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## Future grads may experience job-finding problems

## Survey indicates 3.6 percent fewer graduates will receive jobs

BY MIKE WALBERT

Pennsylvania State University

(U-WIRE) UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. - Whether entering the final two months of their college careers or glancing toward a May graduation, seniors will face a fiercely competitive job market, experts say.

A survey conducted by the National Association of Colleges and Employers in mid-September said employers around the nation expect to hire 3.6 percent fewer college graduates from the 2002-2003 school year than last year.

The drop is a result of the nation's weak economy, which has caused more companies to hire fewer workers straight out of college. This decline will directly affect graduates across the nation looking for jobs, said Camille Luckenbaugh, NACE employment information manager.

"Everything boils down to the economy. There's just not a lot of opportunities," Luckenbaugh said.

Luckenbaugh said the economic environment of the mid-to-late 1990s when employees were constantly moving to better, higher-paying positions is long gone. These days, workers are staying put because the market is not providing the same free-flowing employment opportunities it did a few years ago, Luckenbaugh said.

"Also, employers won't face as much attrition because workers won't be leaving," Luckenbaugh added.

Another study conducted by the NACE showed that Spring 2002 graduates, though hired out of college, faced significantly lower starting salaries.

This new job environment is an unfamiliar concept to many of today's college students because they are only familiar with the economic prosperity of years past, Career Services Director at Pennsylvania State University Jack Rayman said.

"An awful lot of students who are graduating now have not experienced a downturn and seen the impact on their own family and themselves. I think now people are starting to realize that they need to hustle," he said.

The national decline in post-graduate employment has not failed to catch the attention of Penn State students.

"It's frustrating a little because you have to work harder to get a job or an interview," said Ryan Heavener, senior, electrical engineering, Penn State.

see **JOBS**, page 8

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# Kimball offers insight to election

BY WILL MELTON

Staff Writer

David C. Kimball, assistant professor of political science, is an election analyst and author. He began his work with his Ph.D. research in political science.

"I've been teaching classes in American government and classes on elections and political parties for four or five years now," Kimball said.

"There's lots of different ways [to analyze an election]," Kimball said. "If it's a specific contest it's good to start with state of the district that the election is taking place in and what's the background there. Do the voters lean toward one party or the other and how have they voted in past elections; economic interests in the area, main issues people are concerned about at the moment. Then looking at the candidates running—their background, their experience; looking into advertisements; TV ads, radio ads and stuff that they air, and looking at public opinion polls...it's a lot of information."

Right now in Missouri the

political focus is on the Senatorial race between R-Jim Talent and D-Jean Carnahan. This election could quite possibly decide the party majority in the Senate.

Kimball commented that it's hard to say which candidate better represents the UM-St. Louis' students.

"I guess it depends on how you define the interests of the students. In terms of support for public education and public universities traditionally democratic candidates are more in favor of government spending. Typically democrats generally would be more in line with the interests of a public university. Students have lots of other issues they are interested in besides government spending on public education, so it's hard to say. You'd probably have to ask the students themselves."

Gary Sohn, junior, mass communication major, says he is going to vote for Carnahan.

"I'm going to vote for Jean Carnahan. She's a strong supporter of OSHA regulations, supports a higher minimum wage for the average working American, and believes that

smaller specialized class sizes will provide a better education."

Randy Sommers, a graduate student working on his Ph.D. in education administration, also plans on voting Democrat.

"I'm going to vote for Carnahan, not because I like her, but because I despise Talent," Sommers said. "I don't like how Talent would allocate tax funds."

"It's a toss up right now. If anything the recent momentum is probably going Talent's way a little bit, because Senator Carnahan has been, for the most part stuck in Washington," Kimball said. "She hasn't missed a vote all year. Talent has had all year to campaign, tour the state, and meet voters, so he's had a bit of an advantage in the campaign in that respect."

However, if students want their voice heard they have to vote.

"Turnout among 18-25 year olds is lower than any other age group in the United States," Kimball said. "It's somewhat of a Catch-22, because campaigns and political parties know that young people don't vote in very higher numbers so they don't pitch



Sara Quiroz/The Current

“It's somewhat of a Catch-22, because campaigns and political parties know that young people don't vote in very higher numbers so they don't pitch their campaigns to younger voters ...”

- David Kimball  
Assistant Professor  
Political Science

their campaigns to younger voters, or often don't emphasize issues that age group might be more interested about."

Kimball has a new book entitled, "Why Americans Split Their Tickets," coming out in November. The book is co-authored by Barry Burden, assistant professor at

Harvard University. It explores the split-ticket phenomena and questions why people vote for a Republican for president and a Democrat for congress, or vice versa.

"The main reason voters split their ticket is that they tend to vote for the candidate first [not the party]," Kimball said.

## Workshop inspires educators

### Teachers share thoughts about new techniques and styles

BY KATE DROLET

Staff Writer

What sort of event includes workshops called Mammal Maze and Quick-Frozen Critters? Teachers of grades K-12 gathered on the morning of October 12 to

“Originally there were supposed to be two dates for this event... Even though we only had about thirty teachers attend this year, I do think the event was successful overall.”

-Carol Craig  
Coordinator

find out the answer to that question.

Missouri Geographic Alliance, Missouri Press Association and Missouri Department of Natural Resources sponsored this event for teachers to gain information about Missouri along with project ideas that they could take back to the classroom. This year's theme, "Missouri's Backyard: Exploring Your State Parks and Historic Sites," focused on the abundance of resources and history that the state offers.

The event, which was held at UM-St. Louis, ran from 8:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. Registration cost \$15 and included a picnic lunch. Participants were split up into two groups and spent the day attending different workshops.

The Mammal Maze workshop challenged teachers to use a mammal skull and clues to find their way through a maze. Teachers also

had to figure out which animal the skull came from. The activity included science and reading skills.

Adopt-a-Tree incorporated science, math, language skills, visual arts and social studies. Participants learned a tree's importance in an ecosystem, how to identify a tree, and different ways to measure trees.

The Quick-Frozen Critters workshop used science, math, social studies, and language arts skills to discuss the importance of predators and the interdependence between predators and prey.

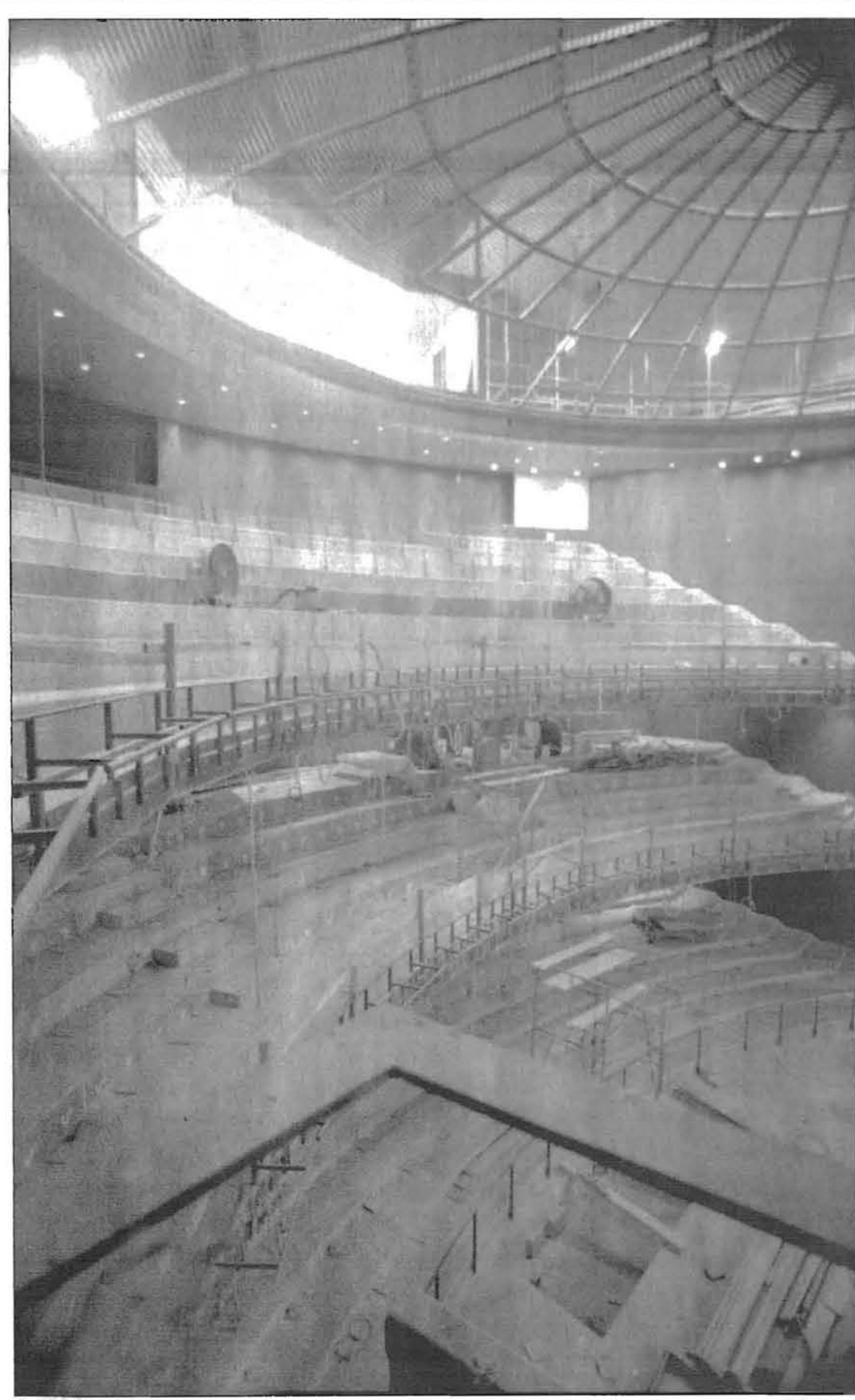
The last workshop, Incredible Journey, taught about the water cycle and its complexity.

Incredible Journey followed the unpredictable path of water. Teachers received suggestions for further hands-on projects that could be applied in the classroom.

"Last year's workshop took place on a barge, so that drew in a large crowd," said Carol Craig, coordinator for the Missouri geographic alliance. "Originally there were supposed to be two dates for this event, but one had to be cancelled. Even though we only had about thirty teachers attend this year, I do think the event was successful overall."

In accordance with the theme, Missouri Geographic Alliance, Missouri Press Association, and Missouri Department of Natural Resources are sponsoring a contest for K-12 students. Wednesday issues of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch (November 6, 13, 20, and 27) will feature history, geography and preservation methods of our state parks and historic sites.

Background information, vocabulary, facts and classroom project ideas will be featured as well. Classrooms and students will have the opportunity to win prizes. One classroom and one individual student will win a multimedia computer system. Missouri Resource books will be awarded to 25 classrooms, and state park novelty items will be awarded to 50 individual students.



Mike Sherwin/The Current

### First look

## Inside the performing arts center

The new performing arts center is in its final stages of completion. The 1,650-seat performance hall includes floor-level seating, and two tiers of balconies under a sweeping half-dome roof. The building covers 128,500 square feet and also includes a 300-seat music and theatre hall, a two-tiered atrium lobby and a technical facility for sound and lighting. The UM Board of Curators voted unanimously on Sept. 27 to name the building the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center. The action was recommended by UM President Manuel T. Pacheco and the center will be named upon its completion and the retirement of Chancellor Touhill. Touhill is retiring on Dec. 31. The center is an over \$50 million project.

# 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 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.

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**November**

**Zeta Phi Beta**

Zeta Phi Beta will be hosting the Boogie Nights Talent Showcase in the Pilot House on Dec. 13. Prizes will be awarded. For more information or to sign up call 370-5233 or email questions to zeta\_rho@finer-woman.zzn.com

**Mon 4 - Fri 8**

**Rec Sports**

A racquetball tournament will be held at various times throughout the week in the Mark Twain Building. The single elimination tournament for men and women will match players with similar schedules and skill levels. For more information call 516-5326.

**Mon 4 (cont.)**

**Monday Noon Series**

"Election 2002" will be the topic of the Monday Noon Cultural Series. The event will be held from 12:15 p.m. to 1:15 p.m. in the J.C. Penney Conference Center, room 229. E. Terrence Jones, veteran political consultant and professor of political science at UM-St. Louis will speak. For more information contact Karen Lucas at 516-5699.

**4**

**Chemistry Colloquia**

A Chemistry Colloquia: Sugar Chemistry & Glycotechnology: From Research Laboratory to Industrial Production will be held at 4 p.m. in room 451 of Benton Hall. The speaker will be Peng George Wang from Wayne State University - Detroit. The event is free and open to all audiences.

