

## TOP NEWS

**LESS FIT AND OUT**

St. Louis Police Lt. Col. Greg Hawkins, who serves as deputy chief, may have to leave his job if he cannot pass a fitness test. Hawkins has failed to meet some basic requirements for all officers with the department. **B2**

## INSIDE

**COLLECTIBLES**

Dennis Hahn is a fan of George Washington. Hahn collects numerous items with the image of Washington on them, and his wife, Shirley, who was born on Washington's birthday, says her husband has taken over the house with his collections. **B3**

**HIGH HONORS**

Several Missouri students are honored for their work as volunteers. The national recognition comes from Prudential Financial and the National Association of Secondary School Principals. **B4**

**TRUCKERS' VIEWS**

Long-haul truckers say that Missouri roads are bad, second only to Pennsylvania, and that Illinois drivers are among the worst. Along for the Ride reports on a survey of truckers by one of the drivers' magazines, Overdrive. **B3**

**STARDUST**

NASA needs your help in examining stardust. So far 100,000 volunteers have come forward. Under the Microscope tells about the project and how you can be involved. **B2**

## ONLINE

STLtoday.com

**MOST EMAILED**

Here's the most e-mailed news stories from STLtoday.com based on statistics from Feb. 10-16:

1. Kindergarten age rules stir ire
2. Arrest of mother shocks husband, friends
3. About 100 partners estimated for woman with HIV
4. Has the bar scene on Main Street gotten out of control?
5. City schools will require uniforms

For a daily list of most e-mailed stories, visit STLtoday.com/topemaf.

## COME BACK TOMORROW

**Self-starter**

Deb Peterson focuses on George Brill in her Close-up feature. Fifteen years ago he started a consulting business in a spare bedroom. Last year his company had \$12 million in revenue.

Metro

**Our catenary monument |  $y = 68.8(\cosh 0.01x - 1)$** 

Mathematically significant ...  
Sentimentally important ... or

**Just an arch**

Visiting experts judge it efficient — as a symbol

By Eric Hand  
ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

The Gateway Arch is a giant among arches for many reasons, but what impresses Vermont Technical College mathematician and artist Paul Calter is the formula that guides its shape:

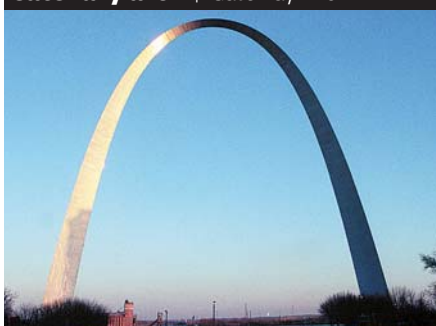
$$Y = 68.8(\cosh 0.01X - 1)$$

"This is the only one that has an equation displayed near its base," he said, holding up a graphing calculator that showed the Arch's trademark swoop.

Not all arches are equal. The Arch's particular shape is the most efficient, said Calter, who was among the architects and engineers on Sunday discussing the history, structure and symbolism of arches at a conference hosted by the American Association of Science at America's Center.

PLEASE SEE ARCH | B10

File Photo by J.B. Forbes | Post-Dispatch

**Catenary arch | Gateway Arch**

Imagine loosely holding a chain at each end. The shape of the resulting curve is a catenary. Our Gateway Arch is an upside-down version of the catenary. The curving cables of a suspension bridge look similar, but instead they create a parabolic curve.

**Examples:** Barcelona has a concentration of them by people such as Antoni Gaudi.

File Photo by Kevin Manning | Post-Dispatch

**Semi-circular arch | Eads Bridge**

If you live in a brick house in St. Louis, there's a good chance you pass through one of these every time you leave home. They are often used above doorways. The top of it is a single arc of a circle, and it's often a half-circle.

**Examples:** Roman-influenced bridges, such as Pont du Gard Aqueduct, one of France's top tourist attractions.

File Photo by Robert Cohen | Post-Dispatch

**Pointed arch | St. Francis Xavier**

Pointed arches are easy to find at St. Francis Xavier College Church (above) on the campus of Saint Louis University. They are slightly stronger than semicircular arches in their ability to hold and transfer weight.

**Examples:** Shells of the Sydney Opera House are close, but most examples are in gothic architecture, especially Catholic churches.

Photo by Daudi Mseemmaa | Post-Dispatch

**BILL McCLELLAN****Shades of gray mark debate over decision by Daily Illini**

The Daily Illini is the student newspaper at the University of Illinois. This month, the paper published some of the so-called "Prophet cartoons" that have led to rioting in several countries.

Reaction on campus was swift. The day after the cartoons were published, Chancellor Richard Herman weighed in on both sides of the issue. He was saddened the newspaper published these cartoons that he found so offensive and he disagreed with the decision to do so, but he was certain that the publication of these cartoons would stir considerable debate and such debate would

leave everyone stronger and wiser. After reading his letter several times, I figured his toughest decision was whether to sign it "Richard Herman" or "Herman Richard." Clearly, he is capable of doing it either way.

