



## Meet the Newman House crew

Father Bill Kempf and Amanda Herrod are new campus ministers at UMSL with ties to St. Louis. They plan to make some changes, with more participation in campus life and more social outreach.

▲ See page 3

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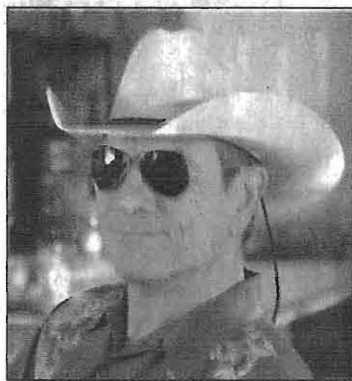
UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI - ST. LOUIS

## INSIDE

### Women's tennis team disbands, coach resigns

Athletic Director Pat Dolan announced the cancellation of the 2000-2001 women's tennis season on Aug. 25. Though the team won't participate in the GLVC this season, she plans to recruit for the following season and find a replacement coach.

▲ See page 5



### 'Space Cowboys' is way out there

This is an enjoyable, entertaining Hollywood-style film, in the tradition of summer fare - likeable big-name stars, a feel-good (if farfetched) story, dazzling special effects, an emotionally satisfying ending.

▲ See page 6

## BRIEFS

### Revisions to the revised parking permit policy

Remember those new parking passes -- the ones that were supposed to deter theft? It seems that they peel right off, and have been getting stolen right and left (see Campus Crimeline on page 2.) In light of this development, the Cashier's Office is now recommending that students tape the permits to the inside of their vehicles' windows. If your permit is stolen, you will be required to fill out a police report and pay \$10 for a replacement.

### Chancellor's Picnic and EXPO

Need a break from the back to school blitz? Relax and take in the festivities at the Chancellor's Picnic and EXPO this Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Have lunch on the Chancellor's tab, check out the various student organizations, or play virtual reality games. Be sure to come by and visit your friends at the Current and get in on one of our hourly give-aways. The Current: Get caught up in it.

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# SGA freezes six clubs' funds

BY RHASHAD PITTMAN  
staff writer

The provisional Student Government Association is freezing the funds of six UM-St. Louis recognized student organizations for not voting on a new student constitution proposed last spring.

The six organizations include Kappa Delta Pi, University Chorus, Opera Theatre Ensemble, Ahmadi Muslim Student Association, and the African-American Leadership Council.

The provisional SGA's main

objective is to reach a quorum, said provisional SGA member Ellory Glenn.

"I would really like the organizations to have the money," he said, pointing out that freezing the funds would not benefit the SGA.

"I think it's certainly legitimate," said Rick Blanton, director of Student Activities and SGA adviser.

Blanton pointed out that the freezing of the funds was not a constitutional matter, but a "university procedure" matter.

Blanton cited the Student Organization Recognition form

which states that "When a student organization is recognized by the University of Missouri-St. Louis, it is according to the following privileges:"

One of those privileges is the "Participation in Student Government Association (SGA) Student Assembly as a voting member."

Blanton added, "Organization recognition is not a function of student government, it's a function of Student Activities."

Although the provisional SGA had not reached a quorum when Glenn was contacted by The Current, he

remained optimistic.

"We don't think there's going to be much of a problem [reaching a quorum] since classes have started," said Glenn.

If the constitution is ratified by the organizations, it will be placed on the September election ballot, noted Glenn.

Glenn said that either the organization's president, treasurer, or representative may stop by the SGA office to mark "yea" or "nay" on a ballot concerning the new constitution.

"It takes thirty seconds to fill out," he said.

## Mentoring program at UMSL helps high school students

BY TONY PELLEGRINO  
special to The Current

STARS program, "Students and Teachers As Research Scientists," allows high school students and teachers to experience the sciences in a university and industrial atmosphere.

Students from local high schools and their teachers spent six weeks this summer working side-by-side with research scientists and writing papers on their findings. During this mentoring process, the students receive instruction on different problem solving strategies, keep technical reports on their work, and present their findings to the other participants. The actual research was conducted between June 19 and July 28 on a daily basis.

Dr. Charles Granger of the UMSL Biology department is the chair of the STARS program. Discussing the format of the program, Granger said, "The model is a graduate student model. They get hooked up with a mentor, a research scientist, and

see MENTORING, page 8

## It's not easy judging karaoke contests...

Mutsumi Igarashi/The Current



The University Program Board capped off the first week of fall semester with MTV's "Say What Karaoke," with special guest David Broom, host of "Real World New Orleans." From 2 p.m. until midnight, students had the chance to sing their hearts. Contestants were competing for up to \$500 in prizes.

Turn to page 10 for more color photos!

## VOTE 2000

# ELECTION TIME IS HERE AGAIN...

## Former SGA president challenging incumbent for state representative

BY TIM THOMPSON  
staff writer

Former UMSL SGA president Jim Avery, has thrown his hat into the ring.

He is running on the Republican ticket for State Representative from the 98th Congressional District against ten year incumbent May Scheve.

Avery attended UMSL from the fall semester 1995 through the winter semester 1999; majoring in General Studies with an emphasis in Political Science. He recently registered for fall 2000 classes, and will graduate with a Bachelor of Arts Degree on January 14th, 2001.

While a student at UMSL, Avery became very interested in Student Government.

As a result, he ran for SGA president in 1997. He won that election, as well as his re-election bid the following year. During his tenure, Avery had many accomplishments.

Some of these include the Book Swap and The Big Event. Book Swap featured a web site, www.bookswap.com, whereby students could trade their textbooks on-line, rather than waiting in the long lines at the bookstore. The Big Event is a nation wide charitable organization which participates in much needed community service throughout the nation. Avery was instrumental in bringing The Big Event to UMSL. They did everything from the maintenance of parks and recreation areas to providing support for children at a local Boys Home.

Avery feels his greatest achievement as SGA president was Homecoming. "I established a Homecoming Committee which was completely separate from SGA. Free from bureaucracy, they were able to plan events with the help of the students and made the entire week a huge success," said Avery.

The Representative hopeful also addressed some perceptions about his second administration. Toward the end of his final term, some students and campus officials had difficulty locating Avery at SGA. Some believed that he had abandoned his duties. The situation became

increasingly frustrating and he was almost impeached.

"I never abandoned SGA, I simply had a great deal of outside activities going on at the time. I was coaching and mentoring basketball at Bayless, and took some time to help out youngsters in the St. Louis area," Avery said. All things considered, Avery feels that student involvement on campus increased during his terms as SGA president, and he is very proud of that.

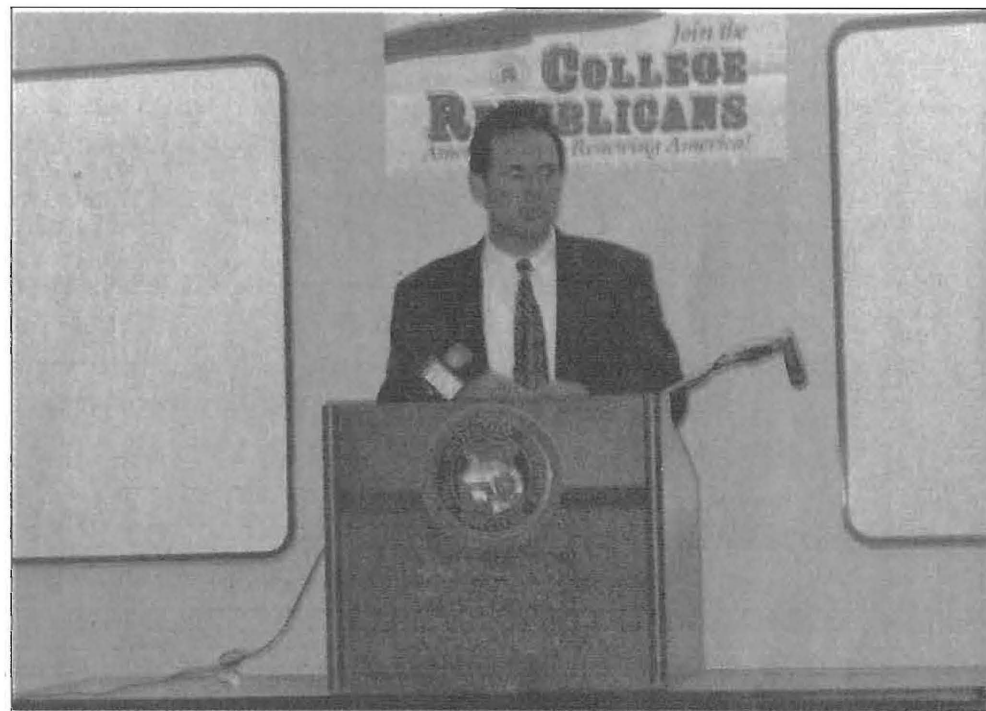
For the last three years, Avery has served as a substitute teacher and basketball coach in the Bayless School District. When asked why he chose to challenge a ten year incumbent for State Representative, Avery replied, "I just looked around and saw how things had gone down hill. It is simply unacceptable. The district is so low on funding, they do not have enough textbooks for all the students. For example, if a student needs to complete an assignment at home, he or she is forced to check the textbook out overnight from the library. If the assignment is lengthy and difficult, the library might just run out of textbooks," Avery said.

According to Avery, the whole problem stems from a clause in Missouri Senate Bill 380 called Hold-Harmless. It is a clause he seeks to repeal if elected. "This freezes funding to school districts which state officials believe won't be harmed if the money goes somewhere else," Avery said.

The Hold-Harmless clause, which went into effect in 1993, has had a negative impact on the schools in the 98th District. This is especially true of Avery's alma mater, Bayless High School. "Many qualified teachers have left for better funded schools; and recently, Bayless has lost its bus services. Also, we have one of the lowest pay scales for teachers in the state," Avery said. Avery has lited the support of many school officials from Bayless, and is even starting a program called Educators for Avery.

