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HAUNT ’TIL YOU DROP
Halloween Guide

*Note not all events are on campus and not all events are free. Please look up events to see if there is a cost.*

**Boo at the Zoo**
October 17 through 30, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., St. Louis Zoo
Children are encouraged to wear costumes. Children 12 and under will receive a treat bag, but the event is not a trick or treating event.

**PLHCSA Hayride**
October 1 through 31, 10 a.m., Butterfly House
Stop by the Butterfly House to see some slightly scary bugs and botanicals.

**Hurricane Maria Trivia Night Fundraiser**
October 25, 7 to 10 p.m., MSC Nosh
All proceeds donated to the Hurricane Maria Relief Fund. Tables of 10 for $100. Halloween costume contest and gift basket raffle. Register on Triton Sync.

**Don’t Be a Scaredy Cat Blood Drive**
October 26, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., MSC Century Rooms or Ed Collabitat (South Campus)
First time Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Centers (MVRBC) donors will be entered to win an UMSL hoody. All donations go to benefit the MVRBC.

**Science Spooktacular**
October 26, 5 p.m., St. Louis Science Center
This will be a family-friendly Halloween celebration with spell-binding science and fun with learning. Activities will include Spooky Storytime, Halloween themed showing in the OMNIMAX Theater, hands-on activities and more.

**Kirkwood Halloween Walk**
October 26 at 5 p.m., Downtown Kirkwood
Kids will enjoy dressing in costumes and trick-or-treating at participating merchants in Downtown Kirkwood.

**Halloween Storytelling**
October 28, 10 a.m., Pavilion at Lemay
This will be a kid-friendly event with Halloween storytelling and crafts. Kids will be welcome to wear costumes to add to the fun.

**Central West End Halloween Party**
October 28, 11 a.m., Maryland and Euclid Avenue
Trick-or-treating at businesses in the neighborhood will begin at noon. The dog costume parade and part will begin at 1 p.m. There will also be kid-friendly live entertainment and music. At 6 p.m., the event will turn into an adult-only party.

**Trunk-or-Treat**
October 28, 12 to 2 p.m., MSC South Garage
Open to campus and community. Kids can trick or treat in a safe environment from the student groups and campus departments at UMSL. Trick or Treaters must be 12 years old or younger.

**Haunted Hayloft at Purina Farms**
October 27 through 29, 4:30 p.m., Purina Farms Visitor Center
This will be a not-so-scary event with entertainment for kids, including trick-or-treating, magic shows, face painting, storytelling, and more. There will be canine performances and adoptable dogs at the show.

**Legends & Lanterns**
October 27 through 29, 5 to 8 p.m., Friday, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday, 12 - 5 p.m. Sunday, 230 S. Main Street, St. Charles, MO 63301
A little silly, a little macabre, but all in fun, Legends & Lanterns will allow visitors to get in the “spirit” for All Hallow’s Eve. The festival will feature scarecrows, hayrides through history, and ghostly guests with historic Main Street as its backdrop.

**Boo-nanza**
October 31, 6-7 p.m., North County Recreation Complex
This will be a family-fun event featuring hayrides, a bonfire, and a marshmallow roast. Kids will have fun with a costume contest, crafts, and Haunted Caverns.

**Spooky Shoot**
October 31, 7 p.m., UMSL Community Garden (South Campus)
Stop by the community garden for a spooky photoshoot with your costume.

**Boo-til You Drop**
October 31
Check out PLHCSA’s first ever hayride. Bring an in-kind or monetary donation for Gateway Pet Guardians and get a free hayride to or from Oak Hall and Provincial House.

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**Fabulous Fox Ghost Tours**
October 26, 4:30 p.m., Purina Farms Visitor Center
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**Spooky Shoot**
October 31, 7 p.m., UMSL Community Garden (South Campus)
Stop by the community garden for a spooky photoshoot with your costume.
This week’s puzzle: A farmer goes to the market and buys a hundred animals for a total cost of $10,000. If cows cost $500 each, pigs cost $100 each, and Rabbits cost $5 each, how many of each animal did he buy?

