

Everyone's guide to enjoying
VALENTINE'S DAY



INSIDE: ...

Prepare to celebrate the lover's holiday

Check out our special Valentine's Day tabloid, inserted in the newspaper. We've gathered lots of helpful ideas and reviews to make the day perfect!

◀ Tabloid insert

INSIDE

Holden budget could hurt UMSL

BY **TIM THOMPSON**
staff writer

An anticipated 2-percent increase in base appropriations for all schools in the University of Missouri System has apparently been eliminated in Gov. Bob Holden's state budget proposal for the fiscal year 2002. This could have dire consequences for UMSL.

Holden's announcement came as a complete shock to many UMSL administrators who were counting on the extra funds. Reinhard Schuster, vice chancellor for Administrative Services, was one of them.

"Holden's announcement took me completely by surprise," said Schuster. "The State of Missouri has experienced considerable prosperity over the last few years. I didn't think that the 2-

percent increase in base appropriations was going to be cut, now it looks as if it will be."

What does this all mean to UMSL? Schuster offered some insight.

"If the current proposal is passed by the state legislature, it stands to reason that cuts will have to be made, along with a lot of budget reallocations," the vice chancellor said. "Potentially, this could lead to layoffs."

A state law mandates that all UM campuses balance their respective budgets annually. This could place UMSL in a tight squeeze.

Schuster outlined some of the challenges that could be faced in the near future. "First of all, enrollment projections for the winter semester have not been achieved. Secondly, operations

costs have soared. In fact, the current gas and electric bills are running 109 and 69 percent ahead of last year respectively. Third, \$1.2 million had already been set aside for faculty raises," Schuster said. "The extra funds from the state were going to be used to cover these expenses. Now they are going to have to come from somewhere else."

Jim Krueger, vice chancellor for Managerial and Technological Services, who was also surprised by Holden's announcement, described how the entire process started.

"Last August, the president of the UM System [Manuel Pacheco] asked each of the four campuses to submit a financial resource plan for the fiscal year 2002," Krueger said. "The plans were submitted based upon a number

of assumptions. One of them being the anticipation of a 2-percent increase in state funding.

"Now that it appears-based upon recent information-that there will not be any increase in state funding, certain budget cuts may have to be made," Krueger said. "When we submitted our Financial Resource Plan back in August, we were already facing a budget rate cut of \$1.2 million. At this point, I honestly don't know if there will be additional cuts, we'll have to wait and see."

Doug Durand, interim vice chancellor for Academic Affairs, outlined the steps that will be taken if the current budget proposal is passed by the Missouri State Legislature.

"First, the Chancellor [Blanche Touhill] will call a meeting to careful-

ly determine the potential impact upon UMSL, and the net revenues that the campus generates. Second, UMSL officers and members of the Budget and Planning Committee will make preliminary decisions on where and what to cut. Third, a final decision on budgetary cuts will be made and submitted to the Chancellor for review."

Durand said he wanted to emphasize one point.

"Nothing is for certain right now. The governor simply submitted his budget plan to the legislature," he said.

There might be changes to it. It would be premature at this time to say what will be cut, if anything. There might have to be some belt-tightening, there might not. We should have more definitive information by the late spring or early summer."



Love blossoms at Botanical Garden

In spite of the wintry weather of February, Missouri Botanical Garden serves as a glorious getaway in all seasons for sweethearts who stroll through the beautifully-maintained grounds.

▲ See page 3

SGA officers answer critics of constitution vote at meeting

BY **RHASHAD PITTMAN**
staff writer

The low turnout of students at the Student Government Association election sparked some criticism from members of the SGA Assembly at last Tuesday's SGA meeting.

Less than 1 percent of the student body passed a new SGA constitution on Jan. 23. Voting students were given only a few days' notice before the election to review important amendment changes.

James Larrew, Political Science Academy representative, called the election a "travesty."

"Students may decide they don't need us," Larrew said.

Larrew criticized SGA President Ryan Connor for having voting polls available for just one day instead of two and suggested that SGA had rushed to ratify the constitution.

Connor took the blame for the lack of publicity and low turnout, but he also pointed out that he was understaffed and bombarded with numerous activities leading up to and on the day of the election.

"We got something done that wasn't done before," Connor said. "I think it's far from a travesty. I think it's a huge success."

Connor said that he would have used more SGA funds for publicity but he didn't want to take money away from advertising for bigger elections in the future.

"Let's face it, we're not going to get more than about 1 percent," of the student vote, Connor said. "We didn't in the last election."

Ellory Glenn, SGA vice president, said that he wasted \$200 when he printed 1500 ballots for the fall SGA elections only to have a lack of participation.

"We're not trying to pull anything over on the students," Connor said after the meeting. "Why would I be killing myself for the maltreatment of the students? I tried to make [the constitution vote] as fair as possible. It was a chaotic time."

However, Connor said publicity will be much better in a future election over what to do with the empty shell space in the Millennium Student Center because an election committee will be intact by then.

During the meeting Connor also announced that he had a slate of students who wanted to join the Student



Darren Brunel/The Current

Ryan Connor, SGA president, rearranges his materials after the SGA meeting last Tuesday. Connor defended his handling of the SGA constitution vote and other matters. "We got something done that wasn't done before," he said.

Court, probably within a few weeks, to handle student grievances and possibly student traffic ticket appeals.

In an interview after the meeting, Connor said that he would meet with Gary Grace, vice chancellor for Student Affairs, to find out if the administration would allow the Student Court to review campus traffic ticket appeals once again. The appeals are currently being reviewed by a three-person panel consisting of a student, a staff, and a faculty member.

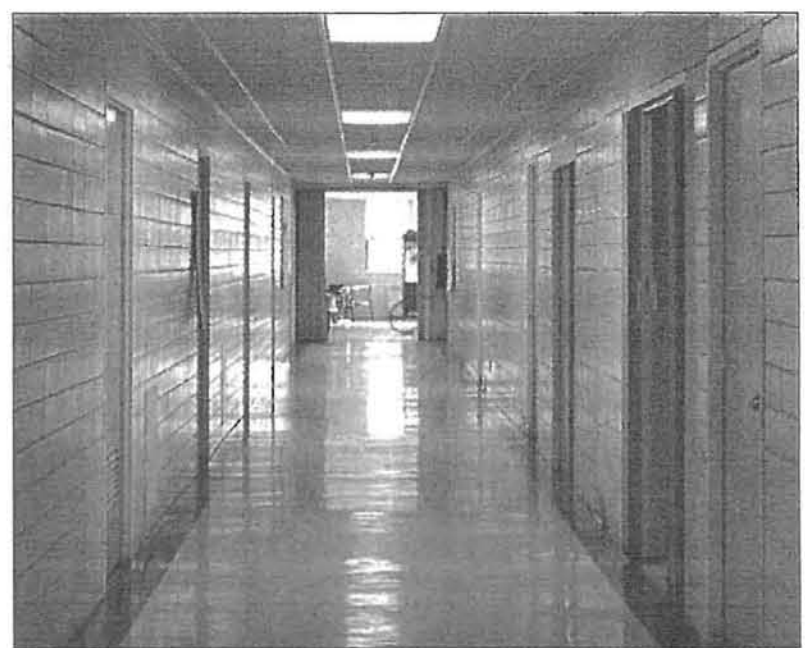
"It's really [Grace] and Chancellor [Blanche] Touhill's call," he said.

Connor said that he had not decided what actions he would take if the administration chose to continue using the three member panel to review the appeals.

"I really have faith that they're going to give it back to us," Connor said.

In other business:
The SGA Budget was announced:
• \$974 total in expenses
• \$876.54 (payroll)
• \$19.75 (telephone)
• \$35 (pager)

Julie Clifford was elected SGA vice-chairperson and Chip Jost was elected sergeant at arms.



Thieves were able to get into a dorm room in the South Campus Residence Hall, stealing merchandise, keys, and a car. The incident prompted officials to remind residents to take common-sense precautions.

Thieves break into dorm room, steal car

BY **STEVE VALKO**
staff writer

On Jan. 29, thieves got into the apartment of Mike Auer, a resident assistant in the South Campus Residence Hall, taking merchandise and his car.

"What was taken was his phone, wallet, camera, and automobile, a 1999 Ford Contour," said Bob Roeseler, chief of the UMSL police.

"Pretty much someone got into [Mike's] room, took his stuff, and left," said Lisa Grubbs, Director of Residential Life.

Auer declined comment to The Current, saying he didn't want to jeopardize the ongoing investigation.

According to the police report, the robbery occurred during between 4:45 a.m. and 12:05 p.m. on Jan. 29.

One important question is how the thieves got into Auer's apartment. There were no signs of forced entry. But Roeseler said "the victim doesn't know whether or not he left his door locked or unlocked."