"It will consist mostly of teachers and principals from all over the 98th District," Avery said. In addition to education reform, Avery wants to help senior citizens by proposing a \$200 increase in the yearly refund on prescription drugs. This would raise the total annual refund to \$500. His proposal would be funded by portions of the excess state income tax refunds. Avery also wants to eliminate the personal prop-

see AVERY, page 8



Jay Romero/The Current

Bill Federer speaks about his campaign during a recent visit to UMSL. About 18 students showed up for the event.

## Federer calls campaign against Gephardt this fall's most important

Bill Federer, a Republican candidate challenging Democrat Dick Gephardt in Missouri's 3rd congressional district, said that election would be the most important of the fall, save the presidential election.

If Gephardt wins the election, Federer said, he could become speaker of the house.

Federer, a St. Louis native whose roots go back several generations, repeatedly quoted statistics involving past election margins and Gephardt's alleged Virginia (not Missouri) residence.

Federer made his remarks during a presentation in the J.C. Penney Building last Wednesday. Federer was energetic and enthusiastic in spite of sparse attendance. Eighteen students showed up for the event.

"I've been thinking these ideas on my own and was recently surprised to find that others feel the same way," said student Bond Wilkison.

One thing that Federer made abundantly clear was his position on the issues. He touched on topics ranging from gun control to marriage

penalty taxation.

### The marriage penalty

Federer quoted John Marshall, a Supreme Court Justice in the early 1800s, who said, "The power to tax is the power to destroy." Federer credits Marshall for coming up with the idea that when you tax items you diminish their usage by the populace. An example is the taxation of alcohol or tobacco. Federer then showered his listeners with statistics showing the increase of births to unmarried mothers.

### Lower taxes

"I'm of the attitude that we can lower taxes. There are two philosophies of raising government revenue." Federer said. The less desirable method is to raise taxes, he said, which in the long run chases business out of the district or out of the country. The other field of thought, he said, is that consumers will have more money in their pockets if taxes are lowered. More money in the pocket means more money spent. More

see FEDERER, page 8

# Bulletin Board

## Monday, Aug. 28

•**Get Back in the Mood** with 105.7 The Point. From 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Point will broadcast from the University Center Patio (Sponsored by Auxillary Services). The UPB will also be giving away free sno cones so come out and cool down!

•**Rec Sports Fall Aerobics** classes run today through December 8. A one-time 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 page- [www.umsl.edu/services/recsport/index.html](http://www.umsl.edu/services/recsport/index.html)

•**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.

•**Spinning** (stationary cycling) is a work-out 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, faculty, staff, alumni- \$30).

## Tuesday, Aug. 29

•**UMSL Olympic Challenge**, sponsored by the UPB and Student Activities. Teams of 3 will compete to find out who are the fastest and most skilled Olympians at UMSL in our own version of the Olympic Games. Come out and see what you're made of!

•**Retirement Party** held in honor of Mrs. Yvonne Burl, "Mrs. B," will be held in 308 Woods Hall from 2 to 5 p.m. Join us for a cake and punch reception to celebrate the occasion.

•**Mass** will be held at the Catholic Newman Center at 7:30 p.m. at 8200 Natural Bridge across from the West Drive entrance to North Campus. For more information call 385-3455.

## Wednesday, Aug. 30

•**EXPO & Chancellor's Picnic**, the con-

### 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.

clusion of UPB's "Welcome Week." From 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. there will be games, opportunities to join the various organizations, virtual reality activities and a lunch sponsored by the Chancellor. Look for it in front of the University Center Patio.

•**Soup and Soul' Food**, a simple meal and time for prayer, meditation and reflection, from 12 to 1 p.m. at Normandy United Methodist Church, 8000 Natural Bridge Rd. Sponsored by Wesley Foundation Campus Ministry. All are welcome and for more information call Chris Snyder at 314-409-3024 or Roger Jespersen at 385-3000.

## Thursday, Aug. 31

•**Coffee House** at the Catholic Newman Center from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Come join us for food, drink, and entertainment at 8200 Natural Bridge. For more information call 385-3455.

•**Crazy Bowl** preregistration and payment deadline. The Staff Association will sponsor this event for Saturday, Sept. 30, 7 p.m. at St. Charles Lanes,

2187 First Capital Dr, St. Charles, MO. The cost is \$10 per person and a few attendance prizes will be given away. A registration form and detailed information is available at: [www.umsl.edu/services/sassoc/bowl.pdf](http://www.umsl.edu/services/sassoc/bowl.pdf) or you can contact Debbie Braun at 5919. Proceeds benefit the John Perry/Staff Association Scholarship Fund.

## Friday, Sept. 1

•**Margaritaville**, presented by Sigma Tau Gamma, will begin at 9:30 p.m. All UMSL students and others 18 years of age and up are welcome. BYOT! For more information call 428-5431.

## Saturday, Sept. 2

•**Sigma Pi** is having their third rush party beginning at 9 p.m. and located at 8645 Natural Bridge Rd. across the street from Taco Bell. Guys need to have a college I.D. and girls need to be at least 18. Not going anywhere for the holidays, come get your freak on at the Sigma Pi house.

## Sunday, Sept. 3

•**Catholic Mass** will be held at the South Campus Residence Hall Chapel at 7:30 p.m.

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## THE CAMPUS CRIMELINE

### August 18, 2000

A staff person at 599 Lucas Hall reported that sometime between 9 a.m. and 10 p.m., an unknown person had stolen her wallet from her purse. The wallet contained credit cards and various identification.

A student reported that her Fall 2000 student parking permit was stolen from her auto as the vehicle was parked on South Campus Lot "V" between Aug. 17 at 9 a.m. and Aug. 18 at 11:45 p.m. The permit had been removed from the rear window.

### August 20, 2000

A student reported that her parking permit for Fall 2000 was stolen from the windshield of her vehicle while it was parked at Seton Hall between Aug. 19 at 8:30 p.m. and Aug. 20 at 7:30 a.m.

### August 21, 2000

A staff person at Lucas Hall reported that 3 rubber doormats were stolen from outside the second floor west entrance doors. The theft occurred between Aug. 11 at 12:30 p.m. and Aug. 14 at 4:30 p.m.

A cellular telephone was reported stolen from 421 Woods Hall.

Staff at the South Campus Computer Building reported that 2 Bose stereo speakers were stolen from 102 SCCB between Aug. 4 at 3 p.m. and Aug. 21 at 12:45 p.m.

A student reported that sometime between Aug. 18 at 3 p.m. and Aug. 20 at 12 p.m. his Fall 2000 parking permit was stolen from his vehicle's windshield while the vehicle was parked at the University Meadows apartment complex.

A student reported that a Fall 2000 parking permit was stolen from his vehicle while it was parked at Garage "C"

between 8:30 a.m. and 3 p.m.

### August 22, 2000

A faculty member at Marillac Hall reported receiving a harassing telephone call at 10:10 a.m. The telephone call is believed to have been made by an expelled student.

A student reported that his Fall 2000 parking permit was stolen from his vehicle while it was parked at Garage "D" between 11 a.m. and 5:45 p.m. The permit was removed from the rear window.

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

# UPB CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
China National Symphony @ Powell Hall Time: TBA Tickets: \$5 ea. Limit 2/stu. ID	Labor Day	College Night @ 5 Busch Stadium Time: 7:10 p.m. Tickets: 2/\$5 Limit 2/stu. ID	Wednesday Noon Live Free Lunchtime Musical Entertainment Time: 11-2pm Place U ctr patio	7	8 U Lock-In Movies, free food and prizes! Time: 8-midnight Place: U ctr lounge	9
10	11	12	Wednesday Noon Live Free Lunchtime Musical Entertainment Time: 11-2pm Place U ctr patio	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Wednesday Noon Live Free Lunchtime Musical Entertainment Time: 11-2pm Place U ctr patio	21	22	Bike the Katy Trail Free bike rental and transport. Time 9am-? Cost: \$10 refunded deposit
24	25	26	27 Wednesday Noon Live Free Lunchtime Musical Entertainment Time: 11-2pm Place U ctr patio	28	29 Dinner & a Movie @ a local theater. Tickets: \$5/ea. Dinner Location: Summit Lounge	30

For more information contact Student Activities

# 516-5291

# Take a break at

The Newman House has new leadership, important mission

BY ANNE PORTER  
staff editor

Most people born in St. Louis usually reside in St. Louis for an extended period of their lives, if not the for the remainder of them. The new leadership at the Newman Center, located on the UM-St. Louis campus, represents this hometown allure with a ministry that has served St. Louis for many years.

Father Bill Kempf, the director of the Catholic Newman Center, was appointed to his new position earlier this year.

"I am a native of St. Louis, born and raised. I'll die here," Kempf said.

Before working at the Newman Center, Kempf was a parish priest for five and a half years, taught at St. Francis Borgia High School in Washington, Missouri, for four years, and then was a vocation ministry director for the Archdiocese. As a director of the roaming campus ministry, Kempf traveled to Washington University, Fontbonne, Mizzou and UM-Rolla in addition to his work here at UM-St. Louis.

"I think that because of my experience when the Diocese wanted to make a change and invest more in terms of its personnel and resources into UM-St. Louis, I was the logical choice for that appointed position," Kempf said. "It's their commitment to say UM-St. Louis is an important place for us."

Amanda Harrod, a campus minister, was born and raised in Hermann, Missouri.

"I went to school at Washington University, so I lived in St. Louis for four years. I was really involved in the Catholic Newman Center at Wash U and that is how I met Bill [Kempf] many years ago," Harrod said.

After Harrod graduated, she moved to Seattle, Washington, where she worked for the Mickey Leland Hunger Fellows Program.

