



The R-Women pick up a victory See page

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI - ST. LOUIS

Voice from the past: Reaction to a tragic assassination

Editor's note:
The following is a letter to the editor that *The Current* received in 1968 after the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Dear Editor:
It seems to me as if no one is quite sure about what has happened. Everyone seems a little numb. There is more fear than shock, more reticence than rallying.

An instructor of mine said that the assassination of Dr. King is of more significance than the assassination of John Kennedy. Nowhere else but at the peace vigil in front of the administration building can this be demonstrated more appropriately. The impact of a lesser figure, John Kennedy, was universal, more publicly evident—more people rallied. He was a figure of an establishment—less a historical personality in his own right. His passing in the long run would make little difference in our society—in fact it is his death we remember him for most. Kill a president and he becomes a hero in our society. To grieve for a dead president is the only thing to do.

Martin Luther King was a personality more positive, more apt to be loved to extremes and hated to extremes. His position was a more precarious one, his standing a more unusual one, and his death of a more real implication. He will not be remembered for his death but for his life.

The rally at UMSL was feeble, embarrassing, almost shameful. There is no question of rallying behind such a figure as a dead president. But the question of a civil rights figure, a controversial figure—a man who met greater odds in life than does a president...

The white community shows fear. Fear of being universally blamed for the act of assassination. The riots are evidence that they are being blamed. No one can be righteously shocked at the riots—they are expected from the situation. However, to show fear is to a certain extent to show guilt. The white community, as a whole, is in a way, guilty.

The black community shows belligerence. They too easily blame. That too, is an expected reaction. To a certain extent, they have a right to blame. But in doing so the problem loses proportion, becomes frenzied and unruly. What will be the role of Black Power from now on?

The rally seemed a mere token display rather than a real tribute. There were overtones of embarrassment that it did not "come off." The small attendance could be a display of fear on the part of whites that in their guilt, their tribute would not be accepted. It could be a display of blame or one of communalism on the part of blacks that this loss is not to be shared by whites—King was their leader.

see MLK LETTER, page 5

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Legacy of a Legend

Remembering Martin Luther King, Jr.

BY JASON GRANGER
News Editor

In his song "Shed a Little Light," singer James Taylor once said, "Let us turn our thoughts today to Martin Luther King." Last Monday, the country turned its collective thoughts to Martin Luther King to honor the memory of the most influential civil rights activist of the last 100 years.

King, who was assassinated in 1968, pioneered the idea of peaceful protest in the face

Dexter Avenue Baptist Church, and this is when he became active in the civil rights movement.

Martin Luther King, Jr. - The Activist

In one of the most infamous occurrences of civil disobedience, Rosa Parks, a Montgomery, Ala. resident, refused to give her seat on a bus to a white man. She was kicked off the bus, leading to a 382-person boycott by the black population in that city. At the front of the controversy was King. King was arrested and continually threatened with physical violence but did not sway in his protest. At one point, his home was bombed, but he believed that bus segregation was unconstitutional. Eventually, the U.S. Supreme Court agreed with him.

"How do you measure a man," said Communication Lecturer Sidney A. Savan. "Very few people have changed the world, but Martin Luther King changed not only this country but the whole world."

In 1963, King's nonviolent approach was put to its most severe test in Birmingham, Ala. During a mass protest advocating fair hiring practices and desegregation of department stores, Birmingham police met the protesters with violence. The impact of the protest was enormous. Throughout the country, blacks and whites united to rally for the cause of the black population. King was arrested, but he continued his activism. While in jail, he wrote his "Letter from a Birmingham Jail," which was picked up and run by several northern newspapers.

A few months later, King delivered one of the most famous speeches of the Twentieth Century. King delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech after a march on Washington D.C.

"I have a dream my four children will one day live in a country where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character," King said in that legendary speech.

see MLK, page 3

Martin Luther King, Jr. - The Life

Martin Luther King, Jr., was born in Atlanta on Jan. 15, 1929 to Martin Luther King, Sr. and Alberta Williams King. He was originally given the name Michael but was renamed Martin when he was six years old. One of three children, King grew up in a strict Ebenezer Baptist household. His father was a pastor in an Atlanta church, and as such, faith was an important aspect of King's upbringing.

King attended local elementary and high schools before heading off for college. He enrolled at Morehouse College in Atlanta in 1944. Originally, King was not planning on going into the ministry, preferring to focus more on intellectual pursuits. However, after meeting Benjamin Mays, he changed his mind. Mays convinced King that a religious career could be both morally fulfilling and also satisfy his desires for intellectual stimulation.

After he received his bachelor's degree in 1948, King attended Crozer Theological Seminary in Chester, Pa. He was named the outstanding student of his graduating class and also won the J. Lewis Crozer Fellowship award. He completed his doctorate in 1953 and was granted his degree two years later, after completing his dissertation.

King was married to Coretta Scott King by the time he received his doctorate. They moved to Montgomery, Ala. He became pastor of



Mike Sherwin/ The Current

Campus celebrates

BY BRIDGETTE MOORE
Staff Writer

"I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: We hold these truths to be self-evident. That all men are created equal."

The Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., in his famous "I Have a Dream" speech, spoke these words on Aug. 28, 1963.

Jan. 20 is the holiday observance of Martin Luther King Jr. One of many observances across the nation was held on the UM-St. Louis campus. According to Interim Chancellor Donald Driemeir, "The University of Missouri-St. Louis is a Martin Luther King kind of university."

Driemeir said that UM-St. Louis has the highest African American enrollment rate in the state of Missouri. Master of Ceremonies

Vickie Newton, anchor/reporter for KMOV channel 4, kept an open, neutral flow to the program. The observance felt as though King's life was being celebrated as opposed to his death being mourned. The Cleveland Junior Naval Academy Color Guard, recently made the Official Color Guard by Mayor Francis Slay in 2001, performed as well. William Kempf, director of the Catholic Newman Center at UM-St. Louis, asked that we all pray to whatever god we find peace with.

Keynote speaker Ralph F. Boyd, Jr., assistant attorney general for civil rights, U.S. Department of Justice, offered a well-rounded tribute to King. Boyd's speech displayed his beliefs and morals. Boyd called on the people in the audience, saying, "You drum majors have got to drum," referring to the title given to King as the Drum Major of Justice. He also stated, "We must stop seeing ourselves as victims and start seeing ourselves as empowered people lifting up our

community, lifting up America."

A skit performed by Historyonics Theater Company, called "Floodgates: Black and White in St. Louis," poked fun at the problems and conflicts between blacks and whites. When 15-year-old high school student Maxi Powers was asked what brought her to this observance, she said, "I came with my aunt; this is the first time I have ever taken note of Martin Luther King Day. Dr. King is in our history books, but I never thought of actually observing the holiday except to sleep in or do homework. Now I would like to learn more."

In his "From Strength to Love" speech in 1963, King said, "Nothing in all the world is more dangerous than sincere ignorance and conscientious stupidity." These words are as true today as they were when King first spoke them, and, as was evidenced by the large turnout, the observance of his birthday is the perfect time to reflect on them.

1929

Born January 15th

1944

Admitted to Morehouse College at 15

1953

He joined the Bus Boycott after Rosa Parks is arrested

Marries Coretta Scott

1956

The Supreme Court rules bus segregation illegal

1958

Martin Luther King, Jr. is nearly killed when stabbed by an assailant in Harlem

The U.S. Congress passed the first Civil Rights Act since reconstruction

1963

Martin Luther King, Jr. writes "Letter from Birmingham Jail"

"I Have a Dream" speech given during the largest civil rights demonstration of the 1960s

1968

"I Have a Dream" speech given during the largest civil rights demonstration of the 1960s

Martin Luther King, Jr. is fatally shot

1986

A national holiday is proclaimed in King's honor

Bullet In 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 one week prior to the event. Send submissions via mail at 388 MSC, Natural Bridge Rd., St. Louis, MO 63121, fax at 516-6811 or email at current@jinx.umsl.edu
All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.

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- Staff Writers**
 Charlie Bright, Danielle Cabell, Kate Drolet, Michal Isitt, Melissa McCrary, Nichole Richardson, Becky Rosner, Bridgette Moore, Ashley Richmond, Rob Huesgen

- Staff Photographers**
 Emily Fishman, Kevin Ottley, Sara Quiroz

388 Millennium Student Center
 8001 Natural Bridge Road
 St. Louis, Missouri 63121

- Newsroom • (314) 516-5174
 Advertising • (314) 516-5316
 Business • (314) 516-5175
 Fax • (314) 516-6811

campus
 388 Millennium Student Center
email
current@jinx.umsl.edu
website
<http://www.thecurrentonline.com>

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January

Mon 27 Chemistry colloquia

"Zeeman and Starck Spectroscopic Studies of Transition Metal Containing Radicals" will be the topic of the chemistry colloquia at 4 p.m. The event will take place in 451 of Benton Hall and is open to all audiences. For more information call James O'Brien at 516-5717.

Tues 28 Center for Teaching

There will be a free seminar for faculty from noon to 1 p.m. in room 316 MSC. The title of the seminar is "Adjusting Attitudes: Ideas for Teaching Hard-to-Reach Students." For more information, contact Dayna Stock at 516-5872.

Tues 28 (cont.) Sue Shear Institute

A "Pipeline to Local Office Campaign Training Program" will be held from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. in Century Room A on the 3rd floor of the MSC. This is a two-evening program that will continue on Wed., Jan. 29. Cost for both evenings is \$25 total. The event will cover how to develop a campaign plan and budget, strategies for targeting, fundraising and getting voters to the polls. The event is open to all audiences. For more information, contact Dayna Stock at 516-6623.

Thur 30 Counseling Services

From 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Counseling Services will help you Beat the Winter Blues. Be sure to stop by and visit their table set up on the first floor of the MSC and get a taste of sunshine while you're there. Call Counseling Services at 516-5711 for more information.

Fri 31 Student Life

There will be a late-night ice-skating party from 9 p.m. to midnight at Steinberg Skating Rink.

31 Phi Alpha Theta

Phi Alpha Theta History Society will host a party and election of officials meeting from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Alumni Center. All current and prospective student members are urged to attend.

Put it on the Board!

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

February

Mon 3 Chemistry colloquia

"Attachment of Organic Molecules at Semiconductor Interfaces" will be the topic of the chemistry colloquia at 4 p.m. The event will take place in 451 of Benton Hall and is open to all audiences. The visiting speaker will be C. Michael Greenleaf of UMC. For more information, call Zhi Xu at 516-5328.

Wed 5 Student Life

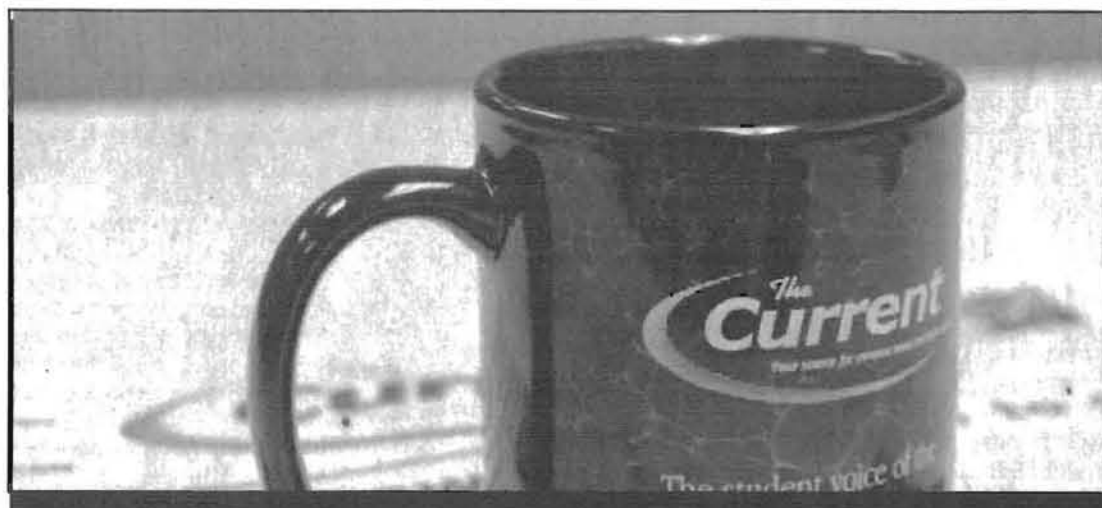
"Everything You Ever Wanted To Know About The Opposite Sex But Were Afraid To Ask" will be held at 6 p.m. in The Pilot House. Aren't boys/girls just the most confusing, hard-to-figure-out creatures? Bring all your friends, and ask the questions that have been plaguing you in a fun, festive, open forum.

Thur 6 University Program Board

World Lecture Series: Dr. Cornell West will be speaking on "Race Matters" at 7 p.m. in the MSC Century Rooms. The noted scholar and head of Princeton's Afro-American Studies Department discusses issues affecting all people in the new millennium.

Sat 8 Student Life

A Black Media workshop will be held from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the SGA Chambers. The speakers will be Robin Smith and Johnny Little. The event is open to all students and is free. For more information, call the Office of Student Life at 516-5291.



The Current, get caught up in it.

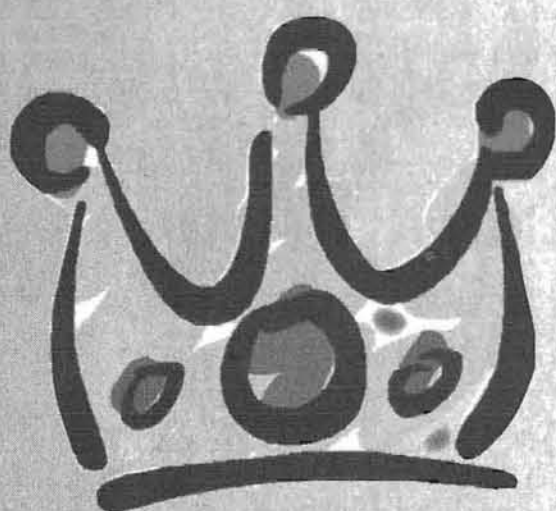
Check out the newest issue of *The Current* on newsstands every Monday.

Corrections

In issue 1074 of *The Current*, in the story titled "UMSL underfunded" on page one, incorrect numbers were used. The amounts for total budget expenditures for FY2003 were incorrect. A letter from Vice Chancellor of Managerial and Technological Services Jim Krueger on page five of this issue explains these errors.

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Homecoming 2003 Schedule



MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17

- Philanthropy (blood and canned food drives)
- 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Banner Wars

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

- Powder Puff Football • 3 - 4 p.m.
- Penny Wars
- Election for Court
- 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., 6 - 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

- Rec. Sports • 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- Big Man on Campus • 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.
- Bonfire/Pep Rally • 6 p.m.
- Elections for Court
- 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., 6 - 8 p.m.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20

- Mini Parade • 12 - 1 p.m.
- Basketball Game
- Men's team vs. Lewis at 7:45 p.m.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20 (CONTINUED)

- Women's team vs. Lewis at 5:30 p.m.
- Court Introductions, intermission of men's game
- Ping-Pong Championships, intermission of women's game

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21

- Dance • 7 p.m. - 12 a.m. at Windows off Washington
- King and Queen Crowned
- Spirit Competition Winners Announced

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22

ALUMNI FAMILY DAY

- Homecoming Basketball Game
- Men's team vs. SIU Edwardsville at 7:45 p.m.
- Women's team vs. SIU Edwardsville at 5:30 p.m.
- Spirit Competition Winners announced during intermission of men's game

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Campus cracks down on illegal file sharing

BY BECKY ROSNER & KATE DROLET
Staff Writers

Compared to stealing cars, downloading music and movies off of the Internet seems like no big deal. CDs and movies cost quite a bit of money, so why buy them when free materials are available online? Corporations are not buying this excuse and have decided to put an end to the problem of online copyright infringement.

Many UM-St. Louis students, particularly residents, have been utilizing Internet programs such as mIRC and Kazaa. These programs enable the public to download music and movies for free. These students, however, may not be aware that this process is illegal and violates federal law.

Ranken student Barney Schlacks commented, "Even though I've downloaded music from the Internet before, I still buy CDs so I can have all of the songs on one album. The download capability doesn't stop me from buying music."

The University has recently discovered that many students are using these programs in their dorm rooms to download copyrighted material. Warner Brothers and other companies whose media are being pirated have notified the proper education officials and demanded that student violators be held accountable.