Email solutions, guesses, comments to mathclub@umsl.edu.
A new mode of transportation has recently been proposed in Missouri, which could revolutionize the way people travel within the state. The Hyperloop One proposal, developed by Elion Musk, CEO of SpaceX, would involve a high-speed transportation system that could travel at incredible speeds with minimal energy.

The Hyperloop system would consist of a series of tubes that could move passengers and goods at incredible speeds. The tubes would be located above land or underground, and passengers would enter and exit the tubes at high-speed access points. The system is designed to connect major Missouri cities, including St. Louis and Kansas City, and could potentially connect to other major cities around the world.

The proposal has been submitted to Missouri Governor Eric Greitens and has been well-received by the state. Governor Greitens has expressed his support for the project, and the proposal has been widely supported by the citizens of Missouri.

The Hyperloop One proposal is not only about transportation, but it is also a significant economic development opportunity for Missouri. The proposal could create thousands of jobs and bring billions of dollars of investment to the state. It could also help Missouri become a leader in technology and innovation, positioning the state as a hub for economic growth and development.

The proposal has been reviewed by a panel of experts, and the results have been positive. The experts have praised the proposal for its potential to revolutionize transportation and improve the economy of Missouri. The proposal has also been endorsed by a wide range of stakeholders, including business leaders, city officials, and community leaders.

The next step in the proposal process is the final review by the state's governing bodies. If the proposal is approved, then it will be up to the state's leaders to decide whether to move forward with the project. The decision will be based on a careful analysis of the proposal's potential benefits and costs, and it will be crucial for Missouri to make the right decision to ensure the long-term success of the Hyperloop One project.
In the wake of the numerous Harvey Weinstein allegations, a movement began to increase the awareness of sexual assault. Actress Alyssa Milano tweeted a call to action, men have systematically assaulted on women inspired by the movement created ten years ago by a woman named Tarana Burke. She is the founder of a youth organization, Just Be Inc. She created the campaign as an effort to make men to be more accountable and to expose predatory behavior among peers.

While Milano has a huge role to play in making the hashtag go viral, the original movement was created ten years ago by a woman named Tarana Burke. She is the founder of a youth organization, Just Be Inc. She created the campaign as an effort to make men to be more accountable and to expose predatory behavior among peers.

The widespread hashtag has had repercussions in other countries, including France's #BalanceTonPorc, translating to “Expose Your Pig.” While the movement gains steam, the French Gender Equality Ministry Marlène Schiappa, has proposed a bill to fine aggressors for street harassment. Her anti-harassment campaign is her signature issue, and she hopes to put forward a bill that would result in fines for as much as €5,000 for engaging in street harassment.

It is doubtful any such legislation will be put forth in the United States, in spite of the hashtag popularity. The visibility of the movement is happening amid a recent rollback in Title IX protections for victims of sexual assault on college campuses. On September 22, Education Secretary Betsy DeVos overhauled the guidelines put in place by the Obama administration. The move recently prompted a lawsuit from a women's rights group, Equal Means Equal.

University of Missouri-St. Louis Chancellor Tom George responded to the move via a campus-wide email stating, “...So while the Department of Education develops definitive direction on compliance, our commitment remains to create a safe environment to provide fair treatment for faculty, staff and students, and to both work on preventative measures and respond aggressively to reports of sexual assault.”

Alyssa Milano tweeted the #MeToo initiative to show how many women experience sexual harassment and assault.

Part Two: Information Systems Offers International Experience to Students

Kat Kiddle
Managing Editor

From 7 to 9 p.m. in Express Scripts Hall 005, Information Systems students Ashley Moss, senior; Damon Walker, graduate, business administration; Omar Saif, senior; and former graduate student Dan Redden described their work that they completed in Africa while receiving a stipend, travel, and accommodations.

