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ISSUE 992

THECURRENTONLINE.COM





Get your dorm room organized!

The Missouri History Museum is currently displaying an exhibit of treasures from imperial Russia.

See page 3

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI - ST. LOUIS



Check out our website!

Have you visited our website yet? thecurrentonline.com is a great way to get up to date on the latest campus news, but it's more than that. The site features message forums where you can meet other students, plus lots more!

thecurrentonline.com day to a my large of the same

BRIEFS

Congratulations to UMSL summer graduates

Congratulations to the some 250 graduates who took part in the Summer 2000 Commencement Ceremony. The keynote speaker for the evening was Henry Shannon, Chancellor of St. Louis Community College. Shannon, whose speech emphasized the rapid change which characterizes life in a technological society, told the graduates to "enjoy their date with destiny." An honorary degree was presented to Ellen Sherberg, who has published the the St. Louis Business Journal since 1990 and is known for being active in the community.

Parking permit design changed

This year sees a change in the design of UMSL parking permits. The new permits must be affixed on the outside of the glass using their own adhesive backing. Police Captain Smalley said the change was motivated by a rise in the use of counterfeit permits. The Captain warned that improperly placed or attatched permits would result in a ticket. Worried about how to get those passes off at the end of the semester? Smalley advised a razor blade scraper and some glass cleaner.

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Strike snags Arts Center

BY JOSH RENAUD

senior editor

Construction of the University of Missouri - St. Louis' \$50 million Performing Arts Center has been delayed several months because of a strike by Teamster concrete drivers.

The strike was centered around a dispute over wages between the Teamsters and the Material Dealers Association. The Teamsters wanted a \$1.05 an hour raise. Last Thursday, the eight-week strike came to an end when the Teamsters ratified a new contract that included a \$1 an hour

Officials at UMSL said they were glad the strike was over and that it only affected one of the three major construction projects on campus. The other two projects — the Millennium Student Center and the East Drive Parking Garage — are still on schedule, said Tom Royster, a senior construction project manager. The student center should be finished Oct. 1, and the parking garage is scheduled to be complete in mid-December.

"The only project that was really hurt by the concrete strike was the Performing Arts Center," Royster said. "For the parking garage, they were still able to get concrete. We were already using a company that had signed contracts with the unions a couple of months ago, so we were okay."

Without concrete, the construction crews were kept from pouring support piers for the Performing Arts Center, said Bob Samples, director of Communications. University Consequently, construction of the center ground to a halt.

The lack of concrete ultimately led to a labor walk-off early last week. Two piers were poured after work hours, Royster said. The truck companies used management to drive the concrete trucks, and the Teamsters responded by handing out leaflets the next day. When laborers saw the Teamsters at the construction entrance, they assumed it was a picket and walked off, he said.

But the Teamsters weren't picketing, said John Rinderer, superintendent of the Millennium Student Center

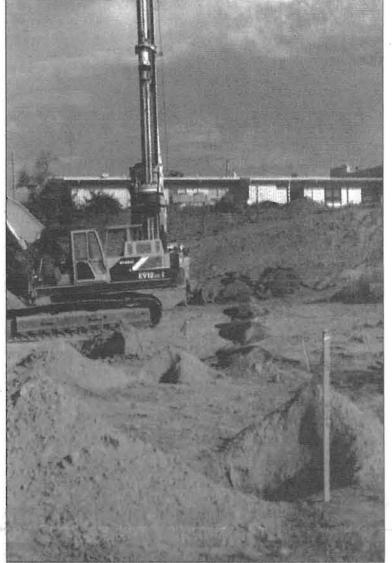
"They [the Teamsters] were trying to act like it was a picket," he said. "Ultimately it was a handbill, an informational thing. You can't do what they were doing - holding [the handbill] on their chests like it's a picket and walking back and forth.

There was a lot of people that walked off the campus thinking it was a picket, but it wasn't. A lot of people got in trouble with their union halls" because of it.

This wasn't the first labor incident during the three construction projects, though. The University faced a a legitimate union picket and walk-off about three weeks ago, said Sam Darandari, director of campus planning and construction.

"One of the furniture contractors started delivering furniture with nonunion laborers," Darandari said. "The union guys, starting with the electricians, just walked off. Once we noticed that, we got together, talked to

see STRIKE, page 7



Because of the eight-week Teamster strike, construction crews have been kept from pouring support piers for the Performing Arts Center.

Nelson steps down as vice chancellor

BY TIM THOMPSON

staff writer

In an email to faculty members sent June 23, Jack Nelson confirmed that he was stepping down from his post as vice chancellor for academic affairs after three years of

Nelson said he had accepted a position in the department of philos-

ophy and would begin teaching during in Jan. 2001.

In the email, Nelson thanked



Nelson

people who gave him support during his tenure and urged the faculty to show the same support to his suc-

Chancellor Blanche Touhill chose Doug Durand to serve as interim vice chancellor for academic affairs while a search for a permanent vice chancellor is conducted. Durand is also the dean of the school of business administration.

"Dr. Nelson began many important initiatives for the campus, and in that regard we're better as a cam-

see NELSON, page 10



Thomas Eyssel was the guest speaker during the summer commencement held earlier this month. Eleven of the graduates had the distinction of earning UMSL's first cyber-MBAs.

First 'cyber-MBA' students graduate

BY BRIAN DOUGLAS

senior editor

As students prepared to walk the aisle earlier this month, 11 of the graduates had the special distinction of being UMSL's first class of cyber-MBA's.

Thomas Eyssel, director of graduate programs in business, said the program was designed to fit into the busy schedules of non-traditional students.

"People have less and less time to spend in class. We found that for a traditional MBA student, you're really looking at three years coming to class two nights a week," Eyssel said.

Eyssel noted that some students take actually take four or five years to earn their Masters in Business Administration, while the cyber program lasts just under two years. "This is a way for someone who's

working full time to come in and complete an MBA in 23 months," Eyssel Eyssel stressed that the program is

not a shortcut. He said it has high entry requirements, including an evaluation of GMAT scores, an undergraduate GPA requirement, three years of work experience, and a personal interview process.

"We're cramming the traditional MBA into 23 months so it's very intensive," Eyssel said.

The cyber-MBA was started by Don Kummer, former director of grad-

see CYBER-MBA, page 7

College of Nursing ranked among nation's best graduate schools

BY RHASHAD PITTMAN

staff writer

The Barnes College of Nursing was ranked recently as one of the country's top nursing graduate schools by the U.S. News & World Report's "2001 America's Best Graduate Schools" guide.

Barnes College of Nursing was ranked 59 out of 175 graduate

"Everybody was very excited," said Dr. Peggy Ellis, director of the master's program of Nursing. "Of course just to be listed . . . is an accomplishment."

Barnes College and Saint Louis University were the only schools ranked in Missouri.

Ellis says that it was "by accident" that she happened to stumble upon the ranking.

"We weren't ever really notified,"

The U.S. News ranking is "highly regarded," added Ellis, by faculty members all over the country.

The rankings are based on surveys sent to deans, faculty, and adminstrators of the nation's accredited nursing schools with graduate programs. Each school was rated according to its reputation for scholarship, its curriculum, and the quality of faculty and graduate students.

When asked how the school of nursing bounced back from faculty cuts, years of decreasing enrollment, and harsh criticism by nursing students just a few years ago, to being considered one of the top nursing programs in the nation, Ellis pointed out a few elements that may have caused the turnaround.

"We've worked really hard the last three to four years to improve the program, . . . we're better organized,

(we) added nurse practioners to the faculty," Ellis said. "I think we've learned better what aspects to emphasize to give the students a higher quality of education."

In addition, Ellis pointed out that students and faculty may have "spread the word" of the program's additions and improvements.

Currently, said Ellis, the school is working on providing a "better clinical experience for the students." Although the recent rankings may

increase enrollment and the faculty were "very pleased," Ellis said, there is more work to be done.

'We're trying to make it better," Ellis said. "We know what changes we would like to make."

Ellis said that the school's main goal was not just to get on the list, but to send quality students out into to the workforce.

"But it is nice to get recognized,"

U ends 'student charge' system

BY CHARLIE BRIGHT

staff writer

The familiar sight of students waving their I.D.s at the Underground checkout staff is coming to an end this fall.

An administrative decision abolished the student charge as a method of payment for food on campus after Aug. 7. The decision currently affects only purchases in the Underground, and does not eliminate student charges in other University-operated facilities like the U-Mart or the University Bookstore.

George Schmidt, the Director of Food Services at UMSL, spoke about the change.

"We never had any problems" with the student charge, he said. "I

think it was easy for those who don't

carry cash on a daily basis." Schmidt said that the decision was

likely due to the way the charges appeared as a debt in financial offices, and that the people responsible for collecting debts to the University did not want to go after people who only owed for food costs. He added that the decision was made independently of Food Services and not precipitated by the impending move to the Millennium Student Center.

The elimination of student charges does not spell an end to the usefulness of the UMSL I.D. in the cafeteria. Schmidt said that another offer, the Food Services Meal Plan, was a better bargain that operates in essentially the same way as the student charge.

By prepaying in increments as

small as \$25, a student can use an I.D. to purchase food with a ten percent discount on purchased items.

The meal plan is similar to the mandatory \$500 per semester plan assigned to residents as a declining balance, except for the discount and the potential rollover of funds into later semesters.

