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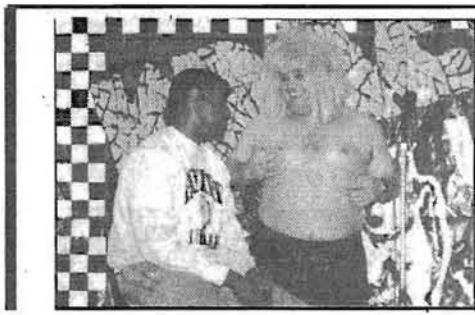
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The CURRENT

Issue 821

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-ST. LOUIS

March 27, 1995



Flabbio

Kevin McPeck a.k.a. "Flabbio" the exotic dancer tries to crack up UM-St. Louis student Harold Holliday.

EDITORIAL

The SGA bylaws that govern the elections need to be overhauled.

FEATURES

Saving the Planet: UM-St. Louis is making a visible recycling effort.

SPORTS

Julie Pressman takes a look at the ticket prices in professional sports.

An open ear



photo: Monica Senecal

UM-St. Louis students (L-R) Brandy Berry, Matt Booth, John Macke, and Todd Appel address their questions to Bishop Paul Zipfel at the Catholic Student Center's open house March 19.

Residence Hall planning to host SGA presidential debate

by Rob Goedecker
news editor

Jeremy Kennedy, president of the Residence Hall Association, announced last week that he is planning to host a Student Government Association (SGA) presidential debate at 7:30 p.m. on April 11 at the Honors College Convocation Hall.

This will be the first debate for the Residence Hall. "I think it's a good idea," said SGA presidential candidate Tom O'Keefe. "I was surprised that it wasn't done in the past, but I'm glad to see that they're going to start doing it."

A representative from *The Current*, *The Evening Tide*, and *Brain Stew* will make up the panel asking the candidates questions.

Thomas Preston, UM-St. Louis coach and faculty advisor for the debate team, has been rumored as the choice for moderator.

During the debate, the candidates will have a certain amount of time to give their opening statements. Then, the representatives from the campus publications will ask the candidates questions about their campaigns. The candidates will have an opportunity to reply to each question.

After the panel is finished, the students in the audi-

ence will be encouraged to ask the candidates questions. Titlow feels the debate will get more students involved in the election.

"It's going to get more people involved, and from the stand point of a candidate, it gives me an opportunity to get my message out," Titlow said.

Presidential candidate Tonya Hutchinson feels differently.

"I don't think a lot of people, other than those who live in the Residence Hall, are really going to come over to the Residence Hall at 7:30 at night," Hutchinson said.

Hutchinson isn't comfortable with the debate's sponsoring.

"I have a concern because the person running for vice-president with Tom O'Keefe [Jason Peery] is affiliated with the Residence Hall," Hutchinson said.

She said she would go anywhere where there is an audience who would want to hear what she has to say, but she thinks the debate will be in favor of O'Keefe.

"I definitely think it's going to be biased," Hutchinson said, "but that can't stop me from going. I think people need to hear what I have to say. I don't want to not show up and have my two opponents speaking on what they think is right."

see Debate, page 4

Bartok extends election committee deadline

by Rob Goedecker
news editor

Election Board chairman Steve Bartok has extended the deadline for students to apply for a position on the election committee to March 31.

Two of the Student Government Association presidential candidates have concerns that group affiliations among student applicants might create a bias.

The election board position requires students to monitor the election booths during the upcoming SGA elections on March 18 and 19.

Eight of the 13 students who applied before the original March 10 deadline were Sigma Pi members. Presidential candidate Tom O'Keefe is a member and former president of the fraternity.

Presidential candidate Beth Titlow was concerned with what could happen as a result of Sigma Pi members possibly having a majority of the election committee positions.

"I'm a friend of many of the Sigma Pi's, and I'm not saying they would do something ille-

gal," Titlow said. "I am saying that the opportunity exists for a lot of allegations to be made. It doesn't really look nice. I know if I were to lose to Tom, and those were the people on the election committee, I would feel very uncomfortable with the results."



Steve Bartok

they try and get so many of their members [to apply for the committee]?"

"It's so they can partner up with another Sigma Pi member. They can put anybody's name in they want; all you need is a student number."

O'Keefe said he always encourages his fraternity members to get involved with activi-

ties on campus.

"I encouraged guys from my fraternity to sign up," O'Keefe said, "but we always encourage people from our fraternity to do things."

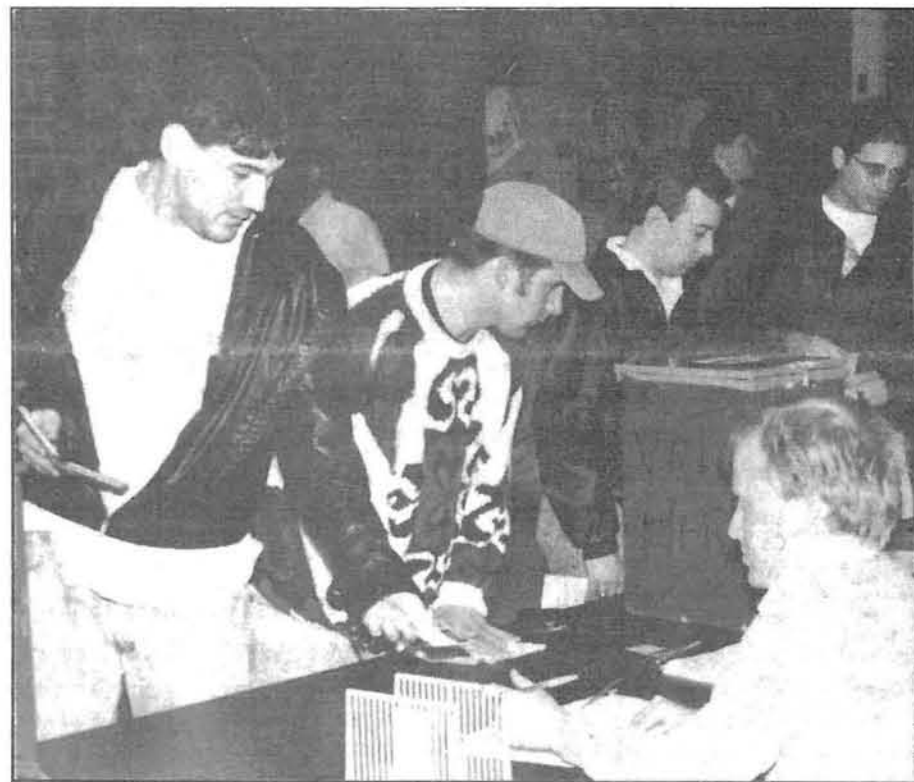
O'Keefe said that a similar situation occurred when the November deadline to apply for the Student Activities Budget Committee (SABC) was extended.

"Our fraternity filled out a lot of applications to be on the budget committee," O'Keefe said. "We turned in about 90 percent of the applications, and everybody got all bent out of shape."

Titlow said she intentionally avoided asking any of her friends to be on the election committee. She said she doesn't want to see a repeat of last year's election, when one of the Election Board members allegedly leaked out the vote totals after the first day of voting, causing distrust among the candidates.

"I didn't go up to my sorority and ask everyone to go up and get on the election committee," Titlow said. "I was hoping we

see Extend, page 4



Current file photo

Election Board chairman Steve Bartok checks a student's identification card before he was allowed to vote in last year's SGA election.

KWMU goes for 'Spring Drive 95'

by Amy Pierce
associate news editor

Staff members at KWMU 90.7 FM, St. Louis's only National Public Radio affiliate, are not waiting for congressional Republicans to announce their plans to cut spending on public radio.

The station, located on the UM-St. Louis campus, is following through with its annual membership drive, "Spring Drive '95," which could be the most important drive in the station's history.

"The financial support of listeners and the business community is more important now than ever before," said Patricia Wente, KWMU's general manager.

Linda Wertheimer is the host of NPR's evening newscast, "All Things Considered," and has worked for NPR since it began in 1970.

She recently addressed the Republicans' plan, disposing of the idea that NPR is elitist.

"I don't think we're elitist," Wertheimer said. "There are all kinds of listeners from all walks of life. As I've said, we are fairly serious about the news and we don't patronize... we provide serious people with serious journalism."

But Wente said the future seems inevitable. "It seems likely that effective July 1 of this year, Congress will cut funding for public broadcasting,"



photo: KWMU

Volunteers will again be asked to answer the telephones for this year's KWMU membership drive, "Spring Drive '95." But because of the Republicans' plan to cut spending on National Public Radio, this drive may be the most important so far.

Wente said.

"Spring Drive '95" will run from March 31 through April 9. Listeners can pledge their financial support for the station and become a member of KWMU.