The thieves took not only Auer's car keys, but also the master keys of residence hall. Grubbs noted that one of the first things they did was have the locks record. "Any keys they might have had which could have master keys are pretty much useless," said Grubbs.

When asked if she suspected that

the robbery might have been an inside job, Grubbs said, "We don't know. We're working with the police on the situation. I don't think it would be an intelligent guess on my part because I don't know."

Grubbs said that she doesn't know if the robbery was with forced entry or if the thieves had a key.

"The only accessibility to a student's room, other than the student, of course, is through a master key securely locked in lock boxes. RAs don't have keys to students' rooms. The keys are in lock boxes, which means that to get a key, you have to give up a key," said Grubbs.

Grubbs said the residents at the South Campus Residence Hall are a very cohesive group. Grubbs also noted that the residents were selected for an award regionally for being the resident community of the month.

Grubbs said that this incident should remind residents to take safety precautions while living at the Residence Hall.

"It's important to be aware of your surroundings, keep your doors locked, take your keys with you, and not leave property exposed in your car or in your room," Grubbs said.

Roeseler said that if residents keep their doors closed and locked when they leave, it would greatly reduce the chance of theft. Doing this, said Roeseler, would help both residents and the police battle crime.

ASUM works to stop parental notification

BY **NICOLE MANOUGIAN**
special to The Current

The Associated Students of the University of Missouri claim that the current University policy on parental notification takes away their rights as young adults.

The policy was derived from the Warner Amendment, which states that nothing should prohibit any institution of higher education from any parent or legal guardian information about a student's violation of

the law or school regulations.

Currently there is a committee of two students and staff members from the four UM campuses who meet every two weeks in Columbia, Mo. They are working on revising the current policy so that it becomes clearer and more effective. Their main goal is to decrease the amount of drug usage and alcohol consumption by students. Joanne Bocci, interim associate vice chancellor for Student Affairs, is a member of this committee.

"Research has shown [this amendment] can be effective—not will be, but can be," Bocci said.

She said she feels that if parents are aware of the alcohol and drugs that are on a campus, it will also help decrease the number of violations. She said the committee hopes to have the policy ready to present to the Board of Curators in March.

The only way the policy can be changed is if the amendment is overridden by state law. ASUM has taken this matter into its own hands.

The members of ASUM have worked hard to present their side of the story. The organization has written a resolution that focuses on regaining students' rights.

"In order for the bill to be passed, it needs to go through a series of readings," said Joe Flees, UMSL's representative to ASUM. "Then it's passed to the floor and voted on. So far, the bill has succeeded its first reading."

Flees said there is a lot of hope for the bill because it has passed in

other states.

Both sides say they are working to protect students, but in different ways.

I "[hope] to prevent any serious death. That is the only reason I have taken interest in this," Bocci said.

"ASUM is trying to protect student rights. If you are 18 or older, you have a privacy right," Flees said.

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Bulletin Board

Tuesday, Feb. 6

- **Looking for a Bible Study**
Join us for a non-denominational Bible Study from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Mondays and Tuesdays in Room 313 at the Millennium Center. All are welcome. Bring your own lunch. For more information, call 516-6901.
- **Catholic Mass** will be held at the Catholic Newman Center at 7:30 p.m. at 8200 Natural Bridge Road, located across from the West Drive entrance to North Campus. For more information, call 385-3455.

Wednesday, Feb. 7

- **Mercantile Library Hosts Lunch and Lecture** from noon to 1 p.m. in the Millennium Center. The lunch is \$12.50 for library members; \$15 for nonmembers. Reservations are due by Monday, Feb. 5 by calling 314-516-7240. The lecture will be given by Frances Walrond, who will discuss the St. Louis Toy Museum's collection of antique toys.
- **Rec Sports Day "A Homecoming**

Celebration."
Celebrate Homecoming 2001 at the Millennium Center between 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. to enter a goofy fun-and-game contest. Lots of prizes and give-a-ways.

- **Soup and Soul Food**
Bring your own lunch and allow time for prayer, meditation and reflection, from 12 to 1 p.m. at the Millennium Student Center, room 314. Follow up with a Bible Study from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. It is sponsored by Wesley Foundation Campus Ministry. All are welcome. For more information, call Chris Snyder at 314-409-3024 or Roger Jespersen at 314-385-3000. For Bible Study, call 516-6901.

- **Meeting for OUT -UMSL's Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay and Transgendered Alliance-** in Room 384 at the Millennium Center, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.. Call Mathew at 516-5013 or at 636-230-7483.

Thursday, Feb. 8

- **Registration Deadline for Rec Sports Activities**

Put it on the Board:

The Current Events Bulletin Board is a service provided free of charge to all student organizations and 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-served basis. We suggest all submissions be posted at least two weeks prior to the event. Send submissions to: Violeta Dimitrova, 7940 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis MO 63121 or fax 516-6811.

All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.

Indoor soccer leagues and Coed 4-on-4 Basketball Tournament are now forming. Sign up for these activities in the Rec Sports Office, 203 Mark Twain Building. Open to students, faculty and staff.

- **Lecture: "The Well-Behaved Appetite: Dieting, Products and Food Fads in Japan"** is going to be held in Room 332 in Social Sciences Building from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m..

- **Interview Techniques Workshop** will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Room 327 at the Millennium Student Center. Free. Advance registration is required. Please call Career Services at 516-5111.

Friday, Feb. 9

- **Soup with Sister** 5 p.m. at 8200 Natural Bridge across from the West Drive entrance to North Campus. For more information, call 385-3455

Saturday, Feb. 10

- **Sigma Pi** hosts its third rush party at 9:00 p.m. at the Sigma Pi Fraternity House. Girls have to be over the age of 18, and guys must have a valid ID. All UMSL students and guests are invited. Call 426-0078 for more details.

Sunday, Feb. 11

- **Catholic Mass** will be held at the South Campus Residence Hall Chapel at 7:30 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 12

- **Monday Noon Series**
"Women in Music in Antiquity and the Byzantine Empire," presented by Diane Toulitatos, professor of Music and director of The Center for the Humanities, UMSL. She will discuss the role of women in music with illustrations and music. Program runs from noon to 1:00 p.m..

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THE CAMPUS CRIMELINE

January 28, 2001

A student residing at the South Campus Residence Hall reported that his wallet, keys, cell phone and vehicle had been stolen between 4:45 a.m. and 12:05 p.m.. The student notified the University Police that he had found his missing wallet in the Residence Hall TV

Room. The keys, wallet and cell phone were taken from his residence room.

Science Tower sometime between 1/25/01 at 5:00 p.m. and 1/29/01 at 9:00 a.m..

his vehicle from South Campus Lot "Z." After failing to steal the vehicle by managing the ignition switch, a number of items were stolen from the back seat. Taken was a set of headphones, three (3) CDs, a Walkman radio and a textbook.

January 29, 2001

A staff person reported that a Magnavox combination CD Player/Clock Radio was stolen from 724 Social

February 2, 2001

A student reported that between 1/31/01 at noon and 2/1/01 at 9:00 a.m., unknown persons tried to steal

The Campus CrimeLine is a free service provided by the U-M-St. Louis Police Department to promote safety through awareness.

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COMING SOON

Romance blossoms at Missouri Botanical Garden

BY LORI CALLANDER
Special to The Current



Roses in bloom year round in the Linnean House at Missouri Botanical Garden
Darren Brune The Current

Flowers are, indeed, a popular symbol for love. On Valentine's Day, you might be planning to present your sweetheart with a floral bouquet as a token of affection. Without a doubt, the bouquet will be proudly displayed in a vase where, ironically, the flowers will fade like the excitement of new love. Within days, the once-admired arrangement will wither like a wistful widow soaked in sorrowful tears. After a slow death by drowning, the decaying mass will have to be thrown out and your beloved will have to kick it to the curb along with the rest of the rotten rubbish. Is this how you want to show your undying devotion? I thought not, so I have another idea in store.

This Valentine's Day, treat your sweetheart to fresh flowers that will be perfectly preserved in the memory as the two of you experience a rendezvous to remember at Missouri Botanical Garden. For the affordable admission price of \$5.00 per person, this world-renowned display garden, conveniently located in the City of St. Louis, is a romantic oasis.

In spite of the wintry weather of February, Missouri Botanical Garden serves as a glorious getaway in all seasons for sweethearts who stroll through the beautifully maintained

grounds. Nearly 90 acres large, MBG is composed of a diverse variety of gardens, such as the Victorian Garden, the Boxwood Garden, and the English Woodland Garden, to name a few. Scattered throughout are two ornate mausoleums and numerous intricate sculptures. Additional features like authentic bridges, pavilions, and tea-houses, as well as traditional plantings, make the Japanese and Chinese Gardens unique. The frozen lake centered in the 14-acre Japanese Garden is especially beautiful under the gray winter sky.

