



Killing was never this much fun. See page 12

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UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI - ST. LOUIS

Vote is unanimous

Anti-bias policy now includes sexual orientation

BY BECKY ROSNER
News Editor

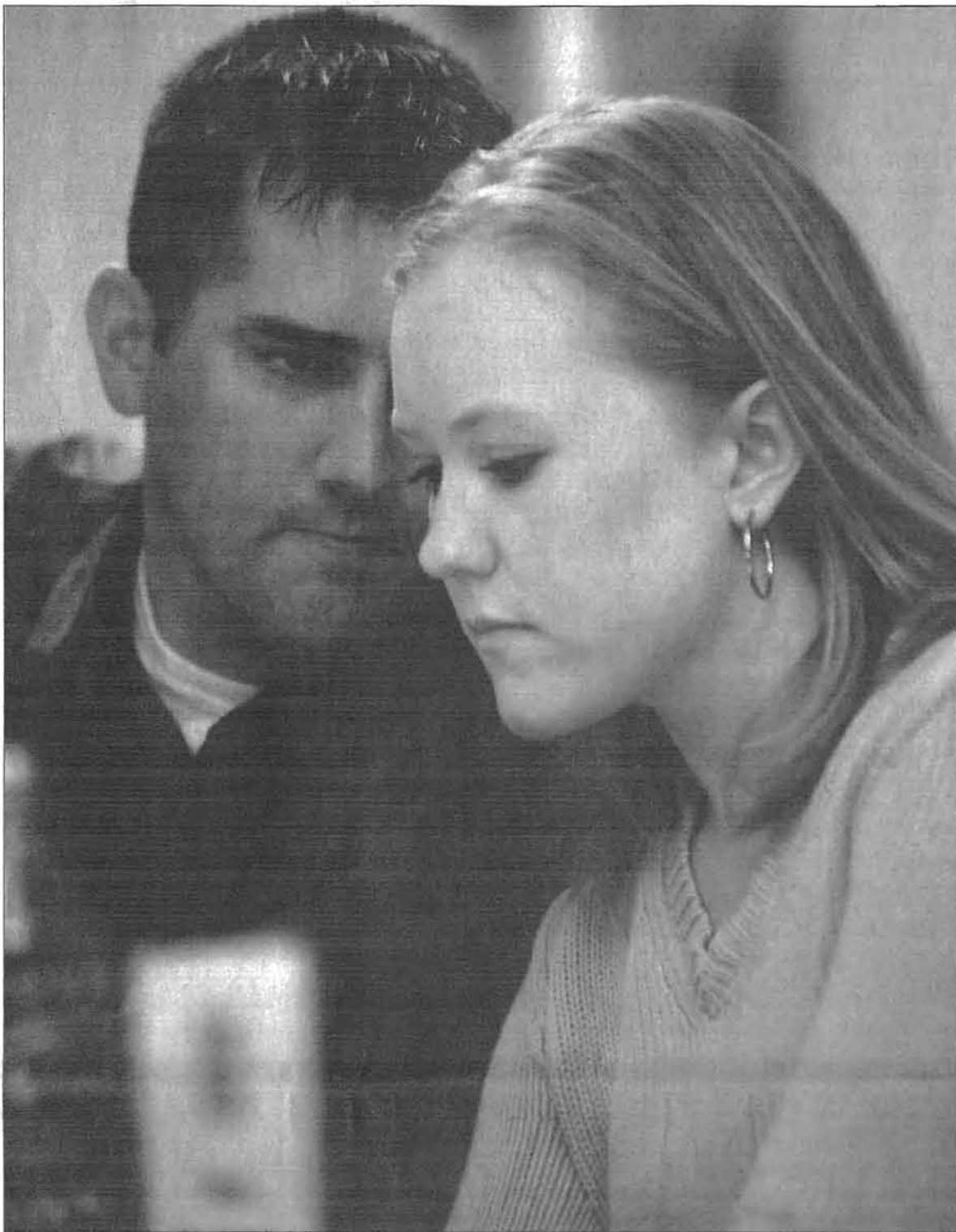
On Thursday morning, the Board of Curators unanimously voted to include sexual orientation in the anti-bias policy. Members of the board met at UM-St. Louis to announce the passage.

At the meeting, the sexual orientation policy was first on the agenda. Along with the Board of Curators, also present were the Inter-Student Council members. Protesters were expected because problems have occurred in the past with the issue. Police were on hand, but no objectors showed up.

Not many people showed up to the meeting; however, press was present. It only took a matter of about five minutes for the policy to be unanimously voted in. Of the nine curators, only two posed questions publicly. They have been discussing the issue for quite some time.

According to Kristy Runde, Student Government Association president, this issue has been around for almost a decade. They tried to pass the policy back in 1999; however, there were some problems and the clause was not passed. "It was a big deal for us, that the student governments on all three campuses could pass something like this," Runde said.

see CURATORS, page 3



Mike Sherwin/The Current

David Dodd, chairman of the Student Government Association, and Kristy Runde, president of SGA, confer during the monthly SGA meeting held Friday afternoon. Runde says students have been trying to pass a sexual orientation non-discrimination policy since at least 1999.

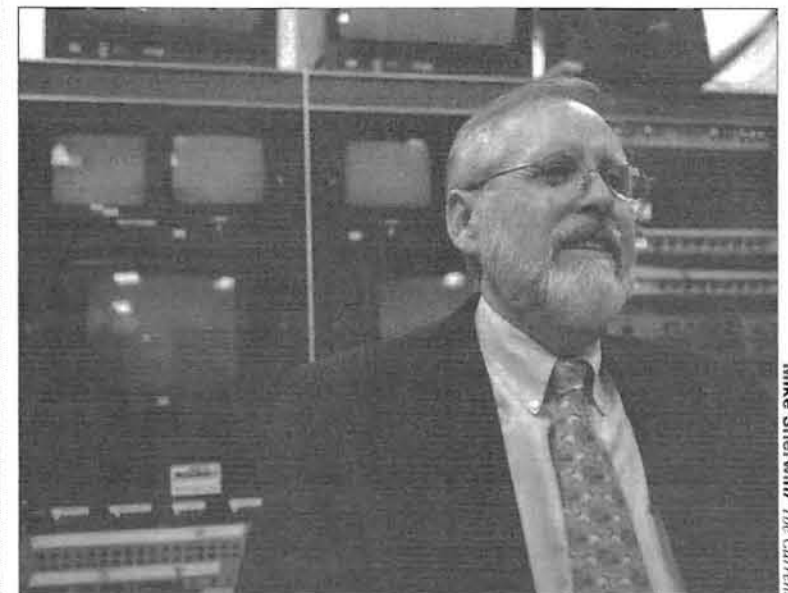
Murray given Kobre Award

BY BECKY ROSNER
News Editor

On Oct. 4, Mike Murray, curators' professor of communications, was presented with the Sidney Kobre Award. The American Journalism

scholar in the field of broadcasting history," Sloan said.

The Sidney Kobre Award is presented on the basis of a lifetime contribution, by the professor, in the field of mass communication history. The award honors the late Dr. Sidney Kobre, who was the initial recipient of



Mike Sherwin/The Current

Michael Murray, curators' distinguished teaching professor of communication, recently received the Sidney Kobre Award for Lifetime Contributions to the field of mass communication history.

Historians Association sponsors the award.

This award is the association's greatest honor. AJHA President Patrick Washburn made the presentation at the annual national convention in Billings, Mont. Since the award was created in 1985, only seven individuals have received recognition.

David Sloan, professor of journalism at the University of Alabama, nominated Murray. Sloan has known Murray since 1982 through the AJHA and his publications. "He has been a longtime member of the American Journalism Historians Association and instrumental to its success, along with being a noted

the honor. Part of the focus of the organization is to share information and research on mass communication history.

Murray has been in AJHA since its creation, and he also knew Kobre from the organization. Sloan has also been in the group since the beginning and has many reasons for nominating Murray for this prestigious award. "He is an outstanding and prolific scholar, and he has played a significant role in the history of the AJHA," Sloan said.

For about 20 years, Murray has taught communications at UM-St. Louis.

see MURRAY, page 3

Buzzing in MSC to continue for now

BY NICHOLE LECLAIR
Managing Editor

A loud buzzing noise has been emanating from room 297 in the Millennium Student Center for weeks. The source, a defective transformer, will be replaced near the beginning of November. Some MSC employees are already counting the days.

Though most visitors to the MSC take note of the unusual sound, they are able to move out of range when it becomes too much of an aggravation. This is not so for MSC employees who are exposed to the noise for the duration of their shifts. For some, the incessant drone is nearly unbearable.

"It's driving me crazy," said Amanda Bullock, financial sales representative for UMB Bank. "Every time I go out to the bathroom, every time they open that door [to the maintenance closet], I notice it even more and wonder 'what is that noise?' It's giving me headaches."

Jessica Viox, graduate student, human resources, and sales associate at the University Bookstore, is annoyed but tolerant. "You kind of get used to it," she said. "I'm tuning it out right now. Some days are worse than others, and today is a pretty quiet one. We are all just hoping it stops soon."

Bill Warren, general maintenance supervisor for facilities services, says that it will. "We've got another test or two to run, and another couple of weeks before a new one comes in," he said. "Then we'll schedule an [electrical] outage and replace it."

A transformer is a device that changes incoming electrical current into usable voltage. According to Warren, "All transformers have an inherent humming coming from them, but not like this."

Although the transformer was new in 2000 when the MSC opened, Warren is not surprised by the malfunction. "Transformers don't have a life," he explained. "I've seen them go for 20 years or after one."

Besides the general annoyance of the noise, some employees were concerned that whatever was wrong in the electrical/data room might be a safety hazard. "I was scared it was going to blow up," said Bullock.

According to Warren, the transformer does not pose a hazard to the public or service workers. "There is no chance of fire or explosion, and no one is going to be electrocuted," he said.

Though technically harmless, the transformer will continue to pain nearby workers until it can be replaced.

Whad'Ya Know? at the PAC



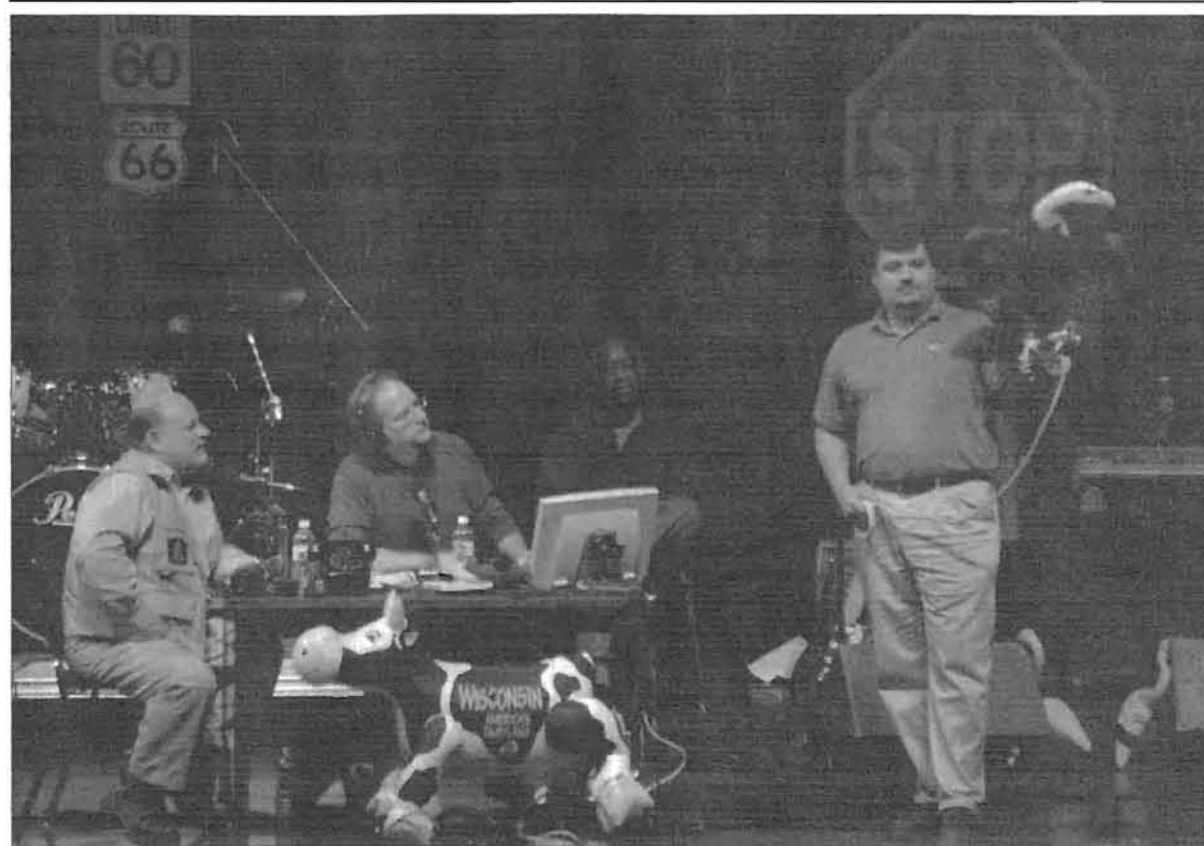
Michael Pelikan/The Current

ABOVE:

Michael Feldman, host of NPR's Whad'Ya Know? radio program, asks for a volunteer from the audience during a taping of the show Oct. 12 at the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center.

RIGHT:

Michael Feldman interviews Walt Crawford, Founder and Executive director of the World Bird Sanctuary, while numerous birds are brought out on stage, including Patriot, a bald eagle.



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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.

**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.

**Mon 20
Monday Noon Series**

"Protecting the Brazilian Cerrado: Why Wetland Conservation is Really Upland Conservation," is the title of the Monday Noon Series this week. The Monday Noon Series is every Monday from 12:15 p.m. to 1:15 p.m. in room 229 in the J.C. Penney Conference Center. Doug Ladd, director of conservation science for The Nature Conservancy of Missouri, explains the critical conservation importance of the Cerrado region and its role in maintaining globally significant wetland and aquatic habitat.

**20
Music department**

Premiere Performances - La Venexiana is from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Sheldon Concert Hall. The event is free and open to the public. For more info., call 516-5776 or 516-5980.

**Mon 20 (cont.)
Career Services**

An interviewing techniques workshop is from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. in room 278 MSC. The workshop is for students and is free, though advanced registration is required. To enroll, call 516-5111 or go to Career Services at 278 MSC.

**Tues 21
Counseling Services**

A Pictionary Night is being held at 7 p.m. in the Villa North Community Room. Food and drink will be served. Also, there will be attendance gifts as well as prizes for the winning team. For more information, contact Jamie Linsin at Counseling Services at 516-5711.

**21
Bible study**

Christ Christian Center is holding a Bible study at 7:30 p.m. at Embassy Suites Hotel (Inter. 70 & Lindbergh), 11237 Lone Eagle Drive St. Louis, MO 63044 (314) 739-8929.

Put it on the Board!

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

**Tues 21 (cont.)
Des Lee lecture**

Wolf Gruner presents "Our Tormentor was not the Pharaoh, it was Hitler: Forced Labor of Jews in Nazi Europe. The lecture is in the Century Rooms of the MSC. A reception begins at 6 p.m. and the lecture begins at 7 p.m. The event is sponsored by the Des Lee Collaborative Vision and Student Life. For more information, call 516-5267.

**21
Campus 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.

**Wed 22
International Center for Tropical Ecology**

The Jane and Whitney Harris Lecture begins at 7:30 p.m. at the Shoenberg Auditorium at the Missouri Botanical Garden. The lecture is sponsored by the International Center for Tropical Ecology. For more information, contact Megan Over at 516-5446.

**22
Amnesty International**

Do you want to be a human rights advocate? Join A.I. Meeting today at 1:30 p.m. in room 313 MSC.

**Thur 23
Center for Humanities**

What is a City? Conference: Places for Children and Youth is from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in 126 J.C. Penney Conference Center. Discussion on the challenges to develop urban neighborhoods, institutions, buildings, and programs that enable children and young people in cities to live healthy, satisfying lives. Reservations for the conference are required. Call 516-5974 to register. For more information, contact Karen Lucas at 516-5699. This event is sponsored by the Center for Humanities.

**Sat 25
Multicultural Relations/ Academic Affairs**

A graduate school information session is from 10 a.m. to noon in room 133 SSB. For more information, call Linda Sharp at 516-6807.

**Sun 26
"Return Journey"**

"Return Journey: Dylan Thomas United States 2003 Commemorative Tour" is at 7:30 p.m. in the J.C. Penney Conference Center Auditorium. For addition information and reservations, call 516-5974. Admission is free and open to the public.

**Sun 26 (cont.)
Haunted Hall**

At the Old Normandy Hospital on South Campus, Haunted Hall is from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. This is a haunted house for children ages 6 to 12. Children must be accompanied by an adult. The hall is also open to UMSL students from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. Bring a bag for candy. For more information, call Amanda at 516-7314. The event is sponsored by RHA, Delta Sigma Pi and UPB.

**Mon 27
Monday Noon Series**

"Restoring the Missouri River" is the title of the Monday Noon Series. Jane Ledwin, fish and wildlife biologist, outlines her efforts as a federal projects biologist, working with states, other federal agencies, and private interests, to restore some of the ecology of the Big Muddy.