"I was doing grassroots anti-hunger and poverty work. Then I moved to Washington, D.C. when I was doing public policy work [for the next six months]," Harrod said.

Only twenty people were selected to take part in this national program. The participants are then split into pairs and scattered to ten locations.

"[After Washington, D.C.], they actually asked me to direct the program so I stayed on for two more years," Harrod said. "Bill [Kempf] found out he was appointed here at

UM-St. Louis and we kept in touch over the years while I've been away and he asked if I'd be interested in coming back. I decided it was time to come back to St. Louis for a while because I have all my family and friends here," Harrod said.

Kempf and Harrod plan to make some changes in the way the Newman House participates in campus activities.

Kempf intends to participate more in campus life and to have more of a social outreach.

"It's such a commuter campus. It's hard to build a community and in some ways that is what the church is about," Kempf said.

In addition to planning events, Harrod and Kempf will hold three masses a week and provide the sacraments for students, faculty, and staff.

"The focus is that we are open to all students and not just Catholic students," Harrod said.

Harrod would also like to organize some alternative spring break and summer trips, both domestic and international.

"My change in perspective happened at the Catholic Newman Center when I took part in some alternative spring break trips to Guatemala and East Africa," Harrod said.

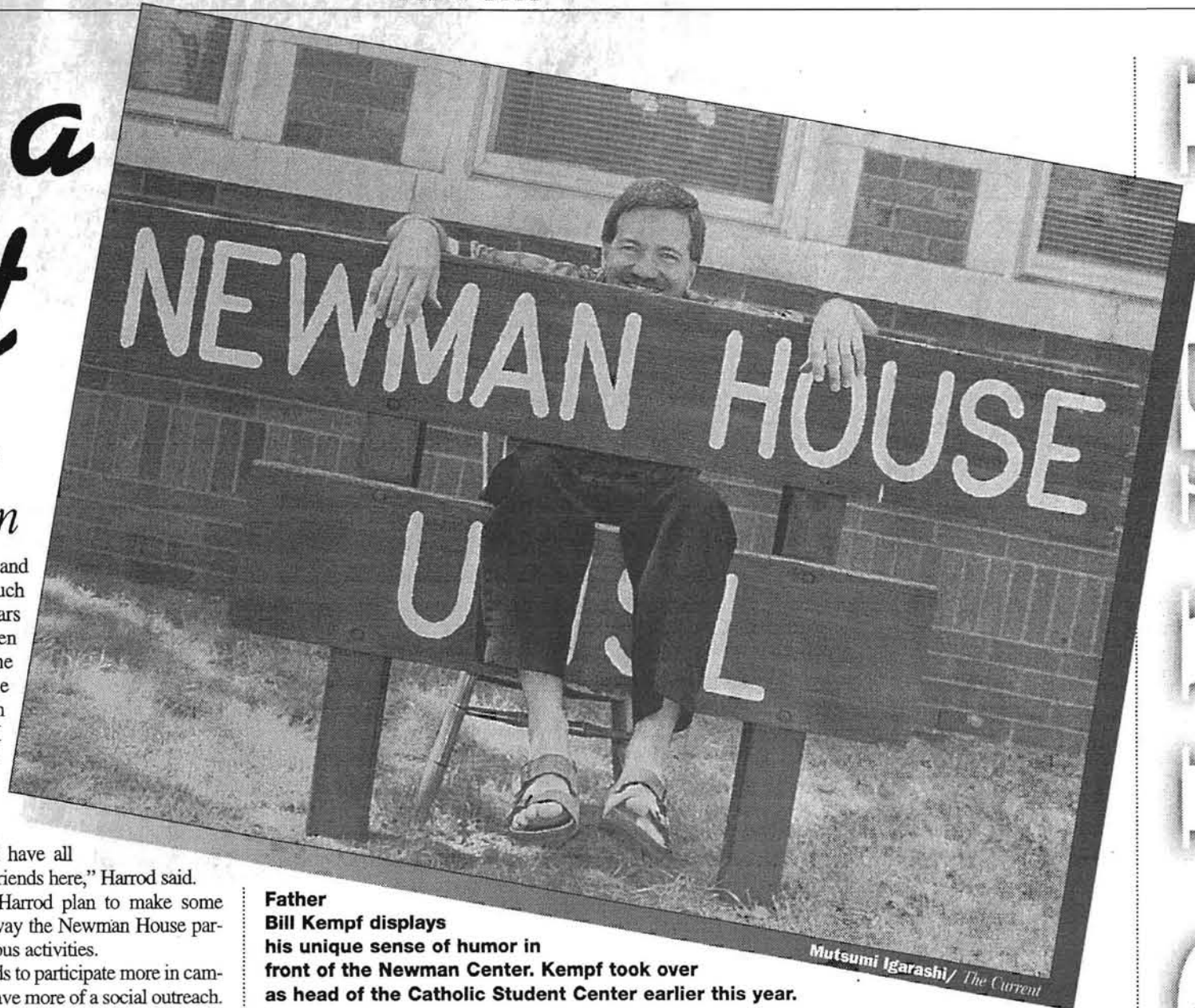
Kempf and Harrod believe that students can teach the church many things.

"I think that it is easier for students on any campus not to be connected, but especially here. I think there is a deep hunger for connection. Maybe that is what this generation can teach the church is that God is part of nature and God is part of connecting," Kempf said. "I see there is a resurgence of spirituality. It's not quite connected with the institution and maybe that is the challenge of any church, not just the Catholic church."

Through her travels Harrod has seen much involvement in the youth today.

"College students are doing a lot more services and are a lot more active in their communities," Harrod said.

For more information call the Catholic Newman Center at (314) 385-3455.



Father Bill Kempf displays his unique sense of humor in front of the Newman Center. Kempf took over as head of the Catholic Student Center earlier this year.

## One non-Catholic student gives his viewpoint on the Newman Center

BY MARCELLUS CHASE  
special to The Current

I am not catholic. So, perhaps it is easy to understand my apprehension when I was invited to attend the open house for the Catholic Newman Center last Wednesday. It turned out to be quite an enjoyable experience.

The Catholic Newman Center is located at the southwest corner of West Drive and Natural Bridge Road. Having never been to the CNC, the first dilemma I encountered was deciding which door was the main entrance. The door facing Natural Bridge Road with what appears to be a front porch in fact has no sidewalk leading to either the road or the adjacent driveway. Utilizing my sleuth deduction capabilities, I concluded that the side entrance was the most probable main entrance.

Greeting me at the door was a chipper, middle-aged man with a nametag that said Father Bill Kempf. I was immediately introduced to Father Bill's sidekick Amanda Harrod. Father Bill and Amanda were quite friendly and liked to joke around. The whole atmosphere was one of peace and acceptance. About the open house Amanda commented, "We had a great time meeting with the new students." The unspoken message was, "We

don't care who you are, you are always welcome here." Father Bill mirrored Amanda's remarks with, "It was nice visiting with the folks who came, but of course we always wish more would come."

As for the building itself I was quite impressed. Administrative offices, a beautiful "mini" chapel, and a small room being renovated into a future quiet study room comprised the top floor. The main floor offered a kitchen and a couple other larger rooms that were designed for you to meet and socialize with all your friends. In the basement there are more desks for studying, or a TV if you are so inclined to watch. I was also invited to play a friendly game of table tennis.

The CNC is open and available to anyone. If you are catholic you may feel somewhat more comfortable there than I first did, but Father Bill and Amanda seem to be two genuinely caring individuals who really have a knack for making you feel welcome. The CNC will be hosting a number of activities this fall, so anyone interested is encouraged to contact them at:

Catholic Newman Center  
8200 Natural Bridge Rd  
St Louis, MO 63121  
(314) 358-3455  
www.umsl.edu/~newman/

A matter of taste

## George Schmidt hopes to change face of food service

BY DAVID BAUGHER  
staff writer

Change may soon be coming to campus food service and George Schmidt hopes students will like what they see.

"We try to make things as easy to take out as possible," Schmidt said.

Schmidt recently attended "Collegiate Cuisine 2000," a June gathering of food service people in Boston.

"Basically, it was a week of conferences featuring master chefs and culinary people," Schmidt said.

Schmidt got more than knowledge at the event however. He was also honored with second place in a team cooking competition. Schmidt said his team had three hours to prepare their meal.

"They gave us a box of ingredients and we had to formulate recipes,"

Schmidt said.

He noted that the conference itself focused on ways to help serve students "on the run" with new "grab-and-go" specialties, including such ideas as yogurt sticks, and "uncrustables."

"Wraps are real big so we're going to try those which we've already been doing," he said. "We're just going to go on a grander scale."

Schmidt said that the motivation for change is the movement of food services to the new Millennium Student Center, which will help relieve some of the space constraints that presently limit campus food service.

"We try to make things as easy to take out as possible," Schmidt said. "With the new building we have more options to do that. We're a little limited on space [in the present center]."