As an additional incentive to students who participate in the Food Services Meal Plan, any remaining money can be refunded. This is another benefit not offered to residents who, at the end of past semesters, have often been found buying items from the Underground and U-

Since the student charge has been suspended in the Underground, stu-

see CHARGE, page 7

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Bulletin Board

Monday, Aug. 21

- •WELCOME WEEK BEGINS: KSHE-95 sets the mood by broadcasting from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the University Center Patio. Sponsored by the University Program Board (UPB) and Auxillary Services, come enjoy some music, free sno cones and
- •Rec Sports Fall Aerobics classes run today through December 8. A onetime fee (students-\$35, faculty, staff, alumni- \$50) allows participants to attend any class at any time for the entire semester. Held in the Mark Twain Aerobics Room, the classes are taught by certified fitness instructors. Choose from such classes as Step Aerobics, Total Body Toning, Water Exercise Training, Tae Box, Cardio Mix and more! The first week of classes are free!! For a schedule or to register, contact the Rec Sports Office, 203 MT at 5326 or check their web pagewww.umsl.edu/services/recsport/ index.html
- Admissionsstaff will be offering students free refreshments from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 4 to 7 p.m. both today and Aug. 22. Popcorn will be given away on the 2nd floor of Woods Hall and cookies and punch will be in the Admissions office.
- ·Spinning (stationary cycling) is a workout experience like no other. To

inquire about class times and to reserve a spot, call the Rec Office at 5326. Each class costs \$3 for students and \$4 for all others. Spinning Cards are also available with 10 spins per card (students-\$20, fac-

Tuesday, Aug. 22

ulty, staff, alumni- \$30).

·Psychic Fair, brought to you by the UPB, will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 4 to 6 p.m. Come have your fortune told, a tarot card reading, get a henna tattoo, or a self portrait by a talented caricaturist. Located across campus, these events are free to you!

Wednesday, Aug. 23

- •Noon Live, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. come jam to the sounds of local band "Zito" on the University Center Patio. Sponsored by UPB.
- Catholic Newman Center will have an Open House from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at 8200 Natural Bridge Road.
- Evening College Students, from 5 to 7 p.m. refreshments will be served in the Quad. Sponsored by the UPB.
- ·Admissions is offering an assortment of cookies and beverages from 4 to 7

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: Erin Stremmel, 7940 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis MO 63121 or fax 516-6811.

All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.

Thursday, Aug. 24

•Rec Sports Fun Day, a "Welcome Week" program featuring interactive games and sports consisting of a basketball shooting contest and a hole-in-one golf contest, will run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the University Center Patio. Come join the fun and win a prize!

Friday, Aug. 25

- •Summer Beach Jam!! From 2 p.m. to Midnight it's MTV's "Say What Karaoke." Contestants will be awarded prizes with a grand prize of \$500. Sand Volleyball, music, food, frisbee toss and other activities will commence at 2 p.m. with a fireworks display to culminate the evening's activities. This program is sponsored by Auxillary Services, the UPB, Student Activities Programming, and University Meadows. Held at University Meadows, proper attire (meaning swimsuits or beachwear only) is requested for this affair.
- Astronomy/Physics Colloquium, beginning at 3 p.m. in Room 328 Benton Hall. Ta-Pei Cheng, professor of physics and astronomy, will discuss "The Cosmological Constant and An Accelerating Universe." For more information call 5931.

Saturday, Aug. 26

 Guaranteed 4.0 Seminar, sponsored by Multicultural Relations/Academic Affairs. All students are encouraged to take advantage of this Seminar. Donna O. Johnson, founder and President of the Guaranteed 4.0 Learning System Co. will be speaking. The program is free and will run from 1 to 4 p.m. in the J. C. Penney Auditorium and for more information contact Linda Sharp at 6807.

Sunday, Aug. 27

- Interfaith BBQ will be held at the pavillion at the Meadows from 1 to 3 p.m.
- ·Catholic Mass will be held at the South Campus Residence Hall Chapel at 7:30 p.m.

- Point. From 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Point will broadcast rom the University Center Patio (Sponsored by Auxillary Services). The UPB will also be giving away free sno cones so come out and cool down!
- ·Visit the "Stress-Free Zone," in front of the Thomas Jefferson Library, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and chill out by cooling your heels in a wading pool and learning about stress management. Sponsored by Admissions.

Monday, Aug. 28

•Get Back in the Mood with 105.7 The



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2000 - 2001 Student Government Officer Elections



Candidates needed!

President Vice President Comptroller School Representatives

Skills Required:

Enthusiasm! Dedication! Communication Skills Leadership Decision-Making

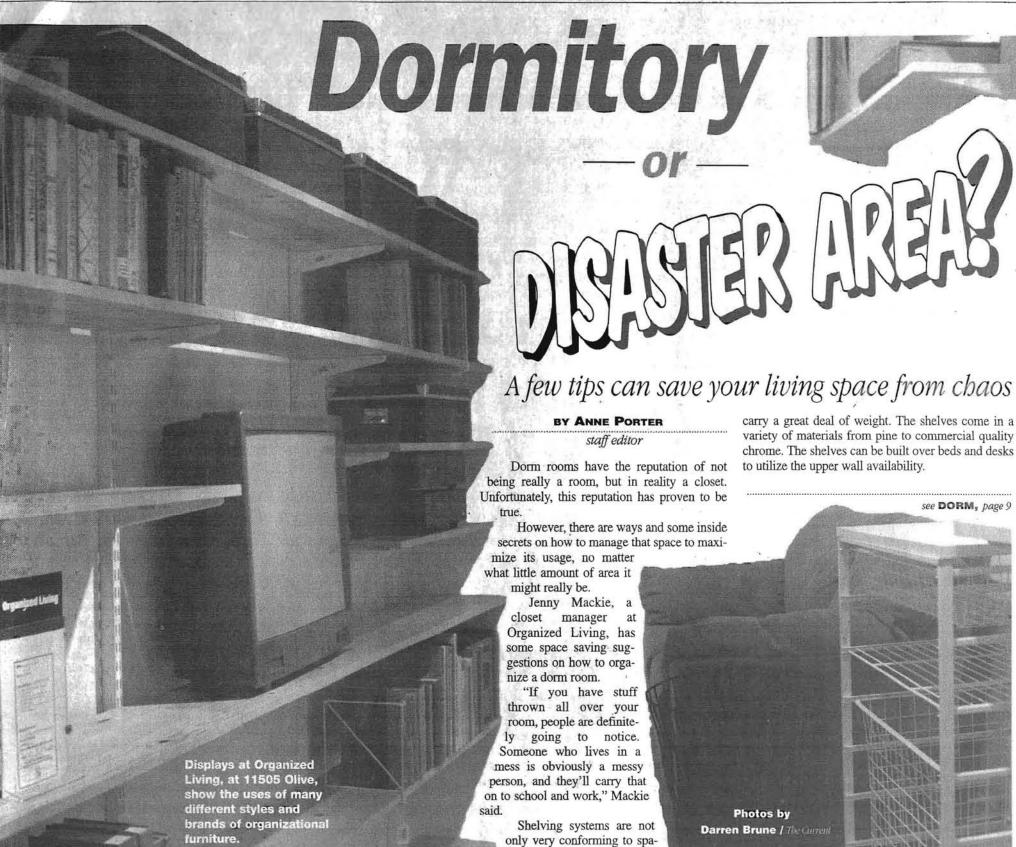
Ability & willingness to represent a diverse student body

Benefits:

Paid positions* (President, Vice President, Comptroller) Travel Opportunities Networking Resumé Building Leadership and people management experience Opportunity to make positive changes for UMSL

*President enjoys close to FREE tuition!

File for office: Aug. 21st - Sept. 1st Campaign: Sept. 11th - 25th Election Days: Sept. 26th & 27th



Student balances family, school with singing, theatrical career

BY DAVID BAUGHER

staff writer

Drum Crenshaw had a hair-raising introduction to theater.

"I got hired to do hair, believe it or not...," Crenshaw recalled with a laugh. "There were people at the show who knew people who told them when they were visiting in town that this local guy is with us and they said, 'Oh is he singing?' and they said 'No we didn't know he could sing. He's doing hair and makeup."

And that wasn't the most interesting experience Crenshaw had. "Timbuktu," the play for which he'd been hired, turned out to be a naked show, though Crenshaw didn't know that at the time.

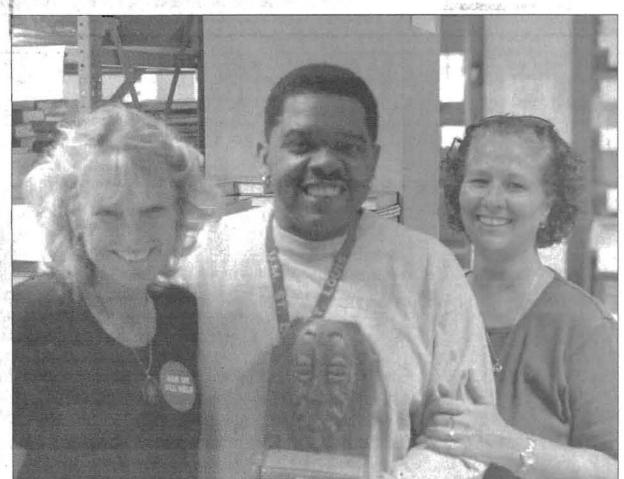
"They played a joke on me," he said. "They're sitting at this table...and they called me into the room...knowing I didn't know...I come into the room and there's this whole line of women sitting there...with no tops on...and they all busted out laughing.

"I was not ready for that at all," he chuckled. "I wanted to do that show forever."

Crenshaw, a UM-St. Louis junior in music education, hasn't been doing theater forever, but music is a different story.

"I had been singing all my life," Crenshaw said. "I had sang with community choirs as a boy and that kind of thing and even sang with the symphony in high school and, so, I've been in music all my life."

That love of music has paid off with a string of awards and adventures, leading him from community theater performances to the Broadway stage and back, culmi-



tial demands, but they also can

Darren Brune / The Current

Drum Crenshaw (center) holds his latest award from the Black Repertory Company. Drum is accompanied by two of his biggest supporters: Bookstore Manager Gloria Schultz (left) and Textbook Supervisor Teri Vogler.

nating in his most recent distinction, best male actor in a musical from the Black Repertory Company, where he has been, literally, since the beginning. He was involved in the first musical the Black Rep ever produced. His stint with the organization in the early combined with a series of

community and local theater performances to give him the shot every actor dreams of: the call to Broadway.

