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University of Missouri-St. Louis

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The Current

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SEPT. 20, 2010

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*SGA assembly votes on new
non-decrimination resolution*

by Sequita Bean

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Statshot

The UNDERCURRENT by Zheng Zhang



"Don't put it off! Plan ahead, work ahead when you can, bare down just get it done!"

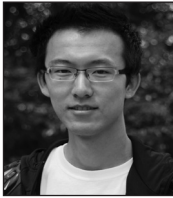
Lindsay Digar
Elementary Education
Senior



"Plan ahead to prevant procrastination"

Amanda Harris
Media Studies
Sophomore

"What do you think students can do to prevent themselves from procrastinating?"



"Get a cup of ice cappuccino & listen to Bad Romance while being in the library!"

Gerry Xin
Finance
Senior



"Make a planner, do it once you see it. Put a mark on some obvious places."

Siyuan Li
Accounting & International business
Sophomore

Comments from the WEB

on "No justice for police brutality victims" issue 1319

Dear Sequita,
You are really on the right track, the police in the county are flying under the wire, they act with impunity from the courts. They charge people with ordinance violations so they are not scrutinized by state courts. These municipal courts have turned into kangaroo courts pay, or go to jail. Check it out, go to any of these satellite courts listen for the odd charges, go talk to the defendants.

-Auntbea

on "Get a sex tape, become a millionaire" issue 1318

Hopefully, young people will see the work that her father has done and emulate that. She doesn't realize the truly huge mistake she is making.

-Don Stolberg

on "Golfer Matt Rau looks to next season and beyond" issue 1318

Congratulations Matt!

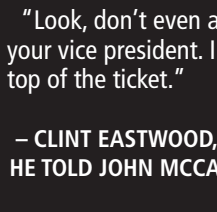
-Valerie Todd, St. Mary's

VERBATIM



"Both small town girls . . . We both carry an AK-47."

– DOLLY PARTON, POINTING OUT WHAT SHE HAS IN COMMON WITH REPUBLICAN VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE SARAH PALIN



"Look, don't even ask it. I will not be your vice president. I have to be on the top of the ticket."

– CLINT EASTWOOD, RECALLING WHAT HE TOLD JOHN MCCAIN AT A POLITICAL EVENT



"What's up? I need some money."

– 30 ROCK STAR TRACY MORGAN, ON WHAT HE'S GOING TO SAY TO OPRAH WINFREY WHEN SHE GUEST STARS ON HIS SHOW

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News

Non-discrimination resolution proposed by SGA

► **SEQUITA BEAN**

Editor-in-Chief

A total of 61 Student Government Assembly members voted last Friday on a newly proposed non-discrimination resolution that would allow every University of Missouri St. Louis student to attend events held by campus organizations that are funded by student activity fees regardless of their race, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, age, disability or Vietnam era veteran status.

The resolution, which is simply a recommendation, gets sent to the chancellor and to the UM-System stating that the students either voted in favor of or against this clause in the UM-System non-discrimination policy. From there the clause is reviewed by the legal counsel of the entire UM-System and then made into university policy if it is passed.

Twenty-six assembly members voted in favor of the resolution, six voted against and 29 abstained from the vote. Moments before the Student Government Association meeting, representatives of the Christian fraternity Chi Alpha handed out a four-page letter addressed to Rosner, Vice Provost for Student Affairs Curtis Coonrod and Chancellor Thomas George urging the Student Government Association to reject proposed revisions to the non-discrimination clause. Many assembly members were confused and thought the handout was supported by SGA.

The handout states that the passing of the non-discrimination resolution will expose the university to potential First Amendment violations and liability. The resolution was inspired by

the Christian Legal Society v. Martinez case in California in which the issue was whether a public university law school may deny school funding and other benefits to a religious student organization because the group requires its officers and voting members to agree with its core religious viewpoints. The Christian Legal Society's members treat unrepentant homosexual conduct as a sin and insisted that those who would rise to leadership in its ranks had to embrace that view.

However, the resolution set forth by UM-St. Louis' Student Government does not dictate membership within organizations.

"This resolution is not about creating an all-comers policy. It's basically saying that should [religious and military] groups be exempt from the clause," Rosner said. "This doesn't affect the qualifications that you might need of picking membership or deciding members. There are some qualifications that some groups require: you have to either have certain knowledge or skills to be a part of a group. We're not trying to change that or affect that."

"Basically this resolution was written is to ensure that all students who pay [student activity fees] are allowed to come to all campus events funded by student activity fees," Rosner said.

During the meeting, a representative of Chi Alpha—who is neither the organization's SGA representative or a UM-St. Louis student—was very vocal about the possibility of the resolution affecting who they allow in their organization, mainly homosexuals. "It seemed prevalent that it was more so—

even the representative of the Chi Alpha [organization] was mostly talking about homosexuality. I'm pretty sure that's all he talked about [in the SGA meeting]," Claire Beeman, senior, international business and Spanish, said.