**Thur 30
Pre-Vet Club**

An Open Mic Night/Costume party is 6 p.m. to midnight in the Pilot House in the MSC. Amateur and are welcome to come, though need to make reservations in advance. To make reservations, email adffg8@student-mail.umsl.edu.

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The Campus Crimeline

The following criminal incidents were reported to the University of Missouri - St. Louis Police Department during the fall between October 10 and October 17. 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.

October 13 - Stealing over \$500
In room 100 Marillac Hall, a digital camera with

power pack was discovered stolen.

October 14 - Property damage
At 7966 South Florissant Rd., the front door to an apartment was damaged.

October 16 - Stealing over \$500
In room 107 of the Performing Arts Center, a wallet was stolen from an office when it was left unattended.

At University Meadows, apartment 326, a window was broken out.

October 17 - Stealing under \$500
On the 3rd floor of Clark Hall, the soda vending machine was entered and money was taken.

October 16 - Destruction of property

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Costume Contest on Thursday in the Pilot House at 12:00pm.

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•You can also e-mail us at current@jinx.umsl.edu

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United Way campaign nearing campus goal

BY PATRICIA LEE
Staff Writer

On Oct. 17, UM-St. Louis formally wrapped up the annual United Way campaign. The campaign started on Sept. 29 and was originally scheduled to end on Oct. 10 but was extended another week, attempting to reach the campus goal. At the time, approximately \$44,000 had been raised, roughly 80 percent of the goal.

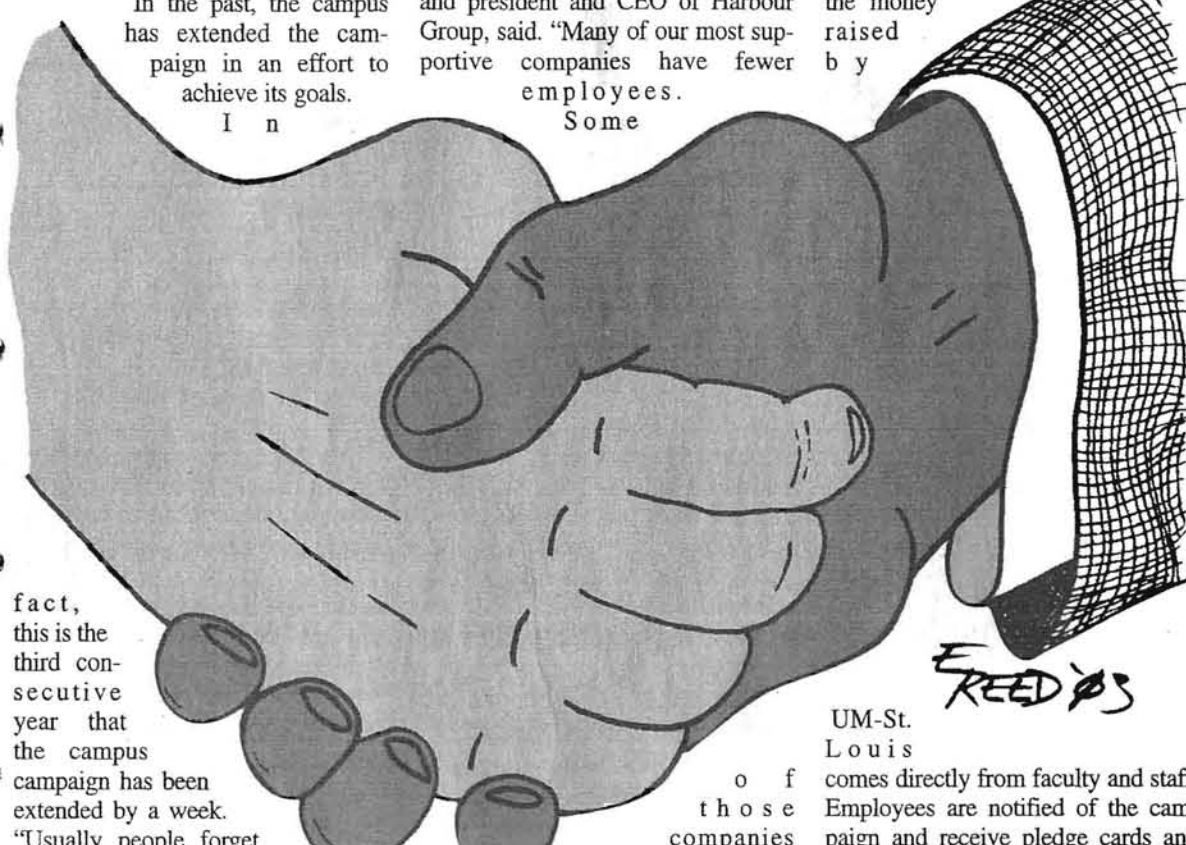
In the past, the campus has extended the campaign in an effort to achieve its goals.

last few years, the increase was minimal. Despite economic difficulties, the University has always reached or exceeded the campaign goals. Rockette does not expect this year to be any different.

While the campus goal has slightly increased, United Way's overall goal has decreased from last year's \$67.5 million to this year's \$6.2 million. "We needed to set a realistic goal in a down economy," Sam Fox, chairman of this year's United Way campaign and president and CEO of Harbour Group, said. "Many of our most supportive companies have fewer employees.

work with United Way. "Organizations have granted the United Way access to workplace fund raising because of its proven record of caring, efficiency, and accountability. United Way is accountable to its donors [and] has a system of monitoring and reviewing agencies and their programs," Brian Flinchbaugh, director of communications for the St. Louis chapter of the United Way, said.

Nearly all of the money raised by



fact, this is the third consecutive year that the campus campaign has been extended by a week. "Usually people forget or were out of the office, so having the extra week helps," Steffanie Rockette, special assistant to the Vice Chancellor for University Relations, said. "By announcing an extra week, it allows people to remember about it and give if they want. Even when it ends, for about 3 to 4 weeks after the actual end date of our personal campaign here on campus, we usually have donations come in."

This year, the campus goal was \$56,000, a slight increase from last year's \$55,000. The University's goal usually increases based on across-the-board pay raises among staff and faculty. Since pay stayed the same for the

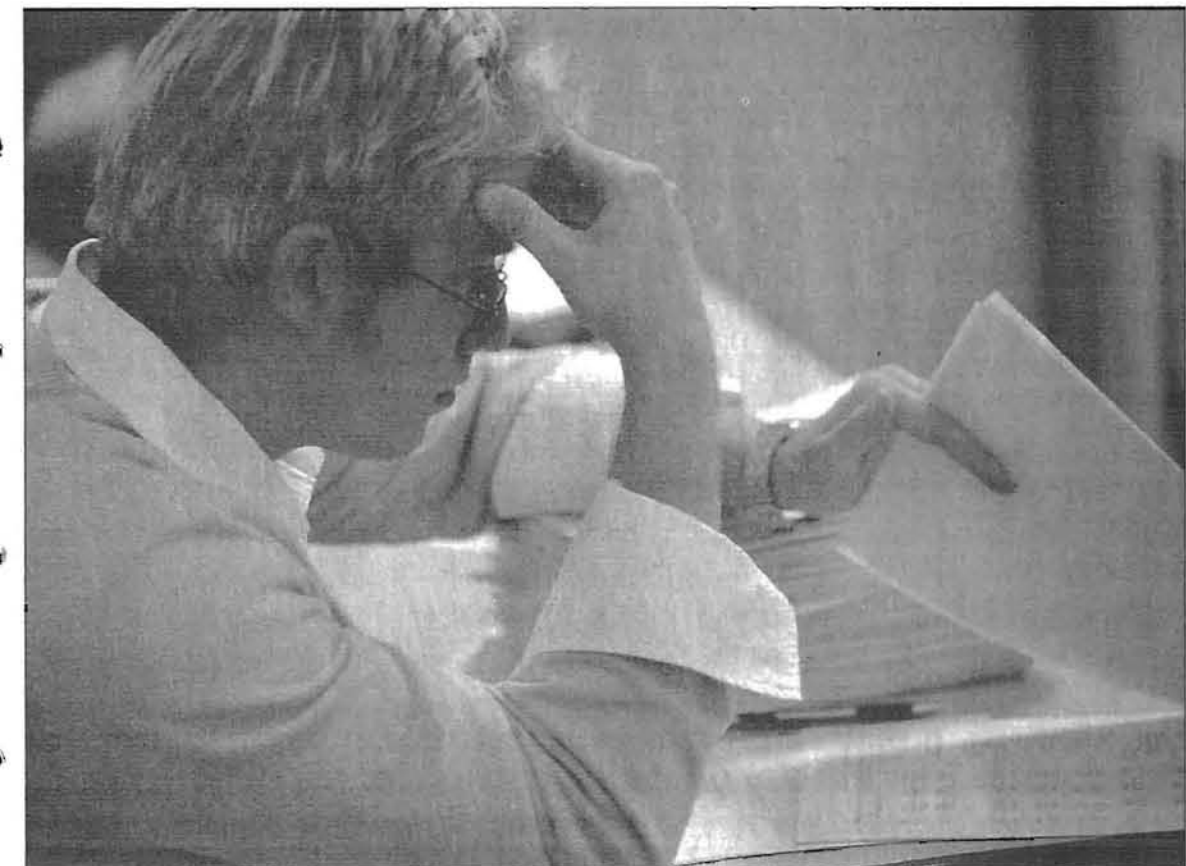
of those companies don't even exist anymore." UM-St. Louis has participated as an organization in the United Way campaign since 1977. One of the reasons the University chooses to give to this organization is because United Way covers more than 200 health and human service agencies in the St. Louis region. "It's a lot easier to give to one entity that encompasses so many. As a public institution, you can't say one is better than the other; we just try to remain as giving as possible to all of the agencies in the region," Rockette said.

The University is one of numerous organizations in the bi-state area that

comes directly from faculty and staff. Employees are notified of the campaign and receive pledge cards and information about the organizations that are involved in the United Way. Those who choose to participate can then make a donation through a gift or a payroll deduction. They can even choose which United Way agency to give to. United Way, according to the individual agency's needs, distributes funds not specified for a particular agency.

While it welcomes money from students as well, UM-St. Louis does not solicit monetary donations from students. "We typically don't ask students just because they have a lot going on as it is," Rockette said. "But if they wish to give, that's wonderful. We welcome that."

CURATORS, from page 1



Joe Flees, coordinator with Student Life and Alumni Relations, looks through paperwork during the SGA's monthly meeting held Friday afternoon. SGA has passed resolutions for the policy, but this will be the first time that the policy has been put into effect.

The policy states that the UM System will not discriminate against anyone for his or her sexual orientation. This is being added to the anti-discrimination policy of the system. Issues such as age, race, disabilities and sex are examples of non-discrimination policy previously noted by the University. The policy will affect students, staff and faculty.

Not everyone agrees with the passage of the policy. Different beliefs of people are always controversial. "I'm very happy to see that this went through; it's something that everyone has been fighting for," Runde said. "I know there are mixed feelings on it because everyone has different beliefs for it."

SGA has passed resolutions for the policy, but this will be the first time that the policy has been put into effect. All of the other UM campuses have also passed similar resolutions, but have never gone through. The majority of most other public research universities have already passed such policies.

Board members, as well as UM System President Elson Floyd are all new, since the issue arose about five years ago. SGA members can be recognized for bringing the issue up time

and time again, to the passage of it. With this amendment, some feel that they will be able to become more open with sexual orientation issues. "I think that we need to have an open

campus where we can all feel welcomed and feel that we can be here and get an education without having to worry about what people think or are saying," Runde said.

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Lunching with Legislator Coleman

BY JESSE GATER
Staff Writer

Senator Maida Coleman (D), assistant minority floor leader, was the guest speaker at "Lunch with a Legislator" held on Tuesday, Oct. 14, in the Grand Tier Lobby of the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center.

The event, sponsored by the Associated Students of the University of Missouri, gave attendees the opportunity to hear the senator's views and ask her questions.

Coleman, who represents the fifth Senatorial District, and who sits on various committees, discussed legisla-

tion that she has sponsored or co-sponsored while she has been in office.

One of the topics broached by ASUM was Coleman's view on changing the age requirements to run for Missouri state offices. Currently, the age to run for the Missouri State Senate is 30, and 25 for the Missouri House of Representatives. The proposed legislation would lower these ages to 25 and 21, respectively. "My feeling is if we can send eighteen-year-olds off to hold guns to protect our liberties and freedoms, we sure in the heck can let them run for office," said Coleman.

The topic changed to education when Beth Grindstaff, vice president

of the Student Government Association, asked Senator Coleman to give her views on the prospect of higher education being cut in the next legislative session.

Coleman, a member of the Appropriation Committee, responded, "This year was worse than last year, and I expect next year to be worse." She added that, in the 2002-2003 fiscal year budget, higher education was cut, but not elementary or secondary education. She feels that if they are to make these drastic cuts, they have to cut everybody. One group or agency should not be expected to absorb the full measure. She also said the original cuts in correction were not enough.



Senator Maida Coleman, Assistant Minority Floor Leader, addresses those who attended the "Lunch with a Legislator" Tuesday, October 14, which was held in the Grand Tier Lobby of the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center. The Luncheon was sponsored by the ASUM.

MURRAY, from page 1

For about 20 years, Murray has taught communications at UM-St. Louis. This is just one of the many other awards that he has obtained. In 1986, Murray was president of AJHA and was able to present Kobre with the very first award. "He was very grateful for the honor and a great role model for people like me who teach mass communication history," Murray said.

Attending school at UMColumbia, Murray obtained his Ph.D. in 1974. He worked at the University of Louisville before coming to UM-St. Louis. He founded the communication program there, allowing many students to choose that campus for their degree.

Awards from the National

Communications Association, International Radio and Television Society and author or editor of six books, 26 journal articles and 40 book reviews, are just some of Murray's accomplishments. "His college teaching career has spanned 29 years and has been a distinguished one, recognized by a variety of organizations with awards for his teaching excellence," Sloan said in his nomination letter.

His articles and reviews have appeared in American Journalism, Journalism and Mass Communication Quarterly, Journalism History, Journal of Communication and many others. Murray accepted the Missouri Governor's Award for Teaching

Excellence from Governor Mel Carnahan.

Also nominated by students, Sloan was not the only person to recognize Murray. Murray stressed how much of an honor it is to see that students are recognizing him. One student wrote, "I always found Dr. Murray's classes stimulating and challenging, but what has always impressed me the most was the individual attention he provided to each student."

Murray said that many people have been congratulating him around the campus. "It's a humbling experience to get these, even if you've been teaching for a long time like I have," Murray said. "It has a big effect on you because you start thinking about the impact you have had on people."

Chiropractic... The Choice For Me

Jason Kucma is a Third-year student from Medford, NJ. He graduated from Ithaca College with a Bachelor's Degree in Exercise Physiology concentrating in Cardiac Rehabilitation.

"The only thing that has ever captured my attention was studying the human body. The more I learned in school, the more I needed to know. The most logical step for me was to become a Doctor of Chiropractic so I could truly help people."

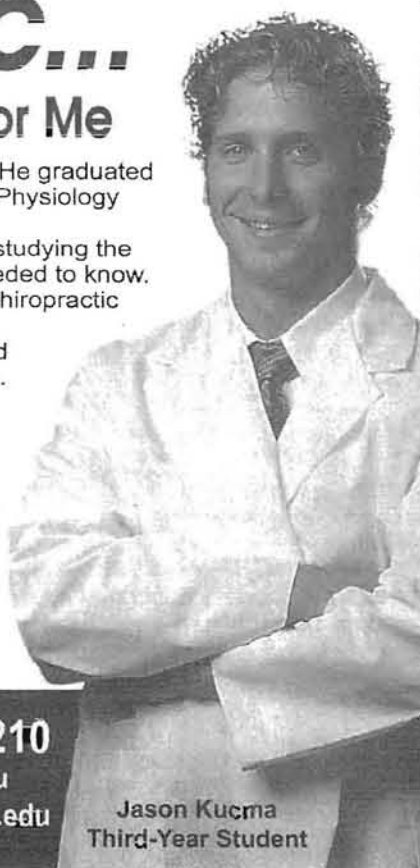
Before making his decision to attend Logan, Jason visited nearly half of the chiropractic colleges in the United States. "Logan is in the perfect location in a safe, residential area. The Admissions staff are very friendly and helpful and the faculty are excellent."

Logan College offers students an incredible learning environment blending a rigorous chiropractic program with diverse and active student population. If you are looking for a healthcare career that offers tremendous personal satisfaction, professional success and income commensurate with your position as a Doctor of Chiropractic, contact Logan College of Chiropractic today and explore your future.



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Jason Kucma
Third-Year Student

OPINIONS

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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.

Under Current

by Kevin Ottley
Photography Director

What is the best Halloween costume ever?

OUR OPINION

Point/Counterpoint

Is the grocery strike justified?

When local 655 UPCW union workers decided to strike on Oct. 8, they were doing what they thought necessary to prove a point. Seventy-two percent of those who attended the meeting voted in favor of the action. They felt that the contract offered was unfair and accepting it would hurt workers in the long run.

One disadvantage to the projected contract was an increase in health care fees. Higher deductibles and co-payments would affect everyone who purchased insurance. No initial raise was offered; instead three 25-cent raises over the next four years were planned. The first raise would not go into effect until July of next year. This raise would only apply to those employees currently making \$9 an hour or more.

