

It's a bird, it's a plane, no wait- it's Jane O. Wayne!
Please see page 3

Literary magazine relaunched

By: Katelyn Cunningham, Reporter

The cover depicts the image of a naked woman, painted with warm, inviting colors that catch the eye, but because this magazine has not graced the University community for several years, some may wonder what the title CHIASMA, the alluring cover, or the pages that follow represent.

CHIASMA, the University's literary magazine, refers to a literary term meaning "crossing." This magazine is annually distributed and strictly showcases student-based work, allowing no faculty submissions. CHIASMA, which has been revived after being on hiatus, was released April 20, at the English and Communication Department's Student- Alumni Networking Event.

CHIASMA has been dormant for three to four years, and has recently been revitalized due to growing student interest and work. Co- student editor, Dominic Dimanche, sophomore, says, "CHIASMA has gone through many periods of activity and has gone dormant for months, even years at a time, only to get going again."

When CHIASMA co- faculty advisor and Professor of English, Dr. Jason Sommer, arrived at the University in the 1980s, there was no literary magazine, and because the administration was not willing to pay for a literary magazine, part of the University's newspaper was dedicated to student work.

When the administration decided to support a free-standing literary magazine again, Collage was formed, and remained Collage until 1996, when it was renamed CHIASMA. Over the years, the University's former literary magazines have been named Collage, The Fountain, and suitably named, Literary Magazine.

The CHIASMA staff recently reviewed and accepted student work including photos, paintings, poems, and short stories that were published in the magazine's most recent issue. Faculty advisors Jason Sommer and Rose Shapiro, and student staff members look forward to more consistent years of CHIASMA circulation. Dimanche says, "I hope that with this incarnation, we are able to keep the party going for as long as possible."

Copies of the most recent CHIASMA are in the Dept. of English and Communication (Third Floor, East Building).

Service trips show students' compassion



KENDAL WHITAKER

From Biloxi, Mississippi: Megan Nolan, sophomore, Bridget Hopkins, junior, Katie Hoette, senior, Angie Schmidt, senior, and Mary Dressler, senior, working on gutting a house during a service trip in January. For full story, please see page 6.

CBC expansion deal uncertain; Execs on hold

By: Kevin Coll, News Editor

Efforts to expand the University have generated many rumors about its attempts to purchase the old CBC land from Concordia Seminary. There is speculation that the University is milking their relationship with Concordia while, lurking in the shadows, Washington University is poised to use their deep pockets in order to close in on the currently boxed campus even more.

Other accounts include that commercial contractors are looking to get a hold of this prize piece of realty to put in a Target store or a Stein-mart. The truth is nobody knows exactly who the major players are in the bidding war except Concordia, who declined to comment on anything related to the sale.

"As far as we are concerned we have made a price and are sitting back and waiting," Greg Taylor, Executive Vice President

for Strategy and Operations, says.

News of the land sale came back in the early fall and immediately a great deal of research and analysis began to make sure there was a legitimate reason to go after such a huge future altering task. "You want to make sure that something like this enhances the University and does not put any kind of strain... making you sorry you did it," Taylor says.

Taylor noted a few key components used in the beginning before a price is even decided. First a business plan is made containing information on how the land would be used, then a good understanding is made on the state of the property so that its uses can be determined, and finally how much to invest in the property to make it work is decided. Once this is done, a viable price can be decided.

Finance was the second element in planning and according to Taylor the most important part next to the business plan, "If

Washington University is truly looking to get this land then they are the type of institution that has cash in the bank...we would have to finance through borrowing and other things," Taylor says.

Dr. Gary Zack, Vice President of Finance and Administration, expects to borrow the funds needed to purchase former CBC from Concordia. "This would be long term debt and we would plan to repay the principal and interest from the future net revenue that would be the result

of increased enrollment." The projected enrollment increase is based on new programs and new residence hall capacity related to the possible acquisition of the CBC land.

As far as extra expense this will add to the University, Zack speculates that not including the cost of the debt, basic operating expenses (insurance, utilities, environmental services, public

Please see "CBC" on page 4

INDEX

News	2-3
Features.....	4-8
Sports.....	9-10
Opinions.....	11-12

University committee announces Excellence in Teaching awards

•Number of support letters from students is smaller than expected

By: Katelyn Cunningham, Reporter

'Congratulations' are in store for this year's Excellence in Teaching Award winners, full-time Professor of Nutrition and Dietetics, Jaimette McCulley, and part-time Department of Education Lecturer, Kathleen Schwarting.

McCulley, who has her Master of Science and Bachelor of Science degrees from Eastern Illinois University, first arrived at the University in 1998. She was a Clinical Dietician at Barnes Jewish Hospital in St. Louis, Scott Air Force Base Medical Center, and St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Belleville, Illinois. She is a Certified Nutrition Support Dietician and a Certified Nutrition Education Specialist.

Schwarting is a Lecturer of Education and Special Education, and is a Career Builder Mentor.

While the past and present Excellence in Teaching award winners are well deserving of their awards, some wonder if the nomination or selection process

should change in some way. It seems that over the years, the number of nominations and detailed support letters by students, faculty, and staff has declined. Because the Excellence in Teaching Award selection process is fueled by campus support, participation is necessary for the survival of the current process.

Dr. Susan Lenihan, Director of Deaf Education and Dr. Kelley Barger, Professor of Education, worked together to head the Excellence in Teaching Award committee. Lenihan explains the process, saying, "The first phase consists of nominations in the ballot boxes placed on campus, and the second phase consists of letters of support being written for the finalists."

Students, faculty, and staff are willing to participate in the first phase, and nominate the teachers they feel are most deserving of the award. However, there are few who are willing to send letters of support to the committee, and because these letters of support are crucial to the selection

process, the problem can lie in this second phase. Rex Van Almsick, Professor of Social Sciences and committee member says, "It appears the problem is that there is a big drop off in the number of support letters."

Although there was a much smaller amount of support letters, Lenihan says, "There were hundreds of nomination forms submitted for each category: full-time faculty member and part-time faculty member." Many will submit the nominations to the boxes around campus, but when they are later contacted and asked to prove their nominee's worth, many choose not to send a letter of support. If students, faculty, and staff believe that their nominee deserves the award, it is important that they complete the first and second phases of the selection process.

"After we received the detailed support letters that were sent, we ranked the nominees and decided on a winner. Everyone was on the same page, and once we got down to specifics, it was not a hard decision," Van Almsick says. After the committee made their final decisions, they walked around campus and found the award winners, to congratulate them on their recent achievement.

Good Farm Bills make good eating

By: Jane Armbruster, Reporter

Sr. Barbara Jennings and Jean Sammon, representatives for Network – a national Catholic social justice lobby based in Washington D.C., shared their insights concerning the 2007 Farm Bill in the Library's Lewis Room on April 16.

The title may sound applicable only to pitchfork-carrying, rural Midwesterners; however, the Bill involves all consumers. "The Farm Bill affects what, where, and how we eat," Jennings, Options program instructor, said. "The Farm Bill is major legislation renewed every five years affecting our food supply." It controls many issues, such as school lunch policies, the organization WIC (Women Infants and Children), and manages the nation's food stamp program; therefore, the Bill is currently a top priority to Network.

According to Jennings and Sammon, Network has four basic interests: healthy food for all families, conservation of our natural resources, vibrant rural communities, and fairness for U.S. and global farmers.

The issue entitled "healthy food for all families," mainly represents Network's desire for improved food stamp policies. The Catholic lobbyist group feels the current program is efficient, but fails to cover all those in need. According to a Network handout, "Over 35 million Americans are unable to afford the food they need, and many people who are eligible for food stamps do not receive them." The group also calls for greater distribution of fruits and vegetables throughout the country's school cafeterias and more funding for the food stamp program. According to Network, "the average food stamp benefit is about \$92 per month, which is only about one dollar per meal."

Along with the improvement of food and nutrition, the organization also calls for the protection of our natural resources. The Conservation Security Program, initiated in 2002, "allows incentives for good farming practices," Sammon said. "Unfortunately, the need grows but funding is cut."

"Rural communities are losing people due to the support and growth of larger commercial farms;" therefore,

the development of rural areas is of major concern to Network. "The rural community needs infrastructure, incentives to keep people in rural areas, new farmers with diverse, healthy crops and local opportunities including markets and small business," she said.

The fourth major issue involves fairness for U.S. and global farmers. "Half the people in developing worlds are farmers... only 1 to 2% of Americans are farmers." But compared to the U.S., other nations have a lack of technology. As a result, foreign markets are unable to compete with agricultural America and its commercial farms. Africa is a prime example. "There is a saying that when the U.S. sneezes, the rest of the world gets a cold," Sammon said. But when it comes to farming woes, "if the U.S. sneezes, Africa gets pneumonia." Therefore, Network is fighting against current U.S. policy, which favors large farms and commercial producers.

According to Sammon and Jennings, Catholic groups must be involved when Farm Bill policy enters the hallowed halls of Congress. "It is a religious and philosophical issue." Jennings adds, "Our faith tells us to follow our values: care for the poor, solidarity, stewardship, common good, and participation." After all, "we are not just looking at the next five years, which is what the farm bill covers, but down the road to the next 30 years," she said.

Many groups are involved with the farm bill, including anti-hunger groups such as: Bread for the World (and organization of many churches). Concerned agricultural groups include: the Farmer's Union and Family and Farm Coalition. Social Worker groups, lobbyists, and health groups, such as the American Heart Association, are also major contributors.

The two Network representatives encourage consumers to contact their government representatives and share their personal issues concerning the farm bill. The Network website allows visitors to view the information of government officials and gives contact information to those interested. "This has to do with your future. So contact your government representatives; it's important to remember they work for you," Jennings said.

