

► **Under Protest:** Baseball Rivermen move to five over the .500 mark, despite filing a protest over a questionable call. See page 5.



► **Piling On:** Pilobolus makes dance a mind-bending experience for audiences of all tastes. See Page 8.

► **April Fool:** The Current's evil alter ego, *The Stagnant*, parody issue is back. Have you read it yet? See inside.

NEWS FROM ALL OVER

Bill may allow grad students to form unions

(U-WIRE) CHAMPAIGN, Ill. — Despite a history of opposition from the U. Illinois administration, a bill giving graduate student employees the right to form their own union passed in the Illinois House of Representatives.

The bill amends the Illinois Educational Labor Relations Act to clarify that graduate student employees have employee rights. The bill now has to pass in the Illinois Senate to become an amendment.

"We don't want a career as graduate employees, we just want to have a say while we are here," said Toby Highbie, GEO communications officer and graduate student.

However, Robin Kaler, acting associate chancellor for public affairs, spoke for the University administration saying it does not think graduate student employees should be recognized as a union.

"We oppose it. We do not feel that students should as a rule form unions. The whole idea of the teaching process for graduate students is the learning process. They simply don't fit the definition of what a labor union needs to be," Kaler said.

Graduate student employees in favor of the bill and members of GEO have been rallying for support from state representatives.

"We've been lobbying, writing letters to state representatives. We have community support on campus and outside campus," said Charles Allen, GEO co-president and graduate student.

"All this bill is doing is setting us up to make our own decisions which is something we have asked of the University before," Allen said. "By establishing a union basically we're going to have a say in things."

Those things include health benefits, grievances, employment conditions and wages, said Allen.

Kaler said the University administration is disappointed and hopes the bill will not pass in the Senate.

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The Current

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

March 29, 1999

The University of Missouri-St. Louis

Vol. 33 Issue 951

President urges senate to drop tenure resolution

BY JOE HARRIS
senior editor

The tenure issue again was a hot topic of debate in the senate Mar. 16 when Paul Roth reported that UM system president Manuel Pacheco encouraged the senate to drop their resolution regarding faculty involvement in future decisions about policy affecting tenure.

The resolution was intended to avoid a repeat of Executive Order 6A. That order was implemented by George Russell, the former UM system president, in 1992 but it was only implemented on the UM-Columbia campus. Some faculty have expressed disagreements with the policy laid out in the order and the way in which the order was implemented.

"The original problem with Executive Order 6A related to the fact that on this campus there was a lack of awareness about the order itself," Rocco Cottone, chairperson of the senate committee on appointments, tenure, and promotion, said.

The University senate's resolution, passed at last month's meeting, was designed to increase the input of faculty on future policy decisions affecting tenure so a repeat of 6A would not occur.

Roth, chair of the department of philosophy, said Pacheco warned about the dangers of bringing up tenure discussions with this resolution. Roth said Pacheco feared that a discussion among the Curators could bring about unwanted changes in UM tenure policy such as post-tenure reviews or an abolition of tenure all together.

"Once the issue is put on the table for discussion, there is no control over where the discussion might lead," Roth said. "Since there is no control, the best way to handle it would be to make specific recommendations on changes before bringing it back to President Pacheco."

William Connett, professor of mathematics, said he wonders if Pacheco got the intended message.

"I was confused," Connett said. "I thought Cottone's resolution was a modest request saying 'please don't do this again.'"

Connett said that even though he thought the resolution was too modest, he supported it anyway. Connett said it sounded to him as if when the IFC took the resolution to the Curators that the original point was not made.

"[Roth] said something and Jeanne Zarucchi [senate chair] said something else," Connett said. "Joe Martinich

see TENURE, page 6



Sam Kasle/The Current

Cars park along a stretch of the new West Drive. Seventy-five new spaces have now been made available to students.

New West Drive parking spots aim to ease ongoing campus car crunch

BY SHAVON PERKINS
special to The Current

Unknown to many students, there has been an additional seventy-five parking spots made available on the new West Drive, now under construction behind Benton Hall. The new spots consist of parallel and angle parking and were made available to accommodate the temporary needs of students until West Drive is complete.

Chris Samples of the planning department notes that the spots are marked temporary and encourages students to use caution and care in consideration of the ongoing construction nearby. The location of the new parking is on either side of West Drive, west of Benton Hall and the Molecular Science Building.

The new spots are part of an ongoing effort to keep pace with the continual loss of spots due to construction. Bob Roeseler, director of Institutional Safety, says that prior to construction, there were approximately 5,300-5,500 parking spots available on campus. At the initial start of construction 600 spots were lost. More recently another 150 were removed. Currently 4,600 parking spots are available for student parking. According to Roeseler, there were approximately 9,000 parking permits issued for the 1999 Winter semester. At this time there are no further plans to add additional temporary parking for students. However,

the new garage adjacent to the Thomas Jefferson Library is estimated to be completed by October and it will add an additional 670 parking spots for students.

Samples said there have been complaints from students about the lack of parking but notes that parking is available, but is not as convenient as students would like.

"Garage H consistently has 150-200 empty spaces that are not being utilized," Samples said.

Safety concerns near the construction are minimal to students, Roeseler said. Chris Samples said that there have been no reports of damage to vehicles since the spots have been available. Roeseler added that the spots are some of the nicest on campus as they are brand new and he would have no concerns about parking his vehicle so close to construction. Enhancements, such as crosswalks and walkways to buildings, have been added to make it more convenient.

But some students say that it's not good enough.

"The new spots are too far for me. I would rather use the MetroLink and not have to worry about parking," Fresman Tom Stiffler said.

Junior Jeff Apple said he was also somewhat unsatisfied with UM-St. Louis' parking situation.

"Last year parking was much more convenient. I didn't know when I transferred to UMSL that my... parking fee would include a cardiovascular work out," Apple said.

SGA takes action on elections, ASUM proposal

Assembly approves plan to join student lobbying group

BY JOSH RENAUD
staff assistant

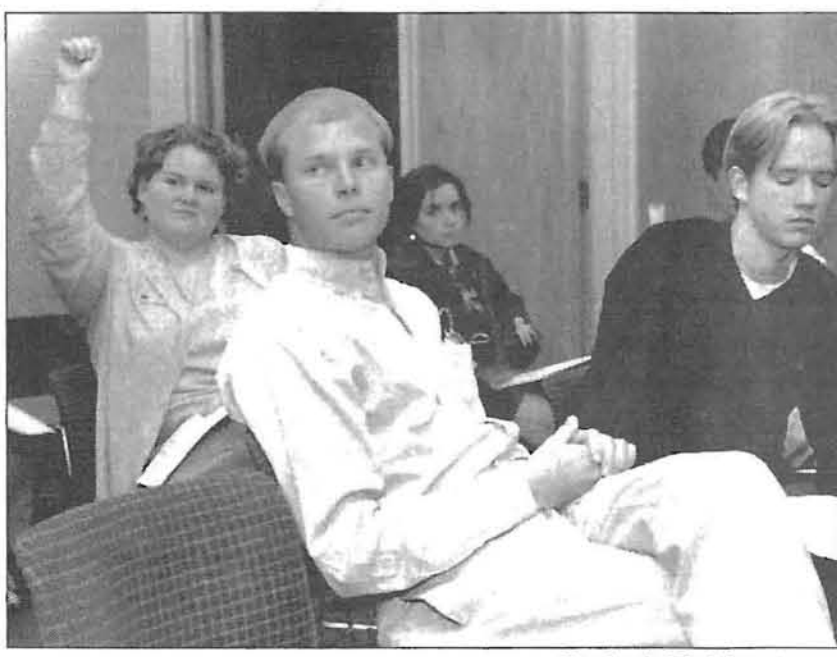
By voting to accept an agreement presented at its Mar. 18 meeting, the Student Government Association took the first step toward becoming a full member of the Associated Students of the University of Missouri (ASUM).

Andy Laegeler, a member of the ASUM Board of Directors Executive Committee, and Beth Hammer, the Board of Directors vice-chair, presented the agreement which will make UM-St. Louis an associate member of ASUM.

According to the ASUM Annual Prospectus, ASUM is an organization designed to give students hands-on political training. ASUM provides a venue for students to impact Missouri's legislative policy through lobbying. Currently, all three of the other University of Missouri schools are members of ASUM.

Under the terms of the agreement, the SGA will be required to pay a \$2,500 membership fee each

see ASUM, page 6



Stephanie Platt/The Current

Beth Hammer, vice-chair of ASUM's Board of Directors Executive Committee, raises her hand to speak during the debate over UM-St. Louis' membership in the organization. Also pictured is fellow board member Andy Laegeler and student Joe Flees (right). Flees was eventually chosen as UM-St. Louis' representative to the Board.

SGA approves committee, releases election timeline

BY DAVID BAUGHER
senior editor

The SGA elections have been pushed back to Mirthday by the Assembly's election committee.

Gail Rimkus, one of two committee co-chairs, announced the election dates as Apr. 21-22, during the SGA meeting Mar. 18 at which the election committee's eight members were approved. Rimkus said applications to run for president and other SGA offices were now available. Applications must be turned in by 5 p.m., Apr. 9 at 267 U Center.

Student Darwin Butler raised objections at the meeting over the committee's timelines, asking why applications had just now become available.

"I want to know why it took so long," Butler said.

Graduate School Representative Steven Wolfe objected to the committee's approval saying the process should have been handled long ago.

"We should have approved this at the first

see ELECTIONS, page 6

Student mugged in campus garage

BY CORY BLACKWOOD
of the Current staff

A student was robbed at gunpoint earlier this month in a campus parking garage.

According to a report from the University Police, the incident began when an unidentified male approached the student on the second level of parking garage "C" early in the evening of Mar. 2 requesting change. He then allegedly displayed a small dark handgun and demanded the student's wallet from which he took about \$60 in cash. The student was not injured in the incident.

