



See page 8
SLIFF is a must for movie fans.

Student mugged near Benton Hall

BY GARY SOHN
Staff Writer

Last week, a female student (who wishes to remain anonymous) said that she was mugged by a man who took her purse while she was walking along the sidewalk of Natural Bridge near Benton Hall.

The victim claims that she was mugged after crossing the intersection of Natural Bridge Road and University Drive. There, she claims, she was confronted by the man, who first asked for bus fair, and then took her purse.

"I was crossing the street when someone yelled for me. I thought I had dropped something, so I stopped," the woman said. "I couldn't hear what he was saying because he was across the street. He then crossed the street and asked me for fifty cents for the bus. I said, 'Sorry, but no.'"

After she turned to walk away, the victim claimed, the suspect grabbed her purse and ran away. "As I turned away, he grabbed my purse and started running away. I started screaming like crazy for help. Some students nearby heard me and got me to a phone in Benton Hall," the woman said.

Campus police were called soon after the incident and immediately met the woman at Benton Hall. "I gave the police a description of the man and showed them the location of where I was mugged. I also told them that he had back-up because after he took my purse, I saw him meet up with another guy as he was running down the street," the victim said.

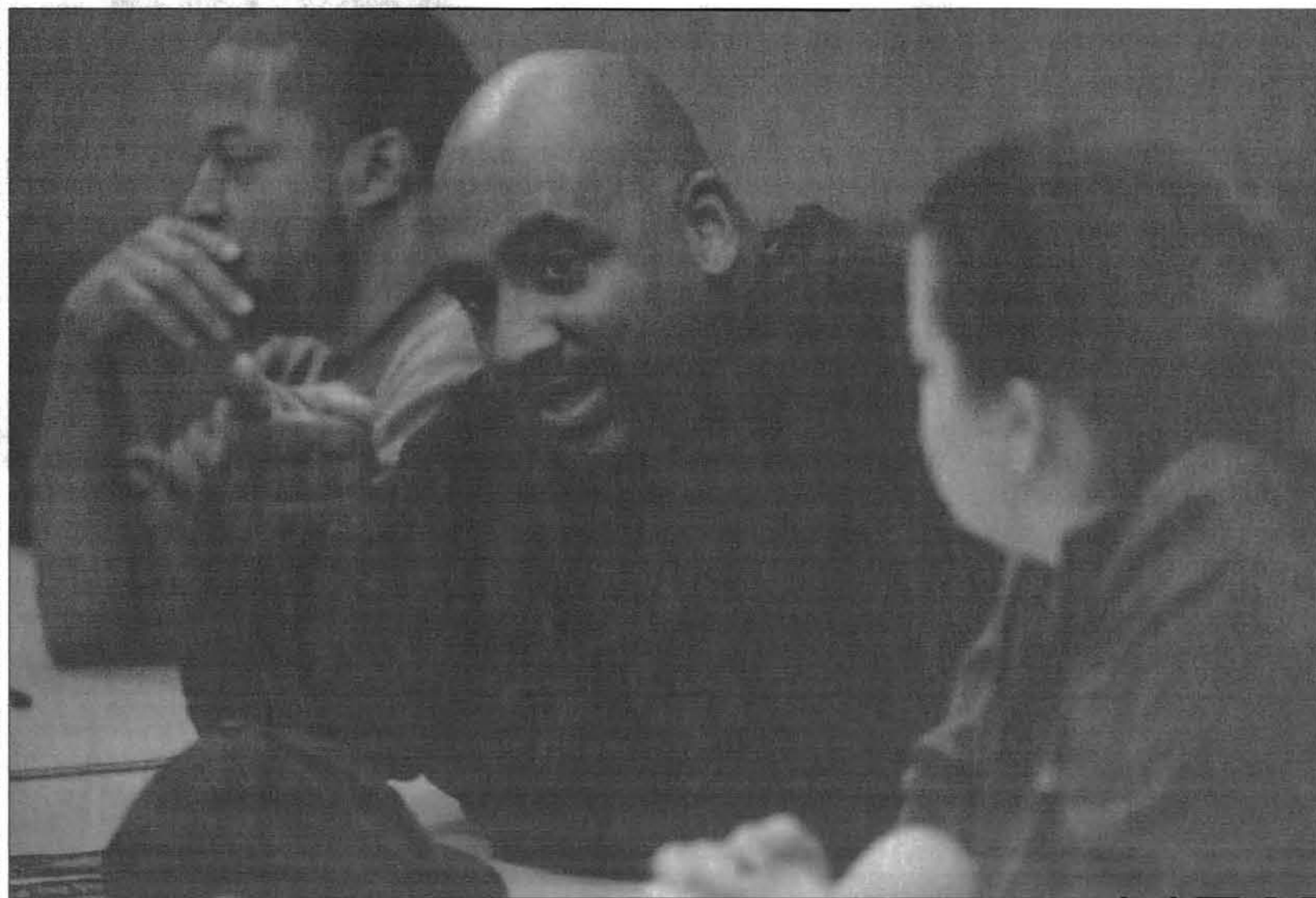
The suspect has been described by the woman as a black male, about sixteen years old, medium height and slim build and wearing a black hooded sweatshirt and dark jeans. The case is still under investigation, so if anyone has information he or she is asked to call the police department immediately.

According to the victim, Campus Police were helpful. She also said that University Meadows were especially helpful with changing the locks on her door immediately after she contacted the director. "The thing that really disturbed me about the whole thing is that they [the suspects] used my cell phone to make calls to my boyfriend saying threatening things."

Due to crimes like this on campus, some wonder about campus security. Bob Samples, director of University Communications, said that there are several different services on campus that provide for a safe campus environment. "There are red phones in each building. There are also blue phones placed near long parking lots," Samples said. "The new garages are well-lit as opposed to the way the old garages were. We also have shuttle services."

see MUGGING, page 3

Forum opens campus for discussion 'Issues of the Color Line'



Rinaldo Edmonson, sophomore, marketing, takes part in the forum "Issues of the Color Line" held Tuesday afternoon. The open forum was hosted by the Associated Black Collegians, the Student Government Association and The Current.

BY BECKY ROSNER
News Editor

On Tuesday, *The Current*, along with the Student Government

Association and the Associated Black Collegians, hosted a forum entitled, "Issues of the Color Line." A large group of students and staff gathered in Century Room C of the MSC for

an open discussion.

At the last Coffee with Curt, some remarks were made about the staff editorial addressing some University-related race issues and divisions

published in *The Current* on Oct. 13, 2003. The editorial commented on voluntary racial segregation of students at UM-St. Louis. Beth Grindstaff, SGA vice president, felt

Professor wins award for book

BY STEFANIE TAYLOR
News Editor

Lana Stein, professor and chairwoman of the Department of Political Science at UM-St. Louis, was awarded the Eagleton-Waters Award

for her book "St. Louis Politics: The Triumph of Tradition." The award was presented on Oct. 18, by the Missouri Historical Society, at their annual meeting in Columbia, Mo.

see AWARD, page 3



Lana Stein, professor of political science, speaks with a reporter in her office in SSB on Monday. Stein recently won the Eagleton-Waters Award for her book "St. Louis Politics: The Triumph of Tradition."

UMSL hosts a month of community service

BY PATRICIA LEE
Staff Writer

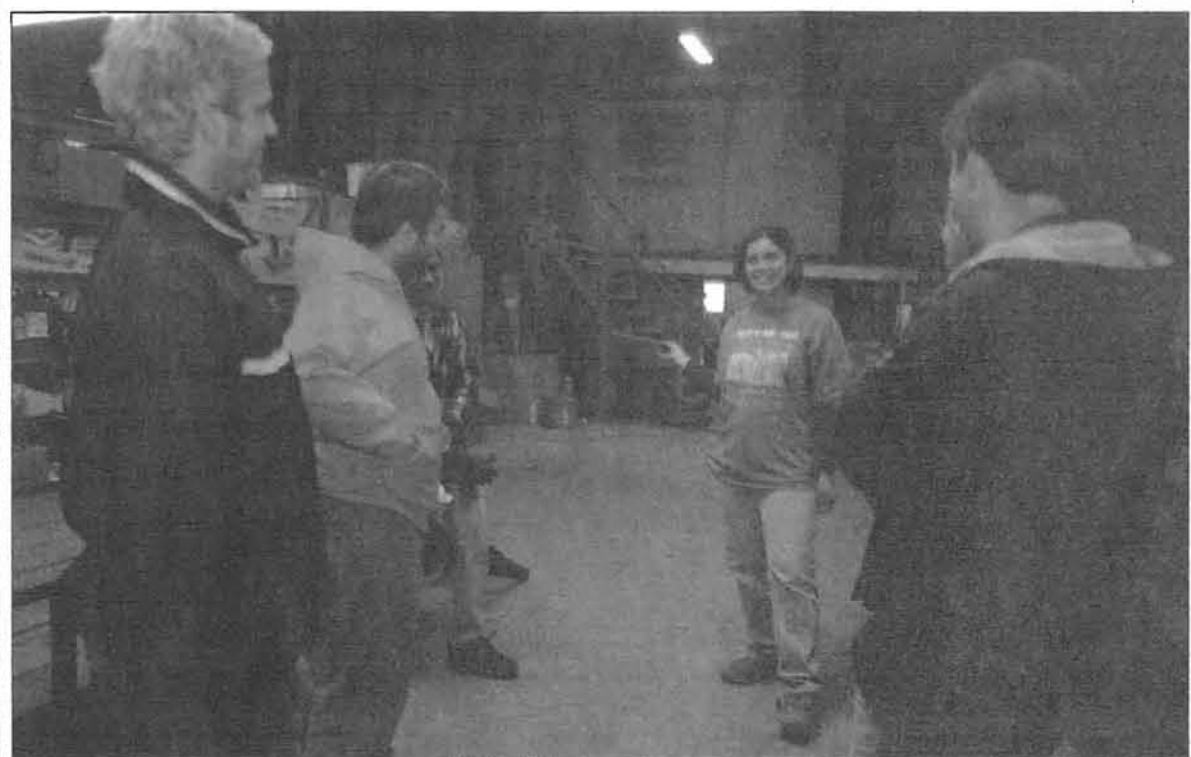
This month, the University is trying to promote student involvement in community service by holding the second annual UM-St. Louis Campus Community Service Initiative or Student Life Month of Service.

items for Operation Food Search, a Hunger Awareness banquet on Nov. 20, and a Service Learning Luncheon on Nov. 24, where professors talk about the benefits of community service and how it could be implemented into academic curriculum.

The University decided to hold a month of service for several reasons.

Center, Residence Hall Association and the Golden Key National Honor Society.

"It's a great way to become introduced to community service; this is a great way to see a handful of different service opportunities in North County," Allyson Wilson, student services coordinator at the office of Student Life, said. "Service



Student Life workers chat with Lynne Moo (center), manager of youth and volunteer programs for Beyond Housing Neighborhood Housing Services, a non-profit agency. Around 40 UM-St. Louis students volunteered Saturday to help repair Beyond Housing's warehouse.

Throughout November, students can volunteer for several community projects or make donations to various charitable organizations in the greater St. Louis area. On Nov. 5, approximately 15 students read to children and helped them with their homework at Faith House, an after-school program for underprivileged children. More than 40 students signed up on Nov. 15 for Beyond Housing, a program that remodels old houses, so that low-income families can have a place to stay.

Other events planned for the month include collecting and boxing

"The academic side wants to begin developing a service learning program," Joe Flees, community service coordinator, said. "Student Life wants to take on a more of a community service focus and allow community service and leadership. It's also a way of promoting the work that UM-St. Louis students do because we do have some groups that do a lot of community service throughout the year."

Student organizations involved in the Month of Service include Alpha Phi Omega, the Student Government Association, Catholic Newman

is a great way for students to find people with common interests and go out and do something that you can really feel good about."

D. Mike Bauer, Catholic Campus Minister for the Newman Center and UM-St. Louis alumnus, participated in Hunger Awareness Week, a project run by the Newman Center. "The whole goal of Hunger Awareness Week is to make students aware of the problems out there in the world," Bauer said. "As a human being, that is something you should care about."

see COMMUNITY, page 3

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Bulletin Board

Put it on the Board:
 The Current Events Bulletin Board is a service provided free of charge to all student organizations, University departments and divisions. Deadline for submissions to The Current Events Bulletin Board is 5 p.m. every Thursday before publication. Space consideration is given to student organizations and is on a first-come, first-serve basis. We suggest all postings be submitted at least 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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Need to advertise an event?
 Call The Current advertising department at 516-5316 for details.

Thru March Woodcock Museum
 "Image and Imagination: Art of the American West" virtual exhibit is open online at <http://woodcockmuseum.umsl.edu>. Featured is paintings and sculptures from the permanent collections of the Woodcock Museum and the Mercantile Library at UM-St. Louis.

Thru Dec. 5 Alpha Xi Delta
 The Alpha Xi Delta toy drive is from Nov. 17 - Dec. 5. Drop off a new toy in boxes located across UM-St. Louis's campus to do your part. Donations will be given to local children's agencies.

Mon 17 Monday Noon Series
 "Reconnecting St. Louisans to the River - An Illustrated Talk" is the title of the Monday Noon Series. Andrew Hurley, professor of History at UM-St. Louis, describes recent initiatives in public history that focus on St. Louisans' bond with the Mississippi River. Hurley is the author of *Common Fields: An Environmental History of St. Louis*. The program is from 12:15 to 1:15 p.m. in room 229 of the J.C. Penney Conference Center. The Monday Noon Series is sponsored by the Center for Humanities at UM-St. Louis.

Mon 17 (cont.) Chemistry and Biochemistry colloquia
 "Epitaxial Electrodeposition of Metal Oxide Nanostructures" is the title of the colloquia today. The event is from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. in room 451 Benton Hall. The seminar is presented by Jay A. Switzer from UM-Rolla. For more info., call 516-5334.

Thru Nov. 18 Public Policy Research
 "The Price of Progress: The Page Avenue Extension," photographs by Michael Miles opens on Sept. 17. The opening reception will be held from noon to 1 p.m. on Sept. 17 in the Public Policy Research Gallery, 362 SSB. This event is free.

Tues 18 Counseling Services
 A Memory Enhancement workshop is from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. in 126 MSC. The workshop is free and open to UMSL students only. For more info., call Counseling Services at 516-5711.

18 Bible study
 Christ Christian Center is holding a Bible study at 7:30 p.m. at Embassy Suites Hotel (Inter. 70 & Lindbergh). (314) 739-8929.

Tues 18 (cont.) LaRouche visits UMSL
 Democratic Presidential Candidate Lyndon LaRouche, Jr. speaks at 7 p.m. in the JC Penney Building Auditorium. LaRouche addresses the major crises facing the nation. LaRouche has been leading the fight against the war in Iraq, and has been calling for the resignation of Vice-President Dick Cheney for over a year. The lecture is sponsored by Representative Juanita Head Walton, Representative Esther Haywood and Former Representative Quincy Troupe. For more information, call 1-800-929-7566.

18 Crusade for Christ
 A Bible study is from noon - 1:15 p.m. in room 314 of the MSC. Join Campus Crusade for Christ for fellowship and prayer.

Thur 20 Hunger banquet
 The Oxfam Hunger Banquet is from noon to 1 p.m. in the MSC Century Rooms A & B. Please RSVP if you plan to attend by signing up at the informational table, emailing cnsumsl@aol.com, or calling 385-3455 and leaving a message for Kevin or Mike. The Hunger Banquet is a unique experience of our world's unequal distribution of resources and wealth.

Nov. 20, 21 & 22 Dept. of theatre, dance and media arts
 William Shakespeare's Comedy of Errors is Nov. 20, 21 and 22 at 7:30 p.m. in the Lee Theatre of the Touhill Performing Arts Center. Tickets are \$5 for students, seniors, and UMSL ID holders and \$10 for the general public. Come join the fun of Shakespeare's zaniest comedy.

Fri 21 The Rhythm of Soul
 "The Rhythm of Soul" is at 7:30 p.m. in Century Room C of the MSC. The lecture is presented by Constantine Evangelides, a professor of English literature and director of the International Relations at the University of Athens in Greece. The lecture is about poetry originating from Cyprus in the 20th century. The lecture is sponsored by the Center for International Studies. For more information, call 516-6495.

Sat 22 Paintball Rec Trek
 UPB and Rec Sports are sponsoring a "Paintball Rec Trek" from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Wacky Warriors. This is an off-campus outing which includes a day of paintball games and gear plus transportation. The program is open to UMSL students for only \$10. Hurry! Enrollment is limited. Sign up in the Office of Student Life, 366 MSC.

Sun 23 Counseling Services
 A program on Stress Management is at 6 p.m. in the Villa North Community Room. Spe relaxation tips and techniques to help manage the end-of-semester pressures will be presented. Counseling Services will provide a free pizza dinner for all who attend. For more information, contact Counseling Services at 516-5711.

Mon 24 Israeli novelist
 Israeli novelist Sami Michael presents "Jews from Arab Lands and Israeli Arabs: Realities Transformed into Literature," at 7 p.m. in Century Room C of the MSC. Michael has published eight novels, including "Refuge, A Handful of Fog" and "Trumpet in the Wadi." The lecture is sponsored by the Center for International Studies, the Jewish Community Relations Council and the America-Israel Chamber of Commerce of St. Louis.

Winter 2004 Child maltreatment
 The class PSY 398: Child Maltreatment is offered for the winter 2004 semester. The course will focus on identification, reporting, intervention, and prevention of child sexual abuse, physical abuse and neglect. For more information, contact the Children's Advocacy Services of Greater St. Louis at 516-6798.

The Campus Crimeline

The following criminal incidents were reported to the University of Missouri - St. Louis Police Department during the fall between November 8 and November 14. If readers have information that could assist the police investigation, they are urged to call 516-5155. Campus police as a public service to promote awareness provides this information. Remember-crime prevention is a community effort.

November 10 - Property damage
 In lot V, a window of a van was broken out. Nothing was taken from the vehicle.

November 11 - Assault third degree
 In the Mark Twain Gym, two unknown juveniles who were involved in a fight inside the gym assaulted a student worker who tried to break up the fight. The juveniles left the area, and the victim sought treatment on his own at the hospital.

November 12 - Property damage
 In Lucas Hall, a vending machine lock mechanism was damaged; entry into the machine was not gained.

November 13 - Sexual misconduct 2nd degree

A delayed report from Nov. 11. In parking lot T, an unknown black male subject approached the victim at her vehicle on the parking lot, and after asking for money the victim observed the suspect to be masturbating.

November 13 - Trespassing 1st degree/resisting arrest
 In 309 N. Villa, a student and her boyfriend were involved in a disturbance, the boyfriend who is not a student refused to leave the building and he was subsequently arrested. During the arrest the suspect began to fight with the police officers and was sprayed with

pepper spray. No injuries resulted to the officers or the suspect.

November 13 - Harassment
 In the quad area outside of Clark Hall, a white male subject approached a female student and asked her if she wanted to make some money by having pictures of her taken for the Internet.

November 13 - Stealing under \$500
 In parking lot M, a student reported that unknown person(s) uncipped his jeep window and removed his bank account book from inside his vehicle.

November 14 - Stealing over \$500
 In room 201 of the Education Administration Building, a woman's purse was stolen from the office while left unattended for a few minutes.

November 14 - Burglary/stealing under \$500
 At room 235 of the Villa Building, a student reported cash was stolen from her dorm room when she left it unlocked for a few minutes and left the area.

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No purchase necessary. While supplies last. Passes available on a first-come, first-served basis. Participating sponsors are ineligible. This movie is rated R for violence.