New Editor-in-Chief announced

The Fontbanner staff is pleased to announce Austin Skinner, sophomore, as the Editor-in-Chief for the 2007-08 school year. Skinner will be the successor to the outgoing Editor, Lisa Wolk, who is graduating in May.

Skinner, who is currently seeking his B.A. in English with a minor in Professional Writing, accepted the position because he feels that it will be a great opportunity to further progress both his own writing and the writing of his staff reporters. "As Editor, it will be my responsibility to develop each particular piece as best I can...a process which allows for both the reporter and Editor, hopefully, to become better writers," he says.

In addition to developing writing skills, Skinner hopes to make other improvements to the

paper as well, with a focus on expanding readership. "Besides increasing circulation and readership, I hope to develop a good staff of writers with fresh angles and ideas. Also, I want to increase the content of the paper by inviting more submissions from students outside the course—hopefully generating a few new sections," Skinner says.

As the Editor-in-Chief, Skinner will be responsible for the final edits of each article that will be inserted in the paper and designing the physical layout of the paper via Adobe InDesign, a software program designed for such tasks. From start to finish, the process takes about a week.

Skinner, who only recently declared himself as an English major and is younger than the prior Editors, will perhaps face the challenge of proving his worth, but he is assured that he

is capable of the position. "I will be bringing a critical eye, a love for a well-written piece, a passion for writing, and a strong desire to educate and inform," Skinner says. These skills attracted the eyes of the current Fontbanner staff, which immediately pursued Skinner as a candidate for the Editor position after realizing his potential from his participation in Newspaper Workshop this spring semester.

Growing up, Skinner never thought he would become an Editor-in-Chief of a school newspaper someday, but is excited that he has been given the opportunity and will make the best out of it.

Skinner is originally from Litchfield, Illinois, but currently resides off campus near the Hill neighborhood.

Random thoughts of perturbation

Once, there were two mallard ducks that chased my cat of our front yard. What makes me mad is the fact that my cat was much larger than them and didn't stick up for himself.

The Fontbanner staff would like to thank everyone that has read a copy this year. Next year, please tell your friends!

Blues CEO shares business side of the game of hockey; VP of Sales hopes for bull market

By: Jane Armbruster,
Reporter

After lockouts, losses and a retreating fan base, the St. Louis Blues hockey team has gained the title of weakest link in this city's professional sport trio. But Blues CEO Peter McLoughlin plans to warm this town's cold shoulder toward the lackluster lineup.

In the Library's Lewis Room on April 19, McLoughlin presented his Blues revival plan to an eager audience of Sports Management majors. "We are at the bottom now. It is a challenge, we know that," McLoughlin said. "But it is a fun challenge...we have to rebuild trust in the community."

His business plan objectives include a general 30% growth, a greater focus on the lower bowl (pricier, rink-side seating), and the lowering of season ticket costs. The drop in pricing is attributed to negative fan feedback following the yearlong shutdown, which brought increased ticket prices to the post-lockout season. "The fans felt raising ticket prices was unfair. It was a big no-no in their minds," McLoughlin said. "We heard our fans and we responded." Their response is a season ticket priced at \$7 per seat in certain areas, a significant decrease compared to years passed.

"Although going to a hockey game is very expensive, we have also made it very affordable," McLoughlin said. They have also made it more entertainment oriented. Through giveaways and promotions, and incorporating DJs, bands, and theme nights into Blues game night, McLoughlin hopes to lure fans back to the newly named

Scottrade Center.

Pricing changes and entertainment may not appeal to a considerable amount of St. Louisans. Only one thing can bring back a strong fan base: a better team. After ending the season at seven wins and 17 losses, Blues fans were left underwhelmed. An example of disappointment involved a celebratory game night in honor of former Blues player, Brett Hull. Almost 20,00 fans arrived to view a historic night of Blues hockey...and almost 20,000 left debating their fan status. "You got 19,000 people to show up for the product, but the product did not show," McLoughlin said. "We care, we are responsive, we admit our mistakes and we are trying to rebuild the business."

McLoughlin always had a passion for sports. "When I was a high school kid, I was an athlete," he said. But while earning his degree at Harvard University, McLoughlin did not participate in any of their many sports teams. Instead, he wrote for Harvard's daily paper's sports section. After graduating from the University in 1979, McLoughlin joined the NBC network. There he covered sporting events from around the country. "TV news is very kinetic and energetic," McLoughlin said. "But you get sick of skipping holidays and weekends to cover various sporting events." His stint at NBC was followed by two decades at Anheuser-Busch. "During that time, I was buyer of advertising time...now, I am a seller."

McLoughlin left with a few words of advice for the Sports Management students in attendance, "Communicate,

communicate, communicate...It is all about creating relationships, then you have their business for years to come." But overall, "It is a fun business, I recommend you stay with it," he said. "It is not for everybody, but it is a fun job."

The presentation, which is part of the Sports Management Speaker Series organized by Charlie Helbling, Director of Sports Management, was supposed to be an hour-long address from McLoughlin; however, it ended abruptly with the CEO running for the door after a mere 25 minutes. "Today we are officially signing Erik Johnson, who was the number one draft pick last year," McLoughlin said.

A press conference scheduled less than an hour after the start of the presentation forced McLoughlin to leave halfway through. Eric Stisser, Senior Vice President of Sales and Marketing for St. Louis Blues Enterprises, was left standing in his wake. After eight years with the St. Louis Rams, "I made the important decision to leave the comforts of the NHL and I decided to rebuild a brand," Stisser said. New improvements added to the Scottrade Center include new LED digital bands around the rink, neon billboards outside the center, and increased dashboardsalesandadvertising packages.

Stisser assured Blues fans that the new executive players, all of which started in 2006, have the drive to rebuild this suffering franchise. "They truly want to take a Stanley Cup down Market Street," he said. "Joining the Blues now is like buying stock at its lowest point," Stisser said.

Local author shares insights with students, gives poetry reading

By: Austin Skinner,
Reporter

"It's like there are beads scattered everywhere on the floor and I have to find the string and thread them all together," is how Jane O. Wayne, a local poet, describes her process of writing poetry; arranging and rearranging words to reflect simple moments and images "just right."

On Tuesday, April 3rd, courtesy of The Writers' Reading Series and in conjunction with Dr. Jason Sommer's (Professor of English) "Writing Poetry" course, Wayne visited the University to discuss and read from her latest book of poems entitled, *From the Night Album*.

In the Lewis Room of the library, students, faculty, and guests listened intently as Wayne read from her book with the same delicacy and grace that went into the construction of each poem. Her twist on "confessional poetry" took the crowd through dream sequences and awakenings to the power of memory and perception. Beginning with her title poem, "From the Night Album," Wayne reads: "A woman steps out of a family album / and room by room, she walks / through a large house turning off the lights. / When the last light dims, she climbs out of a window / and regards the house from her own death."

The poetry reading was especially beneficial to the students of Sommer's class, as Patricia Schodrowski, a sophomore and member of the poetry course, relates. Hearing Wayne read selections from her work is a "unique chance for those of us in the audience to experience the poems with the emotion and emphasis that only their author could provide," Schodrowski says.

Rachel Whitener, senior, also enjoyed hearing Wayne read. "She almost put me to sleep, but not in a bored sort of way, her voice is just so relaxing; she's my perfect idea of a poet...just

hearing the words from her mouth makes me want to go to more readings because there's just a wonder in...the spoken word," Whitener says.

Author of two earlier collections of poems, *Looking Both Ways*, which received the Devins Award, and *A Strange Heart*, which received the Marianne Moore Poetry Prize and Society of Midland Authors Poetry Award, Wayne joined Sommer's poetry course before her reading in the Lewis Room to discuss her process and inspiration.

Students took pleasure in unraveling the poems of such an accomplished poet in effort to become better writers. Having the author of the poems present during the discussion of the text created an invaluable learning experience in which students could go straight to the source.

Dominic Dimanche, sophomore, claims what he "learned best was how everything can truly become poem-worthy if you're willing to work at it." Echoing the same lesson, Whitener says, "I especially love the way she starts with something so small—one idea—and then it expands until it explodes at the end and you're left thinking, wow."

Both students say their favorite poem from Wayne's new book is "Endangered Species." This particular piece explores the significance of wrinkles (particularly in clothing) as a mark of life and experience. Crafted with simplicity, the poem contains an unmistakable sophistication in consequence.

"I hate wrinkled clothes, but now Jane has led me to see the beauty and the meaning in wrinkles," Whitener says.

After helping the students in the course and reading in the Lewis Room, Wayne graciously autographed copies of her book. The students took that time to thank Wayne for her insight and expressed gratitude for her time spent discussing and reading from her work.

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The Fontbanner staff wishes everyone a great summer vacation. See you in the fall!

Students, teachers reflect on Bosnian course, interviews

By: Austin Skinner, Reporter

When Dr. Benjamin Moore, Associate professor of English, and Dr. Jack Luzkow, Chairperson of the History, Philosophy, and Religion Department collaborated to create this semester's special topics course entitled, "The Bosnian Immigration: Narrative, Memory, and Identity," they knew only that "it was an important and demanding issue...which could provide a transformative experience for all involved," Luzkow says.

Though they initially had "no idea [they would] come into such contact with the local Bosnian community, or that the course would culminate into an exhibit for the St. Louis Holocaust Museum and Learning Center" they quickly realized, as Luzkow says, that "this was to become a university without walls."

Indeed, as the students interviewed survivors of the genocide in the former Yugoslavia and entertained guest speakers like Patrick McCarthy and Amir Karadzic—who has been the "key person in developing [the class's] relationship with the St. Louis Bosnian community," Moore says—the course itself became a community.

And though genocide in the former Yugoslavia is a tragic cause for such unity, the students reflecting on the course uniformly express its indelible affect on their lives.