Wente said KWMU has set a goal of \$120,000. The money raised will be used for the station's programming and operations.

Wente also hopes local businesses will contribute as they have in the past.

"We have received more than \$12,000 in matching grant dollars from 13 area businesses," she said.

"The money matches listener pledges dollar for dollar at certain times during the fund drive." The local businesses that will be participat-

ing in the fund drive this year are: Backroads Music, Bryan's Restaurant, Euclid Records, System Services Enterprise, Central Clayton Chiropractic, Commerce Bank, Bar Italia, Cutler/Williams, Healthlink, Investment Counselors, Tabor Plastics, West End Wines, and American National Mortgage.

Over 200 volunteers from throughout the community will help answer phones, process memberships, and take part in on-air hosting during the drive.

KWMU is still seeking out volunteers to answer the phones during the drive. Shifts are available from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. everyday. People who are interested should call the volunteer hotline at 516-6772.

Thirty-nine students apply for Senate seats

by Jeremy Rutherford
managing editor

Thirty-nine students responded to perhaps the UM-St. Louis Senate's last call for help.

Last week, Senate chairman Stephen Lehmkuhle said the sentiment among his colleagues was to reduce student representation in the Senate if students didn't show a genuine interest in the campus' largest governing body.

Until this recent surge, few students had shown an interest in being part of the Senate. In fact last year, exactly 25 students applied for the 25 seats open to students.

Student Government Association (SGA) presidential candidate Tom O'Keefe and running mate Jason Peery are stressing student involvement in their campaign, and they believe representation in the Senate is important.

"Jason and I got 25 students to

sign up, which includes people from different areas of the campus," O'Keefe said.

"We were working on this before the student senator article came out [in issue 820 of *The Current*]. We were concerned because in the past, there has been a low turnout."

O'Keefe said he was pleased with the students' response.

"We didn't have to pull any arms," O'Keefe said. "Once we told the students about the Senate and the situation, there were very few people who said no."

Lehmkuhle was also pleased, and said he will share the news with the Senate's executive committee at its next meeting.

"I am delighted," Lehmkuhle said. "The students are going to have a real election, and I hope that it's something they take more seriously."

Lehmkuhle said this should put

see Senate, page 4

Correction

Student Government Association vice presidential candidate Jason Peery's name was misspelled in issue 820 of *The Current*. We regret any confusion this error may have caused.



Jason Peery

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PERSONALS

Hydraulics,
You owe me for this!! I hope that you had a good time this weekend with the early, short and passionate filing.
Love-The Other Ace

Erica-
Thanks for letting me ramble on and listening to me.
Zlam-Nicki

Jenn L-
What would I do without you?
Zlam-Nicki

Padre Zetas-
It was a blast! Between the sunburns, the blisters, Mexico, Grease, The BOYS, the cherries and the yogurt- it was a Spring Break to remember.
Jenny W.

Ace-
I had the best time on Spring Break! 175 feet! Salties! Bourbon and the bachelors! Can't wait till' next year!
Ace

To All Zetas-
Good luck during Greek Week!

Chrissy-
KC again? You driving? Yes.
Love-Kerrl

Hey cupcake, you better watch out!
Love- Holly and Maggie

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That's the ticket: Not at UM-St. Louis, where it's one for all

Matthew J. Forsythe
editor-in-chief

"We know that it is wrong, but we are going to continue to do it that way anyway."

This should be the motto of the bylaws which govern the Student Government Association (SGA) elections.

As everyone might or might not know every person that runs for SGA office runs alone whether they run on a ticket or not. The SGA constitution lists each

position separately and states that these positions should be elected "at large."

For as long as I have been at this school (which is a very long time, but we won't go into that now) this has meant that whoever gets the most votes under each particular position wins.

Last year Chris Jones and Kel Ward, who both ran on the same ticket, were lucky to get to govern together. Jason Peery almost had enough votes to beat Jones for the position of president. If this would have happened, Peery would have served with Ward because he had the most votes for SGA vice president.

I think it goes without saying that things would be a little tense in the SGA office if two people from different tickets were thrown into the mix together.

The candidates are presently putting out all their energy so that they can get elected on the same ticket. O'Keefe/Peery and Titlow/Zweifel have put a lot of time in working with their partners on this project. Let's not allow an old rule throw a wrench into the whole process.

The constitutional bylaws could also create problems for Tonya Hutchinson. I am sure Hutchinson would be upset if she was matched with someone from another ticket as a vice president or comptroller, which is a situation that is bound to happen unless Tonya declares running mates. Maybe there should be some kind

of secondary bylaw which lets a person who is running alone appoint their vice president and comptroller. Either way, I think the possibility of mixing and matching has to go. The campus deserves an SGA that can stand together and take on all kinds of student issues.



There should be something written into the SGA constitution which prevents these possible mishaps. It wouldn't have to involve a lot of change. It would only involve a very small amendment.

Or, perhaps, there is another way to solve the problem without getting a lot of red tape involved.

Since the chances of getting an amendment to the SGA constitution before the election are nil maybe the people who are printing out the ballots should just print one space to mark for each ticket instead of each individual.

The problem with the constitution is the way we are interpreting it,

I think it goes without saying that things would be a little tense in the SGA office if two people from different tickets were thrown into the mix together.

not the way it is written. Just because these positions are listed separately and must be elected "at large" does not mean that there shouldn't be tickets.

Just because the elections were one way last year does not mean that we have to make the same mistakes this year.

So, as a student body, we need to change the motto of the bylaws of the elections to, "We saw there were some mistakes and we amended them."



Summer is not the seventh inning stretch

by Jeremy Rutherford
managing editor



Summer, for some people, is the best time of the year. School is out, the convertible top comes down and playing frisbee in the park becomes the most stressful part of the day.

Summer is also the time when many companies offer internships to college students. This type of work is usually related to the field students are planning to enter and helps them get their foot in the door.

Most importantly, internships do not involve textbooks. It's "hands-on training" at its best. Sometimes, it feels like you are given too much responsibility, but how else are you going to learn?

Kim Hibbs is the vice president of One on One Productions, which produces many sporting events both nationwide and locally.

He and Art Holliday, KSDK Channel 5 news anchor and president of One on One, will hold their third annual Midwest Sportscasters School the week of July 16 at the UM-St. Louis campus. Hibbs said that broadcasting "is like being a good basketball player. If you don't practice over the summer, you're wasting three months of golden opportunity." "You've got to be reading your sportscast in front of a mirror, recording your play-by-play; the only way that you will get better is if you practice all year." I attended the school last year.

Although I wish to pursue a career in sports writing, I wanted to try my hand in the field of broadcasting.

"The school tells you if you have the skills to continue on, or if you've already had some experience and are good at it, the school enhances your ability."

I found out that broadcasting is harder than I thought, and that I should stick with my original plan of writing. Hibbs reminded me.

"You were the worst student we've ever had," he said, jokingly.

Hibbs and Holliday have gathered some of the premiere names in broadcasting to speak at the school this summer, including: Bob Costas (NBC); Joe Buck (St. Louis Cardinals, FOX Network); Kevin Harlan (FOX Network); Ron Barr (Nationally Syndicated Radio) and Mike Bush (KSDK Channel 5).

While this was not an internship,

per se, it was an excellent opportunity to pick up experience. But I don't want you to think that I worked just one week out of the entire summer.

For three hours a day, five days a week, I worked as an intern at KWMU 90.7 FM. The staff members were very supportive and made it part of their job to make sure I was learning something new everyday. If you get the chance to do an internship, give the staff members at KWMU a call.

When it came time to apply for an interview for a position at the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, it was recommendations from Hibbs and Mike Murray, chairman of the Communications department at UM-St. Louis that made the difference.

Internships and schools such as the Midwest Sportscasters School really help. In addition to the contacts, the friends you meet can make your work into summertime fun.

Letters to the editor . . .

Extension of election committee deadline done in 'hypocritical' manner says student

Dear Editor,

At the last Student Government meeting it was announced that the Election Committee application deadline had been extended. I was confused as to why until I was told that the comptroller, Beth Titlow (who is also running for SGA President), was upset because she did not have any of her friends apply for the committee. This seems like quite a turnaround

from the person who, just last semester, was complaining when Chris Jones and Kel Ward extended the deadline for Student Budget Committee applications. Last semester she complained about Chris and Kel's search for "diversity." This semester she is engaging in the same activities that she lambasted Chris and Kel for last semester. While I understand why she wants the deadline extended (we all would like the opportunity to fix

our mistakes), I question whether or not the manner in which she did was ethical or, at the very least, hypocritical. Beth Titlow missed a valuable opportunity, and now she has a chance to correct it. I just worry how many opportunities she might miss if she is elected president.

