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The Current

VOL. 48
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MAR 16, 2015

UMSL'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWS

READ THE CURRENT
FOR YOUR CHANCE TO FIND
1 OUT OF 8 GOLDEN TICKETS AND
WIN PRIZES

Plans, Initiatives Discussed for Normandy Schools

LORI DRESNER
STAFF WRITER

The Normandy Task Force Committee and Joint Executive Governing Board (JEGB) came together to discuss, evaluate, and assess plans and initiatives that will affect the future of the Normandy School District. The meeting took place on March 9 in the Boeing Auditorium, located in the E. Desmond Lee Technology and Learning Center in Marillac Hall. There were 11 people in attendance, some being members of the Normandy Task Force and others being JEGB members. Topics of discussion included assessing and evaluating strategies that have been and could potentially be implemented in the classrooms, ways that Normandy parents could help their children learn at home, the current budget of the Normandy School District, and what needs to be done to keep Normandy schools' doors open.

The Normandy Task Force Committee was established in February 2014 in an attempt to save the Normandy School District after it lost its accreditation. As a result, Normandy students were allowed to transfer to accredited schools. Normandy faced financial trouble after having to pay the tuition of those who transferred.

Dr. Carole Basile, dean of the College of Education at the University of Missouri—St. Louis and chair of the Normandy Task Force, said the purpose of the meeting was to regroup after not being connected for

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Normandie Hall's demolition is scheduled for 2015, due to a lack of maintenance funds

Renovation Costs Force Normandie Hall Demolition

KAT RIDDLER
NEWS EDITOR

The University of Missouri—St. Louis has decided to demolish Normandie and St. Agnes Halls, which served as its first dormitory facility, despite some community objections. Normandie Hall was the former Incarnate Word Convent built in 1929 and bought by UMSL in 1993. UMSL's consultants on maintenance and repair ISES Corporation, and Sightlines, as facilities advisors, recommended the University prioritize an estimated \$300 million dollars of deferred improvements in 38 different buildings on campus and remove some of the buildings they believe are past saving.

The annual upkeep for the two buildings, which are connected, is about \$150,000, not including emergency costs like water main breaks. According to reports it would cost the University \$11 million to restore the buildings compared to \$1 million to demolish them. After the demolition, the land will be used for five acres of green space. No official date has been set for the start of demolition,

but it will occur later this year.

The community of Normandy and Bel-Nor rallied together on social media and petition websites like Change.org to try and save their local landmark in 2014 when UMSL first released their intentions to the public. UMSL met with concerned community members on April 14, 2014 and decided to let someone buy the convent from them if they were willing to pay for renovations to the building.

"We decided that we're going to basically put it up for sale. If there is a buyer out there who would like to buy it, and they are going to have to fix it up and put it to a good use, we'd be open to that," Chancellor Thomas George said to The Current in 2014. "So we've got probably up to the next half year to be out there and see if there is a buyer. We're not going to sell the land; we would rent the land, but we would sell the facility."

There was one buyer during the process, but a viable proposal was not submitted, according to the university. "UMSL has been engaged in a process to

try to find a developer to lease and renovate the building. We have not been successful to date in this regard based on the required terms and conditions," said Chancellor George.

According to the Save Incarnate Word and Convent's Facebook page, Normandie Hall was built on the land in which Charles Lucas, founder of Normandy, built his home in 1815. The cornerstone of the building was laid in 1928 and the convent opened its doors in 1932 to 35 students of Incarnate Word Academy—a private school for girls. St. Agnes Hall was built in 1960 and was connected to Normandie Hall. A small cemetery for Incarnate Word Sisters is located near the property and will not be disturbed. UMSL has leased Normandie Hall since 1991 and had its first Honors College in the building, office space, as well as its first residence hall when the Sisters of Charity sold the building for \$1.2 million in 1993. The building has been vacant for at least a year prior to the proposal for demolition, which was released in 2014.

Interfaith Panel Discusses Religion and Faith

LORI DRESNER
STAFF WRITER

The Interfaith Partnership of Greater St. Louis held a discussion about religion, faith, and misperceptions and myths sometimes related to religious practices, in the Student Government Chamber in the Millennium Student Center at the University of Missouri—St. Louis on March 11. Reverend Dr. David Mehl, director of planning and development for the Interfaith Partnership of Greater St. Louis, was the moderator of the discussion, and hosted a four person panel of four different faiths who are members of the Interfaith Partnership.

The panel consisted of Maharat Rori Picker Neiss, Sara Rahim, Jashaam Grewal, and Steve DiSalvo, director of the Office of Campus Ministry and Community Service at Maryville University. Mehl asked the panelists questions pertaining to their faith and religion, and each gave answers based on their faith and personal religious experiences.

Mehl first asked Neiss, Rahim, and Grewal to share a distinguishing feature of their specific religion. Rahim, who is Muslim, said that Muslims have a 30 day period of fasting called Ramadan. During those 30 days, from sunrise to sunset, Muslims abstain from food and drink.

"For me, I really feel a sense of solidarity with that feature because it's 30 days where you are really committing to your-

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THE CURRENT ONLINE

NEWS BRIEFS

Clery Warnings:

On-Campus Thefts

KAT RIDDLER
NEWS EDITOR

The University of Missouri—St. Louis Police Department released a Clery Warning on March 10 regarding a number of thefts of gym bags occurring in the Mark Twain Athletic and Fitness Center. The thefts included wallets, keys, cash, and other small items from unlocked gym lockers. The suspect of the thefts was believed to be male, between the ages of 18 and 24 years old, approximately 5'6", and weighing about 150 pounds. The suspect has since been apprehended according to the updated Clery Warning on March 13. Students are encouraged to call campus police and file a report if similar experiences have happened to them.