Brian Eschen, junior, has been especially affected by the interviewers he has participated in. "Interviewing the survivors was unlike anything in my life," Eschen says. "Listening to their stories, and watching the emotion on their faces as they remember some of the worst events in recent world history was a truly life changing experience...it makes you re-examine your own problems and issues...and changes your meaning of hardship."

Rachel Weissler, senior, echoes Eschen's sentiments about the interviews, and holds the class itself in high esteem. "This is the best course I have ever taken at [the University] and the interviews have been the most powerful part of the course," Weissler says. "I felt truly humbled in the presence of these genocide survivors and I have learned a lot from the interviewing process...preserving these stories is an

awesome task which I am so glad to be part of."

Reflecting on the first interview she took part in, Weissler testifies to the emotions that surround the process. "It was with an elderly gentleman who had spent considerable time in the concentration camps and had lost a son to the Serbian army. I could see the sadness behind his eyes, and I realized that I could never truly know and understand the pain that he had been through. Listening to the gentleman speak brought tears to my eyes and I had an overwhelming urge to go and hug this man who reminded me so much of my grandfather. I just wanted to ease the pain that speaking about his horrific experience was bringing him. After the interview, he came over and gave me a hug and a kiss on my cheek and thanked me. I had no good words to say to him, nothing seemed powerful enough or worthy," Weissler says.

The great irony of a course that stimulates a desire for discourse but renders students speechless was again reflected by Rachel Politte, senior. "There are no words to describe the interviews because I was incredibly awestruck after each one...the entire experience leaves me somewhat speechless," Politte says.

And though it "opened [her] eyes to the intense injustices of the world," Politte says she was given a glimpse of hope "from the Bosnian refugees who lost everything," but somehow found the ability to "love, hope, and live with the greatest determination."

Describing the satisfaction in what this course has become, Dr. Moore describes its effect on him personally, saying, "It is much, much bigger than I am...in a very good way." Considering himself "a student throughout the course," Moore is certain "the students will have what they have learned in this class with them for the rest of their lives."

Dr. Luzkow is also aware of the humbling effects of the course. "Teaching turned into something much better than teaching...learning," Luzkow says.

The interviews and collective research of the students and professors of the course who have attempted to document the genocide in the former Yugoslavia (1992-95) with the testimony of local Bosnians will be on display this fall in an exhibit at the St. Louis Holocaust Museum and Learning Center.

Student succeeds in sports, classes against all odds

By: Kendal Whitaker, Reporter

April 7, 2005 will be a day that Blake Tolan, sophomore, will remember for the rest of his life.

The day started early as Tolan and his family attended his step grandfather's funeral. From there, his grandfather and grandmother rushed Tolan to his high school baseball game at Seckman High school, in Imperial, MO. After losing the game, Tolan and his grandparents loaded back into the vehicle to attend a wake for one of his friends who had died earlier that week in a car accident.

Tolan's grandfather was driving and his grandmother was in the passenger seat, and both were wearing their seatbelts. Tolan was in the back seat with no seatbelt on, leaning towards the front of the car, talking with his grandparents. They were trying to merge onto Hwy M from Old Lemay Ferry Road when a vehicle struck them on their passenger side. The impact of the crash ejected his grandfather from the vehicle. His grandmother luckily walked away with only a couple cuts and bruises. Tolan's body was thrown around inside the vehicle, when his head hit a metal rod. The rod split open his head, leaving his skull exposed. He suffered a severe head contusion and a concussion.

Tolan was rushed to Cardinal-

Glennon Hospital in St. Louis, MO. He regained consciousness shortly after the accident; however, the injury to his head caused him to lose control of his body. He began to get aggressive with himself and the hospital staff, so his doctor put him in an induced coma for three weeks, so that he could heal properly. After one week at Cardinal-Glennon, Tolan was transferred to St. Mary's Hospital for two additional weeks.

As Tolan began to recover, his parents and grandmother knew that soon he was going to start asking questions about the accident. They had decided that it was time to tell him. One day as they were all visiting they handed him a newspaper to read. The Jefferson Country Leader had written a story about Tolan and the accident. As Tolan slowly read the article he found out that his grandfather had died in the car accident. The news was devastating. Tolan had lived with his grandparents since he was sixteen; his grandfather was like his father. He could not imagine life without him.

Tolan was released to go home towards the end of April. From April until July, Tolan went to rehab five days a week. The accident had caused him to lose his sense of balance, his long-term memory, and his speech was difficult to understand. Also after the accident he read and wrote at a third grade level. Tolan explained that one word on a

page would look like four words to him. Rehab over the summer and Tolan's determination to get back to his old life proved to be a success.

That following August, Tolan attended Mineral Area College in Park Hills, MO. When asked how he did it Tolan answered, "I took easy classes and I worked really hard." Tolan was on the college's baseball team but ended up not playing because he was not physically ready to get back out onto the field yet.

That next year, in the fall of 2006, Coach Good, head coach of men's baseball, recruited him to play for the University. Tolan admits though, at that time he still was not 100% back to normal as he still struggled on the field with his coordination and balance.

Tolan is working towards a business administration major with a minor in sports management. School is still difficult for him. "I still do not have my long-term memory back. I struggle in math a lot. I understand how to work the problems in class but when I leave and go home to do the homework I forget everything," Tolan says. He is currently living off campus in an apartment with three of his teammates.

Tolan is an inspiration to all that know him. "Tolan is a great guy and is determined to succeed in life," teammate JD Jackson, senior, says.

CBC, continued from front page

safety, etc.) are expected to be somewhat less than \$1 million per year.

Alternatives for the University have been sought out just in case this deal does not go through. "There are a few alternatives in place that would continue helping the parking problem if a deal is not reached," Taylor says. These alternatives, however, are staying undisclosed until after the negotiations with Concordia

are all through.

If the University expands, it will go from a 13 acre campus to a 21 acre campus, adding about one third to its land mass. In this new acquisition, [the University] will acquire a football field with field house, a residence hall, tennis courts, more parking spaces, and another main building for administrative offices and classrooms.

The price that the University is offering is staying undisclosed,

since the deal is still in progress. If this deal does work in favor of the University, though, history will be made making a bigger campus, increased enrollment and maybe even a football team. As of now, Zack and Taylor are just sitting back and waiting. "We hope to hear something by the end of the semester or beginning of summer...at least that is what we are trying to push so we can get to work using the land," Taylor says.



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Reflections on the class of 2007

By: Nicole Burnett, Reporter

The graduating class of 2007 came in as, and will graduate as, one of the largest classes in the University's history. Since this class, enrollment has only increased and the parking spaces have inevitably decreased. Some students like myself, came in clueless, with little idea as to what to study or even where to live. Others saw college as a stepping stone that would lead them to even more school. Students in the same department experiencing the same reality can have completely different outlooks on their experiences and can use the same education for completely different things.

Zach Harper for example is a Senior in Communications and plans to take his degree to Northern Illinois University. There, he will "torture undergrads," and earn his Master's degree. Maggie Sullivan, also a Senior in Communications, is taking her degree to Seattle to do some PR work for a minor league baseball team. "It is really just a summer gig," Sullivan says, "After that, I will just be a journeyman. I honestly do not know what I am going to do, and I am not too concerned. I will just spread my resume."

Harper started at the University in 2003 with every intention of studying Public Relations, "mostly because I thought it was something different than what it actually is." Sullivan also arrived at the University in 2003, but had no clue what to study. "I started out as general studies, sort of randomly picked Public Relations, and decided to stick with it." Sullivan and Harper have both lived in the dorms all four years of college. Sullivan describes the dorms as "handy" and Harper describes them as "hectic." Perhaps Harper's description stems from the fact that he's been an R.A. for three years and Sullivan has remained a resident.

Kate Garrabrant, Senior in Fine Arts with a concentration

in ceramics and fibers, describes the dorms as financially draining and decided to move off campus for her senior year because "it was just time to grow up." Zoe Childress, Senior in Fine Arts, moved off campus after her freshman year. "It was loud," says Childress. "That is the only appropriate word for it."

Personally, I do not remember the dorms being loud. This may be because I was the one making most of the noise. In any event, I moved off campus after my first year as well. Only I did not move off campus for any of the reasons listed above, rather a completely different reason that has shocked most everyone: the tree.

As a freshman resident, I found myself in the parking lot outside of St. Joe on a sunny and warm Saturday morning in April. I was on my way to work but could not find my car because it was hidden under a giant tree that had fallen on top of it. After alerting the security guard on duty, and filling out some paperwork, I later found closure when a letter arrived at my home in Kansas City that July. The letter said that the tree's falling was "an act of God" and no reparations would be given. Unsure of who to contact first, the Dean or my priest, I sold the car to my 16 year old cousin for an extremely reasonable price. He named it "Bammer." Bammer's engine still runs but the body damage is significant. The windshield had to be replaced, and the dome light does not work. In spite of this, the University refused to pay anything.

Three years later, I am not bitter. I, like the students mentioned above, will miss the University and we can all agree that the education aspect has been impeccable. All students have agreed that they will miss their friends, (some of) their professors, the elevator in Medaille Hall, and George. Things that students will not miss include the food, the drama, the elevator in Medaille Hall, and final exams. "Above all else," Harper says, "I will miss stocking clad feet the most."

Keeping the score, old school style

By: Maggie Sullivan, Guest Writer

There is at least one at every game, and probably many more than noticed, hidden in nooks and crannies of the stadium. Among the usual baseball fan -- loud, raucous, and often beer-soaked -- they are quiet and business-like. They will undoubtedly be seen with pencil (or pen, if they're really brave) in one hand, scorecard in the other, hot dog precariously hanging out of their mouths as they frantically look to the home plate umpire for the call: out or safe? Deftly switching colors to signify opposing teams, making miniscule notations denoting first pitch strikes and pitch count, surrendering restroom breaks during the playoffs and the World Series. This is the lost art of score-keeping.

