

9-20-2004

## Current, September 20, 2004

University of Missouri-St. Louis

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See page 10

Sky Captain flies into theaters

## Chancellor George announces increased scholarship funding

The \$1 million will come from a \$2.7 million equity adjustment received this year

BY KATE DROLET  
Editor-in-Chief

Chancellor Thomas George announced on Wednesday, Sept. 15 that UM-St. Louis would increase scholarship distribution among eligible students in order to meet the rising cost of attending the University. "The funding situation has weighed heaviest on students," he said, "and it's only fitting that the largest campus commitment be for student scholarships."

George delivered this message to the crowd of approximately 350 that attended his annual State of the University address.

The new scholarships, totaling \$1 million, will come from an equity adjustment obtained earlier this year. The Chancellor owed the success of the project to the efforts of the University administrators and the Board of Curators, as well as Missouri legislators, notably Wayne Goode. Equity adjustment has been a topic of research and negotiation for the last 15 years.

The adjustment, which included \$2.7 million of state funding, was earmarked for UM-St. Louis in an effort to balance the distribution of funds at the public university level.

"Are we under-funded relative to our peers in this state? By any

measure I can calculate - absolutely," George said. He called the adjustment "a very important phase one...they are very sorely needed funds."

UM-St. Louis' adjustment is approximately 25 percent of the overall \$12 million adjustment that the University of Missouri system received. Higher education received around a \$20 million adjustment.

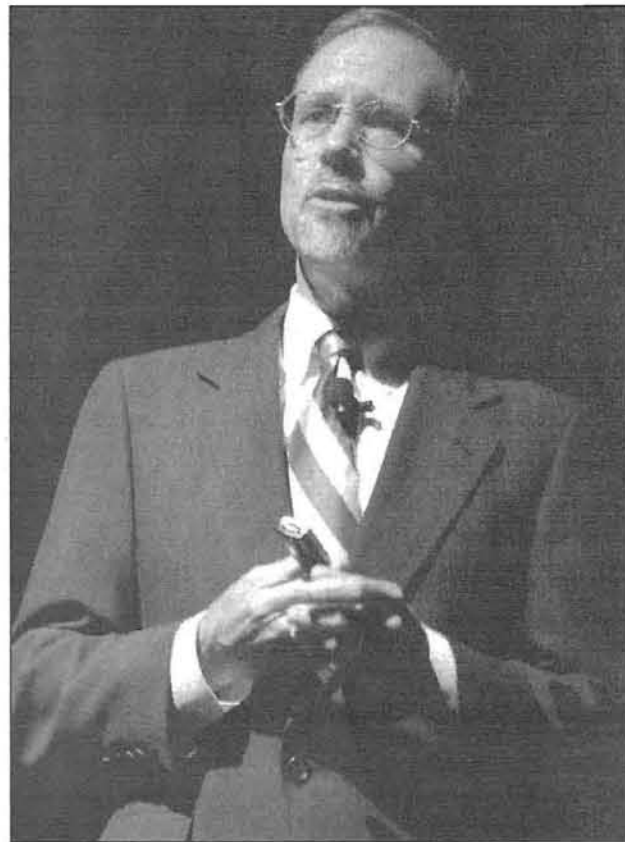
The other \$9 million received by the University of Missouri will be divided up between the four campuses. Categories for distribution will include student financial aid, professorships and strategic initiatives. The Chancellor was confident that UM-St. Louis had a

chance at receiving more funding. He discussed private funding as well, announcing that the University is planning on executing a long-term fund-raising campaign.

Another scholarship program has been implemented that will assist students on the primary basis of need. Faculty and staff are challenged with raising funds to endow 50 scholarships. Each \$15,000 endowment will be matched by the state.

The Chancellor also outlined some of the University's 2004-2005 goals that fit with UM-St. Louis' action plan.

see NEW SCHOLARSHIPS, page 12



Chancellor Thomas George presented the State of the University Address on Wednesday afternoon in the JC Penney Auditorium. The Chancellor discussed the steps being taken to enhance scholarship funding for low-income students.

Erica Burruss/The Current

## Career fair connects students, employers

Over 100 companies set up shop to recruit students

BY MELISSA MCGRARY  
Features Editor

On Tuesday, Sept. 14 and Wednesday, Sept. 15, UM-St. Louis' Career Services held "Career Days" to help students become more acquainted with St. Louis employers.

Career Days took place on both days from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the Century Rooms on the third floor of the Millennium Student Center (MSC).

Emily McEneny, assistant director of career services, explained what the purpose of the event was.

"Career Days are created as networking opportunities to all students, of all majors and grade levels," she said.

McEneny went on to say that this event provided information to students searching for different careers, part-time and full-time jobs and internships.

Some of this year's participants included Anheuser Busch, The Boeing Company, Commerce Bank, Edward Jones, Express Scripts, Wal-Mart, GlaxoSmithKline, KETC Channel 9/PBS, Monsanto, Southwestern Bell Company (SBC), St. John's Mercy Medical Center, the St. Louis Science Center and the Missouri Division of Youth Services.

Over 100 employers and participants set up booths throughout the two-day event.

"Last year there were only 72 participants and this year there was a bigger variety and many more employers," Teresa Balestrieri Director of Career Services said. "Some new employers that participated were Express Scripts, Quilogy and Fed-Ex Ground."

see CAREER FAIR, page 7

## Fraternity rocks out for charity



Photos by Mike Sherwin/The Current

ABOVE:

Haywood Naeger, guitarist and vocalist for local band Soul for Silver, performs at the Delwood Lounge on Chambers Rd. during a battle of the bands sponsored by the Sigma Pi fraternity on Friday night. Four bands competed, and the proceeds of the five dollar cover charge went to Stripes, an anti-drunk driving organization.

RIGHT:

Audience members cheer at the end of a set by One Man Out, the eventual winner of the battle of the bands, featuring UM-St. Louis students Garrett Ungerer, Kevin Ottley, Matt Willer and alumnus Kyle Naes. Naes, Ungerer and Willer are also members of the Sigma Pi fraternity.



## Coalition to combat partner abuse

UMSL teams with Verizon, Missouri Attorney General to launch program

BY KATE DROLET  
Editor-in-Chief

UM-St. Louis, along with Verizon Wireless and Missouri Attorney General Jay Nixon, announced on Tuesday, Sept. 14, that they plan to decrease partner violence in college relationships through a Partner Abuse Awareness Initiative.

"For many young people," Nixon said, "college is about freedom and making independent decisions for the first time. But for too many young women, who are trapped in controlling and manipulative relationships, there is a sense of fear instead of freedom."

The conference that launched the initiative included a panel composed of Nixon, Chancellor Thomas George, Verizon Wireless Regional President Mark Crumpton, UM-St. Louis Counseling Services Psychologist Lori Tagger and Education Coordinator for Women's Support and Community Services Angie Macy.

George spoke briefly about the goals of the program, saying that the coalition hopes to increase awareness about an issue that often takes place behind closed doors.

Much of the initiative's emphasis is on the emotional abuse that takes place in unhealthy relationships.

UM-St. Louis is the first learning institution in Missouri to participate in the initiative, which will target college students statewide through several mediums, including partner abuse awareness posters. The posters put an emphasis on emotional abuse, which is a damaging factor in unhealthy relationships. They will include phone numbers for school-specific counseling centers.

Crumpton said that Verizon wireless has a history of working against domestic violence, including the collection over 900,000 cell phones for domestic abuse causes, as well as a \$3.7 million-donation that supports victim shelters and other domestic violence-oriented organizations.

see PARTNER ABUSE, page 12

## Congressional candidate Farr speaks to college Republicans

Leslie Farr runs for first district, against William Lacy Clay, Jr.

BY PATRICIA LEE  
Staff Writer

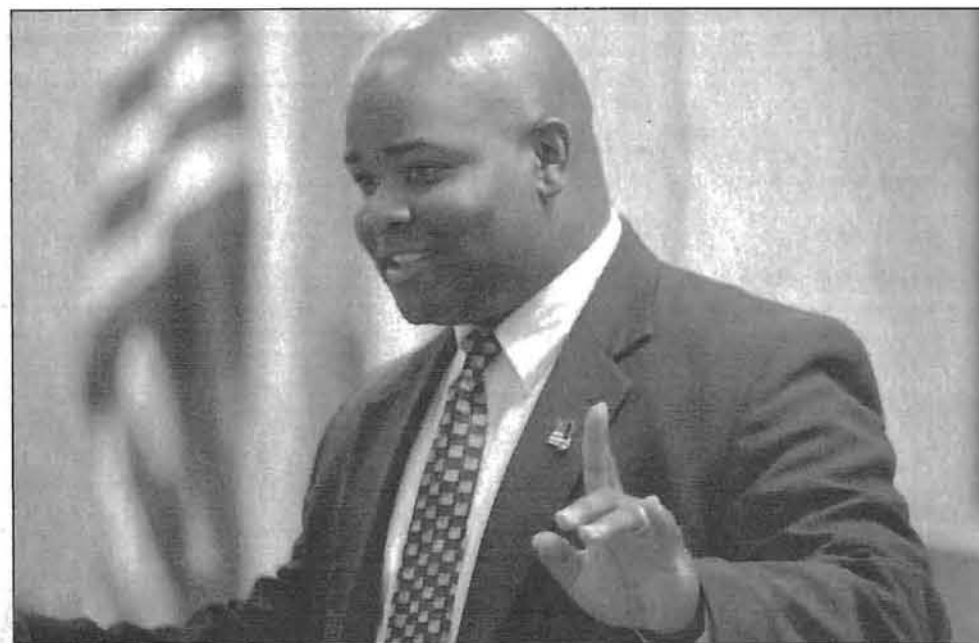
On Sept. 14, U.S. congressional candidate Leslie Farr came to UM-St. Louis. He spoke to a group of college Republicans in the Student Government Chambers during their weekly meeting.

Farr is the Republican candidate running for Congress in the first district, which is currently represented by Democrat William Lacy Clay, Jr.

Farr and his opponent, Clay, differ on many political issues. Much of his speech was devoted to pointing out their differences on various issues.

While Clay is pro-choice, Farr opposes abortion under most circumstances. He said that abortion harmed black people.

"[Margaret] Sanger thought that if



Leslie Farr, Republican candidate for Missouri's 1st district congressional seat, speaks to the college Republicans in the SGA chambers on Tuesday afternoon.

Mike Sherwin/The Current

you kill the black babies, you could kill off the black people," he said.

Farr said accountable parents were the solution for teenage pregnancies, not birth control. "Tough parenting is important," he said.

The candidates also differ on gun rights. Farr opposes gun control because he believed it only affected law-abiding citizens because criminals get their weapons illegally anyway.

Besides saying that the First Amendment to the Constitution ensured that it was a legal right to have guns, Farr also said that gun control does not reduce crime.

"Guns never do anything by

themselves to harm anyone," Farr said. He compared banning guns to banning cars and said that although guns are banned in Canada, there are still murders there. "What does reduce crime," said Farr, "are tougher penalties for criminals."

Education was another issue that Farr talked about. He said that inner city schools needed the "No Child Left Behind" act because 48 percent of children who start kindergarten do not graduate from high school. Farr did not specifically say how he would improve education other than that parents needed to be more involved and tougher on their children.

Farr also supported the war in Iraq because he believed the United States needed to take a proactive approach to preventing terrorism. He cited the incident in Russia, where Chechen rebels took control of a school, and more than 300 people died because of a reactive approach.

The 26-year-old candidate said he had "absolutely no" previous political experience.

see LESLIE FARR, page 3

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# Bulletin Board

**Put it on the Board:**  
The Current Events Bulletin Board is a service provided free of charge to all student organizations, University departments and divisions. Deadline for submissions to The Current Events Bulletin Board is 5 p.m., every Thursday before publication. Space consideration is given to student organizations and is on a first-come, first-serve basis. We suggest all postings be submitted at least one week prior to the event. Send submissions via mail at 388 MSC, Natural Bridge Rd., St. Louis, MO 63121, fax at 516-6811 or email at [current@jinx.umsl.edu](mailto:current@jinx.umsl.edu). All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.

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### Mon. Sept. 20 Monday Noon Series

John Hylton, dean of the College of Fine Arts and Communication, will discuss "The Music of the Louisiana Purchase Expedition," at 12:15 p.m. in 229 J.C. Penny Conference Center. Hylton will share his research on the music of the Louisiana Purchase Expedition, also known as the World Fair. Bring a lunch. Light refreshments will be served. The lecture is free and open to the public. For more information call 516-5699.

### Mon. Sept. 20 Science Lecture

Joseph Acherman, professor of chemistry at Washington University in St. Louis, will discuss "Water Diffusion in Living Systems Quantified by Magnetic Resonance" "Remarkable Findings, Easy Questions, Hard Answers," at 4 p.m. in 451 Benton hall. Coffee will be served at 3:45 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. For more information call 516-5311.

### Tues. Sept. 21 Career Opportunity

Walgreen's Co. will be on campus to interview on Sept. 28, 2004. You must be registered with Career Served and

have your resume in our Candidate Database to be considered for an interview. If you are already registered, submit your resume through E-Recruiting. Positions available: Retail Management Intern, Retail Management Trainee. For more information, please visit Career Services in 278 MSC or call 516-5111.

### Tue. Sept. 21-23 Cheerleading Tryouts

Attention UM-St. Louis students. Cheerleading tryouts for the 2004-2005 season will be held from Sept. 21 to Sept. 23. All are encouraged to attend. Tryouts will be held in the Mark Twain Building beginning at 5 p.m. for more information call Ardell Williams at (314)494-3670 or email [BreianaW@hotmail.com](mailto:BreianaW@hotmail.com).

### Wed. Sept. 22 Science Lecture

Sanford A. Asher, professor of chemistry at the University of Pittsburgh, will discuss "Phononic Crystal Chemical Sensing Devices" at 4 p.m. in 451 Benton Hall. Coffee will be served at 3:45 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. For more information call 516-5311.

### Thurs. Sept. 23 Women vote

The Institute for Women's & Gender Studies announces its student-friendly "Lunching with Leaders," series, featuring candidates & campaigners for the November 2004 elections. Bring your lunch, bring a friend, meet some great-women--and register to vote in Clark Hall 211.

### Thurs. Sept. 23 Gallery 210 Exhibit

"Flowers From the Mouth" opens runs through Oct. 9 in Exhibition Room B at Gallery 210. It's a site-specific installation by artist Charles Gick that incorporates video, sculpture, sound and photography. It features two works: "Flowers from the Mouth" and "Water Witching." The exhibition is free and open to the public, and sponsored by the Department of Art and Art History, The Center for the Humanities, Missouri Arts Council and The Regional Arts Commission. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. An opening reception will take place 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. today at Gallery 210. Call 5976 or visit <http://www.umsl.edu/~gallery> for more information.

### Thurs. Sept. 23 Book discussion

Joe Rottman, assistant professor of information systems at UMSL, will discuss "Offshore Outsourcing: Twenty practices for swift learning, risk mitigation, supplier management, cost control, and quality assurance" at 11 a.m. in 401 Social Sciences & Business Building. The discussion is free and open to the public, and sponsored by the College of Business Administration. The lecture is part of the College of Business Administration's monthly Seminar Series in Business and Economics. Call 516-6374 for more information.

### Thurs. Sept. 23 Founders Dinner

The 13th annual Founders Dinner will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the Ritz-Carlton St. Louis Hotel, 100 Carondelet Plaza in Clayton, Mo. In addition to paying tribute to the University's founders, the event will honor the 2004 Distinguished Alumni. Tickets are \$55. For more information call 516-5490.

### Fri. Sept. 24 Info Systems Lecture

### Fri. Sept. 16 Patriot Act Lecture

Denise Liberman, legal director for the American Civil Liberties Union of Eastern Missouri, will discuss the USA Patriot Act at noon in 211 Clark Hall. Bring a lunch. Drinks and desserts will be provided. The event is free and open to the public. Call 516-5581 for more information.

### Ongoing

#### Newman Center

The Catholic Newman Center will hold mass every Tuesday night at 7:30 p.m., Friday and Sunday night at 8:30 p.m. in the Bellerive residence hall chapel. All are welcome to attend. For more information, contact the Newman Center at 314-385-3455.