Missing Person

KAT RIDDLER
NEWS EDITOR

On March 11 the University of Missouri—St. Louis Police Department released a missing persons report for Brittany A. Kouri who, according to the report, was last seen or heard from on January 27. Her description, frequent areas visited, and recent residency were released for the investigation. Sergeant Tom McEwen sent an UMSL wide email an hour after the report stating that Kouri was found and was fine.

Normandy Schools Discussion

LORI DRESNER
STAFF WRITER

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"Folks are just really wanting to know what's going on," said Basile.

Charles Pearson, interim superintendent of Normandy schools, began by discussing the implemented accountability plan for Normandy schools, which focuses on four areas: leadership, collaborative culture, curriculum and assessment, and effective instruction. The area of leadership focuses on principals giving teachers effective feedback so that instruction can improve. Collaborative culture

refers to the fact that teachers are now working more effectively to look at students' assessment data. The first semester was spent training teachers in how to implement a data team process. Pearson said that while the first two areas contain solid and appropriate strategies, he believes that these areas of the accountability plan contain too many goals.

"You never put this many goals and this many strategies into any plan you put together," said Pearson.

He went on to discuss curriculum and assessment, which entails implementing classroom curriculum that adheres to

Missouri Learning Standards. Developing curriculum is a multiyear process, and Pearson said that there is a strong curriculum and instruction team who have compacted into several months what typically takes several years. Lastly, effective instruction pertains to principals giving feedback to teachers around the Rutherford model. Teachers set goals at the beginning of the year around what became the Rutherford model, and principals give them feedback around those particular types of instruction that they seek.

"Rutherford work is solid, in terms of what makes for

effective instruction," said Pearson.

Pearson said that Normandy received a \$485,000 grant for literacy, which was approved in December 2014. This grant allowed Normandy to have literacy coaches and ACT prep. Sylvan is also now a reading initiative in the district, and came in to test all students in grades 2-8. They identified which students had reading problems, and are now offering support for students who need it.

Another topic discussed was how Normandy parents can be encouraged to cultivate learning in the home environment.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the editor should be brief, and those not exceeding 250 words will be given preference. We edit letters for clarity and length, not for dialect, correctness, intent, or grammar. All letters must be signed and must include a daytime phone number. Students must include their student ID numbers. Faculty and staff must include their title(s) and department(s). The Editor-in-Chief reserves the right to respond to letters. The Current reserves the right to deny letters.

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The Current values feedback from the campus community. What do you think of our campus coverage? Let us know your thoughts at thecurrent@umsl.edu.

THE UNDERCURRENT By Ashlee Carlstrom & Rob Sifford WHEN DO YOU THINK SPRING WILL COME INTO PLAY?



SELENA SMITH,
Junior, Civil Engineering
"March 15 because the groundhog saw his shadow."



NICK CHERRY,
Junior, Business Administration
"In two weeks because I'm hopeful."



AUSTIN QUARLES,
Freshman, Information Systems
"Three weeks because the snow will melt and it will get warm."

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Interfaith Panel Discusses Religion and Faith



From left to right: Maharat Rori Picker Neiss, Sara Rahim, Steve DiSalvo

LORI DRESNER
STAFF WRITER

Continued from Page 1

self, spiritually and internally,” said Rahim.

Neiss, who represented Orthodox Judaism, said that one of the key defining features of her religion is the deep sense of history and text they have. Neiss is a Maharat, a newly created word for a clergy position within Orthodox Judaism, which does not retain women as clergy or rabbis. She is part of a new program to create leadership positions for women within her religion. Neiss said that there are only five Maharats total in the world. Grewal is of the Sikhism faith, a monotheistic religion which began in 1469 in Northern India and combined the ideals of Hinduism and Islam. He said one key feature of Sikhism is a required aspect for Sikhs not to cut their hair, to symbolize their commitment to God and their religion. Many males of Sikhism are required to wear a turban and some females choose to do so, too.

Mehl asked the panelists to share an experience of when they have felt a deep sense of awe at God. Neiss said that she has felt a deep sense of awe during Passover, especially during the Passover Seder, a long meal in which people of the Jewish faith commemorate the story of the Exodus from Egypt. She said there is something in the ritual that always evokes a deep sense of awe in her. Rahim said that she felt a deep sense of awe when she was working at Interfaith Youth Core in Chicago, during the time of the Wisconsin Sikh Temple Shooting and the Joplin, Missouri mosque being burned down. She remembers being in a state of shock and feeling hopeless over the acts of violence, but she began thinking about how she, as a student leader, could respond to that. She returned to St. Louis University that fall, and got together with other faith communities to organize an interfaith vigil.

“That, for me, was really the first time I really saw a sense of solidarity among the faith communities on my university campus,” said Rahim.

Mehl went on to ask the panelists what some misperceptions of their faith traditions are that they face on a regular basis. Grewal said that the biggest misperception his religion faces is their identity and outward appearance, especially after 9/11. He said Sikhism is generally associated with the Islam community, but the Sikh Coalition, a legal organization for Sikhism that operates in

New York City, verified that 99% of the turban-wearing population in the United States is Sikhs and only one percent is Muslim. He said that while Sikhs wear the turban for religious reasons, the Islamic community generally wears it as an ethnic attribute. Rahim said that as a Muslim, the biggest stereotype about Islam is Islamophobia itself.

“Post 9/11, I think nationally, the U.S. and most of the world went from knowing nothing about Islam to knowing all the wrong things about Islam,” said Rahim.

Rahim said that she began wearing a headscarf when she was 16, and she often faces questions of if she is oppressed or forced to wear the headscarf. She said she thinks it is difficult for people to separate culture from faith. Neiss said that there is a long history of anti-Semitism and misperceptions relating to Jewish people having too much power, having too much money, and being very greedy. She believes that the media contributes to these stereotypes.