From November to December 2016, Moss and classmates in the Agriculture Programs Software Training for the Institut Supérieur Agronomique et Vétérinaire de Faranah and Students in Faranah, Guinea. Redden provided technical assistance at Guinea's largest agricultural university to train the Agriculture Technical High School. Emile Badiane of Bignona and a database for monitoring and tracking graduates. The Agriculture Technical High School in Guinea, while Moss was trained in the Agriculture Technical High School.

In regards to the personal impact, I've leaned on my leadership, personal growth. Professionally, many of their assignments mainly in East Africa.

While Moss was assigned to the Agriculture Technical High School, Emile Radiane of Bignona in Bignona, Senegal. Her assignment consisted of a 20-day journey to Senegal, West Africa to help and train the student to develop a website and a database for monitoring and tracking graduates. The Agriculture Technical High School of Bignona and The Ziguinchor Horticulture Initiation Center staff and teachers attended Moss’s workshop learning to acquire and manage a website. Also, she developed a methodology and database to track employment of graduates.

Salf was assigned the Training of Trainers in Computer Information Systems & Information Technology in Agriculture Schools in Dabola, Guinea.

Dr. Maurice Dawson, Jr., professor in information systems, was the faculty member for both assignments in Senegal. The assignments offered by Winrock International allow faculty to work directly with a Ministry of Agriculture or government agency. These projects can range from application development to implement document management systems for large universities.

In collaboration with Dakar, Senegal, Dawson was assigned the Training-Of-Trainers in Management Accounting Tools for the Horticulture Initiation Center of St. Louis in January this year in St. Louis. In July 2016, he was assigned the Assistance of the Office of Vocational Agriculture Education for the Establishment of Functional Website for the Ministre de l’Agriculture et de l’Equipement Rural in Dakar, Senegal.

Assignment number ET-103 will be the first assignment with Catholic Relief Services (CRS). The assignment will improve the livelihoods and nutritional status of significant numbers of low income households by broadening their participation in established commodity value chains as producers and services providers, strengthening community resilience to shocks and stresses, and preserving and enhancing natural resources upon which most rural communities depend.

The project will also collaborate with other entities to assess the existing gaps in the staff knowledge on mobile banking and look for the best practices.

Dawson said, “Many of their IT assignments are very technical. I will be the person going to work with the bank. This will coincide after completing half of a Fulbright Grant to Prince Sultan University in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. My expectation is that after this assignment students also have the opportunity to do work with CRS as they have assignments mainly in East Africa.”
UMSL and greater St. Louis Gather at Touhill for ‘The Wizard of Oz’

From October 19 through 22, the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center put on a show that brought both nostalgia and fascination to all who attended, with the fall-season staple: “The Wizard of Oz.” The theatre was packed with people of all ages. Some were coming to relive the timeless story from their childhood while others were experiencing the story for the first time.

The tale of Dorothy’s journey through the Land of Oz was presented in the style of the famous 1939 film. The actors were beyond convincing, speaking all of the famous lines as well as adding some more modern phrases and jokes to connect to the audience. Most notably, the Witch of the West was cruel, but also self-absorbed and funny. Her iconic laugh was enough to elic- its goosebumps.

Special effects mostly relied on actors and a background screen. There were also some minor fire effects and wires used occasion- ally for Glinda the Good Witch as she flew on and off stage, or in the famous tornado scene where both Dorothy and Miss Gulch are flown into the sky by the wind. Overall, the scenery brought the story to the audience in a larger-than-life sort of way. The colors ranged from lush and vibrant, to dark and disturbing. In other words, the environments matched the mood.

The play was divided into two acts. The first featured Dorothy’s trip to the Land of Oz and her trip down the yellow brick road where she meets her friends. The second act starts with the arrival at the emerald city, the group’s final confrontation with the Witch of the West, and finally Dorothy’s return to Kansas.

The play starred Elizabeth Teeter as Dorothy, Drew Humphrey as Hunk/the Scarecrow, Martin Fisk as Hickory/the Tin Man, Patrick Blindauer as Zekie/the Cowardly Lion, and, of course, Nessa as Toto.