**Wed 6**

**Campus Ministry**

The Wesley Foundation Campus Ministry will be having a free Bible Study from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The study is held every Wednesday. The ministry is located at 8000 Natural Bridge Road. Call 385-3000 for more information.

**6**

**Student Life**

There will be a ABC General Meeting at 2 p.m. on the 3rd floor of the MSC. Find out about the ABC's project for the rest of the semester. For more information contact ABC at 516-5731.

**6**

**Campus Freethought**

Guest speaker Dr. Greisdicle will speak on "Irrationality of Religion." The event will be at noon in the MSC, room 316. All are welcome.

**Wed 6**

**Student Life**

Wednesday Noon Live this week will feature Jasper, aka B?Box Boy. Truly unique entertainment.

**6**

**University Relations**

There will be an open house honoring Chancellor Touhill today from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the MSC Century Rooms. For more info, contact Cindy Valentine at 516-5442.

**Fri 8**

**Business Club**

The International Business Club is sponsoring a speaker event at 4 p.m. in SSB 215. The speaker is Tom Rolfes and the subject matter is his experience as a consultant for Procter & Gamble when he conducted research for products to be sold in international markets.

**Sat 9**

**International Student Office**

China Night 2002 will be held at 6 p.m. in the Pilot House. Tickets are \$5 per person and can be purchased at the International Student Office. For more information call 516-5229.

**Mon 11**

**Monday Noon Series**

Recycled Composition - A Sonata in Symphonic Clothing will be the topic of the Monday Noon Series. The event will be held from 12:15 p.m. to 1:15 p.m. in the J.C. Penney Conference Center, room 229.

**Put it on the Board!**

Place your event on The Board in our upcoming edition: restrictions apply. Call 516-5174 for information.

## The Campus Crimeline

**October 25**

A student reported that one of his shoes was stolen from the porch area of his apartment at the University Meadows.

**October 27**

The victim reported that an unknown person entered her insecure vehicle parked on Lot RR and stole her CD player from the dash of the vehicle.

**October 28**

The owner of a vehicle reported his vehicle was damaged while parked in the Plaza Garage by another vehicle, which left the scene.

**Between October 26 and 28**

The victim reported that she parked and secured her vehicle at the University Meadows, and an unknown person entered her vehicle and stole her CD player from the dash area of the auto as well as some CDs. There was no forced entry to the vehicle.

**October 28**

The victim reported that upon returning to his auto parked in Lot N, he discovered the front drivers window of his vehicle broken out. Nothing was observed stolen from the vehicle.

**October 29**

A faculty member reported that her purse was stolen from the back of her chair while she was at The Nosh in the MSC.

**October 29**

The victim reported that his vehicle, which was parked in the Plaza Garage, was damaged by another vehicle that left the scene.

**October 30**

Officers of the UM-St. Louis Police Department arrested a man for breaking out the car window of a vehicle

parked in Lot Y on South Campus and stealing property from the vehicle.

**October 30**

A faculty member reported that an unknown person entered her office in the Research Complex and stole a CD from a bag laying on the floor.

**October 30**

A report was filed of an accident from the Plaza Garage. The driver left the scene.

## Correction

In issue 1067 of *The Current*, the story titled "Nursing enrollment up by 44 students" was incorrectly labeled as being written by Kate Drolet. The story was written by Nichole Richardson.

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# Engineer with the blues

BY SARA PORTER  
Senior Writer

When most people think of Audio Visual Supervisor Ron Edwards, they think of him as the man with the long gray handlebar mustache who delivers the audio-visual equipment for lectures, concerts and other events. But, what many don't know about Edwards is that he is a blues guitarist, hosts his own radio show and has worked at UM-St. Louis for over 30 years seeing and meeting many different faculty members, students, and guests at the school.

Edwards has been playing slide guitar for Blues musicians since he was 18, something, he got into when he was dissatisfied with the music on the radio. "I got interested after listening to 'Lightning' Hopkins," Edwards said. "During that time it was a lot of Beach Boys surfer music on the radio, it was all kind of silly, but the things that they sang about with the blues was very real."

Edwards then studied slide and bottleneck guitar under Blues musicians, Furry Lewis, Bukka White, Houston Stackhouse, Sleepy John Estes and J.B. Hutto all of whom he greatly admired and recalls their more unusual characteristics.

"We booked (Hutto) in the J.C. Penny Auditorium and he walked on the chairs and took out this guitar that must have been about 50 feet," Edwards said. "The audience went wild."

After his studies, Edwards played guitar accompanying such musicians as Doc Terry, James Crutchfield, Tommy Bankhead, Silver Cloud and particularly fellow guitarist Henry Townsend.

Edwards considers Townsend, 93, to be a legend. "He has recorded in every decade since 1929," Edwards said.

"It used to be when (Townsend) would play everyone would know the featured players, but wouldn't know him since he accompanied," Edwards said. "After a few years people started to recognize him. He has played so long that people know him."

Edwards accompanied Townsend on many recordings including, "88

Blues" which was recorded in honor of Townsend's 88th birthday and "My Story."

"These cuts were made without interruptions and without retakes," Edwards said.

Besides an accomplished musician in his own right, Edwards hosts "Nothing But the Blues" a thematic blues radio program from 7 p.m. to 8:30 pm on Sundays on KDHX 88.1 FM.

Edwards, who started this program in 1987, uses certain ideas and themes and selects music around them. "During the Flood of '93 I played a theme called 'Rising High Water Blues' in which I played music that people wrote about during the Floods

“  
Edwards has been playing slide guitar for Blues musicians since he was 18, something he got into when he was dissatisfied with the music on the radio.  
”

of '23 and '31," Edwards said. "It really put a perspective to hear songs by people in the Delta who didn't have any communication."

Another theme that Edwards tried was "Blues for The Cosmos" in honor of the Voyager space probe, which contained bits of pictures and music and was launched into space.

"They played some of the music on TV and I rose from my chair and said 'Oh my God, that's Blind Willie Johnson,'" he said. Johnson's recording was one among four songs selected in the launch, the others being "Melancholy" by Louis Armstrong, "Johnny Be Good" by Chuck Berry, and a Navajo Indian Chant. Edwards tried to find songs about space, but started with seven cuts, eventually relying on friends to loan him 11 more.

"It was the hardest show I did in 500 shows," Edwards said.

Edwards began working in UM-St. Louis in 1970 in the Art Department as an academic assistant. One of the first projects that Edwards worked on was the opening of Gallery 210. "I was at the meeting when they talked about it and I helped put up the first exhibit," Edwards said.

Edwards eventually became the audio-visual supervisor, which entitles him to deliver and set up equipment for any event at UM-St. Louis. Edwards has attended many of the events, and says that he has enjoyed many of the speakers who have appeared at UM-St. Louis.

"When (anthropologist) Margaret Mead spoke at the J.C. Penny Building, it was sold out," Edwards recalled. "People were sitting up on the stage and filling out into the lobby." Edwards also recalled meeting such notables as Jaques Cousteau at a Biology award dinner, and Dizzy Gillespie at a concert.

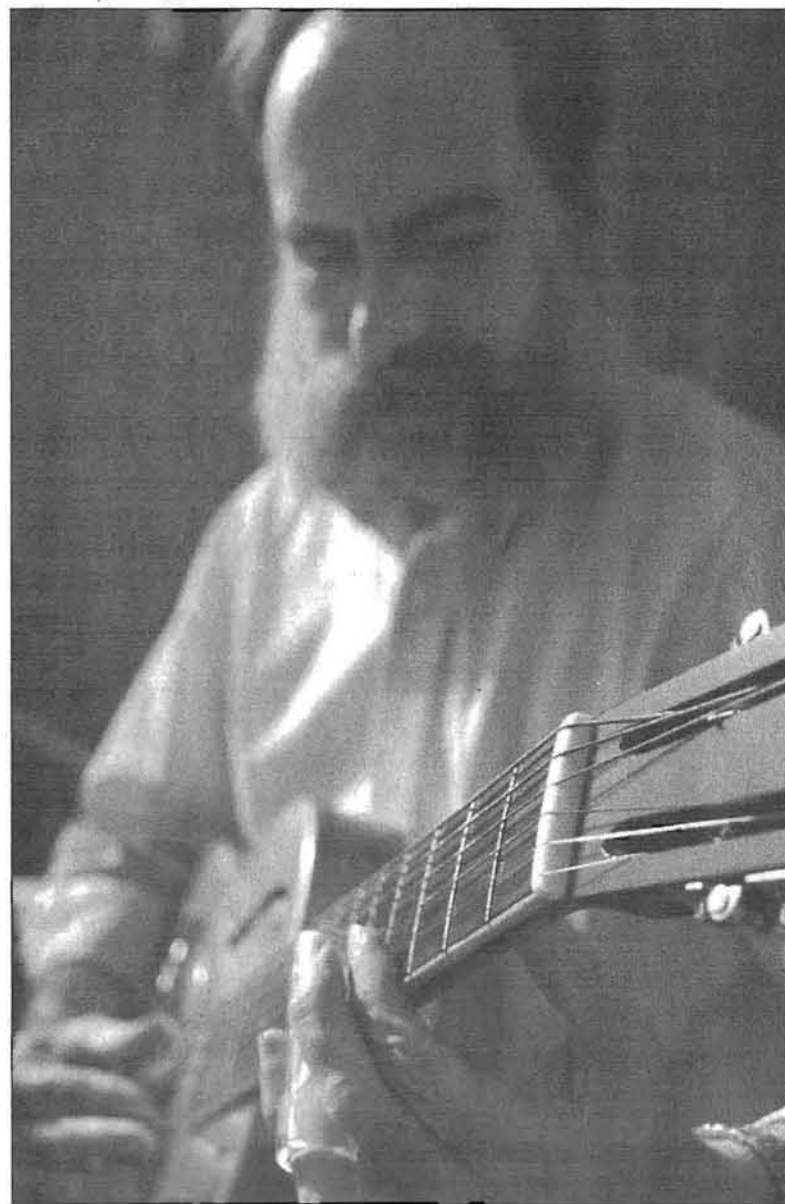
Edwards also contributes in other volunteer projects, such as placing the music on the bridge in the Millennium Center, hiring groups to perform for Wednesday Noon Live concert series and working alongside of director of Auxiliary Services, Gloria Schultz in coordinating and organizing floats for the Holiday parades. They have organized floats for the VP parade, the St. Patrick's Day Parade, The Thanksgiving Day Parade and others.

Schultz said of her co-worker, "He is willing to work on the holidays. Most people would complain about it, but not Ron," she said.

"Once you meet Ron you never forget him," Schultz said. "We are very fortunate to have him working with us." Because of this volunteer work, Edwards won the 2002 Student Life Award, which he said he was very surprised and thrilled.

"(Schultz) won the year before and I was proud of her then," Edwards said. "This year I won, so we're batting a thousand."

Edwards said that one of the most interesting things about working at the university is the flexibility and the constant variety, plus the changes that the school has gone through over the years. Edwards recalled that



Mike Sherwin/ The Current

UM-St. Louis Audio Visual Supervisor Ron Edwards plays his prized guitar.

when he attended the university, it was only two buildings. "I left temporarily for one summer, but when I returned they had set the groundwork for four more buildings."

Edwards said that when he began at the University, ideas like the Millennium Student Center would have seemed foreign, but he is impressed with how much the Millennium Center has been integrated into the lives of UMSL students. "It shows that this place was sorely needed," Edwards said.

Edwards particularly likes the flexible hours and what he refers to as the constant variety of people. "I don't have a set schedule," Edwards said. "I could work several hours one day, then I could work only three the next. It gives me time to do the things that I am interested in."

Of the people he works with, Edwards has nothing but praise. "I have a great group of people I work with and meet, like students and faculty," he said. "Every day is completely unique."



Mike Sherwin/ The Current

Navan, a Celtic a capella group, performed Saturday, Oct. 26 in the Century Room of the MSC. The quartet hails from Madison, Wisconsin and performs songs in the various languages that make up the Celtic-derived languages. The members are, from left, Elizabeth Fine, Joan Bettner, Sile Shigley and Paul Gorman.

## Rocking à la the Celts

BY SARA PORTER  
Senior Writer

Celtic is one of the oldest spoken languages in the world and is actually divided into six different languages: Irish, Scottish, Manx, Cornish, Breton and Welsh. For a long time, it wasn't spoken, but recently a revival of the language has occurred in Britain. Now many musicians record their music in this beautiful, long-forgotten language, and one of these groups is Navan, a three-woman, one-man ensemble from Madison, WI. Navan performed the first concert in UM-St. Louis' International Performing Arts Series.

