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FONTBANNER

VOLUME XXXV - EDITION III - DECEMBER 2005
A STUDENT PUBLICATION OF FONTBONNE UNIVERSITY

INDEX

Financial Aid attempting to make students' lives easier.....	2
Speech and language clinic makes a difference.....	3
Students scared of getting spider bites in the dorms.....	4
Theater presents Chekov as a comedian.....	5
War of the Worlds causes students to flee for their lives.....	6
St. Joseph's Hall haunted by RHA.....	7
Chris Gill is hypnotized as usual.....	8
Panel of Pros gives advice to students.....	9
Surprisingly, different departments help each other out.....	10
A matter of life and death.....	11
Students dance for charity.....	12
Alcohol Response-Ability Program used as punishment.....	13
Alumni run amok at Late Night.....	14
Men's basketball season begins.....	15
Students pull off bowling as a sport.....	16

INDEX

News.....	2-4
Features.....	5-14
Sports.....	15, 16

December
2005

Annual Mystery Masquerade Dance Held At The Thaxton In Downtown St. Louis

By: Aaron Jeter,
Photo Editor

Long before it all happened and the flyers for the dance began popping up the big question was, "well where is it?" The curiosity of it drove people from the start. Many went to great lengths to find out where the dance was going to be, crawling through the air vents in Student Affairs to find out information, contacting NASA to use one of their supercomputers to access the school's impenetrable network, but all attempts ended in failure. The secret was sealed tight. The mystery is what drew people to it. It was a chance to dress nicely for you and for others. The night was that of the Mystery Masquerade.

Many wondered if it was going to be someplace that would actually be fun and enjoyable. Some suspected that if it was not that they would still go, but drink enough that night to the point that a paperclip on dental floss would be the world's greatest form of entertainment. Usually those nights are followed by being down on the knees praying to the porcelain goddess, but here, it was not necessary.

The night of the dance some attempted to figure out the undisclosed location by toasting and drinking. Everyone knows that any form of alcoholic



University students dance and enjoy themselves at the Thaxton for the annual Mystery Masquerade.

consumption clears people's mind for thinking (note to readers, this is not true). Before any event, be it a dance, graduation, or lunch, the toasting to each other and anything else in the world is known by many as the pre game. Everyone knows though, only people who are 21 and above take part. If

not it would be illegal. Illegal things are bad. Bad things are automatically evil. Thus evil is illegal. After toasting and having the appropriate pre-toast and pre-pre-toast, everyone was well on their way to enjoying the dance before even arriving.

Coherent in thought and mind, everyone set out for

the yellow school bus. The wheels on the bus went round and round as it made its way to the destination. Some would say the trip was enchanting. School buses always are; the yellow just catches the eye like a Tonka truck. Even without any professional musicians, singing was involved during the great expedition to find the unknown destination. Students found harmony with the engine while singing the sounds of Journey, The Righteous Brothers, and the theme song to Cheers as they all rang throughout the bus among the sounds of traffic along the interstate as one and all made their way to the masquerade.

The bus found its way off the interstate and wove its way through downtown among the skyscrapers. It came to a halt underneath the streetlights and everyone stood, exhilarated at finally being able to see this place where they would be dance the night away. As soon as the doors to the bus opened, everyone darted off to the sidewalk and made their ways to the doors that awaited them.

With the IDs checked and the mighty yellow wristband either granted or denied, students entered the building. The

"Masquerade,"
continued on page 4.

Speaker Series Presents Lou Fusz, Jr.

By: Melanie Bernds,
Reporter

Students entering the Lewis Room in the library at 7:30 Thursday morning, October 27, eyes half closed, were led to a table by a distinct coffee aroma. Looking very much like the early risers they were, a group of about dozen shuffled over to the colorful spread of danishes. The students munched on their breakfast slowly while waiting outside the Lewis room and whispered among themselves, wiping the sleep from their eyes. Here to attend the University's Entrepreneur Speaker Series, they awaited special guest Lou Fusz, Jr., the president and CEO of Lou Fusz Automotive Network of St. Louis. He came to speak on behalf of his company; founded in 1951, by Lou Fusz Sr. With currently more than 1,000 employees, it is one of the largest dealerships in the United States.

Fusz covered a variety of topics, including how his company works to achieve

customer satisfaction, how new products are available every 2-5 years keeping the future customer buying, and how the hiring process has an immense impact on the customer to repeat business. He said, "The employees have a good deal on setting the environment for a customer."

Fusz noted the challenge of gasoline prices for the automotive market. One solution he offers is the hybrid car, the newest technology on the market. The car is a combination of conventional gasoline engine and an electric motor. The hybrids have been getting high marks in performance, fuel economy, emissions, and reliability in performance. The Honda Accord gets 32 miles per gallon, 3.3 gallons per round trip. Toyota is the leader in the market of the hybrid and is setting the pace to diffuse the gasoline epidemic. Fusz revealed that his wife, Corrine, drives Toyota of hybrid. The demand for hybrid cars is going up with increasing



Donald Shifter of the Department of Business Administration, presented Lou Fusz, Jr. with a Speaker Series Trophy.

Photo by: Lori Shifter

gas prices.

Fusz explained why the growth of foreign cars is growing in the United States, saying, "American made top sellers in the market, but the Chinese and German cars have expanded to the US progressively over the years. The market no longer consists of just Ford, Chevy, or Oldsmobile. Right now even General Motors

is in a predicament, and is making drastic adjustments." The Toyota Corolla, Camry, and Honda Civic are the popular compact cars in America right now. The once too expensive Porsches and BMWs are now attainable by customers.

Fusz currently owns 14 dealerships throughout St. Louis and is entering his 50th anniversary. It is a family owned business. His franchises range from Rolls Royce and Bentley to GMC trucks. He currently owns the first and only Kia dealership in St. Louis. He also owns the largest Toyota dealership in St. Louis. Already the largest Saturn dealer in St. Louis, with another being built, Fusz will become the biggest Saturn retailer in the country.

Through his success, Fusz has discovered some key ideas. He believes above all in customer satisfaction. That is Fusz Automotive Network's

"Fusz," continued on
page 3.

Financial Aid Looks To Make Improvements

By: Lisa Wolk,
Guest Writer

President Dennis Golden recently announced at the Endowed Scholarship Luncheon that 85 percent of the University's students receive some kind of financial assistance. Students included in this percentage know the difficulties faced while trying to complete financial aid, but changes are coming to hopefully make life a little easier.

During the opening weeks of this school year, many students found themselves waiting in line outside the Financial Aid Office to complete their files in order to remain in their classes. They arrived at the office, signed in, and sat—usually for periods of an hour or more. A missing piece of paperwork here, a signature there...there is always something holding up the process. The Financial Aid Office found themselves understaffed and overwhelmed with the sheer volume of students that came through their door. Annette Hebert (formerly Annette Ellis), the Assistant Director of Financial Aid, reported that she and her coworkers saw a total of more than 950 students in a two and a half week period. To alleviate this problem, the Financial Aid Office is instituting an entirely new process for the 2006-07 school year.

The changes are coming about due to the lack of prompt response when dealing with the necessary paperwork from both the students and the Financial Aid Staff. Though many students completed all of the paperwork early or on time, the remainder did not, so Hebert hopes the new process will allow both the students and the staff to complete the aid files in a timelier manner. The Financial Aid Staff, Hebert said, has been trying to revamp the process using student input but had to take the matter into their own hands after a panel discussion headed by Peggy Musen, the Vice President of Enrollment Management, received no response.

Beginning in January 2006, all returning students will be required to make an appointment to file their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) with a Financial Aid Counselor. This meeting will be strictly mandatory, and anyone who does not attend will forfeit all or part of their financial aid. Every dependent student will be required to bring at least one parent with them to the meeting. In addition, each student must

bring his or her 2005 Federal Tax Return and W-2s, his or her parents' 2005 Federal Tax Return and W-2s, any Social Security paperwork, Proof of Citizenship papers if necessary, and two forms of identification (driver's license, social security card, birth certificate, etc). The student's Financial Aid counselor will let the student know if any additional forms are necessary when the student makes his or her appointment.

The Financial Aid Office plans to start an early awareness program beginning in December. At that time, students will receive pertinent information regarding their counselor, appointment availability, and details of the new process. The appointments will begin in February 1, 2006 and will go until the end of March. Hebert assures that the staff will be available for some evening hours on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays until 6:00pm, as well as weekend hours on Saturdays from 9:00am-12:00pm. Once again, more information will be provided to the student during the mailings in December.

"The new process for Financial Aid will transform the office into a one-stop shop, since the student will be completing all of their paperwork in one step—that includes receiving their Award Letter, finalizing loan paperwork, and even filling out their work study paperwork during the meeting," Hebert says. Though the loan paperwork will be completed, Hebert noted that the loan processing itself will not be done during the meeting. Since the appointments will entail so many steps, Hebert said that the student should plan on being in the meeting for at least one hour.

Nicole Moore, Director of Financial Aid, stressed the importance of making an appointment and following through by attending that appointment, saying, "We don't have a choice but to cut all or some of the student's financial aid if they do not show up to their appointment."

The Financial Aid Office's annual Financial Aid Awareness Day will be postponed until April and will be by invitation only. The students will receive their invitation after completing their Financial Aid paperwork during their meeting with their counselor. Students should be motivated to attend because of the chance to win additional scholarship money.

Blood Drive Draws More Than Blood

By: Maggie Sullivan,
Reporter

During the holiday season, many people feel the desire to explore giving time or money to charities. It seems like as soon as the first page of November is turned on our calendars, media outlets inundate the community with messages as a way of encouraging donations for various causes. With so many choices, some become apprehensive of an ultimate decision because it is hard to tell whether certain charities are getting enough support. By the same token, it is difficult to gauge whether ones donations might only contribute to an overabundance of giving to a particular charity and may possibly go unused. One way to contribute during the holidays to those in need that never goes unused is to give to local blood banks.

On Monday November 14th, the Fontbonne Activities Board sponsored the fall installment of the blood drive supporting the Community Blood Center of St. Louis. The event was held, as always, in the Dunham Student Activity Center. The blood drive ran from eleven o'clock until four o'clock, as students and faculty came through in spurts between downpours of rain. Despite having competed with

Fredrick Winter's hypnotism show for location and time overlap, the blood drive proved successful yet again, as many individuals took time out of their busy college lifestyles to help make a difference.

Community Blood Center of St. Louis was created in 2003 as a branch of their previously organized center in the Ozarks. The blood this center contributes greatly to many St. Louis area hospitals and serves as a primary source of blood for those in need. According to their website, www.stlouisblood.org, about 30 million blood products are used each year in the form of packed red blood cells, plasma, or platelets. The site points out that one individual's donation can potentially help three different lives because of the versatility of blood. Community Blood Center of St. Louis allows individuals to donate at any time by visiting donor stations at Mid-Rivers Mall and the St. Louis Mills Mall. In addition, the organization hosts up to five blood drives in and around the St. Louis area each day.

Terry Deters, a spokesperson for Community Blood Center of St. Louis says that "in going to colleges we happen upon some of our biggest blood drives." In fact, the University is joined by others, like nearby neighbors

Washington University and St. Louis University, in the mission toward providing healthy blood for those who are in dire need. Deters explains that at a typical drive, "the center aims to collect about 20 or 30 units of blood, whereas as at your University, we typically collect about 40 units." He elaborates sharing details about one three-day drive the organization put on at Washington University in which 50 to 60 units were donated each day.

Many different kinds of people donate to and participate in running a blood bank, but one thing they all have in common is a genuine concern for those in need and a dedication to continually spreading the word while encouraging others to give. As participants reclined peacefully on elevated lounges contemplating apple juice, a few shared their inner most reasons of motivation in donating on a regular basis. "Two or three of my own relatives have had blood transfusions. Someone gave their blood to them, and without that, who knows," says senior Andrea Gabrisch. Clearly the need for blood hits home for this University student as she has experienced first hand the

**"Blood," continued
on page 6.**

Letter To The Editor

The article "Information Literacy: A Student's Guide to Surviving," published in the October 2005 issue of the Fontbanner, was written tongue-in-cheek and was obviously intended to be entertaining. For the sake of future INT 108 students, however, the enumeration of a few facts might be helpful. So read on in the spirit of good fun and perhaps some of the "dark secrets" associated with FOC 101 and INT 108 will be unveiled. Anyone who reads the "Graduate/Undergraduate Course Schedule" for the Fall Semester 2005 can be enlightened:

ONLINE COURSE INFORMATION

FOC 101 is a tutorial that will familiarize you with Blackboard, the web tool Fontbonne uses for online courses. Students who complete FOC 101, prior to taking their first online course, have a better chance of succeeding in an online course. p.12

The name of a contact person and the rationale for the FOC 101 is clearly communicated. Also posted on page 12 is an important notice about using Fontbonne e-mail for communication with the University. Perhaps, the "planning impaired" need to realize that reading such notices might be helpful as would finding a way to check those mysterious "very nice e-mails." In addition, listed on page 40 of the "Course Schedule" are the dates and times of the INT 108 orientation sessions. Admittedly, expecting students to read signs posted to inform them of last minute changes in meeting rooms could be considered another one of those "dirty little tricks" just to confuse students who are not already information literate.

In all fairness, however, the seventh paragraph of the article does provide an adequate description of FOC 101. Perhaps, a little more investigative reporting would have revealed that FOC stands for Fontbonne Online Course. But that would have given away one of the dark secrets.....

Some things in life that may seem like a "highly secretive subject" can be cleared up by using the resources of a L-I-B-R-A-R-Y, physical or virtual, to become information literate. Using a reference tool such as a dictionary to look up terms like information literacy can solve even the cloudiest of mysteries. The irony that many students seem clueless about the purpose of FOC 101 and INT 108, reiterates the wisdom of the University in making a course such as Information Literacy a general education requirement.

Peggy Ridlen, Reference Librarian and Assistant Professor

Beyond The Classroom: Speech and Language Clinic Brings The Scope of Practice From The Outside In

By: Amanda Lorch,
Reporter

Riding the elevator to the second floor, a sprite pack of pre-schoolers take turns pushing the buttons. The doors slide open and with oversized backpacks in hand, the eager bunch spill out heading down the hall to the Speech and Language Clinic. They are just some of the many people of many ages who attend the clinic each semester.

The clinic opened over 40 years ago and provides speech and language evaluation and treatment for children and adults. Under the supervision of practicing professionals, graduate and undergraduate students studying Communication Disorders deliver therapy to individuals presenting a myriad of disorders and delays. From articulation to voice disorders, stuttering to language and literacy, the scope of disorders is as broad as their causes. The prognosis for most, however, is "good with therapy." It is the goal of every clinician to increase communication and improve a client's quality of life.