IN THEATERS WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26TH

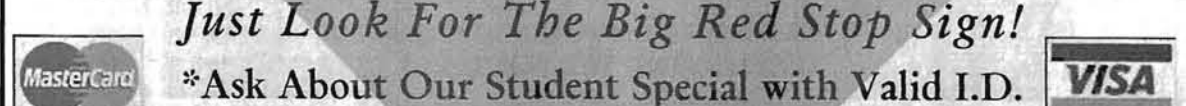


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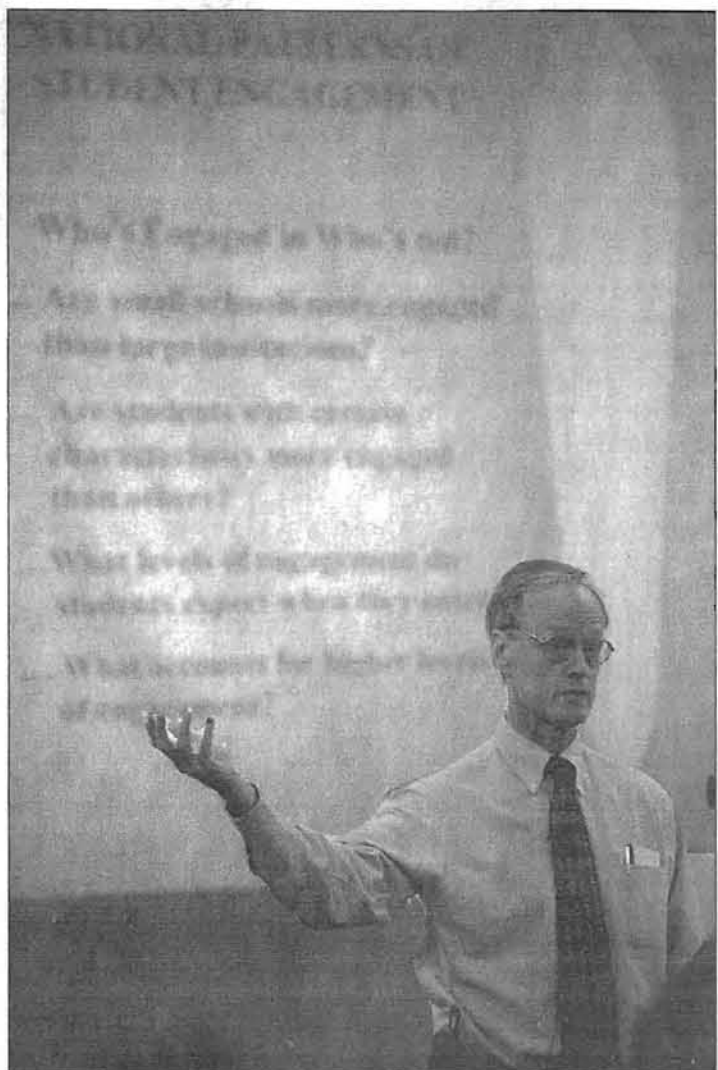
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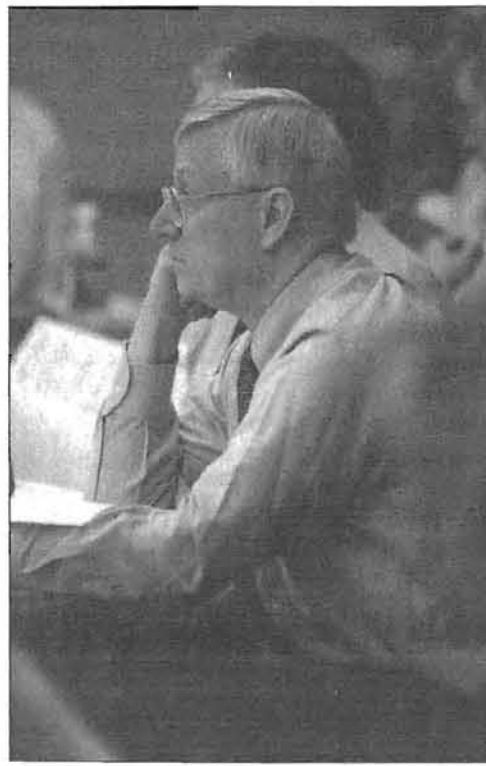
Professors head back to class...

Charles Schroeder, former chief of student affairs at UM-Columbia, leads the seminar, "Campus Conversation, Indicators of Student Engagement: What UMSL Students Think," on Nov. 4 in the Century Rooms of the MSC. Schroeder outlined ways for faculty members to better gauge the types of students on campus, and then engage them more fully in the campus community. Schroeder noted that the average student in an average week spends 25 hours watching TV, 25 hours at work, and only 10 hours studying. He emphasized that professors should have high expectations of their students, and try to move beyond simple evaluations of students and seek to provide more personal interaction and feedback.



BELOW:

Mark Burkholder, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, listens to the presentation of Charles Schroeder on Nov. 4. Schroeder was giving a seminar on ways to improve student engagement in the campus community, which he says is a proven indicator of academic success



FORUM, from page 1

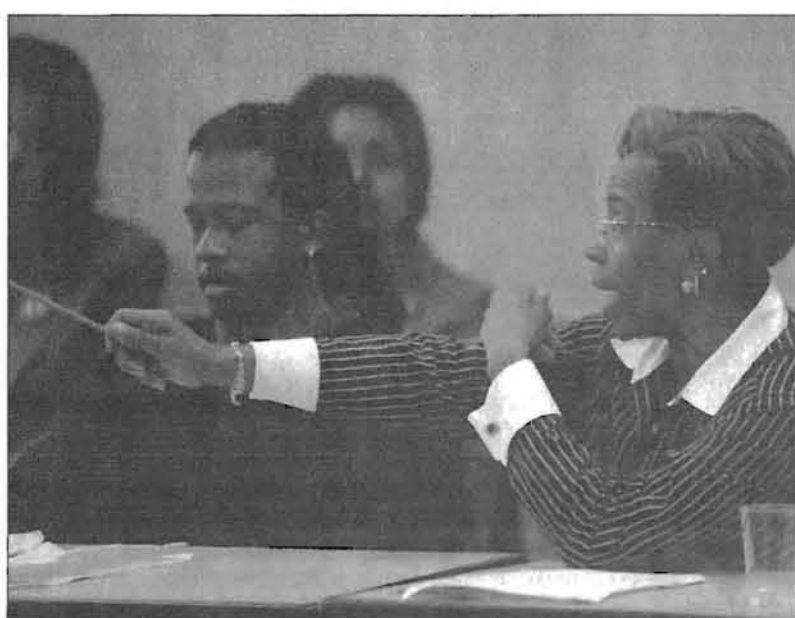
Grindstaff was present at the Coffee with Curt event. She talked some about what happened that made her want to hold the event. She also talked about her experiences in high school and the things she encountered involving the issues at hand.

Clarke-Ekong was asked by Grindstaff to moderate the event. She said that the whole thing would be an ongoing conversation. Clarke-Ekong set some basic rules for the forum, including, everyone had to respect what other people had to say. She also said, "We are entitled to our own opinions, but not facts."

Granger discussed his reasons for running the editorial that brought about so much controversy. As *The Current* is a marketplace of ideas, "We write things to get people talking," Granger explained. He went on to say that as editor-in-chief, he has final discretion of both editorial and advertising content of the newspaper, a responsibility given to him by the Publications Committee when it hired him.

"I always felt like there could be a conversation about race on campus; however, I've always felt like I was the only person that felt this way," M.K. Stallings, junior, sociology, said. "It all came from a group effort."

Some professors brought their classes to the forum. Faculty, staff and students all received their turns to talk.



Mike Sherwin/The Current

Sheila Clarke-Ekong, interim dean of the evening college, serves as moderator of "Issues of the Color Line" Tuesday afternoon. Clarke-Ekong ended the forum by noting that "this is one conversation that needs to be ongoing."

People raised their hands and stated their names when talking. Each person had something different to say about the subject. There was a diverse group of people present.

"I've been at UMSL for 18 and a half years. I can't say that there are many occasions that I've seen such a diverse group of students coming

together to talk about an issue," Jenkins said. "I was pleased that it wasn't just minority students talking—that there was some expression by majority culture."

One issue that came up was fairness in the classroom. Various teachers expressed their comments, including one saying that she practices justice in

the classroom. Another professor said that she "sees students" and engages with them.

Race-related groups was a discussed issue. Many people said that all groups are open to all people, but that some people just assume that they are only open to certain groups of people because of their race-oriented names.

Race means different things to different people. One guest said that the names of the groups tie into a rich history. Another person said that everyone should appreciate learning about different cultures by involving themselves in them. "There was such positive feelings flowing, I don't know if everyone's point of view was heard," Stallings said.

The moderator concluded the event with some closing remarks. Clarke-Ekong emphasized that people not blame society because we are society, and everyone needs to think about what they want to teach their children. "We started a conversation," Clarke-Ekong said.

People who attended the event were able to provide their name and e-mail address to the sponsors of the event, so that they can take part in the on-going discussion. "I'm glad that people feel good about talking about things on a micro-level. I think that now we need to focus on macro-issues," Stallings said.

COMMUNITY, from page 1

Hunger Awareness Week, which runs from Nov. 12 to Nov. 21, also corresponds with the Newman Center's mission. "The Newman Center has done Hunger Awareness events for years, and the Catholic Church, in general, has a huge social justice theme, being a Christian organization," Bauer said.

The Office of Student Life is also collecting items throughout the month for the Women's Safe House, a local shelter for women and children. Faculty, staff and students dropped off items such as used clothing, a variety of items and small toys at the Office of Student Life, which would be donated to the shelter.

MUGGING, from page 1

In addition, do not travel alone at night. The victim said, "I was actually thinking it was only seven o'clock, and that it was safe, but dark is dark out."

If that is not enough campus security, Samples also points out that UM-St. Louis has a "nationally accredited" police department on campus. The campus is unique because according to Samples, "Our University is different from any other in the region because we have a certified police force. No other campus has that in the region. The other campuses have security but not a police force."

Campus Police offer additional services, as well as tips, on their website, which can be found on the UM-St. Louis homepage. The website, under the link "emergencies", lists several phone numbers that offer assistance on various kinds of urgent situations. Some of the services and their numbers include University Police emergency (911), University Police non-emergency (516-5155), Rape Hotline (531-2003) and Suicide Hotline (647-4357).

There are other security measures that the campus can enforce, according to Samples. "Walk in groups. Know your surroundings around campus; it's not unlike malls where there are large spaces," Samples said. "Use the shuttles that go all over campus throughout the day. And if you do run into problems, call the police."

Samples also claims that the campus is safe. Despite there being some crime on campus, there are some who would agree with Samples. "The truth is that this campus is one of the safest in this community," Samples said.

The victim agrees with Samples. "I've understood campus is supposed to be safe, but that the area around it is very unsafe. And I do believe the campus is quite safe, but the area around it is not," the woman said.

One other thing that Campus Police offer is an escort. The UM-St. Louis Police website says "If you do not feel comfortable walking to a parking lot, bus stop, MetroLink stop or anywhere else on campus, contact the Police Department at 516-5155 for an escort."

AWARD from page 1

The award is presented annually for the best book on the political history of Missouri. "St. Louis Politics" is Stein's third book, and she anticipates more. "I love to write. Writing is something that has always come easy to me, and it fits into my teaching career," Stein said.

Stein began working on "St. Louis Politics" in 1992, while helping a friend run for Missouri House of Representatives. She was able to produce the book with the assistance of some politicians. The publication was released in 2002. "I really didn't pursue the book in earnest until 1995," Stein said. "I had a lot of help with the research from local politicians, but I was at loose ends and it was a good time for me."

Missouri Governor Bob Holden, who was present at the annual Historical Society meeting, was full of praise. "I consider Lana Stein's book the Bible on Missouri politics."

Major themes in Stein's book include machine politics, poverty, race, sub-urbanization and charter reform. Stein also discusses the restructuring of county offices in her book.

Two significant moments in St. Louis political history are inspected in the book: the 1876 divorce of the city from St. Louis county and the 1914 charter adoption. "The form of government sets the perimeter for its facets," Stein said. "St. Louis is fragmented because of the city and county division of 1876."

The author explains how fragmented governments lead to a weak mayor and how bureaucratic institutions often become the center of power. Stein discusses other institutions such as schools and their relationships with politics in her other books, "City Schools and City Politics: Institutions and Leadership in Pittsburgh, Boston, and St. Louis" (1999) and "Holding Bureaucrat Accountable: Politicians and Professionals in St. Louis" (1991).

Stein said she feels the Eagleton Waters award was a very special affirmation for her. Stein's newest award winning book is available at the UM St. Louis Campus Bookstore. She also uses the book for her political science course on urban politics.

"It was time well spent," Stein said.

NEWS BRIEFS

Missouri Senate committee to hold public hearing

On Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Summit Lounge of the J.C. Penney Conference Center, the Missouri Senate Interim Committee on Police Residency will hold a public hearing. Five Senate members sit on the committee. Call -5823 for further information.

College Republicans to host guest lecture

Missouri State Senator Sarah Steelman of Rolla will give a lecture on Tuesday in 316 of the MSC. The lecture will begin at 2 p.m. and is free and open to the public. E-mail umsl_crs@yahoo.com for more information.

Registration deadline for rec. sports

Tuesday is the registration deadline for the Rec. Sports coed wallyball triples tournament and paintball Rec. Trek. Sign up at the Office of Student Life in 366 MSC. Call -5326 or visit <http://www.umsl.edu/services/recsport> for more information.

Teaching assistant and graduate student seminar

At noon on Wednesday in 331 SSB, Lloyd Richardson, professor of education, will discuss "Grading and Assessing Students' Progress." He will cover different approaches to grading and new ways to respond to students. Bring a lunch, refreshments will be provided. Call -4508 or visit

<http://www.umsl.edu/cte> for further information.

Two poets to read work

Poets Curtis Lyle and Jennifer Macenzic will read from their work on Wednesday at 4 p.m. in 450 Lucas Hall. The reading is free and open to the public. Visit <http://www.umsl.edu/~cfh/> or call -6845 for more information.

International Banquet

On Thursday at noon in Century Rooms A and B of the MSC, the Oxfam International Hunger Banquet will be held. The goal is to find lasting solutions to poverty, suffering and injustice. Registration is recommended. Call -3455 or e-mail

cneumsl@aol.com to register or for more information.

Lunch with a legislator

Missouri State Rep. Clint Zweifel of Hazelwood will discuss his experiences as an UM-St. Louis student. The event will be held on Thursday in the Pilot House of the MSC at noon. Call -5835 for more information.

Author, economist to hold lecture

Virginia Postrel, economist, author and New York Times columnist, will discuss "The Economics of Style." The lecture will be held at 2 p.m. in 118 SSB on Thursday. It is free and open to the public, call -6129 for more information.

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OPINIONS

OUR OPINION

Have a heart

It is time for people to become organ donors

Are you prepared for death? Many college students are either too busy or unwilling to think about such a question and assume that the issue of death need only be dealt with during later years. They are dead wrong.

Since the groundbreaking trial of Cruzan v. the Missouri Dept. of Health, more and more young people have realized that a catastrophe could happen at any age. Nancy Cruzan, a vibrant 25-year-old woman, lived in a persistent vegetative state after a car accident on a Missouri road in 1983, with no hope for recovery. Only after years of court battles did the Supreme Court finally decide that Cruzan could be removed from life support as her family requested. She died in 1990.

This case forced the issue of preparation for death into the spotlight. Without a living will, Cruzan had no way of communicating her wishes after the incapacitating tragedy. Her family, forced to make health decisions for her, had to endure the grueling legal battles that ensued as well as the heartbreak of her loss. What could have prevented such a grievous situation from occurring?

Your

mends that anyone over the age of 18 should arrange advance directives. Instructive directives and proxy directives compliment each other and together help to ensure total compliance to your wishes. Online sources, such as the website mentioned above, and some hospitals can provide more information about preparing advance directives.

While end-of-life healthcare may be more than enough to think about, also make sure to consider organ donation as well. According to the OrganDonor.gov website, "every day about 68 people receive an organ transplant, but another 18 people on the waiting list die because not enough organs are available." Despite what you may think, signing the back of your driver's license may not be enough. Communicating your wishes with family members proves just as crucial as your signature in ensuring donation at the time of your death. Filling out an organ/tissue donor card would also be a

wise decision for potential donors. A facsimile of a donor card can be downloaded from

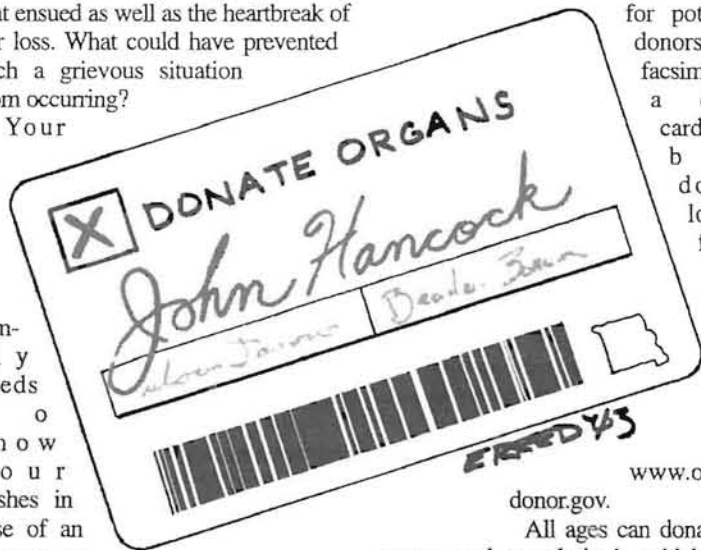
family needs to know your wishes in case of an emergency.

One way to let them know your wishes is simple communication. Talk with them, listen to them and reach decisions before decisions have to be made. For legal issues, however, more concrete measures should be taken to ensure that your wishes are followed in the event that you are unconscious or unable to communicate at the end of your life. The term "advance directives" refers to "oral and written instructions about your future medical care, in the event you become unable to speak for yourself," according to www.partnershipfor-caring.org.

One type of advance directive is an instructive directive, or a living will. Basically a written document that states your wishes about end-of-life medical treatment, it drastically reduces the burden of decision-making on your family. Another type of advance directive is called a proxy directive, or Medical Power of Attorney. This document allows you to appoint a trust-worthy individual to make decisions about your medical treatment in your stead. The Partnership For Caring website recom-

All ages can donate, as was proved recently in the widely covered story of Maryland Heights teen Michael Aubuchon, whose heart and lungs were donated to a young girl after his untimely death at age 15. According to an interview in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch on November 10, a discussion with the boy prior to his death proved vital to the family's difficult discussion. Having told his family that he wanted to be a donor, Aubuchon was able to give a chance for life to another.

Nancy Cruzan changed the way people think about preparation for death and Michael Aubuchon made people aware of the importance of discussing organ donation. Both tragic cases helped to shed light on the glaring truth that death does not discriminate. The unthinkable that will inevitably happen to us all should be prepared for well in advance. Your actions now could help your family through such a difficult time as your death. As educated citizens, college students must, with a breath of compassion, share their wishes and take the legal steps necessary to ensure those wishes are followed.



www.organ-donor.gov.

The issue

Many college students are not prepared for the event of an untimely death. They do not have living wills or are not signed up to be organ donors. Ignorance is not always bliss.

We suggest

Young as college students are, they are not invincible. They need to start thinking about what could happen. Make a living will and also agree to be an organ donor so you can possibly save a life.

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.

Time to think

First of all, I would like to say that I am feeling much better, thank God. It was pretty touch and go there for a little while. But while I was home, I had the chance to do some serious thinking (granted, some of it was in a fever and drug-induced haze) about this school and something really struck me in a bad way.

There is a serious lack of communication on this campus about pretty much everything. I will give you an example: Last week, *The Current* co-sponsored the race relations with Student Government Association and Associated Black Collegians. About 100 people showed up; that's fairly respectable, right? Well, take into account that *The Current's* web poll for the week before showed that 33 percent of students did not even know about the event, and you see there is a problem. Now, we here at *The Current* did our part: we ran house ads leading up to the event, so there was a problem elsewhere. Now, this is not to point a finger at M.K. Stallings of ABC or Beth Grindstaff of SGA. They did what they possibly could in a limited amount of time, but it does illustrate the point.

Unfortunately, there is a much larger problem brewing on this campus. How many students are aware that there is another budget cut brewing? How many students know UM System President Elson Floyd got in some hot water over a Mizzou basket-

ball player? How many people actually know the name of our new chancellor, Thomas George? I think it may surprise you how few do know those things. Believe me, it is not for lack of trying. If you really think students want to be oblivious to their collegiate surrounds, you are sorely mistaken.

So, who is at fault here? Director of Communications Bob Samples? No, I do not think so. I think he does what he can with what he has. No, there is a deep seated need at this University to not let out any bad news. It has become institutional. It is almost tradition. I am 100 percent convinced that there are many crimes, serious crimes, that happen on this campus that we never hear about. I think what happens is they feed us a line of parking pass thefts and lovers' spats, while keeping quiet more serious crime.

