



Mirthday 2002: a carnival

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THECURRENTONLINE.COM

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI - ST. LOUIS

Abortion protest halted

BY NICK BOWMAN
Senior Editor

"One-third of our generation has been killed before birth."

This is the message a California-based student group attempted to bring to the University last Monday before being escorted away by Campus Police.

The group, Survivors, is on a college speaking tour that is expected to reach 15 universities in a little over two weeks with their message, which they claim was provided to them by the Center for Disease Control (as of press, this claim had not been validated). And although all 15 schools were contacted previous to the tours beginning, many, including UM-St. Louis, have not or did not approve the demonstrations.

Curt Coonrod, vice-chancellor for Student Affairs, explained to the group's leader, Dan McCullough, that the protests were in violation of University policy and that the group should have gone through the proper channels before the protest. He explained to McCullough "that they would have to go through the Chancellor's office for the approval of this demonstration."

The policy that Coonrod referred McCullough to is UM System regulation 110.010, section E3 that "persons who are not current students or employees of the University and who are on University property without specific permission or authorization or without an appropriate purpose may be deemed guilty of trespass." The policy also states that the person or group, after deemed in violation of the policy, will be asked to leave before they are escorted away. UM-St. Louis Police Chief Robert Roessler explained this to McCullough, and the group left voluntarily, deciding to set up shop on the intersection of University Drive and Natural Bridge Road.

"They had no prior approval," Student Activities Director Orinthia Montague said. "They contacted our office wanting us to sponsor them, and we explained to them that we don't sponsor any type of group as an office. We then gave them two options: either find another student group to sponsor [them] or contact the vice-chancellor of student affairs. They did neither, and we did what we had to do. We understand the value of first amendment rights, but everyone has to follow the same rules."

In a discussion with Coonrod, Roessler and Associate Vice-Chancellor Joanne Bocci, McCullough claimed that he had attempted to follow all the procedures, but the University was very reluctant with their responses.

"I'm very frustrated because I tried to follow all of the procedures and wasn't able to because no one would get back to me," McCullough said. "What was I supposed to do?"

Jeff White, the senior adviser and founder of Survivors, said that he did contact all 15 schools on the tour list.

"It is our desire for cooperation as we exercise our first amendment rights," White said.

White also mentioned that UM-Kansas City and Harris-Stowe State College were on the tour list. The Office of Student Activities at UM-Kansas City was not aware of Survivors or of any scheduled protest. Harris-Stowe was not available for comment as of press.

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R.A.R.E. sweeps SGA

BY DAN WIEGERT
Staff Editor

Amid controversies and strong turnout, R.A.R.E. (Reform, Accountability, Responsibility, and Excellence) candidates swept the SGA elections held April 17 and 18.

The new SGA officers for 2002-2003 will be: President Sam Andemariam, Vice President Robert Alton Clarke and Comptroller Jeff Griesemer.

The election controversies started after the campaign season was cut short this year by Student Activities. This gave candidates only 11 days to put together their respective campaigns.

Because of this fact, campaigning was kept to a minimum. There was no time to organize a debate, although some wanted to hold an impromptu debate at the end of the last SGA meeting. Despite this, by Election Day, candidates were out in force.

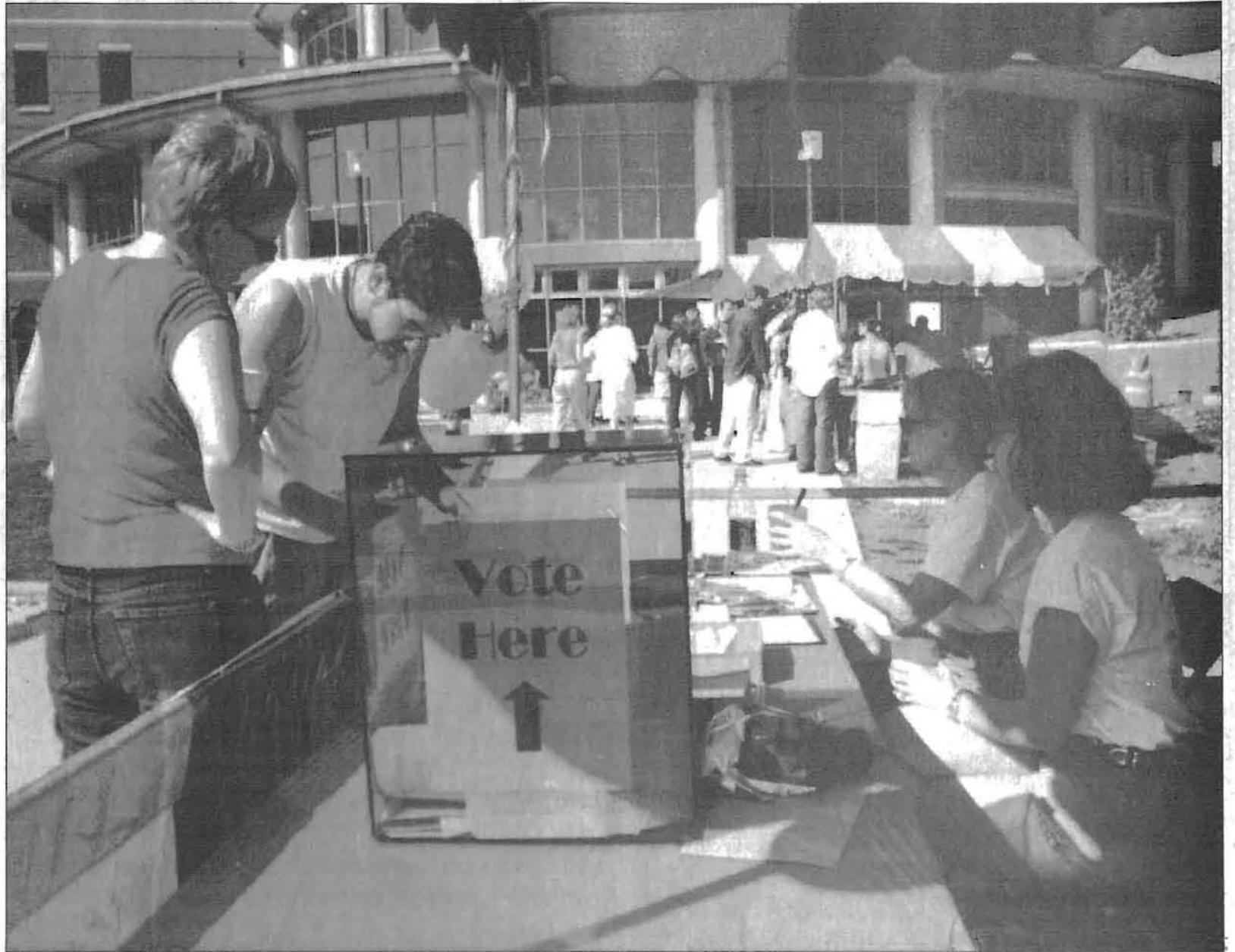
"I feel that we could have benefited from a few extra days to campaign, and it would have been great to have a debate, but what can we do now? Let's get on with it," SGA President-elect Sam Andemariam said.

The reduced campaign time led to two grievances. The two grievances filed with the SGA Election Board during the course of the election, one by Presidential candidate Frederick Eccher III, and one by members of the R.A.R.E. slate. Both grievances were turned down, but in the end, they produced an unexpected outcome. Joe Flees, SGA vice-president, and member of the Election Board resigned after immediate decisions were requested by both grievances.

"Both sides approached their grievances in the wrong way," Flees said. "Both sides ignored the breaks that were afforded them, especially the RARE slate, who were cleared earlier in the week. It just got crazy," Flees said.

Students came out in large numbers to vote, with estimates around 600 ballots were cast.

According to two-term SGA President T. Ryan Connor, he feels that the recent election was a suc-



Juniors Christopher Shope and Laura Tobius vote in the SGA election during Mirthday on Wednesday April 17. Mutsumi Igarashi/The Current

SGA Election results

SGA President:
Sam Andemariam - 484
Frederick Eccher III - 64

SGA Vice-President:
Robert Alton Clarke - 351
Elizabeth Grindstaff - 204

SGA Secretary:
Jeff Griesemer - 499

cess, and was more hotly contested than his presidential bid two years ago.

"The turnout is great, and putting the election on Mirthday only helped it," Connor said.

Ballots were also set up in the Millennium Student Center and South Campus from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on both April 17 and 18.

The winner of the Presidential race was R.A.R.E. candidate Sam Andemariam with 484 votes with runner-up Frederick Eccher receiving 64 votes. R.A.R.E. candidate Robert Alton Clarke beat out fellow

candidate Elizabeth Grindstaff in the Vice-Presidential race 351 to 204. Jeff Griesemer helped the R.A.R.E. slate sweep the top three positions by winning his unopposed bid for Comptroller with 499 votes.

The election of Representatives at Large is as follows:

For the College of Arts and Sciences, Julie Clifford received 204 votes, Shautel received 178 votes, Justin Kimble (R.A.R.E.) received 317, and Michelle Roth (R.A.R.E.) received 341 votes.

The College of Business Administration Representatives are

David Dodd with 347 votes, and Jonas Zakour, with 368, both R.A.R.E. candidates.

The lone representative for the College of Fine Arts is Luke Schulte (R.A.R.E.) with 464 votes. There were several write-in candidates, and those results will be announced at a later date.

Also in the election were the candidates for the Student Senate Organization. Earlier this semester, there were only two student representatives for the SSO, but after the results are released today, there will be 13 new student senators.

Campaign violations filed against Grindstaff, decision not yet made

BY MICHELLE ELKINS
Staff Writer

Tempers flared among certain members of the SGA electoral campaign against Vice Presidential Candidate Elizabeth Grindstaff. A formal complaint was filed against Grindstaff for misleading information on her campaign paraphernalia, which claimed that she was the only woman on the ticket. Several women were on the ballots for various positions, but Grindstaff was the only female running for an executive position.

"Section E" of the "2002 Campaign Rules" states, "Any candidate using materials which the said candidate knows to be false or in reckless disregard for the truth thereof shall be stricken from the ballot, or if elected, restrained from taking office upon proper application to the Election Committee."

"Claiming that the only women that appears on the ballot is her name Elizabeth Grindstaff, that is not only absolute fallacy, its slander, makes a mockery of the other women on the ballot; it's a lack of respect, and its not true," Sam Andemariam, SGA president-elect, said. By stating that she is the only woman on the ticket turned into false campaign material. That is the complaint that sparked a controversial debate between the candidates.

"The reason why we are so

specifically angry with the 'only women' on the ticket issue is since she violated the rules she has an unfair advantage over us, because we cannot break the rules," Vice-president-elect Robert Clarke said.

"Do we really want someone in office who is willing to break rules in an organized government situation?"

To become a candidate, one must sign a waiver stating he or she is a person of upstanding moral character. "The other issue is she has violated moral ethics by lying; she should be unable to go for office because she violated her own words by signing the document," Clarke said.

"The way I think of it and the way other students may think of it is when you say 'ticket' you think of the top three positions-the executive positions, the people that are actually in charge of running the government. That is exactly what I meant when I said 'I am the only women on the ticket,'" Grindstaff said.

Grindstaff's objective was to make her candidacy position stand out.

"I do not feel that I violated any rules or disregarded any women on the ballot; I am just trying to say that [of] the top three positions, which are the most important positions that everyone would recognize, I am the only women running," Grindstaff said.

"I am not applying my advertising to any representatives because I am

not running against any representatives. I am not running for student senate, I am running for an executive position and as far as executive positions go, I am the only woman."

Grindstaff feels she has done nothing but acted fairly and it is their right to file a grievance if they feel they have been wronged and that the court will decide rightly in this matter.

The election committee will hand down a decision if Grindstaff is eligible to remain for candidacy.

"If the committee rules against, our favor we will then take it to student court," Clarke said. "If student court rules against us, we will take it to the chancellor of student activities acting-Director Curt Coonrod, he will have the final say; we will contest the election. We will take it as far as we have to." Clarke said.

"If she wins fair and square, let her be vice president; but she is cheating, she is breaking the rules by lying saying she is the only women on the ballot," Andemariam said.

"I have gained so much knowledge that pertains to the students at UM-St. Louis, and I believe that qualifies me beyond what is required of a candidate to run for office," Grindstaff said.

As of press time a decision has not been made, although Clarke did win the vice-presidency in last week's election. The case is still open.