The clinic currently serves 47 individuals in one-on-one therapy with a student clinician. Five other younger clients, attend the Developmental Language Group or DLG, headed by faculty supervisor Rhoda Khan-Nussbalm. The children push chairs with their pictures taped to the top into a semicircle. They sing a routine "hello" song and introduce themselves to the group. They are set up similar to a pre-school class. Children 2-4 participate in open play, songs, art time, snack time, and gross motor activities. The DLG is designed to facilitate and reinforce language development in a natural, social, and positive environment.

Barb Meyer has been the Clinic Director for 14 years but she admits she has not seen it all. "Each semester presents its own new challenges," says Meyer. "There are always clients with circumstances we've never seen." She believes that with great challenge comes great reward. "The reward is two part," she says "the first part is watching the students grow and apply what they have learned in

the classrooms. The second part is the response from the client when their lives are changed and positively impacted."

The response from the students is overwhelmingly positive as well. Marguerite Howard, a second year graduate student, works on language and word finding skills with her 86 year old client who suffered a stroke. "I am open to all ages but I really enjoy working with my older client," Howard says. "I didn't know that I would." Blake Wells is a first year graduate student and one of his clients is a Washington University student with a fluency disorder. They work on strategies to reduce stuttering. "He's great and tries anything," Wells says. "He's fun and funny." Emily Buxbaum is finishing her last year as an undergrad and this is her second semester in the clinic. She is one of clinicians in the DLG. "It's exhausting, that's for sure," she says. "But interesting and rewarding. Each child has his or her own strengths and weakness. As clinicians we have to be creative and employ a repertoire of therapy techniques to best

suit each child. Today I used a technique appropriately named sabotage. Desirable items were placed out of the child's reach. The child had to use his language to get the item. By the end of the morning I'm ready for nap time."

In a small, unembellished room a 10-year-old boy sits across from his clinician at a round table. The environment is focused with few distractions. Outside the parent watches through the two-way mirror and listens in through headphones. Down the hall students and supervisors observe television monitors. Therapy typically consists of two 50-minute sessions per week. Last year the clinic moved from the first floor of Ryan Hall to the second floor of the East Building. The new clinic features up-to-date technology including a speech science lab and the latest in augmentative communication devices made famous by Stephen Hawking. 20 to 25 clinicians are gaining practicum experience on campus while another 20 graduate students are at other off campus practicum sites. The

graduate program accepts half to one third of its applicants, accommodating 25-30 new students. On and off-campus experiences prepare the students for professional practice. Many graduate students have a Bachelor of Science in speech-language pathology (SLP), while others have degrees in education, special education, English, and some non-related disciplines.

Many clients return to the clinic semester after semester. Others discontinue therapy and many meet their goals and are discharged. There is currently a waiting list for the fall and spring semesters. The clinic is free to University students, staff and faculty. It is constantly changing and evolving to provide the most effective therapy for its clients and the most expansive training for its students. "The clinic exemplifies the mission and values of the founding Sisters of St. Joseph," says Meyer. With the virtue of quality, diversity, and service, the clinic reaches beyond the campus and into the community to help others learn more and be more.

"Fusz," from page 1.

number one goal to achieve daily. Fusz said, "You must be passionate about what you do. You have to hire good people in an environment where they can grow, share the success, and incentives of the dealership."

Fusz's advertising techniques have amplified his business. He explained the importance in newspaper advertisements. Fusz stays ahead of the game with his websites, since 70- 80% of customers use the internet to buy a car. He also sponsors what he calls "walking advertisements" with his club soccer teams. He said, "Those players we support are walking around with our logo on their jackets."

There was time for questions concluding the presentation. Sophomore Sam Nansel asked to know more about the benefits sponsoring sport teams. "It helps build skill and hard work on and off the field, also playing on a team in the long run pays off," said Fusz.

Another student asked how Fusz manages with the perception and stereotyping of being a car salesman. "The store, people, and look of displays all represent the dealership. You must have genuine concern for these or you will fall into that typical stereotype. There is a need for people outside of the dealership to show customers

that they respect others and appreciate their business," said Fusz.

Senior, Nikki Giesler, asked Fusz, "What is the best way to compete and stay ahead of your competitors?" Fusz said, "There are 4-5 mega dealers here in St. Louis. Some do sell the same type of car. They each excel in a certain area but Lou Fusz Automotive Network stays ahead with the idea of giving the best customer treatment." He stated how they are a "people business" and not a car business. "It may be hard to strive for this goal, but buying a car should be a convenient and a pleasant experience."

The morning session was closed with Professor Don Shifter, Department of Business Administration, presenting Fusz with the Speaker Series' trophy. This trophy was the size of a football made of crystal and read: "Fontbonne University Recognizes Your Outstanding Achievements as an Entrepreneur and Responsible Community Leader." There was applause, and then students slowly shuffled out of the Lewis Room, grabbing their last chance at danishes. They headed off to morning classes with bellies full of pastries and minds full of cars.

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Spider Bites In St. Joseph's Hall Causes Concern For Students

By: Kerrie Blaha,
Sports Editor

In late September, Natalie Martin, freshman, found a peculiar mark on her leg but did not give it much thought. A few days later, she ran over the mark when shaving. After a few days that, what she thought was a simple scratch swelled, making it painful even to walk. After some deliberation, she finally decided to go to the doctor where they determined that the "scratch" was probably a spider bite that had become seriously infected. When she returned to her room at St. Joseph's hall, news spread and many of the other residents became suspicious of curious marks they had discovered on themselves.

This led to several other girls reporting similar bites to their Resident Assistants and the Residential Life Office. "There were around five girls that had claimed to have such bites, two of which received medical attention from Urgent Care," says Geoff Edwards, Assistant Director of Residential Life. But according to Carla Hickman, Director of Residential Life, "We're not even sure that they were all spider bites. One girl may have actually had a severe scratch, but she was given antibiotics to treat it like a bite."

Any such revelation can cause panic in the dorms. Two years ago when a resident of Medaille Hall was diagnosed with tuberculosis, many students became aware of the health risks of living in the dorms. The situation back then caused need for concern and has resulted in the now mandatory tuberculosis tests before living on campus. Hickman believes the spider infestation is far different. "We had a few complaints, so as a

precautionary measure we had the dorms sprayed, doing our best to ensure the safety of the students. But there was never a real problem with spiders," she says.

According to Hickman the dorms were just sprayed for bugs in July, but during warm, dry seasons, they are more likely to want to move inside. "These incidents were all reported in a warm, dry spell. Since it has cooled down and we've gotten rain, we have not had any problems," she says.

Hickman also suggests that the spiders may not have originated from the dorms at all. "One year a student had unknowingly brought roaches into the dorms in a bag. It's not unlikely that any spiders may have come the same way," she says. Despite the many explanations, she does not seem to think the dorms were ever actually infested with the biting creatures. "When the exterminator examined and sprayed the third floor, he never found even one spider."

So was the infestation an illusion of St. Joseph's third and fourth floor girls? It most certainly was not if you ask students such as Martin. The chunk of her flesh the doctor had to remove from her leg was proof enough. "The doctor told me that if I had let it go and not gotten treated it could've gotten much worse, spreading through my whole leg. Worse-case scenario then would have been amputation," says Martin. Her leg is mostly healed now, but the incident was a little scary.

Though there is no telling if there was any real danger, it seems that everything has returned to normal in St. Joseph's hall...for now...

"Masquerade," continued from page 1.

students had finally arrived at the Thaxton. The strobe light flickered as if a thousand cameras were going off. The decor was classy with a bit of modernism thrown into art deco. It was really the cat's meow, a throw back to an earlier time in architecture. The murals on the walls had people looking down at everyone. People walked in and made their way to the back. Up or down they could go, to the balcony or to the bar.

On the bottom level of the Thaxton was the night's tasty cuisine. The chocolate fondue fountain was flowing with bananas, strawberries and

everything imaginable about to be washed over by the chocolate goodness that flowed. Sitting at the tables in the room, people watched as the procession of food came in. "The food was amazing, I was surprised to see a chocolate fondue fountain, it made it seem classy, and it was," says Samantha Adams, senior.

People hit the dance floor and they hit it hard. Everyone that night had the ablates of Baryshnikov, or at least thought that they did. Among the smoke that tasted of vanilla, students found their way to one another. Waving their hands in the air, to breathe and feel the music,

English Professor Adopts From China, Starts Life As A Mother

By: Sara Adams,
Editor-in-Chief

Her likes include riding with the windows down, attending Association of Communication English Students meetings, and wearing shoes that squeak. She's Mags, a sixteen-month-old baby from Tuanfeng, Hubei Province, China. Patricia Brooke, Assistant Professor of English, and her partner, John Hodge, adopted Mags in August and brought her home to live with them.

Brooke once described herself as "not a child person," but started thinking about adopting a few years ago and said it was an environmental decision. "When you ask an environmentalist what you can do for the environment, they say sell your car and don't have children," she says, breaking off pieces of carrot cake and feeding it to Mags. "So John and I really started thinking about adoption, and thought it wouldn't be so bad." It is hard for her to explain why she wanted a child, she just knows that she did.

Brooke and Hodge had some trepidation about adoption, especially after hearing horror stories of people arriving in a foreign country and finding out they could not take home the baby they wanted, or that there was no baby waiting for them. Another horrific fact of adoption is the growing problem of children who are up for adoption who are not actually orphans, but kidnapped and sold for adoption as part of a scam. These issues are why countries like Vietnam and Cambodia have shut down their adoption programs until they can get their problems eradicated.

China, however, is still open for adoption, and choosing it as the country from which to adopt was not an easy choice for Brooke and Hodge. "I always felt an interest in and connection to China, and the fact that Chinese girls are filling orphanages at an alarming rate touched the feminist in me," Brooke says about her ultimate decision. It was a very emotionally draining and tedious process for which she and her partner had to be prepared. "I don't think everyone should have children, but ultimately I thought it would be right for us," she says.

The entire adoption process took 13 months from start to finish. The first step was choosing an adoption agency by doing research and collecting recommendations. "It was very important to me that the agency be secular," Brooke says. "The one we finally chose came highly recommended and actually had a same-sex couple on the front, which meant a lot that they recognized that lifestyle."



Patricia Brooke, Assistant Professor of English, holds her daughter, Mags.

Photo by: Sara Adams

The second step was home study, which took from July to December, in which social workers interviewed and conducted a home visit to approve Brooke and Hodge for adoption. "My house has never been so clean," Brooke says. "I even baked cookies." Then she and Hodge had to obtain numerous letters of recommendation from work, friends, and family to further validate that they were responsible and ready to adopt. "And then you wait," she says. "We read books about the culture of the area she was from, got as much information as we could, and we waited."

After the approval and paperwork was in order, the adoption agency matched Brooke and Hodge with a child and sent them pictures. And they waited again. The plan was for Brooke to leave May 1, but due to any number of delays, was not allowed to until the end of August and stayed in China for two weeks, causing her to miss the first few days of classes.

Brooke and her sister landed in Guangzhou on a Sunday around noon. The surroundings were intimidating, but they were always able to find other Americans there for the same reason they were. "That was the only time we felt alone, but you always looked around and saw other versions of yourself, white people also there to adopt, and it felt okay," Brooke says, picking up the sippy cup from the floor where Mags has tossed it and handing it back to her. The struggle was that China was a totally different language and many people did not know English at all. "At least if it was Spanish or French you could muddle your way through, or most likely they would know some English, but here we

were total outsiders," she says. She talks about how impressed she was with the variety in the country and its different aspects. The people all looked different, the landscape varied, and the languages fluctuated in different areas.

On Monday at 10 am Brooke and her sister were in Tuanfeng, the center of China, to meet Mags for the first time. She says it was chaotic because there were nine other families meeting children as well, and that Mags screamed the most. "She screamed until she fell asleep four hours later," Brooke says, looking at the now content and quiet Mags, who sits in a high chair watching her closely.

They then traveled to Whang to the United States Consulate to finish paperwork, get passports in order, and get Mags a medical exam. Then it was back to Guangzhou, where all families had to go through in order to get back to the U.S.

Brooke, her sister, and Mags returned home on a Saturday at 8 am. Mags was introduced to her new life in St. Louis and her new father. "She was a little freaked out by John at first," Brooke says. "But they're best buds now." By Tuesday, Brooke was back to teaching at the University, and by Wednesday life got a little easier when Mags slept through the night. "Fontbonne has been very supportive and the students have been very understanding, and still are," she says about her absence and hectic return.

"The 24-7 was the hardest thing to get used to and it's much easier now, but still, it's like, wow, there's a child's car seat in the back of my car," Brooke says about adjusting her life to

**"China," continued
on page 5.**

University Theater Captures Chekov In A Comedic Light

By: Maggie Sullivan, Reporter

Those who enter the realm of Anton Chekhov beware. While spending an evening absorbed in one of his plays, one is likely to arrive on the other side with a much changed disposition. Chekhov is known for his often cruelly ironic dramatic plays, many times dubbed tragicomedies. Despite the light-heartedness that this term implies, it is often difficult for readers to see elements of comedy through the cloud of melancholy that so often follows Chekhov's characters around. When his plays are simply read, the characters often seem utterly depressed, unhappy in life and altogether hopeless. The University's November production of Chekhov's 1896 piece, *The Seagull*, took on the task of presenting his classically tragic play in a comedic light.

Emily Immer, dramaturge and actress in the production explains how "as time passed and Chekhov's name gained fame and notoriety, the tradition of emphasizing the heavy tragic elements of his shows overwhelmed the show itself, gave Chekhov's work this 'label,' and made modern audiences shy away from producing his work."

The audience experiencing the University's revamped version of Chekhov's downer certainly was not shy in showing their approval. Clearly, the production approach taken was a wise one as it helped to rejuvenate Chekhov's piece. The audience was reminded very eloquently that there is in fact comedy in his plays and that they can be enjoyable. "More and more we have become convinced as a small university theatre presenting *The Seagull* . . . that the traditional form associated with Chekhov is not the important thing. Whether it is tradition or not – what matters is capturing the essence of Chekhov's words. To let the words fly freely and touch an

audience's soul," says Immer.

The gist of *The Seagull* revolves around a group of people related to each other in various ways over a period of about two years. As Konstatin, University student Daniel Lanier, played an aspiring writer, struggling to get his work recognized in the harsh world of playwrights. He was able to make the audience feel for the obsessed yet sweet hopelessness for love and fame that so haunts Konstantin. As Lanier's opposite, former University student Charlie Barron portrayed Trigorin, a man torn between his desire for genuine happiness and his unhealthy obsession with writing. Barron absolutely captured the essence of his character's internal struggle, while deftly showing the audience the comedic irony of his plight.

