

# The Current

February 25, 2008

www.thecurrentonline.com

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**THIS WEEK**

**News at Noon returns**

This Wednesday, Feb. 27, Marty Rochester, political science professor, will discuss "Between Iraq and a Hard Place: U.S. Foreign Policy in the 21st Century" from noon until 1:30 p.m. in Century Room A of the MSC.

**INSIDE**



**Here she is, Mrs. RHA**

In a pageant all about dragging out the show, see who is crowned this year's Mr. and Mrs. RHA.

See FEATURES, page 6



**St. Petersburg Ballet graces the Touhill**

Russian Ballet spins its way into the audience's heart at the Touhill PAC on Friday.

See A&E, page 8

**Club sport or not, these boys can play**

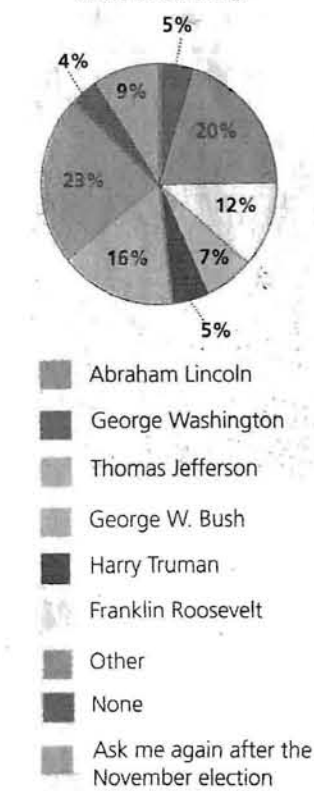
The top two ranking teams in the nation also happen to be from St. Louis. Trifon rollér hockey skates to the No. 2 spot in the country.

See SPORTS, page 10

**ON THE WEB**

**The Current online.com**

**Web poll results:**  
Who is your favorite president of all time?



**This week's question:**  
What movie should have won Best Picture at the Oscars?

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## NIU tragedy prompts Forsee to encourage 3N action

By SARAH O'BRIEN  
News Editor

On Tuesday, new UM system president Gary M. Forsee sent out a system-wide e-mail in response to the tragedy at Northern Illinois University.

In the e-mail, Forsee encouraged students system wide to sign up for the new 3N security system, which had, until this week, only been offered to faculty and staff.

By registering for the 3N system

faculty, staff and now students would receive message notification when a serious situation is occurring on campus.

The first e-mail to invite UM-St. Louis faculty and staff to the 3N program was sent out before winter break in



Gary Forsee  
UM System President

**Quick Read**

New UM system president Gary M. Forsee is encouraging students to sign up for the new 3N security system. Forsee sent an e-mail out to students after the NIU shootings.

2007, according to Bob Samples, director of University Communications, in an earlier interview. The second e-mail requesting faculty and staff registration was to be sent out sometime after the winter semester began.

3N had been building a Web site,

which would make registration available to students coming sometime later this semester. Students can now register by calling the Registrar's Office and providing the office with their phone number to receive notifications.

Similar sites have been created for the UM-Kansas City, Missouri University of Science and Technology, and UM-Columbia campuses, but UM-St. Louis requires the creation of a separate Web site because the University is not on the PeopleSoft system yet.

Registration for faculty and staff is available by going to <http://webapps.umssystem.edu> and clicking on Web Applications, logging in and clicking the employee information tab, clicking university emergency information, and entering in their information.

"I hope and pray we never need to activate the alert system in response to events such as last week's tragedy at Northern Illinois University," Forsee stated in the e-mail.

See 3N REGISTRATION, page 3



Matthew Hill • Photo Editor

## AMNESTY HOLDS GITMO PROTEST

Tom McGruder, sophomore, education, and Jacob Perkins, senior, psychology, simulate prisoners held at Guantanamo Bay last Monday on the Millennium Student Center bridge. The protest was in response to former U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales' visit to St. Louis on Feb. 19.

For full story, see page 3

## ON THIN ICE . . .



Danny Reise • Assistant Photo Editor

A blanket of ice covers campus Friday evening near the Touhill Performing Arts Center. An ice storm swept through St. Louis Thursday with another round on Friday. The campus closed for evening classes Thursday, but stayed open Thursday morning and all day Friday.

## SGA president discusses referendum for Metro pass

By SARAH O'BRIEN & JEREMY TRICE

News Editor & Staff Writer

The executives from the University's Student Government Association were involved in a discussion on Friday about a possible plan for continuing to offer MetroLink passes.

SGA President Bryan Goers said "nothing is set," but SGA is "in the process of wording a possible referendum in terms of what numbers would be."

"We are proposing to either keep the price of the Metro passes at \$60 or possibly start a per credit hour fee," Goers said.

Goers shared the possibility of the Metro passes being priced at "\$1-\$2 per credit hour, so maybe the program could possibly pay for everyone to get a pass."

The preliminary meeting also discussed possible plans for the University to have a Metro pass program during the summer as well.

"Plans for the summer program are not yet set," Goers said. "We don't know how much the summer program will be and we're possibly looking at what next year's program will look like."

Many students commute daily via the MetroLink from around the St. Louis metro area, some even drive to MetroLink stops to park and commute in order to avoid disastrous parking conditions on campus.

The Metro pass program has become a disputed luxury for UM-St.



File Photo

SGA President Bryan Goers said he considers the Metro pass program important. "Metro is the only way for some students to get to class," he said.

Louis students. Before Metro's expansion, students received the pass free of charge.

In fall 2006, students were required to pay \$45 per semester for the pass. The price went up in fall 2007 to its current price of \$60 in lieu of losing the Metro pass program altogether.

Last year, the program, which made Metro passes available to students for only \$45, did not reach its sale quota of 3,200 in order to keep the pass at the same price, and many, including Vice Provost of Student Affairs Curt Coonrod, doubted the program's availability for the '07-'08

school year.

Coonrod announced that unless pending talks with MetroLink turned dramatically, the University would no longer be able to supply students with the discounted Metro pass. The student pass offered by Metro costs \$125 for students under the age of 23, but the majority of student's attending UM-St. Louis do not fall in that range. A large cause for the stress on the program was the 4 percent rate increase on the price for the program two years ago. Goers said it is important to keep this program in place because "Metro is the only way for some students to get to class."

Stay Current with this week's weather	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Weather predictions taken from NOAA national weather system.
Hi/Low:	54/33	35/20	35/24	43/35	46/27	45/29	51/38	
Precip:	50%	30%	10%	10%	30%	45%	20%	

# CAMPUS CRIMELINE

MONDAY, FEB. 18

STEALING UNDER \$500 -  
VILLA BUILDING

The victim reported that sometime since the beginning of the semester, person(s) unknown stole a Fender brand guitar amplifier, which was being stored in the attic area of the building.

TUESDAY, FEB. 19

FORGERY -  
MILLENNIUM STUDENT CENTER

Sometime between Jan. 4 and Jan. 10, forged checks were cashed at the MSC bank. Through a complete and thorough investigation involving two different jurisdictions, it was determined that an employee at Chartwells had forged and cashed some checks at the U.S. Bank on campus. The investigation is still ongoing, and although an arrest has been made, no formal charges have been filed yet.

STEALING UNDER \$500 -  
KATHY WEINMAN CENTER

Sometime between 4:45 p.m. and 6 p.m., person(s) unknown stole the victim's personally owned cell phone. The victim was out of the office with a group session and the office was left unlocked. The victim indicated that the cell phone was left on the desk. There are no suspects in this incident.

FRIDAY, FEB. 21

STEALING OVER \$500 -  
MILLENNIUM STUDENT CENTER

Sometime between Feb. 7 and Feb. 19, person(s) unknown stole one credit card and a small amount of cash from an employee. The employee said the cash and credit card belonged to them, and were inside of an envelope in the office area. There are no suspects in this incident.

The UM-St. Louis Police Department is open 24 hours a day. If you see anyone that looks suspicious or out of place you are encouraged to call the UM-St. Louis Police at 516-5155 or 911 if it is an emergency.

Remember that crime prevention is a community effort, and anyone having information concerning these or any other incidents should contact the campus police.

## CORRECTIONS

The Current regrets that sometimes in our making of this publication, we make mistakes.

To report any corrections that need to be made, please contact The Current at 314-516-5174 or by e-mail at thecurrent@umsl.edu.

In the Feb. 11 issue of The Current the following corrections need to be made:

The photo caption for the standalone "Painting for a Cause" incorrectly spelled the name of the woman in the photograph. The correct spelling of her name is Liz Fuhro.

In the Feb. 18 issue of The Current the following corrections need to be made:

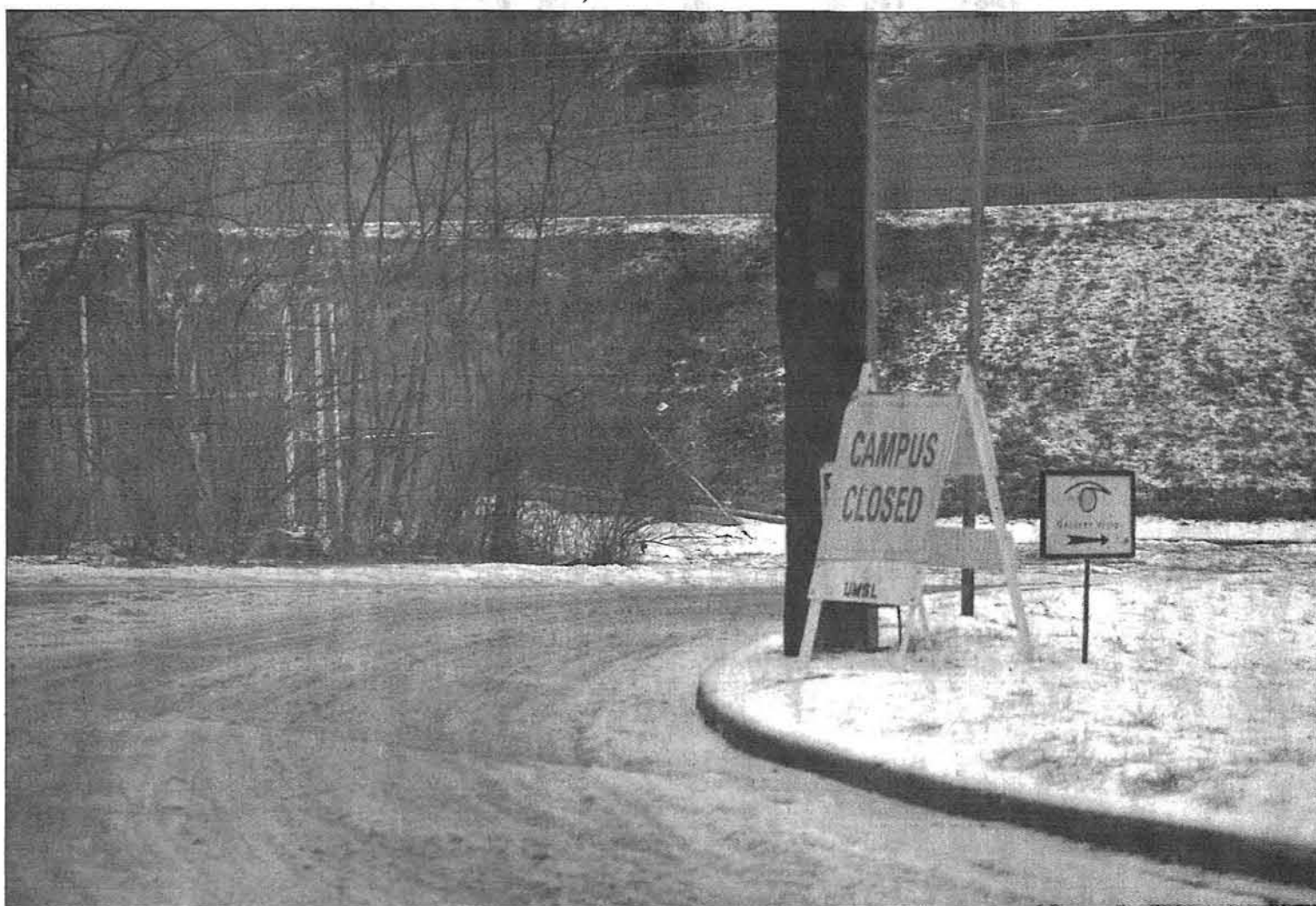
In the article, "40 years of ABC... and counting," Colin Powell's name was misspelled.

In the Corrections section, regarding a staff viewpoint, "Gardasil does not cure HPV, cancer" the correction included a typo in the headline correction.

In the article, "Rivalry games bring big turnout," Matt Tesson was identified as both an alumnus and a senior. Tesson is an alumnus, not a senior.

The web poll results printed on Page 1 were not accurately reported. For the question, "What was your reaction to the results of the 'Super Tuesday' primaries?" the correct results were 52 percent were "Excited," 21 percent were "Disappointed," 2 percent were "Enraged," 21 percent said they "Don't Care" and 2 percent said, "What Primary? What is that?"

## ROADS PACKED, BUT ONLY WITH ICE



Danny Reise • Assistant Photo Editor

Campus closed at 3 p. m. on Thursday because of bad road conditions after an ice storm swept through the St. Louis area.

## What's Current

Your weekly calendar of campus events

MONDAY, FEB. 25

### Book Discussion

Jody Miller, associate professor of criminology and criminal justice at UM-St. Louis, will discuss her new book, *Getting Played: African American Girls, Urban Inequality, and Gendered Violence* at 12:15 p.m. in 222 JC Penny. Drawing from richly textured interviews with adolescent girls and boys in St. Louis, Miller's research reveals gendered harms resulting from racial inequality and urban neglect. For more information, contact Karen Lucas at 5974.

TUESDAY, FEB. 26

### Free trade lecture

J. Frank Mermoud, special representative for the Office of Commercial and Business Affairs at the US State Department will present a lecture on the benefits of free trade. The lecture will take place from 7:30 p.m., with registration and reception starting at 6:45 p.m. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, visit <http://cfis-umsl.com> or call 7299.

### Soul Food Cook-off

Associated Black Collegians will host a soul food cook-off at 5 p.m. Contestants will present dishes to be judged with prizes for winners. This event is free and open to the public. For more information or to compete in the cook-off, contact Antonette Dickens at [adgg7@umsl.edu](mailto:adgg7@umsl.edu).

### Table Tennis Tournament

Campus Rec will host a one-night table tennis tournament in 221 Mark Twain from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. for students, faculty and staff.

All skill levels accommodated. For more information, or to register, call the Campus Rec Office at 5326.

### Leadership Academy

The Neighborhood Leadership Academy offers current and future leaders of neighborhood, community and public sector organizations the opportunity to work on community improvement projects for their neighborhood under the guidance of experienced instructors. Participants complete a personal leadership development plan, design and implement a community-building project, and make a presentation to classmates about their project. Meets on selected Tuesdays and Saturdays through May 20. Fee is \$300 for community volunteers and \$500 for community organization staff. From 6 p.m. until 9 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 27

### Homecoming Meeting

Student Government Association will hold a meeting for the Homecoming Committee at 3 p.m. in the SGA Chambers. Any interested in the development of Homecoming are encouraged to attend. For more information, visit <http://sga.umsl.edu> or call 5105.

### Bosnian Language Class

Continuing Education will host a Bosnian Language class. This practical course provides a comprehensive introduction to modern Bosnian for those who would like to speak the language or use it for reading or research. It stresses culture as well as reading writing, listening comprehension, and speaking. Fee is \$65. Located at Bayless Intermediate Library. For more information, contact Ashley Paterson at 5974.

### The Vagina Monologues

UM-St. Louis students will present a benefit production of Eve Ensler's award-winning play "The Vagina Monologues"

"What's Current" is a free service for all student organizations and campus departments. Deadline for submissions is 5 p.m. the Thursday before publication. Space consideration is given to student organizations and is on a first-come, first-served basis. We suggest all postings be submitted at least one week prior to the event. E-mail event listings to [thecurrent@umsl.edu](mailto:thecurrent@umsl.edu).

All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.



File Photo

The St. Louis Modern Chinese School performed the "Lion Dance" during China Night in the Pilot House last year.

at 7:30 p.m. in Touhill PAC. UM-St. Louis students will be presenting this famous play for the first time ever on campus. Proceeds will be donated to local domestic violence organizations. Admission is \$15, \$10 for students.

FRIDAY, FEB. 29

### Motown Night

Associated Black Collegians will host Motown Night, a black history celebration party. The party will include a live band and a lip-sync competition. Contestants may be in groups or solo acts, and full costumes are encouraged. Prizes awarded to winners, food served to all attending. This event is free. Contact Antonette Dickens at [adgg7@umsl.edu](mailto:adgg7@umsl.edu) for more information.

SATURDAY, MARCH 1

### China Night

The Chinese Student Association will host its annual China Night starting at 5:30 p.m. in the Pilot House. Event includes Chinese performances, buffet and gifts. Admission is \$9 per person. For more information e-mail [LP.Yan@umsl.edu](mailto:LP.Yan@umsl.edu) or [sym76@umsl.edu](mailto:sym76@umsl.edu).

### Announcements

**Instructional Computing Labs** are offering 1-hour classes on a number of computer topics. Most subjects are offered several times.

These classes are free to UM-St. Louis students, staff, and faculty. To sign up and view a complete list of available training sessions, visit <http://www.umsl.edu/training> or any computer lab on campus, or call 7170.

**Researchers at UM-St. Louis** are seeking participants for a new study assessing and treating individuals suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. Participants must be 18 years old and suffering from PTSD resulting from an interpersonal assault. Participants will be compensated up to \$250 for their time, including a full psychological assessment and trauma-focused therapy, free of charge.

Call 6738 for more information or to participate.

**The deadline for Campus Rec's Skyzone Dodgeball Tournament** are Thursday, Feb. 28.

This dodgeball competition is an 8-on-8 tournament played on a trampoline playing field. To register or for more information, visit the Campus Rec office at 203 Mark Twain or call 5326.