Legitimacy of journalist group disputed by UMSL

BY CILLAH HALL
Staff Writer

Following last week's news story on the Association of Black Journalists (UM-St. Louis chapter), Orinthia Montague, director of Student Activities, informed *The Current* that the organization was functioning and using the University's name without authorization.

The normal procedure for new organizations is to submit paperwork that includes a mission statement and a constitution to the committee in Student Activities. The committee then determines whether the organization is beneficial to students, but during this process, the organization can be given provisional status.

"This organization had not even submitted its paperwork. Even if it had, it would be up to the committee to approve or deny it's request to be a University recognized organization."

Hyter Alexander, the organization's advisor, was stunned by these allegations. He said that Montague personally told him that the organization had been granted provisional recognition.

"This is a personal attack toward me. It has nothing to do with the organization. It's just another way for her to undermine my efforts and is doing so based on our ongoing differences," Alexander said.

Montague was not happy about that and insisted that it was mandatory for everybody on the retreat to participate.

"She even insulted me and threat-

ened to cut funding for an organization of which I was the adviser."

After that incident, Alexander says that Montague has tried to undermine his contributions to the University on several occasions.

Alexander consulted with his superior in Multi-Cultural Relations and a meeting was immediately arranged with the Vice-Chancellor of Student Affairs Curt Coonrod. The meeting also included Mary Hamilton, CEO of the Association of Black Journalists (UM-St. Louis chapter).

After hearing the facts from Alexander, Coonrod then called for a round table at a later date for the parties involved. He also encouraged students with an interest in where the organization stands not to be influenced by this incident.

"Our students need to be recognized in the papers and on television, and we therefore have to find ways to show case their talents," Coonrod said.

Montague said she did not tell Alexander that the organization had been granted provisional recognition. "There are procedures that should be followed in these matters, and the Association of Black Journalists did not follow them."

Montague added that the only motivation on her part in informing *The Current* was to clarify the fact that this organization was functioning without authorization and had no legitimate basis to use the University's name.

"It is not a personal issue," Montague said.

Bulletin Board

Put it on the Board:
 The Current Events Bulletin Board is a service provided free of charge to all student organizations, University departments and divisions. Deadline for submissions to The Current Events Bulletin Board is 5:00 p.m. every Thursday before publication. Space consideration is given to student organizations and is on a first-come, first-serve basis. We suggest all postings be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event. Send submissions to: Editor's Desk, 388 MSC, Natural Bridge Rd., St. Louis MO 63121 or fax 516-6811.
 All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.

Today Lecture

Blanca Heredia, academic dean at CIDE in Mexico and political scientist, will speak on "Assessing the Vicente Fox Presidency" as the Rolando Lara Zavala memorial lecture in Mexican studies. The speech will be in Century Room C of the Millennium Student Center. It is free an open to the public, and will start at 7:30.

Tues 22 Rec Sports

3-sport challenge. Sign up for this football, basketball and baseball skills competition. Men and women are invited to compete either in a four-person team or individually. It takes about 40 minutes to complete the entire competition. Call Rec Sports at x5123 to sign up.

15

SGA Meeting
 The final Student Government Association meeting of the year will be held at 2 p.m. in the SGA Chamber, third floor MSC. Call x5105 for more information.

Fri 26

Multicultural Relations
 The Multicultural Relations and Academic Affairs offices will have a program entitled "Multicultural Awareness Day." The event will start at 11:30 a.m. and run until 2 p.m. in the Century Rooms of the MSC. Call Linda Sharp at x6807 for more information

Sat 27

Black Unity Arts Expose
 "Cafe le Nubian," featuring word artist music and recognition. Artist will be honored with a reception in the Pilot House. Event starts at 6 p.m., with a celebration dance at 8 p.m. Admission is \$2 with UM-St. Louis ID, \$5 without. Event is sponsored by the Association of Black Collegians and AMSA. Contact x4026 for more info.

Put your event here

Place your event here free for UM-St. Louis organizations. Call 516-5174 or email TheCurrent@jinx.umsl.edu



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The Campus CrimeLine

March 25 - April 5
 Victim, who resides on Evert Street, reported that between March 25 and April 5, she has been receiving harassing and threatening phone calls from her estranged boyfriend.

unknown person(s) stole her 1985 Chrysler Lebaron from Lot W on the South Campus. Victim reported that she left the windows partially opened. The Overland Police Department later recovered the vehicle, two subjects in custody.

the scene of an accident, however, the incident was witnessed by an on-duty UM-St. Louis Police Officer who stopped the perpetrator and charged her accordingly.

apparently backed into her vehicle causing damage to her auto.

April 10 and 11
 Victim reported that his vehicle has been vandalized between the hours of 11 p.m. on April 10 and 7 a.m. on April 11 by an unknown person who had apparently "keyed" the vehicle while parked in the faculty/staff parking area in front of the Tele-Community Building.

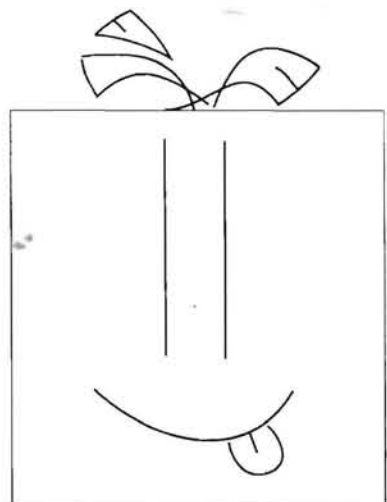
April 5
 Victim reported that on April 5 between 2:30 and 5 p.m., an

Subject involved in a vehicle accident on Lot E attempted to leave

April 10
 Victim reported that she had her vehicle parked by the Villa and upon her return to her vehicle, she discovered that a vehicle had

April 10 and 11
 Victim reported that between April 10 and 11, unknown person(s) vandalized his 1991 Nissan while it was parked on Normandy Trace Drive. The windshield and the windshield wipers are damaged.

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



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Focusing in on Earth Day



CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER
A&E Editor

Earth Day is April 22. This year, there were Earth Day celebrations and activities at the St. Louis Science Center and at Forest Park, among other locations, during the weekend prior to the actual date. One of the events at the World's Fair Pavilion in Forest Park was a project to paint a mural on a Bi-State bus, which will then prowl our city streets adorned with this artwork and the group's logo. The group that painted the bus was a bunch of UM-St. Louis students.

Started over 30 years ago, Earth Day was intended as a day to make people pause and think about the earth's ecology and their impact on it. In recent years, it seems to become less a day for ecology, conservation and citizens concerned about the environment and more a day for parades and face painting for children and festival-like events. Instead of making masks with the children, why not focus on the original intention and learn about how the earth functions and how you can help. Just who might be able to tell us something about the environment?

For starters, ecologists at International Center for Tropical Ecology are able to provide information about the environment. The ICTE was established in 1990 by UM-St. Louis and the Missouri Botanical Garden to promote education and research in tropical ecology and conservation.

"The whole thing about Earth Day is to get people thinking about the environment and lifestyle," said Dr. Patrick Osbourne, executive director of the ICTE. "Lifestyle changes are sometimes easy to make, like recycling, reducing waste and not buying what you really don't need. That's the thing about Earth Day, it's a chance to re-evaluate lifestyle."

Beyond Earth Day, the ICTE is a large and important part of the UM-St. Louis campus. One of the ways the ICTE promotes tropical ecology and conservation is through the recruitment of graduate students from tropical countries to come to UM-St. Louis to study tropical ecology and conservation.

"Our major role is graduate education," Osbourne said. "Working closely with the Missouri Botanical Garden, we provide funding for graduate research, recruit students and sponsor

The International Center for Tropical Ecology has the real Earth Day focus

programs and events that focus on tropical ecology."

The center takes a multidiscipline approach, combining research and information from fields outside of biology, like public policy research, political science, sociology and anthropology. The ICTE works in sustainable development as well as conservation. While most of the research centers on the tropics, some of it is done in temperate environments like Missouri.

"The two are sometimes linked, for example in bird migration," Osbourne said.

Not limited to plant research, the ICTE also works with the St. Louis Zoo in its conservation research and education.

"We have two professors who were endowed by the Des Lee family fund," Osbourne said. "One of them strengthens our link with the Missouri Botanical Garden. The other links us to the St. Louis Zoo."

Two of the most renowned ecologists in the world today are associated with the ICTE. Dr. Peter Raven has received numerous awards recognizing his work at the Missouri Botanical Garden. The other top scientist, Dr. Robert Ricklefs, is the Des Lee professor linked to the Garden here at UM-St. Louis. Recently, Ricklefs was honored with an award from the St. Louis Academy of Sciences at a dinner in

April. Dr. Ricklefs wrote two textbooks on ecology, which are considered standards in the field and are used in many ecology courses, among many other accomplishments. Both Raven and Ricklefs have international recognition in their ecology work.

The Center draws a lot of international students to UM-St. Louis from Central and South America.

"A lot of our graduate students coming through the program now are from the Western Hemisphere, but that is changing," Osbourne said. "We are taking a more global look at the tropics now. Our relationship with the Garden puts us out in the field in those areas where the Garden has a strong presence, such as in Africa, in Madagascar, and also in China and Korea."

Besides the ICTE's tremendous research work, the Center works to educate the community about the ecology and conservation of the tropics. The center sponsors lectures and events throughout the year, as well as offering short courses for students from other disciplines. Recently, Dr. Margaret Crump spoke to a large crowd at the Missouri Botanical Garden, for the annual Jane and Whitney Harris Lecture. Crump's lecture on her work with tropical frogs was both informative and entertaining, aimed at both the general public and biologists. This was only the latest in a series of lectures by internationally noted scholars that the series has brought here to speak on ecological issues and research.

The ICTE also bestows an award recognizing work to benefit the global environment.

"We have this World Ecology Award which we give out, and for which we have a very high standard," Osbourne said. "The recipients are all people who get ten out of ten for their contributions on a global level. Past award winners include Jacques Cousteau and John Denver."

This year, the ICTE will honor Harrison Ford and Conservation International, an organization devoted to global biodiversity conservation, for their work in world ecology. Ford has served on their board for more than 12 years and has also actively participated in it, helping it grow into a leading organization in its field.

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Student art displayed

BY SARA PORTER
Senior Writer

The 6th annual Juried Student Art Show was held in Gallery 210 on April 18. Art students displayed their paintings, photographs, lithographs, sculptures and other art works to be judged.

This year acquired a good selection, 210 Director, Terry Suhre said.

"The artwork is really impressive," Suhre said. "I have seen the students' work improve over time."

Suhre also says that the UM-St. Louis art students are unique themselves.

"I juried an art show at SIU and I think the students here are much more talented and professional."

Before the show, Gallery 210 recruits anyone who is taking a BFA in any art class to participate in the show. Instructors encourage their students to participate, but do not suggest the artwork, Phil Robison, painting instructor said.

"They do their own work outside of class," Robison said.

After the artwork is selected and

completed, the art is then sent to a juror, this year Dan Younger, dean of the fine arts department, to decide what will and will not be entered in the show.

This task is a daunting one, said Suhre's assistant, Pat Johnson, who organized the event.

"One-hundred and fifty pieces of artwork were entered," Johnson said. "The juror narrowed it down to 70."

Art goes were impressed by the variety of art, said Art Education Instructor Luci McMichael.

"I think it's fabulous," McMichael said. "It's a wide variety."

Many of the artists had varied reasons for their sources.

Peter Pranschkie, senior, painting, said that the models for his still life paintings, "Mickeyburger" and "Burger King's CatDog," were bright and colorful.

"'Mickeyburger' is a still life of a Mickey Mouse hand puppet and a happy meal toy," he said. "'CatDog' came from a promotional thing that Burger King had about a year ago

see ART, page 13

2002 Juried Student Art Show winners

First:
Kierstin Michele Torrez-
"Attrition-Soft Side-Heavy Side"

Second:
Peter Pranschkie- "Mickeyburger"

Third:
Betty L. Jehle- "Lilies"

Honorable Mention:
Nicole Robinette- "Untitled"
Judy O' Rourke- "Autumn"
Kate Filla- "Untitled #2"
Eric Gantner- "Untitled"
Peter Pranschkie- "Last Good Drawing of the Semester"
Anne Stewart - "A Hidden Place"
Christina Rudloff- "Untitled"



Mutsumi Igarashi/ The Current

Art students displayed their artwork in the 6th annual Juried Student Art Show held in Gallery 210 on April 18.

Aren't all biology majors created equal?

CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER
A&E Editor

What do you think of when someone mentions the biology department? Slides and microscopes? Preserved specimens in jars? Frogs?

Those things might be part of any biology department, but there is much more to biology at UM-St. Louis. However, unless you are biology major, you are probably unaware how good it is and that it has a world-class reputation for its work in tropical ecology. It is one of the most under-appreciated gems on campus.

Biology is a big subject and the department is generally divided into

three separate sections: ecology and evolution, molecular and cellular and neurobiology. It also has a number of institutes and outreach programs, which are the Center for Neurodynamics, the International Center for Tropical Ecology and the Science in Education program.

Students in the biology study everything from the small, such as DNA and cloning in molecular genetics or the molecular actions in nerve cells, to the large, such as whole ecosystems, sustainable development and conservation. Depending on the focus, biological research can touch the realm of physics or overlap with political science and anthropology.

The biggest section of the biology

department is ecology and systematics. Studies in this area look at the interactions between species and environments, adaptations to change, and evolution. Once again, studies in this area can look at the most global view or take a very limited focus, say on the study of a single species. One of the most important parts of the department is the International Center for Tropical Ecology.

The International Center for Tropical Ecology, or ICTE, is concerned with conservation and research in tropical countries and works in conjunction with the Missouri Botanical Garden and the St. Louis Zoo. The center works to recruit graduate students from tropical countries to train in con-

servation and ecological research and return them to their home countries to work in their field. The center also works toward community education and outreach on tropical ecology. It has a worldwide reputation.

While the largest section is the ecology and evolution, the department is gaining strength for its molecular biology. This is no small feat, considering that the other schools with strong molecular programs, Washington University and St. Louis University, also have medical schools.

"The department made a change in how it recruited faculty about 1995," said Department Chair Dr. Albert Derby, "focusing on researchers with strong credentials and their own fund-

ing." This allowed the department to strengthen the cellular and molecular areas, so that they are fast approaching the ecologists. With the anticipated growth in genetics research, the department has added new lab equipment and remodeled labs.

"The department has its own automated sequencer now," added Derby, "so we no longer need to send DNA samples to another campus to be sequenced, which speeds things up for the researchers here."

The Center for Neurodynamics is a special area of the Biology department. "The center is funded through a grant from the department of defense,

see BIOLOGY, page 13

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Pilot House hosts April movie nights

BY JOAN HENRY

Senior Writer

The Pilot House continues to host movie nights sponsored by the Mannheim Park Social Analysis Consortium and the SGA all this month.

Mannheim Park started showed "The Matrix," starring Keanu Reeves and Laurence Fishbone on March 7. Bruce Lee's "Enter the Dragon" on April 4, and "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon," starring Michelle Yeoh, Zhang Ziyi, Chang Chen and Chow Yun-Fat on April 11. The next movie night is scheduled for April 25 at 6:30 p.m. The movie was unknown at press time.

The President of Mannheim Park Social Travis DeRousse said the Pilot House's 650 watt sound system and strong projection screen will make it a good place to show movies.

"The projection is two times as powerful as the classrooms," DeRousse said. "It's a great venue for what we want to do." Plus refreshments are available.

"The movies we're showing right now are the movies I like," DeRousse said. "[We'll show] just about anything to appeal to a college audience."

However, DeRousse said some movies, such as "Boogie Nights," might not be appropriate, even though this is an adult venue.

see MOVIE, page 9

OPINIONS

OUR OPINION

Where's the brew?

If you're wanting to wet your whistle on a cold beer, you'd better head down to Whalen's or Golden Greeks; UM-St. Louis has pulled the beer from the bar.

On the surface, this isn't really that big of a deal, except for the fact that, in many student's opinion, this was the Pilot House's most endearing quality, and the big question now is...Where's the Brew?

Well, that's a question that no one, at least not on the University's side, can actually answer, at least not without a contradiction or two. And we think that we know why: ego.

After all, who wants to admit a screw-up that could have cost the University money and it's well-developed image.

After some good ol' fashion reporting - and knowing who to listen to and who to filter out - we have zeroed in on the reason for the prohibition.

For starters, we found out that

Pilot House then the beer could flow well into the night. Hell, a group could rent out the House for a week at a time, free of charge, and request as much alcohol as they pleased. But Chartwell's doesn't run the Pilot House, so their license means nothing.

Someone decided that it would be a good idea to sell beer to students, assumed that Chartwell's license would cover them, and opened the taps.

Now, no one will say who made the discovery that this was illegal; that area of the story is in a bigger haze than Half-Baked. But someone, is some board meeting saw that they screwed up, and the results could have been major. Chartwells was in danger of losing their catering license because they sold beer to the University - although some Chartwells employees, who aren't at liberty to speak on behalf of the company - stated that the University was



E. REED '02

Chartwells and Bob Evans do not run the Pilot House; they never did. The student lounge, affectionately referred to by many students as 'The driest bar in St. Louis' is run by the University and Reinhard Schuster, who has delegated the responsibility down to Gloria Schultz in the bookstore, who has delegated it down to someone else, and so forth and so on. Basically this made finding the person in charge of the area impossible.

From what we've found, the University was selling alcohol without a license, simple as that. Any claims that you may have heard from a number of people about a catering license were wrong. Yes, Chartwells does operate a catering license, and if a campus group were to rent out the

basically taking beer out of their cooler and asking for a bill later, after all, it is Blanche Touhill's cooler.

Then the University was selling this ill-gotten brew to students without a license. And it took them almost two weeks to realize that this may have been wrong?

Now, we applaud the school for stopping the activity before it got out of hand; there could have been a lot of heads spinning. But at the same time we are very upset that this was handled so poorly. Because of this mis-management, the very idea of a campus pub may be so tainted with bad spirits that the topic will never again be approached.

When we asked a University official if the Pilot House would again

The issue:

The Pilot House, once billed as a student oasis with games and brews, has delivered on half of that promise; the beer is gone. This has many students calling the area 'The driest bar in St. Louis,' and they are rather upset that the school has bumbled the project.

We suggest:

The project be severely audited and fixed before the start of the fall semester. Enrollment at the school has gone up, and this coming semester the Pilot House will see it's share of customers. The University needs to decide on an image for the Pilot House now; wet or dry.

So what do you think?

Tell us what you think! Drop us a line at the office, 388 MSC or online at: thecurrentonline.com

serve up some brew, he cited the extreme cost of obtaining a liquor license in this area as a probable deterrent.

Well, according to Missouri State Statutes 311.090 and 095 the State does charge for a license, but after a conversation with the Department of Liquor Patrol, the charge for the day-to-day sale of malt beverage, i.e. beer and wine is a whopping \$35 per year. Add to this a Normandy city tax of \$52.50 per year, and an additional county tax - that number was not available at press time, but by law the county cannot charge more than double what the state charges, or no more than \$70 - and you're looking at a \$152.50 tax per year to serve alcohol to thirsty students and staff.

Too expensive? That's a hell of a lot cheaper than the new dartboard in the Pilot House, which I've seen no one use since it's installment. Heck, at \$2 per beer - keeping in mind that the school only pays about 80 cents per beer at most - we're pretty sure that the money could be found somewhere. Heck, most students would gladly front the cash for the University's liquor license; we front the bill for most things around here - and rightfully so, it is our school.

Basically, we're just fairly upset that this issue had to become such a tangly mess for the University, as well as for Chartwells. With some better planning and a better understanding of the law, this project could have been a success.

Now it's just a watered-down draft with no kick.

Mirthday!

In my three years as a student at UM-St. Louis, I've never seen a better Mirthday than last week's. Sure, we didn't have the big name band come in and serenade us away, but we had students - and lots of them.

With the Student Government Association elections, over 600 ballots were cast, which is almost as many as the past two elections combined. In fact, Student Activities almost ran out of ballots; they had not anticipated that students would actually care.

The many student booths were well designed and well manned. With the exceptions of a few Greeks and other prominent student groups, the 140+ organizations were very visible.

University Program Board did a wonderful job with developing a theme - carnival - and booking facilities to boot. I think the rides being offered gratis was a great touch, although they might have been able to see about getting food donated as well. Hey, we're students; we want everything for free. Otherwise, a wonderful job booking the event.

It was nice to see faculty and staff around the area. I ran into Chancellor Touhill in the student center, and we had a brief discussion about life in general. (To Touhill: I hope that scratch on your nose heals quickly; the band-aid was an interesting touch.)

All in all, it was a great event; I personally enjoyed myself.

But, we all know that a Bowman column can never be friendly, so here comes the bad stuff.

During Mirthday, I sent around two or three reporters to cover various aspects of the day. From booth design and creativity, student reaction and the all-important SGA elections, it was quite a news week.

Well, one of my features writers was on the student life beat, going

from booth to booth and talking with the student groups. All in all, she had a good time, and found most booths pretty cooperative. That is, except a certain sorority booth. Now, I won't go into naming who exactly gave my writer the brush (not that it's stopped me before, but the booth was actually being staffed by a conglomerate of sorority girls, and most of them were very receptive). Now, besides the free publicity that *The Current* was basically offering them, why exactly did they choose not to speak with us. Well, I think I know the answer; some student groups here just don't like to be very social. A very interesting phenomenon as most sororities are, by nature, social. The reporter, who is female, was beyond shocked by this turn of events; and, being Greek myself, my mind began to attempt to comprehend why they wouldn't talk. And,

believe me, if I had the column space, I could give a friggin' dissertation on Greek and non-Greek female relations; especially with this certain sorority. Now, I am in no way knocking the group as a whole - although it was the group's president that declined to comment - I am stating that this is a very poor way to promote your organization.

The freedom of speech allows us to speak or not speak whenever we wish, without legal penalty. However, when the University offers to foot the bill for a gala event designed to give your group recognition, the least you could do is act like you enjoy being there. Or do like some other groups did and just don't show up. It would have made the sun shine that much brighter.

Note: the story, written by Sara Porter, can be found in this week's edition of *The Current*. It was very well written, and sans Greek. You had your chance at free publicity; maybe next year.



NICK BOWMAN
Editor-in-Chief

The real champs: The Current staff

One year ago, then editor-in-chief elect, Nick Bowman, approached me after the Midwest College Media Association convention at UM-Columbia. I remember it was just after the awards banquet and Nick Bowman came up to me and asked if I had any interest in running for managing editor for the upcoming year.

I really hadn't thought about running at all. I mean, I was a business major who wrote a story every week. Who would listen to me?

I thought about it for a while, thought it would be fun and got the position.

Everything seemed to come full circle during MCMA held at UM-St. Louis on April 12.

Before the gathering, Nick told us to come because we would be very happy. (Nick was MCMA President, which meant he already knew who the winners of the award banquet would be.)

Now, Nick is usually well meaning, but on occasion he has a tendency to build up things a little too much. I figured this was one of those instances, but it was a given that I would come.

A lot of our staff and former staffers were on hand for the awards banquet. I figured we would win some awards, and there would be free food there for an added bonus.

After having dinner, the award winners for MCMA were announced.

A funny thing happened as they announced the awards. Members of *The Current* kept winning or placing high. Entertainment review, features design, in-depth news story, the list went on and on. I actually won best column, much to my surprise. Former Editor-in-Chief Dave Baugher told me it was a tough category to win because everyone and their mothers submit a column. But the judges liked mine the best.

After calling the individual awards they then announced overall newspaper awards. They announced *The Current* was best in our overall division (which consisted of large schools) and won sweepstakes (for the most individual awards). Then they announced the Best Newspaper in State.

The winner was

The Current. Nick stayed seated and had me accept the award. My reaction was of shock and embarrassment. After all the hard times we've gone through during the year, we were the winners? According to MCMA we were.

I felt funny accepting the award. After all, the staff won the award. Why should one person come up to get the award?

see CHAMPS, page 10



STEVE VALKO
Managing Editor

EDITORIAL BOARD

- NICK BOWMAN
- STEVE VALKO
- ELLIOT REED
- DAN WIEGERT
- KELLI SOLT

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

LETTERS

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E-MAIL
info@thecurrentonline.com

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. Students should also include their student ID number.

What's your opinion?

How do you feel about the topics we've written about?

- Where's the brew?
- The meaning of Mirthday
- Champions

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

- Submit a Letter to the Editor
- Write a Guest Commentary
- Visit the Online Forums at TheCurrentOnline.com

Under Current

by Mutsumi Igarashi
Photography Director

What is the best thing to do in your country during the summertime?