After a stroll in the clean air of the great outdoors, one may enjoy spectacular sensory experiences in MBG's historic buildings and fabulous conservatories; such as the Linnean House, the Climatron, and the Shoenberg Temperate House.

The Linnean House, built in 1882, has featured camellia trees for over a century. The enormous blossoms of these trees reach their peak in February and blast the beholder with a burst of color and a fantastic fragrance that contrasts wonderfully with the otherwise quiet ambiance of this conservatory. Cyclamen and fairy primrose in shades of red and pink line the cobblestone path, which meanders through this historic brick building.

The Climatron is an enormous geodesic dome that houses tropical plants of the rain forest. The warm, humid air that cleanses the lungs,

mind, and spirit is a great escape from the crisp chill of winter. The load roar of huge waterfalls will be sure to get you heated up as you wind through the lush greenery of approximately 1,200 different exotic plant species that provide a connection to the ancient past. Admiring the array of colorful tropical flowers scattered amongst the foliage, you could get lost wandering through this magnificent rain forest environment that displays the value of a vanishing ecosystem. However, you must be careful because you might just learn something during this part of your journey!

Entering the Shoenberg Temperate House, the visitor is enveloped with a sweet floral aroma that perfumes the air and is quieted with a deep sense of awe. The Mediterranean-style Moorish tile garden located in the center of this conservatory gives the feeling of being in the Old World. Surrounded by vibrant hues of purple and delicate shades of yellow, this area offers benches where lovers may sit and, as the only sound is the delicate tinkling of a fountain, sweethearts may silently reflect on a most memorable Valentine's Day.

For a romantic experience that will enliven the senses, visit Missouri Botanical Garden, which is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For directions, call 577-9400 or 1-800-642-8842.

Non-profit group sponsors student film contest

BY JENNIFER DODD
Staff Writer

What does an egg lady have to do with a video contest? Plenty: the egg lady won the contest last year. The contest I am referring to is a competition for aspiring film makers, sponsored by the Christophers, for student films that demonstrate the theme "One Person Can Make a Difference." The Christophers is a non-for profit organization that has been around since 1945.

The Christophers are based on the Judeo-Christian concept of service to God and humanity. The Christophers use print and electronic media to encourage all individuals to raise the standards of public life. "The Christophers effect all mediums and we are trying to keep up with technology. In fact, we are expanding our website," said Edward Devane, contact for the Christophers.

For the fourteenth year, The Christophers are hosting a video contest for college students. The theme this year is "One Person Can Make a Difference."

"This is up to the student's interpretation and they can flex their creative energy muscles for this contest," said Devane.

If you are stumped on what to use in the video there are a lot of avenues. Students can use a variety of genres such as animation, documentary, docudrama, music video, news format, and drama.

The winner last year for The Christopher Video Contest was Paula Rogge. Rogge is from Texas and she chose a woman in her neighborhood known as the "egg lady." "This woman would take a hard-boiled egg and a tortilla to the workers in the neighborhood. Many of these workers were homeless or immigrant workers, who are called dayworkers, and aren't getting by. This was a very inspiring story and that is why she won first place," said Devane.

There is also The Christopher Close-Up, which is not a brand-new toothpaste. The Christopher Close-Up is a half-hour show focusing on one person. This television show is broadcasted on the armed services network, and some local channels in New York. "In fact, the top three winners are showcased on one of our episodes," said Devane.

In conclusion, the deadline for this contest is June 15. The VHS tape must be five minutes or less and must be accompanied by a completed entry form. "This video contest has minimal requirements and I encourage all students to enter it," said Devane.

BOOK REVIEW

'Miss Wyoming' a hilarious satire of superstardom

BY SARA PORTER
Staff Writer

If it's possible for a book to be considered hyperactive, then Douglas Coupland's novel "Miss Wyoming" has achieved it. This novel moves through some many outlandish characters and preposterous situations that the reader needs to catch his breath. But despite the eccentricities, its humor and its biting criticism of society's obsession with fame grew on me.

Susan Colgate, the fictitious answer to Valerie Bertinelli and the late Dana Plato, has disappeared. A former Miss Teen USA, the "good cute daughter" on the sitcom "Meet the Blooms," a rock-and-roll wife, and the star of low-budget flicks, Susan survived a plane crash only to turn up missing.

Hollywood producer John Johnson, who disappeared during a mid-life crisis, falls in love with her and seeks to find her. His journey involves such various characters as Susan's overbearing mother,

a lesbian numerologist, and a yuppie agent, as he tries to locate her. Susan, meanwhile, is trying to find herself outside of Hollywood.

Every character and situation in this book is purposely played to the extreme, stretching the satire into parody. Susan's mother, for example, was so desperate to have her daughter win beauty pageants that she moved the family to Wyoming, "so there would be less competition for the title that in a densely populated state."

Most of the characters were so farcical that it was hard to care about them. The only two characters that I had genuine feelings for were Susan and her wanna-be lover, the very-jaded-yet-idealistic, John.

The satire touched on many levels. Everything from child pageants, and psychic friends, to blockbuster movies, and the hard luck stories of a child star's past was brought to hilarious attention.

Because of the fast pace, it was hard to tell the setting. Whole chapters were devoted to flash-



backs without warning and some of them created confusion, especially when they were in the middle of otherwise exciting scenes.

"Miss Wyoming" is excellent reading if you are or are not intrigued by fame. Be prepared to laugh, then catch your breath.

Ireland living hopeful, bright future

BY SARA PORTER
Staff Writer

"Ireland's status is better than was believed, even ten years ago", said Hickey, Consul General of Ireland, Chicago, who gave a lecture sponsored by the Center for International Studies. The lecture, "Community Conflict and Conflict Resolution in Ireland" took place here at UM -St. Louis on January 31, and was part of a series of lectures being presented by the Center for International Studies, here on campus.

Long a center of conflict, the fortunes of Ireland have reversed in

recent years. Hickey cites the economic growth as well as a definite peace plan between Northern Ireland and Ireland, as the changes that have caused the Emerald Isle to flourish. "Our economy is growing," Hickey said, "We are gaining quite a bit of industry. Ireland has one of the largest software exports in the world. We have relied on pharmaceuticals, medical supplies, and high tech- we have backed the right horse."

Hickey said that many industries, such as North Sea Oil, have purposely moved the predominantly agricultural North. "We now tell incoming industries to look to the North," Hickey said.

The Good Friday Agreement signed in 1998 finally ended the ongoing conflict between Ireland and Northern Ireland. "This agreement had its basis in three requirements," Hickey said. "One, that the violence is morally intolerable and politically and economically unsound. Two, Dublin did not have the position to distance itself from the problems. Three, the problem was not insoluble and a solution was possible."

The Agreement was only the end result of a developing relationship between Ireland and Great Britain, Hickey said. "Britain and Ireland were on somewhat friendly terms. Their secular cultures were similar.

Revisiting the conflict was not seen as a problem, but as a way to resolve the issue. To quote Seamus Heaney, "Either side was just as bad, and neither side was worse."

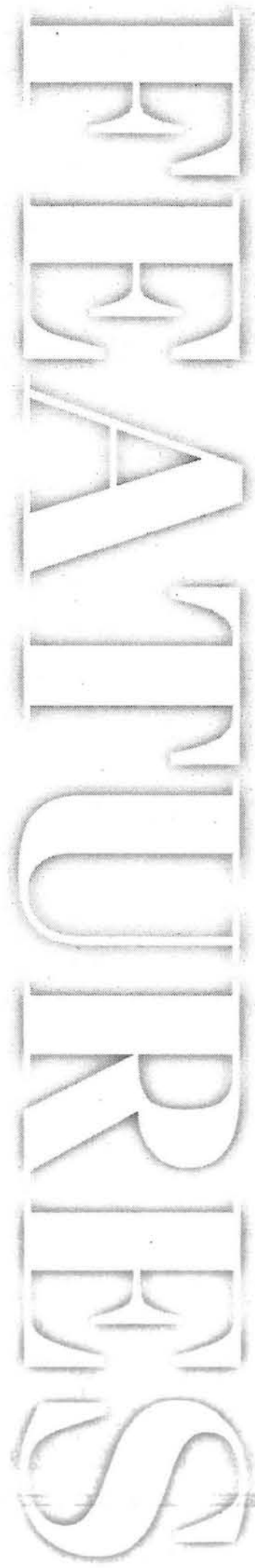
A compromise was made regarding sovereignty, policing, and economic matters. "It was in both parties' vested interests to seek peace," Hickey said. "Neither side wholly won, nor did they lose."

Hickey said American intervention helped pave the way for the Agreement in their willingness to provide assistance and aid to both Northern Ireland and Ireland. "The American government made it a point to be friendly to both sides," Hickey

said. "Former President Clinton and others have showed dedication. We are forever in their debt."