"Specifically the clause allows for a bit of ambiguity and exemption from the non-discrimination clause which is a big deal. On a more radical possibility, what if we had a Westboro Baptist Church organization or similar organization with extremist views?" Justin Riddler, graduate, adult education, said.

"By this clause there could be such allowances as for them to have activities on campus that would be funded by SABC doing such radical things as walking around with signs that says 'God hates fags' or walking around holding rallies in KKK uniforms or actively campaigning against women's rights."

Because the vote numbers were majorly abstention, Student Government will take the resolution back to the intercampus counsel, discuss and revise it and bring it back to the next SGA meeting.

"The furthest I would see this actually applying to anything is if say a Christian organization was having a SABC funded Bible study, they could not discriminate against a Muslim or an Atheist deciding that they want to attend the bible study without being Christian. I actually believe that not discriminating against them would actually help their organization more," said Riddler.

Representatives of Chi Alpha declined to speak with *The Current* about the resolution.

LOCAL NEWS

Missouri energy policy needs to balance economic, environmental interests, says Nixon

Gov. Jay Nixon emphasized the need to balance economic and environmental interests on Friday, as he laid out a plan for the state's energy future. Nixon told a room of industrial consumers and energy executives at Washington University that the balancing act would need to include increases in environmentally friendly practices and clean, renewable energy sources while keeping energy costs affordable for consumers and businesses.

Via St. Louis Beacon

The Tea Party brings its message of 'repeal, reduce, restore' to the Arch

Missouri's Republican nominee for the U.S. Senate, Roy Blunt, didn't have to say a word Sunday when he unexpectedly took center stage at the downtown Tea Party rally on the grounds of the Gateway Arch. Touching off deafening cheers, the congressman from southwest Missouri joined conservative commentator Dick Morris, who did all the talking and the attacking. Morris explained that political comments by Blunt would violate the event's edict barring speeches by candidates.

Via St. Louis Beacon

Arnold man killed in motorcycle crash

An Arnold man was killed Saturday evening in a motorcycle crash, the Missouri Highway Patrol said. Seth M. Volner, 22, died at a hospital at 6:35 p.m. after crashing his 2009 Suzuki GSX motorcycle along Seckman Road just west of Golden Gate Drive, the patrol said. Volner tried to pass a vehicle around a blind curve, swerved to avoid a head-on collision and ran off the road into a rock bluff, the patrol said. No one else was hurt in the crash.

Via St. Louis Post-Dispatch

St. Charles man killed, five hurt in two-vehicle crash

A man from St. Charles was killed and five others were injured Friday night in a two-vehicle crash, police said Sunday. Billy Dorlaque, 31, of St. Charles died after he drove his Chevrolet pickup through a red light at New Town and Fountain Lakes boulevards and struck a Chevrolet Avalanche, police said. The crash occurred about 9:45 p.m. Three men and a child in Dorlaque's pickup suffered minor to serious injuries, police said. The driver of the Avalanche, 55, suffered minor injuries and did not go to the hospital. The injured passengers in the pickup were taken to St. Joseph Health Center in St. Charles for treatment. Two were treated and released. One was in good condition at the hospital today. Police said Dorlaque was heading east on Fountain Lakes, ran the red light at New Town and struck the Avalanche that was heading north on New Town Boulevard.

Via St. Louis Post-Dispatch

UM-St. Louis welcomes partnership with MIMH

► **ASHLEY ATKINS**

Staff Writer

The Missouri Institute of Mental Health made their move from the University of Missouri-Columbia to the University of Missouri-St. Louis, making the Institute the new research, mental health and social services arm for the university.

The institute is known for providing research, policy and training expertise and evaluation to the Missouri Department of Mental Health, among other

agencies and organizations. This collaboration, which is believed to benefit the greater region and the UM-St. Louis community, was made possible after 12 weeks of discussion. Vice Provost for Research at UM-St. Louis, Nasser Arshadi, who will oversee the recent partnership as a direct line to MIMH, sees this as a logical move.

"Their relationship with Columbia has been fruitful for years, but I believe what attracted them to UM-St. Louis was the geographic proximity enabling

closer partnerships with UM-St. Louis faculty," Arshadi, said.

"It is an excellent fit with the mission of our campus to focus on innovation programs and services that are of practical value to the community and that foster collaborative partnerships within this St. Louis region," Ann M. Steffen, Director of the Doctoral Program in Clinical Psychology and Associate Professor of the Department of Psychology, said.