Choi Jung-Hye
Senior / Mass Communications
Korea

"Cold Noodle". It's a very delicious dish!



Guat-Kim Lim
Senior / Psychology
Malaysia

There are no four seasons in my country. It's hot all year. Where I live there are a lot of activities because it's a tourist center.



Makoto Yoshizawa
Graduate / Graduate
Japan

Summer night festival, definitely. Especially, looking up at the fireworks and lying down on the ground.



Marison Bordet & Marie Cheneval
Seniors / English and Business
France

Festivals. They are in every little town. Outside cinema, music and regional cultures.

'Hawks swoop into UMSL

USBL team suffers 111-100 defeat to Kansas Cagerz in home debut

St. Louis Skyhawks Basketball

BY HANK BURNS
Staff Editor

Watching the St. Louis Skyhawks' professional basketball debut left a bittersweet taste in the mouths of fans in the jam-packed Mark Twain Arena, as the 'Hawks suffered a 111-100 defeat to the Kansas Cagerz on Saturday, April 20. Cagerz forward Johnny Jackson, who posted a game-high 12 rebounds [six defensive, six offensive], led all scorers with 24 points in the game.

The game marked the return to St. Louis of former St. Louis University standout and 'Hawks guard Justin Love, who was the first player to sign with the franchise. Love, who was not among the 'Hawks starting five, scored 13 points, had five rebounds and had six assists.

"It was our first game and our first game against live competition and we found out a little bit more about ourselves and things that we need to improve on," Love said. "I guess we just gotta take it one day at a time. This is the first game, but it's an important game and you want to get off to a good start.

"So, we play this team next and we're gonna know what to expect. Defensively, if we get after it and if I quit turning the ball over, I think we'll be in good shape."

The game got off to a quick start in the first quarter with each team alternating two-point shots. The game started to pick up for the Cagerz when guard Darren Kelly hit a two point shot to put the Cagerz up 19-12 with 4:19 on the clock. Minutes later, Cagerz forward Jackson set the tone for the rest of the game, getting a slam-dunk with 2:35 on the clock. That put the Cagerz up 25-14.

Although the game started out quick and the 'Hawks were shutdown early and for most of the game, Cagerz Assistant Coach Loren Miller feels the win was an important one for his team, despite his team's late passivity.

"We started out strong and we faded a little bit at the end," Miller said. "But anytime you can win a game on the road and against a team that's obviously motivated because it's their opening night, opening year, it's good to get a win on the road. I was really impressed with a guy that we have, that's a great rebounder, in Johnny Jackson."

Cagerz forward Devon Brown put his team up 50-30 late in the second quarter, hitting a two-pointer with 3:11 on the clock. The Cagerz, who led 59-37 at the end of the first half, kept a strong lead for most of the second half.

The real struggle for the Cagerz came late in the fourth quarter, when

'Hawks center Chad Prewitt hit a three-point shot with just over 50 seconds in the game, making the score 107-95. Seconds later, Love hit a two-point shot, making the score 107-97. Minutes later, 'Hawks forward Beau Archibald hit a two-point shot, putting the game at 110-99. He then hit a free throw, putting the score at 110-100 with :18 seconds left on the clock. However, Brown hit a free throw with 10 seconds left to secure the Cagerz win.

"Well, it wasn't really good, offensively," 'Hawks Head Coach Lionel Hollins said, of the game. "Down the stretch, we started getting good shots, we started making buckets and we got back into the basketball game. But ultimately, we didn't get enough defensive rebounds in order to win the game.

Hollins felt that the Cagerz played a fast-paced game.

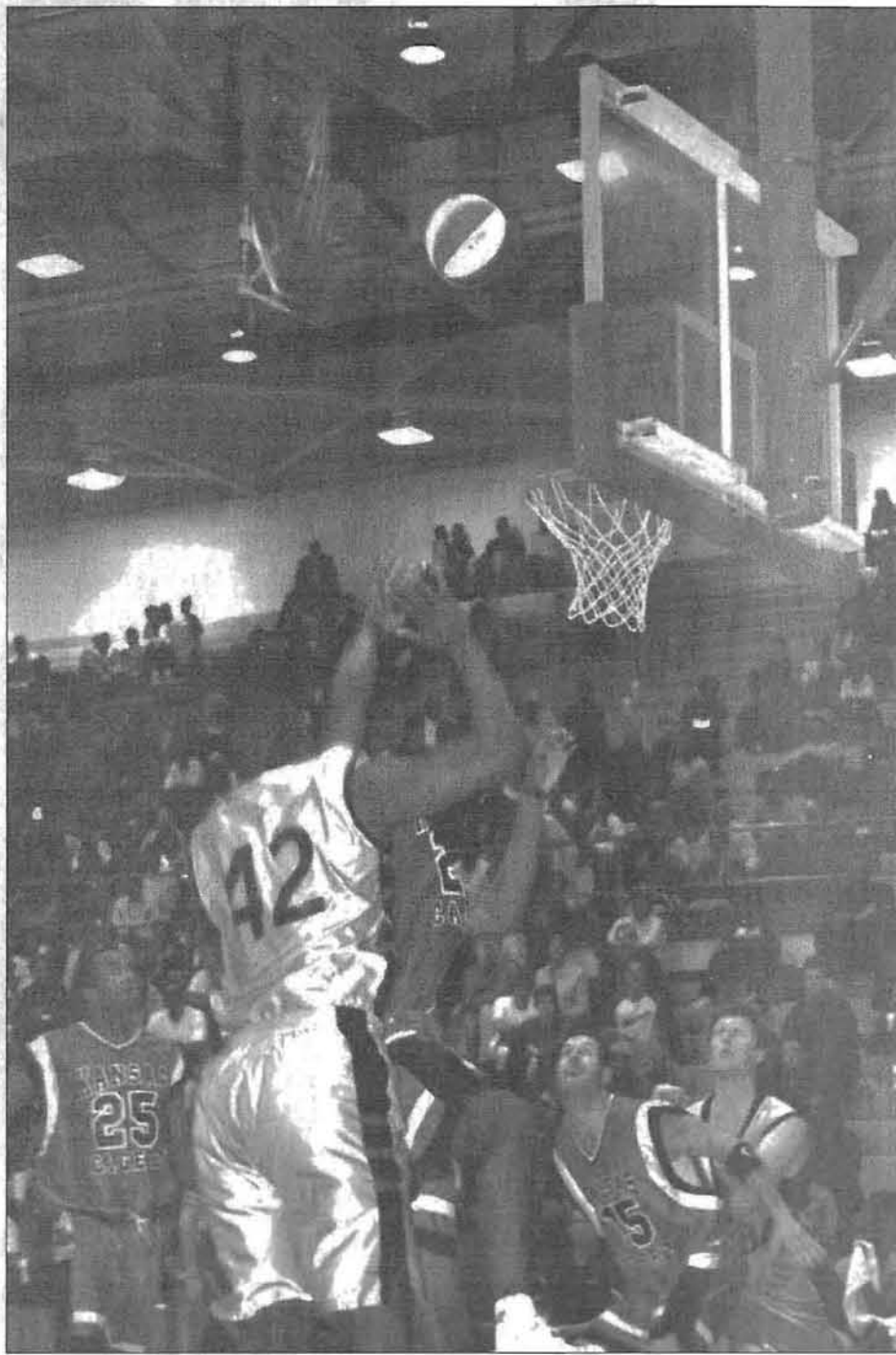
"They were quick. They ran the ball. They got in the passing lane. They got some steals. They played very aggressive for a short team."

Not among the shorter members of that team was 6'7" Jackson, who felt that his team could not keep up with their fast start due to a loss of energy.

"The whole team was kind of fatigued," Jackson said. "This is our first game, our first game in the league, and our first time playing together since training camp, so we played hard and we kind of got fatigued towards the end of the game and we kind of let up and then kind of got back in it."



Lionel Hollins
Head Coach
St. Louis 'Hawks

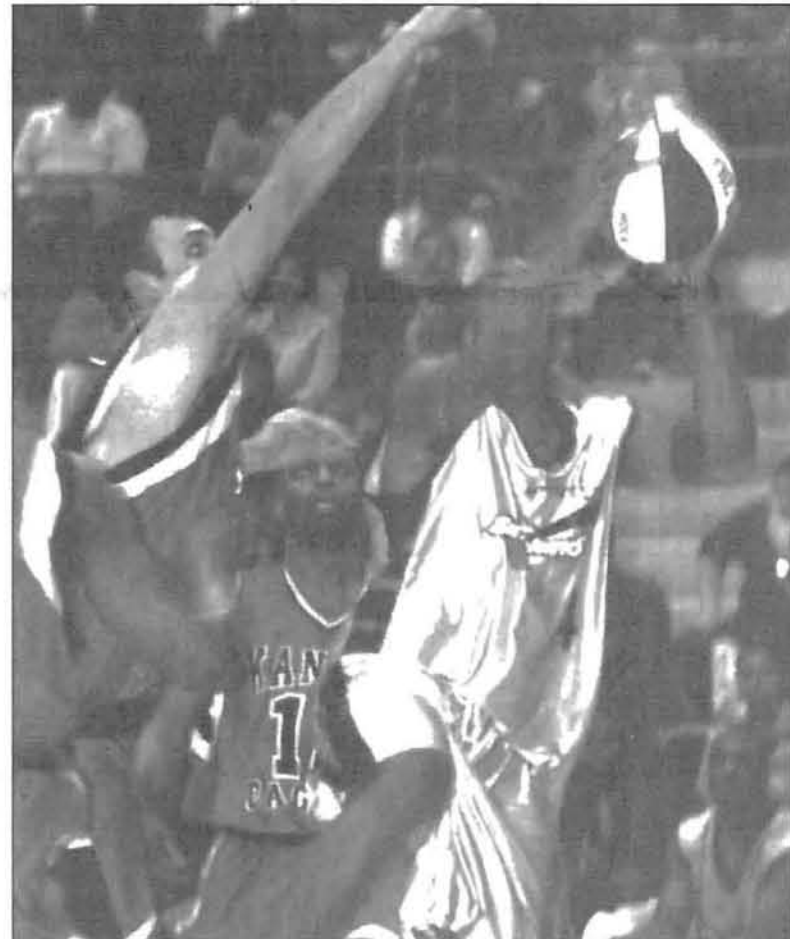
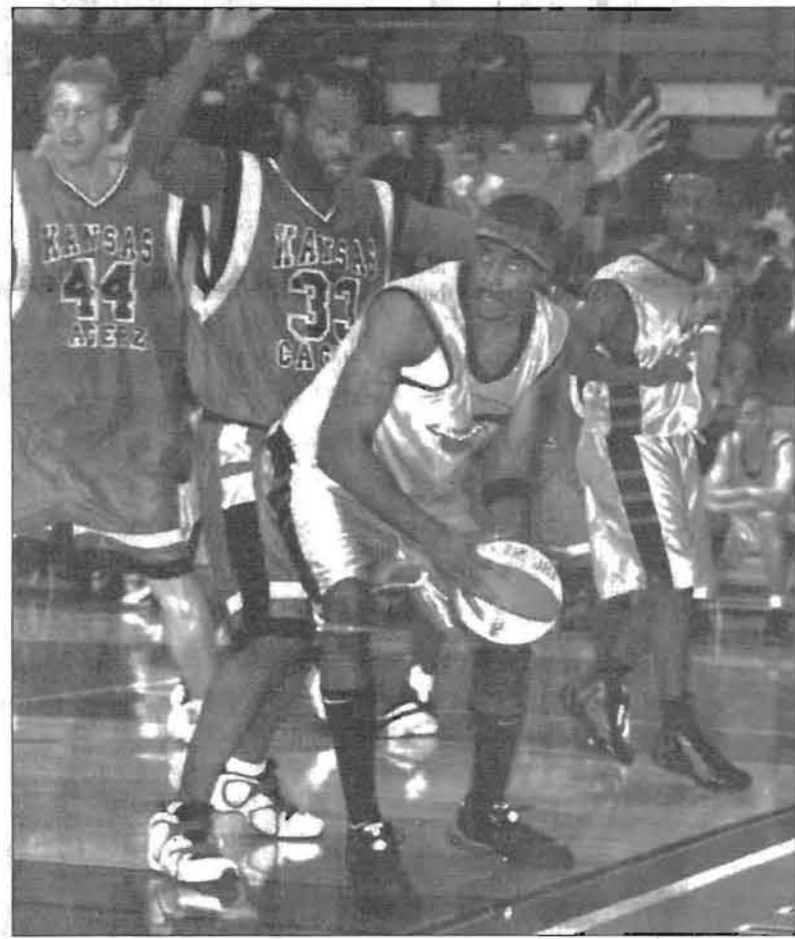


Left: 'Hawks forward Lance Williams defends the net from his Cagerz opponent during their April 20 game.