My father began teaching me to score when I was 10 or 11. It became a hobby which I still have a passion for today, many years later. I have an official scorecard from every Major League Baseball game that I have been to since 1996. In addition, my shelves boast four or five completely full 45-game scorebooks, which I often used to keep score on television.

Eleven years ago, the fierce Dennis Eckersley was our wild-haired, side-armed stopper, and I still had the handwriting of a child. My scorecards cryptically read with names like Ron Gant and Willie McGee -- it was John Mabry's rookie season.

The scorecards from 1998 are characterized by "Big Mac" in the three hole and fervent "HR's" for many of his at bats. I have a scorecard from Ryan Sandberg's last major league game. I have a scorecard from Eli Marrero and Yadier Molina's first major league games, respectively. One from the time Larry Walker hit two grand slams in one game. One marks Ray Lankford's last major league at bat -- teary-eyed, I watched his home run soar over my head in right field. Crooked letters state, "We won! We won!" after Soup beat The Rocket in game seven of the 2004 NLCS, sending me to the first World Series game I ever saw. My most prized scorecard marks the final out of the 2007 World Series, something I had waited 21 years to record.

Scorekeeping is rare these days. All too typical a question is, "are you really keeping score?" (No. I am just coloring in the boxes ...). Occasionally I see others like myself, but usually of the older crowd. Being a hardcore scorekeeper is great fun, but it also has a burden. Many people around me rely on me for updates, pitching changes, and even player identification. I overhear from the row above, "What was Mike James's number when he played?" Turning around, one eye still on the action, I reply, "It was 49." It never fails to impress the drunken men beyond anything in their wildest imaginations -- a woman who keeps score. Sometimes they go on to quiz me, to see if I really know what I am doing. Condescendingly,

they will say "Okay then, what does the backwards K stand for?" "Strike out looking, of course; mind if I go back to the game now?"

I do not mean here to knock the concept of baseball as entertainment or those who enjoy it as such. Many great scorekeepers, namely Mike Shannon, have enjoyed copious amounts of Budweiser while still paying attention to the boys on the field. I only mean to argue that scorekeeping has become somewhat obsolete. When I was a little girl, I had to learn to eat my cotton candy while simultaneously recording a double switch. Today, most children hardly watch the game, preoccupied with getting sticky cotton candy fingers in the hair of the fan in front of them, much less knowing which numbers correspond to players on the field.

Scorekeeping is not just some arbitrary activity that I do to pass the time. It is truly something that I cherish. I remember the first time my father taught me to score, it was the kind of quintessential bonding that the game of baseball so often yields. I will have all of my scorecards for the rest of my life, and will continue to add to them frequently. In 50 years, my scorecards will serve as reminders of my youth; memories of games, moments and players forgotten. Most of all though, they will remind me of one of the greatest gifts my father gave me; the lost art of scorekeeping.

The Fontbanner staff wishes to congratulate all Spring 2007 graduates. Good luck in everything you do!

Many children begin drinking as early as age 12. That's two years before they've tried geometry. Research indicates that children are less likely to drink when their parents are involved in their lives and when they report feeling close to their parents. So next time you complain about how fast they're growing up, consider that it might be in your power to slow them down.

For advice on talking with your children, visit stopalcoholabuse.gov or call 1-800-729-6886

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12 IS NOT THE NEW 21

Spring Formal adds more options, a higher attendance

By: Dan Koehler,
Opinion Editor

Friday the 13th was a night to be remembered. Not because of those cheap horror movies that seem to take place on this superstitious evening, but rather it was the night of the University's Spring Formal. This year's dance was held at Kemol's Restaurant at the top of the Met. Sophomore Sara Herman, who was FAB's member in charge of the event, said, "We really wanted a nice, fancy location for this year's Formal."

Formal is an annual tradition, but this year it got a few face lifts. "The biggest thing we changed about the dance was the dinner versus non-dinner tickets," Herman says. In collaboration with Bridget Hopkins, junior, the two decided to offer the two types of tickets giving students an option. In years past, the student attending the dance had to purchase dinner tickets, which made them more expensive. "Since we wanted a nicer location, we knew the cost for dinner would be higher than usual, but we wanted this Formal to have the highest attendance ever."

The dinner was composed of a salad, followed by gourmet baked chicken with a side of cheesy alfredo pasta rounded out by chocolate cake for dessert.

With the incorporation of the non-dinner ticket, that is just what they got. The Formal had

over 200 attendees, according to Herman, well surpassing any University dance in FAB's history. "I honestly think that the reason attendance was so high was because the tickets were so cheap, not only for the non-dinner, but we also got a really good deal on the dinner tickets too," Herman says. "Some people really do not care about the food and just want to dance, so this year we let them do just that," Hopkins says.

The next change to the Formal's format dealt with how the students danced. In past dances, the students either heard music from a live band, or a DJ. But this year's theme could have been "Choices" since students danced to music from both. "The band, Rescue, played first and they did a lot of good covers. Then we had the DJ come on half-way through and spun the rest of the night," Herman says.

Students such as Kristen Watkins, sophomore, liked the new music format. "It was really cool how they had a really good band and a really good DJ," Watkins says.

Junior Kevin Brightman, a transfer student from a larger university, had more fun than he thought he would. "The dance was so much fun. The music was good, the view was outstanding, and the people were awesome. I even got to show off my 'White-Man' dance." And as much as Brightman got to perform 'White-Man' dance, it was the only scary part of this Friday the 13th.

A journey with a mission



TONY MRAVLE

From Biloxi, Mississippi: Participants in the January service trip stand in front of a construction project with a local resident.

By: Tina Rolwes,
Copy Editor

This past March, Campus Ministry ventured south to Tijuana, Mexico. In Tijuana, they partnered up with the Esperanza International Organization in the hopes of developing low income communities in order to help them increase their quality of life.

With fourteen total adventurers, including four chaperones, Campus Ministry made their journey into Tijuana where they helped to build not only morale, but also homes. Tony Mravle, Director of Campus Ministry, explained the experience by commenting on how all of the members of this village come together to build one another's homes. They would all start on one home and would start the next home once the first was finished. Mravle commented that they were helping to build the community one step at a time.

Campus Ministry makes many trips just like the one to Tijuana, each year. The organization takes two domestic and one international trip each year. Campus ministry has been traveling to Biloxi, Mississippi the past few Januaries in order to help families that were devastated by Hurricane Katrina attempt to rebuild their homes and finally get their lives back together. This year they also traveled to West Virginia to the Nazareth Farm. This organization is devoted to developing relationships and eliminating sub-standard housing via means of home repair with the help of service ministries. Mravle commented that the Nazareth Farm is one of his favorite places to travel to because each trip they are working different stages of development for the community.

Mravle stresses that the trips are not just for members of Campus Ministry. "Everybody is welcome as long as they are

willing to lend a helping hand," Mravle says. However, college students agree that trips are nice to take, but finances are always an issue. Mravle explained that most of the domestic trips that campus ministry takes cost less than two hundred dollars. As for the international trips, Mravle simply stated that "[The University]...subsidizes those".

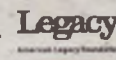
Next spring, Campus Ministry is going to be traveling to Rome over Spring Break. The nine day tour will consist of many stops along the way on their journey to St. Peter's Square for Easter Mass. Mravle describes this trip as a "journey with the intent of it being spiritual". There are a limited amount of reservations available for the trip and many interested students, and faculty, have inquired already. For more information on the trip, please contact Katie Hoette at campusministry@fontbonne.edu or stop by Tony Mravle's office in the back of the Student Affairs office in Medaille.

Random thoughts of perturbation

So I was sitting in a computer lab the other day, and this girl plops her stuff down right next to me, even though I was the only person in the room. I kept thinking "you freak—there has to be twenty-five other computers to sit at and you choose the one next to me!" It reminded me of when you're in a desolated parking lot and someone parks their oversized truck right next to your car—couldn't they have chosen from the 100 other spots? I guess people are just inherently lonely...



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Students meet with alumni in networking event

By: Kendal Whitaker, Reporter

The first annual Students-Alumni Networking event (S.A.N.E.) was a success. On Friday April 20, from 6-8 p.m. students were given the opportunity to meet with alumni who have careers in various fields that the students might be interested in. Beer, wine, and hors d'oeuvres were provided at the event.

The night kicked off with a warm welcome by professor and chairman of the English and Communication Department, Ben Moore. Moore thanked everyone for coming and invited everyone to network with each another. The evening was casual and relaxing. Students enjoyed this opportunity to interact with classmates outside of the classroom, while alumni got the chance to catch up with old friends and teachers who they had not seen in awhile.

Half way through the evening, Professor of English, Dr. Jason Summer read a passage out of a book titled "Wang in Love and Bondage," a book that he and Hongling Zhang, a Chinese citizen, translated into English. Zhang also read a passage from the book in Chinese. Jen Glover, senior, listened in amazement as Zhang spoke.

Tess Tulley, senior, enjoyed herself at the S.A.N.E. event, but admits it was not what she

expected. She thought that the event lacked the whole networking aspect. "We did not really interact with the alumni. They sat on one side of the room and we sat on the other. It was more like a reunion for the alumni - not a networking event for the students," Tully says. "I still had fun though; the food and wine was great and I even won a door prize," Tully says, as she held up a coffee mug.

Alum Michele Tinker had a great time visiting with old friends and teachers. "It was nice to see everyone. I never thought I would say this but, I miss [the University]," Tinker says. Tinker did speak with some of the upcoming graduates about her job and how she got the position. She hopes she was able to calm some of their fears.

Rose Shapiro, Assistant Professor of English, planned this year's event. Overall, she was very happy with the turnout. "I think everyone had a great time and it was wonderful to see previous students," Shapiro says. However, she does want to make some changes to next year's S.A.N.E. "Next year we are going to try and encourage more interaction between the alumni and the students. We will probably add some ice breaker activities to the agenda," Shapiro says. She hopes to have the event the same time every year.