"The movie companies are very

aggressive about pursuing people who are violating copyrights," said Jerry Siegel, associate vice-chancellor of Information Technology. "It's

"I can't say that [the consequences are] the same for every student...I can tell you that I am getting more aggressive in the type of sanctions. -Joanne Bocci, associate vice chancellor of Student Affairs"

gotten more serious over the last year...I must focus on the legal aspects of the issue. The University is treated as an internet service provider and must behave appropriately."

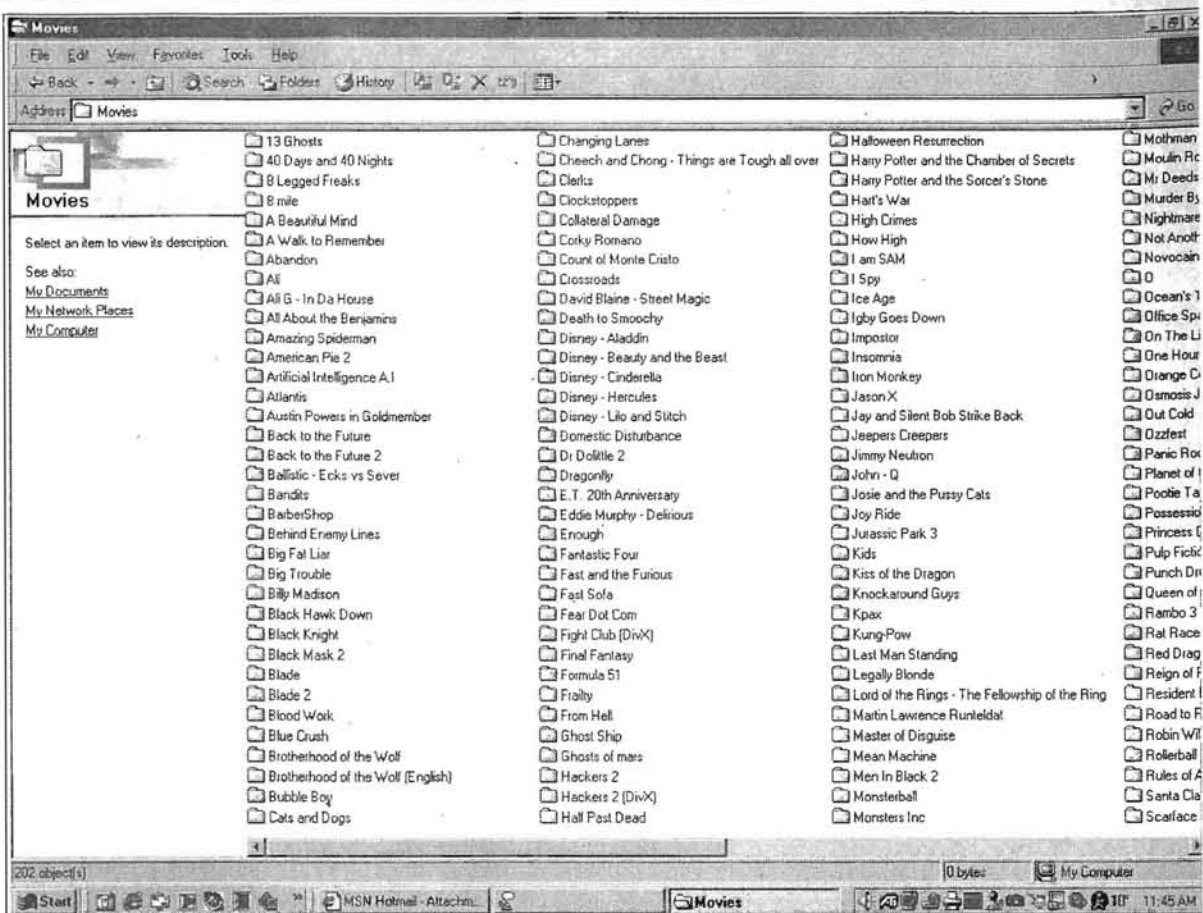
Joanne Bocci, associate vice-chancellor of Student Affairs, serves as the University's judicial officer and has done so for the past four years. "I've dealt with [this problem] since I've been here, and the number [of reported violations] has increased. The media companies are getting more rigorous about watching out for copy-

right infringement," Bocci said. Copyright infringement is defined in the University of Missouri Student Conduct Code as "Misuse in accordance with University policy of computing resources, including but not limited to... actual or attempted theft or other abuse..."

Media companies send the University a letter indicating the IP address and the name of the movie or music file that the student downloaded. Once the University is notified by a company that a certain IP address was documented to have downloaded copyrighted material, Associate Vice Chancellors Bocci and Siegel meet with the student with the IP address belongs to.

"I can't say that [the consequences are] the same for every student. If I had a predetermined sanction, for example one year probation for everyone who violates the copyright infringement policy, that would be saying that each case would be exactly the same, and they're not. We have to go on a case-by-case basis," said Bocci. "However, I have great latitude in sanctioning...I can tell you that I am getting more aggressive in the type of sanctions. It's not a slap on the wrist anymore."

Siegel observed, "The biggest problem is not the students denying that they have copies of the movie indicated in the letter. Repeated violations are the biggest issues. We don't



Graphic courtesy Kevin Ottley
Students at UM-St. Louis received notice that if they stay on campus, they are no longer permitted to download copyrighted materials from the internet.

know what the companies will do."

A copyright violation may not only have consequences within the University but can also hold federal consequences. The severity of education-related consequences varies from a simple written warning to permanent separation from the University. Federal penalties include liability for damages suffered by the copyright owner and, in extreme cases, copy-

right infringement can be considered a Federal crime. "I want students to realize that this is a big deal. I wouldn't want to see anyone suffer serious repercussions," Bocci said, "[Copyright infringement] is currently a hot topic in higher education. There are more and more cases going before judges. At one time, this was no big deal, but the bottom line is that companies are losing money now."

The University is sending out a letter regarding copyright violations to all dorm residents. The University has also added appropriate notifications to the computer labs stating the extent of copyright violations. Students can also access information about the topic of copyright infringement online at <http://www.umsl.edu/services/summer/copyrite>.

MLK, from page 1

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

King went on to be named "Time Magazine's" Man of the Year for 1963. Just months later, King was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. In 1964, King stayed busy, leading protests and marches in Chicago and Selma, Ala.

In 1968, King left home for Memphis, Tenn. He was leaving to lend his support to the sanitation strike taking place in Memphis. He wanted to discourage violence from taking place during the strike and, by attending, he was hoping to focus national attention on the plight of the poor sanitation workers. He never got the chance.

Martin Luther King, Jr. - The assassination

While attending the Memphis

strike, King stayed at the black-owned Lorraine Hotel just off Beale Street. While he was standing on the balcony with Jesse Jackson and Ralph Abernathy, King was shot in the neck by a rifle bullet. He was fatally wounded by the bullet, and his assassination sent shockwaves throughout the country. Violence broke out in a number of cities including Chicago, Philadelphia and Cleveland, Ohio.

James Earl Ray, a Memphis native, was arrested and convicted of murdering King. He was sentenced to life in prison, where he eventually died of cancer. However, in the last 10 years, speculation has arisen over whether Ray was guilty or not. New evidence presented to newspapers lent credence to his claim of innocence, to the point where King's wife declared that she did not believe Ray was guilty of King's murder.

Martin Luther King, Jr. - The impact

No other civil rights leader had nearly the effect on the civil rights

movement that King had. In the face of violent aggressors like Malcolm X and the Black Panthers, King remained staunch in his view that the only way blacks were going to gain equality was through non-violent means. President Johnson's Civil Rights Act of 1965 came as a direct result of King's efforts.

Jan. 15 is now a national holiday in honor of his birthday. On this day, educational programs, art displays, concerts and vigils are held throughout the country. The Lorraine Hotel, where he was assassinated, is now the National Civil Rights Museum.

"I know some people who don't believe Martin Luther King deserves his own holiday," Savan said. "They feel there are plenty of white people who did great things who don't have their own day. Martin Luther King changed the world."

James Taylor went on to sing, "And recognize that there are ties between us, all men and women, living on the Earth. Ties of hope and love, sister and brotherhood."

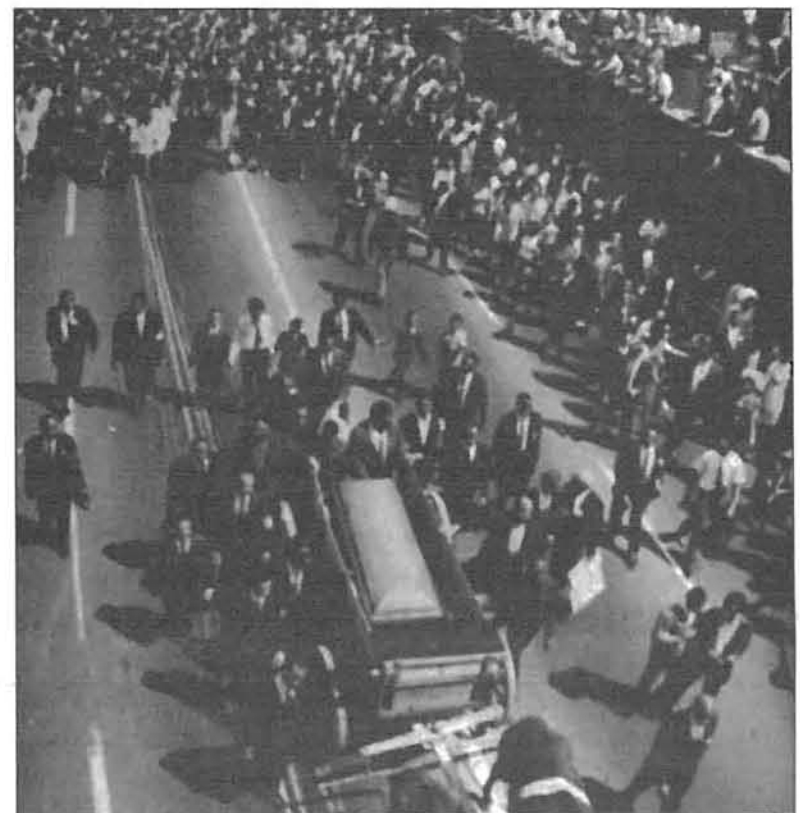


Photo courtesy mikonline.com
Millions of people mourned the death of Martin Luther King Jr. His death came at a time of great social upheaval in the United States. The Vietnam War was still being fought, John F. Kennedy and Robert Kennedy had both been assassinated and the women's liberation movement was gaining steam. Here, thousands of people march along with King's funeral procession in 1968.

NEWS BRIEFS

Frigid temperatures grip city

St. Louis was hit by the coldest weather of the new year last week as temperatures dropped below 0 degrees Fahrenheit. They were the coldest temperatures St. Louis has seen in almost three years.

Meteorologists encouraged citizens to check on the elderly and homeless as windchills hovered around -25 degrees. At those temperatures, frostbite sets in on exposed skin in about 25 to 30 minutes.

Homeless shelters filled up around the city because people were looking to get off the streets and into a warm location. Fox 2 meteorologist Dave Murray recently said he believes St. Louis is just beginning to see the worst of the cold weather and snow. According to Murray, February could

prove to be the coldest month St. Louis has seen in years.

College of Social Welfare and Public Policy in the works

UM-System President Elson Floyd has given approval to UM-St. Louis to create a new academic unit: the College of Social Welfare and Public Policy. The request for the new college was made by now-retired Chancellor Blanche M. Touhill.

The new college will include social work, the master's program in gerontology and the master's program in public policy administration.

The new dean for the school would hold the position of E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professor of

Community Collaboration and Public Policy.

Jerry Durham, vice chancellor for Academic Affairs, was appointed by Interim Chancellor Donald Driemeier to head a transition committee that would determine the actual cost of starting the new college and work out a plan to assign faculty and budget allocations to the new college from the College of Arts and Sciences.

Business College receives new dean

Thomas Eyssell has been named interim dean of the College of Business Administration.

Eyssell is an associate professor of finance at UM-St. Louis and currently directs the business graduate pro-

gram.

Eyssell came to UM-St. Louis in 1986. He helped to launch UM-St. Louis's first national MBA On-Line program.

Environmentalist to speak at UM-St. Louis

Michael Nelson, a St. Louis area environmental consultant and educator, will give the lecture, "Urban Youth, Nature and the Environment: Making the Connection and Addressing the Need" at 12:15 p.m. in room 229 of the J.C. Penney Conference Center on Jan. 27.

He will discuss a recent collaborative project that connected more than 250 urban youths with the natural environment via service, education,

art, culture and visits to state parks.

President Bush's war plans hit a snag

In a move that severely weakened President George W. Bush's plans to go to war with Iraq, France and Germany both declared they would not back an armed incursion into Iraq.

Calling France and Germany members of "Old Europe," Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld dismissed the notion that those two countries' backing would be necessary to attack Iraq.

However, France is a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council, and it has veto power as well. French officials have said that they will use their veto

power if the United States insists upon trying to garner UN support for armed action in Iraq.

Faculty colloquium to focus on learning disabilities

Dawn Allred, Pamela Morris and Phillip Ferguson will present the New Faculty Colloquium "When College Students Have Learning Disabilities" at noon in room 315 of the Thomas Jefferson Library. The three panelists will answer questions such as "How do faculty prepare for the increasing numbers of students with disabilities?" and "What legal and pedagogical responsibilities do faculty have to students with special needs?" For more information, call 516-4508 or visit www.umsl.edu.

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OPINIONS

OUR OPINION

Sneaking in the backdoor: Is illegal file sharing *that* bad?

At the January SGA meeting, Associate Vice-Chancellor for Technological Services Jerry Siegel stated to the Assembly that downloading entertainment from the Internet is like sneaking in the backdoor of a movie theater.

Recently, UM-St. Louis has had problems with students downloading and sharing copyrighted materials such as songs, video games and movies.

Siegel also tried to scare students by telling them that the University cannot protect them if media companies decide to press charges for downloading such materials.

This is all well and good. However, why now, all of the sudden, is UM-St. Louis coming down hard on students? It's not exactly like this is a new phenomenon.

Around three years ago, Napster, a peer-to-peer free file sharing system, was dominating news stories. People could download any song they wanted for free and then burn them to CD-R, thereby avoiding purchasing CDs from retail outlets. The music industry claimed Napster and knock-off programs like Morpheus, along with websites like mp3.com were going to ruin the entire entertainment business. According to these companies, billions of dollars were being lost each year. Although such results were never proven true, Napster was shut down, Morpheus was flooded with pop-up ads, and Mp3.com got a huge makeover. It didn't take long, however, for a new peer-to-peer system, Kazaa, to crop up and millions upon millions of people around the world were once again enjoying the benefits of free music, movies, porn, video games and images while closing out of thousands of pop-up ads. Kazaa is now the most used peer-to-peer file sharing system on the planet.

Now, the administration, after years of allowing students to download these files, has decided to crack down on the students using these file sharing programs. There is a certain hypocrisy involved in this new rule. It seems as though if big companies aren't breathing down the neck of the University, the University doesn't care if students engage in illegal file sharing. Once Warner Brothers or Sony get their knickers in a knot and begin to lean on the school, then out of nowhere, it becomes a no-no. This may be a slippery slope, but this argument is like saying no one cares if a person robs Fort Knox until the treasury department gets mad about losing money.

UM-St. Louis lost its claim to enforce this rule a long time ago. As soon as the first person downloaded "Smells Like Teen Spirit" by Nirvana using the campus ISP and went unpunished, all options for punishment were officially closed to the University.

What options are there for the school?

None, really, at least not when dealing with peer-to-peer file sharing. By all rights, if one person goes unpunished, all should. What the school needs to do now is enforce regulations from the beginning. If a new problem arises, enforce the rule outright and bypass all the complications that are arising. If a case went to court over this problem, a student would have a strong defense by arguing that, "Hey, no one else got in trouble for it. Why am I the poster-child for punishment here?" It may seem like an immature argument, but it is a valid one, nonetheless. The University must apply all rules to everyone (including students, faculty, staff and administration) equally.