This is the kind of lack of communication that is dangerous and the University needs to cease and desist now.

Some people say it is dangerous when humans think, and sometimes they have a point. When man thinks, things like VX gas and nuclear weapons are created. However, on the flipside, when people think, especially in a bronchial condition, they can come to realizations that may help people in the long run. So, UM-St. Louis folk, please stop keeping information from the paying students of this University, no matter how big, no matter how small.



JASON GRANGER
Editor-in-Chief

Hunting for a reason

On Saturday, I woke up at 4:30 a.m. for the privilege of spending six drowsy hours on a rotten log. I hardly moved and I hardly spoke. I didn't accomplish a darn thing and, frankly, I looked rather silly—but how many people can pull off an ensemble of camouflage and hunter orange anyway?

As the first day of deer season ticked away and my bottom and feet went numb, I had plenty of time and cause to reflect on why I was there at all. Goodness knows I enjoy warmth, sleep, and bathroom facilities quite a bit, so a significant motivation was surely at work.

My acute fondness for creatures of all sorts, combined with my intermittent hunting expeditions, often confuses and occasionally alarms people who know me. They just can't understand how I can admire animals as I do, and yet put myself through considerable discomfort in order to harvest them (oh, okay, shoot them, if you find my indirectness distasteful).

While I cannot speak for all hunters, I believe that my own reasons are fairly common.

As Aldo Leopold so succinctly stated in "Sand County Almanac": "There are two spiritual dangers in not owning a farm. One is the danger of supposing that breakfast comes from the grocery, and the other that heat comes from the furnace."

Everyone, vegetarian or not, is responsible for the deaths of animals every day. Our life needs, whether food, shelter or clothing, affect the flora and fauna of our world. If we are not picking up an innocuously packaged pound of hamburger, we are clearing habitat to plant crops. And should we choose to pick up our meat from a store, there is the added insult to our environment of factory farms, which produce an inordinate amount of waste, pollution and often unpleasant conditions for the animals that are

raised there. Yet we are so far removed from the source of our food that we rarely realize how our needs impact the land. We forget that ultimately, one depends upon the other.

Personally, I feel a lot better about my food when it has lived a natural life, in harmony with its environment. And when I choose to take that life, I can attempt to do so in the most ethical and humane manner possible. I am also acutely aware of how we are still connected to the land, and of our responsibility for it.

One such area of responsibility is maintaining balance where we have unsettled it. Humans have unbalanced nature to such a degree that in many areas, we must continue to manage it indefinitely.

In the case of deer, we have both removed natural predators and reduced the size of habitats. Left unchecked, the population will increase until

it decimates the landscape in its search for food. Deer will resort to invading farms and gardens, stripping bark from trees (increasing susceptibility to disease), overbrowsing ground cover (reducing food and habitat for other animals), and can deplete an area of rare or endangered plants, as well as reducing the environment's ability to regenerate. Besides lingering deaths due to starvation, you may add increases in disease and vehicle collisions.

So before you tell me I am committing "heartless Bambi slaughter," as once I was told, please consider your definition of humane, and our responsibilities to our environment. Even if hunting is foreign, or unappealing to you, in the hands of conscientious outdoorsmen and women, it is an ethical, efficient means of curtailing overpopulation. To be able to combine my appreciation of the outdoors and wildlife, with aiding in this responsibility, is surely a privilege worth the discomfort.



NICHOLE LECLAIR
Managing Editor

What's your opinion?

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

- Organ donation
- Campus communication
- Hunting

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



Nicholas Inabnit
Junior
Computer Science

When the pilgrims came over, they couldn't find anything better.



Jill Viox
Sophomore
Psychology

It's what the pilgrims ate back then and it became a tradition.



Sarah Weinman
Senior
Art History

Maybe it was because for a while the turkey was considered our national bird. Why would we eat our national bird? I'm not really sure.



Mary Lasiter
Freshman
Undeclared

Because it tastes good!

Under Current

by Kevin Ottley
Staff Photographer

Why do we eat TURKEY for Thanksgiving?

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Letters to the editor should be brief, and those not exceeding 200 words will be given preference.

We edit letters for clarity and length, not for dialect, correctness, intent or grammar. 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). Editor-in-chief reserves the right to respond to letters. *The Current* reserves the right to deny letters.

It's alive...or is it?



BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER

Science Columnist

"It's alive!" was Dr. Frankenstein's famous cry as he creates life in the 1930s movie, but defining what is alive might be a little trickier than you might think. Recently, scientists have created an artificial virus, which like all viruses is a bit of DNA or RNA in a protein coat. People generally assume viruses are "alive," but they do not fit the usual definitions of life unless they are operating inside a cell. Prions, the cause of diseases like Mad Cow, are just bits of misfolded protein. Protein is usually just considered a molecule. Is a prion a form of life?

So what is alive? Depends on whom you ask and how they define "alive." This is not like defining "is" but a real scientific question. You may argue that defining life is irrelevant, but you have to be precise to do science. So terms have to be defined.

If you remember your high school biology or even your freshman general biology, you might recall a definition that involves things like respiration, reproduction, homeostasis, response to stimuli, need for energy (food) and so forth. By this kind of definition, cells are alive but not viruses. Cells meet all these usual criteria for life. Our topic is the thornier issue of things closer to the edge of the definition of life. "The Penguin Dictionary of Biology" says life means "complex physico-chemical systems whose two main peculiarities are storage and replication of information in the form of nucleic acid and the presence of (or in viruses perhaps the potential for) enzyme catalysis," and it later asserts that all the other usual characteristics of life, metabolism, respiration, responsiveness, etc., derive from these two. But note that there had to be a qualifier for viruses.

Outside of a cell, viruses are just nucleic acids (DNA or RNA) in a protein covering. They have no metabolism. Is the presence of a nucleic acid sometimes enough? Generally, just a

bit of nucleic acid is not considered alive because without the mechanism of the viral protein coat to get it into the cell or to shield it from degrading enzymes, the potential in the DNA or RNA cannot be expressed. The membrane of the cell restricts which molecules can enter, excluding large ones like nucleic acids unless they use a portal or mechanism to get in.

Outside of a cell, viruses seem pretty dead; and this fact is one of the things that makes scientist think they evolved after cells, maybe as degenerate organisms that shed all mechanisms of metabolism but still reproduced. Along the same idea of DNA just reproducing itself, there are transposons and plasmids. Transposons and plasmids are parasitic pieces of DNA that make copies of themselves and are passed along when the cell reproduces. Transposons are mobile pieces of DNA that insert themselves into host DNA and get copied along with the rest of the DNA. Intact transposons have the potential to be activated, excising themselves from the DNA and reinserting elsewhere, hence their nickname of "jumping genes." The idea seems so unlikely that the discoverer of transposons, Barbara McClintock, had her idea dismissed for years before she proved their existence. Generally, transposons have the potential for harm, since they insert in a gene and destroy its function, but they also seem to have played a role in evolution and even may be manipulated by some species. Plasmids are circular bits of DNA that just make copies of themselves and get passed to new cells when the cell divides. While it might seem that plasmids are selfish DNA that serve no purpose, they also sometimes carry genes that cells can find useful, such as genes for antibiotic resistance. Plasmids are favorite tools of molecular biologists because you can add the gene you want and put it in a cell to make lots of copies (what "cloning" really means - making copies). To get the plasmids and the gene into a cell, biologists shock the cells to make the cells' membranes briefly porous enough to take in the little bits of DNA. As much as they seem like something alive and perpetuating itself, plasmids and transposons are not considered to be alive but just nucleic acids doing what they do.

We might make an exception in our definition of life for the potential for the virus' nucleic acid-protein combination, but where does that leave prions? Rogue proteins that attach to and misfold a normal protein hardly sound like life forms, but they certainly sound like disease organisms to someone affected by Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease. Prions are proteins, organic mol-

ecules, but so are the individual biomolecules in your body, and even petroleum products are organic compounds. Should there be a new category for nearly alive compounds?

In Mary Shelley's novel "Frankenstein," the doctor was experimenting to create life. Recently, a new virus was built from scratch in just two weeks using easily available molecular biology resources, by the private company run by Craig Venter, the entrepreneurial scientist in the genome-sequencing race with the Human Genome Project. The accomplishment opens the door to the easy production of custom designer viruses. While Venter's company is touting the accomplishment as opening the door to viruses that might use up excess greenhouse gases or create hydrogen fuel, environmentalists are concerned about the potential for more hazardous creations. Venter's company used the known sequence of a natural virus but assembled it using created bits of DNA called oligonucleotides and enzymes rather than any DNA from the natural virus.

It wasn't actually the first time it had been done. A virus had been built from scratch in 2002 by Eckard Wimmer and his colleagues. But that effort took three years, and the resulting product had more sequencing errors than Venter's. Venter's technique is more likely to lead to commercial production of a brand-new virus built from scratch. It isn't the virus created in this instance that is the problem but the potential for misuse, by bioterrorists, and for mistake, through unintended changes that may lead to environmental disaster. Caution and regulation seem to be called for in such very new territory, but you have to wonder if this will get the same attention as cloning.

I have to go back to the Frankenstein theme. The ability of molecular biology to create new combinations of DNA and even maybe new life forms echoes that old image. Shelley's novel was a philosophical look at moral implications of actions, but the title is often used to evoke the horrible and unnatural. Prions are natural, but this new virus is man-made, like the monster. Real monsters might come in either form.

Before the discovery of prions, proteins were just molecules, biological but not alive like a cell. Without cells, viruses have only the potential, not all the usual characteristics of life. So did Craig Venter's team accomplish Dr. Frankenstein's feat, cobbling together life from the lifeless, by building a virus from scratch? Maybe so, but we will have to hope there are no monsters from this experiment.

The best album that you've never heard

This week: "The Essential Billy Joel"

BY JASON GRANGER
Editor-in-Chief

When you think of rock and roll's best pianists, names like Elton John, Jerry Lee Lewis and Little Richard probably come to mind. But who is the best? Hands down: Billy Joel. This week, we will be looking at a Target exclusive: "The Essential Billy Joel."

Billy Joel, in his heyday, was one of the fiercest, angriest rock-and-rollers on the planet. There was a lot that made him mad and it showed in his music. Granted, like most musicians, he went through a phase that is regrettable, recording songs like "Tell Her About It," "For The Longest Time" and most regrettably "Uptown Girl." While those songs are major disappointments, Joel still has an impressive catalog and he remains one of my personal favorites.

This two CD set combines some of Joel's biggest hits. The first song we will look at is his second best song, "Captain Jack." Joel broke a lot of ground in his career, and this song is one of those groundbreaking moments. This song relies heavily on harpsichord work. It is a song of teen angst on the level of "My Generation" and "Smells Like Teen Spirit." Joel also became the first rock-and-roller to use the word "masturbate" in a song. But what made this song so great are the words. "So you stand on the corner in your New English clothes/And you look so polished from your hair down

to your toes/Ah but still your finger's gonna pick your nose after all." And the words get better. "So you got everything, ah, but nothing's cool/They just found your father in the swimming pool/And you guess you won't be going back to school anymore."

One of the great debates in rock and roll history is whether "She's Always A Woman" is actually a love song. When you listen

flattering.

Disk two features some good stuff as well, including one of Joel's number one hits, "We Didn't Start The Fire." This historical opus takes place between 1947 and 1987, the years of Joel's life to that point. Basically, it is everything that happened in his life. Other than the chorus and couplet lines here and there, there is nothing really but references to history. Even and people all play importantly here including John Kennedy's assassination, Beatlemania, hypodermic needles on the New Jersey shoreline and Chubb Checker.

Joel's finest moment is recounting of Vietnam veteran. The song "Goodnight Saigon," is one of the single most emotional songs have ever heard. Bill Joel has long been overlooked as a lyricist, unfairly so. Anyone who has heard this song knows it is undeserved. Take this for example: "We held the day/In the palm of our hands/They ruled the night/And the night/Seemed to last as long as six weeks..." But that is not even the best line. "We had no home front/We had no soap/They sent us Playboy/They gave us Bob Hope/We dug in deep/And she on sight/And prayed to Jesus Christ with all of our might." Perhaps the best part of this song is the chorus, but I cannot adequately describe it, so you will just have to listen.

On the whole, I would say Billy Joel is one of my three or four favorite artists. This two CD set is great for the car and any Billy Joel fan would be happy with it.

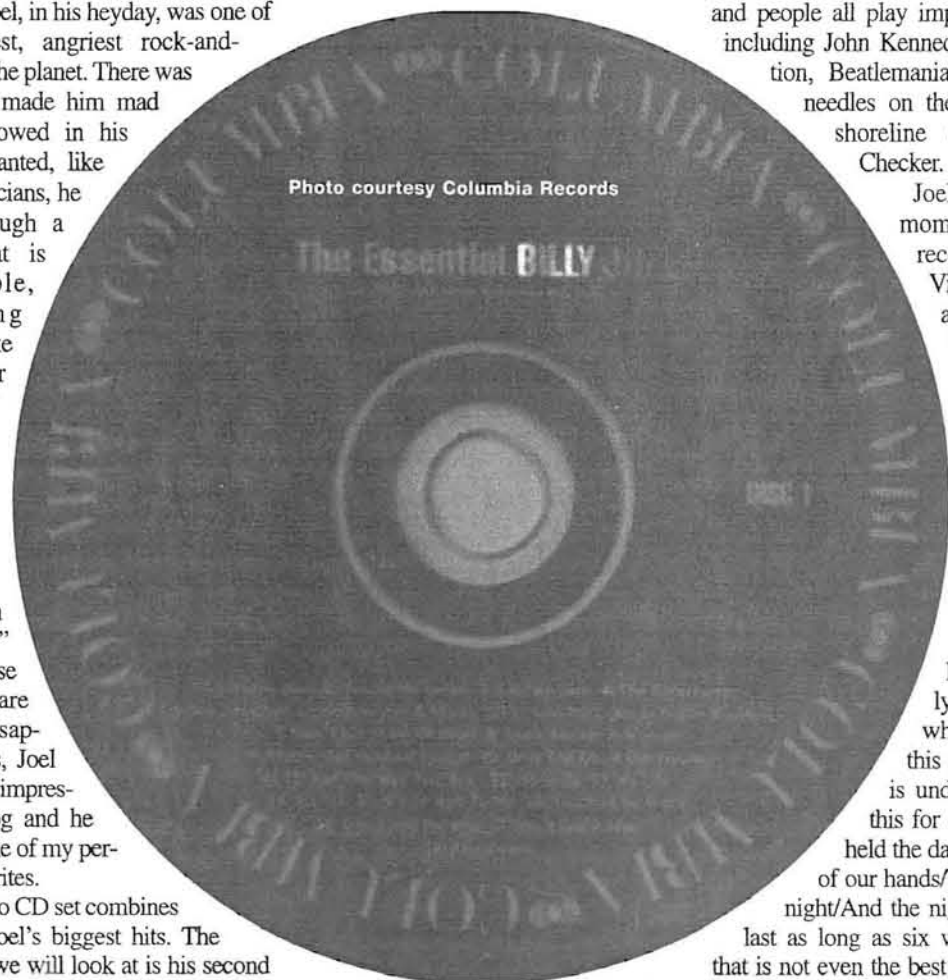
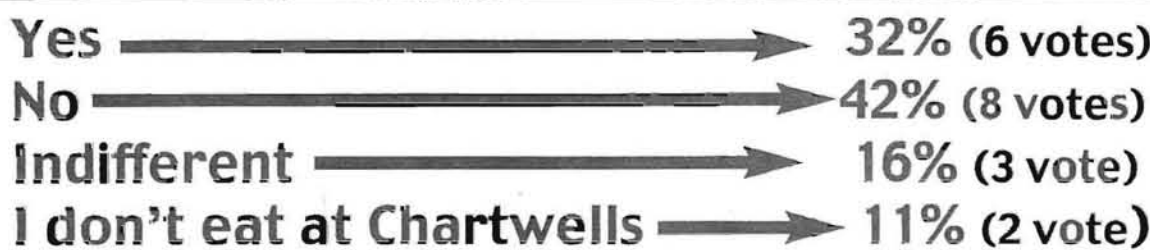


Photo courtesy Columbia Records

What do the readers think: Results from the weekly web poll:

Do you like Chartwells?



Results via www.thecurrentonline.com

*www.thecurrentonline.com does not limit votes per person and the poll is not a scientific sampling.

Don't forget to look for *The Current's* annual Holiday Spectacular in early December!

Rising tuition

Budget cuts

Campus crime

Something on your mind? Write a letter to the editor. Send it to current@jinx.usml.edu

FAVORITES

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Students share school favorites

BY MELISSA MCCRARY
Features Associate

Students all have different compliments when it comes to the University. From favorite courses that impacted their lives to exciting school organizations to admired professors, here are a few student responses regarding the highlights of attending UM-St. Louis.

"One of my favorite courses has been Western Traditions because it is very interesting and there are always lively activities," said Semilla Bland, freshman, anthropology.

"One of my favorite teachers has been Professor Michael Cosmopoulos with ancient Greek history," said John Deckard, junior, history. "His teaching techniques were very effective, making it rather challenging to receive a good grade."

"Bob Bursik with criminology has been one of my favorites because he can relate to students and is always energetic," said Cliff Holland, sophomore, business.

see FAVORITES, page 7



Photos by Mike Sherwin/ The Current

ABOVE: Meliqueica Meadows, junior, mass communications, chats with Traci Faschingbauer, study abroad coordinator, after the presentation "Diversity in America: Interactive Workshop" held Thursday afternoon in Clark Hall.

RIGHT: Julia Roberts (left), senior, Spanish and psychology, listens as Heather Jennings, senior, English and secondary education, speaks about her experiences studying in London during "Diversity in America: Interactive Workshop" on Thursday.



Studying abroad and diversity at home

BY MELISSA MCCRARY
Features Associate

"Diversity In America" was the title and focus of the Multi-Cultural Relations and International Studies Interactive Workshop held on Thursday, Nov. 13, at UM-St. Louis.

The workshop, which was a part of the Student Dialogue Brown Bag Series, took place from 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m., in Room 100 of Clark Hall.

The title of the event upheld its name throughout the panel discussion. Assistant Director of Multi-Cultural Relations Rochelle DeClue-Walker opened the event by welcoming the five panelists who have all participated in the study abroad program.

The purpose of the event was to allow students to share their own personal experiences of going to school in another country and to answer questions for those interested in the program.

"The study abroad program gives students a rich opportunity to study and learn about many diverse cultures globally," DeClue-Walker said.

The first speaker Patricia Johnson, senior, art history, described her experience of studying in the Netherlands.

"I was fortunate to study at a top competitive school in Europe, where each campus was independent from each other," Johnson said. "We had studio space in a warehouse that made us feel like real artists."

Johnson went on to say that her studies would have been impossible without the help of all the scholarships and financial resources that UM-St. Louis provided her.

Spring Waugh described her stay in Austria and Kenya with a short story about a few of the difficulties that she had faced. She said that her stay was a complete adventure.

The next speaker, Julia Roberts, senior, Spanish and psychology, shared her experience as a study abroad student in Mexico in the summer of 2003.

"While I was there, we visited many beautiful pyramids, and I was given the opportunity to visit Cancun, Cozumel and Acapulco," said Roberts. "I had one of the best experiences in a month: and now after I graduate, I am considering going to Mexico to teach English."

Following Roberts, Heather Jennings spoke about her trips to London, Ireland, Italy and Spain. When visiting Spain, Jennings was able to remember the Spanish that she had taken a long time ago. She talked about how in Spain the night life begins at 1:30 a.m. and ends at 6 a.m. She also discussed the country's transportation system, commenting on how organized it was.

"One of the main things that I had learned while staying in England was that many people use a lot of lingo in their language, and that their humor is different than [that] in America," said Jennings.

Jennings also went on to tell people to take advantage of the study abroad program. She said to plan, be prepared

and know the city and specific place of residence for the trip's duration.

The last woman on the discussion board was Tracy Carpenter, who had an opportunity to study in Ghana, West Africa.

Carpenter said that she got the idea to study abroad in Ghana after she par-

ticipated in the work-study program with the Multi-Cultural Relations Office. While working, another student invited her to a study abroad meeting.

see STUDY ABROAD, page 7



Patricia Johnson, senior, art history, listens as other panelists describe their experiences traveling abroad.