Ideas for the new center include a

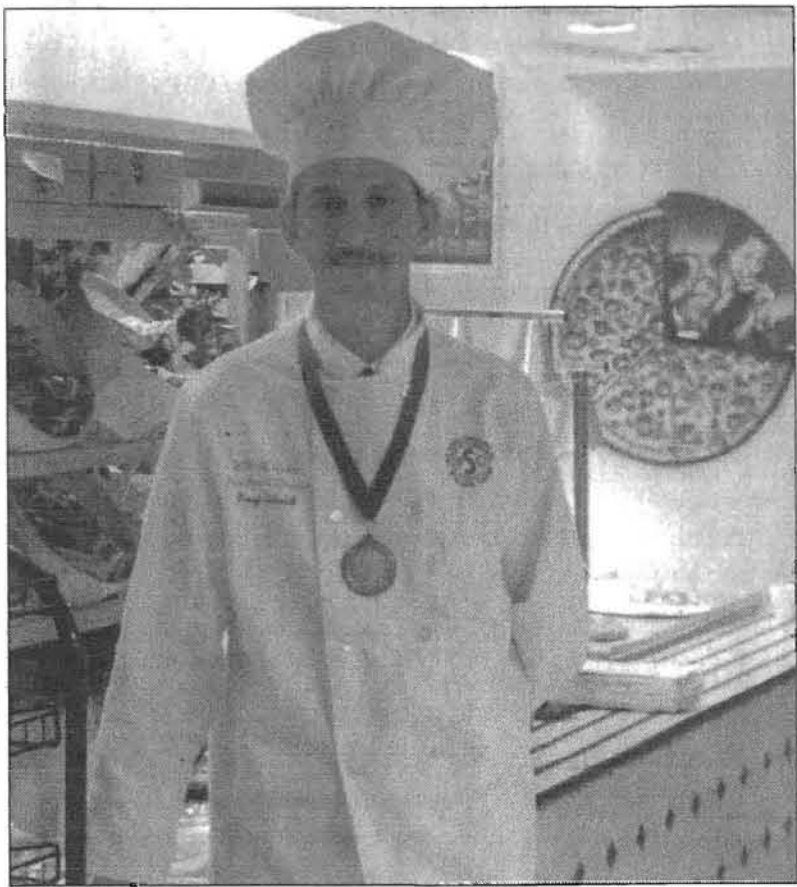
selection of both preprepared and custom-made salads and a hot bar where students are charged per dish rather than for the raw weight of the meal as is done presently. Schmidt hopes to make the hot bar a "Boston Market kind of thing."

Other plans may involve shaved meat, hogies, veggie sandwiches and an expanded selection of bakery and dessert items.

"It's almost like going to the grocery store," Schmidt said.

However, Schmidt said most of these plans will need to wait for the new venue. In the meantime, he urges students to be patient.

"I know a lot of the kids seem to think we're not listening but there's only so much we can do here," Schmidt said. "We're implementing a lot of changes for over there."



George Schmidt shows off his second place award in a u-mess cookoff where he was in a team competition with other cooks from other universities.

## Contemporary math challenges would-be grad



AND THE POINT IS...  
ANNE PORTER

Everyone has one. It's that one class that they need to take before they can graduate.

For some it's American Literature. For others, it's Art history. For others, understanding Biology just lies out of capability or desire.

I am scheduled to graduate this semester. What's holding me back?

One measly general requirement: Math 20 (also known as "Contemporary math.")

For five years I have procrastinated taking this class.

I detest math. For good reason I can't even balance my checkbook. To be honest, I believe my bank has

something to do with that with all the hidden fees and monthly charges.

Someone I heard once called Contemporary Math "fun math."

This definitely does not qualify as my idea of entertainment.

My hatred of math once only existed as a dislike. That was until I had a teacher in high school who ruined even what little interest I had in math. Since that was six years ago, I have no recollection of what he did in particular, but when I think of his name, it is only with great animosity.

In fact, I partially selected English as my major because it sits

on the opposite sphere of mathematics. I thought at the time, "If I get an English degree, I hopefully won't have to take math or at the most one class."

The time has come for that one class.

One thing has aided me. Since I was not able to pass the math assessment after two attempts, I believed I would not be able to even have the prerequisites necessary for Math 20.

Then I heard that if I had an A or B in high school Algebra II, I did not have to pass the assessment exam.

Then I rejoiced greatly and proceeded to wait until the absolute last semester possible to take the class.

Not that I didn't have ample opportunities to do it earlier.

My excuse last semester consisted of too heavy of a class load, even though at the end of the semester that was only one class, which was Advanced Poetry Writing.

I could have also taken it last summer when my boyfriend was and had someone to motivate me to go to class. If I recall correctly, I thought my summer was going to be too busy with work and my internship at the time. In truth, at 11 a.m., Monday through Thursday, I was sleeping.

Monday morning when I woke early (about 9:30 a.m., real world

time) to go get ready and go to class, I dreaded every minute of it. Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, the early wake-up call begins to not feel so unnatural.

My professor, who does not seem so abnormal or a brainiac, gave probably the best advice I could have heard. She said basically to not have a poor attitude towards math because then it will be twice as difficult to learn.

So with that advice in mind, hopefully I will pass Math 20 and graduate this fall. This time I think it's actually possible. Well, more likely than for the last two semesters when I was scheduled to graduate.

NEWSPAPER

EDITOR

ANNE PORTER  
features editor

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QUOTES

"If I have not read a book before, it is, for all intents and purposes, new to me whether it was printed yesterday or three hundred years ago."

-William Hazlett  
Credit: www.quotequotes.net

"Computers are useless. They can only give you answers."

-Pablo Picasso  
Credit: www.quotequotes.net

OPINIONS

EDITORIAL BOARD

JOSH RENAUD
BRIAN DOUGLAS

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

LETTERS

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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.

OUR OPINION

Forcing constitution vote is only the first step

After the year SGA had last year, there's no denying that its constitution is more a hindrance than a help.

This spring, a group of students began to revise the constitution in hopes that it could be ratified by the SGA assembly and then approved by the student body. Unfortunately, the assembly was never able to ratify the constitution because they consistently failed to have a quorum at any meeting where a vote was taken.

Now the provisional SGA, acting as a surrogate until new officers are elected in September, has taken a decisive step toward correcting the constitutional crisis that has plagued the SGA for the last several years.

Freezing the funds of student organizations that haven't yet voted on the constitution was a good, solid idea. The SGA isn't forcing organizations to cast their vote one way or the other - just to cast one at all. We encourage the student organizations to examine the constitution carefully before voting either way. This problem must be tackled with thoughtful, deliberate actions, not a casual "we-don't-care" attitude.

If the provisional SGA's campaign proves successful and the new constitution ends up on the ballot in September, there are still many issues that need to be addressed.

The most serious issue is that of

visibility. The provisional SGA must do as much as it can to let students know about the vote and the issues involved. A high-visibility campaign must be mounted to make UMSL students aware of what's at stake. Posting flyers will not be enough. This will have to be an all-out assault on as many fronts as possible, trying to hammer the message home to every student.

And the effort must be interactive. Simply spreading the word won't do much good. The provisional SGA would do well to hold some sort of constitutional convention and invite students to participate. Individuals who have helped write the constitution can explain the problems and holes in the old document and then illustrate how the proposed replacement would solve those problems. Offer free food, hold the meeting at a convenient time, and use the meeting to get students' input.

Clearly, no constitution will ever be perfect. Already, some people are pointing out potential trouble spots in the new constitution. These are issues that will need to be addressed immediately after the constitution is approved. Putting it off will only lead to a repeat of last year's disasters.

Finally, candidates for SGA office should make the constitution an issue in this campaign. If a candidate does

The issue:

The new SGA constitution may be finally nearing a vote.

We suggest:

The provisional government should take an active approach to make students aware of the issues involved.

So what do you think?

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

Parking: you think you've got it bad

College students and their automobiles just don't seem to get much sympathy these days. One would think that parking is a relatively easy problem to solve and manage, but somehow it continues to be a perennial irritation on campuses across the nation.

Only a week into the fall semester, UMSL students are already stewing over more parking fiascoes. The now-infamous "apply-on-the-outside" permits are being stolen right and left. Check out this week's "Campus Crimeline" on page 2 if you need proof. Sadly, even if you manage to protect your permit from theft, you've still been robbed. The parking permit price gouging really is outrageous.

But, things could be worse. For instance, a north county municipality and high school have pooled their efforts to crack down on teen drivers.

The high school in question has been cursed with a small parking lot throughout its existence. Every year, a privileged few students secure permits to park on the school lot. All their cruisin' classmates have to park elsewhere. Most of them choose to park on one of several residential streets near the school.

For years, residents have been kept from being able to park in front of their own homes if they make the mistake of leaving and then returning before school lets out. Up and down the streets the high school students park their cars anywhere they can get the vehicles to fit.

One day an ambulance and a fire truck responded to a resident's med-

ical emergency. They couldn't get in immediately because there was no place to park. The time they lost may have made a dramatic impact on their efforts. Not long afterward the city fire marshal tried to resolve the situation by banning parked cars along one side of the street between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

But this wasn't the worst of it. At 3 p.m. every weekday the quiet neighborhoods become noisy, dangerous drag strips. The hot-roddin' guys think it impresses their girlfriends when they tear away from the curb as fast they can and careen toward each other.

So, in response to residents' complaints, the city passed an ordinance banning non-residents from parking on streets near the school between 11

a.m. and 1 p.m. They're able to run license plates through their computers and determine where the owner of a car lives.

Driving to school is no longer an option for many of the high schoolers. Instead they have been forced to resume riding the bus. Unfortunately for them, the school is planning to ban all student parking on its lot as soon as the state of Missouri increases the driving age to 18.

With that in mind, maybe parking at UMSL won't seem like such a bad deal. Maybe we commuters still have to pay enormous fees for permits, battle highway congestion daily, and find a lot with empty spaces, but at least big brother hasn't taken away our right to drive.

Yet, anyway.



JOSH RENAUD
editor-in-chief

GUEST COMMENTARY

Playing the UMSL parking game

10. Price is Right: Reinhardt "Bob Barker" Schuster says "Can you guess the amount of parking for this semester to the nearest dollar without going over?"

9. Who Wants To Be A Millionaire: How much do you want to spend on parking this semester?

- A. \$16/credit hour
B. \$32/credit hour
C. \$64/credit hour
D. \$0/credit hour

I think I would like to use a life line. I'm going to poll the audience.

The audience says "D."
Is that your final answer?

8. Wheel of Fortune: Let's take the wheel for a spin. I'm sorry, you landed on LOSE A TURN. Someone just took the last parking spot.

I'd like to buy a spot on lot A.
I'm sorry that is for faculty only.