Mehl proceeded to ask the panelists what each would hope for on a university campus that would make their academic experience successful and comfortable from their faith perspective. Neiss said she wished that there was a wider availability of kosher food on campus when she was in college. She also added that she wished there was the ability to reschedule exams and make up for missed classes due to Jewish holidays. Rahim agreed that she wished there was more access to kosher food, and she said it would be great if universities would accommodate more open prayer space for students and student religious groups. From a campus ministry perspective, DiSalvo said he would like to see humility and respect towards all students, regardless of their faith.

“Different individuals live out their faith in different ways,” said DiSalvo. “If you just go by what you’ve read in a book or the stereotypes you hear about in the media, then you’re completely lost. Getting to know each individual... and the way they live out their faith and their needs on your campus is the beginning.”

When the discussion panel ended, audience members had the opportunity to ask the panel questions and meet with the panelists one-on-one.

“It was nice to know similarities and differences between religions,” said Syeda Zaidi, senior, nursing. “It opens your mind a little more from the responses they gave.”

Read the entire article at www.thecurrent-online.com

McCaskill Offers Solution to Clery Act Failings

KAT RIDDLER
NEWS EDITOR

State Senator Claire McCaskill held a conference call with university newspapers in Missouri discussing improved bipartisan legislation called the Campus Accountability and Safety Act (CASA) re-introduced in the United States Congress March 5.

CASA is an amendment to the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (Clery Act) that requires universities to disclose information about crime on campus for the safety of its students and which is enforced by the United States Department of Education. While it is required by law to keep crime statistics, there is no uniform record-keeping set into place, and this leaves the act lacking. McCaskill said the new legislation, which she is sponsoring along with nine other United States senators, offers a solution to the Clery Act’s failings.

The bill was originally introduced in July 2014, but it has seen several changes that were outlined in the conference call. The act originally asked college campuses to report annually on the campus environment, but smaller campuses had problems with having the resources to produce the more in depth report every year. A compromise was made to have campuses release a campus climate survey report every two years.

“This climate survey is incredibly important because it allows students anonymously to weigh in on how safe they feel, whether or not they are aware of what’s in place to be of assistance, if they are assaulted where they can go, if they know where to go to get information, how they believe their campus is handling this problem, what is the inter-

action they’ve had with their university or college around the problem. It will be much better than the current Clery statistics frankly that no one sees or understands,” McCaskill said.

Another change to the CASA is how fines collected are used. Currently the fines are going to collection agencies, creating a financial incentive to fine. The proposed new law will allocate the fines to be reinvested in the campuses to fix the failings. According to McCaskill this is to provide the best facilities and resources for the students. The penalties for violations of the Clery Act have been raised from \$35,000 to \$150,000. If schools are not compliant with the Act, they could lose up to one percent of their federal funding. This changed from the original penalty of losing all federal funding.

“The fines that are collected now will go into a special grant fund that can be given back to cut campuses to help them with more programming and more resources around this issue. The original legislation had those fines going to the various agencies that would be enforcing. We came to the conclusion after visiting with a lot of people around this issue that might be creating an incentive to fine. So that could sever the nest of the agency that’s responsible for overseeing this. So this now, I think, will remove that fear with the money being set aside to do positive things in terms of improving,” McCaskill said.

Senator McCaskill suggests campuses watch “The Hunting Ground,” a documentary about sexual assault on college campuses dealing with athletes in particular. The revised CASA can be found at www.mccaskill.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/CampusAccountabilityAndSafetyAct.pdf.

Plans and Initiatives for Normandy Schools



Normandy Task Force Committee & Joint Executive Governing Board members at Marillac Hall

LORI DRESNER
STAFF WRITER

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Pearson brought up the initiative to encourage parents to read with their children at night, and track how many hours they do so. He said, however, that strategies need to be suggested to parents about how they should read to their child, and how to ask their child questions when reading.

Pearson went on to say that 43% of staff is new to the Normandy School District this year, and that there was no new teacher orientation, so new staff members were not trained with proper classroom management strategies. As a result, content in the accountability plan had to be put on hold while classroom management and discipline were focused on.

Read the entire article at www.thecurrent-online.com

Student Spotlight: Regina Singleton



Regina Singleton

LATWUANNA TROUPE STAFF WRITER

Meet Regina Singleton, UMSL student on the rise. She is a sophomore majoring in art history with a minor in French. This is her second semester here at the University of Missouri—St. Louis and other than taking class, she works at the Welcome Center in the Millennium Student Center.

This young woman of much virtue and strength is an activist for women everywhere, helping them to overcome their battles with low self-esteem and poor body image by standing up against sexism, sexual assault, and body shaming. On January 21 of this year Singleton launched a blog called “The New Modest.” She chose to create a blog to be able to let go of her fears and finally open up about what has happened to her in order to help someone else. In her blog she is letting people know about her experiences and how it has shaped her outlook on life as a woman in today’s society. “I wasn’t aware of sexism for a really long time. I want people to know all its forms so they can know what it is,” she said.

Singleton has been a victim of sexual assault three times in her lifetime and has decided not to allow herself to be a victim any longer. She has been forever changed by her experiences. As an act of personal strength, she has decided to claim those changes and make sure they were for the better. Her blog is a platform to help women see that they are not alone. It aims to give support and create a safe haven for women to express their experiences and relate to each other without being judged. “I just want to raise awareness... I just want people to know how women experience life,” said Singleton.