For those who are interested, next year's event will be held on April 18, 2008.

Students learn 'ABCs' of business networking

By: Beth Rabinowitz, Reporter

On Thursday, April 12th from six to eight o'clock pm, a Career Counseling sponsored event called "Noshing and Networking," held in the DSAC, gave students opportunities to practice career networking and business etiquette, where Rolla University's Director of Career Services, Lee-Ann Morton, showed PowerPoint Presentation, which preceded an appetizer social.

Fifteen students make their way to the reception table. Course requirements bring Mia Miller, senior, for INT 200: Professional Development, while Tara Ammel, junior and Finance major, intends to receive extra credit for the Organizational Behavioral Course, and Katie Kappler, senior and Dietetics major, comes out of pure interest. No matter what brings them to the event, the students quietly fill the red and brown leather sofas, as Jennifer Self, University Personnel Career Counselor gives a friendly introduction, leading into Morton's A-B-C's of networking.

It is as easy as A-B-C, as Morton explains, or even the hokey pokey. Networking is grade school stuff—right hand shakes, stay by the entrance, and dress to impress. Elementary days may be long over, but its applications transfer to networking. A campus flyer reads: "Only 5-10% of jobs are posted in classified ads or on the internet," yet students still do not understand the power of networking.

The A is direct contacts to family, friends, or coworkers. The B is building contacts, or people that students can use to establish connections with hiring managers. The C is the actual company managers who fill positions. Although students should develop at

least twenty-five solid contacts, "people must focus on quality over quantity, and get rid of the trash," Morton said.

Telephone calls and e-mail networking are replacing person-to-person, and e-mail is the number one way. "E-mails are also the number one way job interviewers eliminate candidates, because people fail to write them professionally; plus, e-mails are left to the receiver's interpretation, which can be dangerous, for person-to-person contacts remain the safest and most effective communication style," she said. Part of effective interpersonal communication means developing an individual elevator speech. "An elevator speech is a thirty-second or so infomercial selling you to a contact." Morton then asks how many students have an elevator speech prepared. No one raises their hand.

Morton also explained another element from grade school: name tags. Name tags should be placed on the right side of the body, so they are visible during a handshake, because the right hand completes it. Handshakes should be firm and strong, but always meet the other person half way. "They should be web to web with two to three pumps, only."

An element not learned in grade school, however, is the three main sets of eye contact, which are: business, professional, and intimate. "Business comes within the first five minutes of initial networking—only forehead across eyes, while personal is after the first five minutes—forehead to chin, and intimate is a no-no--down south," Morton said.

Morton, the only speaker, received her National Certification in Dining and Business Etiquette, and attended the International Protocol School of Washington. After the one hour PowerPoint, she directed participants to a long table hosting an array of vegetables, fruits, crackers, and mini-cakes.

As a preface to the refreshments, Morton gave advice on proper dining manners. "Avoid items that cannot be eaten properly with a fork such as the tomatoes, pickles, grapefruit, or oranges, because they are too slippery, and when making second trips, always pick up a new plate."

The mini desert cakes rested in white paper, which caused confusion for one student, as she fumbled with eating it elegantly. Morton affirms that the student should not take the cakes, because the wrapper is hard to discreetly dispose, drawing unwanted attention, rather than focusing on networking.

The strongest areas to make connections are revealed by Morton as well. "People should circle and scan, sit with strangers, and hang out by the food table," Morton said. Look at all the food options and select the easiest ones to eat. "It is not your last meal," she said. Other than choosing the easiest foods, students should stay by the entrance door or food table, where people mingle most.

Another important element in a professional networking environment is clothing. Morton explained that students should not wear more than thirteen accessories. Tara Ammel is used as an example—she has a total of eight earrings and four visible buttons, plus a bracelet and one ring—fourteen. Being the good sport she is, Ammel receives a complimentary book from Morton entitled: The Networking Survival Guide, by Diane Darling.

Ending the presentation, Morton gives students a chance for asking questions, as she ends the night: "There are those who make things happen, those who want to make things happen, and those who wonder." "What gets people hired is their ability to take initiatives and to network," Morton said. As students head out the door they take their right hand with them, forget about the left. Networking is as easy as the hokey-pokey or at least the A-B-C's.



Random thoughts of perturbation

I hate when people ask, "Do you work here?" when the person they are asking is wearing a bright orange apron and a name tag that clearly answers the question.

Multicultural Affairs celebrates Diversity Week

By: Katy Frerichs, Reporter

The office of Multicultural Affairs had special events for Diversity Week, which ran from March 26 through the 30.

The first activity that students had the opportunity to watch was the Hawaiian Dance, where they learned how to Hula dance from tropical hula dancers.

There was another event called Mocha Chi Soul Food Cookout, which was sponsored by SEBA and Multicultural Affairs. SEBA is an organization on campus that offers help and support to African-American students, but also works with every cultural group for special events. The members of SEBA (Self Enhancement of Black Awareness) helped raise money by having the cookout, and they saved money by helping set up and clean for the event.

According to a member of SEBA, Courtney Harris, the turnout for the event was good. "There were more people than I expected," Harris says. Some of the dishes that were served at the cookout were: barbecued ribs, catfish, grilled chicken, potato salad, baked beans, cake, and drinks. Harris, who did not attend the event last year, was glad she came. "The food was pretty good," Harris says.

Brittney Childress, also a member of SEBA, thought the turnout for the cookout was a success. People at the event were able to enjoy delicious barbecued ribs and potato salad, while listening to a band perform.

Students during the week were able to learn about different kinds of cultures by attending the events. Some of the other events that were part of the week were: International Celebration, Cultural Celebration, and Open Mic Night.

Blattner builds relationships in Belize with 'stars of the sea'

By: Beth Rabinowitz, Reporter

"They were either severing heads from chickens' bodies, scalding body parts in boiling water, or plucking the feathers from the chickens," Nancy Blattner, Vice President and Dean for Academic Affairs says, after her recent trip to Belize to visit Stella Maris, a vocational school. For the students at Stella Maris, many of whom are autistic, deaf, blind, disabled, or have behavioral or learning difficulties, this is career training—areas of work they will do as adults.

On her five day trip to Belize, Blattner noticed that the teachers at Stella Maris have great enthusiasm for their work, despite the different curriculum they face. "Instructors are just as passionate as American teachers," Blattner says.

To change the direction of Belize's educational system, from March 21st-25th 2007, Dr. Nancy Blattner, Dr. Randi Wilson, Vice President of Student Affairs, Dr. Bill Freeman, Dean of Education; and Ms. Sarah Schumacher, Assistant Director of Campus Ministry, visited St. John's Community College, in Belize City, to establish a solid relationship between Fontbonne and St. John's.

Because of Belize's educational standards, citizens there who receive bachelor degrees do not continue on afterwards. If they want to pursue a master degree, they leave the country for the United Kingdom, the West Indies, or the United States. "Once they leave, they often do not come back," Blattner says.

"In the last ten years, only four students have successfully gone onto secondary education or

back into mainstream classrooms from Stella Maris, The Special Education Unit," Blattner says. These students view their world as shining, despite their obstacles, as the SEU students see their entrance sign display the words Stella Maris, which means "star of the sea."

After a retreat to Belize, Joe Lipic contacted President Golden to inquire about partnership opportunities between St. John's and Fontbonne. The University also invited Frank Garbutt, the President of St. John's, to visit. In July, he along with Dianne Lindo, Director of the Charles T. Hunter Commission for Social Outreach, spent a day to discuss collaborative areas. An intense e-mail correspondence followed and a March itinerary established. Areas of partnership were identified: development of a deaf curriculum, creation of an early childhood program, training for teachers in special education classrooms, and opportunities for Fontbonne students to complete service learning trips to Belize.

Special Education Unit students struggle with being labeled as problem children; most of the students are males. Of the 2,559 students at SEU, only 903 students are females, according Belize government statistics. "Some of the female children with special needs or behavioral problems are kept at home, and some of boys may be misdiagnosed as having behavioral problems, when in actuality it is learning issues, which affect them," Blattner says.

For Blattner, the experience that meant the most was her visit to St. Martin de Porres Church. She and Schumacher attended mass there, and Blattner was astonished by the level of

participation. "The church was packed, the liturgy was lively, the singing was enthusiastic, and the children were immaculately groomed," she says. The Church service affected Blattner because "the priest prayed for Schumacher and me, for our well-being; it made me cry, and that despite their own needs, they were concerned about us."

The selfless priest would understand the SEU students. They might be needy children with problems ranging from deafness to blindness, who engage in daily chicken slaughtering, but from the outside they are far from representing Stella Maris. Inside, their hearts shine like stars.

Although the University has thought of bringing St. John's students to Fontbonne, "once they come here they may not want to leave because of the opportunities we have, so we must bring opportunities to Belize, serving the dear neighbor in need," Blattner says.

As part of Catholic tradition, Blattner believes the University will continue its relationship with St. John's—sending expertise and delivering training. The one to two week training workshops would prepare Belize teachers. The University is also considering sending small student groups, during spring break, to complete services and internships.

Overall, the trip Blattner and her colleagues made reach beyond the University's mission. It fulfills the Sisters of St. Joseph tradition by "living out their commitment to service to the dear neighbor in need, where everyone is the University's neighbor," she says. This is a huge part of the University's identity, continuing to instill Catholic traditions.



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Random thoughts of perturbation

This one time, I went to the grocery store, and I walked around the entire time with my skirt flipped up, and no one said anything.



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Soccer player balances two teams, classwork



JOSEPH GENOVESE

Genovese in action in a recent game with the Lions. They won the game 1-0.