It started during a visit to New York, when Crenshaw happened to meet the musical director of "Ain't Misbehaving."

"That was around December-

January," Crenshaw said. "Then, the following May I got a call out of the clear blue from the producer of the show."

Crenshaw quit his job at McDonnell-Douglas immediately

see CRENSHAW, page 9

'Welcome Days' give stress break

BY ERIN STREMMEL AND DAVID BAUGHER

staff writers

Feeling a little anxious, excited, or even frustrated with the cost of textbooks, decorating that apartment or res hall, or trying to find where your classes are? For the next nine days, UM-St. Louis will be providing food, entertainment and programs to help new and returning students lessen those school anxieties, all under the guise of "Welcome Week."

The festivities commenced yesterday evening with a "Welcome Aboard Picnic" at the University Center. Students, parents and friends were able to hear the musical stylings of the group "Shagadelic" and partake of some free food and admire classic automobiles in a car show, and this was just the beginning.

G. Gary Grace, vice-chancellor of Student Affairs, helped create "Welcome Days," as it was known then, two years ago as a way of acclimating students to campus life.

"The purpose of 'Welcome Days' is to make new and returning students feel comfortable and secure, and expose them to a myriad of student activities, programs and services," Grace said of last year's festivites.

Rick Blanton, director of Student Affairs, said Welcome Week's purpose this year is to

see WELCOME, page 9



ANNE PORTER

features editor

phone: 516-5174 fax: 516-6811

QUOTES

"It only takes 20 years for a liberal to become a conservative without changing a single idea."

> -Robert Anton Wilson Credit: www.quotablequotes.net

"Adversity makes men, and prosperity makes monsters."

·Victor Marie Hugo Credit: www.quotablequotes.net

Gas station etiquette remains a mystery



AND THE POINT IS...

ANNE PORTER

ost people who work in the service industry share a common bond. We believe in tipping well.

I have worked as a bartender and server for about three years. I understand that some customers insist on treating industry workers demandingly and so any way I can help to alleviate that I will. To implement that philosophy I tip generously and often my hairstylist, my bartender, my server and my wine steward.

I had always understood that gas attendants at full service stations were to be given gratuity as well. This assumption had come from Mafia movies and other obscure references.

Because I consider myself a liberated woman, I pump my own fuel. That is until last Tuesday when I accidentally pulled into a full service gas station for the first time.

My car was running on fumes. The annoying, dinging "low gas alert" had sounded in the gas tank monitor. I saw that gas was only \$1.35 at this Sinclair station located down the street from

where I live. When I pulled up, I was the only car there. Then I realized that I was on the full service side of the pumps, so I backed the car around and relocated to

Much to my surprise the attendant came and asked what octane I wanted as I was stepping out of the car. I said, "Oh, I thought this was self-

serve." He then said, "It don't matter.

Same price."

In that very same second I saw the self-serve section hidden on the side of the building. By that time the process had already started, so I just

sank down in my driver's seat. So this is cool, I thought, at least my windows will be cleaned, the oil

what to do while I was waiting for the

tank to fill. It was a hot day, as days in

checked and the tire air pressure Three other cars had arrived in the meantime. I wasn't really quite sure

August usually are. For a while I sat with the door open, sweating. Then I turned on the a/c and listened to the radio, although the cooling was not really taking effect because the engine was not running.

Finally the guy said \$15.49 or whatever the total was. I had only a

dollar on me, so I gave that to him as a tip, for which I felt pretty horrible. I wanted to say and almost did, "Hey, man, I wish I could give you

more, but all I got is that dollar." But I didn't, because I know when people

tell me that I never believe them and it's such a feeble attempt anyway. So I left just that solitary dollar bill

and walked inside to pay with my

debit card. While I was inside, the same attendant walked inside to swipe a card for another customer.

At this point I realized I had no idea how to act at a full-service gas

So I put the car in drive and turned out of the station.

Later that day I told my mom and some other people at the paper about my little adventure. They all said, "I didn't know you were supposed to tip at full-service gas stations.'

So I still have no inclination how to behave when someone pumps gas for me. All I know is that I have no intention of going there again.

OUR OPINION

Students should seize chances to earn respect

There is a wonderful annecdote in history that Benjamin Franklin, while Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia, was asked by one of his countrymen what sort of government was being given the new nation.

Franklin's reply, as the story goes, was, "We have given you a democracy, if you can keep it."

At the start of last year, the main elected governing body on the UMSL campus was the University Senate. This year, the main body is the Faculty Senate, which as the name implies, is composed of faculty members. Not students. But the point of this editorial is not to rant and rave at the faculty. This editorial is directed to the students. We had a democracy, or at least a piece of one, and we did not keep it.

Student apathy has plagued this campus for years, with all sorts of explanations being offered for it, ranging from our place as a commuter school to the assertion that all of the real power on this campus is in the hands of the faculty and administrators and any effort to change things is futile - an argument which was a bad excuse from the beginning and has only grown more tattered over

The administration has launched an array of campaigns intended to get students more involved, and has met with some success, but every year there's that same old chorus of student complaints that the faculty do not respect us, even though our fees pay their salary.

Our question is, if we clamor for a voice in the elections and then can't manage to fill 25 seats in the senate out of a student population of thousands, what are we giving them to respect?

As students, we cannot expect to be given more rights and responsibilities on the basis of promises about what we are going to do. Our best argument is in what we do with what we already have. Today is the beginning of a new year, a year that will be what we make of it.

The issue:

Student apathy has been a problem on this campus for

We suggest:

Any real solution to this problem has to start with the students themselves.

So what do you think?

Write a letter to the editor about this issue or anything else on your mind.

Schedulers get it right with uninterrupted EXPO

It was a nice surprise to look at the Welcome Week calendar this year and see EXPO and the Chancellor's Picnic would be held from 11 a.m.

New students and transfer students may not recognize the significance of this small schedule change. Let us

Every year, UMSL students can look forward to two big events: EXPO in the fall, and Mirthday in the spring. On these two days, UMSL is packed with exciting things to do. Student organizations have colorful booths where they give away free stuff and try to recruit new members. enter the are community in

In the past, there have been concerts, virtual reality games, food, sports, and more. The goal is to let UMSL students take a break from classes and

As everyone knows, UMSL is a commuter campus with a large evening school. While this is certainly a good thing in many ways, it has presented a challenge to event planners in Student Activities and the University Program Board.

The solution in years past was to hold EXPO and Mirthday from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Then the events would reconvene at 4 p.m. for the evening students: Almost every year

after 2 p.m., attendance would drop off dramatically, student organizations would leave, and evening students were left wondering what they had missed out on.

Now that the schedule has been rearranged, the events should continue nonstop from morning until evening. This should encourage student organizations to stick around, and keep the crowds from dispersing immediately.

EXPO and Mirthday should unify students and help them to have fun. With the new schedule, Student Activities' personnel may have come much closer to reaching that goal. server the transfer of at this

LETTERS

Questions about allocation for mentor program still unanswered

JOSH RENAUD **BRIAN DOUGLAS**

EDITORIAL

BOARD

"Our Opinion" reflects the majority opinion of the editorial board

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current@jinx.umsl.edu

Letters to the editor 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 phone number.

Liberty, what a funny word, a The budgeting appeals committee word I thought I understood until finds it fair that they only allow the recently. Liberty and Freedom have program enough money to support always meant the same thing to me. 1/3 of a mentor. I wonder if they To have my liberty meant to have my reviewed old constitution laws that freedom. I realize now that I am free, made slaves 1/3 human to come up but that my liberty is still threatened. with this figure.

Apparently, the SABC allocated \$445,608.18 to the 85 organizations that applied for funding. Last year they alloted \$417,276 to 69 organizations, and according to their estimations, they will have \$434,420 for this year. By my calculations, assuming the number of organizations increases from 69 to 75, just to be on the safe side, \$434,420 divided by 75 organizations should allow for \$5,792.27 for each organization. I understand some organizations will need more and others less, but that still doesn't explain the \$500 the Helping Hand Mentors received.

Brian Shaw, co-chair of the SABC, also stated that the committee allocated an additional \$11,188 over the original estimate, which would be covered by a reserve account of unused student organization funds. There is a reserve of unused student organization funds that contains over \$11,000, and we were only allotted \$500? I do not pretend to be the brightest crayon in the box, but even I don't sit well with that one!

Our organization has over 25 students that participate, approximately 20 of whom participate in no other student organizations. The average credit hours among these students per semester is 12, costing them on average \$270 per semester in student activity fees. The students in our program pay approximately \$6,750 in student activity fees, yet the program they participate in only receives \$500 of that money. What happened to the \$6,250 left over? I still have not received an answer to these questions, but I would like the SABC to know I will be waiting!

--Brandi Herndon Helping Hand Mentoring Project Mentor

Coping with power loss proves daunting

massive electrical storm blew through St. Louis last Thursday evening and knocked out the power of every house on our side of the street.

It's always a bit eerie to lose electricity, especially in these days of technology. Nevertheless, I decided I would comfort my dog, who is deathly afraid of thunderstorms, and then go to sleep. Everything would be normal in the morning.

Alas, I woke up in a world of darkness. My room is in the basement and the power was still out. It dawned on me that I couldn't check my email and - worst of all - I wouldn't be able to play my daily round of "Global War," which is an online version of RISK that I play regularly.

away from me!"

still cold.

shower.

editor-in-chief "Blast it all," I thought. "Now the other guy is going to be able to take Australia

JOSH RENAUD

It was true. The loss of Australia could be my downfall.

I went upstairs, ready to eat breakfast. Thankfully the milk was

Without air conditioning, the house was hot, so I had to open all the windows. There wasn't enough light to read the newspaper, so I got a flashlight to help me out. I later had to use the flashlight to illuminate the bathroom so I could take a

When my morning ritual was complete, I went off to work.