Bottom Left: 'Hawks forward Jamie Kendrick looks around for an open man as Cagerz forward Gary Williams guards him.

Bottom Right: 'Hawks guard Ben Walker, a member of the starting five in the game, goes for the layup amid a crowd of Cagerz.

Photos by Kevin Ottey/The Current



SPORTS SHORTS



Despite this SIUE player's diving attempt, Bryan Weiss [center] is safe at third to the delight of Coach Jim Brady [left]. The Rivermen suffered a 5-3 defeat in the April 18 battle.

Kevin Ottey/The Current

UM-St. Louis Rivermen Baseball

The UM-St. Louis baseball team got good pitching in game one and clutch hitting in game two, sweeping a doubleheader from Bellarmine. The Rivermen won game one 4-1 and then took the second game 4-2.

In the opener, UM-St. Louis got on the board in the first as Jim Reiter scored on an RBI single by Aaron Walther. Jason Barron extended the UM-St. Louis lead with a solo home run to lead off the fourth inning and give UM-St. Louis a 4-0 lead. Bellarmine would break up the shutout with a single run in the last inning for the 4-1 UM-St. Louis victory.

UM-St. Louis Riverwomen Softball

UM-St. Louis softball team swept conference opponent Quincy University Tuesday night 3-2, 6-1. This puts the Riverwomen to 27-18 overall and 8-7 in conference play. UM-St. Louis will play their last home game of the season Wednesday, April 24 when they host non-conference McKendree.

Quincy scored the first run of the game with a RBI double from Lauren Schenks in the top of the second inning. The Riverwomen added to the lead after Christine Langenbacher advanced home on a passed ball in the bottom of the third.

Visit umsl.edu/services/athletics for more.

Skyhawks might soar to winning season



THE ABCs OF SPORTS
HANK BURNS

Although they suffered a 111-100 loss to the Kansas Cagerz on Saturday, April 20, the St. Louis Skyhawks showed much promise. Both offensively and defensively, there were many failings, but the 'Hawks did put up some big numbers overall.

Below is a look at the debut performances of some of those players who will make massive contributions to the 2002 'Hawks.

Forward/Center Chad Prewitt

Prewitt scored big in his professional debut on Saturday, hitting eight of 13 field goals for 19 total points in over 25 minutes of play. Prewitt, voted as the NCAA Pacific 10 confer-

ence's most underrated player by basketball writers, is ranked number 18 on Arizona State University's all-time leading scorers.

Prewitt will take his experience and his acclaim as a constant scoring threat and hopefully use it to his advantage during the 29 games left in the 2002 season.

Forward Corey Jenkins

Jenkins put on quite a show against the Cagerz, scoring 15 points in his 22 minutes of play. Jenkins was 4-6, netting a team-leading nine points in the first half. Jenkins is now in his third season as a pro basketball player, after playing four years at Northern Iowa. Jenkins should be able to consis-

tently ignite the 'Hawks offense. As mentioned earlier, he played a pivotal role in the first half and in the beginning minutes of the game.

Guard Justin Love

In his return home, Love scored 13 points and had 6 total rebounds in a solid 31 minutes of play. After a weak first half in which he scored only four points and had one assist, Love came back to score nine points and had one 4 assists.

This year, Love should serve as a complete player for the 'Hawks, whether he is in the starting five or not. If he is not, that would be a mistake.

Guard Derek Robinson

Robinson put up some great all-

around numbers for the 'Hawks, scoring a respectable six points, and chiming in with five rebounds and five assists. Robinson, who played at Western Kentucky from '99-'02, is in his rookie year with the 'Hawks.

Guard Albert Mouring

Mouring began his second pro year with a bang on Saturday, scoring 10 points and picking up two steals in 28 minutes of play. His numbers should inflate dramatically this year.

Hopefully the Hawks can take the momentum that ignited their late comeback versus Kansas and use it to win at least 20 of their final 29 games. Here's to hoping for the best.

SPORTS

EDITOR

HANK BURNS
Sports Editor

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COMING UP

Baseball

April 23
3 p.m. @ Lincoln in
Jefferson City, Mo.

24
2:30 p.m. vs. Southern
Indiana in St. Louis

27
Noon vs. UW-Parkside
[DH] in St. Louis

28
Noon vs. UW-Parkside
in St. Louis

May 1
Noon @ Quincy [DH]
in Quincy, Ill.

Softball

April 24
3 p.m. vs. McKendree
[DH] in St. Louis

27
1 p.m. @ UW-Parkside
(DH) in Kenosha, Wis.

28
Noon @ Lewis [DH] in
Romeoville, Ill.

Tennis Update

UMSL Rivermen Finish Second in GLVC Tennis Tournament

The UM-St. Louis men's tennis team fell to Southern Indiana in the GLVC Championship match, losing 5-2 for a second place conference finish. It was the highest finish for UM-St. Louis since joining the GLVC and it was the fourth straight title for the Screaming Eagles.

The Rivermen are now 17-4 on the season and will now wait for the NCAA Regional pairings to see if UM-St. Louis can secure the school's first ever bid to the NCAA Tournament. UM-St. Louis was ranked sixth in the Great Lakes Region in the latest polls.

WEB

www.umsl.edu/services/athletics
for the latest sports news and information

Lit lights up Pops

BY MATT SCHORR
Special to The Current

Lit has been touring across the country to hype their latest album, "Atomic," and Saturday, April 20, they performed at Pops Saloon and Music in Sauget, Ill. Allen Shellenberger kept the rapid pace on the drums. Kevin Baldes kept the atmosphere pumped with the bass guitar. Jeremy Popoff electrified everyone with his guitar playing, and his brother, Vocalist A. Jay Popoff, had everyone singing along.

However, the surprise of the night was a newer band called Handsome Devil, who opened up for Lit just after a local band called Childish Audio wrapped up. While Lit definitely rocked the entire place, Handsome Devil was primarily responsible for really pumping the audience up for Lit's eminent arrival. In fact, Handsome Devil pumped everyone up so much with songs as "Samurai," "Barbecue," "Bring It On" and several others, that it almost seemed that Lit might not be able to keep the hype going.

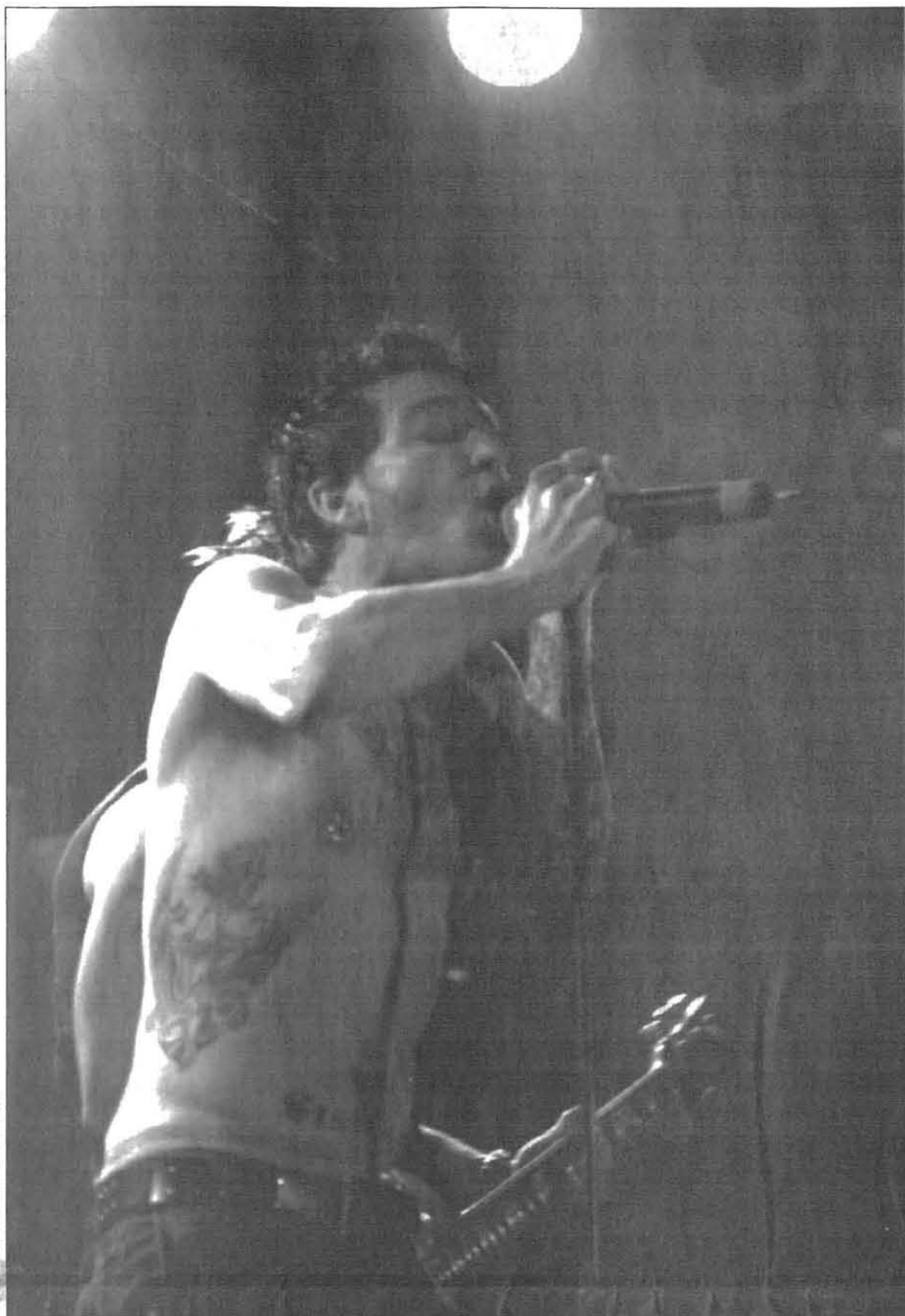
Lit leapt onto the stage and started the show at 90 mph. The pace never stopped once, with the only exception being when A. Jay and Jeremy performed their ballad "Happy In the Meantime" alone without any drums, bass, or guitar distortion. Lit ran through almost every song on their "Atomic" album along with a few hits

from their last album including "Completely Miserable."

But, Handsome Devil stole the show yet again, as the highlight of the evening was when Handsome Devil's guitar player/vocalist, Danny Walker, joined Lit to play "Over My Head." Before the song, A. Jay told everyone that the members of Lit and Handsome Devil were, in fact, good friends and were very happy to be touring together. Jeremy Popoff and Danny Walker took the spotlight during the song's solo, and even A. Jay bowed to show his respect for the two guitar players. Lit finally ended the performance with their biggest hit, "My Own Worst Enemy."

On a funny note, neither band was very sure what was the name of the town they were in. Neither Lit nor Handsome Devil was sure whether the name was "Saw-Get" or "Sau-shay." In the end, they both gave up and asked the crowd if it was cool just to say they were in St. Louis, to which the crowd roared in approval. After all, who wants to admit they're from a town that Lit and Handsome Devil couldn't pronounce?

Overall, this was a great concert, but it wasn't just Lit's concert with Handsome Devil opening for them. This was Lit and Handsome Devil's concert all the way, and kudos goes to Lit for letting the guys of Handsome Devil share the limelight with them. It was obvious to everyone that they were all having a great time just like the crowd.



Photos by Mike Sherwin/The Current



Lead Vocalist A. Jay Popoff (left) and Guitarist Jeremy Popoff of Lit performed Saturday at Pop's in Sauget, Ill.

EDITOR

CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER
A&E Editor

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A&E Campus Calendar

EVENTS

April

29

The University Singers & Chorale will perform a concert at 7:30 p.m. in the Provincial House Chapel. The concert is free and open to the public. For more information please contact 516-6607.

May

7

The University Chorus will perform a concert at 7:30 p.m. in the Provincial Chapel. The concert is free and open to the public. For more information please call 516-6685.

8

The Chinese Folk Dance Company will perform a concert at 8 p.m. in the JCPenney Auditorium. The Concert is part of the Center for International Studies' Performing Arts Series. Tickets are \$7 for students, \$11 for seniors and \$15 for adults. For more information call the box office at 516-7299.