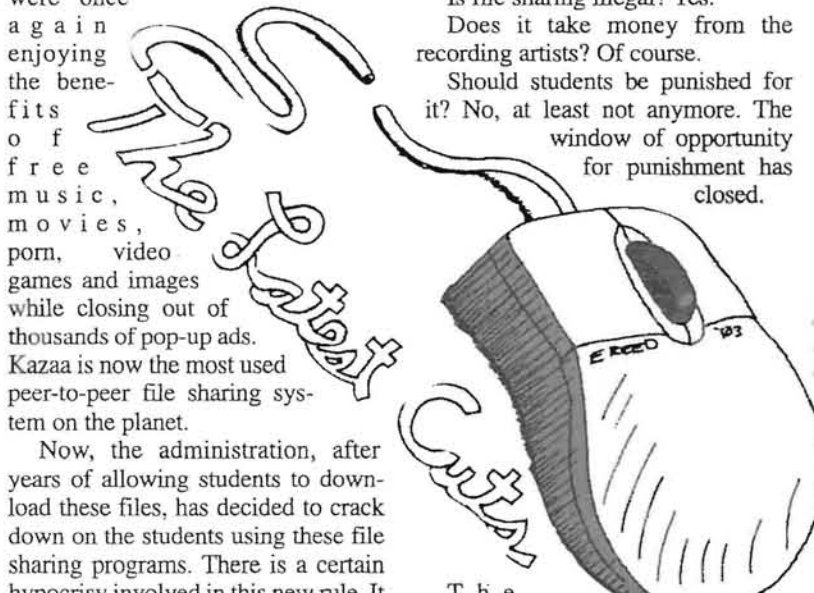
While the University can prevent students from accessing the Internet in their dorm rooms, that creates another problem. The fast data connections are one of the biggest draws to living on campus. Removing that will cause many to choose to live somewhere else.

Also, the University can block access to certain sites and networks that contain illegal files. Not every file shared peer-to-peer is illegal. Therefore, blocking access to that data is technically censorship, something a public University must avoid for legal reasons.

Is file sharing illegal? Yes. Does it take money from the recording artists? Of course. Should students be punished for it? No, at least not anymore. The window of opportunity for punishment has closed.

The University needs to cut its losses and move on. There are bigger fish this school has to fry before it starts worrying about someone procuring a copy of "Jaws" via the Internet. Once the school solves its budget problems, settles the search for a new chancellor and does something about the horrendous parking-shortage situation, then maybe the University can worry about students watching downloaded movies on their computer monitors.

Until that time... pass the popcorn.



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"Our Opinion" reflects the majority opinion of the Editorial Board.

LETTERS

MAIL
The Current
388 Millennium Student Center
8001 Natural Bridge Road
St. Louis, MO 63121

FAX
(314) 516-6811

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 and length, not for dialect, correctness or intent. All letters must be signed and must include a daytime phone number. Students must include their student ID numbers. Faculty and staff must include their title(s) and department(s).

Leave your high school

"What high school did you go to?" I was asked on my first day at UM-St. Louis.

"Huh?" I replied, thinking, "I'm in college; what does it matter?"

"You know, where'd you graduate from?"

"Risco R-II High School," I said, playing along with this asinine game.

I didn't bother to repeat the question, as I didn't really care. I was 20-years-old and trying to forget high school. Why should I know where someone else went to the prom?

Well, I didn't, and I still don't.

I simply thought, "Hmmm... So, so few people in St. Louis have college educations that nearly everyone in this city is still stuck on what high school they attended." I later found this to not be the exact case, but many people I know who have PhDs still ask the question. Thus, I realized something different was involved, but it still leaves the same disturbing impression of the city's educational level.

After spending more time in the Gateway City where the glass ceiling is made of 6 feet of Plexiglas, I found out that "What high school did you go to" really means "What's your childhood socio-economic background in four words or fewer?" It's not that people are even concerned with your current state in life; instead, they only want to know where your parents parked their cars when you were 14.

Maybe it's because I didn't grow up in St. Louis, but I really don't see how the high school one attended is

important after, say, graduating twelfth grade. It's not that I don't believe in school pride or proclaiming one's roots, but isn't the current person much more important than the nerd or jock or slacker or class clown from years ago? The past is just that. The present is what is important in life. Think about it: Whom did you attend your senior prom with? Now, is that person still your date? Is he or she even in your life? Apply that same principle to your lunch in the cafeteria, your science project and your position on a sports team.

Surely, St. Louis cannot be so fascinated by and stuck on everyone's past socio-economic situation that the high school question is valid anymore.

I suppose the way it works is that if you came from a "good" school, you are assumed to be part of the "in-crowd," well educated and fortunate, even if you just happened to live in the right school district, never made about a C and are going nowhere in life. So does that mean if you went to a school that isn't on the A list, but you made straight As, have a 4.0 at UM-St. Louis and already have several job opportunities waiting for you after you graduate, you are still of a lower class and poorly educated? Hmmm, seems like a lot of assuming is involved here. And, well, we all know what assuming does.

So, if you ask me where I graduated from, I will proudly tell you that it wasn't from a St. Louis school and let you wonder exactly where my class ring fits.



STANFORD GRIFFITH
Editor-in-Chief

The issue

UM-St. Louis is cracking down on illegal file sharing on campus. The problem is, they are cracking down about 3 years too late. The University has said they will not protect the students from prosecution.

We suggest

The next time the University wants to come down hard on the students, they need to do so from the very beginning, not when the activity has been going on for years. The University has lost all claim to punishment this far into the problem.

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.

Do tests show an accurate rating?

Well, yes or no? What is the answer? If you get this one wrong then your grade is going to be lowered significantly.

Tough question, huh? That's because there is no right answer. It is a trick question.

We all know that each student learns differently. Most people have known this for a long time. The reason there is no right answer to the question "Do tests show an accurate rating of knowledge?" is because it depends on the type of questions on the test and the type of student answering the questions. So, why haven't some professors caught on yet to the fact that students learn in different ways? Maybe they missed that memo or seminar explaining the research that has been done on this topic, or maybe they don't care and want to do what is easiest for them when preparing the test.

Those teachers that are behind the times should start offering a wider range of test designs. Tests throughout the semester that are consistently the same format are great, because when the formats are consistent, they are familiar to students. But if all of the questions are in the same format, the test will be easier for some than for others. For example, having an entire test of multiple-choice questions puts some students at an advantage over others. Some students find multiple-choice questions easy, and others find them very difficult. Though in multiple-choice questions

the answer is already there for students, these questions can often be very misleading or tricky and generally only cover a small portion of a broad topic.

Also, how often have students studied chapters and chapters of information, only to have the test cover a small percent of the information presented in the book and in the lectures? Why is what is on the test more important to know than the other information in the book? In some courses, I have had professors that have either offered a bonus question or mandatory questions where the students have to write the question themselves and answer it themselves. I thought this was a great idea. This unique style rewards students for knowing information that was not covered on the test, but was presented in the class

and was pertinent to the subject that is being studied.

The fairest way for teachers to format tests is with a variety of multiple choice, short answer, essay and even fill in the blanks. Fill in the blanks sounds juvenile, but they are often very tough questions because students either know the missing word or phrase or they don't. A test format with a variety of types of questions not only gives more equality to students' learning habits, but tests students' knowledge in several ways, which can give the professor a better idea of whether they really know the information.



ANNE BAUER
Managing Editor

What's your opinion?

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

- Too late to fight illegal downloads.
- Do tests measure up?
- What high school? Who cares.

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 Sara Quiroz
Staff Photographer

How do you feel about the possibility of going to war



Glynn Linville
Junior French

It don't bother me none. If we're gonna go, let's go.



Heather Ryan
Senior Social Work

If all the facts were shown, I'd agree to it. But they're not.



Rob Fancher
Senior English & French

I think it's ridiculous, so I don't think that we should. I see no reason for targeting Iraq as a scapegoat for 9/11. George Bush is a pompous ass.



Candiss Heidbrier
Junior Graphic Design

We should not go to war. We need to keep our loved ones at home, close the borders and concentrate on strengthening our country and keeping our people safe.

Seeing is believing

They say the eyes are the windows to the soul. Being that we are a highly visually oriented species, we tend to place a great deal of emphasis on the eyes. In our everyday language we talk about "sad eyes," "bright eyes," and "bedroom eyes," by which we usually mean some underlying emotional state that can be glimpsed through the eyes.



BY MICAH L. ISSITT
Science Columnist

Scientific inquiry tends to follow our natural proclivities, and so it should come as no surprise that science has amassed a tremendous body of knowledge regarding the eyes and how we use them. Some of the most interesting new research reveals how we develop our visual tendencies and how we use them in the formation of relationships and other social institutions.

Watching an infant interact with the world, it often seems like the infant is off in its own world. Even parents are often unaware of the extent to which their children are attuned to their surroundings. A new study published in the November 2002 issue of Behavioral Psychology indicates that 12-, 14- and 18-month old infants are much more sensitive to their social world than previously believed and are taking into account what other people perceive.

Infants as young as fourteen months engage in a behavior researchers term "gaze following." Basically, infants watch the eyes of people around them and they look where those people look.

Researchers found that babies are likely to follow the gaze of someone who is looking with open eyes, but are less likely to follow the gaze of someone whose eyes are closed or who is wearing a blindfold. This indicates that infants are doing more than simply following the geometry of the head; they are actually making inferences about the perception of others. Experiments using a blindfold indicate that infants understand that a visual obstruction could block a person's line of sight.

Rechele Brooks and Andrew Meltzoff, from the University of

Washington, say this study shows that infants are much more attuned to social behavior than previously understood, and that infants are capable of noticing subtle cues and modifying their own behavior. Brooks and Meltzoff believe that their study may have some important implications for child rearing and educational practices.

As we grow older, the eyes continue to be a focal point for our experiences. Recent research from Queen's University shows that the level of eye contact significantly affects the conversation patterns and the level of problem-solving ability in social groups.

Roel Verteegaal conducted experiments using computer-aided measurement techniques to gauge the amount of time people spent making eye contact and how the amount of eye contact affected their level of involvement. Verteegaal's study showed that the greater the level of eye-contact, the more likely people were to contribute to the conversation. This greater level of involvement in turn led to a significant increase in the group's ability to solve complex problems.

The findings have important implications for the design of communication technology, like video conferencing systems. The study of eye contact may lead to the development of more sensitive types of communication devices that will help people associate in more efficient ways, utilizing their natural tendencies to facilitate communication with the eyes.

One reason why eye contact may be important for social facilitation is that people tend to trust others who make a lot of eye contact. For some reason, common wisdom holds that people tend to avoid eye contact while lying, but recent research from the University of Herefordshire in England indicates that this may not be the case.

Richard Wiseman is an expert in the science of deception. He says that people are generally poor judges of truthfulness. Wiseman says that people look for the wrong cues when trying to detect lies. "They think that liars avoid eye contact and fidget a lot. In fact, liars maintain more eye contact and they don't fidget." Wiseman says that liars maintain more eye contact because they are attempting to maintain an image of truthfulness.

If you want to spot a liar, the best bet, according to Wiseman, is to look for long pauses between questions and answers and to pay attention to other idiosyncrasies of speech such as short answers, speech errors, or an excessive amount of fluff e.g. err...and...um...etc

The eyes certainly have it when it comes to human behavior. So much of what we experience is mediated

through our ability to visually comprehend our environment. Our fascination with the visual has recently led to a recent explosion of technology designed to enhance vision.

A company in California is developing the first contact lens-like device designed to enhance a sighted person's ability to detect detail. These lenses would, theoretically, allow a sighted person to detect things in the visual spectrum that would normally elude detection.

Further research may eventually create lenses that can switch between macroscopic, normal and telescopic

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The eyes certainly have it when it comes to human behavior. So much of what we experience is mediated through our ability to visually comprehend our environment
”

fields of vision. People could use a remote switch to manipulate the device, allowing them to see a normal field of view one moment and an up-close view the next, seeing every tiny detail. Another flick of the switch could switch to telescopic, allowing the viewer to see what is going on a great distance away. Although these technologies are still in the developmental stage, it may not be long before devices like this are available to the public.

Human culture has always been deeply entwined with the act of seeing. Our daily conversations clearly reflect this evolutionary dependence. We say such things as "Seeing is believing," "I see where you are coming from" or simply "now I see" which denote the fact that sight and understanding are often understood as one and the same.

It is interesting to note that non-sighted people must utilize their senses in much different ways to achieve familiarity with their world. Non-sighted people may have an understanding of the world developed largely through their senses of hearing or touch. Is it possible that the reliance of the sighted on vision has led to a bias toward visual phenomena and a sort of sensory ignorance toward details from other sensory modes? Perhaps this relates to another bit of common wisdom: "What you see is what you get."

Fare Thoughts

BY STANFORD A. GRIFFITH
Editor-in-Chief

Although I find reading a cookbook to be very relaxing, educating and entertaining, most people only open one to find a recipe. There's absolutely nothing wrong with that. But, let's face it, cookbooks are expensive. So, instead of paying \$30 for a book you occasionally use to make two dishes, the Internet offers many free websites to find directions for almost anything your taste buds desire.

While a search on Google for a specific recipe will often call up something, several websites dedicated solely to the pursuit of food and eating have become staples for recipe sleuths. Below is a list of a few of my favorite culinary websites for hunting out recipes:

EPICURIUS
<http://eat.Epicurious.com>

Supported by advertising, but free from those annoying popup ads, Epicurious claims to host over 15,000 recipes. While a simple search is provided, the advanced search is perfect for finding a dish to match what you have on hand, your special considerations and your culinary skill level. When you find a recipe you want, you can place it in your own online recipe box to keep for later. Although the personalized recipe box does require registration, everything on the site that I have found is free.

The website also hosts several email newsletters, including one that sends you all the recipes in "Bon

Appetite" and "Gourmet." Another delivers monthly wine advice.

Epicurious also contains several sections usually only in printed magazines on newsstands, such as restaurant and product reviews, what's hot on the culinary scene, interviews with famous chefs and travel information.

An online discussion board or forum is a great place to swap recipes, ask questions and read solutions.

In all, Epicurious is by far one of the best free cooking websites.

FOODNETWORK
<http://www.FoodNetwork.com>

Although the FoodNetwork website is a companion to the FoodNetwork television channel, both can be enjoyed equally without the other.

FoodNetwork's comprehensive recipe library is searchable by keyword and television program. Its search options are not as advanced as those of Epicurious, however. But at over 23,000 recipes, whatever you're craving will probably be on there at least three times.

A five-day week of preplanned menus is updated each week.

FoodNetwork hosts a video library of culinary demonstrations on everything from how to make icing flowers to how to temper custard in its "Cooking 101" section.

"Escapes" features a country and its foods.

Although it has fewer forums than Epicurious, users can read the discussions without registering.

Everything on FoodNetwork is

free and definitely worth a thorough browsing for recipes, party tips, chef biographies and more.

MARTHA STEWART
<http://www.MarthaStewart.com>

Whatever you think of the Diva of the Kitchen, no list of culinary websites would be complete without mentioning Martha Stewart's website.

No, you won't find anything about her stocks, but you will discover a host of tested recipes. The problem with the website is in the discovering. To make things simple and save you about 10 minutes of wondering where they are hidden, the recipe search engine with its great many choices is found by clicking on "Learn" and then "Find Recipes." Once you get there, find a recipe by checking off boxes associated with course, main ingredient, holiday/occasion, etc., or by typing in a key word.

Although not searchable and requiring registration, Martha Stewart's website does offer several forums for not only food but also crafts, gardening, children, wedding and so on.

While not as user friendly as Epicurious or FoodNetwork, MarthaStewart.com is still "a good thing."

I hope that we never totally get rid of colorful printed cookbooks, but the convenience of online recipe searches cannot be ignored. While I use both my laptop will never feel as comfortable to snuggle down with for a bed-time reading on the emulsifying properties of eggs.

MLK LETTER, from page 1

Should whites lead them in the grief over their leader? I feel that it should be whites who should follow blacks in their grief.

The whole tone was one of separatism. Two communities—of fear—of a feeble desire to show concern. Some of this concern was real—but the reaction was wrong. The rally did more to separate than join. It showed apathy and an unwillingness to co-

operate and show mutual understanding of the real impact of this event.

But the real impact cannot be seen now. It will be seen in the future or lack of future of non-violence movements. It will be shown in the willingness or lack of it on the part of whites to follow blacks in civil rights, and to give in where it is only the human thing to do.

Dr. King would like to have seen

more power behind non-violence, his philosophy. He wanted co-operation freedom from fear on both sides, freedom from arrogance on both sides, and dignity on the part of negroes as leaders of their own movement for their own freedom. This is what should happen. Will it?