# The Current

The University of Missouri-St. Louis  
Student Newspaper Since 1966

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### ON THE WEB

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### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the editor should be brief, and those not exceeding 250 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.

### ABOUT US

The Current is published weekly on Mondays. Advertising rates are available upon request; terms, conditions and restrictions apply.

The Current, financed in part by student activities fees, is not an official publication of UM-St. Louis.

The University is not responsible for the content of The Current and/or its policies. Commentary and columns reflect the opinion of the individual author.

Unsigned editorials reflect the opinion of the majority of the Editorial Board. The Current requests the courtesy of at least 24-hour advance notice for all events to be covered. Advertisements do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Current, its staff members or the University.

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First copy is free; all subsequent copies are 25 cents and are available at the offices of The Current.

### ADVERTISING

All UM-St. Louis students, alumni, faculty and staff are entitled to free classified advertisements of 40 words or less.

The Current also offers display advertisements at a rate of \$8.75 per column inch for off campus advertisers and \$7.75 for on campus organizations and departments. Various discounts may apply. To receive an advertising rate card, contact our advertising or business staff or download a rate card from our Web site at <http://www.thecurrentonline.com/adrates>

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## News at Noon

The Current  
&  
The New York Times

News at Noon is an open forum to talk about issues in the news and bring the campus community together to discuss these issues. Visit [thecurrentonline.com](http://thecurrentonline.com) or call 5174 for more information. The first forum will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 27 from noon to 1:30 p.m. in Century Room A, MSC.

# Amnesty protests Alberto Gonzales at Washington University

By SARAH O'BRIEN  
News Editor

On Tuesday Amnesty International at UM-St. Louis joined Washington University students in protesting former Attorney General Alberto Gonzales' visit to Washington University. Gonzales was the legal architect of Guantanamo Bay.

The students wore scraps of orange fabric, and some donned orange jumpsuits to show solidarity with the prisoners being held at the controversial high security detention camp for those who have allegedly plotted against the United States.

Guantanamo Bay has been tagged by survivors and others as a "torture camp," and charges have been brought against Gonzales for the creation of the questionable policies practiced there.

"The Wash U peace coalition came to Amnesty and asked if we would help participate in the protest," Rachele Kuhl, sophomore, psychology, and co-president of the UM-St. Louis Amnesty branch, said.

Amnesty International's stance on the prison is that Guantanamo Bay be torn down for ethical and humanitarian reasons.

"Attending the protest was a

good opportunity for us to uphold Amnesty's belief that Guantanamo should be shut down for violation of human rights," Kuhl said.

Amnesty members had a table on the bridge the week before the event and passed out flyers inviting students to meet up with them at the

“  
Attending the protest was a good opportunity for us to uphold Amnesty's belief that Guantanamo should be shut down for violation of human rights.”

-Rachele Kuhl  
sophomore, psychology

South Campus MetroLink stop to travel to the protest together.

"We asked, 'do you want to hear about Guantanamo bay?' and a lot of people stopped and listened," Kuhl said.

"We really want to educate UMSL faculty and students about what is happening," Kuhl said.

About 12 UM-St. Louis students attended the protest alongside Washington University and St.

Louis University students.

Gonzales was speaking at the 560 Music Building across from the University City Hall on Delmar Boulevard about his life and career after being attorney general.

Amnesty claims it was protesting his visit because the large honorarium Gonzales was receiving from Washington University was funding his trial for the creation of Guantanamo Bay.

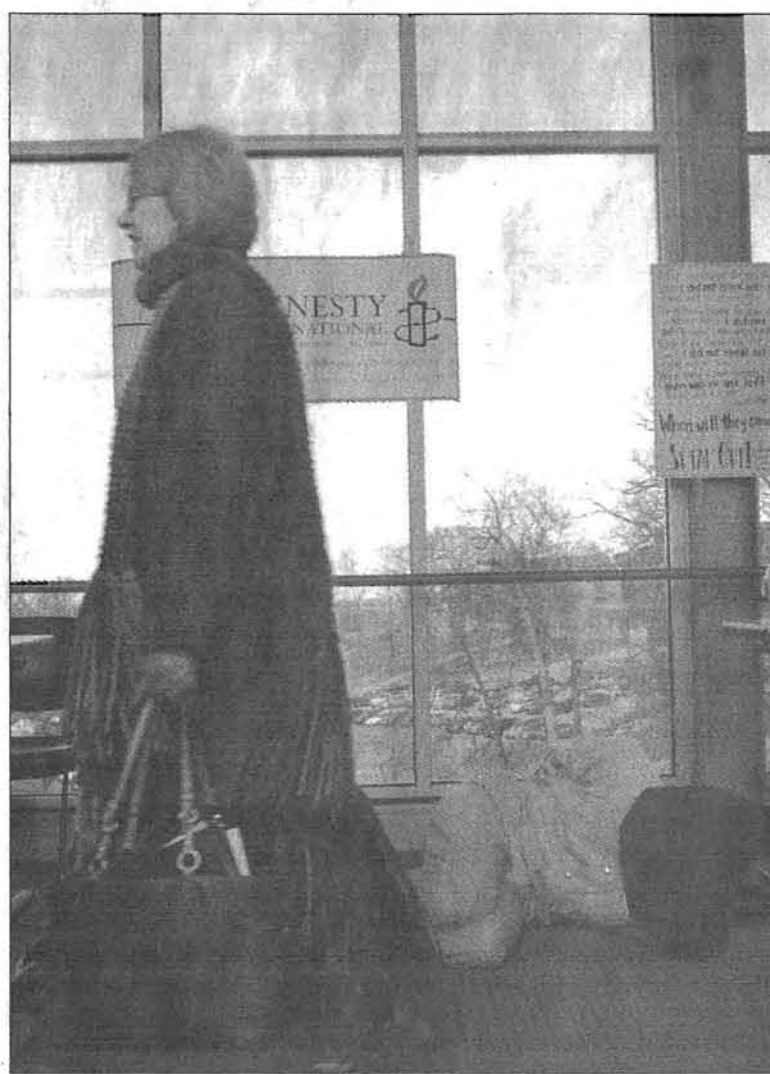
The speech cost about \$30,000 and was paid for by Washington University's College Republicans organization to the chagrin of Washington University's faculty and students alike.

Around 200 students showed up in orange holding signs which read "Torture is evil" and "Love my country, fear my government." They also chanted, "A-G, don't torture me."

"We yelled and we chanted a lot," Kuhl said, "we stood there with other students and chanted 'close down Guantanamo'."

"We had a band there and another organization which reenacted what detainees were put through at the prison," Kuhl said.

She said Amnesty wants to stress that they want students to get tuned into other protests and educate themselves about what is happening.



Matthew Hill • Photo Editor

Jacob Perkins, senior, psychology, simulates a prisoner at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba last Monday. Members of Amnesty International went to a protest held at Washington University on Tuesday.

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Optometry professor named to Blunt's commission

Timothy Wingert, associate professor in the College of Optometry, will serve on Gov. Matt Blunt's Children's Vision Commission, a seven-member board that analyzes and adopts standardized eye screening and examination tests for Missouri students and oversees the pilot project to track results of the eye screenings and exams.



Timothy Wingert  
Will serve on governor's Children Vision Commission

The commission is expected to report on its findings to the Missouri legislature in 2011. Wingert will serve on the board until 2012.

### US Bank in MSC named 'Branch of the Year'

The US Bank branch on the second floor in the Millennium Student Center was named "Branch of the Year" for 2007.

Ernie Marten, bank manager, received a plaque honoring his branch at a convention in Reno, Nev. during the week of Feb. 11. "It was great to be recognized in front of all of our peers. There were over 700 branches there," he said.

The UM-St. Louis branch received the highest honor out of 20 university branches in 24 different states.

The award is given to branches based on their core deposits, non-interest income and control of expenses for audit purposes.

US Bank opened on campus in January 2007. Last month, the branch filed over 3,000 transactions.

### Senate committee approves student curator bill

The Senate Education Committee unanimously adopted SB 873, which would give a vote to the student representative to the University of Missouri Board of Curators. The vote was approved 11-0.

Each curator must be named from a different congressional district. As of now, Missouri had nine districts, but the student representative to be named from any congressional district.

Sen. Chuck Graham, D-Columbia, is sponsoring the bill, which would allow the student curator to be a voting member of the board if Missouri drops to eight congressional districts after the next census in 2010.

The student curator would not be able to vote on decisions regarding hiring or firing of personnel.

To read the bill in full, goto <http://www.senate.mo.gov/>

### 3N REGISTRATION from page 1

Earlier this semester 3N had shown low numbers, about 15 percent of faculty and staff system wide, having registered to receive the text, or other message notifications about imminent situations occurring on campus.

"I encourage students, faculty, staff and other members of our on-campus communities to register for free as a member of the 3N network. Your registration will help the University provide you with official information in case of a campus emergency," Forsee stated in the email.

Samples noted that some were "leery" of giving out personal information and insisted that they would only be contacted in case of a real campus emergency.

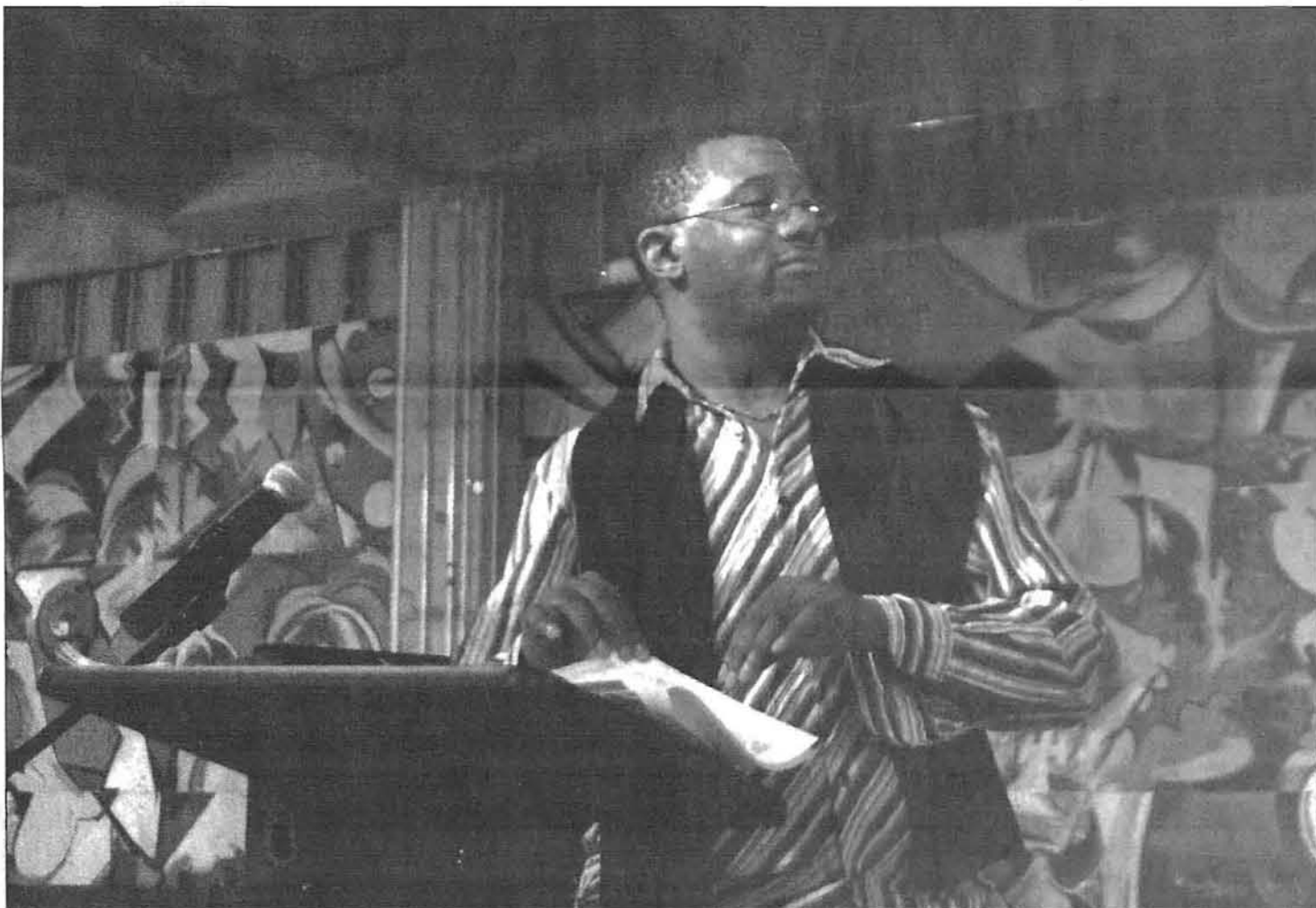
"Not a severe emergency would be a water main break on campus," Samples said in an earlier interview. "A tornado touching down close to campus may be a situation in which notification is sent."

Samples encouraged registration, adding that the emergency notifications were not the only "tool" being used to keep campus safe.

UM-St. Louis officials are more intent on getting this program into place than ever after six Northern Illinois Students were killed on Feb. 14, including the gunman who committed suicide.

A memorial was held for them Sunday evening, Feb. 24.

## PROFESSOR OF HIP-HOP



Carrie Fasiska • Managing Editor

Keynote speaker Thomas Bell gave a presentation exploring the lyrics and messages of homophobia in past and present hip-hop music. The Associated Black Collegians and PRIZM hosted Hip-Hop Homophobia, which took place in the Pilot House on Feb. 18.

Get your fix 24/7.

[www.thecurrentonline.com](http://www.thecurrentonline.com)

## Do you have what it takes?

... of a single copy of such a printing 3. the issue of a well-known work distinguished by its editor, publisher, etc. [the Skeat edition of Chaucer] 4. any of the various regular issues of a newspaper [the Sunday edition] **ed-i-tor** (ed'i tər) n. [L. < editus, pp. of edere, to give out, publish < e-, out + dare, to give: see DATIVE] 1. a person who edits ☆2. the head of a department of a newspaper, magazine, etc. ☆3. a device for editing motion-picture film, video tape, etc. as by viewing, cutting, and splicing — **ed-i-tor-ship** n. — **ed-i-tress** (-ə tris) n. fem. **ed-i-to-ri-al** (ed'ə tōr'ē əl) adj. 1. of or by an editor or of or for editing 2. characteristic of an editor or editorial; expressing opinion in the manner of an editor [an editorial]

The Current IS NOW SEEKING APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2008-2009 **EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**

OPEN TO ALL STUDENTS WITH AT LEAST A 2.0 GPA. MUST HAVE COMPLETED NINE CREDIT HOURS AT UM-ST. LOUIS.

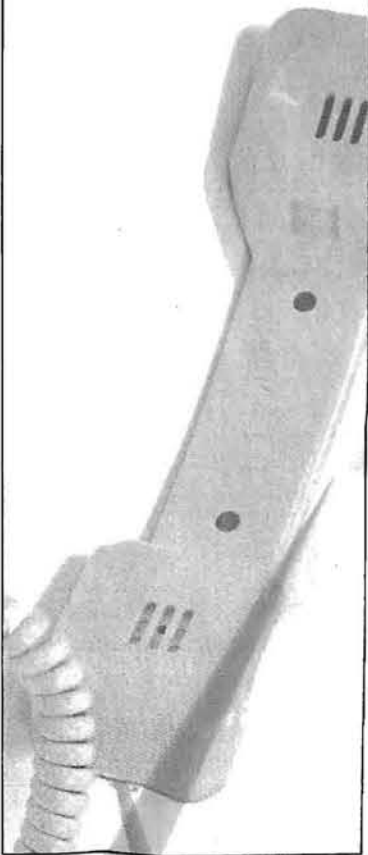
APPLICATIONS MUST CONSIST OF A RESUME, COVER LETTER AND THREE LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION SENT TO PAUL HACKBARTH.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: FRIDAY, MARCH 14 AT 5 P.M. E-MAIL: [THECURRENT@UMSL.EDU](mailto:THECURRENT@UMSL.EDU) OR DROP OFF AT 388 MSC.

THE CURRENT IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER - CALL 314-516-5174 FOR MORE INFORMATION

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WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

As a forum for public expression on campus, The Current welcomes letters to the editor and guest commentaries from students, faculty, staff members and others concerned with issues relevant to the University of Missouri- St. Louis.

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 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.

Guest commentaries are typically longer (generally 400-600 words) on a specific topic of interest to readers. If you are interested in writing a guest commentary, please contact The Current's editor-in-chief.

Letters and commentaries will also be printed online at www.thecurrentonline.com

CONTACT US

Mail: One University Blvd. Room 388 MSC St. Louis, MO 63121

Email: thecurrent@umsl.edu

OUR OPINION

Whose fault is it anyway?

The students, the players or the media?



How many students on campus right now do not know that this University has athletic teams? The number is probably low, but who should take the blame for the lack of attendance and awareness of the Tritons?

Is it the students' fault for not wanting to be more involved or could it be the administration's fault for not making sporting events more appealing to the student body?

Should the blame fall on the players and coaches for not bringing in a championship each year?

Does the blame fall on the shoulders of The Current for not taking on the lack of fan support with a full head of steam?

The reality of it is that no one can fully take the blame for low support, but that does not mean that the players do not give it their all each game.

A look at the Great Lakes Valley Conference Web site shows that UM-St. Louis has the lowest attendance for home basketball games this season. The men's home games averaged about 270 fans per game while the women's home games brought in about 232 fans per game.

Even though there were a few basketball games with large turnouts, attendance this season for UM-St. Louis athletics has been at its lowest. A large turnout for some basketball games simply means having more home fans in attendance than the visitors.

The Tritons are not only at the lowest for attendance at home games, but they are at the lowest for all games.