The Agreement was supported by a large percentage of the population, but there is still some animosity. "95 percent of the population voted in favor of the Agreement, but there are still some in the South violently opposed to the North."

Hickey hopes that the future of Ireland will bring more hope. "We could not eliminate the seismic shift in political division, but it can heal," Hickey said.



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QUOTES

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-Albert Camus
Credit: www.quoteablequotes.net

"It is better to be happy for a moment and be burned up with beauty than to live a long time and be bored all the while."
-Don Marquis
Credit: www.quoteablequotes.net

"Love does not consist in gazing at each other but in looking outward together in the same direction."
-Antoine de Saint-Exupéry
Credit: www.quoteablequotes.net

"The one who loves least controls the relationship."
-Anonymous
Credit: www.quoteablequotes.net

Riverwomen triumph over Knights

Consistent shooting in overtime leads women's basketball team to victory

BY NICK BOWMAN
staff writer

Last Thursday night, the Riverwomen's basketball squad held a substantial lead twice, in the beginning and in the end. Forward Lynette Wellen hit the first four points of the contest, against Great Lakes Valley Conference No. 1-ranked Bellarmine and Christy Lane followed with a three-pointer. That was the last time that UMSL would find themselves ahead for a long time.

Bellarmino guard Rachel Young hit her first three, on the way to 23 points for the night, causing the Knights to slowly pull away with the lead. Riverwoman Britney Dowell and Knight Lynne Johnson traded three-pointers, but the Bellarmine offense won out as Young hit another longball to cap a scoring drive that set UMSL back 18-21.

The referees were scrutinized by Bellarmine Head Coach David Smith. After Wellen was sent to the line for the first of six times on the night, where she shot a perfect 12 for 12, Smith subbed Ryan Danner for a foul-plagued Knight.

"Anything I can do without a foul called, coach?" Danner asked.

"Yeah," Smith said. "Don't touch anybody."

This hands-off approach resulted

in an 11-0 Bellarmine run, setting them ahead with a comfortable 34-23 lead. Johnson's third three-pointer of the night capped off the run. Riverwoman Lindsey Brefeld responded to the rally, shooting off a pair of 15-footers. This sparked Kelly Blunt to a solid closing performance as she stole, boarded and sealed a jumper from the left side of the hoop closing the gap to five with just over one minute remaining.

Head Coach Shelly Ethridge, with Dowell at the point, called a circle offense that produced three scores in a row, the most exciting being a fade-away jump shot from Brefeld as the Riverwomen closed the gap to 36-33 at the half.

"We were looking forward to this game, and it took a while to slow the ball down," said Krista Longseth. "But once we settled the ball down, we knew that we were back into it."

The second half featured more of the same dramatics, with both teams teetering within two points of each other until about the 10:30 mark, where Smith was forced to call a time out as UMSL began to take a five-point lead.

"We don't rebound, we don't hustle back, we don't play hard," Smith told his troops.

Within four minutes, Bellarmine had the score knotted at 55-55.

Both teams were in the bonus by the 6:00 mark, but the Riverwomen excelled from the line. UMSL was 22 of 24 from the charity line for a team average of 92 percent, far higher than the 62 percent put up by the Knights.

The game remained close throughout the final minutes, where Christy Lane had a chance to end the contest on a desperate shot from the right side, but did not prevail as the game ended with a score of 63-63, forcing an overtime.

"I told the girls that free throws were going to decide this one," said Ethridge. "Tonight we were on and that's what won the game."

Bellarmino won the opening tip, and nothing else as UMSL doubled up the Knights 14-7 to take the victory 77-70. The Riverwomen shot 8-8 from the line in overtime, including 2 from Stacey Haig, who only saw 12 seconds of play in the contest.

"For the amount of time that she sees, Stacey is the most productive player on this team," said Ethridge. "I don't know anyone who could score two points in 12 seconds consistently."

Lynette Wellen finished the night with 24 points and 9 rebounds and Lane with 12 points, as the Riverwomen improve to 7-5 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference.



Darren Brune/The Current

Riverwoman Lynette Wellen shoots for two behind a swarm of players anxiously awaiting a rebound.

Addington steps in as new SID

BY DAVE KINWORTHY
staff editor

The University of Missouri-St. Louis filled the position of Sports Information Director last week when Pat Dolan announced the hiring of Todd Addington to fill the void left by former SID Chris Cole. This also marks the fourth SID UMSL has had in the past four years dating back to Chuck Yahng in 1997.

Addington, one of the finalists during the period when Cole was hired last August, had no problem coming back for a second interview.

"I interviewed back in August, and I was told then that I was one of the finalists," Addington said. "They then went and hired Chris. Athletic Director Pat Dolan called me and told me that they went with somebody else, he had a little more experience in an area that I didn't. That was an area that they wanted to go towards. They ended up going with Chris and then he had things come up for him personally and

he decided to move on. [Pat Dolan] decided to give me a call back and I was more than excited to come out."

Addington most recently worked at the University at Buffalo, a program which had just stepped up to the Division I level and also had a football team. The transition back to a Division II program is not that difficult for Addington, though, after his job in Buffalo.

"The experience there was great," Addington said. "I got in there just as their program had gone from Division II to Division I in the mid 1990s and their football team had just gone from IAA to IA upon my arrival. Kind of going through that transition period with them was an experience. As far as the SID work itself, it's really not that different. Obviously at the Division I level, you get a little more coverage. You are just trying to get as much attention as possible for your team."

But aside from more media cover-

see SID, page 9



Darren Brune/The Current

Todd Addington, the new sports information director on campus, taking the place of Chris Cole, worked at his first basketball game this past Thursday.

Rivermen hold Bellarmine at bay with solid defense

BY NICK BOWMAN
staff writer

At least the Rivermen are consistent. In two consecutive games, one a loss to no. 2 Northern Kentucky and the other a victory over no. 4 Bellarmine, UMSL scored 66 points.

The first contest, against Northern Kentucky, did not feature much in the way of heroics, but may have easily been produced as a clinic. Both teams shot close to 50 percent from the field, and over 90 percent from the free throw line. The three-point line made all the difference as Northern Kentucky shot .500 from the line bringing them a step closer to closing on Great Lakes Valley Conference leader Southern Indiana and defeating the Rivermen 78-66.

Thursday, the Rivermen faced the Knights in front of a strong crowd of 200.

Forward Brian Markus got things going for the Rivermen, working as a veritable one-man team, hitting a three-pointer, grabbing a pair of boards, swiping a ball and assisting en-route to a 10-0 run to start the contest.

The Rivermen, who have the top-rated defense in the GLVC, were impenetrable, holding the Knights to nine points at the 9:00 mark. UMSL was allowing only 68.4 points per game through Thursday.

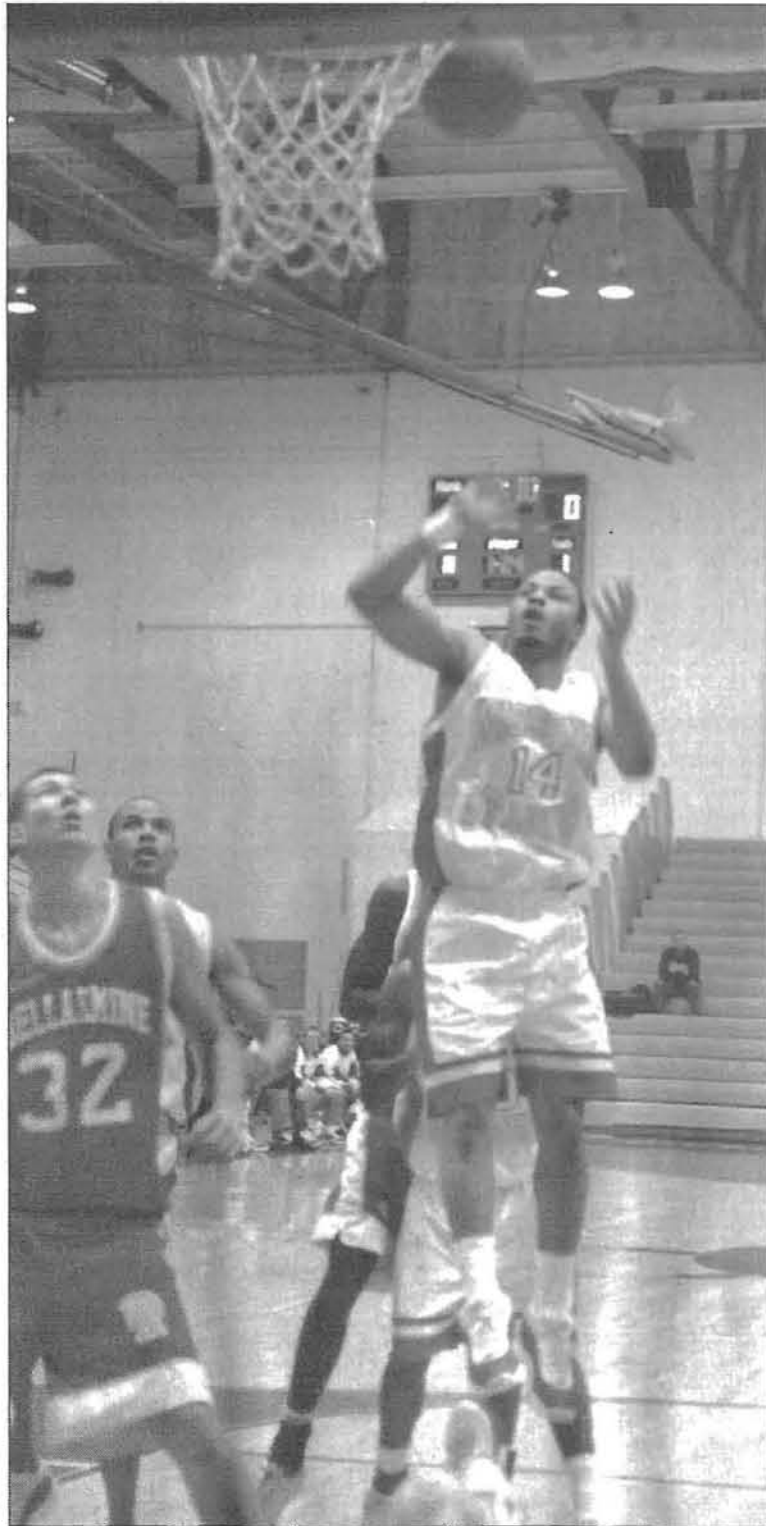
"We've been leading the league in defense, and we showed why tonight," said Assistant Coach Jason Frillman.