**Put it on the Board!** Call 516-5174 for details or email [current@jinx.umsl.edu](mailto:current@jinx.umsl.edu)

## The Campus Crimeline

The following criminal incidents were reported to the University of Missouri-St. Louis Police Department between September 4, 2004 and September 17, 2004. If readers have information that could assist the police investigation, they are urged to call 516-5155. Campus police as a public service to promote awareness provides this information. Remember-crime prevention is a community effort!

#### September 4th Stealing Under \$500.00-North Campus

A student reported license plate tabs were stolen from their vehicle while parked at UMSL sometime between May and September.

#### September 5th Property Damage-Seton Hall

A window of a vehicle was broken out, however nothing was taken.

#### September 5th Property Damage/Stealing Under \$500.00

Parking lot NN-Bellerive Residence Hall. A window of

a vehicle was broken out, and a cell phone along with a pack of cigarettes was stolen.

#### September 8th Stealing Under \$500.00-North Campus

A student reported their UMSL parking permit was stolen.

#### September 8th Stealing Over \$500.00-U.M.B. Bank Millennium Student Center

A subject attempted to pass a forged bank check and was arrested by police. Warrants will be applied for at a later date.

#### September 8th Stealing Under \$500.00-T.J. Library

A student reported that a cell phone was stolen from a backpack on the 5th floor of the Library. The backpack was left unattended for about 20 minutes, and there are no suspects at this time.

#### September 8th Stealing Under \$500.00-Millennium Student Center- Bookstore

A student reported that a backpack was stolen from the "cubby" in the front of the

bookstore, while shopping.

#### September 9th Property Damage-7818 Florissant Road

Three tires on a parked car were flattened during the middle of the day, and the victim suspects her estranged husband is responsible again.

#### September 9th Stealing Under \$500.00-West Drive Parking Garage South

A student reported their UMSL parking permit was stolen from a parked vehicle.

#### September 9th Disturbance-223 Villa Residence Hall

A 911 hang-up call resulting after an altercation between boyfriend and girlfriend was found to occur, however the victim did not want to prosecute.

#### September 11th Stealing Over \$500.00-Computer Center Building

A woman's purse and contents were left in a bathroom and later discovered stolen, the purse was found a short time later in a stairwell and

the wallet and credit cards, without the cash were also found later in the evening in the same building.

#### September 13th Stealing Under \$500.00-462 Marillac Hall

A woman's purse and contents were left in an unsecured office, as the victim came back to her office she encountered a female subject who was in her office and left the area quickly. The police department was able to find the female subject and her accomplice and questioned them, however they had nothing on them to indicate that they had committed the theft, so they were released pending further investigation. These two persons were not member of the University, and were given a trespass warning.

#### September 14th Property Damage-7818 South Florissant Road

The victim of prior incidents of damage to her auto reported a similar incident again occurring on the parking lot at 7800 South Florissant Road.

#### September 17th Stealing Under \$500.00-West Drive Parking Lot N

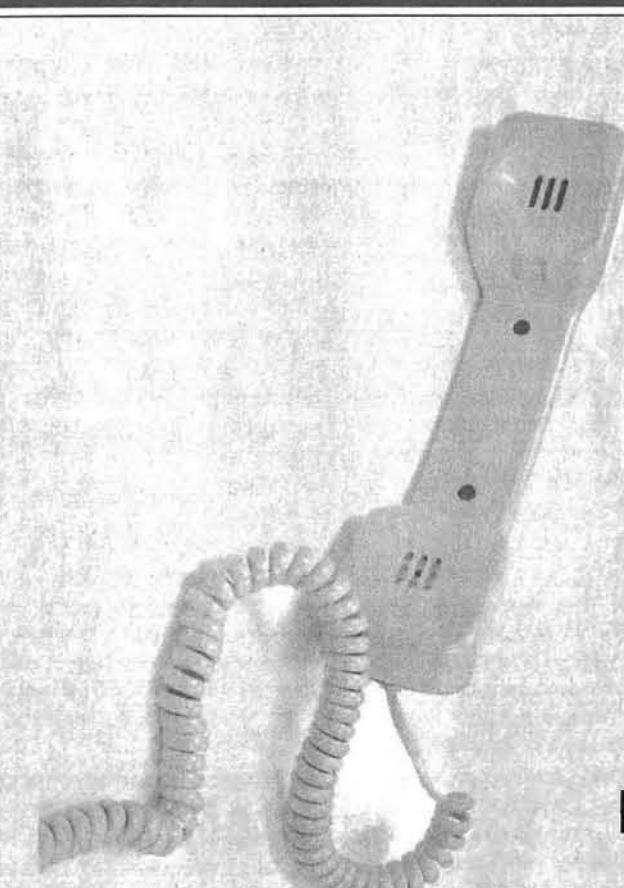
A victim reported their license plates were stolen from a parked vehicle.

#### September 17th Arrested Subjects

The two persons listed in the prior report of the theft of a purse, were found to be on campus again, and were subsequently arrested. The report(s) will be forwarded to the St. Louis County Prosecuting Attorney's Office for review of possible charges.

#### \*NOTE\*

Items will be stolen from your backpack, purse, wallet etc. if it is left unattended! Even if it is only for a minute or two!!!!!! Please help to prevent crime by always keeping your possessions with you at all times. It is also noted that just because a classroom, office area, lounge, library, computer lab, lunch area, etc. is occupied by many people doesn't mean your property is safeguarded.



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# Local candidate Rachel Storch discusses education at IWGS

BY WILL MELTON  
News Editor

On Sept. 17 the Institute for Women's and Gender Studies hosted a lunchtime discussion with Democratic candidate for state representative of the 64th District Rachel Storch.

Storch, a St. Louis native, received her undergraduate degree from Harvard University before going on to obtain a law degree from Washington University. A political career was not always the forefront of Storch's plans. She admitted to wanting to start a family and have children, but ultimately decided on law school.

As a recipient of The Olin Fellowship at Washington University, Storch's law school tuition was fully funded. "Being debt free when I graduated left me free to pursue a career in public service," Storch said.

She did just that. Storch went on to serve as a public interest attorney with the Legal Services of Eastern Missouri. The event was more conversational than speech orientated and Storch was allowed to engage with those attending in an open exchange of ideas.

The notion of being debt free, which Storch had mentioned as key to her ability to pursue public service, wound up a central theme of the discussion as the rising costs of education, both higher and K-12 were talked

about. "Missouri receives a very low, low grade for affordability of its university system and over the last two years we've seen a tuition increase at the University of Missouri of nearly 20 percent," Storch said, "that is unacceptable...we have to make sure that we are sending adequate funding to our universities so that the burden of the tuition increase doesn't get put upon the backs of our students."

Many of those in attendance also spoke frankly about their concerns and experiences with the St. Louis public education system. The consensus of the group was that the way the public schools are funded is terribly inequitable.

Currently, school districts are funded by property taxes. It leads to a situation in which areas with greater revenue from these taxes wind up with better schools. Children in impoverished areas are forced to attend inferior institutions because the area is not

generating the same amounts of property taxes as areas such as Clayton.

Teresa Guess, assistant professor of sociology, was in attendance and said that "the purpose of taxation is to support the community." However, due to the current system wealthier areas are benefiting.

People wondered why property taxes are not distributed more equitably. As Sandra Zambrana, senior, political science, said, "All the funds should be pooled together and distributed equally."

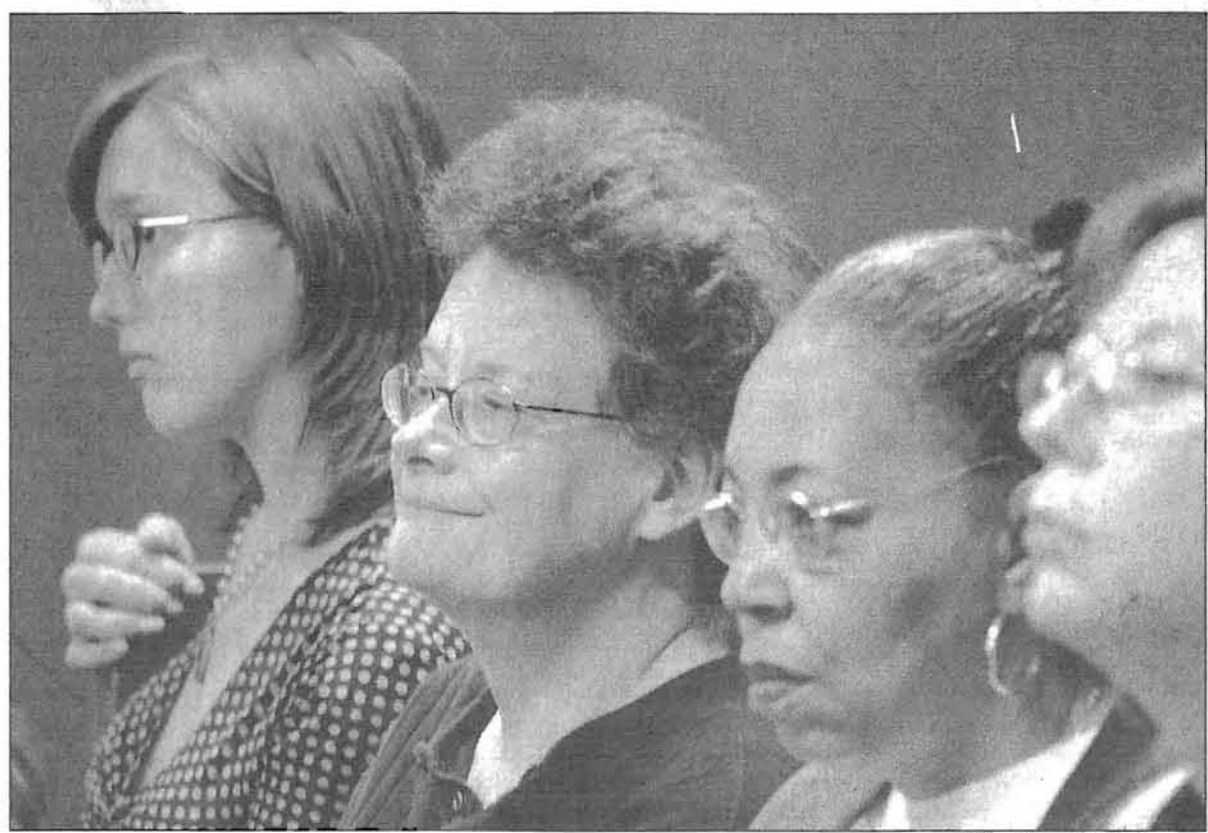
"I would like to see a change written into Missouri's foundation formula, which is the formula that determines the allocation of funding by district at the state level," Storch said. "I would like to see a funding mechanism written into the formula that would take our gaming revenue and target them, maybe in an earmark, towards low-income and low-performing schools."

Zambrana, also a mother, has had to deal with the decision of pulling her child out of St. Louis public schools and switching to private education to ensure the quality of her child's education.

"St. Louis city does not have a lot of very good schools," Zambrana said, "as a mother that lives in the city with her child, you try the magnet schools because they are supposed to be better, but they don't work out, then you have to take the money you would normal-



Rachel Storch  
Democratic candidate for Missouri state representative 64th district



Mike Sherwin/The Current

(From left) Jeanne Patrick, sophomore, political science, Gerda Ray, associate professor of history, and Teresa Guess, assistant professor of sociology, listen in during the appearance by Rachel Storch at the Institute for Women's and Gender Studies, located in 211 Clark Hall. Storch is the Democratic candidate for the 64th district of the Missouri House of Representatives, and her appearance was part of the IWGS series "Lunching with Leaders," which continues Sept. 24 with Denise Lieberman, legal director for the American Civil Liberties Union.

ly spend on different things and use it to put your child in a private school."

"I don't think that gives us many options. But, why isn't the city schools working, that's my question," Zambrana said.

Storch also served as deputy chief of staff for Jean Carnahan during Carnahan's two years as Senator. She also served as legal counsel and director of policy for state Sen. Ken

Jacob.

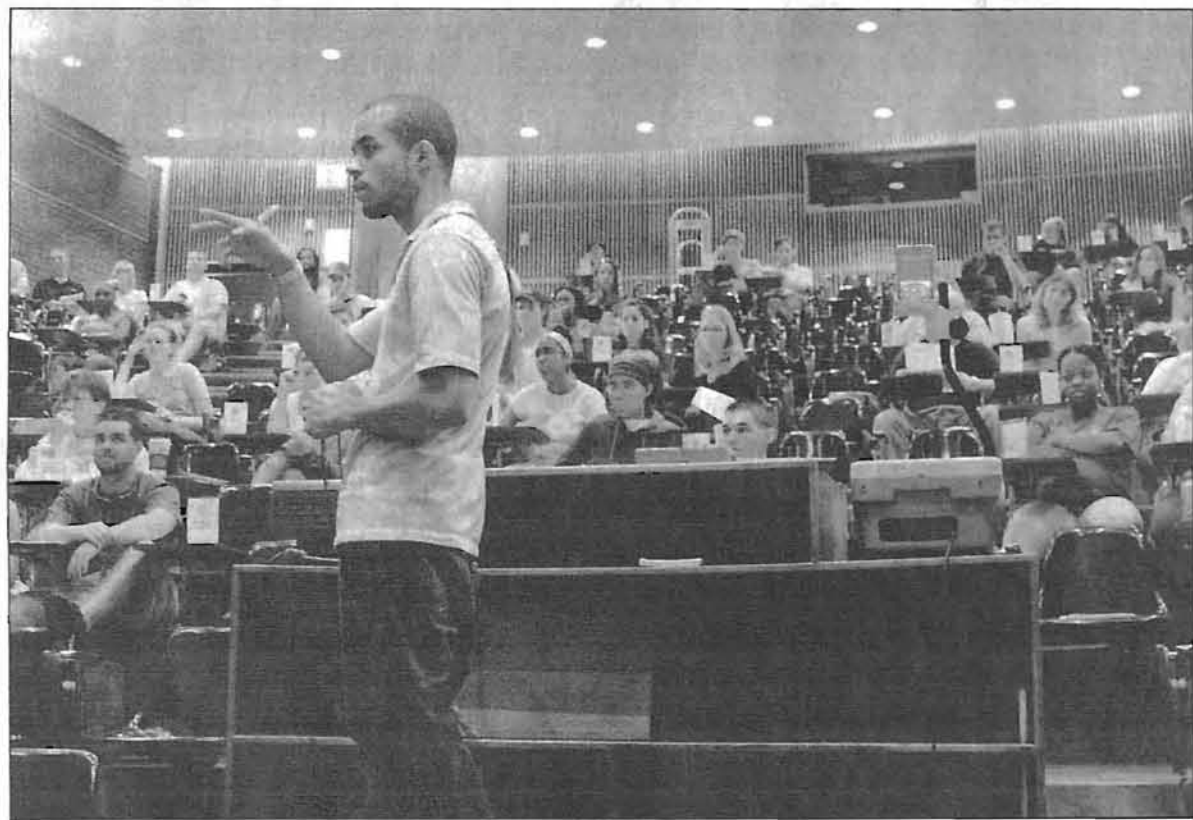
The Lunching with Leaders program at the Institute will continue on Friday Sept. 24 when Denise Lieberman, legal director for the ACLU, will stop in for a conversation on the Patriot Act.

Joyce Mushaben, professor of comparative politics, and director of the institute said they are trying very hard to make this series a bipartisan

endeavor. "We have invited at least two representatives of the Republican Party and they haven't responded to our emails... We're really trying to get people on both sides, but there's a limit to what we can do," Mushaben said.

Any students who need to register to vote can stop by the Institute located at 212 Clark Hall and become registered.

## NEWS BRIEFS



Mike Sherwin/The Current

D'Andre Braddix, vice chairperson for the Student Government Association, counts delegates' votes for the election of the position of parliamentarian during the SGA's monthly meeting held Friday afternoon in 118 SSB. The SGA elected Brian Rail as SGA chairperson, a position opened up by the resignation of Ben DeClue, and Erin Abraham as chairwoman. The SGA also voted to make homecoming a fall semester event. The change will take place with the 2005-2006 school year.