Amanda Schniedermeier/ The Current

Students and faculty congregate at "La Table Francaise," Thursday afternoon in The Nosh.

Vive les francophones!

Ongoing lunchtime French table welcomes all

BY MELISSA MCCRARY
Features Associate

With a flag of France or unopened bottle of wine, "La Table Francaise" is easy to spot in The Nosh at UM-St. Louis' Millennium Student Center.

"La Table Francaise" was formed this year by French lecturer Beth Landers.

Landers decided to begin a French Table after enjoying one at another university. The purpose of the French Table is to provide a forum for students and teachers to meet and practice their language of study.

"When I was a grad student at Washington University, I went to their French Table to give me the opportunity to speak French language, which is not normally spoken in the United States," Landers said.

The table has given staff members, students and teachers a free opportunity to come speak French, eat lunch together, meet new people and learn

about the country.

"The meetings bring together a variety of people that discuss a variety of topics," Landers said. "Some of the things that have been discussed are current events, French movies, the language, visits in France, different studies and comparing notes."

Landers went on to say how students interested in visiting the table do not have to be French majors or have an exceptional language background.

"There are students who come who are beginners in the language or others who are advanced. There are also faculty members who have traveled to Europe or who have studied the language in the past," she said. "Sometimes there are breaks between English and French for those who do not understand."

French lecturer Anne-Sophie Blank believes that the vast cultural opportunities that the city has to offer, such as the St. Louis International Film Festival, and numerous other topics can be shared at the table.

"I am hoping that people who come

to the French table will make plans to see some of the movies during the festival and return with impressions about the movies and wonderful conversations," Blank said.

Students can also visit a Spanish table, where an informal table meeting called "La Mesa De Español" is held on different days in The Nosh.

Spanish lecturer Maria Balogh created "La Mesa De Español" and attends "La Table Francaise" regularly because she has been training in Columbia, Mo., to teach French.

Both tables allow people all around campus to meet with others interested in the same language and cultures.

With only two meetings left of fall semester, both tables hope to continue to recruit and see more participants for upcoming meetings and throughout the winter semester.

The next scheduled "La Table Francaise" is set to be on Nov. 19 and Dec. 4 from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m. "La Mesa De Español" is having their last two sessions on Nov. 17 and Dec. 4, from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m.

Dodd promotes student voice

BY STEFANIE TAYLOR
Staff Writer

Some students are content to just attend class at UM-St. Louis, while others view education as more than just book material. David S. Dodd is one of those students with involvement in a number of large campus organizations.



David Dodd

Dodd, junior, international business, has his hands full with student life. He serves as a member of the board of directors for Associated Students of University of Missouri, chairman of Student Government Assembly, vice chairman of Student Senate Organization and president of UM-St. Louis Speech and Debate Club. Dodd is also a member of the Honors College and the United States Marine Reserves. With an undertaking larger than

most college students, Dodd finds his motivation in helping and representing others. "I like to come to a field and see if there is anything I can do to improve it," he said. "I like to help everyone."

Dodd is particularly interested in student issues affected by state legislation, such as tuition and fees. As a member of the board of directors for ASUM, Dodd helps register and train lobbyists to represent student interests during the annual Missouri state legislative session. ASUM sends four students from UM-St. Louis to complete the 15-member team representing the University of Missouri system. Dodd can often be found in the ASUM office, located at 381 Millennium Student Center.

"We work together to minimize the damage from the Missouri state legislature," he said.

Dodd's student interest extends to his position as chairman of SGA. His duties include setting agendas, administering meetings and making sure that student representatives are given the opportunity to speak. "The chair's responsibility is to speak on behalf of the assembly," Dodd said. "Just as the representatives are there to represent their people, I want to make sure that those representatives are heard."

Dodd said he feels that the recent decision by the University to add sexu-

al orientation to the discrimination policy was a good move. "Most students have felt it was necessary for a long time. It's great when students, faculty and administration can work together to make a change like that."

Co-chairwoman of Homecoming Committee Erin Abraham, junior, sociology, said Dodd is easy to work with. "He's really good and being straightforward and direct," she said.

Dodd's straight-forward skills come in handy during his many activities. Dodd, who calls his eight years of active military service a "stepping stone," says he just jumped right into things at UM-St. Louis.

"I went to a couple dozen countries before I realized it was time to start focusing on my education," he said.

Member of the board of directors for ASUM, Adam Schwadron, senior, political science, also enjoys working with Dodd.

"David constantly fights for the students, spending equal time with ASUM and SGA. He's a diligent worker."

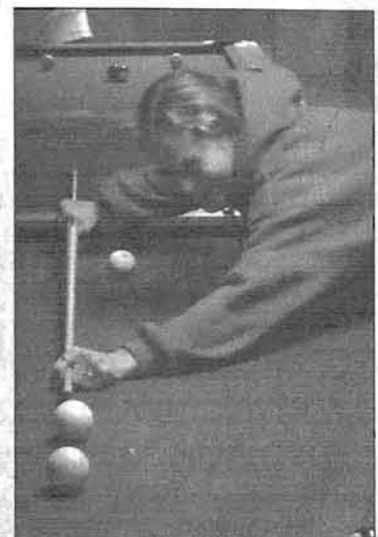
Dodd encourages students to contact him with their concerns regarding campus policies. "I love to make a difference, to see and know that I can make things better," he said. "I'm going to keep working to see that students get more recognition."



Photos by Kevin Ottley/ The Current

Pool Party!

Freshman Anna Calvert is all smiles as she attempts an uncomfortable-looking shot during her Beginner's level 8-ball game. The annual pool tournament, Get Felt, was hosted last Friday in Seton Hall's lounge.



Fight finals with confidence

BY ANGELA ASHLEY
Staff Writer

cerned, students can perform a number of activities to calm down. When the sympathetic nervous system, or the "fight or flight" response, is triggered, the heart rate increases, breathing accelerates and pupils dilate, among other symptoms.

"This breaths, which will initiate the parasympathetic nervous system. Another trick is to use guided imagery. Guided imagery includes picturing soothing images, such as imagining being in a relaxing place. Another method is progressive muscle relaxation, which is contracting all muscles and then relaxing with them, going from head to toe.

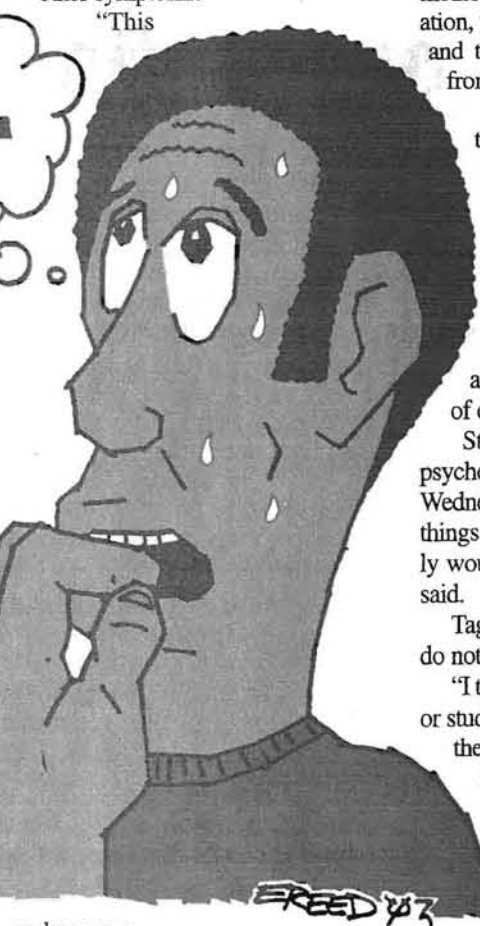
"I feel like I did so horrible," said Claire Udig, freshman, undecided. Udig is referring to her midterms, and most students can sympathize. Recovering from the slump is not completely impossible, and by properly preparing, finals can turn out better than expected.

On Wednesday, Nov. 12, a small group of students attended a Counseling Services seminar about test anxiety and performance. The seminar is part of a series sponsored by the office throughout the semester. The series is aimed to help students better achieve their goals. "We haven't had a huge turnout, but the students that have participated have given us excellent feedback," said Dr. Lori Tagger, a Counseling Services psychologist.

So what can students do to avoid disastrous finals? Using techniques to decrease test anxiety can help significantly. To combat the mental aspect of anxiety, Tagger suggests that students talk to themselves in a more soothing way, not just at test time, but throughout their daily lives.

"We tell ourselves that we absolutely have to ace the test, but we would never expect the same of someone else, a child for example," she said.

As far as the physical aspect is con-



makes you hyper-aware, picking up everything around the room. You start noticing things that have nothing to do with your test because your body is preparing to defend itself," says Tagger.

In order to reduce those physical responses, students should focus on slowing breathing and taking deeper

The third area that can affect test anxiety is behavior. During studying, students should not work in an environment or do anything that will negatively distract studying. Some effective behaviors to ward off boredom and inability to focus include taking a break to go for a walk or using the three methods of calming down physically.

Student Michelle Jorke, senior psychology, attended the seminar on Wednesday. "I never knew they had things like this, but if I had, I definitely would have come more often," she said.

Tagger believes that more students do not attend for a different reason.

"I think that it may seem too simple or students believe that they have tried the methods before, when in fact, they really haven't," she said.

Tagger encourages the importance of effective time management.

"It would be so much easier for students to manage their time, versus procrastinating and ultimately causing anxiety," said Tagger.

Students interested in attending the next seminar to help with their finals can visit Counseling Services in 126 MSC or visit www.umsl.edu/services/counselor.

STUDY ABROAD, from page 6

She did not know much about the program, and decided to attend. Carpenter wanted to study abroad but did not know if it was a possibility due to the fact that she had an eight-year-old son. She went to the school system and asked for assistance. The board managed to find another family that could provide housing to her son. He would also have to attend school during their six-month stay.

"At first, the trip seemed to be a complete culture shock. But over time, I was able to get a better grasp of who I am, a more understanding of

other races, found out more about my background, African American stereotypes and how there are more diseases in Africa because of the lack of vaccinations," Carpenter said.

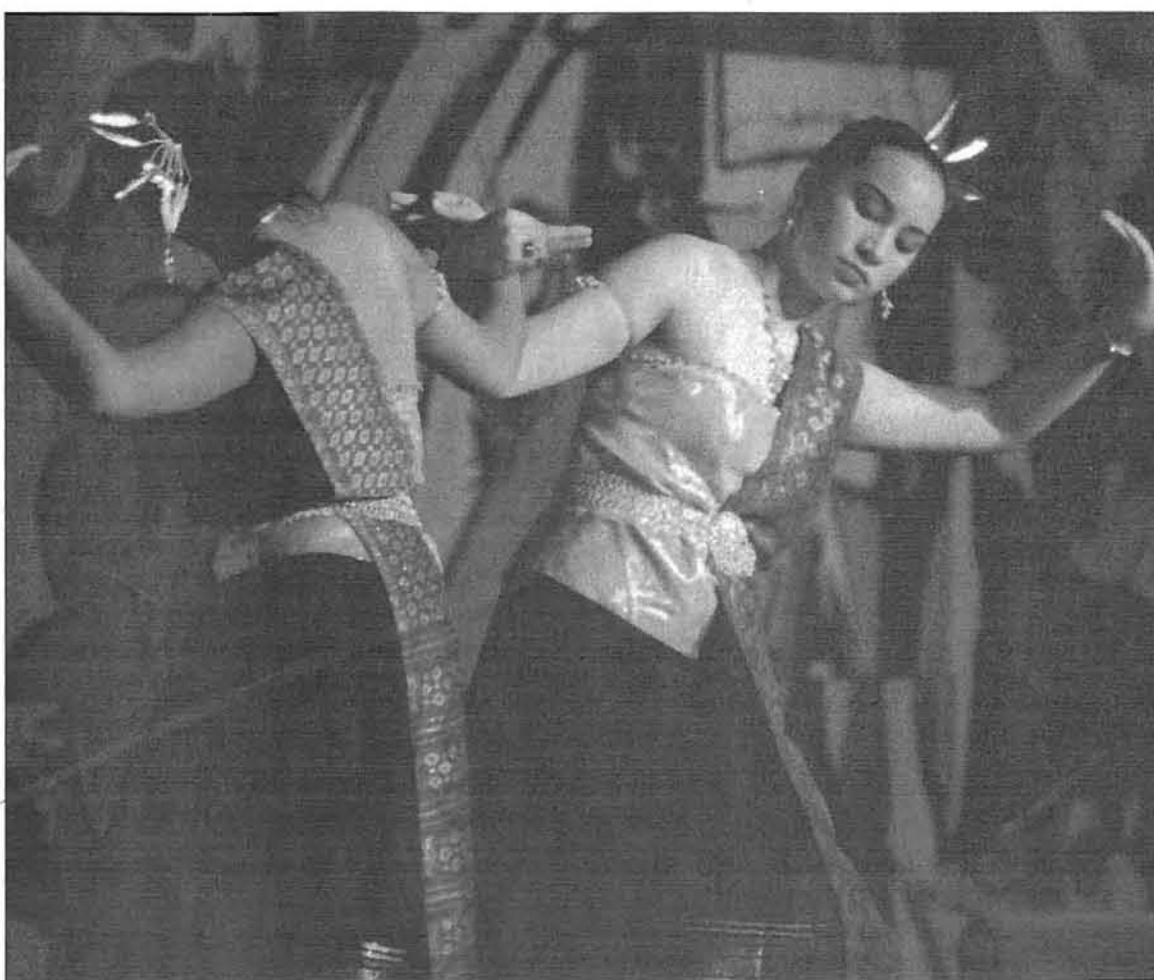
Carpenter went on to say how not only did she get a great experience out of the trip, but her son did also.

"The trip also made me realize how numerous small things in America are taken for granted and how I am grateful to live in the United States because [Ghana does] not have all of the same necessities such as hot water," Carpenter said.

To end the discussion, Study Abroad Coordinator Traci Faschingbauer took the stage and discussed how students can get involved, many students' big concerns, financial resources and requirements. She mentioned that the University helps facilitate over 80 different programs in 30 different countries. Most students who study abroad are only required to take 9-12 credit hours. For more information about all of the numerous study programs, a student can make an appointment in Room 261 of the MSC or contact Faschingbauer at 516-6497.

Dance, music, food

Thai students make a night to remember



Michael Pelikan/The Current

Student performers dazzle the audience at Thai Night on Saturday in the Pilot House. The annual event, held by the Thai Student Association, featured a Thai buffet and a variety of performances for the audience to enjoy. For more information about the Thai Student Association, contact Denise Mussman at 516-5186.

FAVORITES, from page 6

"The poetry creative writing class allows a person to project their own ideas," said Joanna Lumpkins, junior, mass communications.

"I like Paul Schneider for Math 1030, College Algebra," said Joshua Mudd, freshman, information systems. "He tells the class that they are a bunch of hopeless troublemakers, but we still show up ready to learn."

Bridgette Moore, junior, communications, enjoyed Introduction to Television and Broadcast. "I felt that the teacher, Farzad Wafpoo, was extremely well rounded and not afraid to discuss the corporate machine, current events and social issues. He always kept me thinking."

"Dr. Bohnenkamp with Indian and American mythology interacts with the student rather than preaching," said Kristina Burns, senior, anthropology.

In addition to professors and classes, student organizations and other University services can enhance life on campus.

Larry Marks, sophomore, history, felt that the Millennium Student Center is a great asset to the University. "It's nice to have a place where students can sit and enjoy themselves," he said.

"I like the fact that there are fast computers on campus with the latest software, but I hate the fact that the computers in the labs and the library

are often occupied and I often can't use them when I need to," said Tyrone Van Hoese, senior, mass communications.

"My favorite activity on campus is the Campus Crusade for Christ. I really am excited about having the opportunity to help bring the gospel to students at UMSL," Meliqueica Meadows, junior, mass communications said.

"The library services are great also," Deckard also said.

While many colleges have positive and negative things, UM-St. Louis' dedicated professors and accessible services retain the student population and invite more to join the University.

2004 January Commencement

at the **BLANCHE M. TOUHILL
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10

10 A.M. - Evening College (BGS only)

- Barnes College of Nursing and Health Studies
- College of Fine Arts & Communication
- UMSL/WU Joint Undergraduate Engineering Program
- UM-Rolla Engineering Education Center
- Gerontology Masters Program
- Masters in Public Policy Administration

2 P.M. - College of Arts and Sciences

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11

2 P.M. College of Education

6 P.M. College of Business Administration

University of Missouri - St. Louis

40th Anniversary

Commencement Candidates Attend the Grad Fair

Dec. 2, 3, & 4, 2003

11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

University Bookstore (MSC)

www.umsl.edu/graduation

Wanted : Tutors

Student Support Services
is looking for tutors in the following subject areas:

- Math (Upper Level-Calc. Plus)
- Accounting (Upper Level)
- Statistics
- Economics

If you have completed at least 60 credit hours, have a cumulative GPA of at least a 3.0, and have a subject area GPA of at least a 3.0...

Please call Debbie at 516.6554 or stop by 144 MSC and pick up an application.

We pay our tutors VERY WELL!

ST. LOUIS INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL



Photo courtesy Rita Csapo-Sweet and the St. Louis Post-Dispatch

Associate professor Rita Csapo-Sweet, communications, directed a documentary on the "St. Louis Journalism Review." The "SJR" came into prominence in the late 1960s and early 1970s by covering stories the mainstream media ignored.

Csapo-Sweet casts director's camera on media watchdog

BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER
Film Critic

As the St. Louis International Film Festival (SLIFF) heads into its second week, let us turn the spotlight on some of the special features of the fest: films with a local connection and films by new filmmakers.

UM-St. Louis students especially will want to take a look at "Who's Minding the Media?" This documentary about the *St. Louis Journalism Review* (SJR) and its founder, Charles Klotzer, goes beyond local publication, which puts a spot on news reporting itself, to take a look at the state of news media in this country now. The documentary was produced and co-directed by UM-St. Louis Associate Professor of Communications Rita Csapo-Sweet, with the assistance of former UM-St. Louis students. The locally produced film was sponsored in part by the University's Public Policy Research Center.

"Who's Minding the Media?" offers a fascinating look at news reporting through the lens of a publication devoted to holding media accountable for the stories it chooses to cover. While most of us assume that we hear news reports on significant events, in fact there is a great deal of selectivity in what gets reported. The *St. Louis Journalism Review* was not designed so much to comment on or critique the media or reporting as to cover the unreported stories. The SJR was actually one of several independent papers founded in the late '60s and early '70s that aimed to point out the stories that mainstream media chose not to cover or covered only in part. While most of those publications have faded away, the SJR has endured, due largely to the vision of its remarkable founder, Charles Klotzer. Through interviews, still photos and archival footage, this informative and fascinating documentary tells Klotzer's personal story along with the rise of his paper, the changes that the news media has undergone in recent years and even the place of free press in a free society. In an earlier era, newspapers tended to have various viewpoints and agendas, so that

one could get a good picture of what was going on by reading different papers. The story that one paper neglected would be covered by another with a different agenda. As newspapers have shifted from being a voice for diverse viewpoints to being businesses with a shared concern for boosting advertising, there has been a tendency toward uniformity in reporting driven by pleasing advertisers. While focusing on a unique local newspaper, Csapo-Sweet's well-crafted film is also a brief, intriguing look at a vital part of democracy. Although the film is but a quick look, the cogent questions this topic raises about what news you see and the importance of multiple sources for news is essential for all citizens. "Who's Minding the Media?" will be shown on Saturday,

at the festival and compete for the Emerging Filmmaker Prize. The winner of the prize is announced at the closing night awards ceremony. The filmmakers themselves attend the festival to introduce their films, to answer questions and to participate in panels and discussions about filmmaking in a series of seminars on Sunday, Nov. 23, from 1:15 p.m. to 5 p.m., at the Tivoli Theater. You can also meet the filmmakers face to face at the Coffee with the Filmmakers, before the seminars, at 11 a.m., at the Tivoli Theater. Tickets to these films are \$8 each, and the seminars are all free, but a ticket from the Tivoli box office is required to attend. All the screenings for NFF films take place at the Tivoli over two days, Friday, Nov. 12 and Saturday, Nov. 22.

“**Who's Minding the Media' offers a fascinating look at news reporting through the lens of a publication devoted to holding media accountable for the stories it chooses not to cover.**”

Nov. 22, at noon at the Tivoli Theater.