Navan's music is mostly improvisations of older ballads and folk songs performed nicely in four-part harmony. Many of the songs that were chosen for the International Performing Arts Series concert showcased the group's beautiful singing talents and ability to harmonize in a seemingly

difficult language.

The first two songs that they sang, "An Cuimhan Leat An Oiche Ud" and "Deirin De," went seamlessly into each other. The slower "Cuimhan Leat," about a young woman and her lover, moved right into the faster paced "Deirin De," a song based on a children's game. That the two songs contrasted yet joined together so well was quite a pleasure for the ears.

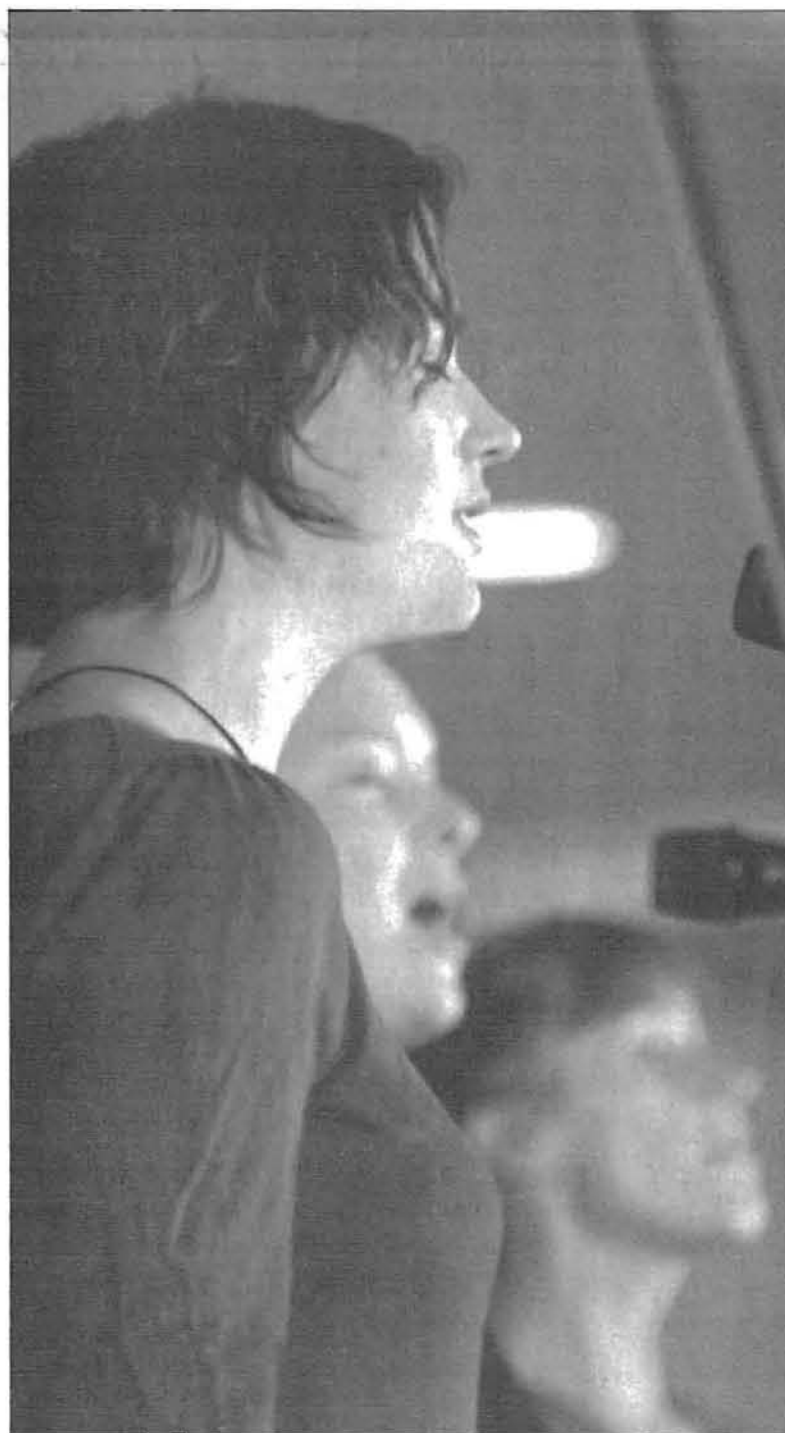
Many of the Celtic songs had an almost Medieval-like style to them, as though the audience was listening in a cathedral in the 1200's rather than a University Student center in the 21st century. Many of the more heartbreaking songs, such as "Tuar Guirl A Cholain Do Cheol," about a man's return to his abandoned town and "Eammon of the Hill," about an outlaw on the run who receives help from a stranger, are given an almost quasi-religious style, particularly in the solos of group members Elizabeth Fine and Joan Bettner.

The group chose many songs that dealt with the pasts of the countries

that they represented. "Lon Doire An Chairm," which was about the folkloric warrior Oisien's return to an Ireland he doesn't remember, was heartbreakingly performed, augmented by solos from Sile Shigley. The group performed a nice touch by performing "their most pagan song before their most Christian song," "My Pan Esen Ow Kwandra," which told the story of the Biblical Adam and Eve in a very beautiful, simplistic tone.

Another song, "Voyage of the Tiger," which dealt with a ship in the Manx navy that attacked an ally's boat, was powerfully performed with the four member's vocals almost blending into one. There is something about the language and the singing that turns an absurd story like that into a sad, moving song.

Navan also played a few faster numbers. "Song of the Cider," which is a well-known drinking song, invited for a sing along with the audience plus a quick study of the Celtic language for the language impaired. Another



Mike Sherwin/ The Current

Navan member Elizabeth Fine sings "Deiren De." Navan's concert was the first in UM-St. Louis' International Performing Arts Series.

energetic number, "O Gentle Lady," about a woman singing to her cow, gave Sigley, Fine and Bettner a means to show off the union of their voices as the audience tapped along to the rhythmic music.

The group ended the concert with three unusual, but welcome and diverse, choices. "Grie Geol Chreaoil," a moving song about a woman who discovers her husband hanging from a tree, "Hey My Sweetheart Ho My Sweetheart," a delightful love song that invited another sing along from the audience, and "The Goodnight

Song," a soothing Cornish lullaby. The only flaw of the concert was the lack of solo singing from the male member, Paul Gorman. Siley, Fine and Bettner showed their talents in many of the songs, leaving Gorman very little to do but provide a base for the women. In their accompanying CD "Au Chimhin Leat," Gorman was able to sing a few songs, but they weren't included in the program. That was the only flaw in an otherwise wonderful evening that sublimely represented a beautiful but rarely remembered language.

# INTERNET

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## An event of operatic proportions

BY SARA PORTER  
Senior Writer

For non-opera fans, the Puccini opera "La Boheme" is better known by its remake, the Tony award winning musical "Rent." While "Rent" is an equally powerful story about two impoverished couples, it's always nice to go to the original to see where the inspiration came from. Opera and non-opera fans alike got the chance to view the opera in a well done and wonderfully sung and acted performance from Opera Theatre-St. Louis and sponsored by Premiere Performances on Sunday, Oct. 27, in the J.C. Penney building.

"La Boheme" tells a very simple story about two diverse couples in 19th century Paris. The first is Rodolfo (Michael Spyres), a troubled young poet, and his dying lover, Mimi (Patricia Adress), a seamstress. The couple has to endure Mimi's failing health in their poverty. The second couple is the more cynical painter Marcello (Ryan D. Kinsella) and his lover, the flirtatious singer, Musetta (Kimwana M. Doner). Marcello and Musetta alternate between arguing ferociously and loving passionately.

Along the way, Marcello and Rodolfo's friends, Colline and Schanard (Brian Kontes; Carlos Archuleta) provide a humorous and supportive system to the story.

# OPINIONS

## OUR OPINION

# What is it good for? U.S. should avoid Iraqi war

War is a heady topic that many people avoid discussing. Over the last century, whether or not America should go to war has been hotly debated each time the country considers going into a conflict. For the most part, isolationism was in full effect at the time of the conflict. America now finds itself in the middle of this debate once again.

After the attacks on Sept. 11 of last year, Americans were outraged, demanding vengeance and satisfaction. President George Bush used this outrage to launch his war on terrorism, taking down the oppressive Taliban regime in Afghanistan. Now, President Bush is proposing the United States go to war with Iraq for the second time in the last 11 years with the express purpose of regime change.

Saddam Hussein is an infamous man with infamous plans. His desire to get his hands on weapons of mass destruction are well documented, and it is widely believed that he wants to use them on Americans. Some feel this is good reason to go to war with Iraq. However, what has Iraq actually done to provoke the United States to attack? Did he drop a neutron bomb on Des Moines? Was Denver terrorized by a small pox outbreak? Was nerve gas used against the fair citizens of Albuquerque? No. The fact of the matter is Iraq has done nothing to the United States to provoke a military strike. If the United States launches a full-scale military assault against Iraq and its citizens, countless innocent lives will be lost. The old axiom "In every war, innocents must die" does not apply to this situation. The citizens of the United States supposedly learned something from the attacks. They were supposed to understand that all life is sacred. If the Bush administration launches a military assault against Iraq unprovoked, then they will be no better than the terrorists who flew the airplanes into the Twin Towers of New York and the Pentagon in Washington, D.C.

In his State of the Union address given after the attacks, President Bush told the world about three countries he

identified as "the Axis of Evil" (a reference to the Axis Powers of World War II). Iran, North Korea and Iraq were the countries he listed as giving refuge to terrorists and posing threats to the United States and the world at large. Numerous warning bells and sirens were raised by members of both the Democratic and Republican parties. Many were uncomfortable with the identification of "Axis of Evil," and some openly criticized the president for making the analogy to the Axis Powers.

This is not an issue to be taken lightly. Around the world, government upon government have come out against the Bush plan to attack Saddam Hussein. France, which holds veto power in the United Nations' Security Council, has openly denounced any plan to attack Iraq. Other countries that offered unilateral support for Bush's "War on Terrorism" have been openly skeptical of his current plans. They are even more concerned with Bush's assertion that the United States would go it alone with Iraq if need be. In fact, the only country that has been openly supportive of the plan is America's old standby ally, England. Even people inside Bush's own cabinet have expressed concerns. Publicly, Secretary of State Collin Powell tows the party line and supports the president, but privately, he has expressed doubts over the need for a war with Iraq. Retired General Norman Schwartzkopf has openly said Iraq is no longer a threat. The once imposing Iraqi Republican Guard is a shell of its former self, and Saddam has very little technological capabilities.

President Bush needs to realize that this war not worth fighting. If the United States goes to war with Iraq, it will be the aggressor for the first time. At a time when the economy is poor and consumer confidence is shaky, President Bush needs to turn his focus back to the people of this country. If the time comes where Iraq takes action against the United States, then so be it, they will be dealt with. Until that time, America has no right to attack them.

### The issue

President Bush wants the United States to go to war with Iraq. He is ignoring the fact that Iraq has done nothing to provoke the United States to action; attacking makes America terrorists as well.

### We suggest

President Bush needs to understand that attacking a sovereign country without provocation violates what the United States stands for.

### So what do you think?

Tell us what you think! Drop us a line at the office, 388 MSC, or online at our Web site [www.thecurrentonline.com](http://www.thecurrentonline.com).

# Careful what you ask for

"We don't want more student fees" is the typical cry heard from students during budget discussions. There is an important problem with that statement though: The University can find ways to cover budget/funding cuts without raising student fees. The ways to fill in the gaps, however, are not beneficial to the students.

Without increases in student fees, the University has few options. The following is a very short list of those options, and several, if not all, would likely have to be combined to balance the budget if student fees are not raised:

1.) Faculty would be cut. That would be nothing short of detrimental. The main purpose of any university should be educating. Without the faculty, it cannot fill that function. Since many departments are already shorthanded and some professors are leaving due to early retirement, UM-St. Louis cannot afford to lose any other faculty members. It could mean the deletion of entire departments or even colleges.

2.) Faculty, staff and administration benefits (health insurance, etc.) can be cut. This, however, would only result in the loss of more faculty. So trimming the benefits packages (many of which are probably contractual and cannot be changed anyway) is not a good idea.

3.) Student services can be cut. What could be cut, of course, is the real question. Well, several possibilities exist. Health services could be pared down. But does anyone really want to do that? Career services could also be affected. Students would probably have more trouble finding jobs and internships, but most students either have to do that on their own or just simply find those alone anyway. Student activity and organization fund-

ing could be trimmed down. While a small amount of trimming would not be completely damning, student organizations and activities are vital to the complete education of students. It's outside the classroom that almost every student learns best. Student groups are an important key to networking, learning, developing and just making it through the year. So cutting much money from student groups would without question harm the integrity of students' educations.

