

The Current

March 17, 2008

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VOLUME 41, ISSUE 124

THIS WEEK

News at Noon looks at 'Madam President'

Farida Jalalzai, assistant professor in political science will discuss "Anticipating Madam President" in MSC Room 315 from noon until 1:30 p.m.

INSIDE



Hunger Banquet leaves UMSL hungry for more

Catholic Newman Center's "Hunger Banquet" gave students a taste of hunger awareness.

See FEATURES, page 7



Sham'rock out' at Pat's Bar and Grill

Just in time for St. Patrick's Day, check out *The Current's* review of a bar and grill in Dogtown.

See A&E, page 8

Get on the ball with March Madness

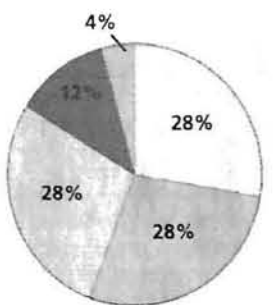
Check out *The Current's* March Madness bracket, fill out your favorite picks, and turn them back into *The Current* by Wednesday, March 19 at 5 p.m.

See SPORTS, page 12

ON THE WEB

The Current online.com

Web poll results: How much did you spend on textbooks this semester?



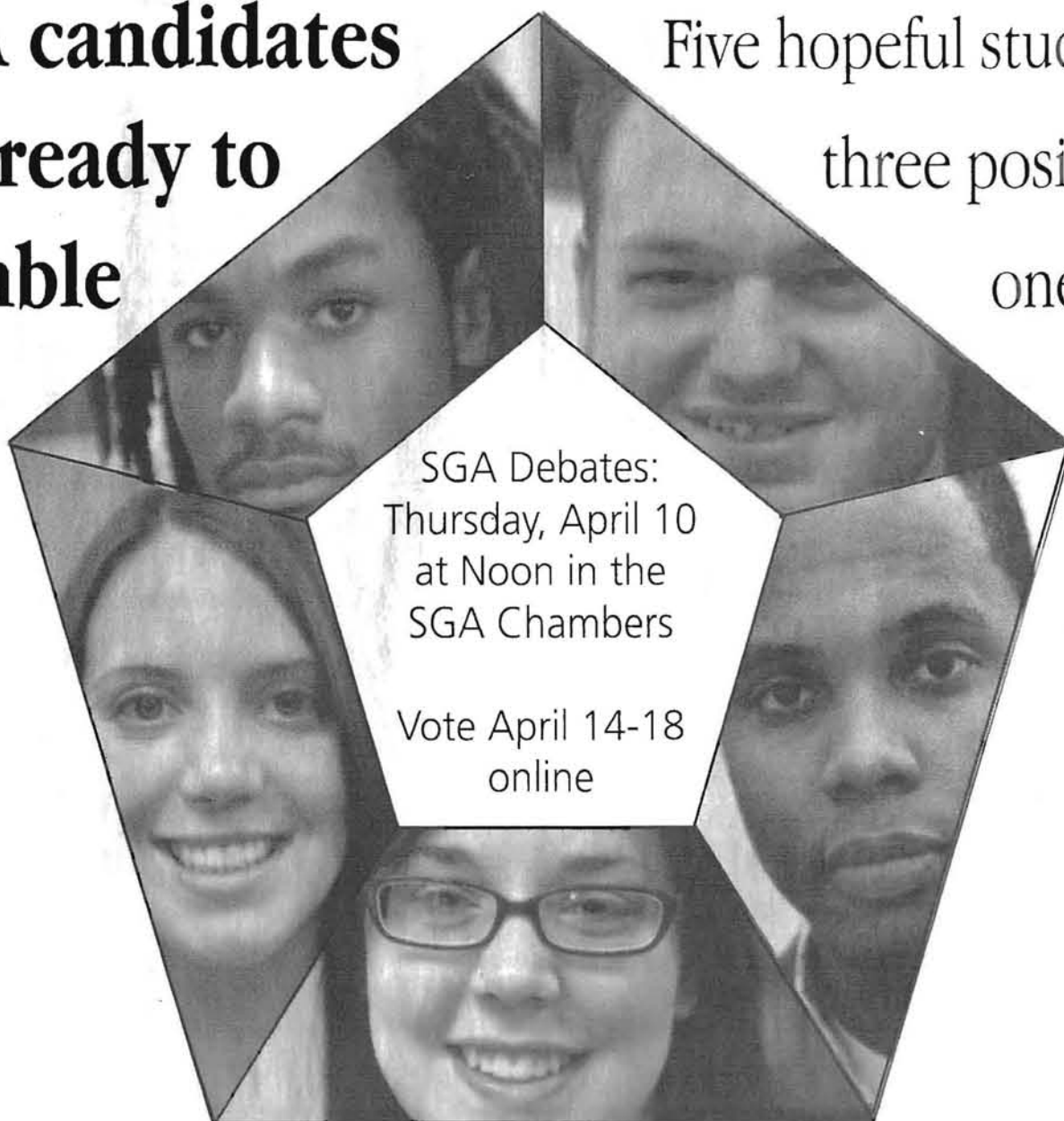
This week's question: Where would be your ideal place to spend Spring Break?

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SGA candidates get ready to rumble

Five hopeful students, three positions, one vote



SGA Debates:
Thursday, April 10
at Noon in the
SGA Chambers

Vote April 14-18
online

Photos by: Danny Reise • Assistant Photo Editor

(FROM TOP LEFT CLOCKWISE): Comptroller candidate Dorian Hall, comptroller candidate Peter Talluto, vice presidential candidate T. Ryan, presidential candidate GraceMarie Ritter and vice presidential candidate Jessica Cowan.

Elections will feature unopposed president, two VPs, two comptrollers



GraceMarie Ritter
Presidential candidate

GraceMarie Ritter is a sophomore majoring in liberal studies and lives on campus and is a resident assistant as well as a member of the Residence Halls Association.

She serves as chief justice of Student Court, co-chair of the 2008 homecoming committee and is a member of Delta Zeta and STAT.

After graduating with her bachelor's degree, Ritter wants to attend graduate school to study higher education administration.

"A lot of the administrators here have inspired me," Ritter said. She cites UM-St. Louis administrators' one-on-one relationships with students as one of the many reasons she wants to go into higher education administration.

Ritter is the only candidate running for Student Government Association president. "Being unopposed has caused me to work harder. You need to prove that you deserve it," she said.

"Being president will be one more step to prepare for my career goal."

- Compiled by Carrie Fasiska / Managing Editor



T. Ryan
Vice presidential candidate

T. Ryan Jr. is a junior majoring in media studies and is running for the position of Student Government Association vice president for the upcoming school year.

On campus, Ryan is involved in the Black Leadership Organizing Council.

He is also the president of University Program Board, the treasurer of Ad Corps, and the sergeant-at-arms of SGA.

Off campus, Ryan is involved in the Ad Club of St. Louis and the American Advertising Federation.

Once he is done with his undergraduate studies, Ryan wants to go to graduate school and hopes to one day own his own marketing firm.

As to why he is running for SGA vice president, Ryan said, "[SGA] is the best platform to make positive changes to the lives of students and faculty."

Ryan was also named homecoming king at the Homecoming Dance in October 2007.

- Compiled by Angie Spencer / Proofreader



Jessica Cowan
Vice presidential candidate

Jessica Cowan is a junior majoring in accounting and is running for the position of comptroller.

Hall is involved on campus and holds executive positions in many different organizations. He is the administrative chair and a Student Government Association representative of University Program Board, president of Helping Hands, treasurer of Associated Black Collegians and comptroller of Black Leadership Organizing Council.

Hall is also a member of the Student Senate, Delta Sigma Pi business fraternity, Black Business Student Association and the Student Activities Budget Committee.

When he graduates, Hall would like to be a treasurer for a company or organization. As for why he is running for the SGA comptroller position, he said,

"I am interested in continuing working on the budgets, being a current member of SABC and advocating for students on a higher level."

- Compiled by Carrie Fasiska / Managing Editor



Dorian Hall
Comptroller candidate

Dorian Hall is a junior majoring in accounting and is running for the position of comptroller. Hall is involved on campus and holds executive positions in many different organizations.

He is the administrative chair and a Student Government Association representative of University Program Board, president of Helping Hands, treasurer of Associated Black Collegians and comptroller of Black Leadership Organizing Council.

Hall is also a member of the Student Senate, Delta Sigma Pi business fraternity, Black Business Student Association and the Student Activities Budget Committee.

When he graduates, Hall would like to be a treasurer for a company or organization. As for why he is running for the SGA comptroller position, he said,

"I am interested in continuing working on the budgets, being a current member of SABC and advocating for students on a higher level."

- Compiled by Angie Spencer / Proofreader



Peter Talluto
Comptroller candidate

Peter Talluto is a junior majoring in finance and is a Student Government Association representative for the fraternity Sigma Tau Gamma.

Talluto is also vice president of finance for the fraternity.

After graduating, Talluto wants to pursue a master's degree in business administration.

He would like to work in the stock market or as a financial planner after finishing college.

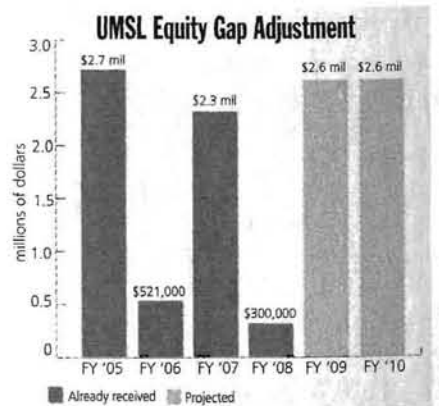
Talluto is running for comptroller for the SGA. The comptroller position is chair of the Student Activities Budget Committee, which does out student organizations' budgets.

"I have always been interested in being on the executive board," Talluto said.

He wants to "continue how well we have been doing" with money allocations.

"I have always been good with finances and I love to keep things balanced. I want to make sure everyone gets the most for the money," he said.

- Compiled by Carrie Fasiska / Managing Editor



Bill excludes extra funding for campus

By PAUL HACKBARTH

Editor-in-Chief

The Missouri House Budget Committee went against Gov. Matt Blunt's recommendation Tuesday and approved a bill that if passed by the full House, would not include funding to fill an equity adjustment gap for the campus.

House Bill 2003, which will set state funding levels for higher education institutions for the next academic year, was voted out of committee last week, but with some amendments.

Blunt had previously recommended a 4.2 percent increase for funding higher education next year, but the House committee approved only a 4 percent increase, a difference of approximately \$700,000 cut.

The biggest lost to UM-St. Louis was the exclusion of extra funding for the campus, Chancellor Thomas George said.

The extra funding would help UM-St. Louis since in the past, the campus in St. Louis has usually received about 12-13 percent of state appropriations given toward the UM system, yet UM-St. Louis makes up 25 percent of the UM student population.

"The Board of Curators and the Coordinating Board of Higher Education recommended \$2.6 million for fiscal year 2009 and the intention of another \$2.6 million for 2010," George said.

See EQUITY GAP, page 14

Campus task force tackles diversity bills

By TIM VOLKERT

Staff Writer

Imposing intellectual diversity in classrooms and petitioning for an anti-affirmative action ballot may share a similar root in causes, members of the Chancellor's Cultural Diversity Initiative agreed Friday at their meeting.

Michael Rankins, assistant director in the Office of Student Life, maintained there may be parallels between the "intellectual diversity legislation and anti-affirmative action legislation. They are symptoms of the same broader problem," he said.

Rankins updated the committee on the campus' response to the intellectual diversity bill, HB 1315, which was debated but never passed in the Missouri legislature.

Sponsored by Rep. Jane Cunningham, R-Chesterfield, the bill mandates that universities must annually report their efforts to the Missouri legislature to increase intellectual diversity and offer suggestions to revise hiring and tenure policies to achieve a more balanced political climate in the classroom.

Supporters say the bill allows the free flow of ideas and limits one-sided lectures or classrooms, while critics contend the bill opens the door for more stringent requirements that will unfairly advantage right-wing professors, which will eventually threaten certain student groups.

See INTELLECTUAL DIVERSITY, page 14

Stay Current with this week's weather	Monday Hi/Low: 57/54 Precip: 70%	Tuesday Hi/Low: 57/39 Precip: 90%	Wednesday Hi/Low: 50/36 Precip: 30%	Thursday Hi/Low: 57/42 Precip: 20%	Friday Hi/Low: 50/37 Precip: 20%	Saturday Hi/Low: 50/38 Precip: 30%	Sunday Hi/Low: 52/35 Precip: 40%	Weather predictions taken from http://www.weather.com.
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CAMPUS CRIMELINE

SUNDAY, MARCH 9

TAMPERING WITH MOTOR VEHICLE - PARKING LOT V

The victim reported that sometime between 4:30 p.m. and 9 p.m., person(s) unknown broke out the two front windows to her car. The vehicle was parked in Lot V on the South Campus. The vehicle's ignition system was also tampered with in an apparent attempt to steal the car. The victim reported that nothing was stolen from inside the vehicle. There are no suspects in this incident.

MONDAY, MARCH 10

PROPERTY DAMAGE - BELLERIVE HALL

Sometime over the weekend, a window was broken on the exterior of the building. The window is a double pane and only the outside window was broken. Entry was not gained into the building.

FRIDAY, MARCH 14

TAMPERING WITH MOTOR VEHICLE - KATHY WEINMAN PARKING LOT

The victim reported that unknown person(s) broke out the driver's side front window and tampered with the ignition in an apparent attempt to steal the car. The victim reported nothing was stolen from the vehicle. The scene was processed for evidence and comparisons will be sent to the lab for analysis.

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. What we do no regret is correcting our mistakes. Please let us know of any corrections that need to be made.

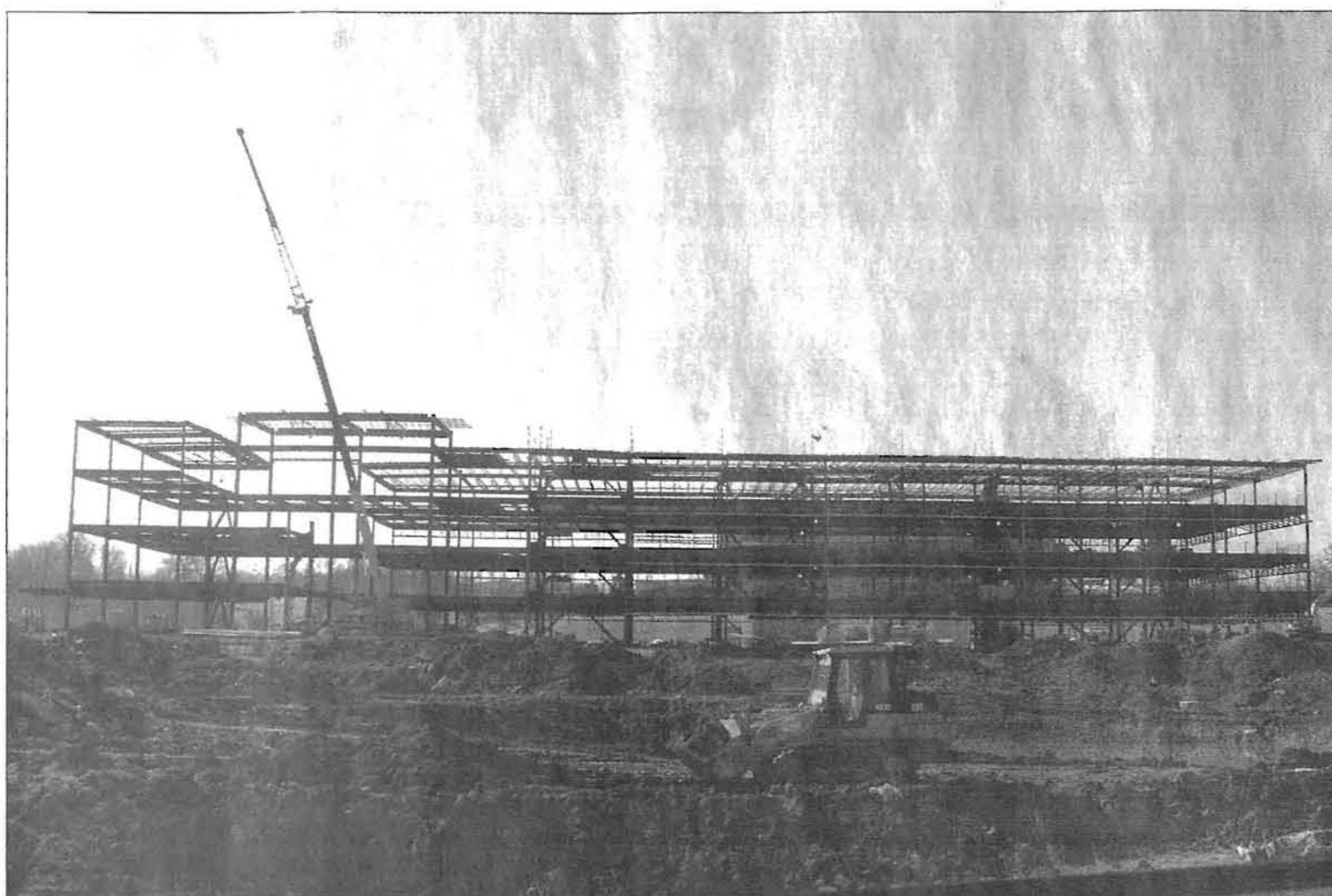
To report any corrections that need to be made, please contact The Current at 314-516-5174 or by e-mail at thecurrent@umsl.edu.

In the March 10 issue of The Current, the following corrections need to be made:

In the news brief "SGA executive candidates announced for elections," two candidates' majors were incorrectly named. Grace-Marie Ritter is a sophomore, liberal studies, and Jessica Cowan is a junior, psychology and criminology and criminal justice.

In the article "ASUM fee up for approval," the nature of the \$1-\$2 fee mentioned to cover the cost of Metro passes was unclear. The fee is per credit hour, not a flat rate.

EXPRESS SCRIPTS CONTINUES CONSTRUCTION



Danny Reise • Assistant Photo Editor

Construction on Express Scripts' second building continues as plans are in discussion for a third building on campus.

What's Current

Your weekly calendar of campus events

MONDAY, MARCH 17

UMSL Jazz Combo

The UM-St. Louis Jazz Combo will perform a concert at 7:30 p.m. in the Touhill PAC. This event is free. Call 4235 for more information.

Science Lecture

William Roush will present the 11th Annual Robert W. Murray Report titled "Recent Studies in Organic Synthesis" from 4 p.m. until 5 p.m. in 451 Benton. Call 5334 for more information.

Effective Studying

The Center for Student Success will teach how memory works and how to make studying more effective from 5:30 p.m. until 6:15 p.m. Call 5300 for more information.

TUESDAY, MARCH 18

ScrapArtsMusic

ScrapArtsMusic, a band using handmade futuristic instruments in a fast-paced musical environment, will perform at the Touhill PAC at 7 p.m. \$10-\$18. Call 4949 for more information.

Executive Lunch

Executive fellows at the Executive Leadership Institute will hold three mentoring sessions with students on success after graduation from 11:45 p.m. until 1:45 p.m. in MSC Century Room C. Call 4749 for more information.

Cash Flow Class

The class, from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m., will show how to turn financial statements into useful management tools, as well as its role in daily operations. \$99. For more information, call 4556.

Powerpoint Workshop

Undergraduate Research Symposium will hold a workshop from 4 p.m. until 5 p.m. on how to create a poster in Powerpoint. For more information contact Lindsay Ruhr at urs@umsl.edu.