Jill A. Holtz

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Correcting fiscal statements

Dear Editor:

I am writing in reference to the "UMSL underfunded" story in the Jan. 20, 2003 edition of The Current. Among the information I provided for the article was the budgeted total expenditures amount for UM-St. Louis for FY2003 in our Operations Fund. That amount is correct.

Given that the story, however, involved state appropriations I wanted to provide you with the appropriate state funding for higher education institutions.

The Coordinating Board for Higher Education (CBHE) uses the term core budget to refer to state appropriations. Listed below are the budgeted amounts by institution for FY2003.

CBHE FY2003 Core Budget	Amount
Missouri Southern	\$ 19,211,851
Missouri Western	19,716,110
Central Missouri	55,597,699
Southeast Missouri	45,273,509
Southwest Missouri	80,294,626
Northwest Missouri	28,991,464
Truman State	42,108,894
Lincoln University	17,298,105
Harris-Stowe	10,133,324
University of Missouri	411,147,559
	<u>\$729,773,141</u>

The University of Missouri System records its state appropriations net of 3% withholding. So, you must subtract 3% of \$411,147,559, or \$12,334,427, to arrive at the amount of state appropriations \$398,813,132 as shown by UM. I have listed below both the FY2003 state appropriations amounts as well as the total budgeted revenues for the operations fund.

UM Budget Amounts	Net State Appropriations	Total Revenues Operations Fund
UM-Columbia	\$178,036,933	\$383,021,815
UM-Kansas City	77,531,955	188,511,466
UM-Rolla	46,825,248	91,044,275
UM-St. Louis	49,118,213	107,400,430
Outreach & Extension	26,684,250	37,742,283
System Admin.	15,943,319	33,695,653
University Wide - Resources	4,673,214	7,083,213
Totals	<u>\$398,813,132</u>	<u>\$848,499,135</u>

Sincerely,
James M. Krueger
Vice Chancellor
Managerial and Technological Services

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Greeks are 'survivors'

To the members of the Editorial [sic] Board whose opinions are reflected in the

Jan. 13, 2003 "Our Opinion" column:

The last week of winter break I was a participant in the UMSL sponsored "Survivor meets Big Brother" event. There were six women and three men chosen to compete for the prize of free tuition. The contest was terminated due to one of the only three rules being violated. The results of this violation were reflected in your "Starting the New Year Right...Resolutions for UMSL." However, it was listed in the

wrong category of the UMSL population. Being the only Greek-affiliated [sic] female involved in the competition, I was not the individual who did not comply with the three ground rules previously mentioned. While this seems like a minor detail and was intended to be humorous, when combined with other negative comments about Greek Life, it further inhibits the expansion of the Greek community on campus.

In my opinion, it seems as if UMSL is trying to break away from being a typical commuter campus by increasing the involvement in student organi-

zations and activities. Criticizing and demeaning statements of our Greek organizations seems to be taking a step in the opposite direction.

After reading the response that another member of the Greek community wrote, I felt compelled to support her as well as the rest of the Greek organizations by correcting a minute yet inaccurate item in the column.

Sincerely,
Christine Stone
Proud member of Alpha Xi Delta Fraternity and the Greek Community



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FEATURES

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Features Editor

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 fax: 516-6811

Gallery VISIO

POST-NEOISM
 Jan. 23
Opening Reception
 "A Gallery Hop"
 including
 Gallery VISIO,
 5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.
 Gallery FAB,
 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
 Gallery 210
 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

BLACK ARTS EXPO
 Feb. 10 - March 3

GUERRILLA GIRLS
 March 7 - April 7
Opening Reception
 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

GALLERY VISIO
hosts juried student artwork

GALLERY FAB
hosts professional faculty artwork

GALLERY 210
hosts guest professional artwork

'A Journey Through Time'

UM-St. Louis' homecoming: Feb. 17 - 22

BY KATE DROLET
Staff Writer

The beginning of the winter semester brought gray days, snow and single-digit temperatures. Many students would rather stay at home than venture out into the frigid weather, so campus

life hasn't exactly been hopping. However, this collective lethargy will cease when Homecoming Week picks up the pace around campus.

Homecoming, which runs from Feb. 17 to Feb. 22, will feature a variety of activities, including Big Man on Campus, a mini-parade, a spirit compe-

tion, a bonfire, a pep rally, a blood drive, Banner Wars, Powder Puff Football and the homecoming dance and basketball game.

This year's Homecoming theme is "A Journey Through Time."

Court applications are available in the Student Life office. To be consid-

ered eligible as a candidate, students must meet several standards. Students are required to hold a GPA of 2.5 or higher, participate as an active member in at least one UM-St. Louis organization, demonstrate other forms of leadership outside of school, be in good disciplinary standing with the universi-

The responsibilities of the homecoming king and queen include serving as host and hostess during Welcome Week, attending an Open House, participating in parades that feature UM-St. Louis floats, attending Mirthday activities and attending the homecoming game. Applications must be turned in to the Office of Student Life by 5 p.m. Jan. 31.

The dance will take place on Friday, Feb. 21, at Windows Off Washington. A shuttle service will transport students from the University to the dance location. The evening activities begin at 6 p.m. when students have the chance to enjoy cocktails with alumni. The dance will follow at 7 p.m. and end at midnight. The king and queen will be crowned at the dance.

"I had a great time last year, so I'm definitely looking forward to going again," said Hannah Smith, sophomore.

The homecoming game will take place on Jan. 22, against SIU-Edwardsville, one of UM-St. Louis's oldest rivals. Alumni and their families are traditionally invited to attend homecoming. Free food and drinks will be provided.

"The main purpose of homecoming is to get students involved on campus," Clarke said. "The goal of this committee is not only to get organizations involved but also to include students who may not otherwise be involved with campus activities."

“
'The goal of this committee is not only to get organizations involved, but also to include students who may not otherwise be involved with campus activities.'
 ”

-Rob Clarke
 Homecoming Chairman

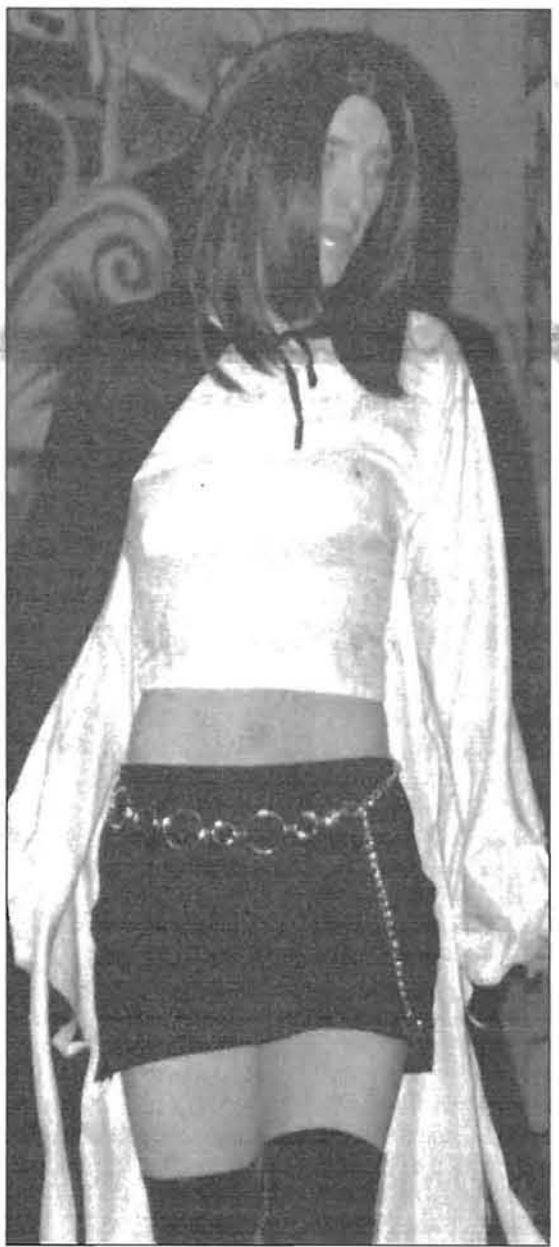
ty and be enrolled in at least six credit hours at UM-St. Louis.
 The Homecoming Election Committee, which consists of Homecoming Chairman Rob Clarke, SGA President Sam Andemariam, Student Services Advisor Deni Kiehl, Counseling Psychologist Jamie Linsen and an UMSL student (who has not been appointed), will interview each of the candidates.



Kevin Ottley/The Current

Last year's homecoming was held at Windows Off Washington. This year's homecoming theme is "A Journey Through Time," and will be held from 7 p.m. to midnight on Saturday, Feb. 21, at Windows Off Washington again.

A Miss RHA Pageant contestant, alias Arynthia, performs her dance routine during the talent segment of the contest. This year was the fourth year for the competition. Siren (Tyler Cross, freshman) won the pageant.



Kevin Ottley/The Current

Boys in dresses

Fourth Miss RHA Pageant

BY KATE DROLET
Staff Writer

On Jan. 23, 65 students, faculty and staff members gathered in the Pilot House, anxiously waiting for the show to start. A few suspiciously broad-shouldered women wandered through the crowd. Shortly after 7 p.m., the crowd applauded as the drag queens took the stage.

The fourth annual Miss RHA Pageant featured five men, all dressed in women's clothing. The competition split into three categories, including eveningwear, a talent show and a question and answer session.

The Talent Competition began with Chocolate Thunder (Lance Bryant), a stunning diva in a sleek silver dress. Next came Asia (Alex Kerford), a participant wearing a red backless gown, a long black wig and men's dress shoes. Siren (Tyler Cross) strutted out in a black dress with a red flower print and a red wig; a cape completed the ensemble. Arynthia (David Palmer) followed Siren, wearing black pants with a jeweled design, a white midriff-bearing shirt and a wide-brimmed hat. Fallen Angel (Josh Davis) walked out last, wearing a flowing indigo evening gown.

Once the eveningwear category was finished, the contestants disappeared to prepare for the next portion. During the break, five audience volunteers stood onstage and played a round of "UMSL Jeopardy" for prizes. The crowd waited anxiously (and somewhat nervously) for the next round, trying to speculate on what sort of talents their cross-dressing classmates would display.

The second part of the Miss RHA competition demanded talent, and each contestant worked to impress the audience and judges. The lights dimmed, and a strobe light flickered as Chocolate Thunder appeared, wearing a tight black dress, fishnet stockings and glitter. He danced along with the hip-hop music that blared over the speakers. The audience laughed and applauded as Chocolate Thunder exited the stage. Asia, the second contestant, amazed the crowd as she skillfully juggled oranges to the beat of Missy Elliot's "Get Ya Freak On." She awed the audience again by lifting a large chair in the air and balancing it on one hand. Siren followed, dancing to a song that crossed between a slow jazz number and a Vegas-showgirl tune. Arynthia strutted seductively in knee-high black boots, a miniskirt and a white shirt with sleeves that brushed the

floor. Fallen Angel completed the second part of the competition with explicit gyrations in tight black jeans and a tank top. The audience, looking both amused and slightly afraid, applauded heartily as part two ended. "I'm a little scared now," joked Shayla Turner, freshman.

The third and final category consisted of a question and answer period between the judges and contestants. The judges asked each participant two questions, like "What is the number-one problem that women face today?" (The audience doubled over laughing as Arynthia confidently answered, "men".)

Judges Andy Stephen, Kimberly Allen, John Klein and Christy Mullis tabulated the scores. The crowd and contestants held their breath, wondering who would be crowned the 2003 Miss RHA. After a few minutes of deliberation, the results were in. Asia waved happily to the crowd as she accepted the third place prize. Chocolate Thunder looked surprised and touched as she took second. The crowd applauded and whistled wildly as Siren blew kisses and was crowned Miss RHA.

"I think this event went very well. We had a great turn out. This was fun," coordinator Laura Tobias commented.

Greeks host theme parties for rush

BY KATE DROLET
Staff Writer

Greek symbols cover campus; little flyers sit on every Nosh table, and suddenly everyone has weekend plans. Winter Rush has officially begun.

Winter Rush began with the semester and will commence the first week of February. To give students a chance to meet current members, as well as other students, the Sigma Pi and Sigma Tau Gamma fraternities host themed parties each week during the Rush. The sororities also host rush events and invite interested girls to meet members.

The purpose of these events is to allow students to decide which fraternity or sorority would best suit their personal goals and values.

Robyn Forster, membership vice president of the Alpha Xi Delta sorority, suggests, "Find out a little bit of information about each [group]. Each group stands for different things, so it's important to decide which group is right for you."

Sigma Tau Rush Chair Tom Brooks speaks about the benefits of joining a Greek organization. "UMSL is a commuter college, so [joining a fraternity or sorority] is a great way to

meet new people. Sigma Tau is really involved with the community, so this is a chance to improve yourself and have a good time."

All of UM-St. Louis's Greek organizations participate in a variety of philanthropic activities. Last semester, the fraternities and sororities hosted several charitable events, including Zeta Tau Alpha's "Think Pink Lip Sync," which donated proceeds to the Susan G. Korman Breast Cancer Foundation, and Alpha Xi Delta's Toys for Tots Drive.

Sigma Pi neophyte Gary Sohn enjoys Greek Life. "[My fraternity] is extremely supportive of me and the other activities I'm involved in," Sohn commented, "Last semester I was in a play. Half of the guys came out and saw me. I really appreciated their support."

Melissa Carter, junior, joined Zeta Tau Alpha last semester. "One thing I like about my sorority is that I always have someone to talk to," she commented. "[The sorority] encourages its members to work hard in school. We plan a lot of events, too, so there's always something to do."

Sigma Pi Executive Member Jonas Zakour gives advice to students who are considering joining a Greek organization. "Come to the parties



Kevin Ottley/The Current

The Sigma Tau Gamma fraternity used the recent frigid weather to their creative advantage with this party advertisement.

and meet people who are involved. Most importantly, make informed decisions. Don't let stereotypes make

decisions for you." For more information about joining a fraternity or sorority visit the

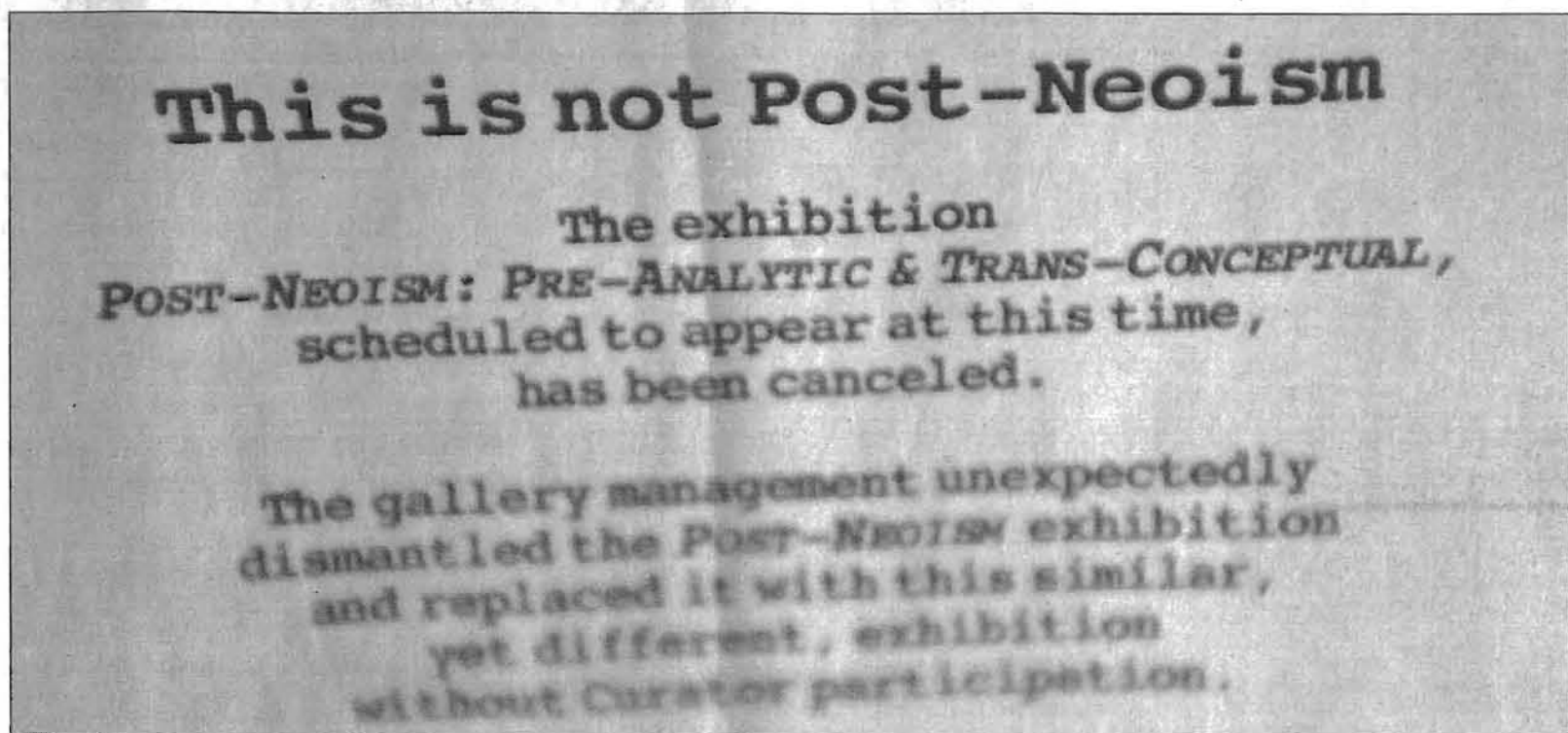
Greek website, which can be accessed through UM-St. Louis's website, or contact a current Greek member.