Singleton is a proud, self-proclaimed feminist. Experiencing sexual assault both physically and verbally has made her more aware of the problems women are facing. Her definition of being a feminist is fighting for equal rights between both sexes. “A lot of people don’t think we need feminists; they think everyone is equal [but] there is a lot of disparity between men and women in America,” she said. She believes that our culture is used to sexism and violence against women so the culture normalizes the be-

havior and blames the woman. In response to her own experiences, Regina changed the way she dresses to get the attention off of how she looks and more on her personality. Although she is not of the Muslim faith she chose to wear Muslim garb. She saw this as a way of protecting her body from being objectified to sexual assault. “Sometimes people determine how to treat someone based off their looks... the disrespect that came towards me was not because of my personality or disposition but because of the way I looked,” she said.

However, Singleton has come out on top conquering her fears. Her fear of men and feeling like a sex object has decreased since she has been at UMSL. She wants to help create a more sex positive society. She would like to see more forums on campus for sexual awareness being that many people may not even know they are inducing or encountering sexual assault. Singleton plans to join the Feminist Organization starting on campus soon.

For those who are interested, readers can catch up on her latest posts at thenewmodest.simplesite.com.

Career Week: Do Not Wait Until After Graduating

MARY CHICKOS
STAFF WRITER

&
KARLYNE KILLEBREW
FEATURES EDITOR

This past week the Office of Career Services hosted Career Week, giving presentations and insider tips to students who might be entering the job market soon or just want to land that perfect internship. On March 11 at 2 p.m. in the Office of Multicultural Student Services, Teresa Balesteri, Director of Career Services, did a presentation highlighting the various amenities that Career Services offers.

One of the major services she mentioned was the UMSL-CareerKey database, where registered students can access a list of open employment positions in multiple fields throughout the St. Louis Metropolitan area. Employers contact Career Services looking for people to fill positions. There are positions that do not necessarily require a degree, and there are some companies only looking to hire UMSL students specifically. Balesteri proudly promoted the database saying, “They have real jobs with real companies that want you.”

Students can register for their single user account by

creating a screen name and a password at the UMSL Career Key website <https://www.myinterfase.com/umsl/student-registration.aspx>. The website can also be accessed through the UMSL Career Services web page. The database only permits one account per student, so writing down the information and keeping it safe is imperative. However, once students are registered they have access to the database for the rest of their lives. They can log onto the website at any time and search the available jobs listed in the area.

Another key insider tip from the office was to keep all personal information on the site up-to-date in order to better the prospects of encountering jobs that are a good fit.

As great as the job database is, it is important to remember the actual purpose of both the job bank and the actual office. Balesteri reminded students, “We are not a placement agency. The mission is to help students connect with employers. We post jobs and make them available to UMSL students. There is something in there for everyone.” While it is not quite as magical as a sorting hat, it does provide many more options and opportunities.

Balesteri also informed

guests about several other tools from their website. She mentioned their FOCUS 2 application, an online assessment and career portfolio. FOCUS 2 is a computerized, self-guided career planning program. Students can use this comprehensive research tool to evaluate their interests, values, and skills, as well as explore occupations. They can also assess their career readiness and map career goals.

Career Services will also do a career profile for students. Upload a resume onto their database and they will do a resume critique. Balesteri reminded students that, “writing a targeted resume is very important.” In addition, there are other interactive web resources geared towards coaching and preparing students for both the resume portion as well as the interview. There are CareerSpots Videos, Career Webinars, Going Global, Interview Stream, Resume Guidelines, O-Net online, Salary Calculator, and What Can I Do with this Major to name a few.

Career Services has an interview program that literally brings the employer to individual students. These interviews provide students the opportunity to interview with employers for internship, cooperative education, and full-time career

positions. Students are able to schedule times that fit within their classes and activity obligations since interviews are conducted conveniently on campus.

Balesteri handed out a Career Development Checklist for students in the workshop. She shared a small, timely mantra that could help students pace themselves and avoid any tendencies to feel ashamed or behind. It essentially said that the first year is for exploring, the second year is for making connections, the third year is for gaining experience and the fourth year is for launching a career.

For those not quite at the career launching point, Career Services also connects students to on-campus job opportunities, such as jobs posted through the

Federal Work-Study program and jobs posted by individual departments that are open to all students.

Students can also make an appointment to get one-on-one assistance in a job search. A professional is available to assist with the job search for internships and co-ops and full-time degree related positions. Students and their assigned office representative meet to evaluate individual career development.

Although the event could not last forever, Balesteri informed students that they could connect with her and other office representatives at any time. For more information or to utilize any of the services, contact the Career Services office at 314-516-5111, careerservices@umsl.edu, or careers.umsl.edu.



UMSL Musicians Shine in Concert with SLSO's Halen

NATHAN WATSON
STAFF WRITER

CONCERT REVIEW

Grade: A

For most classical music lovers in the St. Louis area, David Halen is a household name. Halen, who is celebrating his 20th year as concertmaster for the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra (SLSO), joined University of Missouri—St. Louis professor and concert pianist Alla Voskoboynikova, and violinist Xiaoxiao Qiang on March 8, for a night of outstanding chamber music at the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center.

The concert, which began at 5 p.m. in the Touhill's E. Desmond Lee Theater, featured

well-known sonatas by Brahms and Beethoven, as well as an assortment of pieces by the Russian composer Dmitri Shostakovich. Strong performances throughout were welcomed by the eager responses of audience members ranging from applause to laughter.

To begin the night's music, Halen and Voskoboynikova turned to the alternately melancholic and lively Sonata Number 1 in G Major (op. 78), otherwise known as the Rain Sonata, by Johannes Brahms. This piece, written in three movements, is unabashedly Romantic in its expressive intensity of emotion—an intensity that Halen's interpretation captured

flawlessly.

As is to be expected from a musician of his caliber, his intonation and articulation were flawless. Yet, even more impressively, he did not allow his powerful performance to overshadow Voskoboynikova's equally important role in the piece. As the program notes were apt to point out, both the Brahms and Beethoven pieces were written to equally showcase the violin and piano, rather than for the piano to accompany the violin. From beginning to end, both musicians beautifully expressed themselves with, rather than against, one another.