### Don Driemeier retires

Former Deputy Chancellor Don Driemeier retired effective Aug. 31, 2004. However, Driemeier has taken the title of dean emeritus and on a part-time basis will continue working with the College of Business Administration and KMWU.

From Jan. 2003 until Sept. 2003 Driemeier served as interim chancellor while the search for a permanent chancellor was conducted. He originally joined the University in 1965 as an instructor of finance. In 1976 he became dean of the School of Business Administration.

During his tenure as deputy chancellor Driemeier was involved in projects and programs such as KMWU and the Children's Advocacy Services of Greater St. Louis.

Driemeier earned a bachelor's degree in economics at DePauw University in Greencastle, Ind. before going on to earn a master's and doctoral degree from Washington University.



Donald Driemeier  
Deputy Chancellor began with UM-St. Louis in 1965; retired effective Aug. 31, 2004

### SGA votes to moves homecoming to Fall semester

The tradition of a UM-St. Louis winter homecoming has ended. During the Sept. 17 session of the Student Government Association the assembly voted to move the annual event to the fall semester, effective 2005.

SGA convened in room 218 of the Social Sciences Building in accordance with the current administration's agenda for increasing the number of SGA meetings per semester. As a result of this increase the student government chambers were unavailable for this meeting.

However, the stadium design of the classroom allowed business to continue as usual. SGA elected a new chairperson to fill the void created by former chair Ben DeClue resigning the post. Brian Rails, junior, business management, and the current SGA parliamentarian defeated junior Erin Abraham, sociology, for the post.

With the position of parliamentarian now vacant, the assembly had to conduct another election. Abraham won that contest and will fill the position.

Also, M.K. Stallings, graduate student in sociology was nominated and elected to the position of Election Committee chair. That post had also been vacated due to issues of constitutionality that arose in the wake of the Aug. 27 SGA meeting.

Daniel Hollander, graduate student, management information systems, who had been originally selected to head up the election committee, took over duties as chairperson of the Operations and Rules Committee.

### Chancellors' salaries adjusted

Elson Floyd, University of Missouri President, announced on Sept. 16 that the salaries for chancellors for the upcoming year will be paid solely from the general operating funds.

Due to the economic crunch the University was facing last year, the system had experimented with using private donations to supplement the \$250,000 chancellor salaries.

However, there was a mixed reaction from the public. Many people feared that it could compromise public accountability, which was complicated due to the fact that many donors had wanted to remain unnamed.

Floyd decided to cut the private donations and use general operating funds to pay the entire salary. Floyd maintained that the University will continue pursuing cost-cutting measures.

### LESLIE FARR, from page 1

He was however, a committeeman from the Third Ward and one of the founders of the Missouri Black Republican Coalition and one of the delegates at the Republican National Convention.

Farr's political opponent, Clay, is serving his second term as a congressman representing the First District. In his prior re-election bid in 2002, Clay won with an overwhelming 70 percent of the vote.

Despite Clay's previous landslide victory, Farr believes that he can defeat the incumbent congressional

representative.

"He won 70 percent of the vote against somebody who signed up to run against him in August and who didn't put up one yard sign, one bumper sticker, and didn't do one thing to promote himself to the constituents," Farr said.

Another favorable factor for Farr was the recent reconfiguration of the representative districts. The new boundaries for the First District include much of the more conservative Second District, which is currently represented by Republican

Todd Akin.

Damien Johnson, junior, criminal justice, said that he agreed with Farr on issues that mattered most to him, such as gun control and the war in Iraq. Despite the increasing number of U.S. casualties, Johnson supports the war.

"Unfortunately that's war, but I feel that we had to go," Johnson said.

Johnson also said that he supported Farr because "I feel the First District needs a change, I've met Lacy Clay and he didn't make a good impression to me," Johnson said.

# TOUHILL

04  
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SEASON

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### COMING EVENTS



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OPINION

OUR OPINION

Posting lectures makes skipping class easy

With the continually increasing implementation of MyGateway by professors, it is becoming much easier for students to skip class.

Many professors are providing all the information that is discussed in class on MyGateway. While it does give students who miss class for legitimate reasons an ample opportunity to review the material they missed, it also gives some undeserving students who miss classes all the time all the information they need to sleep in and still get good grades.

Of course, it is the professor's discretion as to what he or she would like to put online. We just think that if instructors are going to continually provide this online information to students, they should also provide incentives for the students who do attend regular class sessions.

Even though most students dread pop quizzes, the surprise work makes extra points available to those who are in class that day. Extra credit is also a good incentive for students who attend classes.

It is beneficial for the professors who do take attendance to put notes on MyGateway. This way, students are going to class and also have the bonus of being able to print off notes for themselves.

MyGateway serves as a liaison between UM-St. Louis organizations and their members. Many organizations around campus take advantage of MyGateway by using it as a forum

for their group. Members of the group are then able to communicate with each other electronically and from the comfort of their homes.

Professors are able to post a syllabus, classroom notes and meeting times on the program. It is especially valuable in the winter when classes are cancelled. As long as the instructor uses MyGateway, students are able to go online before classes when there is bad weather and check to see if class has been cancelled.

There are still many instructors who do not apply MyGateway to their classroom practices. Whether some professors do not learn how to utilize the system, or do not feel that the program is useful, many students do appreciate the web when they are at home sick and have to miss a class.

Some instructors have even begun posting web-based homework. For some students, this is an easy way out of going to class and for other students it is easy for them to complete from just about anywhere.

Technology is rapidly becoming an important part of society. The University has made a program available to students and faculty that allows better and easier communication between students and their instructors.

While we applaud professors' efforts to make their classes accessible, we feel that they should exercise some caution to avoid making class attendance pointless.

The Issue
Many professors have started posting their entire class lectures on MyGateway. This gives students an opportunity to skip class with no repercussions.

We suggest
Professors should continue to offer lecture notes and assignments online, but should also offer incentives, such as extra credit, pop quizzes or attendance points, to students who attend class.

So what do you think?
Tell us what you think! Drop us a line at the office, 388 MSC, or online at our website www.thecurrentonline.com

Stress relief 101

For the invincible college student, taking care of mental health often ranks somewhere around cleaning behind the refrigerator and removing lint from the dryer trap.

1. Make time. Everyone has meetings, work, class, homework and numerous other commitments to attend to. These events can easily take over and make life a job.

2. Eat a twinkie. Or some ice cream, or whatever forbidden treat you work to avoid. Indulge every now and then. Yes, physical health is important, but if you punish yourself by denying occasional indulgences, you might end up completely falling off the wagon.

3. Dance around naked... in the privacy of your own home, please. But do something crazy once and awhile. If a nude tango does not sit well, ride a shopping cart through the grocery store parking lot or try on bizarre clothes in an expensive department store.

4. Sing in the car. Find that one song you love and belt it out in all of your cracked-voice glory.

own ears, turn up the volume. Having a relationship problem? Shout out a man- or woman-bashing tune. Feeling happy? Find an upbeat song to sing along with.

5. Surround yourself with positive people. Those who maintain an optimistic outlook on life are less mentally exhausting.

6. Produce endorphins. Prolonged exercise will make the body release brain chemicals known as endorphins.

7. Breathe. This sounds like common sense, but people under stress can develop bad breathing habits. Place one hand on your chest and one on your stomach.

Your brain deserves as much care as your body does, if not more. Take the time to evaluate your mental health and consider dedicating a few minutes each day to improving it.



KATE DROLET Editor-in-Chief

Communicate to succeed

One of the most beneficial devices that anyone can learn in their life is proper communication skills.

Learning how to communicate effectively with people can be one of the best qualities that you can encompass. Whether you decide to work in an office or out doing physical labor, communication is the one tool that everyone needs.

When you think about it, our world revolves around communication. How else would people talk to each other? Using the telephone is just the beginning of being able to communicate effectively.

Today, many people are able to communicate in different languages. I know that I can speak both English and Spanish and feel comfortable with both of them.

I think everyone should take a public speaking class. It makes you feel more comfortable in general around people. Although some people are less content speaking in front of people, it is an advantageous obstacle to overcome.

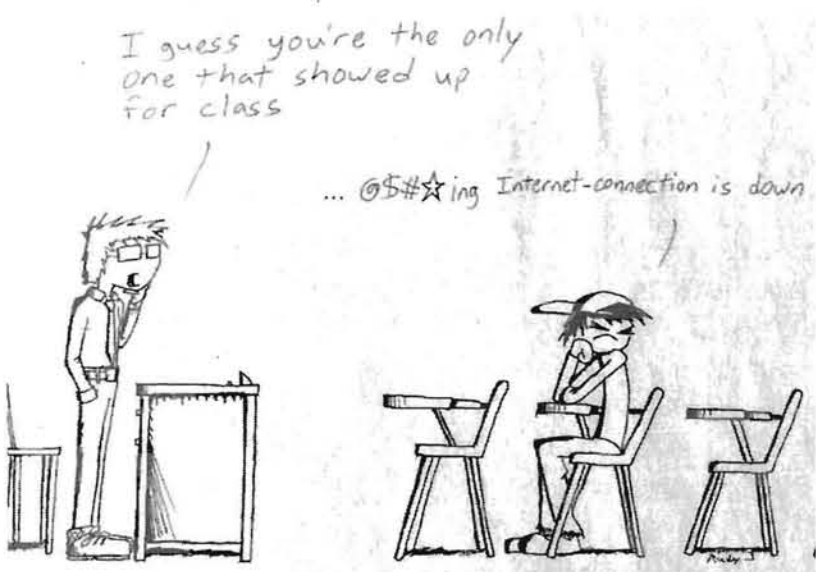
Communication also highly benefits a relationship. No one can survive for long in a relationship without proper communication between the two people.

At The Current we encourage you to communicate with us. We would love to know your thoughts on this year's publication.

Remember to keep your lines of communication open. Criticism can be hard for some people, but is one of the most effectual ways to learn.



BECKY ROSNER Managing Editor



What's your opinion?

How do you feel about the topics we've covered?
You can make your voice heard in a variety of ways!
• Skipping made simple
• Stress relief 101
• Communicate to succeed
• Submit a letter to the editor
• Write a guest commentary
• Visit the online forums at TheCurrentOnline.com

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Letters to the editor should be brief, and those not exceeding 200 words will be given preference. We edit letters for clarity and length, not for dialect, correctness, intent or grammar.

Under Current by Casey Ulrich Photography Director
Are you registered to vote? Why or why not?



Chris White Senior Marketing

Yes, there are certain issues that I really care about.



Steve Hartmann Senior Business Administration

Yes, to vote on stuff that matters to me.



Robert Clair Senior Management Information Systems

Yes, I feel that my vote is important and that my vote does count.



Lisa Veldman Graduate Student Industrial/Organizational Psychology

Yes, I think that it is important that everyone have their opinion and voice it.

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# Multicultural Relations fosters diversity among students

BY ERICKA HARRIS  
Staff Writer

In April 1997, the Office of Multicultural Relations at UM-St. Louis was established. Presently, the office reports to Glen Hahn Cope, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs.

The Office of Multicultural Relations offers academic support services and cultural programming designed for all students of every race and ethnic group and welcomes everyone to participate in what the office has to offer.

Along with African-American students, Multicultural Relations also provides services for Hispanic, Asian/Pacific Islander and American Indian/Alaskan Native students.

"Our goal is to look like our mission, a diverse population of students," said Gwendolyn Packnett, Director of the Office of Multicultural Student Relations.

Multicultural Relations acts as the link between students of color and other student service units on campus. Multicultural Relations promotes student usage of student services on campus as well as involvement in campus activities.

Andrae Dobbins, graduate student, education, shared his experience.

"I have gone to the Office of Multicultural Relations to speak with an advisor. I also went to them for help finding a job, I would definitely encourage students to go there,"

Dobbins said. Multicultural Relations operates on a Four-Tiered Intervention Model:

Tier 1, which includes the Student Retention component, makes efforts to increase student success through college up to graduation. In this component, students are assigned a counselor with whom they meet weekly to share academic progress and other concerns. This component includes academic workshops, tutoring and peer mentoring.

"A position as a mentor or tutor is a highly respected position in this office. Mentor and tutor applicants are interviewed and chosen by a committee

and they are held to high standards," Packnett said.

Mentors and tutors must be upperclassmen. Tutors must maintain an A or high B grade average in the subject matter that they tutor.

When hiring tutors and mentors, the Office of Multicultural Relations maintains their goal of making sure that the Office of Multicultural

Relations reflects a diverse student population.

"Our group of mentors and tutors is made up of all different types of students. Some are Caucasian, some are African-American and others are African, Pilipino, Ethiopian and Asian," Packnett said.

Tier 2, Campus Programming, helps increase awareness of campus diversity through workshops, brown-bag dialogues and cross-cultural programs. Multicultural Relations also supports multi-ethnic student organizations by acting as advisors for different organizations as well as co-spon-



Erica Burrus/The Current

Counseling psychologist Dr. Bridgette Jenkins talks with Carla Johnson, junior, business administration, on Friday afternoon in the Office of Multicultural Relations, which is located on the first floor of the MSC.

“The Office of Multicultural Relations offers academic support services and cultural programming designed for all students of every race and ethnic group.”

soring programs.

Tier 3, The Multicultural Linkages to the Campus Community, is the component, which includes collaborations between the Office of Multicultural Relations and other campus services. Some of the services that the Office of Multicultural Relations works with include the Advising Center, Center for Academic Development, Office of Admissions, Center for International Studies and Career Services.

Lastly, Tier 4, the Professional Development component, which helps students obtain internships and shadowing experiences.

Packnett said, "To date some students have received paid internships with the St. Louis Cardinals, Vantage Credit Union, Clear Channel, private physicians and many others."

see MULTICULTURAL, page 7



Multicultural Relations Director Gwendolyn Packnett (standing) advises Tanya Green, junior, management information systems, (left sitting) in the Mentoring Center.

Erica Burrus/The Current

## PPRC opens new photography exhibit



Mike Sherwin/The Current

Carole Gates speaks during the opening reception Sept. 8 of the new photographic exhibit, "Photography Project: Old North St. Louis" at the Public Policy Research Center lobby in 362 SSB. The exhibit features images taken by residents of their historic Old North St. Louis neighborhood. Gates, who has lived in Old North St. Louis for 27 years, has two urban landscape collages on display.

## ITS works to improve campus technology

ITS has revamped MyGateway, adding more memory, spell check, and an address book feature

BY GARY SOHN  
Features Associate

dents that are in their class, friends and faculty through MyGateway."

There have been several recent advances in technology to assist students with some recurring problems like missing class, finding a student or faculty e-mail address at UM-St. Louis and/or needing more storage space for their email account.

The Information Technology Services (ITS) here at UM-St. Louis has been responsive to student's technological needs and concerns by addressing issues that students and faculty have raised.

Dr. Jerrold Siegel, former associate vice chancellor for information technology, who is now a professor of mathematics and computer sciences, says that the IT Service department is looking for ways to providing a communication environment at UM-St. Louis.

"The biggest thing that we're are trying to integrate," Dr. Siegel said, "is MyGateway and e-mail. We view e-mail as MyGateway, and what we are looking for is ways to provide a communication environment between stu-

Student e-mail on MyGateway has gone through some changes that make a few things such as maintenance, and composing and sending e-mails easier.

Michael Ramier, system administrator, said that there were changes made to MyGateway after researching other e-mail servers like Hotmail and Yahoo and seeing what they had. He also said that IT Services discussed some of the weaknesses of MyGateway with the Student Government Association (SGA) and came up with a few solutions.

Some of the concerns brought up by SGA to IT Services about MyGateway were about more disk space, an easier way of dealing with e-mail and bringing back spell check.

MyGateway has 40 megabytes of memory that allow students to hold onto e-mails longer.

"We also added a spell checker. We had one originally but the function got removed.

People noticed it was gone and had asked for it back," Ramier said.

see MY GATEWAY, page 12

WASH U. AT UMSL PRICES?