See MIMH page 17

UMSL researchers find link between mass transit and economic growth

► **RYAN KRULL**
Staff Writer

Earlier this month three University of Missouri-St. Louis researchers released “More Transit = More Jobs,” a report positing a strong link between public transportation and local economic growth.

Todd Swanstrom, a Professor of Community Collaboration and Public Policy Administration authored the report along with public policy research council associate Will Winter and Laura Wiedlocher, a graduate research assistant at the PPRC.

The Transportation Equity Network, also called TEN, commissioned the report. According to its Web site, TEN is a “grassroots network of more than 350 community organizations in 41 states working to build a more just, prosperous, and connected America.”

The three researchers studied 24 metropolitan areas, referred to as case studies in the report. All 24 areas have local organizations interested in developing mass transit and, according to

Swanstrom, it is those groups who are most interested in the findings of “More Transit = More Jobs.” Of all the areas studied, St. Louis was found to have spent the smallest percentage, 16 percent, of Federal tax dollars on public transit. In comparison, New York City spent 75 percent of its Federal Transportation Improvement Funds on public transit. “I don’t think now is the time to beat it over the region’s head that other cities like Kansas City and Chicago are spending so much more than we are,” Laura Wiedlocher said. “There is a lot of momentum building around transit in St. Louis right now; John Nations taking over Metro, the passing of Prop A and the new high speed rail line that is being built between St. Louis and Chicago, these things point to an openness to transit that hasn’t been strong in St. Louis.” The St. Louis County voters did pass a half-cent sales tax in April to fund Metro link. “Public transit is expensive, but it has all sorts of social benefits,” Swanstrom said. “It’s a win/win for the taxpayers.” Among these social

benefits, he said, are a reduction in traffic congestion on highways, a reduction of energy consumption and reduced levels of obesity due to mass transit riders having to walk just a bit farther than from the parking lot to their office.

Swanstrom hopes this report will specifically build interest in spurring “mixed use pedestrian friendly developments around transit stations.” This kind of development centered on public transportation is referred to as Transit Oriented Development.

Swanstrom applauded UM-St. Louis’ recent decision to give metro passes to all students who pay the campus activities fee, saying that it demonstrates on a smaller scale of how public transit can help large cities.

“I would like to see more development around the UMSL transit stations on north and south campus,” Swanstrom said. “I could see restaurants, housing and bookstores on campus and in the area by Natural Bridge.”

The aftermath of UM-St. Louis golf sanctions

► **MICHAEL FREDERICK**
Sports Editor

Effective Friday September 3, 2010 the National Collegiate Athletic Association infractions committee placed the Tritons on probation for two years. Since 2006, the former University of Missouri men’s golf coach Dustin Ashby has owned and operated World Cham-

pionship of Fantasy Sports based in Chesterfield. According to the 10 page report, Ashby’s ownership of the company and his hiring of three UM-St. Louis men’s golf student-athletes, was in violation of NCAA rules regarding gambling and high stakes fantasy sports.

Pat Dolan, former UM-St. Louis athletic director from 1995-2007, said in a telephone interview with *The Current*

that Ashby was hired as the part-time golf coach because of his skills as a golfer and his access to top facilities. “When I was athletic director,” Dolan said, who is now special assistant to Vice Chancellor Glen Cope, “we were not aware of Mr. Ashby’s involvement with (WCOFF).”

See **GOLF** on page 17

USA NEWS

Three children found shot dead in Texas apartment

A 47-year-old man found wounded with the bodies of his three children at their suburban Houston apartment has been charged with capital murder in their deaths. A Harris County sheriff’s spokesman says Muhammed Goher is charged with three counts of capital murder in what authorities now characterize as a triple homicide and attempted suicide. Deputy Jamie Wagner says the three children found dead in the family apartment Sunday were two daughters, ages 13 and 7, and a 12-year-old son. She says Goher was in stable condition at Ben Taub Hospital in Houston with a gunshot wound. No motive has been established for the shootings. **Via The Associated Press**

Blown-out BP well finally killed at bottom of Gulf of Mexico

A cement plug has permanently killed BP’s runaway well nearly 2.5 miles below the sea floor in the Gulf of Mexico, five agonizing months after an explosion sank a drilling rig and led to the worst offshore oil spill in U.S. history. **Via USA Today**

Officers shoot gunman on Capitol Hill

Authorities in Washington say police shot a man who pointed a gun at them on Capitol Hill. U.S. Capitol Police spokeswoman Sgt. Kimberly Schneider says a lookout went out around 5 a.m. Friday for a man with a gun. Officers later saw the man, who pointed the gun at them. Schneider says the officers opened fire after the man refused to drop his weapon. The man, whose name has not been released, was brought to a hospital. His condition is not immediately known. No other injuries were reported. Schneider says the Maryland Police Department is assisting with the investigation. **Via The Associated Press**