The suspect was described as a black male about 5'10"-6 feet tall wearing a red and black Chicago Bulls jacket. Police said they have no suspects in the case.

While this sounds like something that happens very frequently on a campus in the St. Louis area, a city that

Police call crime 'extremely rare', give safety tips designed to prevent armed robberies

is renowned for its high crime rates, police say this sort of crime is not at all common here at UM-St. Louis.

"Something like this seldom happens; it is extremely rare in fact," said Captain James Smalley of the UM-St. Louis police department. "I have no official stats, but I know that there have been no violent crimes of this nature in the past several years," Captain Smalley said.

While this is a promising fact, it is still disturbing to feel a lack of personal safety on one's own college campus, because the police cannot be everywhere at once. Smalley was eager to offer some tips and advice on how to avoid such crimes, and how to have the police there

when and where you may need them.

"Don't walk alone; walk in groups at night," Smalley said. "When you are leaving class, find someone who is parked near you, and walk to your car with them."

Captain Smalley also added that "You can always call [ext.] 5155, and a police officer will meet you at the building you are leaving and escort you to your car, or from building to building. We can be reached 24 hours a day, and we will escort you at any time," Smalley said. "There are red hotline phones in every building, as well

see MUGGING, page 6

Named U.M.-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 for on campus events. 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, Mar. 29

• **Monday Noon Series: "The Screened-In Porch":** Considerations of the Play will be from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in 222 J.C. Penney. Ron Himes, director, St. Louis Black Repertory Company, and members of the cast talk about the current production of "The Screened-In Porch." Vetta Sanders Thompson, associate professor of psychology, UM-St. Louis, and Shirley LeFlore, adjunct professor of English, UM-St. Louis, explore various psychological and family issues raised in the play. Contact: Karen Lucas, 5699.

• **Library Skills Workshops** in 315 T.J.L. Contact the T.J.L., 5050.

Tuesday, Mar. 30

• **Library Skills Workshops** in 315 T.J.L. Contact the T.J.L., 5050.

Wednesday, Mar. 31

• **Taize Prayer,** from 12:15 p.m. to 12:45 p.m. in 156 U-Center, is a quiet, meditative time for scripture, music and prayer sponsored by campus ministries. Contact: Roger Jespersen, 385-3000.

• **Library Skills Workshops** in 315 T.J.L. Contact the T.J.L., 5050.

• **Trailblazers Awards Ceremony** at 12 p.m. in the Summit Lounge.

Thursday, Apr. 1

• **Mathclub Film Series: "Shape of the World: Exploration"** will be at 2 p.m. in 132 SSB.

• **Library Skills Workshops** in 315 T.J.L. Contact the T.J.L., 5050.

Monday, Apr. 5

• **Monday Noon Series: The Meaning of Life** will be held in 222 J.C. Penney. Thaddeus Metz, assistant professor of philosophy, UM-St. Louis, outlines some non-religious perspectives on what makes a life worthwhile. Contact: Karen Lucas, 5699.

• **Library Research Assistance Clinic.** Sign up at the T.J.L. Reference Desk for help with research papers or projects. Contact: 5060.

Tuesday, Apr. 6

• **Library Research Assistance Clinic.** Sign up at the T.J.L. Reference Desk for help with research papers or projects. Contact: 5060.

Wednesday, Apr. 7

• **Spinning Clinic:** Introduction to the spinning classes from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Learn the proper form and discuss goals for beginners. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

• **Psychic and Palm Reader** Stella

Jan will be in the Women's Center in 211 Clark Hall from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. Come for a reading or just watch her work. Contact: 5380.

• **Library Research Assistance Clinic.** Sign up at the T.J.L. Reference Desk for help with research papers or projects. Contact: 5060.

Thursday, Apr. 8

• **Library Research Assistance Clinic.** Sign up at the T.J.L. Reference Desk for help with research papers or projects. Contact: 5060.

Friday, Apr. 9

• **Introduction to Weight Training:** Learn how to use the Fitness Center and weight room to achieve the goals you desire. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

• **Team Trivia Night** from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Mark Twain Rec Center. T-shirts are awarded to the winners. Teams of six players with at least three players being either UMSL students, faculty, staff, or alumni. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

• **Get Felt '99 Pool Tournament** at the Honors College. Doors open at 5 p.m. and registration is at 6 p.m. with the tournament starting at 7 p.m. There will be refreshments. Contact: Bryan Shaw, 382-3816.

• **Library Research Assistance Clinic.** Sign up at the T.J.L. Reference Desk for help with research papers or projects. Contact: 5060.

Monday, Apr. 12

• **Monday Noon Series: Why the Arts Are Necessary** in 229 J.C. Penney. Ellen Dissanayake, Seattle scholar and lecturer, discusses what the arts have contributed to human life and survival, and what the implications are of modern society's neglect of the arts. Contact: Karen Lucas, 5699.

• **One Night Men's and Women's Volleyball Tournaments** at the Mark Twain Gym for students, faculty, and staff. Contact: Rec Sports, 5326.

• **Homophobic Violence: It Does Happen Here** from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. in the Women's Center in 211 Clark Hall. Suzanne Rose of the UM-St. Louis psychology department will open the eyes of all present concerning local violence against the gay and lesbian community along with exploring the aftermath of Matthew Shepard's tragic death last year. Contact: 5380.

• **Library Research Assistance Clinic.** Sign up at the T.J.L. Reference Desk for help with research papers or projects. Contact: 5060.

Campus CrimeLine

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

March 10, 1999

A UMB Bank employee reported that on March 9 a counterfeit ten dollar bill was in with a C-Store Deposit. The bill was turned into the U.S. Secret Service. Also on March 3 a counterfeit twenty dollar bill was discovered and turned in.

A person riding MetroLink reported that between 7:30 a.m. and 5:25 p.m. her vehicle was stolen

from the MetroLink Park and Ride lot on the South Campus. The keys had been left in the insecure vehicle.

UPDATE — On March 11 the stolen vehicle was recovered in St. Louis City.

March 11, 1999

The Custodial Department reported that between

March 10 and March 11 two mirrors were stolen from the J.C. Penney men's rooms.

March 12, 1999

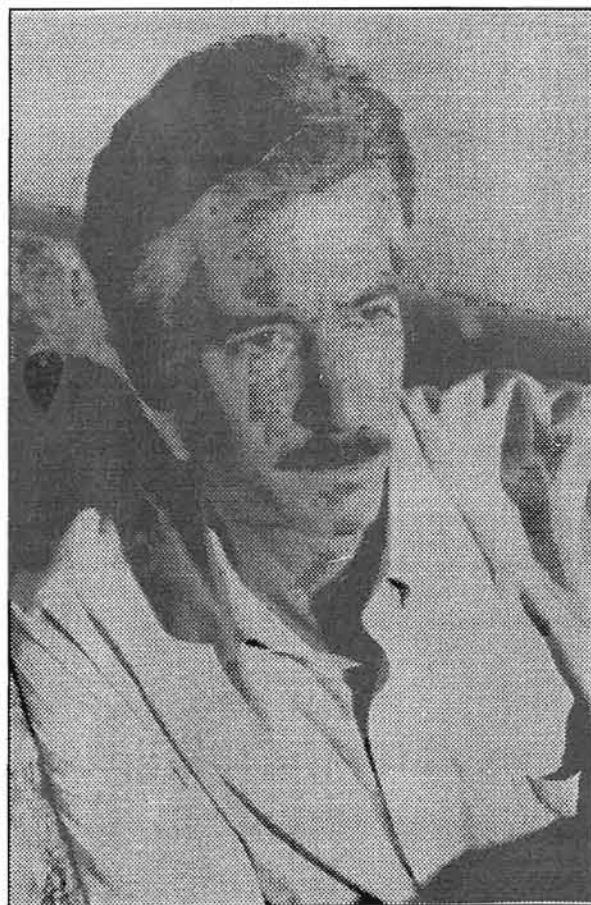
Custodians assigned to the Molecular Science Building reported that between 10:00 a.m. on March 11 and 7:50 a.m. on March 12 unknown persons stole a mirror from the second floor men's room.

You may have read the book or seen the movie starring John Travolta as Jan Schlichtmann

A Civil Action

Now meet the man behind the story.

In 1981, three children whose drinking water came from a contaminated well in Woburn, MA died of leukemia. From the tragedy of these deaths arose an eight-year court case that pitted the fortitude and belief of one man, attorney Jan Schlichtmann, against a legal system more trained to protect an industrial polluter than a grieving mother.



"You Be The Judge"

Attorney Jan Schlichtmann

will speak on the UM-St. Louis campus:

Can there be environmental justice for ALL?

David vs. Goliath: Don't stand under the giant when he falls.

Alternative Dispute Resolution: Only lawyers win in court.

Wednesday, March 31, 1999 at 8:00 p.m.

J.C. Penney Auditorium

Free admission. Tickets required. Get them at 267 U. Center

Hear what he has to say!

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MCMA



FEATURES

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

GET THIS

Unfair treatment of females seen in many cultures

We've come a long way, baby... or have we?

Although this catchy slogan implies that women are now getting the respect that they have always deserved, the evidence to the contrary continues to pile up in every corner of the globe.

In this day of extensive "talk" about equality, the fact is that the actual "walk" is still little more than a slow crawl.

Young females are still comparing themselves to impossible ideals in the areas of beauty and body size. Bombarded with these images from every medium, from the Kate Moss models in magazines to the Baywatch barbie dolls on the boob-tube (no pun intended), it's not hard to figure out why eating disorders and depression continue to run rampant.