After a brief intermission, Halen and Voskoboynikova were joined on stage by another member of the SLSO, violinist Xiaoxiao Qiang. In addition to this change in personnel, the second half of the night began with a distinct change in tone.

The next five pieces, each written for two violins and piano, were in marked contrast to the traditionally Romantic compositions of Brahms and Beethoven. The pieces included a Prelude, Gavotte, Elegy, Waltz, and Polka from Shostakovich's ballets, as well as compositions for film and a cartoon. Qiang especially shined in the Elegy-Andantino from Shostakovich's third ballet suite. In the



Alla Voskoboynikova, UMSL Professor and Director of Keyboard Studies

final piece, a Polka-Vivace from the first ballet suite, the three performers seemed to genuinely enjoy themselves and this playful energy was contagious. At several points, the audience could not contain their laughter and many tapped their feet in accord with the performers.

Despite the strength of the first two selections, the highlight of the show was certainly Halen and Voskoboynikova's performance of Beethoven's Sonata No. 9 in A Major (op. 47), famously known as "The Kreutzer Sonata." This influential piece—Tolstoy's "Kreutzer Sonata" may come to mind for many readers—is known for being particularly demanding on

the performing violinist. When interpreted effectively, however, it is one of the most emotionally captivating of Beethoven's chamber pieces. Luckily for Sunday night's audience, Halen and Voskoboynikova demonstrated both technical precision and expressive passion. The ensuing standing ovation was doubtlessly well deserved.

Following the main performance, the audience was further treated to an encore performance of Elgar's "Salut D'Amour," Op. 12. This short movement was the perfect finale to a night of exceptionally well performed music.



David Halen, concertmaster of St. Louis Symphony Orchestra

A Sins-of-the-Father, Action Movie: "Run All Night"



Liam Neeson as Jimmy Conlon in Warner Bros. Pictures' action thriller "RUN ALL NIGHT"

D.B. FIELDS
STAFF WRITER

FILM REVIEW

Liam Neeson is back in town and he has a new gang to play with. "Run All Night" is Neeson's latest action thriller, which includes Ed Harris, Joel Kinnaman, and Common. From director Jaume Collet-Serra, this film brings the action that one has come to expect from Neeson but it also runs on deeper levels than just the typical shoot 'em up.

The film centers on washed-up, aged hit man Jimmy

Conlon (Neeson). He is not of much use at this point in his life, and his only purpose seems to be to find what is at the bottom of a whiskey mug. And though he is not much good, his old mob boss Shawn Maguire (Harris) keeps him around because of old loyalties. But old loyalties die hard in this film. Jimmy, in protecting his son Michael (Kinnaman), kills Shawn's son Danny (Boyd Holbrook). From there, the film is, pardon the expression, off and running.

Jimmy takes the entire night to protect his son, from whom he is estranged for many

reasons. Jimmy feels guilt, not just over his relationship, or lack of one, with his son, but over past occupational tasks that haunt and drive him throughout the movie. Jimmy is a man governed by the moments of the past and is determined by the actions of the present.

But do not think this film is going to linger on thematic elements such as that for too long. As a matter of fact, for this type of film, there is a delicate balance between the action and the internal conflicts of the characters. Here is where the filmmakers have succeeded. As far as the action is concerned, it is intense;

it is well-paced. Shrouded in darkness, the violence is just right. It is almost understated, but it ultimately never rises to the absurd or goes overboard with its thirst for mayhem.

One can appreciate this cast, because it is so well put together. Neeson is, of course, still at the top of his game when it comes to these types of films, and Ed Harris as the mob boss delivers an equilibrium to Neeson's character as the antagonist. The other primary players in this film, such as Kinnaman as the estranged son and Common as hired killer Andrew Price, perform their roles adequately

and fit nicely into the piece. But in the end, the movie still belongs to Neeson.

This film delivers on all of its promises. Do not expect some great surprise or twist at the end. Do not look for any profundity from these people. The characters are fleshed out well enough to get the audience to care, but they never forget they are watching an action flick designed to entertain. And it does exactly that. Maybe not on any higher level, or many different levels, but for what it aspires to, "Run All Night" is a pretty cool film.

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UMSL Tennis Takes a Hit from GVSU

EDWINA COOPER
STAFF WRITER



The UMSL and GVSU teams greeting each other before the game

On March 14, the University of Missouri—St. Louis hosted men's and women's tennis on the courts behind the Mark Twain Building. The UMSL Tritons faced the Grand Valley State University Lakers in doubles and single matches for two hours. Both teams play in the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference or GLIAC. This match helped established seating for the Great Lakes Valley Conference later in the semester.

Each team brought 17 players who broke out into six pairs for the first hour of doubles matches. The three men's pairs and three women's pairs took the courts at noon after an hour rain delay. The pairs were ranked in ones, twos, and threes, with the ones on

the center courts and the lower ranks moving out to the edges. This arrangement creates less interference for the better players, allowing them to perform their best. The pairs played to eight points and at the end of an hour, GVSU had won 8-4, 8-5, 8-6 across all the UMSL pairs. The UMSL men's first pair swept the GVSU pair 8-1, but the remaining GVSU pairs won 8-5, 8-4. While UMSL walked away with only one doubles victory, it was not for lack of trying. Each doubles pair fought hard during the hour-long matches and were leading the GVSU players in several matches. But unfortunately they were not able to keep that early lead as the hour wore on, the final scores reflecting that.