7. Big Brother: The campus police are stationed at every garage and parking lot with barricades waving on traffic for the students' "convenience." They're always patrolling the lots to give tickets for having no parking sticker or not posting it in the correct place. At the end of the day you walk back to your car to find out if you have gotten the boot.

6. Survivor: The first week of school is an immunity challenge to see who will be able to stay in the lot and who will have to find a spot elsewhere. The two tribes are unequally matched—the Tagi tribe has no voice and the Pagong tribe runs the show.

5. Three's a Crowd: There are 3 students for every parking space. No wonder everyone is late to class.

4. Jeopardy:
A. Too much.

Q. How much am I going to pay for parking this semester?

3. Judge Judy: Appealing the parking tickets to the chief of campus police. Hmmm, I wonder if he has his parking sticker prominently placed or if he parks in the correct parking lot. Does it look like I have the word stupid written across my forehead?

2. Truth or Dare:

Truth: Doing it the right way and paying for your parking sticker.

Dare: Daring not to buy a parking sticker and hoping not to get caught.

AND THE #1 PARKING GAME:

1. Let's Make A Deal: Do you want to pay \$16/credit hour or do you want to choose what's behind door number 1?

--April Cline

LETTERS

Student says new parking permit policy lacks sense and cramps style

Was I ever surprised Monday morning when I unpeeled my parking pass and discovered the powers that be morphed it into a window sticker. This was not what I traded a one hundred dollar bill and a few twenties for. While standing by my car four problems with this new pass form came to mind.

First, the thing is going to get stolen. Just like the tags on my license plates did this summer, and I can't even use a razor on my windshield to cut the thing into fourths hoping to make it harder to steal. At least the unskilled thieves attending the University can remove this one without breaking out a window on my car.

As I looked around to see where my fellow students applied theirs I

observed what one looked like when applied to the hatch of a smooth late model green Z-28 with tinted window - tackier than a Highway Patrol applied tow-tag!

Given how much the atrocities stick out at least the parking lot cops can easily see them.

Looking at the Z-28 brought to mind a third problem. If my hot-rod El Camino project gets completed this fall how will I transfer the sticker from my Toronado to it and back to my daily driver for the inclement days? Does the University of St. Louis Expansion want me to purchase another sticker?

There goes more money of mine for more seldom used buildings.

After some thought I put the back-

ing onto my pass again and slid it onto my dash in the same fashion I use the pass provided to me by the parking garage near my work downtown, hoping it would keep me from being penalized another \$25 for choosing to enroll here. As I began the trek through the construction to Clark Hall I passed the Z-28 and hoped for the sake of the owner that the sticker would come off cleanly this December after four months of baking in the sun.

So I'll be driving the burgandy Toronado with its sticker sitting on the dash wondering why the University changed from the self adhesive pass to the sticker.

--Marc Matusiak

Administrators: you can't live with 'em...

I wonder how long it will be before they vote no confidence in Chancellor Touhill this year.

Before I really start on this topic, I should say that here at The Current, we are not in the business of taking sides. As journalists, it is our job to report events as they happen, and save our editorial thoughts for the opinions page. So no, I am not championing the administration here. I have my share of complaints.

Parking fees: need I say more? Soon enough the year will be in full swing, and it will be open season and we as journalists will do our job of asking all those unpleasant questions. But before all of that, I would like to take a few minutes to say something about the way we view our superiors.

Frankly, I am appalled at the way the Chancellor and the administration in general have been criticized in past years. My objection is not to the criticism itself, there are some very serious concerns on this campus. But the way those concerns have sometimes been expressed leaves something to be desired.

There has been a lot of talk about this so-called culture of secrecy on the UMSL campus, but I wonder how much of this might not be attributable to an equally subversive culture of blaming everything on the boss. Being an administrator has a lot of perks, but it also amounts to holding a giant "kick-me" sign while listening to everybody's problems.

It seems to me like many of the major controversies around here boil down to a simple difference in point of view, especially on financial matters. On one side is the Chancellor, whose fiscal policy seems to advocate bending the rules whenever possible. Opposite this is the view expressed by many faculty who want all budgetary matters to be cut and dried in neat order. There's something to be said for both approaches.

Certainly there are some very serious fiscal problems on this campus. Those yearly re-allocations have got to go, but on the other hand, if we did everything strictly by the book, I wonder how many buildings and programs and other assets we would not have the benefit of.

The Chancellor has been portrayed as crafty and manipulative. Are those vices or virtues? Would we really WANT a leader who wasn't capable of being at least a little bit manipulative, especially when it came to dealing with matters at the UM System, or negotiating state or federal politics?

I am not saying that one side is right and the other wrong. Both sides are right, in their own way. But one thing I am saying is that whether we agree with her or not, we should all have a certain amount of respect for Chancellor Touhill because she is, after all, the Chancellor. We owe her that much. After all, if we didn't have the Chancellor, who would we gripe and complain about?



BRIAN DOUGLAS
managing editor

What's your opinion?

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

1.

- SGA forcing a vote on the constitution
• Parking at UMSL
• Chancellor Touhill's approach to fiscal policy

2.

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

- Submit a Letter to the Editor
• Write a Guest Commentary
• Visit the Campus Issues Forum on thecurrentonline.com

# Tennis team disbands, Schuito resigns

BY DAVE KINWORTH  
staff editor

UM-St. Louis announced the cancellation of the 2000-2001 women's tennis season Aug. 25. With the cancellation also came the resignation of Head Coach Lisa Schuito.

"The stated reason [was] that it was personal," Athletic Director Pat Dolan said. "She said her life has changed. When she came here, she thought she could build us a program. Since then, she had a little baby girl. Your time can only be

split so many ways."

The program began in 1998, but has had two 0-10 seasons and a lack of commitment from returning players.

Senior Wendy Young has been with the team ever since its formation, but she will not return this season.

"It was hard last season," Young said. "I am going to take this year off and focus on my Biology degree. Last year, we didn't have a full team and it is kind of hard to get motivated with only five players when a full team consists of six. I

don't think that they needed to do away with the program, but they need to find a coach who is a good motivator."

Dolan agreed that the motivation of the incoming students had a part in the cancellation of the season.

"Good or bad, I think sometimes, high school students think they can come out of high school and go play tennis or golf or whatever it is," Dolan said. "They don't realize what college athletics encompass. That is, two hours of practice minimum, study halls and your social life really during the season is pret-

ty much kaput. It is athletics and academics. We had five returnees, three new players, one new player showed up and two or three students did not enroll in the university. Two girls were in an internship and made a choice for academics before athletics. We kind of ran around and tried to pick up some players to play and then just started from behind. I thought maybe we should just end it, save the resources and put it into recruiting for next year."

Although the team is not going to participate in the Great Lakes Valley Conference season, Dolan is plan-

ning on recruiting for the following season as well as find a replacement for Schuito.

"The recruiting season for high school girls is right now. So if we can get somebody named by the end of September and give them some money to go and recruit and get some kids signed up for school next fall and get the junior college kids in the spring, it gives somebody time to be successful and I think that is the goal of the coach."

# V-ball team gets ready to face rival Ashland

BY NICK BOWMAN  
staff writer

Volleyball Head Coach Denise Silvester will head her 15th University of Missouri-St. Louis Riverwomen volleyball team into battle against regional rival Ashland University in the first match of the season.

The game will mark the start of the annual Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville Invitational Tournament, with games scheduled against Wheeling Jesuit College and Drury University also.

"We have a very healthy rivalry with Ashland, and this should be a very good volleyball game," Silvester said. "Also, they are one of our regional teams, so a good showing here will help establish our regional ranking."

The first three weeks of the Riverwomen's season will be spent in tournament play, with trips to Michigan for the Grand Valley State Invitational and Springfield, Missouri for the Drury Invitational.

"Our first three weekends are open weekends, and we try to use them to prep our team for the conference run," Silvester said. "We try to play 3-4 games per weekend."

Silvester is looking for a turn-

around from her 11-16 season of a year ago, only her third losing season of her career.

"A lot of frustration set in last year, and it affected our play towards the end of our season," Silvester said. "We had a lot of let-downs from players, and our seniors were trying to salvage a lot at the end."