And that's not even the worst of it. The consequences of being a girl can be deadly. In some parts of the Middle East, there is this nifty little tradition called "honor killing." It comes from the idea that a man's honor depends on a woman's purity. It is an absolute must for a woman to remain a virgin until marriage and be 100% faithful to her husband after the knot has been tied, or else. Even in the case of rape, it is accepted, even expected, for a male member of the family to terminate the victim. Situations like adultery, divorce or even marriage without the family blessing can result in murder. The law is usually lenient with the "honor killers," maybe giving them a few months in prison or excusing their behavior altogether.

Women are being brutally mutilated in some areas of Africa, in the form of a surgical procedure often called female circumcision. The idea is essentially that if a young woman has her clitoris removed early in life, her sexual appetite will be minimized and she will not become a whore. I guess the whole concept of teaching morals and responsibility would take too much effort. This is a much more efficient solution, don't you think? (I can't emphasize enough how sarcastic that last sentence is.)

Before anyone starts to assume that instances like these are found only in other parts of the world, far away from our fair country; think again. Domestic violence claims the lives of countless women in the United States every year. These crimes take place despite efforts by the victims — including divorce, restraining orders, and even secret relocations. These are some of the extreme examples of the ill treatment of the female gender in societies. Don't get me started on the more easily overlooked problems of more work for less pay, sexual harassment (and, boy, what a joke we've managed to make out of that serious issue) and that darn glass ceiling. Who can forget the obvious illogic of the double standard? Promiscuous men are "studs." Women are "sluts." Out-going take-charge males are "leaders." Females are "bitches."

People are placed into categories the instant they are born, based solely on their eventual urination position — sitting or standing. Even in the U.S., studies show that, until about age three, boys and girls exhibit the same amount of physical aggressiveness. That's usually the time that little women are told to "act like ladies," and the little men's behavior is attributed to that clever "boys will be boys" theory. And so begins the separation...



AMY LOMBARDO
Features Editor

A float for all seasons

UM-St. Louis 'float flunkies' show campus pride at holiday parades

BY ANNE PORTER
staff associate

UM - St. L.

Louis has participated in over 72 parades in the last 12 years.

That is about six parades a year, and about half of those have been televised.

Ron Edwards, audio visual supervisor of University Center; Gloria Schultz, director of Auxiliary Services; and Lisa Grubbs, director of Residential Life, are the main people responsible for the floats and the participation in the parades.

Other important people that help out in the events are George Schmidt, director of Food Services; Reinhard Schuster, vice-chancellor for Administrative Services; and Jay Bess and Jim Stewart, drivers in the parades.

The parades in which UM-St. Louis participates include St. Patrick's Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Annie Malone, Mardi Gras, and the Fourth of July Parade.

The float and shuttle combined are 57 feet long, usually considered too large to participate in the Mardi Gras parade. However, because the Mardi Gras parade was moved to Broadway this year, UM-St. Louis was

able to join in.

The people who ride in the parade on the float represent the campus as a whole. There are residents of the campus, students in the athletic department, international students, the Riverettes, staff, and faculty.

Each float has a different theme and music to accompany it.

At the Mardi Gras parade, the music was Cajun style, and on St. Patrick's Day, it was appropriately Irish tunes.

During Mardi Gras, beads were thrown out into the masses.

"They were good beads because they were not thrown back at us. They were a tough crowd," Edwards said.

In the St. Patrick's Day Parade, gold coins (which were actually chocolate inside) were tossed to the crowd.

In the St. Patrick's Day Parade, some of the people that participated included Chancellor

Blanche Touhill and her husband, Joe Touhill, Reinhard Schuster, George Schmidt, the Riverettes, Residential Life, the women's basketball team, international students, and half of the soccer team.

Those people who participate in the parade on a regular basis call themselves "float flunkies."

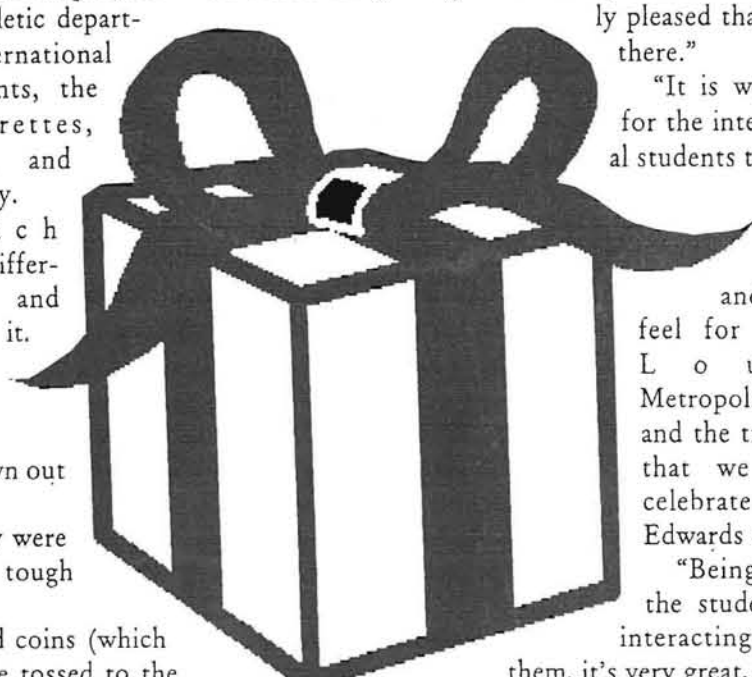
ular basis call themselves "float flunkies."

"The goal is to be representational of the campus," Edwards said. "The response is wonderful of people on the street. They recognize us. They seem to be generally pleased that we are there."

"It is wonderful for the international students to go out in the community and get a feel for the St. Louis Metropolitan area and the traditions that we always celebrate here," Edwards said.

"Being with the students and interacting with them, it's very great, the feeling that they come back time after time. It shows they have a good time," Gloria Schultz said.

Schultz and Edwards are seeking students to participate in the Fourth of July Parade. For more information on how to participate, contact Schultz at (314) 516-5760.



UNDER CURRENT

compiled by Sam Kasle/staff photographer

What is your favorite local eatery?

"White Castle, it's where I take all of my dates, if I could get one."



-Keith Prives
Junior/General Fine Arts

"Pasta House, great eggplant parmesan. Nice Italian music. Crayons and drawing pads for children."



-Grant Asmus
Junior/Graphic Art

"Pho Grand, Vietnamese food. The first date of the worst relationship of my life. The best #10 on the planet, their #10 is really cool."



-Cristie Bachhuber
Junior/Painting

"Chevy's... the salsa and chips are awesome."



-Betsy Barton
Sophomore/English

"I hate White Castle, hate Imo's, hate Papa John's..."



-Kimberly Silver
Sophomore/Engineering

'The Second Coming' celebrates work of new BFA graphic design program

BY ANNE PORTER
staff associate

The year 1998 marked the first time that an UM-St. Louis class graduated with a Bachelors of Fine Arts in Graphic Design. Now in 1999, the second class, double the size of the first, has produced a senior thesis show. This show is called "The Second Coming."

The students in the show include Lindy Ackerman, Jim Burke, Nicole Challans, Sonja Ecton, Amy Faulkner, Natalie George, JJ Hale, Vicky Ho, Jeff Kuhn, Johnathan Minton, Scott Mueller, and Nitza Wesche.

The reception for "The Second Coming" was held Mar. 17 and was attended by students, faculty, and representatives from area companies.

Currently, in the fifth semester of the program, there are 60 students enrolled for a BFA in Graphic Arts. That is half of fine art majors at the University.

Marian Amies is an assistant professor of art at UM-St. Louis.

"I think the thing about the show is [the students] had to work as a team and put on a professional show. We had 150 people for [the] opening," said Amies.

That 150 included representatives from Southwestern Bell, and other various companies in St. Louis.

"The majority produced is work with feedback on results," Amies said.

Most of the projects are corporate in nature. Transitional signage is a possible benefit in this type of situation. For example, Mosbey publishers came in to check out the medical book design. Some of the areas the students focused on in this project were page layout, words per page, tables, and graphs.

"Other large projects used, for example, would be for Canada, mainly having the capacity for English and French," Amies said.

The diverse faculty in the fine arts department gives students the advantage of being able to work with all sorts of backgrounds, from business to industrial. This provides many projects with corporate influence and interaction with potential employers.

"Top designers come in and give input on projects on a regular basis," Amies said. "We try to use projects that fulfill the UM-St. Louis mission of graphic design that is really needed in the community."

Some of the major efforts of the BFA program include marketable skills and internships.

"What we like to do is have really good interface with the community college transfer students and build in the level they come in at. We work a lot at developing them," Amies said.

Before anyone starts to assume that instances like these are found only in other parts of the world, far away from our fair country; think again. Domestic violence claims the lives of countless women in the United States every year. These crimes take place despite efforts by the victims — including divorce, restraining orders, and even secret relocations.

Other computer knowledge that is necessary to graduate is knowledge of programs in graphic design including Adobe Illustrator, Director, and Photoshop.

"Students want to have input for community solutions, and they research them," Amies said. "They actually have to do a professional presentation. That is really, really successful."

"The Second Coming" will be on exhibit through Apr. 9. For more information, please call (314) 516-6967.

Movie Review

Formulaic 'Forces of Nature' almost worth admission price

Forces of Nature
PG-13

Even if you haven't been to a theater yet to see *Forces of Nature*, the new comedy starring Sandra Bullock and Ben Affleck, chances are you've seen this movie before. If you've ever seen *Planes, Trains, and Automobiles*, or any of the countless movies in which a character breaks off an engagement to take off with a free-spirited type he or she has known for a matter of days, then you've seen this film.