For those employees supporting a family, these raises would be insufficient. If the stores are able to pay temporary workers \$10 to \$12.50 an hour, then they should be able to provide their employees with better rates. Shop n' Save employees are striking while

While striking and complaining and boycotting all seem to be an American tradition for attempting to effect change, sometimes one has to swallow one's own principles and desires to be realistic and survive.

Take, for example, the grocery store employees who are on strike or have been locked out (by their labor union and not by their employers as their signs imply) and have a few problems with their reasoning, or lack thereof.

First, during the strike, the employees are earning only \$100 per week. No one can live off that, especially workers who have families.

Second, since we are a capitalist society and a free state, any employee may decide to find a different job that meets his qualifications for a job, whatever those qualifications might be. Polite society is often horrified and looks down upon those who take a job based on its salary, but income potential is a valid qualification.

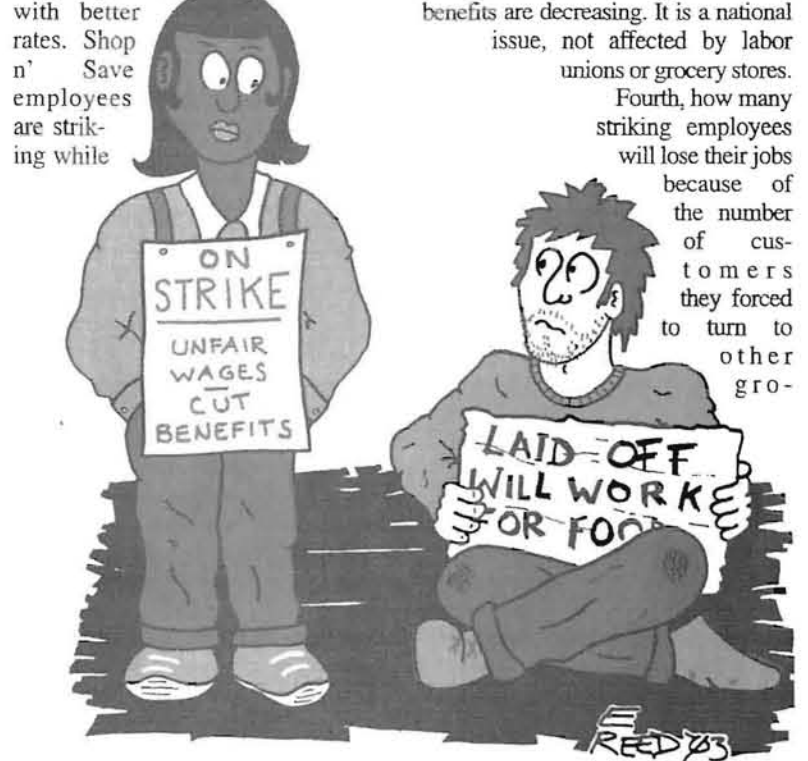
Third, supermarkets do not control insurance rates. Everyone's insurance premiums are increasing while their benefits are decreasing. It is a national issue, not affected by labor unions or grocery stores.

Fourth, how many striking employees will lose their jobs because of the number of customers they forced to turn to other grocery markets?

As for the other people affected by the strikes—the customers—do they really enjoy spending extra money for groceries by shopping at other non-striking grocery stores? While the strikers, presumably, do not mean to add financial stress on those they were hired to help, the picketing means that those who refuse to cross the picket lines must use more of their income to buy food and support themselves and their families.

For those who do cross the picket lines, they will find still mostly well-stocked supermarkets with friendly workers and no lines. Unfortunately, the striking is also affecting the quality of food. Since most areas of the stores have been shut down—deli, butcher, seafood, bakery, etc.—the selection of food is smaller.

So the strikers, who are choosing not to be paid to get salary raises, have hurt the taste and nutrition of the food they were hired to sell and caused financial burden on their past consumers who now shop elsewhere.



employees of Schnucks and Dierbergs are locked out. Some local 655 workers have said that the raise is like a slap in the face because of the seniority that they hold. It would take a clerk approximately five years to reach a rate of \$12.50.

Vendor stocking was to go into effect, causing some workers' positions to become obsolete. Departments such as liquor would be affected under this change. Another downside to the contract was the addition of work hours on New Year's Day. In the past, the store has been closed for Christmas Day, Thanksgiving, Easter and New Year's Day. Under the proposed contract, workers would only be left with three holidays to spend with their families.

Overall, the local 655 employees did what was right in voting down the contract. They have to draw a line somewhere and with the increases in health care and ridiculous pay raises, workers were justified in what they have chosen to do.

The issue

The grocery strike is affecting pretty much everyone in St. Louis, from workers to consumers. Everyone has his or her opinions on whether it is good or bad, but in the end, everyone loses with a strike this large, both workers and consumers.

We suggest

One way or the other the strike needs to end. The workers feel they are in the right, while the store operators feel they are in the right. It is a quandry that accompanies all strikes.

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.

People at UMSL you should know

UM-St. Louis is a pretty big school. With enrollment sitting somewhere in the vicinity of 16,000 students, it's easy for students to overlook some important people who do a lot for the school and do their best to help in any way they can. So I am going to highlight some people who may not get the recognition they deserve.

Joe Flees, Student Government Association immediate adviser and coordinator for the vice chancellor of student affairs

Joe spent last year working as the director of the Alumni Office and has stepped into his new position this year. Flees is one of those guys who goes about his business quietly and does not demand the spotlight, but he is an invaluable asset to the University. Oftentimes he has projects and jobs tossed in his lap and he takes them on without complaint. An advocate of this newspaper, Flees has been willing to step up to the plate when it is something he believes in. On top of that, he seems to have a never-ending supply of nifty sweaters.

Adam Schwadron, SGA vice chairman

Most people who have heard of Adam Schwadron know him as one of the candidates in last year's SGA presidential debacle. However, Schwadron works his tail off for this school and does not get near the credit he deserves for doing so. As SGA vice chair, he wields a fair amount of power without abusing it. He has the best interests of the students at heart and he is always willing to hear a student's complaints and will offer to help, or at the least some advice, when he can. If he does not know, he can direct students to someone who does. He also works for the Associated Students of the University of Missouri, so he has some

experience fighting for the students. Schwadron is proof positive that Republicans can be compassionate.

Joyce Mushaben, director of the Institute for Women's and Gender Studies

Joyce Mushaben has come to the forefront of student advocacy in recent weeks with the incident of the pervert in the Clark Hall bathroom but even before then she was always quick to join the fray if there was even a hint of someone's rights being violated. As a professor of political science, she really knows her stuff when it comes to the American political scene. She is an invaluable source of information ranging from foreign policy and presidential working to women's suffrage and human rights.

Thomas George, chancellor of UM-St. Louis

The new kid on the block, George does a number of things most students never hear about. I am fortunate to be in the position I am as it makes me privy to a lot of information the bulk of the student body does not hear about, and when it comes to George, all I've heard so far are rave reviews. The few times I have talked to him, he has been extremely helpful and quick to help when he can. If this is not a façade (which I doubt it is, since he seems very sincere), then UM-St. Louis may finally have a chancellor who is for the students rather than new buildings and grants. And he is also unafraid to wear a tie-dyed T-shirt and cut-off shorts.

There are several others on this campus who do not get the credit they deserve. Those of us in more visible positions (such as myself) should do our best to point out the hard work they do. They make our jobs much easier and are always willing to help out in any way they can.



JASON GRANGER
Editor-in-Chief

Midterm apathy, anyone?

I made a tuna casserole this week. No, I do not have children. No, I wasn't forced. Yes, it was just for me. There were no witnesses to this crime against my generation, but I feel the need to confess. This is due to my recognition that, though far from a sign of the Apocalypse, something has gone more than a little wrong.

Now hold on there, casserole lovers. I mean no harm to this humble and, well, squishy dish. My concern is less with consumption and more with production. Think carefully now. What could it mean when a solitary woman, still clinging to her (albeit dwindling) 20s, and surrounded by restaurants, chooses to concoct a twenty-serving

food item best known for grossing out children and making Spam look attractive? Simple answer: Midterm Apathy. In case you are not yet familiar with the phenomenon, Midterm Apathy is characterized by extreme lethargy, inefficiency, guilt, boredom and the acute awareness that you have at least as much work ahead of you as behind. It has been known to cause strange deviations from normal behavior—especially deviations that allow a student to feel productive and virtuous while wasting impressive periods of time.

At this point where studying becomes serious and assignments closer and heavier, you realize you cannot see the end of it all. It's too horrible to think that every day, every week, will be lived in this frantic/sleep-deprived/sluggish state for the duration. You've got too much work and guilt to actually enjoy yourself if you go out, but you just end up cooking,

cleaning or writing letters to fourth cousins if you stay home.

The fire has died, friends. While hard-core partying will probably not set you back on track, neither will earnestly telling your friends that you are staying in to study, when you know you will be cleaning your fridge or picking your toes while you stare at a blank screen and blinking cursor.

So get out. Set a time, make a plan, just get out and do something—gasp—recreational. I know, I know, this is risky. You are either worried that you will be too distracted to enjoy yourself, or that you will lose all willpower and never get back to work.

You'll flunk out and wander the countryside selling term papers and creating bad street art. If no one is nearby to slap you, please oblige by doing so yourself. I'll wait...

Better? Good. Now take your glassy-eyed and cheerless self out for a couple of hours. Whisper to your subconscious the following: 1.) It would take me two hours to clean/write to/pick at my [fill in blank] anyway; 2.) I will be refreshed; 3.) I will be more efficient upon my return, and 4.) As long as I know when I'm coming back (functional), I can avoid the guilt of leaving my work.

Yeah, yeah, I know, you don't have time. That's what I said about going out for dinner. Two minutes to a store or restaurant, about 40 minutes for the casserole. Made sense at the time, and for the following two days, and...well, once you've eaten it for breakfast cold, you've already confirmed your instability. Believe me, you don't have time not to take a break.



NICHOLE LECLAIR
Managing Editor

What's your opinion?

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

- The grocery strike
- People you should know
- Midterm apathy

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



Jillian Collins
Freshman,
Criminal Justice

I like the classical Michael Myers costume.



Patrick Judge
Freshman,
Criminology

One year this kid wore a scream mask that oozed blood. It freaked my mom out.



Whitney Clement
Freshman,
Public Relations

I dressed up as a refrigerator once!



Marcus Payne
Senior,
Marketing

I think the Freddy Krueger costume is the best one.

File trading for biologists Should there be a Napster for science?



BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER
Science Columnist

science research you want. If your university doesn't subscribe to a particular publication, there are exchange programs with other universities that will get you the information with a little more effort. There is the issue of scientists in less technologically advanced countries, but here again there is more access to the information than the cover price of the journals would lead you to believe. You could hardly be a graduate student in, say, tropical ecology, if you didn't have access to the latest research in your field. Impoverished graduate students cannot afford to buy these journals, so the school provides them, and you pay for the subscription through your student fees.

The price of the journals to those who want to read the research is how these publications are funded. The research articles in the journals are submitted to the journal for peer-review, which means a panel of experts in the field of study reviews the research to be published and determines if it is worthy of publication. The most prestigious journals have the most stringent review before publication. A paper that passes review and gets published is an accomplishment and can make or break a career. You know that old saying, "publish or perish"? But the researchers who submit articles do not pay to be published and are not paid by the journal. The funds to cover publication costs and to pay the review panel come from the journal's subscribers.

There has been a gathering trend that questions this old practice of those who consume the research information paying for publishing costs, especially since the journals receive the articles free from the authors. The new Internet inspired trend towards instant information exchange is already starting to take place in physics, where papers are often posted online prior to submission for publication in a journal, and a few journals that publish freely online have already been started before the launch of the PloS site. The organization also intends to launch a second journal in mid-2004.

While there are plenty of parallels to Napster, these are also very different situations. The two big questions that have to be asked are: Is this free-access option really needed and what will be the costs behind it?

The fact that penniless grad students can access this information makes the first issue look questionable. Actually, anyone can gain access to a great deal of the information, but one does need connection to a university or a business willing to pay for the subscription to have complete access to information. That means it is generally available to students, professors and professionals in the field and less so to the general lay public. Since it is available to those doing the scientific work, it doesn't seem to be a barrier to the kind of information exchange needed to spur scientific discovery. In fact, patents and proprietary restrictions on private research are the greater barrier to free exchange of information.

Nothing is ever really free; somebody has to pay the costs to publish these scientific journals. The new journal provides free access to anyone who wants to read it online, so the reader at the end is not the one who pays, as is exactly the case for the traditional journals. For the new journals, the scientists whose research is published pay the fees. The costs involved include the printing costs as well as editing and layout and the costs of peer-review. Peer-review means that distinguished scientists, whose credentials are well established, read and evaluate the quality of the research in the paper and decide as

a group, using the criteria of the publication, if this particular paper is good enough to appear in the journal.

In the traditional journal, any struggling grad student can submit a paper. There is no cost to the scientist; the paper and research just has to be good enough. Of course, the student or researcher had to get funding to do the research, but paying for this final step is not part of their cost. That means they do not pay the salaries of the peer-review panel, the editors or graphic designers, or the printing costs. Since publication is essential for career advancement in science, having a paper published in a prestigious journal is highly competitive. The top journals receive many more submissions than they could possibly publish. Of course, the competitive nature of publication means high-quality research work. Papers that do not get published in the top journals might find a niche in a less well-known journal, or the researcher tries to polish the work for another issue.

In free-access journals, the costs of publication are borne by the researchers who hope to publish, not the readers. The cost for publication of a single article may be fairly high, compared to the costs of journals to readers but several organizations that fund research have said that they would include cost of publication in grants. However, for scientists working on research that is in a less high-profile field where funding is scarce, this could produce a barrier to publication. The new free-to-readers approach might narrow the variety of research about which scientists can read.

Another side to the issue has to do with the quality of the research published. In the Napster case, there were artists who felt shut out by record company control of the kinds of music released. Unfortunately, this comes close to self-publishing. Here's another analogy. Right now, most fiction books are published because a publisher thinks they will sell, but a few are self-published or put out by "vanity presses." In these cases, if the author has the money to cover the costs, the book gets published, whether it is good or not. Some great books might be published this way, but bad ones are published too. Peer-review acts as a gatekeeper of quality in scientific journals. The standards are stricter in the top journals but there are journals that provide outlets for other papers that might not get into those top journals. There are already science publication outlets without peer-review but, not surprisingly, these don't gain the authors any publishing credit with their science peers. Skipping this step in free-access journals will have the same effect as it has in traditional journals: Those publications just would not be regarded with the same level of respect.

The likely effect is that free-online journals will be an outlet for well-funded research. Well-funded research usually means private industry-funded research. Since the information in traditional scientific journals is available to most researchers, especially those associated with universities, it seems unlikely that there really is a research information bottleneck. Since the new free-access concept seems popular with big-bucks organizations that fund research, organizations that have profit motives, it raises questions about the motives behind the push toward these new journals. The industries involved opposed Napster and continue to challenge open source coding. That's not the case for free-access science journals, so we can guess there is likely a profitable agenda behind them.

The best album that you've never heard

This week: Alice Cooper's "Greatest Hits"

BY JASON GRANGER
Editor-in-Chief

There are some acts out there that are greatest-hits bands. What does that mean? It means if you take all their hits and stick them on an album, you will have one incredible album. One such act is Alice Cooper (the group, not the individual, though the two are not mutually exclusive). I like Alice Cooper, but not enough to buy all his albums, so I went out and bought his greatest-hits compilation that was released in 1974. Featuring all the Alice Cooper you could want, there is some great rock and roll here.

The album starts out with one of the best teenage angst songs of all time. "I'm Eighteen" is right up there with "My Generation" by The Who and "Smells Like Teen Spirit" by Nirvana. In this song, Alice Cooper (the lead singer of the band Alice Cooper), talks about the confusion of being 18, being stuck in the middle of manhood and boyhood. The chorus tells us "I'm 18 and I don't know what I want/I'm 18 and I just don't know what I want/18 and I gotta get away." 18 is such a confounding age and this song illustrates that point clearly. You really get the feeling that Alice is about to crack up when he sings "I've got a baby's brain and an old man's heart/Took 18 years to get this far/Don't always know what I'm talking about/Feels like I'm living in

the middle of doubt." Those of you who are still 18 will find it very easy to associate with this song.

Next up on our list is the classic anti-school song "School's Out." Regarded on the same level as Pink Floyd's "Another Brick in the Wall pt. II" (the "we don't need no education" song for

been blown to pieces," which is a great thought at that age? This is definitely a song to rock to.

Finally, we will discuss "No More Mr. Nice Guy," Alice Cooper's best song (as a group or solo). Made popular again by the cult film "Dazed and Confused," this is one of my all-time favorite songs. I cannot help but turn up my stereo when it comes on. This song is vintage Cooper, loud guitars and good lyrics with a hint of humor thrown in for good measure. This song is a story of the former goody-goody Alice Cooper who has become a bad ass when he discovers nice guys finish last.

In the best lyrics in the song, Cooper sings "My dog bit me on the leg today/My cat clawed my eyes/Mom's been thrown out of the social circle/Dad has to hide/I went to church/Incognito when everybody rose/The Rev. Smith said he recognized me/And punched me in the nose/No more Mr. Nice Guy/No more Mr. Clean/He said 'You're sick, you're obscene.'"

