that would gain him fame. Sure he had 10,000 fans pack the house at each of his shows, but it was his work with a new outlet that changed today's wrestling. Wrestling on television was perhaps his most brilliant move in a lifetime of brilliant moves. Wrestling at the Chase, I've only heard the legend. Every person who lived in St. Louis in the late '50's had witnessed a touch of his magic. Muchnick was one of the first people in the country to bring wrestling to television which would change the way the wrestling world would work forever.

Now it was available for everyone. Muchnick put on his last show Jan. 1, 1982, leaving behind the profession to which he had given so much. On Dec. 30, 1998 Muchnick passed away; he was 93.

The wrestling world and St. Louis lost one of their true legends.

Rec sports offers full menu of activities

BY DAVE KINWORTHY
staff associate

The intramurals just finished up another great semester during the fall and will continue into the spring semester with another abundance of sports and activities for students to choose from.

The first four sports upcoming are coed volleyball, indoor soccer, basketball, and bowling.

"We are trying to get more people to participate in the Wednesday afternoon bowling league," said Pam Steinmetz, assistant intramural director. "It is located at North Oaks Bowl, and it only costs \$1.25 for three games. It is a real bargain."

Ping Pong, or table tennis as some would like to call it, will also be held this semester.

"The finals for this will be held during halftime of the basketball game during homecoming," Steinmetz said.

Boosting intramural sports at UM-St. Louis is a fairly simple but complex issue for Steinmetz.

"We go about it in a variety of ways: we have flyers posted, we send out invitations to all of our past participants, and we are also sending and visiting University Meadows and Res [Residence] Life students to get them down here," Steinmetz said.

Something new on the agenda is the Res Life night.

"We are simply opening up the facilities and inviting any residential or international students down that night for free pizza and soda," Steinmetz said.

"If you compare us to any other university, you will find that we offer as much or more especially in the range of variety. We just want to provide something fun for someone to do," Steinmetz said.

Soccer players receive national recognition

BY KEN DUNKIN
staff editor

Following a solid season by the men's soccer program, four Rivermen players earned NCAA honors.

Earning first team All-Midwest honors was senior defender Joe Stdko. Stdko anchored a young defense which helped the team finish 11-7-2 overall.

Goalie Kevin McCarthy was named to the second team after a break through season. After splitting time his freshman season, McCarthy was solid as the sole keeper this season. He started 20 games, keeping the opposition scoreless in nine games.

The up-field forward duo of Trent Woodrick and Scott Luczak rounded out the Rivermen and were named to the second team All-Midwest roster. Both scored seven goals on the season with three game winning goals.

The team finished second in the Great Lakes Valley Conference tournament.

The sports of volleyball and basketball are crowd drawers as well. The sign up deadline for these two popular sports is Jan. 20.

Steinmetz believes that these two sports will draw great attendances.

"Basketball was a very competitive sport last year and the volleyball was equally as good," Steinmetz said. "We are just hoping for a large turnout this year. Independent teams are open to anyone who wants to participate in these intramural sports."

Steinmetz also pushed the point of welcoming any additional newcomer to the intramural field.

"We want to open the gate of opportunity to anyone who wishes to participate in these sports," Steinmetz said. "When you compare us to local universities like Saint Louis University, we are similar if not superior to their intramurals."

Rivermen lose 85-64, drop to 4-8

BY KEN DUNKIN
staff editor

It wasn't pretty for the Rivermen basketball team as they dropped further in the GLVC standings with their loss last week.

The Rivermen fell to Southern Indiana in convincing style. The GLVC leader handed the UM-St. Louis squad an 85-64 defeat.

The loss would have been easier to swallow if it had not been marked by the glaring losses on the Southern Indiana list of players dressed out. Two of the Screaming Eagles players, Leighton Nash and Joel Thomas, didn't play against the Rivermen. The pair were the two best players returning from last season's 27-6 team. They weren't needed last Wednesday against UM-St. Louis.

The game was lost from the beginning of the night. Southern Indiana came out strong in the first half putting in 41 points and keeping the Rivermen to only 29. If the first half hadn't put the Rivermen to rest, the Screaming Eagles second half would. Southern Indiana scorched the Rivermen for 44 points in the second half.

Relying mostly on 3-pointers, the Rivermen clawed out 35 points. The Rivermen would make eleven 3-point shots in the game which accounted for over half of the team's scoring.

The scoring was spread out for the squad. Greg Ross led the way with 18 points. Durrell Robinson had 17 points and Dwon Kelly had 9.