In *Forces of Nature*, Affleck plays Ben Holmes, a mild-mannered New York book jacket writer who's eagerly awaiting his marriage to Bridget (Maura Tierney) in Savannah, Georgia. Ben's trip south for the wedding falls apart, however, when his plane crashes into a billboard by the runway and he's forced to find an alternative mode of transportation. He's joined (more like commandeered)

by his seatmate, Sarah (Bullock), a vivacious woman with a desire for adventure who often overlooks the impact it has on others. As the two struggle through a series of mishaps to get to Georgia by car, train, bus, and by foot, Ben finds his initially antagonistic relationship with Sarah turning into attraction.

Sound familiar? Despite the fact that *Forces of Nature* doesn't really add anything new to the various genres it borrows heavily from, it's still a fun film to see. Affleck and Bullock both lend a lot of charm and humor to an unimaginatively written pair of characters. The film also manages to deliver an ending that, unlike the rest of the movie, isn't quite predictable (but which fits well).

Forces of Nature may not be a movie you want to buy a full-price ticket for, but it's still a good choice for an entertaining way to spend a couple of hours.

-Mary Lindsley

COMMENTARY

The Current

THE STUDENT VOICE OF UM-ST. LOUIS

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Editor in Chief

Joe Harris

Managing Editor &
Editorial Page Editor

"Our Opinion" reflects the
opinion of the editorial board

How to Respond

Your response is an important part of the weekly debate on this page. Letters should be brief and those not exceeding 200 words will be given preference. We edit letters for clarity, length and grammar. All letters must be signed and include a daytime telephone number.



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OUR OPINION

Cautious optimism on ASUM

The Issue:

UM-St. Louis has recently decided to become a member of ASUM.

We Suggest:

This is a good move for UM-St. Louis students but cost is a concern.

So what do you think?

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

The UM-St. Louis SGA has voted to make this campus an associate member of the Associated Students of the University of Missouri. This would seem to be a positive step for the students who sorely deserve representation at the state level of government, but more questions should be asked before UM-St. Louis goes any further with the project.

The main one is monetary. Some at the meeting brought up legitimate concerns about ASUM's price tag, a hefty \$2,500 for an associate membership, which will earn UM-St. Louis one seat on ASUM's board. The other three campuses, who are full members, have multiple seats. The cost for necessary facilities and dues will likely go up if UM-St. Louis eventually becomes a full member. This first step is certainly worthwhile; however, a final assessment of cost will be necessary to show whether ASUM is worth the money.

More disturbing is that previous associations between ASUM and UM-St. Louis have failed. This is not the first trial membership for the campus.

Why have previous relationships with ASUM collapsed, and what has been done to solve the problems that created the previous failures?

Undoubtedly, ASUM provides a degree of representation for students at UM-St. Louis they desperately need. Its leaders claim credit for everything from getting the students a non-voting representative on the Board of Curators (currently held by a UM-St. Louisian) to reducing textbook costs. It would leave students here out in the cold for Kansas City, Rolla, and Columbia to have a voice in state government while the second-largest campus in the system remains silent. Why should others represent our interest in the halls of power in state government? The organization certainly provides an intriguing proposition. Twenty-five hundred dollars may not be too much to ask to explore those opportunities. Bang for the buck is important, however. ASUM appears to represent a real voice for students. Let's just make sure the voice justifies the cost.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Leave senate ballots alone, please

Since when are ballots of any type (on UM-St. Louis's campus or otherwise) required to inform voters of candidates' "qualifications, past experience, or the candidate's expectations for the future?" The authors of the *Our Opinion* column in the March 15 issue of *The Current* seem to think that ballots should serve as some sort of free campaigning or advertising for candidates. The last time I checked, however, ballots were simply a list from which informed voters choose their favorite candidate—this has always been the case in local, state, and federal elections, as well as elections for various student-held offices here at UM-St. Louis. It is a candidate's responsibility, not an election committee's, to ensure that voters are informed. That is what campaigning is all about. In my case, I felt that my record (as an officer of three student organizations and chair of the SGA) spoke for itself, that because of this, students voting for me were voting

for someone who cares about this campus's affairs, and I resent *The Current's* assertion that my success, or the success of any of my fellow senators-elect, in the recent senate elections was due to a "popularity contest." It is ridiculous to request that an election committee disseminate information about candidates beyond a simple identifier such as a candidate's party or in our case, a candidate's major. In my opinion, this would constitute a severe conflict of interest, and result in election outcomes starting with personal prejudices of members of election committees. I, for one, consider the job done by the senate election committee this year to be a fine one across the board, and applaud them for allowing campaigning to be done by the candidates, instead of the committee itself.

-D. Mike Bauer

There's nothing wrong with 'UMSL'

A few years ago, the-powers-that-be embarked on a campaign to rename the University. Instead of calling it "UMSL," they decided it was going to be called "UM-St. Louis." This was an attempt to improve the image of the University. Although all the sweatshirts, parking stickers, and ink pens in the bookstore now say "UM-St. Louis" or the University of Missouri-St. Louis, no one refers to the University this way. Ask someone around town where he/she goes to school or a professor where he/she teaches and the answer is "UMSL." The University will always be "UMSL," and that is the way it should be. The University of Missouri is in Columbia, Missouri. The University in Kansas City is referred to as "UMKC," and the University in Rolla is simply called "Rolla."

The administration should be doing the opposite of what they are doing now. They should be promoting the name "UMSL." They should be proud of the name "UMSL." The student body at "UMSL" is different than the student body at "Mizzou." It is different in a better way. All of the students at "UMSL" are there to get an education. None of them are there to get drunk

at fraternity parties or play semi-professional football. Many of them work, in addition to going to school, living highly productive lives. The administration should try to distinguish "UMSL" and not just have it ride the coattails of the University in Columbia.

The University of Texas at El Paso is known as "UTEP." The sign at the campus entrance says "UTEP," the student center has large block letters on it that say "UTEP" Union, the university president refers to the university as "UTEP" during commencement ceremonies, and billboards around El Paso encourage people to enroll at "UTEP."

The "UMSL" community should be proud to be a part of the University of Missouri, but it should also strive to distinguish itself. The official name will always be the University of Missouri-St. Louis but the name "UMSL" should be promoted the same way "UTEP," "Mizzou," "SEMO," "UCONN," "UMASS," and "Ole' Miss" are.

-Jerry Gunther

Litter not worthy of column space

A few comments...

I can think of many things that I could do without more than a little trash on the ground. I personally think that parking lots are a whole lot more unattractive than litter, for example. I mean, let's face it, the landscape's already screwed. More to the point: it's actually better for the environment to litter than it is to put it in a trash can—where do you think a piece of paper is going to decay faster—in the street or buried under a million

tons of dirty diapers?

Don't you have more important things to expend your energy on? How about using that column space of your [paper] to get information to people that might make a difference in the world, rather than pontificating about your pet peeves? You have just wasted my time and yours.

-Jason Meyers

The art of the 'get poor quick' scheme

Say what you will but I think infomercials are one of the best untapped sources of humor in our nation today.

It is 1:30 AM and I am watching "Financial Focus," which is set up to look like the cheap set's version of "Wall Street Week", but is in fact an advertisement for complete morons. Here I am introduced to Ed, the genial host of the show and his "guests" Bob and Janet, who are here to inform genial Ed and his viewers about the high-stress world of international finance, which Bob and Janet make seem about as complex as a game of "Monopoly." As I understand Bob and Janet's spiel, you simply call the number on the screen, arrange to give the people on the other end of the phone a small amount of money and then just wait to make a much larger amount of money "maybe \$25,000 or more using the power of strong U. S. dollars." This phrase was repeated several times. "Your viewers can make money even when they're sleeping," says smiling Janet to the skeptical but still genial Ed.

According to Bob, this miracle can be achieved through the power of "leverage."

"That's an important-sounding word," says Ed, who probably has his money in nice stable mutual fund somewhere. "Could you tell our viewers more about it?"

"I'd be happy to," Janet says, smiling broadly. Janet explains that leverage allows Ed's viewers to use a small amount of money to make a larger amount of money, "perhaps \$25,000 or more" by calling the number on their screen. This is illustrated by a graphic of a seesaw with a small dollar sign on one end pushing up a much larger dollar sign on the other end.

"I'm convinced!" Ed says, now positively exuding geniality out of every pore in his body. "We'll be back in a moment." Now, we interrupt the show to cut to a "commercial," which features an enthusiastic young man telling us that through leveraging strong U. S. dollars on the currency exchange markets we can "make \$25,000 or more" by calling the number on our screen. The seesaw graphic returns. Then cut back to Ed. "Welcome back to 'Financial Focus,'" he says. "Today our guests Bob and Janet will explain in real numbers how you can make \$25,000 or more by leveraging strong U. S. dollars." Janet then explains how if Ed's viewers invest, say, \$5,000 and then the Japanese yen drops by, say seven cents Ed's viewers may make a lot of money.

"Hold it a minute, Janet," says competent-looking Bob, with genuine disapproval in his voice. The yen could drop by much more than that, meaning Ed's viewers could make far more money than Janet's estimate. Chastened, Janet admits that, indeed, her estimate is a conservative one and that Ed's viewers could in fact become far richer than she anticipated, perhaps making as much as \$25,000 or more. But only, of course, if they call the number at the bottom of their screen.

Mercifully, the show comes to an end but I am left wondering. Wondering about Ed's hapless viewers, and how many of them are chasing the American Dream, dutifully calling the number on their screen, trying to get in on the miracle of leverage. I wonder also about smiling Janet, genial Ed and competent Bob and where they invest their life savings.

I gotta stop staying up so late.

Mediocrity to give way to Blues' hopeful future

The piper is playing, and the account is past due at 14th and Clark. The St. Louis Blues are dangerously close to missing the playoffs for the first time in 17 years. They are suffering from decisions made long ago by people far removed from the situation. It sounds like a bad "X-Files" plot.