Number of uninsured Americans rises to 50.7 million

A record rise in the number of people without health insurance across the nation is fueling renewed debate over a health care law that could to work better at boosting coverage than controlling costs. More than 50 million people were uninsured last year, almost one in six U.S. residents, the Census Bureau reported Thursday. The percentage with private insurance was the lowest since the government began keeping data in 1987. The reasons for the rise to 50.7 million, or 16.7%, from 46.3 million uninsured, or 15.4%, were many: workers losing their jobs in the recession, companies dropping employee health insurance benefits, families going without coverage to cut costs. Driving much of the increase, however, was the rising cost of medical care; a Kaiser Family Foundation report shows workers now pay 47% more than they did in 2005 for family health coverage, while employers pay 20% more. **Via USA Today**

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Read
The
Current

Sports

Tritons soccer team defeats Prairie Stars

► **MICHAEL FREDERICK**
Sports Editor

Kaylee Neutzling, junior, criminal justice, led the University of Missouri-St. Louis women's soccer squad with a hat trick performance, three goals, against the University of Illinois-Springfield Prairie Stars.

Bob Lessentine, Tritons women's soccer head coach, mentioned prior to the women's and men's double header against UI-Springfield on Friday, September 17 that his team would be bringing the game to the Prairie Stars.

"We're going to come out with a 4-3-3 formation," Lessentine said. "Our objective is to keep the ball on their half as often as we can."

Lessentine also mentioned that he would be going with the second string goalkeeper be-

cause of a concussion injury to Hannah Sayre, junior, business marketing. Christine Lips, freshman, civil engineering, took the reins for the injured Sayre in her first start of the season. Neutzling, who seemed to be in on every play, scored the first goal of the match during the first minute of play with an assist by fellow striking partner Kelly Muesenfechter, junior, business finance.

UI-Springfield equalized minute 11 on an unassisted goal by midfielder Casey Thorpe. But Neutzling and her striking partners Muesenfechter and Jesa Jenkins, junior, physical education, continued to frustrate the Prairie Star defense. Neutzling scored her fourth goal of the season on a corner kick that found the back of the net. After her third goal in minute 21 of the first half, the Tritons went into the locker room with a commanding 3-1 lead.

The game ended with a 4-3 UM-St. Louis victory. The winning goal coming from Lynn Cerney, senior, accounting major, her first of the season. Tritons men's soccer goalkeeper Adam Giesegeh, senior, accounting, recorded his fourth shutout in five games. UM-St. Louis defeated UI-Springfield 4-0, with three goals coming in the first half.

Coming off a good road trip, the Tritons men's soccer team had not allowed a goal in two matches against St. Joseph's and the University of Wisconsin-Parkside. UM-St. Louis went 1-0-1 on the road. Dan King, UM-St. Louis men's soccer head coach, said prior to the game that the Prairie Stars would be a more defensive minded team. "We're going to have a lot of possession," Coach King said. "So we'll see if we can take advantage."

After a disappointing home loss to India-

napolis University, the Tritons were looking to regain a home field advantage. UM-St. Louis had possession for most of the first half. The Prairie Star back four did not have an answer for the Tritons 4-4-2 formation. In the seventh minute of the first half, midfielder Jordan Bruce, sophomore, criminology, scored on a great pass by midfielder Mike McCarthy, junior, media studies. The scoring floodgates opened after the first goal with UM-St. Louis out dueling the Prairie Stars 4-0, with three coming in the first half.

Other goals were scored by Almin Sabotic, junior, media relations; David Schwer, junior, undecided; and Robbie Baird, freshman, biology. The Tritons' next home double-header will be October 1 against Missouri S&T. Kickoff will be at 5 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.



Kelly Muesenfechter, junior, business finance, runs the ball away from Illinois-Springfield player on Friday.

JENNIFER MEAHAN / THE CURRENT

SPORTS COLUMN

Cardinals lack heart down the stretch

The St. Louis Cardinals are in a tail-spin since the All-Star break.

Entering the 2010 season the hometown redbirds were favorites to win the National League Central Division and maybe the World Series. But as of Monday the Cardinals sport a 76-71 record and are a dismal seven games out of first place behind the upstart Cincinnati Reds.

Teams with .500 records are often seen as successful. But for St. Louis standards, and the team's high payroll, this is unacceptable. It has often been painful to watch the Cardinals day in and day out this year. On Saturday the Cardinals blew another late game lead against the San Diego Padres, a team looking to make the playoffs in the National League Western Division. The devastating blow came from a three-run home run by ex-Cardinal Ryan Ludwick.

The team has made many excuses, including the lack of a quality closer. But one thing the beloved Cardinals have not addressed is the team's lack of consistency and heart. When watching the Cardinals, they seem to not have the same swagger and fighting spirit as they have had in years past.