This week will see the Rivermen playing several teams ahead of them in the conference. SIU-Edwardsville is 3-5 and Bellarmine is tied with UM-St. Louis at 2-6. The biggest game of the week will be with Kentucky Wesleyan which is currently tied with Southern Indiana in the GLVC with a 7-1 conference record.

Hockey team surprises SLU

BY DAVE KINWORTHY
staff associate

Over the Christmas holidays, the Rivermen's hockey team played state rival Saint Louis University and wound up with a 2-2 tie.

Sophomore Craig Kneale from Hazelwood Central and freshman Ben Gilbertson from Francis Howell each scored for UM-St. Louis.

Going into the game, the Rivermen were not expected to compete with a team like SLU, who hopes to jump up to Division I next season.

"I considered us the underdogs there," Head Coach Greg Gevers said. "They are the ones playing a Division I schedule. There was a lot of talk because of their record (only losing two games all year), but the guys got fired up."

Coming into the game, SLU boasted a record of 14-2-1 while the Rivermen are having a .500 year record-wise.

"Honestly, we took it to them and everybody in the building knew we outplayed them," Gevers said. "We deserved a win, but did not get it."

The Rivermen dominated the game, out shooting SLU 38-29.

With only seconds left in the game, freshman Brian Craig fired a slapshot only to hit the goalpost as time expired.

"It was a great hockey game overall," Gevers said. "It was very entertaining."

Gevers was quite pleased with his team's overall performance.

"It was a total team game," Gevers said. "Up and down the rink, everybody played as solid of a team effort as they could. Every other game I can name a couple individuals that were impressive, but not in this game."

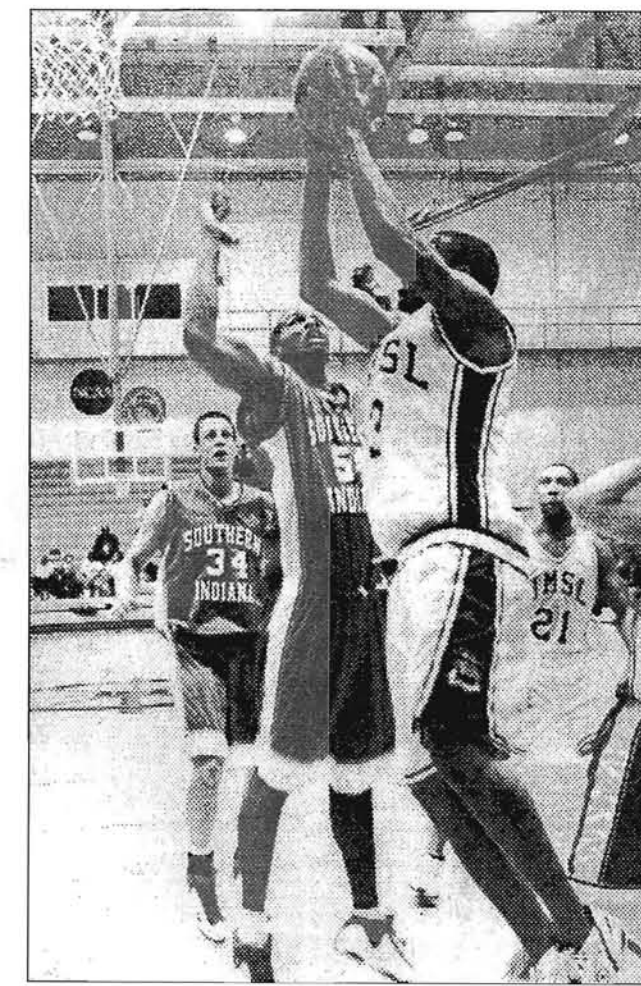
Unfortunately, Gevers said Rivermen lost assistant team captain and vice president of the club Tim Bauer for the remainder of the season due to academic reasons.

"He was a great leader on the ice," Gevers said. "He was one of my top defensemen and a really good guy,"

The Rivermen will face Meramec in back-to-back games this week.

The Rivermen previously beat Meramec in their last two outings by a score of 5-2, 7-2 but Gevers does not expect an easy victory.

"They are a good young team," Gevers said. "They are no slouch. They outshot us in the 5-2 win, but we just put the puck in the net more."



Stephanie Platt/The Current

Michael Coleman (3) puts up a shot in the Rivermen loss Wednesday night.

Softball Notebook

New softball complex finished, two players sign early

BY JOE HARRIS
senior editor

The completion of a new on campus softball facility and a new schedule format has Riverwomen head softball coach Charlie Kennedy optimistic about his team's chances this year.

"For the first time since I've been here, we can finally practice on campus and we don't have to carry our equipment from place to place," Kennedy said.