The Rivermen took a solid 39-25 lead into the half. The team showed solid discipline as they sent Bellarmine to the charity line only once in the first half, while drawing four fouls.

"Our guys showed great discipline," said Head Coach Mark Bensen. "Our guys did a great job drawing fouls. They drove to the net and wanted to be fouled."

As a whole, UMSL shot 87 percent from the line, while holding the

see RIVERMEN, page 9



Darren Brune/The Current

Greg Ross shoots over a Bellarmine defender towards the beginning of last Thursday's game.

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EDITOR

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GAMES

Men's Basketball

at Southern Indiana
7:30 pm, Thur., Feb. 8

at Southern Indiana
7:45 pm, Sat., Feb. 10

Women's Basketball

at Southern Indiana
5:15 pm, Thur., Feb. 8

at SIU Edwardsville
5:30 pm, Sat., Feb. 10

Lindenwood team continues to recover

Last Thursday, Feb. 1, a van from Lindenwood University containing seven basketball players and two coaches overturned in New Florence, Mo. en route to a game against Missouri Valley College. All survived, but two are in serious but stable condition.

Next week look for our interview with Athletic Director Pat Dolan about UMSL's safety transportation features.

Talent and bitter rivalries make college basketball great



LATEST SCOOP

DAVE KINWORTHY

If you missed this college basketball game last week, well, you missed two of the best games that I have ever witnessed in my entire lifetime.

The first game, last Monday, featured the no. 3-ranked Kansas Jayhawks coming to the University of Missouri and going down in a flame of defeat. It was so nice to see Kareem Rush play so well along with the shot-happy Clarence Gilbert from Florida.

The friction between Mizzou and Kansas has intensified ever since the arrival of Quinn Snyder from Duke University. Roy Williams has had a long-time rivalry against Coach K of

the Blue Devils and with Snyder as the assistant, the recruits are beginning to blossom and the talent for Missouri is on the up and coming.

It was just so good to see the talent level of Mizzou actually competing with the likes of Kansas. Although Mizzou did win and compete against Kansas with Norm Stewart at the helm, the talent of the future just did not compare to what Kansas was producing. Jason Sutherland may have been a good guard for Mizzou, but could Kenny Gregory or even Ryan Robertson from St. Charles West outplay him talent-wise? Yes they could, but it was the grit and determination that a lot of the former Tigers had that

was inspirational to all in this clash of the Big 12.

The second, but probably the best game that I have seen on the collegiate level this season, was the North Carolina University versus Duke University competition. The game featured some of the best all-around athletes in the nation.

This rivalry is a clash of the best teams in the Atlantic Coastal Conference, with the exception of maybe the Virginia Cavaliers. No matter how well Clemson has played the first half of the season, either one of these teams can beat them when it comes around to playing for something worthwhile: the ACC title and

an NCAA berth.

The game itself proved to be one of the best games in ACC history as Duke and North Carolina went down to the wire, after a rally by the Blue Devils with less than a minute remaining. The Tar Heels had the ball after the game was tied on a three-pointer and drove down the court for one last try before the game was sent to overtime. A foul was called with less than two seconds remaining in the game and North Carolina sank both free throws to win the clash of the No. 2- and No. 4-ranked teams in the nation.

The game reminded me of when Christian Lattener hit a turnaround

push Duke into the free throw line to push Duke into the Elite Eight in the NCAA tournament.

Both of these games have sentiments of what college (not professional) basketball should have—heart and a great competition. There is no slam dunking every other play and the players play to win, not for the money.

College basketball time has finally come and now that the National Football League season is over, March Madness will be coming soon and basketball fanatics will witness games that may even become a better scenario than the Mizzou/Kansas or the North Carolina/Duke matchups.



EDITOR

CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER

a&e editor

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MUSIC

February

8

Brad Paisley with Andy Griggs & the Kinleys 7 p.m. Family Arena

Anthony Gomes Blues Band 8:30 p.m. Generations

Morris Day & the Time 8 p.m. Pageant

9

Stylistics with Dramatics, Chi-Lites, Delfonics & Harold Melvin's Blue Notes 8 p.m. Fox Theatre

Bellrays with Electric Airlines 9 p.m. Hi-Pointe

Tiny Cows Llywelyn's Loft

10

Fantasia Acapulco Restaurant & Lounge

Karl Denson's Tiny Universe 8:30 p.m. Mississippi Nights

Banu Gibson & New Orleans Hot Jazz 8 p.m. Sheldon Concert Hall

'State and Main' makes for great date movie

BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER staff editor

If you are looking for an outstanding date movie, a romantic comedy with a bit of intelligence and depth, "State and Main" is the film you want.

You may have heard that this is a comedy about a big-budget film company invading a small New England town for location shooting, which is true, and indeed it is probably the best film about filmmaking ever made—more on that later—but it is also a wonderful romance that is both funny and thought provoking, a bit in the manner of "It's a Wonderful Life."

A movie director and his small entourage turn up in a small New England town, scouting for a location for their film, "The Old Mill." Excited to find that the town has a historic look and the requisite old firehouse, and a brochure indicates it even has an old mill, director Walt Price (William H. Macy) quickly calls in the rest of the movie production crew. A small army of Hollywood types immediately invades the town and disrupts all the usual routines. It quickly becomes apparent that the movie company has just made a hasty exit from their original small town location since their star, Bob Barrenger (Alec Baldwin), has a taste for underage girls.

However, the local townspeople are both fascinated and awed by the invaders and are delighted with the economic boom they bring. Movie people fill the town's one hotel to capacity, and strain the local restaurant's culinary capability with requests for exotic sandwiches. Local activities screech to a halt as everyone rushes to

'State and Main' Length: 104 min. Rated: R Our opinion: ★★★★★

audition as extras. When Mayor Bailey (Charles Durning) invites the director and crew to his house for dinner a week hence, the mayor's wife Sherri (Patti LuPone) launches on an overnight historic restoration of their house, with an army of construction workers and decorators rushing about as the wife barks orders like a director on a set. The filmmakers struggle with their own difficulties, as they discover that there is no old mill—it burned down, funds are running low, and their leading lady Claire Wellesley (Sarah Jessica Parker) suddenly refuses to do her contracted nude scene.

The focus of the film falls on the screenwriter, Joe White (Philip Seymour Hoffman), who is working on his first film and is almost as lost in the activities as the locals. The loss of his typewriter brings him to the owner of the local bookstore, Ann Black (Rebecca Pidgeon), and they are immediately drawn to each other. However, many obstacles stand in their way, not the least of which is her engagement to a local politician and the hurricane of activity around the filmmakers. Ultimately, Joe is faced with an ethical dilemma precipitated by the film's problematic star. On one hand, he is urged to tell the truth by the bookseller, but on the other, his doing so would halt the film and ruin the careers of himself and the other film-

see STATE, page 7



ABOVE: Julia Stiles and Rebecca Pidgeon star in "State and Main."



LEFT: Clark Gregg, Alec Baldwin, Robert Walsh, and David Paymer star in "State and Main," directed by David Mamet.