Thus, if student fees do not increase and Gov. Bob Holden is foolish enough to make further budget cuts which steal money from higher education, UM-St. Louis will have to take very drastic measures. Hopefully, that will not happen.

The ideal situation would, of course, be that no further cuts occur, UM-St. Louis gets its fair share of the UM System budget and life at the University returns to normal.

I honestly cannot say I believe this will happen. Holden, in his stupor, will probably take more financial resources away from higher education which will lead to a decrease in the amount of money that the UM System gets. Since UM-St. Louis only gets 12 percent of the UM System's budget but has 25 percent of the UM System students, we will again be screwed by the institution that is supposed to be our supporter. And until all of this with the budget evens out, life won't return to normal.

Everyone gets hurt by the budget cuts. Students do take a lot of the financial downfall. The University, however, is intended for students. Therefore, I can't really agree with students who are complaining about student fees being raised after they realize the results of the fees not being raised.



**STANFORD GRIFFITH**  
Editor-in-Chief

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"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. Students must include their student ID number. Faculty and staff must include their title(s) and department(s).

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

# What happened to 'looking both ways'?

Dear Editor,

Whatever happened to looking both ways? I believe *The Current* is unfair in its coverage of the intersection at Arlmont and Natural Bridge Road. If you are coming from the South Campus, walking down West Drive, is inconvenient to go all the way down to the crosswalk. It takes forever for the walk light to come up. Everybody jay-walks. Including me. I know it is unsafe to cross outside the crosswalk, but the decision is mine. I look both ways. I look all ways, because cars on

Natural Bridge can come from left or right or front or behind. I use the skills my kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Vannoy, taught me - I watch carefully, I don't step out in front of moving cars, and if necessary, I run like hell.

I believe the University does have some responsibility to make this part of Natural Bridge safer, but pedestrians share this responsibility too. It might be fun to have a pedestrian bridge (an "unnatural bridge?") but I don't think anyone would use it. And can you imagine anyone brave enough to enter a dark tunnel in this neighborhood?

What does a tunnel cost anyway, half a million bucks? I don't think that's an option.

My sincere apologies to Mr. Jakob Parks. What happened to him could have happened to me or to any of the rest of us who brave these mean streets. But we should take that as a lesson to be careful and, as Mrs. Vannoy used to say, "Look both ways."

Ted Ficklen  
Circulation Manager  
Ward E. Barnes Education Library

# What's your opinion?

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

- War with Iraq
- Campus crimeline
- Raising student fees

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](http://TheCurrentOnline.com)

# Under Current

by Mike Sherwin  
Photography Director

What would be your ideal date?



**Asia Johnson**  
Freshman  
Mass Communications

My ideal date would be a jazz or rap concert first, then dinner and good conversation.



**Lai Doan**  
MIS

I always like going out to dinner. That way you have a long time to sit and get to know each other.



**Erik Sanders**  
Sophomore  
Mechanical Engineering

Honestly, I really don't want to answer that.



**Janice Wilson**  
Senior  
Chemistry

It's when me and my guy can really be ourselves, not put on any airs, and just have a really good time.

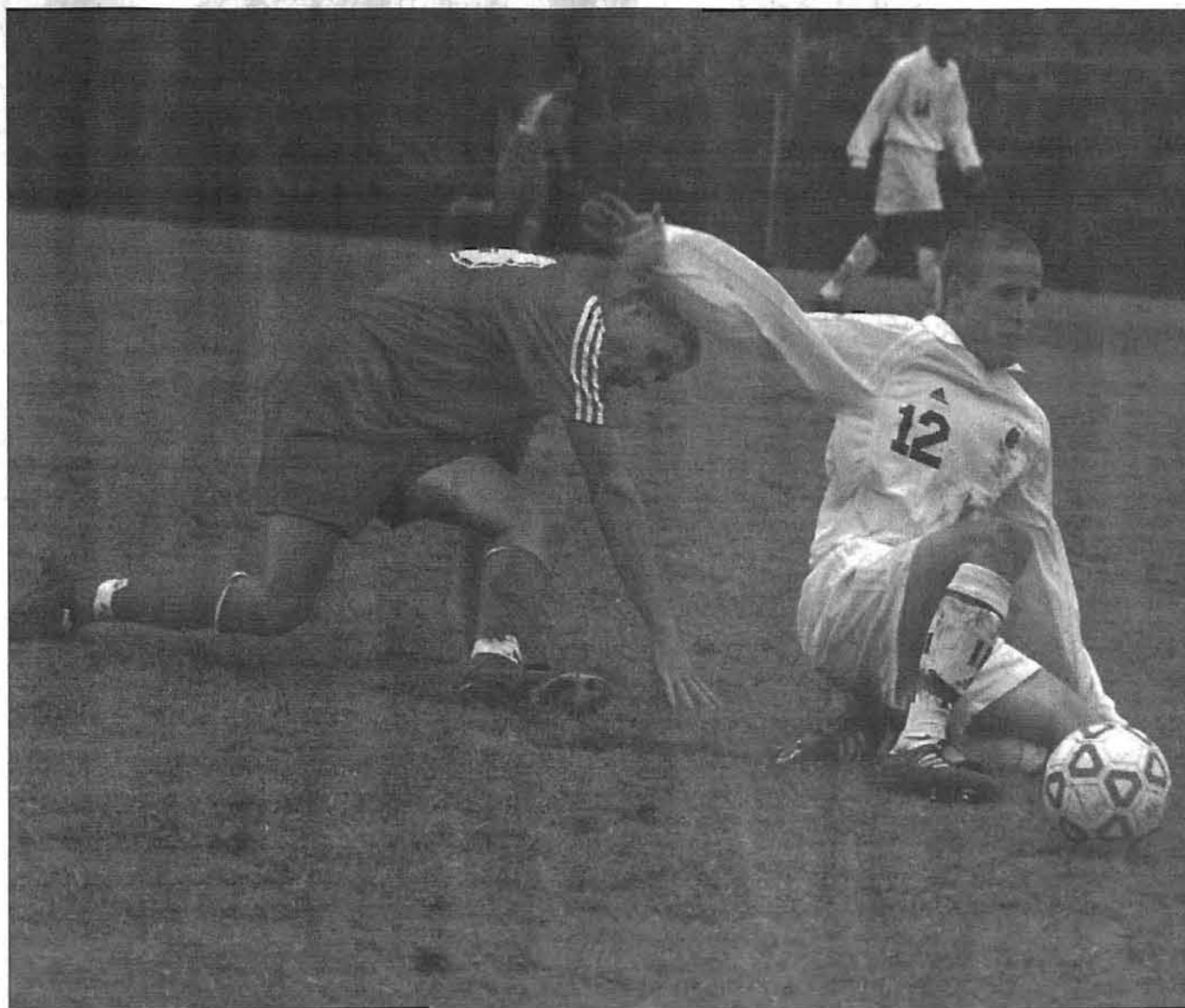
# R-men finish second

UM-St. Louis squad will face Wisconsin-Parkside in its first round GLVC playoff game

## UM-St. Louis Rivermen Soccer

BY HANK BURNS  
Sports Editor

Through the first five games of the 2002 season, the UM-St. Louis men's soccer team had a record of 2-3. Following their Sept. 27 loss to Bellarmine, the Rivermen started a comeback with a Sept. 29 victory over Kentucky Wesleyan, a victory that was the first of a three-game winning streak. Despite a few setbacks along the way, the team has finished the regular season with a 7-2-1 Great Lakes Valley Conference record, which is good enough for second place in the conference. The Rivermen have a 9-6-1 overall record.



LEFT: Riverman Midfielder Adam Bimslauger (at left) and St. Joseph's player Mike Cormody slide across the muddy field in pursuit of the ball during last Sunday's afternoon game. The Rivermen won the game 3-2, which propelled the team to a second place finish in the Great Lakes Valley Conference. This is the highest finish for the Rivermen since joining the GLVC.

BELOW: Rivermen Midfielder Allen Jujic winds up for his scoring shot on goal during the first half of play.

Photos by Emily Fishman/The Current

“I've always said that their work ethic is second to none. But it did take us time to gel. We did get a slow start. But that didn't throw us off track.”

- Dan King  
Head Coach  
UM-St. Louis men's soccer

For their first playoff game, the Rivermen will face Wisconsin-Parkside on Nov. 6. In a regular season match-up on Oct. 25, the Rivermen defeated Wisconsin-Parkside 1-0 in double overtime.

“It's always difficult to beat a team two times in one season,” Rivermen Head Coach Dan King said. “But the way we're peaking right now, we're confident but yet, we're not overconfident. The playoffs is always a different story than the regular season, so we're just preparing and staying focused on doing what we do best. From day one I've always said, 'we need to take care of the things that we do well.' and we go from there.”

Through all of the early losses UM-St. Louis suffered this season, King always maintained that his team had a chance to compete and

win. That attitude is still with King, as his team moves closer to its first playoff game.

“At the beginning of the season, I was confident in this team,” King said. “I've always said that their work ethic is second to none. But it

and I'm not just making that up,” King continued. “This is, by far, the toughest conference. Especially playing the likes of SIUE and Lewis and come up big against those teams, that tells me that we have a quality program coming.”

King's team has played some quality games in part to a few strong leaders. King hopes those individuals step up and perform as well in the postseason as they did through the majority of the regular season.

“I look to our freshman goalie (Brad Bernsen) to be steady and to be calm,” King said. “I look to our seniors, our back four are all seniors. I look for them to carry us. I also look to our two captains. Pat Shelton, who won't be on the field but he has a big stamp on this team, he'll be there. Nick Carron and Jake Hopson will be there to just solidify things. They've been through playoffs before. They're just going to keep the young guys calm and do the things that we need to do.”

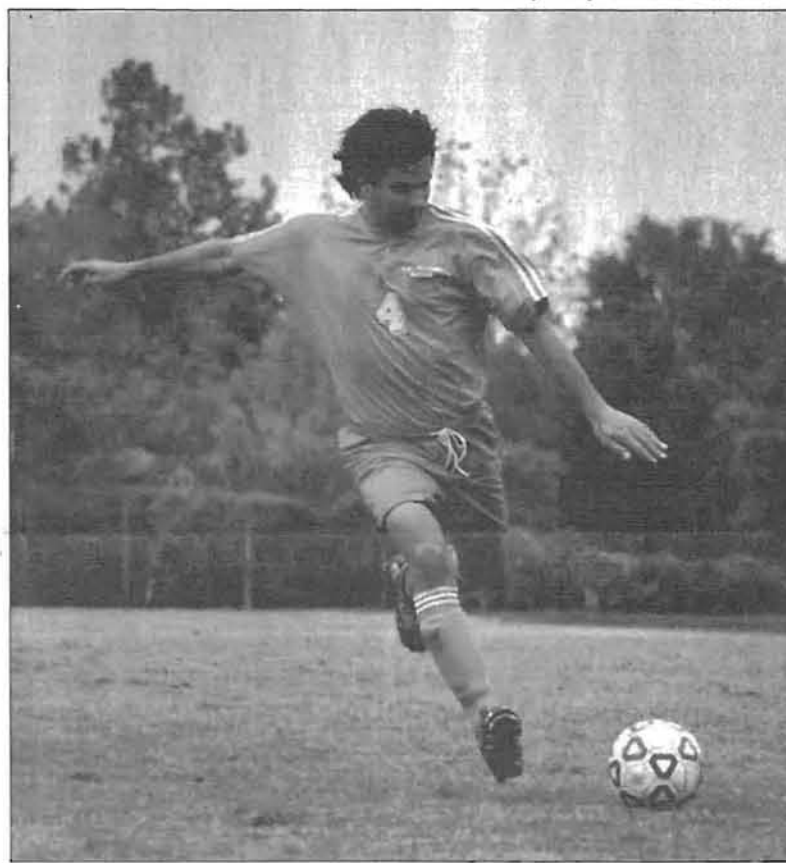
### GREAT LAKES VALLEY Conference Standings

Through Nov. 3, 2002

	GLVC	Overall
1. Lewis	8-2-0, 800	14-5-0, 757
2. UM-St. Louis	7-2-1, 750	9-6-1, 594
SIUE	7-2-1, 750	10-4-2, 688
4. Southern Indiana	7-3-0, 700	11-7-0, 611
5. Quincy	6-2-2, 700	10-5-2, 647
6. Bellarmine	5-5-0, 500	11-7-0, 611
7. Wisconsin-Parkside	4-5-1, 450	10-0-1, 418
8. Indianapolis	4-7-0, 300	4-11-3, 265
9. Northern Kentucky	2-6-1, 275	6-10-2, 359
10. St. Joseph's	2-8-0, 200	5-14-0, 263
11. Kentucky-Wesleyan	0-9-0, 000	0-13-0, 000

did take us time to gel. We did get a slow start. But that didn't throw us off track.”