By: Kendal Whitaker,
Reporter

Division III athletes are not known for their outstanding skills on the field or court. They mainly play because they love the game, but also care about their academics and they realize there really is not a chance for them to make a living off of their respective sport. However, one University student is trying to break that mold. Junior Joe Genovese has just started playing for Tony Glavin's St. Louis Lions, a minor league soccer team that plays in the USL (United Soccer League).

The USL and the Major League Soccer are just like the AAA minor leagues for Major League Baseball. The USL is composed of 50 teams all over the United States, and three teams in Canada. The league

does offer monetary contracts, but it is illegal for NCAA athletes to accept them. "The team's captain has a contract, and so do a few other players, but they are out of college," Genovese says.

"I heard about the Lions' open try-outs so I went with one of my buddies from Missouri Baptist," Genovese says. There the two competed and tested their talents against 70 other hopefuls. "It cost \$175 to try-out, and if I made the team, I got reimbursed." The Lions took only 20 players to fill their roster, 18 of which travel with the team for games.

"It is a pretty competitive league," Genovese says. The Lions have already begun their regular season, going 2-0-1 in preseason action. "I have started every game at center mid, and I have one assist. But I am playing really good ball." But Genovese is not getting too

settled in. "Players come and go in this league. If you are not performing well, the coaches will kick you off the team and bring someone else onto the roster. But if I keep playing like I have been, I will be alright."

Genovese, captain of the University's soccer team next season, is coming off serious shoulder surgery. "I tore two tendons, so the doctors had to surgically reconnect them. I pretty much have an entirely new shoulder now." The rehab took Genovese about 8 months to complete, and he was just cleared before his try-out with the Lions. But, he is still forced to play with a brace on the shoulder because "it pops out of the socket all the time."

Though this minor league team has provided Genovese with ample opportunities to advance his skills and stay in shape, the Lions recently caused a schedule conflict with the University's team. "The Lions had a game one weekend when [the University] had a few scrimmages scheduled," Genovese says. "I talked to both coaches, and decided to play with the Lions that weekend." But Genovese does not think this will be a problem in the future. "My number one priority is [the University], and the Lions season has to be over with by the time the NCAA season starts. None of the guys from [the University's] team were upset. I talked to them and they thought it was a better chance to improve."

The University will need that sort of leadership as they defend their conference championship next season. "It is exciting and a great opportunity. Maybe someday I will be able to get a contract and move up to play MLS," Genovese says. He would definitely be breaking the mold if he does.

A letter from the damp tennis court

By: Kevin Coll,
News Editor

So now that this year's tennis season is over, it seems almost proper to reflect on some highlights the team has to offer the University "Wild World of Sports."

The season started off very slow for the team since we had our first match postponed due to rain and cold weather. When the season finally began it did not go so well because we got a major wake-up call losing to club team Missouri Baptist. "It is hard to get a good win when even your best player [Larry Spears] is getting waxed," Jason Buhlinger, a senior and team veteran, says. Spears's so called "waxing" came from Missouri Baptist's number one singles that used to play at Purdue University, a division program. "He was huge with a hard serve, almost Andy Roddick style," Spears, now a senior who has been the team's number one since he was a freshman, says.

Perhaps the most memorable experience for me and the rest of the team was the trip to Greenville for the 2-day John Strahl Invitational tournament. I remember pulling up to the courts in the van with the rest of the guys and we saw all these foreigners from Mexico and Argentina and we knew this was probably going to be a long weekend.

The tournament comprised of seven teams, three of which were from the SLIAC conference and four of which were NAIA programs. Michael Biermann, a junior and our team's number 7 at the time, was playing at number 3 singles during the tournament. "I had to play this guy from Indiana Wesleyan University who was awesome, I just kept laughing during the match," Biermann says.

The tournament was pretty cool and we did not place last because we beat conference rival Principia by a half a point. I thought the team got great experience playing these big NAIA programs. It definitely helped improve my skills as well as the skills of some of the other lower tier players on the team.

As the tournament followed we had to play a match against serious rival Webster. Returning for us this week and playing for the first time all year was Don Thebeau, a junior. "T-Bo" was able to help bring us our first team win by beating his opponent and giving us a 5-4 victory over the Webster Gorlocks.

This, however, would mark our only team win for the year since we dropped close matches against Principia, Greenville, and Eureka. This record was not going to deter us from competing hard and well at conference.

As the conference tournament rolled around I remember I should have bought some sun-screen but that did not happen so has I write this a week later, I am still peeling, as is the rest of the team.

Conference marked highlights for many players. Alex Cornwell, senior, got third place overall in the men's number six singles competition. Biermann and I beat Eureka to take us to the fourth place match against Webster, for the number three doubles competition. Unfortunately, we lost. Other players got wins as well, though: Don Thebeau, Steven Werkmeister, and even Larry Spears.

These wins helped us pick up five and half points, a huge difference from last year's team where we were given a half a point because they [conference officials] felt sorry for us.

Still it was not enough to escape last place in the conference tournament. I will say this though, teams never took us likely with the exception of the NAIA schools we played or perhaps Westminster and Maryville (who have been the major SLIAC tennis programs for quite some years now). We have stayed competitive even with some of our unorthodox team methods.

Some of these unorthodox team methods come from the fact that we were the only team at the conference tournament with a Hibachi BBQ grill. There is nothing like a brat before you hit the court for a late evening doubles match. On the second day it was even better when somebody brought a crave case to eat in the morning. Buhlinger and I had about five White Castles before we walked on the court.

Now keep in mind that these may seem like reasons that may contribute to us losing certain matches but trust me when I say, that is not the case.

This season of tennis was truly a great experience for me as well as all the other graduating seniors. These seniors include, Larry Spears, Jason Buhlinger, Alex Cornwell, and myself. It will be sorely missed but I will treasure the new friendships I have made with new teammates like Steve Werkmeister, freshman, Kevin Brightman, junior, and my number three doubles partner, Mike Biermann.

It is my belief that not only does the men's tennis team treasure their six-week season but they make the most out of it even when the odds are against them. This is a concept that truly embodies what it means to be a Division III NCAA Student Athlete.

As for next year's team, which will face serious rebuilding, I hope that the legacies of us seniors will live on as well as the Hibachi grill tradition.

Lady Griffins softball sick of the rain

By: Bob Rott,
Sports Editor

At press time the women's softball team's record stands at 17-12 and 12-4 in St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SLIAC) play. The Lady Griffins are coming off back-to-back regular season and post-season tournament SLIAC Championships.

The team returns six All-Conference players from the 2006 roster. Four of the six were first team All-Conference performers last year; seniors Ashley Weaver, the team's ace

pitcher, catcher Lauren Austin, first baseman Kristen Lommel, and junior second baseman Allison Wagner. Returning senior shortstop Kate Evers was a second team All-Conference selection in 2006. Also returning to the Lady Griffin softball team this year is an All-Conference honorable mention third baseman and catcher from a year ago, Jenny Vasquez.

Rounding out the group of seniors on the 2007 team are left fielder Kendal Whitaker, who has been a very big contributor to the Lady Griffins success over the last two years, and

Katie Schirmer who is an utility player, who can play pretty much anywhere.

There are two other juniors on the team this year: pitcher Christina Heisse and outfielder Jessica Kamp. The lone sophomore on this year's team is outfielder and transfer from Webster University Liz Seely.

Rounding out the roster for this year's team are three freshmen: pitcher Katie Mueller,

Please see "Softball" on page 10.

Softball, cont'd from pg 11

first baseman Jaclyn Creek, and outfielder Stephanie Selvaggio.

To start out their season the Lady Griffins traveled down to Florida. While in Florida the team played eight games. With all of this softball action I hope there was still time to enjoy the fun that Florida has to offer. For their first game of the season the Lady Griffins played Marietta, with the University falling by the score of 4-0. The team's next opponent, Carthage, also defeated them with a score of 6-3.

In their next game, the team was pitted against Concordia who defeated the Lady Griffins in a closely contested game. Concordia defeated the Lady Griffins 3-2.

The team's first victory of the season came against Plattsburgh with the Lady Griffins prevailing by the score of 2-1. Evers led the way going 2-4 with a RBI. Vasquez, Seely, Schirmer, and Austin all went 1-3 with Austin picking up a RBI. Weaver was the starting pitcher for this game. She went seven innings allowing six hits, one run, a walk, and struck out three. Heisse came on for one inning of relief allowing one hit and striking out one.

Wisconsin River Falls was the Lady Griffins next opponent and Wisconsin River Falls won 2-1. Austin went 1-3. Schirmer and Vasquez were 1-2 with Vasquez plating a RBI. Heisse took the ball as the pitcher once again in this game. The team's next game was against Ithaca which Ithaca won 8-0. Wagner and Heisse were 1-3 and Seely was 1-2. Weaver and Heisse both saw time pitching.

Their next two opponents, Hamilton and Colorado College, felt the wrath of the Lady Griffins. They defeated Hamilton 10-0 and Colorado College 10-2.

The Lady Griffins played their first double header of the season against Ashford College, defeating them both times (4-3 and 6-5).

The team suffered defeats in their next two games against Millikin and Washington University. Millikin defeated the Lady Griffins 7-6 and Wash U downed the Griffins by 12-4. The Lady Griffins, by virtue of a couple of rainouts, opened up SLIAC play on the road at Maryville. The team started conference play on the right foot by defeating Maryville in both ends of a double header, 7-5 and 7-4. In the first game Evers went 3-5 with two RBI's. For her performance in these two games, Evers was named the SLIAC Hitter of the Week for the week of April 2nd-8th.

The team's next conference action was a double header against Lincoln Christian, where they won both games with scores of 8-0 and 16-1.

The Lady Griffins' next opponent was SLIAC new comer Eureka College. Fontbonne

defeated Eureka in both games of their double header, by scores of 7-3 and 8-0.