EDITOR

MELISSA MCCRARY

Features Editor

phone: 516-5174  
fax: 516-6811

Wash U. at UMSL prices?

Students enjoy benefits of joint engineering program

BY ASHLEY RICHMOND  
Staff Writer

It is like getting steak for the price of bologna. UM-St. Louis students can enroll in a joint undergraduate engineering program at Washington University at UM-St. Louis prices.

In 1993, both colleges and the Coordinating Board of Higher Education approved the Joint Engineering program.

The program offers students a bachelor's degree in civil, electrical, or mechanical engineering.

Bilgehan Dohmez, an electrical engineering student shared his opinion of the program.

"It's the only engineering program affordable in St. Louis," Dohmez said.

Because he did not want to leave the area, Dohmez came to UM-St. Louis for Washington University classes.

Aya Chmais, senior, electrical engineering, has found the course work at Washington University to be very helpful in preparing him for graduation this semester.

"Sometimes you do work at school, but you don't even know how to apply it," Chmais said.

see ENGINEERING, page 12

## Amnesty International stands up for human rights

BY MELISSA MCCRARY  
Features Editor

The Amnesty International Organization (AI) at UM-St. Louis allows students to participate in activities and events while standing up for human rights.

Jessie Conner, senior, social work and coordinator of the organization shared the theme and the mission statement of AI.

"Our mission is to free prisoners of conscience and protect human rights," Conner said.

Although this is an international organization, they are also well organized and separated into groups such as regions and states.

The Amnesty International organization is a democratic self-governing movement that focuses on violence against women, victims of sexual violence, conflict, poverty, ending executions, putting an end to the death penalty, ensuring fair trials for all political prisoners and bringing justice to people who are tortured or wrongfully punished across the world.

The organization has over 1.8

million supporters worldwide in over 150 countries. The International group has also received many prestigious awards. In 1977, they received a Nobel Peace Prize and in 1978, they were given a United Nations Human Rights award.

People can view the history of the organization, see what they have accomplished, look at their honorable awards and observe which major problems they are fighting against at [www.amnesty.org](http://www.amnesty.org).

The organization accepts no money from any government or political party; they are funded only by members and by hosting fundraisers.

Conner went on to say that AI at UM-St. Louis currently has 25 members and has only been active for three semesters.

"I was really surprised when I first came to UMSL and found out that they did not have a group and that my old college, SMS, did," Conner said. "I attended an 'Instead of War' meeting and met with other students who were interested in and in the process of forming the group."

see AMNESTY, page 7



Casey Ulrich/The Current

Amnesty International members Matt Bales, junior, psychology, and Katie Kolburn, sophomore, philosophy, write letters to government officials urging them to prevent human right abuses. Amnesty International is a worldwide group of volunteers that campaigns for human rights and social justice.

**MULTICULTURAL, from page 6**

In the 2003-2004 school year about 2,000 students took advantage of the services offered by The Office of Multicultural Relations.

Packnett said, "Ours is a holistic approach. We have put together a strategic developmental model that ensures the retention and academic success of students who take advantage of our services."

Multicultural Relations sponsors events such as Black History programs, along with programs that emphasize the history and accomplishments of other races. At the end of each school year, Multicultural

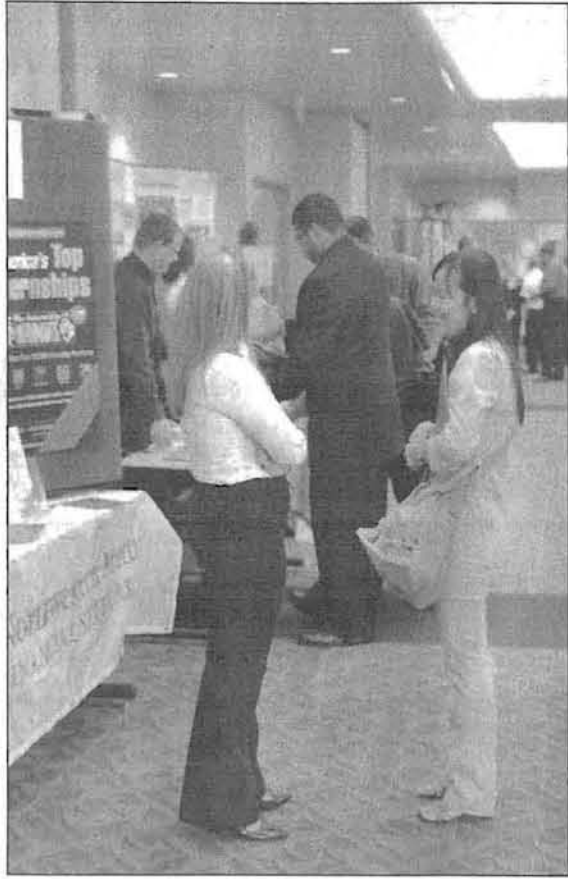
Relations holds Multicultural Awareness Festivities.

Upcoming events provided by The Office of Multicultural Relations include Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration in October, the Midterm Stress Relief Fair, Tuesday, Oct. 12, 2004, Graduate/Professional School Preparation, Saturday, Nov. 6, 2004, and Student Dialogue Brown Bag Series I, Thursday, Nov. 18, 2004.

All events sponsored by The Office of Multicultural Relations are open to all UM-St. Louis students, faculty and staff.

**CAREER FAIR, from page 1**

Students speak with representatives from many different companies at the UM-St. Louis-sponsored Career Days. Students learned about what job opportunities and internships will be available to them after graduation.



Casey Ulrich/The Current

Some of the employers collected resumes, answered student's questions and while others directed people interested in jobs to online applications.

Meghan King, Recruiter for Express Scripts shared their company experience at the event.

"We saw more than 200 students, who were IT majors, business, pre-med and computer science students," King said. "We are a pharmacy benefit management company located in Earth City and we have been looking for people to work in our pharmacy department, claims department, call center and data entry department."

King went on to say how in the past they have been one of the largest employers in St. Louis and that they have been in business for over 15 years. The company still has positions to fill on up until December.

McEneny said that "Career Days" was one of Career Services biggest events of the year, but they will also hold a Spring Job Fair in the Mark Twain Building, this coming spring. Career Services advises student to attend the job fair with a resume and dressed professionally and.

For information about all of Career Services programs, workshops and employment advice, call 516-5111.

**'University City Ceramics' featured at SLAM**

BY MELISSA MCCRARY  
Features Editor

The Saint Louis Art Museum is currently giving recognition to pottery dating back to 1909, in their exhibition "University City Ceramics."

In 1909, Edward G. Lewis founded the Art Academy and Porcelain Works in University City. Lewis hired French ceramists Taxile Doat and Emily Diffloth, a popular American ceramist Adelaide Alsop Robineau, a British-trained potter Frederick Hurten Rhead, and a St. Louis resident Kathryn E. Cherry, who taught China painting to assist with creating his gallery.

Two years later, the Art Academy closed after Lewis had claimed bankruptcy, but Doat continued to display their ceramic pieces of art.

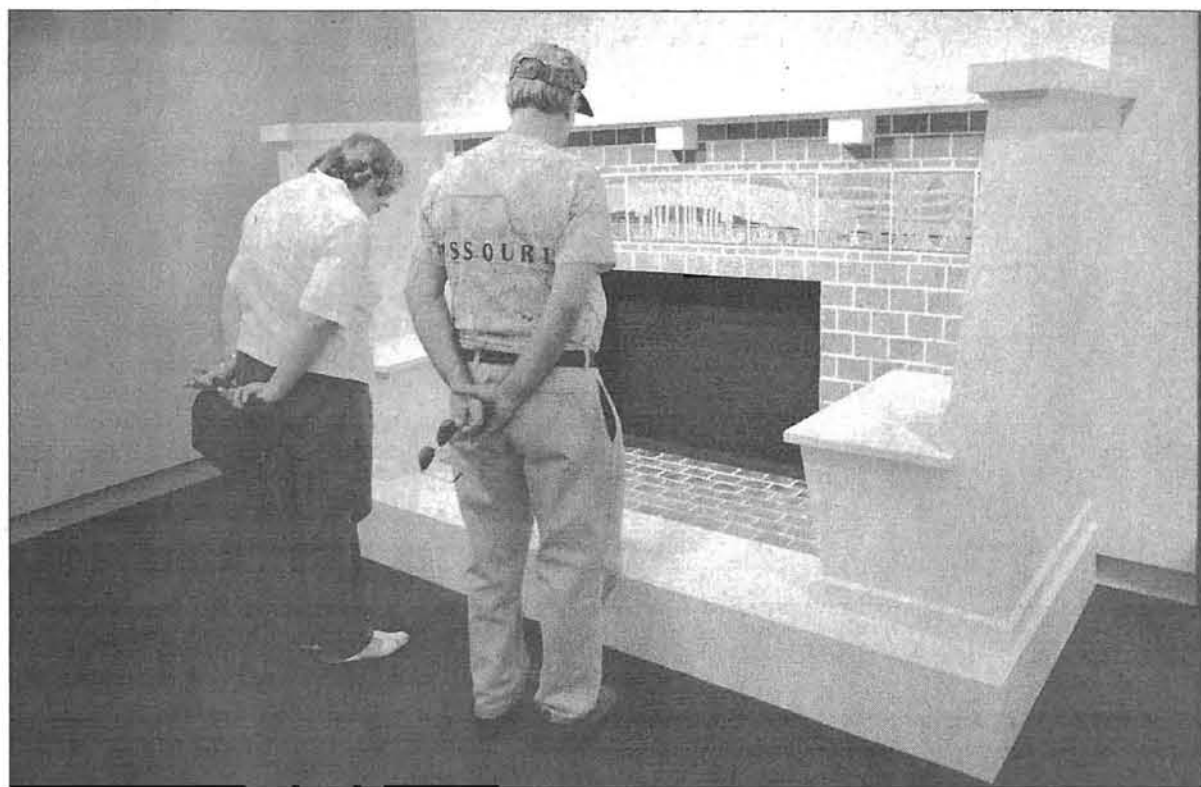
The Saint Louis Art Museum has over 50 sculptures and ceramic works displayed, created in University City from 1910 to 1914.

Barb Jonsen, St. Louis resident, said how she believes that the exhibit displays the talent of St. Louis artists.

"It's great that everything was created almost 100 years ago and that these artists designed their own pieces right here in St. Louis," Jonsen said.

An exhibition catalogue on the display shows a variety of pottery created in St. Louis during the American Arts and Crafts Movement. The catalogue has pictures of different objects and describes the history of the University City Art Academy and Porcelain Works.

Ellen Paul Denker, independent curator and scholar and David Conradsen, assistant curator of decorative arts and design, share their own feelings towards the collection of



Mike Sherwin/The Current

Visitors to the St. Louis Art Museum look at a set of glazed earthenware fireplace tiles designed by Frederick Hurten Rhead in the exhibit 'University City Ceramics' which runs through Oct. 24 in Gallery 120.

ceramics in the catalogue.

Some of the works of art include glazed porcelain vases, earthenware pottery, tile plaques, Christmas vases and fireplace tiles shown in a hand-designed fireplace.

The fireplace was created with built-in seating on both sides. During the early 1900s, many decorative homes and designers installed fireplaces such as the one on display.

Many of the ceramic vases were made using a variety of shapes, vibrant colors, different patterns, stains and

matte crystalline glazes.

Some of the ceramists used clay and porcelain materials to design the vases. After the sculptures were molded, some were painted with flowers or foliage and then coated with protective enamel.

Eileen Pacino, St. Louis resident commented on her favorite piece of work.

"My favorite ceramic in the exhibit is the small flower poppy vase created by the American female ceramist Adelaide Robineau," Pacino said.

Pacino went on to say how she has been so intrigued with the ceramic pieces that she has visited the exhibit twice.

Other features of the exhibit are photos of the University City's pottery school, pictures of the ceramists working, a painted tile picture and information about each artists and their works.

This exhibit is provided by the Enterprise Rent-A-Car Foundation and will be open to viewers until Oct. 24, in Gallery 120 of the Saint Louis Art Museum.

**AMNESTY, from page 6**

Matt Bales, junior, psychology and AI Treasurer described who is eligible to join and the process of becoming a member.

"We are always seeking new members," Bales said. "We have an open-door policy. Anyone and everyone is welcomed to join."

Students can sign an email list, inquire interest through email or attend the meetings to become a member.

AI holds weekly meetings on Wednesdays at 12:30 p.m. and meeting locations are sent through group emails.

Bales said that members are not required to attend all meetings. Since the group is constantly communicating through the Internet everyone involved can stay up to date with what is going on.

One activity that AI partakes in is writing letters of "Urgent Action." Sometimes these letters are sent to government officials about different human right topic.

AI also hosts a variety of events throughout the year.

"One of the biggest events is the Midwestern Regional Conference, which will be held this year at Saint

Louis University (SLU). This event gives students the chance to attend different activist's workshops, discuss different causes and find out general information about our group," Bales said.

This year 300 to 400 people are expected to attend the AI Midwestern Regional Conference.

Another event is scheduled to take place Oct. 26 through Oct. 28. A table will be set up on the MSC Bridge holding the "Donate a Phone Campaign." Group members will be collecting old cell phones and in return sending them to shelters to help stop

domestic violence. Victims of violence are encouraged to use the phones whenever they are in trouble.

"Last year, we brought in a variety of guest speakers and during the "Donate a Phone" drive we raised 60 phones in three days," Conner said.

Other planned events include an upcoming film night and an anti-domestic violence walk.

Anyone who is interested in becoming an AI member is encouraged to email the group at amnesty\_umsl@yahoo.com.



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The Associated Students of the University of Missouri

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There are currently three open board seats. These seats shall be filled by election at the next SGA Assembly meeting. For more information about the ASUM board, please come to the ASUM office in 375 MSC or call x5835 and ask for Ben DeClue. These positions are unpaid.



# SPORTS

## Riverwomen split weekend series, lose to Missouri Baptist

BY DAVE SECKMAN  
Staff Writer

After starting the season with three wins in four games, the Riverwomen never would have thought their luck could change so quickly. In the last three games they have had completely opposite results of what they experienced earlier this season. The team has been very unlucky. Not only have they faced four teams in the top twenty-five in their first seven games, but they have done well against all of them and have received only half of what they expected.

In the weekend opener the Riverwomen faced the seventh-ranked Eagles of Ashland University, a team that has beaten them for the past four seasons. Nonetheless, the Riverwomen came out with high intensity to try and offset the Eagles and their high power offense.

Ashland was able to take the early lead in the seventeenth minute of the game as midfielder Jen Berardinelli capitalized on an early defensive mistake on the first corner kick of the game. The Eagles would then find the net again only four minutes later when Berardinelli would score her second of the game on another corner kick. Ashland took this two-goal lead into the half.

The second half contained many bright spots for the Riverwomen as they outshot and outplayed the Eagles from start to finish. The Eagles would fend off every offensive attack that UM-St. Louis would mount, however, and would eventually add a third goal with only ten minutes left in the game to seal the deal and end the Riverwomen's hope for a comeback.

Junior Mandy Meendering commented on the match

"I thought that the score really did not accurately represent how we played in the game. I think we played equal to their level for most of the match, but they just took better advantage of the opportunities they had to score," Meendering said.

After a disappointing loss to Ashland the Riverwomen were determined to come back and find victory in the next match. They faced Mercyhurst University in a very important regional game and from the beginning of the game the Riverwomen dominated possession of the ball and controlled the tempo.