UM-St. Louis is a commuter

When you think of athletics and sports teams at UM-St. Louis, what do you think of? Share your thoughts in our online forums at www.thecurrentonline.com/messageboard or write a letter to the editor or guest commentary and send it to thecurrent@umsl.edu

school and a lot of students come here to go to class and then leave. A majority of the University's students live off campus and not too many of them seem to want to make a trip from home to watch the Tritons play.

Most games are in the evening, but day games are on the weekends and once again, a lot of UM-St. Louis students are here for classes only.

With spring sports starting up, support for the new UM-St. Louis Tritons image is really going to be put to the test.

Tennis and softball both play on campus, even though some students have said that they have attended UM-St. Louis for years and have never seen tennis courts or a softball field. Not to mention the lack of a home field advantage for our baseball team, actually a total lack of a

home field. We also have golf teams here at our University, but their tournaments keep them far away from UM-St. Louis' campus.

So if it is already hard to get fans to come to campus to watch games, how is the athletic department going to deal with travel issues if they want a bigger fan turnout?

A good way to bring in fans is to win. That seems like a simple recipe for success, but that has been a missing key ingredient for the Tritons. In fact, with the exception of the women's soccer team, everyone has been playing like they were Rivermen and Riverwomen.

It is true that UM-St. Louis was built on the hard work by the great players of the past, but the name change was supposed to be more than just a name change. It was supposed to be the start of something new. So far, there has been only one team to break the Rivermen, actually Riverwomen, mold and make strides to the future: The Tritons women's soccer team.

The athletic department has been making moves this year to improve overall support for the Tritons, but UM-St. Louis fan support is not something that will happen overnight, over one season or even one school year.

It will take time, but unfortunately students today want winners today.

When it comes to sports, if you have to look to next season to get better, you must know that your team is not good right now.

But how about a little support anyway?

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Is The Current vagina friendly or not?

I would like to express my extreme disappointment in the lack of coverage that The Current has provided to the V-Day Campaign and the coming Vagina Monologues shows. There was a 7 ft. tall wooden vagina in the Millennium Student Center for crying out loud and yet there is no mention of the event in this week's paper! This is the first time that UM-St. Louis has participated in the V-Day campaign, and unfortunately The

Current's attitude mirrors the very reason why we have worked so hard to bring The Vagina Monologues to UM-St. Louis. Women's issues, especially domestic violence and sexual assault, are all too often ignored. By bringing the V-Day campaign to UM-St. Louis, there is an opportunity to open up a dialog about the female body, sexuality, and violence against women, while raising money for some great local domestic violence organizations, LAAW and RAVEN. By ignoring this exciting new program, you close your eyes to the violence and the victims you could be helping by supporting this worthy

cause. Be vagina friendly, and stop by the V-Day booth in the Rotunda, come to the shows, and help end violence against women.

Monica Swindle
Senior
English

Something on your mind? Want to talk about issues that affect college students or the campus?

Submit your own letter to the editor by e-mailing it to thecurrent@umsl.edu.

What's your opinion?

How do you feel about the topics we have covered?

- Athletic Support
School closings during winter weather
Gun control

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Write a guest commentary
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UNDERCURRENT

By Danny Reise • Asst. Photo Editor

Do you think the relationship between the U.S. and Cuba will change?

What do you think? Send your own response to thecurrent@umsl.edu or talk about it in our online forums at www.thecurrentonline.com



Emily Langston
Junior
Math Education

"Yes, but I'm not quite sure."



Giovanna Mendoza
Sophomore
International Business

"I predict another Cuban Missile Crisis for all these shenanigans."



Warren Detjen
Graduate Student
History

"The effect will be positive as in all cases when the old guard relinquishes power."



Makal Soltys
Freshman
Undecided

"Raul Castro is more capitalist than his older brother was, so this could be an economic opportunity for the people of Cuba."



T. Ryan
Junior
Media Studies

"Yeah, the U.S. will help build better ties with Cuba and the world."

EDITOR'S VIEWPOINT

School still open? S'now problem

"Tell me why, why, is it so / That I'm soo-oh, ice cold (ice cold)."

Yes, these lyrics by Baby seem fitting both to describe the weather Thursday and Friday and what students are feeling regarding administrators' decision to cancel classes too late on Thursday or not at all on Friday.

My alarm went off around 8 o'clock Thursday morning and I hit the snooze button two more times. Half asleep, I looked for the TV remote to see if UM-St. Louis would be on the list of school closings. I changed channels, hoping maybe one of them would have it. Alas, when it came to the U's, UM-St. Louis was nowhere to be found.

I got up and got ready to trek through the walloping of ice, sleet and snow that had covered the bi-state area to arrive at my 9:30 a.m. class. I arrived 10 minutes late, but it was well worth the tardiness. I did not want to end up in the ditch like I saw cars doing every two miles in Illinois.

At about 30 miles per hour driving to campus, passing more and more accidents and fewer and fewer snow plows or salt trucks, I wondered, why am I risking my life just to get some attendance points in my Spanish class? After all, I could just call a classmate and ask what I had missed.

However, I made it, safe and sound, and returned home the same way later that afternoon. By the time I left campus around 1 p.m., I had yet to hear any announcement about closing as the sleet and ice continued to pile up on the roads and parking lots, but the campus eventually cancelled evening classes and activities.

UM-St. Louis was not alone in



BY PAUL HACKBARTH
Editor-in-Chief

its decision to stay open. The St. Louis Public Schools and a handful of schools in the Metro East and St. Charles got an earful from parents for staying open or closing early.

Their argument: the weather got worse earlier than expected and when schools have to make a decision by 6 a.m. and the ice

may or may not start until two hours later, administrators have to make the call.

Despite safety concerns, I applaud UM-St. Louis for staying open when it did. The University stayed defiant and refused to give into peer pressure when other universities and school districts closed.

For what reason? I am reminded of a superintendent at the Mascoutah School District in Illinois, which stayed open both Thursday and Friday, who saw the decision to keep schools open as a "life lesson" to students who will one day have to go to work even when the weather is bad.

For a university that prides itself in preparing its students for the working world, this lesson fits right into UM-St. Louis' agenda.

While the University should remember, that unlike high schools and elementary schools which have a smaller district area and student population to worry about, there are students like me who must travel about 30 minutes or more to get to this commuter campus.

With that said, students are paying to get an education and if the school closes each and every time a snowflake falls, it would be difficult to get that education.

Perhaps the answer is to get a clearer crystal ball to predict the weather.

EDITOR'S VIEWPOINT

Caring, not gun control, saves lives

School shootings are not a new phenomenon. They date back as far as 1966 when Charles Whitman killed 16 people and wounded 31 at the University of Texas-Austin. School shootings are, however, becoming a trend.

This month alone, there were six school shootings in the United States; five of those incidents were within eight days.

These shootings happened at schools across the country from an elementary school in Ohio to a technical school in Louisiana and the latest shooting at Northern Illinois University.

There are some that blame these events on lack of gun control. After a 6-year-old girl was killed by another 6-year-old in Michigan in 2000, President Clinton urged Congress to pass new gun control laws.

"How many more people have to get killed before we do something?" Clinton asked. "When first-graders

shoot first-graders, its time for Congress to do what's right for America's families."

I disagree with the former President. I do not believe that stronger gun control will stop these shootings. I feel this is a deeper matter and needs much more than a waiting period before buying guns before it stops.

Most of the shootings have happened because of conflict between the victim and the shooter. The disagreement could have started over something as simple as music or grades and escalated into a violent crime.

Teaching children conflict resolution techniques such as negotiation, compromising, understanding and respect, could be a great start to preventing small arguments from developing into murder.

See SCHOOL SHOOTINGS, page 12



BY CARRIE FASISKA
Managing Editor

SCIENCE COLUMN

# Will funding cuts cause U.S. to lose its science edge?

In the long presidential race, one topic central to both the nation's economic health and the world's future is often overlooked: science.

Although the Web site Science Debate 2008 (<http://www.sciencedebate2008.com/www/index.php>) was started by a pair of writers interested in science, the idea of calling for a presidential debate on science in particular has caught fire with scientists. The Web site is now co-sponsored by American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Council On Competitiveness, the National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Engineering and is supported by over 100 universities and organizations.

Although surrogates for Democratic hopefuls Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama discussed science issues at the American Association for the Advancement of Science convention in Boston about a week ago, the citizens and scientists signing the Science Debate 2008 petition on the Web site are calling for all the remaining candidates of both major parties to have a debate on science. Science is critical to our nations economic future.

In the 20th century, the U. S. scientific and technological edge was unchallenged and contributed greatly to our economic prosperity, particularly post World War II. Other developed nations make science a part of their political discussion and decision-making. In this country, science often lurks only in the background, as an overlooked underpinning to industry and health, and the economy. We have often assumed our scientific and technological leadership as a given but we should not keep that

complacent attitude.

Recently, the Office of the President submitted a proposed budget for the National Institutes of Health for the next fiscal year, 2009. The budget contains cuts to biomedical research that have alarmed both scientists and politicians concerned about the state of science in this country.

In the past, scientists have often been reluctant to speak out about ill-considered government decisions on science but that may be changing. The proposed 2009 budget has scientists concerned that the nation's ability to compete in scientific research is being threatened. Many are now speaking out, as are politicians who have become concerned about our science edge.

Genome Web, a Web Site devoted to molecular biology research science, has reported that some scientists are losing patience with the funding cuts. Researchers must spend more and more time writing grants for shrinking pool of funds.

Grant funding is the lifeblood of basic science research.

The new proposed budget is the same as the 2008 budget but inflation, and a portion committed to international AIDS efforts rather than research, mean that the funding has actually been cut. A quote from Genome Web's article further spells it out: "According to the American Association for the Advancement of Science, this budget would "continue the downward slide in federal research funding" overall and would leave the NIH down 13 percent from its 2004 funding level, adjusting for biomedical inflation."

Cutting funding for biomedical research, an area with great prom-

ise for health advances, means that we are running the risk of losing our competitive edge. Industry does not pay for risky basic research, which is traditionally done at universities, but relies on such research to develop usable products to bring to market. Other developed nations understand this and fund research work because the potential benefits are enormous.

Sen. Tom Harkin (D-Iowa) described the NIH budget freeze as having "grave consequences for Americans suffering from illnesses from cancer to diabetes," in a statement on his Web site. The funding cuts fall heaviest on graduate students and younger scientists seeking their first grants. Competition is much fiercer for funding for those not yet established in their field.

The American Association for the Advancement of Science estimates that success in winning grants may fall to a meager 18 percent. This may have the effect of driving bright students to non-science fields or even to other countries with friendlier policies on science.

Some politicians and pundits claim that fewer Americans major in science in universities, and claim inadequate math and science education in primary and secondary as the reason, with a whisper that maybe Americans are dumber than they used to be.



BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER  
Science Columnist

While math and science education in American schools are in need of improvement, that is not the whole picture. Falling opportunities and salaries for American scientists make majoring in finance and banking

a much more attractive and lucrative career path for smart students.

Maybe they are too smart. Some industries and even universities are not interested in attracting sharp Americans, but the ever-shrinking pool of grant money for research adds to this problem in other ways. As we continue to fail to fund basic research, even the bright international students will go elsewhere to launch and advance their science careers.

Throughout its two terms, the Bush administration has had what many scientists consider a hostile attitude towards science. Government scientists, particularly on the subject of climate change, have faced interference, even censorship by an administration that seemed to view scientific reports as akin to corporate public relations statements. Public relations and science serve very different functions.

Public relations present information in the best light for the company, to craft the image the company wants to present. Scientific reports present just the facts, as they are, informa-

tion that is supported by the most evidence, whether that is the conclusions that scientists were hoping to find or not. Basing policy decisions on rosy reports that present the facts as we wish they would be rather than hard data is a very risky approach to policy making.

Scientists by their nature are cautious about presenting conclusions, a natural conservatism to be as certain of information as possible. Sometimes the facts are not as we wish. The problem is that if a nation's policies are not based on the facts as the

really are, that nation will likely face trouble in the future, when faulty assumptions bump up against reality.

Some business leaders talk endlessly about the need to stay competitive in their industries but if we fail to fund scientific research due to shortsighted fiscal policies, it is the whole nation that will not stay competitive. Better to cut funding for unneeded, high-ticket military schemes like space lasers or big subsidies for industries like oil than cut off funding so essential the future. We need to get our priorities straight.

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# FEATURES

## TOP TEN

### Notable Drag Kings and Drag Queens

10. Miss Understood: Drag Queen who appeared in "Sex and The City."

9. Pirate Anne Bonney: Drag King who dressed as a man for her entire adult life.



8. Dame Edna: (ABOVE) Drag Queen whose autobiography "My Gorgeous Life" is being adapted for stage and screen.

7. Buck Naked: 2006 Solo King Winner of the San Francisco Drag King Contest.

6. Dieta Pepsi: Emcee for PRIZM's annual drag show.

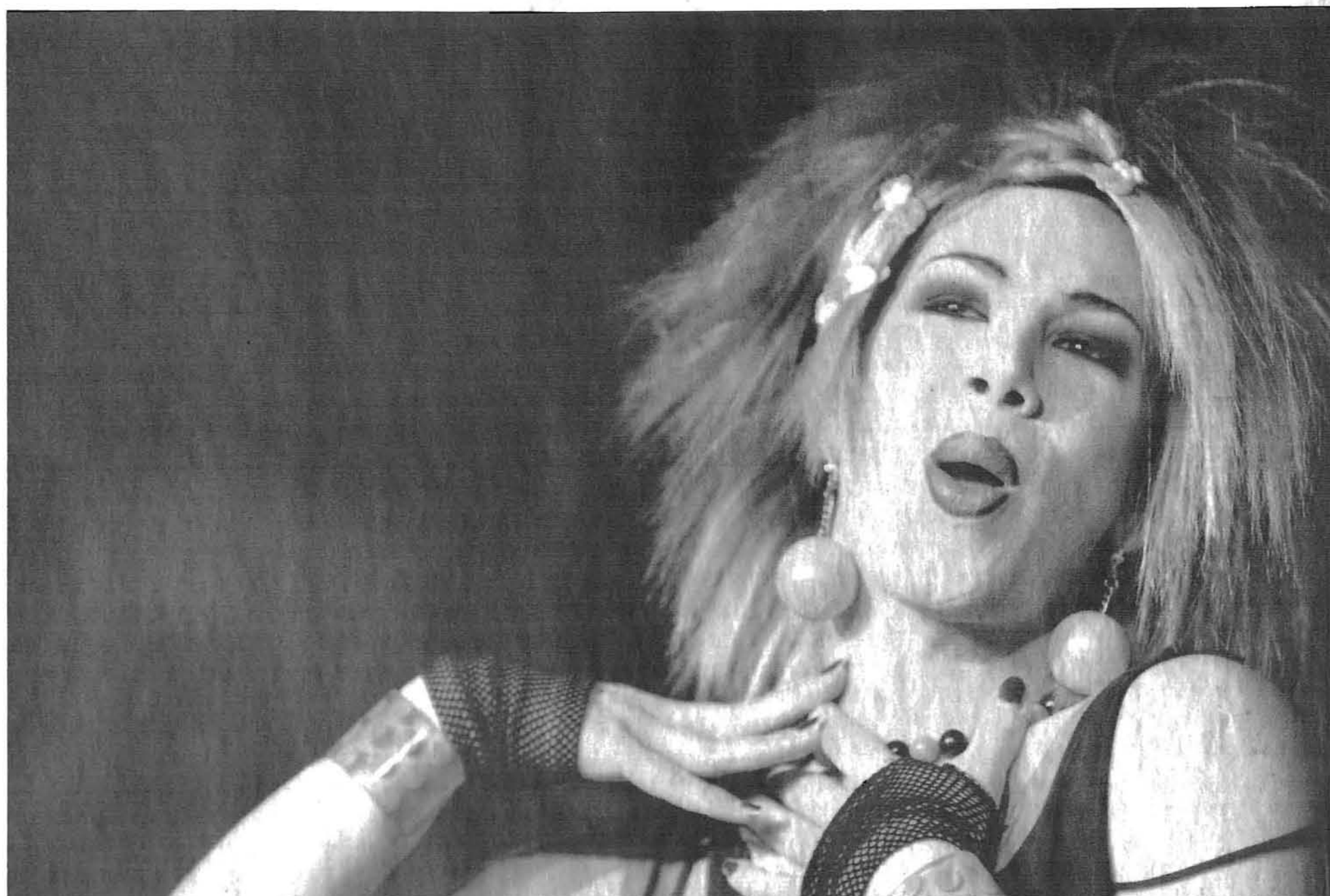
5. Elvis Herselvis: Drag King that impersonates "the king."

4. The Lady Chablis: Drag Queen featured in the book *Garden of Good and Evil*.

3. Nat King Pole: Licensed nurse by day, drag king by night.

2. RuPaul: Drag Queen with her own show "The RuPaul Show" that ran for three years on VH1.

1. Fudgie Frottage: Performer and producer of the world's longest running drag king contest.



## RHA 'Gets Stuffed'

By PAUL HACKBARTH & CARRIE FASISKA

Editor-in-Chief & Managing Editor

There was dancing, lip syncing and a little self defense lesson in the Pilot House Tuesday as the Residential Hall Association held its annual "Get Stuffed" Mr. and Mrs. RHA drag show pageant.

Back again to emcee the event was UM-St. Louis alumnus Tyler Cross as Siren, who kept the audience laughing between performances. He offered this warning to the crowd: "[Dressing in drag] fills one with a profound need to touch and make you uncomfortable, and it's not contagious, unless you want it to be."

The judges for the pageant were SGA President Bryan Goers, Jennifer Siciliani, associate teaching professor in the psychology department, Khalilah Doss, student activities coordinator for Residential Life, Jonathan Lidgus, assistant director of Residential Life and Housing, and Ty Portell, senior, psychology.