In recent years, Cooper appeared to be doing everybody else's music but his own. In the '80s, he even tried to be a hair-metal singer. I recently heard his new song, "Novocain," and I am glad to report that he is returning to his roots: flat out rock and roll. Until his new album comes out, content yourself with his greatest hits, it's a flat out good time.



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

Who will lead the Blues in scoring this season?

Keith Tkachuk	33%
Doug Weight	0%
Pavol Demitra	0%
Petr Sejna	0%
Al MacInnis	0%
Chris Pronger	33%
Someone else	33%

Results via www.thecurrentonline.com

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

More breast cancer awareness

Dear Editor,
I just wanted to bring to the attention of all another breast cancer awareness campaign that was not mentioned in the most recent edition of The Current. Attached is the information for The Judy Ride, a foundation dedi-

cated to the early detection and prevention of breast cancer. They have a record of putting 95% of funds raised into research and mammograms for un- and underinsured women in the St. Louis area as well as some outreach to far reaching areas such as the bootheel

where people cannot afford to go to doctors much less have a mammogram.
Thanks for the forum to share our cause!
Dawn Ruehl

Dear editor:
BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH
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BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH
BLAH

Sincerely,
BLAH BLAH BLAH

Write a letter to the editor!

current@jinx.umsu.edu

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Segregation never went away, it just became illegal

Dear Editors:
Your editorial about segregation making a comeback implies that at some point it ceased to exist. You are correct about legal segregation being outlawed in the 1960's, but self-imposed segregation has continued to exist in all of our society. In St. Louis in particular, voluntary segregation appears to be the norm in social and religious life, and few neighborhoods are racially mixed. Even the students in area middle and high schools can be observed gathering together according to race, so no one should be surprised by seeing this same behavior at UMSL.

This is not to say that such behavior is right, only to say that it is not unusual. People tend to socialize with others who share their interests and make them feel comfortable, and they may happen to be of the same race. The students you observed socializing together in the Nosh obviously feel comfortable around each other, and the source of this comfort may well be their shared racial or ethnic background. UMSL's black students make up less than 15% of its 15,000+ total students, and being in the minority can be

difficult to handle. Being in the majority gives one an automatic sense of comfort that a minority student will never know. Just imagine that you are the only white student in a class of thirty minorities, and you will get an idea of how many minority students on campus feel everyday.

This feeling of isolation is one of the reasons why there is a need for clubs like the Associated Black Collegians. When you rhetorically asked how comfortable black students would be at a White Business Student Association meeting, I wondered if you realized that the actual Association is predominantly white? Whites don't need separate clubs, because they already belong to the main club.

Your claim that having separate clubs for minority students is comparable to having separate water fountains is inaccurate, because in the latter there was no freedom of choice. Segregation in U.S. history was about humiliation, degradation, and intimidation, and not just separation. These separate clubs for minorities serve a valuable purpose, and that is to help these students achieve their goals. Certainly, there are many organiza-

tions on campus that offer the same services, and they are adequate for someone in the majority who does not have the added burden of being different. However, minority students, whether you agree or not, may also have special needs such as language difficulties or lack of adequate academic preparation, and they may feel more comfortable getting help from someone who has had similar life experiences. This is why the Disabled Students Organization exists, because they have needs that are different from non-disabled students, and not just physical limitations. The time has not come to abandon these organizations; in fact, there will likely be a need for more of them in the future.

Lastly, please don't interpret minorities socializing together as a sign of racial problems. If I see a group of white students together, I don't assume that they don't associate with minorities. I have friends of all races, but sometimes I happen to eat with people who look like me.

Roz Gomez
Senior
Spanish/Education

FEATURES

EDITOR
KATE DROLET
Features Editor

phone: 516-4886
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Finding your direction with The Compass

BY KATE DROLET
Features Editor

Counseling services offers a variety of resources for students, including academic, personal and career counseling. The organization recently opened a new office on South Campus that will cater to residents.

"One of our goals has been to increase visibility and accessibility on campus," said Jamie Linsin, counseling psychologist and coordinator of outreach for Counseling Services. "In moving to South Campus, I hope that we can open accessibility to students."

Linsin described the new office, known as The Compass, as a place where students can touch base briefly and find information about Counseling Services.

"It is intended as a place where students can ask questions, get information and get referrals," said Linsin.

Staff members of The Compass can provide both on- and off-campus referrals to students seeking counseling.

A variety of pamphlets on topics of concern to college students are available on the wall outside of the office. The information ranges from alcohol to acquaintance rape to academics.

Linsin explained that The Compass is not just for students who are seeking counseling for themselves.

see COUNSELING, page 8

Athletes shine at Midnight Madness

BY ANGELA ASHLEY
Staff Writer

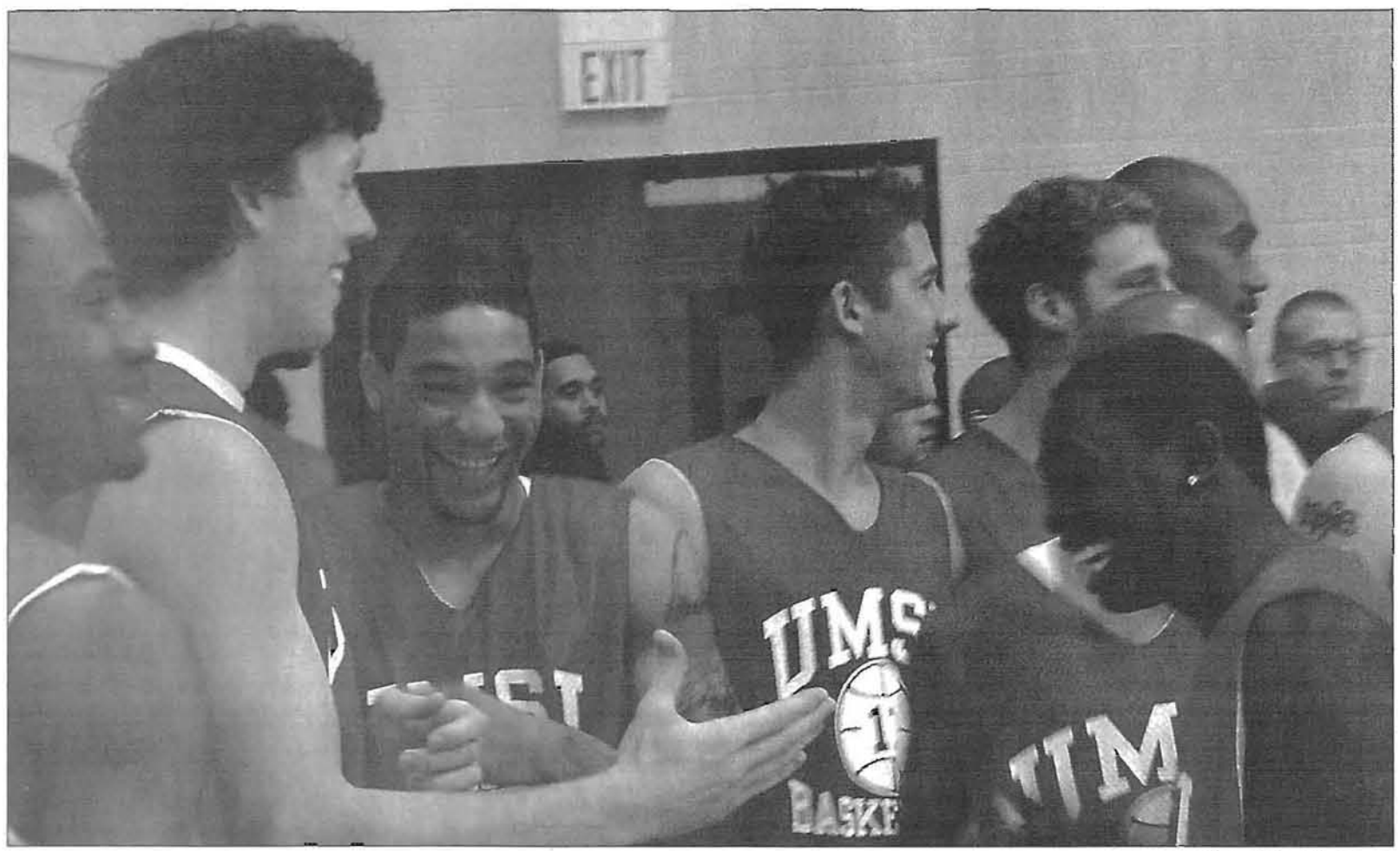
At 10 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 14, nearly 400 UM-St. Louis students gathered in the Mark Twain Building, all waiting for the first ever Midnight Madness to begin.

The night was a collaborative effort, sponsored and hosted by several athletic coaches, faculty and the Office of Student Life.

"I call it the coalition of the willing," said Todd Taylor, admissions officer for the Pierre Laclède Honors College. Prizes and money were collected and donated by different campus organizations, and the event came together in just a few weeks.

Students received raffle tickets at the entrance, and enjoyed free pizza and soda. Activities began at 10:30 p.m. in the gym, and students took their seats in the bleachers to watch. The UM-St. Louis cheerleading squad began the night with a performance.

"The turnout was better than we expected. The performance went great, and the crowd seemed really into it," said Andrea Williams, senior, elementary education.



Kevin Ottley/The Current

UMSL Basketball players indulge in a hearty laugh during Midnight Madness at the Mark Twain Athletic complex. Both men's and women's teams later performed for the 800+ crowd that showed up for the event.

A helping hand: Horizons seeks to educate

BY MELISSA MCCRARY
Features Associate

College life is full of drama, decisions and other daily issues. Students face an ongoing challenge of juggling life and making the right decisions.

The Horizons Peer Educators at UM-St. Louis is a group of dedicated undergraduates whose focus is providing educational resources and helpful issues relevant to college students.

The Horizons motto is "Students Helping Students."

Peer education is yet another way for students to get involved on campus and develop friendships while helping fellow students.

"The peer educators give presentations on stress management, make referrals for students who need more assistance on campus, set up tables on campus that provide information on healthy relationships, communication skills and study skills," said James Linsin, faculty advisor for Horizons.

Currently about 15 people work as peer educators, with five core individuals who are committed to work at least five hours a week on various projects. The other 10 peers put in their time with the group when their schedule allows for it.

Linsin feels that one of the major benefits of Horizons is that students are more likely to listen and hear positive feedback coming from

other students.

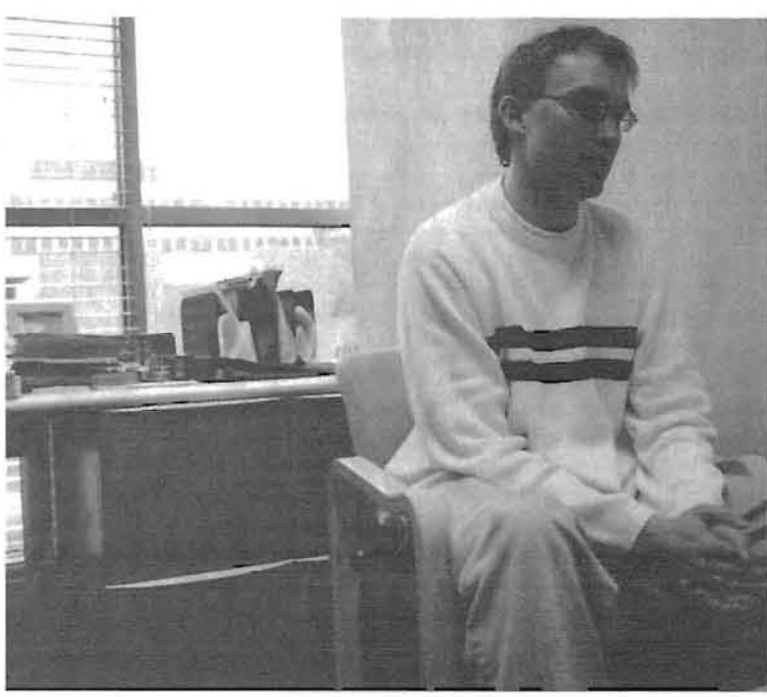
"With many wide-range diverse topics being discussed, there is a greater impact with getting messages across to the college population from other peers of the same age," Linsin said.

The Horizons office is located in the Peer Resource Center, located in room 125 of the Millennium Student Center. The center is next to the offices of the Counseling, Health and Disability Access Services.

This semester, Horizons has assisted with campus events such as the National Depression Screening Week, where the peers handed out informational pamphlets on how to deal with stress; and the Battle of the Sexes, which gave students the chance to relieve stress and have fun.

Christy McElroy, student director for Horizons, decided to become a peer educator because she wanted to get involved on campus. An advertisement recruiting students led her to Horizons.

"After I saw the ad seeking more peer educators, I went and applied for the job because I had belonged to previous activities in high school



Mike Sherman/The Current

Jamie Linsin, a psychologist with Counseling Services, serves as Advisor to the Horizons Peer Educators group.

that were similar with helping others within the community," McElroy said.

Horizons constantly recruits more volunteers. All students are welcome to apply. Those interested in becoming a peer educator can stop by the Peer Resource Office, Counseling Services or visit

www.umsl.edu/studentlife/horizons.com to receive an application. Once a student turns in his or her application, a brief interview will be scheduled and a letter of reference may be required.

Horizons holds weekly meetings on Tuesdays at 3 p.m. Those who are peer educators on a volunteer basis are required to attend one meeting per month.

At the meetings, the educators plan upcoming programs and events in advance. Student involvement and other pertinent subjects are also discussed.

Upcoming events include a winter stress table, which will be held before the winter final exams, and a safe spring break event, which will promote safe and alcohol-free vacations.

Horizons has sponsored and co-sponsored many events at UM-St. Louis in the last year.

"Last year, we held informational booths at UMStL's Mirthday and Expo," said Carlos Tulsie, Horizons' Student Government Association representative. "Some other past exciting events were the Valentines table. That offered ideas for what couples could do and what single people could do. Also, we held a '17 things and places that students could do during winter break'," he said. For more information on Horizons activities, college issues or becoming a peer educator, stop by the Peer Resource Center or call 516-5730.

Res. Life lets loose

BY ANGELA ASHLEY
Staff Writer

The Office of Residential Life at UM-St. Louis houses several hundred students each year. To show residents their appreciation, the office organized a Resident Appreciation Week that ran from Monday, Oct. 13, until Friday, Oct. 17.

The week kicked off on Monday with Trash Night. Students set their garbage outside of their doors in tied plastic bags. John Klein, director of Residential Life and Housing, and resident advisors and assistants walked through each residence hall to collect the trash.

"I don't think there was anyone that didn't participate in Trash Night," said Klein.

Megan Stock, freshman, undecided, is a resident of Villa Residential Hall. "It was really nice to have them do that for us. My roommate and I were pretty happy to have a break."

Tuesday, residents were treated to a special dinner. Tables in The Nosh were set with linens, china and silverware.

"It's nice to use something besides Styrofoam and plastic every once in a while," said Klein. He worked with Chartwells to create a special dinner that would be available only to residents. Then he and other members from the Office of Student Life served students.

The fun continued on Wednesday with a shaving cream fight on the front lawn of Provincial House. Students and staff decorated each

other, the trees and the ground with shaving cream provided by Residential Life.

From Thursday at 10 a.m. until Friday at 10 a.m., residents enjoyed free laundry privileges.

"I can't even begin to tell you how excited I was about that," said Stock.

On Thursday night, members of the Residence Hall Association sponsored a free trip to the Funny Bone comedy club in Westport Plaza.

On Friday night, students made s'mores outside of Bellerive Residence Hall.

In addition to the planned events, the Office of Residential Life made other smaller gestures of appreciation. Banners reading, "We love our residents," hung in each of the residential halls. The Office of Student Life donated key chains that were placed in each resident's mailbox. Also placed in the mailboxes were 100 Grand candy bars and notes saying that the residents were "worth more than 100 Grand."

The University Bookstore also honored residents with a weeklong discount offer. Residents

received 20 percent off their purchases, along with a gift.

"It's been really nice to have it this week. The fun activities have really let me take my mind off the stress of my midterms," said Stock.

"Though this is our first time trying this out, we definitely plan to do it again. The feedback from the students has been incredible," said Klein. "It's important for residents to know that the campus appreciates them and would not be special without them."

“**Though this is our first time trying this out, we definitely plan to do it again.**”

Seasonal depression affects students

BY MELISSA MCCRARY
Features Associate

Melinda McCoy, junior, psychology, says her mood tends to be affected by the weather. Although she

Warm days are quickly becoming a thing of the past as the temperature drops and the days grow shorter. While some students welcome the arrival of this time of year, many others suffer symptoms of depression during the winter months.

The National Mental Health Association website defines these symptoms as Seasonal Affective Disorder. According to the organization, as seasons change, "biological internal clocks undergo a shift caused partly by change in sunlight patterns."

College students are especially vulnerable to depression because of all the physical and mental stress they experience. According to the American Psychological Association, 53 percent of college students have experienced depression since entering college.

Depression of any kind can lead to a drop in academic performance. Thad Metz, associate professor in philosophy, says that he notices at least a slight drop in attendance to his classes during the winter months.

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sugar and starches.