When I came home nearly 12 hours later, the power was still off.

I was in no mood for it anymore. Friday had been a tough day. It was my first real deadline period of the

school year as the head honcho a the newspaper. My head was throbbing and I was hungry. No power meant no food, and my family had already eaten, so I went out to my car and got ready to go to Dairy Queen. I could hear somebody running a diesel generator down the

I came back home and my mom told me the power company had assured us that power would be

> restored by 9:45 p.m. I went to bed confident I would awake in time to turn on my computer a steal Australia ba before my oppone could log on.

But it wasn meant to be. I wok up and the power was still off.

It was Saturday morning and my folks had thrown all the dairy products

out so I had to buy donuts.

On my way to work that morning, I ran over three electrical cords. Several benevolent families were sharing power with their less fortunate counterparts across the street. By that evening, power had been

restored and we could again refrigerate our food in peace. It's kinda funny, but I couldn't

help but compare this situation with the Y2K scare last winter. What would have happened if Y2K had actually shorted out everything on the planet, leaving us without the "necessities" we hold so dear? I get the feeling that me and

some of my neighbors need to learn a lesson about priorities. But if there's some way you could keep the electricity on while you do it, God, we'd appreciate it.

'College experience' is what you make it

BRIAN DOUGLAS

managing editor

t's funny the way we wax nostalgic about things, even the irritating ones, after they're over. Somehow, no matter how much we try not to, we wind up putting on the rose tinted glasses and reminiscing about the good old days which probably never really existed.

I am into my last year here at UMSL, and already I am beginning to feel an unreasonable fondness for all sorts of things, even that awful hill between the

parking garage and Lucas Hall.

I could go into all sorts of sentimentality, and bore everyone horribly, but I'd rather make some use of this space, so I'll get to the point: we've all heard that same old speech so many times, you know, the one about how you should enjoy this time of your

life, because one day it will be gone, lost youth, all of that. The thing is, it's true.

One of the standard complaints on this campus is that UMSL has no "college life." What exactly is college life, anyway? Is it something you saw on a sitcom? Sometimes I get the idea that people must think there is this big block of "college experience" hidden away on campus somewhere (probably in Woods Hall) that they can go break a piece off of and take home.

It doesn't work like that. The college experience is whatever you

In this age of specialization and convenience, we have all gotten so used to having things handed to us that we don't stop to think that everything out there is the result of the work that somebody put into it. If there isn't enough going on here at UMSL, then there's really only one group we can hold responsible. Us. We can't point to the faculty their job is to teach, and they are

> already doing that. And the administration has been trying for years to get students more involved. But events and programs and buildings won't do any good if we don't take part in

> them. I know how busy things can get when your time is divided among classes and work and friends, but try to take at least a

little time to get involved somewhere on campus. We would love to see you work at The Current, but if that's not where your interests are, then find some organization that does interest you,

and be a part of something outside your regular classes. Completing a degree here at UMSL costs roughly twenty-thousand bucks if you finish in four years, which a lot of people don't these days. That is a lot of time and money. You owe it to yourself to get

as much as you can out of your time

What's your opinion?

Liberty is a symbol of equality, of

having the same opportunities as

everyone else, and the budgeting

appeals committee made it abum-

dantly clear that I along with the orga-

nization I represent do not have liber-

ty. I brought this to the attention of

the student body in an April letter, and

was again astonished at the response I

received. In the May 1 issue of The

Current, I read the article "SABC

streamlines allocation process,

improves appeals," written by Mary

Lindsley, in which the budgeting

committee didn't even attempt to

explain their reasons behind the \$500

allocation for the mentoring program

African-American programs avilable

to assist African-American students.

This program is one of the few

for the 2000-2001 school year.

How do you feel about the topics we've written about in the Opinions section this week?

- Student apathy
- human dependence on technology

You can make **your** voice heard in a variety of ways!

- Submit a Letter to the Editor
- Write a Guest Commentary
- Participate in the Student Forum on The Current Online



Head volleyball coach Denise Silvester talks with the Riverwomen during a game last season. Silvester returns this year for her 15th season coaching at UM-St. Louis.

The Denise Silvester Record School Record Year LeMoyne College 1979 1981 Cortland State Cortland State 26 - 19 George Williams 1985 28 - 14 UM-St. Louis 1986 UM-St. Louis 1987 UM-St. Louis UM-St. Louis 1989 UM-St. Louis 27 - 12 1990 UM-St. Louis 1991 1992 UM-St. Louis 1993 UM-St. Louis 1994 UM-St. Louis 1995 UM-St. Louis 1996 UM-St. Louis 13 - 16 1997 UM-St. Louis UM-St. Louis 16 - 11 1998 1999 UM-St. Louis

448 - 240 - 2 .671 Totals

Silvester remains unstoppable

Volleyball team compiles 354-186 record under her leadership

BY DAVE KINWORTHY

staff editor

Entering her 15th season at the helm of the Riverwomen's volleyball program, head coach Denise Silvester has a lot to hang her laurels on. With a record of 354-186 at UM-St. Louis, she is so far the most decorated head coach the Riverwomen have had since their introduction in 1974.

Silvester's road to St. Louis began at Smithtown Central High School in New York, where her athleticism and intellect helped pave the way to Cortland State University (New York). There she earned a bachelor of science in physical education while lettering in field hockey, volleyball and softball.

After receiving her first head coaching position with LeMoyne College (Syracuse, New York) in 1979, Silvester moved to her alma mater, Cortland State University (New York), to accept the head coaching position there. After an 11-9 record at

LeMoyne, Silvester amassed a 39-10 record in her freshman season of coaching at Cortland, while earning the only two draws of her 19-year

Finishing the '82 season at Cortland at 18-15, Silvester moved on to George Williams College of Chicago. After a one-year stint, in which her team finished 26-19, she was offered the head coaching job at UM-St. Louis, which was vacated by Cindy Rech after a 9-34 campaign.

In her first year coaching the Riverwomen, Silvester improved the team to a surpassing mark of 28-14, while also being named the Missouri Intercollegiate Athletic Association Coach of the Year, leading the Riverwomen to a second place finish in the MIAA.

Silvester was not done yet. The following year, she notched a career high 49 wins in 1987, which still stands as the school record for most victories in a single season.

At UM-St. Louis, Silvester got her 300th career win in 1996 and that same year, earned her 400th career win throughout her coaching career.

Since her coaching career began, Silvester has had only 3 sub-.500 seasons, and she is ranked in the top 20 nationwide of all National Collegiate Athletic Association coaches in both win percentage at .671 and total victories with 448.

Rivermen set sights on GLVC

BY DAVE KINWORTHY

staff editor

The soccer Rivermen look to improve upon their second-place finish in the Great Lakes Valley Conference Tournament last season, but with a new leader in charge of the team this season.

Hannibal Najaar, the team's new head coach, has a new look for the Rivermen this season as there are only six players returning from last year's team. But Najaar is confident that the players can mold into a unit that is fit for GLVC competition.

"I feel very comfortable," Najaar said. "The only thing that has worried me is that we only have six of the 13 guys returning. Basically it is a fresh, fresh team. Everyone else is new and there is a unison that is good. I am very pleased and the six guys who are here have done a great job. I am confident and very pleased with the entire spirit team. The confidence has gone up over the past week, and it is a very confident team right now."

With a new look, new faces come, and Najaar does not want to put the focus on the newer players, but on the veterans of the GLVC for guidance.

"It is clear to the entire team that the team is about the six guys who are here and us and not the other way around," Najaar said. "Even though the numbers are in favor of the new guys, we look forward to the six guys setting the pace and the new guys adding to it.'

With the players that Najaar has to work with this season, he plans to change the pace of the Rivermen's



Hannibal Najaar

play. The majority of St. Louis soccer fans aren't used to seeing a slow tempo game.

"After looking at what I have, I will structure my team around a defensive style," Najaar said. "We will be very patient for the opportunities that we may get to win the game. I know the play in this part of the country is a very high-paced play, but I don't see us getting into that kind of mode. We have worked on technical things and the composure will lend better when we get the chances to score."

Senior Josh Fair is the team's captain this season with sophomore Jeff Stegman being the team's vice-captain. Najaar expects these two individuals to be the strength of the team, as both of them have played in the GLVC and have seasoned experi-

"It had to go to these guys," Najaar said. "I want them to have a responsibility to themselves and not to share it. I am going to look to these guys to be the leaders."

Goetz tries to fill post-graduation voids

BY DAVE KINWORTHY

staff editor

After a 5-6 record in the Great Lakes Valley Conference last season and a loss in the first round of the tournament against Northern Kentucky - a team which went to the Division II Final Four last season — the soccer Riverwomen hope to build upon a youthful team for the upcoming 2000 campaign.

The key during the offseason for Beth Goetz, who now enters her fourth season as the Riverwomen's head coach, is forming a tight bond among the players and keeping a unified team. During the preseason, according to Goetz, the team has done just that.

"We are heading towards the end of our preseason training right now, and we are trying to get everybody working together," Goetz said. "They came in fit and in shape, and we are trying to get them all meshed together."

Despite losing key veterans from last season's team, Goetz believes that this year's team has reloaded for another run in the GLVC.

"It is kind of hard to evaluate until we have a couple of games under our belt, but overall, I think they work much better together," Goetz said. "Overall they have much more individual skill. So we'll have to see once we start playing some games."

lost last year was the second leading scorer in Riverwomen's soccer history, Carrie Marino. The Riverwomen this season will have to fill the void of a prolific scorer in Marino, but Goetz said it will take more than one individual to equal the success that Marino had at UM-St. Louis.

"I don't think you ever replace somebody like [Marino]," Goetz said. "You sometimes have to change your style of play a little bit. We won't be able to count on Carrie Marino to score

those goals, but I think some people who are returning from last year, who got a good handful of goals will step up to the opportunity. We may have to spread the scoring around a little more this year."