Personality Workshop

The Center for Student Success will host a workshop from 9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. in 225 MSC on understanding personality and how to organize life around it. Call 5300 for more information.

MyView Tutorial

Users will learn how to navigate MyView, the new system for bill pay, class registration and transcript printing, and more. The tutorial starts at 8:30 a.m. and lasts until 10 a.m. in 107 SCB.

Network Optimization

The Center for Student Success will host a lesson on making the most of social networks in 225 MSC from 11 a.m. until 11:45 a.m. Call 5300 for more information.

Proofreading Workshop

The Writing Lab will teach special techniques to help improve proofreading skills from 12:30 p.m. until 1:15 p.m. in SSB 409.

Resume Workshop

A free workshop from 2 p.m. until 3 p.m. on successful resume writing tips in 278 MSC. Register online at <http://careers.umsl.edu> or call 5111.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19

Film Screening

The Institute for Women's and Gender Studies will be showing "Killing Us Softly 3," at 3 p.m. in 211 Clark. Refreshments served. For more information, call 5581.

Condom Olympics

Residence Halls Association will hold relay races with condoms in Oak Hall Pool at 6:30 p.m. Refreshments provided. E-mail edl6d9@umsl.edu for more information.

An Evening with Nikki

Poet, writer, activist and educator Nikki Giovanni will present an evening of poetry and discussion at 7 p.m. in the Century Rooms.

Research Paper Help

A lesson on how to do citations, quotes and block quotes in research papers from 12:30 p.m. to 1 p.m. in SSB 218. Call 5950 for more information.

"Beautiful Daughters"

Oscar-nominated Josh Aronson will show his film "Beautiful Daughters" about the first all-transsexual production of the Vagina Monologues at 3:30 p.m. until 4:45 p.m. in 200 Lucas.

"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. Email event listings to thecurrent@umsl.edu.

All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.



File Photo

"Women On The Move" is an annual UM-St. Louis event now in its sixth year. Last year's exhibit included faculty, staff, alumni and student work from women artists on campus.

Beekeeping

A Missouri State Beekeepers Association beekeeper will share knowledge on honeybees and beekeeping, with interactive events and lectures from 10 a.m. until noon in the J.C. Penney Conference Center. \$10. Call 314-539-4556 for more information or to register.

Wine and Chocolate

A guide to the effects of wine and chocolate on the heart from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the J.C. Penney Conference Center. A chocolate-tasting session will follow the presentation. \$10. Call OASIS at 314-539-4556 for more information.

Avoiding the Burnout

The Center for Student Success will present how to identify academic burnout and the strategies that will help mitigate it from 5:30 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. in 225 MSC. Call 5300 for more information.

Poetry Reading

Marjorie Stelmach and Kent Shaw will present poetry and short stories in Gallery 210 from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Call 5699 for more information.

Sam Spady Day

Sigma Pi will host an event to raise awareness of the dangers of excessive alcohol consumption from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the Pilot House. Refreshments and prizes provided to attendees. Call 314-580-4180 for more information.

THURSDAY, MARCH 20

Business Discussion

Maxine Clark, founder of Build-A-Bear Workshop will discuss various business topics

important to being successful. From 5:30 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. in the Touhill PAC. Call 4749 for more information.

Women on the Move

Gallery Visio will host the 6th Annual Women on the Move opening exhibition, a collection of over 20 female artists from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. in Gallery Visio. Call 7922 for more information.

Town Hall Meeting

Members of the accreditation steering committee will discuss the accreditation process and the campus starting at 4:30 p.m. in Marillac Hall Auditorium. Students are encouraged to attend and voice their opinions.

Government Marketing

A small course from 9 a.m. to noon in J.C. Penney Conference Center designed to break down the government marketing process and help better pinpoint the government markets appropriate to various businesses. \$49. Call 6121 for more information.

FRIDAY, MARCH 21

Photoshop Basics

A course from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. in SSB 134 to help teach the beginner basics of Adobe Photoshop for a variety of purposes.

Business Plan Writing

A course for new and existing business owners on how to write an effective business plan. This event takes place in the J.C. Penney Conference Center from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m. \$49. Call 6121 fore more information.

For a complete list of upcoming events, visit the What's Current section of <http://www.thecurrentonline.com>.

The Current

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

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The Current

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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.

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AFFILIATIONS



News at Noon

THIS WEEK: Wednesday,
March 19 - Noon - 1:30 p.m.
- MSC Room 315

Farida Jalalzai, Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science will discuss "Anticipating Madam President."

Sponsored by
The Current
&
The New York Times



Career Fair connects employers, students

By JEREMY TRICE
Staff Writer

More than 100 business and non-profit organizations gathered in the Mark Twain Building Friday vying for students to become their next employee at the spring semester Job and Internship Fair.

The job fair, the second one offered by UM-St. Louis this year, allowed students and alumni to check out job possibilities offered to all majors. Job providers were mostly from the local area, but some were based as far away as Virginia and Colorado.

Among the companies represented was Target, which was hiring for an executive team leader and executive interns. The executive internship offered through Target has a three-part program: Target fundamentals, basic leadership and a hands-on projects.

William K. Maguire II, executive team leader in asset production, said that "major did not matter" and that they were looking for "interns in their junior and senior years."

KDHL 88.1 FM Radio also attended the fair. The station offered 14 types of internships including the areas of audio/radio production, graphics and marketing, the music department, project management assistant, sales, marketing, events and more.

"Our internships are available per semester. We're looking currently for interns during the summer and fall," said Korinne Fischer, volunteer coordinator. "We also go by a school's requirement."

Beltservice, who specializes in making conveyor belts and fabrication, also attended the fair. The company was looking for an international salesperson that was bilingual in Spanish and English who has a desire to sell and learn the industry.

American Furniture, Electronics and Appliances in St. Peters made an appearance. Representatives from the company were in search of sales professionals, which requires no degree, and offered positions in sales managers and interns.

The company's manager-training program, however, does require a degree. Tanya Davies, human resources manager, said American "is looking for someone with motivation, ability to learn and someone to succeed and make money. American is a great place to work at. I look forward to seeing some UMSL graduates succeed."

Sherwin Williams also showed up to recruit. The organization was looking for people to apply for the company's management-training program, which includes structured on-the-job training, self-study modules and classroom instruction. College graduates with business degrees are preferred.

The United States Marine Corps made a special presence to get students and alumni to take part in their officer program.

"The Marine Corps has opportunities for leadership for both graduates and undergraduates. If they're looking to develop themselves and others, then the Marine officer program is for them," Capt. Frank Moore said.

Also at the fair was the *St. Louis Post Dispatch*, which was looking to fill their mailer-extra position. The job is a part-time physical labour position that requires working in and around machinery.

Hostelling International came to the fair, as well, to offer slots for volunteer interns and programming and activities coordination interns.

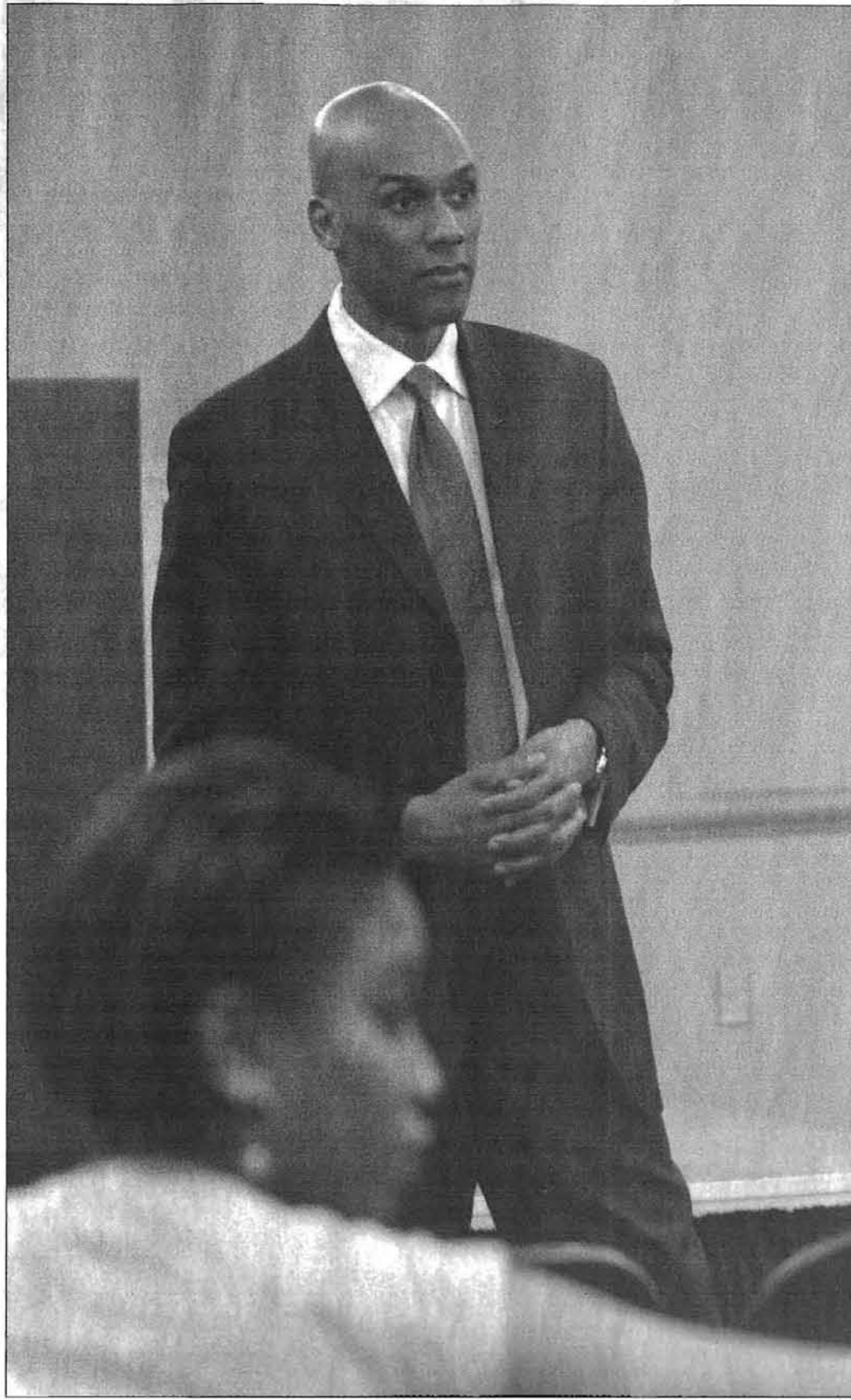
Mark T. Cockson, executive director, said, "the best thing about the University's job fairs is that they include not-for-profit companies."

Career Services sponsored the job fair and offers workshops throughout the year on interviewing for jobs, job search strategies, résumé building and more.

Career Services will be holding a Teacher Job Fair in July geared toward education employers. Winter weather had cancelled a teacher job previously scheduled earlier this semester.

For more information about Career Services, call 314-516-5111 or visit the office in 278 Millennium Student Center.

'BEYOND THE DOWN LOW'



Sofi Seck • Staff Photographer

Writer and political commentator Keith Boykin gave a lecture titled "Beyond the Down Low," which covered topics including race, sex and politics in American culture last Monday in the MSC Century Rooms. The event was co-sponsored by the University Program Board, Student Life and GLBT & Allies Resource Center.

Jane & Whitney Harris Lecture Series

Ecology lecture focuses on old growth forests

By CATE MARQUIS
A&E Editor

The ecology and future of old growth forests in the Pacific Northwest were the subject of this year's Jane and Whitney Harris Lecture, presented by the Whitney R. Harris World Ecology Center at UM-St. Louis at the Missouri Botanical Garden on Wednesday.

The multimedia, general audience talk was named *Old-Growth Forests of the Pacific Northwest: An Overview of Advances in Scientific Understanding and Conservation Policies*.

Chancellor Thomas George, Harris World Ecology Center Executive Director Patrick Osborne and Robert Marquis, professor of biology, attended the talk.

This year's speaker, Jerry F. Franklin, researcher in the field of old growth forests, is a professor of ecosystem analysis at the College of Forest Resources at the University of Washington in Seattle and the Director of the Wind River Canopy Crane Research Facility.

The Canopy Crane that Franklin's research facility developed has been an essential tool in exploring the differing ecological layers of forest canopies, as Franklin explained to his audience in the Garden's Shoenberg Auditorium.

Franklin described his area of interest as "Pacific slope, conifer-dominated old growth forests."

"Not very long ago, we knew nothing about old growth forests," he said. "We knew about Douglas fir trees but only in the context of managing them for the timber industry, not in their natural setting."

Old growth forests can range from 250 years to 1,500 years of age, Franklin said. "But these forest average 500 years of age."

Franklin hit on three parts of old growth forests: what we know about old growth forests, what is the current policy on them and what

are the 21st century challenges they face.

Research on old growth forests began with a program that was first adopted in Europe, then here. The International Biological Program looked at the various aspects of the forests.

"Some researchers were looking at old growth watersheds. At about the same time, the spotted owl was emerging as a species of interest to biology graduate students," Franklin said. "We began to look at its habitat."

One of the important things about old growth forests is their physical structure, "their architecture" as Franklin calls it.

The architecture includes large standing trees but also standing dead trees and fallen dead trees, in addition to the smaller trees and under story.

"Dead logs on the forest floor serve as 'nurse logs' serving as places for new trees to root," Franklin said.

The researchers soon discovered the importance of large trees to the forest did not end with their death. "Dead trees were important," Franklin said, a message he noted the timber industry did not want to hear.

"A tree's highest importance (to the forest) was at the death of the tree. Forestry wanted to see dead trees as unimportant to the ecology of forests," he said.

Franklin also noted the spatial arrangements of forest were important. "New forests, 60 to 80 years old, are in the 'competitive exclusion' phase, when individuals compete for sunlight and nutrients, which make more homogeneous forests," he said. Old growth forests have gaps, where old trees have fallen and new trees are growing, mixed with areas where old trees shade out the younger trees.

See FORESTS, page 13

NEWS BRIEFS

Missouri House passes immigration enrollment bill

A bill approved in the Missouri House of Representatives Thursday now requires all public colleges and universities in Missouri to certify that they have not knowingly enrolled illegal aliens in the previous year.

House Bill 1463, sponsored by Rep. Jerry Nolte (R-Gladstone), was passed by a vote of 112-39.

The bill only asks higher education institutions to check the residency status of students who enrolled, not applied, which narrows the work for admissions offices and makes the ability to check easier since documentation can be checked at the time students enroll.

Several amendments were offered during House floor debate, but none were passed and most were ruled out of order.

A similar measure is being considered in the Missouri Senate.

Center for Ethics, Public Life searches for co-directors

UM-St. Louis began a national search for co-directors of the new Center for Ethics in Public Life last week.

The University is looking for one director to be a practitioner with experience in public service and someone with a commitment to integrity in government.

The other director will be an academic with a focus on scholarly interests and research concentration in the field of public service ethics.

The co-directors will work together to manage the center administratively and offer educational and outreach programming to public officials and the general public. They also will direct the outreach and practice functions of the center.

The two directors will report to Provost Glen Cope.

The Center for Ethics in Public Life on campus was created with

funding from the Sen. Chuck Gross and Missouri state legislature to provide ethics education and resources to those in public service. The main office for the center is located in 406 Social Sciences and Business Tower.

The center will conduct research on issues of ethics in public policy and administrative settings, especially at the state and local levels.

A faculty advisory task force will provide academic and research advice and support, and a bipartisan community advisory board of 11 former elected and appointed officials will ensure the center is effectively assisting individuals in public service.

Visit <http://www.umsu.edu/services/ethics> for more information, to view complete co-director position descriptions and application requirements.

Textbook transparency bill moves to full House

The House Higher Education Committee approved a committee substitute bill for House Bill 2048, otherwise known as the Textbook Transparency Act.

Rep. Jake Zimmerman (D-Olivette) sponsored the bill, which requires textbook publishers to give any information regarding the price, substantial content revisions between the last two editions, copyright dates and the variety of formats for text available, to faculty members or textbook adopters per their request.

Publishers will now be required to make "bundle" packages separated.

Also, institutions will be required to allow students to use financial aid that has not been disbursed for tuition or fees to purchase textbooks at campus bookstores.

The bill was adopted 8-0 by the committee and was passed as a "consent" bill.

The bill now goes to the full House floor to be debated and eventually voted upon. The bill will likely be deliberated when the legislature returns from spring recess.

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Sponsored by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, the E. Desmond Lee Endowed Professorship for Developing Women Leaders and Entrepreneurs in International Business, the Institute for Women's & Gender Studies and the UMSL Alumni Association

Thursday, March 20, 2008

5:30 p.m. - Program

6:30 p.m. - Reception & Book Signing

E. Desmond and Mary Ann Lee Theater
Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center
on the campus of the University of Missouri-St. Louis

Topic: "Putting the Heart Back in Retailing"

MAXINE CLARK

Maxine Clark is chief executive bear of St. Louis-based Build-A-Bear Workshop, Inc. Clark founded the create-your-own stuffed animal chain in 1997. She also is the author of "The Bear Necessities of Business: Building a Company with Heart" which was published in 2006.

Prior to starting the Build-A-Bear company, she served as the president of Payless ShoeSource, Inc. and spent more than 19 years in various roles at The May Department Stores Company.

Clark is a member of the board of directors of the J.C. Penney Company, Inc. She also serves on the board of trustees of the International Council of Shopping Centers and Washington University in St. Louis and on the board of directors of Barnes-Jewish Hospital. Clark is also a member of the Committee of 200, an organization for women entrepreneurs around the world.

In 2006, she was inducted into the Junior Achievement National Business Hall of Fame and received the 2006 Luminary Award for Entrepreneurial Achievement from the Committee of 200. She was named a Customer-Centered Leader in the 2005 Customer First Awards by East Company. Clark was named one of the Wonder Women of Toys by Playthings magazine and Women in Toys, and also was one of the national finalists in retail for the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year in 2004. She earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Georgia.



This event is FREE and open to the public. For more information, call (314) 516-5446.

OUR OPINION

Curator's involvement in affirmative action petition is conflict of interest

As a member of the University of Missouri Board of Curators, David Wasinger has agreed to uphold the University's mission and goals, but as a private lawyer for the law firm Murphy Wasinger L.C. in Brentwood, he has sworn to aid his clients in the best possible manner.

Yet, when Wasinger decided to become involved in a court battle representing a group trying to convince voters to change the Missouri constitution to exclude diverse preferences in admissions processes at state universities, like the University of Missouri, a line needs to be drawn.

At the University of Missouri, one of the most diverse student populations in St. Louis, rules and regulations are in place in the hiring and admissions offices and the curators of the University of Missouri vow to support those rules and regulations.

In fact, high school seniors applying to the UM system who do not have the qualifications such as standardized test scores or class rankings to meet the University's requirements for admission have the option of going in front of a committee that considers certain circumstances, such as gender and race.

So, how can Wasinger play both sides of the fence: support affirmative action regulations at the UM system, yet represent Tim Asher, a sponsor of the Missouri Civil Rights Initiative amendment in Missouri courts, to help push through a proposal that

would basically dismantle years and years of affirmative action?

The conflict-of-interest policy for curators does not allow them to vote on or influence the University's decisions on issues resulting in some sort of physical or financial gain. So, as long as the curators do not vote on the ballot initiative, there seems to be a loophole, allowing Wasinger a free ride.

However, the conflict-of-interest policy also states, "An employee's outside employment or business activities and interests must not interfere with the employee's regular duties nor represent a conflict of interest."