“Let's face it, we're in one of the toughest conferences in the nation



## SOCCER UPDATE

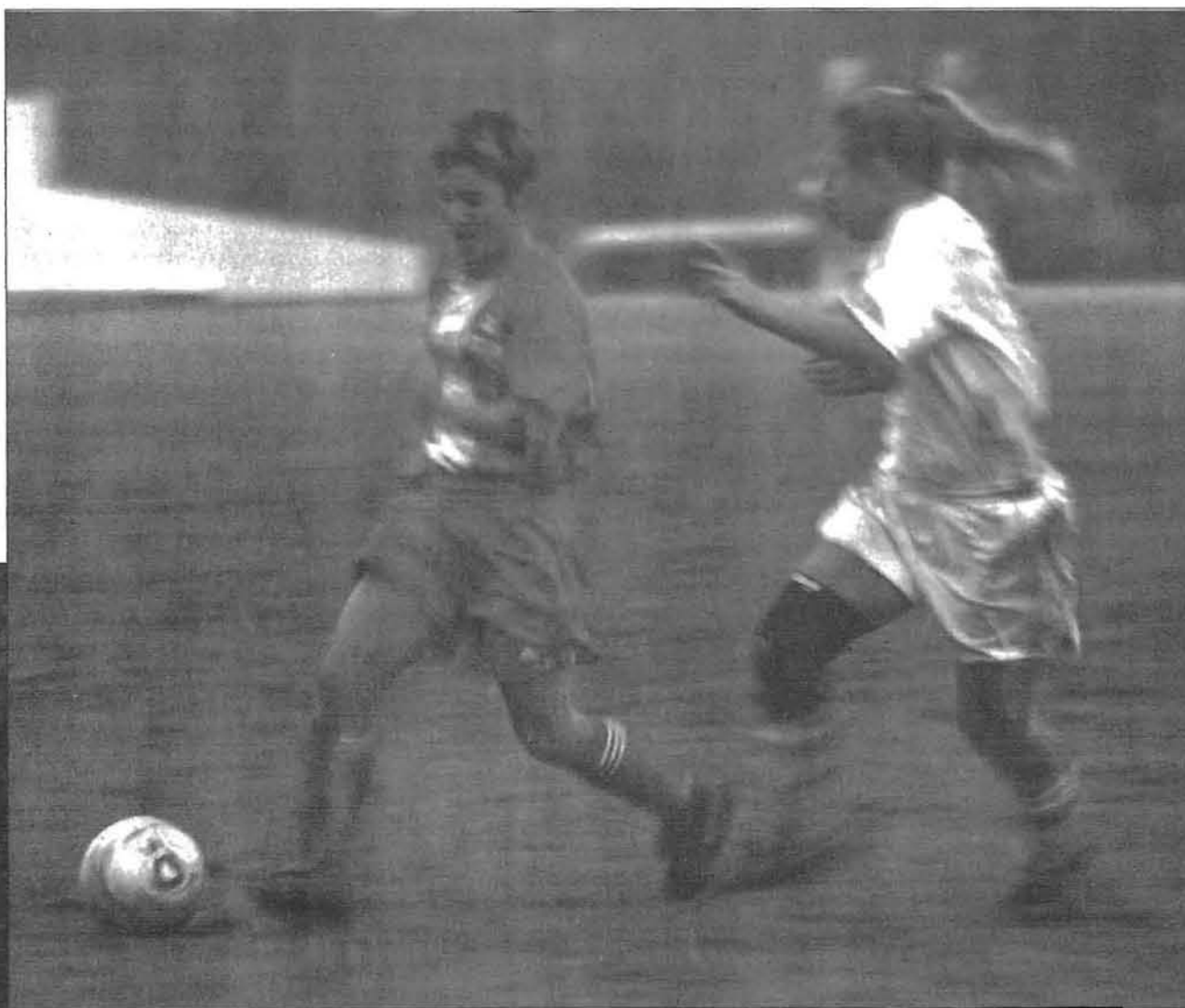
# Women's soccer team places second in GLVC

## UM-St. Louis Riverwomen Soccer

The Riverwomen soccer team faced St. Joseph's college in the first round of the GLVC tournament on a wet field Sunday afternoon. Despite the rainy weather, the UM-St. Louis squad eliminated the Pumas with a 2-0 victory.

UM-St. Louis will host a first round Great Lakes Valley Conference Tournament game for the third straight year. The Riverwomen finished second in the GLVC regular season this year, earning the right to host after finishing third in the conference standings each of the past two seasons.

The Riverwomen advance to the GLVC tournament semifinals hosted by Northern Kentucky University and will play the Bellarmine Knights at 4 p.m. on Nov. 8, 2002.



Photos by Kevin Ottley/The Current

ABOVE: Riverwomen Midfielder Becky Hart weaves her way past St. Joseph's player Erin Gallagher during last Sunday's game.

LEFT: St. Joseph's Anna Westwood leaps over UM-St. Louis midfielder Lindsey Jones. The Riverwomen won the game 3-1.

# SPORTS

## EDITOR

HANK BURNS  
Sports Editor

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## COMING UP

### Soccer Nov. 6

• Men - 1 p.m.  
vs. Wisconsin-Parkside  
in the GLVC Tournament

### Volleyball Nov. 6

• 7 p.m.  
at SIUE

8

• 7 p.m.  
at Kentucky Wesleyan

### Basketball Nov. 22-23

• Women - at the Saginaw  
Valley State Tournament in  
University Center, Mich.

23

• Men - 3:15 p.m.  
vs. Rockhurst

25

• Men - 7 p.m.  
at Harris Stowe

27

• Women - 5:30 p.m.  
vs. Illinois-Springfield

• Men - 7:45 p.m.  
vs. Illinois-Springfield

30

• Women - 1 p.m.  
at Bellarmine

• Men - 3:15 p.m.  
at Bellarmine

## WEB

Check out the R-men  
and R-women sports at  
www.umsl-sports.com



**EDITOR**

**CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER**

A&E Editor

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**A&E Calendar**

**Movies**

Film openings are subject to change

**Nov. 6**

**Broken Lullaby** - the 'Cine in the City' offering this month at the City Museum; the classic 1932 anti-war film directed by Ernst Lubitsch, starring Lionel Barrymore, at the City Museum's Beatnik Bob's Café at 7:30 p.m., one night only

**Nov. 8**

**The Grey Zone** - based on a true story of Auschwitz, stars Harvey Keitel and Mira Sorvino, directed by Tim Blake Nelson (director of 'O', co-star of 'O Brother Where Art Thou')

**8 Mile** - drama starring rapper Eminem

**Specials:**  
**Sordid Lives** - campy and touching comedy about a gay man in the South, one week only at the Tivoli

**Nov. 15**

**Half Past Dead** - action thriller with Steven Seagal, Morris Chestnut

**Phone Booth** - thriller about a man trapped in a phone booth by a sniper, with Colin Farrell, directed by Joel Schumacher  
**Bloody Sunday** - documentary-like film about the Northern Ireland massacre that touched off years of Irish unrest

**Specials:**  
**The St. Louis International Film Festival** - the eleventh annual film fest starts this night and runs through Nov. 24 at the Tivoli and Hi Pointe theatres and Webster University

**Nov. 22**

**The Emperor's Club** - drama with Kevin Kline  
**Die Another Day** - James Bond flick, with Halle Berry and Pierce Brosnan  
**Swept Away** - romantic comedy remake of Italian classic, with Madonna, director Guy Ritchie

**Nov. 26**

**Down from the Mountain** - documentary about the music and musicians of the Coen Brothers' film 'O Brother Where Art Thou?', one night only

**Nov. 27**

**Adam Sandler's 8 Crazy Nights** - animated holiday musical comedy  
**Treasure Planet** - Disney animated comedy, voices by Emma Thompson, David Hyde Pierce

**MOVIE REVIEW**

**Humor, direct-hit commentary bowl you over in 'Bowling for Columbine'**

**BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER**  
A&E Editor

"Bowling for Columbine" is a tour-de-force of humor and horror. Personal charm and biting humor are the tools of great documentary filmmaker Michael Moore. In "Bowling for Columbine," Moore takes on the American penchant for violence and produces an even funnier and harder-hitting film than "Roger and Me."

Best known for his satiric documentary "Roger and Me" about the impact of the closing of the town's major employer, a Ford auto plant, on his home town of Flint, Michigan, Moore is now recognized as one of the world's top documentary filmmakers. "Bowling for Columbine" was the first documentary allowed in competition at the Cannes Film Festival in 46 years, where it won the 55th Anniversary Prize. The film is named for the favorite class of the two gunmen in the Columbine High School massacre, a Phys Ed bowling class they attended before setting out on their deadly spree. Since this was their favorite activity at school and they indulged this passion before their assault, does bowling cause violence?

Like "Roger and Me," director Moore takes on a tragic topic and turns it into a funny but compelling piece of social commentary, an amazing accomplishment that has made Moore both famous and respected as a filmmaker. Moore's topic in this film is gun violence in America, and Moore looks at plenty angles of this topic.

The film opens with Moore getting a free gun for opening a bank

account, in a Texas bank. Only in America would you find bank that is also a gun dealer. The irony of a bank handing you a gun is inescapable, a concept Moore has a bit of fun with along the banks' employees. Moore's charm and non-threatening persona make it easy for him to draw in others in to his sense of playfulness. Moore opens his account and gets his gun with glee, with the banks' employees smiling and laughing along with him. The flavor of irony is pervasive.

Moore goes on a kind of enter-

“  
The film is named for the favorite class of the two gunmen in the Columbine High School massacre, a Phys Ed bowling class they attended before setting out on their deadly spree.  
”

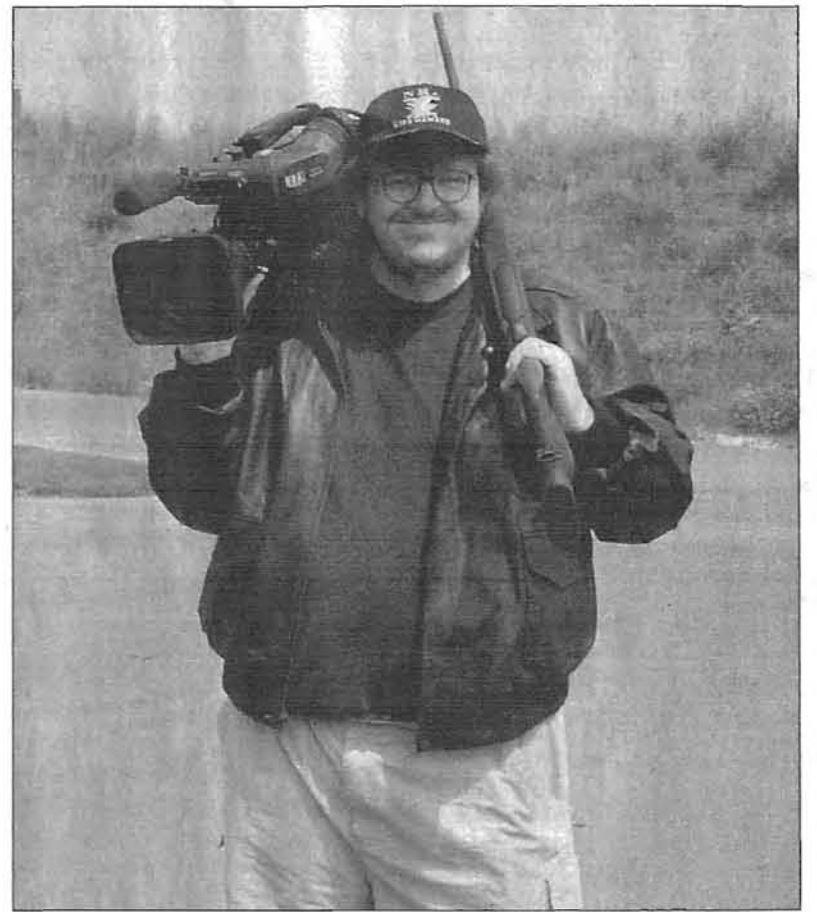
taining and confrontational road trip as he examines the topic. From his own toy gun saturated childhood to the myths of the Wild West, Moore uses animation, interviews, and Moore's everyman confrontations to pepper the film with comic and compelling images.