DANCE REVIEW

'Jewels' is a real gem

BY SARA PORTER
Senior Writer

Color experts believe that certain colors can create certain emotions. For example, blue would instantly give an air of serenity and tranquility. Gray might be reminiscent of gloom and sadness. Besides colors themselves, many things associated with color give off such emotions, in this case, jewels. In the Miami City Ballet's production of "Jewels," jewelry not only gives emotions but also dances.

"Jewels" tells three diverse stories that share the link of using a specific jewel and color to represent them. Each one tells a small romantic story featuring four couples in romantic dances. While none of these vignettes tells a major plot, the characters shine in their romantic dance duets. The jewels are used ultimately as a symbol for the dancers themselves and the moods that they convey.

The first segment, "Emeralds," features the music of Gabriel Faure's "Pelleas et Melisande and Shylock," uses the color green to

reveal the elegance and sophistication of France during the time of courtly love. A chorus line of dancers moved about in green gowns, almost reminiscent of the dancing flowers in "Fantasia." Two couples shone in this segment, particularly the females.

The two ballerinas contrasted as an older one moved to slow romantic music, while a younger ballerina moved to faster more upbeat music. The two men played a supporting role in the segment, as if to show the supporting role that men often played in courtly love as young romantics who would die for their intendeds. And as if to show the often



unhappiness found in courtly love stories, the women dance out of the men's arms in the end, instead of locked in an embrace.

The second segment, a more lighthearted affair as well as a favorite of the audiences, as well as mine was "Rubies," set to the music of Igor Stravinski's "Capriccio for Piano and Orchestra." In this case, rubies signified heat, passion and energy and these qualities were exhibited in a couple that alternated between seducing each other and playing hard to get. The story was set

in America in the 1920s and paid more tribute to a jazzy style of dancing than a classic style.

The ballerinas danced around in an excited manner as though they were on fire. The couple in particular stood out in their solo as the male dancer chased after the female in a game of hide and seek, until he finally caught her.

The final segment, "Diamonds," utilized the music of Peter Tchiakovsky's "Symphony No 3. in D Major." Diamonds and the color white signify romance, ice and grandness. It was a grander, stately affair almost reminiscent of a fairy tale set in Imperial Russia. The music moved in a slower scale than the previous two, giving a grand story.

The dancers also did a fine job, particularly the lead ballerina. Her graceful movements with her partner were like a fairy or a snow queen, especially when the male dancer held onto her.

"Jewels" gives a lovely performance of colors coming to life to tell a story. It reveals the beauty in such objects.

MOVIE REVIEW

Sexy coming-of-age tale fills 'Y Tu Mama'

CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER
A&E Editor

"Y Tu Mama Tambien" means "and your mama too." This phrase, sounding like a teenage taunt, sets the tone for this Spanish-language Mexican film. It is a sometimes comic, sometimes poignant story of two affluent teenage boys, a slightly older woman and a road trip searching for the perfect beach. The journey is more than a trip to the beach.

This film is entertaining but more than just entertainment. Although the film is set in Mexico, the boys are much like teens here. Their concerns are the same-girls, sex, friendships, sex, testing limits, cars, sex, worries

about grades and getting into college, being harassed by parents, sex-although the filmmaker periodical reminds us we are not in the U.S. as we get glimpses into the Mexican society. The film is a deep and well-rounded work-funny, moving, insightful, disturbing, unexpected and beautiful by turns. Since this is a story about two seventeen-year-old males, the film deals with what's upmost in their minds-sex-but the frankness of the raw bedroom romps sometimes makes it seem like two different movies. It is on the far side of an R rating; in another time, it would be surely have been rated X.

Two best friends go to the same high school and have the comforts of

a life of privilege but come from somewhat different backgrounds. Tenoch (Diego Luna) is the son of a government official: His family has servants and move in the most exclusive circles. His friend Julio's (Gael Garcia Bernal) family is less affluent, with a less aristocratic background, but this makes no difference to them-they are the best of friends. After they say goodbye to their girlfriends for the summer-the girls are going to Italy for the season-they concentrate on plans for summer fun. They soon have a new distraction: the beautiful Spanish wife of a cousin, whom they meet at a wedding. Luisa (Maribel Verdu), this gorgeous 24-year-old foreigner wants to go to a beach, and

so they tell her about a beautiful, secluded cove called "Heaven's Mouth" and promise to take her there. Now they have to find a beach that fits the description.

An excellent voiceover narrative adds a biting commentary, through which the darker side of reality intrudes and undercuts the comic premise, balancing the self-absorbed and lighter focus of the teens. The comfortable lives of this trio are contrasted against the background of poverty that surrounds them; a contrast that sharpens as they move further into rural Mexico. We see life through each teen's eyes, through the

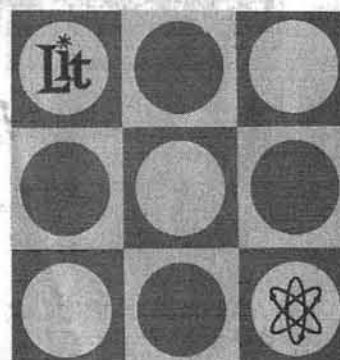
see MAMA, page 7

CD REVIEW

'Atomic' doesn't blow

BY MATT SCHORR
Special to The Current

Lit's newest album, "Atomic" proves that rock doesn't have to be God-awfully depressing. In a time where so many bands seem to be writing songs about how terrible their parents were or how the entire world is a crock, Lit brightens things up just a little bit.



"Something to Someone" tells about wanting to feel important in life somehow, not just another face in the crowd. "Addicted" tells the story of a young man who can't seem to get out of a relationship with his selfish girlfriend despite how badly she treats him. "Sunny Weather" talks about just being dumped by a girl, but just enjoying life anyway.

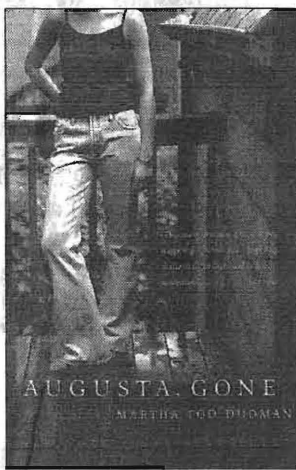
Sure, Lit isn't Led Zeppelin or pre-sellout Metallica, but there songs are great listening nonetheless. Even though "Lipstick and Bruises" is the song the album advertises on its plastic cover, "Addicted" really seems to be the best song. Of course, the listener may need to have been in a recent bad relationship to really appreciate it, but the song is still good.

"Atomic" may not rock the roof off the house, but it's still a real breath of fresh air for the rock scene today.

BOOK REVIEW

'Augusta,' a moving story stopped by its own writing

BY SARA PORTER Senior Writer



One of my former creative writing instructors had a habit of referring to any writing that he thought was too flowery and long-winded as "purple prose."

"Purple prose," he would say, "is describing someone falling to the ground as 'he fell as all of his dreams and hopes died' instead of just saying 'he fell down with a thud.'"

At first I did not understand what he meant, but after reading Martha Tod Dudman's book "Augusta, Gone" I understand completely.

That is not to say, that "Augusta" is a bad book, far from it. It is a genuinely moving story about a concerned mother and her daughter. The only trouble is it falls through on such poetic writing that I was not sure if Dudman was simply telling her story or publishing a sonnet.

Dudman tells the story of her teenage daughter Augusta, when the girl started taking drugs, partying and running wild. Dudman, writes that she tries all of the different parenting tech-

niques: tough love, acceptance, denial, until she sent Augusta away to a Wilderness Treatment Center.

"Augusta" could be a good story, if it were told in a more concrete, believable way. Both Dudman and Augusta are rather believable, no matter how regrettable. Dudman comes across as a mother concerned with her daughter's behavior, but also determined to help her. While Augusta's transformation from a sweet little girl at the beginning to a wild rebel may seem abrupt to

some readers, it shows how Dudman herself was ill-prepared for her daughter's misbehavior.

Dudman's narration, which comes across as confusing but then stretches itself almost to parody, work well. It is not good if you are trying to write a dramatic book but your readers are laughing at the way you write. I don't know about you, but there are only so many times that I can read lines like, "Sending my daughter away. Will it even work? What else is there? It's the same thing over and over. The same road. The same shovel," without scratching my head or laughing aloud.

Other characters also don't fare so well, such as Dudman's son, ex-husband and Augusta's best friend. They come in like stereotypes and really don't contribute much to the story, apart from discouraging or encouraging Dudman and Augusta. This is clearly a mother-daughter book.

"Augusta, Gone" has the makings of a good book that could tell a wonderful story about a mother's love for her daughter. The reader just has to look under the piles of metaphors, similes and overtly poetic prose to find it.

GALLERY REVIEW

Gallery Visio, small but mighty

CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER A&E Editor

The newly opened Gallery VISIO next to the Pilot House in the Millennium Student Center is not a large venue. But this little jewel makes good use of its small space.

The gallery is a student-run exhibition space that offers art students a chance to display their work in a professional gallery. This is a first look at the first exhibit, which is titled, simply enough, "First Look: A Student Exhibition." The exhibit will run through May 16.

While I expected the gallery to need some time to get on its feet, and I did

not have high expectations for a first show, I was very pleasantly surprised. These are impressive pieces of art.

One enters the single room gallery from a corner doorway and immediately confronts Peter Praszke's large acrylic on paper work entitled "Captain America." The darkly colorful painting is a lively hint of other gems to come.

Moving around the wall facing the doorway reveals treasures within. The exhibit ranges from paintings and pastels to mixed media to photographic works. The nice variety of the works makes it easy to stroll through the gallery without being overwhelmed by a predominant color or medium. The placement of the works in relationship to each other is also very appealing.

The mixture of textured and color-filled works like "Hartford Fruit," a lovely relief print by Heather Corley, is nicely set off beautiful black and white silver gelatin photographic prints, like "Coming Home" by Matt George. A number of the works showed quite a bit of whimsy, as was the case with Praszke's "Discreet with Twice The Power," a waterless lithography piece.

Other works that particularly caught my eye were "Totem Screen," a red and white waterless lithographic work by Abril Borrego, and "Free Fall," a somewhat surreal digital photograph by Jami McNall.

The variety of works on display is very pleasing. A trip to Gallery VISIO is in order for a refreshing visual treat.

MAMA, from page 6

young Spaniard's view and catch glimpses into the lives of those they pass along the way.

The road trip mirrors the coming-of-age path of the teens and the journey of self-discovery of the Spanish woman. Like any trip of discovery, you never know what is around the next bend, but director Alfonso Cuarón is always

firmly in control of the vision he reveals.

The film has fine acting from its cast. Gael García Bernal, previously seen in the "Pulp Fiction"-like hit "Amores Perros," and Diego Luna, previously seen in critically acclaimed "Before Night Falls," are close friends off-screen, which adds a dimension of

realism to their relationship.

Sexual scenes are not typical of American films, but much of the rest of the film is a more familiar and accessible style. The themes are very universal. "Y Tu Mama Tambien" is beautifully compelling. It is a powerful and worthy film, well worthwhile for the serious film fan.

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Spring Fever Part Three



MICAH ISSITT
Science Columnist

Certain facial features are universally preferred to alternative facial designs. These include, for women, large eyes and thick lips, and for men, a pronounced jaw and brow. For both sexes research has determined that people prefer smooth skin, healthy hair and overall facial symmetry. A cursory examination of the history of artwork can give one a clue to the universal appeal of these features.

Today, supermodels, actors and actresses often display these features in stark proportions. The growing popularity of collagen lip and chin injections, and the lasting success of the cosmetics industry testify to our common aesthetic tastes. Scientists are attempting to understand why people display such similarity in taste.

The flowers, flitting insects, green- ing trees and subtle breezes of spring have been described as the birthplace of beauty. Perhaps this is because spring is so intimately linked to our instincts for mating, and mating is likewise linked with the mysterious phenomenon of attraction.

In many ways, attraction is dependent on the appreciation of physical beauty. Beauty, it is said, "is in the eye of the beholder," meaning that it is a highly subjective phenomenon. In many ways this is true. The longer we know a person and the more we become familiar with their personality, the more beautiful they may seem to us. Likewise as our feelings develop for someone we may come to see what we call "inner beauty," which refers to the beauty of someone's personality. There is, however, a type of beauty that is purely physical—the type of beauty that we see in a person we have never met. When it comes to this type of physical beauty, scientists believe that most beholders are looking through a common set of eyes.