The new facility will not only make practice easier, scheduling home games will be easier as well. In the past, without a true home field the Riverwomen had to reschedule rained out games at the visiting team's field.

"Now we know that our toughest opponents will have to come to St. Louis,"

Kennedy said.

A new scheduling format for softball may also work toward the Riverwomen's favor. The Great Lakes Valley Conference has gone to a home and away double header format instead of the cluster format.

With the cluster format, six teams would gather at one place and play each other once within a two day span. Now teams will go on the road for two games one day and come home for two more games the next.

At first, Kennedy was opposed to the new format, but he is slowly changing his mind.

"I've had a chance to think about it and I like the fact that we play everybody the same amount of times," Kennedy said. "In the past we would play teams in our division [the south division] four times and teams in the

north two times. It created an uneven playing field."

Kennedy is also excited about two new recruits the Riverwomen signed during the early signing period for next year.

One of the recruits is Holly Mesenbrink. Mesenbrink, a catcher from McCluer North, will be playing out her senior season for the Comets in the spring. Kennedy likes her work ethic.

"We recruited her because of her willingness to hustle after balls, her quickness of getting out from behind the plate, and her hustle to run behind the baserunner when covering first," he said.

Kennedy expects Mesenbrink to push for some playing time right away. But the amount of playing time she gets will depend

on her adjustment to Division II play.

The other early signee is Ashley Tooley. Tooley will come from Wabash Valley Community College and will see time at both first base and designated hitter.

Tooley brings a big bat with her to the Riverwomen.

"She [Tooley] can go yard at any time," Kennedy said.

Tooley represents the first true home run hitter in Kennedy's coaching tenure. Last year five Riverwomen were tied with the club lead with one home run a piece.

"She [Tooley] will be a force in the middle of our lineup," Kennedy said. "And having her in there will probably allow some of our other really good line drive hitters to see better pitches."

Interview

Violinist reaches for greatness

At the age of six, Pavel Ilyashov didn't want to become a violinist. "I wanted to be a construction worker or plumber or something," Ilyashov said. "I was always staring out the windows at the big trucks that passed by."

However, thirteen years later, Ilyashov is an accomplished violinist who has won an international competition, has played with numerous ensembles, has studied with some of the greatest music teachers, and has recorded an album with his older sister.

Pavel Ilyashov, 19, was born in Minsk, Byelorussia. He was born into a musically talented family. His father Yuly Ilyashov plays the violin, and his mother Zena and older sister Maria play the piano. His father started teaching him the violin when he was six years old.

"At first I was horrible, and my father was about to quit teaching me after a few months. But my mother wanted me to continue and soon they saw some talent," he said.

At the age of nine, Ilyashov won an international competition in Italy. The family moved to the United States when Ilyashov was 10. The family, being Jewish, felt that their children would have better opportunities in the U.S. They moved to St. Louis to join family members.

Ilyashov has been taught by many great violinists including Nina Boder, Kurt Sassmannshouse, Dorothy DeLay, and David Halen. He is currently studying at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia with Jamie Larado and Ida Kadafian. Ilyashov said he has never stopped learning from his father.

"My father is a one bloody hell of a fiddle player," he said. "I'm always getting tips on how to be a better musician. Practicing at home

is never safe."

Right now Ilyashov said he is focusing on learning to play the violin well. He said he is working on overcoming some of his technical weaknesses and becoming more solid on stage. Ilyashov practices between six and eight hours a day.

"I wanted to be a construction worker or plumber or something. I was always staring out the windows at the big trucks that passed by."

-Pavel Ilyashov
violinist

ists ever," he said.

Tickets are still available for the concert. For more information call 516-5818.

-Stephanie Platt

Editors note: The Current has four pairs of complimentary tickets to the Jan. 17, 1999 concert. They will be given to the first four people to visit The Current (7940 Natural Bridge Rd., across from the music building) before Friday Jan. 15.

Movie Review

'Gods and Monsters' has depth, dimension in plot

Gods and Monsters
Rated R
Running time: 1:45

Everyone knows the Frankenstein movies, but few people even recognize the name of their director.

"Gods and Monsters" is a marvelous film about James Whale, the director of the classic Frankenstein movies. It will appeal to anyone who has fond childhood memories of the films "Frankenstein" and "Bride of Frankenstein." The film has been nominated for three Golden Globe awards and won Best Picture from Film National Board of Review, and will be playing at the Tivoli starting Jan. 8.

The film takes place in the 1950's near the end of director James Whale's (Ian McKellen) life. He is financially comfortable and retired for many years, but is troubled by his declining health, memories of tragedies in his youth, and the fact that his work is largely forgotten except for the Frankenstein movies.

gotten except for the Frankenstein movies.