Justin Freistein, senior, communications, does not notice a significant change in his mood during the colder months, but thinks that many of his classmates avoid coming to school because, "people get sick of the cold and want to see the sun." Freistein also attributes low classroom attendance to constant traffic problems.

Many college students experience some degree of these winter blues. Doctors have not found any significant preventative measures that can be taken to prevent SAD. Experts do recommend staying physically active and gaining exposure to as much light as possible. Students can also combat some of the effects by preparing for emotional changes before the temperature drops.

Research has also shown that St. John's Wort and light therapy can be effective treatments for severe cases.

While the herb's real medicinal value has not been determined, it may have nothing more than a placebo effect, which still works for many SAD sufferers. Light therapy is a complex method of using

light throughout the day to change one's internal biological sense of time. Students who think that they, or a friend, may be suffering from depression can contact Counseling Services at 526-5711, or visit the offices located in 126 MSC or on the ground floor of Seton Hall.

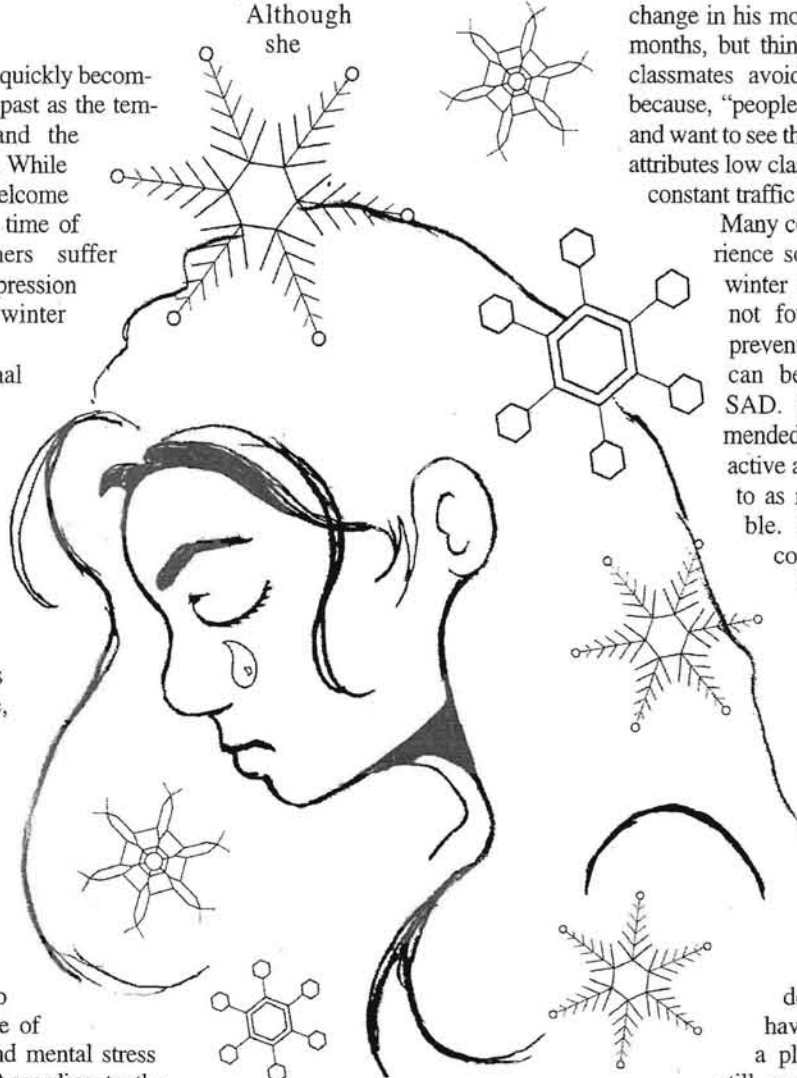


Illustration by Shannon Hoppe/The Current

★ **Open House At UMSL** ★

★ **Saturday, October 25** ★

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Crime in Cinema
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- ★ **Children's Activities**
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Life group seeks to recruit, spread the word



BY MELISSA MCCRARY
Features Associate

Kerford said. The group is open to anyone, and the participants are not required to belong to Jubilee Church. Life Group holds meetings every Tuesday, 7 p.m., in the Provincial House on South Campus. During each meeting, students focus on a different religious or human-interest topic. Most of the meetings begin with a time of worship with opening prayers and songs. Members share their feelings and beliefs concerning the different topics or discuss their favorite Bible readings at the meetings. Life Group members are actively seeking new recruits and encourage students to attend the meetings. Jubilee Church is also helping the group recruit new members by promoting the organization. Life Group has already gained recognition on campus and continues to do so with student-oriented events. One of the major upcoming events is "TGIF," which will be held on

Friday, Oct. 24, 7 p.m., in the Pilot House. Life Group held another TGIF event last spring. "The event, Thank God It's Friday, will focus on the theme 'What's Your Life Story,'" Curtis said. "There will be different live performances by bands, media presentations, refreshments, door prizes, games and a drama where a guest speaker will discuss his own beliefs." Every activity at TGIF will relate to people recognizing and sharing their own life story. Kerford believes that this event will spark more interest in the group and help welcome more members. "I think that TGIF will have an attendance rate of at 200 people and that it will be an overall success, with much hard work and time devoted to the planning of the event," Kerford said. People who are interested in becoming a Life Group member can visit the meetings or contact Curtis at 516-4357 or Kerford at 516-4412.

COUNSELING SERVICES, from page 6

"For example, if I have a friend and I'm worried that they're depressed, I can get information about depression," he said. "For people who are having difficulty, we can help match them up with an office to go to for more assistance. That might be our own office or another one in the community." The office, originally called the Resource Room, was named through a contest. Counseling Services chose the name for several reasons. "A compass helps people find their way," said Linsin. "It makes sure they're heading in the right direction. That's not to say you have to be confused to visit us, but it's a place for resources and finding your way." The name also corresponds with the UM-St. Louis River-themed mascot and image.

Amanda Swaller, sophomore, biology and psychology, is a resident of Seton Hall. She appreciates the opening of The Compass. "It's very convenient for residents. They did a great job making the room intimate and inviting. I've seen coun-

selors talking to people already," she said. Linsin would like to achieve several goals with the opening of the office. "I hope that it will be a place where students feel comfortable dropping by to ask questions and touch base. Some people have the idea that counseling services only helps people with serious problems. We can help with a range of situations. By being on South Campus, we want to convey that we're concerned about reaching out," Linsin said. The office, located on the ground floor of Seton Hall, is open from 3 p.m. until 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Students are welcome to stop by at any time during those hours, and no appointment is required. All information exchanged with counselors follows the same confidentiality guidelines as Counseling Services.

“
Staff members of The Compass can provide both on- and off-campus referrals to students seeking counseling.
”

MIDNIGHT, from page 6

After the cheerleaders finished their routine, students pulled out their raffle tickets and received prizes, including UM-St. Louis t-shirts, gift certificates to the bookstore, Cardinals tickets, free parking passes and 12 free credit hours. After giving away several prizes, more numbers were called to select people for a game of musical chairs. In the spirit of the evening, participants who were given basketballs were required to make a lay-up before returning to their seats. The UM-St. Louis sports teams were introduced next. Men and women of the soccer, tennis, softball

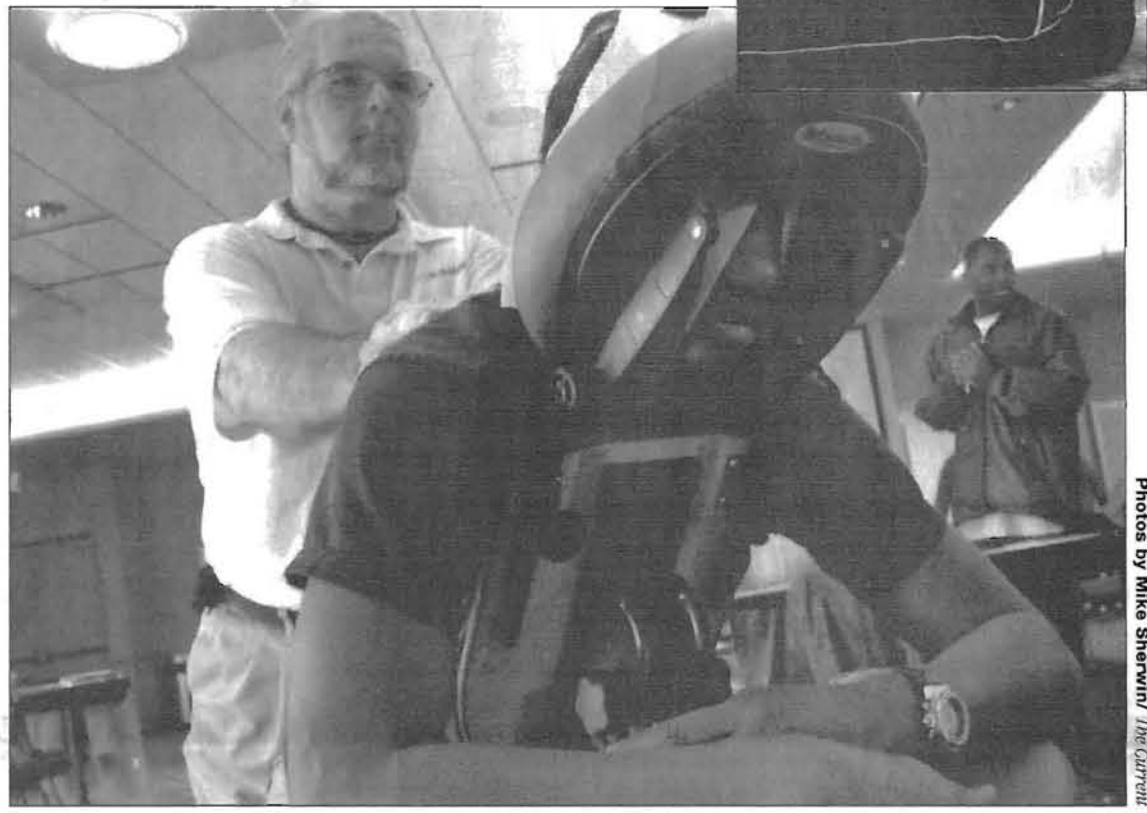
and baseball teams told the audience their name, major and hometown. After the introductions, more door prizes were awarded and students played another game. Chancellor Thomas George was present for Midnight Madness. "This is great," he said. "We never expected a crowd this large. This is the first time we've tried this event, and the campus responded well. We would really like to see it become an annual event." The UM-St. Louis Flames dance team also held their first performance. "I am thoroughly excited and impressed. We had a fabulous crowd

that had the reaction we were hoping for. It was also awesome how the cheerleaders showed support for us," said Flames Captain Arrayon Farlough, junior, education. The next event was a mattress pile up. Two twin-sized mattresses were placed on the gym floor, and teams tried to fit as many students as possible on them. The winning team had 26 people. "It was painful, but fun," said Jessica Kuenzel, senior, biology. The night ended with the introduction of the men and women basketball teams, followed by a brief scrimmage.

Goodbye, midterm anxiety!

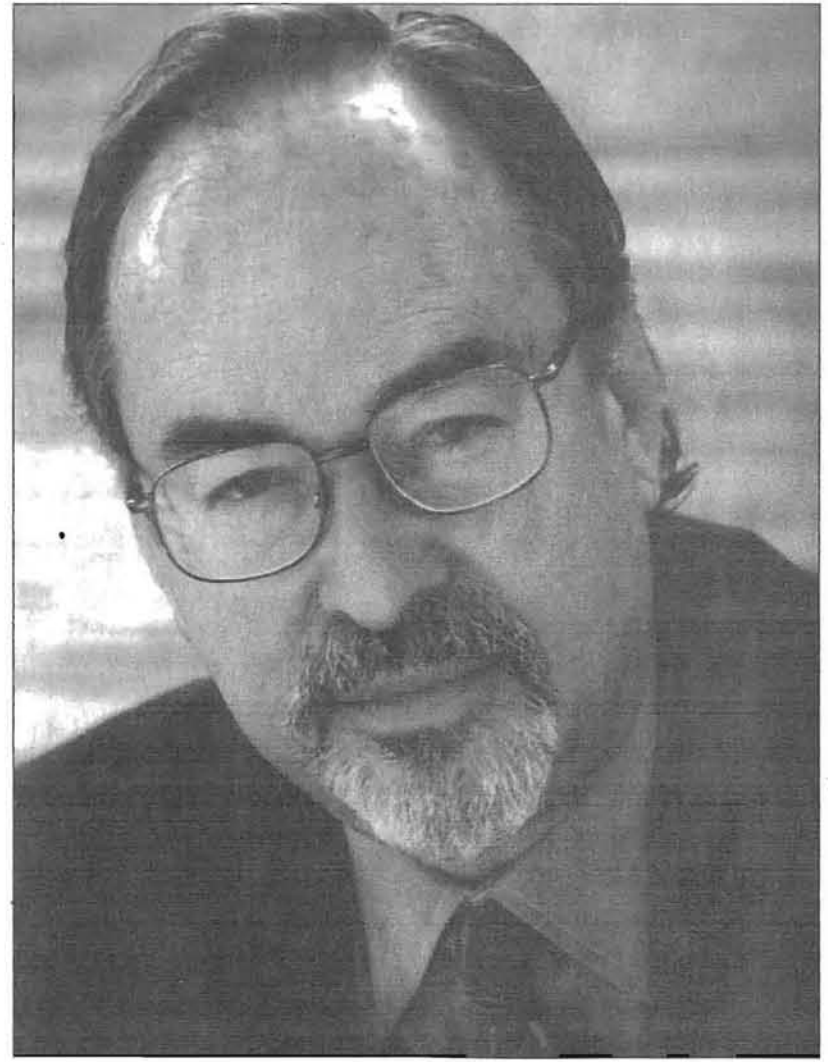
RIGHT: Erica Douglas, senior, social work, takes a lesson in Yoga from instructor Sonia Sanchez during the Midterm Holistic Stress Relief Fair on Tuesday. The fair was sponsored by the University Program Board and the Office of Multicultural Relations.

BELOW: Jaime Lomax, senior, mass communication, receives a free massage at the stress relief fair on Tuesday from Dan White, a masseuse with the firm A Backrub Co.



Photos by Mike Sherwin/The Current

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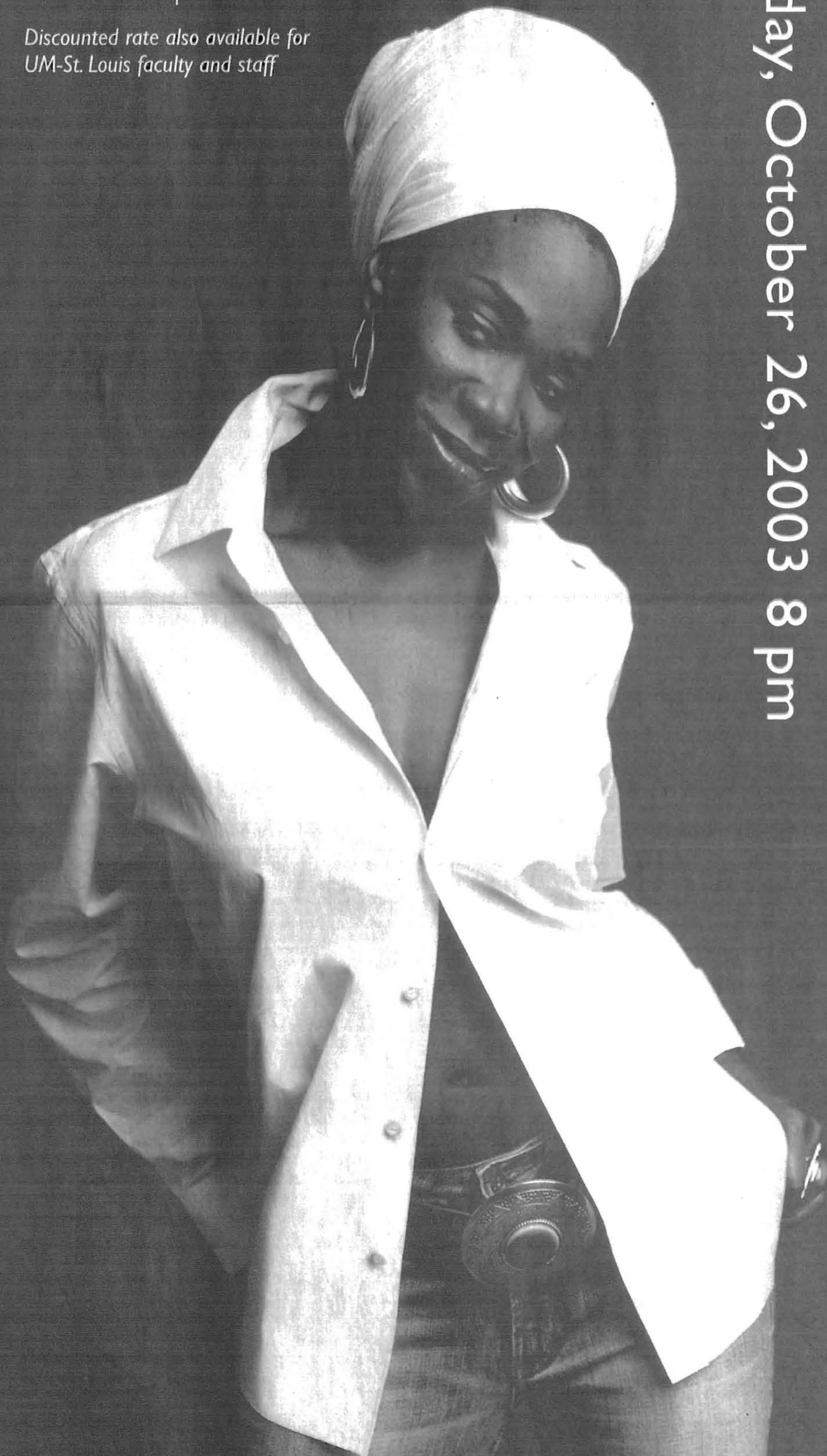
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R-women: 3 wins and counting

BY GRETCHEN MOORE
Staff Writer

The Riverwomen swept their weekend on the road against Kentucky Wesleyan and Bellarmine. They then had a non-conference match with William Woods to improve their overall record to 10-5-1. UM-St. Louis faced up against the Panthers of Kentucky Wesleyan and left with a 4-0 win.