Signed,
Chris Alexander

Hutchinson's logic not fit for 20th Century

Dear Editor,

I am opposed to some of candidate Tonya Hutchinson's ideas expressed in the March 20 issue of *The Current*. She states that she desires people teaching classes about specific cultures or issues to be of that same background. She wrongly assumes that they automatically have superior intellect in aspects of that culture or background.

For example, Hutchinson says it

would "make more sense" to have an African teach African art. It wouldn't. Just as it wouldn't make sense replacing an African American teaching an art course on Impressionism with a French native for authenticity. Using her method of thought, Dubliners would lecture about James Joyce better than others, St. Louisans would be superior T.S. Eliot scholars, and depressed women would teach Sylvia Plath more thoroughly. Homosexuals couldn't teach "Romeo and Juliet"

as well as a heterosexual. A Chris couldn't teach about the Holocaust; effectively as a Jewish person. The list is endless...

Instructors should be hired according to their abilities, not their gene pool. If elected, Hutchinson's plans concerning hiring should be executed. Her divisive ideas unfit for the latter half of the 20th century.

Signed,
Steven Bugala

SGA candidates try to reason with Herm Smith

Dear Editor,

Herm Smith, presiding officer of the Faculty Council, seems to downplay the importance of students at the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

Mr. Smith writes in his Faculty Council Report to the Senate (Feb. 14) that "if a student-centered research university isn't an oxymoron, we don't know what is."

Well, that is a shame Mr. Smith. There are many research-oriented, and at the same time, student-responsive faculty members at this University.

Faculty members who do both understand that students are here to learn and not just watch their faculty gain tenure through research. These

students came here for an education and they need faculty that are willing to listen to their needs. They do not need elitist attitudes that forget the importance of students and the tuition they pay.

This University is a business and their "customers" (students) cannot be forgotten. With the many educational opportunities in the St. Louis area and rising tuition costs at UM-St. Louis, it would be too easy for dissatisfied students to leave the University. But, if their feelings are not considered, it will happen. Students can only be kicked around so much before they leave for better treatment.

Students deserve faculty members who are student-responsive and research-oriented. That is what edu-

cation is all about. Being a student centered research university is possible. Focusing on research and pleasing students are not mutually exclusive characteristics. Both are necessary.

If this University was composed of more attitudes like that of Smith, this University would be unusable. Please, Mr. Smith, do not forget the reason why the University Missouri-St. Louis exists.

Sincerely,
Beth Titlow
(SGA president candidate)
Clint Zweifel
(SGA vice pres. candidate)

Corrections

In issue 820 of *The Current* Student Government Association (SGA) Presidential candidate Tom O'Keefe was reported as being the president of Sigma Pi Fraternity, the speaker for the Student Assembly, and a member of the University Program Board. In addition his vice presidential running mate, Jason Peery, was reported as being a parliamentarian of the Student Assembly and President of the Residence Hall Council. All of these positions are part of the candidates' past records. They do not presently have these titles. In addition *The Current* reported that the SGA elections would be held April 17 and 18. The dates for the election are April 18 and 19.

The CURRENT

The student voice
of UM-St. Louis

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Staff members also include all reporters and correspondents.

Debate from page 1

Titlow is more optimistic than pessimistic. "I think it could be perceived as being biased, but I think it's wonderful that they're having the debate," she said.

Kennedy said the debate will be unbiased. "I feel it will be fair," Kennedy said. "We've tried to get one panelist from each of the three major publica-

tions that represent the students on campus, and also, by giving the audience the chance to participate by asking questions. "I think it's going to be very fair," he said.

Extend from page 1

ould get a group of impartial students to volunteer."

O'Keefe said he just wanted to sure representation on the committee was balanced.

"The reason I did it was because what happened last year," O'Keefe said. "I wanted to make sure that I as represented because I assumed the other candidates] would do the me."

Bartok refused to comment when asked if the date was pushed back because of complaints from other candidates.

"I had heard there was a possibil-

ity that [some candidates were concerned], but at this time, I'm not going to comment," Bartok said.

Bartok said the date was changed because there wasn't a sufficient amount of applicants by the first deadline. With the addition of voting polls at the Kingshighway campus, for students attending the Barnes College of Nursing at UM-St. Louis, more people will be needed than in past elections.

At the time the deadline was pushed back, Bartok said that only 13 students had applied. With the reopening of the sign-up date, Bartok said he is hoping to see a least 20

more students apply.

O'Keefe feels he did the right thing, and his fraternity members shouldn't be looked upon as being corrupt.

"They filled out the applications to be on the committee, and they figured they would go through the selection process like anyone else," O'Keefe said. "It's an application, it's not a guarantee that you'll be on the committee. I assumed there would be a selection process. If the [Student Court] doesn't want to use them, it's their prerogative, but they filled out applications like everybody else."

Current newswire Current newswire

Tang-Martinez Named Award Recipient

The St. Louis Area Educational Equity Coalition has selected Zuleyma Tang-Martinez, professor of biology, as the recipient of the 1995 Educational Equity Award in the higher education category. The award, which will be presented at a reception at the Chancellor's Residence March 30, recognizes her work in promoting educational equity for women and girls.

completed forms are to be sent to Norman Flax, sociology department, 589 Lucas Hall.

Rushing to Sign Book

W. Jackson Rushing, associate professor of art and art history, will sign copies of his new monograph "Native American Art and New York Avant-Garde" at Left Bank Books from 6 to 8 p.m. March 31.

Staff Association to Hold Health Care Seminar

The campus community is invited to a free health care update sponsored by the Staff Association and the Midwest Breast Care Center at noon March 28 in Room 75 of the J.C. Penney Building. Participants can sign up for mammograms which will be offered at a campus health fair April 10. For information, call Brenda Jaeger at 516-5542.

Applications For Basketball Camps

Applications and brochures are available through the Athletic Department for Coach Rich Meckfessel's UM-St. Louis Basketball Camps.

Camp weeks are June 19-24 (boys 12-17); June 26-30 (boys 7-12); July 5-7 (girls 7-12); and July 10-14 (girls 12-17). Tuition is \$115 for the five-day weeks and \$75 for the three-day week. A \$10 discount is available for faculty and staff members' children.

More Updates

The University Relations Friday's Updates can be found on the University's gopher by typing "gopher," then hit "enter." Then, take the following path: The Campus/ University Relations/ University Communications/ Friday's Updates.

Faculty Council Extends Survey Due Date

The deadline for full-time faculty to return administrator evaluations and salary-policy questionnaires has been extended to March 31. Individuals who feel that they have enough knowledge of an administrator's performance are asked to indicate that on the form. All

Campus Crime Campus Crime

The following criminal incidents were reported to campus police during the period March 16-23, 1995. If readers have information that could assist the police investigation, they are urged to call 516-5155.

from parking lot "F" (MetroLink-North) between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

5:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.

March 20

A student reported that between March 13 and 18 unknown persons tried to gain entry into the trunk of her vehicle by prying on the trunk lock. Entry was not gained. The vehicle was parked on the first floor of parking garage "N" on each day between

March 21

A person with active warrants for his arrest was arrested at 8:15 p.m. as a fugitive.

March 22

An antique desk chair was stolen from 507 Clark Hall by an unknown persons.

March 16
A person reported that his vehicle was stolen by unknown person(s)

Senate from page 1

an end to speculation that the students' representation in the Senate would be reduced.

"I would hope so," he said. "[This matter] can now be rested."

Lehmkuhle also said that of the 39 students who applied for the position, only 37 will be considered because two students were academi-

cally ineligible.

Since the Senate accepts only 25 student senators, O'Keefe said he and Peery stopped recruiting at that number.

"We are going to do what we can to advertise these 25 individuals and work to get them elected," O'Keefe said.

O'Keefe said that it was also important to recruit students from different organizations.

"We didn't want to concentrate on one group," O'Keefe said.

"We think it's good that people want to get involved. The more people involved, the better student government will be."

ATTENTION

Herm Smith,
Faculty Council Chairperson
and other elitist faculty

Students pay your salary and if that doesn't make us customers, than what are we?