The Riverwomen's soccer team, with youth on its side, will look to play the style and mental game that Goetz saw in them while recruiting.

"I want them to play with everyone One key veteran the Riverwomen on the same page of soccer," Goetz said. "You try to recruit players who will respond to your soccer coaching and fulfill what your goals are for the team. You can have a great player that may not work within your system and your style, so I think that the majority of the players are the ones that I recruited and are use to my expectations and kind of know what kind of style I plan on using and what I expect of them. They will be able to work more as a unit and accomplish more in training as well as on the field."

Riverwomen enter season with hope

BY NICK BOWMAN

staff staff writer

After heading up only her third losing season of her career, head coach Denise Silvester is ready to get back on track and with only four players remaining from the 11-16 season of a year ago. The Mark Twain Building will host a bevy of new faces. Of the thirteen Riverwomen, five of them are true freshmen, and only one hails from the state of Missouri.

"Watching how the younger players manage the gap from high school to college athletics will determine how well we perform this year," assistant coach Erik Kaseorg said. "We like to think that we have the makings to compete for a top spot."

Another new face, junior college transfer Gretchen Duffner of Jefferson College, should add some much needed size and depth to the team. Duffner enjoyed a standout junior college career, and should take a leadership role on the squad.

"Gretchen brings a lot of enthusiasm and confidence to this team," Kaseorg said. "And she projects that energy on to her teammates. We look forward to her taking an active leadership role in the season.'

In the pre-season coaches poll, UM-St. Louis was seeded second in the green division of the Great Lakes Valley Conference. And with the reputation that the GLVC has, the Riverwomen will have to earn that

"This conference tends to be more interesting and fast-paced," Kaseorg said. "A lot of the older players have talked about it, and it makes for some great volleyball."

The Riverwomen open their 27th season on the road at the SIU-Edwardsville Invitational, where they will face Ashland University Aug. 25. After that, the Riverwomen are slated to play Wheeling Jesuit Aug. 26 and finish the weekend against fellow Show-Me school Drury University.

"As of right now, we are still evaluating our own players, and trying to develop a system that works for us," Kaseorg said. "It's still fairly early in the season, but if the girls can keep up their levels of enthusiasm and chemistry, we should have a great year."

EDITOR

DAVE KINWORTHY

sports editor

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GAMES

Men's Soccer

vs. Rockhurst

8:00 pm, Fri., Aug. 25

vs. Truman State

1:30 pm, Sun., Aug. 27

vs. Sonoma State 4:00 pm, Fri., Sept. 1

Women's Soccer

vs. William Woods

3:00 pm, Wed., Aug. 23

vs. Rockhurst University 2:00 pm, Sat., Aug 26

vs. University of Tampa 7:00 pm, Fri., Sept. 1

Show some pride by supporting **UMSL** athletes



DAVE KINWORTHY

Welcome back, fellow UM-St. Louis students, to another wonderful, fun-filled fall semester. This fall promises to be action-packed as the Rivermen and Riverwomen's soccer teams have a new look, and the Riverwomen's volleyball head coach returns for another lucrative year with tons of promise.

The Rivermen's soccer team boasts a new head coach. Hannibal Najaar, a coach with fine credentials, will guide the youthful Rivermen this season in his first season at the helm. He promises to play a more exciting game, which will lure more UM-St. Louis students to the ticket gates to see the games at Don Dallas Stadium. The Rivermen look to improve upon a fine showing at the Great Lakes Valley Conference Tournament last season.

Beth Goetz, in her fourth year as the Riverwomen's soccer head coach, has a youthful team with loads of talent in the midfield. She enters her third recruiting class into the system at UM-St. Louis and should contribute immediately.

Yes, Denise Silvester is back again for the Riverwomen's volleyball team, as she enters her 15th season as the head coach. These 15 years mark the longest tenure of any coach

in UM-St. Louis history. Although Silvester lost numerous contributors to the 1999 campaign, she has reloaded this season and looks for production and progress from the youth of the team.

These teams aside, UM-St. Louis athletics is making a plea this year: come out and root these teams on as they compete for your university. These athletes are not here simply for pleasure; they get out to play soccer or volleyball, to represent the university, and they need your support.

"Back in the day," - and, yes, I do hate that phrase very passionately the students supported these teams and the teams were successful. So let's start a trend right now that will continue throughout the entire 2000-01 year: let's show up and cheer for the Rivermen and Riverwomen. Wouldn't you hate it if you trained all summer long for a sport (soccer or volleyball in this case) and then when you went to play there was absolutely nobody there? If you wouldn't want it done to you, don't do it to

This is not Saint Louis University, it is the University of Missouri- St. Louis. The difference is that they have students who attend all of the athletic events and support their ath-

letes whether they win or lose and then go out afterward and hang out with one-another. Although we are not a Division I university, we still can and should support our athletes. The whole point here is that UM-St. Louis is making a conscious effort to make this university more of a student-friendly environment and what have we given in return? Nothing.

Show up and support your fellow Rivermen and Riverwomen. Without a crowd making noise and always booing whenever the referee makes a bad call, it seems pointless for these athletes to spend their time and energy when it is going to waste.



EDITOR

CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER

a&e editor

phone: 516-5174 fax: 516-6811

MUSIC

August

Motley Crew Riverport Amphitheatre

24

Buju Banton

Firehouse

Riverport Amphitheatre

Sean Kelly & Rob Somers Blueberry Hill/Duck Room

Walter Trout Generations

31

Stirfried Cicero's

Luther Vandross Kiel Center

Buzztopia 2000

Mississippi Nights

September

Keller Williams Mississippi Nights

AC/DC

Kiel Center

Gladys Knight Fox Theatre

With top special effects, good story, 'X-Men' is perfect summer movie

BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER staff editor

The classic summer movie is pure entertainment loaded with dazzling special effects. "X-Men" is just what a summer movie should be and, what's more, it hits the mark as a comic book

A successful movie based on a comic book should please and entertain fans without losing the general public who might be less familiar with the story and characters. "X-Men" succeeds very well at this. Its translation of Stan Lee's popular "X-Men" comic neither distorts nor diminishes the essence of the original, while providing an action tale that will satisfy fans without confusing newcomers. No easy feat. Like the original X-Men, the movie

concerns a group of human "mutants" whose unusual abilities represent both superpowers and handicaps in normal society, and society's reaction of fear and prejudice to their presence. Congressional hearings, headed by Sen. Kelly (Bruce Davidson), are underway to identify "mutants" and their potential threat to society in a manner reminiscent of the 1950s McCarthy communist witch hunt. References to the Nazis' treatment of the Jews crop up as well. The mutants, whose abilities are as much a curse as a gift, are in hiding or being drawn to one of two underground leaders, who have very different views on how they should respond to society's view of them. The group that advocates peace with the "normals" is headed by Professor Charles Xavier (Patrick Stewart), and call themselves the X-Men. They are opposed by another group of mutants bent on war, headed by Magneto (Ian McKellen). A variety 'X-Men'

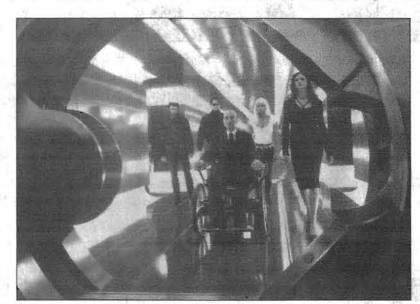
Length: 95 min. Rated: PG-13 Our opinion: ***

of characters with unique abilities surround each leader as they, and society at large, fall into conflict and struggle with issues of prejudices and freedom.

Despite this weighty-sounding premise, the film is still filled with action and adventure and, of course, special effects as the various characters demonstrate their powers. The cast for this movie is really outstanding, featuring Shakespearean actors Stewart and McKellen as the faction leaders. Australian newcomer Hugh Jackman does a wonderful turn as the hot-tempered Wolverine, who along with Rogue (Anna Paquin), is the focus of much of the story. Superpower special effects are especially dazzling as X-Men Storm (Halle Berry) and Cyclops (James Marsden) take on Magneto's shape shifting, blue-skinned Mystique (Rebecca Romijn-Stamos) and the flexible, disgusting but funny Toad (Ray Park).

Director Bryan Singer, whose previous work includes the wonderful "The Usual Suspects," blends the elements well to serve up at film that's strong on pure entertainment, and that's neither insulting to the original nor too ponderous in its story. The story is fresh enough to appeal to fans familiar with all the characters and nuances, but gives enough background so that someone who has never read the "X-Men" can easily follow the action. Overall, "X-Men" is a movie with a good summer adventure story, seasoned with top special effects and supported by good acting.





ABOVE: Wolverine (Hugh Jackman, left) and the metamorph Mystique (Rebecca Romijn-Stamos) square off in a deadly duel.

LEFT: Wolverine (Hugh Jackman), Cyclops (James Marsden), Professor Xavier (Patrick Stewart), Storm (Halle Berry) and Jean Grey (Famke Janssen) convene in Xavier's underground lab.

Photo courtesy of Twentieth Century Fox

RESTAURANT REVIEW

Spiro's has decent Greek food at reasonable price

BY DEREK EVANS

special to The Current

It has been more than 10 years since I last ate at Spiro's on Natural Bridge — so long that I didn't even remember what it was like.

Spiro's specializes in Greek dining. Ethnic Greek food has developed largely as a result of the mountains and arid climate of Greece and its proximity to the sea and the many surrounding islands. The cuisine has been influenced by some of the nations to the east, such as Turkey and Armenia. Greek basics in the kitchen include olives and olive oil, cheese, and herbs native to the eastern Mediterranean like oregano, marjoram, basil, mint, and thyme. As a seafaring nation, the Greeks eat a lot of seafood, which is usually fried at high heat in olive oil or broiled in a sauce made with herbs and capers. Vegetables are served on the side or in salads. A Greek staple is cheese, especially feta.