Former Cardinals also have mentioned the squad's lack of fighting spirit. Jack Clark, member of historic 1980s teams, mentioned in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch that the Cardinals have "given up" toward the waning games of the 2010 season.

This is not a condemnation on the entire Cardinals squad. Albert Pujols, Cardinals first baseman, has been reported playing with an injured foot. Brendan Ryan, who is hitting around .230, still finds ways to make the



Michael Frederick

starting lineup because of his hustle and above average fielding ability at shortstop.

However, as the season begins to reach the final moments, the Cardinals do seem as if they have given up and are preparing for next season. This is evident in the trade of power hitting right fielder Ryan Ludwick. In July, Ludwick was traded for pitcher Brian Westbrook. Since the deal, it seems as if the Cardinals lack a final punch at the end of games.

Watching the 2010 Cardinals is like watching a team that does not care about winning or losing. Take the recent September series against the arch rival Chicago Cubs. It is often seen as the most important series for the Cardinals. But after only winning one game out of three against the Chicago Cubs, the Cardinals seemed complacent.

If the team is looking for next season, which is apparent, then major changes must occur soon. Tony La Russa will be the manager, but having former Cardinal Mark McGwire, an admitted steroid user, as hitting coach is more of a distraction than a blessing.

Let us hope for St. Louis Cardinal fans sake that next year will be better than this season.

Michael Frederick is Sports Editor for The Current.

Triton basketball is a mix of old vets and new recruits

► RYAN KRULL

Staff Writer

Last season both men's and women's basketball programs at the University of Missouri-St. Louis posted disappointing below .500 records. Now the heads of both programs said this upcoming season improvement will be the name of the game.

The women's team will have 10 returning players on the roster along with five rookies. Among the returning key players are seniors Kelly Carter, Kelly Mitchell and Kelcy Hulbert.

"I am pleased overall with our team," Lisa Curliss-Taylor, head coach, said. "The chemistry is definitely there between the new players and the returning players. I am pleased about our new freshman and transfer. We should be an exciting team to watch." Conversely to the women's program, the Triton men only have four players coming back from last season to go along with 10 new

recruits. Head coach Steve Tappmeyer is not worried about the lack of program veterans. Tappmeyer is new to the UM-St. Louis program as well.

"We got a lot of new players and even the returners from last year are new to me," Tappmeyer said. "That's our biggest challenge but we're off to a good start. There's a good chemistry and the guys are meshing together."

Tappmeyer has been coaching Division II college basketball since the 1980s. In 21 years of coaching at Northwest Missouri State, he took that program to the NCAA tournament 10 times. Even though he has yet to coach the Tritons in a game, the team is most definitely Tappmeyer's creation.

"I got in here in April so we had time to do individual workouts with returning players, decide who was coming back and figure out who we weren't going to bring back and then recruit," the head coach said. "So every one who is here is either guys we wanted to have

around from last year or guys we picked ourselves to be here." Attendance at games has previously been sparse and the coaches would like to see more of a buzz around the team this season. Tappmeyer says his team will try to do their part in trying to build enthusiasm. "We need to play in a style and handle ourselves in way so that people will want to come and watch us," Tappmeyer said. "That will answer a lot of the challenges we have here. It will help with recruiting, motivate the players and create that home court advantage."

In accordance with NCAA rules, practices will not begin until October 15 but both coaches are holding individual player workouts and team members are training in small groups. The women's season will kick off November 4 with an exhibition game against St. Louis University. The men's first game is November 12 against Northwood University at the GLVC-GLIAC Challenge in Springfield, Ill.

Tritons roll through Quincy and UIS

UMSL Volleyball extend winning streak to five

► MICHAEL FREDERICK

Sports Editor

Entering their game against Quincy University the Tritons volleyball squad was ranked 25 in the nation according to the NCAA division II volleyball poll.

Trent Jones, University of Missouri-St. Louis volleyball coach, said the ranking is both a blessing and a curse. "We really enjoy the recognition," Coach Jones said. "But it will make us a target for teams that we play against."

Friday, September 17 was the scheduled Blackout Game where Triton volleyball supporters received free black t-shirts, food and drinks prior to the three-game match against the Hawks.

Also entering the series against Quincy, the Tritons had beaten three straight opponents, including winning seven of their first nine games. During pregame warm-ups the squad seemed relaxed and confident.

Led by Weslie Gaff, junior, accounting major, UM-St. Louis beat Quincy in

the first set 25-16. Gaff recorded 10 of the Tritons 25 points including about half of the team's 18 kills. UM-St. Louis also only trailed once during the first set.