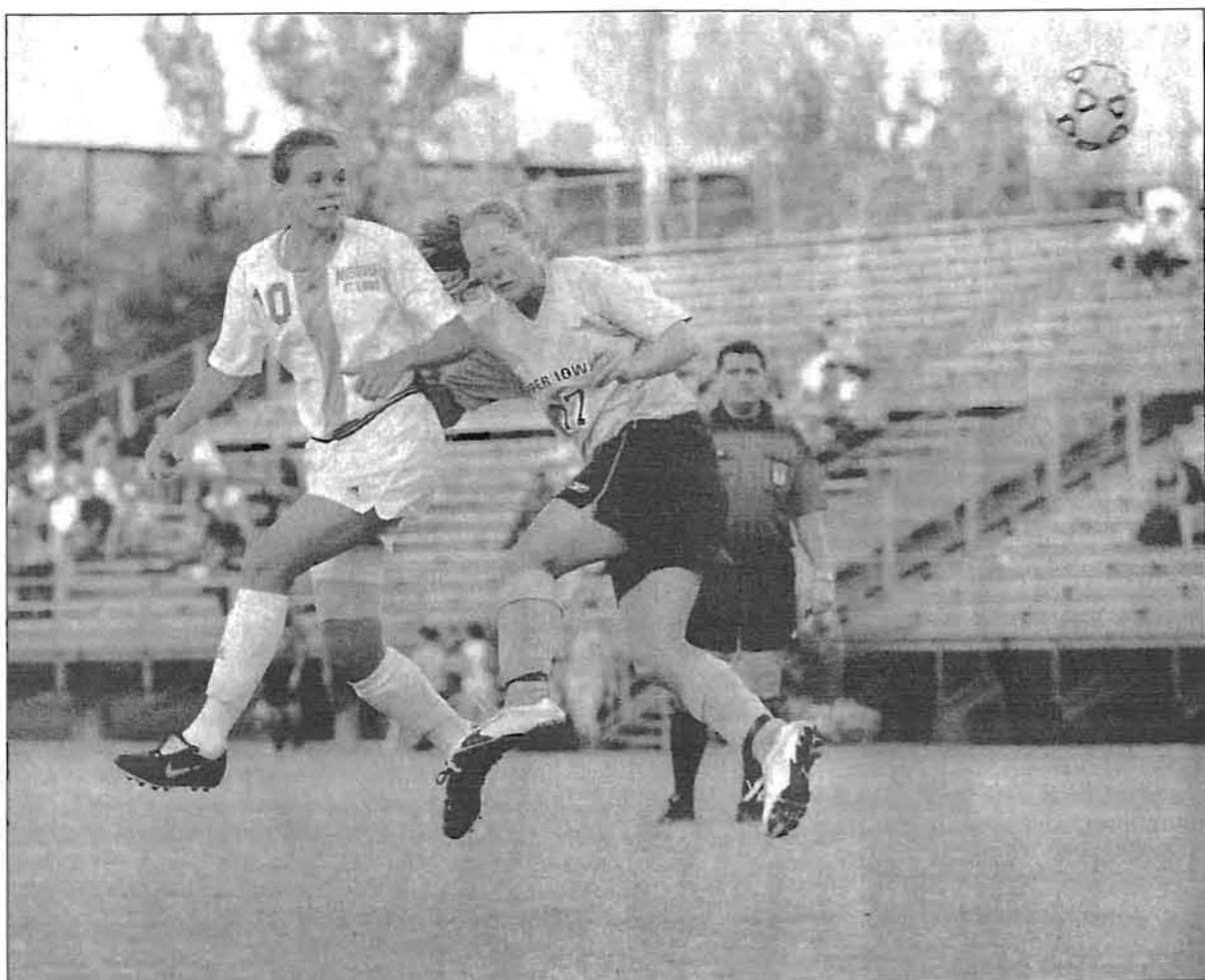
The Riverwomen launched several attacks on the net, and would finally put one away with only twelve minutes left in the half. Meendering scored on a header off of the first corner kick of the game for UM-St. Louis. Junior Emily Worley assisted Meendering, giving the Riverwomen a one-goal lead as they headed into halftime.

Mercyhurst put up a good fight in the second half, but eventually came out on the losing end of the battle as the Riverwomen won the game 1-0. The Riverwomen outshot Mercyhurst 17-10 for the game and came out of the weekend series in Ohio with the much-needed win and a split.

Meendering again commented on the game.

"We were very evenly matched with them throughout most of the game. I thought that we did a great job of keeping possession of the ball for most of the first half and did a good job creating several chances to score. We struggled a little in the second half, but I think we were still the better team overall," Meendering said.

With a well-earned split under their belts, things looked good for the Riverwomen as they traveled back home to face Missouri Baptist



Mike Sherwin/The Current

Midfielder Meghan Tregresser gets some air while vying for a header with an Upper Iowa player on Friday evening. Tregresser had one goal and one assist in the 7-0 victory.

College. Things got off to a good start for the Riverwomen as Sonya Hauan caught the goalie out of position and put the ball away for the one goal lead early in the match. However, for the rest of the half the Riverwomen failed to capitalize on several key chances near the Missouri Baptist end of the field and this would come back to haunt them at the end of the night.

In the second half neither team

started off well as they played keep-away for the first fifteen minutes. Then with only a little over twenty minutes to go in the game Missouri Baptist took advantage of a lucky break and scored on a penalty kick to tie the game at one goal a piece. Missouri Baptist would strike luck once again as they scored only a minute later on an UM-St. Louis defensive error and rebounded a shot into the net for the lead. Even

though the Riverwomen would outshoot Missouri Baptist 9-7 in the second half, the second goal proved to be enough because the Riverwomen could not find another goal to tie and Missouri Baptist escaped with a win.

The Riverwomen are now 4-3 on the season and hope to continue their winning ways once again as they prepare for the upcoming conference season.

**JAMES DAUGHERTY**

Sports Editor

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Questions  
or  
Comments?

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

**UPCOMING**

**Women's Soccer**  
Sept. 26

• vs. Kentucky Wesleyan  
2:30 p.m.

Oct. 1

• at Indianapolis  
2:30 p.m.

**Men's Soccer**

Sept. 24

• vs. Bellarmine  
5 p.m.

Sept. 26

• vs. Kentucky Wesleyan  
Noon

**Volleyball**

Sept. 25

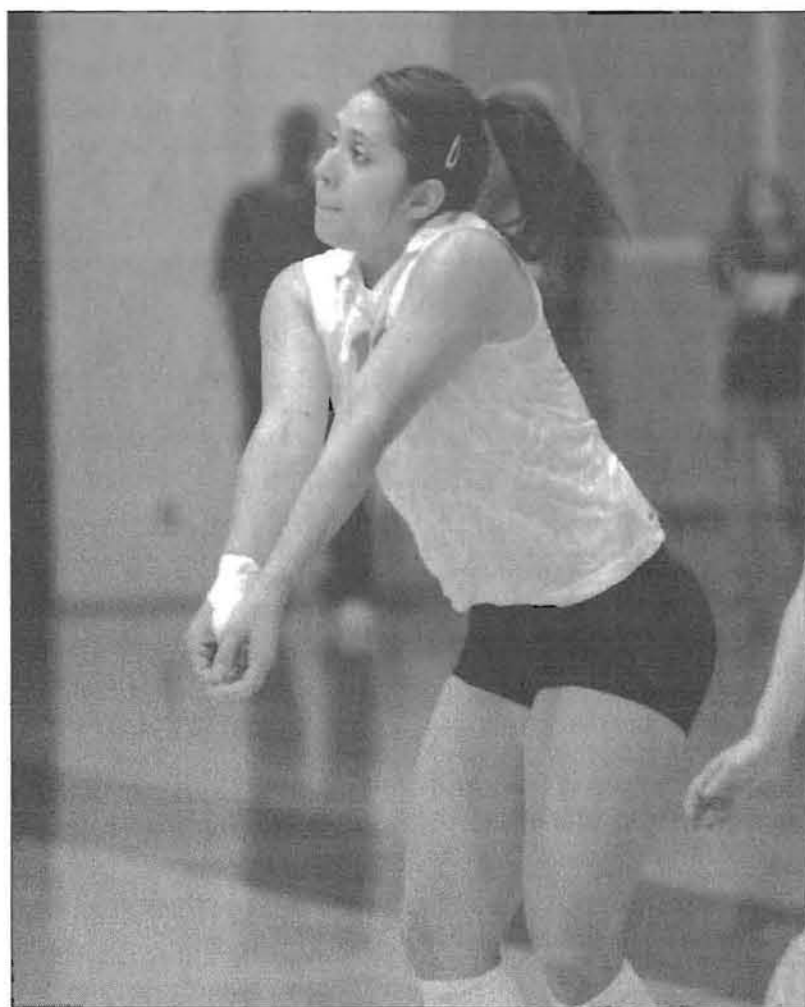
• at Bellarmine  
1 p.m.

**Women's Tennis**

Sept. 22

• at Lewis and Clark  
3:30 p.m.

\* Admission to all games held at UM-St. Louis is free for all students with their school ID.



Mike Sherwin/The Current

Claudia Medina, a freshman outside hitter for the Riverwomen, prepares to bump in a recent match. The Riverwomen recently hit the road for several away games, where they won one of the four games they played.

BY DAVE SECKMAN  
Staff Writer

The UM-St. Louis volleyball team recently ran into tough times for the first time this season as they lost three out of four matches in a weekend tournament at St. Xavier College. The Riverwomen played four matches in a two-day span and came out with only one victory, though they almost won three.

The first match of the weekend proved to be one of the best for the Riverwomen as they battled Aquinas College in a heartbreaking four game loss. Aquinas came out blazing, winning the first game 30-20, hitting three more kills and getting three more assists than the Riverwomen.

The second game was much closer, but Aquinas came out with a tough 30-24 win. Although they lost, the Riverwomen had nine more assists than Aquinas in the game and were left wondering what they had to do to finally get on the board.

In the third game of the match the Riverwomen eventually found the groove that they had been looking for and came out with a much needed 30-21 win, hitting three more kills and getting ten more assists than Aquinas did.

Although the momentum seemed to be swinging towards the Riverwomen, Aquinas caught a break near the end of the fourth game and eventually won a nail biter 32-30, coming out with the win 3-1. Heather Nichols led the team with 13 kills for the game and senior Ashley Richmond led the way with 29 assists.

Senior Daria Sak commented on the match.

"The match against Aquinas was a great experience for us as a team. I think we finally came together for the first time and that everyone left their hearts on the court," Sak said.

The second match of the day faced the Riverwomen against the hometown favorites St. Xavier. From the beginning UM-St. Louis showed that they were the better team, putting up an impressive .333 hitting percentage and finishing on sixteen kills to win the first game 30-23.

The second game was much of the same as the Riverwomen showed even more dominance and completely took St. Xavier out of their game, eventually winning 30-19. Ultimately the team would end up closing the third game 30-20.

In the third match of the weekend the Riverwomen saw new faces across the net as they played Iowa Wesleyan. The match was tough from the beginning, as UM-St. Louis found themselves in a hole after losing the first game 30-17.

In the second game of the match, the Riverwomen hit .400 and put away 18 kills. Scoring alternated for both teams until the very end when Wesleyan proved to be too strong once again, prevailing 30-26.

In the third game Iowa Wesleyan eventually pulled away from the Riverwomen as they hit for 14 kills and made only six errors to win another close one 30-24. Freshman Claudia Medina tallied 12 kills for the Riverwomen and Ashley Richmond had a bundle of assists, marking up 32 for the match.

To finish out the tournament, the Riverwomen played regional foe Bethel College. This match proved to be the toughest one of the weekend as the Riverwomen had trouble hanging in the first two games and lost 30-22 and 30-19.

The third game proved to be the best for the Riverwomen as they hit .317 and tallied up 17 kills as a team, but it was still not enough to pull out the game and they eventually fell 30-28 to a strong Bethel squad.

Medina led the way again by adding 11 kills to her tournament total of 43 to lead the team. Ashley Richmond added 30 assists to add to the team efforts.

**SPORTS EDITORIAL**

## Campus recreation: asset to UMSL life

BY JAMES DAUGHERTY  
Sports Editor

Since arriving here, I have heard so many students complain about UM-St. Louis. It is true that there are problems with this University, but there are problems with everything in life.

I think that our biggest fault is seeing the negative and totally missing the positive. It would take many articles to address all of the positive points of this University, so for the moment I will just address one of those positive points that we have continually overlooked: campus recreation.

The greatest obstacle this campus faces is discovering how to successfully reach the student body with the

wide array of programs that are offered. There is nothing wrong with the programs; it is simply that there does not seem to be a way to connect to the vast majority of students. The athletic department and entire University for that matter, is attempting to remedy this problem, and Rec Sports is certainly no exception.

Well, it used to be Rec Sports. Rec Sports is now officially known as "Campus Recreation." The name has changed to let students know that there is much more to the University recreational department than competitive intramurals. Along with the name change, Campus Recreation has moved from under the jurisdiction of athletics to Residential Life. Because of this shift, residents are finally discovering the opportunities

presented by Campus Recreation.

Though a very recent change, this has caused significant growth in recreational programs on campus. The reason? Basically, students on campus are starting to realize all of the benefits offered by the recreational programs. Campus Recreation has offered on-campus activities for years now, but the biggest change between now and then is the student body's interest. Quite frankly, most students did not even know it existed; its main offices were in the Mark Twain Athletic Center where only workout fanatics and physical education students ventured. Now things are changing.

Campus Recreation decided to have stronger ties with residential life to increase participation. There is

now a satellite office in the Provincial House and more teams are representing campus residents: Co-ed volleyball has a new residential hall team and a new team out of the University Meadows and flag football now has a team out of the residential hall. These are welcome newcomers since several members of die-hard teams graduated last semester.

However, those are not the only programs growing. The Golf Scramble, hosted by Campus Recreation, had 18 teams of four players participate. This past weekend's softball tournament included six full teams, plus family members. Many new faces are already signing up for the very popular soccer league. The way it is looking, many

more teams will make sign up before the Sept. 28 deadline.

These changes have provoked a newly-designed website. The website can be found on the UM-St. Louis homepage under athletics and lists every recreational outing that occurs on this campus. For example, aerobics is in full-swing but still open to new faces and on Sept. 25 all students are invited to go horseback riding.

Campus Recreation has gone unnoticed by so many students for so many years. Finally, students are beginning to take interest and enjoy some of the good points at UM-St. Louis. I hope that along with the other changes taking place, the negative attitude towards our University will also change.



Kevin Ottley/The Current

The Riverwomen tennis team practices on Friday afternoon.

## Tennis women win one, lose one

BY JAMES DAUGHERTY  
Sports Editor

The UM-St. Louis women's tennis team continued conference play this past week with a win at Saint Joseph's University and losses against Lewis University and SIU-Edwardsville. The first match was played Sept. 11 against Saint Joseph's University.

The Riverwomen got off to a good start with victories at both one and two doubles. The one doubles team Krissy Howard and Devon Foy won 8-3, and the two team Lauren Daugherty and Neringa Bandzeviciute won 8-4. Even after losing at three doubles, the Riverwomen had a 2-1 lead and dominated in singles. Howard won 6-1, 6-1 at two singles, Foy won 6-3, 6-0 at three, Daugherty 6-1, 6-3 at four, and Bronson crushed her opponent 6-0, 6-0 at five to give UM-St. Louis the 6-2 victory. Bronson was very pleased with her match.

"I was proud of the way I played because it was a very slow-paced game, which is usually very difficult for me. You tend to beat yourself in slow matches because you have to have so much control. It was nice to get the shutout, but it definitely was not a walk in the park," said Bronson.

Several hours later the Riverwomen were on the court again

against a very tough Lewis University team. Lewis swept all three doubles matches easily and the Riverwomen were down 3-0. In singles the story stayed much the same. Only Foy managed to even come close, playing a 6-4 first set before dropping the second 6-1. The team ended with a 9-0 loss. Bronson claimed that doubles is difficult for several reasons:

"I cannot speak for the rest of the girls, but Julie (Williams) and I are slow starters. We have not played together very much, so we don't anticipate as well as we could. Since doubles is an 8-game proset, you do not have time to get behind" said Bronson.

The Riverwomen had their next match Sept. 14 against SIU-Edwardsville. The Riverwomen eventually succumbed 6-3. In doubles, the Riverwomen's Achilles-heel, they started down 3-0 in yet another match. Howard and Foy both played great matches at two and three singles: Howard won 7-6(5), 6-4, and Foy won 6-2, 7-6(3). Bronson also followed with an easier 6-3, 6-2 win, but it was not enough as SIU-Edwardsville won the other singles matches to walk away with the 6-3 win.

The tennis team is led in individual wins by both Howard and Foy, who are 4-3 on the year. The team is 1-6 overall and will play Lewis and Clark University on Sept. 22.