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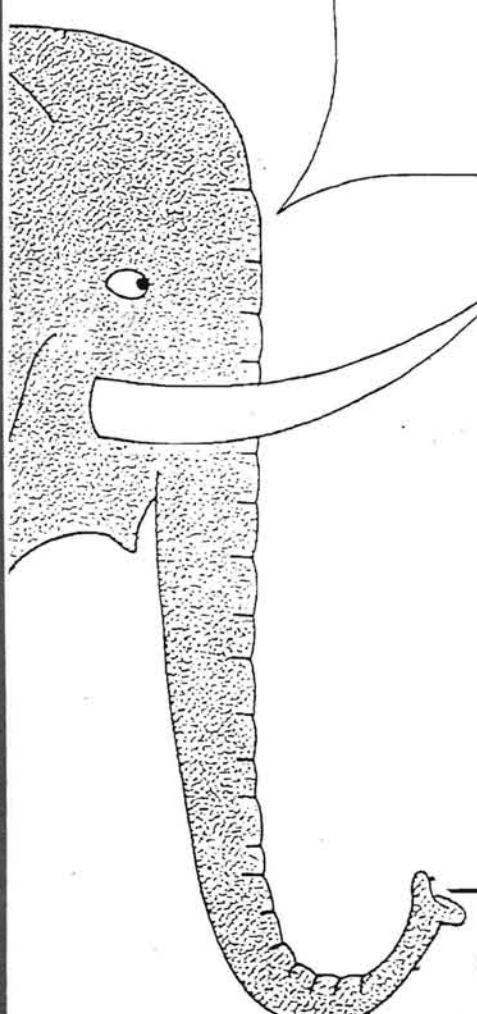
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Just a Thought

by Don Barnes
columnist

Was Mark Twain A Viking?



Well, hello again. How have you been? Good. For a change, I actually thought about what I was going to write this week before I sat down and turned on the computer. Unfortunately, I didn't make any notes, so fasten your passenger restraint system because this baby doesn't have any air bags.

There are a couple of things on my mind this week. The first of which is the Maya Angelou performance which culminated the end of Black History Month. As I said last time, I loved the entire event for the most part, but that evening made me think about something I had never realized before: UM-St. Louis doesn't have a performance area large enough to host large-scale events such as the Angelou gig in style. We have the Mark Twain building. (By the way, was Mark Twain a big basketball fan? Then why is the sports building named after him? Who's idea was this? Get 'em in here, we wanna talk to 'em!) But, no matter how nice you try to make one look, a gym is a gym—not a theatre or a symphony hall.

Now, for all I know UM-St. Louis has it in the works to build something for these types of events in the Master Plan. Until it is erected though, we should look for some other venue to present these special events.

As you know, I have lived in this area on and off for some time; I went to junior high next door and I also went to Normandy Senior

High. That campus is one of the oldest in the area and not far behind Soldan and Vashon—the two oldest. It was erected in the 1920s, I believe, and over the years, has grown to seven or eight buildings total.

One of these is Viking Hall, the newest hall, which is named after the symbol for the now defunct sports program at that school. Viking Hall was not designed for sporting events though. It was designed for performances, especially of the musical persuasion. (Normandy has had one of the finest music programs in the nation for some time, though it may have faded in stature since its height in the late 70's and early 80's.)

So I'm wondering if an effort has ever been made by the University to use that space for some of the more gala events. It would have been the perfect spot for the Angelou performance. Comfortable seating, good lighting, good sound and sound effects, and plenty of space. You could have fit the choir, the band, the stage, the sisterhood society, and the guests in Viking Hall.

One problem may have been parking, though I think the parking is adequate for large draws. There is also a MetroLink stop, the Rock Road station, just four blocks west of the high school, and beside that, there is a huge parking lot. Arrangements could be

see Column, page 6



Mother Earth: REUSE HER OR LOSE HER



Deana Autry
of The Current Staff

Save the earth.

This is a slogan that has become very fashionable in the '90s. In one television ad, the earth is crumpled into a wad of discarded paper. Public service announcements like this one must be having an effect because people are starting to take action.

Recycling is, of course, one of the things that people are trying to do. On any given morning, one can drive through a residential area and see blue BFI containers scattered at the end of driveways.

These recycling containers house used two-liter bottles, milk jugs and maybe the occasional brown paper bag. And, perhaps, the home at the other end of the driveway houses satisfied residents who feel good about their contribution no matter how large or small.

UM-St. Louis has a visible recycling effort. The blue trash cans for paper are very hard to miss. They can be found in the computer labs and some classrooms. On south campus, the Access to Success program collects aluminum cans, and the proceeds are combined with other funds to help pay for their elementary and middle school tutoring program.

These two things are not all of the recycling that goes on at UM-St. Louis. A report written by Jim Hickerson, director of Environmental Health and Safety at UM-St. Louis, said that, in addition to 60 percent of

paper being recycled, 90 percent of corrugated cardboard is also recycled.

The report also boasted that 100 percent of the yard waste is recycled, and 80 percent of telephone directories are recycled. In addition, campus correspondence and printed material is printed on 50 percent recycled paper. Also, plastic and glass containers are reclaimed from Residential Hall trash. All parts from campus vehicles that can be recycled—tires,

ber is delivered to the campus.

Paper, however, is a different story. It is very difficult to count because of the bulk. The only evidence the university has to show for the success of the program is the amount that is sent for recycling minus the paper that doesn't make it to a recycle bin.

Hickerson said that, in terms of money, "you can't get back what you put into recycling. You have to look

'...you can't get back what you put into recycling. You have to look beyond the dollars.'

-Jim Hickerson, director of Environmental Health and Safety at UM-St. Louis

lead-acid batteries and motor oil—are picked up by the appropriate companies.

Hickerson said that, ideally, the blue trash cans should have a list posted on the side that identifies the things that students can and cannot place in them. Hickerson also suggested that a garbage can should be next to the recycling can.

Hickerson explained how he arrived at the numbers that are found in his report. The university can estimate 100 percent of the yard waste is being recycled because they generate all of it. Telephone directories are easily counted because a finite num-

beyond the dollars."

UM-St. Louis has obviously put forth some effort. Hickerson said that universities are really only responsible for the proper disposal of hazardous waste. "Recycling is strictly voluntary," Hickerson said. So, all recycling on campus is an extra effort to be environmentally conscious.

The findings in the report are impressive, but more can be done. The system that UM-St. Louis operates on at the present for aluminum can recycling was called "free enterprise." This means that cans can be recycled by any organization that wants to supplement funding.

Only one student campus organization, of 89, takes advantage of this arrangement: Delta Sigma Pi. Access to Success, a program set up by UM-St. Louis, also collects cans to supplement their income.

One question comes to mind: why are there no recycling facilities near the Underground? Cans, paper, glass and plastic that are generated when a person eats in the campus lunch room must be thrown away in a general trash can unless the consumer in question wishes to carry these items home to add to their own recycling piles.

Of course, we must commend the efforts of the custodial staff. They collect the paper from the blue containers and sort the trash in the dormitories. The paper collection seems easy, but students should be made aware that there are some problems. Any trash put in those blue containers that are meant for paper contaminates the recyclable paper. Placing your banana peel or half-full soda can on top of that paper makes it nonrecyclable.

And, why are custodians forced to sort trash? Isn't it more feasible to have different bins set up for residence hall students? This is not a novel idea and, arguably, custodial services would probably appreciate the arrangement.

With the upcoming elections, students should be asking themselves if UM-St. Louis is doing enough recycling? If students think this is not

see Recycle, page 6

Money for nothing and laughs for free

Students face a comedic barrage in Summit Lounge

by Dan Holtzer
of The Current staff

The University Program Board (UPB) put on a show called "Crack Me Up" in the Summit, Wednesday, at noon. I arrived early. On stage was a signboard with a drawing of an oddly-mustached man with glooped-on hair. The declarations "HA! HA! HA!" surrounded the man.

He looked like Hitler with nose hair.

The host of the show was Kevin McPeck. McPeck wore a cowboy hat, glasses (I suppose cowboys can be nearsighted) and sweatpants. His salesmanship was as casual as his outfit. "You can win money," he whined. "Please."

He did have one good line about the small crowd: "I've had more people than this in my shower."

"Crack Me Up" is the same format as the old TV show "Make Me Laugh." The Comics try to make contestants laugh.

McPeck explained that the "Crack Me Up" part of the show would begin

after the comedians performed. The first comedian was Joel Zimmer, who has opened for Adam Sandler. Zimmer was cherubic, and said that

However, he had some decent jokes. He said that Casey Kasem seems so happy that he could have his foot caught in a compactor and say,



photo: Monica Senecal

UM-St. Louis student Harold Holliday is entertained by "Flabblo."

he looks like the Encyclopedia Britannica kid.

He had a grating habit of acting as if bad material could be excused by indicating that he knew it was bad.

"One foot's on the ground and one's going for the stars."

Much of his material seemed overly-tailored for a college crowd. He did a long joke about being in a

haunted house and hearing a "ghost" keep saying "Who is it?" I'm not up on my Brady Bunch trivia, but he made Brady Bunch and Scooby Doo references, and I think the end (and only real) joke was based on a Brady Bunch episode.

All in all, it was too much trivia for too little a joke that took too much time to present.

In what seemed like an attempt to be comedy's Billy Ray Cyrus, he created dances such as the "Sprinkler Dance" (he tapped his elbow and shook it for a sprinkler effect), and the "Lawnmower Dance" (even kicking the mower to get it to work). He took the bit into the mildly absurd with the "School Bus Wipers" dance.