The Blues are paying the piper for a decade and a half full of frivolous spending and get-a-cup-quick schemes. They took too many short cuts instead of doing things right. Now their fans, who have been supporting mediocre hockey for the better part of 30 years, have to gear up for a couple of seasons of brutally horrible hockey.

Don't worry Blues fans, this is how the top organizations do it. Dallas was really bad for a couple of years, picked up Mike Modano and Darrien Hatcher with high draft picks, and are now the top team in the NHL. Ottawa was a laughing stock for five years; they picked up stars such as Daniel Alfredsson, Alexei Yashin, and Radek Bonk. Now they are the second best team behind Dallas, and they are the best team in the Eastern Conference.

These teams are not the exceptions. In fact, every great team who has had successful Stanley Cup runs of three to five years have gone through similar down periods. Detroit was a laughingstock ten years ago before winning back-to-back cups, and Pittsburgh was just plain brutal in the early 1980's before picking up Mario Lemieux and Jaromir Jagr.

The Blues have taken the direct opposite approach. They have traded away young talent for washed up veterans, and they have given away first round draft picks as if they grew on trees.

The result is 17 years of making the playoffs only to lose in the first or second round in 16 of those years. The Blues have only seen the third round once in the streak during the miracle run in 1986.

The new Blues management is committed to doing things right. They are willing to sacrifice the streak and the next couple of years to build a team that will compete at a higher level, and they no longer are trying to fool fans into believing that the Blues are just one move away from winning the elusive cup.

This trend is not limited to the Blues. Boston and Chicago recently had similar streaks snapped. Those teams had 25 and 20 year streaks respectively, but neither won a cup in that time. Now both are rebuilding with youth and will be major factors in upcoming seasons.

There is a bright spot for disgruntled Blues fans who are not used to seeing their Blues at a sub-mediocre level. This Blues team has an exciting young nucleus that may dramatically shorten the rebuilding time.

Chris Pronger has emerged as one of the league's top defensemen, and Pavol Demitra is becoming one of the league's most dangerous scorers. Rich Parent and Brent Johnson are two young goalies that are unproven but may have the talent to become some of the elite netminders in the NHL. Jamie Rivers and Chris McAlpine have stepped up their games, while Jamal Mayors, Lubos Bartecko, and Michael Handzus are exciting forwards with a lot of talent. Throw in Marty Reasoner and Blues fans may have reason to celebrate relatively soon.

Until then, the Blues will continue to pay the piper.



DAVID BAUGHER
Editor-in-Chief



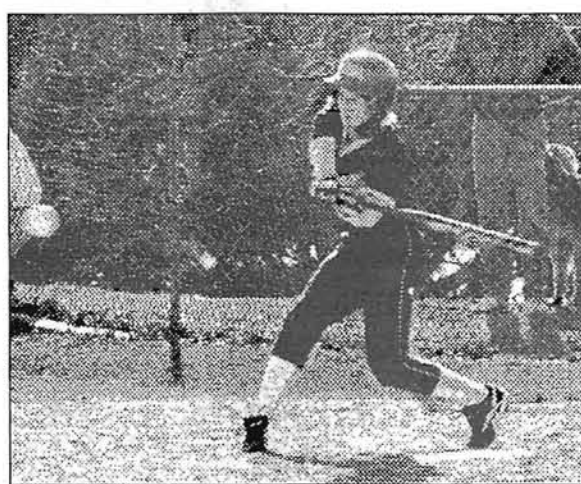
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Winning ways pull softball up to 11-9

Team opens field with a DH sweep



Sam Kasle / The Current

BY DAVE KINWORTHY
staff associate

The women's softball team won a pair of games against Bemidji State, thus putting the Riverwomen's home record in their new facility as the best in the nation at 2-0 lifetime.

The record may not show a lot at home this season yet, but Head Coach Charlie Kennedy believes the Riverwomen can dominate at home.

"We made a team goal to go undefeated at home this season," Kennedy said. "If that happens, that means we are committed to what we say. It is important that we do it here because it is an intimidation factor for teams that come to play here."

The Riverwomen opened their new complex for the first time and provided quality games for spectators.

UM-St. Louis won the first game 8-0. The game was called after the Riverwomen went up by eight runs in the fifth inning when a run was scored in a collision at the plate. The suicide rule came into effect.

Ashley Blust pitched extremely well for the Riverwomen as she went the distance throwing a shutout and a two-hitter through five innings.

"She did a really nice job," Kennedy said. "It was the second start of the season for her. It was important for her to establish that she could go seven strong innings for us."

In the second game, the Riverwomen went ahead 4-0, but the Beavers of Bemidji would not let the Riverwomen sit at ease as they came back to tie up the

Riverwoman Andrea Wirkus takes a swing at a fastball in the St. Louis Invitational earlier this month.

score on a two-run opposite field homerun. Cory Allison would not allow the Beavers to take the lead as she pitched well into the seventh inning, before she was relieved.

The pitching in the game was the story as Bemidji started one of its top guns.

"You could tell the difference in the pitching," Kennedy said. "We have faced some tough pitchers, and she threw it well. She got it by some of our girls who have been timing the ball really well the past few games."

The Riverwomen called upon their bench for the second game, as they started some of the reserves.

"It is great to see these girls who did not start the first game come in and ignite a fire for our offense in the second game," Kennedy said. "With the 13 kids here, every one of them are as just as important as the rest."

New Softball field opens to rave reviews

BY JOE HARRIS
senior editor

The Riverwomen opened their new softball field with a double header sweep over Bemidji State College on Tuesday, March 16. A crowd of about 50 people gathered to watch the opening games, and many were impressed with the field.

Riverwomen Head Basketball Coach Shelly Ethridge was happy for the softball team.

"I think it's gorgeous, it's beautiful. I love the lights, it's exciting and there's a lot of fans here for their first home game," Ethridge said. "The field looks great, they're playing music, it's just a great atmosphere."

Many of Ethridge's players were at the games. Ethridge said that her team tries to support every UM-St. Louis team.

Melanie Marcy was one of the basketball players at the games. Marcy also doubles as the softball team's public address announcer.

"Everything is great," Marcy said of the new field. "The press box, the stands, the dugouts, everything. I'm glad they're putting more money into women's sports."

Marcy said that finally having a true home field will

also help the Riverwomen's results.

"[Having a home field means] having complete support. Your friends, your family can come, and you have a place to call your own," Marcy said.

The basketball team's attendance was even noticed by the Riverwomen players themselves.

"It's good because now we have other athletes supporting us," Riverwoman Megan Kuebler said. "We would go to the basketball, baseball, and soccer games last year, but they could never really come to our games."

UM-St. Louis athletic trainer Jeff Eddy got to see his first Riverwomen softball games since coming to UM-St. Louis.

"It's about time," Eddy said. "I haven't seen an UM-St. Louis softball game since I've been at UM-St. Louis. They were always off-site, and if there's anything going on on-site, even a practice, then I can't go to an off-site event."

Riverwomen Head Coach Charlie Kennedy spent a lot of time just to get the field ready for the opener and was pleased by the fan turnout.

see OPENING, page 8

Baseball streaks to 7-2

BY KEN DUNKIN
staff editor

Marred by a protest in their second game against St. Joseph's, the Rivermen found a way to come out on top going 2-1 two weekends ago.

The Rivermen had won the first game against St. Joseph's. The protest comes from a play in the second game. A St. Joseph's player had bunted the ball and was running up the basepath when he then collided with the Rivermen first baseman. The play was then stopped. It was first ruled runner interference, then overturned to obstruction. The problem came in when the umpires awarded the runner on third base home. Rivermen Head Coach Jim Brady then lodged a protest of the game.

"It is a simple call," Brady said. "Not only was the runner running out of the basepaths but he is supposed to give way to the fielder. The play is then dead. The

umpires met and awarded the runner home. Once play is stopped no one advances, it isn't a judgment call, the rule book dictates what happens."

Brady said if the protest goes in favor of UM-St. Louis the game can not be made up due to scheduling conflicts.

The games against IP-Ft. Wayne didn't have the controversy of the previous games, but they also didn't have the same results. The Rivermen split the two-game set against IPFW.

The first game found UM-St. Louis on the losing end despite a late inning rally. The final score was 5-4.

"We just didn't get the breaks today, that's baseball though. Almost every ball we hit was right at someone and we didn't make the best of our opportunities," Brady said.

In the second game they rallied behind

see BASEBALL, page 8

DH sweep pulls women to 3-1 in GLVC play

BY KEN DUNKIN
staff editor

It may not have been their best games of the season yet the Riverwomen softball team won both games against Kentucky-Wesleyan.

The Riverwomen were led by Megan Kuebler in the first game. Kuebler made her first start of the season after experiencing early arm troubles. She responded by throwing a one-hitter through the seven-inning game. The one hit came with one out in the seventh inning.

"She made the most of the opportunity," Head Coach Charlie Kennedy said. "She pitched well and the defense played well behind her."

The defense was a part of the team that had been lacking in previous games. The team is current-

ly averaging three errors per game.

"I told them that good teams can't make errors like they have been," Kennedy said. "If they want to be in the top-six in the conference they must [shore] up that aspect of the game."

The Riverwomen won the first game 4-0. In the second game they jumped on Wesleyan early scoring three runs in the first inning. They won the second game 4-2. Ashley Blust got the victory for the Riverwomen.

The victories pushed UM-St. Louis to 12-9 overall and 3-1 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference.

"We are 8-1 in our last 9 games. Our pitchers are all throwing great and our players our playing well. It is all happening at the right time," Kennedy said.

Turning it around...