## On a roll... Men win third straight soccer game

BY JAMES DAUGHERTY  
Sports Editor

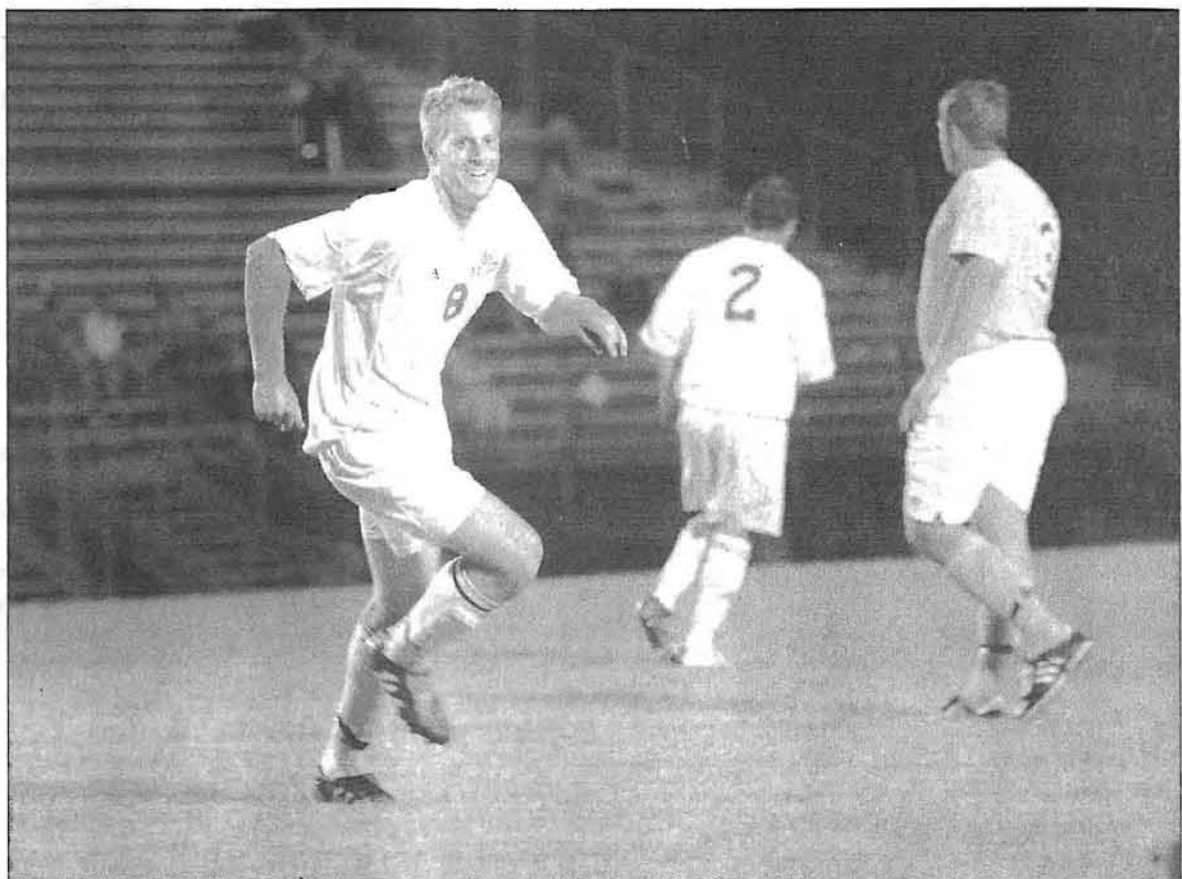
The UM-St. Louis men's soccer team increased their winning streak to three Sept. 17 with a 2-1 win over Hannibal-LaGrange College. This game was particularly personal for the Rivermen, who suffered a 2-0 defeat at the hands of Hannibal-LaGrange last year. The Rivermen took an early lead when Alan Jujic notched his third assist of the year when he found Jeff Menke, who scored at the 20:00 mark for his second goal of the season. Just ten minutes later, Pat Devereux and Mark Meyer contributed on a play that landed the ball at Adam Bimslager's feet. Bimslager scored a team-high third goal of the season, giving the Rivermen a 2-0 lead. Hannibal-LaGrange fought back fiercely in the first half, but Rivermen goalie Zach Hoette saved all five of their shots on goal.

Hannibal-LaGrange came back with intensity in the second half, but the Rivermen continued to play outstanding defense. Hannibal-LaGrange finally asserted its offense at the 65:00 mark and scored to close the gap 2-1. Both teams had shots on goal in the second half, but neither would score again and UM-St. Louis went on to take the 2-1 win. The win puts the Rivermen at 3-3 on the year. Coach Dan King is pleased with the recent turnaround.

"We are just getting to know each other better, to learn our team personality and define our goals, on and off of the field. Leaders are starting to emerge. We just beat three teams that beat us last year, so that tells us we have improved," said King.

The game was another remarkable showing by Hoette, who had seven total saves and only one goal against. In his last three games Hoette has accumulated twelve saves and allowed only two goals. King commented on Hoette's success.

"We got Hoette because we



Mike Sherwin/The Current

Midfielder Dave Seckman is jubilant after scoring his second of two goals against the Upper Iowa University Peacocks on Friday night at the Mark Twain Athletic Building. Seckman also had two assists as the Rivermen pummeled Upper Iowa 9-2. The victory was the third straight for the Rivermen.

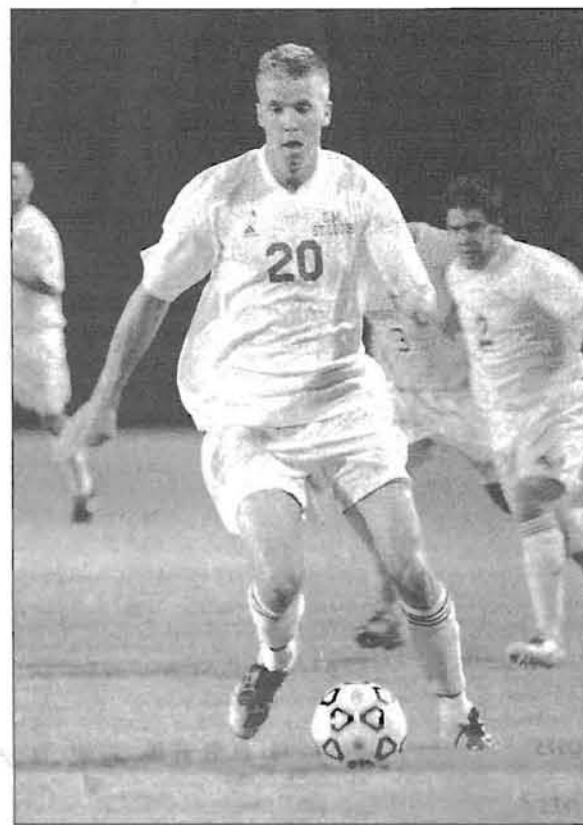
wanted someone that would come in and contribute right away. He has come in and established a presence in the net," said King.

On offense, Bimslager leads all players with six points, followed by Jujic with five and Menke with four.

The Rivermen will start their conference season coming up and will need all of the support that the University can give them. King explained why.

"I expect a battle every game during the conference season. This is one of the toughest conferences in the nation, so every time you get a win you are thankful and go forward with it," said King.

The UM-St. Louis men's soccer team will be in action next against conference foe Bellarmine on Sept. 24 at 5 p.m. The game will take place on campus at the Mark Twain Athletic Building.



Rivermen forward Matt Anderson moves the ball downfield during the game Friday night against Upper Iowa University. Anderson scored two goals during the game, helping to lead the way for a 9-2 victory.

Mike Sherwin/The Current

## Softball starts season on the fly

BY DAVE SECKMAN  
Staff Writer

After last season's success the Riverwomen softball team continues to roll along as they opened up fall ball just a few weekends ago. Last season the team went 27-27 on the season and 9-9 in the GLVC conference. The Riverwomen won 12 more games last spring than they did in the spring of 2003, marking the largest single season turnaround in the team's history.

This fall the team is already looking to continue last season's success as they started off the season against Meramec Community College. Although the regular season does not begin until the spring, the fall serves as a perfect time to work on last year's weaknesses.

In the first of a three game set versus Meramec, UM-St. Louis came out of the blocks a little rusty and could not produce much offense in the first few innings of play. As the game went on things started to look a little better for the Riverwomen, but they could not pull it together quickly enough to hold onto victory and suffered a 5-3 loss.

Head coach Nicky Durmin commented on the game.

"We came out a little slow to start off with," said Durmin. "You can only hope to get better as time goes on, and to improve on the things you need to improve on," Durmin said.

The head coach was absolutely correct as the team came out much quicker in the second game and grabbed an early lead. Throughout the first part of the game the two teams traded runs and

this continued until it led to extra innings. The game lasted into the tenth inning, when the Riverwomen finally got the hit that they needed, driving in the winning run and sealing their first victory of the fall season.

Winning the second game proved to be the spark that the Riverwomen needed as they came out in the third game of the day ready to play from the beginning. From the first inning the game was in their hands as they controlled the tempo with great pitching and solid hitting. The Riverwomen put runs on the board in each of the first two innings and never looked back, winning easily 7-2. This put their record at 2-1 on the fall season, and with a few new names joining the lineup, such as Jessica Keim, this team will certainly only get better.



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## MOVIE REVIEW

# Retro-futuristic 'Sky Captain' soars across the screen

BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-  
HOMEYER  
A&E Editor

The title "Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow" sounds like the name of a futuristic tale of 1939 and in some ways, the film that bears this title is exactly that. In other ways, "Sky Captain" is a present-day futuristic, cutting-edge special effects film. The film manages to be both at the same time.

Only the actors are real in this film, everything else is computer generated. The retro-look "Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow" may take place in a 1939 world of the future, but the live action-computer animation blend that made this film is state-of-the-art now. There are no real sets or locations in this CGI world where a Buck Rogers-Indiana Jones-old Superman tale spins out against visual references to films like the silent classic "Metropolis" and early sound "King Kong," with actors in period clothes amid 1930s sets. The actors are real but the Art Deco sets are not.

The blending of live action and animation is so seamless that it is necessary to point it out to audiences. The



Photo courtesy rottentomatoes.com

technique is the kind of leap forward that audiences saw with the first "Star Wars" movie. It is enough to flutter the hearts of old-movie and old-comic book buffs and CGI techie geeks alike. Whether it will have the same effect on a larger audience remains to be seen.

The retro-futuristic idea is delight-

fully fresh. The story is pure old-style comic book. In a 1939 world as conceived in 1929, there appear to be no Nazis and the Hindenburg III is docking in New York at the Empire State Building. Lois Lane-type hotshot reporter Polly Perkins (Gwyneth Paltrow) is working on a story about

German scientists mysteriously disappearing when huge robots suddenly attack New York City. A call goes out to Sky Captain, Joe Sullivan (Jude Law) and his high-tech team to save the city. Sky Captain arrives not in a space ship, but a 1930's fighter plane to fight off the attack and rescue the

fearless if foolish Polly who, of course, has her heart set on photographing the giant robots regardless of the danger. But Polly has learned that someone named Totenkoff may be behind the attacks. The story is the kind of rip-roaring adventure you would expect with either Buck Rogers or Superman, with ray guns, spaceships, an evil genius, a girl to rescue and a world to save.

Will this old-school story play with young audiences? The retro aspects and the technical innovations mean this film will hook at least these two audiences, but if it will work as well for audiences in the middle who are neither film buffs nor savvy to the technical accomplishments, is the question. Possibly audiences unfamiliar with old film references will just be confused or unmoved by all the whiz-bang sailing over their heads.

"Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow" is sprinkled with cultural references and stock characters from old comics and old movies of an earlier era. There are countless visual references to old films, including shots reminiscent of the German Expressionist fantasy world in the opening of "Metropolis."

see SKY CAPTAIN, page 11

## THEATER REVIEW

### Barbara Eden shines in 'The Odd Couple'

BY MELIQUEICA MEADOWS  
Staff Writer

With the velvety voice of Frank Sinatra playing gently in the background, the crowd settled in Friday night at the Touhill to see the latest incarnation of the acclaimed Neil Simon play, "The Odd Couple." This time the play had an interesting twist.

The original version of "The Odd Couple" debuted in 1965. Three years later the popular play was turned into a motion picture starring actors Jack Lemmon and Walter Matthau. Later a television series of the same name was created and starred actors Tony Randall and Jack Klugman.

In the female version of "The Odd Couple," Felix and Oliver have been transformed into Florence and Olive. Barbara Eden portrays Florence and actress Rita McKenzie is Olive; two divorced women struggling to come to terms with the single life. Think "Golden Girls" meets "Sex in the City."

On the acting side, the performance was nearly flawless except when one character was supposed to go into the kitchen to get a Diet Coke for her friend and accidentally went into the bathroom instead. Several audience members audibly remarked when the actress emerged from the bathroom with a glass of soda. The other actresses continued their dialogue without calling attention to the blunder.

Throughout the evening, there were technical difficulties with the sound equipment and microphones for several of the actors. One actress even tried to correct the problem by discreetly adjusting her microphone to no avail.

see ODD COUPLE, page 11

## THEATER REVIEW

# The Repertory Theater's 'Crucible' finds modern parallels

Bernadette Quigley and Christopher Burns star as Elizabeth Proctor in the Repertory Theater's production of Arthur Miller's 'The Crucible,' which runs Sept. 8 through Oct. 8.



Photo by J. Bruce Summers

BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-  
HOMEYER  
A&E Editor

Arthur Miller wrote "The Crucible," his great play about the Salem witch hunt trials of 1692, in the shadow of the recently concluded 1950s Joe McCarthy House Un-American Activities Communist witch hunt. Miller intended to draw parallels between the two events, but the production at the Repertory Theater of St. Louis draws a third parallel to the present day's polarized and hysterical political climate. Despite being a play set in the 1600s and written in the 1950s, "The Crucible" is surprisingly timely with its tale of how a few individuals can play on the fears of many to create a climate of hysteria that is to their advantage.

The Rep's production stars Christopher Burns and Bernadette Quigley as John and Elizabeth Proctor, the central characters at the heart of this drama. They are supported by Anderson Mathews as Reverend Parris, Tim Altmeyer as Rev. Hale, Stephanie Cozart as young Abigail

and Joneal Joplin as Judge Danforth.

Reverend Samuel Parris (Anderson Mathews), the unpopular minister of colonial Salem, is dismayed at having caught his daughter Betty (Gretchen Porro) dancing, a forbidden activity, in the woods with his Haitian slave Tituba (Chandra Thomas) and some of the other village girls. When Betty appears to be sick the next morning, the whole village is talking about it and Parris, who is worried about both his standing in the village and whether his daughter might be under a spell, sends for Rev. Hale (Tim Altmeyer), an expert in witchcraft, to come and clear them of any such allegations. Parris' eagerness to put himself above suspicion opens the door for his niece Abigail (Stephanie Cozart) and the other girls to cover their own misbehavior by claiming that they are being influenced by witchcraft, the most sinister charge possible.

Soon the claims of the girls escalate and the villagers are turning on each other to distance themselves from the charges. In the small village, everyone knows everyone else's secrets and there are plenty of old scores to settle. The most simple

things now look like guilty acts and no one questions the motives of the "innocent" girls as they writhe and call out names of the "witches." Parris' niece Abigail takes the role of leader of the girls, with her own agenda.

John Procter (Christopher Burns), a farmer at the edge of town, scoffs at the whole process and tries to stay out of it. Judge Danforth (Joneal Joplin) is called in to oversee the trials as the suspicions rise. Caught up in the initial fears of witchcraft, villagers question each other's actions, reading sinister meaning into ordinary events. As the witch hunts devolve into the tyranny of a few, the voices of reason are drowned out, everyone is fearful to speak and the most respected members of the village are not above suspicion. Young Abigail, now in charge and harboring feelings for John from a brief relationship, uses her power to bring charges against Proctor's wife Elizabeth (Bernadette Quigley).