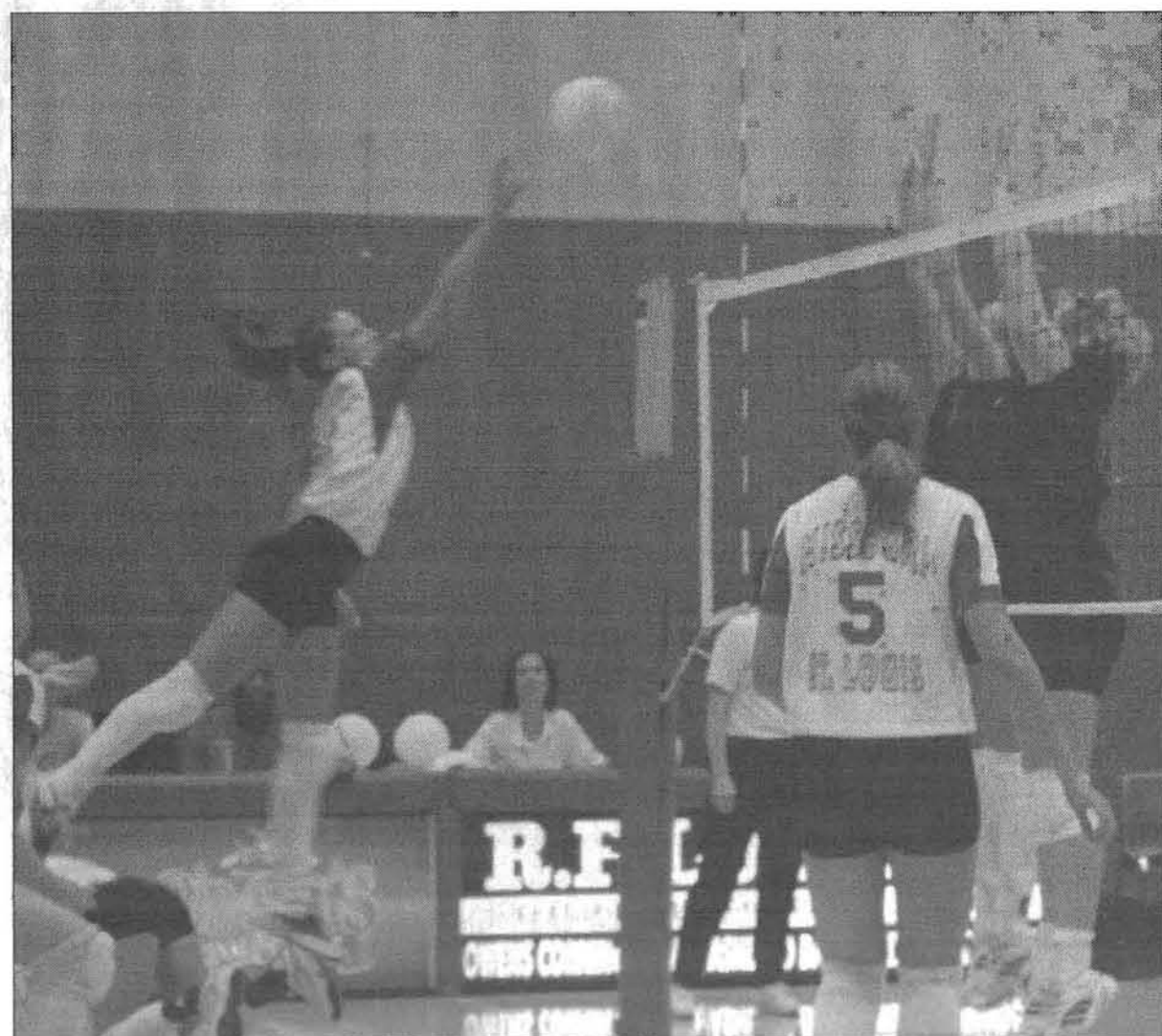
The GLVC coaches have seeded the Riverwomen second overall in the Green division of their conference, which is a credit to both Silvester's solid returning core and her strong recruiting class.

"Although we didn't receive any first place votes, it is a tribute to this team's enthusiasm and dedication," Silvester said.

Commitment shouldn't be a problem for this squad either, according to Silvester.

"I am very pleased with the commitment that this team has shown to their season," Silvester said. "They have set goals for themselves, and expect to exceed them."

Two players expected to make an immediate impact on the program are freshman Melissa Frost and Stacey Pearl. Frost, who is from Cincinnati, Ohio, is slated to play in the middle against Ashland and Pearl will back up Janae Pass at the setter position.



UMSL's own Holly Zrout hammers a ball to Ashland University to the point of no return in the Tournament at SIUE on Friday Aug 25.

"I didn't expect to come here and see a lot of playing time," Frost said. "I thought I would play a smaller role, but I am looking forward to earning my keep on the court."

In addition, junior college transfer Gretchen Duffner, who is in her final season of eligibility, will play an immediate role in the Riverwomen line-up.

"Duffner brings with her not

only a very solid game, but tremendous leadership and firepower," Silvester said. "She has fit into our system very well."

# Soccer teams kick off new season

## Rivermen not discouraged by defeat

BY DAVE KINWORTH  
staff editor

The men's soccer team opened its season with a 2-1 loss to McKendree College Aug. 20.

With new looks on the team this season and only seven returning players from last year's Great Lakes Valley Conference Championship runner-up, the first match according to Rivermen Head Coach Hannibal Najjar, went quite well.

"I was pleased with the game of the young guys whom I used, a couple of freshmen whom I put in and others who faced this competition for the first time," Najjar said. "There was a bit of shakiness and we started a bit slow and a little tentative. But we were playing McKendree who is a good team. We held up well defensively and we made some changes to the original arrangement and I think that that helped tighten our midfield up a little bit."

This game came down to chances and McKendree jumped ahead early 2-0, before the Rivermen could score their lone

“They penetrated and I thought that they were the better team...but we had some big saves.”

-Hannibal Najjar  
Rivermen Soccer Head Coach

“I am happy that I will have about 17-18 guys ready to play and that will help me out quite a bit,” Najjar said. “I think that we are going to do well. We have some young faces and the chemistry is not there yet, but this week will be good to find themselves out. They have worked hard, the comradery is good and the team spirit as well, but it is time to transfer it onto the field when the opposition is not your enemy, but they have come to take something from you that is yours. So it is going to be a good test and I think that we will fair well.”

With the amount of foreign players that are on the Rivermen's team this season, the adaptation of the level of soccer in the Midwest will be a challenge for them.

"It has been a struggle," Najjar said. "I told them from the begin-

ning, this is not what they are accustomed to. They will have to come and see it and feel it. There is a lot of physical type of play. I have to learn how to teach my players how to play with it and take advantage of it."

With the regular season already in form and the UM-St. Louis Classic having already been played, conference play begins for the Rivermen Sept. 15 against Northern Kentucky and Najjar believes his players are ready.

"I am happy that I will have about 17-18 guys ready to play and that will help me out quite a bit," Najjar said. "I think that we are going to do well. We have some young faces and the chemistry is not there yet, but this week will be good to find themselves out. They have worked hard, the comradery is good and the team spirit as well, but it is time to transfer it onto the field when the opposition is not your enemy, but they have come to take something from you that is yours. So it is going to be a good test and I think that we will fair well."

## R-women take loss well

BY DAVE KINWORTH  
staff editor

With a men's team that won the National Championships last year and a women's program that is ranked in the top 25, the hopes of playing a team like Indiana University would be unlikely.

But Head Coach Beth Goetz pulled it off as her Riverwomen hosted Indiana University Aug. 19 at Don Dallas Memorial Stadium. Goetz credits the St. Louis soccer connections for getting this game on the Riverwomen's schedule.

"Indiana gets a lot of St. Louis recruits and their coach is actually from the St. Louis area," Goetz said. "We just talked about it and it was a great opportunity to bring his team into St. Louis."

Although the outcome was a 4-0 loss by the Riverwomen, the challenge to play against a top-notch program in Indiana University was a welcome venture.

"I think that we found out a little of what they were made of and how tough they could be mentally and how they would react to a team that should be much stronger than we are," Goetz said.

Although the 4-0 loss for UM-St.

Louis does not sound favorable for this women's squad, the experience was a learning one.

"Overall, I was pretty pleased with the way that they played," Goetz said. "I think they stepped up their game. Obviously skill for skill, they have more talent than we do. We were pretty sound defensively. We did not give up too many quality opportunities, but we ended up playing more defense because they possessed the ball more. We did not change, other than stepping up to the challenge."

With a new look offensively for UM-St. Louis this season and a new goaltender, the confidence the Riverwomen are experiencing comes from playing tough opponents like Indiana University.

"There is some confidence even though we lost," Goetz said. "I think they felt pretty good at where the game ended up and the fact that we did not give them a lot of opportunities. Until we play against somebody in our league and see where we stand, it was a great place to start and have an idea how this team will play."

The Riverwomen began their regular season Aug. 26 against Rockhurst University and will open their conference schedule as they host Northern Kentucky Sept. 15.

# Intramural sports are a great way to get involved



LATEST SCOOP

DAVE KINWORTHY

Involvement is the key to any successful intramural season, and the fall semester is upon us. With the hot weather and the humidity soaring, plan for a long semester of hot intramurals.

This year promises to be a huge hit with soccer, flag football and bowling coming up in a few weeks. The good times of these events make us want to become part of the UM-St. Louis campus. The choice to be involved, whether in intramurals or in some other governing body at the university, is a good one for any incoming students.

I remember when I was a fresh-

man with nothing to do on campus and had the long drive home to South County. I thought, why waste all of this gas and time and not do anything to help the university at all. That is where I got involved. I started writing for *The Current* (it has been three years now) and played intramural soccer for an independent team. It was here where I actually felt welcomed at UM-St. Louis.

With the independent team, our record was the worst, and I think that we lost every single game unless another team forfeited. But the better part was that other people took notice and then started asking me to

play for them that same season.

I played for Meadows United for a couple of games and then played with Sigma Tau Gamma until the team went into the championships. These players took me in and welcomed me. That is a real campus - showing the incoming students how to be successful and how to use their talents. These players pushed me to the brink of exhaustion out on the field, but the friends that I made, I still have.

Now I am entering my fourth year of playing intramural soccer and the sport itself has increased in talent. The past two seasons with

Sigma Tau Gamma, we have made it to the championship match, but to our dismay, lost to other teams that were comparable in talent. There was a lot of trash talking on the field and tempers may have gotten high at points, but after the game was over, you just shook hands and congratulated the winner. There was and still is respect for any player that participates in intramurals, no matter if you get dunked on in basketball or beaten with a good move in soccer.

Although I am just talking merely about soccer, I encourage all students to take part in what is becoming a larger intramural program at

# SPORTS

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sports editor

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## GAMES

### Women's Volleyball

at Grand Valley Invitational  
12:00 pm, Fri., Sept. 1

at Grand Valley Invitational  
4:00 pm, Fri., Sept. 1

### Men's Soccer

at Cal State- Classic  
4:00 pm, Fri., Sept. 1

at Cal State- Classic  
11:30 am, Sun., Sept. 3

### Women's Soccer

at Tampa  
7:00 pm, Fri., Sept. 1

at Tampa  
11:00 am, Sun., Sept. 3

UM-St. Louis compared to Saint Louis University. Pam Steinmetz has done a great job trying to hype these events, and the intramural outcome is blossoming.