One of the festival's unique offerings in its second weekend is the New Filmmakers' Forum. Besides bringing a sampling of world cinema to the St. Louis area, SLIFF is one of the film festivals that is a significant launching pad for emerging filmmakers rocketing onto the scene. From a modest start, SLIFF has grown to be one of the top competitions for new filmmakers, with a storm of hopefuls every year. Of the many potential entries, five finalists by first-time filmmakers are selected to be shown

"Robot Stories" opens the New Filmmakers Forum series on Friday, Nov. 21, at 7:15 p.m., at the Tivoli Theater. This clever little film tells four mostly futuristic tales that involve robots or computers but really have to do with human issues like adjusting to a new (robot) baby, losing a child, (robots) falling in love and love in a virtual world after death, in touching to comic ways. Director Greg Pak will attend the screening of his film.

At 9:30 p.m., the series presents "Screen Door Jesus," a quirky, beautifully shot, well-crafted tale of a small Southern town where an older African American woman thinks she can see the outline of Jesus on her screen door. The word spreads and soon crowds of worshippers fill her front yard, drawing both people who want to make a buck and those looking for miracles. Visual beauty is a strong point of "Screen Door Jesus," as the film gives us one lovely, perfectly framed shot after another and a sense of magical realism. The tale becomes a place where people's feelings about religion are the starting point for looks at morality, prejudice, scorn and other human faults. Director Kirk Davis will attend.

On Saturday, Nov. 22, the next NFF film, "Exposed," screens at 2 p.m., at the Tivoli Theater.

see CSAPO-SWEET, page 14

SLIFF offers up diverse films for discriminating tastes

BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER
Film Critic

"Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress" is among the high profile award-winning films appearing in the second half of the annual St. Louis International Film Festival. While big name documentaries dominated the first weekend of the fest, big-buzz narrative films dominate the final weekend. The festival, a high point for area film fans, started Thursday, Nov. 13, and runs through Sunday, Nov. 23, 2003, when it concludes with a closing night awards ceremony at Bar Italia in the Central West End.

Here, some short reviews of several feature films and a couple of documentaries included in the second half of the festival are discussed. They are by no means the only worthy films—the best thing about the festival is that all these are good films. Pick up a festival program and read the descriptions to find films you would like, as they range from comedy to drama to experimental, and from shorts to documentaries to animated selections. Films descriptions are also

available online at www.cinemast-louis.org, along with the date, time and theater for each of the screenings.

The film that should be at the top of your list is "Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress." This visually gorgeous and beguiling Chinese and French film tells of two city boys sent to a remote mountain village for "re-education" at the end of China's cultural revolution. The film is both engrossing and beautiful. Exile to the isolated village sounds harsh, but the boys quickly find some relief, since the villagers are so out of touch with the outside world that they are easily fooled into thinking a tune played on that unknown instrument, the violin, is Mozart's "Ode to Mao." They may be far from their life as sons of educated, urban parents, but the mountains have a wild, idyllic beauty. Re-education seems to have more to do with teasing them for being city boys than communist ideology, and the boys discover that the locals live in the traditional world of superstitions and folkways under a thin layer of communist rhetoric and titles. When the local tailor and his apprentice granddaughter come to visit from a

neighboring village, both boys are smitten by the feisty little seamstress. They set out to free her from village ignorance by reading to her from a hidden cache of Western novels and serenading her on the violin. But the seamstress, especially moved by the writing of Balzac, shows that more to her exists than beauty. The heart-breaking beauty of this film is found in its panoramic vistas and the subtle skill of the actors, and in a story about art, love and the power of literature. At times moving or amusing, it leaves you at the end with the warm glow of appreciation for the skill of the cinematic storyteller who can move you to both laughter and tears. There is little wonder why this movie has been a consistent hit on the film festival circuit. Hopefully this film will return to our area for a longer run.

The Chinese fantasy-comedy "Chinese Odyssey 2002," set in China in the time of the emperors, has all the pageantry you might expect. This fairytale-like, farcical romantic comedy has elements of both Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night" and Jackie Chan. "Costume Comedy" might be the term used to describe this gorgeous, funny romp. Misunderstandings, mistaken identity, martial arts and physical comedy pepper this film that also is filled with lush sets and costumes. The royal princess and her brother long to be free of the stifling restrictions of the court, and finally the princess escapes, disguised as a man. When she happens into a nearby town, she is, of course, mistaken for a man after a dazzling display of her swordplay and martial arts skill against some foes. The town's bully, who turns out to be more eccentric than mean, takes a fancy to her with an eye to fixing her up with his equally skillful swordsman sister, a woman given to dressing as a man herself. This is just the beginning of the delightful, gender-bending mix-ups. The timing and editing are fabulous, both for comedy and action, and the attractive cast does a marvelous job as well. The

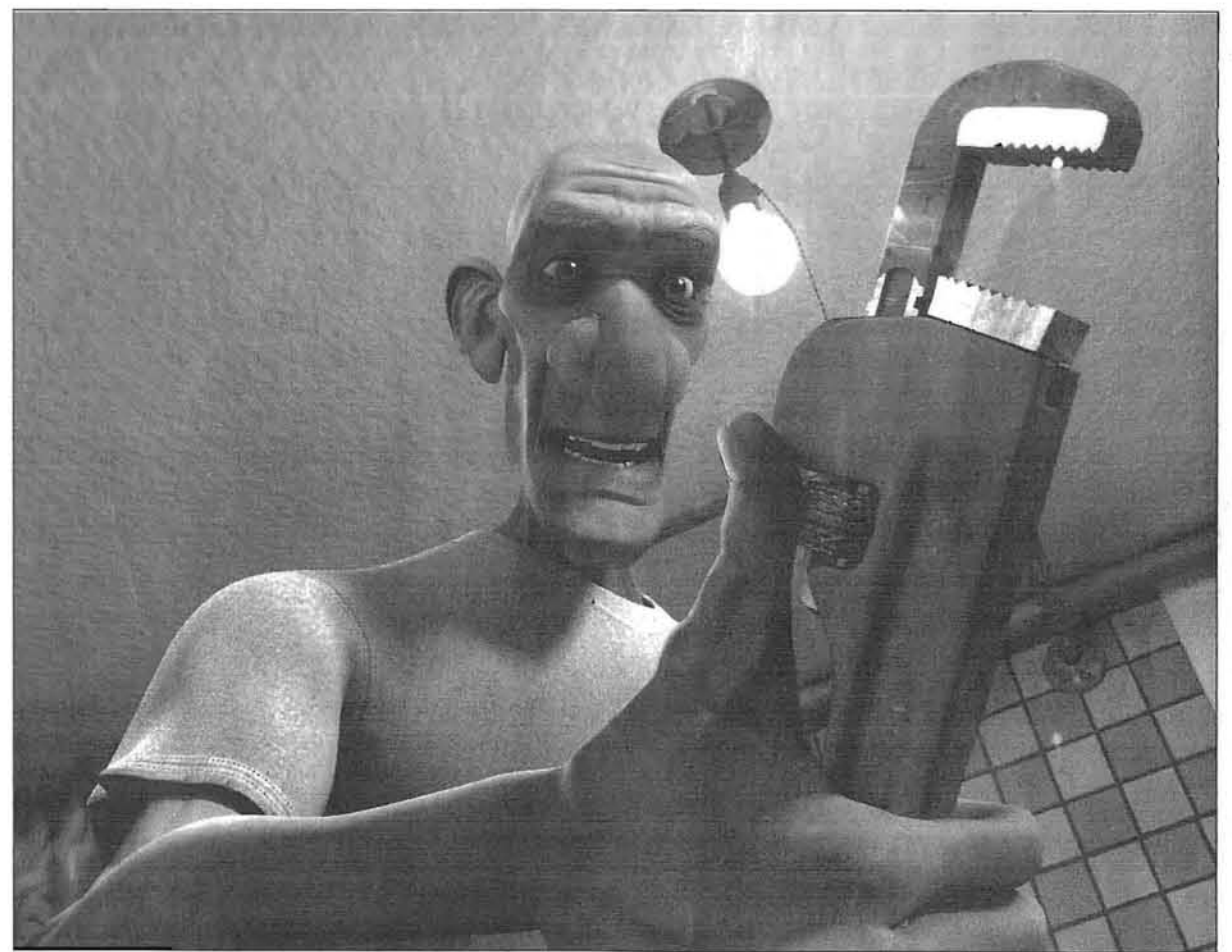


Photo courtesy St. Louis Independent Film Festival

"This won't hurt a bit..." The St. Louis Independent Film Festival is not just for live action movies. Animation also makes an appearance, as the large nosed man above demonstrates.

story appeals as do the colorful costumes. Like a good fairy-tale, it finally resolves itself with a caution about not making assumptions and a lesson in love and speaking up for what you believe in. It's bright, funny and completely charming.

Another comedy with elements of farce, this one, from Peru, is "Captain Pantoja and the Special Services." The title also translates as "Pantaleon and the Services," and it is based on a story by Mario Vargas Llosa, whose books like "Aunt Julia and the Scriptwriter" are part sex comedy and part magical realism. The film immediately brings to mind such 1950s sex farce comedies as "Pajama Game," before turning a bit more serious and

lot more sexy. The Peruvian Army is having a problem with troops stationed in remote locations and local girls getting pregnant, and the generals hit on a novel solution of providing the soldiers with prostitutes to solve the problem. For public relations reasons, the Army can not be involved in such a plan. The generals devise a plan to organize a secret "Special Services" and assign the task to the most squeaky-clean, efficient officer they can find, Captain Pantaleon Pantoja. Of course, the spit-and-polished, by-the-book captain is very uncomfortable with his new assignment and can only tell his wife that his new job is "top secret." Unable to get out of the assignment,

he instead descends on it with all his organizational skills and regimental style and soon organizes saluting recruits, complete with their own special uniforms, morning calisthenics and regimental precision. Things start to get out of hand when a local radio journalist and a sexy Colombian come into the picture, when the project becomes too big of a success and keeping it secret becomes the biggest problem. The film is funny, with sexy and dramatic aspects as well, as the tale unfolds. The actors are appealing and talented, the photography is lush, and the story is delightful.

see SLIFF, page 9



Photo courtesy St. Louis Independent Film Festival

Babies in Halloween costumes or a movie from the SLIFF? If you guessed a movie then you would be correct. You can see "Prison Lullabies" during the film festival.

SLIFF, from page 8

"Wilbur Wants to Kill Himself" is the unlikely title of a Scottish dark comedy about a pair of brothers locked in a longtime pattern. One brother is a sarcastic man who is always trying to commit suicide and the other brother is the caretaker who always rescues his younger sibling. That Wilbur always contacts his brother about his suicide attempts doesn't keep his patient and selfless brother from worrying that he will succeed someday. Although the suicidal Wilbur is good-looking and even manages to hold a job at a local day care center, he keeps everyone at bay emotionally with his biting wit. The brothers' existence is taken up by this cycle of attempts and rescues. The cycle is upset one day when a young woman comes into the bookstore the brothers inherited from their father and rescues Wilbur from his latest attempt. This quirky tale has elements of both dark humor and real human warmth as the tables start to turn on the brothers. It is a fine piece of filmmaking, an engrossing, sometimes moving story, with wonderful acting and charmingly eccentric characters. This wonderful film is a real treat, funny and warm in the best sense.

"Flower of Evil" is a French homage to '50s-era American thrillers, with Hitchcockian shots and meaningful music. A son returns to his family's posh French home from an extended stay in America to find his stepmother in the midst of a cam-

paigned for mayor, despite the fact that the family has some secrets that could be politically sensitive. In fact, there appear to be many secrets in this family and maybe a little family politicking too, and a lot of trails to follow in this movie. Scandals and mysteries seem to be everywhere in this atmosphere-drenched potboiler. Although the film looks stylish, and the actors always seem to be hinting at something, the thriller isn't completely successful, as it raises more red herrings than it knows what to do with in the end.

Typically, the festival films are not in English and do not have recognizable name actors, but director Bob Odenkirk's "Melvin Goes to Dinner" is a bit of an exception. This American comedy has a cameo by Jack Black as a delusional man, a small role by Maura Tierney, who will be familiar to fans of TV's "ER," as Melvin's sister, and a bit part by Odenkirk's TV comedy partner David Cross as a motivational pitch man. This quirky little comedy is a puzzle that unfolds as four people have dinner. How the two men and two women at the table are connected slowly comes out throughout the movie. After a fitful start moving forward and back in time, the film settles down and draws us in, as the conversation gets deeper. Table talk goes from superficial chat and flirtation to philosophical and theological topics to the laying bare of all secrets. The dinner conversation is overlaid with scenes from before the diners meet at the table. The film is full of surprises and reversals, sure to delight a film-

goer who likes a few plot twists. Acting is very good; there are plenty of surreally funny moments and a few thought provoking ones as well, although the visual element is uninspired video. It's the story that makes this dinner worth the trip.

"The Embalmer" is an Italian film whose name is also translated as "The Taxidermist." This translation might be closer to the truth, as this is a mysterious and chilling tale about a middle-aged dwarf taxidermist, his young apprentice, and a young woman they pick up on a road trip. The story is based on an old Roman tale, one that was supposedly based on a true story. The triangle that develops between them and the secrets that live beneath make a harrowing thriller, in an atmospheric film. Jealousy, violence, deception, secrets and Mob connections run this suspenseful film filled with some powerful acting and fog-drenched night shots. Eerie films like this are not the most common genre of the festival but the buzz and the intriguing backstory have kept it making festival rounds.

Excellent documentaries in the second half of the festival include "Life After War," a documentary about a female journalist who stays on to help after the fall of the Taliban in Afghanistan. Her challenges and frustration in trying to help rebuild a small village provides intriguing insights into both the position of women in this society, the challenges of working in the shattered country and the character of the Afghani people and their society.

Another excellent documentary is "The Agronomist." Despite the name, the film chronicles the life of a radio journalist and voice for free speech, Jean Dominique, whose broadcasts inspired the people of Haiti until his unsolved but probably politically-motivated assassination. The director of this informative and moving film about one man and the power of speech is Jonathon Demme, in a far different project from his famous "Silence of the Lambs." Several interviews with the subject before his death, combined with archival footage, interviews with family and colleagues and shots of a colorful Haiti help tell the tale of this lively man, who was trained as an agronomist. Dominique combined his love of his native Haiti and his interest in arts first into a Haitian film society and then into the founding of a radio station that sought to speak out against repression and in favor of plain Haitian farmers. The popular radio broadcasts changed Haiti's political scene and won him a place in the hearts of his country's least powerful people.

There are many more worthy films at the festival and a few of the highest profile ones, like "Girl with a Pearl Earring," are slated to return later this year or during the next year. After you sample the wide array of great films, you can wrap up your festival experience and learn the winners of festival's many awards by attending the free closing night ceremony at Bar Italia in the Central West End, on Sunday, Nov. 24, starting at 8:00 p.m.

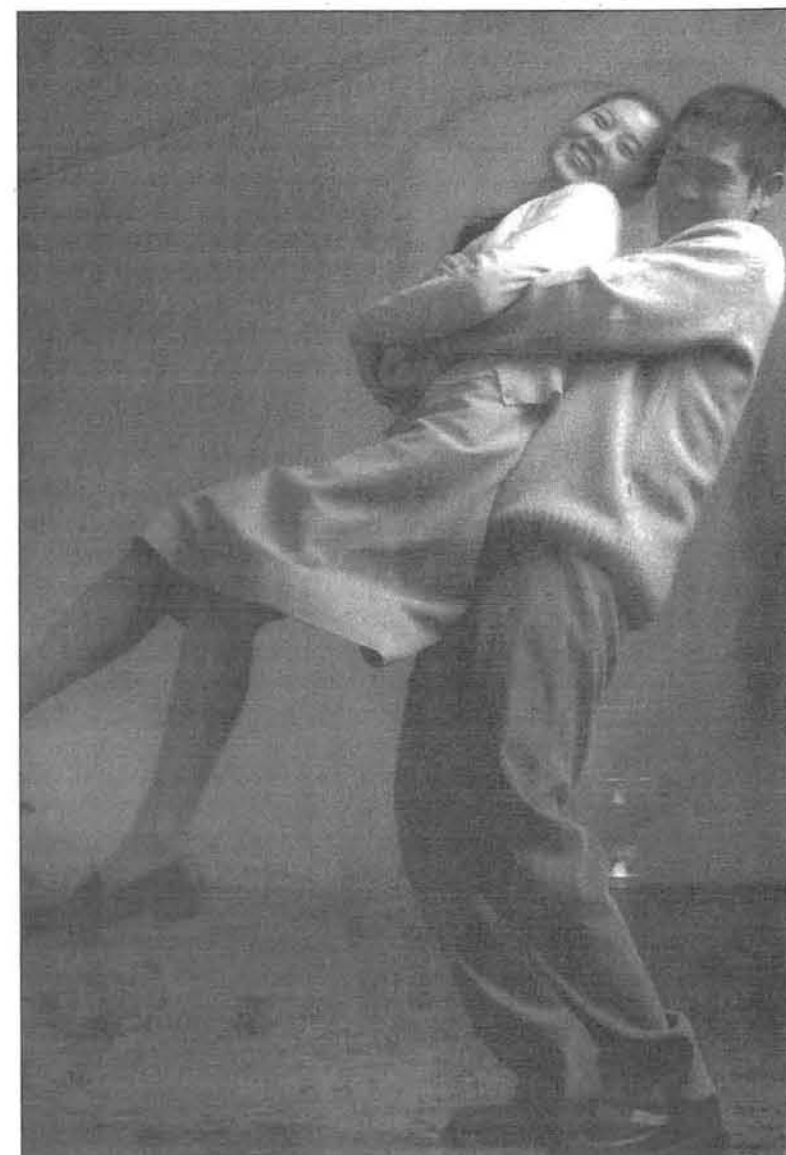


Photo courtesy St. Louis Independent Film Festival
"Oasis," not the rock band, but the movie, will be playing at the St. Louis Independent Film Festival. The Festival runs Nov. 13 through Nov. 23.

HUNGER AWARENESS WEEK

November 17th - 21st

• Informational Table

Monday – Thursday, 10:00am – 2:00pm, on the bridge of the MSC

• Operation Food Search

Monday, November 17th, 12:00 noon – 5:00pm (for directions, please visit the Office of Student Life, MSC 375)

• Gandhi Night

Monday, November 17th, at 6:00pm in the Provincial House

• Hidden in America

Tuesday and Wednesday, November 18th and 19th, at 11:00am and again at 12:30pm in the Pilot House

• Soup Line

Tuesday and Wednesday, November 18th and 19th, from 11:00am to 1:00pm in the NOSH

• Hunger Banquet

Thursday, November 20th, at 12:00 noon in Century Rooms A & B (please SIGN UP at the informational table on the bridge)

• Donation jars at cash registers

Monday through Friday, all day, in the Millennium Student Center

All money raised throughout the week (from the Soup Line and the donation jars) will go to local, national, and international hunger relief organizations.

Co-sponsored by Interfaith Campus Ministries, Catholic Newman Center, the Office of Student Life, University Program Board, Student Government Association, PLHCSA, Amnesty International, and Pre-Med Society

SPORTS



Mike Sherwin/ The Current

Riverwomen point guard Trista Kolder tries to evade SLU's Kirsti Holloway during an exhibition game Thursday night. Kolder led the Riverwomen in scoring with 18 points, but the team was defeated 85-57 by the SLU Billikens, a NCAA Division I school.

Exhibition games charge up basketball for '03-'04 season

BY GRETCHEN MOORE
Staff Writer

The Rivermen and Riverwomen basketball teams kicked off their seasons with exhibition games against the Reebok All-Stars and St. Louis University to get their teams warmed up for their first games.

The Rivermen walked away with two honors after their game against the Reebok All-Stars Saturday, Nov. 8. UM-St. Louis came away with a 101-77 victory as well as making history with the century mark win for the first time since the 1997-98 season.

"We were all a little nervous for our first game, but once we got started and settled in we were ready to win," junior guard David Watkins said.

It was the first game for Chris Pilz as head coach, and he debuted a new up-tempo style of play. The game was close in the beginning, as it was tied at 10-10. UM-St. Louis led by two points, 16-14, before going on a 12-4 run to open up a ten-point lead.

The Rivermen then led by as many as 18 points in the first half at 40-22 after two free throws from senior guard Ronnie Banks. The Rivermen held on to a double-digit lead through the rest of the half and took a 51-39 lead into halftime.