The focus of the drama is the relationship between John and Elizabeth Proctor. In some staging of the play, the marriage is too solid or Elizabeth is played as too saintly.

see THE CRUCIBLE, page 12

## MUSIC REVIEW

# Who can beat Nelly?

## Nelly can.



BY TANA ROGERS  
Staff Writer

Nelly pulled out all the stops this time. After winning three Grammy's and selling millions and millions of albums a few times, what else is there for a rapper to do?

The St. Louis artist decided to release two albums on the same day, except he tried a different approach. Instead of a double-disc set, such as those released by Outkast and many other artists, "Sweat" and "Suit" are sold separately.

The singles from the respective albums give fans a clue as to what to expect from each CD. Play "Sweat," which includes single "Flap Your Wings," to hear Nelly's dance or club songs that get any party started. The mellow and romantic "My Place" featuring Jaheim represents what "Suit" has to offer.

Although Nelly is famous for club jams such as "Hot in Herre" from "Nellyville," he will make bodies move with much more musically inspiring songs on "Sweat." The album opens with "Heart of a Champion" featuring Lincoln University Vocal Ensemble. With the superior choir and horns, Nelly's inspirational message resounds.

Another musical highlight on the "party" album is Nelly and Christina Aguilera's teamwork effort, "Tilt Ya Head Back." With a sample from Curtis Mayfield's "Superfly," Nelly takes rap to a

new level with this jazzy, soulful, and sexy song.

Just in case someone did not know, Nelly has made it. His "money getting stronger like its takin' create." In "Grand Hang Out" he explains that he has no problem dropping a "g" on any given night. The talented Bronx rapper Fat Joe and Remy Martin of Terror Squad collaborate with Nelly on this track which will definitely get heads nodding. Young Tru also makes an appearance on the song with his clever lyrics. He is a rapper on Nelly's Derry Entertainment label.

Numerous artists appear on "Sweat," including, of course, the St. Lunatics. Nelly united with his group to create "Getcha Getcha," an album favorite. No one could keep from dancing to this song. Ali's voice adds some smoothness to the song and Murphy Lee keeps it real with his playful lyrics.

After hitting the club or cruising, when the time comes to wind down Nelly wants everyone to switch to "Suit." This CD is mature and classy, and at the start of "She Don't Know My Name," Nelly says it's "for the 25 and older crowd." Talented musical heavyweights Snoop Dogg, T.I., Mase, Tim McGraw, Anthony Hamilton, and the legendary Ron Isley assist on "Suit."

Latin-inspired "Paradise" and "Woodgrain and Leather Wit a Hole" stand out on the more laid back album. These songs highlight Nelly's relaxed voice. The

artist sings about girls and green over expertly crafted beats.

Nelly does not let listeners down at the end of "Suit." There is something for everyone in the final four songs. "In My Life" matches mellow-voiced Nelly with Mase's signature slow drawl generating a surprisingly upbeat and happy song. Avery Storm, of Nelly's Derry Entertainment label, adds the final piece of the puzzle to this "Suit" favorite.

In an unprecedented move, Nelly and country star Tim McGraw sing together on "Over and Over." Near the end of the song, there is a beautiful duet that embodies the "my woman left me" blues of country music, while still maintaining Nelly's style.

Jermaine Dupri produced "Nobody Knows" with its bumpin' beats, and soul singer Anthony Hamilton sings the hook. Nelly spits lyrics about his life as he was growing up. He stresses that when things go badly, "somebody else got it worse than you." Finally, in "Die for You" Nelly shows his compassionate side describing what it is like to be a father.

Both "Sweat" and "Suit" offer great songs. Nelly shows his creativity with hot, new music, and also his popularity with so many talented artists and hit-makers, including Jazze Pha, Mobb Deep, and Missy Elliot. By releasing two albums on the same day, Nelly creates competition with himself. This does not create a problem, however, because the only rapper who could beat Nelly in sales probably is Nelly.



# Russell is a barrel of laughs at the PAC

BY MELIQUEICA MEADOWS  
Staff Writer

Who knew politics and current events could actually be funny? Saturday evening, the Touhill Performing Arts Center was full of laughs when political satirist Mark Russell delivered a performance full of humorous jokes and musical parodies.

Russell, best known for his PBS comedy specials, kept the crowd in stitches with his political humor. For over thirty years, Russell has been performing his unique brand of comedy in his hometown of Buffalo, New York and on college campuses across the country.

Russell was obviously excited about performing in Missouri and said, "Any state that could give the world Harry Truman, Phyllis Diller and John Ashcroft is a humorous state." He then launched into his set, which included jabs at the current war in Iraq and the quality of life for Iraqis.

"Good news," Russell announced to the crowd. "We have liberated the people of Iraq from Saddam and electricity."

The stage in the Anheuser-Busch Performance Hall of the PAC was simply adorned with an American flag and a piano draped in a patriotic blue cloth covered with white stars. The setting was perfect for Russell's comedic style of political commentary, which pokes fun at everything from the election process to the spouses of United States presidential candidates.

Teresa Heinz-Kerry, wife of Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry, has been a target of late night talk show hosts, comedians and political pundits alike. The crowd laughed loudly as Russell sang the parody, "How Do You Solve a Problem Like Teresa," referring to Kerry's outspoken spouse. Politics aside, Russell even made fun of the style of dress and demeanor of Kerry and his running mate, John Edwards. He went on to comment that when standing side by side, Kerry and Edwards look like "two guys on top of a wedding cake."

Russell even weighed in on the recent conviction of Martha Stewart when he quipped, "When Martha Stewart goes to prison, you know the license plates will be prettier."

The Republican Party did not escape Russell's jokes. Referring to Vice President Dick Cheney and his recent use of an expletive during a Senatorial debate, Russell sang "Wash Your Mouth Dick Cheney."

see MARK RUSSELL, page 12

MOVIE REVIEW

# Sayles strikes gold with 'Silver City'

BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER  
Movie Critic

Director John Sayles is a stalwart of indie filmmaking. Sayles has maintained his independence over the years, eschewing the lure of big studio bucks to continue to make the kind of populist films he cares about. His latest effort, "Silver City" is a detective-mystery tale that has a goodly dose of political parody to it. Once again, Sayles strikes gold.

Shooting an outdoorsy political ad near Silver City, Colorado, candidate for governor Dickie Pilager (Chris Cooper) snags something unpleasant when casting a fishing line in the picturesque lake—a dead body. Pilager's handler Chuck Raven (Richard Dreyfuss) launches an investigation into whether the surprise could be an attempt to sabotage the carefully orchestrated election bid of Senator Pilager's (Michael Murphey) son Dickie. The Silver City location is not only scenic, but the abandoned gold mining camp is at the heart of the Pilager family's fortune. The mine is long played out but developers are now looking at reviving the area as a planned community.

Thus starts a hilarious and telling political parody wrapped up as a mystery. The film is really all about the characters and the backdrop of the story, which is full of election

year references. In the spirit of Gulliver's Travels, Cooper's Dickie Pilager is a political parody of a candidate who gets into difficulty when he strays too far from the carefully crafted message and the oversight of his handlers. Clearly, the role is a parody of Bush, with his mangled English, slow-drawl cowboy manner, born-again faith and single-minded if vague pronouncements. Running the real show are his political machine including his corporate-giant backer and family friend Wes Benteen (Kris Kristofferson) and Karl Rove-like campaign manager Chuck Raven.

Parodying Bush in an election year is risky business and seems to have made this film a hot potato, since Sayles reportedly had trouble getting financial backing and had to raise his own funds. As a filmmaker, Sayles is nothing if not fearless.

The story is strong enough that you can enjoy the film even if you could be unaware of the political parody under the mystery tale, although you would then miss most of the humor. And the film is very funny, while making some very serious points about political campaigns, corporate control, and a media that softballs reporting on candidates. The mystery tale that frames the parody is not the afterthought some directors might have made it but is as well-done and involving as in Sayles' earlier film

"Lone Star," a story that shares the same themes of intrigue and buried secrets.

Pilager campaign manager Chuck Raven (Richard Dreyfuss) hires private investigator Danny O'Brien (Danny Huston) to find out if there is a plot to embarrass the candidate. He gives O'Brien a list of names of those who might want to harm the campaign, including the candidate's wild, unconventional sister, Maddy (Darryl Hannah), and tells the investigator to go around and "talk" to each of them to warn them off. O'Brien does this but every time he talks to someone, he uncovers a new puzzle.

The campaign manager is unaware that his investigator is an ex-reporter, and the first visit O'Brien pays is to another ex-reporter, Mitch Paine (Tim Roth), who now runs a left-wing website that exposes corporate wrongdoing. Along the way, he also encounters an ex-girlfriend Nora (Maria Bello) who is still working as a reporter, although as she tells him reporters do not investigate to uncover the truth anymore, they are just entertainers. Miguel Ferrer plays a fiery libertarian radio talk show host, Cliff Castle, who bristles with anger when he perceives that the Pilager campaign is trying to intimidate him. O'Brien does not find a simple answer to where the body came from, but cannot let go of the puzzle



Photo courtesy Bob Marshak, New Market Films

Chris Cooper plays candidate for governor Dickie Pilager of Silver City, Colorado, in the new film 'Silver City.'

after he has visited everyone on the list. Eventually, O'Brien uses the same investigative reporting skills that led to his firing from the paper to uncover more about Pilager than the campaign wants anyone to know.

There are lots of meaty smaller parts in this ensemble film, and all the actors are superb. The fine acting is one of several reasons why this

film is a worthy project. Darryl Hannah is great as the unstable and bitter sister Maddy and Kris Kristofferson's Wes Benteen is chilling as he tell O'Brien that Americans do not pull for the underdog any more, they just love winners. Sal Lopez, who looks remarkably like Willem Dafoe with darker coloring, does a splendid job as chef turned sleuth Tony Guerra. Other

fine performances fill the film. Even if you are tired of politics, writer-director John Sayles has done such a fine job with this film that it is worth the trip to the theater. Once again, Sayles goes beyond the obvious and simple to bring out the real story underneath. As a standard bearer for thought-provoking filmmaking, Sayles is simply a treasure.

SKY CAPTAIN, from page 10

The very look of the film itself is a tribute, with the silvery glowing whites of silver nitrate film or a muted sepia-toned color, peppered with a few doses of full color. One of these color splashes is the 1939 "Wizard of Oz" playing on a movie screen as the backdrop to a scene in a theater, which sets the time period.

There are several references to "King Kong," including the Empire State Building. References to early films are mixed with allusions to old science fiction comics. The title itself comes from the 1939-40 New York World's Fair and "Sky Captain" was only added to it to prevent confusion with the film "The Day After Tomorrow," which came out earlier this year. Most of this detail is delightfully perfect, flawed only by references to "World War I" in this pre-WWII tale. Of course, in 1939, WWI was called "The Great War" since you do not call something "one" until you have that second one.

Polly and Joe's prickly relationship will remind you of Superman and Lois Lane, the characters in "Raiders of the Lost Ark," and even a bit of Katherine Hepburn and Spencer Tracy. There is a strong link to the '30s-40s animated Superman films, where Lois Lane's brand of '20s feminism makes her fearless and independent but also ditzy, maddeningly presumptive, and alluringly feminine. Michael Gambon plays Polly's protective kindly editor Mr. Paley and Giovanni Ribisi plays Sky Captain's gum-chewing, comic book reading, technical whiz sidekick Dex, the fellow who provides the technology and gadgets to back up Sky Captain's heroics. Angelina Jolie plays an eye-patched aero squadron commander and Omid Djalili appears as Sky Captain's Nepalese-speaking assistant in his Himalayan outpost. Ling Bai plays the Mysterious Woman, and archival footage of the late Sir Laurence Olivier portrays Totenkopf.

Filmmaker Kerry Conran devel-

oped the software to do this fabulous retro animation and spent ten years animating six minutes of film before going to the big studios for help. Besides the unique software, the approach to making the film was entirely different. The film was storyboarded first as a retro comic book. Next, like any animated film, the actors read their parts and using their readings, a fully animated version was made, and then a live-action-animated hybrid. The actors then studied the fully animated version before shooting the live action-animated version in

“  
Unlike the '40s-inspired Indiana Jones movies, the...characters...are played fairly straight forward, which suits the heroic style of the '30s.  
”

bare, blue screen studios. The animated portion was then added to create a seamless live action-animated hybrid unlike anything seen before.

But do not look for future efforts to replace the actors with animation. The level of nuance and performance detail that actors bring is still beyond CGI. In this film, these actors do a fine job with their tongue-in-cheek characters and the acting is surprisingly free of the kind of woodenness found in acting with a blue screen, possibly due to having an animated version to help visualize the finished film. Despite the challenge of playing against blue screens on an empty

set, it is hard to imagine that the actors did not have fun playing these parts.

Unlike the '40s-inspired Indiana Jones movies, the story or characters are not undercut with a knowing smirk but are played fairly straight forward, which suits the heroic style of the '30s. "Can I have it?" asks Giovanni Ribisi's just-a-big-kid technical genius Dex when Sky Captain brings a fallen robot back to the base in order to learn its secrets. Ribisi's character is a spot-on version of the alternately brilliant and geeky little brother, sidekick type who seems to inhabit every science fiction movie of the '50s. Gwyneth Paltrow is terrific as the sassy Polly and seems born to play this comic fearless and flighty character. Her scenes with Jude Law work, although Law often seems a bit too boyish and approachable for the square-jawed hero type.

Unlike later, darker-themed comics like Batman or the Punisher, there is no dark, psychological backstory or complex characters that are both good and evil. Like the '30s-'40s Superman comics, characters are either good or bad, and it is the secret plots and hidden cities that are uncovered rather than the hearts of men. This simpler approach is clearly against the overall trend in entertainment films and is one of the things modern audiences will have to embrace to be won over by this film.

Film critics and film history fans, as well as technology fans, are likely to greet "Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow" enthusiastically, but whether a broader audience, unfamiliar with old films or uninterested in technological innovations, will be as impressed remains to be seen. It could go either way. Time will tell if this film becomes a popular favorite like the Indiana Jones and Star Wars films or a cult film. Either way, we are likely to see this live action-animation hybrid again, in the real future.

THE ODD COUPLE, from page 10

Yet the technical problems did not overshadow the solid acting and humorous script.

Florence is devastated after learning that her husband of 14 years wants a divorce. Desperate and confused, she seeks encouragement and sympathy from her tight-knit group of girlfriends, Olive, Sylvie, Renee, Vera, and Mickey.

Also divorced, Olive has poured all of her energy into her career as a television producer and was all but neglected the upkeep of her New York City apartment. Her apartment is the

center of all the action because it is where the friends gather weekly to play Trivial Pursuit and to dish about their love lives.

Once Florence moves into Olive's bachelorette pad, their close friendship is put to the test because the two women are polar opposites. Olive is messy, brash and outspoken. Florence, on the other hand, is neat to a fault and has a personality that aims to please—everyone except herself that is.

What follows are a plethora of funny lines and zany situations. One of the funniest is when Olive sets up a

double date with brothers Jesus and Manolo Costazuela. The crowd laughed throughout the scene, which ends when Florence brings the brothers to tears with the sad story of her divorce.

The audience gave the warmest applause and a standing ovation to the star of the play, Barbara Eden. Eden, who is probably best known for her role as the genie on the hit television show "I Dream of Jeannie" graciously bowed to the audience, crossed her arms over her chest and with her infamous genie head bob, exited the stage.