But maybe I shouldn't make fun of the chancellor. This is not an easy call. My bosses decided not to run the cartoons. They were joined in that decision by the overwhelming majority of newspapers in this country and abroad. As the don't-publish crowd likes to point out, the fact that you have the right to publish something doesn't mean you have the duty to publish something. Hate speech is cited. Pornography is cited. Free speech does not negate good taste.

In fact, one of the more interesting letters that ran in the Daily Illini during the days following the publication of the cartoons came from Matt Vroom,

When people are willing to kill in the name of a religion, their decision becomes fair game to editorial cartoonists. That's what a free press in a secular society is all about.

who graduated last year. He was the author of a comic strip that ran in the paper. It was called, "I Hate Pam."

"I graduated with a pile of unpublished comics that were deemed too 'offensive' to run," he wrote. "At one point, I was suspended for a comic's content. . . . Where was free speech on that one?"

Vroom did not mention the content of the comic strip that led to his suspension, nor did he give details about any of the comics that were considered too offensive to publish.

But it is probably safe to say that nothing he drew or wrote would have caused rioting and deaths.

But that is precisely the point, say the let's-publish folks. These

cartoons from Denmark have become an integral part of a big news story. The public ought to be able to see them. Besides, when people are willing to kill in the name of a religion, their decision becomes fair game to editorial cartoonists. That's what a free press in a secular society is all about.

Last Monday, the Daily Illini ran dueling editorials. The first, attributed to the student editorial board, criticized the two students responsible for the publication of the cartoons, editor in chief Acton Gorton and Opinions Editor Chuck Prochaska. "The Daily Illini has been embarrassed by the blatant abuse of power by both the editor in chief and the opinions editor. We apologize to the Muslim community as well as the rest of our readership for Gorton's and

**Schools chief gets reform in high gear**

**Creg Williams actually planned to announce initiatives earlier — but was delayed twice.**

By Steve Giegerich  
ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

St. Louis schools Superintendent Creg Williams considered the headline on a framed newspaper story adorning the wall of his second-floor office downtown.

"New schools chief vows quick change," he said, reading aloud. Pause. "Quick change. What has it been, 10 months?"

In education circles, where transformation often occurs only after years of study and debate, 10 months represents a millisecond.

To the hyperkinetic Williams, it's a lifetime.

Less than a year into his tenure as the superintendent of the state's largest school district, Williams last week announced over 100 initiatives which, if fully carried out, will constitute a total makeover of a district long synonymous with failure.

Ninth-grade academies, year-round schools, "clusters" of K-8 elementary schools and small secondary schools that will allow students to go from kindergarten through 12th grade without leaving their neighborhood, single-gender buildings, dual enrollment college courses for high schoolers and "parent universities" for their moms and dads are all included.

"It's certainly more energy than I've seen in the St. Louis Public Schools since I moved here in 1987."

PLEASE SEE SCHOOLS | B10

**Kids' charity paid millions to troubled firm**

By Bill Smith  
ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

A Kirkwood children's charity criticized this month by the national Better Business Bureau has paid millions of dollars to a company accused of misleading sweepstakes mailings in several states.

That company, Newport Creative Communications of Duxbury, Mass., contracted with the Reach Our Children charity here to do direct mail fundraising work. Records show that Reach Our Children, 12166 Old Big Bend Road, has paid Newport more than \$5.5 million since 2001.

Last month, Newport agreed to pay \$400,000 as part of a settlement with 19 states. Newport also agreed to change the way it does sweepstakes mailings in the future. Neither Missouri nor Illinois was involved in the action against Newport.

In their case against Newport, the attorneys general of the 19 states alleged "a pattern and practice of

PLEASE SEE CHARITY | B10

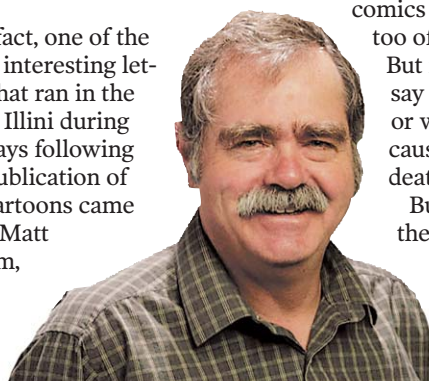
Prochaska's actions." Underneath that editorial was a defiant response from Gorton and Prochaska. They regretted nothing.

On Wednesday, the paper announced that Gorton and Prochaska had been suspended from their newspaper duties and a student task force had been established to "investigate the internal decision-making and communication surrounding" the decision to publish the cartoons.

My daughter, who attends the university, asked me what I would have done had I been the student in charge of the paper.

I'd have published the cartoons, I said. First of all, I lean to the "free press-secular society" side of this particular debate, and second, we're talking about a university campus, and if you can't debate this stuff on a university campus, where can you?

Besides, as the chancellor would say, debate will make us wiser and stronger. Or not.



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