Coincidentally, Arkadina, played in a saucy light by guest actress Lavonne Byers, is Konstantin's mother, a famous actress and the lover of Trigorin. Konstantin is terribly jealous of Trigorin because his writing is always so highly acclaimed, while he feels that his own goes unnoticed; even Arkadina denies time to read her son's work.

As the play unfolded, the complexities of interpersonal connections between the characters grow tenfold. Nina, played charmingly by University student Rory Lipede, is a young girl who dreams of one day becoming a famous actress, like Arkadina. While she wholly admires her, Nina secretly disguises her obsession for Arkadina's lover, Trigorin. Nina is utterly seduced by the very notion that Trigorin is a famous and much-admired writer.

To make matters all the more complicated, Konstantin is helplessly in love with Nina and finds himself unable to live without her. Also tragically, Masha, played by former University student Julie Venegoni, the loveless daughter of a retired army lieutenant

and farm manager, is in love with Konstantin, who in turn sees nothing of her. Not to be outdone by himself, Chekhov provides that the bumbling school teacher, Medvedenko, played by University student Adam Flores, is madly in love with Masha.

The play continued in four acts as the implications of each relationship between lovers and enemies grow nearer and nearer to some unknown calamity. Terry Meddows, guest actor, aptly played Dorn, the local doctor who ironically supplies much of the comic relief needed to keep the audience chuckling in their seats in the dark three-walled theater. He, coined with a delightful performance by University professor Richard Lewis as Sorin, Arkadina's brother and consequently Konstantin's uncle, made for more moments of laughter than for those evoking seriousness. Sorin's farm is coincidentally the general setting for the play.

The audience eventually found the characters evolving as the play shifted from Act III to Act IV. After a span of two years, the group meets back at Sorin's farm, save Nina, who has by now become a famous actress under the influence of a love affair with Trigorin. Masha is found having given in to Medvedenko's passion for her and the two are married. Konstantin is now a successful writer but still fails to be good enough in the eyes of his mother Arkadina. The constant foreshadowing of a tragic ending commences as Konstantin commits suicide upon learning that Nina will never love him and that he will never have the sort of fame he seeks. The production remained true to the theme of Chekhov's play while improving upon it immensely from a comic standpoint. The production team and those that were involved in the play are to be commended.

Nina Variations Presents An Extended Understanding Of Chekov's The Seagull

By: Meg Kymes, Reporter

The line "More and more I'm convinced that 'form' is not the important thing..." begins the final scene of Anton Chekhov's *The Seagull* and begins Steven Dietz's play *Nina Variations*. "Nina Variations puts 43 different spins on the final scene from *The Seagull*," says Deanna Jent, Director of Theater and director of *Nina Variations* "It's a reflection on *The Seagull* with a modern look at Nina and Treplev's relationship."

Nina Variations cannot be explored without explaining its base, *The Seagull*. This play follows four people through their relationships and struggles within those relationships. Nina is an actress who marries a successful author, Trigorin. Treplev is a struggling playwright who is married to Masha. Nina is struggling with dealing with the death of her first baby and also with the fact that Trigorin does not love her anymore after the death of their child. Trigorin turns to Treplev's mother, Arkadina, who is also an actress, however, she is much more successful than Nina. Treplev does not love Masha, despite the fact that she is beautiful and obedient; his heart belongs to Nina, his muse and best friend. Nina however, does not want to accept the fact that Trigorin does not love her and therefore finds it hard to accept Treplev's affection despite the fact that she knows it. Masha, realizing her husband is pining over another woman, turns to Sorin, Arkadina's brother, for comfort and falls in love with him. In the end, everything falls apart. Nina runs to Treplev after realizing she is an unsuccessful actress and her failed marriage to Trigorin, Treplev confesses his love for her, but Nina only says

that she is going away and hopes that he will come to see her in America when she becomes a successful actress.

Nina Variations has only one scene, the final scene from *The Seagull* done in 43 variations. Some of the adaptations were less than a minute long, while others were around five minutes and some were extremely deep and sometimes silly. In one scene Treplev is describing to Nina what he would do to the dead seagull he had presented her. He tells the audience, as well as Nina, that he has had a seagull dish before and describes in detail how he would go about to prepare it. These variations can give the audience a better idea of the feelings and thoughts of Nina or Treplev or give a better idea of the complications of each of their relationships. Nina reveals to the audience that she is not sure whether or not her husband, Trigorin, loves her, while Treplev reveals his deep fear that he commits suicide after his final play is shown and no one even notices that he is dead.

Nina Variations is a fast paced, emotionally driven play that puts the realities of human emotions and relationships on the table. It exposes the deepest fears, thoughts, and feelings of Treplev and Nina giving the audience a more realistic and relatable look at these characters. It does not move from the original plot of *The Seagull*, but rather uses it as a base to draw this exploration of Nina and Treplev and their relationship. *Nina Variations* puts a spin on one of the most renowned final scenes in theatrical history and also takes the audience on a whirlwind adventure into the innermost emotions and fears of humankind.

"China," from page 5.

include a child. She says Mags is mellow and flexible about being taken places like the University and restaurants. "John and I felt it was very important to stay us," Brooke says, "to still go out and do the same stuff as much as possible."

Brooke made sure to express how well taken care of Mags was while in China. "When we took her to a pediatrician, she said that she wouldn't be as active and healthy now if she hadn't been cared for," she says. "She wasn't abandoned, she was

at an orphanage, and later had a very loving foster family."

One point Brooke felt was important to convey is that there is a growing community of people who choose to adopt not because they cannot have children or they are gay, but because it is their first choice. "Some people have a hard time accepting that a couple would want to adopt a child just because they want to, not because they cannot have their own," Brooke says.

Corinne Taff, Affiliate Assistant

Professor of English, agrees with Brooke about the desire to adopt. Taff says she has wanted to adopt since she was fourteen years old and that she and her husband discussed adoption before they were married. "To me asking why someone would want to adopt is no different than asking why people would want to be pregnant," Taff says. They feel that there are children in the world who need homes and they would like to become parents, so adoption is the right path for them. Taff and her husband will

travel to China this summer to adopt a baby girl and follow a similar schedule as Brooke and Hodge did to adopt Mags.

They chose China as the country to adopt from for two reasons, the first being that Taff lived in Japan during college and traveled to Thailand and South Korea, and she says, "I have a fondness for Asia and respect the Chinese culture." The second reason is that the Chinese adoption system is both predictable and ethical. The method is predictable in

the sense that they deeply rely on international adoption and ethical since the baby is already abandoned and in need of a home. "We aren't coaxing a baby from their mother's arms," Taff says.

Taff and her husband are hoping to get a referral containing the baby's name, age, medical information, and pictures in March or April and planning on traveling during the summer.

War of The Worlds Entertains Students at FAB Movie Night

By: Krista Brown, Reporter

During the 1938 live radio broadcast performance of H.G. Wells' novel War of the Worlds, thousands of people across the nation fled their homes in panic and fear of being invaded by aliens from Mars. Although the hysteria may not have been as drastic on the night of November 10, the University students present in the Dunham Student Activity Center definitely had their own level of fear to worry about. During this Movie Night event, the Fontbonne Activities Board presented the 2005 big-screen re-make of War of the Worlds, starring Tom Cruise and Dakota Fanning.

As usual, FAB did a fantastic job with the event set up. The DSAC appeared at first glance to be the campus theater, completely equipped with rows of seats and a refreshment stand full of candy, popcorn, and soda. Door prizes were awarded to a few lucky attendees, such as the front-row couch as the seat of choice for the winner and two lucky friends, and the much-coveted (by myself, anyway) movie poster featuring the face of the studley star of the show.

And for a random Thursday night in November, the student turnout was pretty good. This event even encouraged some University students to come accompanied with dates from other schools. Dustin Attarian, a freshman at Meramec, was among these special guests. "I think this is a great event," says Attarian. "I get to take my girlfriend to a movie for free, and buy popcorn and soda for both of us for only a couple bucks. Plus, this is a really good movie. I wish my college had events like these!"

Another movie-goer included freshman Ashley Holshouser. "I thought it was a lot of fun," says Holshouser. "The movie, the atmosphere, the people. It was a nice variety to my normal, boring Thursday night." Holshouser's roommate, freshman Kristin Bagby, had to agree. "I'd already seen War of the Worlds when it came out in theaters. Even though I knew what was coming, I was still scared," she says.

She wasn't the only one—a quick glance around the "theater" revealed a crowd full of tense faces, frightened expressions, and unblinking eyes focused only on the screen ahead. One female student in the audience sat huddled in the corner of her chair, hugging her knees and chewing on the collar of her t-shirt. When asked about the movie, she says, "War of the Worlds freaked me out. It wasn't your typical horror movie with

lots of blood and gore at first. It messed with my mind and played on my nerves. I thought the last line from the voice of Morgan Freeman was interesting because he said that lives are never lived in vain. It made me wonder about the reason the filmmakers created this movie and whether or not they were trying to argue something about what it means to be human or the point of life."

This astounding film is a rendering of H.G. Wells 1898 novel with the same title, but has a bit of a modern twist. Ray Ferrier (Tom Cruise), an estranged father who lives alone, is hit by the unexpected news that vicious, human killing aliens have begun to invade the earth. Ray struggles to keep his children Rachel (Dakota Fanning) and Robbie (Justin Chatwin) safe from the huge and wicked scary tripods driven by the aliens that vaporize any person in sight, much like a kid might burn an ant with a magnifying glass. Ray is hit with obstacle after obstacle, keeping the audience hoping for the break that is coming his way.

The movie has amazing special effects, from the tripods attacking the earth, to the buildings being blown up, along with the humans vaporized in an instant after being touched with the before-mentioned lasers projecting from the machines. The audience is never pulled from the plot because of a poorly coordinated effect—they are all startlingly realistic.

The way in which movie director Steven Spielberg interprets Wells' novel is brilliant, zeroing in on this particular family and creating an attention-grabbing plot. The acting is excellent, with Cruise playing a convincing role as a negligent father, plus Fanning and Chatwin as very believable siblings. None of the actors overpower the other; instead they complement one another.

Overall, these movie-going students overcame their sense of fear when they enjoyed watching the ending of the movie, and the ultimate conclusion of good prevailing over evil. However, according to at least one audience member, the movie has a lasting effect on its viewer. While heading back to his dorm after this entertaining movie night, he says, "The movie was interesting; while it scared the hell out of me, it also brought me a feeling of appreciation for my family and the life I live. Who knows what will happen tomorrow." As he smiled, he glanced over his shoulder... perhaps to convince himself, one last time, that there were no tripods heading his way.

University Student Participates In Up and Coming Local Band

By: Kerrie Blaha, Sports Editor

The crowd of the club waits in the darkness in anticipation. The lights go up and the quaint audience warmly welcomes the three young men that approach the stage at a small bar and club called Off Broadway on Thursday, November 17. Appearing cool and confident, the band, Moondog Freed, has come a long way since it formed in early 2005.

University junior Roy Jones, Jr., better known as RJ, was working at Guitar Central on Watson Road when he ran in to Mike Johannes, who happened to be shopping there at the time. Johannes, a writer and guitar player since the age of twelve, caught Jones playing the drums and immediately liked what he heard. "The two struck up a friendship and have been playing together ever since," says manager and University staff member Austin Bates.

Bates became involved with the band through a similar type of friendship. Jones has worked part time for the University housekeeping staff over the summer. During this time, he and Bates got to know each other and shared their mutual passion for music. "I told him I used to manage bands regionally so he asked me to come see him play," says Bates. He first saw Jones perform at Cummel's Café on Washington Street downtown and was immediately interested. "Later he told me about the band and asked if I would come see them play at That One Place, a local club. I did and I have been with them ever since," he says.

It has been about three months and Bates has done his best to get the band's name and talent out there. They have established a website, moondogfreedmusic.com, and

have played at several local venues. Though they have not yet traveled beyond St. Louis, they have hopes for the future. "They do have a college agent that will be working with them, booking colleges and universities around the region. We don't want them to tour much yet until they build a strong home base here in St. Louis, and until RJ finishes college. It's so they

of University Financial Aid staff member Nicole Moore, joined the two as a temporary bassist. As they smoothly transitioned from one rock-funk song to the next, the mixed audience became more and more excited, tapping their feet, bobbing their heads, some even inspired to dance. Their songs range from old covers of hits like "The Thrill is Gone," and even the



Moondog Freed played at the bar and club Off Broadway on Thursday, November 17.

Photo By: Kerrie Blaha

know they will have something to come back to," says Bates.

In the meantime, it seems the band is doing well on the home front. Though they are still small, they continually pick up new opportunities to perform. "It seems once they play a place one time, they tend to get asked to come back," says Bates. "They're booked solid for the rest of the year playing at places like Off Broadway, the Hi-Pointe, and many more."

Their show at Off Broadway appeared to be a success. Though the band actually consists of Johannes and Jones at the moment, Melvin Moore, brother

Beach Boy's "Wipe Out," to many original pieces written by Johannes and Jones.

Even during a performance, the young band took every opportunity to become known. As the band played, they were taping a video from the balcony and their first CDs were being sold in the back of the club. They will return to Off Broadway December 15 for another show.

With their talent and a little bit of luck, the band hopes to be moving up in the world of music. As Bates comments, "I feel like I've found money on the ground by finding these guys. They are going to be great."

"Blood," from page 2.

terror of a possible life and death situation.

Similarly, University student Raoul Watkins, sophomore, explains, "When I was younger, I was in the hospital a lot and lost a lot of blood at one point. I received the transfusion I needed and it had a lasting effect." Watkins further commented on his motivations toward donating

by adding emphatically, "someone gave blood for me." Watkins' experience hits about as close to the home and heart as one might expect to discover behind the many random faces of blood donors.

Other donors, like Gene Schwarting, Associate Professor of Education and Special Education, feel that it is natural and important to donate because,

"it helps people, it saves lives and it's very easy to do." While some donors lack personal experiences that compel them to give, merely the spirit of the holiday season tends to bring out the generosity in people. Indeed, blood drives are one way that people can contribute to those in need and have an impact in the community all year round.

RHA Presents First Haunted House In St. Joseph's Hall

By: Aaron Jeter,
Photo Editor

Halloween brings out many things. Exorcism, satanic rituals, Jason, and a certain Texas chainsaw massacre, none of which have ever been present at the University, much less in the innocent resident hall as St. Joseph's. However, this year was a little different as students lined outside the haunted house erected in St. Joseph's for the Halloween spirit.