Scientists and anthropologists have examined the mating preferences of cultures all over the world in an attempt to discover how people develop their "aesthetic standards," or in other words to find out why people think certain things are beautiful and other things are not.

Researchers have found that while every culture has certain unique aesthetic tastes, people across cultures show some remarkable similarities in the types of bodily features they find beautiful. These cross-cultural similarities have led scientists to form some interesting theories about the universal human idea of beauty.

lips lose moisture and reduce in size and the skin around the eyes changes, making them appear smaller.

In males, hormones responsible for making certain bones protrude are also responsible for the development of physical strength and the maintenance of the male reproductive system. Males with these features have been found to produce healthier, stronger sperm that are more likely to lead to healthy offspring.

During the course of our lives, our aesthetic sense changes and develops as our experiences teach us to consider particular things attractive. Each culture has its own peculiarities and there are also historical trends. In seventeenth century Europe and China, for instance, having a double chin was considered attractive.

Much of the universal component to our aesthetic sense, however, is not learned but rather is instinctually and biologically developed. Scientists have found that these preferences develop very early in life.

Some studies have shown that newborn babies spend more time looking at faces that adults found attractive than at faces judged "unattractive." These babies looked for the longest time at faces with large eyes, smooth skin and overall facial symmetry.

It is important to remember that our instincts help to define us but they do not control us. We may instinctively judge a person with smooth skin to be more attractive than a person with acne, or with a lazy eye, but that does not provide us with an excuse for prejudice or "aestheticism."

This research is fascinating and illuminating for the human condition, but it does not encompass the totality of our aesthetic sensibilities. For instance, the extreme thinness of many supermodels is not a sign of health or fertility. On the contrary, low weight can lead to reduced fertility. Clearly, some aspects of what is considered "attractive" do not have biological significance.

In the words of David Hume, "beauty in things exists in the mind which contemplates them."

'...our aesthetic tastes have evolved to help us judge a potential partner's fertility.'

Scientists have found that the features most often considered beautiful are highly correlated with the physical health of the bearer. In addition some studies have shown that people possessing "beautiful" features have higher fertility rates than people lacking one or more of these features.

Evolutionary biologists believe that our aesthetic tastes have evolved to help us judge a potential partner's fertility. Looking at a person's face we feel an instinctual attraction to features that give reliable information about that person's ability to produce healthy offspring.

We are not the only species that displays this type of evaluation. Many female birds choose males who possess brightly colored or shiny plumage. Scientists have found that the quality of a male's plumage is a positive indicator of good health and high fertility.

In human females large lips and large eyes are positively correlated with high levels of female hormones. The appearance of these features peaks in the early twenties when a woman's fertility also peaks. As a female ages, her

EARTH DAY, from page 3

Both Ford and Conservation International will be presented with the World Ecology Award at a gala, black-tie, fund-raising dinner at the Botanical Garden on May 9.

The ICTE also sponsors World Ecology Day, an annual symposium for college students, high school students and the general public, which brings prominent ecologists and policy-makers together to hear talks and participate in discussions on an environmental topic. Another

symposium held in October, the Conservation Forum, brings conservation organizations together with the general public to describe their activities in conservation, focusing on both global and local issues.

There are several ways to find out what is going on at the ICTE or to learn more about ecology. More information about this part of the UM-St. Louis campus can be found at its website, under the biology

department website at www.umsl.edu/biology/icte. The ICTE website has links to the Missouri Botanical Garden, the St. Louis Zoo and many other organizations working for conservation, including academic and general interest sites. The center also sponsors smaller seminars. Information about many other events they sponsor are available on bulletin boards near the biology department and through the Center's listserv.

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St. Louis Opera Theatre comes to UM-St. Louis

BY SARA PORTER
Senior Writer

Some people think of opera as boring. Others may enjoy the stories that operas present, but have a hard time getting past the language barrier or the singing.

The Opera Theatre of St. Louis and the music department of UM-St. Louis is hosting a class-concert trip for people who fit into the above categories. The continuing education opera class is in conjunction with the Opera Theatre's season, says Alison Felton, education coordinator of the Opera House.

"This class is a combination of music history and a behind the scenes [look]," Felton said. "The audience will hear from people who are putting together the operas."

The classes are held from 7 to 9 p.m., on Thursday nights, from April 18 to May 23, in room 205 of the Music Building. Each class will focus on one of the four operas that are being performed by the Opera Theatre. The four operas being performed are Mozart's "The Magic Flute," Gaetano Donizetti's "Lucia Di Lammermoor," "Hamlet" and a new opera called "The Loss of Eden" about the life of Charles and Anne Morrow Lindbergh.

Each class will be taught by a person involved in the operatic field, Felton said, such as "Eden's" composer and librettist, Cary John Franklin and Michael Albano, KFUP, opera host Tom Sudholt, the Opera Theatre's artistic director Colin Graham, and costume manager, Pat Scyller. The first night was taught by music professor, Michael Budds of the University of Missouri-Columbia and dealt with the history of opera itself and background information on "Lucia Di Lammermoor." Budds describes opera, which began in Italy in 1600, as the "perfect marriage between, poetry, music and drama."

"It's no coincidence that many of the first librettists were poets," Budds said.

"Lucia," a Gothic opera which tells the story of a young woman who falls in love with a man over

her brother's objections, carries many of the qualities that most Gothic novels including the mad heroine, the creepy castles and lovers who died. The death of the lead female character in opera is a representative of the time in which most operas were written.

"All of the lead characters are women and that never happened before, but this was a woman, who the time period dictated had to die," Budds said. "Carmen has to die, La Traviatta has to die and Lucia has to die."

"These women go outside of society's standards at the time, so their composers gave them tragic deaths," Budds said. "Quite often these tragic operas were vehicles for the prima donna," Budds said.

The opera class began six years ago and has continued periodically throughout the years. Fans of opera and UM-St. Louis students alike received it.

"The class is small, and they give you a good background that makes the show enjoyable," said Neil Boudreaux, a retired General American worker who took the class for the first time five years ago. Boudreaux's wife, Jaime, a medical researcher at Washington University, enjoys the instructors. "Colin Graham was wonderful when he spoke," she said. "There was also a vocal instructor, Phyllis Panschekle, who showed us different arias performed by the same singer, once when she was in her prime and then when she was past it."

"The class gives you a rich background and helps you look for things," she said. Paul Goss, an UM-St. Louis senior and music education major, is also taking opera because he enjoys it, but also for a class.

The students and the instructors believe that a person doesn't have to be an opera expert, just to appreciate the music.

"The only requirement is you go in and enjoy it," Boudreaux said. Registration is still open for the class. For more information call the College of Continuing Education and Outreach at 516-5974.

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Kevin Ottley/The Current

St. Louis Skyhawks mascot, Swoop, entertains the crowd during a break in the game.

USBL @ UMSL

Pro basketball debuts at Mark Twain

BY HANK BURNS
Sports Editor

Professional basketball returned to St. Louis and debuted at UM-St. Louis on Saturday, April 21 as the St. Louis Skyhawks of the United States Basketball League took on the Kansas Cagerz in the Mark Twain Arena.

Among the familiar names on the 2003 'Hawks roster is Justin Love, a former St. Louis University star, who is beginning his third year in professional basketball.

"It feels good to be back home and around friends and people who haven't seen me before, so it's good to get in front of a home crowd," Love said. "But, it's kind of hard when you disappoint them with the kind of performance that we had today. I wish we could've won."

The 'Hawks will have many more chances to win this season, including 14 more of their home games at the Mark Twain Arena. Tickets range from a \$5 student admission to \$55 owners row seats. Average 'Hawks tickets sell for less than \$12. The team will play 30 total games this season.

UM-St. Louis Athletic Director

Pat Dolan is delighted to have the University play host to the 'Hawks.

"The whole operation, as a university, we're very pleased that we can provide a venue for this team to play

of people will get used to coming to UMSL to see basketball and maybe there will be some overlapping effect where they'll want to come back and see UMSL basketball."

locally operated Home Shopping Network, the Roberts' Building on Kingshighway and many other real-estate developments. The company also owns Roberts' Aviation and a local wireless communications company. Roberts said that the team owners have respect for UM-St. Louis.

"We think that UMSL is probably the best urban large college in the United States and to be able to have this particular venue is just very fortunate," Roberts said. "It's a great size. It's a great location."

He also said that he wants the team to have UM-St. Louis as its home for more than just this year.

"We've had so much cooperation with everybody here that we think it'll be helpful," Roberts said. "Our ability to contribute back to the University of Missouri System, by being attentive and bringing in people and bringing awareness to the campus, is something we're very proud to be a part of. It is our plan to make this a permanent institution here in St. Louis and that this hopefully will be our home."

For more information on the St. Louis Skyhawks, visit www.stlskyhawks.com.

WHAT'S UP WITH THE St. Louis Skyhawks?

'Hawks 2002 Schedule

- 7 p.m. • Sat., April 27 @ Kansas
- 7 p.m. • Thur., May 2 vs. Dodge City
- 7:05 • Fri., May 3 @ St. Joseph
- 7 p.m. • Sat., May 4 vs. Florida
- 3 p.m. • Sun., May 5 vs. Oklahoma
- 7:30 p.m. • Tue., May 7 @ Dodge City
- 6 p.m. • Thur., May 9 @ Brevard County
- 6:35 p.m. • Sat., May 11 @ Florida
- 6 p.m. • Mon., May 13 @ Brooklyn
- 3 p.m. • Sun., May 12 @ Pennsylvania
- 6 p.m. • Wed., May 15 @ Adirondack
- 7 p.m. • Thur., May 16 vs. St. Joseph



Justin Love
Guard
St. Louis 'Hawks

For a complete schedule, visit www.stlskyhawks.com

and for the community to come and watch the team play," Dolan said.

"So, it's a community outreach and we're hoping, maybe, that a number

Among the owners of the team is Roberts Broadcasting Company's Chief Executive Officer Michael Roberts. Roberts' company owns the

MOVIE, from page 3

DeRousse added that Graduate Student and SGA Representative Krystal Reed helped him decide what movies to show, but he will take suggestions.

"Thursday evenings were good for Mannheim Park's movie night," DeRousse said, "because most students don't schedule classes on Friday, and the movie night could start their three day weekend."

The Mannheim Park Social Analysis Consortium is an organization founded by students in the sociology department. The group tries to show that no science exists by itself and how sociology acts a bridge between them through forums.

"We hold a lot of forums on social issues," DeRousse said. Past forums covered the economic effects of McGwire's and Sosa's homerun race and the right to carry in Proposition B.

Upcoming Movies

April 27

- The Fast and the Furious
- American Pie 2

According to the Mannheim Park pamphlet, the organization was partially named after Karl Mannheim, who believed that knowledge was not isolated and that all thinking is influenced by prior experiences.

The free movie night is a way to get more students to participate in Mannheim Park.

"We need to get the name out," DeRousse said. It'll be a lot of fun."