While it may not be a direct vote, how is his involvement in the Missouri courts supporting the Civil Rights Initiative not interfering with his promise to defend affirmative action at the University of Missouri?

The case can also be made that Wasinger's action constitute consultation, which according to the UM system's policy regarding conflict-of-interest "whether income producing or otherwise, is the application of professional and scholarly expertise in the external community."

An attorney's job is nothing but consultation, and as the policy states, "consultation may in some instances also constitute a business interest requiring disclosure and approval when the entity...is in competition with the University, or where the consultation itself competes with the

work of the University."

The Civil Rights Initiative is arguably a conflict, especially for the last reason. Wasinger's aid in pushing through some form of legislation banning affirmative action would ultimately affect how admissions offices at UM-St. Louis and other public universities rate and interview potential students and ultimately, the diversity of the campus would become less heterogeneous.

With a campus that is about 18 percent black, according to fall 2007 statistics from the Office of Admissions, what would happen to that figure if a ballot passed?

At the University of California-Berkeley Boalt Hall Law School, after affirmative action was eliminated in state universities' admission processes, enrollment numbers for minorities fell between 1996 and 1997.

"African-American applicants were particularly affected as their admission numbers declined by 81 percent from 75 to 14, but acceptances of Hispanics also fell by 50 percent," stated a study published in Social Science Quarterly by authors Thomas Espenshade and Chang Chung.

Supporting this initiative basically negates what the University admissions and hiring processes work so hard to achieve: a diverse campus community. Wasinger should withdraw his involvement from the case and keep his job as curator and lawyer separate.

STAFF VIEWPOINT

Physicians and faith

In a recent issue of "Wired" magazine, an article discussing Muslim views on the matter of reproductive cloning got me thinking about cross-cultural medicine.

The article, in the March 2008 issue, presented the discussion under the pretense of "Muslim Bioethics."



By STUART REEVES

Columnist

Loosely speaking, any time we start asking moral questions related to the organization and activity of biological beings, especially in a scientific context, then we are talking about bioethics.

If we start leaning those questions toward people and their role in the doctor-patient relationship in the clinical or research setting, we are talking about medical ethics.

The distinction is a subtle one, and this is not at all to say that the article got the classification wrong, but the article did point out something mighty interesting: If we have a "Muslim Medical Ethics," could we not also have a "Catholic Medical Ethics," or a "Jewish Medical Ethics"? Moreover, how far should, if at all, the religion of the doctor or the patient factor into the clinical relationship?

As some scholars that have addressed this topic have offered, it would seem strange if one included religious background as part of the patient history. After all, if you are going to change the dress of your clinical ethics depending on when the patient observes a Sabbath, then what do you do for the patient that does not recognize one at all?

Still this does not remove the fact from consideration that each patient is a self-contained and distinct biological system that the state of our best science still does not have a consummate understanding of.

Moreover, we still cannot account for why when two patients with simi-

lar medical histories have the same malignancy, one patient responds, near miraculously to treatment, while the other deteriorates. Is this to say that there is some divine element to medicine?

This question has no definite answer to be sure. Several studies

over the years, however, have shown some link between faith of some sort and recovery.

This may seem spooky, or even hokey to some, but it is almost trivially accepted now that the emotional and psychological state of the patient can often have an impact on recovery and treatment.

If prayer to a higher power gives someone a little peace of mind that makes it possible for them to establish the resolve to endure the treatment necessary to overcome a disease, I see that as a good thing.

So there you have it folks: maybe we have some small indication to believe that there is a place for G-d in the hospital. We should be weary, however, of always leaning on this niche wisdom.

While asking for a little divine intervention, or perhaps just asking for some reinforcement of our value system while in a precarious time need not mean that we consider it a failure by ourselves or our chosen deity when things take a turn for less than ideal.

However, as a clinical tool for the practicing physician, or even as a relief and coping mechanism for the patient, there appears to be some value in having G-d in the prognosis.

To bring this point home, a doctor was once asked by a patient with advanced ovarian cancer to pray with her. He asked, what should we pray for? The patient responded, that my doctors be granted wisdom to see my treatment through.

GUEST COMMENTARIES

UMSL's disaster preparedness? I would not want to be co-pilot

By CRAIG HADLEY

Guest Commentator

Emergency situations rarely startle me. In fact, it takes quite a bit to send me into "panic mode." I attribute my calm sense of collectiveness to aviation. I started working on my private pilot certification at age fifteen with my dad, a flight instructor.

What is the single most important aspect about flying? My dad taught me to always "think ahead." What is coming up next? What can we anticipate and prepare for? Do not get caught off-guard, because your safety is paramount. Procrastination is a recipe for unavoidable disaster.

Yet, we all get caught off-guard. Engines stop running, instruments go haywire and thunderstorms form. It is for these moments precisely that we prepare ourselves. Run through a mental checklist, review your procedures, stay calm and have a plan and execute it confidently.

When I arrived at UM-St. Louis on Tuesday, March 4—in the middle of a snowstorm—I walked into the library where I work after driving nearly two hours. Moments later, I learned that we were being forced by administration to leave campus, despite the fact that the worst of the storm had just arrived.

Several of my coworkers expressed concern. What about those who had been dropped off on campus? Why could we not wait in the MSC or the library until the worst had passed? I consider myself a competent winter driver since I learned

to drive in Chicago and spent many winters in Wisconsin, but the roads on March 4 were quite terrible. MoDOT agreed. My coworkers and I waited in the South Parking Garage for 45 minutes—not because we wanted to get in the endlessly long line of traffic, but simply to stay warm since we could not wait indoors.

Traffic, backed up on Natural Bridge, proved to be a problem. I expected to see campus police directing traffic or helping stuck motorists, but they were not. We did in fact see one police vehicle, but that officer was simply waiting in the queue of gridlocked vehicles inside the parking garage. Before we had left the library, I made a phone call to Vice Chancellor Jim Krueger's office: "I don't make closing decisions," he answered, "call the Chancellor's office." When I called and voiced my concern as to why a) the campus was not closed at 8 a.m., and b) why students and staff did not have a safe place to go, I received this answer:

Secretary: I'm at my wits-end... I've been receiving phone calls like yours all day long.

Me: Why wasn't the campus closed at 8 a.m.? Did anyone even bother to watch the forecasts?

Secretary: We don't make school closings based off of forecasts.

Me: So, there isn't a place that my coworkers and I can go to wait out the storm? I just came from out there...it's a mess.

Secretary: You didn't want to come in this morning, but now that you're here, you don't want to

leave?

Me: Absolutely. The roads are treacherous! We do not feel safe going back out there.

At this point, it seemed fairly obvious to me that the administration had an emergency situation on their hands—an engine failure perhaps—but what disappoints me is the way in which the situation was handled. As far as I am concerned, UM-St. Louis' #1 engine had just failed and the pilot had no intention of following an emergency procedures checklist.

This gets me to my main concern: If this institution cannot conduct itself properly and, most importantly, with the safety of students, staff, and faculty in mind during a snow storm, what evidence do we have to suggest that this campus is prepared for more serious situations?

Can we have faith in UM-St. Louis' administration, police, and other responsible agents in the event of more catastrophic circumstances?

Everyone ought to be concerned because our safety—human safety—should never be jeopardized at the expense of inept decision-makers. And we should not be penalized for refusing to follow their "plan" (i.e., being forced to leave during the worst of a storm) or forced to take vacation days if the weather endangers our lives.

This is simply unacceptable. We need to believe that this University is the responsible pilot-in-command, one capable of executing an emergency checklist with only minutes to spare.

Online classes column misleading

By LEIGH HEISEL

Guest Commentator

The column by Mr. Hackbarth entitled "Online classes can be beneficial assuming students finish them" (*The Current*, 3/3/08, p. 4) was ill-conceived and misleading in several respects. To imply that more students fail to complete online courses than traditional courses is unfounded.

As with traditional classes, there are many factors that contribute to such an outcome. With online courses, the proportion of students who successfully complete it depends largely on the structure implemented.

In the Department of Communication, online courses have been designed to limit the number of students that fail to complete the course, and the number that withdraws is not significantly different from that of our traditional courses.

Mr. Hackbarth makes several claims about the communication program that need to be clarified. Our department began offering Web-based courses based on student demand during the summer of 2001.

The department tries to offer both online and traditional formats in alternating semesters. When both formats are offered in the same semester, the traditional offering has had low enrollment. In addition, the enrollment capacity for online courses in the Department of Communication is capped at 30 students per instructor. This is a higher ratio than we would like, but far lower than the potential 200 referenced by Mr. Hackbarth.

Traditional and online classes do differ in terms of interaction opportunities, but not in the way that was implied. As with a traditional classroom, motivation and interest have a lot to do with the relationship students develop with their instructors in online courses.

The same students who stay after class asking questions and relating stories in traditional classes send e-mails or use live-chats in online courses. Furthermore, because students in an online class must participate in discussions and there are not the same time constraints that a one-hour class has, students in online classes have more interaction, not less. Unlike traditional classrooms, there is no "back row" in which to hide. As a result, I know all of my students a little bit better.

There are different benefits to traditional and online formats for students, and it is the same for the university. Online courses are not necessarily cheaper than traditional courses because buildings and classrooms, facilities and services, staff and service personnel must all be maintained.

The reason that online courses are receiving attention is not because they are cheaper, but because they allow the university to make courses accessible to potential students who would be too far away to commute to campus and attend classes.

It is because of the promise of serving these students that online courses are considered a "growth" area. Online courses are not for all students, but college is not for all people either.

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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

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UNDERCURRENT

By Danny Reise • Asst. Photo Editor

Where is the best place to celebrate St. Patrick's Day?



Nick Rooney
Freshman
Mathematics

"In class."



Loequishia Lomax
Junior
Accounting

"I don't do St. Patrick's Day."



Liz Waclawik
Senior
Liberal Studies

"Dogtown."



CJ Montiel
Junior
International Business

"Across from Popeye's on Natural Bridge Road."



Tim Meekermann
Senior
History

"At a friend's house because of Dogtown's new rules."

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

STUDY ABROAD

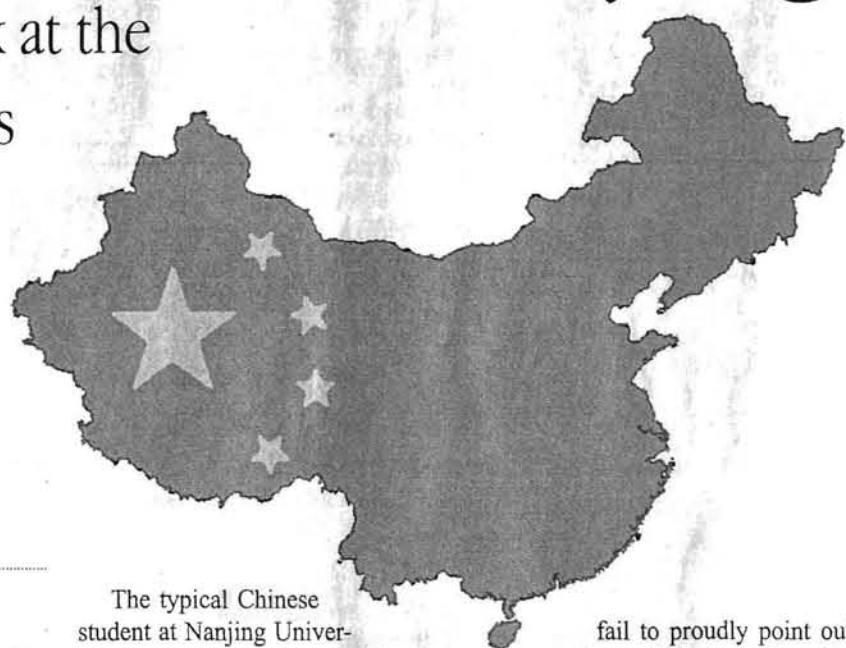
Notes from Nanjing

An inside look at the Pukou campus



By MICHAEL COSBY

Columnist



The Pukou campus of Nanjing University is park-like, charming and old. Aged trees line narrow pathways that zigzag across the campus, and much of the architecture is original turn of the century.

The oldest building on campus houses the chancellor's office on the top story of its ivy covered tower and has miraculously survived the Japanese invasion, the communist take-over and the Cultural Revolution.

Students often congregate in the quad to photograph each other in front of the picturesque stone buildings with traditional Chinese tile roofing, but once the picture sessions are over, they must return to their overcrowded, outdated dorms.

Unlike that of the classically styled administrative and classroom buildings, the utilitarian design of the looming, concrete dormitories is not attractive, quaint or even functional. The facilities in these residential halls are nearly as old as the buildings themselves and provide for living conditions that would be considered miserable by American standards.

The typical Chinese student at Nanjing University shares a small room with six roommates.

There is barely space to accommodate a bed and desk for each person. Communal bathrooms, located at the end of each hall, might be shared by as many as one hundred students.

The dorms are not equipped with heating or air conditioning, and the electricity is turned off promptly at 11 p.m., which means that at night neither electric fans nor space heaters or electric blankets can be used to offset Nanjing's sweltering summers and frigid winters.

It seems hard to imagine that anyone could function scholastically under such circumstances, yet Chinese students continue to do so and to thrive. Surprisingly, most students at Nanjing University seem happy to make the necessary sacrifices in physical comfort in exchange for the opportunity to study at a school renowned for its academic achievements and historical significance.

While they laughingly acknowledge that their dorms are probably the oldest anywhere in China, they never

fail to proudly point out the various historic relics scattered about the campus.

Nanjing continues to remain among the top four or five most sought after Chinese universities and continues to draw a wide variety of students from across the globe.

Despite the relatively poor quality of the school's aging facilities, the students, faculty and staff of Nanjing University are understandably proud of their college's long tradition. This pride is largely shared by the residents of Nanjing, even those who are otherwise unaffiliated with the school.

For many years, there were strict laws regulating development around the university district so that the garden-like environment of the campus might not be disturbed, but in recent years, the pro-development lobby has become too powerful to be restrained.

The dignified administration building that stands at the heart of the campus is now overshadowed by two gaudy skyscrapers, one of which is still not quite completed. Ironically,

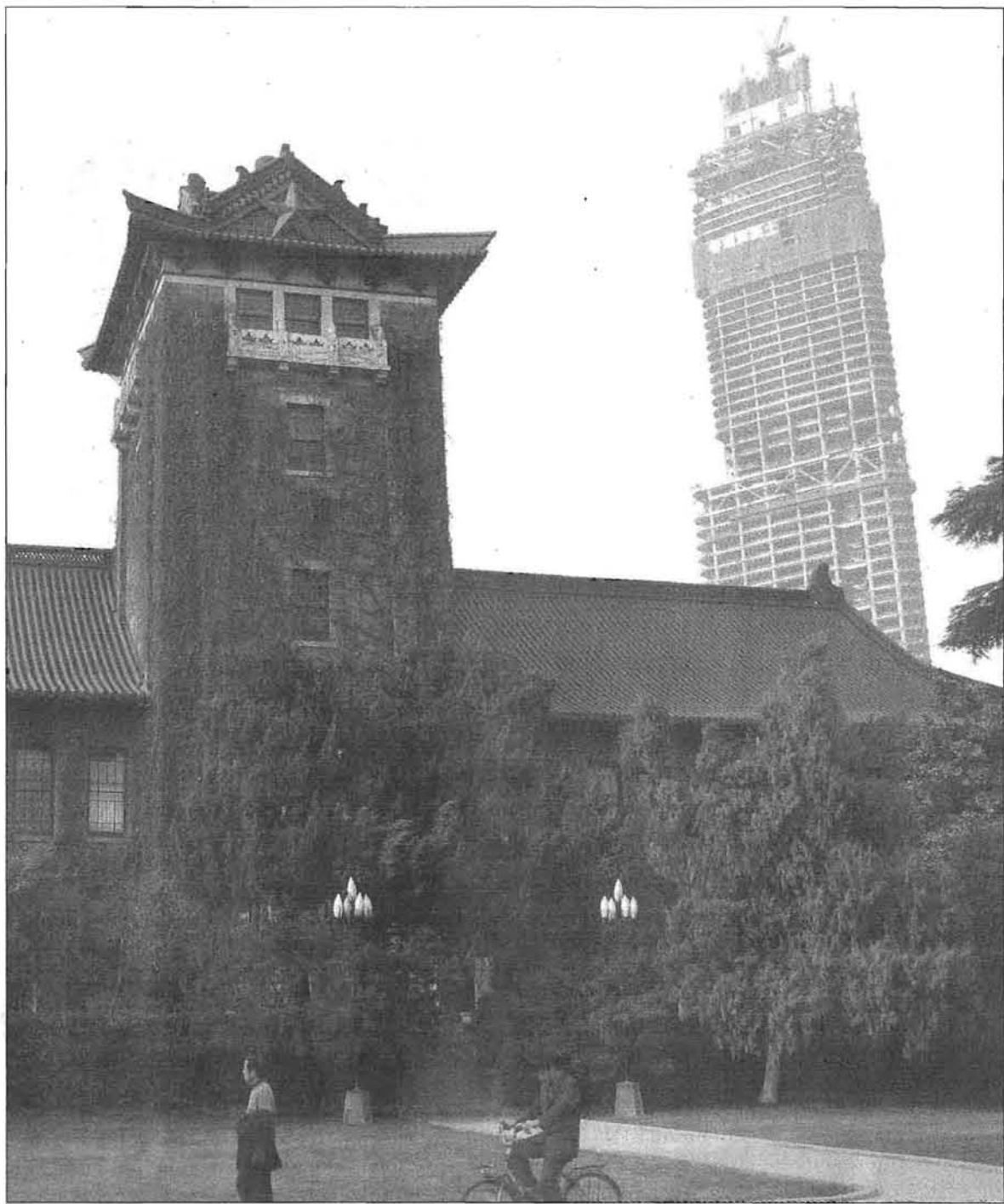


Photo courtesy of Michael Cosby

The oldest building on the campus of Nanjing University is the chancellor's office. This building has survived a Japanese invasion, communist take over and the Cultural Revolution.

this central building of a university named after the former capitol of the Nationalist Republic of China is now adorned with the single red star. That star is the symbol of the Communist

government which has opened the Chinese economy and initiated free market reforms.

The Pukou campus may have survived the foreign invasions, civil

conflicts, and radical anti-intellectualism of the last century, but how it will fare against the increasingly ravenous brand of Chinese capitalism remains to be seen.

STUDY ABROAD

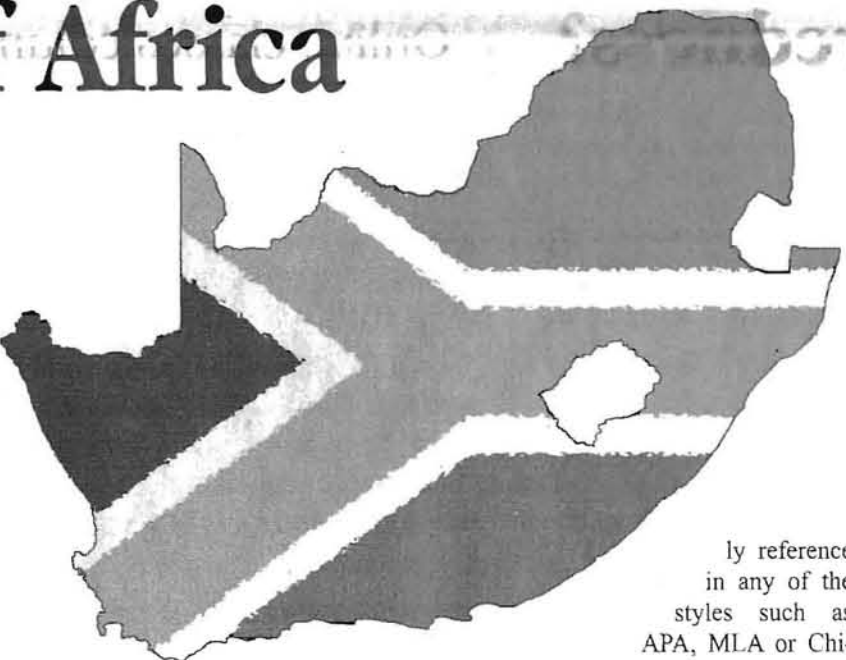
Out of Africa

FAQs from South Africa



By THOMAS HELTON

Columnist



ly reference in any of the styles such as APA, MLA or Chicago.