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The music was provided by two ensembles and an orchestra. The ensembles included one for adults and one for kids and teens. The adult ensemble consisted of members of the Actors’ Equity Associa- tion, The Big Muddy Dance Co., and Webster University’s Conservatory for Theatre Arts. The orchestra con- sisted of members of Musicians’ As- sociation Local 2-197 as well as a few members of the University of Mis- souri-St. Louis Orchestra.

Costumes were made and pro- vided by the Kansas City Costume Company.

The play was presented by the Variety Children’s Theatre, which featured some 58 children with dis- abilities both onstage and backstage. The integration was done fantasti- cally, with every actor and actress helping to create the cast of Oz.

Variety created the Children’s Theater nine years ago. Since then, the group has worked hard to perform a different production each year. Past productions include "The Adven- tures of Tom Sawyer,” “Anne,” “Pe- ter Pan,” and “Mary Poppins.”

Dorothy and her friends running into the Wicked Witch of the West in the forest.

New Wu-Tang Clan Album is Led by Mathematics and Method Man

Mathematics and the majority of the Wu-Tang Clan are back again with another Staten Island-style album—sample-heavy with funky horns, sparse piano, and Asian-influenced strings. Unfortunately, due to legal comp- lications, member U-God does not appear on this album, so they modi- fied the group name to “Wu-Tang” (no hyphen and no “Clan”) to in- dicate the change. As usual, RZA’s influence—stand-out music that is spooky, groovy, and cinematic-sounding. Redman appears on both the radio singles, “People Say” and “Lesson Learned.” This is no surprise, when considering his strong connection to the group, and especially to Method Man. In par- ticular, “People Say” is a standout due to its sampling of the classic movie, “The Warriors.”

Well-known former NYC rap personality Sean Price appears on one track, “Pearl Harbor,” along with Ghostface Killah, Meth, and RZA. Other notable guests include Hue Hef, Mase Jones, Streetlife, and Swmkah. The album has the consis- tent Wu-Tang sound, and is a good follow-up to “A Better Tomorrow,” even though neither album is really breaking any new ground. It is adm- irable that longtime production collaborator Mathematics can consis- tently produce this RZA-inspired combination of Kung-Fu samples, Asian-inspired violins, sparse keys, soul and funk-inspired horns, all lay- ered over dark, moody drums. But it seems, the vocals are just main- taining the status-quo. There are not many memorable bars here, and the subject material is tried and true.

The true stand-out MC here is Method Man; he carries multiple tracks, appearing on five of the eigh- teen on the album. Other than that, “generic” is a word used to describe this album by other reviewers, and it is an ample descriptor. The mu- sic is not boring, offensive, or both- ersome in any way, it just does not bit like those classic Wu-Tang Clan albums, even though this album is slightly reminiscent of the 1993 de- but album, “Enter the Wu-Tang (36 Chambers).”

This connection has more to do with Mathematics’ attempt at recre- ating the earlier Wu-Tang Clan style, a divergence from RZA’s re- cent more esoteric and experimen- tal style, than it has to do with the MC’s energy. Their lyrical style and composition are reminiscent of that earlier work, showcasing at least some of that lyrical wizardry for which the Wu-Tang Clan is so well- known and revered.

For true fans of the Wu, this album will be a renewal of earli- er beats; for those who are new to the Clan, it may be a bit much to bite off. The music of the Wu-Tang Clan exists in its own hip hop gal- axy, and they have never paid at- tention to current hip hop trends. They make the music that is true to Staten Island, RZA’s influence, and their upbringing. In the end, the al- bum is the best work that Wu-Tang Clan has put out in years, but it still does not come close to their former greatness.

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On October 15, the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra and The Saint Louis Blues presented the Athletes of the Orchestra. The media support of the concert was provided by St. Louis Public Radio 90.7 KWMU and NineNetwork. Athletes of the Orchestra is a concert and event, part of the family series of concerts at the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra. It is a celebration of sports, athletes, and family time.