Junior forward Sonya Hauan got her 10th and 11th goals of the season in the first half of play. At 10:43, she scored off of an assist from Katie Huelsing to put the Riverwomen up 1-0.

She added one more at 21:54 with an assist from sophomore defender Laura Fredrickson. The Riverwomen outshot the Panthers 10-2 in the first half. They led 2-0 at halftime.

"We were playing really well and everything was clicking. We possessed the ball really well. It was nice to play up to our level and dominate the game," Huelsing said.

It did not take the Riverwomen long to up the ante against the Panthers. Melissa Papa dropped two of her own goals within six minutes of each other to improve the Riverwomen's lead to 4-0.

First, at 50:02, Papa got her first goal of the season off an assist from Huelsing. The duo teamed up once again at 57:06 to give Huelsing her 10th assist of the season.

"We played very well and possessed the ball a majority of the game. Everybody contributed to the win," Coach Beth Goetz said.

"We moved the ball really well and passed as a team," sophomore midfielder Mandy Meendering said.

The Riverwomen shut out the Kentucky Wesleyan, then hit the road to face Bellarmine University. The Riverwomen outshot the Knights 7-1 in the first half. They failed to find the back of the net to capitalize on their opportunities and went into halftime tied 0-0.

"It was a tough, physical game," Huelsing said.

After halftime, the Riverwomen dominated the Knights, once again out shooting them 9-3. It was getting down to the wire, but the Riverwomen never had a question of who would win, and they would finally score a goal. Sophomore Meendering came to the rescue with 15 seconds left in the game. She slid one by the goalie off Huelsing's 11th assist of the season.

"I crossed it in to Mary Kate (McDermott), and she passed it back to me and I shot it in. It was a really physical game that was really well



Photos by Mike Sherwin/ The Current

Defender Laura Fredrickson sweeps past Quincy's Jennifer Slominsky during the second half of play on Friday evening. Fredrickson scored the Riverwomen's second goal in their 3-0 victory against the Quincy Lady Hawks.

matched," Meendering said.

"This was one of our better games. We didn't finish very well but created a lot of opportunities. We need to work on finishing. We played really hard for the entire 90 minutes. Amy Jones and Katie Huelsing played a really great game along with the entire team," Goetz said.

UM-St. Louis went on to win the game and improve their conference record in hopes of qualifying for the GLVC conference held the first week of November. The women would then head to Fulton, Mo., for a non-conference game against William Woods.

Neither team was able to score within the 90 minutes and headed into overtime pretty evenly matched at around 5 shots apiece. Junior forward Brandy Lucero snuck a goal by the Owl's goalie at 91:30 to help the Riverwomen win 1-0.

In practice, the team has been working on possession, finishing, 50/50 balls and high pressure. With only two games left, the Riverwomen hope to defeat Quincy and Southern Indiana to improve their conference record to 6-3-1 heading into the conference.



ABOVE: Katie Goetz gets a round of hugs during a half-time presentation honoring the senior players. Friday's game was the last regular game of the Riverwomen's season.



RIGHT: Riverwomen forward Emily Worley sports a pair of mud handprints during the Riverwomen's shutout of Quincy on Friday evening.

Midnight Madness kickstarts countdown to B-ball

BY GRETCHEN MOORE
Staff Writer

"This is just the beginning. I hope people realize that we can continue what we are doing throughout the season," Todd Taylor, organizer of Midnight Madness, said of the continuation of school spirit among students.

Eric "Majic" Mychaels of Majic 104.9 began to hype the crowd around 10:15 p.m. From there, more and more people came pouring into the Mark Twain Building, hoping to get a shot at free pizza, more than 100 giveaways and a glimpse at the 2003-2004 UM-St. Louis basketball teams. Oh, and maybe the 12 free credit hours had a little to do with it.

Todd Taylor, admissions counselor for the Pierre Laclède Honors College, started with a brief encounter with newly appointed men's basketball head coach Chris Pilz in the Mark Twain Building on Sept. 20. He asked Pilz if he was planning to do Midnight Madness to kick the season off. Pilz had no previous plans but was open to the idea, and Taylor took the idea and ran with it.

That night the crowd consisted of the sports teams, dorm residents, University Meadows residents, coaches, athletic coordinators, the athletic director and members of the university administration. Tons of students from around campus were there and ready to cheer the Rivermen into their new season.

"It was really cool to have so many groups come together," Taylor said.

"There was an awesome turnout. We've tried to do this before but never had a turnout like this. All of the Greeks came out. And a lot of the departments on campus helped out," women's basketball assistant coach Melanie Marcy said. "It was really impressive that the vice chancellor offered the free credit hours. It is really important to us for people to come and see the teams and support them."

Around 10:45 p.m., the UM-St.

Louis cheerleaders performed a routine to kick off the night and unveil their new and improved squad to the fans. The squad will be traveling to the NCA National Competition on March 31 in Daytona, Fla. They threw out Frisbees, squeeze balls and other paraphernalia donated by the bookstore to pump everyone up before the competitions started.

"It was really nice to see all of the people there when everyone has other stuff to do," freshman girls' basketball player Christine Eccleston said.

There were raffle ticket giveaways throughout the night consisting of prizes like shirts, hats, toys and Cardinals tickets. Then, each sports team was brought down and announced individually.

"We wanted to have all of the teams there to make a connection with them as real people. That way there would be a fan base, and people would support them," Taylor said.

"It was really crowded, but it was a lot of fun to watch people compete for the free credit hours," senior baseball player Scott Miller said.

The newly formed dance team, The Flames, performed for the first time for the crowd. The girls, appropriately decked out in UM-St. Louis attire, performed to Sean Paul and Nelly to help get the crowd pumped before the bas-

ketball squads were announced.

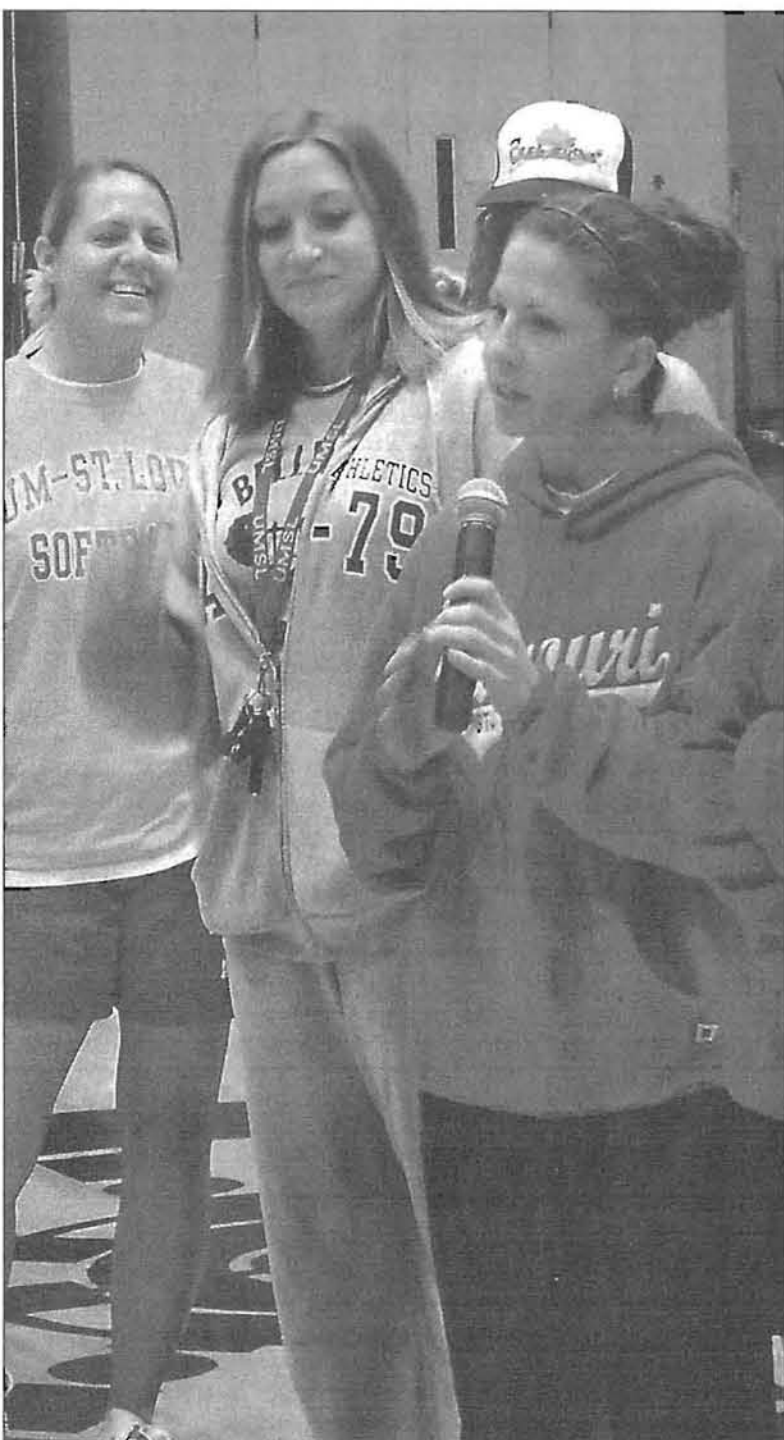
"It was really fun and exciting. We really appreciated all the fans and everyone coming out. We appreciate the support of the cheerleaders who made signs and decorated for us. It was really sweet," junior girls' basketball player Lesha Billups said.

"It was a really good turnout even though it was really late. It gave us a chance to introduce ourselves and get to know each of the [other] teams," sophomore girls' basketball player Crystal Lambert said.

As the hour got closer to midnight no one had yet to win the contest for the 12 free credit hours. So far, three contestants were selected, but each failed. Emcee Mychaels got desperate to find a winner and asked those in the crowd able to make the shot to volunteer.

Men's tennis player Mike Schaff was chosen. He had to make a free throw, three-pointer and then a half court shot in 45 seconds. He made the free throw and then the three pointer with 30 left. He had two dead on shots from half court, but it came down to the last two seconds. He got a leap and shot, and the ball hit the rim and bounced out. The crowd went crazy.

see MIDNIGHT MADNESS, page 11



Kevin Ottey/ The Current

The 2003-04 Riverwomen Softball team introduces themselves to the crowd at Midnight Madness, held Tuesday night at the Mark Twain Athletic Building. The event introduced each sports team to the audience, and introduced the newly appointed men's basketball coach, Chris Pilz.



LEFT: Rivermen baseball coach Jim Brady introduces his 2003-2004 team to the audience at Midnight Madness on Tuesday night.

Kevin Ottey/ The Current

SPORTS

STEVE HARRELL

Sports Editor

phone: 516-5174

fax: 516-6811

Questions
or
Comments?

Send me an e-mail:

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WEB

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

UPCOMING

Men's Soccer

Oct. 22

• at Truman State University
3 p.m.

Oct. 25

• at
Southern Indiana University
3 p.m.

**Women's
Volleyball**

Oct. 24

• vs. SIUE at UM-St. Louis
7 p.m.

Oct. 25

vs. St. Joseph's
1 p.m.

Oct. 31

• at Kentucky Wesleyan
University
7 p.m.

Nov. 1

• at Southern Indiana
University
2 p.m.

Inside my head: random thoughts

When you spend as much time watching sports as I do, you begin to think certain things. Many of these things never come out of my mouth for one reason or another. But that's what this week's column is all about.

This is a collection of random thoughts that I have had over the past month or so. And while you're reading this remember: when in doubt, I'm a jackass.

If the Cubs had made the World Series and taken on the Yankees, would there be anyone in the country cheering for New York? Wouldn't that rather have a "Miracle On Ice" feeling to it?

Why do people refer to the University of Missouri as "MU"? Can we please change this to "UM"? Does this bother anyone else?

Has anyone ever wasted a draft pick as badly as when the Rams took Eric Crouch?

You know you are drunk when it is 4 a.m. and you are watching a rerun of a WNBA game.

I am yet to hear a funnier name in sports than Dick Trickle. If you hear of one, please let me know.

If I had to choose the absolute worst singer of the National Anthem ever, it would be a toss-up between Carl Lewis and Roseanne Barr. I mean, who asks Roseanne to sing the National Anthem? Oh, right, the Padres.

Who would have thought that the Eagles would actually play worse of moving out of The Vet?

You know your fantasy baseball team is in trouble when you have four Toronto Blue Jays.

Why does ESPN broadcast the National Spelling Bee? Could we start a grassroots effort to ban everyone under 17 from that channel? I know I am not alone on this.

Would Tiger Woods still be intimidating if his name was, say, Hippopotamus Woods? What if everyone used his real first name, Eldrick?

Granted, I love seeing fiery auto crashes as much as the next guy, but

does the NASCAR season EVER end?

Since the Marlins and Dolphins both play at Pro Player Stadium, can we start calling it "The Fish Tank"? (Yes, I know, I am a dork.)

If the WNBA players had gone on strike this past summer, I think I would still be laughing.

When will Bill Cowher realize that his quarterback is Tommy Maddox? Better yet, when will he realize that his next option is Charlie Batch?

The anticipation for Game Seven's Pedro-Clemens match-up was incredible. It's kind of like that feeling you get when you're on a big date with a girl you really like, and you're just waiting for it to be over so you can kiss her good-night.

Then Boston loses in the 11th inning and it feels like she brushed you off, went inside and called her ex-boyfriend.

I know this has nothing to do with sports, but Arnold Schwarzenegger is the freaking governor of California. How did this happen?

I am 21 years old, and I still love watching the zamboni more than the hockey game itself.

After Week Six, the only undefeated teams in the NFL are Minnesota, Kansas City and Carolina. Let that sink in.

I feel bad for people in Salt Lake City. They only have one professional sports team, and Matt Harpring leads it.

There's nothing more depressing than betting \$200 dollars on a football game, having your team be up by 21 points with four minutes left, then watching them blow the game.

In two years, Brady Quinn will be a god at Notre Dame, and Purdue will not stand a chance. (Lord, how I hate the Boilers.)

How did we go through an entire baseball season without a single drunken Red Sox fan falling off the Green Monster?

Now you know what it is like to be stuck inside my head.



BY STEVE HARRELL
Sports Editor

Rivermen take a road trip, take back double victories

BY GRETCHEN MOORE
Staff Writer

The Rivermen came out victorious from their weekend road trip to Kentucky Wesleyan and Bellarmine. The two wins improved their GLVC record to 4-3-1.

The Panthers took an early lead with a goal from John Smeathers at 27:22. That was the last goal the Rivermen allowed as they scored three consecutive goals to come out with the win.

Sophomore midfielder Scott Wittenborn scored his second goal of the season at 35:10 against the Panthers to tie the game at 1-1. The game stayed tied into halftime. The Rivermen came out strong in the second half out, shooting the Panthers 9-4 and scoring two goals to clinch the victory.

Junior midfielder Adam Bimslager scored nine minutes in to the second half off an assist from Pat Devereux. That was Bimslager's second goal of the season. Seven minutes later, sophomore captain Jeff Menke got his third goal of the season off an assist from Bimslager.

"We got off to a slow start but took over after that, and then we took it to them," junior defender Brian Reitz said.

The game against Bellarmine University seemed to be a mirror image of the Wesleyan game.

Wittenborn, Bimslager and Menke would take it to the Knights just like they did the Panthers to come out with another overwhelming victory.

The Rivermen started with a goal by Adam Bimslager at the 21-minute mark off an assist from Alen Jujic to put UM-St. Louis up early. Six minutes later, Jeff Menke shot one past the Knight's goalie to increase the lead.

Bellarmine's Phil Glasser attempted a comeback with a goal off an assist by Aaron Reuther. However, the Rivermen would allow only that one goal by the Knights. With ten minutes left in the game, Menke would score again off another assist by Jujic.

The Rivermen then added one more to clinch the victory at 4-1 seven minutes later. Scott Wittenborn took the pass from junior midfielder Jeff Facchin to get his third goal of the season.

"We played and defended well. We changed formations, and it worked really well for us. We took the game and moved with confidence," senior captain Campbell McLaurin said.

The Rivermen have four games remaining in their season and hope to sweep the remainder in order to have good standing for the GLVC tournament. They will face up against number one seed Southern Indiana for their final game.

RIGHT:

Goalkeeper Campell McLaurin blocks a shot on goal Friday night.