Starting off the talent portion of the competition was Ms. Nova Gina, Justin Riddler, junior, theatre and dance. Riddler has competed in the pageant three times.

"Each year, I've learned a little bit more about what I was doing and then applied that to the next year that I did drag," Riddler said.

Following the drag queen were Chelsea Maylee, freshman, psychology as Skeeter Shooter and Nick

Rooney, freshman, chemistry as Ms. Helen Heels.

While most drag queens and kings lip sync and dance to a variety of songs for the talent segment of the pageant, one duo tried something a little different. Ashley Cummins freshman, undeclared, as Kok Dizzle, and Josh Morre, sophomore, undeclared, as Jenna Talia demonstrated self-defense moves.

This was the first time Cummins and Moore participated in the RHA pageant. "She talked me into it a couple of weeks ago," Moore said. Cummins added, "We've been best friends since the age of 12. We do everything together."

Hanson also made an appearance during the event. The pop trio was played by Paige Dubman, freshman, music as Jose Canyousee; Grace Ritter, sophomore, biology as Justin Sane; and Giovanna Mendoza, freshman, business administration as Buster Hymen. They performed the boy band's hit "Mmmmbop" with their set of props including a guitar, keyboard, scooter and even a cowbell.

Candy Johnson played by Alex Breuer, freshman, music education finished up the first half of the pageant with "All That She Wants" by Ace of Base.

RHA President Kate Blankmeyer and Ben White, junior, liberal studies, provided half-time entertainment dressed as Barbie and Ken. They performed "Barbie Girl" by Aqua.

Siren asked each contestant two questions during the second portion of the event while contestants showed off their evening wear.

Ms. Nova Gina was up first and said if she were to get a tattoo, it would be the theatrical happy and sad masks, as she is a theater major.

Skeeter Shooter told the audience that if he had one super power, it would be "X-ray vision, and I think you all know why."

If Helen Heels' TV was stuck on one channel, it would be CNN, and if she were invisible for one day, she said she would follow Siren around for the day.

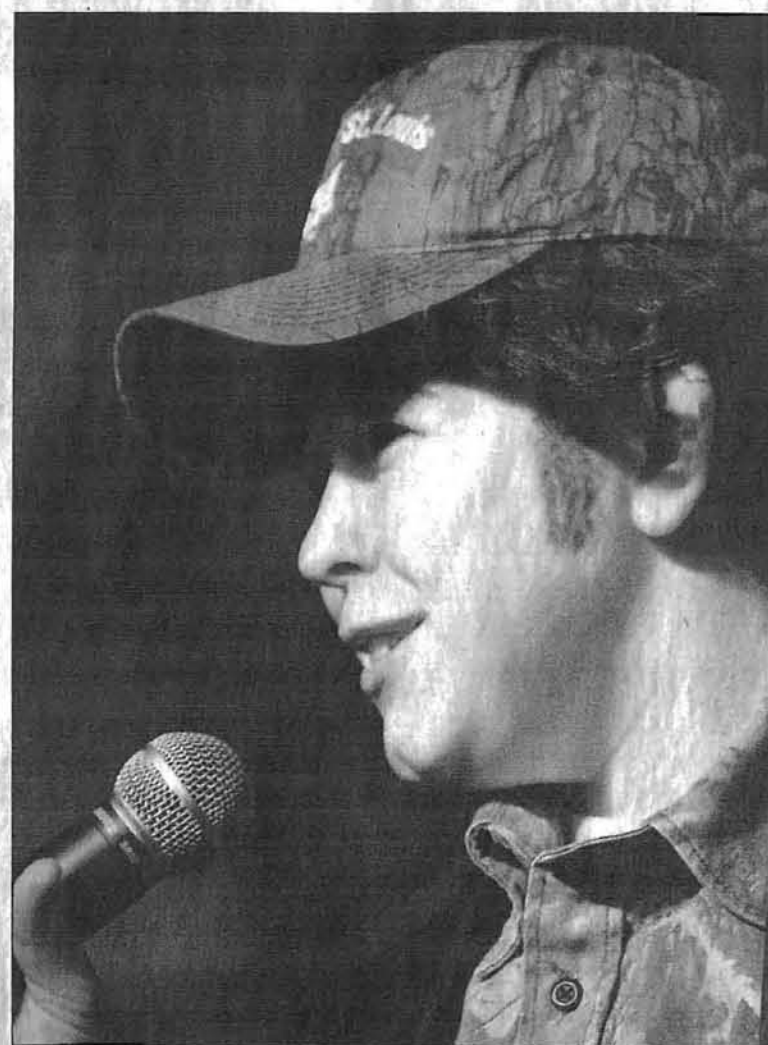
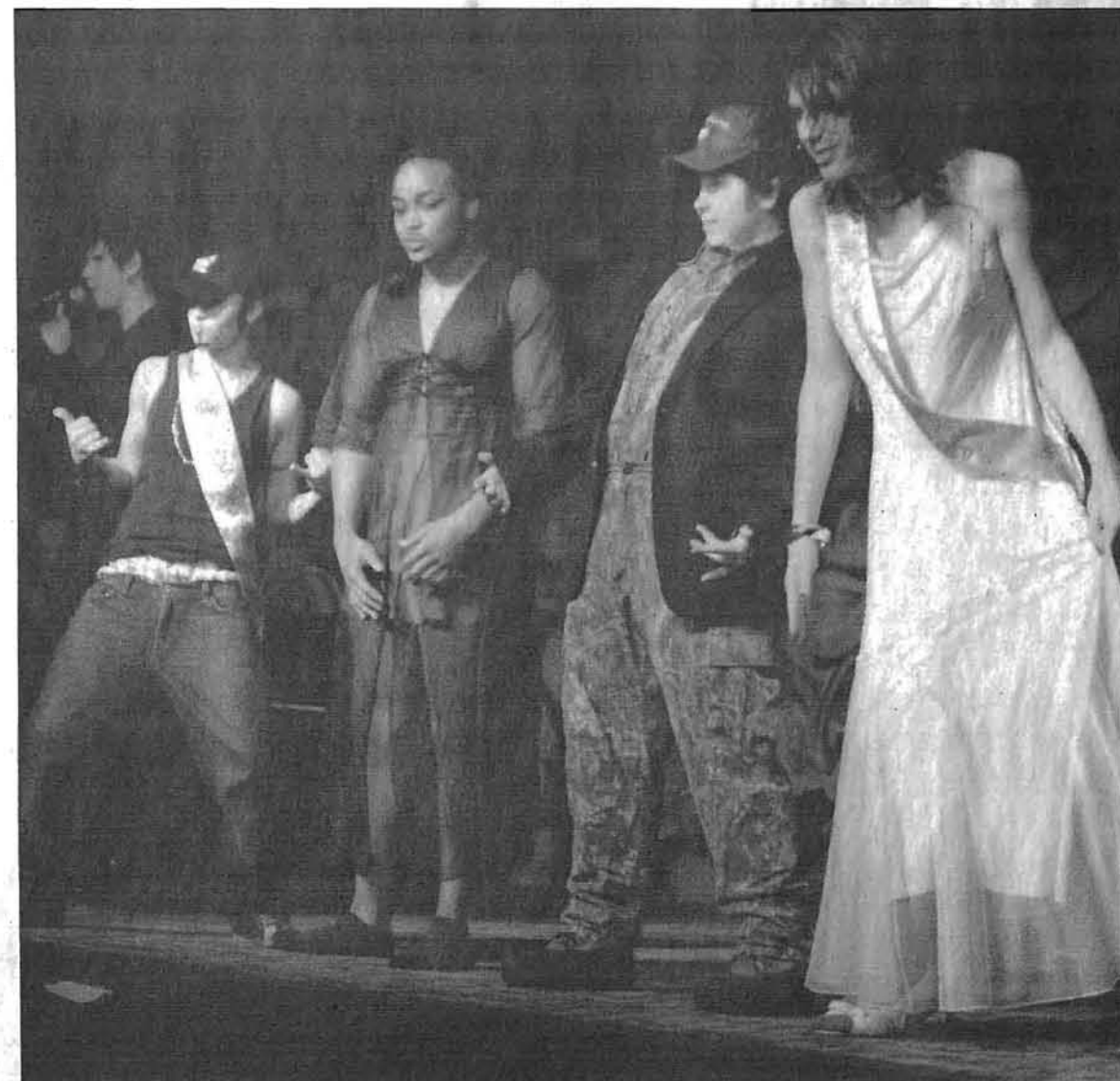
The celebrity that Kok Dizzle feels he identified the most with was Chuck Norris, while Jenna Talia said that if she were to show Siren around the city, she would take her to UM-St. Louis or the Arch.

The trio that made up Hanson was asked about the best qualities parents can share with their children. Their answer: money.

Candy Johnson was asked why people should donate organs. "Because people need organs," she said. A recent goal she accomplished was when she "dressed in drag."

After the judges' votes were tallied, the winners of Mr. and Mrs. RHA were declared. This year's Mr. RHA and the winner of the pageant was Kok Deezele and Mrs. RHA went to Nova Gina. The runners up were Jenna Tayla and Skeeter Shooter.

"It feels amazing to actually win the title of Miss RHA" Riddler said.



Photos by Carrie Fasiska • Managing Editor

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Emcee for the pageant, Siren, performs during Mr. and Mrs. RHA. Ben White, junior, liberal studies, and RHA President Kate Blankmeyer played Barbie and Ken while performing "Barbie Girl" by Aqua. Skeeter Shooter answers a question in his finest evening wear during the second half of Mr. and Mrs. RHA. Winners of the pageant, (LEFT to RIGHT) Mr. RHA Kok Dizzle, runners up Jenna Talia and Skeeter Shooter, and Mrs. RHA Nova Gina celebrate their victory before choosing their prizes.

SAY THE MAGIC WORDS . . .



Magician Justin Kredible (CENTER) asks Candace Anderson (RIGHT), sophomore, communication, and Dorian Hall (LEFT), sophomore, accounting and finance if he has Anderson's ring in his hand in the Pilot House on Thursday.

Danny Reise • Assistant Photo Editor

Make a 'Ruckus'

UMSL partners with company to provide free legal music downloads

By Angie Spencer  
Proofreader

Over the years, the music industry has been bruised and beaten by music downloading and file sharing sites.

The industry took hit after hit as sites like Napster, Limewire and BitTorrent emerged as ways of obtaining music without having to pay for it.

Four years ago, however, a new company called Ruckus started with a mission to provide a free and legal way to access audio files.

"There are over 30 million tracks downloaded [illegally] every month," said Chris Lawson, director of corporate development for Ruckus, in an e-mail interview.

"Ruckus is the world's only free, legal and ad supported music discovery service for college students," Lawson said.

UM-St. Louis is one of more than 200 schools in partnership with Ruckus. In total, students at more

than 1,100 universities are using the program.

Anyone with a .edu e-mail address can access all of the more than three million Windows Media Audio (WMA) song files from the major music labels and pick from thousands of indie titles, too.

However, the program offers more than music.

Thousands of free videos and films, including anything from music videos to movie trailers to student films to full-length independent, documentary and foreign films, can be found, Lawson said.

According to some students, however, the program has its drawbacks. Ben Gemignani, junior, communication, said the advertisements are a problem.

"[An] irritating, though probably necessary, aspect of the Ruckus system: the Web site ads," he said. "Like most Web sites these days, ruckus.com is packed to the brim with ads."

See RUCKUS, page 12

The history of Black History Month

By Camila Buechler  
Staff Writer

"Free at last! Free at last! Thank God Almighty, we are free at last!"

Those were the words of Martin Luther King Jr. that made a large impact on the desegregation of the community through his "I Have a Dream Speech" in 1963, while standing on the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C.

"Altruists like Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X didn't just fight for the African Americans, but to also forge an American society that would work together in accomplishing their common dream" Sean Winkelmann, junior, education, said. There are many views behind the

significance of this celebration, and the study of African American history has been going strong for 32 years.

First known as "Negro History Week" and later named "Black History Month," this month reflects on, celebrates and honors African American milestones from slavery to the present.

"Black History Month allows everyone to come together and pay tribute to the important African Americans of our time. Without courageous people like Jackie Robinson, who knows where our society would be" Scott Wazniak, junior, business, said.

"African-American History Month is a great month to honor those

from Martin Luther King Jr. to Alicia Keys" Kasey Rosemann, freshman, nursing, said.

Black History Month is an important time of the year to recognize successful blacks in the past and the present.

Black history involves everything from the black culture to talent and expression.

Black history textbooks started with Carter G. Woodson, who spread information of this month from the first black congressman Major Owens to Althea Gibson, the first African American to win the Wimbledon Tennis Championship.

See BLACK HISTORY, page 12

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A&E

A&E ON CAMPUS

**'Bellerive' Launch Party:** UM-St. Louis' literary magazine will hold a launch party, sponsored by the Pierre Laclède Honors College, for the eighth edition of the literary magazine "Bellerive," which features original writings by UM-St. Louis students, faculty and staff on Friday, Feb. 29 at the Provincial House from noon to 2 p.m. Richard Newman, editor of River Styx, will speak and copies of "Bellerive" will be on sale. Refreshments will be served. Free.

AT THE TOUHILL

**UM-St. Louis Symphony Orchestra concert:** with renowned guest conductor Samuel R. Hazo, on Wednesday, Feb. 27 at 7 p.m. at Touhill Performing Arts Center. Free.

**"The Vagina Monologues"** play by UM-St. Louis' Theater Department with students as the cast will be performed Wednesday, Feb. 27 at 7:30 p.m. at Touhill Performing Arts Center. Tickets: \$10-\$15.

A&E AROUND TOWN

**"Point-of-View: Weed & Seed"** photography exhibit opening with four speakers, on Tuesday, Feb. 26 at 5:30 p.m., at West End Mt. Carmel Outreach Center, 5935 Horton Place in St. Louis. The exhibit is a companion to the one at the campus's Public Policy Research Center. Both are free.

TOP TUNES DOWNLOADS

1. Low (feat. T-Pain) - Flo Rida



2. Love Song - Sara Bareilles

3. Don't Stop the Music - Rihanna

4. With You - Chris Brown

5. See You Again - Miley Cyrus

6. No Air - Jordin Sparks and Chris Brown

7. Sorry - Buckcherry

8. When You Look Me in the Eyes - Jonas Brothers

9. Take You There - Sean Kingston

9. Elevator - (feat. Timbaland) Flo Rida

MOVIE REVIEW



'Vantage Point' has more thriller than politics

By CATE MARQUIS  
A&E Editor

As someone who loves political thrillers and especially complex plotting, expectations were high for the new political thriller "Vantage Point." However, "Vantage Point" is more thrill ride than political puzzle.

There is indeed a puzzle in "Vantage Point." The action takes place in Spain, as U.S. President Ashton (William Hurt) is about to give a speech at the opening of an international conference on terrorism, surrounded by the usual tight security.

As he takes the podium, shots ring out and chaos grips the crowd. There are explosions and what is happening is not clear.

The scenario of events then "re-winds" and is presented from another

point of view. "Vantage Point" presents the same events from several different viewpoints, so we do not know at first everything that has happened and who is who.

Unlike the classic Japanese film "Rashomon" which offers four differing, personal versions of the same events, each viewpoint in "Vantage Point" is not a complete tale. Instead, they are all pieces of a puzzle and as each piece is added, it becomes clearer to the viewer what is going on, like a jigsaw puzzle taking shape.

We get the viewpoint of a TV journalist (Sigourney Weaver) and her team covering the event, Secret Service agents including Thomas Barnes (Dennis Quaid) newly back on the job after being wounded in an earlier attack, a Spanish policeman (Eduardo Noriega), a videocamera-toting American tourist (Forest

Vantage Point

★★★★☆  
Director: Pete Travis

Stars: Dennis Quaid, Matthew Fox, Forest Whitaker, Sigourney Weaver and William Hurt

Synopsis: Eight strangers with eight different points of view try to unlock the one truth behind an assassination attempt on the president of the United States.



William Hurt stars as the president of the United States in the movie "Vantage Point."

Whitaker) in the crowd, the President and of course, the terrorists.

Not all viewpoints have the same weight either. Clearly, the most central viewpoint is Quaid's as the Secret Service agent. While the story builds

up as each piece is added, the mystery about the events lifts, but suspense builds, topping off with a chase

through a crowded street.

See VANTAGE POINT, page 9

A&E on Campus

Bosnian professor discusses filmmaking

By CATE MARQUIS  
A&E Editor

Bosnian scholar and filmmaker Lejla Panjeta visited campus this week as part of a new exchange program between UM-St. Louis and universities in Bosnia.

Panjeta and fellow Bosnian filmmaker Almir Sahinovic discussed one of their films and Panjeta spoke about filmmaking and the culture of Bosnia in a two-day event.

Panjeta, professor of theater and media studies at the University of Tuzla in Bosnia and Herzegovina, was set to speak on Tuesday and Thursday to a film class.

On Tuesday, the two Bosnian film producers were supposed to present a screening of their film "Skies Above The Landscape," followed by discussion of the film.

On Thursday, Panjeta was supposed to talk about Bosnian cinema and culture.

However, their film "Skies Above The Landscape" was lost on its air trip from Bosnia and the icy weather that forced the campus to close meant the cancellation of the Thursday talk.

The filmmakers instead presented another film shot in Bosnia, "Shot Through the Heart," an HBO production filmed in Sarajevo shortly after the war.

"Shot Through the Heart" used Bosnians as crew and Almir Sahinovic worked on set design, scouting for locations in the war-ravaged city and working as a talent scout. Panjeta, herself, is a survivor of the siege of Sarajevo.

The Tuesday film screening and discussion drew an enthusiastic audience. "Quite a few students stayed 'till the end of the program and there was an incredible discussion that went on well past 6:30," said Rita Csapo-Sweet, associate professor of media studies at UM-St. Louis.

Panjeta, in addition to being an award-winning filmmaker, has written articles and books on cinema, theater and media propaganda.