The evening started with an hour of kids play time. The symphony had stations setup for each instrument group so that children could try them out. The string station included: cello, violin, and viola. The woodwind section included: clarinet, flute, saxophone, and bassoon. The brass section included: trombone and trumpet. Finally, the percussion section included: tambourine, maracas, cymbal, and snare.

Lee Mills is the conductor for the afternoon event. Mills is a resident Conductor of the Brazilian Symphony Orchestra and winner of the Solti Foundation U.S. 2014 Career Assistance Award. Mills is internationally recognized as a passionate, multifaceted, and energetic conductor. He has led performances with the Brazilian Symphony Orchestra that have been hailed as having a “Sonority of unequalled liveliness and quality,” said Andre Effgen from Movimento.com. Mills has also conducted with the National Symphony Orchestra (USA), the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Sao Paulo State Symphony Orchestra, and the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra.

Louie the bear from the St. Louis Blues helped introduce the songs for the orchestra. Louie the bear is blue, loves hockey, plays the saxophone, and loves blues music. This is why the home of the St. Louis Blues is perfect for him. On October 10, 2007 Louie was introduced to Blues fans and on November 3 Blues fans gave him the nickname and his own game jersey. Louie had quizzes between the songs for the kids to pick the right musical instrument. The right answers from the crowd garnered the goal sound heard from all St. Louis Blues goals.

The songs that the orchestra played were: “The Star-Spangled Banner,” “Festive Overture,” “Rigaudon from Le Tombeau de Couperin,” “Unter Donner und Blitz,” “Casey at the Bat,” “Frolicsome Finale from Simple Symphony,” “Canzon per sonar septimi toni a 8, No. 2,” “St. Louis Blues March,” and “Olympic Fanfare and Theme.”

After the concert Louie, the President of the St. Louis Blues Chris Zimmerman, Lee Mills, and many Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra members met with fans, friends, and family. The Blues had a merchandise table set in the lobby and many people and children spent time taking photos with Louie. It was a great event, for fans of Classical music and sports fans alike. For more info on the Family Concert Series see https://www.slso.org/en/tickets/family-concerts/.

Kids could test the different instruments of the orchestra during the play time portion of the event before the concert.

Louie posed with families after the concert.

St. Louis Symphony and St. Blues Present Athletes of the Orchestra

Roderick M. Wilson
Sports Editor

Sports Calendar October

Monday, 10/23 All Day
Men’s Golf Away

Tuesday, 10/24 All Day
Men’s Golf Away

Wednesday, 10/25 1 p.m.
Men’s Soccer Home

Wednesday, 10/25 3:30 p.m.
Women’s Soccer Home

Friday, 10/27 5 p.m.
Men’s Swimming Home

Friday, 10/27 7 p.m.
Women’s Volleyball Home

Saturday, 10/28 1 p.m.
Women’s Swimming Home

Saturday, 10/28 3 p.m.
Women’s Volleyball Home

Sunday, 10/29 TBA
Men’s Soccer Home

Sunday, 10/29 TBA
Women’s Soccer Home

Monday, 10/30 All Day
Women’s Golf Home

Tuesday, 10/31 7 p.m.
Women’s Volleyball Home

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UMSL’s Independent Student News

Sports

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The Current is now seeking students to fill a number of positions.

These positions are available on a volunteer basis, for internship credit, or for pay.

Applications are available on our website, thecurrent-online.com and the office.

For more information, contact us at thecurrentjobs@umsl.edu.

Bring your completed app to our office, 388 Millennium Student Center, or email thecurrentjobs@umsl.edu for consideration.
How Did Hillary Hijack the Weinstein Story?

LATEST WEEK, The New York Times broke the story that Harvey Weinstein had sexually harassed several women in Hollywood. Weinstein, a well-known producer behind renowned films such as “Gangs of New York,” “Pulp Fiction,” and “Shakespeare in Love” faced allegations from a wide swath of accusers, including stars Ashley Judd and Rose McGowan.