This did become amusing, but was, at the same time, strained and artificial material. The comedian never spoke about any subjects that seemed to matter to him.

The next and last comedian that performed was Brian Green, who has opened for Seinfeld and Tim Allen,

see Comics page 6

Pushcart winner performs poetry for student audience

Deana Autry
of The Current Staff

Jennifer Atkinson visited UM-St. Louis on Monday, March 20. She was the featured poet for a reading sponsored by the Center for the Humanities Spring Reading Series. Her book of poetry, "The Dogwood Tree", won the Alabama Poetry Prize for Best First Book of poetry.

Atkinson's poetry can be found in many regional literary magazines such as Delmar and The River Styx. Her poem "The Miraculous" was featured in this month's issue of Poetry Magazine. Her poetry has also received several awards including two Pushcart Prizes.

Atkinson read her poetry to an audience of 40-50 people in the J.C. Penney building. Her opening poem, "Philosophy Class," demanded the attention of the audience of students and teachers of UM-St. Louis.

Despite her soft, even voice, the powerful words and images from her first selection painted a scene that could take place in any city in any community: "To reach the night/classroom I had to cross an unlit, unused/'A' parking lot where just a month before a woman had been stabbed, they say, first then raped and left dead in the bushes."

From the beginning of the first poem, the audience was riveted. Atkinson's themes did not wholly center on rape; however, it was one of the common threads that ran throughout the reading.

Atkinson started the audience out in a cold, lonely parking lot that she took to her philosophy class, but through her poetry she also led us to river banks and meadows. "October Rose" described a woman vacation-

see Atkinson, page 6

'Clerks' gives moviegoers a convenient treat

by Scott Lamar
features editor

"Clerks" is a mindless, yet comical story about two convenient store employees, one of whom works at Quick Stop and the other at the video store next door. Neither have any apparent goals or aspirations. The strength of the movie lies in the blunt, no holds barred conversation carried on between the two.

The main character is Dante Hicks (Brian O' Halloran) a 22-year-old whose day goes from really bad to atrocious. His not-so-faithful companion is Randal (Jeff Anderson), a guy with little or no morals. This slacker's blasé approach to the world and off-handed comments kept me laughing throughout the movie. Randal's firm belief that his position should not dictate his behavior is evident in his every move. For instance, Randal reels off about 20 titles for X-rated movies in front of a mother



Jeff Anderson (left) and Brian O'Halloran (right) star in "Clerks" and her young daughter.

Randal's attitude that the customer is always wrong proposes some problems for Dante, who has a little more couth when it comes to dealing with the public. However, attending to the cash register isn't

one of his top priorities. Among the most weighty things on his mind is the unnerving sexual confessions from his loving girlfriend. He also wallows in misery when he learns that his ex-girlfriend, whom he is still carrying a torch for, is getting married.

Only a little nudging by Randal is required for Dante to close the store to go off on an adventure. After all, he was supposed to have the day off and play hockey.

Outside the stores, their friends, Jay and Silent Bob, sell drugs, harass passers-by, dance and listen to music. These two no-goods have lines packed with four letter words that deal solely with "getting high, getting drunk and getting some [women]." These characters act to divert some of the attention away from the stores, which was desperately needed as some of the dialogue grew tiresome.

"Clerks" also possesses a cool soundtrack which includes: Alice in Chains, Bad Religion and Corrosion of Conformity.

First time director Kevin Smith's aim was to show how a convenience store can be more than just an ordi-

see Clerks, page 6

Rat's Reviews

Pop/Rock
Matthew Sweet
100% Fun

Matthew Sweet has released a well rounded and good sounding disc in 100% Fun. Sweet, a veteran of the alternative scene, knows what it takes to hit the charts and this disc leaves no doubt.

The disc starts with "Sick of Myself" a good sounding, light hearted song that is appealing to the ear. The wailing guitars and hard-beating drums have caused this song to get a lot of radio play. There is no doubt this will also make it a favorite of MTV's Alternative Nation show, which has had a tendency to overplay Sweet's earlier works.

Sweet's music is on the border line of soft rock. This is not to say he is soft rock but he doesn't have the kick ass style of Pearl Jam or

even the Flaming Lips. Sweet has a mellow style that makes you want to listen more and more to his music. He just sings. There is nothing flashy or different about him. He just plays his style and does it quite well.

The disc has several good sounding tunes in addition to "Sick of Myself". One of the best songs, "Not When I Need It" is very slow and for the most part is spoken. Sweet discusses a troubled relationship and writes the feeling that he has for the woman. Sweet comes up with some things to think about in the song: "I can hang onto a dream, but I can't hold it."

"Get Older" is a song that seems dedicated to Generation X. It is about the fear of growing older and not knowing what you want. He sings of fear and worry he feels

see Sweet, page 6

Sweet from page 5

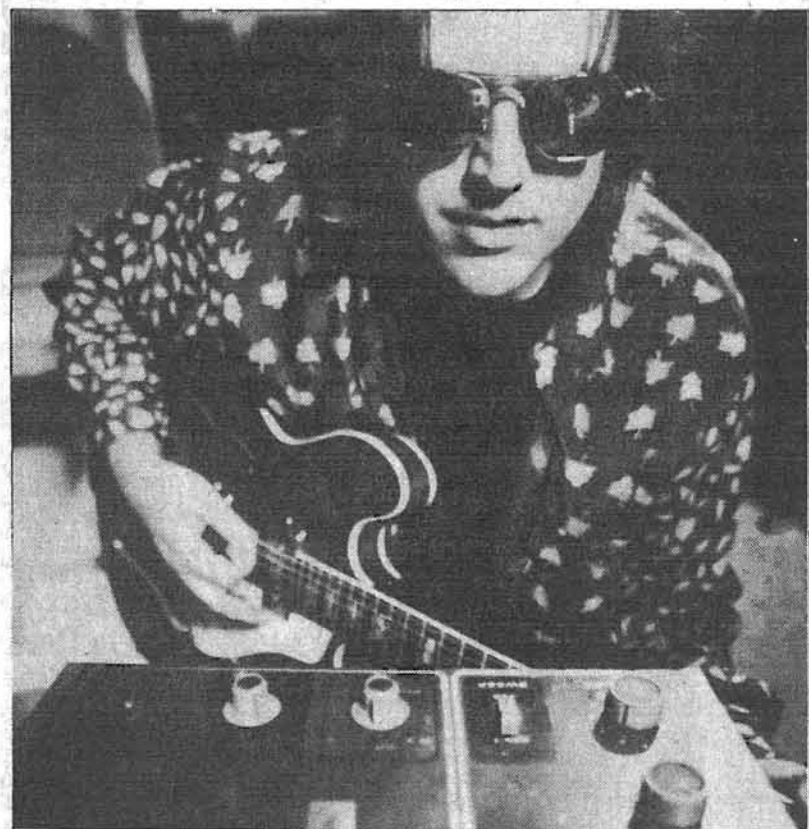
about the future and says he never thinks about the present.

"Who cares if you don't know what you want?"

Your memories won't slip away and you'll be glad when you get older, that you were happy for today. Who Cares?"

This disc is the best one I have reviewed for *The Current*, it has ev-

erything a music listener could want of a recording; good writing, good singing and a great final product that just plain sounds good. Great news for those of you who missed Sweet when he played for KPNT "The Point's" birthday bash; he will be coming to play in concert late this spring or early summer. It should be a great show.



Matthew Sweet

Clerks from page 5

nary stop for chips and cigarettes. "Clerks" was filmed at Quick Stop Groceries in Leonardo, New Jersey where Smith still works from time to time. Smith, along with Scott Mosier, produced and edited the black and white film in only 21 days. Shooting took place after the store closed at 10:30 p.m. and Smith and Mosier edited in the video store in between helping customers as well as after closing.

The film cost only \$27,575 to make. Funding for the movie came from selling Smith's comic book collection and investing the remainder of his film school tuition. Smith didn't work too hard on casting. Anderson, a high school chum of Smith's, walked into the store one day and was offered the part. Smith played the role of Silent Bob.

If you're tickled by lude, crude, vulgar behavior as I am, I suggest you check out "Clerks."

Recycle from page 5

enough, suggestions and ideas could be communicated to the SGA candidates. Are you looking for something to do for your community? This might be the ticket!

Column from page 5

made for the University's shuttle service to transport attendants to and from the high school. With the short distance to travel, easy access to the rear entrance of Viking Hall and rapid service of the 'Link, parking problems would be minimal. (By the way, can anybody tell me why I got a 25-minute tour on the shuttle that took me to every branch of the UM-St. Louis campus the night of the Angelou performance. I got here at 7 o'clock, parked behind University Center to save myself some traffic hassles, got on the shuttle in the circle at 7:05, and landed at Mark Twain at 7:35. Why? Why?)