The next hour brought

the singles matches. Players that had been sitting on the bench stepped forward into the competition now, but some singles matches featured players fresh out of a doubles match. Of these included Nils Mueggenburg, senior, business, who not only was in the winning men's doubles team, but won his singles match too, 7-6, 5-7, 6-4. The UMSL men fared much better in singles matches than doubles with five out of six singles matches won. Unfortunately, UMSL women had a tough day and only won one out of the six singles matches. This loss will drop the women's tennis position in the conference, but the men's tennis is continuing a string of wins with top-seated Mueggenburg leading the way.

Tritons' Softball Shuts Down Bearcats

LORI DRESNER
STAFF WRITER



Hannah Perryman winding up another strikeout against McKendree, pitching a perfect game for UMSL

The UMSL Triton women's softball team battled against the McKendree Bearcats in a doubleheader in the Tritons' first two games of the Great Lakes Valley Conference (GLVC) at the University of Missouri—St. Louis on the afternoon of March 15. In the first game, Hannah Perryman, junior, criminology, pitched a stellar no-hitter for the Tritons, giving UMSL a 1-0 win over the Bearcats. In the second game, UMSL pulled off a second win of 7-3 over McKendree. The first game was originally scheduled to start at 12 p.m. but was pushed back to 2 p.m. in order to allow extra field drying time.

The sole run of the first

game came for UMSL in a crushing homerun by Alex Stupek, sophomore, nursing, in the bottom of the first inning off McKendree pitcher Susan Goetze. The Tritons managed four total hits, and gained momentum in the third inning, when Stupek doubled, following a single by Jena Boudreau, senior, nursing. But the two runners were left on base after a fly out and a pop out. The Tritons' other hit came from Katie Wood, senior, criminal justice, in the second inning. Despite encouragement from their teammates and Goetze giving up just one run, McKendree lost to UMSL with no runs or hits.

"I thought we did a great

job fielding and pitching," said Mark Ginsburg, UMSL's assistant softball coach. "McKendree pitched really well, and did an excellent job fielding the balls we put into play. [There was] good team play by both teams. We were just fortunate enough to win 1-0."

The second game of the doubleheader was more of a back-and-forth between UMSL and McKendree. UMSL got ahead first with a 1-0 lead in the second inning. McKendree, however, took a 3-1 lead in the top of the fifth inning, scoring three runs on four hits. UMSL cut the lead to 3-2 in the bottom of the fifth, with Alex Stupek's second homerun of the day. UMSL scored a whopping five runs in the sixth inning, which included a three-run homerun by Brianna Butler, senior, education, and secured them a 7-3 lead. The UMSL Tritons kept this lead for the remainder of the game, and pulled off the 7-3 win over McKendree. UMSL's Brittini Chapman, senior, interdisciplinary studies, pitched seven innings and took the win, giving her a 9-0 record, while McKendree's Brooke Gajewski pitched five innings and took the loss, making her record 1-3.

These two GLVC wins give the UMSL Triton women's softball team a 2-0 start in the conference and a superb 17-1 record for the season.

UMSL TRITONS

MONDAY <u>March 16th</u>	THURSDAY <u>March 19th</u>	FRIDAY <u>March 20th</u>	SATURDAY <u>March 21th</u>	SUNDAY <u>March 22nd</u>
Softball vs. Illinois Springfield (Home) @ 12:00 p.m.	Baseball vs. Illinois Springfield (Home) @ 3:00 p.m.	Men & Women's Tennis at Harding University @ 1:00 p.m.	Women's Golf at Perry Park Invite @TBA	Women's Golf at Perry Park Invite @TBA
Baseball vs. McKendree (Away) @ 12:00 p.m.		Baseball vs. Southern Indiana (Home) @ 3:00 p.m.	Women's Tennis vs. Maryville (Home) @ 10:00 a.m.	Softball at Wisconsin-Parkside (Away) @ 12:00 & 2:00 p.m.
Softball vs. Illinois Springfield (Home) @ 2:00 p.m.			Softball vs. Lewis (Away) @ 12:00 & 2:00 p.m.	Baseball vs. Southern Indiana (Home) @ 12:00 p.m.
Baseball vs. McKendree (Away) @ 3:00 p.m.			Baseball vs. Southern Indiana (Home) @ 12:00 & 3:00 p.m.	

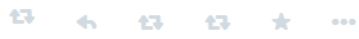
Pratchett Lives on Through Stories



Terry Pratchett
@terryandrob

Following

The End.



RETWEETS 38,710 FAVORITES 19,080



10:07 AM - 12 Mar 2015

SARAH HAYES
STAFF WRITER

This is not my usual column. I swear, when I sat down Thursday afternoon to pound out several hundred words about technology, I had my usual column in mind. I had a coffee at my elbow and an idea formulating in the vapors of my brain. Naturally, before I began writing, I did a pre-writing check of Twitter for any recent news, events, and funny Vine videos.

And that is when I saw Terry Pratchett was trending. Immediately, I was filled with dread, like cold water slowly creeping into my body and numbing my limbs. There are only two reasons why a celebrity or notable person over the age of fifty trends on Twitter: they have been involved in a hideous scandal or they have died.

Sir Terry Pratchett died on March 12, 2015, at the age of 66. According to the New York Times, the cause was a chest infection complicated by his severe Alzheimer's.

For those who don't know, Pratchett was an English author of fantasy stories. He was most well-known for his Discworld series of novels, all loosely connected and set in the same universe where wizards and flying turtles and other chaos reigned. Overall, Pratchett turned out

over fifty books in his lifetime, all of them with the sparkling wit and creative turn of phrase that he was famous for.

Let's talk about storytelling. Pratchett, if anything, was a master storyteller. How can you tell someone is really, really good at telling stories? By the reactions of the people who hear them or read them. My Twitter feed is filled with people giving their testimonials on how Pratchett's stories affected them. These stories made people laugh and cry and think and feel impossible things for fictional people, usually all at once. That is the mark of a person who is really good at telling stories.