Along the way, we get biting humorous commentary and riveting unseen footage. We see bits of the security videotape from Columbine High School, interviews with students who knew the assailants, and a poignant meeting with a pair of stu-

dents who were shot in the attack. He looks at things that have been blamed for school violence - from music, movies, video games and the Internet to the prevalence of guns and ease of access to them, with his trademark pudgy, nice-guy style and sly humor. Moore talks to wide array of people, exploring the issue thoroughly, rather than only presenting a single point a view. He talks to NRA members (Moore is a card-carrying member), talks to the brother of Terry Nichols, Tim McVey's co-defendant in the Oklahoma bombing. He visits the school where a 6 year-old shot another 6 year-old in a classroom in his hometown of Flint and visits with American hunters. He talks with shock-rocker Marilyn Manson in a surprisingly intelligence interview, the producer of the TV show "Cops," and the creator of the cartoon "South Park," who went to high school at Columbine and provides a short cartoon history of the U.S. for the film. Ultimately, Moore's renown as a filmmaker allows him a surprising interview with NRA head Charleston Heston.

Eventually, Moore expands his quest to other countries, to see how they compare in both gun ownership and gun violence to the good old US. Here he encounters the surprising fact that Canadians are avid hunters and own as many guns as Americans yet have small fraction of the violence against people that exists here. If it's not gun ownership, then what is the difference?

Everyone should see this film. I never say that about a film, but I'll make an exception for this one. It is an entertaining and absorbing film that examines a sensitive subject in the most powerful way possible, with



Courtesy of United Artists

**Michael Moore displays his weapons - a gun and a film camera - as writer, producer and director of United Artists and Alliance Atlantis' award-winning documentary "Bowling for Columbine."**

humor and an everyman patriotism. In an interview, Moore described his attitude towards documentary filmmaking by saying "people don't go to movies to be beaten up or lectured. They go to good movies...to be challenged and...to be entertained." This unique combination of humor and information very effectively explores

a topic that perplexes and troubles all Americans. Moore doesn't have all the answers but he sure knows how to ask the right questions and dig out information in a very accessible way. Every politician, business leader, and media head should be tried to a chair and forced to watch this film. The country would have to be better for it.

**MOVIE REVIEW**



Courtesy of Columbia Pictures

**Adam Sandler stars as Barry Egan, an oddball owner of a company that makes novelty toilet plungers, in "Punch-Drunk Love."**

**'Punch Drunk Love' weaves, bobs through odd comedy**

**BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER**  
A&E Editor

In "Punch Drunk Love," Adam Sandler plays Barry, the oddball owner of a company that makes novelty toilet plungers. This shy and passive fellow is dominated by his seven sisters and lives an isolated and lonely existence. While Barry is passive toward his tormentors, he has a powerful destructive side, which shows up when he is frustrated and vents his anger on his surroundings. Suddenly, Barry's limited life is changed by a chance encounter with an English woman Lena (Emily Watson) to whom he is immediately attracted.

All this sounds like a very promising premise for a quirky comedy, but a premise is not all you need for a good story.

First the good news. For fans of the director of "Magnolia," this film offers stupendous visual artistry. Scene after scene, shot after shot is beautifully

composed, gorgeously framed, and stunningly affecting. The editing and pacing of the visual elements are perfectly breathtaking. A great deal of the humor comes out of the visual elements, bringing to mind the great silent comedies, especially the films of Buster Keaton. Fans of the photographic quality and style of "Magnolia" will have their expectations exceeded. If you ever go to a film just for the visual creativity and beauty of the photography, editing and mis-en-scene, run to see "Punch Drunk Love." Cinematographer Robert Elswitt and writer/director Paul Thomas Anderson have created a thing of beauty and originality. The photography shows real genius.

Now the bad news. The comedy is a slim and puzzling love story that often seems disconnected from the comedy in the film, and Sandler does not turn in the same startling performance that Anderson got from Tom Cruise in "Magnolia".

The film never quite develops any

depth in its characters, about whom we are never given much information or history, and who remain curious and unexplained cartoon puppets as they move through the beautifully framed but simple plot. The film's story is so simple it could be written on a postcard. This isn't a bad thing in itself, as many of the great comedies of the silent era could be described the same way. However, these great comedies had a depth of character development and multilayered wordless acting, something "Punch Drunk Love" lacks. Underplayed acting is a powerful thing but this film offers mostly just blankness instead. Most of the comedy and indeed many of the events of the film have nothing to do with the story, much less advance the plot, somewhat like the silent Keystone comedies before Chaplin and Keaton showed that you could have both a story and comedy.

see PUNCH DRUNK, page 7

**MOVIE REVIEW**

**'Sunday Bloody Sunday' New movie delves into Irish massacre**

**BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER**  
A&E Editor

Most of what many Americans know about Bloody Sunday may come from the lyrics of the song of the same name by the band U2. The British and the Irish know far more about the tragic event of Sunday, Jan. 30, 1972, which triggered the modern Irish Troubles and twenty-five years of violence.

Certainly the Irish have been struggling with the British since before the Irish Potato Famine that drove so many Irish to America's shores in the nineteenth century. But the violence of the last half of the twentieth century had its roots in a spark on a particular Sunday that started a conflagration.

"Bloody Sunday" is not a documentary, although it certainly looks like one. The movie tells the story of that fateful day's events in a straightforward, unnarrated documentary style with a hand held camera.

Although the minimal introduction and lack of a narrator at first make the story puzzling to Americans unfamiliar with the events and individuals involved, we are eventually drawn in by the characters and start to pick up on the flow of events. In cinema verite style, the film recreates the events of a single day. The filmmakers used actors in the central roles but filled the rest of the cast with non-actors, both British and Irish, many who had a connection to the day's events. Some of these were ex-military, or residents of Derry, even relatives of those in the march. Recreating this pivotal day on location in Derry and in Dublin had to have been extremely moving for those involved, and this shows through in the film. On Bloody Sunday, 27 people were shot, 13 unarmed civilians died, and more than 3000 people were killed in the years of violence that followed.

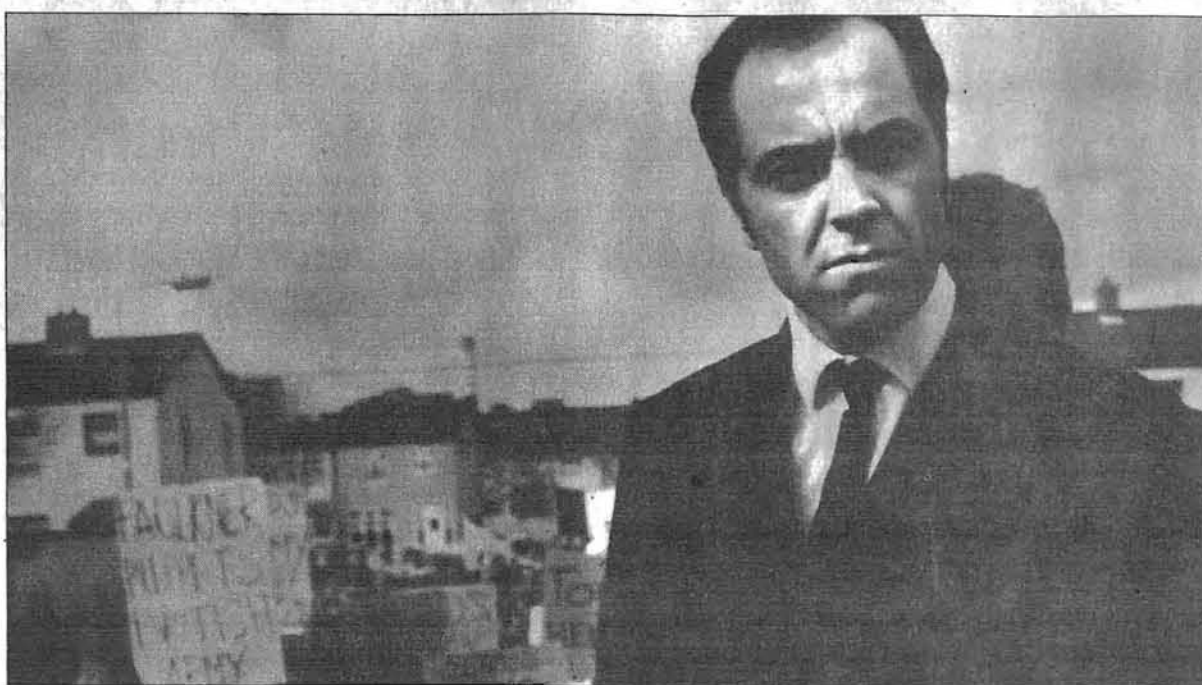
see BLOODY SUNDAY, page 7



Courtesy Paramount Classics

**Simon Mann (center) portrays British Colonel Wilford in "Bloody Sunday." The movie recounts the events of Jan. 30, 1972, one of the bloodiest days in the Irish/British feud.**

**BLOODY SUNDAY, from page 6**



Courtesy Paramount Classics

**James Nesbitt as Civil Rights leader Ivan Cooper in "Bloody Sunday," Paul Greengrass' award-winning film of the tragic events that occurred on Jan. 30, 1972.**

The massacre took place when a Sunday civil rights march in the North Ireland city of Derry met the unyielding force of British soldiers determined to squelch any protest at any cost. The story starts early in that single day with the events leading up to this disaster.

Four threads are used to weave this story, two Irish and two British. On the Irish side, we follow Member of Parliament Ivan Cooper (James Nesbitt) and the organizers of the march. We also follow the Irish civilians, particularly a young Catholic rebel Gerry Donaghy (Declan Duddy, nephew of the 17-year-old who was the first one killed) who was in love with a Protestant girl. On the British side, we follow the military leaders, including Brigadier MacLellan (Nicholas Farrell), in the command center of the thousands of newly arrived British troops. The second thread on the British side is a soldier (Mike Edwards), who is in a unit of elite British Paratroopers with a fearsome reputation, brought in from Belfast and stationed on the edge of what the Paras considered a war front.

The protest march is led by M. P. Ivan Cooper, a Protestant in a mostly Catholic civil rights organization set on bringing peaceful change to Northern Ireland through the civil disobedience methods of Martin Luther King. In the course of the day, Cooper repeatedly struggles against hotter heads, holding down their cries for violence with continual quotes from M. L. King. The IRA and guns

are banned from the event. The film cuts back and forth between the Irish preparing for what they expect to be a peaceful march and the British soldiers who want to prevent any demonstration. The British military leaders are receiving pressure to stop the march and make an example of the marchers to discourage other protests. Major General Ford (Tim Piggott-Smith), commander of land forces in Northern Ireland, orders Brigadier MacLellan, the Derry local commander, to come up with a plan that has to include using the elite Paratroopers to arrest a large number of marchers. The soldiers continually use the terms of warfare to describe the confrontation they expect. These two mindsets lay the track for the inevitable violent collision. When a soldier thinks a shot has been fired at him, all hell breaks loose.

Filmmaker Paul Greengrass has commented that this is a story that could not be filmed until now, because of the raw emotions involved. With the distance of time and Northern Ireland in peace for the moment, the event could be reexamined. The fact that the filmmakers are British adds to the strength of the film. Greengrass' using both British and Irish non-actors could not have been possible without the passage of time. Their presence has to contribute to the emotional aspect of the film, despite its stripped-down cinematic approach to the story. Certainly, it makes a powerful and cautionary film.

While the subject is gripping, the

techniques used to tell it are somewhat flawed. The use of a hand-held camera to create a documentary feel to the film is an admirable impulse that goes wrong. By overdoing the jerky camera movement, the filmmaker creates a dizzying, nauseating effect reminiscent of "The Blair Witch Project," which makes one want to recommend anti-seasickness pills before viewing. As a result, the film has a sustained shaky look that no real documentary or news footage would have. This keeps the audience constantly aware that they are watching a film, and stands in the way of becoming absorbed in the events unfolding. Yet, the acting is so astonishingly effective and the events shown are so powerful, that the audience was moved and stricken by the tragedy despite this obstacle. As the film concludes, one of the Irish comments that the civil rights movement is now dead and the British just handed the militant IRA their greatest recruiting victory. The years of violence that followed proved this statement to be true.

This is a worthy and moving film about one of the significant blows against peace in the second half of the twentieth century. The parallels to recent treatment of people engaged in peaceful protest against world trade organizations or in other uneven conflicts that place unarmed civilians in conflict with armed forces cannot be missed. This is a powerful film any thinking person should see, but be cautioned about the motion-sickness inducing camera work.