The story, which is now being referred to as an “open secret” in the industry, has been followed up on by more accusations from stars like Gwyneth Paltrow and Angelina Jolie, as well as more severe allegations of sexual assault. He has now been fired from his own company, The Weinstein Company, by fellow board members. Yet there is another name making headlines in the wake of these allegations—Hillary Clinton.

Weinstein donated a significant amount to Hillary’s presidential campaign in 2016 and has thrown lucrative fundraisers for Democrats in the past. Somehow these political contributions have led to accusations of Hillary’s culpability or at least knowledge of Harvey’s crimes. Other recipients of his donations include Senator Elizabeth Warren, Senator Al Franken, and former President Barack Obama. None of which have been implicated to the same extent in similar media coverage.

Several of the people closest to Harvey have expressed ignorance of his behavior, including his brother, a partner on the board, and longtime co-workers such as Ben Affleck and Matt Damon. Harvey’s wife, Georgina Chapman, has left him in the wake of these allegations.

Hollywood giants stayed mostly silent on the accusations as they emerged last week. Brie Larson, a long time sexual assault victim advocate, released a statement early on. It wasn’t until more accusations came from more well-known names that other actors started chiming in.

So what is the responsibility of a former candidate and private citizen in the midst of accusations of someone she knows? There are none. Clinton, for her part, has expressed shock and disgust. On CNN, she stated, “I was just sick. I was shocked. I was appalled.” Like her other Democratic colleagues, she has pledged to donate the money he gave to her to charity.

Weinstein’s alleged crimes are disgusting and unforgivable. But why is it that as a society we latch onto a woman to blame the crimes of men? Clinton is no stranger to this phenomenon, often blamed in her career for Bill’s accusers and sexual deviances.

The depth and sheer number of allegations has raised an important question in the industry of “Who knew?” Several accuser have alleged that Harvey lured them to hotel rooms by masquerading the calls as important business meetings. Sometimes he would send the fax request through agents, according to and refusing to claims in The New York Times.

It is almost certain in a pattern of behaviors that was this systematic, that he had enablers and perhaps even accessories, the possibility of which should be thoroughly investigated. However the connection to Clinton is a stretch at best and downright distracting from the point at worst.

After all the reprehensible nature of the allegations all but mirror those of the accusations that have previously been directed at President Donald Trump. So what exactly is it that conservatives are celebrating with this story?
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IN THEATRES FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27
Contamination 6 The Mutation: Convention Extending Halloween in St. Louis

Dave and Susan Dyer were both in the convention business as vendors for many years. As vendors, they worked conventions all over the United States. After attending so many different events they learned the business of producing a convention. They examined the pros and cons of the business and decided to start their own: Contamination. Their sixth version happens November 4 and 5 at Crowne Plaza St. Louis Airport.

In 2005, the Dyers came up with the general ideas of Contamination. They are big fans of pop-culture and noticed an absence of it in the Midwest. Their vendor experience lead to them building relationships with celebrity guests. They lean more to the Sci-fi and Horror side, but overall love pop-culture. They finalized the roadmap and started the company Dyer Straits Productions. This move lead to Contamination’s first version that would come to life in 2010. Dave is the frontman of their partnership with Susan being the behind the scenes manager. “I’m totally more of the fanboy between the two of us,” said Dave. “I really love Sci-fi and Horror.”

Every year Contamination has an overall theme based off the time of year and celebrity guests that are introduced. The promoters build the lineup with the mindset to have a small intimate con with a big con feel. They like to keep the con-going in mind for every year. “It’s more than a con, but a large meetup of like-minded people,” said Dave. “It’s less business for fans and more of a true experience.”