This review is based on a visit to the Spiro's North restaurant. I arrived when it opened. The place was mostly empty until the lunch rush began to arrive shortly after noon. The interior is dark Tudor style, with captain's chairs and tables dressed in white linen with simple china on one side, but it badly needed a new carpet. If you prefer more light, I'd suggest sitting next to a window. The restaurant does have smoking and non-smoking sections, but is not accessible to the handicapped.

Spiro's North

Address: 8406 Natural Bridge Lunch: M-F, 11am - 2pm Dinner: M-S, 4:30pm - 11pm

The service was nice, but the place was more casual and less elegant than I had remembered.

The lunch menu featured a variety of "Greek Specialties" such as mousaka (a kind of vegetarian lassagna made with egg plant) and dolmades (grape leaves stuffed with ground beef and rice). Combo platters are available. Spiro's also offers some American items, such as beef, calf liver, fresh trout, and some pasta variations. The chef's special varies from day to day. Desserts included ice cream and the famed Greek baklava.

Before being served the food, I was provided with some warm bread and butter. The bread was a little on the dry side. For an appetizer there were four mushrooms stuffed with cream cheese and crab meat (\$4.50) which was one of that day's specials. The stuffing, with its creamy cheese and sweet crab meat flavor had a good balance of flavors and textures, leaving a light but spicy aftertaste.

Next was the small dinner salad (\$2.25), made of Iceberg lettuce, green pepper, and tomato wedges. The salads were cold and crunchy, but came with too much dressing.

One of the entree specials was

salmon topped with a Dijon mustard sauce (\$8.50) served with boiled new potatos and the vegetable of the day, green beans. The light flavor of the large fillet of baked salmon was considerably enhanced by the Dijon mustard sauce.

Calf liver was sauteed to order and served with yellow rice (\$5.95). It also came with the green beans. The liver was tender, not tough or overcooked, with a nice onion gravy lightly covering it. For those who like liver, it was really good. The yellow rice was light, not over seasoned or overly heavy or

Both of the entrees had large portions. The salmon fillet was very big, providing a good value for your

A dessert item not on the menu was the raspberry cheesecake (\$3.50), which had a sugary graham cracker crust with cream cheese and raspberry filling. It had more crust than needed, but a delightful balance of flavors with the raspberry and cheese.

Spiro's was not what I would call a fine dining experience, but the entrees were very good, providing a satisfying lunch at a reasonable price.

Spiro's North, located at 8406 Natural Bridge Rd, is open for lunch Monday through Friday, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Dinner hours are Monday through Saturday, 4:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. The restaurant is closed on Sundays. Spiro's North accepts MasterCard, Visa, Discover, and American Express, and of course cash.

FILM REVIEW



Cindy (Anna Faris) confronts her attacker in her living room.

'Scary Movie' tries too hard to be grossest of the gross-out films

BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER

staff editor

Oh, it's a scary movie all right. "Scary Movie," a comedy written by Shawn and Marlon Wayans, directed by Keenan Ivory Wayans, and starring Shawn and Marlon Wayans, Carmen Electra, and Shannon Elizabeth, is a spoof of the "Scream" series of films, which is a parody of teen horror films. But "Scary Movie" is not scary in the sense of the horror films it spoofs or even in the way of the tongue-incheek "Scream" series. Nothing so subtle here. Instead, it's scary how bad this film is.

The recent trend in comedy films towards tasteless humor had to reach bottom sometime, and "Scary Movie" slams it to the floor. While the movie that started this trend, "There's Something About Mary," is undeniably funny, not every film in this category has as broad an appeal. The comedy of Jim Carrey (such as Ace Ventura) and "dumb humor" movies (such as "Dumb and Dumber") have successfully appealed to some tastes with juvenile and bathroom humor, while other attempts such as last year's David Spade film "Lost and Found" just fell flat. Now, make no mistake about this, while I like sophisticated and subtle humor, I also like dumb and slapstick comedy as well. But it's got to be funny. And to be funny, timing and how the joke is done make all the difference. And timing is the biggest problem

This movie is a parody of the

with "Scary Movie."

of the gross humor films, losing much of the comedy potential of the parody along the way. This movie will appeal most to those whose sense of humor resembles that of a 13-year-old boy. Everyone else might want to skip this one, or at

This comedy just becomes too

Fall promises variety of A&E topics



MARQUEE RAMBLINGS

CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER

Hope you had a good summer. Although you undoubtedly spent most of the summer working to earn cash for the school year, I hope you found some time to enjoy some of the pleasures of summer. Maybe you found time to hike or to travel. Maybe you sampled some of the local summer entertainment. Concerts, many outdoors, and various summer festivals appeared. Indoor (read "air conditioned") treats beckoned as well, such as the Tivoli Theater's midnight series of cult films and B movies, and the big screen showing of Alfred Hitchcock's classic film, "The Birds."

But now classes are starting again, and new fall activities call to us. As

more serious and indoor entertainments, a preview of some fall offerings is in order. In the next few weeks, this column

lighter and outdoor fare give way to

will be previewing what's coming in arts and entertainment events. Upcoming concerts, new films, live theater offerings, new CDs and videos, and maybe a peak at this fall's St. Louis Film Festival will be appear-Like last year, we'll be running

calendars of upcoming concerts, films, videos, and CD releases, and maybe other special events in the arts. Because this is a student-run paper

for student readers, we'll try to cover

what's new, best and innovative in music, film, theater, and other arts, and cover what's popular with many students. Because I like variety, we'll also cover the more unusual and arts and entertainment for a wide variety of tastes and topics. Because this is a campus paper, information about the arts, entertainment, and artists on campus will appear as well. In addition to the reviews of

movies, concerts, and CDs, reviews of videos, restaurants, books, clubs and pubs may appear, along with occasional articles and interviews on arts and entertainment topics.

So, there will be lots of fun stuff to distract you from your class work.

Length: 84 min. Rated: R

Our opinion: **

"Scream" movie series, which is a parody of the whole horror film genre. While there is an old rule in comedy that says you can't spoof a comedy, the mock-serious tone of the "Scream" series made this look like an idea with possibilities.

The film starts out well, with over-the-top fun with the opening sequence and the introduction of the characters straight out of "Scream's gallery of horror film stereotypes. The Wayan brothers don't limit themselves to only the "Scream" movies, and some of the best humor comes out of poking fun at other movies as well. But then things start to go awry.

While there are several funny bits, many of these jokes run far too long, losing their humor as they bludgeon the audience with grossout props. These jokes reappear too often, run too long, and wallow in disgusting effects, burying funnier, subtler humor that pops up through-

forced in its quest to be the grossest least wait for the \$1.00 video rental.

Durand praised the way the online

"You get extremely high quality

portion of the class allowed all of the

interaction, even more interaction

than you typically get in a classroom.

Everyone gets their questions

first class of cyber-MBAs. Fifteen

are enrolled in the second, and Eyssel

said the goal for the third class was

20 students. He said the backgrounds

of the graduates are diverse, includ-

ing art, engineering, and medicine, as

other online programs available,

UMSL's is the only one in St. Louis

that is accredited by the AACSB, an

international organization that over-

is going", Eyssel said. "Convenience

is crucial. I always tell people who

are looking at the program two

things: we focus on convenience and

If you or someone you know is

interested in the cyber-MBA pro-

gram you can contact the office of

Graduate Programs in Business at

"This is really the way education

sees management education.

Eyssel said that while there were

Eleven students graduated in the

students to participate.

answered," Durand said.

well as business.

'Guns of August' changed the face of Europe forever

TIM THOMPSON

history columnist

hroughout world history, the month of August has provided an abundance of memorable events. Some of these have been tragic. Few can match the episode which transpired in 1914. It would forever be remembered as the Guns of August, and led to a devastating conflict called The Great War.

The Great War, or World War One, as it is sometimes referred to, engulfed practically all of Europe, and involved many of the world's most powerful nations. On one side there was the Triple Entente, consisting mainly of Britain, France, and Russia. On the other side were the Central Powers of Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Turkey.

There were many reasons for the First World War. Amongst them were: competibetween European nations for colonial empires, economic rivalries, territorial rivalries, supranationalism, an intense arms race, and a series of bizarre alliances. Individually, none of these could have led to

the outbreak of war; but, collectively they did.

It has often been said that all great events need a catalyst. For instance, according to legend, the American Revolution started when a hunter fired a shot "that was heard around the world." If one could point to a single instant that may have been the spark which led to the outbreak of World War One, it transpired on June 28, 1914 in Sarajevo.

The Archduke Francis Ferdinand, he heir to the Hapsburg throne, and his wife traveled to the city on an official State visit. At one in the afternoon, a nineteen-year-old Bosnian nationalst, Gavrilo Princip, assassinated both of them when the Duke's driver took a wrong turn onto a side street. At the time, nobody imagined in his or her worst nightmare that this single event would boil over into a full scale war. However, that is exactly what hap-

Events began snow-balling down nill when Austria-Hungary issued an ultimatum to Serbia on the evening of July 23. It contained a series of fifteen demands which ranged from joint investigation of the murder to Serbian condemnation of anti-Austrian propaganda. The Serbians agreed to the vast majority of the demands by the evening of the 26th, and it looked as though cooler heads had prevailed. Looks were deceiving. That same evening, the Germans goaded the Austrians into taking military action against Serbia. They wanted the Austrians to prove "themselves worthy of being Germany's ally."

Germany's interference was a semnal moment. Its government com-

pletely underestimated the response of the other European powers; especially Russia. The Russians had an informal alliance with the Serbs, and weren't about to sit back and watch them get wiped out by the Austrians. When Austria massed her forces on the Serbian border and prepared to attack, Russia responded by mobilizing a portion of her immense army.

Immediately, Germany sent a telegram to Russia warning her to "cease all military preparations immediately." She did so half-heartedly. Then, at noontime on July 28, Austria declared war on Serbia. As a result, Russia fully mobilized her forces. In response, Germany fully mobilized its.