**BOOK REVIEW**

**New Orleans full of fun, mystery**

BY SARA PORTER  
A&E Associate

When someone says that a book is hard to put down, quite often they mean it in two ways. The first is that the novel is either well written with brilliant characterization, terrific dialogue, and a believable setting that leave the reader satisfied. The other possibility is that the book is so disturbing, so frightening that the reader can not put it down no matter how much he or she wants to, and is often left with a miserable uncomfortable feeling afterwards. "Mysteries of New Orleans" by Baron Ludwig Von Reizenstein and translated by UM-St. Louis history professor, Steven Rowan, walks a delicate tight rope of falling into both categories. While "Mysteries of New Orleans" is certainly well written, with interesting characters and a remarkable setting, it is ultimately a very disturbing and pessimistic book that is hard to forget and, yes hard to put down.

"Mysteries" was published in 1854 for two German language newspapers and was banned shortly after publication only to be resurrected over 100 years later by Rowan who translated it from its original German. It was definitely a book that, though one could really be interested in, can also greatly understand why the book fell under such controversy early in its lifetime. Though to a more modern audience used to such horrors found in Stephen King and V.C. Andrews, the effect might be of a more genteel and less frightened nature.

"Mysteries" opens with a couple, mulatto prostitute, Lucy Wilson and her lover, the very married and effem-

inate, Emil. After an encounter in which the two end up in each other's clothes, Emil and Lucy meet a mysterious old man, Hiram who gives them two things: a letter and a seed called mantis religiosa. Hiram, a 200 year old sorcerer and prophet, then proceeds to tell them that he intends to punish New Orleans for allowing slavery by spreading yellow fever, but Emil and

"Mysteries of New Orleans" also includes a sense of reality. The book contains scenes of rape, implied incest, lesbianism, homosexuality and transvestitism. It also doesn't hide behind hidden words describing some of the more horrible aspects of slavery, plus the realistic descriptions of such illnesses as mental illnesses and yellow fever. The Bronte sisters, this isn't.

Like many longer novels, "Mysteries of New Orleans" gives us an interesting set of characters. The colorful cast in this book however, though interesting, are for the most part, extremely unlikely. Everybody from Emil's fickle sister Jenny, to the sexually aggressive Hungarian Lajos, to the secretive Aunty Celestine, to the adulterous Abbe Dubreuil, to the passionate lesbian couple, Orleana and Claudine, to the creepy Hiram and the couple, Emil and Lucy are portrayed in a very complex, but unfavorable light. These characters appear to be motivated simply by greed, lust and self-gratification, but wild colorful characters they are. They are like the novel version of people that your mother warned you to stay away from. They aren't good for you to be near, but they are so gosh darn entertaining.

The horror elements become more and more prominent as the story goes on and each character is destroyed because of Hiram's plan. A particularly gripping scene towards the end, shows Hiram presenting all of the lead characters with a symbolic slide show of what the future holds for them. Leading a few of them to madness, rage and some, even death.

"Mysteries of New Orleans" is a book that is definitely readable, but unforgettable. Proceed with a strong stomach.

“  
The horror elements become more and more prominent as the story goes on and each character is destroyed because of Hiram's plan.  
”

Lucy, lucky them, are going to be spared to fill a greater purpose: to give birth to a "black messiah who will liberate the black race from the bonds of slavery." The book just gets weirder from there.

Like many Gothic novels, "Mysteries" plays host to many of the Gothic genre's conventions. In this book, we have women going insane, doppelgangers that cause trouble for look alike, secrets that could destroy families, one or two spooky mansions, prophetic visions and an overwhelming dose of the supernatural. But unlike most Gothic novels of the time period that readers are used to,

**PUNCH DRUNK, from page 6**



Courtesy of Columbia Pictures

**Adam Sandler stars as Barry Egan and Emily Watson stars as Lena Leonard in "Punch-Drunk Love."**

Casting Adam Sandler in the lead of a romantic comedy seemed to be such a bold move that this film has been eagerly anticipated, possibly as a career-changing role for Sandler. Sandler is a love-him-or-hate-him kind of comic, who has been described by some critics as the "laziest comedian in America." Having indie filmmaking giant P. T. Anderson select him for this role was too tantalizing to pass up.

It turns out Anderson is a fan of Sandler's work and ironically that fact may have worked against this film. Sandler's fans will not find his usual work here, as the comic persona is stripped of his usual goofiness while the underlying hostility or meanness in the humor remains. Since little of his playfulness is present, some have been impressed with Sandler's ability to hold down his usual personality for this role. Sandler plays Barry in a surprisingly restrained, underplayed manner, which should work for this guy yet it

seems that Sandler doesn't have the range to add a subtext to the performance. Without that element, he becomes a puzzling automaton instead of a poignant hero.

The film is filled with curious and funny bits that having nothing to do with the story, thin as it is. Although they are marvelously funny, the disconnection from the story seems odd and we keep expecting to find meaning in actions or events that turn out to mean nothing at all. Throughout the latter part of the film, the director uses a song from the live action cartoon film Popeye in the background, which fits very well with this film. The parallel is ironic.

Oddly, this film was inspired by a real person that P.T. Anderson read about in Time magazine, a California civil engineer who discovered a flaw in frequent flyer mile promotion that allowed him to accumulate 1.25 million free airline miles by purchasing \$3000 worth of pudding cups. Intrigued by the story, Anderson met

with the engineer, who inspired him to develop the character of Barry and sparked the idea of doing a romantic comedy.

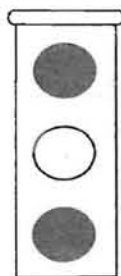
So- here is the dilemma. The film can be unreservedly recommended to fans of stylish, visual filmmaking. It may be recommended with reservations to fans of Sandler's work, as it is by no means typical. If you liked "Magnolia" and are looking for the kind of rule-breaking performance that Tom Cruise delivered in that film or the meaningful story, you won't find a similar experience from Adam Sandler here. If you don't care about the cinematic look of a film and don't like Adam Sandler, probably little in this film will appeal to you. So, there are your options regarding this puzzling, good/bad film. For myself, it seemed to be a worthwhile but near-miss film. I love a visually stunning film, which "Punch Drunk Love" is, but Adam Sandler was a marginal and unremarkable aspect of this experience.

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# THE VILLAGE IDIOTS



Jason Granger Adam Bodendieck



Well. What an eventful week for those of us involved with "The Village Idiots." Your intrepid sources for information and advice went to a very helpful journalism conference in Orlando, Fla. Upon return, we decided St. Louis is very cold around this time of year. We also received some more great questions from our readers, and some other interesting mail as well. Let's get to it shall we?

"The Village Idiots" were just that: idiots. There is no room for that in stuff to be put in the paper, nor should drug use be encouraged by the SCHOOL PAPER. It puts a bad reputation on the school paper, and ultimately, the school.  
-Ice Blaze

Dear Ice Blaze-  
Our first hate mail! Our moms are so proud....

Anyway, we're sorry if anyone misunderstood our intentions in the first installment of the "Village Idiots." However, if you're going to hate us, hate us for the right reasons. If you carefully read our response to "Been High and Dry" last week, you would see that nowhere did we encourage, endorse or condone drug use. We do not endorse drugs or their use. Ours is not to judge, only to advise. We stand behind everything we said and will continue to do so in the future. Thanks for writing to us though. We appreciate the feedback.  
-Love Adam and Jason

Dear Village Idiots,  
I need your advice. I have this problem where I cannot say no. I believe that I am a well mannered young lady, except when it comes to telling young men no to sexual actions. I was raised to be polite, but this seems to be a problem after awhile. I do not think it is great to be with more than two guys in one night. Since this has been going for two

years, I have now realized I have a problem. It did not strike me right away, but lately I have heard my name flying around campus. I do not want to be known as the girl who cannot say no. Please help me with my sexual actions.  
-Sexually troubled.

Dear Sexually troubled,  
This is really far too sensitive an issue to discuss in this forum. However, we are concerned for your well being and would still like to assist you in your time of...need.

Therefore, please meet us at the Congress Inn (hourly rates available) Friday evening, say about seven-ish. We'll bring the Boone's Farm strawberry wine and all applicable party favors.  
-Love Adam and Jason

Dear Village Idiots,  
It was difficult for me to write this letter because my hands tremble with awe at your superlative wit and wisdom. But I must know- what should I do about my roommate? She leaves my CDs on the floor and spills soda on my favorite comic books, even "Zippy the Pinhead." The she claims that I have no right to use her towels, as though she has never heard the maxim, "All property is theft." What should I do? Should I kill her? I would really hate to do that, because she does bake muffins everyday, even if they are just from the "Krusteaz" mix, and I'd hate to lose my muffin supply.  
-Youth Needs to Know

Dear Youth Needs to Know,  
Not "Zippy the Pinhead!" Is nothing sacred? If that was the entire situation, we would wholeheartedly endorse killing your roommate (Note: We do not actually endorse murder.). However, the muffin factor seriously complicates matters (Note: We do endorse muffins- we love those

tasty treats!). While we're sure that you could probably find a new muffin source- maybe even a new roommate who would bake them for you without defiling your CDs and comic books- do you really want to take that chance? That's your call, but if it were us, we'd probably play it safe and keep the roommate, overlooking her shortcomings as long as the muffins keep flowing freely. Hell, we'd probably room with a certain Middle-Eastern dictator who shall remain nameless if he baked us muffins every morning (Note: We do not endorse Middle-Eastern dictators.).

Dear Village Idiots,  
I have an in-class problem upon which I am hoping you can shed some light. There is an individual in one of my classes who, whenever he opens his mouth, spouts forth nothing but nonsense, false intellectualism or other worthless, inane babblings. This simpton always chimes in with some sort of boot-licking remark of agreement to whatever the instructor says, trying in vain to bolster his faltering intellectual prowess. I keep trying to ignore him, but it is like trying to ignore the fact that you just had your tongue nailed to the breakfast table. What do I do? I am torn between ripping off my own ears just so I don't have to hear him speak anymore, or some rash act of violence that will surely result in my incarceration. Your profound insight to this matter would be appreciated.  
-On the Brink of Murder \*

Dear Brink,  
For us to truly understand the level of frustration you're feeling, we decided to find out just how hard it is to ignore the fact that you just nailed your tongue to the table. While enjoying our "Grand Slam" special at Denny's, we came to the conclusion that, yes it is hard to ignore the fact

## JOBS, from page 1

"I know it's [the job market] slow and tough, but I'm not really scared." Chris Hafer, senior, biology, Penn State, said several of his friends have expressed concern and doubt over post-graduate employment.  
"A lot of them say they don't want to leave college and face the real world because they know what to expect," Hafer said.

To improve their chances for employment, Rayman suggests students target the exact industry they want to pursue.

"It makes a tremendous amount of difference in the job field you're looking at. The reality is, there is a lot of varying within [the employment spectrum]," Rayman said. "For example, architecture and nursing are very

strong. Meanwhile, telecommunications are struggling, and consulting is terrible."  
Jeff Smithbower, senior, kinesiology, Penn State, said he is willing to relocate and accept low-standing positions from prospective employers in his field, if need be. He might, however, take another route.

"I'm probably going to go to graduate school," Smithbower said. "I'll get more income after I graduate [from there]," Smithbower said.

Rayman said students need to keep their heads up and continue to aggressively attack the job market.

"There is no question in my mind, if students graduate from here ... a very high percentage of people are going to be successful," he said.

## Grade your prof on MyProfessorSucks.com

BY OLIVER HAYS  
University of Connecticut

(U-WIRE) STORRS, Conn. - Finally students can turn the tables on their professors and grade them.

MyProfessorSucks.com allows students to grade their professor's performance. In order to participate, students simply register at the site (by giving an email address) and then are free to rate any professor.

Overall, the feeling among professors and students is that this is a very positive resource.

"It could be reliable and helpful to help you to be careful of who you take for a class," said Mark Riley, a fifth semester political science major at the University of Connecticut. "Your professor for a class makes a big difference."

The main downfall of the website seems to be that the students who add their evaluations seem to be the ones with a particularly extreme opinion of their professor on both ends of the spectrum. The vast majority of the grades are either in the As or Ds and Fs.

Political Science professor Richard Vengroff said that, while he believes this is an excellent website to have available, he is unsure whether the students who use it will be a good representation of the student population.

"I wonder if it is really representative of the people who took the class," he said. "It may give students who are interested in a particular class a distorted view. That would be my only restraint about it."

Vengroff, who has an A-plus rating on the site, said he still believes it could be a valuable resource.

"Having additional information available to students is always good,"

Vengroff said. Some students who have viewed the site believe the evaluations to be too vague to use in determining which professors they would choose.