The beginning of set number two was a bit different for the Tritons, as they fell behind 3-1 after the first four serves. But after a Quincy service error earned UM-St. Louis another point, 3-2, the Tritons regained a quick 5-4 advantage after an ace by Kayla Kizzinger, senior, education. Kizzinger later recorded the final kill of the set. The Tritons won the third set 25-15.

Seniors Gaff and Liz Cook, education, were once again standouts for the Tritons in the three set sweep. In the three sets Gaff led the team in kills with 10, while Cook recorded 4.5 points. UM-St. Louis went on to win the third set in convincing fashion, on a kill by Liz Cook set up by Kayla Kizzinger.

The win gave the Tritons their fourth straight sweep.

The following day, Saturday September 18, the Tritons played host to the University of Illinois-Springfield Prairie

Stars. Once again, the UM-St. Louis volleyball squad secured a sweep, their fifth in a row and their ninth win in 11 games.

Fans attending the Blackout Game commented on how much fun the Tritons were. "My daughter is number 11," Mrs. Albers, mother of Tabatha Albers, freshman, nursing. "I've never missed a game and look forward to the rest of the season."

Prior to the sweep against the fellow Great Lakes Valley Conference members, Coach Jones also emphasized spreading the word of the quality of play from UM-St. Louis Volleyball. "We want to spread the word starting today that we are very serious about this team and university," Coach Jones said.

UM-St. Louis volleyball travels to Indiana to take on Indianapolis University and St. Joseph's on September 24 and 25. Their next home game at the Mark Twain Gymnasium will be against number 10 in the nation and GLVC opponent Lewis University. Game time is 7 p.m.

A&E

'The Town' is smart and gritty

"The Town" offers a taut, intelligent, emotionally-powerful tale of bank robbers from the tough Boston neighborhood known as Charlestown.

It is a rare combination, an engrossing film balancing bank-robbing action and a personal exploration of the consequences of growing up in a toxic environment.

Ben Affleck directed, wrote the screenplay and starred in the crime thriller "The Town." The film is a return to a better acting role and proves his skill as a director.

The Charlestown area of Boston really does have a reputation for producing bank robbers, as the credits before the film notes. This economically-depressed, working-class neighborhood with Irish immigrant roots, where being tight-lipped with the police is a badge of honor, is an excellent setting for a crime drama about fate and choices in the family business of bank-robbing.

Affleck plays Doug MacRay, part of a Charlestown-based team of bank robbers

Hall). Speeding through Boston streets making their escape, Claire's fear is obvious and made worse by Jem's harshness.

Moved by her distress, Doug speaks soothingly to her, assuring her they will release her unharmed, which they do.

Jem discovers that Claire lives nearby, although she is a Charlestown outsider. Fearing what impulsive, trigger-happy Jem might do, Doug volunteers to find out what she might have noticed about the robbers.

The escalating crime wave has brought FBI Special Agent Frawley (Jon Hamm of "Mad Men") into the picture. But Charlestown is a closed neighborhood to outsiders like Frawley.

Despite its working-class Boston locale, "The Town" is no re-hash of other crime thrillers set there. The fabric of the characters' lives is shaped by their crime-prone neighborhood but this film is less about the neighborhood and more about personal stories. The team has a penchant for masks and shows intelli-

"This is no cookie-cutter story, cobbled together from tropes..."

bedeviling Boston police. The team of robbers also includes Jem (Jeremy Renner, nominated for an Oscar in "The Hurt Locker") a childhood friend who is like a brother to Doug. Doug is following the family business, practiced by his father Mac (Chris Cooper), now serving time.

During one robbery, they kidnap bank manager Claire Keesey (Rebecca

gence and precision in its work.

The script is taut and powerful, an exploration of personal choices against a tense crime plot. This is no cookie-cutter story, cobbled together from tropes but a convincing human story. Affleck adapted the script from the novel "Prince of Thieves."

See **THE TOWN**, page 9



COURTESY / MAGNOLIA PICTURES

Joaquin Phoenix: raw, naked and ugly in 'I'm Still Here'

Joaquin Phoenix stars as a drug addled and fame weary version of himself in the new faux-documentary "I'm Still Here." Directed by Phoenix's brother-in-law Casey Affleck, the film is often too unorthodox and gritty to be entertaining, but it will surely provide a nice deviation from the norm for anyone tired of the cinematic same old same old.

The film centers on Phoenix's departure from acting and foray into hip-hop music. Phoenix half articulates his being fed up with being a movie star, saying directly that his life's artistic output has been fraudulent. For reasons left unrevealed to the audience, he believes becoming a rapper will solve all his problems and allow him to express himself in a way he could not via acting. The public's reaction to his new career was understandably skeptical and Phoenix's

reaction to this skepticism, as shown in the film, was annoyance.

The public's skepticism, as it turns out, is justified because when Joaquin gets on the mic he is really a truly terrible emcee. The negative reviews of his concerts cause Phoenix's annoyance to be compounded and his behavior to become more erratic.