> Then France got in on the act, and fully mobilized. Last, but not least, Britain's Royal Navy took up battle positions in the North Sea on the last day of July. There was no turning back.

On the morning of August 1st, 1914, Germany declared war on Russia, and World War One erupted. The ensuing night-

mare would not end until November 11, 1918. Sixty-five million combatants would take part. Ten million would perish, along with over five million non-combatants. Europe would never be the same. The economic, social and political status her citizens had enjoyed for centuries expired right along with the soldiers, sailors, airmen and civilians.

The First World War forever changed the course of history, and did so in dramatic fashion. The conflict indirectly led to an even greater struggle barely two decades later. Incredibly, many of the problems which plagued the second half of the 20th century can have their roots traced all the way back to the Guns of

CYBER-MBA, from page 1

uate programs, and Doug Durand, dean of the College of Business Administration.

Durand, who has helped establish similar programs on other campuses, said the students benefited from the greater freedom the internet format allowed.

'What we're really providing here is a program of the highest quality with the greatest flexibility for the students," Durand said.

Eyssel described the Cyber MBA as an "internet-enhanced program" in which the students' time was divided between class hours and time spent online. Students attend classes on campus for one weekend of each month. Eyssel said the main feature of the online component was participation in ongoing discussion threads that centered on various subjects within the discipline.

"The idea is to keep the students engaged literally all the time," Eyssel

Eyssel said this system allowed students to participate in the discussions without the constraints of regularly scheduled class meetings.

"It's like a classroom discussion except it takes place over 24 hours," Eyssel said.

516-5885. CHARGE, from page 1



These UMSL students are paying for their food differently because the University abolished the "student charge" method.

dents can look forward to a few months of standing in line, waiting for the people ahead of them to fish exact change from lint-filled pockets. This situation, while familiar in fastfood restaraunts and gas stations, has

largely been avoided at UMSL by the popularity of using the student I.D.

To keep lines shorter and save money, Schmidt suggested that students who plan on eating at UMSL in the next semester buy the meal plan.

STRIKE, from page 1

the union, and resolved it. It didn't really affect anybody and they were all back working the next day.'

Rinderer, who is a member of the Carpenters' District Council, said the dispute was actually about pay.

"The school hired a non-union furniture installer and they were paying them substandard wages when this is a prevailing wage job," Rinderer said. "The school said they were paying prevailing wages, but they weren't. So we had carpenters out here and got it all settled and taken care of.'

Rinderer added that Darandari told him another contractor would be using non-union labor to install new

furniture in the Student Center's bookstore. Rinderer said the AFL-CIO would picket if they got wind of that and probably shut down all the UMSL construction projects.

Darandari said that the University couldn't force contractors to use or not use union workers. He also said the University closely monitors its contractors to make sure they meet the prevailing wage scale.

"We're always concerned about [walk-offs]," Darandari said. "It's tricky. We schedule non-union people - when we know they're not union - to come in at times when the union people are not there. It's silly, it's just silly."

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UM-St. Louis WELLNESS First Week Classes

Start TIMES	Mor	Tue	s We	d Th	Firs 8, 2000 ur Fri		
11:30 am					Cardiomix with Diane	I Class Leve	
12 noon	Step & Piloga	1	Taebox	Nest I		M Multi-Leve B Beginner	
12:30 pm		Low & Step with Audrey	B	1/2 Pilog	a M	A Advanced	
1:00 pm				Taebox with Lisa F	B.W.B	10	
1:30 pm		Total Body Toning with Audrey	М	190	Novi with Melissa	Open to Students Faculty & Staff	
2:00 pm			Yoga with Melis		9 MI with Walions	Register in the Register SPORTS REC SPORTS OFFICE * 203 Mark Twain	
3:00 pm			1 & 1/2 Hours		Total Body Toning with Ricki	Main	
4:30 pm	45 Total Body min Toning with Rae	Marathon Class with Rac (Ends Oct. 18)				PEN	
5:30 pm	W.E.T. with Ricki	M W.E.T. with Rae	M W.E.T.	Vialdans.	M One-tir participar	me fee allows hits to attend any	
		Step with Ricki	1		entir	classes at any time for the entire semester!	
6:30 pm				CardioMi with Debhio	ix.		
6:45 pm	CardioMix	1	Cario Dri	B. W. III		IMNI \$50	

CLASS DESCRIPTIONS ~

Yoga - Hatha yoga is a system of physical and mental exercises designed thousands of years ago to balance and unite mind, body and spirit. Yoga balances the mind and body through poses and controlled breathing so all of the body's energies can achieve equilibrium and function in harmony.

Cardio Drills - No fancy moves, but lots of sweat and fun! These are movements that anyone can do! Come and challenge yourself to be fit and have fun!

Low & Step - Low Impact aerobics, weighted low impact and step aerobics to challenge your cardiovascular endurance

system. Prepare to sweat! Step - Cardiovascular workout using the Reebok Step. this workout can be low or high impact. Prepare to sweat!

Taebox - Come and do the national craze. This is cardio with a punch! Lose body fat and gain confidence.

Piloga - Amaze yourself with this Pilates and yoga based work-out. Stretch your body and mind and enjoy the benefits of

great health and great looks.

Aqua Kickbox - Cardio water work-out that packs a "punch" and a "kick"!

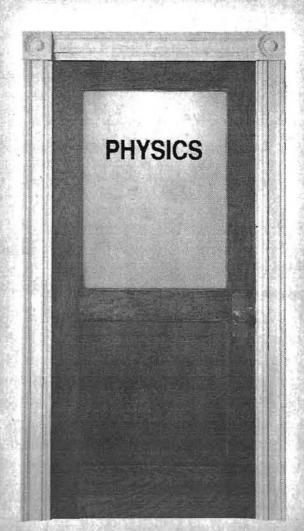
Total Body Toning - Body shaping and redefining using xertubes, weights, bands, step and your body's own resistance. This will enhance all your body parts.

CardioMix - Cardio workout using step, lo/hi, jump rope or box. W. E. T. - Cardiovascular water exercise; class is easy on the joints (low impact). Great for weight loss & body defining. Get

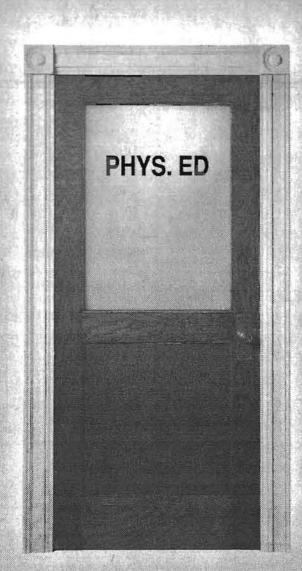
fit w/ water steps, shallow-end aerobics and deep-end water jogging. Marathon Class* - GOAL: St. Louis Marathon: Oct. 15! Training began June 6, but if you have a weekly mileage of 35

miles and/or can do 14 mile long runs, please join us as we complete our training. Final class: proper recovery procedures. VISIT US ON THE WEB: www.umsl.edu/services/recsport/index.html

NOTE: No classes will be held on holidays or days when the Mark Twain Building is closed. Classes and instructors are subject to change and classes with low participation are subject to cancellation with a 2 week notice. NO REFUNDS will be given unless participant has a valid, certified medical reason and the request is made before the 6th week.



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Broadway tour of Europe.

"It was a wonderful experience," he said.

The next year, he came home to play locally again only to be greeted with a new role in life - single father. He and his wife divorced in 1992, leading to a joint custody agreement over their children. After his ex-wife sued for full custody, Crenshaw was forced back into court. After years of legal wrangling, he received sole custody in 1998. That same year he made the decision to continue his education and enrolled at UM-St.

"I decided to get my degree because] I had to be more stable," Crenshaw said. "I couldn't be traveling around and raising three kids by myself, so I came to UMSL."

But campus life hasn't slowed him any. He is also performing again, thanks to some encouragement from his co-workers at the University Bookstore.

"What happened was that [Bookstore Manager] Gloria Schultz found out that I could sing so she had me sing for a guy's retirement and it really was kind of like an audition because after that they called Dr. [John] Hylton of the music department and they set up a jury for me and it just took on a life of its own."

Since then he has performed on campus in a production of "The Pirates of Penzance," played Powell Hall and sung for Archbishop Desmond Tutu, an experience he calls the "thrill of my life."

As usual, he is also racking up the honors. His best actor citation for his part in "The Wiz" was his second "Woodie King Award" from The Black Rep. In addition he has collected campus honors such as an

and spent the rest of 1989 on a E. Desmond Lee Scholarship award and the distinction of being voted most improved choral student by his peers.

"Things have really taken off for me," he said, crediting Hylton, as well as his voice teacher Mark Madsen, and the entire music department for their support.

"They've given me so many opportunities since I've been here," he said.

Meanwhile, he balances a fulltime job at the bookstore, with his duties as a parent and his schoolwork, but he says schedule conflicts are not a problem because his bosses, Schultz and Textbook Supervisor Teri Vogler have always been very understanding. He notes they are "like a family" to him.

"Gloria Schultz - I can't say enough about her," Crenshaw said. "I didn't know that woman before I came here and I feel like I've known her all my life."

So what's next? Crenshaw jokes that he'd like to run the new Performing Arts Center, but says what he really wants is to focus on preparing his own children for high

He also says he'd like to be in a position to "affect music education locally.'

"I think that UMSL is really on the brink of really being able to do something big in performing arts in the state," Crenshaw said, "and I would love to in some way be able to affect young people and how they're being prepared to come into college."

One thing is for certain, Crenshaw has never regretted coming to UM-St. Louis.

"UMSL has been the best thing I could have done," Crenshaw said. 'You know how you're at places in your life when you know you're at the right spot, it's like that for me.'

DORM, from page 3

Mackie also suggests stackable boxes. Stackable boxes are offered in an array of types including milk crates, underbed boxes and storage totes. The plastic totes protect clothing from insects, mildew and odors.