Let's face it, UM-St. Louis is a campus that is up and coming in the St. Louis area, and many students are now realizing it. Just look at the past year alone with more participation on campus and involvement being the key. Don't just sit around on campus and leave to go to work. Get involved and the benefits will come.

# A&E

## EDITOR

**CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER**  
a&e editor

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## MUSIC

### August

30

Red Light Runners  
Way Out Club

### September

1

Keller Williams  
Mississippi Nights, 8:00 p.m.

3

China National Orchestra  
Powell Symphony Hall

5

The Get Up Kids  
Galaxy

6

Slum Village with  
Bahamadia  
Firehouse

8

Gladys Knight with Jeffery  
Osbourne  
Fox Theater, 8:00 p.m.

9

B.B. King Blues Festival  
featuring B.B. King, Buddy  
Guy, Susan Tedeshi, and  
Corey Harris  
Fox Theater, 7:00 p.m.

10

Don Henley  
Fox Theater, 7:30 p.m.

14

Compay Segundo of the  
Buena Vista Social Club  
Sheldon Concert Hall, 8:00  
p.m.



LEFT: Tommy Lee Jones plays astronaut Hawk Hawkins in "Space Cowboys."

BELOW: Astronaut Corvin (Clint Eastwood) does a final check before leaving the space shuttle to repair a damaged satellite.



## 'Space Cowboys' is way out there

BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER  
staff editor

Maybe they could have called it "Geezers in Space."

I'm just playing here, since this film was written by the same screenwriter who wrote "Muppets in Space." Really, this is an enjoyable, entertaining Hollywood-style film, very much in the tradition of summer fare - likeable big-name stars, a feel-good (if farfetched) story with humor, action and a touch of sentiment, dazzling special effects, an emotionally satisfying ending. As is usually the case with summer movies, a lot of its success depends on the quality of the special effects and the appeal of the actors, rather than the realism of the

### 'Space Cowboys'

Length: 129 min.  
Rated: PG-13  
Our opinion: ★★★

story. This film hits the mark on both.

The story, of course, is pure Hollywood. In the 1950s, a team of four cocky, competitive test pilots, known as Team Daedalus, miss their chance to make it into space. Moving into the present, we find NASA is trying to help save a Russian Cold War-era satellite that is in danger of falling to earth. When NASA discovers that the non-functional guidance system on the satellite is based on a design by one of the members of Team

Daedalus, they call on the now-retired Col. Corvin (Clint Eastwood) to help repair it. Now the fantasy really starts: Corvin wants NASA to send him and the rest of the elderly Team Daedalus, into space to repair it, and NASA agrees, thinking that the old guys will never pass the required physical, and will agree to train young astronauts to do the job. Although the story doesn't quite go from point A to B, you know we're going into space in this film.

Actually, there is quite a bit of fun in this fantasy, due mostly to the charming performance of the actors playing Team Daedalus, Clint Eastwood, Tommy Lee Jones, Donald Sutherland, and James Garner. Jones as Hawk Hawkins and Sutherland as Jerry O'Neil are

especially funny and charming, and Eastwood and Garner (as Tank Sullivan) play the kind of characters they are known for. The space sequences are spectacularly believable, even if the story is not. No intellectual challenges here, but maybe a hint of thoughtful reflection and a little black humor, signature touches from director Clint Eastwood. The wish fulfillment aspect might appeal most to older guys, where we see all four of these fellows passing NASA physicals that include 10 mile runs, and engaging in some one-upmanship with the younger astronauts. Still, it is a good summer fun movie to end the season with, for those who can't get enough of this kind of film.

(Now playing at the Hi Pointe and other area theaters)

## 'Kings of Comedy' serve up raw, funny material

Concert film gives little background on the comedians

BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER  
staff editor

"The Original Kings of Comedy" is director Spike Lee's latest film, about a long running tour of African American comedians that has, over the years, featured some of the best stand-up comedians in the country. The present four touring comedians are Steve Harvey, Bernie Mac, D.L. Hughley, and Cedric the Entertainer.

The film is essentially a concert film, covering one night's performance. Steve Harvey acts as a master of ceremonies of sorts, warming up the crowd, introducing the other s in turn, and providing a bridge between the acts. The humor is raw, strong, and ethnic but definitely funny. These guys are direct, pulling no punches on any topic, but are as

### 'Space Cowboys'

Length: 120 min.  
Rated: R  
Our opinion: ★★★

smooth and polished as glass in their craft. The acts are broken up with sequences of the performers backstage or earlier in the day before the performance, either alone or all together. During one of these interludes, we see Cedric the Entertainer warming up for his act in the men's restroom that serves as a rehearsal space. Intriguingly, he's warming up by walking around singing what sounds like Gregorian chant in the most clear and beautiful voice. As he finishes singing, he glances at the camera and says, "That was another life."

This is a concert film, not a documentary, and gives you little information about these particular comedians or about the history of the comedy tour. The comedians are good, with sharp timing and good control of the audience. Each performance has its unique style, with Steve Harvey's warm style and Cedric's unusual physical comedy as the standouts to my taste. As a film, however, it's surprisingly unoriginal, for a director of Lee's reputation. Lee uses an ever-moving camera style and some interesting effects, but otherwise the film is very straightforward and unadorned.

Still, these guys are definitely funny if rough. I just wish Lee had expanded the film to tell us a little more about them and this long-running tour.



Photo courtesy of Warner Bros.

Steve Harvey, Bernie Mac, D.L. Hughley, and Cedric the Entertainer take a curtain call after a performance during their "Original Kings of Comedy" tour. They are the current touring comedians on the long-running tour.

## Take a sneak peek at films premiering this fall

So let's talk movies. This is a little preview of some of the films that will be coming out this fall, but please remember these are only informational descriptions of these films. I haven't yet seen any of them, so I can't tell you if they are as good (or bad) as they sound. You'll have to wait for the review for an opinion, but it might be fun to see what's on the way.

Almost Famous - from director Cameron Crowe who did "Jerry Maguire", the film is set in 1973 about a fifteen-year-old music fan who lands a writing assignment for Rolling Stone and is drawn into the inner circle of an up-and-coming rock band. Stars Patrick Fugit, Billy Crudup, Kate Hudson, and Frances McDormand.

Duets - a road trip comedy about

six strangers with a passion for karaoke. Directed by Bruce Paltrow and starring his daughter Gwyneth Paltrow and Huey Lewis.

Remember the Titans - a drama based on a true story from 1971 about an African American football coach hired by a racially divided high school. Directed by Boaz Yakin and starring Denzel Washington.

Unbreakable - the director of "The Sixth Sense", M. Night Shyamalan, offers this suspense film about the sole survivor of a terrible train wreck. Starring Bruce Willis, Samuel L. Jackson, and Robin Wright Penn.

O Brother, Where Art Thou? - the Coen brothers direct this intriguing-sounding modern-day story based on Homer's classic "The Odyssey", with Odysseus remade as a silver-tongued escaped convict in a tale of comedy

and adventure. Stars George Clooney, John Turturro, and Holly Hunter.

Girlfight - a top award winner at the Sundance Film Festival, this independent film by first-time director and St. Louis native Karyn Kusama focuses on the struggles of a hot tempered young woman who, as a boxer, finds a center for her life in this fiery tale. Star Michelle Rodriguez won high praise for her performance.

Way of the Gun - a story of two struggling criminals who kidnap a pregnant surrogate mother, intending to ransom her and the baby to the adoptive parents. Written and directed by the author of the film "The Usual Suspects", Christopher McQuarrie, and starring Ryan Phillips, Benicio del Toro, and Juliette Lewis.

Bedazzled - this remake of a

1960s British comedy starring Dudley Moore, about a man selling his soul to the devil, has been updated by director Harold Ramis and looks very funny in the trailers playing now in theaters. Starring Brendan Fraser and Elizabeth Hurley.

Tigerland - a drama about soldiers training for the Vietnam War in 1971, and their reactions to the prospect of going to war. Directed by Joel Schumacher and starring Matt Davis and Colin Farrell.

Navy Diver - I've received some information on this movie that gives this title, and some that gives the title "Men of Honor", so we'll see how it comes out. Director George Tillman, Jr.'s tale about Navy Dive School, a demanding instructor, and a determined sailor is based on a true story. Stars Robert De Niro and Cuba

Gooding, Jr.

Cast Away - Tom Hanks stars in this drama about a control-freak workaholic who is stranded on an island, and the changes this event brings. Directed by Roger Zemeckis, and co-written by Hanks and the writer of "Apollo 13", William Broyles, Jr.

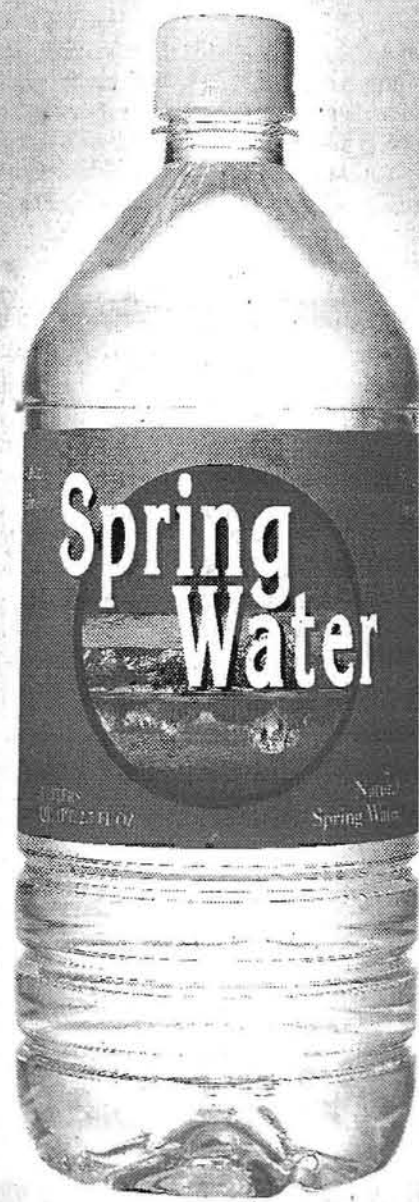
Moulin Rouge - a tragicomical musical about the underworld of late nineteenth century Paris, set at the famous Moulin Rouge nightclub. Australian filmmaker Baz Luhrman uses high style and a tongue-in-cheek approach to draw parallels between the closing of that century and the closing of this one. Starring Ewan McGregor and Nicole Kidman.