Management 'dismantled' exhibit

BY ROB HUESGEN
Staff Writer

Since its creation in April 2002, Gallery Visio, UM-St. Louis's only student-run gallery, has continued to showcase several different forms of student artwork. Visio's Vice President Joni Hoscher said, "Historically, art students on campus attend classes in the Fine Art Building that is secluded from the main campus."

Being located on the first floor of the Millennium Center, Gallery Visio's location is "optimum for student interaction," Hoscher said. The gallery's vice-president is also "very excited" about several exhibitions and events to be held by Gallery Visio this semester. Gallery Visio's first attraction opened on Thursday, Jan. 23, at 5:30 p.m., with the unveiling of the exhibition "In The Absence of Post-Neoisim." Originally slated to detail the emergence of the Post-Neoisim movement, Gallery Visio's governing body decided a title change would be in the best interest of the gallery. This was in response to Lane Kent and James Wooldridge Jr., the show's original curators, removing their works of art one day before the unveiling. "In the Absence of Post-Neoisim"



Mike Sherwin/The Current

Visitors hoping to attend the opening reception of the advertised "Post-Neoisim" show were instead greeted by this sign stating that the show had been unexpectedly cancelled.

will run through Wednesday, Feb. 5, at 7 p.m. Many UM-St. Louis students will be

displaying works of art, including Pat Johnson's piece "What Do You Think About in Your Bed?" "This work is very

revolutionary," said Hoscher in response to Johnson's work. "Our mission has always been incorporating the

student body into our shows, and Pat's piece does just that." Johnson's remarkable use of objects not generally thought

of as artists' media includes a twin sized bed and video camera. People sit on the bed and speak about whatever comes to mind. While on display in the F.A.B. (Fine Arts Building), Johnson's work had "an overwhelming response, and we are delighted to show this innovative work of art in Gallery Visio," said Hoscher.

Other up-coming events hosted by Gallery Visio include an exhibit of primarily African-American art, in February, to honor Black History Month and a performance by Guerrilla Girls in the MSC on March 7, to pay homage to Women's History Month. "We are, as always, in need of students to help in all areas of Gallery Visio, especially the Guerrilla Girls event," said Hoscher.

Joni is also "very proud" of Gallery Visio being the only "student-run art gallery on campus." Gallery 210, in Lucas Hall, and Gallery F.A.B., in the Fine Arts Building, focus on professional art exhibitions and occasional student shows funded primarily by independent grant money. "We at Gallery Visio are the same as any other student organization," said Hoscher.

Those interested in Gallery Visio or its events can phone the gallery at 516-7922 or email them at galleryvisio@hotmail.com.

AMERICAN LINES

BY ASHLEY RICHMOND
Staff Writer

Opening Feb. 10, the "American Lines" photographic display by the Public Policy Research Center (PPRC) will be accompanied by a sociological study on clotheslines.

The photographs by Joe Kirkish of Michigan Technical University display a variety of clotheslines. Jean S. Tucker, PPRC research associate and the department's photographic historian, said the display is not just about clotheslines but also about a form of personal expression.

"We have many ways of expressing who we are and what we do. It's about learning about ourselves and what resources we have to do that," Tucker said.

At the opening reception on Feb. 10, sociology professor George McCall will present an informal lecture on the sociological aspects of the clotheslines.

"You've heard the old cliché 'you are what you eat.' Well, I think you are what you wear," Tucker said.

English student Maria Curtis, sophomore, anticipates the opening in February.

"I hadn't heard much about it, but it sounds like an intriguing experience that has the potential to expand my mind and horizons," Curtis said.

Alex Kerford, a sophomore studying engineering, has experienced the PPRC displays before and looks forward to another interesting topic.

"I find there is always a unique display by the PPRC. They go out of their way to provide a variety of information on metropolitan issues," Kerford said.

Funded by the Regional Arts Commission, the PPRC schedules 5 shows a year, mostly photographic, on metropolitan issues.

"We think we are a very good resource for students' studies. They could do a paper on one of our shows because we provide a lot of information," Tucker said.

The PPRC figures about 1,000 people per month will see the show. According to Tucker, most of the viewers are students and faculty that walk through the PPRC office.

"American Lines," a photographic sociological study on clotheslines, opens Feb. 10 at noon in the Public Policy Research Center (PPRC) in 362 SSB. The informal lecture by McCall begins at 12:30 p.m.



Photo courtesy of PPRC

Beginning Feb. 10, the Public Policy Research Center will feature a photographic display entitled "American Lines."

Staff Association Trivia Night
saturday, march 15th

register by friday, march 1, 2003
in rec sports office (205 mark woods 516-5326),
accounting services(204 woods 518-5099), and
student life(305 MSC 516-5291).

Trivia competition will consist of 10 rounds of 10 questions each. Each round will feature a different category such as History, Sports, Geography, Entertainment, etc. Teams will answer the questions within a given time and correct answers will be tallied for each round. The team with the highest point score at the end of the evening will win the trophy. Teams consist of eight (8) people (student, faculty, staff, and/or community members). This event is co-sponsored by UM-St. Louis Staff Association, Office of Student Life and Rec Sports to benefit the John Perry Staff Association.

\$80.00 per team (individuals also welcome ...\$10.00 in advance; \$15.00 at the door)

What city was the second world's fair held in?
Who's author is from Missouri?
Where is the biggest hole in the ozone?
Who traveled the Mississippi?
Who first discovered America?
Who was the first president of the United States?
Who was the first president of the United States?
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"Coffee with Curt"
(a forum for students)

Questions, concerns, opinions?

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Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs
"Curt Coonrod"

Wednesday, February 15
1:30 - 2:30 p.m.
Room 314
Millennium Student Center

Call Student Life @ 5291 to register

SPORTS



Photo illustration by Mike Sherwin / The Current

R-men Forward Justin Foust

B-BALL @ UMSL



Photo illustration by Sara Quiroz / The Current

R-women Guard Christy Lane

A look at the 2002-03 R-men and R-women basketball seasons

THE R-MEN FILES

THE BIG DEAL:
R-men Forward Justin Foust scored 14 points as UM-St. Louis suffered a 68-47 loss to Lewis on Saturday. The loss puts the Rivermen at 2-10 for last place in the Great Lakes Valley Conference. The team is in the midst of a nine-game losing streak.

KEY GAMES:
Nov. 30 - The Rivermen were officially in the midst of their first and only winning streak of the season, with a 77-68 victory at Bellarmine. Five players reached double digits in scoring for UM-St. Louis, including Forward Larry Wells who led the team with 15 points. Bellarmine's Zach Miller led all scorers with 20 points in the game.
Dec. 14 - UM-St. Louis suffered a 50-44 defeat at U-M-Rolla. Jonathan Griffin was the only Riverman

productive of the Rivermen. Banks ranks number 23 in GLVC scoring.

Guard Jonathan Griffin - Although they are no Jordan and Pippen, Banks and Griffin have served as the core of the Rivermen offense this season. Griffin has definitely made his contribution for UM-St. Louis, averaging 28 points on the season.

Forward Jo'Van Fisher - Having averaged 27 points on the season, making him third on the team in scoring, Fisher is definitely making a presence in the Rivermen starting five.

GREAT LAKES VALLEY Conference Standings

Men's basketball through Jan. 30, 2003

	GLVC	Overall
1. Northern Kentucky	9-2, 818	15-3, 833
2. Kentucky Wesleyan	8-2, 800	15-2, 882
3. Lewis	8-3, 727	15-3, 833
4. Southern Indiana	8-3, 727	13-4, 765
5. Indianapolis	8-3, 727	13-5, 722
6. Wisconsin-Parkside	5-6, 457	10-8, 556
7. Saint Joseph's	4-7, 364	9-10, 444
8. SIU Edwardsville	3-7, 300	7-10, 412
9. Quincy	1-8, 273	9-9, 509
10. Bellarmine	2-9, 182	7-13, 350
11. UM-St. Louis	2-10, 167	5-12, 294

WHAT'S TO COME:

Jan. 30 - The Rivermen will return home to face conference rival Quincy and the game will give the team a chance to end its current losing streak. It will also be an opportunity to

to reach double digits in scoring, notching 13 points. Bellarmine Center Brian Westre led all scorers with 16 points. The Rivermen haven't won since the loss to Rolla.

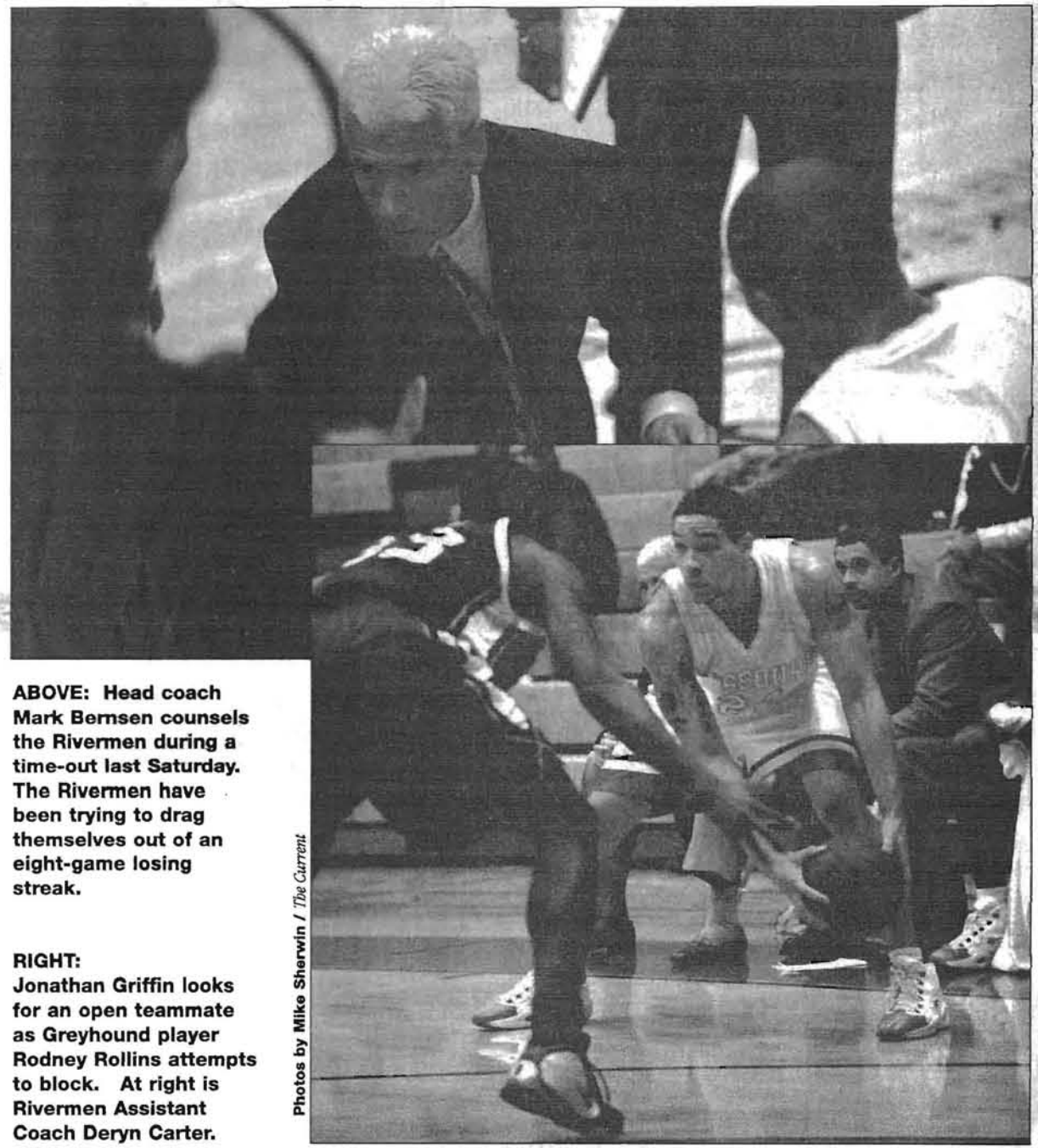
Jan. 4 - Losing 82-68 to conference rival Quincy, the Rivermen officially began their first losing streak of the season.

THE CORE:
Guard Ronnie Banks - With team-leading averages of 34 points and 11 rebounds per game, Banks is the most

get revenge for the 82-68 loss they were handed by Quincy on Jan. 4.

Feb. 6 - This date will mark the last game where the Rivermen will have to face Kentucky Wesleyan in regular-season play. At 15-2 overall, Kentucky is more than a match for the Rivermen. But if the team can stay consistent, Kentucky can be defeated.

Feb. 22 - The Rivermen will play in their annual Homecoming Game against conference rival SIU-Edwardsville. The Rivermen should prove more than a match for SIUE.

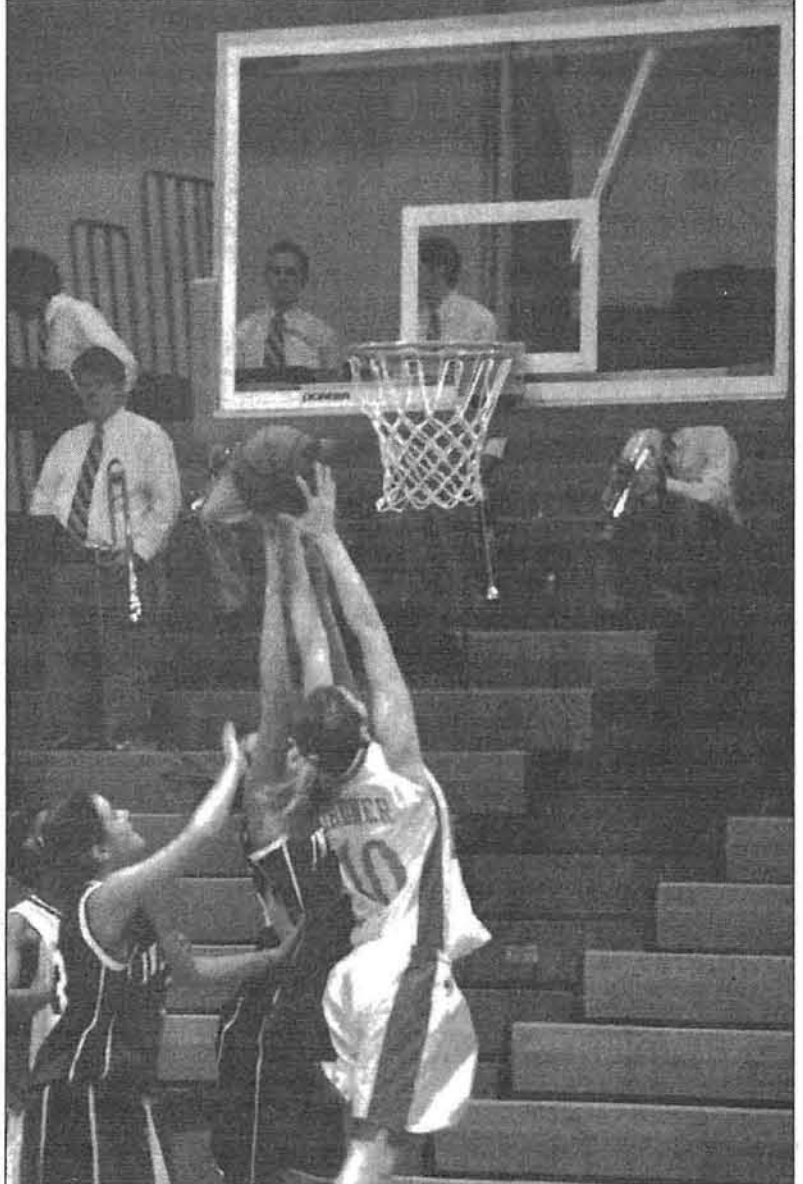


ABOVE: Head coach Mark Bensen counsels the Rivermen during a time-out last Saturday. The Rivermen have been trying to drag themselves out of an eight-game losing streak.