This year Contamination 6 is the weekend after Halloween, so it will have a larger Horror theme. November 4, the first day of the convention, is free. The Haunted House and the Movie room will be the only things open and available to everyone. The movie room will be showing horror, sci-fi, and pop-culture movies and TV shows. On November 6, the con will fully be open including the show floor with vendors, artist alley, and celebrity guests. There will be a big cosplay/costume contest for prizes on Saturday. “We are encouraging everyone to cosplay and dress up this year,” said Susan. “Especially for the cosplay contest.”

Some of the celebrity guests at this point are Ann Robinson, most known for portraying Sylvia Van Buren in the movie, “The War of the Worlds;” Naomi Grossman, most known for portraying Pepper in, “American Horror Story;” Felix Silla, who portrayed Cousin Itt in “Adams Family,” an Ewok in “Star Wars: Return of the Jedi,” and Dink in “Spaceballs;” Deborah Estelle Philips, who portrayed Katie on, “Power Rangers Time Force;” George P. Wilbur, who is a stuntman and actor and known mostly for role as Michael Myers in, “Halloween.” There are more celebrity guests on the roster and the possibility of more on the way.

For more information and tickets on this year’s Contamination 6 The Mutation visit www.contamination.com
The world recently held its breath as the kind of PC rig that will bring your gaming experience to unthinnable new heights, and effector protests of our time. Sex of women and allies came out together in solidarity, confirming that they will never bow down to the reigning powers. I am starting to think even part. Trump recently signed or - dered that all men and women of different ages, different backgrounds to truly understand the everyday struggle of discrimination in America. I believe that room should have been full of men and women of different ages and cultural back - grounds. The President's job is to act as a public servant, and a true public servant would want to include everyone in their decision-making process.

When women are forced into a position of necessity to give birth, they have the right to choose whether or not to have a baby, and they should be able to easily afford and obtain quality healthcare. Stand up for women. We have a freshman on this year's Senate and I'm real ex - cited about that.” Risius continued, “I get a lot of practice with public speaking especially with SGA.”

Risius has dyslexia which is a disability that can make people confuse the sound of words and makes reading difficult. Riusius makes no excuses and meets with teachers and uses special methods. Riusius said, “I think that dyslexia is a weakness. I have difficulties of reading and writing. I might trip over words, or I try to stay calm. I have people check over my work. Riusius works hard and keeps over a 3.0 grade point average.”

Along with being part of SGA, Risius is a member of the Alpha Xi Delta sorority and is the reign- ing White Rose Queen of Sigma Tau Delta. She loves being part of the student groups, especially SGA. Risius said, “One of the best things about our SGA is the diversity in cul - ture and age. We have a freshman on the graphics processing unit, or GPU. It was not the first time Sammi was the new kid on the block. Sammi is the daughter of Marines. She was born in Okinawa, Japan. She has moved several times around this globe. She has lived in Saint Louis the longest amount of time. Risius stressed the importance of taking an extra step while at UMSS. She said, “Yes, of course education is first but just going to school just going to class can be really boring. It’s proven that students who get in - volved are more likely to graduate. People that have classes with you are people you can network with.”

She explained her first expe - rience coming to UMSS. She said, “When I came to UMSS, I came the day before classes started. If I didn’t get involved I wouldn’t know a sin - gle person.”

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The booming PC gaming hard - ware industry is suffering from a new parasitic menace that has emerged from the far reaches of the Internet and is undermining the priz - e and availability of graphics cards. Hruska’s article on extremetech.com explains that this menace is more than just the rise of crypto - currency, Ethereum. If you have yet not heard about Ethereum, it is a new form of online currency, much like Bitcoin. There is a process called the miner process all the “blocks” in the currency, and in turn, they miners get ly benefits the creator of said cur - rency, and in turn, they miners get paid for it. The only way that the miners can make any money mining Eth - reum is to build a rig specifically designed to process Ethereum trans - actions. To do all that processing, the computers need to have enor - mous amounts of processing power. Now, down to the meat and pota - toes. These rigs that the miners use require GPUs. A lot of GPUs. Com- puter companies like ASUS have actually released motherboards for mining with a whopping 13 slots for GPUs as reported by Sexton in his article he wrote for tomshardware.com. Now let’s do the math. That is 13 GPUs for every mining rig, and multiply that by tens of thousands of miners using these special rigs.