The Resident Hall Association pulled out all the stops for this occasion, putting a great amount of work into the haunted house. This also means that while putting the haunted house together that there was no prior knowledge of what has been done in the past. Everything was made up from scratch.

Making the haunted house from scratch without any prior influence was greatly to the RHA's advantage since they had nothing to live up to, but it also meant that they had nothing to work from or any knowledge that would be useful in knowing what to do. Without anything to compare their haunted house to, they had the free opportunity to do anything that they like, just as long as everyone was safe, or well, somewhat safe. It was Halloween after all.

Upon entering the haunted house, people were greeted with darkness. The darkness surrounded them and the walls were swaying back and forth. A guide or perhaps a dweller from the underworld met those brave enough to enter. This being



One room of the Haunted House portrayed an exorcism.

Photo by: Aaron Jeter

which was their guide led people through the haunted house.

The first room that people entered, they found that they were witnesses to an exorcism. This was one dangerous looking exorcism that did not seem to be going well. The person on the bed had a look of anger and hate that would make even Lucifer himself consider leaving the room to go find someone to bum a smoke, if he had the habit.

The next room participants found themselves walking upon one of the most unnerving rituals taking place, besides the exorcism. On the floor a pentagram was drawn. Standing above it was a person reading chants. In the corner a girl was crying and rocking back and forth. In this room a séance was being preformed. People were then led to a grave filled

walkway. There they were told to get down on their knees to pass through a small crawl space. Leaving the small hole, students found themselves standing in a room that smelt like power tools. Leather Face appeared with his chainsaw going at full blast. The University was about to experience its first chainsaw massacre. Not too far behind from him was Jason, knife in hand. Luckily there was not any lake close to the school and as all horror movie characters move, which is quite slow, allowed for an escape to safety.

The first haunted house put on by the University's RHA exceeded practically everyone's expectations. Having nothing to go on except for their own knowledge and hard work, they put together one great, if not terrifying haunted house.

Students Relieve Stress In The Form Of Harmless Laser Tag

By: Scott Kurtz,
Reporter

It was a cold night as students waited in the Big Bend parking lot at the University for the bus that would take them to play laser tag on the other side of the river, in Illinois. Once the bus showed up and everyone climbed in, it was a bumpy ride down Highway 40 through downtown St. Louis.

When the bus arrived at Lazer Force in Caseyville, Illinois, students quickly got off the bus and piled up their coats in the party room reserved for the University. After waiting for a few minutes, several students got tokens to line up to play in the next game of tag. While they were in the laser tag area, the remaining students played with the various arcade games the facility had on site. Chris Gill, Director of Student Development, tried his hand at an arcade game called "Tekken Tag Team Tournament," and made it to the third stage of one player mode before he was finally beaten by his computer opponent.

Finally it was time for the remaining students to get their turn at laser tag. After receiving

instructions from the staff member in the team selection room, the students and other patrons went into the next room and selected their sensor vests and laser guns, then were sent into the laser tag combat area. The combat area, filled with black lights, neon paint, fake smoke, and various nooks and crannies, tested the skill of every person participating as they tried to avoid being hit and 'kill' anyone that was not on their team.

The next two games of laser tag had all the University students and faculty that came participating, with the Blue Team beating the Red and Yellow teams both times, with the final game being a close one. Between the games, students went into the party room and enjoyed pizza and soda provided by Lazer Force's concession stand. As the last game finished up, students took one last bite of pizza and headed out to the bus, worn out but happy.

"It was pretty cool," says junior Jonathan Kozak, "It's a pretty good stress reliever, you can let it out in a friendly way, I'll be up for it next year."

From Anguilla With Love: University Attracts Exotic Caribbean Students

By: Zach Solomon,
Features Editor

The University increasingly is drawing students from all over the world, as well as around the United States. Nicholas Romney, sophomore, is from Anguilla, a tropical island between the Caribbean Sea and North Atlantic Ocean, east of Puerto Rico. Anguilla is only three miles wide and sixteen miles long, with a population of 13,000 people. It is a British colony, and even has the British anthem.

Romney is one of the two Anguillan students at the University. His hometown in Anguilla is a beautiful area called Sachasses. Romney came to the University because he knew a professor here, just as his Anguillan friend Colin Lloyd, sophomore, did. That instructor is Anne Prograis Grice of the Mathematics and Computer Science Department. She is a friend of their parents.

Tourism is Anguilla's biggest business, and the season for it peaks in the winter, as it is

usually about 80 degrees. He described the island as a tropical paradise, complete with palm trees, beaches, ocean, and fish. Unfortunately, Anguilla also has a nasty hurricane season. One hurricane that sticks out in Romney's mind is Hurricane Louis, which happened in 1995. Nine people died and some 7,000 to 10,000 people became homeless. Luckily, Romney and his family were fine, and his property only had minor damage. While his father works for an accounting firm, his mother owns a Century 21 Real Estate Franchise and runs a villa. Through this villa, Romney has met celebrities, including Jay-Z, Beyonce, and Mariah Carey, who Romney says were, "very nice people." He described life as "simpler" back home and that he used to "just go home, play in a band, hang out with friends, go to the beach, and go fishing."

Romney likes that the University is small, but on the

"Anguilla,"
continued on page 8.



Leatherface of "Texas Chainsaw Massacre" and Michael Meyers from the "Friday the 13th" series greeted students with chainsaws and kitchen knives.

Photo by: Aaron Jeter

Students Were Getting Sleepy...Very Sleepy With Hypnotist Frederick Winters In The DSAC

By: Whitney Payne,
News Editor

"She's a hippo!" said Theresa Weber, sophomore, of friend Julie Allen, sophomore. No, she was not mad at Allen, or even making fun of her, she was hypnotized by Frederick Winters on Monday November 14 and thought Allen was an animal in a petting zoo. It may have been pouring outside but laughter was the only thing raining down in the DSAC as Dana, freshman, Janea' Gardner, Tyler Shalbot, freshman, Weber, Sarah Watson, senior, Kellye Dow, freshman, and Chris Gill, Director of Student Affairs, fell under the spell of Winters.

Winters made a point of stating that no person would be forced to do anything they did not want to. His voice was, "only a voice of suggestion," and "even if I said to jump out the window, your sense of self preservation would kick in," he promised. He then started playing a loud, yet soothing song and talking, making sure to always keep his words in time with the beat of the music. The show started with 11 people being hypnotized. One of the girls went up to Winters before the show. She wanted to be hypnotized but did not understand English very well and was afraid that would affect her. Winters said it would not be a problem, but he was unable to hypnotize her after all and had to ask her to go back to her seat. Two others were soon asked to leave and another did a good job of faking for about 10 minutes, but was discovered and also asked to leave. Gill was so under the spell however, that when told to feel tired, he laid on the floor with his head on his chair.

Sitting in a movie theater was the first scenario that the final

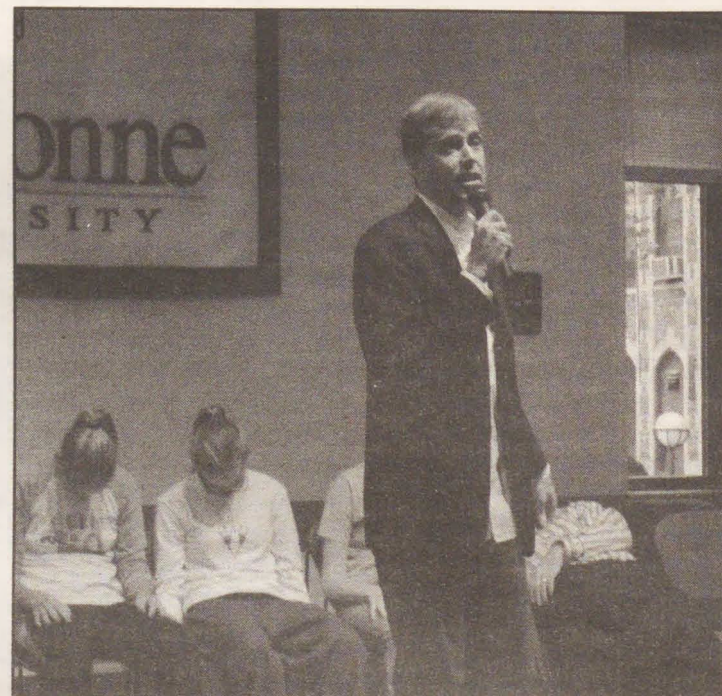
seven were presented with. A funny movie had them rocking in their seats and kicking their feet on the floor. Then a horror movie had the group screaming and grabbing onto each other. Finally the movie screen heated up a little as a beach movie was presented with described images of people rolling in the sand. Many covered their eyes, but a few watched eagerly until Winters told them that one of the people was someone they knew. He asked each person who they saw, but most would not say until Gill yelled out, in shock, "my wife!"

A little crowd interaction was encouraged when Winters proposed the idea that all of the people in the audience were animals in a petting zoo. The hypnotized were told to go and pet the animals and then immediately rushed out to the crowd and began petting everyone. Gill then attempted to toss French fries into one student's mouth, swearing it was a goat. "Grab your favorite animal and bring them back to your seat," Winters ordered next, and the group drug seven unwilling participants up to the front. Each of the original seven was then to tell what animal they had. Gill presented his goat while others were deemed a giraffe, hippo, dog, bear, and bunny rabbit. After presenting and petting their animals a while longer, the group was pulled out of the image and suddenly realized they had people sitting on their laps. A lot of jumping up and confusion occurred, with an apology on the part of Gill to his former goat.

Jerry Springer got his moment in the spotlight with the most elaborate routine, when the seven were told that they would

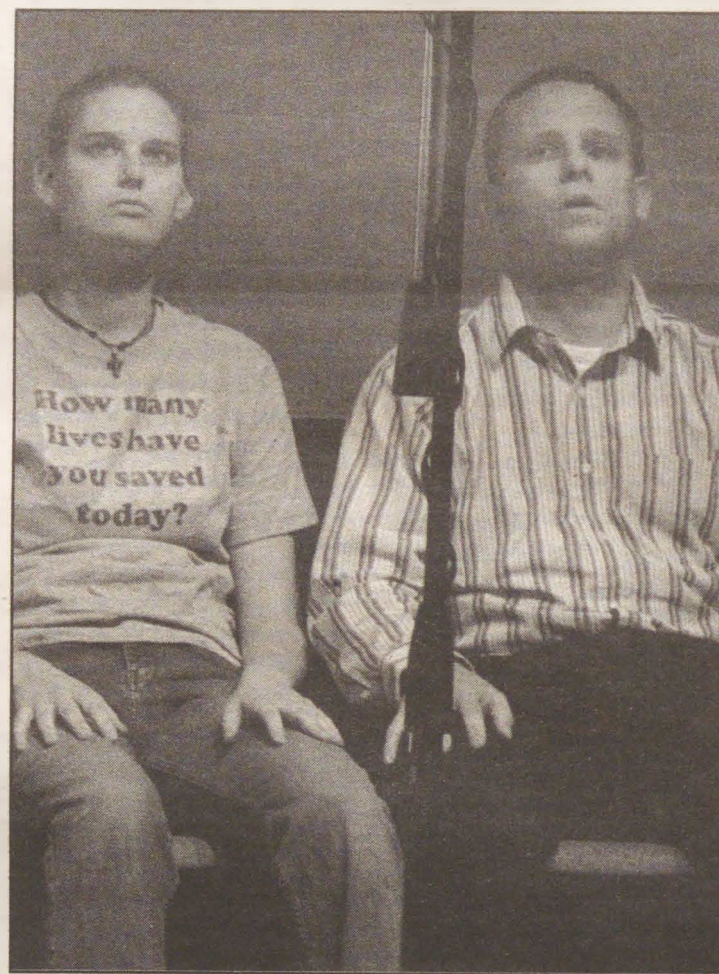
be making an appearance on the show with Springer, a.k.a. Winters. The premise was a show about U.F.O. sightings and the guests were all "from the sticks" and had to speak with thick country accents. Dow told of how she, her husband, and their 10 kids rushed to safety, while others simply told of watching. Gardner spouted her anger at the aliens for stealing her dog and better not eat him. Winters then informed the group that instead they were the aliens now, starting a period of odd behavior. Next the entire group was returned to their guest status except for Gill. Winters then attempted to interview Gill, but Dow had to be called upon for her undiscovered talent of speaking alien. In a series of beeps and tongue clicking she got Gill to explain his purpose on earth as being to take pets away for food, and even to sing his national anthem. This was also a series of beeps, although more high pitched ones. When the two were told to return to their seats Gill had to be shown how to sit properly after flipping the chair on its side and attempting to sit on its edge still thinking he was an alien.

The final image was the age-old picture the crowd naked scenario. A twist was put on it though, when the seven were then told they were naked. Chaos ensued as the group ran all over trying to hide themselves and climaxed with Tyler racing down the stairs. He eventually returned holding a wet floor sign in front of himself. Fortunately the wet floor sign was returned and all seven were brought back to their former state. Now all they have to face is their friends reminding them of their goofy stunts.



Frederick Winters talked to the University audience while hypnotism participants "slept" behind him.

Photo by: Aaron Jeter



Sarah Watkins, senior, and Chris Gill, Director of Student Affairs, were in a daze under the influence of Winters' soothing voice.

Photo by: Aaron Jeter

"Anguilla," from page 7.

flip-side, he finds that it is also a "little boring," because it's deserted on weekends. Romney says he does not get out much since he does not have a car or know his way around. Back home, Romney said he would go out with friends to eat pizza and ice cream for fun on the weekends. On the topic of food, he says the food in Anguilla is mainly seafood such as lobster and crayfish. Now however, Romney eats "American food."

From what Romney observes, he says that dating in American culture is faster paced and has more places to go out to. He sees American girls for the most part, "The same as girls back home, equally as friendly and nice, sometimes nicer." When asked about his view on our current president, Romney

said, "President Bush has made mistakes just like any other president. I think he could have handled a lot of situations better." He faces minor political problems back home, too. When the subject of Anguilla being a British colony came up, Romney says, "England wants to own it."

Lloyd came from North Hill, Anguilla and finds the small size of the campus comforting and one of his favorite aspects of going to the University. However, he is not exactly a fan of the food served here. When asked about if there are differences in dating here, he responded, "Yes. It seems like the dates are more romantic back home. There are a lot more places to take a woman back home," and his thoughts on American girls were, "They're

OK, but the girls back home are more outgoing." Unfortunately, Lloyd said he has never been out to experience the "night life" of St. Louis. When asked about his view of our current president, he refused to comment.