The Riverwomen started the season slowly, only winning two of their first eight games. Since then, the team has turned it around going 9-3 in their next 12 games and bursting out to a 3-1 conference record. Here's a look at how they did it:

Tuesday, March 16:

Bemidji St.	0	3	1	WP: Blust
UM-St. Louis	8	8	0	LP: Schickert

Bemidji St.	4	7	0	WP: Allison
UM-St. Louis	6	10	3	LP: Block SV: Rogoz

Wednesday, March 17:

UM-St. Louis	2	7	1	WP: Rogoz
UM-Rolla	0	2	1	LP: Curry

UM-St. Louis	6	10	1	WP: Vancil
UM-Rolla	3	6	4	LP: West

Saturday, March 20:

Bellarmino	4	5	1	WP: Robinson
UM-St. Louis	3	3	5	LP: Rogoz

Bellarmino	1	1	1	WP: Allison
UM-St. Louis	4	9	5	LP: Waterhouse

Sunday, March 21:

KY-Weslyan	0	1	3	WP: Kuebler
UM-St. Louis	4	9	2	LP: Kollie

KY-Weslyan	2	5	2	WP: Blust
UM-St. Louis	4	5	2	LP: Hall

Tennis team struggles early, still optimistic

BY DAVE KINWORTHY
staff associate

The UM-St. Louis men's tennis team has started off the season with a 1-5 record, but their record does not compare to the vast experience the Rivermen have gained.

"We have played a lot of matches to prepare us for the upcoming season," Head Coach Rick Gyllenberg said.

The Rivermen took on Rockhurst, a team ranked in the Midwest region.

"Even though the score was 8-1, our no. 1 and 3 doubles were close along with no. 2, 3, and 4 singles," Gyllenberg said. "A couple of their players have Midwest rankings along with national rankings."

The Rivermen then moved on to face Washington University.

"We basically got creamed in the score," Gyllenberg said. "We played very poorly. They are an outstanding team."

UM-St. Louis then took on UM-Rolla and lost 5-4.

"With nine guys fairly competitive, I shook up the lineup, and it failed to work in doubles, but seemed to help in singles," Gyllenberg said. "They are a good team, but the potential win if we would have stepped up in doubles would have been a good momentum builder as we enter conference play."

With the return of numerous players from last year's squad, the Rivermen are confident in their abilities as a team this season.

"Where we have come from last year, even though our record does not show it, we are a much better team this year," Gyllenberg said. "The loss of Stein [Rotegaard] certainly hurt us ability wise, but we have better chemistry this year. We have better talent, but it is just not showing up on the record right now."

This year's team is different in one aspect: depth.

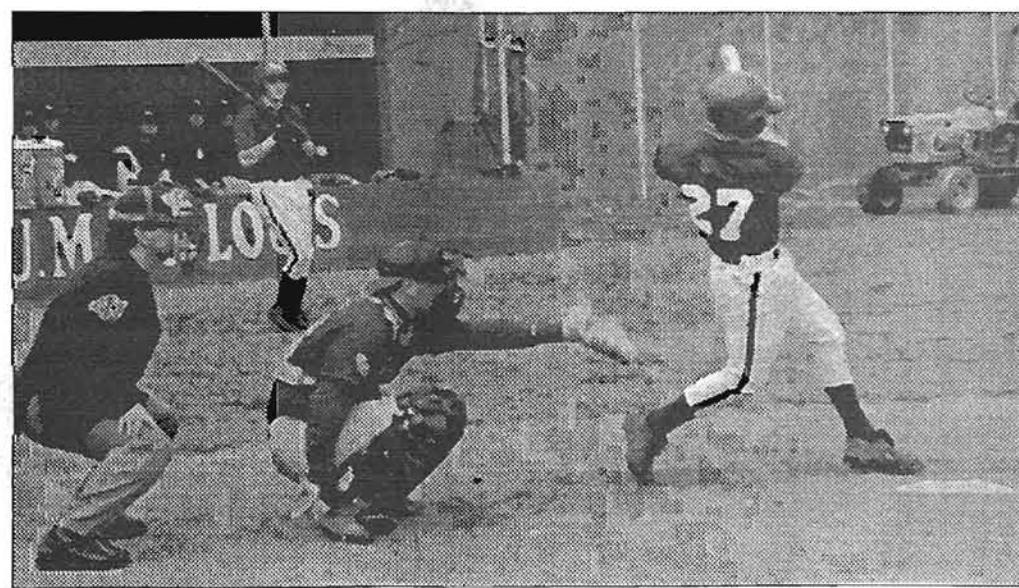
"The guys know if they don't perform with nine solid players, they will be moved out," Gyllenberg said. "That is working in a positive [way] because they are working hard in practice, and the competition is good. Going into conference, it is now time to see what we are made of."

With the Great Lakes Valley Conference coming around the corner for the Rivermen, Gyllenberg seems confident with his players and their abilities.

"There is a little more pressure on the court, and I will be playing three freshmen," Gyllenberg said. "We will just have to see if they will step up and handle that kind of situation. Out of the four years that I have been here, this team practices the hardest and gets along the best. As a team, our goals are still the same, and we are very team oriented. These preseason games have prepared us for anything that we will encounter in league

“**Out of the four years I have been here, this team practices the hardest and gets along the best.**”

-Rick Gyllenberg, Rivermen Head Tennis Coach



Stephanie Platt/The Current

Riverman Bob Stehman (27) smashes a home run against St. Joseph's earlier this month in the second inning of the Rivermen's 5-1 victory.

OFF THE WALL

Fantasy baseball can become an all-out obsession

I have a sickness that I can't cure. I am a fantasy baseball addict.

I'm not sure what made me admit to my sickness. It could have been the six magazines that I bought in preparation for my yearly draft, or the fact that I can recite most of the player profiles from those magazines. It might have been the 14 fantasy baseball leagues I'm in through the Internet, but I think it is the countless hours that I have spent pouring through stat sheet after info rag trying to get an edge over opposing teams.

Anything I can get my hands on to give me an edge in my leagues I'll use. It's the competition that drives me on to try to make the best team. The chance to assemble a dynasty that dwarfs the New York Yankees is also an incentive. In these leagues I



KEN DUNKIN
sports editor

have a shot at being the brilliant general manager, gracious owner and crafty manager all wrapped into one.

I have criticized owners for such a long time and it is finally nice to get a chance to be in their shoes. As a team owner I'm responsible for keeping my team under a salary cap while maintaining a solid team.

Win or lose, it is my fault. That is the most addicting thing about it. There is the embarrassment of making a bad deal.

I don't think I'll ever live down acquiring Jeff Brantley several seasons ago only to have him get injured later that week. Or the infamous draft when I took former St. Louis Cardinal third baseman Scott Cooper in the fifth round. Needless to say I finished near the bottom that season.

The worst part about being in a league so competitive is I find myself rooting against the Cardinals on a daily basis. Say for example Atlanta Braves outfielder Andruw Jones is at bat. I'm rooting my heart out for Jones to take the home-town pitcher out of the park. Then the next inning I'm back rooting for the Cards to destroy Atlanta. It causes a lot of identity crises. It has made me more of a baseball fan than a fan of any specific team which I miss quite a bit.

I also find myself in front of the television watching meaningless games. Who cares about a Kansas City Royals versus Minnesota Twins game? Not many people unless you have a player on one of these teams. The cable networks must love fantasy baseball because horrible games get ratings from other fantasy addicts like myself.

I even decided to bring in fellow Current staff member Joe Harris. The grudge match style of trash talk is always great between two owners. That is what fantasy baseball is all about: putting your winning team in front of all the losers faces. And if you lose, making up as many excuses as possible. And after seeing how I have done so far I think I'll be on the winning side this season, that is unless I have injuries like the Cardinals and slowly slide to the bottom.

Then it will be no fault of my own.

Former U.N. officer speaks out in opposition to Iraqi sanctions

BY DAVID BAUGHER
senior editor

A former assistant-secretary general of the United Nations spoke on campus Mar. 17 urging listeners to oppose the U.N.-imposed sanctions against Iraq.

"The point is when you see the past, when you see Mesopotamia, and you see Iraq today you ask yourself what on Earth, what arrogance, what extraordinary arrogance that created the mess, the chaos and the devastation, the genocide that we have committed in Iraq with the sanctions," Denis Halliday said.

Halliday, the former Humanitarian Coordinator for Iraq, resigned his position overseeing the U.N.'s "oil for food" program after becoming convinced the sanctions imposed on Iraq after the Gulf War were doing more harm than good. His talk was introduced by Phyllis Bennis, a fellow at the Institute for Policy Studies and author of "Calling the Shots: How Washington Dominates Today's UN."

"The responsibility [for the sanctions] is ours because although this policy of economic sanctions is imposed in the name of the United Nations, this is an American policy," Bennis said.

She accused the U.S. of "bribing, threatening and punishing" members of the Security Council to support both the use of force against Iraq and the sanctions which followed the cease fire. According to Bennis, about 150 Iraqi children die daily due to malnutrition and disease caused by the lack of adequate food, infrastructure and medical care in Iraq.

"We are faced with a crisis, a crisis of policy, a crisis of ethics and morality but fundamentally a human crisis, a crisis of the death of thousands of children in Iraq," Bennis said.

She criticized the media alleging they had ignored much of the suffering caused by the sanctions. She also encouraged the audience to write letters to their government officials and local newspapers opposing sanctions.

"We cannot use the press as an excuse for not doing our own work," Bennis said.

Halliday shared some of his experiences both in and outside of Iraq.

"In California, we met an Iraqi doctor who had quit his job in Baghdad after being obliged to sign death certificates - sometimes eight, nine, ten death certificates each night - for the children who had died during the day," Halliday said.

Halliday said that he found it remarkable that during his time in Iraq, he rarely received bitter looks from Iraqis.

"People were somehow able to separate the individual living amongst them from the policies of Washington, London, and the Security Council," Halliday said.