Safety could be another concern. Though that is a pretty high traffic

area during the day, the corner of Lucas and Hunt and St. Charles Rock Road isn't the friendliest place to be at night. But I think, with a little cooperation among attendants and preparation by law enforcement, safety would be of little concern. Hell, get the Cushman commandos out there patrolling and you won't see a lick of trouble! Besides, the high school campus is enclosed, and the idea of two or three thousand socially conscious people milling about makes me think that safety would be afforded by pure numbers.

Anyway, it's just a thought. Before I split, I want to reiterate something from last semester. As we are all too well aware, there is a lot of

construction going on at UM-St. Louis right now. I haven't heard much complaining about it lately, and that's good. (Then again I don't hang out with a bunch of whiners either.) The point is that, even though we have to deal with a little inconvenience sometimes, I think it's great that the University is striving to make UM-St. Louis the best university it can be for its students. We may not be around to enjoy the final product (though they'll probably have to drag me kicking and screaming from this place in about 25 years), but we should be able to relish the knowledge that we are able to witness the transition.

Have a good couple of weeks folks. I'll be talking to you again.

Atkinson from page 5

ing in the Sargasso Sea. Atkinson described the woman's thoughts completely. She lulled the audience by the waves on which she floated on until she was abruptly interrupted by the Coast Guard helicopter that "rescued" her.

Besides focusing on women's issues such as rape, Atkinson also read poems derived from biblical stories. Her introductions to each poem offered the audience some insight into her life and the working mind of the poet.

Her poem titled "The Miraculous" recreates the biblical scene when

Joseph stands among a group of men who are asking for Mary's hand in marriage. The poem describes the prophecy that led to the marriage of Joseph and Mary: "...all those who would have her/ were to bear cut staves to the temple./ The one whose stick, held before him/ like a torch, leafed and flowered at once/ two seasons sung in one whole note/ would marry."

Her poetry told of fears that touch women. Many audience members quirmed in their seats listening to them. "The Disfigurement of Shame" described mental and physical pain,

and confusion that are the by-products of rape: "...Not fear so much of pain—/ after all she knows her body/ will accommodate, and then torn flesh/ heals: she has given birth. Not fear/ of—the word is disfigurement, although/ to be unfigured, unnumbered/ zeroed, is close."

Atkinson's reputation as a poet is matched only by her reputation as a teacher of poetry writing and creative writing. She currently teaches classes in these two subjects at Washington University.

Comic from page 5

as well as being on Showtime and HBO.

He is hard to describe, being a slightly built, short man who can come across as menacing. He was sort of like William Dafoe (if he was more of a character actor and had been on several benders through the South).

Green is good at making himself look stupid and smart at the same time. He told of how, when he was younger, he gave a man \$8 to buy him alcohol. The man came back with milk and said it would be healthier. So, Brian said, a la the milk ad, "You can screw me now, but I'm drinking milk."

It takes intelligence to have such

twisted logic.

Green was able to switch from the highly jaded. After one person clapped, he said, "Great. One person's clapping, that's what I'm shooting for," to the sweetly sentimental, telling of how his niece picked him as her best friend for a school party. Of course, this was used for a joke, but it wasn't a joke on his niece.

One of his most clever lines was when he said he had seen a sign for a Church that said, "The Lord has risen. Bingo at 6:30." Green then said, "If he's here, what's the chance of us winning?"

Green, at times, seemed capable of more than his act would imply.

His character is an odd and, in some ways, unique blend of vulnerability, perversion and innocence.

The show ended with the "Make Me Laugh" part. Of this, I will be charitable and say that it was fitfully amusing. The trouble with this type of contest is it makes for lowest common denominator humor such as host Kevin McPeck playing the parts of Flabbio and Marilyn Monroe (though not at the same time).

The sight of an overweight man with fake breasts might get a straight-faced person to laugh but it's not good comedy. After one contestant laughed and lost, he said, "I don't know why I laughed. That was stupid."

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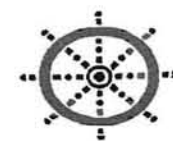
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Money talks

by Julie Pressman
of *The Current* staff

Let's face it, unless a college student has a few thousand dollars a year to blow they won't be visiting the Kiel Center or the new football stadium very often. As always, and even more so in recent years, prices for professional football and hockey have risen well beyond affordable.

If people visit either of these high priced venues, they will see a sea of wealthy middle-aged men and their significant others. College students are a rare sight unless they have a high paying job or parents with the "right connections."

Those not blessed with powerful parents or lots of extra cash end up watching the games in the cheapest seats of all: their living rooms.

Last year Blues tickets in the Arena Circle cost \$35. Now similar seats at the Kiel center cost upwards of \$50. Did the Blues really get \$15 a seat better in one season? As many recall the Blues had only a mediocre season last year.

St. Louis sure proved it was a football town. Approximately 72,000 people shelled out major cash to get a hold of a total of only 46,000 seats. Some paid as much as \$4,000 just to reserve the privilege to spend more money on season tickets that averaged another \$250. The system of Personal Seat Licences (PSLs) for football seemed to be designed fairly with the inclusion of somewhat affordable prices for the cheaper seats. However, when FANS inc. could not meet the demand for the higher priced seats, they gave those who were originally willing to pay more first dibs on the cheap seats. In the end, no one who listed the cheap seats as their first choice got them. Yeah, St. Louis is a football town, but only for those who can afford it.

These high ticket prices don't include parking and concessions. If you want to park anywhere near the Kiel Center you better expect to pay at least five dollars. If you're on a budget, forget about hotdogs, soda and beer. For the price of one hotdog at the Kiel Center you could buy an entire package of hotdogs at a supermarket. For the price of one beer at the Center you could buy a six pack at Schnucks.

Unfortunately, all that entrepreneurs see dollar signs. They are not interested in providing fair treatment, and the American system of government gives them no reason to be concerned about those who cannot afford their tickets. We learn about it everyday in American Politics and Government class; people will try to make as much money as they can off a product people want. To paraphrase the words of philosopher John Locke; people only need three things: life liberty and property.

Of course, people will buy the tickets. There will always be enough people older-richer-people, with enough cash to spare. Since the ticket prices and concession prices won't change as long as people are willing to buy them, UM-St. Louis students should look for other sports outlets.

Why not check out the major league flunkies at Busch Stadium this baseball season? Although baseball tickets aren't exactly cheap, they will be discounted because of the strike.

What about the UM-St. Louis sports circuit? They have it all: volleyball, soccer, baseball and basketball to name a few. You don't have to pay to park, and you don't need a ticket. Their concessions are also reasonably priced.

For those poor souls who still pine away for live pro football and hockey action, marry a millionaire or listen to these two words: "TOUGH LUCK."

Riverwomen go for split in double-header

Offense disappears in second game

by Ken Dunkin
sports editor

The UM-St. Louis Riverwomen softball team split a double header against Lindenwood College despite the cold and windy weather.

The Riverwomen came out ready to play as they defeated Lindenwood in the first game 6-3.

Jill Stockdale pitched a quality game by going seven innings and allowing only two earned runs on seven hits.

"Jill is the bright spot," said head coach Kristi Toppins. "When she is on the mound the defense is incredible. Some of the plays the team makes when Jill is on the mound are surprising."

"They see she wants to win and the team goes after it for her. Her work ethic is contagious."

The Riverwomen jumped out to a 3-0 lead in the first inning. Lindenwood wouldn't recover as Stockdale shut down any thought of getting into the game. She only gave up one hit in the first three innings.

The second game saw the Riverwomen offense disappear. They only managed to get three hits in the 5-0 loss. The team did manage to walk five times although once they got on base they were stranded.

"After the first game we came out really pushing," said Toppins. "The second game it seems like we let down our guard. Errors happened at the wrong time. If we played just like we played the first game we would be fine. We have a tendency to let up a bit."

"In Florida (over spring break) we beat up on some teams pretty bad. I think they

started to get a little bit of a big head," Toppins said.

The pitching did well in the second game. Vicki Tepen went seven innings while allowing only two earned runs.

The defense made seven errors which amounted to three unearned runs. It seemed as though the Riverwomen stopped going all out in the second game.

"What is bad is that we had so many games so early," said Toppins. "We need to keep intensity throughout the whole game. I feel like we're in danger of going through the motions. We've already played 30 games that is a lot to play this early. They're almost on the point of burnout."

"We need to stay focused," she said. "We have our conference games at the end of the season and if we lose our intensity this early we will be in trouble."

Hitting intensity has not been a problem this season as five batters are hitting over .280. The team is led in hitting by Nichole Christ with a .379 average.

"I've never seen a group of girls hit the ball so hard," said Toppins. "They have some unorthodox ways of hitting the ball; but they hit the ball hard."