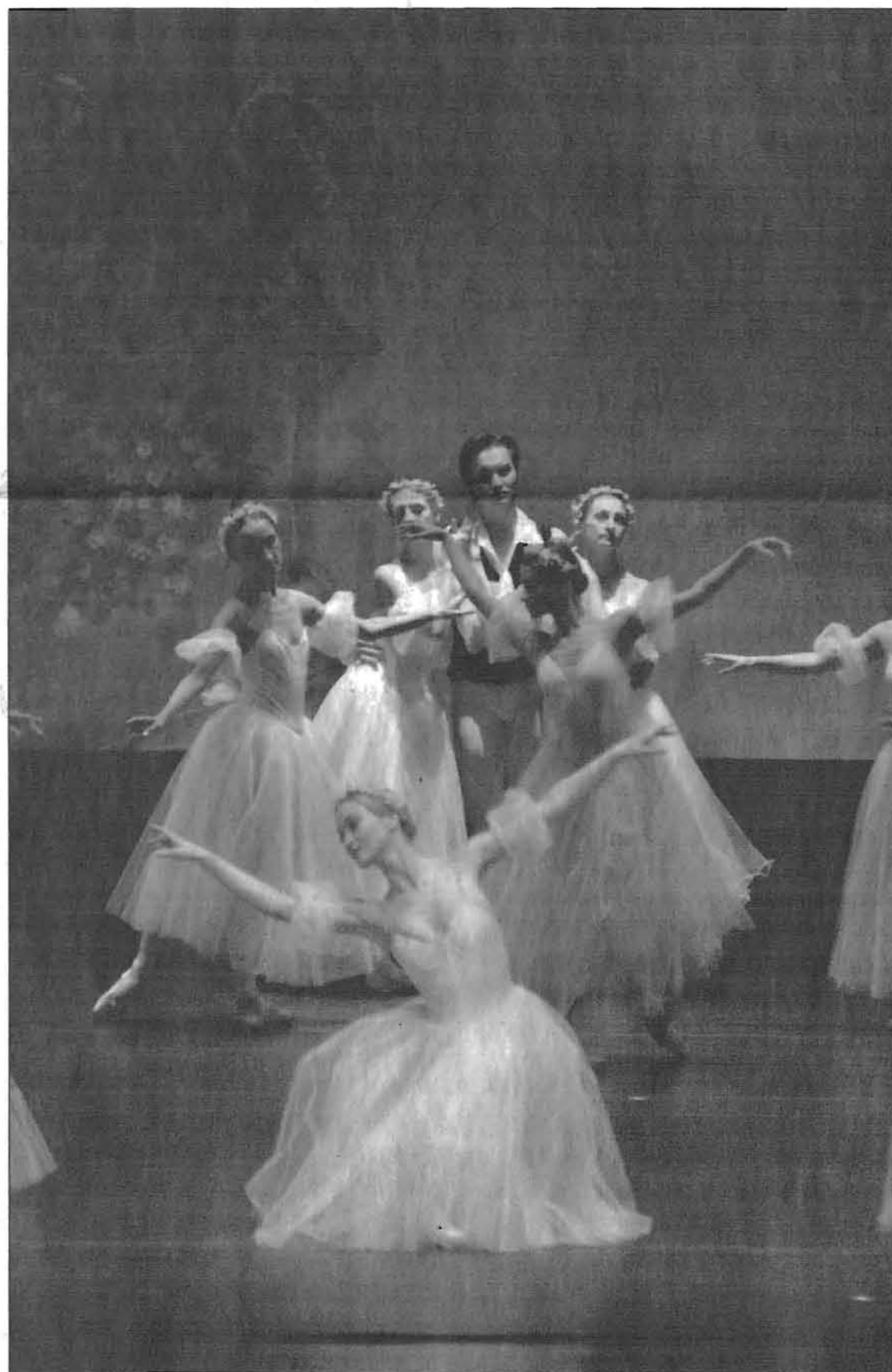
Panjeta is also the adviser for Culture and Education to Haris Silajdzic, a member of the Bosnia and Herzegovina presidency.

The presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina is a group of representatives from the various Bosnian, Croatian and Serbian groups. The position of chair rotates through the membership every eight months.

Panjeta's and Sahinovic's visit is the first event in a program that is part of an historic student and faculty exchange agreement signed last year by Chancellor Thomas George.

Cinema is to be a big part of the exchange program, according to Rita Csapo-Sweet, associate professor of media studies at UM-St. Louis.

The exchange program between UM-St. Louis and the Universities of Sarajevo and Tuzla was organized by Csapo-Sweet, in collaboration with the Center for International Studies.



Danny Reise • Assistant Photo Editor

Dance St. Louis presented the St. Petersburg Ballet Theatre on Friday and Saturday in the Anheuser-Busch theater at the Touhill Performing Arts Center.

St. Petersburg Ballet pirouettes into the PAC

By CATE MARQUIS  
A&E Editor

Dance St. Louis, the local presenting organization that brings so much world-class dance to the St. Louis area, scored another winner with the classic beauty of the St. Petersburg Ballet Theater, when the troupe took to the Touhill Performing Arts stage on Friday.

Dance St. Louis brings a range of dance styles to the area but last night the theme was classic. You cannot get more classical than ballet and traditionally, Russia has been home to the best in ballet.

St. Petersburg Ballet Theater is based in St. Petersburg, and was established in 1966 as Theater of Ballet in Russia. In 1969, the troupe was led by the much-honored choreographer and ballet master Leonid Jacobson.

Jacobson's signature work was the short opera, which he called a "choreographic miniature." To this

day, the Troupe's repertoire includes 20 one-act ballets.

On this evening, the dancers offered and example of that work. Despite its name, it was not entirely ballet, but a mix of classic ballet and modern dance that grew more modern as the evening unfolded.

The program opened with one of the dance masterpieces of the 20th century.

Originally developed in 1907 by choreographer Mikhail Fokine as a dance to the music of Frederic Chopin, initially titled "Chopiniana," he later renamed it "Reverie Romantique" and it was later renamed "Les Sylphides" when Sergei Diaghilev's Ballet Russe performed it in Paris.

Regardless of the shifting title, the piece straddles the centuries by having the formal dance beauty of 19th century ballet but no plot like a 20th century abstract ballet.

The stage was set like a winter woodland fantasy, with white trees against a blue backdrop. The dance is about a midnight encounter be-

tween a young man and a group of sylphs, fantasy creatures of the air.

The curtain comes up on a posed tableau of the dancers, forming a semi-circle around the man, in white tights with black vest, and a few dancers.

The ballerinas are all in white, with garlands of flowers in their hair and flowing skirts reminiscent of paintings by Degas.

The dance is a dream of classic, graceful moves, six alternating dances of large and small groups of dancers, set to Chopin's music. The opening Mazurka has the whole group in motion, followed by the dances by pairs and trios and solos.

The effect was simply hypnotic and the dancers leapt and twirled on toe with grace. Featured dancers were Maria Yakshanova, Alexandra Badina, Anna Borodulina, Yulia Prosyannikova, Alexey Petrov, Anastasia Shmakova and Elena Grineva.

See ST. PETERSBURG, page 14

Restaurant Review

Fitz's offers taste of root beer history

By STEPHANIE SOLETA  
Staff Writer

For those who think that Fitz's is just the average burger joint, think again.

Fitz's American Grill and Bottling Works has been serving St. Louis' favorite root beer since 1947 when it was a drive-in in Richmond Heights.

However, the drive-in closed in 1970 when the owner retired. Fitz's re-emerged in 1993 when it was re-established as a restaurant in the Delmar Loop. Fitz's still offers a fantastic dining experience that is suitable for adults as well as children.

Modern root beer was created by a pharmacist in 1870 that combined licorice, dog grass, birch bark, hops and vanilla beans.

Root beer was originally thought to be a drink that could be very useful to promote good health. While this did not prove to be true, people enjoyed the taste and an American icon was born.

Fitz's famous root beer recipe is a closely guarded secret. The secret recipe was made with the assistance of a St. Louis flavor house. The recipe still contains many of the same ingredients used in the original.

For example, Fitz's root beer recipe still uses pure cane sugar, unlike most current-day soft drinks. Root beer, however, is not all that Fitz's is known for.

Fitz's offers perhaps the most unique dining experience in St. Louis since restaurant patrons can watch root beer being bottled while enjoying a meal. The equipment used in the bottling process was originally found in a barn in Shawano, Wis.

While refurbished, the equipment is circa 1940s, and it can turn out a bottle every second. Fitz's does not bottle every day though. Dates for bottling days can be obtained from the restaurant itself.

Besides watching root beer being bottled, Fitz's customers can also enjoy fabulous burgers, salads and other entrees offered on the full menu with very reasonable prices. Fitz's menu also offers a wide variety of pasta and pizza, as well as marinated steak and tequila lime chicken.

See FITZ'S, page 9

Fitz's American Grill and Bottling Works

Located at 6605 Delmar Blvd.

314-726-9555

Hours:  
Sundays - Thursdays  
11 a.m. - 10 p.m.  
Fridays - Saturday  
11 a.m. - midnight



MOVIE REVIEW

# Slightly surreal high school comedy 'Charlie Bartlett' is a real charmer

By CATE MARQUIS  
A&E Editor

Charlie Bartlett (Anton Yelchin) keeps getting kicked out of exclusive prep schools.

Charlie is well-behaved and his grades are good, but he just seems to have a little larceny in him. All Charlie wants is to be popular.

After getting booted out of his latest prep school, despite an attempt by his mother Marilyn Bartlett (Hope Davis) to write a fat endowment check, she decides Charlie will have to give public school a try.

Charlie's mother is affectionate but a bit ditzzy and is not very clear on the idea of discipline. Money is no object for Charlie's very wealthy mother, but he seems to have run through all the private schools available.

There is a bit of "Rushmore" turned around in this slightly strange but charming comedy about a creative rich kid who just wants to be liked. There is also a slightly ironic tone, and a story that touches on both

fantasies of high school popularity and the vantage point of those past high school days. It is an all-ages comedy.

Charlie is basically a nice guy, but he stands out in his prep school jacket in the public high school hallway.

He quickly befriends a large, not-so-bright kid named Len (Dylan Taylor) who offers him a slightly used lollipop and a girl named Susan (Kat Denning) who heads the theater club and attracts the attention of the school bully Murphey Bivens (Tyler Hilton).

It does not take Charlie very long to figure out a way to make himself popular, by becoming an informal school therapist, dispensing prescriptions. Charlie soon finds himself the object of attention of the school's principal Mr. Gardner (Robert Downey, Jr.).

Anton Yelchin does a marvelous job as the creative and likeable Charlie in this loopy, rather unreal high school fantasy. Hope Davis is wonderful as the loving mother who sings songs at the piano with her



Photo Courtesy Internet Movie Database

Anton Yelchin plays the title role in "Charlie Bartlett," a high-school kid who becomes a psychiatrist to his whole school.

son but suggests they go to a wine tasting. Robert Downey Jr. is outstanding as the dry-humored, hard-drinking Principal Gardner, a former history teacher reluctantly and recently turned administrator.

Tyler Hilton is also wonderful as bully Murphey, as are Kate Denning as sweet, slightly Goth Susan and Mark Rendall, as Kip, the kid whose name everyone forgets.

In fact, the whole cast is one of the strong points of this tongue-in-cheek revisits to high school dreams and fears.

Every character is sharply drawn,

even while they deliver some ironic dialog. This delightful comedy was originally set for release last year but its plot's rather humorous treatment of drugs in school, no matter how right things turn out in the end, may have caused it to be held back.

The film is a both funny and appealing, but more fantasy and not quite as realistic "Juno."

With winning performances and a plot full of high school wish-fulfillment but topped with a gentle observation on popularity, "Charlie Bartlett" is a comedy well worth the plunge.

## Charlie Bartlett

★★★★☆

Director: Jon Poll

Stars: Anton Yelchin, Robert Downey Jr.

Synopsis: A rich kid becomes the self-appointed psychiatrist to the student body of his new high school.

Fitz's, from page 8

The bottler burger, cream soda, and Fitz's house float are three very common items, but they come highly recommended.

Fitz's servers and staff are extremely friendly. The food comes out quickly and can be enjoyed in a lively atmosphere.

Fitz's is an especially great place to take children. Besides viewing the fascinating bottling of Fitz's root beer, children can also enjoy Fitz's colorful décor and choose from a

wide selection of food offered on the children's menu, which includes kid's burgers, chicken fingers, grilled cheese and other entrees.

Fitz's also offers field trips to youngsters anywhere from first grade to high school. Children can learn about Fitz's history as well as take a tour of the bottling works.

They can also learn about St. Louis history. Reservations for field trips must be made in advance. Pictures from previous field trips to

Fitz's can be viewed on Fitz's official Web site.

Fitz's is also a great place for a first date or for a night out. Fitz's offers draft beers and features a wide variety of entertainment, from billiards and games to a big screen TV.

In the summer, customers can even enjoy a night out on the patio. The restaurant can also accommodate parties as large as 60.

The entire upstairs loft can be reserved for parties. Reservations are

made through the restaurant manager.

Fitz's American Grill and Bottling Works is located at 6605 Delmar Blvd. in the Delmar Loop and is open Sunday through Thursday from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. to midnight.

Fitz's does not accept reservations. For more information, call Fitz's at 314-726-9555, fax 314-862-6253 or visit <http://www.fitzs-rootbeer.com>.

Vantage Point, from page 8

While "Vantage Point" works well enough as a conventional thriller, it falls short on the political intrigue side.

We learn that this is a conference on global terror and there are angry, shouting protestors surrounding the event. But why are they there? The event looks like one of those international conferences on globalization, which always draw anti-globalization protestors.

Are these protestors pro-terror? We never find out, nor do we learn a specific goal for the terrorists' acts

in their point of view, although that is less surprising.

However, the lack of a reason for the protestors to be there reduces them to a simple plot device rather than adding a layer of political intrigue to boost the story. Once the mystery elements are stripped away, there is not much left but straightforward action in the plot.

Quaid does a creditable job but his role like most of the others call for little acting subtly. Matthew Fox gets in some acting chops as fellow Secret Service agent Kent Taylor

and William Hurt gets a little more opportunity as the President, but the gifted Forest Whitaker is expected to do little more than look shocked by turns. The other roles are largely two-dimensional.

"Vantage Point" is a fairly good action film with some pure adrenaline but offers too little for fans of political intrigue. The idea of various viewpoints used in a less innovative way than you expect and the lack of depth of character leaves the film a bit pale in comparison to the Bourne action films.

COMEDY REVIEW

# 'Daily Show' comic John Oliver tickles the crowd at Webster University

By CATE MARQUIS  
A&E Editor

I have just one question: how come Webster University gets "Daily Show" comedian John Oliver and we do not?

Oliver is one of the correspondents and comedians on TV's "The Daily Show," a political satire of news programs. British funny man John Oliver is not PC. Brits do not do PC. He was relentless, and relentlessly funny, as he skewered a variety of American foibles, but he was ready to poke fun at himself and Britain as well.

While his style of humor is a bit different, it was plenty funny for the packed house on that Monday night, Feb. 18, at the Webster University's Loretto Hilton Theater.

Oliver showed up on stage late and out of breath, possibly due to the problem of navigating an unfamiliar town. He promptly broke the mic stand with a little too much force in putting it down, but was able to cope.

John Oliver introduced himself by noting that he was not, contrary to what is said in Wikipedia, the John Oliver who was the former member of the House of Lords.

He told the audience he could get away with doing silly things because his British accent gave him that "voice of authority" that had ruled the British Empire. "You could have sounded like this too if it wasn't for that incident with the tea in the Boston harbor," he joked.

Oliver then began a string of jokes aimed at the British Empire. "We know something about empires," he intoned with mock seriousness. He also noted that Britons are not allowed to carry guns. "Last time we had guns, we conquered two continents and instituted slavery. Obviously, we can't be trust-

ed," he deadpanned.

Since he is a regular on the Daily Show, the humor often took a political bent, although always with a British flavor. At one point he said he was amazed the first time he visited an American mall, which he said was like shopping paradise.

Americans are the ultimate shoppers and he noted that if there was a product, there was someone to buy it. "Like an inflatable floating barbecue," he intoned. "It is made in China but there is no way I see any Chinese buying it."

He poked fun at both American and European issues about religion. He noted that France, in an attempt to keep down conflicts between religious groups, had made it illegal for students to wear any religious insignia, whether a cross or a headscarf. "Maybe they should have to wear multiple copies of their religious symbols, so they were too weighted down to fight," he said.

Oliver was joined on stage a few times by another Daily Show comedian, and they engaged in a parody of one of those expert interviews you see on TV.

Oliver also offered a few jokes about Catholics, which got a tepid response. "Whoa that was cold. You should have seen that how that one went over in Boston," he quipped. Guess no one had told Oliver that St. Louis is also heavily Catholic and that Webster was originally founded by nuns. Oliver got past it and so did the audience. After all it was all in the name of fun. Oliver had the audience laughing so hard throughout his one-hour show, you could hardly catch your breath.

While John Oliver might not be on the Hollywood D list, he clearly was not on the Washington A list either. A comedian for the rest of us, the Daily Show is news and comedy for those on the Washington D list.

## This Season at the Saint Louis Art Museum

Thursday, Feb. 28 Looking Deeper and Seeing Stronger:  
7:00 pm An Evening with Alison Saar

Alison Saar, Artist. Auditorium—Free

Join assemblage artist Saar as she discusses the personal and universal symbolism in her politically charged artwork. Saar's work is represented in the collections of major museums including the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden in Washington, D.C., the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Museum of Modern Art in New York, and the Saint Louis Art Museum.