Romney and Lloyd went to the same elementary and high school, since there is only one on the island. "The first two years are like junior high," Romney says. After this however, students got take nine different courses in areas of interest to them, six of which they got to choose. On the subject of music both Romney and Lloyd listen to, both claimed to be fans of the popular Anguillan music back home, Reggae and "Dance hall". They also say the popular sports in Anguilla are boat racing, soccer, and cricket.

Have A Safe And Happy Holiday Break!

Panel of Pros Guide University Students To Nailing A Great Job

By: Erin Devine, Reporter

Eyebrows were raised in the AMC at Medaille Hall, November 3, as panelist Lucia Brda, from Brown Shoe, answered a question from a senior about whether to attend graduate school right away or to look for a job after getting her undergraduate degree. "It really depends on the position," says Brda, who said that if someone was completely committed to something, then he or she should go on to graduate school, however, if that person was only 99 percent sure, she suggested they get into the workforce and get some experience in the real world. "Experience is priceless," says Brda, one of five panelists that took part in the event.

"Panel of Pros: Job Search Q & A," took place in the Medaille Hall AMC, Thursday, November 3. Undergraduates, graduates and alumni who attended got the opportunity to get expert job-searching advice straight from the people who do the hiring. Panelists came from human resources in some of St. Louis's most successful companies, like Anheuser-Busch, BJC HealthCare, Monsanto, Brown Shoe, and Enterprise Rent-A-Car.

Though most soon-to-be graduates are happily looking forward to their new career searches, some students are beginning to wonder just how difficult looking for a job will be. It can be a scary thought that once one leaves the familiar campus, he or she will be in a totally different world. Without the recognizable faces of the students and staff, the outside world can be an intimidating transition. Soon graduates will be in a flood of others trying to nab a job, and unlike this University, students will be just a number.

In order to combat the broad and complicated spectrum of the job market, the University organized this event to help students get a head start on how to get hired. The session began with questions on the hiring process, which panelists explained could take anywhere from 3 months to 90 days, depending on the type of position. Hiring could start with several interviews and then move on the substance testing and background checks. Both Anheuser-Busch and Enterprise Rent-A-Car look at past records to determine if the applicant has ever had any alcohol-related offenses.

The issue of structuring resumes proved to be an enticing topic that listeners showed interest in and that the panelists were eager to address. The speakers generally concurred that a chronological resume was the preferred method rather than a functional resume, and that it

should serve as the applicant's marketing tool. According to Jennifer Self, Personal and Career Counselor for the Career Development Office, a chronological resume lists and thoroughly describes the candidate's experience, starting with the most recent, whereas the functional resume does not describe personal experiences.

"I love to see the structure of a resume, chronologically, of your accomplishments and successes," says Brda. She stressed that a chronologically structured resume is both easy to read and efficient. It should include each place of employment in the last ten years, followed by what the applicant was able to achieve there, and what he or she learned. In essence, applicants should consider his or her resume as a marketing tool, and continue to perfect it to be easily and pleasantly read and to display objective.

John Lyday, Director of Local Staffing at Monsanto, offered that school activities are just as important as work experience, and that clubs and organizations should be included on a resume. He noted that if one can go to school, still maintain an after school job, and also belong to a club or organization, then that makes the applicant look attractive to the person hiring because he or she is capable of multi-tasking.

John Auer, of Anheuser-Busch, added that one should make their resume interesting and easy to read, even using bullet points to accent accomplishments. However, Auer urged for the applicant to keep the most enticing points at the beginning in order to keep the attention of the reader. As far as the rest of the resume goes, there is not a bigger turnoff than for a recruiter to find spelling and grammatical errors throughout the document. Lyday expressed that this is a factor that causes him to put one resume down and move on to another.

A topic of controversy in applying is whether or not to use a cover letter, or something that precedes the resume. On the subject of cover letters, the panelists came to an agreement that simplicity is key; keep it short, and make sure it a professional document. Sherry Ford of BJC HealthCare added that cover letters are one thing that slows her down. "I just don't have the time," says Ford.

Throughout the entire hiring process, which can be lengthy according to the company and the position, keeping in good communication with the recruiter is necessary. Panelists agreed that the preferred way to keep in touch is via email, because it has quicker response time, and because most of them are already getting a lot of phone calls.

Damon Williams, of Enterprise Rent-A-Car, stressed that one of the most important things during the application process is for the candidate to pay strict attention to detail. This includes the person being knowledgeable about the position he or she is applying for, and familiarizing oneself with the culture and history of that company. He noted that resumes, which applicants draw upon their own experience and skills and apply that to the position being offered, are the ones that shine and stick out.

Once the resume has gained entry for the applicant, he or she proceeds with the interview process, which can be grueling and intense. The panelists agreed that most companies use behavioral interviews, which focus on problem solving and reactions to situations. Body language and breathing patterns are also noted. Questions like, "Tell me about a time when you succeeded," and "Tell me about a time when you failed and turned it into a positive situation," are common in this interviewing style. The speakers noted that most applicants are not prepared to answer questions like these, and urged students to learn preparation techniques on being interviewed.

Self, who is responsible for organizing the event, offers a lot of suggestions to prepare for the interview process. The Career Development Office helps students prepare by doing video-taped interviews, as well as assisting with writing cover letters and resumes, offering advice and strategies for the job search, and assistance with choosing a major or changing careers.

Lyday and Auer recommend making adjustments in one's personal and home life to prepare for the hiring process. By that, they mean changing one's answering machine to a recognizable and professional voice message, and perhaps even changing one's email address.

The panelists urged students to not only attend job fairs, but to take advantage of them by dressing appropriately and not just grabbing the free literature, but taking the time to talk to representatives about the company. By meeting these representatives, students can begin to network and build connections, connections that can lead to internships and possible employment.

Surveys that followed the event showed that students and alumni who attended were satisfied with the panel and found the information highly informative. Self, who collaborated with Laura Heft, the Assistant Chair of the Department of Business Administration, said that the University will definitely host a similar event next year.

Science Professor Returns For 2nd Year

By: Scott Kurtz, Reporter

Over the years, the University has added new faces to its faculty. This past year, the Biological and Physical Sciences Department added another new face to its staff, Dr. Stephenie Paine-Saunders, Assistant Professor of the Biological and Physical Sciences Department. Now that Paine-Saunders has been here for a year, she was willing to share some of her experiences here at the University.

Her science education began at the University of Wyoming while working on her Bachelor's Degree. "I did my undergraduate work there, receiving my Bachelor of Science Degree in biochemistry, then I did my graduate work at the University of California at Berkeley in the Genetics Department, which is now the Molecular and Cell Biology Department."

Paine-Saunders' work and education has moved her quite a way from her home state of Minnesota. "I grew up in Minnesota, then moved to Wyoming and the San Francisco Bay area during college, then went to Boston for my post-doctoral work as well as Irvine, California, before I ended up in Creve Couer and started working at Fontbonne," she says.

Her reason for coming to the University was due to Dr. Libby Rayhel, Assistant Professor of Biological and Physical Sciences. "Dr. Rayhel had asked me before last semester if I would like to teach a genetics

course, which I have my PhD in, and I decided to stay," says Paine-Saunders. "I like Fontbonne because of its size and the community it has, plus the people here are supportive and very helpful." But since coming to the University, Dr. Paine-Saunders has had to make some adjustments and face a few small obstacles. "One thing I have done is really look at my student evaluations and try to make my classes better through the input the students give on them," she says. "As for challenges, a couple of them are developing some new courses for the University and having to get used to scheduling my academic responsibilities."

Outside of the University, Paine-Saunders has some interests and hobbies, as well as a son and a few pets to occupy herself with. "Right now I have a dog and two cats, and as for interests and hobbies, I'm into gardening and photography. I'm also a sports fan, but some of the sports I have an interest in and like are swimming, track and cross country."

As for something Paine-Saunders would not mind seeing changed at the University, she would like something done about the parking situation. "It's pretty crazy sometimes," she says.

And that's the story behind one of the University's newest faculty members. Paine-Saunders looks forward to being a part of the University's faculty for years to come.

Five Things to Keep in Mind Over Break

1. Christmas won't actually come unless you watch National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation.

2. At the holiday work party, it is not necessarily okay to show up wearing nothing but a Santa hat. Some people don't celebrate Christmas.

3. Go easy on the eggnog. No one wants to see a repeat of last year's eggnog/throwing knives fiasco.

4. On New Year's Eve don't shoot champagne in people's eyes. Honestly, why would you even think about doing that?

5. This year, why not give the gift that keeps on giving: a robot that hands people things.

MFA/MA Thesis Show Demonstrates Language Through Art In An Evocative and Diverse Exhibit

By: Amanda Lorch,
Reporter

Currently on exhibit in the Fine Arts Gallery is the Master of Fine Arts and Master of Arts thesis show. This is the students' final show before December graduation. The mediums range from ceramics, oil paintings, and metal smithing, to lithograph, digital imaging and photography. The work is introspective. The subject, style and medium are determined solely by the student. I found that the work reflected modern ideologies and was, not surprisingly, dark in content. Identity, race, violence, political injustice and expressions of fear predominated the show.

Among the most powerful pieces was Ada Ezenwa's *Ira*. *Ira* is a large, dark, and provocative piece in mixed media. As I studied the abstract work for a moment, a growling dog reveals its teeth, then another, and yet another. Moments later, wolves and dogs fiercely salivating come into focus amidst the black canvas. Bold print from newspaper headlines start to jump out from between and within the spaces. Words, names and phrases such as "Bin Laden," "Burglary," "Assault," "Relief," "Meth," "Gays," and "Bush Smokes Pot," compel and request another look. I step closer and scan for more commentary. I take a couple steps back to reevaluate the larger image. I am engaged and eagerly move on to the next piece.

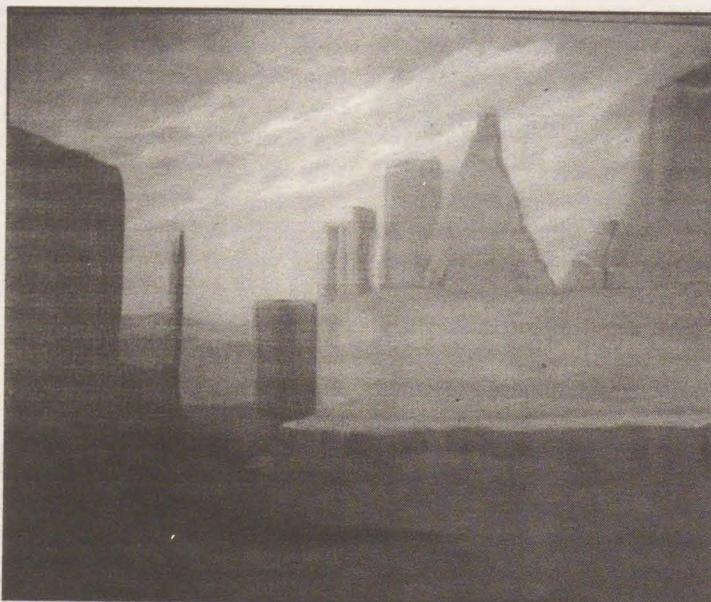
Huddled and nearly nude, positioned in a corner, the rendition of a girl in Charly Felling's *See NO Evil, Hear NO Evil, Speak NO Evil* is a demonstration of expression in human posture. The series of three oil paints and encaustic panels offer little information

beyond the postural behavior of the girl. One depicts the girl covering her eyes with her hands. In another her hands shield her mouth. Her hands cup her ears in the third, blocking out any sound. The paintings are evocative, inviting me to contemplate the possible circumstances. Their ambiguity allows you to pick your dread.

Joyce Cooks' *Lady* is a life-size figure in lithograph of a barefoot woman with a discerning face and a vulnerable stance. With her face slightly turned, her leery eyes are fixed upon mine. Her hand cradles her stomach and her long skirt drapes just short of her curled bare toes. At the entrance to the gallery, *Lady* is an appropriate welcome to the emotionally charged exhibit.

Installed next to *Lady* is Lenda Baxter-Simonic's *Cliff Dwellings of the Ancient Ones*. The large oil on canvas is one of three desert landscapes, reminiscent of southwestern United States. Up close the brush strokes are preserved and countable. At a distance the space is vast and far-reaching. Baxter-Simonic's deliberate application of paint to the canvas defines her as a confident and skill painter.

Neighbored next to a second large desert landscape, *Park Avenue* by Baxter-Simonic is a series of 6 smaller pieces in mixed media by Sean Frye. They include pulp fictional scenes of voluptuous women behaving in, to say the least, an inappropriate manner. The juxtaposition of the two artist's work is a lesson in the diversity of style within the MA and MFA programs. The exhibit contains many other pieces and delivers a well-rounded spectrum of specialized techniques.



Lenda Baxter-Simonic's "Cliff Dwellings of the Ancient Ones."

Photo by: Amanda Lorch



Ada Ezenwa's "Ira."

Photo by: Amanda Lorch

The Department of Fine Arts bases its curriculum on the development of formal fundamental skills. Each student is expected to be able to draw, paint, and understand color theory and specific techniques. "Mastering such skills allows for uninhibited creativity," Says Robert Gorman, a ceramics/sculpture MA student. The thesis show is the final product as the student applies the skills they have honed. "The work in the show should demonstrate that the student has found their own language with art," says Gorman. If we believe that art should go beyond the beautiful and into the provocative, by virtue of this "language" these students have rightfully earned their title as artists.

The exhibit is on display in the Fine Arts Gallery from November 17 until December 1 and will be followed by the Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Fine Arts, MA, and MFA show.



Charly Felling's "See NO Evil, Hear NO Evil, Speak NO Evil."

Photo by: Amanda Lorch

Bridging The Gap: Crossing Departmental Boundaries

By: Meg Kymes,
Reporter

Collaborative efforts are taught to students the minute they join a club or athletic group. The Fontbonne Activity Board (FAB) works with Fontbonne in Service and Humility (FISH) on a project, or Association of Communication English Students (ACES) joins with the Business Department for a speaker series. The possibilities are endless. However, these efforts are not kept only to campus groups working with other campus groups anymore. It expands to off-campus groups as well as to academic departments.

The Education Department is well-known for their hard work to expand the collaborative efforts off campus to the St.

Louis community. Their practicum classes allow for them to send students to the Brentwood School District to observe or even to student teach. "Our Goals 2000 Grant from the U.S. Department of Education allowed for us to send our education students to conferences in their particular subject as well as to other schools as well," says Judith Failoni, Associate Professor of Education. "It allowed us to send our students to Brentwood School District for their observation hours or student teaching. It also allows us to bring Brentwood teachers onto campus to teach our classes." Like the practicum classes in education, professors can go to different schools to help them on projects. "I teach a

class at Beaumont High School for teacher certification in the St. Louis Public Schools and I also participate in a panel selecting new administrators for school district as well," says Gene Schwarting, Associate Professor of Education/Special Education.