Q: Does everybody speak English?

A: Yes, for the most part. Everyone here is at least bilingual and grew up learning English and another language. In the Western Cape Province where I am, Xhosa, Zulu and Afrikaans are the most spoken, with Afrikaans being the prominent.

People who speak Afrikaans can be confusing because a lot of the words are English words too, but with a slightly different meaning. For example, "really" means in a while, or in a minute.

Q: What do you miss most?

A: I miss my bed the most. I am

sleeping on a very thin mattress single bed. I have a blanket, pillow and a sheet, but I went out and saw one of those rolled up fleeces on sale, and it had Pooh on it. I love Pooh. My friend Nikki was hanging out in my room the other day and grabbed it because she said she could feel "the power of Pooh." The uncomfortable bed makes it a lot easier to wake up, but a lot harder to sleep.

Q: What are classes like at United World College?

A: I had a class this past week, and I have asked a lot of other exchange students about the classes. Overall, the level of learning is lower than what we have in the United States. I would say you would be hard pressed to find a third year student here who knows how to properly

reference in any of the styles such as APA, MLA or Chicago.

Students for the most part do not talk a lot in class. Discussion is not prevalent. In

Master's level classes it is, but in undergraduate classes it is not.

I lead three tutorial groups for a foreign policy class, and I always try to come up with an activity for them to discuss and argue about. Last week, I split the class into Japan and the United States and had them negotiate over the recent incident when an American soldier assaulted an underage Japanese girl. Overall though, I think people here want to learn more than the average American, but the level of knowledge attainable is not as accessible.

See SOUTH AFRICA, page 13

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Associated Students of the University of Missouri

I read this past *Current* with great anger and amusement. Once again, the dysfunctional and useless organization known as Associated Students of the University of Missouri is asking fellow students for a fee increase as an essential vote of confidence.

UM-St. Louis students should vote against the fee increases proposed in the mid-April SGA elections. In my experience, ASUM is a money-wasting organization that allows its elected board members to travel around the state and to Washington, D.C. free of charge, complete with expensive vehicles, fancy hotels, lavish buffets

and a good resume builder to boot. A student may ask, for what end? To pretend that they have any influence over our representatives in terms of university-related legislation.

You might ask how I know this. I was an elected board member in 2004. I quit after I discovered the vast amount of waste this organization propagates. The day after I quit, they saw fit to "fire" me, making sure my name was in a front-page *Current* article in a nonrelated story.

How odd that this year, the day *The Current* writes about the fee increase, an article is written about ASUM's agenda. I would like to see what kind of true progress they have made concerning "textbook transparency," since while trying to save us

money they also want to charge us more for their petty organization. To the members of ASUM, I say prove to the students (most of which have no idea who you are) that you are benefiting them. Otherwise, you will see me and others fighting against your waste.

If you would like to know more about ASUM (I wish you luck), visit their hardly accessible Web page: https://secureapp.icsrecruiter.com/ICS/CM/V1/Student/ClubFrameSet.aspx?ClubId=334&uid=unmstl&mainmenulink=http://www.icsrecruiter.com/webservices/appMain_club.aspx?uid=unmstl.

Jeanne Patrick
Former ASUM Board Member

SCIENCE COLUMN

Where to go to see the stars

On the UM-St. Louis campus you can see stars up close.

Not the kind of stars you see at the movies, or the kind you might see if you feel dizzy, but real, up-in-the-sky stars. In the urban and suburban areas around St. Louis, seeing the night stars can be challenging, with light pollution from nearby streetlights and buildings, or the haze of air pollution. If you go to the campus Observatory Open House, all those worries are behind you. Plus, you get to see celestial objects through the campus telescope and have a real astronomer explain it all to you.

It must be getting warmer because the Observatory Open Houses have resumed. The University's Richard D. Schwartz Observatory is closed during the coldest months, since heating it would interfere with viewing the stars. It re-opened this year on Feb. 20.

The Observatory Open Houses take place on one Saturday a month, from February to November. Viewing begins in the evening shortly after dark, but the exact times change with the lengthening and shortening of daylight hours. Every viewing session includes the first quarter moon and a selection of visible objects in the sky. Students or faculty from the University's Department of Physics and Astronomy are on hand to explain what is on view.

The Observatory's main tele-



By CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER

Science Columnist

scope is 14-inch Celestron Schmidt Cassegrain. The C-14 has a useful magnification of about 600x. The observatory also has a 3.5-inch Questar Telescope, which can be used for viewing the Sun, and other smaller telescopes.

The Missouri Space Grant Consortium helps fund the Observatory Open Houses. The Observatory Open House is free and open to the public.

In case of cloud cover, when star viewing is not possible on a particular Saturday, it is rescheduled for the following Sunday, unless we have the bad luck of cloud cover both nights. You can call the observatory's Skywatch Hotline (314) 516-5706 for updates on viewing, the schedule or to find out about

special events in the sky.

The viewing on Saturday was cancelled due to cloud cover, but the next one is set for April 12 at 8 p.m. On the viewing menu for April are planets Mars and Saturn, plus celestial formations the Beehive Cluster and M35. On May 10 at 8:30 p.m., Mars, Saturn, Beehive Cluster and Hercules Cluster will be on the viewing list.

Other celestial objects on view this season include the Hercules Cluster, Ring Nebula, Alberio and Andromeda Galaxy. Planets Jupiter, Uranus, Mars and Saturn are in the mix as well.

The observatory is on South Campus. Take East Drive, where the MetroLink sign is, to Parking Lot U, and look for a short, white domed building just north of the lot. You might want to locate it while it is still light out since the building will not be lit.

The Physics Department Web site also has a map and directions at <http://newton.umsl.edu/astro/directions.html>.

There have been discussions about moving the Observatory to another, hopefully darker, location but so far, this still appears to be in the discussion phase.

The schedule of Observatory Open Houses and the objects that will be on view are available at the Web site <http://newton.umsl.edu/astro/astro.pdf>.

STAFF VIEWPOINT

Today's TV needs relaxation, not reality

During the three month long Writers Guild of America (WGA) strike, regular television viewers were forced to find alternative ways in which to spend their time.

Some people replaced their favorite TV shows' time slots with physical activities. Some people found other shows to watch. Some people put in some old movies to pass the time.

Since my favorite show, "The Office," has not been on air, I have used the time to think. I reflected about what TV was in the past, what it is today and what it could be in the future.

Many of us recall the great TV shows of the past such as "Leave it to Beaver," "The Wonder Years," "Full House" and the ever-so popular "Saved by the Bell." These shows were clearly family-oriented



By BEN GILLHAM

Staff Writer

and morally driven.

Today, we see shows that are anything but family-oriented and morally driven.

"Cold Case" has focused on catching a serial rapist; Donald Trump's "The Apprentice" displays

human beings' endless quest for money and power; "Big Brother" most recently appears to be promoting promiscuity by forcing people of the opposite sex to stay in the same room with one another.

Admittedly, compared to the more recent shows, "Leave it to Beaver" certainly did not encourage women to compete in the workforce nor discourage serial rapists.

When asked if today's shows are helping or hurting the world, Victoria Scheulen, biology, senior and a "CSI" fan, responded, "They are helping because they show how to be more cautious and watch out for your safety. But they also hurt because they give knowledge to perpetrators on how to cover up their crimes."

See TELEVISION, page 11

FEATURES



Danny Reese • Managing Editor

Sally Barr Ebest speaks at the Women Trailblazers Ceremony after receiving her award. Ebest is credited with designing the English department's first comprehensive teaching assistant training program.

Women trailblazers honored

By RYAN SCHERR
Co-Features Editor

The Office of Equal Opportunity honored five UM-St. Louis women as Women Trailblazers at its annual ceremony on Wednesday. The theme for this year's ceremony was "Women's Art: Women's Vision." The keynote speaker for the event was University of Missouri Curator Cheryl D. S. Walker.

"For you ladies who are being honored today, I certainly appreciate all that you have done in blazing a trail for those who come behind you," Walker said. "We must dare to lead."

Walker then discussed hurdles she encountered as a black female electrical engineering student at Missouri University of Science and Technology. She said all the obstacles she faced there "prepared [her] in a way for life that [she] does not think [she] would otherwise be prepared."

"I do look back on it as an experience I would not want to trade because I think I am better for it. I think I am stronger for it. I think I handle stress better for it," Walker said. "I think that's what led to my poetic expression, because I first started writing poems as a means for survival."

The women honored this year were alumna Abigail Birhanu, junior Antionette Dickens, English professor Sally Barr Ebest, Edna Campos Gravenhorst and biology professor Zuleyma Tang-Martinez. The women were honored because they were the first to occupy a position traditionally held by men, forged new pathways for women or contributed significantly to UM-St. Louis and the community.

Birhanu is a 2006 graduate of UM-St. Louis, who majored in studio art and was honored for her contributions to the University and community. She received the Grand Center's 2007 Visionary

Award for Emerging Artist.

"Being a woman of faith, I consider myself blessed for many reasons. I will dedicate my speech to [a reason] that is very important to me, which is art," Birhanu said. "Art gives a tangible meaning to my thoughts by allowing me to bring them into existence."

Dickens is currently a junior majoring in media studies and was recognized for her contributions to the University and the community. As vice president of Ad Corps, she helped the organization gain membership to the American Advertising Federation.

Kristy Tucciarone, professor for the Department of Theatre, Dance and Media Studies, nominated Dickens for the award and said she has "only witnessed a handful of students who could juggle work, school, campus life and charity as eloquently and diligently as Antionette."

"I make sure everything I do focuses around not only improving myself, but also improving others around me," Dickens said. "Every position I am in now, I try to not only better myself but to better people under me and to help them become leaders in the field they are going into."

Credited with designing the English department's first comprehensive teaching assistant program, Ebest has been at UM-St. Louis since 1987. Ebest was the first female, tenure-track director of composition at UM-St. Louis, a position which she held for 18 years. She credits the importance of her mentors in her achievements in her field.

"When I started graduate school my vision was limited to pretty much getting through the day. As I progressed I realized I couldn't have done so without my mentors. Equally important, I realized I didn't want other women to struggle as I did initially, so my vision expanded," Ebest said. "These programs I have created here at UMSL are my way of giving back

to the university and to the many women who have helped me to get here to where I am today."

Author, historical researcher and business owner, Gravenhorst is the author of *Ay, Mija! Why Do You Want to be an Engineer?* This book is one in a series of 12. Gravenhorst is a member of the Chancellor's Cultural Diversity Initiative, board member and President of Gallery Visio and board member for the Center for the Humanities.

"My biggest vision for St. Louis is to see Latinos in mainstream St. Louis. UMSL has given me the opportunity to be front and center around St. Louis so people can see Latinos are here and involved in the community and want to make a difference," Gravenhorst said.

As the first woman and first Latina to receive tenure and be promoted to full professor in the biology department, Tang-Martinez was honored for all three of the criterion provided by the OEO.

Judith Walker de Felix, associate provost for Academic Affairs, said Tang-Martinez's "vision of a more diverse group of scientists has led to her advocacy for and mentoring women and minorities in the sciences."

"Even though I am a scientist, I also have compared the practice of science to art. I find the creativity that is involved in designing an experiment is very similar to the process of creativity and imagination that is involved in the arts," Tang-Martinez said.

A surprise to the ceremony was the presentation of the first ever Renaissance Trailblazers Award to Curator Walker. Deborah Burris, Director of the OEO, presented the award to Walker and attributed Walker's trailblazing efforts as the reason for the surprise award.

In her speech, Walker said, "Each of us has a duty to change the status quo and to incorporate that into our vision and to try to do our part in leaving this world better than we inherited it."

BINGE DRINKING

Craig Besand • Staff Writer

This past weekend many partook in the festivities of St. Patrick's Day. In addition, the retreats and activities of spring break will add pressure on college students to celebrate in excess.

During this time of year, alcohol is often heavily involved in celebrating both St. Patrick's Day and spring break. However, binge drinking has consequences and college students should be aware of its effects.

The recommended maximum allowance of alcohol is about six units of alcohol for men and five units for women. A unit of alcohol is equal to a little more than 12 ounces of beer or a small glass of wine. Anything over this amount in a single sitting is considered binge drinking. If this pattern of binge drinking is continued on an everyday basis it can cause serious health risks and acute alcoholism.

Alcoholism can lead to impairment in functioning physically, mentally and socially. Compulsive consumption of drinking has the harsh physical health risks of gastritis, depression, cirrhosis and dental diseases.

A survey of 10 UM-St. Louis students shows that six admitted to binge drinking in the past year. Two admitted to binge drinking on a weekly basis. Morenike Coker, junior undecided, said that binge drinking "stems from curiosity from everybody else engaging in it. You want to see how fun it can be."

"Binge drinking is portrayed a lot in advertisement," Coker said.

Alcohol can also be harmful to those attempting to eat and drink healthy. A 12-ounce glass of beer can have as many calories as a sugared jelly donut. Calories from alcoholic beverages are considered the worst among dieticians because not only are the calories empty, but they also contain high levels of toxicity.

Alcohol is also a diuretic, or it dehydrates the body of water-soluble vitamins. Drinking plenty of water between drinks will help prevent dehydration. Some dieticians also recommend drinking a glass of orange juice when finished drinking to replenish the body's vitamin supply.

See BINGE DRINKING page 7

ALCOHOL STATISTICS

- More than 100,000 U.S. deaths are caused by excessive alcohol consumption each year.
- 65 percent of youth said that they got alcohol from friends and family.
- Nearly 14 million Americans meet criteria for alcohol disorders.
- Males are four times more likely to be heavy drinkers than females.
- About 45 percent of traffic crashes are alcohol-related.
- More than 18 percent of Americans experience alcohol abuse or dependence at some time in their lives.
- Alcohol kills six and a half times more youth than all other illicit drugs combined.

Source: <http://www.gdcada.org/statistics/alcohol.htm>

TOP TEN

Spring Break Hot Spots for 2008

10. The Runners Up - New York, Puerto Rico, Nassau.
9. South Padre Island, Texas
8. Puerto Vallarta, Mexico



7. (ABOVE) Negril, Jamaica.
6. Europe.
5. North American Ski Resorts.
4. Rosarito Beach, Baja.
3. Florida - Panama City, Miami.
2. Acapulco, Mexico
1. Cancun, Mexico

Source: http://student-travel.about.com/od/springbreak1/tp/top_spring_break.htm

Spring Break 2008

Free events for Spring Break

Take a "Big Big Tour"

The Big Big Tour, on March 30, starts at Central Reform Congregation at 5020 Waterman at N. Kingshighway and covers five major areas. The self-guided tour also features a homebuyer's fair where buyers can talk to lenders, real-estate agents and other organizations. With so many of houses to walk through, buyers are sure to find their dream home and homeowners can get decorating ideas.

Let belly dancers mesmerize

Many restaurants around town offer free belly rolling entertainment in addition to their edible delights. Momo's in University City has belly-dancing Monday through Saturday nights. Saleem's on Delmar and Acropolis in Ballwin offer belly dancing on Friday and Saturday nights.

Can't beat a bratwurst

Enjoy the best of the wurst March 20-30 at Wurstfest in Hermann the "sausage capital of Missouri." Entertainment includes live German bands, the Rhineland Wurstjaeger Dancers, a wiener dog derby and costume contest as well as antique sausage making equipment demonstrations. For more information visit <http://www.hermannmo.info/Wurstfest/>.

Like to bike

Hop on a bike and pedal around St. Louis. Bike St. Louis is a project that created a bicycle route to identify areas of interest within St. Louis. The trail is a 20-mile route that goes through Forest Park, down to the Arch and through various St. Louis neighborhoods. For more information and a map of the trails, visit <http://www.bikestlouis.org>.

Tour a Brewery

People who wonder what goes into their favorite beer can tour several local breweries and find out. The biggest local brewer is Anheuser Busch in the Lemp neighborhood, which holds several tours throughout the day every day of the week. Schlafly Bottleworks in Maplewood also offers tours seven days a week. Trailhead Brewery in St. Charles offers free tours upon request.

Museum hop

Spend the day at one or all of the free museums in St. Louis including the St. Louis Art Museum and the Missouri History Museum located in Forest Park, The Contemporary Art Museum on Washington Boulevard, The National Great Rivers Museum in Alton, Ill. and the Holocaust Museum and Learning Center near Page and Lindbergh.

How the world eats: 'Hunger Banquet' at UMSL

By **Jessica Keil**
Co-Features Editor

"Eight hundred forty million people suffer from chronic hunger," Laura Kent, junior, chemistry, read at the start of the Hunger Banquet Thursday afternoon. "...And the most basic human right is the right to eat - the right to not go hungry."

A group of about 15 UM-St. Louis students and faculty came together for an exercise in social inequality called a "hunger banquet," hosted by the Catholic Newman Center. The goal of the social experiment was to have participants walk away with an eye opening experience about the way the world eats.

"The Hunger Banquet is a metaphor for how food and other resources are distributed throughout the world," Kent said.

Kent, along with Holly Scheibel, junior, chemistry, were the masters of ceremonies of the Hunger Banquet, and began the event by using a slideshow to illustrate to their audience a few statistics and information about world hunger.

After giving an example of the average expenses an American family faces and illustrating that many Americans cannot feed their families because of these expenses, Kent and Scheibel asked the audience to open the white envelopes they received upon entering the room.

The envelope contained a small

colored index card with a name, class level, and description of a person. Kent and Scheibel asked the group to find their rightful place in the room according to the card.

Some people sat on the floor. These individuals represented the lowest income level and were amongst old and crinkled up newspaper and bins. The middle class sat at a plain gray table with nothing adorning it. And two others making up the high class sat down at a table with a white tablecloth, flowers, tea, ice water, dinner salads and rolls.

"Those of you at the high income table," Scheibel said, "represent 15 percent of the population. You, however, consume 70 percent of all the grain in the world and 65 percent of you are overweight."

"Those in the middle income," she continued, "represent 25 percent of the population and might work in a sweatshop in a third world country, or maybe you live in overcrowded housing in the U.S. Either way, it is a daily struggle for you to make ends meet."

"Those of you on the floor," Kent said, "are in the smallest income class. You are 60 percent of the population, and make about \$900 a

year or \$2.50 a day. You come from mainly Cambodia or Ethiopia."

Some participants were asked to stand and read their cards. Others (from the middle and low income classes) were asked to switch places because of a fictional lucky break or loss on the part of the character they were role playing.

“

This was a very powerful exercise in social equality and social justice.

-Michael Rankins
assistant director of Student Life

”

After that, the participants were left to on their own fates. While a tuxedo wearing waiter asked those at the high-income table whether they preferred chicken parmesan or prime rib as a main course, those sitting at the middle income table were invited to a buffet of rice, beans and lemonade.

The low class participants on the floor helped themselves to plain white rice served on a small triangular piece of cardboard with brownish water to wash it down.