UM-St. Louis then had a slow start in the second half as the Reebok All-Stars mounted a comeback. The Rivermen lead diminished to just two points at the 11:31 mark at 62-60. Leading 64-62, the Rivermen then took charge again; going on a 10-0 run that was sparked by two baskets

from sophomore guard Jonathan Griffin

The Rivermen then outlasted the Reebok All-Stars, holding Reebok to just five points in the final four minutes of the game as UM-St. Louis cruised to victory. The only question in the end was whether the Rivermen could reach the 100-point mark, which was reached in the final seconds when a three-pointer by Griffin made it 101-77.

"We played well as a team and really wanted to win. This game really put our team off on the right foot for the season," Watkins said.

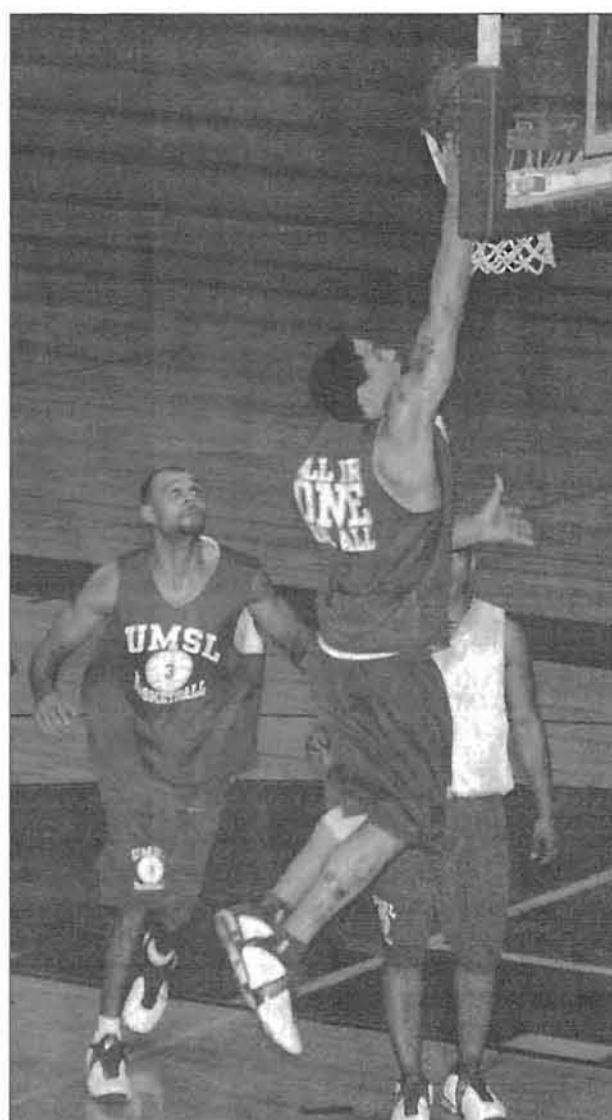
Jonathan Griffin was the game high scorer with 28 points for the Rivermen on 12-of-18 shooting from the field. Griffin added 12 rebounds, three assists and three steals in the game and junior center Jared Pratt scored 20 points for the Rivermen.

"We have a really strong team this year and hope to continue to win," Watkins said.

The Riverwomen warmed up with an exhibition match against SLU. The Billikens hosted the Riverwomen on their own court hoping to come get some practice before both teams' season openers.

The game was even in the opening minutes, as UM-St. Louis trailed by just two points, 13-11, eight minutes into the game after a lay-up from junior forward Kali Birkey. St. Louis then opened up their lead, using a 16-0 run later in the half to take a 44-20 lead at halftime.

The Riverwomen played the Billikens evenly in the second half, as St. Louis outscored UM-St. Louis by just four points, 41-37, in the second half, thanks to 45.5 percent shooting from the field in the second half.



Michael Pelikan/ The Current

Rivermen point guard Jonathan Griffin lays up for a basket during a practice in the Mark Twain Athletic Building on Thursday afternoon. The Rivermen began their official season on Nov. 15 at Rolla. The Rivermen lost their opener, falling 84-54 to Missouri-Rolla. Their first home game will be Nov. 17 at 7:45 p.m. at the Mark Twain Building.

However, it was not enough to overcome the first half deficit. The Riverwomen lost 85-57 to the Billikens.

UM-St. Louis was led by junior guard Trista Kolder with 18 points on

6-of-11 shooting, and she also dished out a team-high three assists. Freshman guard Simone Verhulst added 12 points and five rebounds, and Birkey had 11 points and a team-best six rebounds.

Volleyball ends season with loss to NKU

Riverwomen suffer 3-0 defeat at hands of top-seeded Norse during GLVC quarterfinals

BY JUD DIEFFENBACH
Staff Writer

The UM-St. Louis volleyball team ended their season Thursday, Nov. 13, with a 3-0 loss to Northern Kentucky in the quarterfinals of the Great Lakes Valley Conference Tournament. The Riverwomen lost in games of 31-29, 30-16 and 30-15 to the top-seeded Norse of Northern Kentucky.

The first game against Northern Kentucky was extremely close, but mistakes by the Riverwomen in the last two games of the match contributed greatly in the loss. UM-St. Louis had 18 hitting errors in the last two games while Northern Kentucky had just four.

In speaking with Head Coach Denise Silvester before the match, she was prophetic in her expectations of the Norse. "I expect to see a very aggressive Northern Kentucky team and one that wants to play well in front of their home crowd," she said. With the win, Northern Kentucky moves on to play Southern Indiana in the semifinals of the conference tournament.

The previous weekend, the Riverwomen had two tough matches on the road against Wisconsin-Parkside and against Lewis. On Friday, Nov. 7, the Riverwomen fell to Wisconsin-Parkside 3-1 in games of 30-25, 23-30, 30-27 and 30-28. Saturday night, Nov. 8, the Riverwomen lost 3-0 to a talented Lewis team in games of 30-20, 30-16 and 20-27.

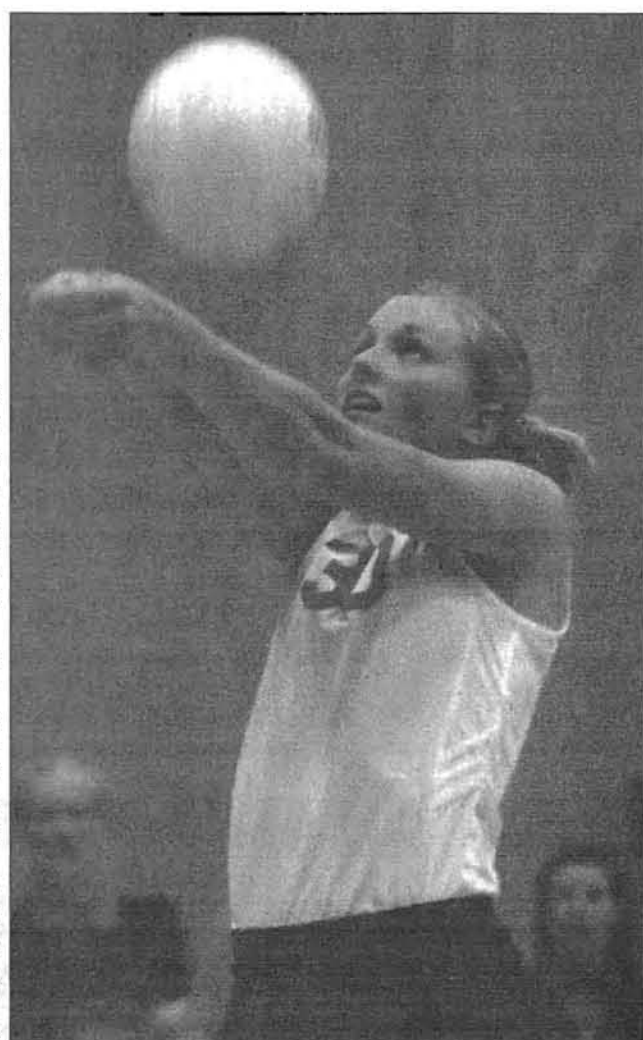
In the Wisconsin-Parkside match, the Riverwomen came on strong in the second game to even it up at one game apiece. Wisconsin-Parkside responded by taking the next two games and the match. The games were even statistically as the Rangers of Wisconsin-Parkside had just one more kill than the UM-St. Louis team.

The Rangers had more errors than the Riverwomen, but that was not enough for the Riverwomen to pull out the victory. Even though she thought her team played well, Silvester felt the Riverwomen let one slip through their fingers. "Our match against Parkside was very intense and very close. The end result could have gone either way," she said.

In the match with Lewis, the Riverwomen did not make it as close as with Wisconsin-Parkside. In the first game, Lewis had just five hitting errors. In the second game, UM-St. Louis had nine hitting errors and only eight kills. The Flyers of Lewis finished off the Riverwomen in a close third game to win the match.

Although the weekend ended in two Riverwomen losses, Silvester felt her team gained a lot in preparing for the GLVC Tournament. "We played extremely well on the road," she said.

Silvester and the returning members of the team are looking forward to improving on this year's performance. UM-St. Louis finished the season with an overall record of 8-15 and was 5-9 in the GLVC.



Mike Sherwin/ The Current

Ashley Richmond keeps her eye on the ball during the Riverwomen's match Oct. 24 against the St. Joseph's Pumas.

Come on fans, get up! Wait, where are they?



BY GRETCHEN MOORE
Staff Writer

So, who says that attending three colleges in three years isn't all right? OK, so my parents were not too thrilled about me changing my major like five times and deciding to add three colleges to my resumé instead of the more standard one. However, I would rather look at my college career as a football game.

So, I have to recruit for the best school. I do all my research and visit all the schools. The decision comes down to what school I want. What can each school bring to my game? I have it narrowed down to five schools: Mizzou, Truman State, Ohio University, Western Illinois or Purdue. So, I might have had a little bit of

“

I have come to the conclusion that we have some of the best athletes and all-around great people who represent our school. Why can't we come and support them?

”

influence from a strictly Boilermaker family: Mom, dad, a cousin and an uncle all attended Purdue. So I say what the heck, GO BOILERS!

I've got my team picked, so I pack it up for training camp in good 'ol West Lafayette. The first thing my dad checks on is that I order my season tickets for all of the home football and basketball games. Forget about books, I need my season tickets!

The first Purdue home game rolls around, and it is on like Donkey Kong. Imagine waking up in your dorm room to the sound of the marching band and the "World's Largest Drum." And you know what that sound means—it's tailgating time!

I walk outside, towards the football stadium, and there is a sea of cars, vans and SUVs for miles with people up and ready to party a good five to seven hours before the game even starts.

For those of you familiar with Purdue I have two words for you, "Breakfast Club." Yes, this was a great '80s movie; but in West Lafayette, "Breakfast Club" consists of Purdue fans dressing up in ridiculous costumes and heading to the bars at 6 in the morning to start the day off before tailgating even begins. Who says Indiana University isn't the number-three party school? I say go Boilers!

Well anyway, the game finally rolls around, and the stadium is packed. The sound of keys rattling before the kick-off and fans lifted up to do push-ups after each touchdown shows only a mere glimmer of what school spirit was like on Purdue's campus.

Game after game, the Boilermaker spirit never ceased to amaze me. Students who go to a game to support their team and maybe even have a little fun while they're at it; who would have thought?

So I ask myself, a school with 30,000 students can attract a crowd, what seems to be wrong with the 16,000 students at UM-St. Louis? Sports players like my friends Stu Schweigert and Brandon Jones from the Purdue football team were treated like gods on campus. I have met a ton of sports players at UM-St. Louis, and they don't seem any different then Stu or Brandon.

GRETCHEN MOORE

Interim Sports Editor

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Questions
or
Comments?

Send me an e-mail:
current@jinx.umsl.edu

WEB

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

YOUR OPINION

Does UM-St. Louis
need a football
team?

by Jesse Gater/ The Current



Amanda Francis
Junior/Nursing

"That would be awesome definitely. I definitely definitely love football. I think we need it. You would have a lot more school spirit if we had it."



Amin Mohabbat
Sophomore/Finance

"They would have to do it right. I wouldn't want to have a team losing all the time. It would give more recognition to the school."

R-women trio given All-Conference accolades

Soccer's Hauan, Shockley, Carmody honored

BY GRETCHEN MOORE
Staff Writer

The UM-St. Louis women's soccer team had three players earn GLVC All-Conference honors as announced by the GLVC league. Junior forward Sonya Hauan was named to the first team while sophomore sweeper Lindsay Shockley and freshman goalkeeper Courtney Carmody were both named second team selections.

This is Hauan's second consecutive year to be named to the first team All-GLVC. She had the second highest point total in the GLVC and led UM-St. Louis in scoring with 35 points on the season.

Hauan has scored a team-best 14 goals on the year, which was second best in the GLVC. Second on the team and seventh in the GLVC with seven assists, Sonya was one of just three players ranked in the top 10 in the conference in both goals and assists this year. She is currently eighth in UM-St. Louis history in scoring with 77 career points.

Carmody, starting goalkeeper for the Riverwomen, recorded 10 shutouts on the season in 19 games played. She also had six shutouts in the ten conference games. Carmody totaled 82 saves on the season and had a goals against average of 0.98 on the season.

Shockley was a big reason why UM-St. Louis had ten shutouts on the season. She is a sophomore defender who helped control their defense as the sweeper on the team, setting up defensive positioning for the



Photos courtesy UM-St. Louis Athletics, illustration by Kevin Ottley/The Current
Lindsay Shockley (left), Sonya Hauan (center) and Courtney Carmody (right) were named GLVC All-Conference honorees.

Riverwomen. "Our entire defense and our goalie were very good this year. Each of the back four were equally exceptional; but being the sweeper, I was the one who had to communicate and be the talker between all of us," Shockley said.

Under the wing of Coach Beth Goetz, this is the fourth straight season that UM-St. Louis has had at least three players receive All-Conference honors. Carmody, one of five freshmen on the team, talked about the influence Goetz had on their season. "She knows when to be our friend and when to be our coach. And there is a good line between the two. She is really motivating and understanding."

Hauan, Carmody and Shockley look forward to next year's experienced team. "We will be really good

next year with all of the experience under our belt. It's great that we have so many sophomores and juniors to carry on for us next year. We bonded really well this season, especially with all the new girls, and really understood each other, which made it easier," Shockley said.

"Having a lot of juniors and seniors next year will make us very strong. They have been through a lot so there will be a lot of leaders," Carmody said.

UM-St. Louis finished their season on Friday after losing in the GLVC semifinals to Northern Kentucky. The Riverwomen were 13-6-1 on the season.

"If I could choose one word to describe our team it would be 'compassion.' Everyone really wanted to be there and gave it their all."

R-women soccer stomped by NKU; postseason ends

BY JUD DIEFFENBACH
Staff Writer

On Friday, Nov. 7, the UM-St. Louis women's soccer team ended their season by losing 3-1 to Northern Kentucky in the semifinals of the Great Lakes Valley Conference Tournament. Northern Kentucky continued their postseason dominance of the Riverwomen in the GLVC Tournament by winning for the fourth time in the last five years. Last season, the Riverwomen lost 1-0 to Northern Kentucky in the championship game.

The fourth seeded UM-St. Louis team allowed the top-seeded Northern Kentucky team to jump out to an early 2-0 lead. Just before the end of the first half, junior midfielder Katie Huelsing scored to cut the lead to 2-1 going into the break. In the second half, the Riverwomen were held scoreless, and the Norse of Northern Kentucky added another goal to seal the 3-1 victory.

Head Coach Beth Goetz was proud of the way her team played, even in defeat. "I thought we played hard and went out there with intensity for the full 90 minutes," she said.

In addition, Goetz felt the Northern Kentucky team played extremely well. "[Northern Kentucky] is a good team, with a lot of team speed and just finished better than we did. They were able to generate more scoring opportunities for themselves," she said.

"[Northern Kentucky] is a good team, with a lot of speed and just finished better than we did."

- Beth Goetz, Riverwomen Head Coach

Several Riverwomen players earned GLVC All-Conference honors this year. Junior forward Sonya Hauan was named a first team selection. Sophomore defender Lindsay Shockley and freshman goalkeeper Courtney Carmody were both named

second team selections. Goetz thought the conference selections were right on the mark. "There are a lot of good players in the league and not everybody can make All-Conference. I think Sonya is well-deserving and one of the best forwards in the league. Our goalkeeper [Carmody] played outstanding this year and has a great future," she said.

Looking forward to next year, Goetz and her team are ready to build on this year's successes and grow into one of the top teams in the region. "We have a young team that is continuing to mature, and I was pleased with the results of this year. Our overall record was successful," she said.

The Riverwomen are looking to have an exciting, yet difficult year next season. Goetz believes her team will have one of the toughest schedules in the region. "We have a really strong schedule with some of the best teams in the area. But that's what any good team wants, to play the best and see how you match up," she said.

UM-St. Louis finished the year with an overall record of 13-6-1 and a conference record of 6-3-1. This was the fourth year in a row the Riverwomen had advanced to the final four of the GLVC Tournament.

FANS, from page 10

So how are we going to fix the problem? As a sports writer, I have gotten to meet players from all of the teams, and I have come to the conclusion that we have some of the best athletes and all-around great people who represent our school. Why can't we come and support them?

I got to meet some of the men's soccer players first when they helped my roommate move in this fall. Jason and Dave who live next door offered to cook us dinner the first night we were here. So

my roommate Katie and I went to their first soccer match. I was expecting to see at least half of the bleachers filled up. Not even. Sparsely spread out among the stands, the crowd could maybe fill one-tenth of the bleachers. Why?

I also got to interview the baseball team and asked them how their crowds were since they were GLVC champs last year. Sadly, they said their stands were hardly ever filled by students. Come on, ladies, when do you turn down a chance to watch the UM-St. Louis baseball

players, affectionately nicknamed by my fellow cheerleaders as "the hottie team"?

We have all of the components to be a spirited school like Purdue, but are we going to use the crutch of the excuse "commuter school" forever? I say get over it and let's make a name for ourselves. We can actually bring some life to this school and to its athletic department.

So, everyone whip out your red and gold pom-poms, put the face paint on and let's do it already.

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK



Jonathan Griffin #24

-Point Guard for Rivermen Basketball

-Finished second in 2002 scoring at 8.8 points per game

-Went to Normandy High School



Katie Huelsing #12

-Midfielder for R-women soccer

-Ranked third on team in 2002 with 3 goals, 3 assists

-Went to Nerinx Hall High School

Alpha Xi Delta asks...

Do you like getting presents during the holidays?



So do the needy children of St. Louis.

Drop off a new toy in boxes located across UM-St. Louis's campus to do your part. Donations will be given to local children's agencies.

Monday, November 17th - Friday, December 5th

TURN BACK TIME

A RICHARD DONNER FILM

T I M E L I N E

PARAMOUNT PICTURES, MUTUAL FILM COMPANY AND COBALT MEDIA GROUP PRESENT A DONNER'S COMPANY/ARTISTS PRODUCTION GROUP PRODUCTION
A RICHARD DONNER FILM "TIMELINE" PAUL WALKER FRANCES O'CONNOR GERARD BUTLER BILLY CONNOLLY MUSIC BY BRIAN TYLER
EDITED BY RICHARD MARKS DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY CALED DESCHANEL, ASC EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS MICHAEL DUTZ GARY LEVINSOHN DON GRANGER BASED ON THE NOVEL BY MICHAEL CRICHTON
SCREENPLAY BY JEFF MAGUIRE AND GEORGE NOLFI PRODUCED BY LAUREN SHULER DONNER JIM VAN WYCK RICHARD DONNER DIRECTED BY RICHARD DONNER

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A&E

EDITOR

CASEY SCHACHER

A&E Editor

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Calendar

Movies

*Film openings are subject to change.

Week of
Nov. 17

Gothika- Academy Award winner Halle Berry takes on the psychological horror genre in this story of a criminal psychiatrist who wakes up in a mental ward after committing a murder she does not remember. Co-stars Robert Downey Jr.

Dr. Seuss' Cat in the Hat- Mike Meyers of "Austin Powers" fame stars in this live action adaptation of the beloved Dr. Seuss book about a mischievous cat who comes to perk up a day for two bored children in suburbia.

21 Grams- Sean Penn, Benicio Del Toro and Naomi Watts star as the central characters in three interweaving stories that intersect both tragically and redemptively following a car accident.