Education classes cross boundaries as well. They sometimes will act as cross classes, which are classes that are listed under more than one department. Computer classes, psychology classes, even philosophical or math classes can cross departmental boundaries to help include more students. Schwarting teaches two classes that are listed under two or more different departments. "I teach one class that is listed under the Early Childhood Department

as well as the Deaf Education and Education Departments," says Schwarting. "Another class I teach is listed under the Psychology Department and the Education Department." When a professor is teaching any of these classes, the diversity in the classroom must be kept in mind. "When teaching Philosophical Foundations of Education, I try to make sure that everyone gets information that they need out of that class," says Failoni. Since this class is required for anyone going into education, not only will Elementary Education students be in the class, but Early Childhood, Secondary Education and Special Education students as well.

The Education Department is not the only one that looks

to outside departments for help on projects. Heather Norton, Associate Professor of Communications, had to band together with Student Affairs to bring in a speaker for her Political Persuasion class for a debate watch. Last spring, Jason Sommer, Chairperson/Professor of English, directed the play *A Man For All Seasons*, for the Fine Arts department.

The University community is always willing to help out others and create a more communal atmosphere where not only departments, but also the University and the Saint Louis community can come together to help each other.

Life Or Death: Euthanasia Discussion

By: Whitney Payne,
News Editor

Annie was in a horrible car accident at the age of 16. She was thrown from the car when it wrapped around a tree. She lost consciousness and was rushed to the hospital. A year later she is still there and still unconscious. Her parents are running out of funds and the doctors are not hopeful about her ever regaining awareness. Annie's parents have started considering the option of euthanasia.

On November 8 in the AMC, the Lifesavers held a discussion on euthanasia and Physician Assisted Suicide. The story of Annie is not real, but the situation, which is not unheard of, was the focus of the talk. Death is a subject that no one enjoys, and society tends to shy away from the topic altogether. However, the scenario of Annie is a very real possibility and the Lifesavers wanted to know how people at the University felt about it.

Euthanasia is the act or practice of killing or permitting the death of hopelessly sick or injured individuals in a relatively painless way for reasons of mercy. Physician Assisted Suicide is the intentional death of a terminally ill person with the help of a medical professional. Neither of these practices are legal in the United States, however, they are in some other countries. The government has heard much debate on whether or not they should be.

Million Dollar Baby is a new movie that has received a lot of attention since its release. The discussion was started with a clip from this movie, in which one of the main characters is faced this dilemma of life or death. The lead boxer in the story is seriously injured in a fight and paralyzed from the neck down. While in the hospital she tries to take her own life by biting her tongue and bleeding to death. The nurses stop her in time, but her trainer is left to face the fact that she wants to die.

After seeing the clip, Mary Rott, senior and member Lifesavers, stood up and gave

an idea of the situation as well as proposing some questions to the audience. Colleen Harter, junior and also a member, led the debate period. Kirk Grice told of his fear that he would one day face this reality, because of being a referee for boxing. "Personally, I don't think I could be comfortable with living in a bed for 20 years," he says. Then Lauren Fish, President of the Lifesavers, pointed out that, "Our society is so quick to change things, to pick up the pieces and make something happen. [The problem is], is it really necessary to do something?" Discussion of the movie started up again and Laura Tucker said, "I'm not sure I could make that kind of decision, [but in this case], this person wants to die."

With the debate reaching a slow point, Rott pointed out that many people get the definitions confused. A persistent vegetative state (PVS) is where the person is in a coma, unconscious, and one of the two parts of the brain is functioning. The other is brain dead, where both parts of the brain are not functioning and the person is considered gone. This situation sparked more comments from the audience and such questions were posed as whether the person's previous wishes count or how cost affects these decisions. Leslie Fiala, sophomore, told of a situation with her grandfather where he was having a heart attack and he told the paramedics not to bring him back if he died. They went against his wishes and brought him back. "He spent the next two months wondering if he was really supposed to be alive or if he had gone against God's wishes," Fiala says.

Many members of the crowd voiced their feelings that the decision would be hard to make. Lifesavers reminded the group that they were not saying there was a right or wrong answer. The discussion was strictly meant as a voicing of personal opinions. Most felt the best solution would be to go on a "case by case basis." After all, it is a matter of life or death.

New Dietetics Professor Ends Her First Year At The University

By: Scott Kurtz,
Reporter

As the semester draws to a close, one of the University's professors marks off a full year since she started teaching here. Her name is Beth Lodes (pronounced Lotus), a Dietetics Instructor in the University's Human Environmental Science Department. Lodes' education history begins back at Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama. "I received my Master's Degree in Science while at Samford, which took me four years, then came up to St. Louis with my husband and did an internship at SLU, and got my Bachelor's Degree in Nutrition as well as my Masters," she says.

Lodes' education and work has brought her a long way from her home state of Florida. "I was born at Homeset Air Force Base in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, where my dad was stationed as a Marine, then moved to Birmingham for college, where I met my husband," says Lodes. "My final year there we got married in May, then moved to St. Louis in July, so I've been in St. Louis for about four and a half years now." Lodes first came across the University during her Masters work at St. Louis

University, and soon decided to apply for a teaching job here.

"I found Fontbonne very similar to Samford, both are small Christian colleges, the people support and communicate with one another," she says. "SLU's bigger size didn't make the environment as personal here, which is very important to me." As far as what Lodes has thought about her first year at the University, she has enjoyed it fully. "I love the people, the faculty and staff, they are so caring, supportive and nurturing here," says Lodes. "As for the students, I feel like they want to be here, and that's a great feeling. I enjoy trying to draw in the disinterested students and get them to enjoy the class by applying it to what they like."

Lodes also splits her work time between the University and nearby St. Luke's Hospital where she works as a clinical dietician. "I usually work with patients in the Urology and Cardiology Department as well as kidney failure patients," says Lodes. "I work there every other day I don't have classes, and sometimes I wake up in the morning and forget which place I need to go to that day."

Outside of her work here at

the University and at St. Luke's, Lodes has a decent amount of hobbies and interests. "I love gardening," says Lodes. "I have an indoor herb garden, I grow tomatoes and different vegetables, I do flower planting and yard work, and every chance my husband and I get, and we go to the Botanical Gardens." In addition to this, Lodes and her husband took a trip to Italy last summer, and she also follows the University of Miami sports, specifically football. "I am a sports fan, I love watching the Hurricanes play football, and I hate the Seminoles, one of their rivals. I also watch Cardinals baseball, and I occasionally followed the Florida Panthers hockey team up until the strike last year. I will watch the Rams, though, but only if they are playing a team I want to see." Lodes also has a Labrador mutt named Boaz, and her first child is on the way.

"I'm about three or four months into my first pregnancy, and I'm expecting the baby in May, so I guess now the secret's out" she says. As for one of the challenges she has faced here at the University, "Parking," she says, laughing. "It can be a real challenge sometimes."

Keeping Up With The Jones': Adding Smart Cards To Stay Ahead With Technology

By: Kerrie Blaha,
Sports Editor

It seems every time you turn around, the University is changing and improving. From roof construction to the addition of new programs and majors, the University has been doing its best to better accommodate its students. Among the changes, the Information Technology Department is working towards adding a new "smart card," which could be used over the whole campus and for a variety of things.

The idea was first introduced when the library staff discussed its difficulty with wasted paper, sometime around January of last year. "It seemed that students would print out an entire 20-page document when they only really needed a small portion," says Michael Grissom, Director of Information Technology. "The staff wanted to find a way to limit the number of pages students could print so they would be more conservative. But, if a program like that were introduced, I realized that it would have to be campus-wide." As many other universities have "smart-card" systems in place, it seemed feasible that our University could implement such

a program to keep up with the never-ending technology race. "The card will be introduced as another convenience for students. They will be able to 'charge' the card by adding cash at local stations," says Grissom.

The initial stage of the system will be local, though they hope to expand to a larger, more sophisticated network. "Students will be able to use there card for soda machines, the book store, and even laundry facilities," says Grissom. "If it students like to use it, we want to switch to a system that will allow parents and students to access the account on-line, even dedicating certain percentages of money to go towards certain types or areas of spending."

The card will most likely be a student ID with a chip installed that accesses the student account and it seems that the possibilities for such a system are endless. "The initial system will allow students to use it on campus wherever vending is possible. Eventually, the card may also be able to allow access to certain rooms, buildings, and labs," says Grissom.

When asked, students seemed optimistic about the idea. Sophomore Bridget Hopkins believes the card will make life

a little easier. "I really like the idea," says Hopkins. "It will help me to manage my money better and not to lose it." The laundry access will be especially helpful for her. "I won't have to wait for two months to do my laundry at home because I am too lazy and poor to get quarters." Junior Jenna Grush also welcomes the change. "It will be nice to have everything on one account so I can keep track of how much money I'm allowing myself to spend on campus."

The improvement is not only welcomed, but unique for such a small school. According to Grissom "We are above the national average with our technology and programs for schools our size. There aren't a lot in our category that do the things we do."

With changes such as the smart card system, which should be in place by next fall, the University is continually looking for ways to improve. "We are doing our best to keep up with everyone else," says Grissom. "Technology is very progressive. If you're maintaining the status quo, you are falling behind. You have to work hard to keep up."

First FAB Event of
2006: Ice Skating
on January 20

Boogie-Woogie For A Good Cause: Dance Marathon Money Goes To Children's Hospital

By: Aaron Jeter,
Photo Editor

"We're gonna rock around the clock tonight, We're gonna rock, rock, rock, 'till broad daylight, We're gonna rock, gonna rock around the clock tonight." These lyrics, written by Bill Haley from the legendary song "Rock Around the Clock," are exactly what happen Saturday, November 5. That night six students, Colleen Harter, junior, Betsy Berger, junior, Katie Hoette, junior, Carol Anne Renick, freshman, Katie Tucek, sophomore, and Kathryn Scherry, represented the University at the 7th annual Dance Marathon at Washington University.

For the group from the University the day started inside of the Arnold Memorial Center. Waiting for each other to arrive they came one by one as they were about to take part in a most outrageous task. Once gathered, their eyes beamed with excitement. They had a mission, that mission was to dance in any way possible and to survive the 12 hours while having a fabulous time. Nothing would be able to stop them, not the pouring rain, a leaking gym, or even the fatigue from dancing. As the lyrics from Bill Haley stated, they were going to rock around the clock that night.

For 12 hours the students boogie-woogied with a record breaking number of other students who attended the dance marathon with them. 521 college and high school students showed up to show off their skills. The talent of each dancer was never in doubt though, everyone who could survive the length of time that they spent dancing was a great dancer. This dance marathon was not just for the pure joy of dancing though, this marathon, like the ones before it, was established to raise money for the St. Louis Children's Hospital and Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital.

Even though the marathon had large groups of people from Washington University along with high schools, the University was the one group that had raised the most amount of money out of everyone there. This was not the first time this great honor has happened though. This year also saw the breaking of the record in the amount raised by everyone one at the Dance Marathon. This year they raised over \$58,000.

People danced around in dress and style from all over the world and time, this though was not due to a break in the space and

no matter what era they were attempting to be a part of.

The Dance Marathon was not just for dancing though. There was also a silent auction which allowed people to place bets on items ranging from food to movie baskets.

This charity provided students at different schools to take part in the helping of others in a very unique way. The children that came had different activities to take part in, including a foosball table, table tennis, basketballs and nets, and probably the most popular, the inflatable obstacle



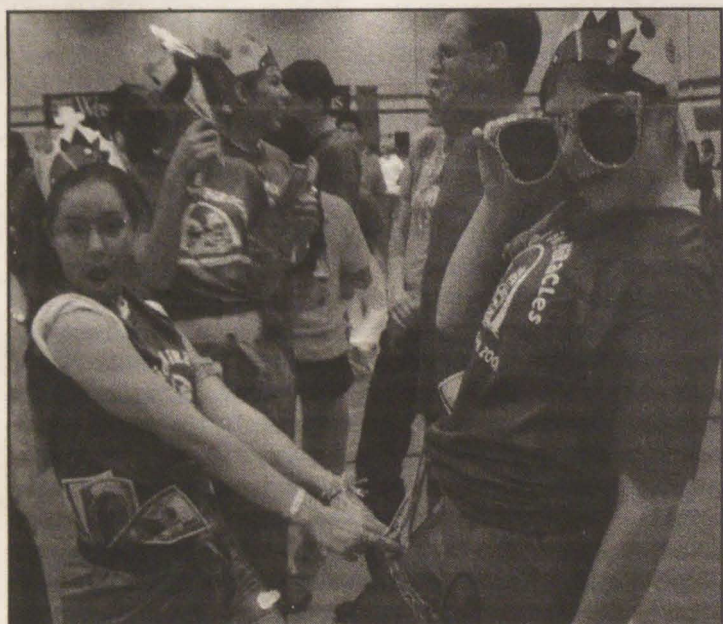
Chris Gill, Director of Student Affairs, and Betsy Berger, junior, enjoy themselves at Dance Marathon.

Photo by: Aaron Jeter

time continuum of the universe. The unusual dress was due to the theme hours that took place at each hour of the marathon. People wore their best 1980's outfits along with one of the greatest inventions that fashion has ever seen; slap bracelets. The slap bracelets were part of some of the greatest fashion sense that everyone had at the dance, but everyone there had their own special sense of fashion. "I enjoyed the 80's and the early 90's hour the most," said Harter. Everyone was dressed to dance;

course for those who needed to run, tumble, or jump off the extra energy that was not spent during the endless dancing.

The marathon allowed for students to come together with a passion to help and to enjoy themselves at the same time. The Dance Marathon allowed this to happen. "12 hours might seem a long time to dance, but when you are surrounded by hundreds of college students and some high school teens, the time goes by fast... and at the end it's all worth it," said Harter.



Colleen Harter, junior, and Betsy Berger, junior, dance together to raise money for St. Louis Children's Hospital and Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital.

Photo by: Aaron Jeter

"Crash" Raises Awareness of Hate On University Campus

By: Zach Solomon,
Features Editor

On October 19, during "Stop The Hate Week," at 8:30 p.m., students were invited to see the film Crash in the DSAC, a movie about racism and hate. The film follows characters of different backgrounds: a black detective, a Persian clerk, a Latino locksmith, and a white police officer to name a few. Each person is somehow connected to another, and all their actions carry a consequence to be seen somewhere in the film. Describing the actual plot is not only difficult, but uncalled for, as it would likely ruin a few elements of surprise. Yes, there is a mystery at the beginning that is solved at the end, but by the time everything makes sense, it doesn't seem to matter anymore, as the side-stories that lead up are more intriguing to see. Moreover, the audience gets to see that each character, regardless of race and background, is guilty of falling into the cycle of racism, stereotyping, and discriminating. The events of the film, while upsetting, happen everyday somewhere in our world, and that's the point of the film: to give viewers a reality check.