The movies are his monsters—he is divided by a love of his creations and a revulsion of how they overshadow his life. The story is not a biography of his life but an intriguing tale about regrets, lost dreams, and the quirks of celebrity; it is alternately funny, touching or thought-provoking, with beautiful haunting images and superb acting. The film is full of visual references to the Frankenstein films, with recreations of shots from the films and parallels to the Frankenstein characters in its story. The film is also about friendship, as seen by his gardener's (Brendan Fraser) attempt to befriend him.

The plot develops in a number of unexpected directions, giving surprising dimensions and motives to the richly drawn characters. If you liked those classic films, you'll find this film both enjoyable and thoughtful.

-Catherine Marquis-Homeyer

SENATE, FROM PAGE 1

to exceed the ranked faculty. On senate committees, generally each committee must have representation from each school. So, obviously if you only have a few ranked faculty from a school, it spreads those people very thin."

"I think another reason it came up is fundamental fairness," Larson said. "People who are non-regulars are our colleagues. They teach great numbers of students and they teach them well."

According to Long, academic non-regulars make up about one-fifth of the teaching faculty at UM-St. Louis. They have large roles in programs, such as optometry and nursing, where they do much of the clinical supervision; foreign language programs, where they do much

of the classroom discussion; and in mathematics, where non-regulars teach most of the lower division classes.

Dr. Joe Martinich, professor of operations management, expressed concern about the proposal at the last senate meeting, on December 8, 1998.

"The proposal is to simply group them in with the regular faculty," he explained recently. "I see a couple of problems with that. At one extreme, you could have a rather large number of non-regulars elected to the senate in theory. The non-regulars typically are not hired to do research, so since this is a research University, it sort of changes the focus of governance. On the opposite extreme, you might have very few non-regulars elected, and then

you haven't solved the problem."

A better idea, Martinich said, would be to assign a fixed number of seats to the non-regulars. That would assure them a certain number of seats and enable the senate to plan what sort of involvement they want non-regulars to have.

"I think the feeling of the [ad hoc] committee was that separating non-regulars off into a separate constituency or body would create further divisions," Larson said. "If you created a separate constituency, you would increase the total number of senators, so something else would have to be reduced."

At the last meeting, Martinich proposed taking seats from the student representatives and setting those aside for non-

regulars, because student attendance at senate meetings has been very low.

"I've been an advocate of shrinking the senate because there are too many people who don't show up for the meetings," Martinich said. "The simple fact is that there are about 10 or 12 students each year who take senate seriously, but we have 20-25 seats assigned to them. I would also like to see the faculty seats cut from 75 to 50, shrink the entire body down, and then redistribute the seats."

Larson said she felt that combining two totally separate issues was the wrong approach.

"I would hope my colleagues would see that there are two issues here," she said. "One is getting non-regulars represented.

That needs to be voted on. If there is a feeling that students are overrepresented, then that is another issue that has to be debated separately."

Larson said that the issue was controversial and might get amended on the senate floor.

"My personal hope is that it doesn't get bogged down in a lot of amendments and parliamentary ploys," Long said. "This is a very important issue, and it defines a lot about the faculty and the nature of the senate. It deals with a group of people who have largely been disenfranchised. They look like anyone else and do the same job, but their position description is different."

POLICE, FROM PAGE 1

Anderson refused to resign, saying he never struck the prisoner. He was fired within a week.

Anderson's suit calls the charges filed against him "unfounded and false," alleging they were part of "a campaign of retaliation" against him which included "unfair and unwarranted disciplinary action and unfair performance evaluations" dating back to January of last year.

"It is of course Mr. Anderson's contention that this had absolutely nothing to do with Gary Howard," Meehan said. "This was primarily an attempt to remove him from the department because of charges he had filed alleging disparate treatment and pay to officers of color."

The suit said Anderson had filed a series of grievances with the University alleging unfair treatment beginning in June 1997 when he did not receive a promotion to an open sergeant's position.

According to documents provided by Meehan, in July of that year, several employees of the police department sent a five-point memo to Roeseler alleging unfair treatment of African-American workers, including allegations of inequitable pay and difficulties with supervisors who "are not consistent with rules and regulations" and who "lack diversity and training." The memo is signed by five department employees, including Anderson and Officer Gina Whitfield. Whitfield filed a lawsuit in July of 1996 against the University, Roeseler, and another officer alleging racial and gender discrimination. She had said she had filed a number of grievances with the University's office of equal opportunity. Whitfield's attorney, Henry Branom, said her case is due to go to trial in September.