This is not an article about how the storyteller's time is drawing to a close. That is nonsense; we as a species have been telling stories to one another since we could figure out how to string two grunts together to make a coherent sentence. This is not how the current realm of storytelling has become mediocre. There are many modern writers out there, telling stories in books, short stories, essays, videos, podcasts, and music, who are very talented and very worthy of our attention.

And no, this is not an article about how the storytelling art is coming to an end with Sir Pratchett's death.

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Ferguson—Where Do We Go from Here?

ABBY NAUMANN
OPINIONS EDITOR

The recent Department of Justice investigation of the Ferguson Police Department and the shooting of two St. Louis County cops has done little to calm the nerves of St. Louisans with one question on their minds—where do we go from here? Will the public lose interest at the loss of a victim, a villain, and a conspiracy, leaving the matters at heart unresolved? Will Ferguson, a city within a city unwillingly transformed into a battleground for the nation's problems, forever remain in a state of unrest? Or will the citizens of St. Louis, and perhaps the country by example, pull together to right the wrongs seeping out of our nation's past, corroding the present?

First and foremost, we must remember that the actions of a few do not represent the whole. It is disheartening when individuals exploit peaceful protesting and honorable causes in order to take advantage of a situation and suit their own needs. As with the riots in Ferguson, it seems a handful of individuals with malicious intentions often ruin the image of an entire movement. But when we allow this to happen, we dismiss issues which badly need to be addressed and instead inject fear and hatred into our hearts and minds. Of course thieves, shooters, and vandals should be appropriately dealt with for their crimes, but we cannot forget that the vast majority of protestors and activists want nothing more than to follow Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s example of peaceful means

of change.

In addition, we have to rebuild our faith in the police force. In every position of authority, there are those who abuse their power and harm others. This does not make it okay for police to do this, but it does explain why our trust in police is so badly damaged. We hold police officers to a higher standard and trust them with upholding the law, protecting our property, and—many times—with our own lives. The American people have every right to expose and investigate cases of the abuse of police power and to crack down on a corrupt penal system. Yet at the end of the day, we have to accept that even if the entire Ferguson Police Department—or every police department in the U.S.—was made up of minority members, discrimination in the U.S. would not be eradicated.

Generally, people do not wake up one day and decide to hold prejudices. Rather, racism, and sexism are products of our society. The path to equality does not strictly lie in punishing racist actions. Equality begins at the core—in the way we portray race in the media, pop culture, and in our own homes. The only psychologically proven way to change racist beliefs is to put those of different colors in a situation in which they rely on one another to accomplish a common goal. This means we need to focus on our cooperation—not simply placing blame—within our communities. And for those feeling hatred towards the Ferguson Police Department or another police force, your pain is natural and understandable, but please

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Passport to Nowhere

CHANESE DAVIS
STAFF WRITER

On March 6, the University of Missouri—St. Louis hosted the seventh International Business Career Conference: Passport to Success. Students learned how to enter into the international business workforce, and network with multinational companies and peers. With my graduation two months away, the focus on finding a career path is more crucial than ever.

Over the past year, I have had countless meetings with advisors, applied for internships, and revised my résumé constantly. The thought of entering into a new career is as exciting as it is scary and overwhelming. So when the opportunity to attend such a conference came around, the excitement I felt overtook my fear. Yet for me the excitement soon faded.

So there I was—sitting in the business conference full of hope for the future and ready to grasp on to all the present-ed knowledge. Yet instead of grasping, I was floored with information, and not in a good way. The "Passport to Success" seemed to exclude me. After hearing the speakers, I felt as if my educational journey would get me a passport nowhere in the field.

Betsy Cohen of the Mosaic Project, the keynote speaker, first filled me with hope when she began. She started by explaining how we as students need to bring more to the party and make ourselves irresistible in terms of how we present ourselves to new employers. Yet her session about how to land a job in international business postgrad explained how international "born" students, not international "business" students, were much more appealing and wanted. Her reasons were they are more passionate, entrepreneurial, and have more desire to feed their families. She continued to speak of her company and gave tips and information about how the international born students can structure their résumés, visa tips, and how to land jobs.

I scanned the room to see if others had the same look of confusion I was feeling. Two Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville students checked their programs. They asked me if we were in the wrong session. Yet as the discussion went further, it became evident that this session was not about helping

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Weekly Chuckle

ABBY NAUMANN
OPINIONS EDITOR

Last week, 47 Republican US senators gave new meaning to the term 'law-making body' when they decided to undergo an experimental procedure to have their bodies surgically conjoined. The surgery was a product of recent efforts by Republican senators to become one, massive 'super-president' capable of supplanting current Commander-in-Chief Barack Obama. Lucky for readers, The Current obtained exclusive interviews with the Dr. P.G. Organslice and Dr. Frank N. Stein.

"When the senators came

47 Senators Undergo Experimental Surgery to Become One President

to me last week with this idea, I was at first stunned," said Organslice. "We had performed the procedure on a cynical cat and dopey dog about fifteen years ago quite successfully, although none of us ever figured out where the excrement went..."

"But we jumped at the chance," Stein cut in. "The senators explained to us that they realized they would never be president on their own, with the host of conservative racists who usually vote for them quickly dying out due to old age and a fear of vaccines. They realized that to complete their diabolical plot to make the United States

appear weak and divided on the world stage, they would need to literally combine heads."

"After forty grueling hours of reattaching the same dandy hairstyles they have had since 1955 and whitening their piercing smiles, we finally stabilized the creature," added Organslice.