Thursday, Mar. 13 Bringing the War Home and Other Lines of Thinking  
7:00 pm

Martha Rosler, Artist. Auditorium—Free

Working in photography, video, installation, performance, and criticism, Rosler explores everyday life and the public sphere, often focusing on women's experiences. One of her recurrent themes, media and war, is the subject of two long-term photomontage series entitled *Bringing the War Home*, the most recent of which addresses the war in Iraq.

Thursday, Mar. 20 A Conversation with Nancy Rubins  
7:00 pm

Nancy Rubins, Artist. Auditorium—Free

Since the late 1970s, Rubins has created monumental, attention-grabbing sculptures and installations out of salvaged industrial and consumer goods including mattresses and discarded appliances. Rubins has created work for the Museum of Contemporary Art Los Angeles, the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the Venice Biennale, and the Whitney Biennial.

## SAINT LOUIS ART MUSEUM

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Tuesday-Sunday, 10 am-5 pm; Friday, 10 am-9 pm; Closed Monday

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SPORTS

Triton hockey ups winning streak to nine

UMSL team also earns No. 2 spot in national rankings

By Scott Lavelock Staff Writer

The UM-St. Louis inline hockey team may not be as prominent as the varsity sports here at the school, but in hockey circles, its success has vaulted them into the national spotlight.

The Tritons have tacked on three more wins to their streak, which now sits at nine, and that roll has catapulted them to the number two ranking among all Division-I inline hockey clubs in the country.

UM-St. Louis' B Team has contributed to the uprising of Triton hockey, as they have put themselves on the map with wins in the last two weeks over both of Lindenwood's B teams.

The streak was upped to seven with a 10-0 shut-out over St. Louis Community College - Meramec on Sunday, Feb. 10. Then last Saturday, Feb. 16, they outlasted old-time enemy Truman State 10-4 before beating Meramec again the next day, 11-2.

The first game against Meramec provided little challenge for the Tritons as the game was called less than halfway into the second period on account of the 10-goal mercy rule.

He would tack on two more in the second period for a four-goal performance.

James Cash completed the shut-out in goal. It could not have been much easier, as the Magic failed to unleash a single shot the entire game, marking the first time in UM-St. Louis history that its defense held the opposition without a shot.

The Truman State game renewed an old rivalry, as the Bulldogs and the Tritons have a long history that goes back well past the Tritons' victory in the league championship last year, when UM-St. Louis was still in Division-II.

As in any rivalry game, records can be thrown out, and Truman State gave the Tritons a scare in the first period, jumping out to a 2-0 lead. Three and a half minutes into the second period, however, UM-St. Louis had claimed the lead on goals by Clarke, Shields and PJ Tallo, who is now 11th in the nation in total points.

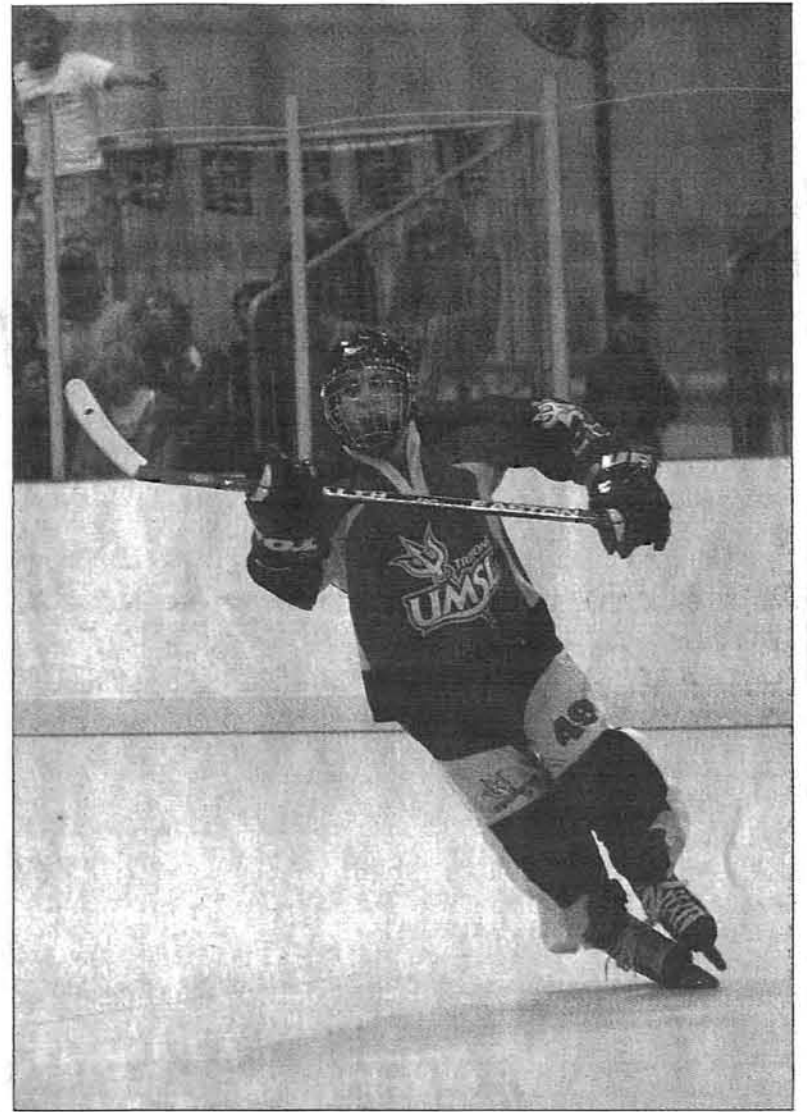
The Bulldogs tied it up just 13 seconds after Tallo's goal, but it was all Tritons from there. Back-to-back goals by Andy Meade, both assisted by Tallo, gave UM-St. Louis a lead they would not relinquish.

By the time the dust had settled, Tallo had scored twice more for a hat trick, Meade had scored again, Ben Lambert and Adam Clarke had added goals, and Truman State had fallen to 10-2-2, still good for the second best record of any Division-II school in the Great Plains Collegiate Inline Hockey League.

UM-St. Louis improved to 14-2 the next day with another win over Meramec. Tallo, Propp and Schulz each had hat tricks, with Tallo registering three assists as well.

The nation's Top 15 poll as of Feb. 18, 2008

- 1. Lindenwood
2. UM-St. Louis
3. UC Irvine
4. Michigan State
5. Stony Brook
6. Buffalo
7. Ohio State
8. Michigan
9. Florida
10. Eastern Michigan
11. Long Beach State
12. Cal Poly SLO
13. Rhode Island
14. North Texas
15. Colorado State



Jason Shields, junior, forward, contributed two goals in the game against St. Louis Community College - Meramec last Sunday. The Tritons play against No. 1 ranked Lindenwood on Saturday, March 1.

come up huge as well.

The focus, though, will be on that Division-I Triton squad as they tangle with 17-0 Lindenwood on Saturday. The Lions have already clinched the regular season GPCIHHL title, but the Tritons will have another shot at them

in the post-season league tournament, which will start after their regular season finale against the Illinois Fighting Illini on Saturday afternoon.

Regional and national tournaments will most certainly await both UM-St. Louis and Lindenwood after that.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



Paul Paradoski

Paul Paradoski, senior, guard, helped to break the Tritons basketball losing streak on Saturday. In a tight game against the Rockhurst Hawks, Paradoski scored five points in the final 23 seconds of the game, effectively breaking the three-game losing streak.

This is Paradoski's last year on the court as he prepares to graduate with a Bachelor of Arts in political science. Before UM-St. Louis, he started three years on Southeast Missouri State's basketball team.

UPCOMING GAMES

Women's Basketball

Feb. 26 at Missouri S&T 5:30 p.m.

March 1 at Southern Indiana 1 p.m.

Men's Basketball

Feb. 26 at Missouri S&T 7:30 p.m.

March 1 at Southern Indiana 3:15 p.m.

Roller Hockey

March 1 vs. Lindenwood 10 a.m.

March 1 at Illinois 3 p.m.

Softball

Feb. 27 at Southwest Baptist (dh) 2 p.m.

Triton seniors prepare for life off of the court

Taking off their jerseys will be hardest part for seniors

By Tom Schnable Assistant Sports Editor

In sports, athletes do not think about what it will be like the last time they play until it is too late. It never hits them beforehand that they are competing for the last time, or even while that last game is happening.

On Saturday afternoon in Evansville, following their game with Southern Indiana, seniors Paul De Chellis, Paul Paradoski, David Ward and Sky Frazier will take off their jerseys for the final time. What it will be like for them after that is anyone's guess.

"It will be sad," said De Chellis, a mainstay on the team these last four seasons. "It's been a long four years of college basketball, but it's been a good time and I've got a lot of good memories to come with me."

Others think it will take longer for the realization to sink in.

"It probably won't hit me until next year, when I'll have nothing to do," said Ward, who like De Chellis, has been with the team all four years.

Some do not want to think about what that feeling will be like a moment before they have to.

"I don't know," said Paradoski, who transferred from Southeast Missouri State. "Lacing (his sneakers) up won't be tough, I think taking them off will be toughest. To think it really is over, it will be hard."

As members of the team all four years, De Chellis and Ward have shared a lot.

They both say their greatest memory came when they upset Southern Indiana in the 2005-2006 season, when the Screaming Eagles were ranked in the top five. Both men worked their way through the rotation to become starters by their junior seasons.

Both De Chellis and Ward will graduate in May, De Chellis with a degree in finance and Ward in business. What comes after that, neither is certain.

"I'll probably take the summer off then find a job in the fall," said Ward, who does not see the game being in his future. "I'll give up

basketball probably; maybe play in a YMCA-league or something like that."

De Chellis, on the other hand, sees basketball possibly remaining a part of his life.

"After graduation, I'll be going home," said De Chellis, who hails from Melbourne, Australia. "I'll work out with a basketball team or Australian Rules football and get into business down there."

With an 8-15 record going into last weekend's games, Paradoski hoped for more from his one season as a Triton, but he is still glad he had the opportunity to come back and play in his hometown.

"Me and Sky wanted to do this together," said Paradoski, who played at Vianney while Frazier went to Borgia. "The fact that we came back here and tried means a lot to me. Things just didn't go our way."

Paradoski has one more semester left before completing his degree in political science. Frazier received his degree in communication during his time at Missouri State, and continues to work toward his masters.

Like De Chellis, Paradoski hopes his playing days are not over yet.

"Hopefully I can go over seas and keep playing basketball," he said. "That's what I grew up wanting to do, and hopefully I can keep playing as long as possible, although I don't know how long that will be."

During their time at UM-St. Louis, all four men took away many lessons from the game they love, such as hard work, discipline, commitment and competitive spirit. Coach Chris Pilz hopes his players realize that they built something together, and that the lessons went both ways.

"They understand that this is our program, this is not my program," said Pilz. "I try to take from them as much as they get from me."

With two games remaining this weekend, the time for these four men is almost up.

Although they may have fallen short of their goals on the court, these men have built relationships they say will last a lifetime. When asked what he would miss the most about no longer playing at UM-St. Louis, De Chellis simply said, "Being around my teammates, practicing with them and just having good times."

Sticking together always, through 'thick and thin'

By Tom Schnable Assistant Sports Editor

After four years of playing together on the UM-St. Louis women's basketball team, seniors Courtney Watts, Amanda Miller, Taylor Gagliano and Leslie Ricker realize their relationship is more than that of teammates. In fact, being friends does not do it justice either.

As Watts put it: "We've become more than friends, more like sisters," she said. "Because we spend so much time together."

Not one of them is certain what life will be like without basketball and each other.

"I'm sure I'll be pretty upset," said Gagliano, who thinks she one day might get back into the game as a coach. "It's weird to think it's the last time you'll ever play, but it will be different."

Ricker fears her reaction will be much the same as her teammate's.

"It will probably be really sad," said Ricker, who tried becoming a graduate assistant coach for UM-St. Louis next season, although it did not work out. "I've been playing basketball my whole life. It will be weird for it to be over."

As for Watts, she is not exactly sure what her emotions will be like.

"Oh, I don't even know," said Watts, who does not know whether basketball will remain a part of her life. "It's probably going to be overwhelming."

Gagliano will graduate next December with a degree in social work. After that, she is not certain what she wants to do. Ricker also has to wait until next fall before graduating with a degree in elementary education. She plans to student-teach next semester as well.

Watts will be receiving a degree in biology, and hopes that she can attend a grad school after graduating with her teammates. Miller will receive her degree in communication.

With a new coach coming in at the start of this season, all of these women have had to learn a new system in a short period of time. Their coach just wishes they had the ability to spend more time together.

"It's basically like they've been freshmen this year because they

have had to re-learn everything that they have done in the past," said Coach Lisa Curliss-Taylor, who took over the women's program last spring. "It would have been nice to have them another year, to see how much more they would have grown together. But I think they've done very well for having a new coach step in their senior year."

One of the advantages of having multiple coaches is that you have the opportunity to learn many lessons about the game. One such lesson has stood out for Ricker, who says it is what she will remember the most from her time spent on the court.

"Hard work pays off," she said. "So it's important to always work hard and never give up."

For Watts, she credits her coaches with teaching her a few things.

"All the lessons that teach us hard work, commitment and dedication," she said. "That's what I'll remember the most."

Of course, these women have accomplished a lot on the court during their time at UM-St. Louis. Each one said qualifying for the Great Lakes Valley Conference tournament their sophomore season was their greatest memory.

Watts topped the 1,000-point mark in a game with Quincy, becoming only the 11th Triton to accomplish that feat.

Ricker recently moved in to the top-10 all-time in rebounds in a game against SIU-E. In that same game, Miller joined her three teammates by appearing in her 100th game.

But what is most important to these women is not wins, losses or personal accolades. What is most important is the lessons they have taught each other, about basketball and life. Gagliano summed up what she would remember perhaps the best way.

"All the friendships we've made, everything we've been through thick and thin, and the tough times," she said. "Most importantly, my teammates."

On Saturday, these women will prepare to compete together as Tritons for the final time. But its clear that while their playing days will be over, their relationships with one another have a long time remaining in them.



Paul Paradoski

Paradoski will receive a Bachelor of Arts in political science.



Paul De Chellis

De Chellis will receive a Bachelor of Science in business administration.



David Ward

Ward will receive a Bachelor of Science in business administration.



Sky Frazier

Frazier will receive a Bachelor of Arts in communication.



Courtney Watts

Watts will receive a Bachelor of Science in biology.



Amanda Miller

Miller will receive her Bachelor of Arts in communication.



Taylor Gagliano

Gagliano will receive a Bachelor of Science in business administration.



Leslie Ricker

Ricker will receive her Bachelor of Science in education.

**STATS CORNER**

Check out what is going on in the world of Triton sports as baseball and softball join the ranks of basketball and roller hockey in the Stats Corner.

(Updated as of Sunday night)

**MEN'S BASKETBALL**

GLVC Standings

Team	Conf. (W-L)	Overall (W-L)
Drury	14-2	21-3
SIU-Edwardsville	8-9	15-10
Quincy	7-10	13-12
Southern Indiana	7-10	13-12
Rockhurst	5-12	9-16
UM-St. Louis	<b>4-12</b>	<b>9-15</b>
Missouri S&T	0-17	3-22

Box Scores

February 23	1st	2nd	F
Rockhurst	29	41	70
UM-St. Louis	<b>37</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>71</b>

February 16	1st	2nd	F
Quincy	35	41	76
UM-St. Louis	<b>35</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>61</b>

**WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**

GLVC Standings

Team	Conf. (W-L)	Overall (W-L)
Drury	14-2	22-2
Missouri S&T	13-4	19-5
Quincy	12-5	17-8
SIU-Edwardsville	9-8	16-9
UM-St. Louis	<b>4-12</b>	<b>7-17</b>
Southern Indiana	4-13	9-16
Rockhurst	3-14	8-17

Box Scores

February 23	1st	2nd	F
Rockhurst	34	39	73
UM-St. Louis	<b>32</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>78</b>

February 16	1st	2nd	F
Quincy	26	46	72
UM-St. Louis	<b>22</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>61</b>

**ROLLER HOCKEY**

GPCIHL Standings

Team (Division 1)	Overall (W-L-T)	Pts
Lindenwood	17-0-0	34
UM-St. Louis	<b>14-2-0</b>	<b>28</b>
UM-Columbia	11-5-1	23
Missouri S&T	6-10-1	13
Illinois	4-12-0	8
Middle Tennessee	2-13-2	6
Illinois State	1-14-2	4

Box Scores

February 17	F
St. Louis CC-Meramec	2
UM-St. Louis	<b>11</b>

February 16	F
Truman State	4
UM-St. Louis	<b>10</b>

**BASEBALL**

GLVC Standings

Team	Conf. (W-L)	Overall (W-L)
Rockhurst	0-0	3-1
Drury	0-0	3-3
UM-St. Louis	<b>0-0</b>	<b>2-3</b>
Southern Indiana	0-0	2-4
Missouri S&T	0-0	1-3
SIU-Edwardsville	0-0	0-0
Quincy	0-0	0-2

Upcoming Games

March 5 vs. Central Missouri	2
March 15 at Saint Joseph's (first GLVC game)	4

March 5 vs. Central Missouri	11
March 15 at Saint Joseph's (first GLVC game)	4

**SOFTBALL**

GLVC Standings

Team	Conf. (W-L)	Overall (W-L)
SIU-Edwardsville	0-0	5-1
Bellarmine	0-0	4-2
Quincy	0-0	4-3
Missouri S&T	0-0	1-1
Northern KY	0-0	1-1
Southern Indiana	0-0	2-4
UM-St. Louis	<b>0-0</b>	<b>1-3</b>
Drury	0-0	1-5
Indianapolis	0-0	1-5
Rockhurst	0-0	0-0
Saint Joseph's	0-0	0-0
UW-Parkside	0-0	0-0
KY Wesleyan	0-0	0-1
Lewis	0-0	0-5

Special Note: Feb. 17's games were cancelled due to inclement field conditions.