The erratic behavior comprises the majority of the film and consists primarily of Phoenix pacing, fighting, sniffing drugs, ordering hookers and mumbling-all while doing his best to convince those around him that he is taking this rap thing seriously. There are also plenty of abrupt mood swings and confrontations between Phoenix and members of his entourage.

The film is not without moments of Christopher Guest style humor in the

form of awkwardness between characters who are in on the set-up and others who are not. "I'm Still Here" might just be the most star-studded film of the year. Cameos include Danny Devito, Edward James Olmos and Jack Nicholson. Whether those and other celebrities featured the film were in on the rouse is not known, nor does it ultimately matter. In a particularly memorable scene Ben Stiller tries to recruit Phoenix for a role in the film "Greenberg." Phoenix's response is to accuse Stiller of making dumb movies about dogs in full body casts (a reference to "There's Something About Mary") and then walk away leaving Stiller dumbfounded.

One celebrity who has more than a cameo in this film is rapper/producer Sean Combs, who plays the part of Phoenix's white whale.

Phoenix relentlessly pursues him, convinced his producing skills are necessary for his album. It is unfortunate for the filmmakers that another recent (not to mention, better) mockumentary, Borat, also involved chasing a famous person across the United States. And chase Diddy Phoenix does, all the way from Los Angeles to Miami to New York. It is not a spoiler to say when Diddy finally gives Joaquin's tracks a listen he is less decidedly underwhelmed.

And although aspects of "I'm Still Here" are underwhelming, the whole ends up being greater than its parts. If nothing else, the film succeeds in providing insight into modern celebrity and giving us a peek behind the pretty pictures into the ugliest facets of fame. **B** —Ryan Krull

Of Montreal's latest will knock your socks off

For their tenth full-length studio release album, Of Montreal pulls out all of the stops. The album was released on September 14 and features Janelle Monáe, who Of Montreal also conveniently toured with recently.

Pushing the musical realm even further than they ever have before, 'False Priest' delves into so many different genre types it is hard to determine just exactly what type of music Of Montreal really plays.

'False Priest' features the insanely high-pitched singing (so high it should not be humanly possible for a woman, let alone a man) of front man Kevin Barnes. The entire album sounds like random mixings of music clashing together to form the most random yet amazing sound to ever flow through speakers.

No two songs on the entire album sound the same but somehow everything manages to mesh together perfectly. All of the 13 songs have entirely

different sounds that create one album that will set 'False Priest' apart from the rest of Of Montreal's discography.

'False Priest' is not for the faint of heart or even casual music listeners. But those with strong constitutions and a passion for fine music should definitely check the album out. Sexual references are possibly the only reoccurring thing throughout the entire album. Of Montreal however, pulls off all of their sexual innuendos quite well.

The beginning of the album is somewhat slow, and in all honesty the skipping of the first couple songs would be entirely acceptable.

However, do not skip any song after "Like A Tourist." Every song after the seventh track is well worth the listening time. Each song has catchy little melodies, addictive lyrics and definite repeatability.

For instance, "Sex Karma" can be played over and over again without tiring the listener. Featuring the singer So-



"False Priest"
Of Montreal

lange, "Sex Karma" is wonderfully written. Solange's voice adds just the right amount of flair to the song that makes it pop out compared to the other songs.

"Girl Named Hello" is one of the more odd songs. It has definite R&B influences throughout the entire song. It also features the wonderful singing talents of Monáe. While the song is a little weird, it has definite dance-ability and should be added to every single party playlist out there.

See FALSE PRIEST, page 9

Crooked Still leaves audience begging for more

As lead singer Aoife O' Donovan scrawled out her set list at the merchandise table, fans crowded around to buy T-shirts, CDs and to see which songs Crooked Still would be playing on September 15 at Off Broadway. Hailing from Boston, Crooked Still's first performance in St. Louis was well received by the audience.

Crooked Still is a quintet that serves up a cosmic blend of bluegrass and Appalachian folk. Their main set up was Aoife on vocals, Brittany Hass on the five-string fiddle, Dr. Gregory Liszt on the five-string banjo, Tristan Claridge on the cello and Corey DiMario on the double bass. Crooked Still's sound swirls around one's head like cool mountain air and evokes a kind of country righteousness, like a rusted out wagon wheel baking in the sun on a dusty dirt road.

Their set was 17 songs plus an encore. Aoife belted out her thick warm vocals as the band took turns solo-

ing in between the verses like a more rustic, less tie-died, glow stick spinning version of Yonder Mountain String Band.