Ongoing...

Elf- Will Ferrell stars in this family film about a man who thought he was an elf, only to be told different. Co-stars James Caan as Ferrell's father. Comedy mayhem ensues.



"Thrilling Tales" from McSweeney Publishing is a collection of never-before-seen short stories by a legion of famous authors including Stephen King ("The Stand," "The Shining"), Michael Crichton ("Jurassic Park," "The Andromeda Strain") and Elmore Leonard ("The Hunted," "Out of Sight").

Photo courtesy Island Records

CD REVIEW

Quartet may be trying too hard

BY AMY GONVA
Music Critic

The young quartet, Die Trying, has just released their simplistic, self-titled album.

"Die Trying", a collection of twelve tracks, has influences ranging from heavy metal to pop rock. The group has been ambitious and persistent in their few years on the California scene and has ended up gaining the attention of Island Records.

After long months of self-promotion and determined minds, Die Trying has landed a chance to show the product of their work with their new release. They talk about this same hard work, along with loneliness, relationships and rebellion, in the lyrics of "Die Trying." Their sound and their words tend to walk on the dark side, with no hope for sunshine.

"Love and Guns" clearly states the musical and lyrical intentions of Die Trying. A gruesome love ballad with a heavily energetic beat, many parts of this song scream with distastefulness and are likely to offend the modern feminist. With lines such as, "With the bite of your kiss and the curve of your hips," the guys prove that they are not looking for inner beauty here.

Several other tracks, like "Dirty, Dirty," clearly support the cocky attitude held by the members of Die Trying. They are okay, musically, but with disrespectful lyrics they are sure to lose a portion of today's audience. Many artists, however, are using this tool to their advantage, and people seem to like rocking to scantily-clad singers talking about sex (ever heard of Ms. Aguilera?).

When Die Trying is not talking

about how very cool they are, they are playing a new version of radio-friendly hard rock. Guitarist Jack Sinamian, well learned in the art of the power chord, composes the tracks with good variations. The rhythm section is also strong, and collectively the group has a powerful arena-rock sound.

Die Trying sounds much like a heavier Good Charlotte and a softer Hoobastank. They are certainly part of the MTV2 contemporary rock musician group. Their sound has landed Die Trying on non-stop tours with Letter Kills and Hoobastank. Die Trying's name is getting more recognizable in the music world today. "Oxygen's Gone" has been a huge radio hit and some big names are recognizing their sound. Papa Roach front man Jacoby Shaddix has co-written a song for their debut release, entitled "Conquer the World."

These guys seem to be doing something right. The Die Trying cast has proven themselves musically but need to rethink their lyrical messages. If offensiveness and pervasiveness are their goals, Die Trying achieves them with their words.

Die Trying, right, just released their first self-titled album. Their lyrics tend to focus on the dark side of life, ranging from rebellion to loneliness. However, they need to rethink their lyrical messages, unless they are trying for offensiveness and pervasiveness.

Short story collection sure to thrill readers

BY PAUL CRUTCHER
Staff Writer

McSweeney's is a wondrous publisher that takes on projects that are different, unique or unsuited to more traditional publishing houses. They do a magazine, a website and books. McSweeney's got together with Vintage, a division of Random House, to give us "McSweeney's Mammoth Treasury of Thrilling Tales."

"Tales" contributors compiled 20 short stories in 475 pages. Notable authors make appearances, including Michael Crichton, Dave Eggers and Stephen King. What comes out is a mix of the supernatural, the horrific and the terrific. Zombie soldiers, murderous children, witches, ghosts, spacemen and intuitive detectives fill pages. This sort of anthology doesn't typically lend itself to readers enjoying each story, but the styles and topics are diverse enough that readers interested in this genre should find something to enjoy.

"The Case of the Salt and Pepper Shakers," for instance, reads surprisingly well but didn't involve anything as bizarre or fantastic as vampires or voodoo. Instead, our investigator narrator gets into a double homicide case where husband and wife seemingly and unknowingly killed each other. When our investigator runs dry on leads, one thing sticks out: the couple's substantial collection of salt and

pepper shakers. I won't spoil the story for you, but the shakers take the investigator on a twisting ride into the complexities of relationships. We learn a little about yin-and-yang balance and a little about a philosophy of life.

Conversely, Kelly Link's "Catskin" is fantastic enough to make you look away from the pages to make sure you are still sitting in your recliner. "Catskin" deals with a witch feud, revenge, why children are buried under new houses and perception. Putting it simply, the world in "Catskin" makes the landscapes and adventures in Harry-Potter-ville look positively mundane. Link talks on occasion directly to her readers, which unnerves, but makes the whole deal more believable. Beautiful people, it turns out, are trapped in the skins of cats, waiting to be let loose. You may marry them, for they are all beautiful and cultured, and if they misbehave or try to escape, simply sew them back up into their catskins and throw the sack into the river. Give it time, Mother's Revenge tells you, and fetch them back out of the river.

If you don't know what a Megalodon is, Shepard's "Tedford and the Megalodon" will help you reconsider "Jaws." A Megalodon is a prehistoric ancestor to the great sharks today, and, like all things in the living world, this prehistoric white shark grew to 60 feet or longer and could swallow our modern-day Great Whites without issue. In "Tedford,"

there are no witches—that massive shark does enough to warrant the "Thrilling Tales" designation. You cringe as you read Tedford venturing off in his kayak and scouring icebergs for hidden reservoirs, looking to substantiate claims and sightings of a massive shark. That shark lurks under the story all along, driving you to read on. All becomes more terrifying when Tedford finds the hidden bay, sits on the black water and waits to meet what lives below.

Eggers throws in "Up the Mountain Coming Down Slowly," about one woman's quest to climb Mt. Kilimanjaro. Her struggles are mostly internal, but she also must constantly battle with the physical consequences that go along with climbing a huge rock. Again, no Martians here, but Eggers paints an exotic enough picture to make us understand why "Slowly" made it into "Thrilling Tales." After all, how many people do you know who have done something like climbing up a mountain?

That said, if all this adventure sounds like a thrilling addition to your book collection, your local bookstore will gladly relieve you of the reasonable \$13.95, and you can walk away with a host of interesting short stories. But before you snatch up your copy, check to make sure yours has pages 417 - 448. Mine didn't, and no one likes going back to return something that has a sizable chunk of the next story lost in limbo.

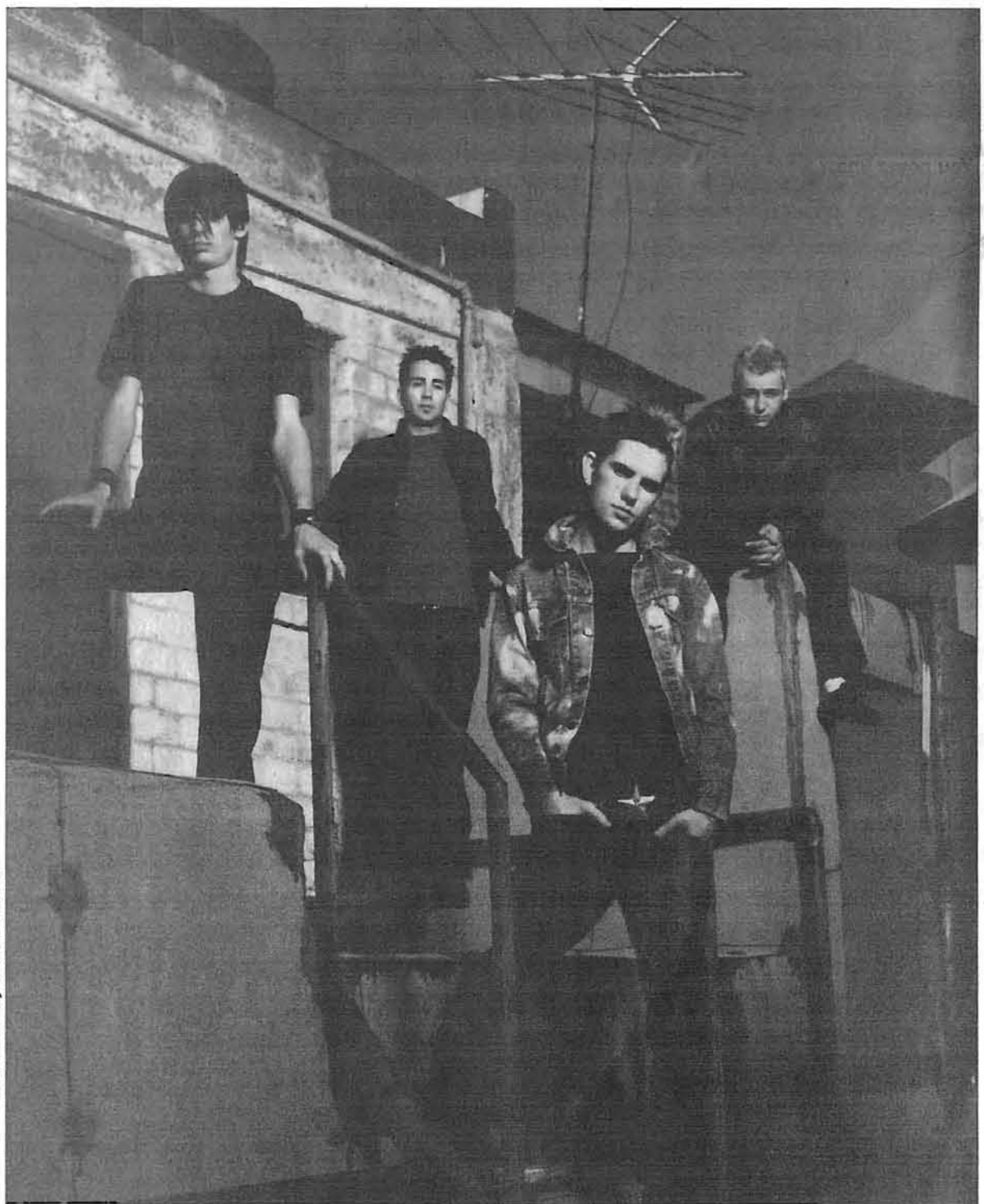


Photo courtesy Island Records

'Get down tonight'

Dressed in lace: Are you Club Buca material?

BY CASEY SCHACHER
A&E Editor

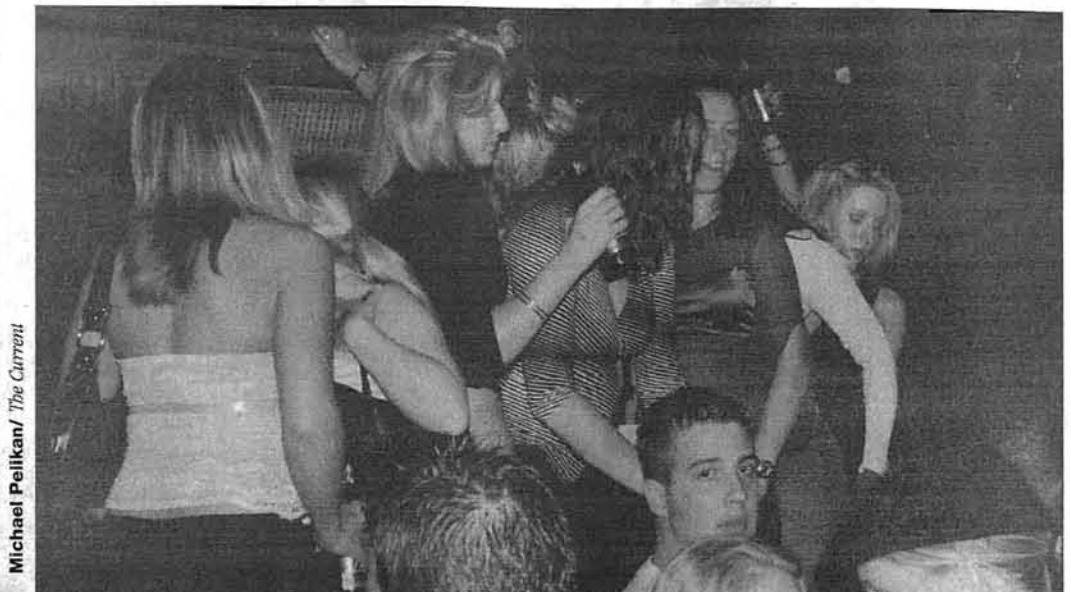
A group of girls, a small wad of cash and a nearly empty gas tank headed to the Landing looking for a good time Friday night. At the enticement of drink specials and free admittance, we decided upon ladies' night at Club Buca, the newest nightclub on the Landing. What we found there was typical but disturbing. Male egos and stereotyping smeared the night like cheap red lipstick, and I wondered how many of that wild pack of night animals had someone at home to check their collars for misbehavior.

Dressed in laced-up bellbottoms and a sheer shirt with free-flowing sleeves, I shifted uncomfortably as the

scrutinizing eyes of meaty security guards fell upon us. A group of young men with hanging heads bearing tangled dreadlocks moped away as a couple of security guards taunted their departure. "You can't come in here looking like that, bozos," yelled one shaven-head guard. The bouncers at Club Buca are apparently also fashion critics that sneer at tie-dyed Grateful Dead t-shirts. Yet, strangely enough, I was immediately waved into the club with looks of approval. Does the word "Buca" mean "double-standard"?

Entering the club, I caught a last glimpse of matted hair flapping in the wind, heard the snickers of the still taunting bouncers and felt anger growing in me.

Patrons of Club Buca dance to the music of the disc jockey. Club Buca is located on Laclede's Landing in Downtown St. Louis.



Michael Peikman/The Current

see CLUB BUCA, page 12

CLUB BUCA, from page 12

What confronted me as I descended a dark stairwell leading to the basement of the club convinced me that I was not the only angry person around. A company of five more security guards hauled a riotous man, kicking and roaring, up the stairs. Behind the protective presence of a good friend, I clung to the far wall as the intimidating group passed. Sweat dripped from the man's short, neat dreads, and I wondered if he had just been in a fight. Glancing down to the dark unknown waiting for us at the base of the stairs, I momentarily thought of leaving. Curiosity drove me on, however, and I decided to find out what this club was really about.

Drink, music and chauvinism made up the atmosphere of Club Buca. Young women otherwise not affiliated with the club competed for bar time, as they danced provocatively on top of the bottle-covered bar and prayed that the last round of shots would not cause them to hit the floor. Inebriated men pointed and stared, some pulling dollars out of their pockets to stuff in the straps of leather bras. Guards ordered kissing women off of the bar for "inappropriate behavior" while ignoring a girl putting on a show worthy of small-

time straight porn a few seats down. Elsewhere in the densely packed club, a constant flow of people created undercurrents in a sea of drunk, sweating bodies. Trying to make it from one end of the club to the other was like a disturbing session in a sexually tense moshpit.

A mixture of R&B, rap, heavy metal and techno played in no apparent order. The musical jumble echoed the diversity of a crowd made up of every walk of life known to humanity (as long as they were dressed well). I found the music easy to dance to but overall standard and unimpressive. An annoyingly zealous DJ interrupted the music several times to comment on the quality of women at the bar in a way that was not always flattering. One girl actually cried after the DJ singled her out and then quickly replaced her at her token spot on the bar by another more confident girl to satisfy his flighty tastes.

Everybody danced, though lack of space prevented exceptional dancers from exhibiting their moves. Club Buca is not the place for those accustomed to parking themselves at a table all night and watching friends have fun while they guard coats and purses (you know who you are).

Leave coats, shyness and inactivity at the door of this club. You will be touched. You will be groped. You will not sit down. You will not be able to have intellectual conversations with other wallflowers. Just a warning...

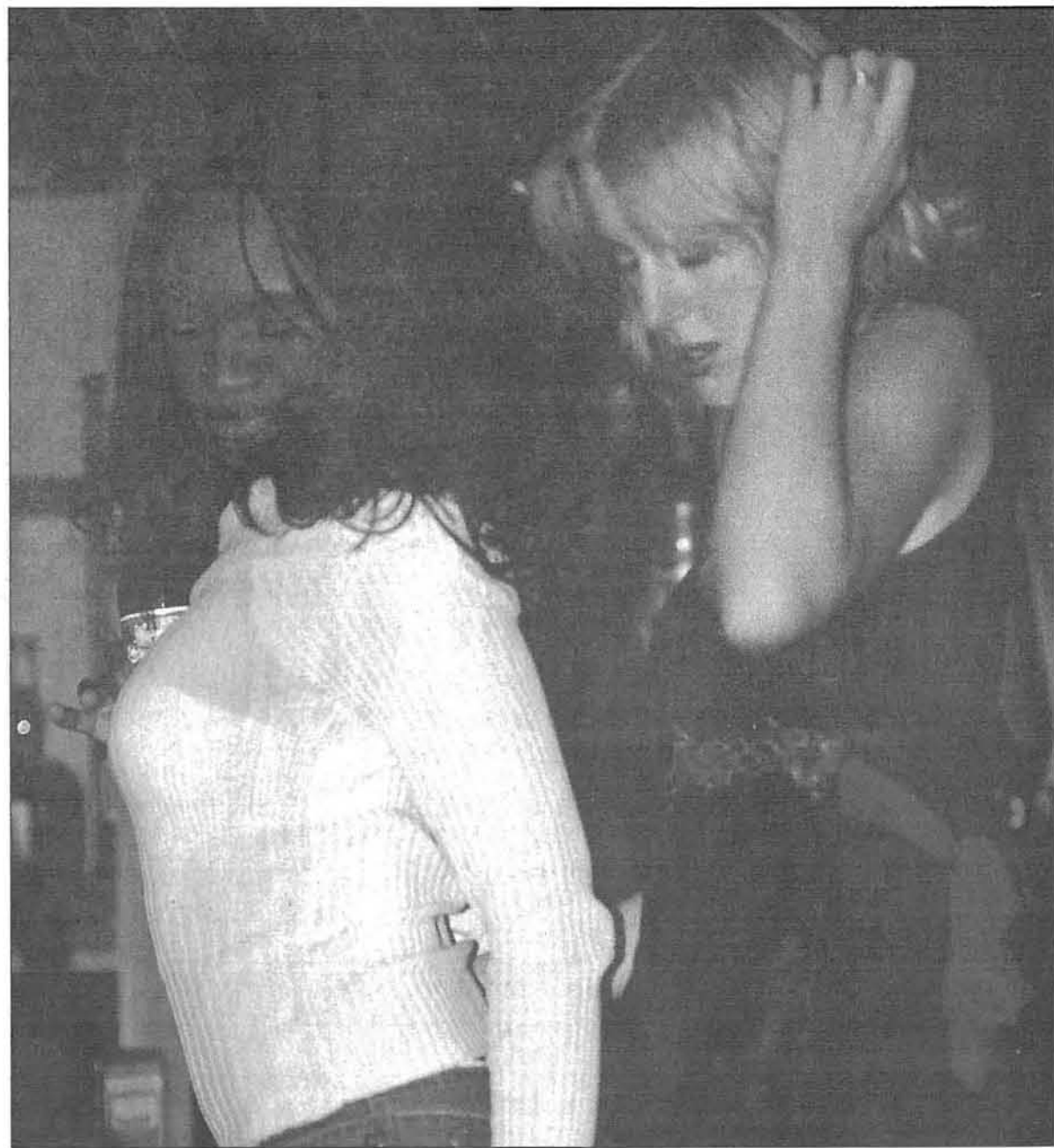
My night at Club Buca left me feeling like less of a person and in need of a long shower. That night I overlooked chauvinism, harassment and prejudice in the search for entertainment. Why do we do it to ourselves? Club Buca is like every other rowdy nightclub, and the inevitable bringer of headache and shame as well as a lighter wallet and an emptier gas tank. No lasting bonds were made, and I ended up with nothing but blurry memories of a wild mass of angry, sexual people. Anger and sexuality—these primitive instincts surge through us all and can probably explain why we seek to release them in such socially acceptable environments.

Club Buca is located at 710 North 2nd St. by The Big Bang on the Landing. Buca opens at 9 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, and at 10 p.m. on Sunday. Buca closes at 3 a.m. and does not operate Monday through Wednesday. Contact the club at (314) 231-BUCA.