This is just a sample, more will be coming....

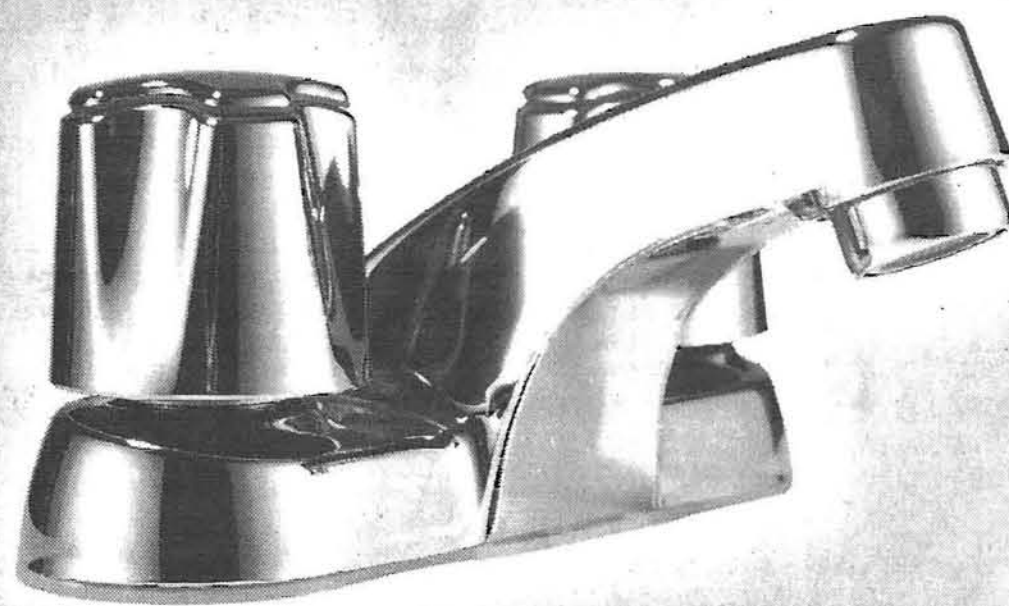


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# Martin Luther King changed America with 'Dream' speech

Many people have heard the phrase, "The American Way." To me, that phrase means freedom. It is the very concept that has always separated the United States from many other nations around the world. Freedom has drawn people to American shores in record numbers. On August 28, 1963, it drew 250,000 people of all races and backgrounds to the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. They weren't celebrating freedom, however. They were protesting the injustices endured by millions of black Americans. This was the time of the Civil Rights Movement in America. The entire gathering would become known as the March on Washington. It is best remembered for an invigorating address by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. This tremendous speech was called, I Have A Dream, and would become an anthem for Civil Rights:



**TIM THOMPSON**  
history columnist

tains of New York. Let freedom ring from the heightening Alleghenies of Pennsylvania. Let freedom ring from the snow-capped Rockies of Colorado. Let freedom ring from the curvaceous slopes of California. But not only that.

Let freedom ring from Stone Mountain of Georgia. Let freedom ring from Lookout Mountain of Tennessee. Let freedom ring from every hill and molehill of Mississippi. From every mountain side, let freedom ring.

And when this happens, and when we allow freedom to ring, when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual: Free at last. Free at last. Thank God Almighty, we are free at last."

"I am happy to join with you today in what will go down in history as the greatest demonstration for freedom in the history of our nation.

Fivescore years ago, a great American, in whose symbolic shadow we stand today, signed the Emancipation Proclamation. This momentous decree came as a great beacon light of hope to millions of Negro slaves who had been seared in the flames of withering injustice. It came as a joyous daybreak to end the long night of their captivity.

I say to you today, my friends, so even though we face the difficulties of today and tomorrow, I still have a dream. It is a dream deeply rooted in the American dream. I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed, 'We hold these truths self-evident, that all men are created equal.'

I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia, the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit at the table of brotherhood. I have a dream that one day even the state of Mississippi, a state sweltering with the heat of injustice, sweltering with the heat of oppression, will be transformed into an oasis of freedom and justice.

I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character. I have a dream today!

I have a dream that one day down in Alabama, with its vicious racists, with its Governor having his lips dripping with the words of interposition and nullification, one day right there in Alabama, little black boys and black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and white girls as sisters and brothers. I have a dream today!

I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, every hill and mountain shall be low, the rough places will be made straight and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all flesh shall see it together.

This is our hope. This is the faith that I go back to the South with. With this faith, we shall be able to transform the jangling discords of our nation into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood. With this faith, we will be able to work together, to pray together, to struggle together, to go to jail together, to stand up for freedom together, knowing that we will be free one day. And this will be the day. This will be the day when all of God's children will be able to sing with new meaning, "My country 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing. Land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrim's pride, from every mountain side, let freedom ring." And if America is to be a great nation, this must come true.

So let freedom ring from the prodigious hilltops of New Hampshire. Let freedom ring from the mighty moun-

## MENTORING, from page 1

they're in the middle of it. Some of them have published papers in national journals."

This summer, the program involved 29 senior and junior high school students from Vashon, Gateway Institute, John Burroughs, Parkway North, Parkway South, Webster Groves, CBC, Horton Watkins, Priory, Pattonville, St. Joseph's Academy, Lutheran North, Normandy, Clayton, Fort Zumwalt South, Inglemoore, Lafayette,

McCluer, Ferguson Middle, Fox Junior, St. Mary's, Gateway Middle and Pacific. Sixteen teachers from these schools also attended and participated in the program. In order to qualify for the program, the students must be in the top 5 percent of their class.

The UMSL science department works closely with St. Louis University, Washington University, the National Science Foundation, and Solutia Inc. to provide a wide array of fields available for study. The students

may be mentored in fields such as chemistry, biology, mathematics, engineering, and computer science. Specific topics of research ranged from the human genome to artificial intelligence.

The program continues throughout the school year, with eight meetings and trips to industry sites. The involvement and support of local companies such as Solutia, Boeing, Mallinckrodt and Monsanto allows the students a unique opportunity to

experience the sciences in the field instead of in the classroom. Speakers at the program included Mary Case, who is an expert in forensic pathology, and Elizabeth Kellogg and Linda Zurfluh from the field of biology.

Students submitting the top 2 papers each year are eligible for a tuition and fees waiver to attend UMSL for four years as an undergraduate student through the Grant Charitable Trust. Interested parties can contact Granger at (314) 516-6226.

## FEDERER, from page 1

money spent, of course, means more money goes to the government via taxation.

**The military**  
"I'm for a strong defense," said Federer, "America should never be in the position to be intimidated by any other nation in the world." Federer then paraphrased an old Boy Scout adage about campsites, saying, "I have this feeling of obligation to leave this country cleaner than I found it, and stronger than I found it, and better than I found it."

**Less government**  
Referring to the federal government's meddling with tax allocations to public schools, Federer said, "It's not the federal government's job to be the principal. It's the principal's job to be the principal." Later, after comparing the attitudes associated with communism and democracy, Federer said, "The government exists to help you. It's not supposed to be you exist

to perpetuate the big government."

**Health care**  
Federer said he hopes to see a health care system where the individual has more choices and more control over their own plan and said he endorsed Republican presidential candidate Gov. George W. Bush's "Fairness Plan." The "Fairness Plan" is designed to help 44 million uninsured Americans get a health care policy by awarding individuals a grant to cover the cost of health care premiums. Federer pointed out that under Bush's plan these grants would not go through the Medicare program and all the bureaucracy associated with it.

**Abortion**  
Federer believes that the government spends too much time, money and effort on trying to decide what to do about the abortion issue. He essentially called for a change of focus. He stated that he wants to see the gov-

ernment spend more money on promoting adoption. "I believe as Americans, [that] the compassionate answer to this problem" is adoption, he said. "We can turn a problem into a promise. We can turn a mistake into a miracle. We can turn trash into a treasure."

**Gun control**  
"I think we have enough laws," Federer said. "Let's enforce the ones we have. We don't need any more."

**Getting Involved in Politics**  
Federer stressed the importance for young people to get involved in politics. Paul DeGregorio, UMSL administrator and advisor to the College Republicans, mirrored Federer by stating that a student could learn more in one semester volunteering for a campaign (any campaign) than he or she could in any political science class.

## AVERY, from page 1

erty taxes in the state of Missouri. He feels they are cumbersome and unfair.

"I am always looking for volunteers. I am determined to make things better for the people of the 98th District," Avery said. If anyone is interested, they can call him at (314) 852-7821.

Avery's opponent in the congressional race, May Scheve, was unavailable for comment.

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# Back in the groove

School is in session and students are starting to settle in. This year, Welcome Week has been peppered with musical events, including a Beatles tribute concert on Aug. 20, local band "Zito" last Wednesday, and MTV's "Say What Karaoke" last Sunday.

Photos by Mutsumi Igarashi



LEFT: DJ Slynke and Honey scratch out some tunes at the University Meadows, Aug. 25.

BELOW: Local band "Zito" performs at the University Center Patio, Aug. 23.



LEFT: Students try to perform their favorite songs.



LEFT: A group of students dance with David Broom, host of MTV's "Real World New Orleans."

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