Amanda Schneidermeyer/The Current

MIDNIGHT MADNESS, from page 10

Then, with five minutes remaining, the clock was set to count down to midnight when the basketball teams could officially practice for the first time. They were brought out and introduced one by one to the crowd. The newly appointed head men's and women's coaches, Pilz and Lee Buchanan, took control and took on some drills with their team.

"It was an awesome crowd. It was good to see all the sports teams there and hope they all come back for our games. We really need the home court advantage and would love to see the stands filled just like they were for Midnight Madness," Pilz said.

First, the women took one half of the floor; then, the men took the other.

They did a few passing and shooting drills to warm up then had a shooting competition between the two teams. Then they intermixed and competed the guards against the posts. Then, to mix things up, each of the players chose a person out of the crowd to shoot with.

"The turnout was really impressive. Hopefully, that many can make it to the games. It was a lot of fun facing the girls in the shooting contest," junior men's basketball player Justin Foust said. Midnight Madness turned out to be a big success throughout, bringing together sports teams, academic officials, coaches and spectators to unite UM-St. Louis and help promote school spirit throughout campus.

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The Station Agent

The highly acclaimed new comedy from director Tom McCarthy.

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A&E

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CASEY SCHACHER

A&E Editor

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A&E Calendar

Movies

*Film openings are subject to change.

Week of
Oct. 20

Scary Movie 3- The third installment in a hilarious series of parody pokes fun at everything from "Lord of the Rings" to "8 Mile." Stars Anna Faris, Charlie Sheen, Anthony Anderson, Pamela Anderson and Peter Boyle. Opens Oct. 24th.

Radio- Based on a true story, this epic tale about the relationship between a mentally challenged man nicknamed Radio (Cuba Gooding Jr.) and a high school football coach (Ed Harris) reveals the power of friendship and inspiration. Opens Oct. 24th.

In the Cut- A steamy affair with a New York police detective investigating a murder leaves Franny Thorstin (Meg Ryan) in the midst of a possibly dangerous situation. Also stars Mark Ruffalo, Kevin Bacon, Jennifer Jason Leigh and Nick Damici. Opens Oct. 22nd.

Ongoing...

House of the Dead- Vacationing teens venture to a remote island only to discover that evil has been waiting for them.

FILM REVIEW

Live action Anime delights

BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER
Film Critic

Quentin Tarantino's new film "Kill Bill, Vol. 1" is a tale of revenge told as a pop culture sampler of American TV, samurai movies and Japanese anime.

An ex-assassin turned-pregnant bride (Uma Thurman) is brutally attacked and left for dead in a rural Texas church by her boss Bill (David Caradine) and her former fellow assassins of the Deadly Viper Assassination Squad (Viveca Fox, Lucy Liu, Darryl Hannah, and Michael Madsen). The Bride (she has no other name) survives the attack and awakens four years later from a coma, set on revenge. This reawakening launches a relentless samurai sword-wielding, buckets-o-blood killing spree that is part Charlie's Angels gone bad, part spaghetti Western and part Hong Kong-Japanese anime hybrid quest for vengeance. Needless to say, it is a comedy.

Director Quentin Tarantino, the man who brought us "Pulp Fiction," is famous for his violence-as-comedy films, and this film exceeds anything he has done before. Apart from the horrific opening scene (mercifully in black and white rather than garish color), most of the violence is overdone, cartoonish and so absurd that I thought more of "Monty Python and the Holy Grail" than "Pulp Fiction"—remember the knight slowly whittled away limb by limb? The real tickle is a heavy sampling of pop and action film references from the '50s, '60s and '70s, starting with the swirling colors of a '60s-era "Feature Presentation" clip following a cheesy '50s-era Japanese intro credit. The title card that opens the film states, "Revenge is a dish best served cold," but credits Star Trek with the quote,



Uma Thurman & Daryl Hannah (standing) in Quentin Tarantino's KILL BILL - Vol. 1.

Photo courtesy of Miramax Films

rather than Shakespeare.

The pop references are so thick you could write an entire review just listing them. Therein lies the problem with the film: If you can keep up with all the references and are amused by pop, you will be enormously entertained and have a kick-posterior good time. If not, you may find yourself bored, for the plot beneath has the melodramatic simplicity of the classic action film, or even Western, with good guys, bad guys and bang-up fights. The movie is

wildly entertaining or very dull, depending on your samurai movie/pop culture IQ.

From a standing point of filmmaking quality, "Kill Bill, Vol. 1" is terrific. However, without a wildly original format, the film will not inspire imitators the way "Pulp Fiction" did. The film is "Volume 1" because this is half of the original film shown at film festivals. The decision was made to distribute it in two parts; "Volume 2" will be out in February. Therefore, as you

might guess, you don't actually see Bill killed but get a cliffhanger ending instead.

Not everyone in the general audience is going to be prepared for the genre-sampling style and the cartoonish, over-the-top violence, as humor will be more repetitious and dull than entertaining. Every time the Bride spins around, four adversaries are cut to ribbons, seemingly with minimal touch; such is the power of her magical samurai sword. At times, it appears

that no one in this film had ever heard of firearms, for nearly all the mayhem comes via swords and knives, with guns conspicuously absent. Of course, there was a point in the sword fighting when I could not help but think of Indiana Jones confronting the swordsman in the market and wondering why no one just pulled out a gun like he did. Every reference missed will leave a gap that has nothing to fill it.

see KILL BILL, page 13

RESTAURANT REVIEW

J.Buck's bucks good dining

BY STANFORD A. GRIFFITH
Culinary Critic

Somehow, the high-priced, bland fast food served slowly in a segregated section did not yield a most enjoyable evening when dining at J.Buck's in the West County Mall last week.

On one of our many dining out adventures, my friend Bryan and I wound up at J.Buck's, more as a last resort than anything else. It was our first trip there and will certainly be our last.

Upon entering, I was impressed by the décor. The soft lights contrasting against the dark walls and uniquely shaped tables are inviting and lend a trendy feel. (Of course, the huge portrait of the owners slapped up on the wall above the cash register is a bit tacky.) The dining room is separated into upper and lower areas. Those who appear to be "upper class" based on their clothes get seated in the much nicer elevated section, while the supposed "paupers" get seated in the noisier lower area, which is not exactly a "bad" atmosphere, but it is very different in tone and, as we soon noticed, service.

J.Buck's menu ranges in strange ways. For example, most of the selections between \$7 and \$10 are reminiscent of Jack-in-the-Box's menu. Then, prices shoot up to around \$20 and above for food that is no more expensive or time consuming to make but sounds better.

After waiting for over 10 minutes to have our waiter appear without apology, Bryan ordered a cod sandwich, and I selected a chicken sandwich. Both \$9 entrees included French fries. And we both decided to also order a side salad for an extra \$3 each.

The salads were a pleasing mix of lettuces topped with a light, slightly sweet dressing. I hoped that was a sign of more good food to come. Unfortunately, I was wrong.

My chicken sandwich was just bland. With pesto and Swiss cheese, it should have had some flavor. But none was there. The fish sandwich Bryan got was overcooked and leathery. Our sandwich buns were also burnt and overpowered the flavors of the meat and toppings. Oh, wait, maybe that was a bonus after all.

The French fries were com-

pletely standard fare found in any greasy spoon and were about all we ate.

While we were munching and complaining, the waiters started cleaning around us: vacuuming the carpet and using Windex on the tables. Windex does not smell bad, but it is not good for the palate and no one past the age of two years enjoys the loud buzz of a vacuum.

In fairness, the waiter did comp Bryan's meal, noted on the ticket as

"disliked," but we really wanted to speak to the manager. He, however, was busy at the time making a fairly loud personal phone call on the restaurant's main line out in the lobby that we could hear from our seats and ignoring exiting customers.

So when shopping at the West County Mall, drop by Nordstrom's Café Bistro to find a great meal at a decent price with quality service in a top-notch atmosphere, but buck J.Buck's overpriced, overrated fodder.



Michael Pelikan/The Current

J.Bucks Restaurant at Westfield Shoppingtown - West County

CD REVIEW

Protest Songs of Late

BY AMY GONWA
Music Critic

Thursday has recently released "War All the Time," a hard-core rock album for activists. The disc is

even emo. I find them to have a metal and hardcore rock appeal. Even more mellow rock fans might be interested in "War All the Time." The album has a strange common ground with the music of Incubus and Cursive.

The anti-corporate ballads of



Left to Right: Steve Pedulla, Geoff Rickly, Tim Payne, Tucker Rule, Tom Keeley.

full of passionately angry music with a message. "War All the Time" is the group's third CD release and first major label debut.

A clear-cut reaction to modern American politics, "War All the Time" is filled with defiant lyrics and themes. Songs like "This Song Brought to you by a Falling Bomb" and "Division St." examine the common citizen's emotional ties to the world and what goes on in it. "All the hate that rises through the cracks in the pavement/As the temperature falls," from the song "Division St." seriously discusses the deterioration of a moral system. Another issue is tackled in "For the Work Force, Drowning," which plays up the repetitiveness of the nine-to-five workday lifestyle, using lyrics like, "Tomorrow we'll get up and drive to work/In single file/With every day just like the last."

Musically, Thursday is fairly loud and thrashy. Most of the tracks from "War All the Time" ascend and rise in both sound and structure. "Asleep in the Chapel" keeps a steady and much slower beat than others, such as the shattering "Signals Over the Air." Because of this ambiguous definition, Thursday has not yet been claimed by a single musical genre.

Critics have placed Thursday in the fields of hardcore, metal and

"War All the Time" are emotional and screamy. The vocals are quite abrasive but alternate throughout the album from soft singing to unleashed screaming. Vocalist Geoff Rickly has a dynamic voice but can sometimes overdo himself. You can hear a straining tone tearing through Rickly's voice, one that may be a painful attempt to reach new heights of scream.

Thursday has been around for over three years now and has slowly been on the rise in popularity. They are one of the many bands hailing from New Jersey and trying to get their music heard by the masses. The group has taken part in the Vans Warped Tour, where they gained much recognition this past summer. Despite their rising popularity, the group chooses to continue to play small club shows and free outdoor concerts.

"War All the Time" sets the stage for Thursday to further their musical careers. The album will draw some of the less hardcore rockers and probably obtain the respect of their longtime fans. Although the group claims their album is not meant to be political, there are some strong themes evident that clearly address corporate America. Thursday is still angry, frustrated and fast-paced. "War All the Time" is an insistently heavy album with a strong message.

Photo courtesy of Ken Scullies Island Records

BOOK REVIEW

Plato meets the cultural revolution

BY PAUL CRUTCHER
Staff Writer

Standing in the literature aisle of Borders, a friend recently cautioned me about her favorite book, "Ishmael," by Daniel Quinn: "There's a telepathic gorilla in it, but if you can get around that, it's great." That was about a month ago. Recently, she emailed me, concerned that I'd gotten "bored" with "Ishmael." If you're anything like me, "bored" just doesn't work in the same sentence as "telepathic gorilla."

"Ishmael," the book's namesake, is indeed a gorilla. A genius and sympathetic Jewish man buys Ishmael out of a carnival, nurtures him and eventually teaches him how to communicate telepathically. Ishmael develops an insatiable hunger for knowledge, one that leads him to surpass the intellectual level of his benefactor and seek out worthy and willing students. In this quest, Ishmael places an ad in the newspaper. The narrator, a relatively dense and uninteresting freelance writer, responds to Ishmael's ad, and the "adventure" begins.

The book past this point reminds me of Plato's "The Republic." The jostling between teacher and student plays out in the same literary and argumentative structure, a style used by several notable early philosophers. This sort of dialogue allows an author to advance a statement, raise an objection from the opposition and, in answering these objections, strengthen his or her original case. In addition to making for some compelling and potentially strong arguments, dialogue in the style of "The Republic" should ideally make reading through them easier, more natural and maybe even fun.

The dialogue in "Ishmael" explores commonly held notions about the origins and nature of mankind. Undoubtedly, you will walk away from "Ishmael" learning something

and scratching your head about the validity of your beliefs. The primary focus concerns why mankind seems compelled to hurdle towards decimating and destroying the earth. Mother Culture personifies what most of us in the Taker culture understand. She rationalizes everything for us, making it easier to eliminate those bothersome brown bears and more reasonable to put off worrying about recycling. For those of you reading my explanation as too-much-tree-talk, the book doesn't rely on a save-the-planet theme. Rather, "Ishmael" asks you to look at

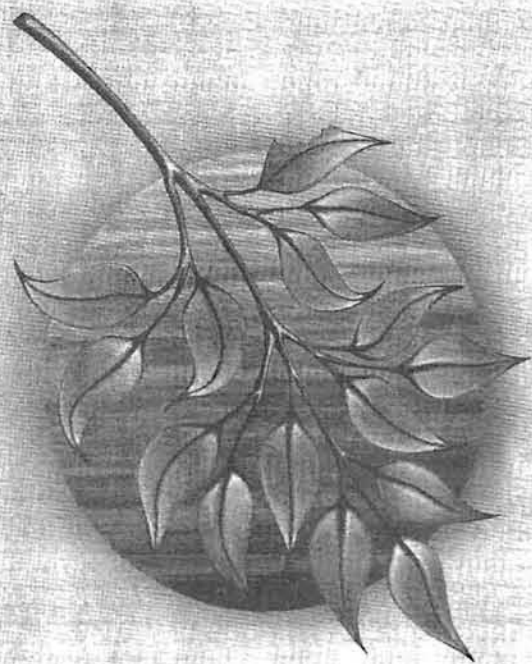
spotlights enormous holes in our ultimately unconvincing cultural history. He blasts open our justification for being gods among the animals. Anthropologists, psychologists, sociologists, historians, philosophers, biologists and anyone in the greater community generally interested in having a firm grasp on the primitive nature of hunter-gatherer cultures or how we evolved to be superior to the apes have something to gain from the dialogue between this odd pair in "Ishmael."

"Ishmael" runs just over 260 pages; and while the subtitle promises "an

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From now on I will divide the books I have read into two categories—the ones I read before *Ishmael* and those read after."
—Jim Britell, *Whole Earth Review*

A NOVEL BY

DANIEL QUINN

AUTHOR OF PROVIDENCE

Photo courtesy Bantam/Turner

the logic behind why we engage the greater world the way we do. It wants us to step back and consider if what we all perpetuate in the Adam and Eve mythology is reasonable.

That said, "Ishmael" holds a powerful message. The telepathic gorilla

adventure," 250 or better of them take place in two fixed locations. "Ishmael" is hardly a typical adventure. While that is not necessarily a bad thing, if you're looking for breezy, carefree fun, this book is not for you.

CD REVIEW

As cool as ice...

BY AMY GONWA
Music Critic

The Icelandic quartet, Leaves, has followed in Coldplay's footsteps and produced a powerfully melodramatic collection of songs on their disc "Breathe." Leaves' debut album has received rave reviews since its release overseas in late 2002. "Breathe" is full of contemplative lyrics and strong rhythmic combinations, which will surely engage the American audience as well.

The longtime Icelandic rocker, Arnar Gudjonsson, began the group in collaboration with friend and fellow musician, Hallur Hallsson, in 2001. Since then, they have recruited Arnar Olafsson on guitar and Bjarni Grimsson on drums. The four were previously involved in a third-division futbjol (soccer) team and realized their group cohesion could succeed musically as well as athletically.

Leaves was born, and their moody music making began. Battling the abrasive music scene in Iceland and writing new lyrics, the group began to

gain rightful attention. Luckily for them, big bands like Radiohead and Coldplay were, and still are, stealing the spotlight in today's music. People were automatically turned on to Leaves' sound.

Although their sound is not new in any sense of the term, they continue to persist. "Breathe" is a great start for the group. The eleven tracks are quite diversified in lyrics and energy level. There are some dark, slow-paced tunes, like "Silence" and "Epitaph." Positivity prevails, however, in "I Go Down" and "Sunday Lover."

Lyrical, "Breathe" taps into the innate human drives of confusion, hopelessness and persistence. "Losing my head/maybe makes me feel right," from the song "Crazy" tells about the simple construction of Leaves' songs. The songs may be quite simple in design but still remain tonally complex.

Vocalist Arnar Gudjonsson takes a Nick Drake-like approach to softer resonance. Gudjonsson's voice has quite a high range and fits well into Leaves' sound. Melodramatic defines his voice and method of lyrical presentation.

Several times, you may wonder

while listening to "Breathe" if these guys need a hug or if they cannot stop smiling. The messages in Leaves' songs lie in the middle ground of emotion. Their passivity may impress some and annoy others. This particular style has made countless groups soar with popularity and stands far apart from everyday music.

Listening to "Breathe" may bring about a certainty that Leaves collaborated with Coldplay. Keep in mind groups like Sigur Ros have been making music like this in Iceland for years now. I would urge that there is a melodramatic wave engulfing the region and that all these groups remain original in their own ways. To the die-hard Coldplay fan, their echoing in "Breathe" may seem to be a disheartening rip-off. It is for you to decide if there is enough room for other groups, like Leaves, in their scene.

Nonetheless, Leaves' music is strong. For a debut album, "Breathe" is diverse and colorfully romantic. Fans should expect to see more musical development and the introduction of complicated rhythm for preceding albums. If you are feeling in-between and enjoy visionary music, then "Breathe" is the album for you.