With the monster standing on its own many, centipede-like feet, it was able to pen an obtrusive and unpatriotic letter to the governing body of Iran in order to sabotage nuclear nonproliferation agreements between the president and said country. Despite only forty-seven senators of the one-hundred senators in the US signing the letter,

the monster assured Iran that any efforts to create an agreement with President Obama would be thwarted—possibly by a Godzilla-like rampage down Pennsylvania Avenue. The disruption of nuclear nonproliferation, which is the process of dismantling and/or limiting nuclear weapons in order to secure peace, is the first step in a long chain of plots to bring back the Cold War.

In related news, a woman in Arizona recently filed charges after being sent nude selfies of a creature with forty-seven genitals.

Sasha & Nathan IN: NOT THIS ISSUE



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Ferguson—Where Do We Go from Here?

ABBY NAUMANN
OPINIONS EDITOR

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remember that behind every officer who has harassed you or loved ones or is featured in an appalling YouTube video, there are dozens of officers in our country who serve us in simple ways. They direct traffic, help a young person change a tire at the side of the road, or risk their own lives to arrest violent criminals.

Finally, in order for cooperation to begin, there is another gap to bridge. With the Michael Brown case wrapping up and the DOJ decision not to press civil rights charges against Darren Wilson, we need to decide how we want this ordeal to go down in the history books. Many are still polarized due to this extremely controversial case. The late senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan is attributed with saying “everyone is entitled

to their own opinions, but they are not entitled to their own facts.” Supporters of both parties need to accept both the facts as found by experts and the reasons some mistrust these facts. In the midst of the hype, we forget that Brown was a young man who paid for one mistake with his life and that Wilson is a man who lost his chance at a normal career and normal life. Both are tragedies. But if you ask me what the real tragedy is, it is that two men are now either loved or hated by this country due to an incident which took up fifteen minutes of their lives. And instead of focusing on the largest issue at hand, people vehemently made these men poster-children of their causes without ever knowing them or ever having witnessed the event. Now, we do not see Brown or Wilson as human beings—we see them as personas, larger-than-life images constructed by the media, whom we do not afford the decency or respect

we owe other human beings.

Where do we go from here? I hope we enter an era where we no longer give a handful of burning cars in a parking lot 24-hour coverage yet give men like Otis Woodard, activist and friend of MLK who recently passed away this winter and whom I had the sincere pleasure of meeting, ten minutes of airtime for their decades of peaceful work and charity for the underprivileged of St. Louis. I hope we enter an era where we no longer pass down the scars of our past to our children, instead encouraging them to be open-minded and compassionate to others—black or white, civilian or police. I hope that instead of saying “Do not forget Mike Brown and Darren Wilson” we will be saying “Let us make sure that what happened here never happens again to anyone’s family.”

Pratchett Lives on Through Stories

SARAH HAYES
STAFF WRITER

Continued from Page 7

I’m not Will Self or Philip Roth, crying on about the death of the novel (and you could easily insert another dozen names in that list; the novel has been ‘dying’ for so long). Telling stories, writing stories, sharing stories: these things will last forever, in one format or another. Also, please feel free to ignore Roth, who retired from writing and really does not get a say in the medium’s future.

This is an article about life. Pratchett spent his life telling stories. He made people’s lives brighter every day with his fiction. His characters were so fully realized that readers felt connected to them in very real ways. He was, and always will be, a gem of a writer in a genre stuffed with people trying to be the next big thing. Pratchett was big without even trying. He was big in talent and in heart, and it showed in every line and every word.

We all have the potential to be storytellers, to affect people on a personal level, and share our stories throughout the world. With digital media, our potential is higher than it has ever been in recent years. Pratchett made his potential into reality. He passed on with his books available on almost every continent, translated into dozens of languages, in physical and electronic formats. For many writers, he was living the dream we all have.

So please, tell that one student in your literature class who introduced themselves as a writer or lover of writing and stories to keep pushing themselves with that gift. Let the storytellers in your lives know that their tales are wanted and valuable. Demand that the stories we see and hear reflect the diverse reality of us all, and come from a diverse assortment of voices.

Storytelling is not dead. Pratchett’s stories, as well as the stories of the many writers before him that are now in our textbooks, are not dead. We will always have Discworld, if we want to return to it. All we have to do is put pen to paper and write on.

Passport to Nowhere

CHANESE DAVIS
STAFF WRITER

Continued from Page 7

students get into international careers. Instead, it was about how my foreign peers can succeed with getting a job in America; to be specific, how to get jobs via her company.

Cohen ended her session saying a survey stated foreign-born students, “were the ripest fruit in the region” and her goal was to get 6,000 foreign-born students here. She believed that they were the ripest but hard to get. She was asked how the U.S. born students could use this information to get international business careers in America or abroad. She stated that looking on the internet and asking others would be our best bet.

In the next session about entrepreneurship, the speaker mentioned he

would hire locals and would not consider hiring U.S. international business students. This made me think back on the first day of my corporation class. My instructor spoke about the lack of U.S. citizens in business careers abroad. He asked why we thought that was true. He believed that we did not seek those jobs. I was beginning to believe that maybe those companies had the same mindset as these speakers and we, as business students from the U.S., were not as valuable.

I hoped the networking lunch would be promising. Here was my opportunity to meet executives or representatives of some multinational companies and get a feel of what companies to look for employment. I again felt this conference was not about the international business student but the international born.

The first question asked of me by

more than a few companies, “Are you international?” I stated with pride, “Yes I am an international business student.” They clarified that they meant foreign born. After the second company asked, I knew what they meant. I told them I was not a foreign student after going through the charade. One representative stated, “Oh. You’re not what we are looking for right now but you can check our website.” The others made similar statements upon hearing I was not an international born student.

We never got past that question. I did not get out of the conference what I hoped to learn. However, I got referrals to a few websites and received many flyers. Other than the tip to make myself irresistible, I did not learn what to do next. What I learned was who my competition will be and that this “passport to success” led me nowhere.

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