RIGHT: Jonathan Griffin looks for an open teammate as Greyhound player Rodney Rollins attempts to block. At right is Rivermen Assistant Coach Deryn Carter.

Photos by Mike Sherwin / The Current

THE R-WOMEN FILES



Sara Quiroz / The Current

Riverwomen forward Alicia Ordner attempts a lay-up shot during UMSL's game last Saturday afternoon.

THE BIG DEAL:
With a 55-50 victory over Lewis on Saturday, the UM-St. Louis women's basketball team ended their three-game losing streak. The team, now 8-9 overall, also moved one game closer to a .500 overall winning percentage. The team is second to last in the GLVC, with a 3-9 conference record and a .250 winning percentage.

KEY GAMES:
Nov. 27 - The Riverwomen made their strongest showing yet in a 116-84 victory over Illinois-Springfield at home. The team officially started their first winning streak of the season as six UM-St. Louis players reached double digits in scoring. Guards Ebonie Halliburton and Sophia Ruffin tied for the team-high mark, with 17 points in the game.
Jan. 2 - At the home of conference rival SIU-Edwardsville, the UM-St. Louis squad claimed a 75-69 victory to officially begin another winning streak. Halliburton led all scorers with 33 points in the game.
Jan. 11 - The Riverwomen suffered a 75-72 defeat to Kentucky-Wesleyan to officially begin their first losing streak of the season, despite a 20-point game from Guard Christy Lane.

THE CORE:
Guard Christy Lane - Averaging almost 30 points per game, Lane is the leader of the Riverwomen offense. She also leads the team in rebounds with almost 14 per game.
Guard Ebonie Halliburton -

Sometimes interchangeable with Lane, Halliburton is second on the team in rebounds and points, with 11 and 28 respectively.

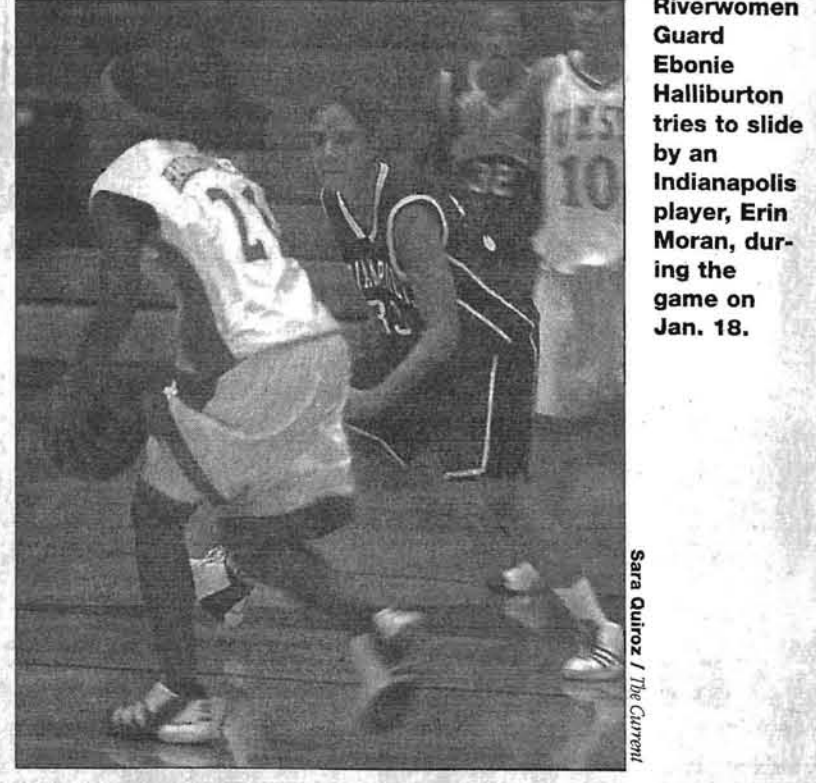
Guard Sophia Ruffin - With an average of almost 28 points per game, Ruffin is making major contributions to the Riverwomen offense.

WHAT'S TO COME:
Jan. 30 - The Riverwomen will try to move closer to their third winning streak of the season, with a game against Quincy at home.
Feb. 22 - UM-St. Louis plays SIUE in the annual Homecoming Game.

GREAT LAKES VALLEY Conference Standings

Women's basketball through Jan. 30, 2003

	GLVC	Overall
1. Indianapolis	9-2, 818	15-3, 833
Northern Kentucky	9-2, 818	13-9, 313
3. Quincy	8-3, 727	14-4, 778
4. Bellarmine	7-4, 636	12-8, 667
Saint Joseph's	7-4, 636	10-8, 556
6. Wisconsin-Parkside	5-6, 457	9-9, 500
7. SIU Edwardsville	4-6, 400	8-9, 471
8. Southern Indiana	4-7, 364	6-12, 333
9. Lewis	3-8, 273	7-11, 389
10. UM-St. Louis	3-9, 250	8-9, 471
11. Kentucky Wesleyan	1-9, 100	4-13, 235



Riverwomen Guard Ebonie Halliburton tries to slide by an Indianapolis player, Erin Moran, during the game on Jan. 18.

Sara Quiroz / The Current

EDITOR

HANK BURNS
Sports Editor

phone: 516-5174
fax: 516-6811

COMING UP

Basketball

Jan. 30

- Women - 5:30 p.m. vs. Quincy
- Men - 7:45 p.m. vs. Quincy

Feb. 3

- Men - 7:30 p.m. at Lincoln

6

- Women - 5:30 p.m. vs. Kentucky-Wesleyan

- Men - 7:45 p.m. vs. Kentucky-Wesleyan

8

- Women - 1 p.m. vs. Bellarmine

- Men - 3:15 p.m. vs. Bellarmine

13

- Women - 5:30 p.m. at Indianapolis

- Men - 7:30 p.m. at Indianapolis

15

- Women - 1 p.m. at St. Joseph's

- Men - 3:15 p.m. at St. Joseph's

20

- Women - 5:30 p.m. vs. Lewis

- Men - 7:45 p.m. vs. Lewis

WEB

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

Here are a few things I love about sports

While flipping through the channels on my television one day, I came across an old NFL highlight film on ESPN. The film was looking back at a season of the Green Bay Packers, and in it, there were things that shocked me. At many sporting events, fans do tend to go over the top, and football is not immune to such behavior. However, I was very shocked to see, at low temperatures mind you, shirtless fans who had painted themselves the team colors of yellow and green. That dedication of fans to their team is, in my opinion, one of the great things about sports.

Aside from the crazy fans, there are other things that I find rather amusing and down right great about sports. The following, in no particular order, are a few of the things I love about sports.

Playoff runs - No matter the team sport, a playoff run is rather exciting. With each victory in the postseason, a team moves ever closer to the much-coveted championship crown. As a fan, I do have a favorite team in every sport, and I am very disappointed when the team does not have

a playoff run. But, despite my disappointment, I can respect a good run.

The fanatics - As I mentioned earlier, the crazy fans live up any sporting event. Every team, no matter how bad, has die-hard fans. The Chicago Cubs, for example, haven't won a Major League World Series since 1906 and still draw some of the largest crowds in baseball. In Europe, soccer is by far the number one sport, and its fans could be diagnosed as psychotic with all of their antics and gimmicks.

The losers - There is something very cathartic about watching the team you despise the most get pummeled into the ground by your

favorite team. I can recall, in 1996, watching the Atlanta Braves take quite a beating from the New York Yankees in the World Series. It is one of my fondest memories.

The championship celebration - Nothing beats watching journalists trying to conduct interviews while athletes, proud of their teams' victory, pour champagne on them on live television. It's also fun to watch as a victorious skipper or athlete gets doused with our town's finest brew during an interview. And, of course, it is always gratifying

to see an on-field celebration as a team claims a championship.

The brawl - All parties involved in

brawls may be referred to as brutes or barbarians, but they sure are fun to watch. My favorite brawl, if you haven't guessed, is the baseball brawl. There are times when a pitcher throws at a hitter, the dugouts and bullpens clear and the players have it out at the center of the field. The consequences of this are not so good, but who cares?

The real thing - Watching sports on television is fun, but actually being at the venue for the event is much more enjoyable. I do not intend to describe, as do all baseball fanatics when describing the experience of watching a game, the smell of green grass, hot dogs and blah, blah, blah. But I must admit, there are many different factors that do come into play that make being at the actual sporting event better than watching it on television.

You make the call - It's always nice to see a game official getting chewed out from a player or coach after a controversial call. It doesn't matter who is right or who is wrong; seeing a heated player or coach rush an official is definitely a thing to behold.



The ABCs of Sports

HANK BURNS

Got a comment?
Send it to
HFLB4@juno.com

SPORTS SHORTS

Boys of Summer to hold hitting clinic for athletes

The UMSL baseball team will hold a special Winter Hitting Clinic. The one-day clinic will take place on February 15 and be available for players aged 10-18. It will take place on the UMSL campus at the Mark Twain Building and is available at the cost of \$30 per participant.

For information on the clinic and to sign up, please call 314-516-5652.

UMSL Athletics accepting '03 Hall of Fame applications

The University of Missouri-St. Louis Athletic Department is currently accepting applications for nominees into the Missouri-St. Louis Sports Hall of Fame.

A nominee must qualify into one of three categories:

Student Athlete: Must have competed for a varsity sport, have graduated from the University and have earned a degree prior to 1998.

Coach: Five years must elapse after active coaching service at the University to qualify.

Distinguished Service: For individuals who have made exceptional contributions (time, service or support) to the development and advancement of

UMSL intercollegiate athletics.

The Sports Hall of Fame was created by a joint effort by the Alumni Relations Department and the Athletic Department. There were 12 inaugural members of the UMSL Sports Hall of Fame, who were all inducted during the first induction ceremony, on June 9, 2001. Today, there are 20 members of the UMSL Sports Hall of Fame.

Nomination forms are available from the UMSL Athletic Department at 314-516-5503.

Southern Indiana Junior forward named Great Lakes Valley Player of the Week

University of Southern Indiana Junior Forward Billy Harris averaged 16.0 points, shot 63.2 percent from the field and led his team to crucial victories over Bellarmine and Northern Kentucky to earn Player of the Week honors in the Great Lakes Valley Conference.

Harris began the week by scoring 17 points and grabbing 14 rebounds in just 21 minutes of action as USI raced by Bellarmine, 107-82. He came back on Saturday to hit 6-8 floor shots and score 15 points in 23 minutes as the Screaming Eagles recorded a huge 87-82 victory over No. 12-ranked Northern Kentucky.

Have what it takes to write sports?

Apply now to become a staff writer in The Current Sports Department. Call 516-5174 or e-mail us at current@jinx.umsil.edu for more details.

Have a Traffic Ticket?

314.729.2833

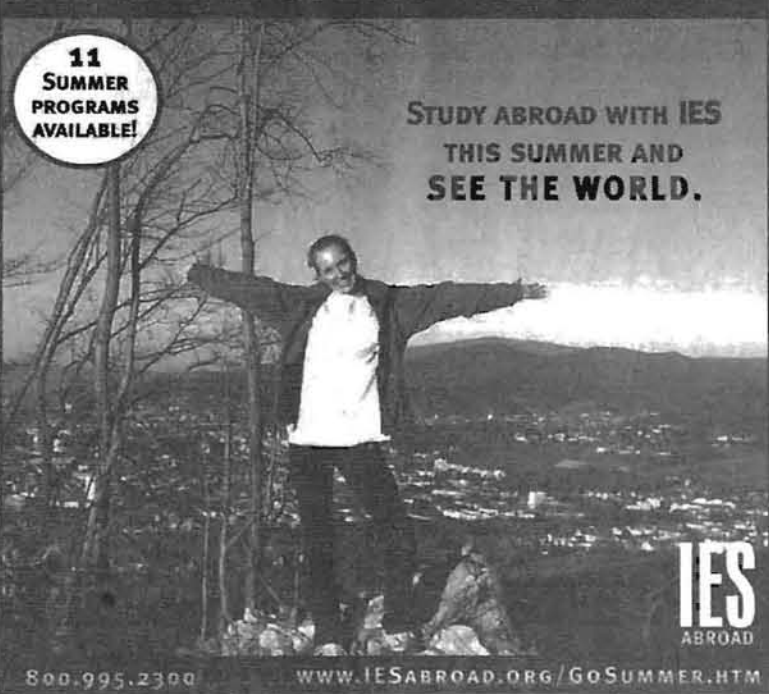
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Join us to hear Peace Corps' Deputy Director Jody Olsen speak about the Peace Corps in 2003.

Tuesday, Jan. 28, 7 p.m.

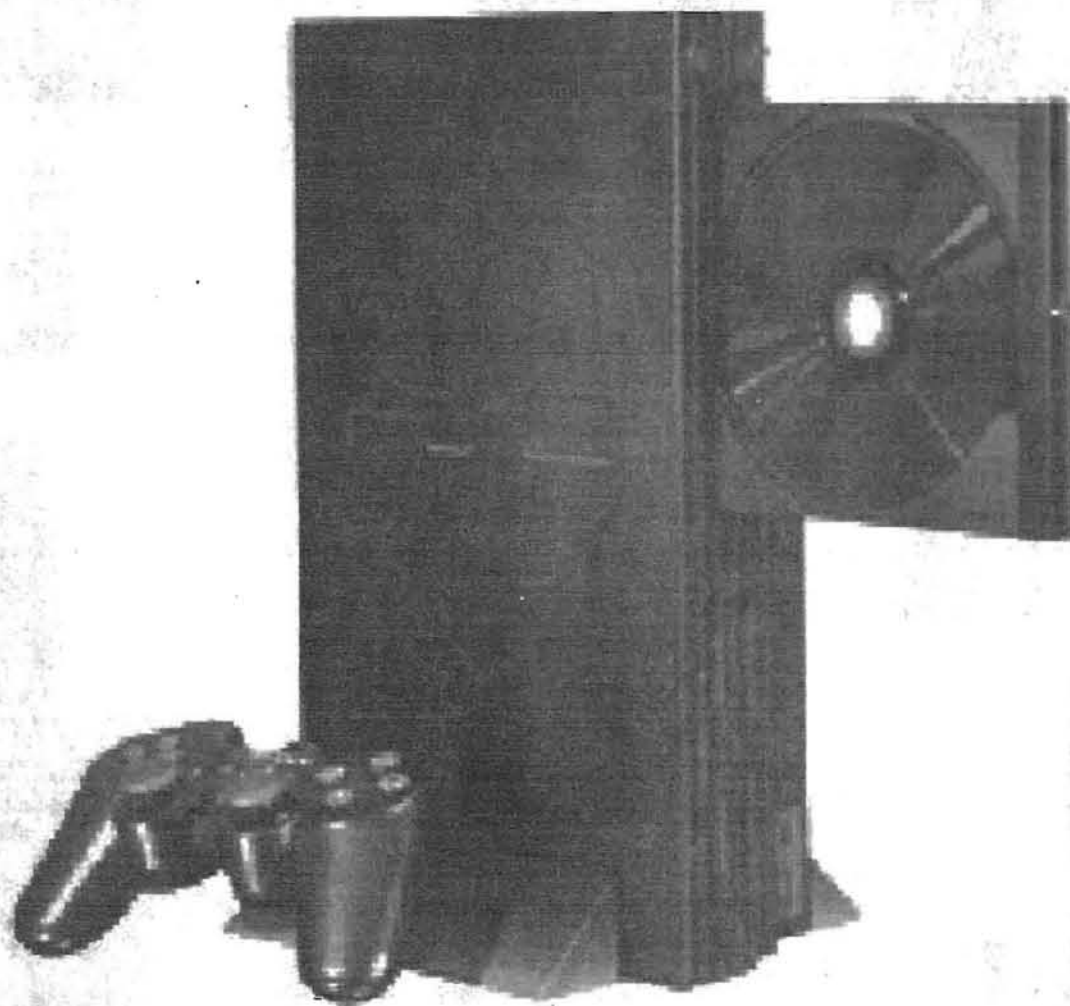
Washington University
Mallinckrodt Ctr., Gargoyle Room



Want to interview to join the Peace Corps?