Photo courtesy Dreamworks Records

FROM LEFT: Arnar Gudjonsson, Hallur Hallsson, Arnar Olafsson (and not pictured, Bjarni Grimsson) from the Icelandic group Leaves have released their powerfully melodramatic debut "Breathe."

KILL BILL, from page 12

Hacked limbs and geysers of blood are only funny for so long. This means there will be a divided audience response. "Kill Bill" will be either the most entertaining film you have seen in ages or one of the dullest. The good news is that if you find the film dull at first, go brush up on some of the references and see it again; then you will have fun.

To paraphrase Dirty Harry (one of the films not referenced in this movie)—so you are going to have to ask yourself, not do you feel lucky, punk, but do you feel you know your stuff? If the answer is "yes," you'll have a great time and likely think that "Kill Bill, Vol.1" is one of the best films of the year. If not, or if Tarantino's previous films were too violent for you, then you may think "Kill Bill" just kills time. Personally, I had a fine time; but then again, I watch a lot of movies. The heavy load of references and how central they are to the film's enjoyment made me think this will be a steep climb for some audiences.

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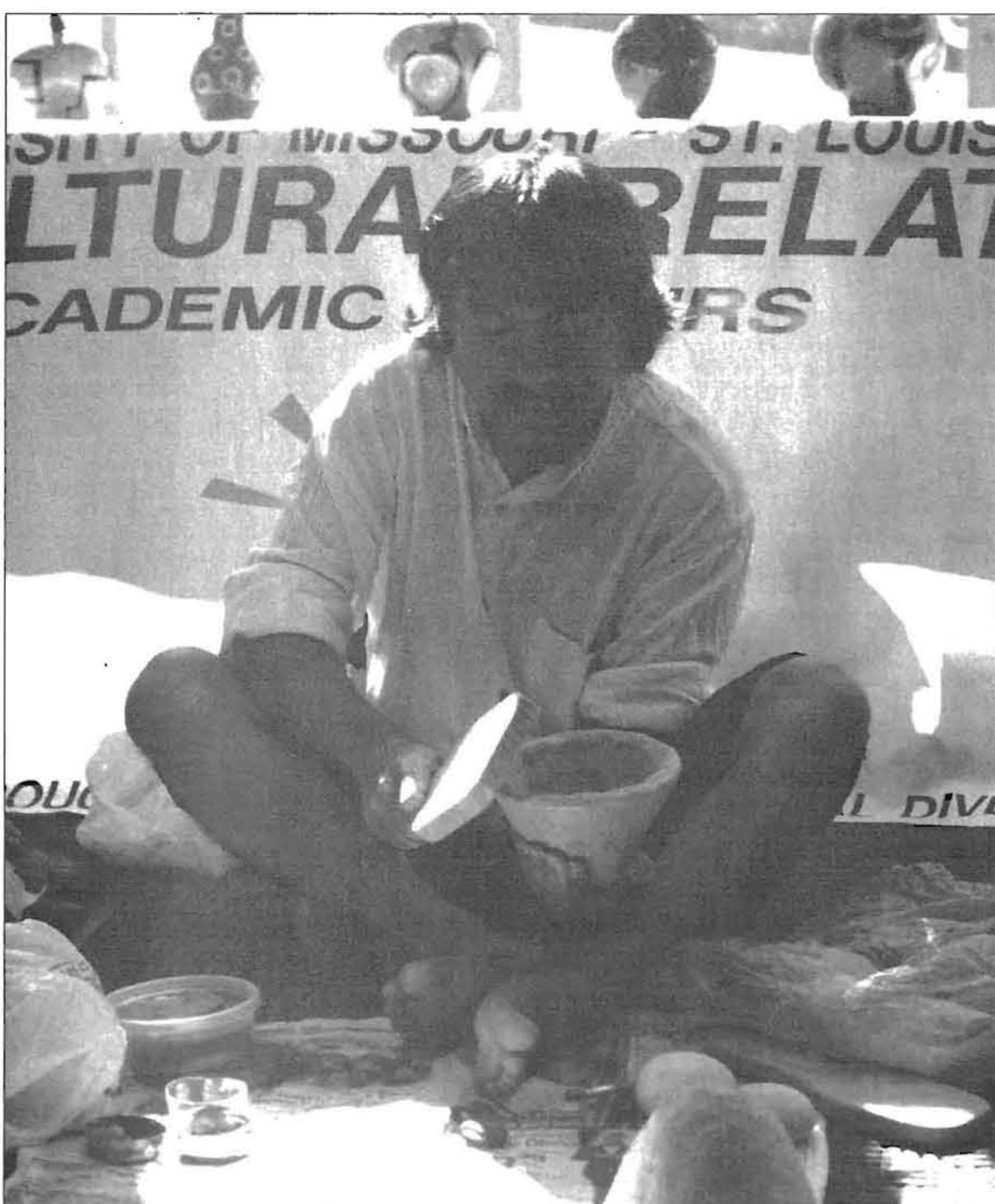
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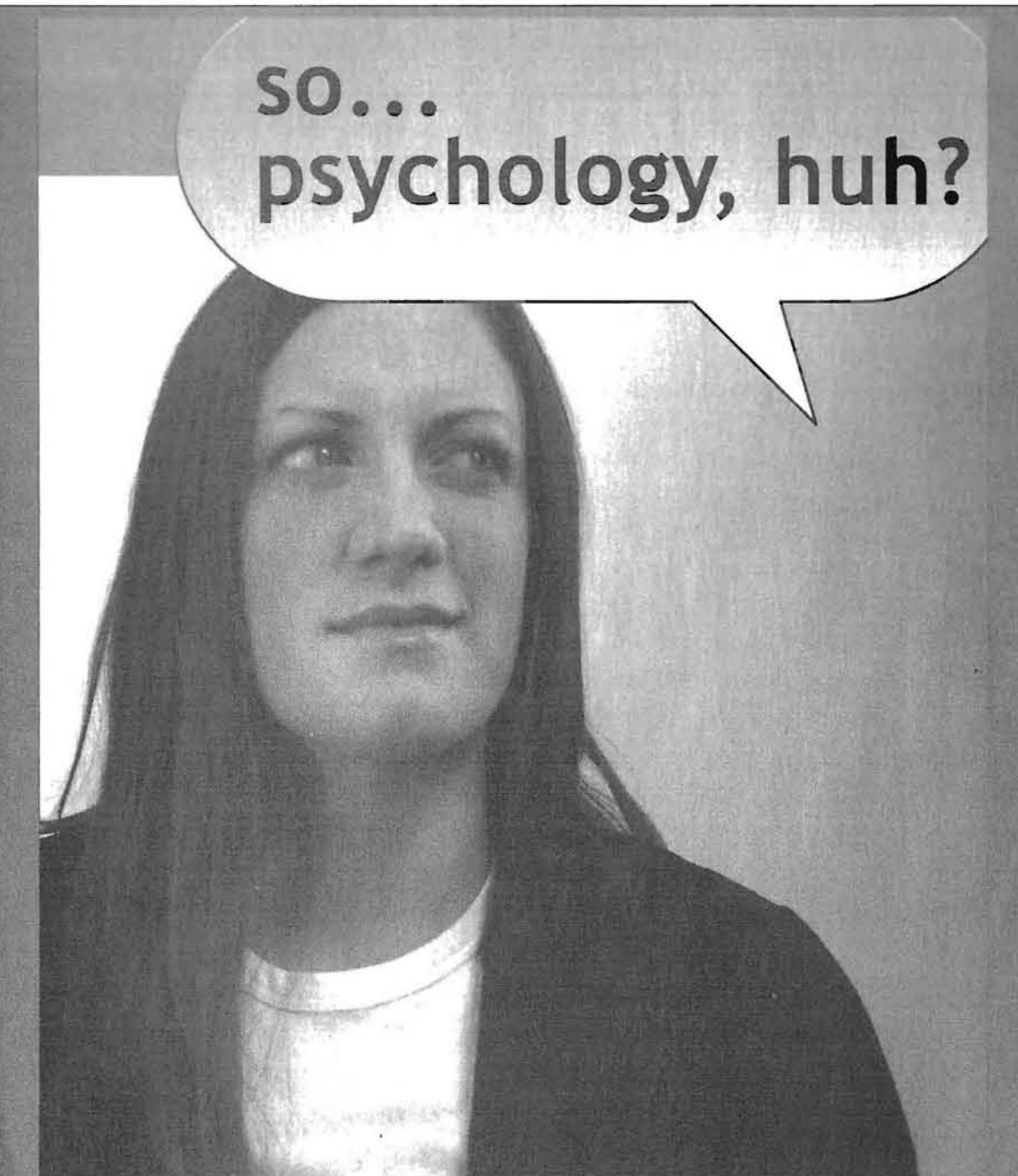
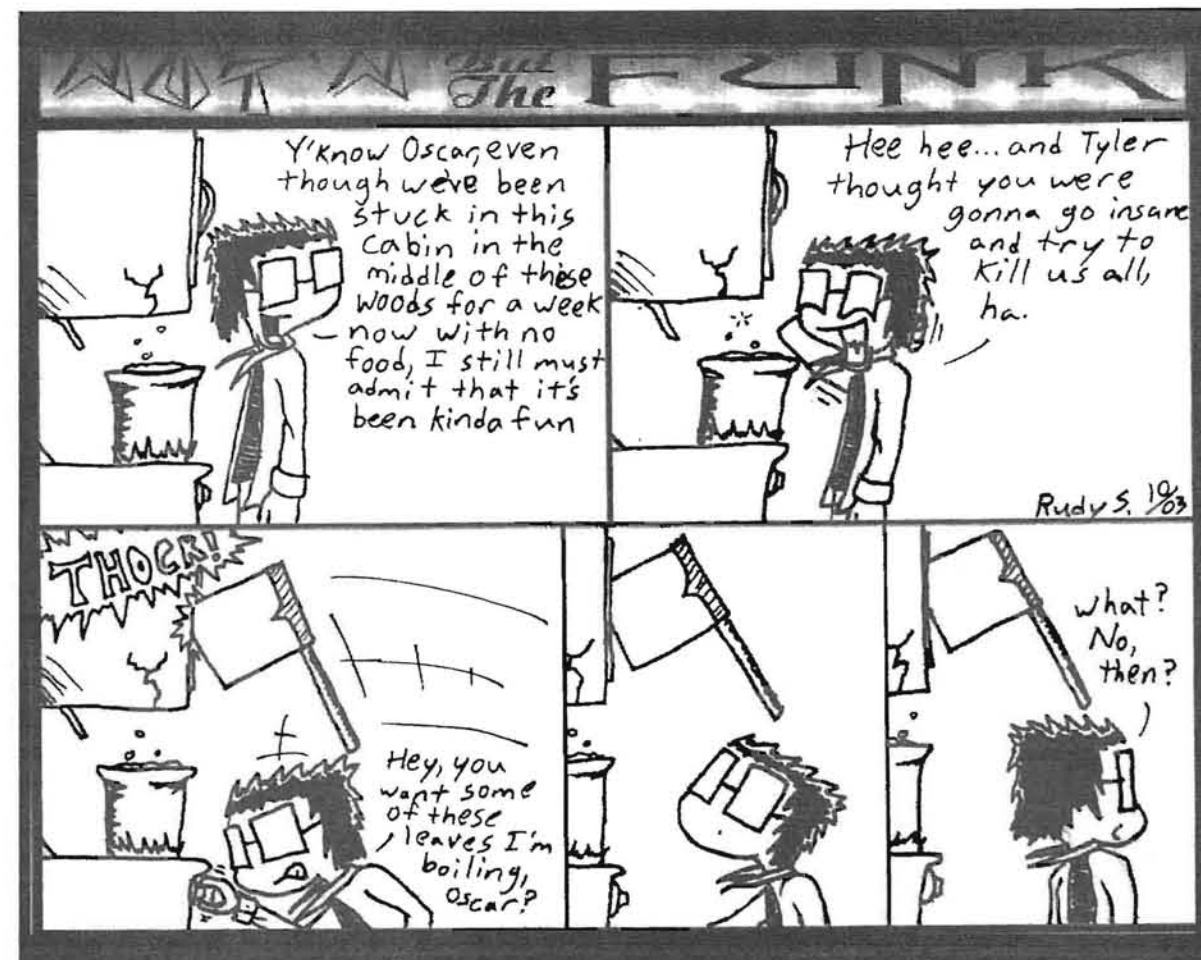
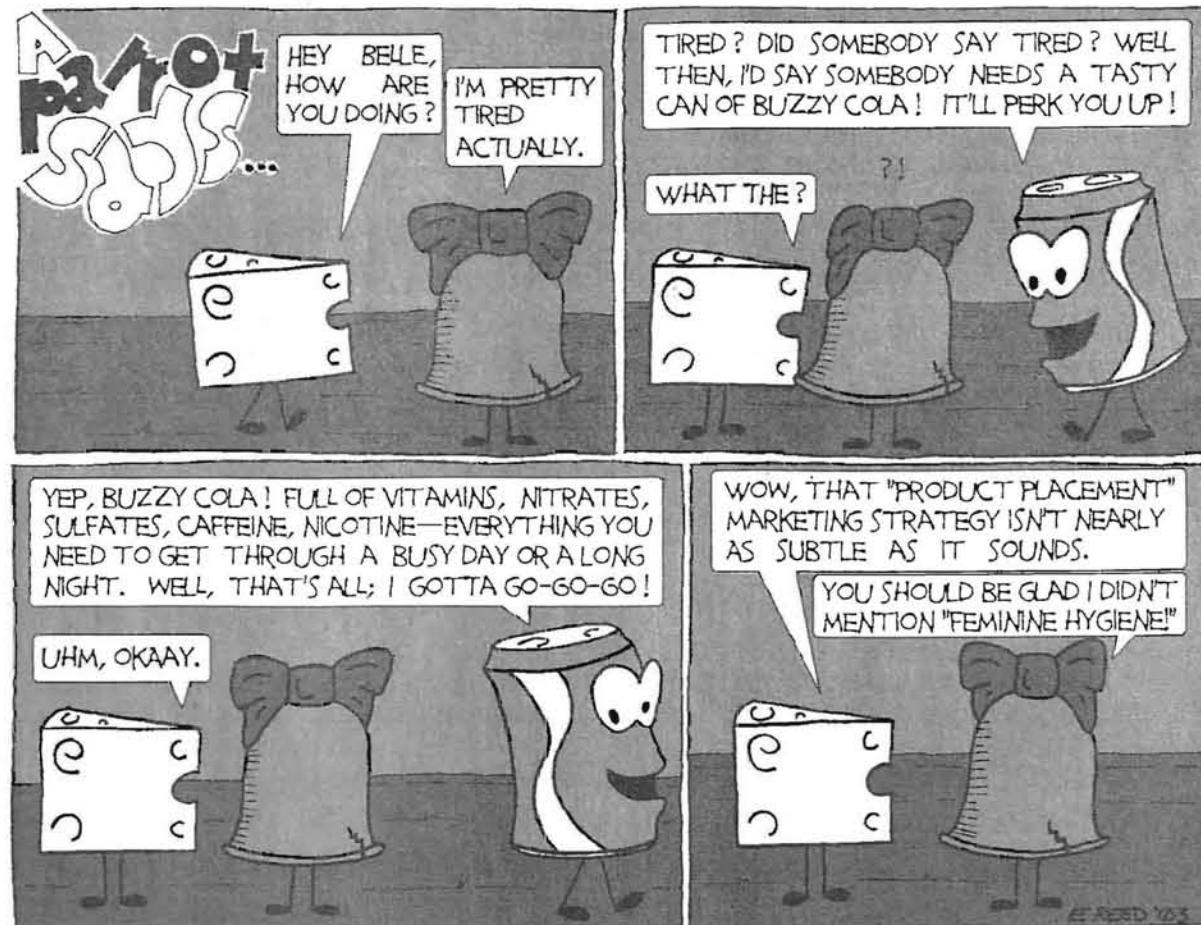
Prehistoric art goes modern



Jesse Gater / The Current

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FREDERICA VON STADE

Saturday, November 1, 8 p.m.

Frederica von Stade has enriched the world of classical music for three decades with her appearances in opera, concert and recital. Sarah Bryan Miller of the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* has said, "Von Stade seems to have a wonderful time...and it's impossible not to have a good time along with her."

And coming soon . . .

JOHN PRINE, Oct. 25 • T'ANG STRING QUARTET, Oct. 27 • ARIANNA STRING QUARTET, Nov. 1 & 2 • TAMA, Nov. 5 • UMSL UNIVERSITY ORCHESTRA, Nov. 7
Monty Python's ERIC IDLE, Nov. 7 • BEAUSOLEIL avec MICHAEL DOUCET, Nov. 8
UNITED STATES ARMY FIELD BAND, Nov. 12 • Pianist GARRICK OHLSSON, Nov. 15 • UMSL BAND CONCERT, Nov. 20 • WINDHAM HILL WINTER SOLSTICE TOUR, Nov. 21 • MOSCOW BALLET'S "GREAT RUSSIAN NUTCRACKER," Nov. 22
. . . AND MUCH MORE!

Call 314.516.4949,

or toll-free at **866.516.4949,**

for your season brochure or to order tickets.

www.touhill.org



Ticket Office hours: Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; noon through intermission for Saturday performances; and two hours before a performance.