"I might look at it when I make my schedule, but I wouldn't base my decision on it," said Stacy Vincent, a third-semester finance major. "Most teachers had both good and bad evaluations, not cut and dry. If you don't know anything about them it would be hard to figure out what they really like from reading the evaluations."

Dean Hanink, a geography professor at UConn, said that he does not put much stock in this website. Thus far his average is a D.

"I'm all for free speech," he said. "It's a good thing for students."

He said that the negative comments are not of significant concern to him.

"I don't care, no," Hanink said.

On the other hand, professors with high ratings seem to be very much in favor of the perpetuation and growth of the site. Journalism professor John Breen, who currently has an A-plus rating said that he believes it is a good resource for students.

"Sure its good, I got an A-plus," he said. "Anything that tells students about their professors is a good thing. Especially getting towards registration time it is great for students to have that available."

Breen said that this is not the first time students have had the ability to grade their professors.

"Student government used to give out a booklet with their own rating systems," he said. "It did probably about 100 professors."

According to Breen that system ended due to cost and the amount of work involved in putting it together for the student government.

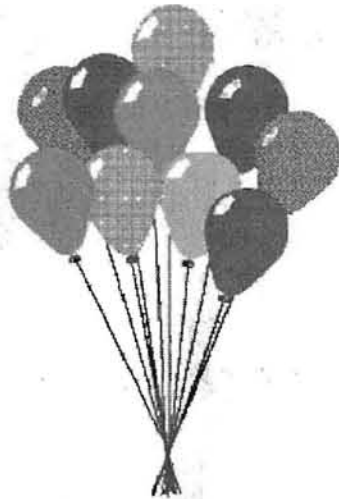
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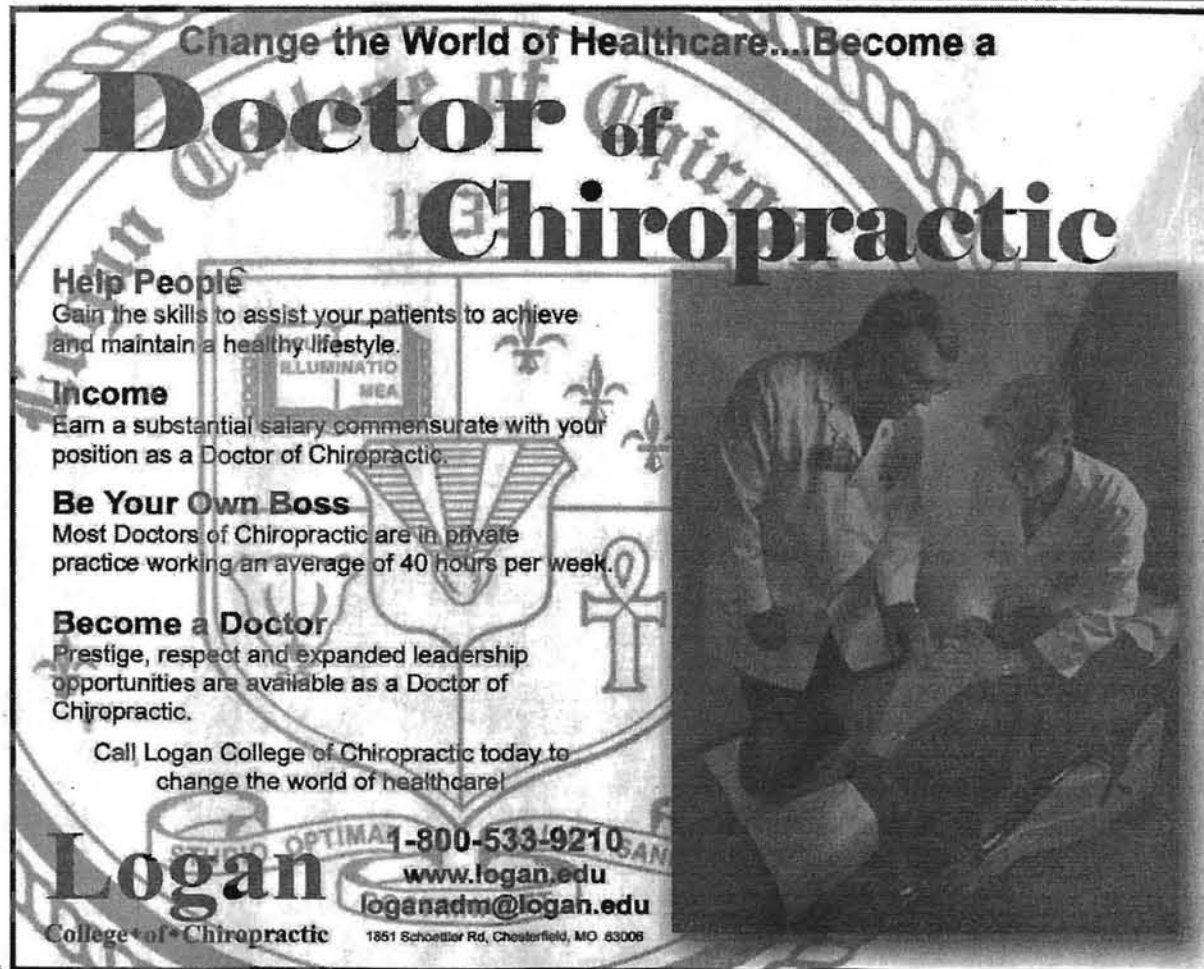
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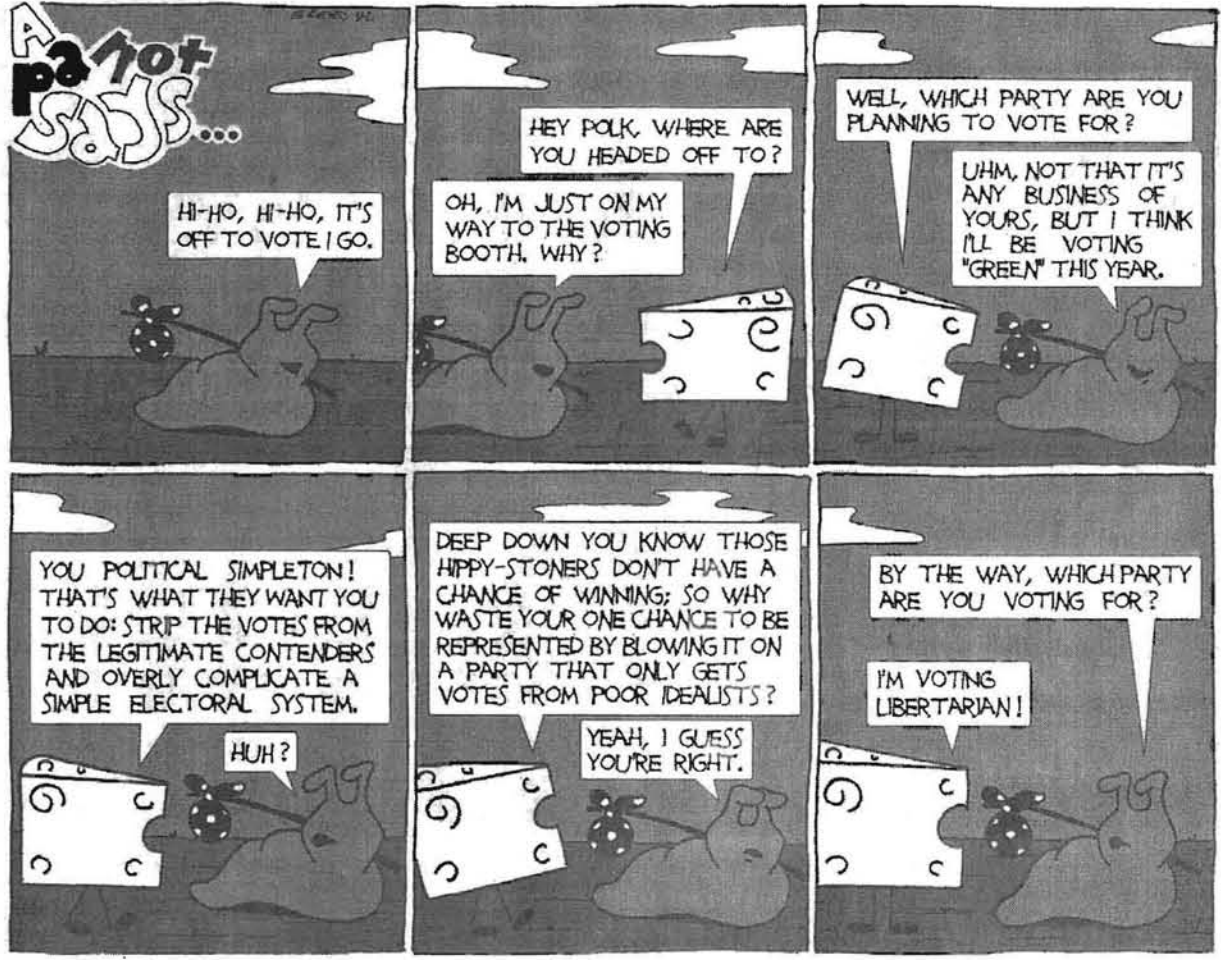
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Mike Sherwin/The Current

Pierre Laclède's Honor College. Students Elizabeth Lee, a freshman in Chemistry, and Joanne Tinsley, a freshman in music, collect donations of canned food and money from passersby on the MSC bridge. Items collected were donated to Team Food Pantry in Florissant, Mo. The drive was sponsored by Pierre Laclède's Honor College and the Delta Sigma Pi sorority. The group collected over 400 cans and raised \$383. The drive was held from Oct. 21 to Oct. 23.



Mike Sherwin/The Current

## The leaves, they are a-changin'

The UM-St. Louis campus benefits from the glorious display of autumn colors. Here, a maple provides a daub of color in front of the Mercantile Library Pyramid on north campus.

'LA BOHEME', from page 3

Along the way, Marcello and Rodolfo's friends, Colline and Schounard (Brian Kontes; Carlos Archuleta) provide a humorous and supportive system to the story.

"La Bohème" is filled with spirited, wry performances from the entire cast. They sing and act well in the demanding portrayals. As Rodolfo, Spyrès offers a very powerful singing voice and a very strong performance. He doesn't overact in the role, instead being very grave and quiet, sort of a strong center to his lover. He is particularly convincing when he reveals to Marcello about Mimi's ill state and how he feels he cannot trouble her any longer, but then changes his mind.

Andress makes a very angelic Mimi. She is a very frail, innocent woman, hampered by her ill health. She is very memorable particularly at the end, when the audience sees her in her final ill state and realizes how much it has taken its toll on her. She sings well too; during her solos she reaches the highest notes throughout the entire night.

Doner and Kinsella stand out as the older, more argumentative couple. As Marcello, Kinsella is something of a cynic and a grouch, but is also a devoted friend to Rodolfo. Doner also does well in her role as Musetta, a flirtatious and demanding woman who gains some insight because of her friendship with Mimi. Doner and Kinsella are particularly memorable in their first scene together, as Musetta tries to seduce Marcello first by mak-

ing him jealous by flirting with his friends and then by making advances at him. Marcello makes faces in annoyance throughout, but is clearly warming up to the idea. As Marcello and Musetta, Kinsella and Doner prove a strong contrast to the sweeter Spyrès and Andress in their quartets together.

As comic relief, Archuleta and Kontes do superb jobs as Marcello and Rodolfo's friends. Colline and Schounard take a more humorous approach to the events going on, such as the scene where they engage a mock duel with baguettes. But far from just being funny characters, they also provide a lot of loyalty to their friends, summarized nicely in Colline's solo before he sells his coat, his only possession. Kontes really stands out in that song.

Another interesting performance comes from David Kravitz as two brief but hilarious characters: the landlord Benoit and Musetta's previous lover, the aristocratic Alcindoro. Kravitz is particularly hilarious as Benoit, especially in the scene where he comes to collect the rent from the boys. He does a good job playing the sleazy, gullible landlord who brags to his friend about his amorous conquests, only to get kicked out because of their mock outrage before a single franc is collected.

If "La Bohème" is any indication, UM-St. Louis should be welcome to the idea of hosting many more operas in the future.

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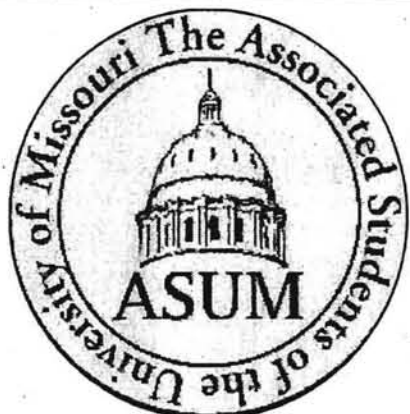
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