Call Fran Noonan at (314) 935-4166 for more information or to schedule an interview

WIN A FREE SONY PLAYSTATION 2



Thursday, January 30 at the Rivermen Basketball Game at 7:45 p.m. at the Mark Twain Gym

SPONSORED BY STUDENT LIFE

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ATTENTION UMSL STUDENTS!



Join the Tailgating Events at UMSL Home Basketball Games!

THURSDAY - JAN. 30 - vs QUINCY
Women: 5:30 pm, Men: 7:45 pm

- Greek Pick-A-Player Night
- Student Life Playstation Night
- UMSL Pom-Poms
- Free Food & Drink!

Join the Excitement!!!

THURSDAY - FEB. 6 - vs KENTUCKY WESLEYAN
Women: 5:30 pm, Men: 7:45 pm

- Raise the Roof Night
- Bottle Jersey Night
- Free Food & Drink!

Join the Fun!!!

THURSDAY - FEB. 20 - vs LEWIS
Women: 5:30 pm, Men: 7:45 pm

- Homecoming Court Night
- Spirit Competition Night

UMSL BASKETBALL!!

SATURDAY - FEB. 22 - vs SIU EDWARDSVILLE
Women: 1:00 pm, Men: 3:15 pm

- Homecoming Game
- Alumni Family Day

THEATER REVIEW

Wonderful 'Copenhagen'

BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER
A&E Editor

"Copenhagen," the current play offered by the Repertory Theatre of St. Louis in Webster, is a fascinating mix of history, science, moral choices and personal relationships. It is a Tony award-winner and refreshingly intelligent stuff.



Photo: J. Bruce Summers

Copenhagen looks back at the real wartime meeting between physicists Werner Heisenberg and his mentor Niels Bohr in Nazi-occupied Denmark.

In 1941, Werner Heisenberg, the head of German research on making a nuclear bomb, visits his old mentor, Niels Bohr, in Nazi-occupied Copenhagen. Bohr is a half-Jewish Dane who is aware of what is happening in Germany. Heisenberg is a German working for the Nazis. Why did Heisenberg visit Bohr? What did they say? This mystery is the core of this play, a question that haunted the world of physics in the wake of WWII. The Allies built the bomb; the Germans did not, but there were questions about why they did not.

ties and of moral choices that may have effected the course of history.

The play has only three people on a nearly bare stage. Above and behind them, members of the audience observe the action, like in an old-fashioned lecture hall. The characters on stage, Werner Heisenberg (Andrew Long), Niels Bohr (Anderson Mathews) and his wife, Margrethe (Carol Schultz), are all dead spirits, revisiting the events of their lives, particularly that mysterious 1941 visit. They share their thoughts with the audience and re-

enact events, especially that meeting, as a way of exploring their relationships, the events of history, the golden age of physics and moral choices. The result is drama, pure and simple, which will keep you riveted.

A little knowledge of history and physics helps but isn't essential. In 1920s Germany, all the greats of modern physics were at work - Einstein, Bohr, Heisenberg and others. After WWI, Germans, like the young Heisenberg, were not welcomed in many labs, but Bohr takes him under his wing. They develop a father/son relationship on a personal level but remain competitive in their research. They have vastly different personalities, with Heisenberg rushing to conclusions and taking short cuts, whereas Bohr ponders all sides. Now in WWII, the power has shifted, with Heisenberg as head of research while Bohr prepares to flee for his life.

The play has unexpected resonance with recent events, as discussions of whether Germany could build a nuclear bomb echo similar questions about North Korea and Iraq. The mystery of the visit remains in part because the participants never fully explained them. Sometimes Heisenberg seemed to be hinting that he deliberately delayed the German project, but he clearly didn't want to appear to be a traitor. Before the Nazis came to power, Heisenberg loved his country, as any good patriot. How to reconcile his love of his country with what his country was doing? On the other hand, Heisenberg's personal pride made him reluctant to have people assume he was incapable of building the bomb.

An individual's explanation of his own motives may be suspect, but the actions and events don't make things clear here either.

This delightfully meaty play is just the thing to warm up your brain in this frigid season. The play is presented nightly through Feb. 7 at the Rep in Webster Groves.



Photo: J. Bruce Summers

Featuring (left to right): Anderson Mathews as Niels Bohr, Andrew Long as Heisenberg and Carol Schultz as Margarethe.

GAME REVIEW

Max Payne? Yes

BY CHARLIE BRIGHT
Senior Writer

"Max Payne" is a survivor of the bargain bin, a good game for those of you out there with a \$20 gift certificate to Best Buy left over from Christmas. As a bargain bin item (it

“**Max Payne**” features scalable bad guys who determine how good you are as a player and kick your butt accordingly. Experts like *ahem* myself will be gunned down mercilessly, while newbies find themselves being constantly missed by several miles.

“
was released in August of '01) it'll run you \$10 or \$20, and it serves as a prime example of everything that is right and everything that is horribly, horribly amiss with buying old

games.

The game is excellent... for 2001. Even with a P4, it felt slow for a first-person-shooter, but I'm undoubtedly jaded by the ungodly speed of "Unreal Tournament 2003" and other newer games. Players on Xbox will have the same feelings while reflecting on "Halo," and PS2 players will make some other, equivalent comparisons. And yet "Max Payne" thrives on the same thing that more modern games do: gimmicks.

There are no first-aid boxes or bandages in "Max Payne"; instead there are vaguely illegal-sounding painkillers. The story isn't conveyed in fancy CGI cutscenes or in-game graphics but rather in the form of a brilliantly illustrated graphic novel. The much-envied creation of "bullet-time" gives Max the ability to slow-mo things like in any good action movie (a statement which is itself semi-paradoxical). The voice acting, which was still a gimmick in 2001, isn't terrible, and the plot is reshaped, but at least it's there. The introduction made "Max Payne" more enjoyable than an otherwise similar game where the plot consists of aliens randomly rampaging in New York.

The Artificial Intelligence, unfortunately, isn't. That is to say that the

bad guys are just as utterly stupid as bad guys in any other action game, but this is where another gimmick comes in. "Max Payne" features scalable bad guys who determine how good you are as a player and kick your butt accordingly. Experts like *ahem* myself will be gunned down mercilessly, while newbies find themselves being constantly missed by several miles. Even with the remarkable gimmicks it sports, "Max Payne" can't help but feel a bit dated, and I'd swear I saw some gray hair sprouting from the hero's pixilated, polygonal head.

Other occupants of the bargain bin might be better suited to their costs. For half the money of "Max Payne," you could get the original "Diablo." It's worthless if you've played the sequel (the difference in graphics is physically painful), but it's great if it's still new to you. Alternately, you could snag "Starcraft" and its expansion "Brood War" with strategy guides for twenty bucks. Still, "Max Payne" is worth your money on PC, but at \$50 for a console version, it's just not worth the investment. If you're going to be spending an extra \$30 on every game you buy, just skip purchasing the next dozen games and get a shiny new Dell from that freaky blonde guy on TV.

BOOK REVIEW

Romantic but fluffy suspense

BY SARA PORTER
Features Associate

When mystery writers write mysteries, they concentrate on plot: What happened to the suspect and how can the detective figure it out? When romance writers write mysteries, they concentrate on characters. The mystery is almost an afterthought because the reader is mostly curious about when the two characters will end up together. Julie Kenner's novel "Nobody But You" falls into this latter category.

In the novel, private detective

“
In the novel, private detective and pulp fiction writer David Anderson is caught up in his latest novel when he walks Jacey Wilder, who is overweight, sarcastic and nothing like the leggy beauties that he writes about.

and pulp fiction writer David Anderson is caught up in his latest novel when he walks Jacey Wilder, who is overweight, sarcastic and nothing like the leggy beauties that he writes about. Jacey recruits David to find her fiancée, Al, who took off after a case of mistaken identity. David takes the case, and he and Jacey are soon involved in a plot involving gangsters, stolen diamonds and dead bodies.

Kenner writes well, in a kind of tribute to the early noir detectives. Each chapter is headed by excerpts from David's book that follow the mystery conventions rather well. The real story plays off the conventions in sin-

cere and sometimes startling ways. Gone is the weathered detective, the helpless femme fatale and the criminal that you can accurately guess for miles. Instead we have a young detective still in the prime of life, an independent woman and surprising criminals.

While Kenner does a superb job of playing off the conventions of detective fiction, her plot at times feels more like an afterthought. Things are resolved rather quickly, and some things are left hanging (leaving the door wide open for the sequel that has an excerpt in the back of the book).

While the mystery plot somewhat falters, Kenner's romance plot is right on target, and she creates two perfectly well-written characters. David is a young man who years for a little excitement. He is reluctant to start another relationship after coming off a broken marriage. Jacey is a woman approaching thirty who has only begun to realize that she must get her life on track. She throws herself into an accounting job she hates and is looking for Al, a man she doesn't know if she loves but just feels is nice and normal enough to marry.

Together, Jacey and David make a perfect argumentative couple, another convention found in movies and in literature. But since it is an enjoyable convention, Jacey and David make a fun sparring couple, even though the reader can see the romantic tension a mile away.

Kenner also does well in creating excellent supporting characters, especially David's family. The scene is practically stolen by his Aunt Millie, a wily senior citizen with a fondness for Mel Gibson, and his best friend, Finn Teague, a wise guy lawyer/wannabe-spy. In fact, Finn is such a memorable character that he will grab the spotlight in Kenner's next novel, "The Spy Who Loves Me," which, like its predecessor, should be a novel worth reading.



Photo: Pocket Books

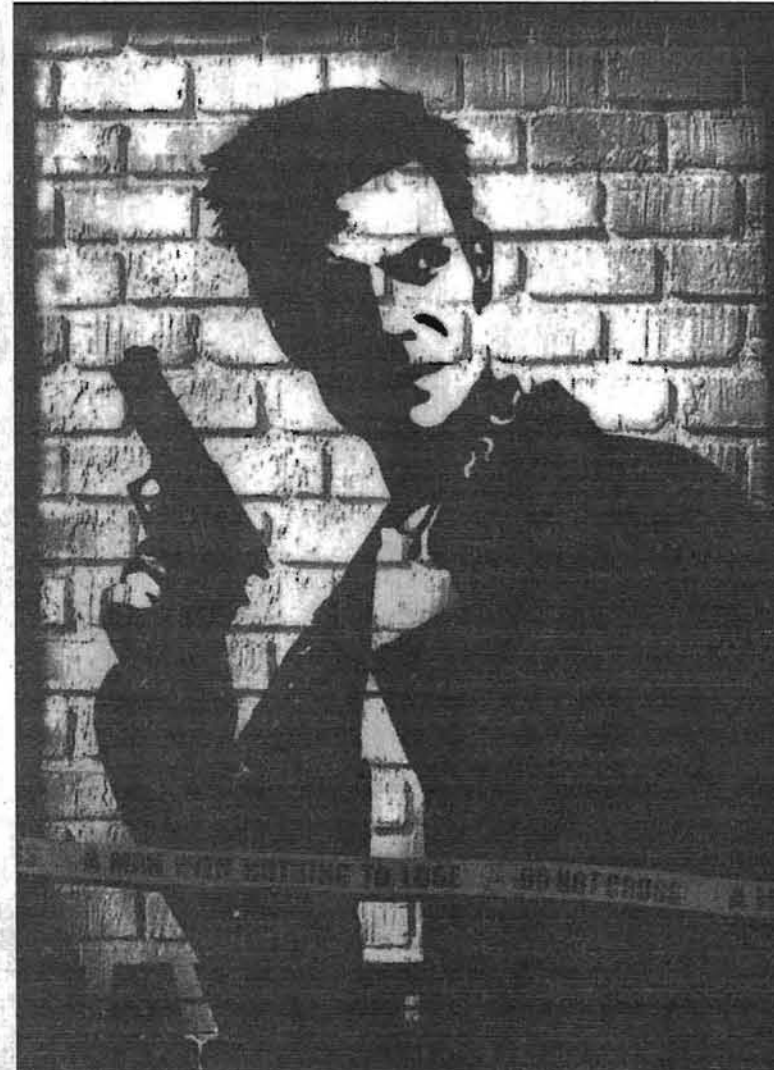


Photo courtesy Remedy Games

'Max Payne' can be purchased for \$20 or less.

EDITOR

CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER

A&E Editor

phone: 516-4886
fax: 516-6811

A&E Calendar

Movies

Film openings are subject to change

Jan. 24

Nicholas Nickleby - colorful adaptation of the Dicken's classic, with a strong dash of humor, stars Alan Cumming

Confessions of a Dangerous Mind - based on his autobiography, the strange tale of TV producer Chuck Barris who claimed to also be an undercover CIA agent, directed by George Clooney

Darkness Falls - horror/suspense

Special programs:
Spike and Mike's Sick and Twisted Animation Festival - one week only at the Tivoli

JAN. 31

The Recruit - Al Pacino and Colin Farrell star in thriller about CIA training school

Biker Boyz - action film being described as a modern Western on wheels, with Kid Rock and Laurence Fishburne.

In July - delightful German comedy (that's right), that is part road picture, part romantic comedy; a hit of the year before last's St. Louis International Film Festival

FEB. 7

Talk to Her - glorious Spanish film about a friendship that develops between two men whose girlfriends are in comas. A hard-to-describe story that is delightful and unexpected, a top Oscar contender.

Shanghai Knights - sequel to Shanghai Noon, comedy set in the era of American West but now in London, stars Jackie Chan.

Deliver Us From Eva - a charming romantic comedy that is more on the comedy side, about three men involved with three sisters whose acid-tongued fourth sister is making them miserable.

How to Lose a Guy in Ten Days - another romantic comedy, this one is about competing bets - a woman determined to lose the guy and the guy trying to hang on; stars Kate Hudson.

'Natural Bridge' receives national recognition

BY BECKY ROSNER
Staff Writer

"Natural Bridge" is a literary magazine that has received national recognition. Writers from all around the world are able to submit writings to the literary magazine. UM-St. Louis is the host school for the publication.

"We receive poetry, poetry in translation, fiction, short stories and creative essays from all over the world," said Assistant Professor Mary Troy. "Sometimes we publish works from people who may have a few books, and for others it may be the first time that their work has been published."

Troy has been involved with the publication since it was founded, about 4-5 years ago. The journal was once called the Webster Review, but "Natural Bridge" took over and made it bigger and better.

"I direct the MFA program, enroll students in the class and help decide who will teach the class," said Troy. "I'm also on the editorial board; I guest edited issue No. 4 and will guest edit issue No. 11 in the fall."

The works are written and submitted by anyone who is unaffiliated with UM-St. Louis. A call is put out twice a year for people to submit their writings. Thousands of pieces of literature are received through each call. Writers are allowed to submit one piece of literature and 5 to 7 poems. Both the class and the editors on each piece of the book spend a good deal of time.

"I usually put in anywhere from 20 to 30 hours in the office a week," said Ryan Stone, current editor of "Natural Bridge" and MFA graduate student. "The editors in the class may even put in 10 to 15 hours a week, including reading, on the journal."

The class, which is connected with the MFA (Master of Fine Arts) Program, deals with "Natural Bridge." You must be a MFA student to be on the staff and have attended a few workshops. A new editor is picked for each issue. There are two issues published in a year. There is also a guest editor; this person teaches the "Natural Bridge" MFA class.

"I've taken the class three times now," MFA graduate student Amy Debrecht said. "It's just like any other class; it meets two times a week and is taken for credit."

The guest editor of each issue is the teacher of the MFA class. The students in the class are the first readers of the issues. They try to find the good stuff and decide what not to take. One of their responsibilities may sometimes include writing rejection letters to those whose work will not be used in the publication. No one person has the final decision on what will or will not go in the book. Each piece is read by at least three people.

"We only accept about 5 percent of the writings that we receive," Debrecht said. "Rejection helps in the learning process to produce better work."

Some of the journals have a theme.

Issue No. 7 had an Irish-American theme, and this upcoming issue will have a theme related to Genesis. The editors, editorial staff and class all help to decide what the book will be based around.