Halliday condemned the recent U.S. military strikes against Iraq as "totally irresponsible" and called the sanctions a "dreadful irony."

"We've seen the human rights of the Iraqi people damaged, undermined and taken away by Saddam Hussein for many years," Halliday said. "The Security Council, the member states have... destroyed the remaining human rights of the Iraqi people, the rights to a home, education and life itself."



Halliday

Halliday and Bennis took questions from the audience including from some who said the speakers had not placed enough responsibility for the suffering of the Iraqi people on Hussein. Halliday and Bennis both condemned the Iraqi leader but said they felt the sanctions were only hurting the children of Iraq.

TENURE, FROM PAGE 1

said it best when he said we would need at least another hour to discuss the matter or we could make it an agenda item if necessary. If the message of the resolution that Pacheco got was one that was unintended, then it needs to be resented, but if Jeanne Zarucchi is right and the intended message did reach Pacheco then we will wait until the tenure cycle is over to make any recommendations."

Roth said he doesn't think there was any unclarity or ambiguity in the message sent to Pacheco.

"We are now waiting for a response from the ATP about working with the new tenure rules, then we'll bring back the recommendations... to Pacheco."

Cottone said Executive Order 6A brought about concerns about someone being awarded tenure without their department's recommendation. Cottone said the faculty was concerned that the ATP or the chancellor could vote in favor of granting tenure to somebody who had no support from their department.

"You may have situations where the people who are best prepared to make judgements are judging against someone for tenure promotion and people who are less prepared or less able to make judgements are making judgements that are supportive," Cottone said.

ASUM, FROM PAGE 1

year. The agreement allows UM-St. Louis to have one representative on the ASUM Board of Directors during the time it is an associate member, and that representative will work to establish a core of ASUM volunteers and staff at UM-St. Louis. This infrastructure will be necessary in the future if UM-St. Louis decides to become a full member and create an ASUM chapter on campus. The other campuses, who are full members, are awarded multiple board spots.

"The main reason we want to get UMSL on board, if nothing else, is to legitimize the organization," Laegeler explained at the meeting. "There is a high percentage of people in the Missouri legislature from the St. Louis area. If we could get students to come from the St. Louis area and lobby the St.

Louis delegation in the state capital, it will give us a lot more power."

"One of the biggest complaints we get from our interns when they go [to Jefferson City] is that when [the interns] try to talk to St. Louis representatives and senators, [the legislators] don't want to hear from someone going to Columbia, Rolla, or Kansas City," Hammer said. "They want to hear from people in St. Louis; they don't want to hear from us. Everyone wonders where you guys are on this."

When the floor was opened for discussion, some students said they felt uncomfortable with the \$2,500 fee.

"I think that \$2,500 dollars for one [representative] is kind of an insult," said SGA comptroller Benjamin Ash. "To pay \$2,500 for

something that might not be what both of us are looking for, I have [to take] issue with that."

Hammer said that ASUM has benefitted students through the UM system, and that it would be worthwhile for UM-St. Louis to join.

"ASUM is solely responsible for getting a student representative to the Board of Curators," she said. "ASUM was instrumental last year in getting the sales tax eliminated on books which, according to some calculations, would save the average student \$80 a year."

Ash said he thought that voting to accept the agreement might be moving too fast. He said he would rather send a representative to two or three ASUM Board of Directors meetings to get a feel for the organization.

"We have tried [this] several times," Hammer said. "You've been an associate member before, but we could never find enough people on this campus to do it. It hurts our organization that you're not involved."

Many students supported the agreement and said they thought it was a good idea to join.

"To me, \$2,500 is a cake walk for what we're going to be involved in here, and the powerbase we can begin to establish to maybe get some changes we want made here at UMSL," said Kevin Shaw, a representative for the Student NEA.

"We have nothing to lose and everything to gain," student Joe Flees said. "We're grossly under-

represented in many areas of government, and this is our chance to get our voice out and become a greater voice."

The agreement was passed in a voice vote with one abstention and one nay. After the agreement passed, Flees was elected the UM-St. Louis representative to ASUM, and Shaw agreed to assist him.

MUGGING, FROM PAGE 1

as in the parking garages and elevators. In the garages and elevators, you do not have to dial anything, just pick up the phone, and it will automatically dial the police line."

While it is difficult to pinpoint what a mugger may look like, Captain Smalley had a couple of suggestions to use as guidelines for extra caution.

"While this is not always true, because it is impossible to tell what any mugger will look like,

these are a couple of guidelines to go by. Look for a person perhaps with no books, no bookbag; they may look as if they are not sure where they are, or where they are going," Smalley said.

While there are no foolproof measures that will guarantee that one will never encounter a violent crime, police say these are the best possible tactics available, and should increase your chances of safety significantly.

ELECTION, FROM PAGE 1

meeting of the academic year," Wolfe said.

President Jim Avery said the documentation Wolfe referred to was a set of guidelines, not rules, and that the SGA was abiding by the constitution.

"It says only in the constitution that the election must be held in April, before the last day of April so that leaves us leeway," Avery said.

Rimkus said she had only been appointed to the committee two weeks ago and had "no idea what happened" before then. She said that holding the elections around Mirthday was a good idea because it would promote student participation. She said she had talked to many students who felt that pushing the balloting to the last week in April would put too much pressure on students with finals and papers due.

"We're trying to find ways of reaching everybody so that everybody gets a say," Rimkus said.

Butler said that he felt the delay in application availability had created a time crunch for candidates.

"What I'm saying is that you're not giving the candidates enough time to put together a campaign," Butler said. "What kind of a campaign can you put together in three weeks?"

Rimkus said the major issue was having the elections at all.

"I have no problem moving it back," Rimkus said. "I have no problem having it at Mirthday. I just want it to happen."

Representative Todd Appel, who ran unsuccessfully for the presidency last year, said both he and Avery had run effective campaigns in a similar amount of time last year. Avery said that while he disagreed somewhat with the committee's choice to center the elections around Mirthday, he felt they had every right to make the decision.

"They are the election committee," Avery said. "The decision is theirs, so it's not really my decision."

Avery said the elections had been

SGA Election Timeline		
Apr. 9	Filing deadline for candidates	5 p.m. 267 U Center
Apr. 13	Mandatory candidate meeting for explanations on rules and bylaws	5 p.m. 72 J. C. Penney
Apr. 14	Candidates' Debate	7p.m. Honors College Great Hall
Apr. 21-22	Polling places open	10 a.m.-2 p.m. 5 p.m.-8 p.m.

pushed back to accommodate the approval of a new constitution, expected to be on April's ballot if it is approved by the Assembly next month. Copies of the document were handed out at the meeting.

An alternate proposal to restructure the SGA, which, among other things, would have delayed votes on the constitution and new SGA officers until the fall and placed SGA

under the control of a specially appointed steering committee, was introduced by Wolfe and quickly tabled after brief debate. A second resolution by Wolfe, which called for an apology from the Homecoming Committee for not making an effort to include evening students in the balloting for Homecoming King and Queen, was also defeated.

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Dance Review

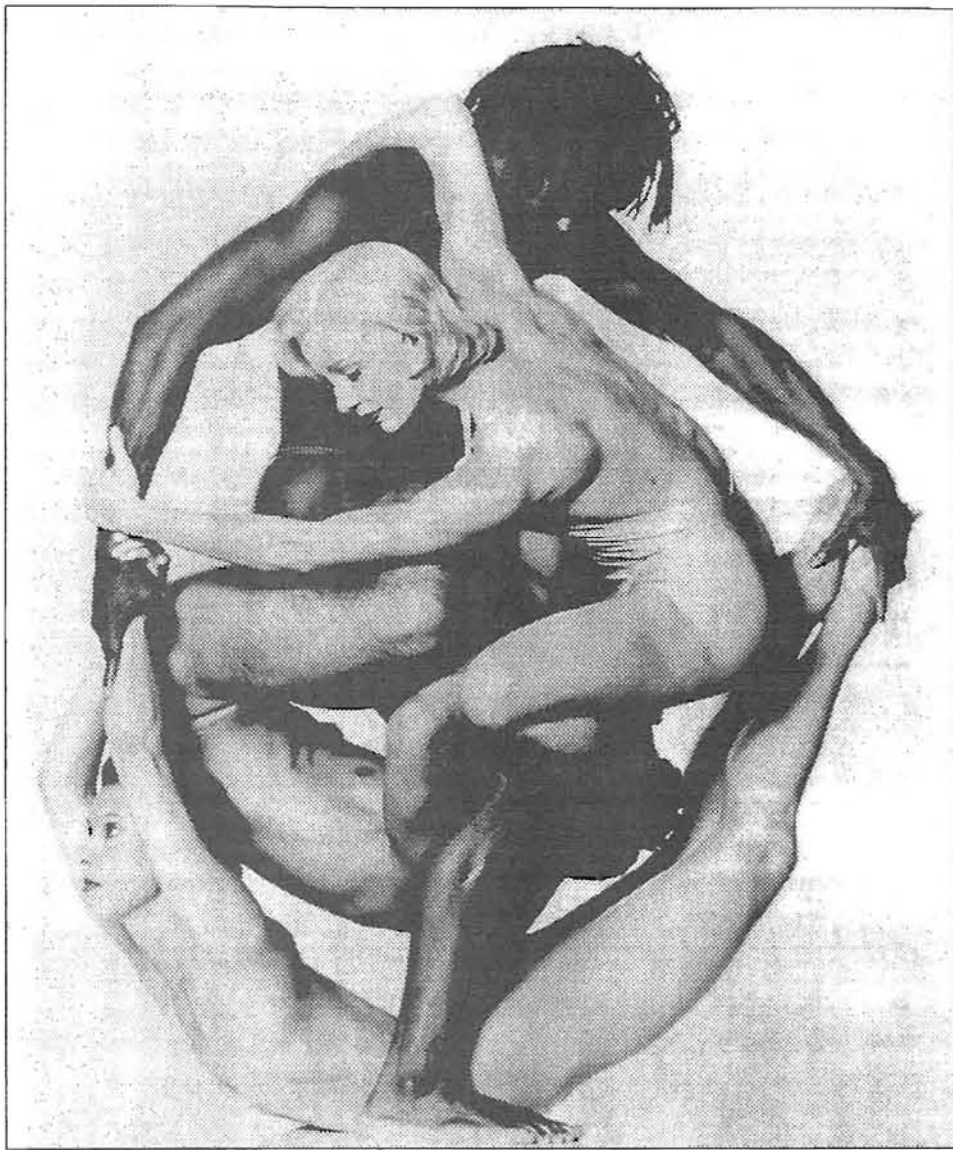
Pilobolus gives fresh, twisted performance

Pilobolus
Apoplexy, n.--Sudden loss of muscular control with diminution or loss of sensation and consciousness, caused by rupture or blocking of a cerebral blood vessel.