The very next day the team took on their archrival, Webster. The Lady Griffins suffered defeats in both games of this double header, by scores of 7-3 and 8-7. Wagner missed both of these games. In the first game Mueller and Vasquez were both 2-4 and with driving in a RBI. Austin was 2-2. Lommel went 1-3 and Evers was 1-4 with a RBI. Heisse pitched in game one. For the second game Austin went 3-4 with three RBI's. Evers was 2-3 driving in three RBI's. Heisse and Vasquez both went 1-3 and both picked up a RBI. Mueller also picked up a RBI. To make matters worse the team suffered a setback in the second game from Schirmer's strained ankle from a play at second base.

Next in the schedule were the Greenville Panthers, who were defeated in both games of this double header, by scores of 3-0 and 4-2. In the first game Wagner and Selvaggio led the way by going 2-3, with Wagner picking up a RBI and Selvaggio drove in two RBI's. Seely, Mueller, Evers, Vasquez, and Lommel were all 1-3. Mueller pitched a complete game five hitter and struck out six. In the second game, Austin went 3-4 with a RBI. Evers was 2-4. Heisse and Seely both went 2-3 with Seely picking up a RBI. Selvaggio and Lommel were 1-3 with Lommel driving in two RBI's. Wagner was 1-4. Heisse pitched a complete game going seven innings allowing two runs, seven hits; she walked one batter, and struck out nine. Selvaggio got injured in the second game on another close play at second she hurt her ankle.

The team's next opponent was MacMurray, whom the Lady Griffins defeated in this double dip by the scores of 6-1 and a wild 11-10 game two. For the first game, Austin went 3-4 with two RBI's. Evers and Vasquez were both 2-4 with Evers driving in two RBI's and Vasquez picked up one. Mueller was 2-3 and Whitaker was 1-3. Wagner went 1-2 with a RBI and Lommel was 1-4.

For their next double header the Lady Griffins traveled to Fulton, Missouri to take on Westminster. The teams split the two games with Westminster winning the first game by the score of 6-4 and the Lady Griffins winning the second 8-2. The team's next game was against Washington University and the Bears defeated the Lady Griffins 10-0. Austin picked up the team's lone hit avoiding a no-hitter. Weaver and Mueller both pitched in this game.

The Lady Griffins earned the number two seed in the Post-Season Tournament by virtue of their stellar regular season. Good luck to the Fontbonne softball team in the Post-Season.

Women's Lacrosse enjoys opening season despite many losses

By: Bob Rott,
Sports Editor

The University's Women's Lacrosse team is in its first year of existence. As with most first year programs, the team knew it was going to take its lumps this season.

The head coach of the team is Assistant Athletic Director, Erin Odegard. The assistant coach is junior student Joe Maier. "Joe has been great so far. In high school at Saint Mary's, he was a goalie on the ice hockey team, and lacrosse and hockey goalies have very similar movements. He is very good at warming up the goalies and he is very good at seeing things that happen out of the field, he is another set of eyes to help me," Odegard says.

The team is led by its three captains, junior defender Jessica Deutsch, freshmen attacker Chelsea Sickmann, and midfielder Emilia Lubrano. "They are great examples for the other girls on the team and they are making everyone better by helping them understand things. They are all so enthusiastic about the game of lacrosse, they make playing the game fun. They are the cornerstones of the team," Odegard says.

The offense, or attack, is led by Sickmann, but one player does not make a team. The other women on the attack for the Lady Griffins this year are all freshmen: Betsy Paszkiewicz, Emily Ruzicka, Nikki Krodinger, Shannon Behnen, and Jessi Rowan. "The offense does a good job of settling the ball to get some time of possession. All of the attackers do a good job

of spotting the open player and getting her the ball so she has the opportunity to score. One thing the offense needs to work on though is not shooting directly at the goalie for an easy save; they need to shoot for openings that the goalie gives them," Odegard commented.

Midfielders on the team along with Lubrano are: junior Angie Conrad and freshman Christina Thebeau.

The defense, in addition to Deutsch, is comprised of sophomores Martin Jackson and Krista Brown, and freshmen Danielle Donze, Eleni Madison, Erica Cyr, Rosie Patterson, Lisa Lane, and Mary Gould. "They cause the other team to make mistakes and cause turnovers. The defense is the pivotal part of the team success," Odegard says.

The two goalies on this year's team are starting sophomore Kasey Thompson and back-up freshman Emily Schallenberg, who can also play defense. "Our two goalies have stepped up big time this year; they are one of the keys to the team development. They also communicate a lot which is very important for a goalie to do in lacrosse to help out the defense to locate the ball if they don't know where it is. Both of them have very good footwork and stick skills which is also very important for a lacrosse goalie," Odegard says.

Over Spring Break, the team traveled to Ohio and Pennsylvania to play three games but one of the games got cancelled. The first game that was played on the trip was against Notre Dame College from South Euclid, Ohio. Notre Dame College defeated the

Lady Griffins 19-2. For their second game the team traveled to Greensburg, Pennsylvania to play Seton Hill. The Lady Griffins were defeated 17-3. The team's next game against Saint Vincent College got cancelled.

The following weekend the team traveled to Dallas, Texas to play four games. The first of the four games was against University of Dallas. The Crusaders defeated the Lady Griffins 11-7. Their second game was against Linfield College. The Lady Griffins were defeated 20-4. The team's next game must have been a thriller, against Pacific University. The team was defeated in overtime 12-11. Their final game in Dallas was against Oberlin College, and the Lady Griffins were defeated 19-2.

The next weekend the Lady Griffins traveled to Ohio to play two games. Their first game pitted them against Wittenburg University in Springfield, Ohio. Wittenburg defeated the Lady Griffins 19-2. The following day the team traveled to Wooster, Ohio to play the College of Wooster. The Lady Griffins were defeated 24-2.

The team's next game was against a school in the St. Louis area, Lindenwood University. The Lady Griffins were defeated 12-2 by the Lions.

The team wound up their inaugural season by having their last two games of the season at home. The first game, April 16th, the Lady Griffins faced off with Missouri Baptist University in St. Louis. This was a momentous day for the program; it was the day of their first victory. They defeated Missouri Baptist 14-4.

Amanda Geiger never saw the drunk driver.

Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk.



Photo by Michael Mazzono



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Editor-in-Chief says 'Goodbye'

By: Lisa Wolk,
Editor-in-Chief



Just like gas prices lower than two dollars a gallon went out the proverbial window, I too must say "goodbye." While I have certainly enjoyed these past four years, my time is up (like Sanjaya's time on "American Idol")—but luckily, I will not be leaving empty-handed since the University has graciously decided to award me with my first and only Bachelor's degree.

What the coveted piece of paper will bring me is, however, uncertain ... mostly because I am at a loss as to what to do. I have been in school for 17 years now, which is 77 percent of my life, and now my routine is being disrupted as I am thrown out into the cold, dusty world with nothing to defend myself. I could cower in the folds of the towering dress of Graduate school, but I have spent more than half of my life in school already and could use a break... and so could my bank account—school is so expensive.

If I was endowed with a family fortune, my plan would be ready; I would buy a yellow Ferrari 360 Modena and cruise around the world. However, my family fortune consists of a small pile of Susan B. Anthony dollars and a couple Hershey's kisses left over from Easter, so the only Ferrari I am buying is one that comes in a box marked "Hotwheels."

Since my ship holding my fortune has obviously gotten lost somewhere off the coast of Madagascar, I will have to earn my own way to financial success. As an English major, I

have many career opportunities, but what I really want to do is drive racecars. No, I do not mean NASCAR—I mean real racing, like Formula 1, GT, or the like, where cars make both left and right turns and engage in full contact racing. My first task is start amateur club racing with the Sports Car Club of America (SCCA) or the National Auto Sport Association (NASA), driving on the road course at Gateway International Raceway. This does not mean that I am willing to forego all of my scholarly training at the University however, as I plan to write about my experiences in periodicals and perhaps even a book. Ultimately, I would like to open a speed shop so I can build my own race cars and help others build theirs as well. However, driving race cars takes even more money than going to school, so I still have to find a "day" job. If I could just win the lottery, everything would be fine.

Despite my lack of direction and a deep wallet, I am looking forward to the "real world" (for now, at least). It sure will be nice not to worry about working on that paper the last minute, studying for exams, and of course fighting fellow students for parking spots. I am also looking forward to reading the rather large stack of books that is currently hanging out on my bedroom floor (yes that is right—I will be reading for pleasure!). Of course, I will have to do "grown up" things like pay bills, get health insurance, and drive responsibly. Well, maybe I can hold off on that last part.

Looking back at these past four years, the biggest piece of advice I can give to students is to not procrastinate, especially not during the last semester, which is probably the most important one.

I would like to thank our faithful readers for a wonderful year at Most of all, however, I would like to extend my gratitude to the professors and friends I have had the great pleasure of knowing these four years. Thank you all, and God bless.

'We are all born adventurers,' graduating senior claims



CHRIS SCHOTT

A rather artistic shot of Chris Schott, senior, during his days as a traveling musician with his band "Failing English."

By: Chris Schott,
Reporter

We are all born adventurers, inherently ready to believe anything, go anywhere, and realize our dreams. At least it starts out that way. Along the way, roughly between our first fast food job and first apartment, this idea gets lost, replaced with responsibilities, obligations, and debt consolidation. As a kid, I remember telling my father I wanted to be a musician. His response was something I heard a lot as a child: "You can do anything if you just put your mind to it".

Time went on and as I was dressed in more pimples, my father told me that I should be a plumber because "everybody shits, therefore, everybody needs a plumber". A far less romantic notion than rock and roll, but then again, my father was always a sensible man. Still, this was crushing blow to the innocent philosophies I was taught during childhood. For me, this made "put your mind to it" a parental cop-out, something said to kids to keep them occupied in their own childish dreams, getting good grades and staying out of trouble. I quickly decided that convention was not for me. After high school, much to the dismay of my father, I joined a rock band and went on tour.