However, soon enough, the members of the high-income class invited three persons from the floor and two from the middle income group to join the table and their meal.

Those left behind were not forgotten as the high income table decided to share their food with them throughout the hunger banquet. Some were less grateful than others

however and refused to accept the charity at times.

"I was very happy that the high income people shared their food," said Tracy Van de Riet, campus minister at the Catholic Newman Center. "I think the middle class was a little overlooked though."

Kent agreed with Van de Riet and said, "Actually I didn't realize before today that the middle class gets overlooked. Either way, it was really great to see that the wealthy people shared."

Michael Rankins, assistant director of Student Life, was seated at the high-income table from the start.

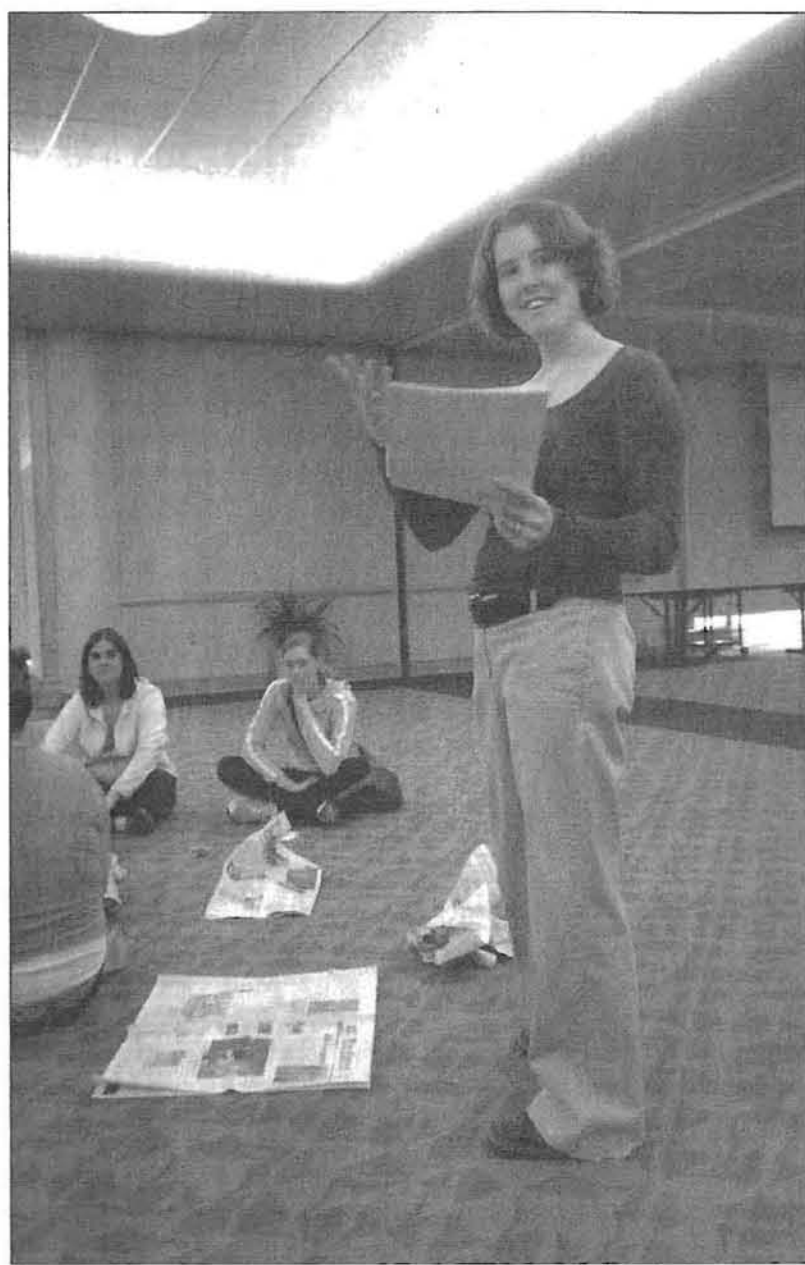
"I was surprised that we had all the empty seats at our table and figured they shouldn't go to waste," Rankins said of his decision to invite others to eat with him.

Julie Kreis, sophomore, economics, was seated on the floor throughout the entire exercise with the lowest-income group, yet she had no hard feelings about not being invited to the high-income table.

"This is the first time I've been to a Hunger Banquet and I didn't quite know what to expect," she said. "I didn't realize it would be so interactive, and I really enjoyed myself [despite sitting on the floor]."

After the Hunger Banquet ended, some participants shared their feelings about the experiment.

"This was a very powerful exercise in social equality and social justice," Rankins said.



Sofi Seck • Staff Photographer

Laura Kent, junior, chemistry, discusses the lives of those below the poverty line. "Sixty percent of the population," Kent said, "make about \$900 a year, or \$2.50 a day." The Catholic Newman Center sponsored the Hunger Banquet which taught students about hunger awareness.

BINGE DRINKING, from page 6

These students are not alone. The United States Department of Health and Social Services estimates that 30.7 million or 16.6 percent of all drivers reported driving under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs last year. Almost six percent of those had been arrested for driving under the influence (DUI) in the past.

Advocate group Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) has been urging legislatures in many states to pass the Victims of a Crime Act. The bill would require all DUI offenders to have mandatory ignition interlocks installed in their vehicles.

"This [bill] will at least help send a message to a first time DUI offender and hopefully prevent repeat offenses," said April Bartolomew, advocate with MADD. The bill has passed senate floors in many states such as Oklahoma and Virginia. This bill will go to many other states legislatures and many be introduced to Congress during National Crime Victims Rights Week, April 13-19.

"If [the bill] keeps one person from drinking and driving, then the bill works," said Bartolomew.

Seven out of the 10 UM-St. Louis students surveyed support legislation requiring mandatory ignition interlocks for DUI offenders.

Many businesses that serve alcoholic beverages are supporting those who choose to be designated drivers. Some establishments are giving advantages to designated drivers by offering free soft drinks, food specials and no cover charges to designated drivers. Three UM-St. Louis students out of ten have volunteered to be designated drivers in the past three months. Four out of ten choose to have designated drivers when they go out.

For more information and support you can contact Mothers Against Drunk Driving at (314) 426-1595.

Happy St. Patrick's Day: Study abroad in Ireland

From June 24 through July 24, the UM-St. Louis Center for International Studies will allow students to study the culture and heritage of Ireland.

This summer session allows students to take up to six hours of courses at the National University of Ireland in Galway. Courses offered are in departments of anthropology, English, music, history and sociology.

UM-St. Louis professor of Irish Studies, Eamonn Wall, will accompany this study abroad session. The program is designated to give UM-St. Louis students a unique Irish perspective.

Irish Society, Irish Music and Dance, Gaelic Culture and Literature, Representing Ireland: Irish Literature and Film, Archeological History of Ireland and History of Ireland are six of the courses being offered in the session. In conjunction with their studies, students will also embark on field trips around Ireland.

For more information on this and future Irish study abroad programs for the summer, semester or academic year, contact the Center for International Studies at (314)516-6497.



Eamonn Wall
Professor of English

Compiled by Craig Besand • Staff Writer

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Sponsored by the Chancellor's Task Force on Gender Issues

A&E

RESTAURANT REVIEW

Other bars will go green with envy over Pat's

Bar and grill prepares for St. Patrick's Day

By ANGIE SPENCER

Proofreader

With St. Patrick's Day festivities in full swing, how better could someone celebrate than to hit up a local Irish bar?

Pat's Bar and Grill, in Dogtown at the corner of Oakland and Tamm, is just the place.

In fact, Ancient Order of Hibernians' annual St. Patrick's Day Parade goes right by Pat's before continuing down Tamm Avenue through Dogtown.

This smaller neighborhood event in traditionally Irish Dogtown features clan colors and families of Irish heritage walking or riding fire trucks and homemade floats. It is less grand than the downtown parade, but is considered the "real" St. Pat's parade by many.

Pat's will be serving corned beef and cabbage inside the restaurant but will have burgers and hotdogs at an

outside tent on St. Pat's. To round out the meal, pints of Irish brews Harp and Guinness are on tap inside, or patrons can have a shot of Jameson Irish Whiskey.

In his ninth season, not year, according to owner Joe Finn, of celebrating St. Patrick's Day, Finn has decorated the interior with everything Irish and every green. Beads dangle from the bar and shamrock cutouts line the walls.

This season's celebrations will be honoring Papa Joe Jovanovich, who was the father of Paul, the owner before Joe Finn bought the place.

Pat's Bar and Grill was founded by Patrick Connolly of County Galway, Ireland, in 1942, so it is really Irish, not just an Irish name.

It was bought by Tom McDermott, its longtime bartender, in the 1960s

and re-named McDermott's.

It passed back to the Connolly line when the founder's daughter Teresa and her husband Paul Jovanich brought it in the early 1980s, changing the name back to Pat's.

At the beginning of this decade, longtime bartender Joe Finn bought the bar and grill.

While the planning for St. Patrick's Day has been going on for months, the celebration has only been since Friday. It continues through the holiday itself on Monday.

Irish dancers from the Clarkson School have performed authentic Irish dances and local music celebrity Pierce Crask and The Falling Martins will rock out on Monday evening.

If it is traditional Irish fare one wants, enjoy a heaping plate of corned beef and cabbage, which is only served during the weekend before St. Patrick's Day and on the day itself.

However, Pat's is not all about Ireland all the time. On non-St. Patrick's celebration days, the bar and grill boasts traditional American cuisine. With everything from onion rings to fried chicken livers to catfish to burgers, there is something for everyone.

The Pat's Burger is a one-third pound ground beef patty cooked to perfection.

Pat's Bar and Grill

★★★★☆

Located at 6400 Oakland

314-647-6553

Hours:

Mondays - Fridays:

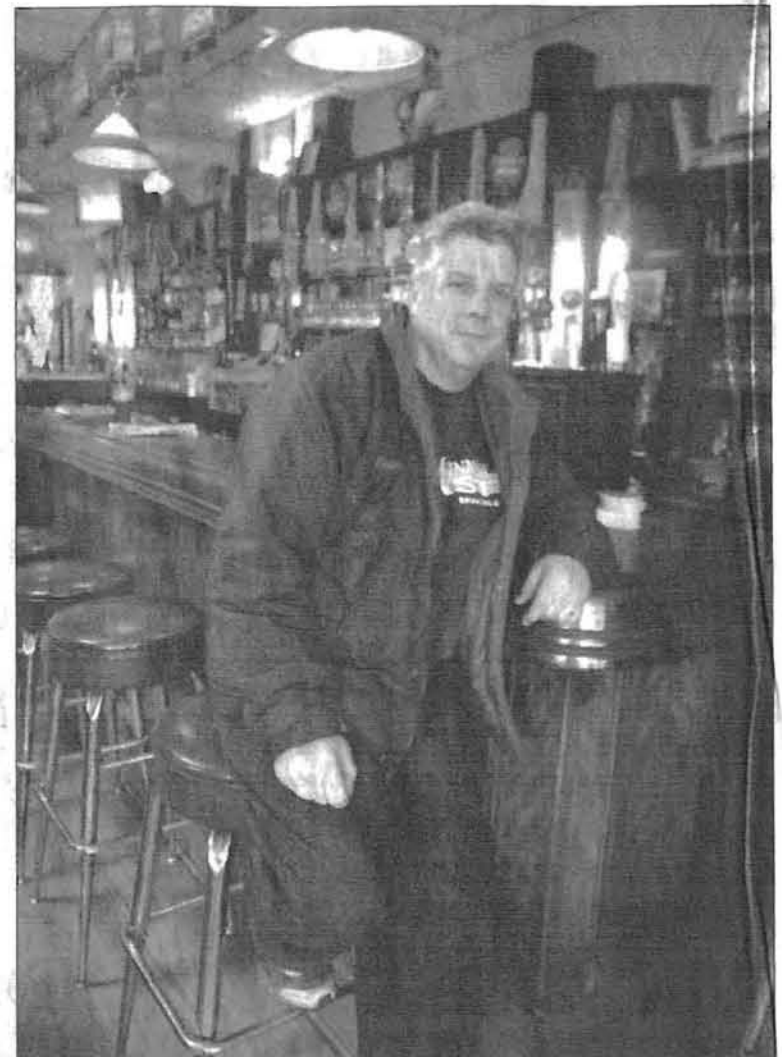
6 a.m. - 1:30 a.m.

Saturdays:

11 a.m. - 1:30 a.m.

Sundays

10 a.m. - midnight



Owner Joe Finn sits at the bar at Pat's Bar and Grill, located at 6400 Oakland in Dogtown.

Sofi Seck • Staff Photographer

See PAT'S BAR AND GRILL, page 11

MOVIES OPENING THIS WEEK



Drillbit Taylor
Comedy about a low-cost bodyguard, starring Owen Wilson, showing in multiple theaters.



Tyler Perry's Meet The Browns
Writer/director Perry brings back his Madea character for another comedy-drama about family showing in multiple theaters.



Shutter
American re-make of Thai horror-mystery, about a couple puzzling over ghostly images in photos showing in multiple theaters.



Paranoid Park
"Elephant" and "Last Days" writer/director Gus Van Sant theme of youth and alienation. Showing for one week, only at the Tivoli.

TOP TUNES

DOWNLOADS

1. Love In This Club - Usher feat. Young Jeezy



2. Bleeding Love - Leona Lewis

3. Shawty Get Loose - Lil Mama

4. Love Song - Sara Bareilles

5. No Air - Jordyn Sparks and Chris Brown

6. Low (feat. T-Pain) - Flo Rida feat. Timbaland

7. Don't Stop the Music - Rihanna

8. See You Again - Miley Cyrus

9. With You - Chris Brown

10. Stop and Stare - OneRepublic



SYMPHONY, SINGERS PAY TRIBUTE TO MARIA CALLAS

Stella Markou (CENTER), soprano soloist and director of Vocal Studies at UM-St. Louis, joined by the University Symphony Orchestra, University Singers and the Ambassadors of Harmony in a concert Friday evening in the Anheuser Busch Theater in the Touhill Performing Arts Center to celebrate the Maria Callas Anniversary Gala. Called La Divina, Callas was known for her Italian operas.

Danny Reise • Assistant Photo Editor

Social issues meet art in 'Urgent Shelter' at Gallery 210

By CATE MARQUIS

AGE Editor

Usually, the campus' Gallery 210 is filled with art objects that exist for their own sake, even when they do offer commentary on our world.

Now through May 31, things are a bit different, with "Urgent Shelter" a series of four shelters for the homeless that are designed to serve a practical purpose.

The shelters are varied in design, durability and practical application. The four works were designed by Global Village, Electroland, Mad Housers and Michael Rakowitz.

The Electroland's Urban Nomad Shelter looks the most like an art project is the most visually appealing. The neon-colored, transparent, inflatable combination of tent and sleeping bag provides an easily portable, highly visible temporary structure for the homeless that allows them to see out and anticipate approaching threats, a concern of the homeless.

Arranged in a row on a sidewalk, as they are in a picture that accompanies the exhibit, they look like a row of neon caterpillars, a sight that makes the homeless hard to overlook.

They also look like a lot of fun, with a potential for kids camping in the backyard, although it is not clear how durable they are for the homeless.

The inexpensive shelters were designed by Los Angeles-based Electroland, which is the urban design team of Cameron McNall and Damon

Seeley, with an eye to increasing the visibility of the issue of the homeless. One cannot help but wonder if commercial sales might also be used to fund projects.

Artist and activist Michael Rakowitz's paraSITE shelter also inflates, but it uses recycled materials to create customized portable shelters that attach to the heat exhaust ducts of buildings.

The warm air from the building duct inflates the shelter but also helps warm it. The paraSITE uses a slightly larger tent and sleeping bag design but its use of recycled plastics and bags give it a drab color. It is a larger and more sturdy shelter, some built with more than one chamber to serve as different rooms but still highly portable.

The shelters have been used in Brooklyn, N. Y. and Cambridge, Mass.

The Global Village, a project of father-daughter architectural team Dan Ferrara and Mia Ferrara Pelosi based in Morris, Conn., offers a modular, sturdy shelter that has been used in the developing world, in areas struck by natural disaster for as long as 18 months.

The shelter is large enough for a family and is tall enough to allow one to stand once inside.

The modular shelter is made of water-proof, fire-proof, plastic-coated corrugated cardboard with plastic supports, meaning it can be disassembled and stored and shipped flat, to be assembled by families on site with simple tools in a half hour.

'Urgent Shelter' at 210

- **Urban Nomad:** a neon-colored, transparent, inflatable combination of tent and sleeping bag
- **paraSITE:** portable shelter that attaches to heat exhaust vents for warmth.
- **Global Village:** a family-sized shelter that can be assembled in 30 minutes.
- **Mad Housers:** cabin-like structures with latchable doors to protect belongings



Electroland's Urban Nomad Shelter was one of several at 'Urgent Shelter.' The Urban Nomad was meant to increase the visibility of the homeless while protecting them from the elements.

Matthew Hill • Photo Editor

The last shelter in the exhibit almost looks like a cabin-like permanent structure. It has been used by homeless people in living in parks or rural areas on an on-going basis.

The structure is a project of the Mad Housers. Founded by Georgia Tech architecture students, the Atlanta based Mad Housers use plywood, simple screws, roofing materials and other inexpensive materials to build structure that can include a porch, sleeping room, and a latchable door, giving the homeless a safe place to store sleeping bags and belongings.

The structure is slightly raised, making it useful in areas prone to flooding.

To go along with the exhibit, Gallery 210 is hosting four events, one a

month, that highlight issues of homelessness in various ways.

The first of these was a panel discussion on the issues of the homelessness, which took place March 13, after having been postponed from its original February date.

On the same day, the exhibit organizers presented "Kangaroo Court" an audience-participation, satirical performance that used role reversals.

Audience members were given photo identification for either a homeless or someone with a home, then put "on trial" but the organizers, and forced to defend themselves.

On April 10 at 6 p.m., the exhibit will present "Transitions and Connections" a production written and performed, by homeless men about

their experiences. The performance takes place interactively with the audience.

On May 1 at 6 p.m., there is a screening of "The Monkey Trail," a video production documenting homelessness in St. Louis. There is also "Head Games" presenting the challenges of homelessness as a board game like Monopoly.

Even if you cannot attend one of the special events, the exhibit itself is worthwhile and only takes a few minutes to visit.

"Urgent Shelter" runs through May 31 at Gallery 210, in the telecommunications building, next to the North Campus police station and near the North Campus Metrolink station. It is free and open to everyone.

GONE WITH THE WIND . . .



The UM-St. Louis Symphonic Band, joined by the St. Louis Wind Symphony, performed Thursday at the Touhill Performing Arts Center for a free concert.

Sofi Seck • Staff Photographer

A&E ON CAMPUS

Spring into ScrapArts and more this break

By CATE MARQUIS

A&E Editor

There are an array of arts events on campus this week and continuing after Spring Break.

Academy Award nominated documentary filmmaker Josh Aronson speaks on Monday, March 17 at the Monday Noon Series.

The native St. Louisan, who now lives in New York, will talk about and show clips from two film projects: "The Opposite Sex," his Showtime TV documentary series about transgendered people making the transition to the opposite sex and the documentary "Beautiful Daughters" about a transgendered version of "Vagina Monologues."

The presentation takes place at 12:15 p.m. at 222 JCP Conference Center.

His film "Beautiful Daughters" will be shown Tuesday, March 18 at 3:30 p.m. in room 200 of Lucas Hall.

ScrapArtsMusic, a popular performance troupe that combines percussion on instruments made from

recycled materials with theater, takes to the Touhill stage on Tuesday, March 18 at 7 p.m.