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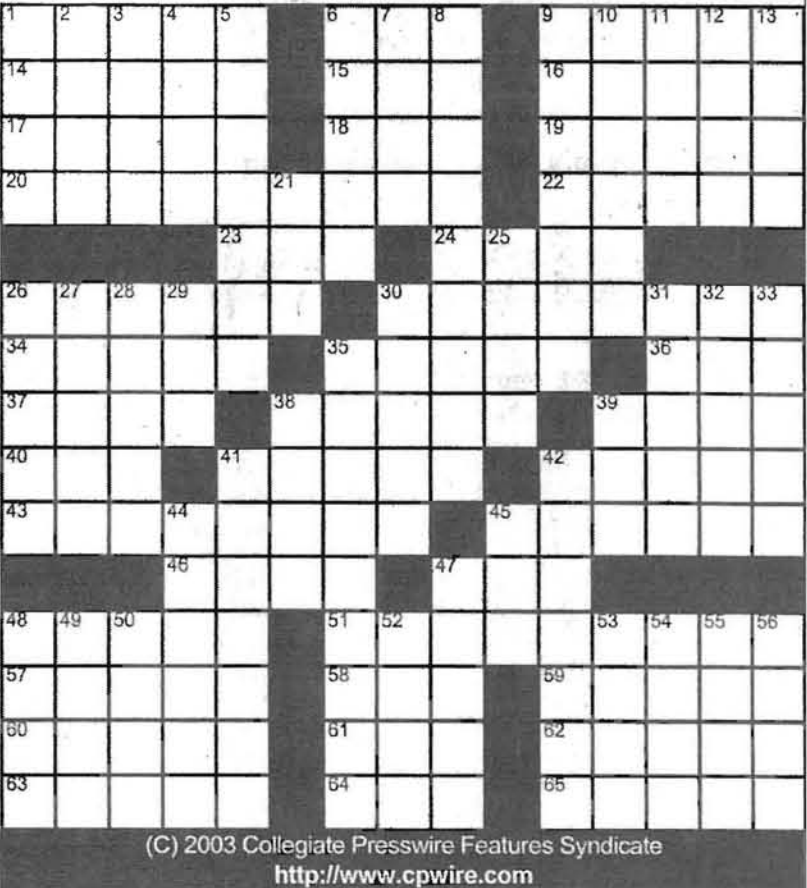
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is no longer accepting applications for the staff writer positions. Keep reading for more openings.

# Crossword Puzzle



**Across**

- Neck scarf
- \_\_\_ Angeles
- Common Sense* author
- Frighten
- Amplifier
- Rubber capital of the world
- One who eases
- \_\_\_ in the pod
- Covered with frost
- Loathsome
- Gather
- Lamprey
- Metrical foot
- Send back
- Left in a hurry
- Picture
- Mile runner
- Professional
- Hereditary unit
- Time Machine* author
- Asian country
- Wrath
- Rouse
- Analyze grammatically
- Learning disorder
- \_\_\_ tape parade
- Toy on a string
- \_\_\_ leg
- Civil Rights org.
- Mentor
- Gang aft \_\_\_
- Beer
- Avoid by cleverness
- Started
- Soda
- Tiny candy
- Lines of junction
- Adam's girl
- Trick or \_\_\_

**Down**

- At sea
- Strikebreaker
- Currency
- Cream-filled cookie
- Earthly
- Collar extension
- Portent
- Relating to space
- British singer Norrie
- Hands on hips
- \_\_\_ Vep
- Negative response
- Outcomes
- Communist
- Department store
- Stiff
- Nail filing board
- Roman spirits of dead
- Get older
- Pancho \_\_\_
- Incandescent particle
- Irregularly notched
- Device for asthmatics
- Improve
- Covered with wax
- Used in shellac
- Opens again
- Color
- Public lecture hall
- Golf device
- Annapolis freshman
- Seizes
- Biblical fugitive
- Seaweed
- Musician Basoski
- Not under
- Triple dog \_\_\_
- Old Norse poems
- For fear that

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□ Answers on page 2



**NOT But The FRINK**

I think I'll have the Shake... no, no, I'm too fat as it is

...And I've been doing everything I can to lose weight because I'm so fat

UUGGH!! I'm JUST ... SO... FAT!! WHY, GOD?!?

C'mon, you look great!

Uh-huh...

Oz, how do you tell girls to not care so much about the way they look?

Yknow, I think I'll have the shake!

How do I do what in the what now?

Ha! Good one!

She'll have the Salad

Very Good, sir

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## Faculty show opens in Gallery 210

BY TANA ROGERS  
Staff Writer

As I entered Gallery A of the campus' Gallery 210 with pen in hand, I picked up an exhibition checklist, not knowing exactly what to write. After carefully examining each exhibit, I found that I had written several notes all over the three stapled pages.

What a feeling! Standing in a gallery interpreting art!

Whether you are looking for inspiration or just happen to wander across the Millennium Center parking lot, you should visit Gallery 210 right here on campus to view the first exhibition of artwork by the fine arts faculty of the University.

The exhibition boasts works on paper, wood and plaster, as well as, digital prints, serigraphs, extruded plaster, archival inkjet prints and mixed media.

On the wall parallel to the entrance, Marian Amie's exceptional exhibit

combines digital projection, handbook binding, watercolor, paper casting and computer graphics. There is even a display that uses cloth flags and pastry. Yes, pastry.

Some works displayed defy the adage, "There is nothing new under the sun." Especially, Luci Mauricio-McMichael's "Last Night I Danced with Ten Ostriches." In order to wrap your mind around this one, heed the advice Mauricio-McMichael gives in her artist's statement, which is, "the key to appreciating [art] is understanding of the symbolic content of a work of art."

Use these wise words when viewing the unique works of Phil Robinson. The loud yellow smiley face calls attention from the digital print titled "How Does America See You," but try to figure out the underlying meaning to this otherwise black and white passport photocopy. Locate Robinson's clever "Twinkie Defense" on a stand to see artwork made of cloth and pastry.

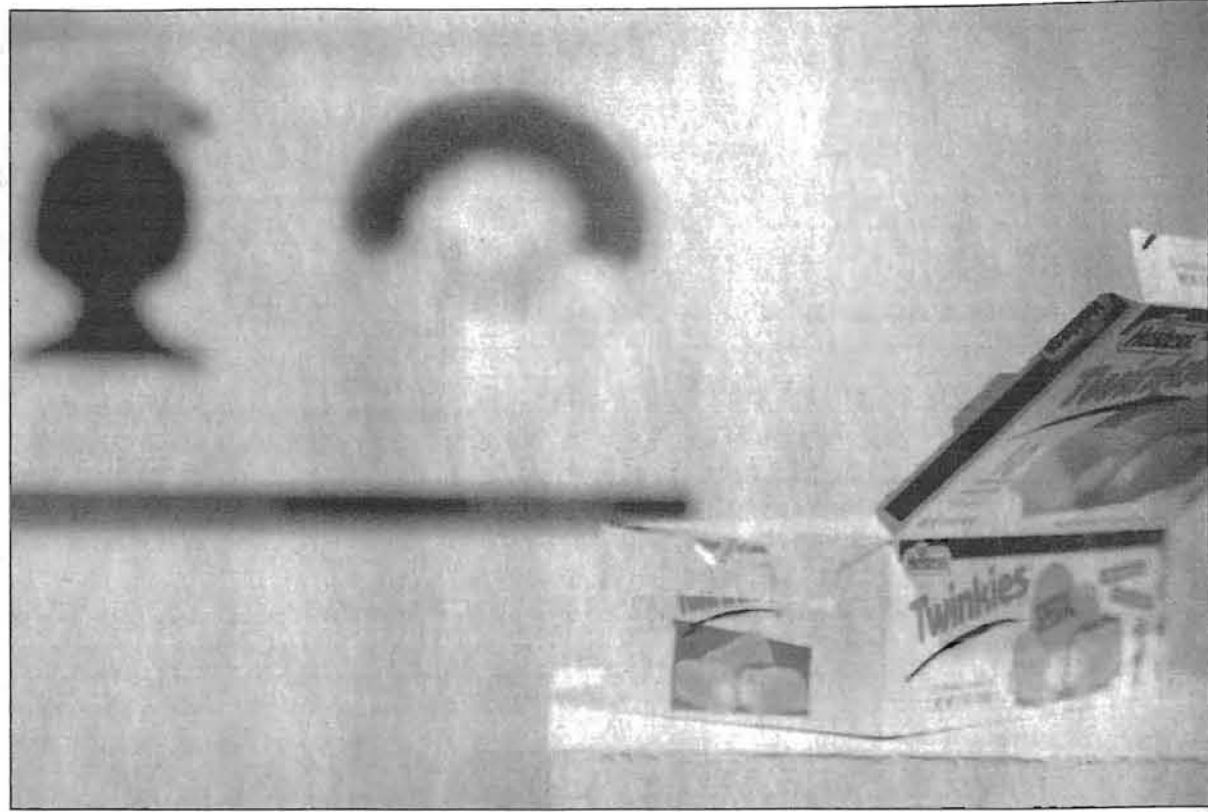
Not all work in the gallery requires interpretation, though. Dan Younger

displays his inkjet prints from "Travel Places." These colorful and lively prints capture various places in California and Florida. Some of Younger's bright images show people you try hard not to stare at when on vacation. At the same time, one can find surprisingly precise and crisp details, such as the pink bottles with green labels and refreshing light brown cocktails on a man's shirt.

Those interested in marketing or advertising could benefit from browsing Gretchen Schisla's graphic design work on the left corner of the gallery. There is no question that her juicy, tropical colored designs, charts and information are works of art.

With an art gallery on campus, take time to drop in even if you only have thirty minutes or so between classes. The Fine Art Faculty Show also includes works by Jeffrey Sippel, Ken Anderson and Jennifer McKnight.

The exhibit runs through Oct. 9 at Gallery 210, located next to the north campus police station.



Casey Ulrich/The Current

The Fine Art Faculty exhibit is currently showing in Gallery 210. The show featuring the work of UM-St. Louis faculty will be in the gallery until Oct. 9.

## MOVIE REVIEW

# 'Hungry Mind Review' has mellow tones

BY MONICA MARTIN  
Staff Writer

Mellow tones and vocals are what can be found on the latest, self-titled CD of Hungry Mind Review.

Although labeled pop, the band, consisting of Stephen Bayley, Stephanie Wallace, Rob Hay and Holt Evans, prefer to be known as "mood rock." According to their website biography, they have also tossed around labels such as Mop Rock (mood and pop), Mock Rock, even Pood Rock (a combination of the three). On their website, Stephen says, "I guess if I had to describe the band's music, I'd say that we play British-influenced, melodic mood rock."

The band uses a bevy of different instruments. Aside from the usual guitars and drums, there is also a violin, a piano, a mellotron and keyboards. Each of the members plays more than one instrument.

The band was started by Stephen Bayley, the lead singer,

and Holt Evans in 1993. The other two members, Rob Hay and Stephanie Wallace, joined in 2002. They are based in Wilmington, North Carolina. Previous works include an album released in 1996 titled "Abandonne" and one in 1999 titled "Redemption." "Abandonne" is selling in South Korea, and has a positive response. They have also been featured in various publications, including the British magazine "Mojo Magazine." They have also been mentioned on the website Demouniverse.com.

The music created by the band sounds like something one might hear from John Mayer or Maroon 5, although Hungry Mind Review has its own distinct voice. The tone is mellow and laid-back. Most of the songs are over three minutes long and not even half of that length is lyrics. It is almost as if the lead singer, who wrote most of the songs, ran out of lyrics and decided to fill up the rest of the time with instruments and vocal harmonizing. On several of the songs, the words are not even heard until thir-

ty seconds after the music starts.

One of the better songs is called "Anchor." It is a slow, melodic song, telling a lover how she anchors him to Earth and how she keeps "the ground and sky in perspective." In "Everything I Touch," Bayley sings about how everything he touches dies, and that he is "not afraid of heights, only falling." Although the album is a mediocre effort, there are still some mellow tunes to relax to or even study to.

The album was produced by Mitch Easter, who has produced albums for R.E.M. Overall, the album is a fairly good one. If you like Maroon 5, you will like this band. Some of the songs sound as if the band did not put their best effort into them. Although I generally liked the album, it is not one I would go out and buy myself. The music is just not my style. The band is currently on tour, and will be stopping in St. Louis at The Great Grizzly Bear in Souldard on Sept. 24. The self-titled CD will be released this summer. Their website is [www.hungrymindreview.com](http://www.hungrymindreview.com).



Photo courtesy Hungry Mind Review

Stephen Bayley, Holt Evans, Rob Hay and Stephanie Wallace are members of a band called 'Hungry Mind Review. The band said that the music they play is "British-influenced, melodic mood rock."

## CONCERT REVIEW

# "Yeah," Usher exudes sex appeal at Savvis

BY GARY SOHN  
Features Associate

Usher showed off his sexiness and performance skills at the Savvis Center to an energized crowd of mostly young R&B female fans Sept. 18.

Usher has been in the music business for ten years starting when he was fifteen years old. "Confessions," is his fourth album that he is promoting and shows off the whole package of his charisma, undeniable vocal talent and dancing abilities. At 25 years old he is a pop star.

Usher is currently on top of the music charts with three top ten hits and has sold over five million copies of "Confessions," which makes him a hot commodity for radio and video. Before "Confessions," Usher had taken four years off from making a studio album, which leads one to wonder if Usher has slowed down during his hiatus. But, after his show last Saturday, fans saw Usher in full throttle.

The show was filled with explosions, dancers and tight choreographed numbers that kept the fans energized while Usher wooed them with his fluid dance moves and high octane R&B notes. Usher moved like a young Michael Jackson in which most music critics often compare him to, but one thing that Usher has that Michael Jackson does not is the sex appeal. He is more of a sex icon than a pop icon.

Usher opened the show with his song "Caught Up." Loud explosions and flames shot out of the second deck, of the two-deck stage, and Usher appeared in a white suit and sunglasses. The crowd went

wild when this occurred. A small platform lowered Usher onto the first level of the stage where he took center stage with the dancers and showing off his dancing skills. After thrusting his pelvis back and forth at the end of this song, the ladies went wild, yelling and screaming and jumping up and down.

Usher at one point in the show brought a girl from the audience on stage. He was searching for a "bad girl," he said to the audience. He had his dancers look for a girl while he went backstage. Usher eventually came back out on stage and met up with the dancers who were helping him search for that "bad girl." The spot light searched all over the audience until finally a woman was pulled up on stage.

"Do It To Me," an Usher hit that sounds like a sexy Prince song, played while the woman from the audience was placed on the couch by the dancers. Usher came out serenading her and holding some flowers. He came over pulled her off the couch, and then sang to her while she danced by his side, getting into the moment. He led her to a couch where he gently kissed her—this also caused the audience to go wild.

On "Nice and Slow," Usher at one point was humping the microphone where he got the crowd of young women revved up, screaming for his attention.

On "U got it bad," he kept the intensity up for the women when he ripped off his shirt showing off his flawless physic that is almost displayed on every magazine cover at grocery store.

Usher managed to get his shirt off on an interlude between songs where he had break-danced and

flipped around on stage showing off his powerful moves and muscles.

"On U make me wanna," he had tight choreography dancing, which if you have seen the music video you would have seen the moves, but his hat tricks were impressive.

Usher continued to please the crowd with some of his current hits as well like "confessions," "burn" and of course "Yeah." He danced just like he did in the videos. He took his white t-shirt off on "Confessions" and at one point was on his hands and knees sing his confessions—conveying the emotions of pain and regret and the will to move on.

He even was very candid with the audience when he asked if they knew about the situation with his ex-girlfriend (in many interviews he has been known to admit about his cheating ways on his ex-girlfriend Chili from TLC).

For "Let it Burn," the crowd lighters were pulled out and cell phones lights were turned on that lit up the arena while Ushers came out with a candle singing this hit. Red flames like the one in the video burned on huge screens behind him.

And then one of Usher's biggest hits "Yeah," played. The video played on the screens behind him. He showed off everything. He had been doing back flips and dancing his ass off. There were explosions at the end with more sparks and flames; glitter shot out onto the audience, which concluded his climatic performance, which was highly dramatized, and intensive. At the end he did a longer version of "Yeah," by asking the audience to get out of their seats and dance. He first asked them to do the "A-town stomp, then "The Hustle" and then the "Roc-a-way."



Jesse Gater/The Current

## Balloons aglow and aloft at annual race

ABOVE:

The Great St Louis Ballon Race, which was held last Saturday, started in Forest Park and ended in St Louis County. Wonder Bread was one of the participants.

RIGHT:

Thousands of St. Louisans appeared in Forest Park Friday night to gaze up at the sky filled with brightly lit hot air balloons. The Balloon Glow was a pre-view for the race on Saturday.



Erica Burrus/The Current