Therein lays the answer that Chel - sea may or may not have wanted to hear. With this many high end GPUs being bought up in massive quanti - ties for these wretched mining rigs, gamers are left with the scraps, and brother those scraps are expensive. With demand for high end GPUs be - ing driven into the stratosphere by crypto - currency miners, the price of these GPUs increased drastically.

“Actually now would be the best time to buy a card before they go back up again, which is sad be - cause it’s still much higher than normal. They are right around 400 to 450 bucks for a good one at the moment. But I was seeing the same cards going for well over $500 dollars no more than a few weeks ago, and...
T he Alumni Association of the University of Missouri-St. Louis hosted their first Celebrating Entrepreneurship and Innovative Thinking event on October 18. This event was focused on bringing legislators to Cortex to see what the university system and UMSL have been doing to work with business start-ups, encourage innovation and help the citizens of Missouri as a whole.

The event started at 5:30 p.m. with guests checking in at the Hanna Room in the innovation and technology district of Cortex CIC@4240 Building. Guests were invited to speak with the Ameren Accelerator cohort members, with alumni, faculty, staff, and students of UMSL, and to see the UMSL Accelerate and Ameren Accelerator space in the Mizzou region.

The Ameren Accelerator is a unique partnership between public and private institutions, and one of the first of its kind in the United States and the first in the St. Louis region to focus on energy technology. The partnership was created to assess, mentor, and invest in energy technology startup companies. Seven startup companies were chosen out of the 200 applications from 31 countries and 22 states who applied. There was an intense selection process in which the speakers spoke with the selection team. Each of the winning groups received $100,000 in seed capital to participate in the 12-week program.

UMSL Alumnus Warner Baxter, chairman, president, and CEO of Ameren, said, “This partnership with the University of Missouri System and UMSL Accelerate is a great partnership, and it’s all about the St. Louis region. It’s all about the collaboration like us collaborating with a public university, that we can’t only create jobs but also innovation in an area that frankly is incredibly innovative. I’m proud to be part of that.”

Baxter continued, “The whole Ameren Accelerator is truly about identifying innovative ideas, but also mentoring these companies to accelerate their products and ultimately implement those. Because when I look at the energy future of our country, we need innovation. This is where we need legislators and alumni to help us invest, to help us invent, but we are off to a great start. We have an entrepreneur in residence program. We have 37 students in under a year... and more to come. It’s a great program. We have an entrepreneurial scholars and innovators program. It is very wide and it is a cohort. You have to win... We go to each campus to assist them from a collaborative perspective in a cohort way so we can learn more together as peers.”

Lauer focused a little more on the Ameren Accelerator. He said, “We have 68 students enrolled in these courses. If you know entrepreneurs, you know they don’t want to be in a classroom. Immediately we go from the rigour of classrooms to out of classroom learning. We have a host of innovative courses— this is where we need legislators and alumni to help us invest, to help us invent, but we are off to a great start. We have an entrepreneur in residence program. We have 37 students in under a year... and more to come. It’s a great program. We have an entrepreneurial scholars and innovators program. It is very wide and it is a cohort. You have to win... We go to each campus to assist them from a collaborative perspective in a cohort way so we can learn more together as peers.”

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Lauer emphasized the community engagement with UMSL Accelerate. Lauer said, “We have 68 students enrolled in these courses. If you know entrepreneurs, you know they don’t want to be in a classroom. Immediately we go from the rigour of classrooms to out of classroom learning. We have a host of innovative courses— this is where we need legislators and alumni to help us invest, to help us invent, but we are off to a great start. We have an entrepreneur in residence program. We have 37 students in under a year... and more to come. It’s a great program. We have an entrepreneurial scholars and innovators program. It is very wide and it is a cohort. You have to win... We go to each campus to assist them from a collaborative perspective in a cohort way so we can learn more together as peers.”

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