# Last seconds bring Triton win

By **LAQUAN FUSE**  
Sports Editor

UM-St. Louis senior Paul Paradoski scored the final goal against Rockhurst on Saturday to give the Tritons a 71-70 victory over the Hawks.

Paradoski finished the game with eight points, five of which were scored in the final 23 seconds of the game.

With the win, the Tritons improve to 9-15 on the season and 4-12 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference. Rockhurst drops to 9-16 overall and 5-12 in the conference.

The Tritons got off to a good start in the game going on a 7-0 run to start the game. UM-St. Louis went up by as much as 11 in the first half after a lay up by Adam Kaatman with 9:41 left until halftime.

The Rockhurst Hawks continued to battle back and managed to get the lead down to 27-23 after a 3-pointer by Joey Deas with 4:24 left in the half.

The Tritons maintained the lead for the first half going into the half leading the Hawks 37-29.

UM-St. Louis dominated the paint during the half, scoring 20 points in the paint alone. Rockhurst was held to only two points in the paint during the half.

The second half started with the Tritons regaining an 11 point lead over the Hawks, but the home team quickly cut into the visitor's lead.

Rockhurst rallied together to go on a 15-4 scoring run and tied the game with only 11:26 left in the game.

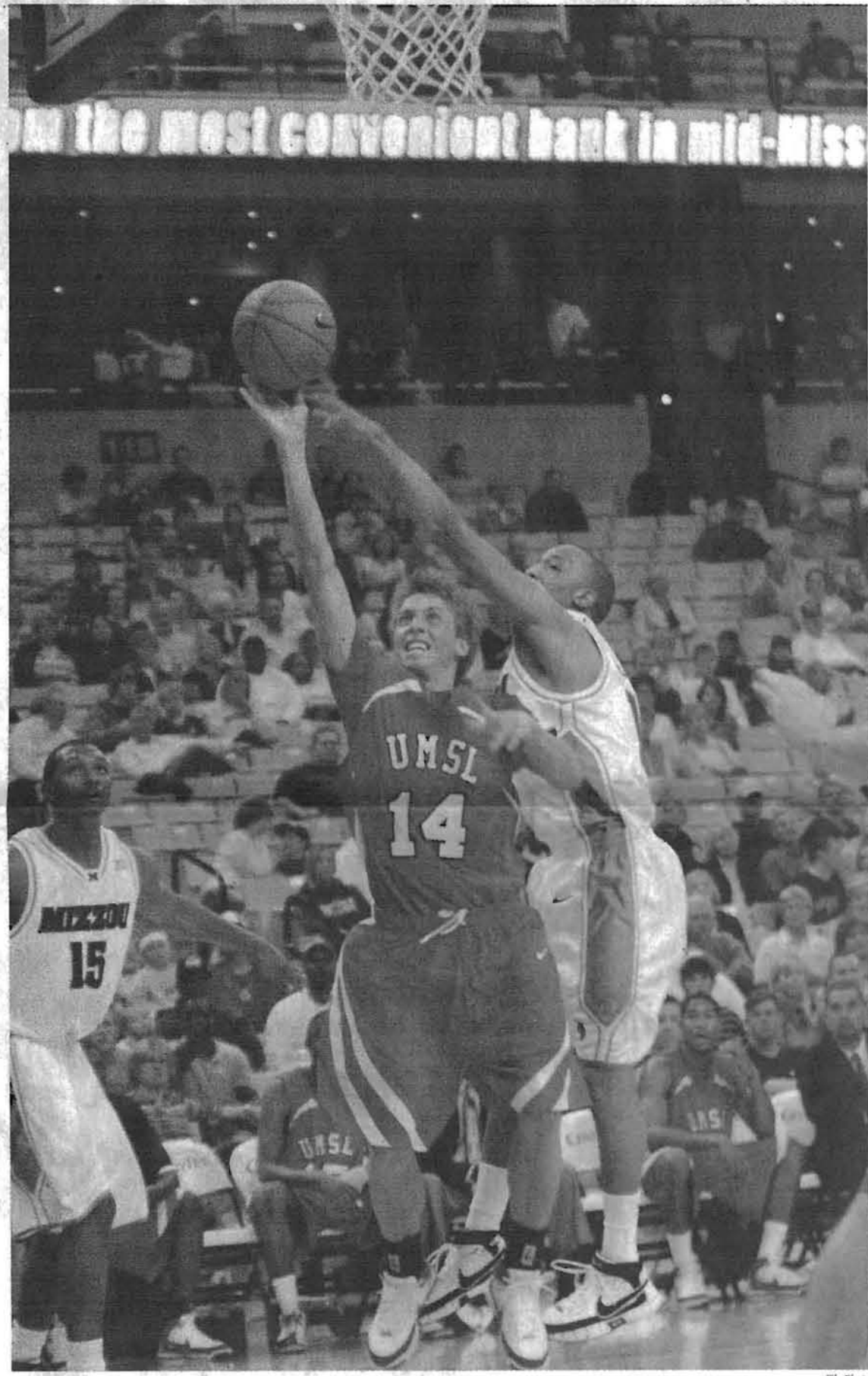
The Hawks held onto the lead until Tim Green made a lay up to tie the game at 64 with only 1:39 left in the game.

Each team traded shots for the final minute of the game, but it was Paradoski's five points in the final seconds along with Kaatman making one out of two at the free throw line which gave the Tritons the one point victory which snapped a three-game losing streak.

Kaatman led UM-St. Louis with 18 points in the game as he knocked down 6-7 from the field and shot 2-3 from behind the arc.

Kaatman also shot 4-5 from the line and pulled down six rebounds in the game.

Green and David Ward scored 15 points each in the game against the Hawks. Green shot 6-8 in the game

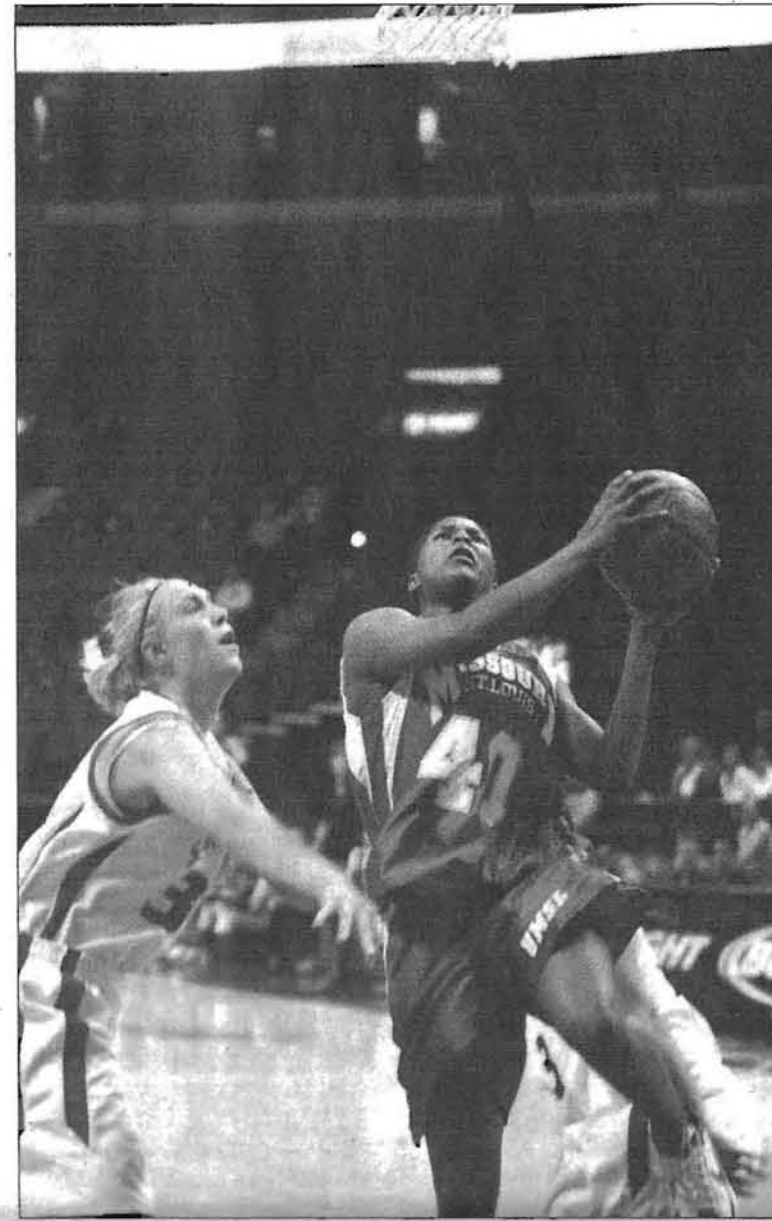


Paul Paradoski, senior, guard, plays here in an exhibition game against UM-Columbia. Paradoski leaves the team after this season, along with three other seniors: David Ward, Sky Frazier and Paul De Chellis.

and grabbed six rebounds. Ward shot 6-10 in the game with four rebounds, three assists and led the team with seven turnovers.

The Tritons finished the game shooting at 57 percent while the Hawks only shot at 44 percent. UM-St. Louis also managed to out-re-

bound Rockhurst 32-24. After the win, UM-St. Louis still remains one spot behind Rockhurst in the GLVC West Standings.



Mary Slaughter, junior, forward, plays here in an exhibition game against St. Louis University. Slaughter led the Triton offense with 15 points during Saturday's game against Rockhurst.

# Tritons snap four-game losing streak

By **LAQUAN FUSE**  
Sports Editor

The UM-St. Louis women's basketball team snapped a four-game losing streak after defeating the Rockhurst Hawks 78-73 on Saturday. The win improves the Tritons' record to 4-12 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference and 7-17 overall. The Hawks' five-game losing streak makes their GLVC record fall to 3-14 and the team is 8-17 overall.

Five players for UM-St. Louis scored double digits in the win against Rockhurst.

Mary Slaughter led the offensive attack with 15 points, followed closely by Taylor Gagliano who finished the game with 14 points. Amanda Miller and Kristi White both chipped in 12 points in the game and Court-

ney Watts finished the game with 11 points.

Rockhurst had four players who finished the game scoring in the double digits. Julie Cook scored a game-high 16 points against the Tritons. Amy Hake added 14 points to the scoreboard for the Hawks while Chelsea Barnett chipped in for 13 points and Megan Hurley recorded 10 points in the game.

There were a total of 10 lead changes in the up and down battle between these two teams.

Seven of the 10 lead changes happened in the first half of the game, but it was Rockhurst who walked into the locker room at halftime with a two-point lead over UM-St. Louis. The Tritons trailed 34-32 at the end of the first half.

See **WOMEN'S BASKETBALL** page 12

# No. 7 Drury defeats UM-St. Louis 66-58

By **LAQUAN FUSE**  
Sports Editor

UM-St. Louis men's basketball team lost 66-58 to the seventh ranked Drury on Sunday night. The Triton's record fell to 4-13 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference and 9-16 overall. The Panthers increased their winning streak to six games and currently remain on top of the GLVC West with a record of 15-2.

The game went back and forth with both teams exchanging shots in the first half. There were a total of six lead changes during the half, but it was UM-St. Louis who went into the half with a 29-28 lead.

Drury came out during the second half of the game and took the lead. UM-St. Louis scored 29 points in the first half and repeated that score during the second half of the game.

The Tritons remained close throughout the half, but the Panthers got the lead and never looked back, scoring a total of 38 points in the

second half.

David Ward led the Tritons with 16 points in the game. Ward shot a perfect 6-6 from the free throw line and pulled down four rebounds and one assist.

Paul Paradoski shot 5-13 in the game and finished with 12 points. Paradoski also grabbed four rebounds in the game and led the team with four assists.

Adam Kaatman finished the game shooting 4-8 from the field and ended with 11 points.

Four players for Drury finished the game in double figures. Collins Harris and Chris Ijames both recorded 17 points in the game. Steven Gum and Tim Brown both ended the game with 10 points for the Panthers.

Drury managed to out rebound UM-St. Louis in the game 25-22. The Panther's rebounding attack was led by Adam White who finished the game with 10 rebounds, eight of which were defensive.

The Panthers currently lead the

GLVC in assists per game and pulled off 14 assists on 23 made baskets against the Tritons. The Tritons, on the other hand, finished the game with only nine assists on 22 made baskets. UM-St. Louis is 10th in the GLVC in assists per game.

The Tritons have two games left before they finish out the season. The team will travel to Rolla to face off against Missouri S&T on Feb. 26 and then to Evansville, Ind. for final game of the season against Southern Indiana.

The Missouri S&T Miners have not won a conference game all season as the post a 0-17 GLVC record. The last time these two teams played each other was on Jan. 12, where the Tritons picked up a 60-46 win.

The Southern Indiana Screaming Eagles are currently tied with Quincy University for the third in the GLVC West standings with a record of 7-10. Even though the Tritons did not gain a spot in the GLVC tournament, this game could be a turning point for Southern Indiana.



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**SCHOOL SHOOTINGS**, from page 4

Another reoccurring issue that has been brought up concerning these shootings has been mental health. With a majority of the shooters committing suicide after injuring or killing their victims, it is hard to know for sure what was going on in their minds. However, if they are willing to kill themselves something was definitely wrong.

If America wants to stop these events from occurring, we need to make an effort to screen all students for mental health issues. This

should not because we are afraid anyone could commit these crimes but for each student's health. Living with a mental illness is difficult and can be hard to control.

We need to look back at the many school shootings over the years and find the common warning signs. We can then teach parents, teachers, counselors and friends how to recognize them so we can save these troubled people from losing their lives and taking others.

**BLACK HISTORY**, from page 7

George Washington Carver was the first successful African American to build a school so he could teach farming techniques to former slaves that they would use for their family and themselves back home.

African American artists have helped America mold art into what it is today and have made large contributions to music, literature and art today.

Based on the Mississippi River boat music, jazz came alive. Jazz artist Louis Armstrong and the legend who helped slave music come to life, John Dyson, are two key musicians to bring rhythm and improvisation into music.

Sculptor Augusta Savage and photographer Gordon Parks are two elite artists who helped African American history come alive through their art. The Gamin is a famous sculpture of Agusta Savage and depicts a young African American male.

The famous writers, Richard Wright and Maya Angelou, empowered the African American community through their writing and poetry. Wright's famous work, *Native Son*, brought feelings of misery and pain through his character Bigger Thomas, a violent black man blaming a racist white

community. Angelou has become a best seller and won many awards for her writing about her life of a black woman.

"American Gothic" is a portrait by Gordon Parks of an African-American woman holding a broom and a mop. In fact, he is the first African American photographer at the magazine *LIFE*.

In 1995, the Million Man March came about speaking of the unfairness that is still faced by black men in America. Here, they motivated black men to be leaders in their community by working together. This march is repeated in the years followed by the name of the Million Family March.

Another person that has made a breakthrough for blacks was Condoleezza Rice, the first black woman to be appointed secretary of state and President George W. Bush's top adviser for foreign affairs.

"It's always a great to honor for those who fought for a common good, such as equality. It was a terrible crime against humanity and we should remember it in order not to repeat these mistakes, said Vlada Pavlichenko, senior, finance, said. "In fact, the U.S. should be proud that now so many diverse groups can live together."

**RUCKUS**, from page 7

"There are talking ads, video ads, Flash ads, old-fashioned banner ads, moving ads and the kind of ad that will eat up the whole screen and present you with the option to 'skip this ad' when all you wanted to do was to see if Ruckus carried Audio Adrenaline. The ads all seem to have a tendency to load before the actual content does," Gemignani said.

The advertisements are necessary, Ruckus officials said. In order to offer this free and legal service, Ruckus works directly with the major record labels and indies. The company licenses the music and pays fees from its advertising revenue.

Companies including but not limited to Anschutz Investment Co. LLC, Columbia Capital, Battery Ventures, Eastward Capital, Pinnacle Ventures and Shelter Capital invest millions of dollars in Ruckus.

Cory Klatik, senior, international business and information systems, said the lack of support is also a drawback. "The largest let-down for the majority of owners of the portable devices [is that there is] NO iPOD (sic) support whatsoever," Klatik said. "In fact, there is no Mac support given. The only format offered is via the Windows Media format."

Lawson said the audio files are not compatible with all players, the iPod included, but there are plenty of players and cellular phones that are compatible with the WMA files. Ruckus files are not compatible with Mac computers for the same reason as the iPod. (A list of compatible devices is available at <http://www.ruckusnetwork.com/>

[trialpay/devices.html](http://trialpay/devices.html).)

"Ruckus is always hopeful that Apple will open up their platform so others can play too," Lawson said. "Apple does not allow the files to be played natively. Ruckus is currently working on a Mac solution as we speak, and will be available very soon."

Another drawback of the program is that the files cannot be burned to CDs. "The tracks are protected so that they cannot be illegally swapped," he said. "If they were burnable, they could, then be ripped and swapped on a p2p (person to person) network. We do make all tracks available for purchase (\$0.79-\$0.99). Once you own the track, you can burn it or put it on any device."

Ruckus has recently teamed up with Facebook and created an application that offers the same share and discovery tools as the program. This allows a person with a Facebook account to share what they are listening to and downloading with his or her friends on the social networking site.

A recent press release from Ruckus stated, "With Ruckus, students can legally download and share music, create playlists, send personal media recommendations to friends and neighbors, browse classmates' profiles and media libraries, and meet new friends."

Lawson said, "The great thing is that it is better than free. It is legal, safe and allows for social media interaction like no one else. Through shared playlists, recommendations, most played and access to friends/other users' entire library, a student can find and instantly download any and all music that they find."

**WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**, from page 11

The second half started with UM-St. Louis going on a 5-0 scoring run to retake the lead of the game.

Each team continued to exchange baskets during the second half but UM-St. Louis started to pull away with less than 13 minutes left in the game.

The Tritons went on an 18-0 scoring run which included 3-pointers by Watts, White and two by Lindsey Ransome.