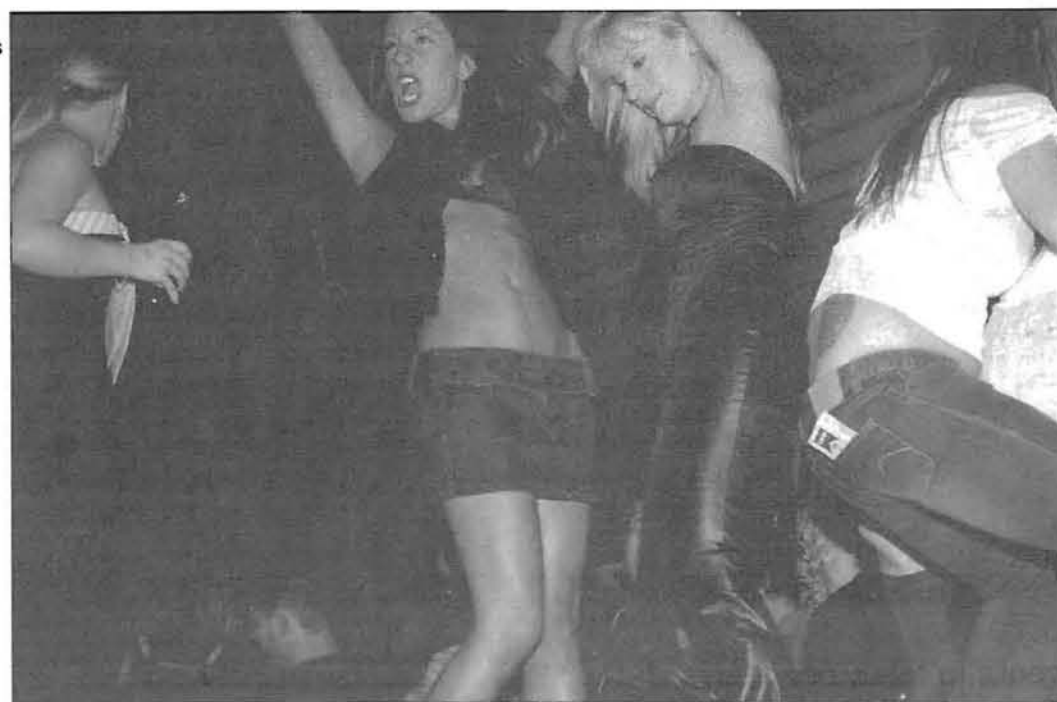


Photos by Michael Pelikan/ The Current

You never know what you will see at Club Buca. This club is not for the timid of heart, as people dress and dance to shock.



Dancing is the name of the game at Club Buca. ABOVE and RIGHT: Club Buca-goers dance for the assembled crowd.



University of Missouri - St. Louis Annual Dr. King Essay Contest

Theme: "Dr. Martin Luther King, the soul of a courageous man...."

REQUIREMENTS

- Essays must reflect upon the theme "Soul of a Courageous Man" and the values of Dr. King
- Essays are limited to 500 original words and must be double spaced typed
- Essays must be original work, neat, and grammatically correct
- Previous 1st place winners are not eligible to participate
- Participants must be enrolled UMSL students for the Fall 03 and Spring 04 semesters

Individual cash awards will be given to top winners

Submissions must be received in the
Office of Student Life (366 Millennium Student Center) by
Friday, December 5th at 5:00 p.m.

Winners will be presented with their award on
Monday, January 19, 2004
at the annual MLK Holiday Observance

Please contact the Office of Student Life at 516-5291 for more information

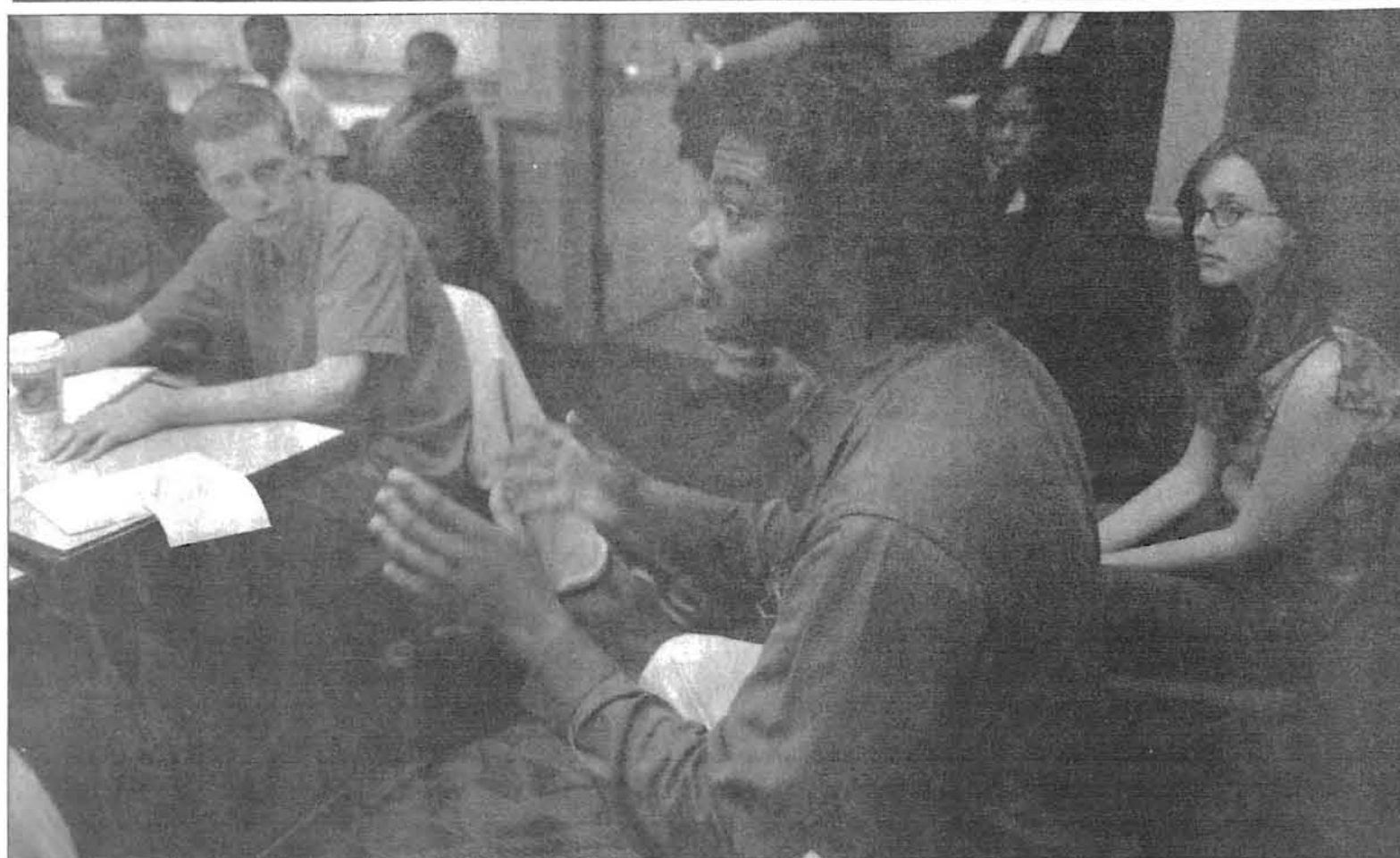
CSAPO-SWEET, from page 8

This road trip comedy about making a video of four buddies' annual road trip to see Wisconsin high hockey games is a hilarious mix of "Blair Witch Project," "This is Spinal Tap" and numerous road pictures and buddy movies, as nothing works out like planned. Good comic timing, tight editing and acting, numerous comic references and playing on our expectations make this film funnier than the average road picture and just as satisfying. Directors David Fleer, Erik Moe and Peter Rudy are attending the screening.

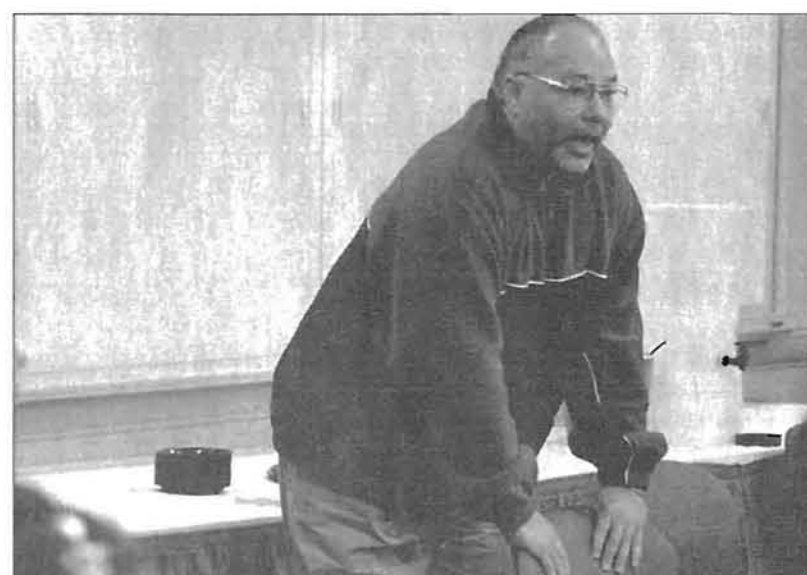
Both local films and new filmmakers come together with the St. Louis Filmmakers showcase offerings of the second part of the festival. The second program of the short local documentaries will screen on Tuesday, Nov. 18,

at 7:30 p.m., at the Tivoli Theater. A double feature of longer, locally connected documentaries will be shown on Thursday, Nov. 20, at 7:30 p.m., at the Tivoli. This double bill includes the documentary "Gaslight Square," about a remarkable time and remarkable place in St. Louis history. It covers the rise and fall of "Gaslight Square," the midtown entertainment district that made St. Louis a mecca for entertainment in the late '50s and early '60s. The other documentary on the bill is "KXOK in the Sixties," about a radio station based in St. Louis whose charismatic host made it the top regional station whose reputation was nationwide. Both glimpses of St. Louis' past as an entertainment center are sure to give you a new view of St. Louis history.

Issues of the color line



Todd Taylor, admissions counselor for the Honors College, asks participants at "Issues of the Color Line" to try and avoid personal attacks and keep the conversation focused on the issues of race and racial diversity on campus.



Hyter Alexander, counselor for Multicultural Relations, and founder of the UM-St. Louis chapter of the Association of Black Journalists, explains that many minority student organizations' names are tied to a particular group's national history, and their struggle to establish themselves. He was presenting a counterpoint to a recent editorial in *The Current*, which called into question the necessity of racially-focused student groups.



Participants face each other in the forum "Issues of the Color Line," held Tuesday afternoon in the Century Rooms of the MSC. The forum, moderated by Sheila Clarke-Ekong, interim dean of the evening college, was intended to allow students to discuss the issue of race and racism on campus.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY MIKE SHERWIN

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OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, November 20, 2003

2:00 – 6:00 P.M.

GLBT Resource Room (Student Activities Suite)
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PRIZM welcomes all students to our 2003 Open House!
Come browse through the readings available in the resource room,
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For more information, contact Michael Rankins at 516-6093.

UM-St. Louis puts on its Sunday best for UMSL Day

Typically barren on Sunday afternoons, UMSL comes to life for Fall recruitment effort



Photographs by Mike Sherwin/ The Current



LEFT:

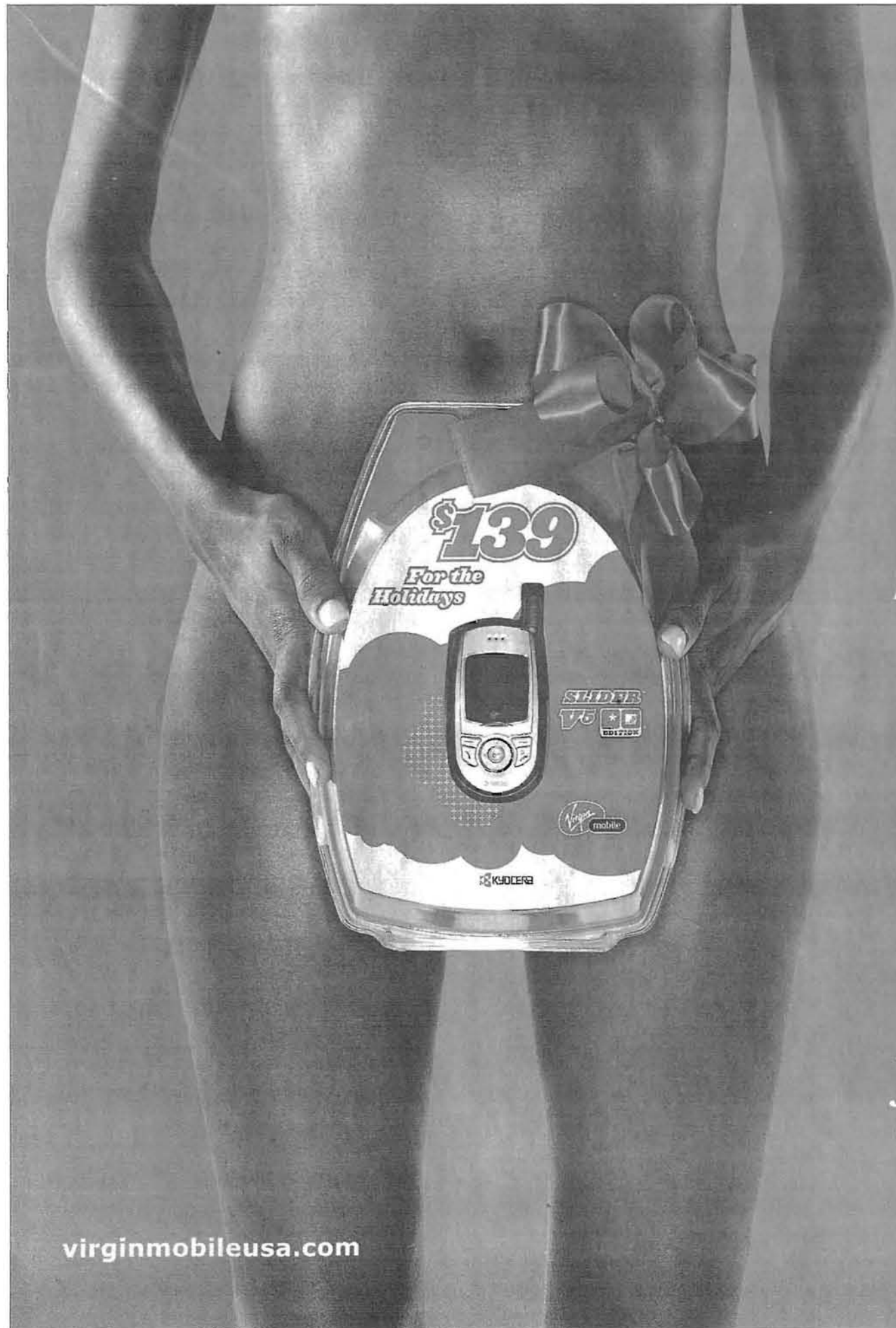
Jessica Sacks concentrates during her performance with the University Jazz Ensemble during UMSL Day on Sunday. UMSL Day guests were welcomed into the Century Rooms to enjoy refreshments and musical performances.

ABOVE:

Visitors fill the Millennium Student Center during UMSL Day on Sunday afternoon. Potential students were able to visit the campus and meet with representatives from each university department. Students were also on hand, leading seminars and question and answer sessions for potential UM-St. Louis students.

RIGHT:

Denise Giambelluca (at right), managing director of the University Meadows apartment complex, talks with Tara Thompson, a student at Mineral Area College, who is considering attending UM-St. Louis.



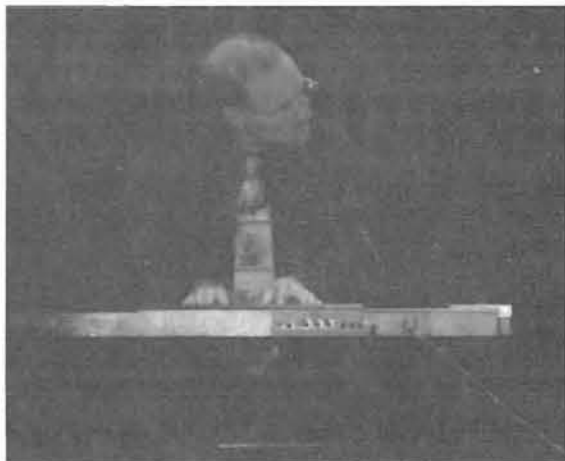
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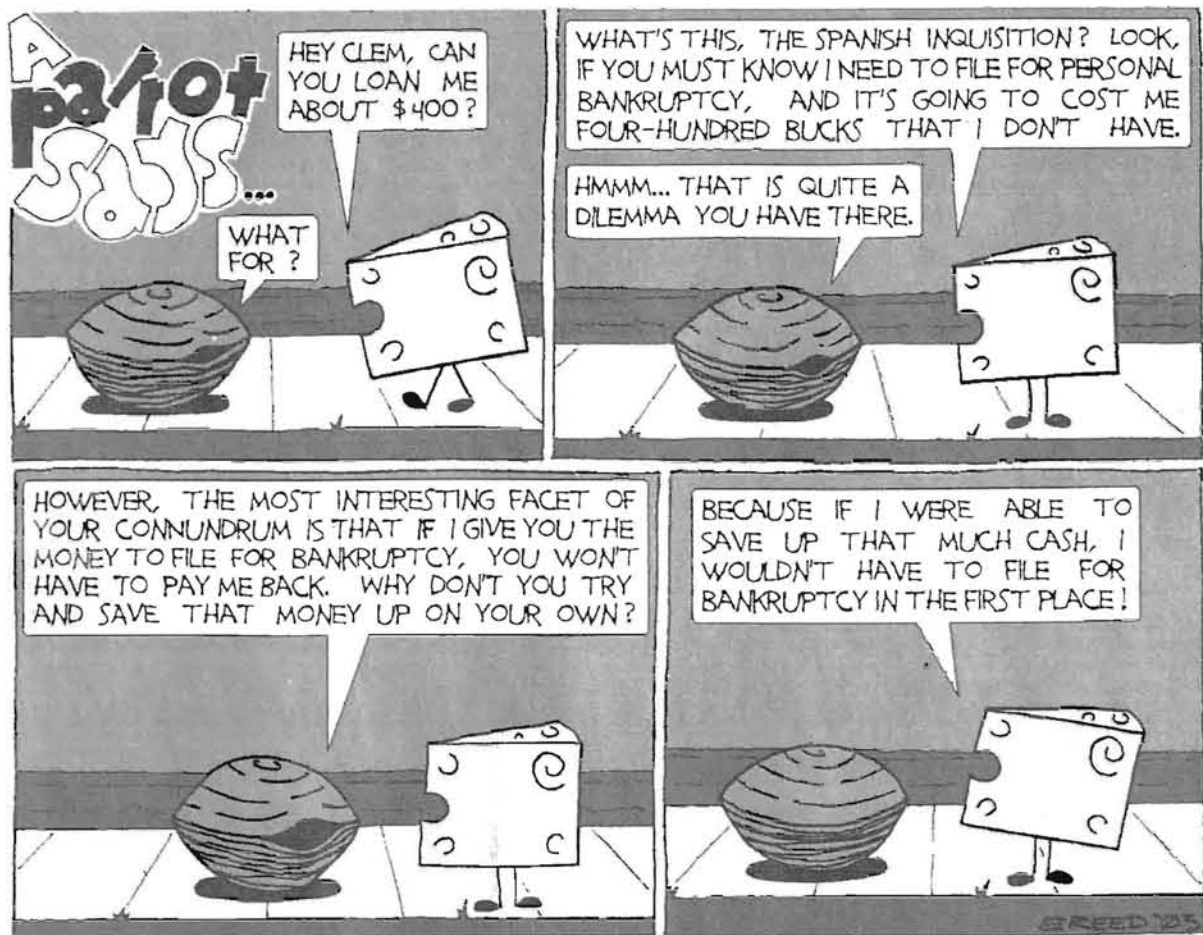


Michael Pelikan/ The Current



ABOVE AND RIGHT:

The ever-versatile UM-St. Louis Chancellor Thomas George joins the University Jazz Ensemble on the tune "Splanky" by Neal Hefti, during a performance Thursday evening at the Performing Arts Center. The Ensemble, led by professor John Southall, included Jason Hanson on tenor sax, Joshua Collins on guitar and Robert Johnson II on the vibraphone.



SO...
psychology, huh?



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<http://www.TheCurrentOnline.com> current@jinx.umsl.edu

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