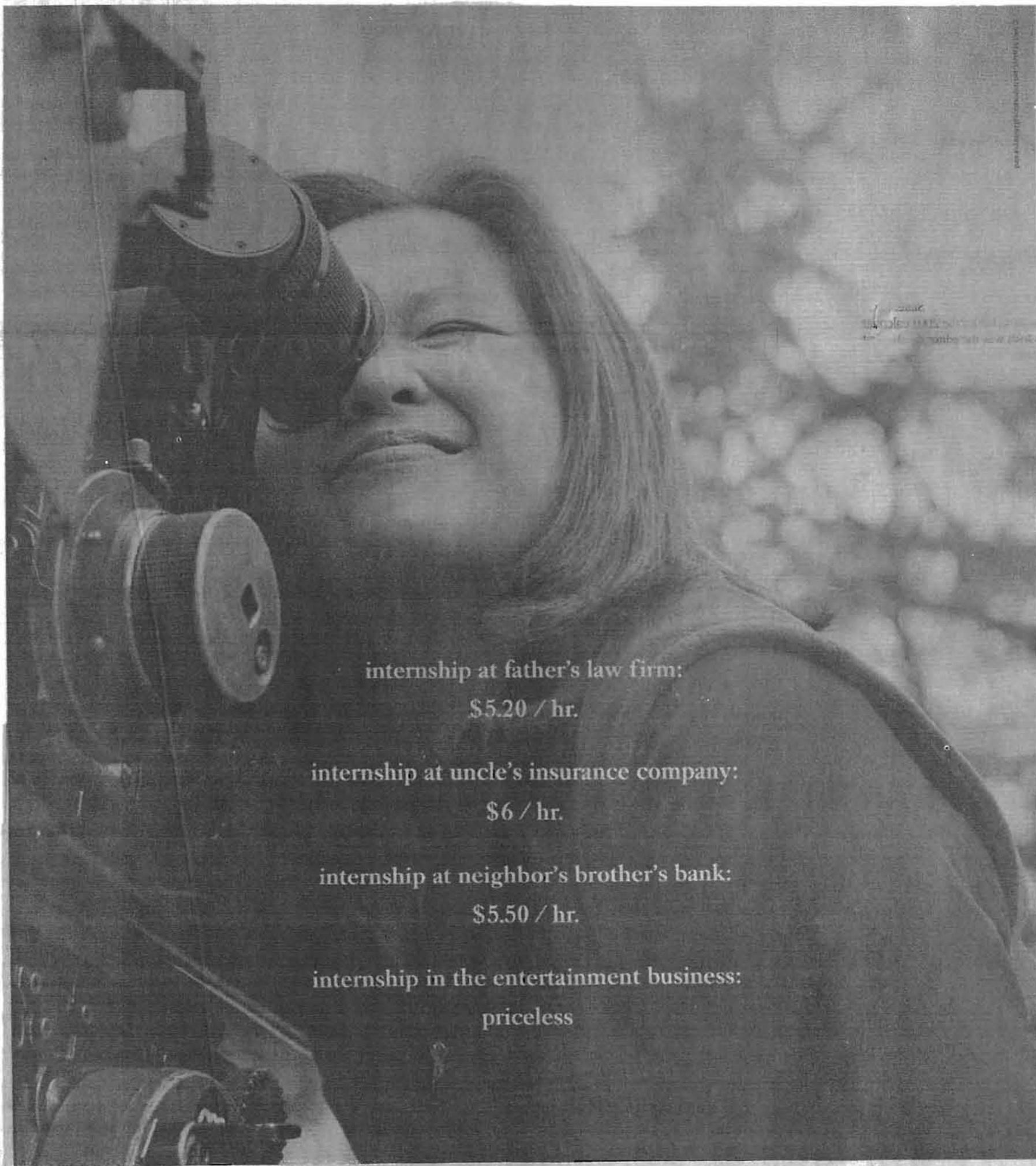
The SGA will also host a movie night in the Pilot House on April 27, featuring "The Fast and the Furious" and "American Pie 2."

"The Fast and the Furious" stars Vin Diesel (Dominic Toretto), Paul Walker (Brian), Jordana Brewster (Mia Toretto) and Michelle Rodriguez (Lenny). Diesel is the leader of a team of youths who race supped up cars illegally. A rookie cop infiltrates the team to investigate a jewelry heist. This movie was the sleeper hit of summer 2001 and a sequel is already underway.

"American Pie 2" features the original "American Pie" gang, who, after a year at college, comes home. It stars (among others) Jason Biggs (Jim), Lisa Arturo, Jennifer Coolidge (Stifler's Mom), and Shannon Elizabeth (Nadia). The original "American Pie" was a blockbuster in 1999.

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ABORTION, from page 1

Choice is



Abortion

Forty-four inch by 60 inch placards showing this aborted fetus were displayed during the protest.

"I know I wouldn't want my kids to see these signs on the side of the road. And I'm sure that other people don't want to see these graphics either."

- Cassandra Browne
Freshman, biology

• Nature of the photographs

Many students felt that the nature of the photographs used was the biggest controversy. The signs depicted the mutilated bodies of aborted fetuses from an abortion clinic in Houston. The images of a baby's underdeveloped head in a pair of forceps and the dismembered body of a third-trimester baby, named Maliaka by the Federation for Life (which is stationed in Houston) were repro-

duced in graphic detail on 44-inch x 60-inch placards. The signs brought a mixed reaction from students and passers-by.

"I don't think that they are getting their point across very affectively," Cassandra Browne, freshman, biology said. "They may be trying to do good, but this may not be the best way to do it. I know I wouldn't want my kids to see these signs on the side of the road. And I'm sure that other people don't want to see these graphics either."

Many people, both at the demonstration and at other similar demonstrations—including a 1999 protest at UM-St. Louis of a similar nature (that group was not affiliated with this one)—questioned the validity of these photos.

One picture, which depicts a baby's skull, about the size of a tennis ball, being held by a pair of tongs, may have some merit. Robert Rough, a citizen of Houston and a long-time pro-life activist, was picketing an abortion clinic in Houston run by the late Dr. John Coleman (the clinic is no longer in operation). Rough claims that he found the head, along with many other aborted fetuses, in a garbage can in the back of the clinic.

"That particular photo was taken in my living room," Rough said. "I found the head in the trash of an abortion clinic that I was planning a protest at and photographed it."

Rough gave publishing rights and ownership of the photos to the Federation for Life, who has since given Chet Kilgore, a businessman and activist in Dousman, Wis., publishing rights. Kilgore and his business, <http://www.antiabortionsign.com/>, sell signs and placards with this photo, along with many others.

Kilgore would not verify the whereabouts of his images, stating that "I want to protect my sources in the abortion business. If I reveal

them, I could lose business."

The photographers of the other two images are unknown, but Federation for Life claims that all three are real photos of aborted fetuses.

• Student reaction

As with most issues, student reactions were mixed, ranging from the diametrically opposed to total agreement. One student, Jonel Beach, junior, political science, even offered to help the group with its efforts and video-taped a conversation between McCollough, Roessler, Coonrod and Bocci.

"They're not trying to hurt anyone," Beach said. "They're just conveying their message."

Another student mentioned, "They're just telling the truth."

Courtney Stirrat, junior, political science, took offense to a certain sign that referred to abortions as "America's Holocaust."

"Holocaust' Remembrance Day was last week, and I think that those signs are in very poor taste," Stirrat said. "How can you apply the systematic killing of a people to abortions?"

When the protestors moved to the highway, they were met with shouts and honks from passing motorists, many of which were UM-St. Louis students, faculty and staff. One motorist called to the group, saying "Take that shit down!" as she sped away.

The group is planning a return to the UM-St. Louis campus.

"I just got finished talking with McCollough, and we really think that in the fall semester we're coming back," White said. "And if we're met with the same opposition, we're planning a week-long sit-in. I can't believe that the University of Missouri does not sponsor the first amendment."

White added "I don't think that it was a prejudice toward a pro-life group; it wasn't meant to be discriminatory per say. But their policy is very anti-first amendment, and I do feel that ultimately it is illegal. They may be right technically, but they've lost the spirit of free speech."

There were no arrest made in the demonstrations, nor was anyone harmed.

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Misc.

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May 3. Play 9 or 18 holes in the Rec sports Golf Tournament. St.Charles Golf Course. 500 Friedens Road. 9 holes- \$9.75/ 18 Holes- \$18.50. Golf anytime May 3 and turn scorecard in at the course.

Personals

Hey MJ DJ

Another \$1.20 to the D man. Ha ha ha, not me!

Sean E. Commerce

Why have a fo-tay ounce when you can have a Lieter? Gulp!

Renter

Hope you had a good 40th birthday. Next time, bring home some pineapple juice.

Homeowner

New rule! A quarter penalty for johnny's in the hole. Quadruple trifecta sweet?

Lost

Hoosier relief pitcher from Team Woodchuck. Talking ugly.... in here! In here!

Candace

You are so beautiful, to me! Can't you see?

Mercenary

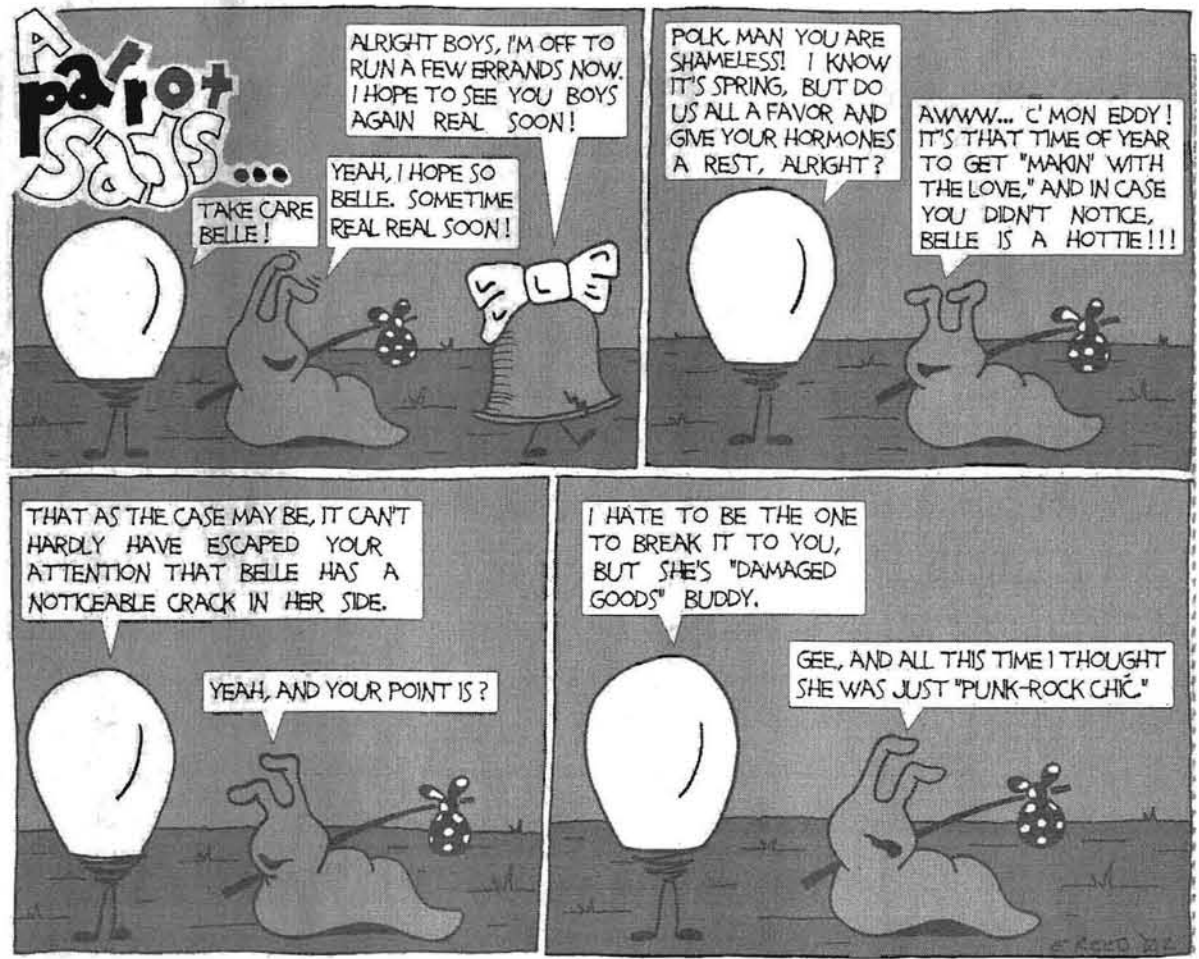
How about them Eagles, Redskins and Giants? Hmm, isn't there another team in that division.....

P. Government

How about a Hold ' Em AND Trash tournament? The answer is, UH-HUH!

J. Wayne Harris

You may have stroke, but who's got the awards?



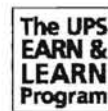
THAT AS THE CASE MAY BE, IT CAN'T HARDLY HAVE ESCAPED YOUR ATTENTION THAT BELLE HAS A NOTICEABLE CRACK IN HER SIDE.

YEAH, AND YOUR POINT IS ?

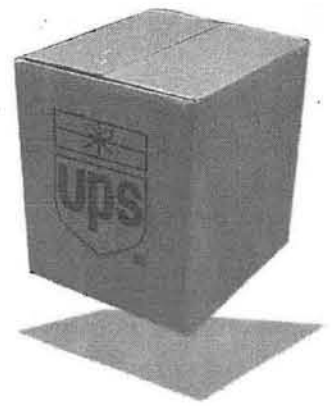
I HATE TO BE THE ONE TO BREAK IT TO YOU, BUT SHE'S 'DAMAGED GOODS' BUDDY.

GEE, AND ALL THIS TIME I THOUGHT SHE WAS JUST 'PUNK-ROCK CHIC'

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