The Tritons lead 68-54 with 8:21 left in the game.

The Hawks tried to continue to cut into the lead, but the Tritons were able to hold on and walk away with the 78-73 victory.

The Tritons were able to out shoot and out rebound their op-

ponents during the entirety of the game.

The Tritons shot 51 percent for the game while the Hawks shot only 44 percent.

The Tritons also knocked down nine out of 18 3-pointers attempted while the Hawks made 7-21.

As for rebounds, UM-St. Louis pulled down 35 while Rockhurst was right behind them with only 32.

Gagliano and Miller led the Triton with seven rebound each in the game.

The Tritons are currently in fifth place in the GLVC standings behind SIU-Edwardsville.

Rockhurst is in seventh place in the GLVC West standings.

**WELCOME TO STEPFORD**



Sara Arnold hangs Brooke Center-Wise's artwork in Gallery Visio for her show that was postponed until Thursday, Feb. 28 because of the school closure on Thursday.

Danny Reize • Assistant Photo Editor

**CLASSIFIED Ads**

Classified ads are free for students, faculty and staff. To place an ad, please send your ad (40 words or less), your name, and student or employee number to [thecurrent@umsl.edu](mailto:thecurrent@umsl.edu) or call 516-5316.

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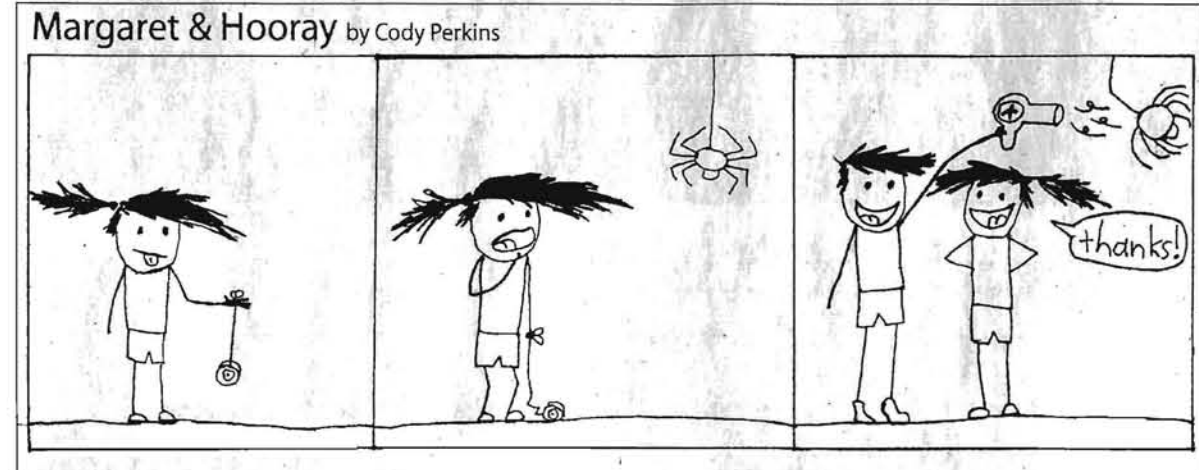
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**CURRENT CARTOONISTS**

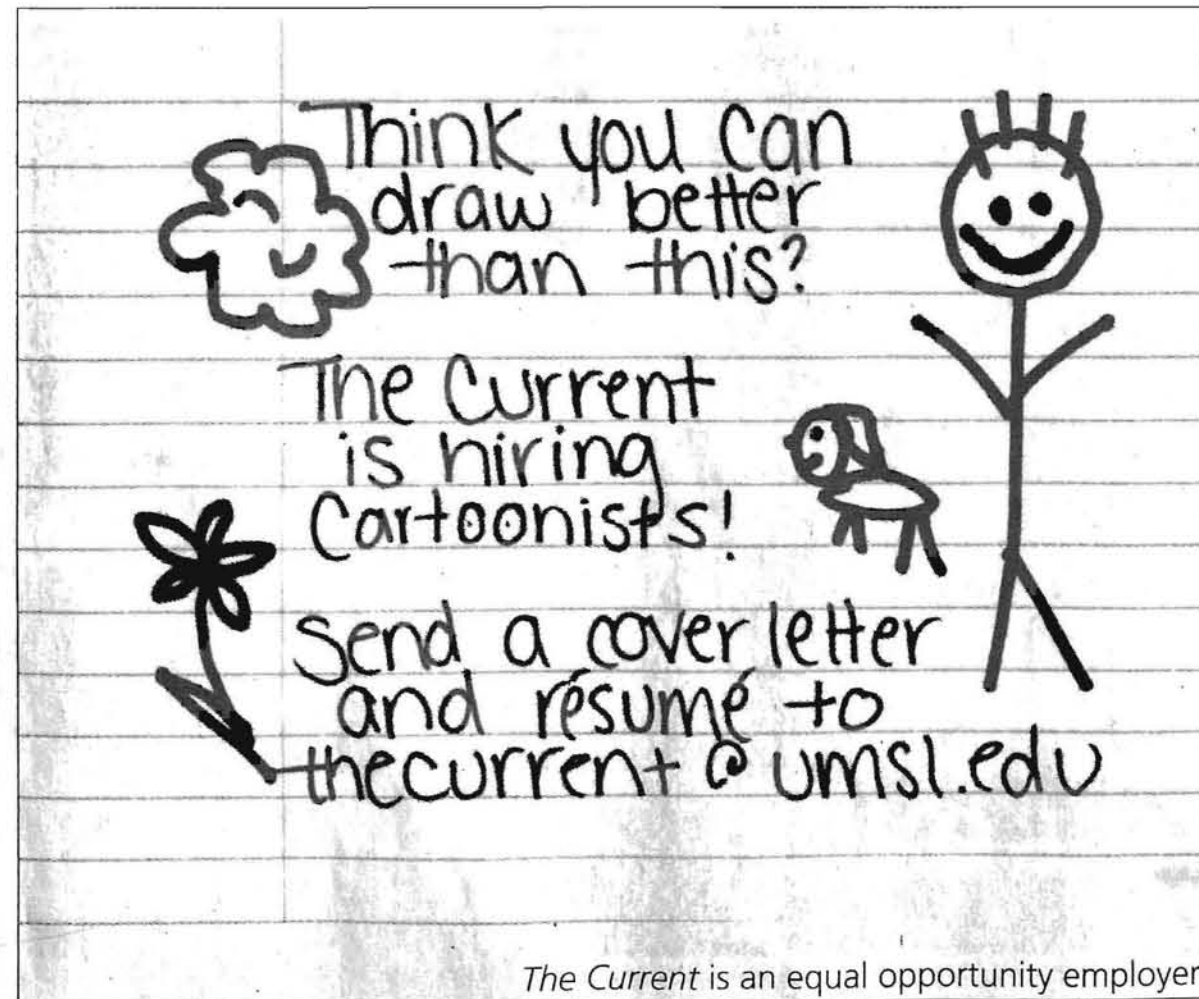
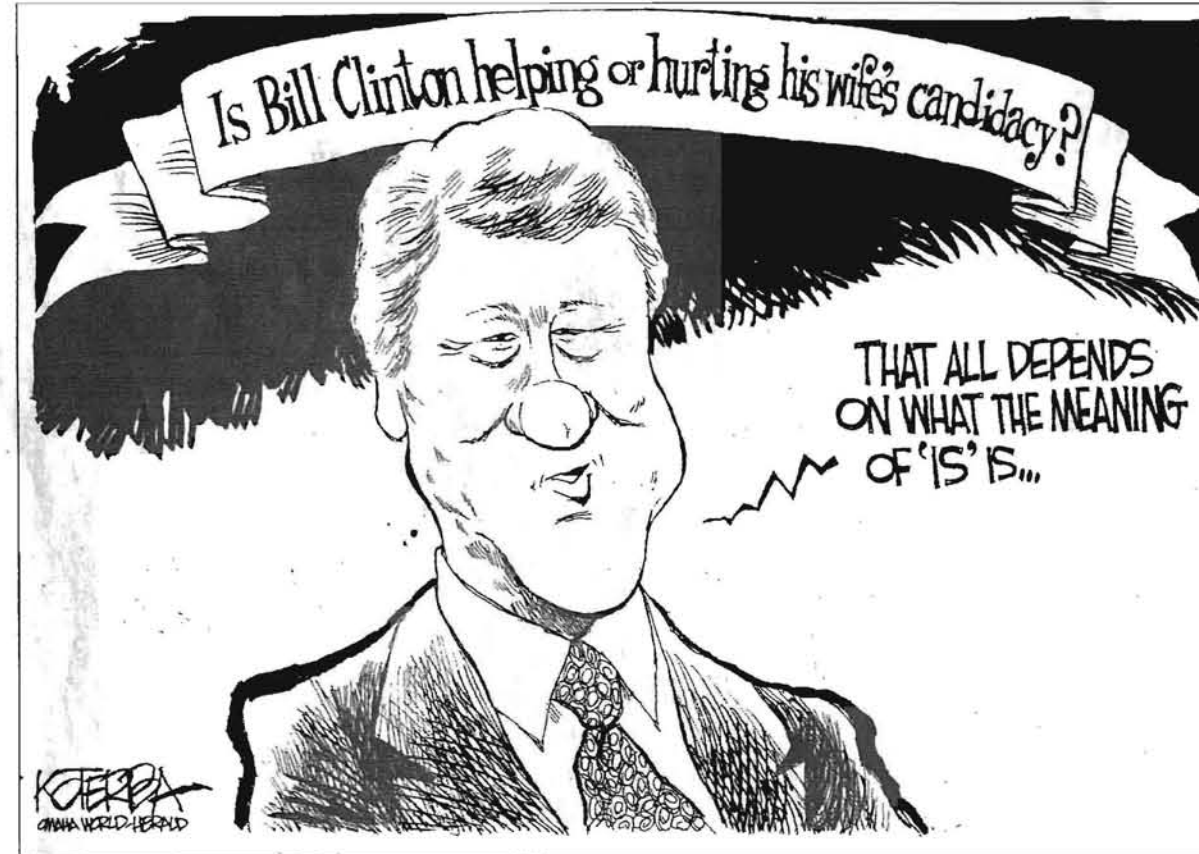
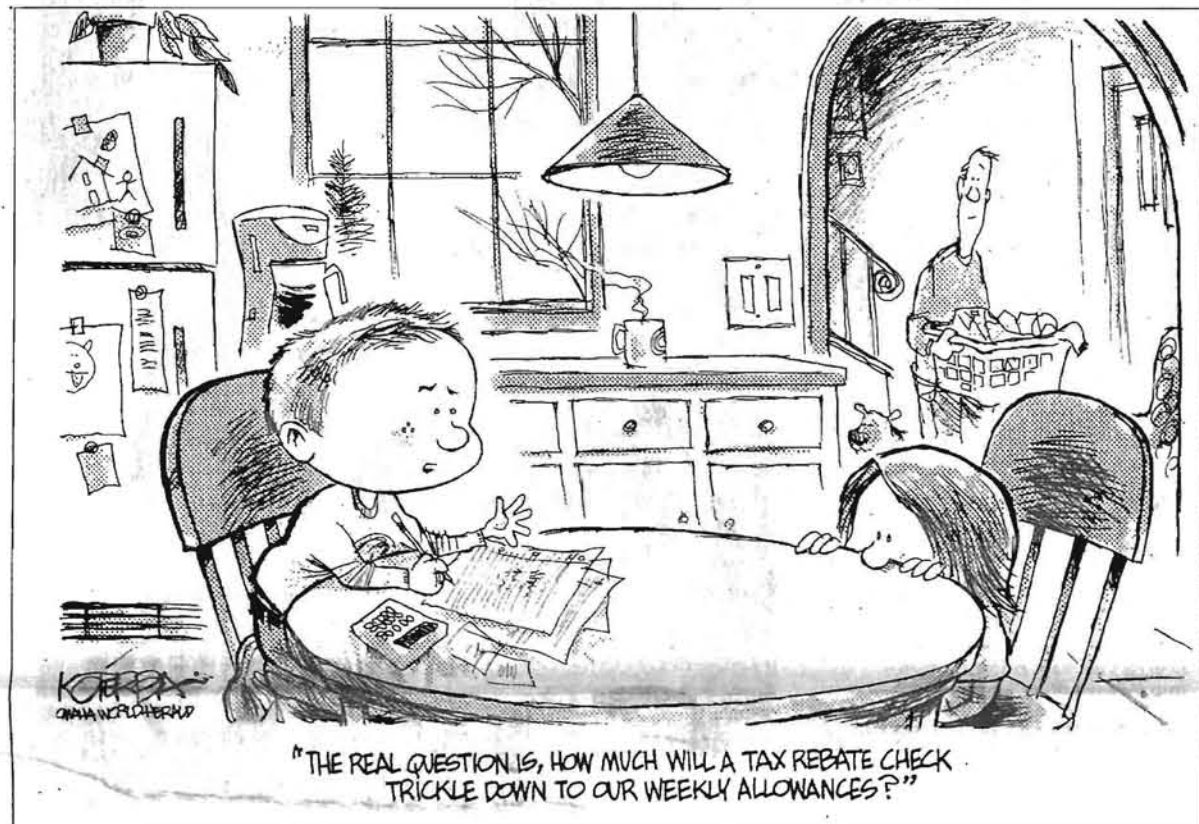


"Sconeborough" is drawn by Current cartoonist Elizabeth Gearheart



"Margaret and Hooray" is drawn by Current cartoonist Cody Perkins

**SYNDICATED CARTOONS**



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"And I mean it from the bottom of my heart when I say ... LINE!"

**King Crossword**

**ACROSS**

- 1 Suitable
- 4 Urp
- 7 "Star Wars" crime lord
- 12 Brock of baseball lore
- 13 Guitar's cousin
- 14 For all to hear
- 15 Under the weather
- 16 1960s British hoodlums
- 18 --relief
- 19 Store-sign stat
- 20 Mesopotamia, today
- 22 Wire service initials
- 23 Stir-fry equipment
- 27 Pretense
- 29 Pluto, once
- 31 Snap
- 34 Lamentor's verse
- 35 Confine with walls
- 37 Dine on
- 38 Bleak film genre
- 39 "Smoking or -?"
- 41 Metal coffee cup holder
- 45 Drum type
- 47 Solidify
- 48 Elvis No.1 hit, for short
- 52 Dined
- 53 One of Churchill's

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
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53					54				55		
56						57			58		

- offerings?
- 54 Time of your life?
- 55 Flage
- 56 Tubular pasta
- 57 "Misérables"
- 58 Part of NIMBY
- 8 Priestly garment
- 9 Greet the villain
- 10 Purchase
- 11 Billboards
- 17 Faucet problem
- 21 Persian Gulf nation
- 23 "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" is one
- 24 Indivisible
- 25 Frat party need
- 26 Pigs' home
- 28 Opposed
- 30 Meadow
- 31 See 26-Down
- 32 Med. arrangement
- 33 Sapporo sash
- 36 Remote control precursor
- 37 Mesh, as gears
- 40 Ryan or Shaquille
- 42 One more time
- 43 Back in style
- 44 Armada
- 45 Data unit
- 46 Mined finds
- 48 Recipe meas.
- 49 Lamb dam
- 50 Lair
- 51 Roseanne's TV hubby

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**Weekly SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle

8		6			2			
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		9			4	7		
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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

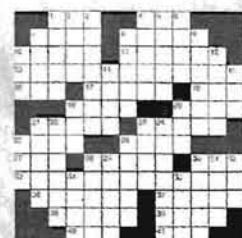
**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★★**

- ★ Moderate
- ★★ Challenging
- ★★★ HOO BOY!

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Find the answers to this week's crossword puzzle and Sudoku at

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online.com



**ARIES**  
(March 21 to April 19)  
Congratulatory, Lamb. The end of the month brings good news in the workplace thanks to all the efforts you have made to get your projects off the ground and running.

**TAURUS**  
(April 20 to May 20)  
Do not let yourself be cowed into thinking you are not up to the challenge you have taken on. Keep reinforcing your self-confidence and no one and nothing can stop you.

**GEMINI**  
(May 21 to June 20)  
Positive responses to a recent workplace move should give you added assurance that you are on the right track. Celebrate the good news with family and/or friends.

**CANCER**  
(June 21 to July 22)  
There is still a little emotional fuzziness you have to work through before you can feel really certain about your recent decisions, but you are on the right track. Stay with it.

**LEO**  
(July 23 to Aug. 22)  
You are tempted by an offer that seems close to what you have been looking for, but before you pounce on it, see if you can coax out some added perks to sweeten the deal.

**VIRGO**  
(Aug. 23 Sept. 22)  
Your efforts to settle a volatile situation should prove successful. Now could be a good time to analyze what might have created the problem in the first place.

**LIBRA**  
(Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)  
A once-close associate re-emerges with news that could cause you to reconsider a recent decision, but do not make a move before consulting a trusted adviser.

**SCORPIO**  
(Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)  
You might feel pressured to reveal a colleague's secret, but you can rely on your strong Scorpion sense of rectitude to help you continue to do the right thing.

**SAGITTARIUS**  
(Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)  
That pesky situation is still creating problems, but you are moving ahead with it and it should soon be successfully resolved in your favor.

**CAPRICORN**  
(Dec. 22 to Jan. 19)  
A spate of indecision leaves you susceptible to doubt, but you will soon regain your emotional sure-footedness and be back leading the way, as usual.

**AQUARIUS**  
(Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)  
Love rules the week with new romances favored for single Aquarians looking for partners. Cupid also targets renewed commitment for wedded Water Bearers.

**PISCES**  
(Feb. 19 to March 20)  
A surge of creativity keeps you happily busy through the week, but leave some quiet time to share with loved ones. Some long-awaited news finally comes through.

**BORN THIS WEEK:**  
People rely on you whenever they need someone they can trust to be caring, considerate and also discreet.

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