The memo asks that Roeseler agree to meet with the five as a group. Anderson said Roeseler refused to meet with them as a group offering to meet with them only on an individual basis instead.

Roeseler could not be reached for comment. Anderson said he filed a second grievance in early 1998 after not receiving a promotion to an open detective's position the previous year. He filed a third grievance over his dismissal two months later.

Anderson said he had also sent a memo to the chief on Apr. 1 including figures which he said shows differences in the starting salaries of white and black officers, including himself. The Howard incident took place the day after Anderson said he sent the memo.

Norman Seay, director of the Office of Equal Opportunity, said he could not comment on specific grievances but that he knew of complaints from the department.

"This office is aware of the allegations and is investigating the allegations at the request of Human Resources," Seay said.

Anderson said that all of his three grievances are still pending and that Seay had told him he had "done

nothing" on the grievances.

Seay said that because Anderson was no longer on campus since his termination, his office had given other newer complaints a higher priority.

"Actually we should have continued with the investigation even though he was terminated, but with the number of new complaints that we have, we thought that it would be wiser to work on the current complaints," Seay said.

Seay said the investigation of the Anderson complaints has since been reopened.

Bob Samples, director of University Communications, said it would be "premature" to comment on the ongoing litigation but noted that some of Anderson's complaints about salary disparities could be due to a process Samples called "salary compression." He explained that because Human Resources often moves its starting salary range up each year, new hires may make more than individuals who are already employed by the University.

Samples also said that the University does not tolerate racism in any form and that the school has asked an individual from the Department of Justice to "work with us and evaluate our situation, policies and practices in the police department."

Anderson, who has spent more than two decades in law enforcement, said he plans to continue his career in the field now that he has retained his certification as a police officer. Meehan said that the University had initiated a decertification process for Anderson but after Anderson's acquittal the state cancelled its scheduled hearing.

"The entire certification hearing has been dropped," Meehan said. "As a result of the trial and as a result of subsequent investigation and additional information provided to the state, they have made the determination to completely drop this case."

CENTER, FROM PAGE 1

in the atrium will be accented by a fountain below. The center will also house the bookstore, admissions, career services, cashiers, registration offices, financial aid offices, the student government, and the offices of The Current.

Wehmeier said the price tag for the center, not including the fountain and several fireplaces which may be added, is \$20,544,000. He said there was also a proposal in the works to locate a 650 space parking garage nearby.

Correction

In Issue 940, the year the Ku Klux Klan filed suit against the University is incorrect. The suit was filed in 1997, not 1996. We regret any confusion this error might have caused.



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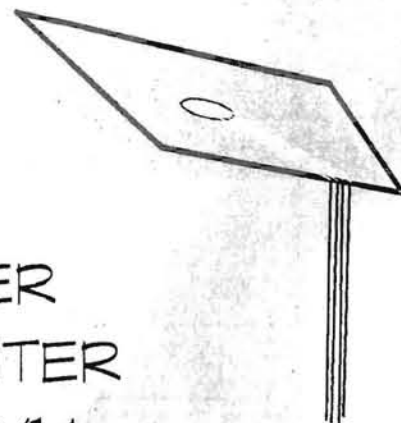
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Misc

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Weekend retreat available for all students/staff interested in taking a spirit-filled breath of fresh air and break from their studies. It will be held by students from Newman Center Feb. 5-7. Call Dennis or Betty at 385-3455.

Tickets for the papal youth rally "The Light of the World" are available through the Newman Center. The rally will be Jan. 26 at the Kiel Center. All participants must be between the ages of 14 and 26. Call Dennis or Betty at 385-3455.

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To request an application packet, write: Russell B. Pulliam, Fellowships Director, The Indianapolis News, P.O. Box 145, Indianapolis, IN 46206-0145

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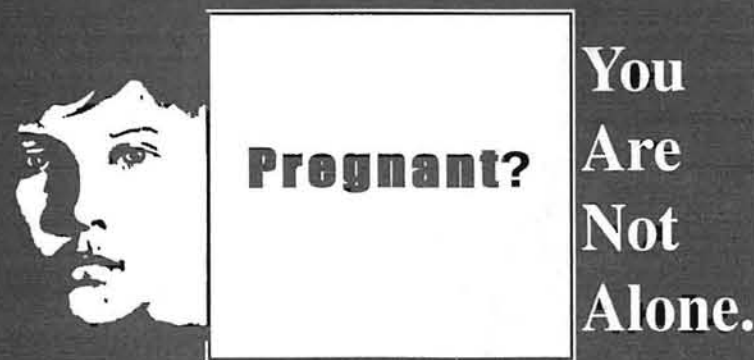
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