"The final content of "Natural Bridge" is completely decided by the MFA students in the class," said Stone. "If they vote it in, it goes in. If they decide not, then it won't; they have impeccable taste."

"Natural Bridge" was recently reviewed by a nationwide publication, The Literary Magazine Review. The reviews were astounding. They said, "Cancel your subscriptions to those old lit mags, and subscribe to something fresh and something good." They also stated, "If you're going to subscribe to one new journal this year, subscribe to 'Natural Bridge.'"

A single issue of the book is \$8, and a subscription is available for \$15 a year. You can pick up "Natural Bridge" in most bookstores around the area. To order a subscription or receive a copy of any of the books, contact Mary Troy at 516-6845. You can also send a payment with your address to Troy or visit their website at www.umsl.edu/~natural.

"We try to get the distribution up by mass mailings and our website," said Stone. "We tend to get subscriptions from all types of people, from students to faculty members from universities, and even people who are just out living their lives."

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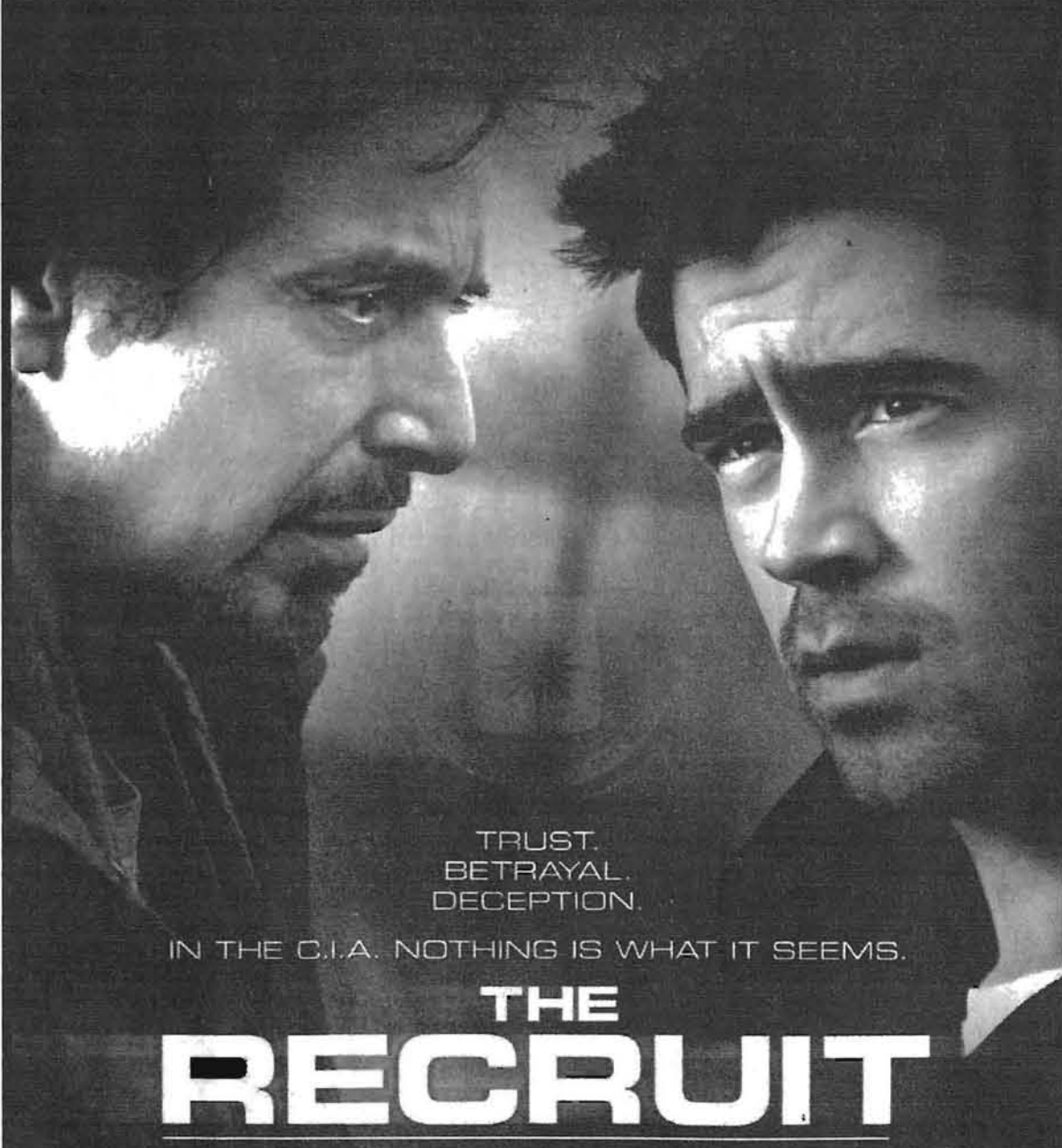
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THE VILLAGE IDIOTS



First things first—Apparently there was some scandal, controversy and general confusion surrounding last week's column, and we wouldn't be the paragons of virtue that we so totally are if we didn't attempt to address and rectify the situations.

Dearest Village Idiots,
First of all, I want to tell you that I am one of your biggest fans.

In fact, my friends and I are in the process of establishing a Fan Club for Adam (We'll send you a t-shirt when we get them made). Anyway, the purpose of this letter is to let you know that I was highly disappointed with

"Befuddled's" letter in the last issue. As I read the question, I realized that I was reading an episode of 'Friends'. It is the one where Joey and Chandler get porn for free and vow not to turn it off because they don't want to be the guys who turned off free porn. Then Joey realizes that ordering a pizza will not get him laid - It is a very funny episode.

In the end, they turn it off and within thirty seconds turn it back on only to find that the porn still lives. They jump up and down and get excited and all is good. What I want to know is who wrote this rip-off? They should be ashamed!

-Love, Fired Up

Dear Fired Up,
We're not quite sure what's scarier: That someone ripped off "Friends" or that someone else actually got upset enough to write a letter about it...Either way, Fired Up, you make a very valid point, and you're not the only one who brought this to our attention. And we agree with you; whoever wrote that letter should be ashamed! Not necessarily for plagiarizing, but rather for plagiarizing "Friends" of all things. C'mon, people! We have standards here! If you're going to plagiarize, at least make it something worthwhile (anything from the English literary canon would be acceptable...) People must just have too much time on their hands. Can't you be like us and, instead of watching television and realizing someone ripped off a show, drink your lives away in useless pursuits of happiness and fulfillment? After all, doesn't television kill more brain cells than booze anyway?

We're truly sorry that such a tragedy occurred in the column, and we're sorry that we didn't catch it before going to print. Unfortunately, we're both contemporary pop-culture retards (If it was made after 1976, we won't know it) and have watched maybe a grand total of two episodes of "Friends" in our entire lives (and not necessarily by choice). However, any future plagiarists should be forewarned: Try ripping off Huggy Bear, Vinnie Barbarino or The Fonz (Heyyyyy!), and we'll nail you! [Jason's note: I would just like it known that whomever sent us this great letter also referred to me as the "Cute one," but Adam edited it out. I think he is jealous. Bastard. It's about damn time someone realized I'm cute.]

-Love, Jason and Adam (who is eagerly awaiting his t-shirt)

Dear Village Idiots,
Usually I don't have to think too hard when reading your column, but something from last week has me a tad befuddled: What exactly is a "ridiculously fake idea"? Just won-

dering...

-Love, An Astute Reader

Dear Astute Reader,

"Ridiculously fake idea" is what "ridiculously fake I.D." looks like to Adam when he's trying to write a column late on a Friday night after a couple pints of Guinness. God bless him for trying, though...

And we're glad to hear that you usually don't have to think too hard when reading the column because—this is going to come as quite a shock to a lot of people—we don't usually have to think all too hard when writing it, and we'd hate to think that our readers are putting in more effort than we are. Seriously, the last thing we need is someone to start reading messages in our stuff. We'd really hate to be the ones who inspired the next Charles Manson, we didn't write "Helter Skelter" after all. Hope that clears everything up!

-Love, Jason and Adam

Dear Village Idiots,

I need to apply for what "the man" terms a real job (apparently, whoring myself out for \$10 a pop isn't considered legit). Anyhow, I need help. At my last interview the following exchange took place:

Boss: "Are you a self starter, and do you consider yourself an integral part of a company?"

Me: "Sir, I'm going to do such a good job you're going to beg me to sleep with YOUR wife."

I didn't get the job, and I think Pizza Hut is the worse for it, but I really need to get some cash flow! Any ideas?

-Sincerely Scouring the Couch Cushions for Coins

Dear Scouring,

Not exactly the brightest crayon in the box, are you? Never mind, forget we asked...Of course we'll help you. However, we need to make something perfectly clear first: We've never worked an honest day in our lives, instead being fortunately able to sleep our way to the top of the newspaper industry. [Note: By "top," we mean "slightly lower than the bottom."] But the fact of the matter is that we've never sold out to corporate America and neither should you. Maybe one of the following positions will appeal to you: Distributing porn on the Internet is a viable option, and who wouldn't want to be known worldwide as a porn czar? Can you imagine all the chicks you'd get when you introduced yourself at dinner parties as "The world's number one supplier of sheep and midget-themed adult entertainment"? The ladies so totally go for those guys!

Another option is selling vital organs on the Black Market (No, not your own—put down the scissors, Einstein). All you need to do is wait for one of your friends to pass out, and then you can cash in; a kidney alone goes for about \$3,000, and if you can score a relatively well-working heart, you'll be walking on easy street. [Adam's Note: If you happen to find a good liver, I call first dibs. Thanks.] We would like to add, that while still radical at the time, brain transplants have come a long way, and Jason is still waiting on his....

We'd be most grateful to anyone willing to help Jason in his quest. It seems that all the concussions are catching up to him. Just yesterday, he came to school with no pants on and a tea cozy on his head.

-Love, Adam and Jason (duhhh....sheeps is funny)

Dear Village Idiots,

I go to a major state school (U of Illinois), and it has come to my attention that here, among other places, people act really fake. White guys act like thugged out gangstas while wearing Polo shirts and khakis, skinny guys act like hard asses and my roommate dresses like a woman. Unfortunately, I'm not exempt from my critique. I watch TRL on MTV whenever I can and attempt to use whatever that Carson Daley guy says in everyday conversation...I'm such a tool.

-Lamely, Unable to Admit Faults

Dear Unable,

To answer your question, people are just inherently fake. For example, Jason tells people that girls talk to him at parties when they really just say one of two things: 1) "No means no" and 2) "Seriously, according to the restraining order, you can't be within 100 feet of me!" Deep down Adam doesn't want people to know that he's really little more than a dirty alcoholic, so he's managed to convince himself (and a few others) that Jack Daniels is an actual person and a great friend, to boot. Everyone is insecure with themselves, but the trick is to look within and find the good that you possess and enlighten the world with your positive energy [Note: We're reading this off of one of those damn feel-good posters that has a picture of a rainbow on it]. What the hell? Where did that come from? Good god, we have to go watch "Taxi Driver" before we start spouting "Chicken Soup for the Advice Columnist's Soul."

But Unable, don't be too hard on yourself; we think you're great. [Note: We figured we better include this last part in case Unable meant to write to a real advice column but wrote to us by mistake. For all we know, he's seriously contemplating suicide or something...and if he is, he should talk to Scouring (see above); it would be a shame for all of those valuable organs to go to waste...] We are totally sure that you have a lot to offer to the world. Stories to tell and recipes to share and all that.

We would like to address the issue of your roommate as well. Tell us this; is your roommate a man or woman? Seriously, if you have a female roommate and you have issues with her dressing like a woman, then you may be the one with the problem. If he/she/it is a male, then hey, you can be a good friend and buy the Nair for him.

-Love, Jason and Adam

If you have a question, send us an e-mail: VillagIdiotsJA@yahoo.com. If you don't like e-mail, you can bring a question to us on the third floor of the MSC, room 388.

!!!DISCLAIMER!!!
Adam Bodendieck and Jason Granger are by no means qualified to dispense advice. They are a couple of stupid college guys. Please do not send them serious questions. It will be assumed that if you send them questions, they are in jest and open to Adam and Jason's own particular brand of humor. This column is intended to be read as parody.
-The Management



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Hi,oz! What-cha dain'?

Hey, Sid! I'm collecting money for a foundation that helps poor kids

Wow! Charity work! How nice!

Um...not quite. I get paid, like, \$5.75 an hour

Oh...well, at least this store's customers must give you a lot of money

Actually, 'Ed's Barn of Cheap Crap' doesn't bring in as generous people as you might think...

Well, how much do they donate to you?

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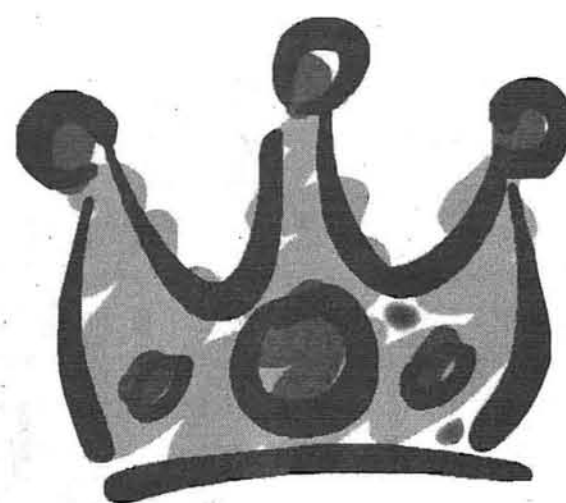
Sooo...it's like you're taking \$4.25 away from the company every hour

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I...Er...

Oh, dear God...

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The more collect calls you make by dialing down the center with 1-800 CALL ATT, the more chances you have to enter to win a trip to MTV Spring Break 2003! So break out that bathing suit, that is, if you can still squeeze into it.

MTV Spring Break 03

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NO TELEPHONE CALL OR PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. ELIGIBILITY: Open to legal residents of the 50 United States, District of Columbia, and the U.S. Virgin Islands who are 18 or older as of 1/15/03. Void in Puerto Rico and where prohibited. TWO WAYS TO PARTICIPATE: A.) 1-800 CALL ATT: During the period 1/15/03 (12:00 AM Eastern Time ("ET")) to 2/28/03 (11:59 PM ET) each time you place a 1-800 CALL ATT collect call using prompt #2 and the call charges are accepted, you will be automatically entered in the MTV Spring Break 2003 Sweepstakes. Calls must originate and terminate in the 50 United States, District of Columbia, or the U.S. Virgin Islands. 1-800 CALL ATT Collect Call entries will be randomly interrupted during the promotion period to advise callers (not call recipients) if they have won a prize. B.) U.S. MAIL: To enter via U.S. Mail without making a 1-800 CALL ATT collect call, hand print on a 3" x 5" piece of paper your name, address, zip code, daytime phone number, age, date of birth and the words "1-800 CALL ATT" and mail it to: MTV Spring Break 2003 Sweepstakes, PO Box 13132, Bridgeport, CT 06603-3132. Must be postmarked by 2/28/03 and received by 3/4/03. One entry per envelope. First Prizes not awarded at the conclusion of the promotion period (if any) will be awarded in a second chance drawing from among all eligible mailed entries received that have not already been selected as First Prize winners. To be included in the second chance drawing, follow option B described above. Grand Prize winner will be selected randomly on or about 3/4/03 from among all First Prize winners. PRIZES/ODDS: (1) Grand Prize: 4 day/3 night trip for winner and three (3) guests to 2003 MTV Spring Break (currently scheduled for March 12-15, 2003), consisting of round trip coach air transportation from nearest major airport in the U.S. to winner's residence, suite hotel accommodations for (4) (one suite), ground transportation (to/from hotel and the airport), priority treatment at the 2003 MTV Spring Break event, and a total of \$800 spending money (Approximate Retail Value "ARV" = \$16,800). First Prizes: (610) MTV Beach Bag (ARV = \$20). Taxes are responsibility of winners. Total Prize Value = \$33,000. Odds of winning a prize will depend on the number of eligible entries received. Subject to the Official Rules available by calling (800) 833-1928 or by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope by 4/7/03 to: MTV Spring Break 2003 Sweepstakes Rules, PO Box 13106, Bridgeport, CT 06673-3106. ©2003 AT&T. ©2003 MTV Networks. All rights reserved. MTV MUSIC TELEVISION, SPRING BREAK and all related titles and logos are trademarks of MTV Networks, a division of Viacom International Inc.

Thursday, February 6, 2003 7:00pm MSC Century rooms
Free to the Public



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