The ScrapArtsMusic performance is preceded by a workshop with the creative troupe at 3 p.m., which is included with the purchase of a ticket. Tickets are \$10 for UM-St. Louis students or employees and \$13 - \$18 for others.

World-renowned poet Nikki Giovanni speaks and reads from her work on Wednesday, March 19 at 7 p.m. in the Century Rooms of the Millennium Student Center. The free event is sponsored by the University Program Board.

Also at Touhill this week, there is an UMSL Jazz Ensemble concert on Monday, March 17 at 7:30 p.m., which is free, and the Center for International Studies presents the Ger-

man recorder group Quartet New Generation on Tuesday, March 18 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$7 for students and \$15 for others.

Also this week, the Poetry & Short Story Series presents writers Marjorie Stelmach and Kent Shaw, on Wednesday, March 19 at 7 p.m. in Gallery 210.

Gallery Visio hosts "Women on the Move 2008," the sixth annual art exhibit featuring works by more than 20 talented female UM-St. Louis student, graduate and faculty artists.

The exhibit kicks off with a reception on Thursday, March 20, at 4 p.m. with light refreshments.

After Spring Break, campus arts resume with "Explosions," the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra percussion fest at the Touhill Saturday, March 29 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$11-\$35.

Also at Touhill the week after Spring Break is "Gypsy Violinist" Roby Lakatos, who performs Wednesday, April 2, 2008, at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$25.



Josh Aronson
His film "Beautiful Daughters" will be shown Tuesday, March 18 at 3:30 p.m. in 200 Lucas

See SCRAPARTS, page 11

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MOVIE REVIEW

Comedic 'Military Intelligence and You' spoofs training films

By CATE MARQUIS

A&E Editor

It is an old soldier's in-joke that "military intelligence" is an oxymoron. "Military Intelligence and You," a hilarious parody of a World War II military training film, spoofs the snafus and bureaucratic lunacy that spawned the joke and pokes a little fun at more current military intelligence failings, too.

"Military Intelligence and You" was written and directed by Dale Kutzera, whose credits include writing for TV's "Without a Trace." It is now playing exclusively at the Tivoli Theatre.

Introduced with its certification of declassification, followed up by its original "classified" warning, "Military Intelligence and You" is the perfect parody of those black and white educational films of all types produced by the government back in the '40s and '50s.

The "long lost" training film explains military intelligence and then explores the importance of knowing what you are attacking before you attack it, a message for now as well as then.

Like real old training films, "Military Intelligence and You" uses a voiceover to make its teaching points, but it also lifts aspects of Hollywood war films, such as characters and a storyline, even a little love triangle, to paint the picture, just as vintage training films made by Hollywood

filmmakers serving in the wartime military sometimes did.

Sequences from actual old war movies are cleverly combined with new footage of story and characters that could have stepped out of a "Naked Gun" comedy, all tied together with the voiceover making its teaching points about military intelligence.

In a war room straight out of "Doctor Strangelove," intelligence analysts Major Nick Reed (Patrick Muldoon), Major Mitch Dunning (Mackenzie Astin) and Lt. Monica

Tasty (Elizabeth Bennett) are trying to find the secret base of the Nazi's 'Ghost Squad' fighter planes, who are bring down so many Allied bombers.

Tasty and Reed knew each other before the war but now he is changed.

The narrator reminds us that everything has changed since "12-7," as Pearl Harbor Day is called in the film,

and former cocktail waitress turned military analyst Lt. Tasty tells us she was doing her part by shopping (because if we stop shopping, the enemy wins) but joined the military because she wanted to do more.

As tensions mount, the Central Command's General Jake Tasker (John Rixey Moore) orders the threat level raised to "tangerine." Tasker can do since his authority goes to the very top, the commander-in-chief himself, the vice president.

Military Intelligence and You

★★★★☆

Director: Dale Kutzera

Stars: Patrick Muldoon, Elizabeth Ann Bennett

Synopsis: An Army analyst searches for a secret base, while training films poke fun at military intelligence failings.

I WANT TEAM SPIRIT GLORY

AND NOT TO SHOW UP IN FULL UNIFORM FOR A GAME THAT WAS CANCELLED THREE DAYS AGO.

CAMPUS RECREATION- SPRING 2008

Floor Hockey

Date: April 8 - April 29
Time: Tues 6:45-9pm
Place: Mark Twain Gym
Sign Up by: Thurs 4/3
Division: Mens, Co-Ed
Format: League 6:6

Kickball

Date: April 9 & 10
Time: Wed/Thurs 2-5pm
Place: Mark Twain Rec Field
Sign Up by: Mon 4/7
Division: Co-Ed
Format: 2-Day Tourney 6:6

Volleyball

Date: April 14
Time: Mon 6:45-9pm
Place: Mark Twain Gym
Sign Up by: Thurs 4/10
Division: Mens, Womens
Format: One Night Tourney 6:6

Rock Gym 101

Date: April 12
Time: Sat 1-3pm
Place: Upper Limits Gym
Sign Up by: Thurs 4/3
Division: Open
Format: Rec Trek- \$10 Climbing Class

Mirthday Volleyball

Date: April 16
Time: Wed 11am-3pm
Place: MSC Birthday
Sign Up by: Mon 4/14
Division: Open
Format: Play for Fun & Free T-Shirt!



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See MILITARY, page 11

SPORTS

Tritons' coach looks to future

By LAGUAN FUSE
Sports Editor

Lisa Curliss-Taylor became the 10th women's basketball coach in UM-St. Louis history when she took the job as head coach of the Tritons. The Tritons did not make the Great Lakes Valley Conference tournament this year, but Curliss-Taylor believes that this season was the first step toward a successful women's basketball program.

"I think we have a good future ahead of us. You couldn't tell by our wins and losses obviously this year, but we made huge improvements from the first day of practice to our last game," Curliss-Taylor said. "Obviously there is a lot of stuff we have to work on but I am pleased with how they grew over the season."

This year, the Drury Lady Panthers defeated the Tritons twice in February as they went on to lead the GLVC West in wins and eventually win the GLVC title. Curliss-Taylor believes that the day when the Tritons are leading the conference is not too far in the future.

"It is not going to be long, I will

say that," Curliss-Taylor said. "We have a good group of returners coming back and we have a few new ones committed already who are going to be huge in our development. Of course, it is going to be hard to say next year, but we are going to be a different team next year."

The Tritons had four seniors on the roster this season, Courtney Watts, Amanda Miller, Taylor Gagliano and Leslie Ricker. Curliss-Taylor said that the experience they brought to the team was one of their most valuable assets.

"They had that experience of being in the conference before, and having new coaches who have never been through this conference and a lot of new players as well, they helped with that experience of going through the conference," said Curliss-Taylor.

The UM-St. Louis women's basketball team finished with a 7-20 overall record and a 4-15 GLVC record. Curliss-Taylor is very optimistic about the future success of the women's basketball program and when asked what would be an acceptable number of wins for next season she answered 18.

"I want to win every game, but

acceptable I would like 18 and that is going to be a huge, huge jump," Curliss-Taylor said. "I think it can be done. We are going into every game trying to destroy the other team and whether it happens or not, this year's record is not acceptable, unless it was flipped."

Curliss-Taylor also emphasizes that even though the team's record left them in sixth place in the standings, she is impressed with the improvements the team made in adjusting to the new system she put in place after being named head coach.

Curliss-Taylor believes that after having a season of her system the Tritons will greatly improve.

"I am pleased with the improvements they have made and that is going to be key because we are actually going to have a group who is coming back and knows what is expected and the standard that was set and who has been through our philosophy," Curliss-Taylor said.

"That has probably been the hardest thing this year, teaching all of that."

"I think that the fact that our team gets along so well is a positive," Curliss-Taylor said. "What we are



File Photo

Head coach Lisa Curliss-Taylor was hired this season to lead the women's basketball team. Though the team did not make the GLVC tournament this year, Curliss-Taylor says she has high hopes for the team in the future.

going to have to correct is that we cannot be as friendly when we are in practice. We have to be tougher and go at each other harder to get better. I think the returners understand that and are ready to adjust to that."

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



Tim Cochran

Tim Cochran came to UM-St. Louis this year as a freshman, major undecided. From St. Louis, Cochran went to Christian Brothers College for high school.

During the fall 2007 season, Cochran played in all five golf tournaments, and led the Tritons during their initial tournament play in late February.

"Tim Cochran [continues] to please me with [his] ability to quickly adapt to competition at this level," said four-year head coach Dustin Ashby.

March 23 marks the team's next day on the links at the Bellarmine Invitational.

TAKING A SWING AT THINGS



Danny Reise • Assistant Photo Editor

Stephanie Thompson, freshman, marketing, returns a ball during the match against Missouri Southern University on March 10.

Weather is no match for Triton bats

Softball team wins 4 out of last 5 games to reach .500

By TOM SCHNABLE
Assistant Sports Editor

This early in the season, most softball teams have to do battle with more than just the opposing team. They have to battle the elements as well.

The weather proved to not be a factor as the UM-St. Louis softball team took two of three games in the Pitt Invite last weekend at Pittsburg State in Kansas.

While the weather did rear its ugly head on Saturday, the Tritons overcame the elements to take two games in their conference opener with Drury.

At Pittsburg State, the Tritons opened play last Saturday against Fort Hays State. Freshman Crystal Koehler got the win for UM-St. Louis, and senior Jessica Keim saved the day offensively, when her two-run double in the fifth inning proved to be the difference in a 3-1 victory.

Next up was Northwest Missouri State. Allyson DeFosset pitched brilliantly, coming up one batter short of a no-hitter in a 3-2 win.

The junior also struck out 12 batters in the game. Senior Casey Dierkes supplied the game-winning RBIs with a two-run double in the fifth inning.

Great Lakes Valley Conference rival Quincy was next up for the

Tritons on this grueling afternoon of softball. UM-St. Louis took a 3-2 lead into the bottom of the sixth inning, but the Hawks tallied four runs and won the game 6-3. The game did not count toward conference standings.

As for games that did count towards the conference total, the Tritons swept both games of a doubleheader with Drury on Saturday.

In the first game, UM-St. Louis slapped 11 hits en route to a 7-1 victory. Sophomore Bevin Petrowski and junior Megan Riggs each had three hits in the game, and combined with her hit in the second game, Riggs had herself quite the offensive day.

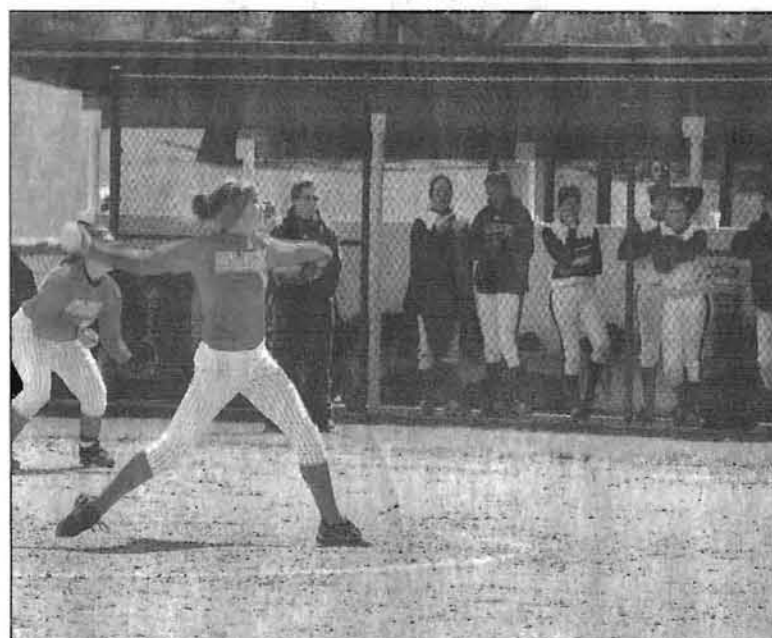
"Megan Riggs really had a good day at the plate," said UM-St. Louis coach Chuck Sosnowski.

The coach outlined his goals for the team going into the weekend doubleheader with Drury, and was happy that his team met them.

"We are trying to score five runs a game, and with our pitching if we can do that we're going to be successful about 80 percent of the time," said Sosnowski.

"We're also trying to get at least have 10 hits in a game, and we had 11 in the first game. Those were two goals that we met, and if we do that every game we'll be pretty successful."

DeFosset again won for the Tritons in the first game. She pitched a



File Photo

Kelly Essner, junior, nursing, pitches in a game played in March 2007.

complete game, allowing only one run on a home run to the first batter she faced. DeFosset also struck out nine and walked five batters.

"In the cold weather, the pitchers did a great job," said Sosnowski. "Ally just did a better job of settling down early (after the home run), and then we started hitting the ball."

In the second game, with the temperatures dipping to near freezing, the Tritons again defeated Drury, this time by a 6-3 margin. Junior Kelly Essner pitched five innings to record the win.

Dierkes led the Tritons offen-

sively, pounding out two hits in the game, including a homer in the third inning.

The shot was the 12th in her UM-St. Louis career, moving her into a tie all-time atop that category with Kelly Jackson, who graduated in 2002. Sophomore Megan Brussman also had two RBIs.

The Tritons (7-7, 2-0 in GLVC) were scheduled to play a doubleheader with Rockhurst on Sunday. The game time was pushed back two hours because of snow, and the games were played after *The Current* went to press.

Winter weather makes it tough for UMSL golf

By SCOTT LAVELL
Staff Writer

Believe it or not, the UM-St. Louis men's golfers have already hit the links for their first tournament of the spring portion of the schedule, despite rough weather in recent weeks.

The Tritons finished 9th at the Doyle Wallace Classic at Hot Springs Country Club in Arkadelphia, Arkansas on Feb. 25 and 26, before having their last tournament cancelled due to the wet conditions during the second weekend of March in Branson, Missouri.

"The weather has made it difficult this year, but the team has been working hard even in poor conditions," head coach Dustin Ashby said.

"While we haven't had as much on-course time, we have been hitting golf balls and practicing. I think the team will be ready for our conference events later this month."

UM-St. Louis came into the tournament ranked 86th in the nation amongst Division-II schools and was looking to build on the momentum with which they finished the fall portion of their schedule with, when they finished 6th at the Triton Invitational that included 14 of the top teams in the region.

The five UM-St. Louis golfers who made the trip to Arkansas got off to a little bit of a slow start in the first round, though.

Freshman Tim Cochran shot a 77 to lead all Triton linksters, but still finished the first day six strokes behind the tournament leaders.

Northeastern State led the team competition of ten squads by two strokes over Henderson State after the first day, with UM-St. Louis sitting in ninth.

Day two saw brutal conditions of 15 to 20 mph winds and 35 degree wind chills. The team stepped up its level of play, though, and gained three strokes on Ouachita Baptist to finish only four shots out of 8th place and twenty shots ahead of Southwest Baptist for 10th.

Ryan Penfield, freshman, undecided, lowered his score by three strokes on day two, shooting an 80 to bring himself up to 34th in the individual competition.

Cochran, now ranked 15th nationally among freshman golfers in Division-II, turned in UM-St. Louis's best total score. He finished in 21st place for the tournament.

"Tim Cochran and Ryan Penfield both continue to please me with their ability to quickly adapt to competition at this level," said Ashby, now in his fourth year as UM-St. Louis's head coach. "Cochran has been our most consistent player taking into account his performance last fall."

Eight players in the tournament shot par or below par on the first day, but only two did so in the second round. By contrast, though, two other Triton players improved their scores.

Sophomore Tim Swoboda and junior Matt Winslow both shot 84 in the first round but brought their tallies down the following day, with Swoboda finishing 42nd and Winslow 43rd in the tournament.

Junior Matt Thomas also competed for UM-St. Louis, shooting an 83 and an 85, and finished 45th.

Thomas is looking to try and continue his success from last year when he led the team in scoring averages and also made the all-conference team.

Henderson State came back on day two to take the team championship by four strokes over second place Northeastern State and by nine strokes over third place Arkansas Tech.

Jack Bartlett of Henderson State won the individual title. He was the only golfer under par for the tournament and won by three shots over Delta State's Chase Smith.

The Tritons were to compete in their second tournament of the semester from March 7-9 in Branson at the Drury Spring Invitational, but due to the weather, their second tournament will now be the Bellarmine Invitational in Louisville from March 23-25.

That tournament will be their first conference event of this year.

The women's golf team will begin play on March 26-27 in a dual meet with Lindenwood in St. Augustine, Fla.

STAFF VIEWPOINT

March Madness is reserved for basketball, not football

Oh, March. How you do renew the hope and restore the souls of the masses. After festering through the doldrums of winter, aching through a span of four weeks where the biggest sporting event is a few dozen cars making 800 left turns near a beach in Florida, the sports fan once again has something for which to roll out of bed.

March gives us the most exciting tournament known to humankind. An all-out, 65-team, throw-out-the-records, expect-the-unexpected, brouhaha of a college sports festival.

And do not forget about spring training, which can do what few things can: make us chomp at the bit for games that do not even matter.

Come on, admit it. If you love baseball, as most true Missourians do, you can not wait for the first cracks of the bat and pops of the mitt that signify the coming of spring and Opening Day.

There is more, still. If none of that does it for you, and you actually know where Versus is located on your cable or satellite, you could watch the stretch run of the NHL season as they head toward the playoffs.

Or if the furious action of college basketball is too much and you need a little slower pace, hey, there is always the NBA.

The bottom line is this: there is something for everyone during the third month of the Gregorian calendar. Any sports fan who is not satisfied in March should probably check his or her pulse.

So why, for the love of everything holy, do I need to sit through countless hours of NFL Live and other shows devoted to the "riveting action" of football's off-season? Are the sports actually going on right now not enough?

I understand that everyone wants to get their draft coverage. However, it is still a month and a half before the draft. It becomes

overkill.

Do I really need to know what Joe Flacco ran the 40-yard dash in? Or how many inches across Jake Long's hands are? Or how many piano bar incidents Darren McFadden has been in? Most of this is not even necessary.

Two years ago, Vince Young scored a six out of 50 on the Wonderlic Test, which is administered to NFL prospects to measure their aptitude. I would say he is doing just fine in the league, anyway.

Okay okay, I know. Mel Kiper Jr. does a great job with all that stuff. Bless his heart. He works so hard all year preparing all this information, even on offensive line-men from Division I-AA schools who might not get drafted until the seventh round.

But if I have to see that helmet haircut of his one more time before April, I am probably going to march right up to ESPN's studios with a pair of hedge trimmers.

Do not get me wrong. I love football. It is truly America's passion. But do we really need to go through an in-depth analysis of all 32 NFL teams in 32 days on SportsCenter? In the spring?

Sure, it is nice. But if we are going to get that much attention devoted to professional football, I would like to see some it also given to other levels of football and to other sports.

You are not going to see any college football shows at this time of the year, even though it deserves its fair share of attention.

For that matter, you will not even see Baseball Tonight, and it is only a couple weeks from Opening Day. There is absolutely no reason why that should be the case.

Am I going to stop watching ESPN over all this? Yeah, as soon as I quit listening to any and all music just because I refuse to Crank That Soulja Boy or Buy anybody a Drank. I will still put up with it.



By SCOTT LAVELOCK Staff Writer

STATS CORNER

MEN'S TENNIS

Table with 3 columns: Team, Conf. (W-L), Overall (W-L). Lists teams like Drury, Saint Joseph's, UM-St. Louis, SIU-Edwardsville, Quincy, Bellarmine, Southern Indiana, Indianapolis, Northern KY, Rockhurst, Lewis.