ALBUM REVIEW

Meat Puppets' new album brings back old flavor

BY EMILY UMBRIGHT special to The Current

Flash back, if you will, to a time when you discovered alternative music that paved the way for mainstream bands being played today on the radio. Anyone who was alive and listened to the music that came out of the early nineties should at least remember the name Meat Puppets. They achieved underground fame by producing a handful of albums on indie label SST before spilling into the mainstream with the help of Nirvana. Look back through your old, dusty CDs that were once played at the volume that spells out teenage angst and you'll find them on Nirvana's Unplugged album next to your old Dinosaur JR EP. Maybe you even bought their groundbreaking Too High to Die album when it came out in 1994. Then suddenly they vanished. Sure, they released a few more albums, but for the most part the band had died along with that whole era of music.

Well the Puppets are back with a new album, Golden Lies, and a new line up that is sure to revive the spirits of anyone willing to relive the experience their sound brings. This album lives up to what is expected of the Meat Puppets. It carries their basic laid-back sound forward but drops some of that country influence that divided them from a band like the Minutemen.

Since forming in 1980 with brothers Curt and Cris Kirkwood on guitar and bass along with drummer Derrick Bostrom in Phoenix, the



The Meat Puppets

'Golden Lies'

Band: Meat Puppets Label: Atlantic Our opinion: ★★★

band obtained roller coaster fame by putting out 12 albums mostly on independent labels. Their 13th album, Golden Lies, on Atlantic records, did not come easy. After the lack of commercial success with No Joke! in 1995, Cris Kirkwood's battle with drug addiction, and the death of the brothers' mother, the band fell apart for two years. Curt moved to Austin, TX, where he joined forces in 1997 with guitar player Kyle Ellison, and later drummer Shandon Sahn and bassist Andrew Duplantis, both of the Austin band Pariah. This

became the newly renovated Meat Puppets.

The album begins with a brief 50 second electronica-inspired intro (is that a Bjork sample?) before slamming into classic Puppets riffs in "Armed and Stupid." The third track, "I Quit," maintains their lively melodies, but is strangely reminiscent of R.E.M.'s "Driver 8." Kirkwood confronts some of the issues that haunt his past in songs like the dark "Lamp" and "Pieces of Me." With lyrics like "Drop the lamp/stumble to find if anything's happening" and "I still have a hole where my heart was/and the head where my mind used to live," Kirkwood proves that he can tackle personal issues as well as write quirky songs like the upbeat and

see LIES, page 7

FILM REVIEW

Cuteness isn't enough to save 'Head Over Heels'

BY STEFANIE ELLIS special to The Current

Okay, let's just get this over with: Freddie Prinze Jr. is hot. There, I said it. Now can we try and stop drooling over his dimples and baby face, and forget that he looks incredible in a tux? Can we, please? Because that's about all he lent to his most recent film, "Head Over Heels." Yes, I do think he can act, which, sadly, sets him apart from most of his other co-stars. He and co-star Monica Potter (Amanda Pierce) were the only true actors in this film, but their abilities did nothing to save the transparent plot and incredibly bad acting from the yappy models who follow them around like puppy dogs throughout the movie. The film attempts to be cute, but I would never put it on par with "Runaway Bride" or "The Wedding Singer."

For starters, the story line is completely weak. Girl catches scumball boyfriend boffing a model in their apartment. Girl needs a new place to live. Girl sees an ad for \$500, which turns out to be a luxury apartment only Heather Locklear could afford. Girl sees four models who live there. Girl doesn't turn around and run, but moves in anyway. Girl soon becomes a voyeur and looks into hunky Jim Winston's (Freddie Prinze Jr.) apartment across the street. Girl falls in love. Girl sees Jim kill someone. Girl decides to begin her own investigation. Stupid models run around aimlessly in stiletto heels saying things like: "I've got to leave, I'm getting hives from all these ugly people." If it

'Head Over Heels'

Length: 120 min. Rated: PG-13 Our opinion: ★

weren't for Prinze Jr.'s undeniably charming screen persona, I would've fled the theater.

Don't get me wrong, this film had its share of sweetness. When you pair Prinze Jr. and a gorgeous blonde like Potter, you're bound to have some aw-shucks moments. But even those rare instances are overshadowed by flimsy characters like Jade (Shalom Harlow), the ringleader in the group of models. Jade oversees the nightly waiting list in which men line up at the apartment door while she peers through a small window, sizing each of them up according to how much designer clothing they're wearing. She has no problem making a man pay \$1200 for dinner and simply holds the check in the air and watches, as an eager list-winner happily snatches it up. I love a model who's got her priorities straight. Then there's Candi (with an i), the lovable Aussie who spends most of the movie eating the candy necklace around her neck and sitting around the house because she "can't go out in public yet." Why? Because she's covered in bandages from her various plastic surgeries (she is a model, you know). A great deal of her screen time is spent with eye patches on, probably from some eyelid transplant surgery or something. But how convenient for

see HEELS, page 7

There's more to history of Valentine's Day than Cupid

First off, I want to clarify something: Wehrenberg theaters aren't going out of business—they just filed Chapter 11 to reorganize. Lots of companies do this when they're struggling financially and all movie theaters are having some of these problems right now. It just means we have to help them out a bit, and go see a movie—a favorite thing to do for valentines, anyway.

So how about the origin of Valentine's Day? Feb. 14 is St. Valentine's Day, the Catholic feast day of St. Valentine, a martyred 3rd-century priest of the Roman Empire. What would a martyred Roman priest have to do with lovers and romance? Well there is a story about St. Valentine. There appear to have been

two or three real St. Valentines who were martyred, any of whom may have been the source of this story. But the story is this: the Roman Emperor of that time, Claudius II, wished to increase the strength of his army and believed that single men made better soldiers than men with families, so he forbade all young men to marry, as a way to improve the army. St. Valentine objected to this unfair law and continued to perform marriages in secret. He was eventually caught, sentenced to death, and imprisoned. While he was imprisoned, he himself fell in love with a young woman who visited him, thought to be the jailer's daughter. Before he died, he sent her a letter, which he signed "from your Valentine." Hence the common sig-

nature on valentine cards and the association with romance.

In legend, St. Valentine was portrayed as a sympathetic, heroic, and romantic figure and he became one of the most popular saints in the Middle Ages. This story was enormously popular in medieval times, when the image of romantic love was first formed, and the saint's feast day, Feb. 14, became associated with romance and lovers. But there was more to it than that. The connection between the month of February and romance goes back to ancient Rome. The early Catholic Church often liked to incorporate local pagan festivals into their own calendars as a way of supplanting those practices (instead of just forbidding them). The tradition says that

Feb. 14 or 15 commemorates the saint's death, but Feb. 15 was also the date of a Roman festival, Lupercalia, a fertility festival dedicated both to the Roman god of agriculture and to the twin founders of Rome, Romulus and Remus, who according to legend were raised by a she-wolf (lupa, Latin for she-wolf). This festival was part of the larger Roman festival of spring, which was thought to begin in February, and included a ritual in which the names of all young single women were put into a pot, and the young single men each chose a name from the pot, for a woman they would be paired with for the next year. Many of these matches resulted in marriage, and hence it was considered a festival of love. The early

Christians objected to the lottery aspect of the festival but kept the idea of a day for lovers. By the 17th century, this holiday was becoming popular and by the 18th century it was widely celebrated in England, with friends and lovers exchanging small gifts or tokens of affection and handwritten notes. Printed Valentine cards appeared by the end of that century and with the rise of cheaper postage, mailing printed valentines became popular.

So for Valentine's Day, take your honey out to a romantic movie (I suggest "State and Main" or "Chocolat" or even "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon"), or spend the day at the botanical garden, cuddling and thinking about the coming spring.



MARQUEE RAMBLINGS

CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER

Kemoll's is excellent experience

BY CHARLIE BRIGHT
staff writer

One of the finest restaurants in St. Louis is Kemoll's. The elegant surroundings are perfect for a quiet Valentine's dinner or any special night. Kemoll's is an elegant dining experience, and the experience of the restaurant is what sticks out in my mind even more than the exquisite cuisine.

Kemoll's has a long history of pleasing both palate and sensibilities, but be prepared to dress up in your finest and be on your best manners for quite some time. The fifth generation of Kemoll's are already pitching in with the 74-year-old business, and

every generation has contributed to the atmosphere to the point of cultural perfection that is apparent immediately upon entering.

My experience before getting in was hectic, as parking was difficult to find, and when at last I had found a spot, it was in a garage that was precisely on the opposite end of the elegance spectrum from the restaurant. I was in a suit walking through oil stains in a garage that reminded me of where I park at a baseball game.

After I had been seated, I was overcome by the selection of delightful foods offered. I tried the fried artichokes (which melted in the mouth) and ordered fillet mignon for dinner.