Apoplexy--first scene of the Pilobolus (Pi-LAH-bo-les) Dance Company's program held at the Fox recently. The music is an original score, loud and raucous, with a flavor of jazz and the sound of a synthesizer and electric guitars. Two male dancers enter, unshirted, in a "street" look. They have an altercation, then hugs, then crazy body slamming, "Bullets" sound, and laughter fades to a cry. The scene changes, and continues, with women entering the scene. Is it a statement on society--the interplay between men and women, with the outside environment confusing and complicating this interplay, or is it simply a play of movement and music? The audience is left to be the judge.

The program has a newness, a very current attitude. *Apoplexy* was choreographed in 1998, and the other pieces are all recent works. All are abstract, which elicits a variety of reactions from audience members. *Apoplexy* and *Gnomen* (no men? gnomes?) impress me as comments on society, while *Solo* and *Orangotango* seem to be much lighter, less abstract and more fun. *Aeros*, the final number, reminds me of the book, *The Kin of Atta*, since both are set in a mysterious world and examine the "art" of men's and women's interactions in an original manner and an unusual setting. But these are my interpretations; another audience member may have different impressions.

Even if one has no interest in examining an underlying message, (s)/he can still appreciate the fascinatingly difficult acrobatics performed in all of the numbers. The dancer-acrobats continually twist themselves into intertwining contortions that look almost impossible to perform. Yet they perform these movements with a perfection of ease and grace.



Pilobolus

Pilobolus was co-founded by Alison Chase, a native of University City and graduate of Washington University. The company got its start in the early 70s at Dartmouth College when she and four of her students developed the unique acrobatic choreography. Chase and three of the original four students remain the four artistic directors of the company.

Pilobolus was presented by Dance St. Louis, which is also bringing the Parsons Dance Company to the Fox on Apr. 16 and 17. They will also present Jazz Dance at the Edison Theatre Apr. 30 - May 2.

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-Pam White

Theater Review

'Porch' puts spotlight on women's issues

"The Screened-In Porch"

"As wicked as this play is, it started very innocent," Marian X, playwright of the *The Screened-In Porch*, said.

In acknowledgment of National Women's History Month, the St. Louis Black Repertory Company is performing *The Screened-In Porch* until Apr. 11 at Grandel Theatre. The play addresses issues such as drug addiction, child abuse, date rape, suicide, an older woman dating a younger man, abortion, friendship, a nosy neighbor, self-righteousness, and other women's issues.

Marian X began writing a short story about an angry middle-aged African-American woman who didn't like the changes that were taking place in her neighborhood. Businesses were moving in, knocking down buildings and changing things around. Neighbors had turned their backs on newcomers and wouldn't associate with them. So, she started sweeping the dust on her porch visualizing the people with whom she was angry.

"I can't write a play with only one person in it," Marian X said.

She had created another character, Lucille Withers, who was also angry, in a monologue.

"A and B wouldn't talk to each other because they were both angry," Marian X said. "So I had to create C to complete the triangle, to make it all come together."

The Screened-In Porch has a setting just as the name suggests. Jim Burwinkle is the designer of the set and the lighting.

"He understood the scenery," Marian X said. "The porch was not intended to be lived on, but it's like a frame."

The scenery is set up where you can see the front porch. The actors enter in through those doors and come back around the side of the framing to the platforms that are built up in front of the porch. These platforms are not actually in front of the porch, but are the inside of the apartments where the actors perform most of their work.

Andrea Frye is the director of the play. "I had played Lucille in Atlanta, and I was touched in a personal way," Frye said. "This play was about me, and there was a spiritual marriage I had with the play."

The Black Rep has performed plays written by Marian X before, and since Frye had played Lucille and felt that oneness with the play, she asked Ron Himes, producing artistic director of the St. Louis Black Repertory Company, if she could bring the play to St. Louis and direct it. Frye explains why she wanted to direct the play.

"Total control. It appeals to the control freak in me," Frye said. "It's my j-o-b to illuminate what the playwright intended."

And although *The Screened-In Porch* was written by a woman, directed by a woman, and consists of an all-woman cast (with the exception of one male who plays the four male roles in the play), Marian X is in no way displacing men.

"I am not putting men away, but shining a light on women," Marian X said.

There is still time to experience *The Screened-In Porch*, a dynamic play with real life issues performed by equally dynamic actors with truth and honesty. For tickets, call Metrotix at 534-1111 or The Black Rep Box Office at 534-3810.

-Lisa M. Pettis

Sports Opinion

Upsets, cinderellas make March Madness the best time of the year

There is one thing that I hate in the world: to lose money. The NCAA tournament has cost me a fortune over the past decade. With all of the upsets looming each year, it is nearly impossible to get every one of them right.

That is the reason why March Madness is the best time of the year. It always seems to draw a huge crowd and the spectators' interest.

The upsets this year are remarkable. I witnessed the North Carolina Tarheels loss to Weber State. I could not believe it. The Tarheels had not lost a first round game since the early 1980s. Their tradition of strong runs in the NCAA tournament had come to an end.

Although the Tarheels lost their two best play-

ers to the NBA last year in Vince Carter and Antawn Jamison, there is no excuse for the loss.

Weber State outplayed the Tarheels in every aspect of the game. They out-shot, out-rebounded, and out-hustled the Tarheels.

The other upset that I actually predicted could

Weber State outplayed the Tarheels in every aspect of the game. They out-shot, out-rebounded, and out-hustled the Tarheels.

happen was the play of Southwest Missouri State in the tournament.

In the first round, SMSU defeated heavy favorite Wisconsin and then marched into the second round and manhandled Tennessee.

I had faith in SMSU, the only Missouri team that I could trust would at least make it to the Sweet 16 (no hints implied at the University of Missouri-Columbia at all).

The NCAA is full of surprises everywhere. Whether it be the suspension of the University of Minnesota players or the Cinderella story of Gonzaga making a strong push to the Elite Eight, this is the best time of the year.

-Dave Kinworthy

BASEBALL, from page 5

starter Jon Buckingham. Buckingham struck out seven batters in seven and a third innings allowing only one earned run. The Rivermen won 13-1.

"I think we played more like we are capable of in the second game," Brady said. "We did what we had to do and won."

The team has been winning often this season as they stand 7-2 at press time.

OPENING, from page 5

"Well, for a home game that's a pretty good crowd," Kennedy said. "We had about 50 people come out tonight."

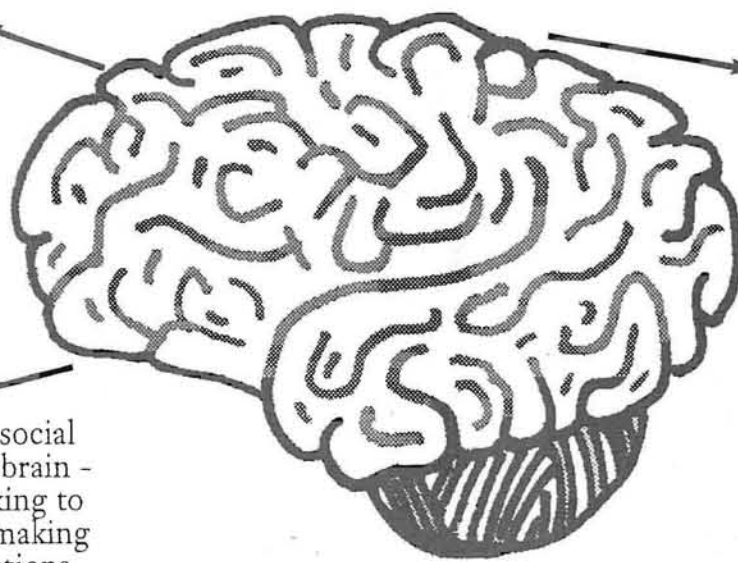
Kennedy's wife, Cathi, thinks the field will help in other ways as well.

"I think they'll be more comfortable, and it will be good for recruiting players now that they don't have to play on somebody else's field," Cathi said.

Most of all the field may give the Riverwomen a sense of belonging, not only to their team, but to the rest of the University as well.

"It finally gives you an advantage over everyone else," Riverwoman Andrea Sczurko said. "Last year we had home games at other places, but it really wasn't like we were playing for our school, so I think it really presents a sense of team spirit."

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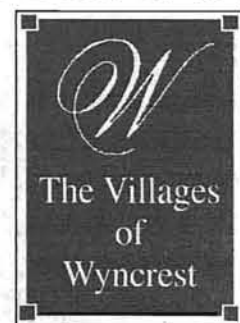
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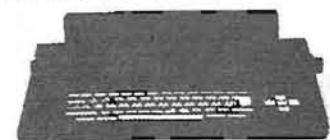
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