

# **The Loudon Times**

**A Weekly Report from the Missouri State Senate**

**Published by the office of Senator John Loudon**

**18 February 2005**

## **Hearts Divided This Valentine's Day Over a Name Change**

-

The Senators spent this Valentine's Day, not with their sweethearts, but on the floor with their colleagues debating the SMSU name change. Democrats filibustered Senate Bill 98 Monday night and used that time to criticize Governor Blunt's budget proposal. The Senate was in session until 6:40 AM Tuesday. The bill ultimately passed with a 23-7 vote. The debate ended when Sen. Graham D-Columbia reportedly received an E-mail from the MU president to stop the debate. Rumor has it that MU would not receive a donation from a private donor for its fine arts building if SMS lost its name change effort. The rumored donor is none other than Springfield's own hotelier John Q. Hammons. This is why some believe MU's board did not take a stance on the issue, and why they intervened Tuesday morning. You heard it here first.



Senators Loudon & Ridgeway chat during the filibuster in the wee hours Monday night

## **Senate Bill 160 “Is it life or not?”**

The only break in the filibuster occurred Monday night when the Judiciary committee passed SB160, the embryonic stem cell research ban. It cleared the committee with a vote of 7-2. The next stop for the bill is the Senate floor.

## **Bill introduced to Honor Officer**



*Bridgeton Police officer Scott Armstrong, left, and University City police officer Stephen Bastean, right. Both were killed when their cars collided January 12 in the westbound lanes of state route 370 in Bridgeton.  
(Gabriel Tait/P-D)*

-

A bill filed this week would honor fallen officer Scott Armstrong. It will rename a section on Interstate 370 to the “Officer Scott Armstrong Memorial Highway”. This is similar to HB 513. Officer Armstrong was killed while on duty when a drunken off duty officer crossed the center line and hit him head on.

-

## **Quote of the Week**

“Charity is reaching into one's own pockets to assist his fellow man in need. Reaching into someone else's pocket to assist one's fellow man hardly qualifies as charity. When done privately, we deem it theft, and the individual risks jail time.” --Walter Williams