Star talent was something the film had in spades, with celebrities including Sandra Bullock, Ludacris, Brendan Fraser, Tony Danza, Matt Dillon, and Ryan Phillippe. Together, the cast creates a group of believable people with good and bad qualities. Nobody in the film is depicted as a superhero, and at the same time, nobody is depicted as a villain. The cast created characters that are hate-worthy at times, only to later view them as semi-honorable. There are characters who could be pitied, rooted for, and cannot be trusted. Each character demonstrates how their actions affect someone they have never met or even heard of. In the end, everyone inevitably crashes. All of these qualities make for an unforgettable experience, and set up Crash as a true Oscar contender.

A discussion followed the movie. Leslie Doyle, Head of Multi-Cultural Affairs asked the group questions and illustrated points and ideas from the film and real life. Chris Gill, Director of Student Activities, also took part in the conversation.

"I think that people are uncomfortable with the unknown. What they don't understand, they fear," said freshman Dominic Dimanche on the subject of why people of different groups clash. "I can't stop all stereotypes, but I can pay attention to my own behavior," said Gill about his view of stereotyping.

Talking more in depth with some of the students about their thoughts on the film after the event to get a more clear idea of what the film meant to them revealed some interesting perspectives. "I think it's one of the best movies I've ever seen that has to deal with racism and society. Mainly because in other movies about racism, they only show one-sided issues, like the cop in Crash who doesn't like black people. But they also showed his human side. The main part that struck me was Ludacris's character, because he was telling his friend how everything's trying to bring the black man down, but then he turns around and steals people's cars. It shows the hypocritical ways of people. I haven't really noticed any racism at Fontbonne luckily." Said Dimanche.

"It was really eye opening and it really made me perceive things differently from other people's point of view. I thought it was a very good and educational movie and it would be to some people's advantage to go see the movie and to not judge a book by its cover," said freshman Hilary Norman. Hopefully, the movie had a large impact on the University community as well as all the other people who have seen this film.

Before the discussion ended, Doyle left the crowd with a final piece of wisdom, which was also one of the film's messages. "Try to go out and get to know other people."

New Assistant Campus Minister Enjoys University

**By: Kerrie Blaha,
Sports Editor**

Campus Minister Tony Mravle loves his new assistant. "Working with her has been a dream come true," he says when asked about new Assistant Campus Minister Tasha Weitzl. Maybe this is because of her extensive background in ministry and the positive attitude she has brought to the University.

Weitzl received her Bachelor of Arts Degrees in social work and Spanish from Loras College in 2002. Located in Dubuque, Iowa, the small Catholic college offered her a life similar to the one she experienced growing up on a farm in Templeton, Iowa, just a short distance away. "My undergraduate experience was similar to that of Fontbonne's," she says. "It's a really small, tight-knit community." At Loras she became involved in several activities, including the dance team and campus ministry. "My experience in campus ministry at Loras was where I realized that type of work is what I really wanted to do," says Weitzl. "Actually, in college my dream job was becoming a campus minister."

From Loras, Weitzl moved on to St. Louis University where she received her Master's in Social Work in 2005, followed by her Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies from Aquinas Institute of Theology in St. Louis also in 2005. "My experience at Aquinas was helpful for my job now. It prepares you to do ministry," she says. Also adding to her qualifications, Weitzl spent a year as a volunteer for the Sisters of Loretto, Americorp and St. Cecilia's in South City, St. Louis where she served as an aide for ESL and religion students.

Soon after her schooling, she was offered a job at St. Louis University. "It was nice, but I like the smaller campus and community much better," says Weitzl. For this reason, the University seemed a perfect option for her. "I like working with college age students

much more than high school students."

Weitzl originally heard about the position from the previous Assistant Campus Minister and friend, Megan Mueller. Upon coming to the University she admits, "I was a little nervous at first, but after meeting the students and faculty, I immediately felt better." One of her first experiences at the University made the transition even easier. "I had the opportunity to attend the FOCUS retreat with the orientation leaders just before school started. I had a lot of fun and had the opportunity to really get to know a few of the students," says Weitzl.

So far, her experience here has been a very positive one. "Since day one, I was impressed with the students and the atmosphere," says Weitzl. "I am looking forward to getting to know the students and walk with them spiritually." In this respect, it seems her first semester has been a success. Among the many activities and events she and Mravle have implemented, Weitzl has helped to organize an upcoming retreat from March 3rd through the 5th, as well as a Honduras trip for next semester.

In her opinion, "the best part of my job is having students in my office 90% of the time and being able to work so closely with them." It seems students feel the same about her, as revealed by Junior Angie Schmidt, a Campus Ministry work study student. "I have loved working with Tasha this semester," says Schmidt. "She is very humble, down-to-earth, and has a great sense of humor. She and Tony are so supportive and really empower students to take leadership roles in the ministry. I think they have done a great job with the Campus Ministry program."

Despite the stress associated with entering a new position, Weitzl has enjoyed becoming a part of the University community. "I love it and I hope to be here for a while if that's what God has in store for me."

Student Subjected To Alcohol Response-Ability Program

**By: Peter Cartier,
Copy Editor**

A couple of weeks ago, I may or may not have been involved in an on-campus drinking incident. This is my story:

I was stuck outside of St. Joe with no way to get in. Repeated phone calls to my brother on the second floor went unanswered. (I think he was studying too loud to hear the phone.) Nevertheless, using a MacGuyver mentality, I utilized whatever was on my person to get his attention at the window. In this particular case, it turned out to be an empty beer can. On my second attempt to hit his window with the can, I was greeted by a friendly resident assistant. I was certain that I was about to receive a commendation for my ingenious tactics of communication; however, what I received was a date with an Alcohol Response-Ability computer program.

I accepted my discipline without complaint. Sure, I was an upstanding senior with no former crimes against campus and the punishment didn't fit the crime, but I held my tongue. It seems the University's action against any first offense is the Response-Ability course which costs 35 dollars and takes three hours. First of all, three hours is like six Boy Meets World episodes, (did I mention that I measure time in Boy Meets World episodes?) Secondly, 35 dollars could be better spent getting Topanga's autograph off e-bay, but I'm getting away from the point.

The course, as it was explained to me, is a slideshow presentation on alcohol responsibility. Each slide is narrated by chirpy college students who address issues facing students, and gosh darn it if they aren't excited about it. The program is split up into three sections: Alcohol Information, Alcohol Risks and Consequences, and Alcohol Decision Making. At the end of each section, you are quizzed to make sure you're awake.

The Alcohol Information is, in a word, the-kind-of-information-that-you-already-know-but-have-to-sit-through-

an-hour-of-anyway. Do you know that alcohol is metabolized by enzymes in the stomach? Sometimes it goes straight into the bloodstream. This will, in turn, impair your judgment skills, motor skills, and memory, leaving only commercial jingles from your childhood and random Full House trivia intact.

The Blood Alcohol Content (BAC) is explained. I was reminded that the legal definition of drunk is .08 (eight parts alcohol per 1,000 parts blood) and that exceeding this can lead to problems. Just in case I wasn't getting it, they presented scenarios: Meet Sean, a 150 lb party animal. [Warning: The following are exact quotes used by the Response-Ability program in an attempt to identify with the kids these days.] Imagine the monotone, jocky voice as he explains: "I was drinking rum and cokes, and the bartenders were going pretty heavy on the rum, if you know what I mean." I certainly do. Poor Sean fell victim to peer pressure and took two shots of Jager bombs. "I fell and trashed my shoulder. I was really wasted." They didn't even leave a number I could use to check up on Sean's condition. If you're reading this Sean from the Response-Ability program, we're all pulling for you and want to remind you that it's okay to cry.

The first section concluded by mentioning that the average college student drinks five drinks when out, and I swear I saw a picture of Corey Feldman at a college party in the background of one of the pictures. The second part dealt mostly with drinking and driving and listed different related statistics. For instance, 17,000 people were killed last year in alcohol related crashes, and if your BAC is .15 or above, you are 380 times more likely to be in a fatal crash. Granted the information is very serious and very necessary, but for an hour, they simply repeated themselves over and over again. Basically, it would have been just as effective to read a post-it note that said "Don't drink and drive."

The thing that really bothered me was that they never addressed the question on everyone's mind. What is the difference between a DWI and a DUI? Anyway, at this point I started getting pretty antsy. It had almost been two hours of my life and I had nothing to show for it. The program explained that, regarding getting into trouble, once is a mistake, twice is a pattern. If only the University felt the same way.

The third section got me excited again. Apparently I was going to go through a virtual party and be faced with different decisions to make. Surely "virtual party" means that I will have to battle against virtual roofies and jump over kegs rolling down the stairs. I was tricked. It simply presented different scenarios and gave different options on how to act. Perhaps it would have been more interesting if it was narrated by such role models as Charlie Sheen or Robert Downey Jr. Nevertheless, at the end they assured me, "This virtual party is NOT real" snatching away the illusion and returning me back to my computer desk.

Needless to say I got through it and now I am filled with alcohol-related information. Just the other night my friends were discussing recent baseball trades, and I was quick to point out that 1 out of 13 adults are abusers or alcoholics. To be honest, the program could be just as effective using only a half an hour of my time. The rest was repetitive anyway, and that is why I have come up with a few different methods of discipline for alcohol offenses on campus:

For first offenses, it might be a little more appropriate to receive a slap on the wrist or possibly a small fine to make the offender think twice. This will probably have the same effect and will save hours of the student's life. Repeat offenders should be forced to go shot for shot with Chris Gill in his office. Then he'll show you who the big man on campus is. Finally, in order to avoid incidences like these altogether, perhaps at the front of St. Joe, they could install a doorbell.

The next issue of the Fontbanner comes out
February 2006! Look for it!

Campus Alcohol Restrictions Broken By Returning Alumni At Late Night With Lee McKinney

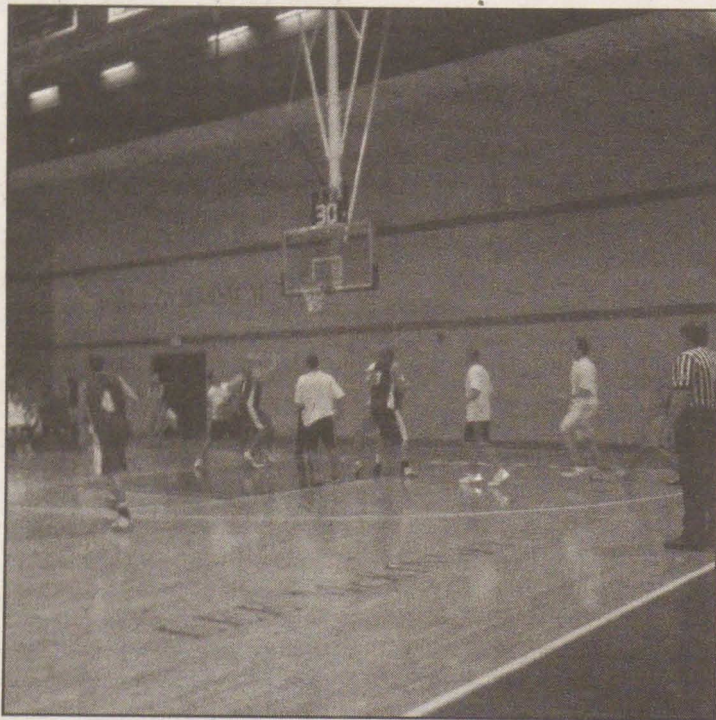
By: Melanie Bernds,
Reporter

Every year the University comes together in celebration of the start of basketball season in November. Students flocked to the DSAC and filed into the bleachers, waiting in anticipation. Sounds of conversation and laughter bounced off the walls in echoes. Students knew that this evening they gathered together to get rowdy and loud in support of their men's and women's basketball teams. Even alumni came back for the annual tradition they were part of during their years of attendance at the University. The event that made such a ruckus on November 11 was Late Night With Lee McKinney.

McKinney is the Athletic Director and the one whose picture was on the pamphlets handed out to people as they entered the gym. Fans were not only given pamphlets, but free t-shirts as well, displaying a plane to publicize that the teams are going to Hawaii for their trip this year. Supporters were also able to buy special items from the rummage sale, such as old jerseys and shorts.

The women's team played first on the court for their fans, playing each other for a scrimmage game. It was Lady Griffins versus Lady Griffins so it was not possible to root for the wrong team. At half time the score was 24 home and 20 "visitors." The teams' scores showed they were evenly matched and the "visitors" came back in the second half to win the game, 40-35.

The evening continued with the men's basketball game. The team introduced first looked different than the normal University players. They had beards, mismatching t-shirts for jerseys, and their long basketball shorts did not match. This was the alumni team, made up of past basketball players who had come back to challenge the new University team. This year's players are not only new, but young with eight freshmen and no seniors on the squad. The captains are sophomore Andrew Almany and junior John Dressler. The match-up was different with the older, experienced men against the younger, new team. The alumni set the pace by scoring first, but



Late Night With Lee McKinney held the annual basketball game between former University basketball players and current ones.

Photo by: Julie Allen

by half time the young men took the lead with a score of 26-20. There were not going to let the bearded team shame them in front of their fans.

At half time the University cheerleaders and the Griffin Girls took the floor. The dancers had a momentary music malfunction, but corrected it later in the evening, doing their choreographed dance again for the crowd. Besides having the girls on the floor to entertain the fans, the two teams engaged in a slam dunk competition. Freshman Tim Edwards tried to get fancy with the assistance of freshman Scott Porter, who climbed the bleachers and threw the ball for Edwards to dunk. They failed and were no match for the alumni team, who hoisted last year's captain Blake Cundiff up to sink the ball into the net. It was obvious by the sound of cheers and laughter who won the competition as Cundiff bowed at the honor. The new team would not let the alumni take all the glory, however, as they won with a final score of 64-44.

The night seemed to be over as fans filed out of the DSAC, but for some it was just beginning. In the Alumni Room upstairs, old friends and classmates chatted with each other, keg beer that was provided by the University in hand. Many current students, some underage, soon found themselves in the room and

drinking alcoholic beverages. Geoff Edwards, Assistant Director of Residential Life had his work cut out for him after the game when along with five other staff members had to find and write up several students for drinking on campus. The University has a strict policy that students who are of age or underage walking around campus grounds with alcohol is prohibited. It is understood there will be events on campus involving alcohol, but it cannot be brought into or removed from the DSAC. Edwards explained that St. Joseph's Hall is an alcohol-free building to everyone, no matter what their age, unlike Medaille and Southwest.