"Milk crates are very popular because you can stack them anyway you want [and that's what underbed boxes are for]- anything you don't use a lot, but you still need access to. They have small wheels on the bottom, so you can slide them, underneath the bed easily," Mackie said.

Collapsible crates also offer an affordable option.

"[They] collapse into nothing so it will store anywhere and then if you need, you just pull it up into a crate," Mackie said. Another "must-have" Mackie

says is a calendar system. It can be either a bulletin board, a magnetic combination, or a cork/plastic writeon surface.

Bean-bag chairs remain favorites among college students as do foldout beds, more like sofa beds or futons. They make it possible for a friend to crash in the room if he or she is studying too late and is too tired to leave.

A new item this year is an inflatable laundry basket.

"We do have an inflatable laundry basket that looks like a trash can. It has a lid. Everyone says it doubles as a cooler," Mackie says.

One other trend Mackie has noticed is that many students opt to take filing systems along to help in organization. They can be either a box component or a drawer style.

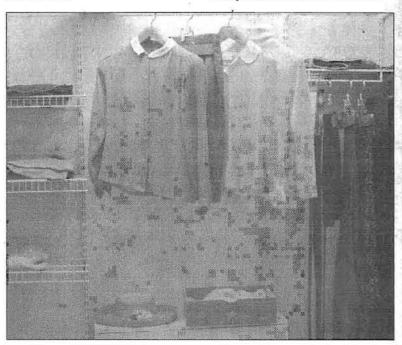
"A lot of kids are bringing file systems to be organized with their school work," Mackie said.

Another new furniture frenzy that students are creating is the combination of a nightstand and a small dresser to store clothes in and keep them off the floor.

In order to see all their possessions, many students are purchasing lamps. Mackie advises checking with dorm guidelines to make sure halogens are acceptable.

"Halogens are the best study lights, but they do have hazards,' Mackie said.

With all these ways to utilize space, any dorm room can become an actual room, not just a closet. Maybe now, even an innocent and skinny freshman can fit into them.



Darren Brune / The Current

Closet organizers are a very efficient way to use closet space for organizing shoes and clothing.

WELCOME, from page 3

offer "a different something everyday" to students.

"The idea is that getting students involved in co-curricular activities significantly impacts their happiness and ultimately their success as students," Blanton said.

Blanton noted that research

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shows that students who are more involved in campus activities have a higher success rate in their studies and a lower stress level.

"Welcome Week" activities will run through Aug. 30, culminating in EXPO and the Chancellor's Picnic.

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Departments to move into offices in Millennium Student Center in October

BY JOSH RENAUD

senior editor

Several University departments received an unwelcome surprise this July. They were packed and ready to move into their offices in the Millennium Student Center when the news came: the move had been delayed until October.

Because the student center wasn't going to be complete in July, the University had planned to move only certain departments, explained Bob Samples, director of University Communications.

Chancellor Blanche Touhill met with the directors of those different departments as they got closer to the moving date, Samples said, and it became obvious much of the building

wasn't going to be complete.

"It was felt that by moving some of the units and not moving others, we might confuse students in the enrollment process more than we do now," Samples said.

Various departments and offices, like the University Bookstore, the Office of the Registrar, and the Financial Aid Office had packed most of their supplies so they could move. After the surprise announcement, they were forced to unpack and prepare to serve students from their old-

The student center has taken longer than expected to be completed because of late changes to the design schematics and a shortage of electricians and pipefitters, said Tom Royster, senior construction project

"When these additional design requirements came up, that set everybody back," Royster said. "A lot of the shelving that was ordered need lighting, so then we had to provide electrical systems. There was so much stuff like that, that it started delaying the regular contract work because we were doing so much extra

Students will have a lot to look forward to when the student center is completed, said Sam Darandari, director of campus planning and con-

This is one of the most interesting and technologically up-to-date buildings on campus," Darandari said. "It's going to be a jewel."

NELSON, from page 1

pus for it," Durand said. "Over the past three years, I've been pleased to work with him.'

Durand said that the search committee is being formed right now Though he's not a candidate for the position right now, Durand said, hi plans could change later.

In an email to the campus community on June 21, Touhill offere praise for Nelson's accomplishmen during his brief tenure. She cite numerous academic program Nelson added and the 10-ye accreditation UMSL received fro the North Central Association Colleges and Schools.

"Nelson also deserves credit improving the level of cooperation between the offices of Academ Affairs and Student Affairs and fo our increased efforts to market UMSL to students," Touhill wrote.

Nelson was unavailable for com ment on this story.

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Sunday Mass

Join the Catholic Newman Center for Mass on Sunday August 27th at 7:30 p.m. at the South Campus Residence Hall Chapel. Call Fr. Bill Kempf or Amanda at 385-3455 with questions, or stop by to visit the CNC anytime.

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Join our intramural bowling doubles league. We bowl every Wednesday (Sept. 13 -Nov. 15) 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. at North Oaks Bowl. Only

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August 21

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11:00-3:00 Local Radio Station "KSHE-95" will be broadcasting on the University Center Patio. Come jum to the sounds of today and enjoy free sno cones and popcom. This event is sponsored by the University Program Board (UPB) and Auxiliary Services.

8:00-2:00 & 4:00-7:00 The Admissions staff will offer students free refreshments. Popcom will be given away on the 2nd floor of Woods Hall and cookies and punch in the Admissions

August 2.

Psychic Fair

11:00-2:00 & 4:00-6:00 Have your fortune told, have a tarot card reading, henna tattoos, or a self portrait by a talented caricaturist. All of these events are located across the campus and are free to you! This event is brought to you

8:00-2:00 & 4:00-7:00 The Admissions staff will offer students free refreshments. (See August 21)

August 23

Wednesday Noon Live

11:00-2:00 Come jam to the sounds of local band "Zito" on the University Center Patio. This band is known for their dynamic array of music from the 80's, 90's and today! Sponsored

4:00-7:00 Enjoy an assortment of cookies and beverages brought to you by the Office of Admissions.

5:00-7:00 Hey, Evening College students - stop by the Quad and enjoy refreshments brought to you by the

Sports and Recreations Day

11:00-3:00 Recreational sports. interactive games, and contests will be held on the University Center Patio. Games will include basketball shootout, volleyball, baseball and others. If you're not up to working out, come and get a relaxing massage. First week of classes got you hot under the collar? Stop by the Admissions office "Dunking Booth" and cool someone off! Prizes will be given away! Co-sponsored by Rec. Sports, the UPB, Student Activities, Health Services, and Admissions.

5:00-7:00 After making it through rush-hour traffic, come unwind to the soulful sounds of jazz. Stop by the Quad and enjoy free refreshments while you listen. Sponsored by the UPB.

MIGHS

Friday Night Summer Beach

Jam!!

featuring MTV's "Say What Karaoke."

Contestants will be awarded prizes with

a grand prize of \$500. Sand volleyball, music, food, frisbee toss and other activ-

ities will commence at 2:00 p.m. A fireworks display will culminate the evening

activities. This program is sponsored by

Auxiliary Services, the UPB, Student

Activities Programming, and University

Meadows. University Meadows is the

this affair. Swimsuits or beachwear

Proper attire is requested for

site for this awesome event!

only, please!

2:00-MIDNIGHT A blast of fun

Library and chill out by cooling your heels in a wading pool and learning about stress management. Sponsored by Admissions.

Let's get back in the "MOOD" with 105.7 The Point

105.7 The Point will broadcast from the

University Center Patio (Sponsored by

Auxiliary Services). The UPB will be

giving away free sno cones so come out

Zone" in front of the Thomas Jefferson

and cool down!

11:00-3:00 Local Radio Station

11:00-1:00 Visit the "Stress-Free

UMSL Olympic Challenge

Teams of three will compete to find out who are the fastest and most skilled Olympians at UMSL in our own version of the Olympic Games. Come on out and see what you're made of! This event will take place in front of the University Center. Sponsored by the UPB and Student Activities.

EXPO & Chancellor's Picnic

11:00-6:00 UPB's Welcome Week events conclude with a showcase of student organizations. There will be games, opportunities to join the various organizations, different activities like virtual skydiving, and a lunch sponsored by the Chancellor. Look for this dynamic event in front of the University Center

For more information contact The Office of Student Activities at 516-5291.

Campus Connections is coming!

Campus Connections, the UM-St. Louis student phone directory, will be published very soon!

If you wish to have your phone number kept out of the directory, please be sure to call the Office of the Registrar to have it removed.

Look for The Current's booth during EXPO. We'll be handing out copies of Campus Connections as well as other good stuff!

Welcome Back!

From The University Bookstore



Bookstore Hours (FS2000)

First week of classes

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
7:30	7:30	7:30	7:30	7:30	9:00
to	to	to	to	to	to
8:30	8:30	8:30	8:30	5:00	2:00

After first week

Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	
7:30	7:30	7:30	7:30	7:30	
to	to	to	to	to	
7:30	7:30	7:30	5:00	1:00	
	7:30 to	7:30 7:30 to to	7:30 7:30 7:30 to	7:30 7:30 7:30 7:30 to to	





Check out the UMSL clothing section!



Returns And Refund Policy

Textbooks

Required and recommended books may be returned for a full refund when:

- 1) Returned prior to the end of the SECOND WEEK of classes; 2) Accompanied by a sales receipt;
- 3) Returned in same condition as purchased;
- 4) Price stickers are not removed.

Special Orders, Magazines, Newspapers

Nonrefundable

Study Guides, All Books Other Than **Textbooks**

If returned within 24 hours, with sales receipt

Supply Items

1) If returned within 10 working days of purchase; 2) Accompanied by a sales receipt

Note: Defective items may be returned at any time.

Defects must be those not associated with wear and tear and misuse. If students utilizing the new charge system need to return books or merchandise, cash will not be given. The amount will be deducted from the student's account