The Riverwomen hold a 19-11 overall record and a 1-1 Mid-America Athletic Association (MIAA) record. The conference season will get into full swing in the coming weeks and the Riverwomen will hopefully be prepared.

"I think we're doing well," said Toppins. "The real test will be our conference games. Yeah, the Lindenwoods are good teams, but they don't mean anything. It is hard to keep the team going both games when they don't mean anything."



photo: Ken Dunkin
UM-St. Louis pitcher Jill Stockdale covers third base in a game March 22 against Lindenwood. The Riverwomen won the first game 6-3; they lost the second 5-0.

Rivermen win 5-2, Schroll's eight K's in six innings propel team to victory

by Ken Dunkin
sports editor

Pitching has been a strong point for the UM-St. Louis Rivermen baseball team. Tuesday, it was the difference in a 5-2 win over McKendree.

The bats were cold early on, but in the fourth inning the Rivermen rocked McKendree for two runs on three hits.

"The first few innings we hit the ball right at guys," said Rivermen first basemen Kelly Thornton. "That is what kept them in the game. We were hitting the ball hard but they weren't falling."

Rivermen starting pitcher Dave Schroll had no problem disposing the McKendree batters he faced. Schroll pitched six and a third innings, allowing one earned run and four hits. He froze eight McKendree batters in their tracks for strikeouts and he walked just two.

"The pitching really dominated and came through for us," said

Rivermen head coach Jim Brady. "Dave gave a stellar performance today. He really has put himself in a good position."

"If he does this game in and game out he will definitely be right among the top of the mix among the pitchers. He has been with the program for four years; and it's nice to see him give us a quality effort."

The bullpen came in and shut McKendree down after Schroll reached his set pitch count. Darren Scott threw one and a third scoreless innings. He has not allowed an earned run all season, and he gave up his first base hit of the season to McKendree.

When Mark Spears came in and struggled in the ninth, Brady again went to the bullpen. Steve Ekhoft promptly shut down McKendree, striking out the game's last batter.

"The pitching has kept us in games," said Thornton. "They aren't doing it all though; the hitting and fielding are doing their part too."

The Rivermen had seven hits;

most of which came in the third inning.

"We did what we had to do to win," Brady said. "We had some timely hits and put together a couple of strong innings offensively."

The Rivermen have been bitten by the injury bug as three top players have gone down because of injuries.

Kenny Howes returned Wednesday and hit a home run in his first game back; Mark Peterson and Shawn Moser are both questionable.

"Hopefully we will get Kenny, Mark, and Shawn back in the lineup," said Thornton. "All those guys will be a big help when they come back. The fill in players have done a great job, Dave Shanahan has played great at shortstop the last five or six games."

The Rivermen play their next home game Tuesday, March 28, against Westminster. The game starts at 3 p.m.

The Rivermen will play
see Win, page 9

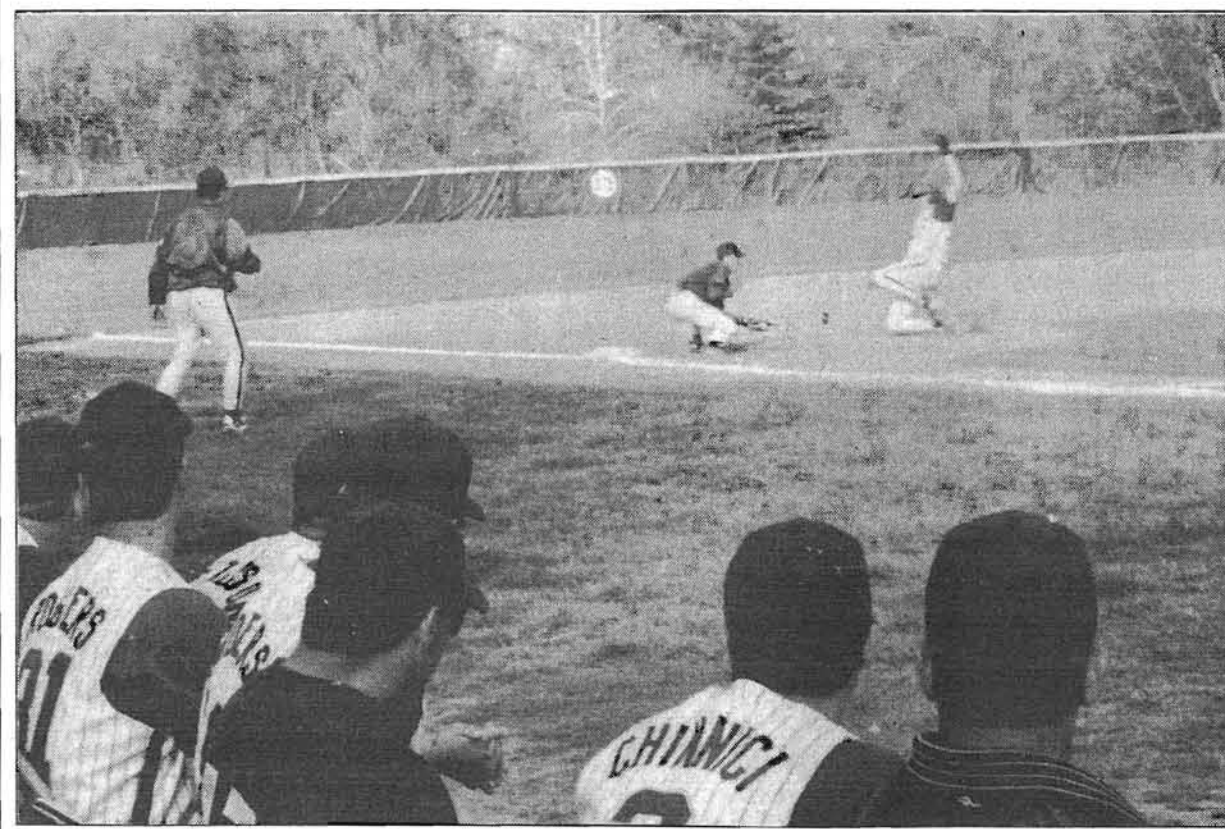


photo: Fernanda Lima
The UM-St. Louis bench looks on as a fellow Riverman slides into third base. The Rivermen won the game 5-2, and now they are 14-6 on the season.

Soccer inks four players

by Ken Dunkin
sports editor

The UM-St. Louis Riverwomen soccer team signed four key recruits in the past month.

The team was in need of signing a forward to play with scoring sensation Jenni Burton.

They have found this in Angie Bonagurio, a forward transfer from Meramec Community College. She has three years of eligibility left so she could be a factor with the program for years to come.

"She is a good offensive player with a strong shot," said Riverwomen head coach Ken Hudson. "She is a hard worker who should fit in well with us offensively."

Hudson also addressed the defensive aspect of the game when he signed two other quality players.

Shannon Humphrey, a back out of St. Charles West, could become one of the top Riverwomen defensive players.

Tricia Niederer, a back from St. Dominic, also could see a good

amount of time for the Riverwomen. She has the quickness that many players only dream about having.

"Shannon is a strong defender and marking back" said Hudson. "She regularly marks the opposition's top offensive player. She is a strong player who will contend for a starting position back."

"Tricia is a very quick player who will be a strong-marking back," he said. "She probably will be the quickest player on the team. She has the ability to play almost anywhere on the field. She has a strong shot with a quick release."

The Riverwomen also signed midfielder in Ann Logan. She played at Florissant Valley Community College, and she attended high school at Granite City.

"Ann is a good attacking midfielder," said Hudson.

"She is strong with the ball and is capable at marking. She has a good shot and distributes the ball well."

Basketball Rivermen tailspin to 14-13 finish

by Chris Cox
of *The Current* staff

The UM-St. Louis Rivermen basketball team ended its season with an 81-74 loss to Northeast University in the first round of the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA) conference tournament.

It wasn't the loss to Northeast that surprised the Rivermen nor was it the margin of defeat. It was the fact that they had blown a double figure lead for the fourth time this season en route to an 8-8 record in the MIAA and 14-13 overall.

"We lost three games where we had a 17-point lead and lost another game where we had a 12-point lead," Rivermen coach Rich Meckfessel said. "We should have won every one of those games."

History told Meckfessel that would be a successful season, and appeared that it would be. Rivermen posted the best record in school history (22-9) in 87-88, losing 12-15 the year before.

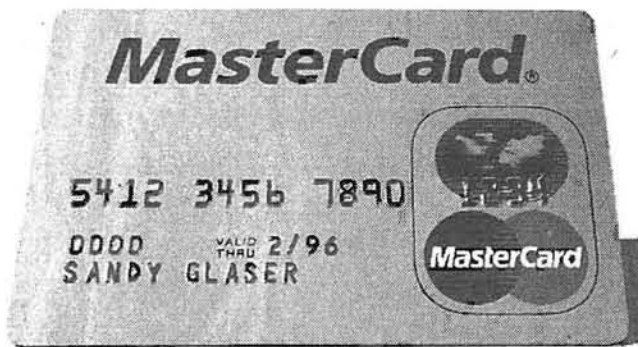
The Rivermen were returning senior Jim Robinson, who redshirted last season, and newcomers Bickel and Eric Lytle. Also, were coming off an 8-18 season.