Upcoming match March 19 vs Emporia State 2:30 p.m.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

Table with 3 columns: Team, Conf. (W-L), Overall (W-L). Lists teams like Drury, KY Wesleyan, UM-St. Louis, Northern KY, Saint Joseph's, Quincy, SIU Edwardsville, Bellarmine, Rockhurst, Lewis, Southern Indiana, Indianapolis.

BASEBALL

Table with 3 columns: Team, Conf. (W-L), Overall (W-L). Lists teams like Rockhurst, Drury, Southern Indiana, SIU Edwardsville, Missouri S&T, Quincy, UM-St. Louis.

Upcoming Games March 21 vs Drury Noon March 22 vs Drury Noon

SOFTBALL

Table with 3 columns: Team, Conf. (W-L), Overall (W-L). Lists teams like Missouri S&T, UM-St. Louis, Indianapolis, Southern Indiana, SIU Edwardsville, Quincy, Rockhurst, UW-Parkside, Lewis, Saint Joseph's, Bellarmine, Northern KY, KY Wesleyan, Drury.

TELEVISION, from page 5

On the shows of today, Kristi Meyer, graduate student, business administration, said, "They hurt the viewers more because they desensitize them to crime and violence."

My kids don't think twice about what they see on TV."

Today's more "realistic" take on what life really is, or what people may wish their life to be like, is not really making our society any friendlier.

After coming home from a long, drudging day at work or school or even both, we need the time to relax.

In a world becoming more and more fast-paced, our brains need time to unravel the "stress" string that has been wrapped around our noggin and has tangled up our ability to organize our thoughts and feelings.

So why do we allow the little relaxation time we have to be enveloped by shows full of the same constant themes that stress us out throughout our already overly busy day?

Today's shows will only wrap more pressures around our already entangled minds.

Television is often the place humans turn to for our brain to escape reality. According to http://www.disinfo.com, Thomas Mulholland found that after just 30 seconds of watching television, "the brain begins to produce alpha waves, which indicates torpid (almost comatose) rates of activity."

Additionally, many critics claim that watching too much TV causes obesity, anti-social behaviors and a

lack of creativity.

Hence, if we are going to watch TV, then we should at the very minimum receive some rational benefit from it.

We must yearn for shows that promote positive moral actions and attitudes.

By watching optimistic shows more often, we are more likely to be positively influenced. We would be more likely to treat others with the respect that would be constantly flushed into our brains through the television.

If parents do not allow their children to watch certain shows or movies that display inappropriate material, then why, as "grown-ups" are we allowing ourselves to be succumbed to the same inappropriate material?

Are we naïve enough to think that we can overcome the immoral pressures that we are constantly facing, especially when the stresses of our lives are making us so vulnerable to give in?

Even if a more positive show seems like it lacks some aspect of reality, such as a person too quickly apologizing for a cruel action, commonly seen in "Full House," at least it is striving to make its viewers become better people.

If we are what we watch, I know that I would much rather be identified as Theodore "Beaver" Cleaver than a money-hungry, sex-driven individual.

So as you settle into that groove in your couch to enjoy your favorite show, ask yourself to which character you would want to be compared.

MILITARY, from page 9

As they race to uncover the secret airbase from which the Nazis are attacking, the story cuts back and forth between the intelligence war room and the soldiers in the field or captured prisoners.

These sections are footage taken from old war movies, including some with a few recognizable stars, such as William Holden.

The old footage is seamlessly

matched by the new scenes and the story editing is both brilliant and funny, as is the voiceover that ties it all together.

Aside from those people still convinced we found weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, "Military Intelligence and You" is a you-gotta-laugh-so-you-don't-cry delight about the then-and-now of military intelligence.

SCRAPARTS, from page 9

On Thursday, April 3, at 8 p.m., it is a chamber music Concert with Israeli pianist (and wife of St. Louis Symphony orchestra conductor David Robertson) Orii Shahan, plus Alla Voskoboynkova, and Arianna String Quartet, the UM-St. Louis artists-in-residence. Free for students, others pay \$15-\$20 for tickets. On Sunday, April 6, classical tenor Mi-

chael Amante returns to the Touhill for a 2 p.m. concert. Tickets are \$18-\$35.

Monday Noon Series on Monday, March 31 features "Choral Music—Discussion and Performance" with Jim Henry, conductor of the UM-St. Louis University Singers and the A Cappella Ensemble at 12:15 p.m. at 222 JCP Conference Center.

PAT'S BAR AND GRILL, from page 8

The bread and meat almost melt in your mouth. The fries that accompany the meal are crispy and delicious. For only \$6, there is no better burger.

It is not the burgers or the appetizers, or even whiskey that Pat's is known for, but the fried chicken.

Some call it world famous and others just call it delicious. Watch out though because when it is bitten into, the whole skin comes off, too.

No matter what time of day someone goes to Pat's, a few old guys nursing pints and sharing sto-

ries always populate the bar. The place is not too cramped and offers bar seating as well as table and booths. The servers are friendly and informative and make the place seem like a home calling patrons "sweetie" and "hun."

There is no better way to end one's visit than with a shot of Jameson Irish Whiskey (since Finn says that the Irish created whiskey) and a good Gaelic saying: Lá Fhéile Pádraig Sona Daoibh (La ale-lah pwad-rig son-ah'jeev), or in other words, Happy St. Patrick's Day.

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MARCH MADNESS

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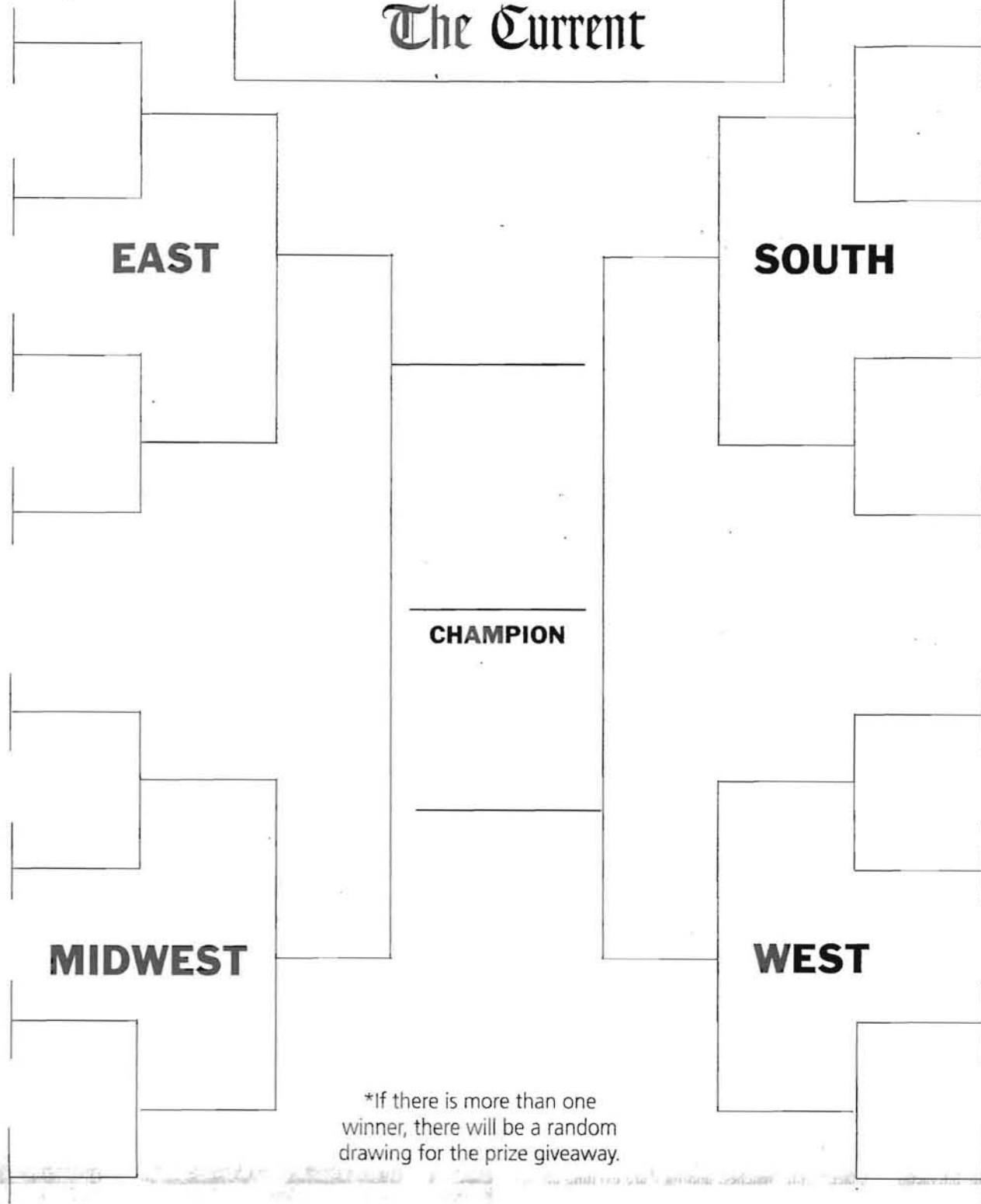
The Current

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- (16) MT. ST. MARY'S/COPPIN ST.
- (8) INDIANA
- (9) ARKANSAS
- (5) NOTRE DAME
- (12) GEORGE MASON
- (4) WASHINGTON STATE
- (13) WINTHROP
- (6) OKLAHOMA
- (11) SAINT JOSEPH'S
- (3) LOUISVILLE
- (14) BOISE STATE
- (7) BUTLER
- (10) SOUTH ALABAMA
- (2) TENNESSEE
- (15) AMERICAN

- (1) KANSAS
- (16) PORTLAND STATE
- (8) UNLV
- (9) KENT STATE
- (5) CLEMSON
- (12) VILLANOVA
- (4) VANDERBILT
- (13) SIENA
- (6) USC
- (11) KANSAS STATE
- (3) WISCONSIN
- (14) CAL ST. FULLERTON
- (7) GONZAGA
- (10) DAVIDSON
- (2) GEORGETOWN
- (15) UMBC

- (1) MEMPHIS
- (16) TEXAS-ARLINGTON
- (8) MISSISSIPPI STATE
- (9) OREGON
- (5) MICHIGAN STATE
- (12) TEMPLE
- (4) PITTSBURGH
- (13) ORAL ROBERTS
- (6) MARQUETTE
- (11) KENTUCKY
- (3) STANFORD
- (14) CORNELL
- (7) MIAMI
- (10) SAINT MARY'S
- (2) TEXAS
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- (5) DRAKE
- (12) WESTERN KENTUCKY
- (4) CONNECTICUT
- (13) SAN DIEGO
- (6) PURDUE
- (11) BAYLOR
- (3) XAVIER
- (14) GEORGIA
- (7) WEST VIRGINIA
- (10) ARIZONA
- (2) DUKE
- (15) BELMONT



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FORESTS, from page 3

"As forests age, tree death is more due to disease and bugs, not lack of sunlight and nutrition," he said.

Franklin developed the Canopy Crane to explore all areas of the forest, from top to forest floor. The crane is 285 feet tall and covers 6 acres of 400-year-old Douglas fir. The crane has "cars" that move up and down by cables and move in and out along its boom arm. "Since it can rotate 360 degrees, it can reach every part of the forest canopy," Franklin said.

Franklin also talked about unique features of the long-lived Douglas fir that allow it to adapt to fire, pests and accidents by developing new sprays of branches with leaves up and down its trunk, instead of just at the top. "Old Douglas firs may have as much as 95 percent of its foliage on these branches," he said.

The respiration of forests is explored by measuring carbon stores, the CO2 flux between trees and the atmosphere around them. "We have found that old growth forests are

very productive, converting a lot of CO2 to carbohydrate, contrary to previous belief," Franklin said. "Old growth forests are still a considerable 'carbon sink' overall, although it varies year to year."

Franklin also talked about the insects and other species found in forests. Young forests have more plant-eating bugs, while old growth forests have more predatory bugs.

Old growth forests also help capture water from cloud-banks, and hold snow and release its moisture slowly, unlike young forests.

Franklin then turned to policy on old growth forests, noting the policies had to turn away from forest managements to timber companies to preserving existing old growth and restoring additional old growth forest. He noted that at the end of the Clinton era, almost all remaining old growth forests had been preserved, a major change in policy.

One of the major policy challenges now has to do with fire and fire

management. He noted that the wet, coastal forests had a natural burn pattern of big fires, a replacement pattern. Dry interior areas naturally had small, low intensity more frequent fires. Fire suppression and poor management led to unnatural large fires in these drier forests.

"To correct this, we should leave more big trees and allow small frequent fires," he said.

What are the challenges that old growth forests face in the 21st century?

"Once climate was a constant. The social context was large, socially responsible corporations that gave life-long employment. Neither is true now," he said. Global warming means warmer winters, so bugs have more surviving offspring, as is the case with mountain pine beetles that are now devouring large stands of lodge pole pines, as he told the audience.

The timber industry has largely moved to "fiber farms" in the south-

ern hemisphere, for the same cheap labor, cheap land reasons as other globalization. "Wood from North America is no longer competitive," Franklin said.

This means that old policies based on managing national forests for the timber industry need to change. It also means that private landowners need to be given new reasons to keep lands wooded. "We need to give new

incentives to keep private land forested," he said. Money for watershed protection and wild life diversity, supported by hunting groups, could help with this, he noted.

Who manages public lands matters too. "We need to have good, competent professionals managing these lands," Franklin said, noting trend towards political appointees.

After the talk, Franklin took ques-

tions from the audience before being presented with a crystal trophy recognizing his contributions.

Whitney R. Harris World Ecology Center is an educational collaboration between the university, the Missouri Botanical Garden and the St. Louis Zoo. The annual lecture brings world-famous biologists, scholars and authors to our area for a discussion of their work in world ecology.

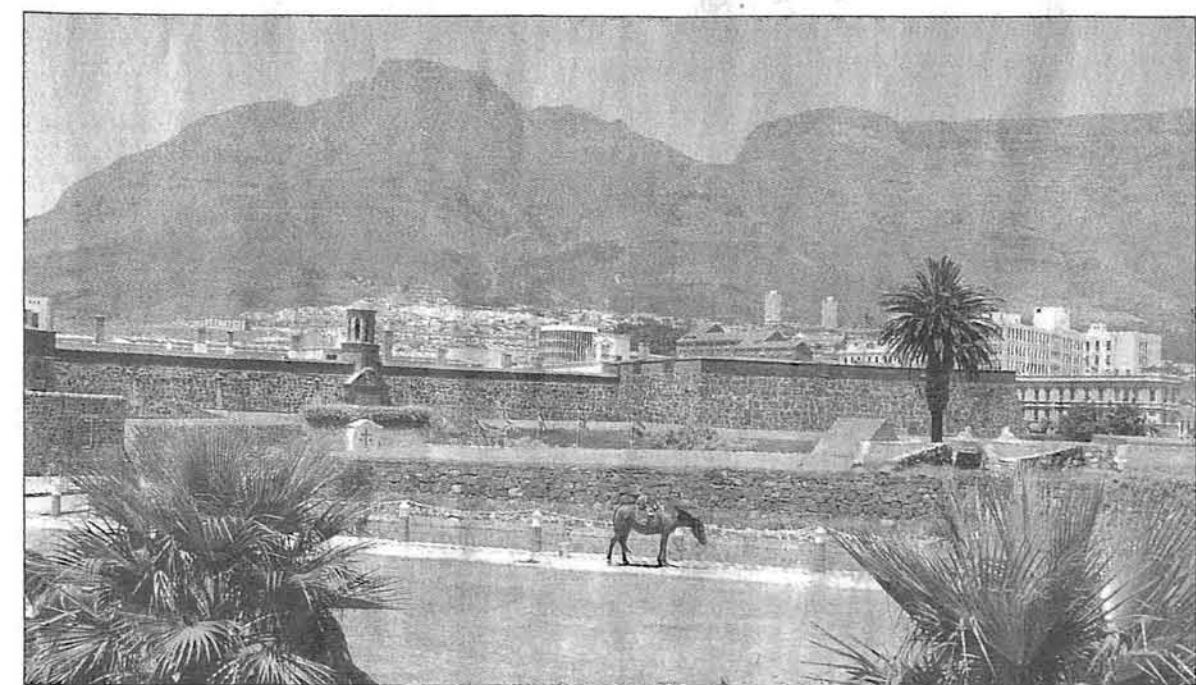


Photo courtesy of Thomas Helton

Outside of the Castle of Western Cape, the view offers a panorama of Western Cape.

SOUTH AFRICA, from page 5

Q: Are you making a lot of friends?
A: Just in the past week or so is when I have made a lot of friends and actually had things to go out and do with people. Most people here are very nice. Before I came to South Africa, I told myself not to just make friends with international students because I see that happen at our University and elsewhere. So I just let time take its course and now I would say I have at least 15 people who I can hang out with.

Q: Why South Africa?
A: I honestly do not know. It has always been in my mind, which has made

me somewhat skeptical recently. I began to think that maybe some random person just whispered "South Africa" into my ear when I was a child and that it stuck in my head ever since.

What I tell people after "I do not know" is that I have been to Europe and there is nothing new there - it is not interesting. Everything you go to see and study there is historical or scientific, but here, everything is happening now and yesterday.

I get to live and interact in a place where things actually happen, not just in politics, but in everything. I know this is

hard to understand, but it makes sense in my head.

Q: Favorite thing about South Africa so far?

A: Rugby. Rugby is so much better than American football it is not even funny. Now, cricket is definitely worse than baseball, but with rugby, South Africa's national sport, they are onto something.

On the weekend, everyone gathers around TVs in the afternoon to watch the big matches, and they are exciting all the way through with no commercial breaks or stops.

Gabriella Garcia
MEDINA

MARCH 20th
Pilot House :: 7pm
Admission is FREE
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The Current

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2008 May Commencement

SATURDAY, MAY 10
MARK TWAIN BUILDING

10 A.M. - College of Nursing
- UMSLWU Joint Undergraduate Engineering Program
- College of Fine Arts & Communication
- School of Social Work
- Bachelor of General Studies
- Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies
- UM-Rolla Engineering Education Center
- Master's in Gerontology
- Master's in Public Policy Administration

2 P.M. - College of Arts and Sciences

6 P.M. - College of Optometry
(BLANCHE M. TOUHILL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER)

SUNDAY, MAY 11
MARK TWAIN BUILDING

2 P.M. - College of Education

6 P.M. - College of Business Administration

University of Missouri St. Louis

Commencement Candidates
Attend the Grad Fair
April 1, 2, & 3, 2008
11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
University Bookstore (MSC)
(purchase cap and gown and order announcements, etc.)

INTELLECTUAL DIVERSITY, from page 1

PRIZM and Voices, in particular at UM-St. Louis, have been adamant in their opposition to the legislation and have begun grassroots campaigns to this end, Rankins said.

While intellectual diversity is gaining attention among the campus, so is an anti-affirmative action petition.

Deborah Burris, director of the Office of Equal Opportunity on campus, talked about the Missouri Civil Rights Initiative, a proposed constitutional amendment that may be on the ballot come the November elections.

The state's constitution would be amended to include language that would ensure "the state shall not discriminate against, or grant preferential treatment to, any individual or group on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity or national origin in the operation of public employment, public education or public contracting."

Burris argued that the initiative is deliberately promoted as supporting the interests of civil rights, but that the petition will actually harm those interests by banning affirmative action programs.

These programs in Missouri and other states, she said, continue to help disadvantaged minorities, including those of certain races, gender and the disabled, only in situations where qualification requirements are fully met.