One look at the wine list told me two things. First, Kemoll's has one of the best wine lists in St. Louis. Second, I couldn't afford anything worth buying on it. This is perhaps the most important thing to remember about Kemoll's. Dinner will run you more than thirty dollars and with the amazing wine list you'll have to do some prolonged scrimping if you want to splurge briefly.

If you're looking for fine Italian dining in St. Louis, Kemoll's is an excellent choice. If you have someone special you're looking to treat, or feel like treating yourself, make dinner reservations at Kemoll's.

HEELS, from page 6

the directors, who obviously think this is the perfect opportunity to make Candi trip over things, run into walls and fall on the floor. And if her Three Stooges shenanigans weren't enough, she uses a favorite phrase, oft-repeated throughout the movie: "I know a lot about water. I'm from Australia." Brilliant. And let us not forget Roxana, the Russian model with an attitude and permanently-upturned lip. Actually, she's easy to forget, and really not worth mentioning. The only model halfway easy to stomach is Holly. The only thing that irked me about her character was the fact that she turned down a full-ride to Stanford to be a model. When asked why, she replied, "Honey, who needs Stanford when you look like this?"

You want drama? This movie has got that too. Take, for example, the scene where the models are searching Prinze's apartment for evidence while he's away at work. Can you believe that he came home early, forcing the models to hide in his shower? And wouldn't you know, he has to use the restroom while they're in there, and makes the most vulgar sounds one can imagine. Hmm...aren't we supposed to think he's adorable, not Al Bundy? With this kind of on-the-edge-of-your-seat suspense, aren't you eager to see (and hear) these intense bathroom scenes?

While Potter's Amanda is adorable and hopelessly clueless in that sweet sort of way, and Prinze is just a dream on wheels, her Patch

Adams fame and his Freddie Prinze-edess just couldn't help this film make the grade. I'm sure a lot of people will be oohing and aahing over "Head Over Heels," but I'm just not that kind of girl. I'm the kind of girl who would like to see a film where models are portrayed as being intelligent (who knows, maybe they really are), where the story line is more believable and the characters more sustainable. And I'd like a more creative ending. Don't worry, I won't divulge that part. If you still insist on seeing this movie, I guess you'll find out for yourself. Believe me, it's not at all predictable either.

Now playing at Des Peres 14, Creve Coeur 12, and other area theaters

STATE, from page 6

Director/writer David Mamet has crafted a film that is both a realistic look at how movie companies work and a hilarious send-up of the movie industry, as well as people's sometimes-unreasonable awe of Hollywood. The characters are well-rounded and complex, not simple stereotypes, which add tremendously to this "gang comedy." The film is a perfect balance of great in-jokes about movie making and hilarious bits that will make everyone laugh. It isn't just the filmmakers who are the source of fun, as the local people don't escape skewering as well, with jokes about small town life, people's awestruck response to movie stars and movie people, and a whole town who wants to "go Hollywood." The film harkens back to the "screwball" comedy style of 1940s classics by director Preston Sturges (one of the great comedy directors of that era), with its very effective use of ensemble comedy and rapid-fire gags. The film also makes numerous references to "It's a Wonderful Life" (the mayor is named George Bailey), which shares a common theme of redemption and second chances. The warmth and charm of the romance in this film along with its skillful presentation of its ethical dilemma give this film the same broad emotional appeal of "It's a Wonderful Life."

David Mamet is also a well-known playwright, with numerous awards to his credit including a Pulitzer. Many of those works are serious dramas, and he is noted for his plot twists and powerful use of language. His previous works include Glengarry Glen Ross, Wag the Dog, The Spanish Prisoner, The Untouchables, and others. While theater directors and playwrights don't always make good film directors, Mamet is the exception and in "State and Main," Mamet's work really shines, and this is probably his best film yet. This film is sure to be a classic, as the best comedy about filmmaking ever made and as a romance with a brain and a heart.

A final hint: stay for the end of the credits—this comedy just won't stop.

LIES, from page 6

comical "Hercules." At first glance, this album seems like an effort to come back using fresh devices of the very bands the Meat Puppets have inspired. However, the band remains true to what they are. The album is still full of those dense riffs and lyrics that make the songs an oddity, but the band employs some fresh direction in songs like "You Love Me," which starts out with drum loops, and the poppy "Endless Wave." The album falls short when Kirkwood tries to rap, because his folksy nasal voice just was not made for that, but on the whole this is a decent album. Check out tracks 11 and 13 for trips down memory lane. *Golden Lies* is sure to make any one-time Meat Puppets fan happy to know that the band is capable of coming out with the same bright music despite their disappearance.

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Charter school sponsors seek funding

BY RHASHAD PITTMAN
staff writer

State legislators and representatives of charter school sponsors throughout Missouri met on Jan. 25 in Jefferson City to discuss financial assistance for sponsors.

Bob Samples, director of University Communications, and John Hylton, interim associate vice chancellor for Academic Affairs, represented UMSL at the meeting.

The Learning Exchange, a Kansas City-based organization that arranged the meeting, proposed a formula for state funding that would ease the financial burden placed on sponsors. The educational consulting organization is seeking \$750,000 from the

state, Samples said.

"The Learning Exchange is leading an effort to try to obtain state funding for charter school sponsors and to obtain an agreement from the sponsors," Samples said. "This is an effort that [UMSL] can support."

Under the proposed formula, sponsors will receive \$23,400 for every charter school they sponsor and additional money based on the charter schools' enrollment, Samples said.

If state legislators approved the proposal, UMSL would get about \$78,000 for sponsoring The St. Louis Charter School and Thurgood Marshall Academy, Samples said.

Central Missouri State University, which sponsors 11 charter schools, would get the largest sum at over

\$300,000, he added.

"We're asking for money so that we can fulfill the responsibility for sponsoring charter schools," Hylton said.

The money would be used for sponsored activities such as charter school field trips to the university and for charter school evaluations.

"It could provide for any number of things," Hylton said, adding a sense of optimism. "I anticipate that [the proposal] will be approved."

Currently the proposal is still in the preliminary stages. The Learning Exchange is hoping that interested state representatives will introduce the bill in the current legislative session, which ends in late spring, Samples said.

"We won't know if they passed [the legislation] until late May or June," he added.

A set of principles for sponsors to follow were also discussed at the meeting, Hylton said. In addition to the responsibilities outlined in state law, sponsors would follow more detailed standards for how they accept and review charter applications and what to do after the applications have been approved.

The additional guidelines would "ensure an accountability standard for sponsors," Samples said.

"The meeting was beneficial in other regards too," he added.

"It's good to find out what other sponsors are doing that's positive and negative," Samples said.



Rafael Maclasi/The Current

Construction continues on the Performing Arts Center. After different delays, the project is now running smoothly and set to open in December 2002, said Sam Darandari, director of Campus Planning and Construction.

Performing Arts Center back on track after delays

BY DAN GALLI
special to The Current

After some initial setbacks, construction is under way once again on the Performing Arts Center at UMSL.

Work initially began on the project in March 2000. The Arts Center was slated to be completed in 900 days at a cost of around \$43.5 million dollars, said Sam Darandari, director of Campus Planning and Construction.

The first problem occurred when the garage on the site was demolished. "We encountered rock," said Darandari.

The rock that was in the ground caused unexpected delays as two separate trucks were needed to get rid of it. These trucks could not be used at the same time, which was the reason for the delay. This was only a minor setback compared to what happened next.

In late 2000, concrete workers went on strike. This resulted in 52 days lost

until the strike was over. During this time no work could be done, since the concrete for the building's foundation could not be poured.

Things are running smoothly now though, and the building is set to open up in December 2002, Darandari said.

The Performing Arts Center will feature a main theater, complete with multi-level balconies, that will hold 1,650 people. There will also be a music theater hall that will hold 300 people. In addition to this, there will be rehearsal rooms and plenty of office space.

It will be used to host a variety of plays and concerts on campus once it is completed. Most of the activities will take place in the main theater.

The building "will enhance the image of the campus and attract more students to the university," Darandari said. "It is going to be one of the major construction projects in the St. Louis area for a long time to come."

RENAUD, from page 4

to my car as the "Joshmobile." For a long time, my car had its own mascot, a picture of a man we called "Arthur." I don't know how the picture got into my car. But we loved Arthur, and he lived on my dashboard for several years, before the sun finally got the best of him.

Right now, my car is in need of some other repairs. Money is tight

right now, and my folks are looking at making some changes to the family fleet. Important decisions will be made in the future, and maybe I'll be using a different car. Until recently, I hadn't ever considered how attached I was to the Joshmobile. I suppose it's like any first love, though. Eventually, you've just got to let it go and move on.

Energy prices strain budget

BY JEFF GRIESMER
special to The Current

Increased energy prices this year have affected many people, but have hit the University of Missouri St. Louis especially hard.