With momentum moving in the right direction, the Rivermen jumped to a 12-5 record with an 85-75 over Lincoln. Bickel had a team-high 20 points in that game, and was one of five Rivermen averaging double figures in points per game.

The win over Lincoln was Rivermen's fifth in a row and
see Basketball, page 9

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Basketball from page 7

eight in nine games. The streak ended with an 89-61 loss to Missouri Western, which connected on 11 of 22 3-point attempts.

That was just the start as the Rivermen lost six of their next seven

games and finished the season losing seven of their last nine games.

"We messed up what could have been one of the best seasons we've ever had," Meckfessel said. "This team should have won 18, 19, 20 games

and [gone farther in the tournament].

The Rivermen lost three consecutive games by two points or less beginning with a 72-70 loss to Missouri Central, in which the Rivermen led by 17 points.

"We will watch the film of the Central game several times to show next year's team how a big lead can be tossed away," Meckfessel said. "It was tossed away because of carelessness and laziness.

"After that game, we didn't do anything mechanically wrong, we just started looking over our shoulders," Meckfessel said. "Two of those games, the other team (Washburn and Southwest Baptist) hit some tough shots, and you have to give the team a little credit. But had the first one not happen, I don't think the other two would have."

The Rivermen will lose seniors Lytle, Robinson, Albert, and Michael Graves. The big names returning will be Bickel, Lawndale Thomas, and juniors Kevin Tuckson and Rodney Hawthorne.

"I'm very optimistic about next year," Meckfessel said. "From this year's team, we'll have three starters back. With Tuckson and Mark Lash, who have both started some games for us, we've got five solid players coming back."

Meckfessel said that he hopes to recruit two freshmen and two junior college players or four-year transfers who can come in and play next year.

"We're in a lot better shape than we were this time last year," Meckfessel said. "And as close as we came this year, to having a real good season, I think that we can do it."

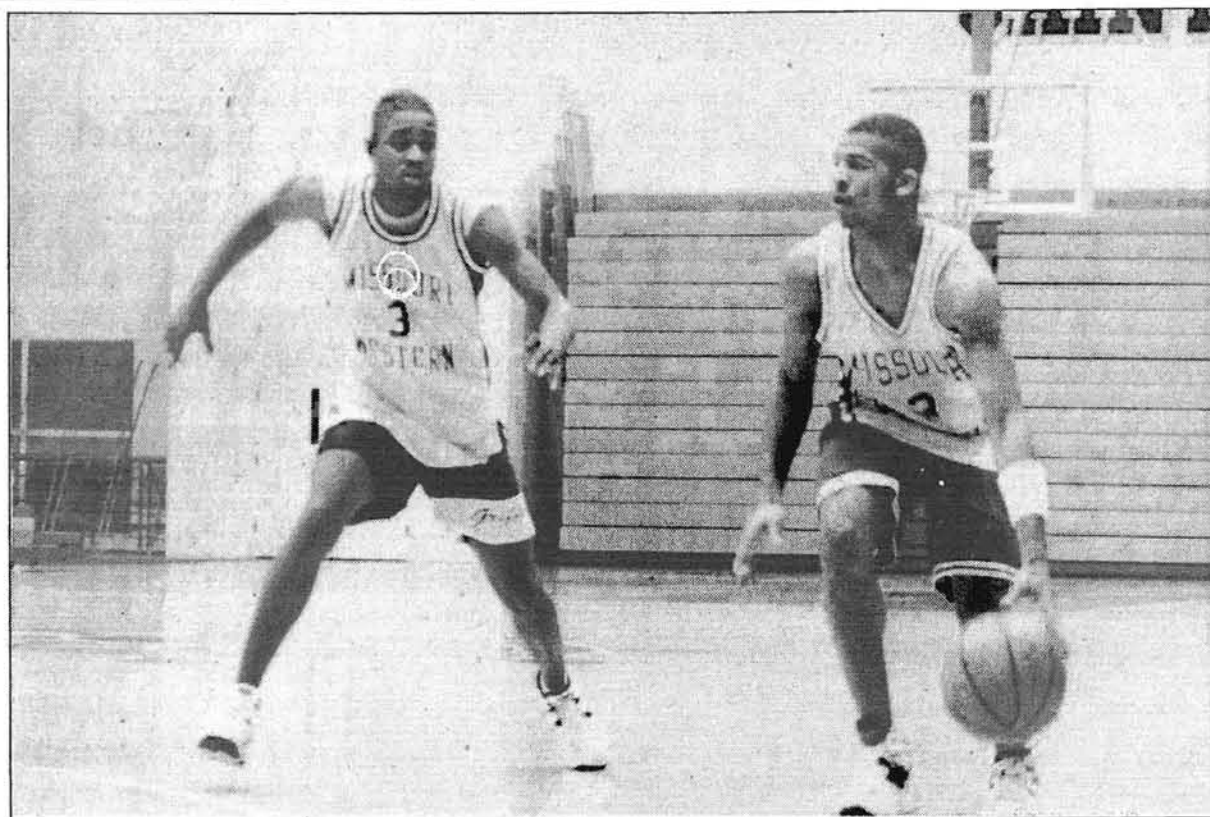


photo: Ken Dunkir

Lawndale Thomas, a MIAA honorable mention, drives by a Missouri Western opponent.

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Casey Hensley	.417
Todd Schmidt	.379
Kenny Howes	.353
Josh Banks	.350
Mike Atkinson	.333
Bob Cummings	.333
John Riva	.316

Softball	
Nichole Christ	.379
Nichole Barrett	.344
Nicki Kocis	.338
D.J. Martin	.292
Tracy Kitrel	.283
Angle Blanca	.269
Stacy Rathbun	.261

Win from page 7

Hannibal-LaGrange in Hannibal on March 29. They then go to play Southwest Baptist in Bolivar, MO, on March 31 and April 1 in a MIAA

battle. They play Baptist in back-to-back double-headers which will put a strain on the Rivermen pitching staff.

Week in review

Baseball	
March 18-Beat UM-Rolla 4-3, 12 innings.	March 20-21-Finished seventh in the Lincoln University Invitational with a 639 score.
March 18-Beat UM-Rolla 11-5.	
March 19-Beat UM-Rolla 9-2.	
March 19-Beat UM-Rolla 5-4.	
March 21-Beat McKendree 5-2.	
March 22-Beat SIU-Edwardsville 7-6.	
March 24-Beat Nebraska-Omaha 4-3.	
March 25-Lost to Missouri Southern 7-6 10 innings.	
March 25-Lost to Missouri Southern 6-5, 7 innings	

Softball	
March 18-Beat Saginaw Valley 4-3.	March 18-Beat Northeast Missouri 4-2 10 innings.
March 18-Beat Northeast Missouri 4-2 10 innings.	March 18-Lost to Emporia State 7-5.
March 18-Lost to Quincy 6-4.	March 18-Lost to Quincy 6-4.
March 20-Lost to Quincy 4-3.	March 20-Lost to Quincy 4-2.
March 20-Lost to Quincy 4-2.	March 21-Beat Lincoln 14-1.
March 21-Beat Lincoln 14-1.	March 21-Lost to Lincoln 1-0.
March 21-Lost to Lincoln 1-0.	March 22-Beat Lindenwood 6-3.
March 22-Beat Lindenwood 6-3.	March 22-Lost to Lindenwood 5-0.

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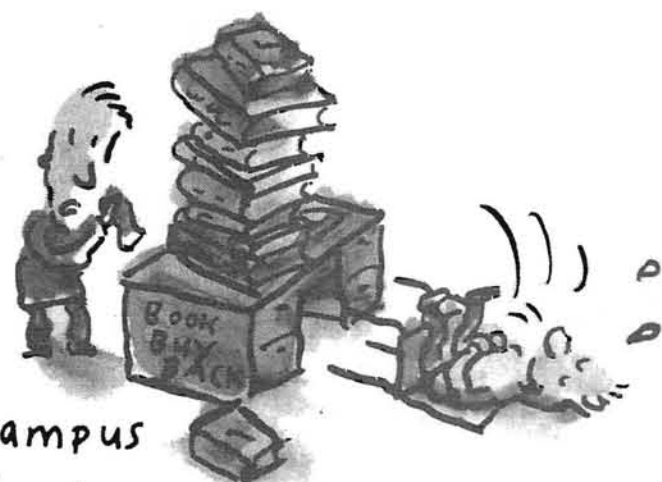
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