Ideally, a teenager graduates from high school, passes go, and heads directly to college, focusing not only on their education, but what will become of the rest of their lives. Most of my friends were choosing universities to become lawyers,

doctors, and accountants. I was insuring a 1992 cargo van to take my rock band, Failing English, on a two-month tour across the country. Instead of attending classes, I was in rehearsal. Instead of writing essays, I was writing songs. I was in the business of making music. At least that is what I tried to pass off to my father as he begged me to either go to school or "for Christ's sake, get a real job!" Standing defiant, desperate to prove that a real life adult could have their cake and eat it too, I was a rock star, damnit!

There is something extremely Jack Kerouac about being in a van for ten plus hours at a time with three other sweaty guys. The van had no air conditioning, the electric windows refused to go down after the first day, and the middle of summer was causing us to cook, rotisserie style, inside the van. The stagnant smell of body odor and Cool Ranch Doritos (official snack of struggling musicians everywhere) combined to make a new molecular gas that commonly became known as "stanch" in the van. At the time though, self-respect in the form of cleanliness and hygiene were not priorities. There was only one thing on the mind: rocking.

Night after night, we played to just about no one. Chicago, Cincinnati, Hello Cleveland!, New York, Philly, Boston, Hartford, Atlanta, Miami, Louisville, Kansas City, Denver, Omaha, Salt Lake City, Las Vegas (the most useless city in the world when 19), Los Angeles, we rocked them all. Or rocked no one; hardly anyone came to our shows. In our minds, Failing English was ACDC on the small

stage. To the public, we were interrupting karaoke night.

Once on tour, it became clear I was actually attending my own twisted version of college. Economics became squeezing money out of club owners, sometimes just enough for gas and Doritos to the next city. Science became finding out what exactly gas station hot dogs consist of, and what effect they have on the digestive system of a young adult. Poetry became the words of Bob Dylan, John Lennon, and Elvis Costello, as they became the soundtrack of our journey in the van. Sociology and Psychology became relevant, dealing with people in every city and town, slowly understanding how the world operates, one tow truck and mechanic at a time. I became close friends with artists across the country, finding that people were indeed trying to live the same dream I was, even dealing with the same troubles of growing up.

Once our tour was over, Failing English came home, exhausted and homesick. The band broke up shortly afterwards, citing artist differences; artistic differences being a term for lack of musical talent. I found myself right back where I started, facing my father. I told him I was thinking about going to school, he agreed that I was, and we started a plan to continue my education. It took three years for me to fail as a rock star, but I still caught a glimpse of admiration in my father's eye. Although right back where I started, I did actually go out and realize a dream, even if it meant putting responsibility on hold. Then again, was that such a bad move?

Random thoughts of perturbation

I hate it when the pencil sharpener eats my pencil.

Virginia Tech saddens, inspires

By: Rachel Whitener,
Guest Writer

The Virginia Tech massacre has bled into nearly every classroom conversation on campus these past few weeks. The incident will surely remain in the minds of the American public for some time, but while we have been pushed after September 11 to not forget, some people are saying "Stop" to the media's displays of Seung-Hui Cho, the student who unleashed his fury on over three dozen people one Monday morning.

A story in the April 20th edition of the St. Louis Post Dispatch comes from the perspective of Peter Read, whose daughter, Virginia Tech freshman Mary Read, was killed. According to the story, from the Associated Press:

As the Reads left Blacksburg on Thursday for their home in Annandale, Va., they were exhausted, pale, heartbroken — and furious. On television, the overwhelming image of the tragedy was the face of Seung-Hui Cho — a killer whose name Peter Read cannot bring himself to speak.

"I want to issue a direct personal plea, to all the major media," he said in an interview. "For the love of God and our children, stop broadcasting those images and those words. Choose to focus on life and the love and the light that our children brought into the world and not on the darkness and the madness and the death."

The story goes on to say that Fox News Channel responded to Read's message by no longer running the audio and visuals of the gunman. NBC also reacted, promising to severely limit their use.

The resounding thought now after the largest school shooting in U.S. history is what we can learn from this. I have heard students on campus comment on the recent statement made by Virginia Tech that they do not regret their decisions to

stay out of Cho's mental health treatment. People are disgusted by the claim, arguing that the school could have done more in terms of prevention. According to the New York Times, Christopher Flynn, head of the school's counseling service, says that Cho was ordered to receive further treatment after being admitted to a psychiatric facility two years ago, but as an outpatient. Flynn continues: "The university is not part of the mental health system...and we would not be the providers of mandatory counseling in this instance."

Cho was unstable; he was kicked out of writing classes for being a bully and his work was disturbing, according to teachers and students. But he also lived with five other students in a campus suite, and the school never heard complaints from those students on his behavior. There were several warning signs, yes, but for the school to take legal action against a student who was an independent adult, it was not enough.

Other possible preventative measures may include door locks, a sooner lockdown on the Virginia Tech campus and stricter gun laws. Door locks are something Cheryl Baugh's Public Relations class discussed shortly after the shooting and something which has been debated on campuses before. The University took the dorm locks away just recently in response to a situation at Washington University, in which someone forced their way into a room. This was done to allow entrance into any room if there was an emergency.

Whether Virginia Tech had locks or not, students were trying to keep the gunman out of their rooms. He shot his way through. When the first two people were killed, police did not enforce a campus-wide lockdown. They have dealt with shootings before, however, and when they got to the scene, they found the first victim was a female. Then they discovered from questioning a friend that she had a boyfriend,

he was an avid gun user, and he was nowhere around. They assumed domestic violence. Other schools are thinking now of tighter campus security, but this is not a case of someone wandering onto a campus, looking for victims. Cho was a student, so he had access to all the buildings.

George Bush's first comment on the Virginia Tech situation was that it was unfortunate, the school would be in America's prayers, and he was in support of the right to bear arms, but as long as laws were followed. It was a terrible response, but in terms of gun laws, there is not much to be done. It seems as though Cho was so angry about his life that he would have found his retribution somehow. If not guns (which he could get on the street if not in stores), then maybe he would have looked up homemade bombs on the internet. A Google search of "recipe for a bomb" yields 1,220,000 entries.

Peter Read's point has been well-made. A friend told me recently that she also wishes the media would not publicize Cho's manifesto. She expressed fear that it would encourage others to copy his actions. Sounds overdramatic, but since Blacksburg, a string of threats at colleges across the country have sprung up. People have claimed that Cho is a hero and that they can top what he did. And incidentally, in the video Cho sent to NBC, he calls Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold martyrs.

It is sad that University students do not feel as safe here as they did just a few weeks ago. It is sad that parents of Virginia Tech victims have had to see Cho's face all over the internet and news — his shaved head, dark eyes and a smile at what he was about to do. "You could have prevented this," he claimed, but we did not, and now blood has been shed. But why we are listening to him is beyond me. He is the one who shed the blood and then sent his message to a huge television network saying, Look at me, look at me.

DAN'S RANTS

Public Safety here may need to be revamped; some feel unsafe

By: Dan Koehler,
Opinion Editor

The events that occurred on the Virginia Tech campus on April 16th 2007 were some of the most vicious attacks taken by one person on any school's campus, not to mention the entire nation.

One of the criticisms of Virginia Tech's security guards was their response time. Many people feel it took them too long to respond to the situation, and if they had responded sooner, the second attacks would not have happened.

Despite the fact that nothing close to the events at Virginia Tech has ever happened here at the University, concerns have arisen about the need for classroom door locks and tighter security overall. Many students have also expressed their concern about Security's response time, such as Austin Skinner, sophomore, who recalls waiting for someone from the security shack for over 45 minutes. "I got out of my night class and went to get on the shuttle to go to the CBC lot. When I got there, a car was parked illegally in the horseshoe so the shuttle could not move." Skinner recalls a few students who had already been on the shuttle waiting for someone from the security shack to come assess the situation by either calling a tow truck or finding out who the car belonged to. "The driver called a few more times, and after I was waiting for 20 minutes, me and another student decided to get out and help the driver maneuver the shuttle around because it was obvious that security was ignoring us." Skinner asserts that had the event been more of a pressing nature, his wait would probably have been not as long, however.

Lisa Wolk, senior, related another story about the security and safety on campus. "I needed to get into one of the buildings over the weekend to get something out of the classroom, so I called security. He let me in without seeing my ID or anything, and did not even ask who I was." Wolk was not sure if the guard knew who she was and seen her on campus before, but she was sure she had not conversed with the guard who let her in the building.

The whole safety issue begs a few questions, such as whether or not something like what happened at Virginia Tech could happen on our campus. If something were to happen, questions arise about the

"me and another student decided to get out and help... it was obvious that security was ignoring us"

--Austin Skinner, sophomore

ability of the security guards to respond to the situation quickly to help save lives. Clayton has a very low crime rate, and there is an even lower crime rate on campus, but students are still feeling unsafe.

In a recent student poll of 86 students two-thirds did not feel safe with the security/security guards on campus. Here are what a few of the students had to say:

Senior Liz Tomasovic: "I feel safe with the people on campus, but if something happened, I don't feel safe with public safety."

Junior Jessica Workmeister: "Two people in a security shack are not capable of shutting down an entire campus."

Freshman Monica Ellebracht: "I don't have any concerns with public safety. I feel very safe."

Sophomore Dan Horn: "How are they going to protect us when they do not even have guns?"

Sophomore Kelly Dow: "I feel completely safe with the security on campus."

Junior Mary Dressler: "The classrooms do not even lock without the security guards, and if something happened, I do not think they would be able to get around to all the classrooms before something happened."

Junior Tony Dirkers: "The only time I see the security guards are when they are writing tickets or smoking. I do not think the security shack will be able to stop something if any bad happens."

Though some students feel safe, there seems to be an astonishing number of students who feel unsafe. Maybe it is time for the University to rethink its security.



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