This seemed to be the problem for the evening. Apparently alumni forgot the rules and were carrying beer bottles and cans out of the DSAC. Since the Alumni Room was only serving keg beer, this meant alcohol was coming in as well as going out. Some alumni were angry at getting in trouble even though they were of age and no longer attending the University. When asked if Late Night should eliminate alcohol altogether, Edwards says, "No comment," but added, "These issues are putting the University in jeopardy with its liquor license."

Graduation Chain Links Students To Past, Present, Future

By: Erin Devine,
Reporter

Most students are familiar with the "Ringing of the Bell" each year, when graduates each ring the bell to signify another graduating class of the University, however, there is one graduation ritual that is somewhat of a mystery.

The once lost Chain Ceremony, which was a tradition of the University, was held during Commencement from 1927 to 1964. During this ritual, a link for each graduating class was added to a chain that would later historically represent the distant past of the University.

The chain came about when the first graduating class attached one shiny link bearing the graduation year to the shovel that was used for the University's ground-breaking in 1924. The Class of 1927 began this link tradition that is still carried on today and recognized at Commencement annually, but it has not always been this way. For reasons unknown, the chain was tucked away and forgotten about for about 31 years, where it waited to be discovered.

During one of his first tours of the school, Dr. Dennis Golden, President of the University, noticed the mysterious chain in a library display case. When Golden was inaugurated in 1995, he felt it was important to catch up with the past graduating classes by adding the appropriate links from 1964 and on. Since Golden brought the chain back to life, it has been a lasting tradition. "It meant a lot to be part of the ceremony," says Jamie Roberts-Jansen, Class of 2003, in recent alumni newsletter. "The ceremony let me express my thanks to Fontbonne. The chain is something from every one of us."

Carrie Wenberg, the Director of Alumni Relations, had no idea that the graduation chain was such a mystery to students. It is ironic that the title of the Alumni newsletter is appropriately named, "The Link," in reference to this ritual, yet had no particular meaning to certain undergraduates who encountered its ethereal meaning.

The chain is housed in the

Archives Department, under the care and safekeeping of Sister Jane Hassett. It is carefully laid on a bed of royal purple velvet cushioning and enveloped in a small dark wood and glass case. The chain is made out of two-inch-square links that were originally attached to the groundbreaking shovel. The beginning of the brass chain is ruddy and brushed, which gradually becomes more glossed and polished until the end reaches the current year's link, which brilliantly reflects the light.

An old document from the Archives revisited the past of the chain and its links, and told of the first few years of the University. On April 17, 1917, the charter was received from Missouri to establish the University, however building was delayed because of World War I. In September 1923, the first classes began at St. Joseph's Academy, at 6400 Minnesota Avenue in Carondelet. On April 14, 1924, the University had its official ground breaking, from which the spade and trowel originally connected to the chain. Thereafter, the University's first graduating class of 1927 added the first link to the chain.

An issue of the old newspaper, the Font, Senior Number, called these artifacts, "symbols of pioneering," and that they "represent a striving towards ideals; they are the evidence of sturdy effort." The Font also stated that these customs were to, "be followed at Fontbonne till the end of time."

The Chain Ceremony is certainly one graduation ritual that has been single-handedly resurrected by Golden. It has remained a mystery as to who started the tradition and why, just as much as it is eerie that it stopped so suddenly in 1964, and no amount of investigation has provided any answers. In a sense, the chain merely exists, and in such a miraculous way that it is one relic of this University that truly reminds students, alums, staff, and others of the journey some have taken to make this school what it is today.

University Men’s Basketball Looks Forward To A Strong Season Despite Young Players

By: Bob Rott,
Reporter

The University’s men’s basketball team is coming off their first losing season since 1992. Even though the team does not return any seniors to this year’s squad, the future looks bright for the Griffins. The team has 10 new players to go along with the five returnees from the team last year. Those returning players are juniors Jon Dressler and Loren Livingston, and sophomores Andrew Almany, Marquise Blair, and Sean Munton. The only player that is returning that saw significant playing time is Almany. To say that Head Coach Lee McKinney and his staff have their work cut out for them this year is a huge understatement.

In basketball, there are backcourt and frontcourt positions. The backcourt positions consist of the point guard and the shooting guard. The frontcourt positions consist of the small forward, power forward, and center. Each of these positions also has a corresponding number: the point guard is number one, shooting guard number two, small forward number three, power forward number four, and center number five. This year’s team is loaded with guards and small forwards, but McKinney has said, “The big men on the team will dictate how well this team will do this year.”

The Griffins will look to Almany to provide leadership as the most seasoned veteran on the team and will have to be the one to carry the team. In recognition of his work ethic and leadership skills, Almany was named one of this year’s captains by McKinney. Almany is a 6’ sophomore from Licking, Missouri, who is the son of a coach, so his knowledge of the game is sharp. Last year Almany was playing out of position; he played the 2 in high school and he played the 1 last year. Now he is back at his normal 2 position.

Another returning player is Blair. He is from McCluer High School and can play either the 2 or the 3. Blair is good at the outside game and has the size to go inside if necessary. A great leaper, Blair is also a quick rebounder and will be looked to in order to show leadership for the team.

Livingston is another returnee from last year’s team who can play the 2 or the 3. He is more

of an outside player, but can rebound as well. He is good defender but did not see much playing time last year but could see more this year.

Muton, from Steelville, can play either the 2 or the 3. When he is on, Muton rarely misses from the outside. He is one of the purest shooters on the team and also has the capability to go inside and rebound.

One of the new freshmen on the team this year is Patrick McCoy. McCoy is from Salem, Missouri and is a good shooter from the outside, well coached, and knows the game well. What he lacks in height he will definitely make up with intuition.

Scott Porter is another freshman from Lafayette and another son of a coach. His knowledge of the game is undeniable and has improved since the team started practicing in mid-October, but he will need to understand his role as a freshman this year.

Scott Herbert, is another freshman who will play the 2 or the 3. McKinney spent a lot of time recruiting Herbert because he saw his talent, but he is not sure what position he will play. As a freshman, he will have to define his role on the team this year.

Mitchell Lundy is another freshman on the team this year and is a solid player who can play the 1 or 2. Lundy is a very unselfish player, looking to get his teammates the ball in good match-ups. He is a strong passer who understands the game.

Chad Fournie, from Mascoutha, Illinois, is another freshman on the team whose primary position in the 1. He is the younger brother of Dean Fournie, who played for McKinney the first year McKinney was at the University. Fournie has been coming to games at the University his whole life who is a good defender and has great awareness on the floor. Fournie plays bigger than his size and is very knowledge about the game.

Quintell Thompson is transfer student from Trenton Junior College, the quickest player on this year’s team. With quick feet, he is a good defender. Thompson will primarily play the 1 this year; he is a very good passer and handles the ball well.

The only returning frontcourt player from last year is Dressler. The frontcourt is the key for this year’s team. He went to John F. Kennedy High School

and can play either the 4 or the 5. Dressler did not get much playing time last year, but this year in practice had turned out to be a pleasant surprise early in the season. McKinney says, “Dressler in the backbone of the team this year.” For a team that lacks experience, and Dressler in exception, he will have to make the difference on the team this year as the other team captain.

Another frontcourt player this year is Brian Fogerty, freshman. The most noticeable thing about him is the way he releases the ball when he shoots, throwing the ball at the basket rather than in it. McKinney also spent a lot of time recruiting Fogerty and even though is talent is raw, he is fundamentally sound.

Justin Stroandt is a freshman and is primarily going to play the 4 this year. Stroandt has the chance to be a good player this year and in the future. McKinney says that he also spent a lot of time recruiting Storandt. He is a great shooter and runner for a man of his size.

Tim Edwards is another freshman on the team and he can play either the 4 or the 5. Edwards is surprisingly quick for a guy his size, a good leaper, a great rebounder, and always willing to go after the ball. He will probably out-jump some members of the opposition this year with his leaping ability.

Ryan Kirkpatrick rounds out this year’s recruiting class by McKinney and he is going to play the 5. Kirkpatrick is from West Frankfort, Illinois and McKinney says, “By the time Kirkpatrick is done here at the University, he might be the best player to ever play here. He might be the best post player I have recruited since John Thomas.” For a big man, Kirkpatrick has great footwork and a great shot, showing that he has been well coached. He is a very powerful rebounder, and if he cannot get a rebound himself, he keeps the ball alive for a teammate. Kirkpatrick will have to be a go-to player this year to help the team.

The basketball team won only six games last year, but this year’s team is not concerned, as it is much improved this year from last. By the end of the season they might be the nicknamed the “Runnin’ Griffins” due to their ability to run the opponents right out of the gym. By having no seniors on the team, the young Griffins will be able to grow, mature, and improve together.

Men’s Basketball Roster

- Andrew Almany - Sophomore #31
- Marquise Blair - Sophomore #5
- Jon Dressler - Junior #33
- Tim Edwards - Freshman #40
- Brian Fogerty - Freshman #30
- Chad Fournie - Sophomore #14
- Scott Herbert - Freshman
- Ryan Kirkpatrick - Freshman #52
- Loren Livingston - Junior #20
- Mitch Lundy - Freshman #21
- Patrick McCoy - Freshman #4
- Sean Munton - Sophomore #11
- Scott Porter - Freshman #15
- Justin Storandt - Freshman #4
- Quintel Thompson - Junior #12

Women’s Basketball Roster

- Hilary Barkley - Sophomore #3
- Colleen Boehm - Freshman #44
- Kristin Chamberlin - Sophomore #11
- Lauren Crain - Freshman #20
- Maria Eftink - Senior #50
- Kate Evers - Junior #21
- Abby Franklin - Freshman #23
- Meghan Kohnen - Senior #22
- Mandi Newsome - Sophomore #13
- Michelle Reale - Junior #15
- Claire Rogers - Sophomore #30
- Molly Rozier - Sophomore #3
- Liz Sharpe-Taylor - Sophomore #10
- Kristin Swanson - Freshman #4
- Kasey Thompson - Freshman #12
- Helen Valli - Sophomore #33
- Mary Valli - Freshman #5

Bowling Fever Strikes As New Team Prepares For First Season

By: Maggie Sullivan,
Reporter

Turkey's have their place at the Thanksgiving dinner table, but beginning this November, 16 University students hope to throw some turkey's down the 'ole grease chute. That's right, for the first time in University history, students will compete on a school sponsored bowling team.

Make sure you have the right shoe size and hang onto your bowling balls; it's time to rewind to a time when bowling was the sport of kings and queens. Indeed, the origins of modern day bowling are evident in the accounts of the past. Believed to have originated as far back as 3200 BCE, various forms of bowling have long attracted athletes hoping for a chance to beat up on unsuspecting pins. In fact, the sport was so popular in 14th Century England that King Edward III was forced to outlaw the game altogether in order to keep his troops in line.

In days of old, bowling arose in many variations all around the world. In 19th Century America, it was commonly banned since at the time it was gambled upon like modern day horse races or football games. These bans could not keep tycoons and magnates from a good game of splay the tens though; some simply built alleys in their private mansions. Certainly the origins of the game and those who played it are somewhat whimsical and hard to grasp concretely.

Let's further our understanding

by switching gears and fast forward to a time when bowling was all that "Billy Bob Bowler" strove to succeed at in life. To rub up the ball, to toss it down the alley, to begin a chain reaction, one pin knocking the next and the next; Ah! This was to live! In the 1950's in America, bowling became popularized when the National Broadcast Corporation aired the first coverage of a bowling tournament. Stemming from this initial broadcast was a nationwide epidemic causing innocent sheet metal workers and stay at home moms the same to turn in their solders for shoes and their frying pans for colorful, bowling shirts. Bowling was indeed not only a sport, but also a way of life, at least socially.

Let us now venture forward and into the minds of my generation. Modern Day Billy Bob Bowler looks a lot different in the mind of a twenty-something than his ancestor would have looked. Modern Billy Bob sidles into a tacky, fallen through a time warp back to the 70's, pseudo 50's bowling alley, cradling his ball as though it were a rare and precious jewel; like a carton of free Camels. Billy Bob ambles across the bowling alley with the utmost confidence as a cigarette clings for dear life to the corner of his mouth. He hardly flinches as the wispy ends of his mullet blow in his face as the exhaust assaults him from the industrial sized hot dog sunbather. Billy Bob is on a mission to bowl and his eyes are fixed upon his usual lane; not even Tammy

Faye Baker can stop him now. Besides, those prime dogs have that who-knows-how-long-they-have-been-on-that-there-rotisserie look.

Movies like The Big Lebowski have done their part in planting visions like modern Billy Bob in the heads of many twenty-somethings. However, in the inaugural season of bowling at the University, students are not required to cultivate tacky hairstyles or begin chain smoking as a prerequisite to participate. Though professional bowling has become more popular through its appearance on television, visions of multiple mullet-sporting Billy Bob's somehow seem to prevail when a bowling team is mentioned. The University's newest team will help to shatter stereotypes about the social atmosphere that embodies the sport.

The team consists of 16 bowlers; eight men and eight women who will take to the lanes for weekly practice at nearby Tropicana Bowl on Clayton Road. Bowlers will don black pants and purple collared shirts in the spirit of the University's colors. Members will bowl two to three games twice a week in order to get in shape for competition. There will be four tournaments in which the top five bowlers out of each gender group will compete. Two of the headlining tournaments are scheduled for Cincinnati and Las Vegas.

University Students Speak Out

In today's modern hydrophobic society, is it fair to expect double the calcium in corporate expenditures?

"I apparently set the library alarm off because someone slipped the book 'Why Do I Cry At Night' into my backpack."

-Francis Steinburg, Business Geography

"I thought the cafeteria was calling this steak on Monday, but now it's meatloaf on Friday."

-Kermit Watkins, Nuclear Pharmacist

"Do you ever just read and then realize that you don't remember anything you just read? That's why I'm dropping out of school."

-Elise Tanner, Singer/Songwriter

Top Ten Ways To Save On Gas

- 1) Don't speed.
- 2) Avoid quick, "jack rabbit" starts.
- 3) Anticipate stops to avoid slamming on brakes.
- 4) Keep tires properly inflated.
- 5) Avoid rush hour.
- 6) Travel light.
- 7) Carpool with other people.
- 8) Leave the air conditioning off.
- 9) Check your own fuel economy.
- 10) Drive less!

These tips are brought to you by: Melanie Bernds