Compared to last year, energy costs at the University have skyrocketed. For the six-month period between July and December, electricity costs are up 69 percent and natural gas costs are up 109 percent over last year. According to Reinhard Schuster, vice chancellor for Administrative Services, the University is looking at a \$630,000 increase in utility costs at the very least.

Speaking on how the increase is going to affect the budget, Schuster said, "In the short term, it's going to hurt." He said that the University had budgeted more money for ener-

gy usage, but the unexpected increase in gas prices and the unusually cold winter took them by surprise.

The Millennium Student Center and the Daughters of Charity complex added a lot more space that needed to be heated and cooled, increasing the utility costs.

No major cutbacks in the budget should initially be needed to account for the increased prices. A reserve fund has been building in the past couple of years due to lower-than-expected utility costs. That money will be used to supplement this year's budget.

Measures are going to be taken to reduce the problem for future years. Frank Kochin, director of Facilities Services outlined a number of these measures. First of all, he plans on troubleshooting the heating/cooling system at the new Millennium

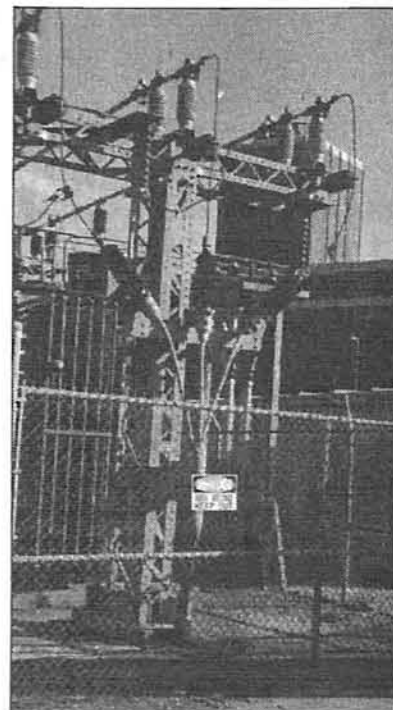
Student Center. Several routine adjustments have been made and more should help combat the problem of rising costs.

The University has also been replacing old, inefficient boilers and coolers in the past several years to keep the costs down. The efforts had made UMSL the most energy-efficient school in the University of Missouri System until this year.

Schuster said that the University spent \$4-5 million on replacing old equipment. This newer equipment is 50 percent more efficient and should bring costs down.

Continued efforts and the changing seasons should soon cause the problem to take its course and fizzle out, or at least the University Budget committee hopes so.

"Energy is a big part of our budget. People don't realize how much we spend," Kochin said.



Electricity costs at UMSL have increased 69 percent over the last year.

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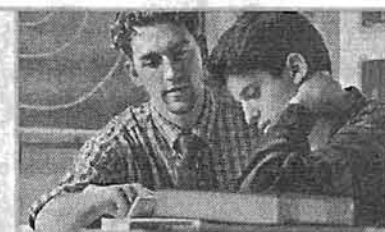
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**Hitler's underestimation of
Russia turned tide of WWII**

History is sometimes defined by watershed moments. World War II contained many of these. One of the most significant culminated during this week back in 1943.

It was called the Battle of Stalingrad, and marked the turning point of World War II on the Eastern Front.

In the late spring of 1942, Adolf Hitler found himself at war with practically the entire world. His armies were spread out all over Europe, the Mediterranean, and North Africa.



TIM THOMPSON
history columnist

In Russia, the Germans were entrenched along a 2,000-mile front extending from the Arctic Ocean to the Black Sea.

Despite enormous and appalling losses suffered the previous year, the Russians were still alive and kicking. The Germans were determined to deal them a death blow.

As a result, in the hours before dawn of June 28, 1942, five German armies, totaling more than 1,100,000 men, assaulted the Russians along a 340-mile front that extended north from the Sea of Azov.

The German troops, supported by 1000 artillery pieces, 2000 tanks, and 2,200 aircraft, sliced through the Russian defenses. Their objective was to capture the valuable oil fields

located in the Caucasus area of southern Russia, thereby cutting the country in two.

By Aug. 1, the Germans had advanced nearly 200 miles. The Russians were in headlong retreat. Hitler boasted to his generals, "The Russian is finished, I tell you, he is finished!"

Hitler would be proven wrong: dead wrong.

In order to secure the northern end of their attack, the German High Command sent the crack Sixth Panzer Army across the Don River toward Stalingrad, an industrial city located on the Volga River. The Sixth Army was one of Germany's finest formations, containing 256,000 soldiers divided into 22 divisions.

On Aug. 17, the German attack commenced with a thunderous artillery barrage. Two days later, German infantrymen began blasting their way through the suburbs. This time, however, the Russians did not run. Instead, they fought back with dynamic fortitude that stunned the world and frustrated the Germans.

To recapture the initiative, the Germans turned to their air force. On Sept. 1 and 2, the Luftwaffe flew more than 6000 sorties (missions) against the city. More than two thousand direct hits turned Stalingrad into

a blazing inferno. Nearly every building was shattered.

The morale of the Russians was not shattered, however. They fought on with even greater determination. The Russians defended every inch of every room, every house, and every building. Battles raged in basements, cellars, apartment buildings, and factories. During the first two weeks of October, a desperate fight took place in the sewer system beneath the city. The Germans referred to the struggle as "Rattenkrieg," or war of the rats. Their commanders began to lose control of the situation. German soldiers started drinking heavily to calm their nerves. By early November, a bloody stalemate had ensued.

On Nov. 19, the Russians launched a massive counterattack, trapping the German Sixth Army in and around Stalingrad. It was a stunning turn of events that shook German confidence. During the second week of December, another German army made a valiant attempt to break through and relieve the Sixth Army. It was turned away after a 30 mile advance. The Sixth Army was left to its doom.

After a courageous struggle, the remnants of the once-mighty German Sixth Army, some 91,500 men, surrendered to the Russians on Feb. 3, 1943.

The Battle of Stalingrad changed the course of history, and helped to turn the tide of World War II. It was a defeat from which the Germans would never recover.

SID, from page 5

age in Buffalo, Addington got his first experience rather quickly with the UMSL athletic program when, one day after his hiring, Addington had to run the games featuring the Rivermen and Riverwomen against Bellarmine University.

"It is a little overwhelming to an extent just because coming in the middle of the basketball season, especially which is obviously the biggest sport here, just to jump in the deep end and

get the ball rolling is difficult," Addington said. "Trying to adjust and learning the coaches and their personalities and what they want and what they expect will take some time."

With the energy that Cole brought to the athletic department, Addington will try to copy the enthusiasm and boost attendance in the Mark Twain gymnasium.

"I didn't know Chris, but I met Michael Deford at Southwest Missouri

State and hopefully will continue on those same lines," said Addington. "I want to Indiana University where there is a big student following behind the program, especially basketball. I would like to see that here. I want to get students involved in this office helping out and after the games and that also goes along with getting more students out to the games to support the teams."

RIVERMEN, from page 5

Knights to 0 percent. The Rivermen never relinquished the lead, extending the spread to as much as 20 points with under 2:00 to play. With the 66-50 victory, the Rivermen went back to 9-9 on the season.

The next game will pit UMSL against Southern Indiana. U-I currently in the GLVC. With a win against Southern Indiana, the Rivermen will be poised to go .500 in GLVC play when they face SIU-Edwardsville the following week.

"Team chemistry is the key to this team," said Bernsen. "I think that this team is closer than they have been all year. Everybody is scoring and everybody is passing, which leads to a great offensive flow. We just need to win."

University of Missouri - St. Louis Homecoming

Main Events

Monday,
**Feb.
12**

- Court Elections Begin
- Ping Pong Tournament, Mark Twain
- Bonfire (gravel parking lot south of MSC)
- BMOC, 1:00 - 3:30 pm, Century Hall A&B, MSC

Tuesday,
**Feb.
13**

- Court Elections Completed
- Ping Pong Tournament continues, Mark Twain
- UMSL Rivermen v. Quincy Tip Off: 5:30 pm (women); 7:45 pm (men)

Wednesday,
**Feb.
14**

- Rec Sports Day, MSC

Thursday,
**Feb.
15**

- UMSL Rivermen v. IUPUI Ft. Wayne, Tip Off: 5:30 pm (women); 7:45 pm (men)
- Ping Pong Final (at half time)
- Court Announcement
- Powder Puff football, 4:00 pm, Mark Twain

Friday,
**Feb.
16**

- Homecoming Dance, 7:00 pm, Renaissance Hotel
- Crowning of King & Queen

Saturday,
**Feb.
17**

- Alumni Family Day, Mark Twain
- UMSL Rivermen v. St. Joseph, Tip Off: 1:00 pm (women); 3:15 (men)
- Future Rivermen visitors (prospective students)

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