"It is not reverse discrimination," she said.

Other states that will face similar initiatives in November are Arizona, Colorado, Nebraska and Oklahoma.

Supporters of the initiative are currently circulating petitions to collect between 150,000 and 160,000 signatures to get the initiative on the ballot, while supporters of affirmative action have organized their own 'Decline to Sign' campaign to raise awareness about the harmful implications of

the proposed amendment.

Affirmative action programs influence the number of minority students on campus, Burris said. "A part of the campus experience is diversity," she said.

Rankins said he suggests the best way to combat both issues involves inviting a greater number of diverse speakers on campus, specifically through interested student groups.

In other news out of the committee, Bel-Nor Chief of Police Matthew Lauer attended to address concerns regarding allegations of racial profiling by police around campus.

Gwen Packnett, director of Multi-Cultural Relations, shared some anecdotal claims from both students and faculty of the University that police stopped cars with black occupants far more than was necessary, often for trivial things.

Of particular concern to Malaika Horne, chair of the Cultural Diversity Initiative, were the e-mails regarding criminal activities, which occur near campus that have often vaguely identified "young black males" as the perpetrators.

While information regarding campus crime is of immediate importance to students, faculty and staff, Horne stressed that such ethnic distinctions may result in discrimination against black students because of an increased "stereotype as criminals."

"This is a big issue in the African-American community. Parents are concerned about their sons being accosted by police," she said.

Lauer responded that obtaining accurate descriptions from robbery victims was hardly ever perfect and had to include race as a physical characteristic, if possible.

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 or call 516-5316.

FOR RENT

Two Bedroom Apartment for One Bedroom Price SPECIAL!!! Two bedroom campus apartment for \$618/month. Must sign a lease before March 31st! Large apartments include dishwasher, garbage disposal, on-site laundry facilities, pool, UMSL shuttle service, police sub-station, etc. NO DEPOSIT! One bedroom apartments also available. Call today! 314-524-3446.

1 Bedroom Campus Apartment for \$412/month-First Month Free!!! One bedroom campus apartments now available at University Park Apartments. Apartments include on-site laundry facilities, pool access, UMSL shuttle service, etc. Apartments are literally 1 minute from the Metrolink. \$412/month. No deposit and first month's rent free! Call today! 314-524-3446.

Large dorm style apartment on the top floor of the Mansion at Mansion Hills Condominiums. Will accommodate 2-3 students. \$600/month. INCLUDES ALL UTILITIES! Available Feb. 5th. Call Jack at 314-607-4198.

Immediately available 1 bedroom apartment at Woodson Park Apartments. Great location right off Page and 170. st floor, ample closet space, washer/dryer connection, and new kitchen appliances. Call 314-428-2145 for the current special.

\$400 per month, \$350 deposit, Large Kitchen & Living Areas, South City, 20 mins from campus. Minutes from downtown. Shared basement w/ washer & dryer. Quiet and Clean Building. contact Phil @ 314.600.1981 or pbroussin@charter.net

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MISCELLANEOUS

Traffic Ticket Trouble? Call UMSL's neighborhood attorney, Kris Boevingloh at 314-989-1492. Speeding - DWI - Driving While Suspended - MIP - Accident Cases Confidential consultation. Affordable fees starting at \$75.

Earn \$800-\$3200 a month to drive brand new cars with ads placed on them. <http://www.AdCarClub.com>
Attention Dancers! Tryouts for the UMSL Flames Dance Team for the 2008-2009 season will be held on April 1st and 3rd at 6pm in the Mark Twain Building. We hope to see you there! For more information please contact Amanda Lucido at amlmg2@umsl.edu

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EQUITY GAP, from page 1

The total equity adjustment expected for to UM-St. Louis is about \$10.6 million. In fiscal year 2004, UM-St. Louis received its first portion, \$2.7 million from former Sen. Wayne Goode.

In 2005, the campus received \$521,000 from former system president Elson Floyd and in 2006, Sen. Chuck Gross assured \$2.3 million, which went toward funding the Institute of Ethics and Public Life. This past year, interim president Gordon Lamb gave UM-St. Louis \$300,000.

SGA executives Bryan Goers, Candace Rippetto and Katie Moore sent a letter March 10 to Rep. Allen Ictet (R-Willdwood), chair of the budget committee, asking for the gap funding be included.

"Every extra dollar that the state gives to higher education means that universities can charge less. The students at the University of Missouri-St. Louis urge you to include the \$2.6 million in equity funding and fund the full 4.2 [percent] increase in the operating core that HB2003 originally incorporated but no longer includes," the letter stated.

"If the bill does not pass, it's going to mean more costs for students. Supplemental fees will go up," Goers said.

The majority of money received from past adjustments went into hiring and recruitment of new faculty and scholarships.

"The magic number is about 20 percent. You'd like to get 20 percent of state appropriations toward scholarships," George said. "UMSL is at about 17 percent, while the other UM campuses are above 20 percent."

Rep. Rick Stream (R-Kirkwood) an alumnus of UM-St. Louis, and member of the budget committee, asked for an amendment to be included on Tuesday, but the amendment lost by two votes.

Despite the loss, "That's a major statement," George said. "That they were willing to discuss and debate an amendment asking for funding for UMSL, it's very telling."

In addition, funding from the state legislature to match faculty salary increases from each campus did not survive.

Neither did the Preparing to Care initiative, which would have provided about \$13.4 million to higher education institutions.

"UMSL would've received less than a million of that, for the Colleges of Optometry and Nursing," George said.

Despite the loss, the full House must approve the bill after the legislature returns from spring break next week.

George also noted that past adjustments have come from the Senate, not the House.

If extra funding is not included in either House or Senate bills, George said the campus would have to look toward new UM president Gary Forshee and private funding sources.

The Current

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WEDNESDAY MARCH 19th 6:00PM - 9:00PM AT THE PILOT HOUSE IN THE MSC

DEATH BY ALCOHOL THE SAM SPADY STORY

The story of the beautiful small-town girl who's life ended too soon.

sam Student Alcohol Management

The mission of the Sam Spady Foundation is to educate all parents and students on the dangers of alcohol, specifically high risk consumption, and the signs and symptoms of alcohol poisoning.

The Current wishes you a safe and fun Spring Break. Keep up-to-date with UMSL news on www.thecurrentonline.com and we will return Monday, March 31.

CURRENT CARTOONISTS

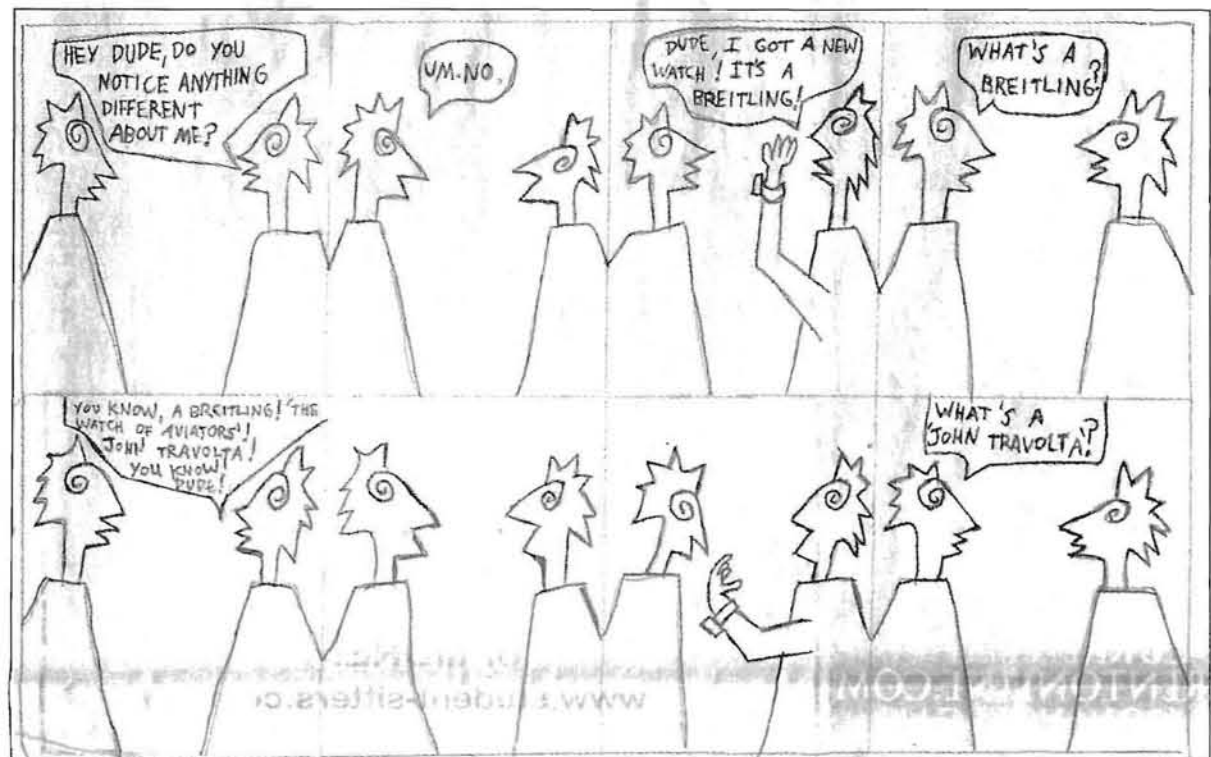


"Sconeborough" is drawn by Current cartoonist Elizabeth Gearheart



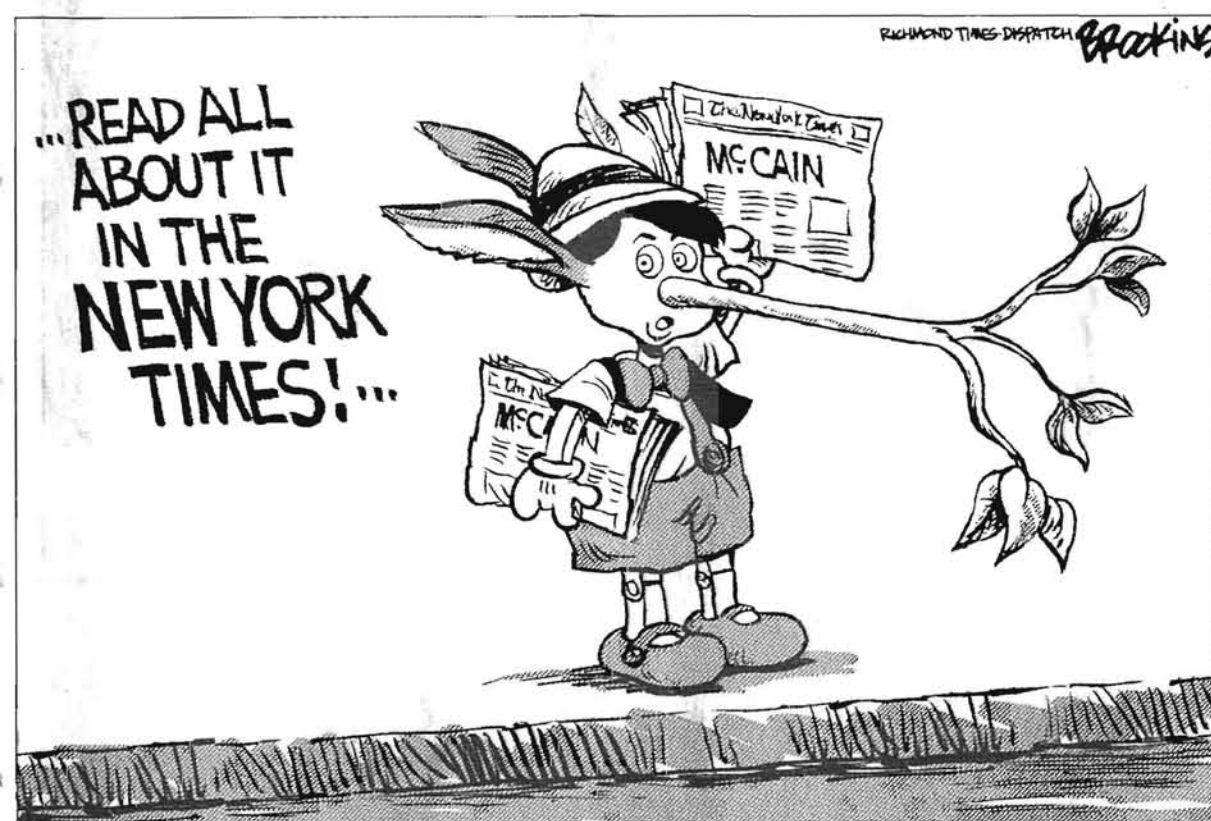
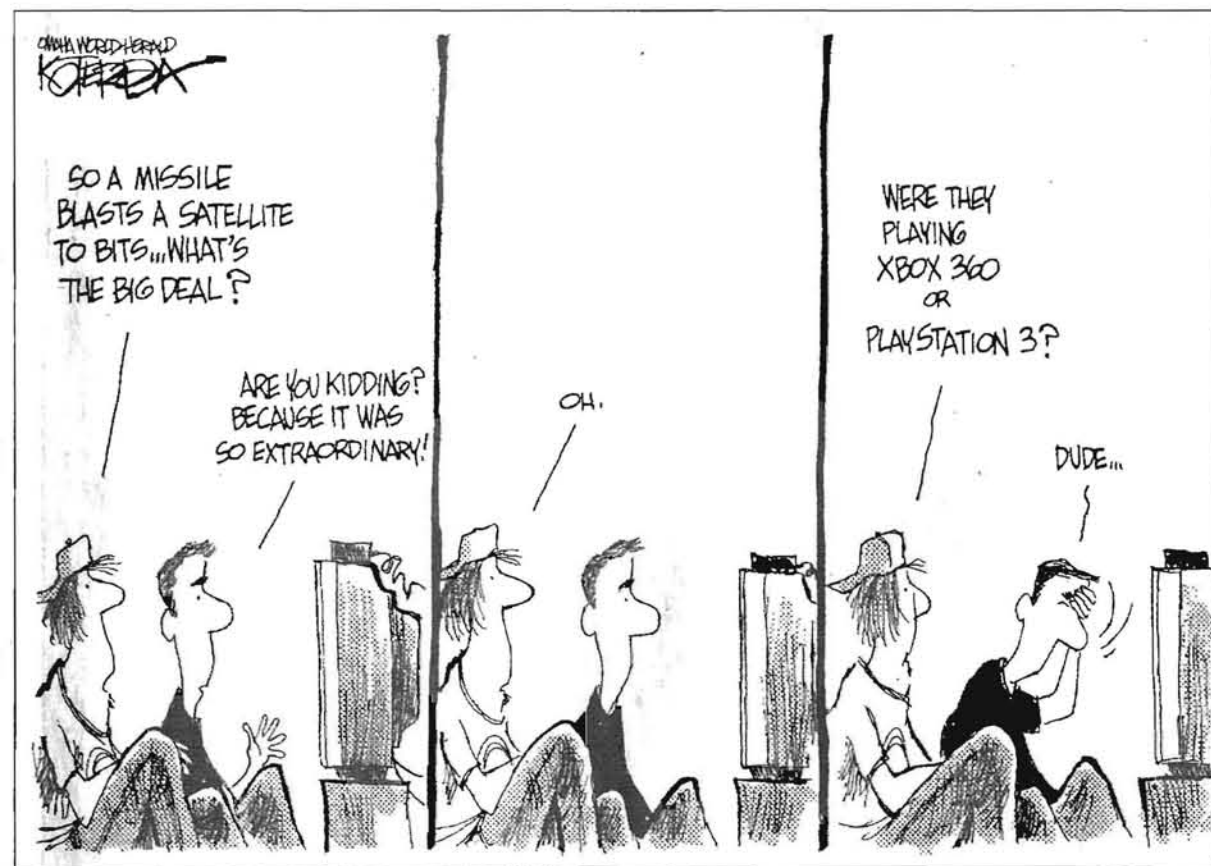
"Margaret and Hooray" is drawn by Current cartoonist Cody Perkins

Perm Spawn by Caleb True



"Perm Spawn" is drawn by Current cartoonist Caleb True

SYNDICATED CARTOONS



Snapshots at jasonlove.com



Early Americans found it easier to settle the west coast, where natives were, like, whatever, dude.



ARIES (March 21 to April 19)

With your practical side dominant this week, it is a good time to reassess your finances to see what expenses you can cut. Aspects also favor mending fraying relationships.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)

Your Bovine-inspired determination to follow matters through from beginning to end pays off in a big way. Enjoy a well-earned weekend of fun with a special someone.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)

Aspects favor re-establishing business relationships you might have neglected. A family member's request needs to be given more thought before you make a decision.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22)

While you might appreciate the avalanche of advice coming from others, keep in mind that the intuitive Moon Child is best served by listening to her or his own inner voice.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22)

The Lion's social life whirls at centrifugal speed this week as you go from function to function. Things slow by week's end, giving you a chance to catch up on your chores.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 Sept. 22)

Do not let your stand on an issue cause a rift with a colleague. Insist on both of you taking time to reassess your positions while there is still room for compromise.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)

An opportunity you had been hoping for finally opens up, but read the fine print before you make a commitment, especially where a time factor might be involved.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)

Your need to know what is going on behind the scenes leads you to make some bold moves. Be prepared with a full explanation of your actions if necessary.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)

A lot of details need tending to during the early part of the week. The pressure eases by the 20th, allowing you to get back to your major undertaking.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19)

A friend asks you to act on his or her behalf in a dispute. Be careful. You might not have all the facts you need in order to make a fair assessment of the situation.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)

A new development might require you to cancel some of your plans. But you adapt easily, and by week's end, you could receive welcome "cheering-up" news.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20)

Your recent workplace accomplishments boost your self-confidence just as you are about to consider a potentially rewarding, although possibly risky, career move.

BORN THIS WEEK: Your love of the arts is equaled only by your strong sense of justice. People can depend on you to always try to do what is right.

King Crossword

ACROSS

- Spigot
- Boxer's foot
- ... and what it may leave
- Lermieux milieu
- Acapulco gold
- Heart line?
- Crib
- "All the Way" lyricist
- Traveler's stopover
- Kilmer classic
- Stats in a big family
- Pismire
- Movie
- Suitable
- Educational institution
- Fry lightly
- Useful
- Poor substitute
- That guy
- Prayer ending
- Altar
- Multicolored
- "West Side Story" role
- Churchill's gestura
- "Las Vegas" actor
- Source of valuable matter
- Flooded
- Little louse
- Free (of)
- Ross or Palmer
- Exist
- "Of course"
- Leg bone
- Scoring 100
- Tubular pasta on
- D.C. newspaper
- Ark's landing site
- Misogynist's bane
- Picks up the check
- Sinbad's bird
- Playwright
- Ultimate
- Hosiery shade
- Flushing team
- Mephistopheles
- Winner
- Charged bit
- Affirmative action?
- Nevada county seat
- Favorite
- Greek X
- Body of water ...
- ... and an inlet thereof
- Work with material
- Empty talk
- Singer Ross
- Ebony counterpart?
- More than coincidental
- Actions
- Wan
- Initial chip
- Poke
- Shock and -
- Welcome sight?
- Curvy character

DOWN

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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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.

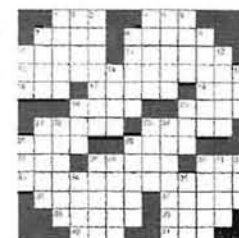
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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

The Current
online.com



Register to receive The Current in your email.

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MARCH 19, 2008 FROM 7:00 to 9:00 PM

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NIKKI

GIOVANNI