Dr. Liszt on banjo swayed and clicked his heels as his fingers, each capped off with metal, Wolverine-like finger-picks, plucked the strings to produce wow-worthy solos after most choruses. Claridge, the cello player, also offered up some head and ear turning moments. On "Ain't No Grave" the pony-tailed wonder rhythmically thumped the cello's strings while he simultaneously used his horsehair bow to pull long, lugubrious notes from the instrument's lower register.

"Henry Lee" pulsed with a striking, transcendent power, and featured "Deadwood-esque" cello, soaring, toe-tapping fiddle and a rollicking banjo line. "Railroad Bill" sounded like a fast moving Grateful Dead tune. It got the audience's hands in the air and feet stomping on

the venue's old wood floors. "Come on in My Kitchen" was well received by the audience. Its "Sesame Street-esque" cello line created playfulness, while the dark-toned invitation-laden vocals and scintillating fiddle screeches brought the horror of this perfectly balanced song out.

Other highlights included "Distress," which took to the skies like a revamped Allison Krauss, and "Calvary," which marched along with a powerful religious undertone and stuttered cello work. "Sometimes in This Country" brought to mind a crow perched atop a Saguaro cactus on a waning Western day with its foreboding, yet saccharine vocals and bicycle-spoke banjo.

Aoife was warm and loving throughout the entire course of the set. She inquired about the state of Budweiser in St. Louis and the audience informed her Schlaffly was better. She also invited a birthday girl up on stage, sang "Happy Birthday" to her and

after said that her first-time St. Louis audience was the most respectful crew of listeners ever. The crowd vacuumed it up like whip cream off the body of some clean-skinned supreme beauty.

After leaving the stage, Crooked Still, at the extreme vocal behest of the audience, encored with a slowed down version of Neil Young's "Harvest Moon," which ought to have been recorded so it could be offered up on some bonus, promotional or live record. Crooked Still's evening at St. Louis's Off Broadway was a resounding success.

They brought breezy mountain air and darkened country towns to life in the narratives of their songs. Crooked Still vowed to return to St. Louis because of the massive crowd response they received. Stay tuned to see if they make good on that promise and know most people in attendance that evening will be waiting with breath held and fingers crossed. **A**—William Kyle

LATEST + GREATEST

MUSIC

Weezer Hurley



Named after the winner of the hit TV show "Lost", Weezer released their eighth studio album on September 14. Already receiving a very warm reception, 'Hurley' mixes typical Weezer style with a much more raw form than listeners may be used to.



Selena Gomez & The Scenes A Year Without Rain

For all the Disney fans out there, Selena Gomez (star of "The Wizards of Waverly Place") will be releasing her sophomore album. 'A Year Without Rain' will be put out on September 21. The first single from the album, "Round and Round" made it up to number 24 on the US Billboard Hot 100 chart.

T.I. King Uncaged



The highly anticipated seventh album from T.I. will be released after multiple set backs on September 28. The album features guest singers B.o.B, Lady Gaga, Trey Songz and many more.

MOVIES



Catfish At most theaters

An indie film hit at Sundance, a story about a New York photographer who decides to travel to Michigan to meet an 8-year-old girl he befriended online.



Jack Goes Boating Tivoli only

Philip Seymour Hoffman makes his directorial debut with a highly-anticipated film in which he stars in a tale about a limo driver whose blind date triggers a cascade of changes.



COURTESY / NINTENDO

‘Metroid: Other M’ talks, and gamers listen

Sometimes, it is best for a videogame character to just keep her mouth shut.

Talking is not generally a bad thing. Voice acting has come a long way in videogames, evolving from simple rudimentary grunts and vocal emotes to fully voiced movie-length scenes.

But there is a small list of videogame heroes that should never, ever talk: Link (“The Legend of Zelda”), Gordon Freeman (“Half-life” series), Mario (“Mario Bros.” series) and Chrono (“Chrono Trigger.”)

...and Samus Aran of the “Metroid” series.

It is not that these characters do not have interesting things to say. It is just that after so many years of companionable silence, having them suddenly open their lips is like having the couch gain sentience and berate the lounge for sitting on it all the time: a little disorienting and more than a little annoying.

“Metroid: Other M” is Nintendo’s latest foray into their long-running “Metroid” series, one-half of the two games that pioneered the MetroidVania videogame genre.

Much like the successful “Metroid Prime” trilogy, Nintendo chose to go with an external developer for this iteration. Team Ninja, most known for their brutal “Ninja Gaiden” games, is a natural fit for the series.

“Other M” is a return to form of sorts for bounty hunter Samus Aran.

“Metroid: Other M” tells the story of what happened after Samus defeated Mother Brain in “Super Metroid.” Samus, in an odd funk she cannot shake, is aimlessly meandering through the galaxy when she receives a mysterious distress call from a spaceship known as the Bottle Ship.

She goes to investigate, and ends up running into her old military commander, Adam Malkovich, who was a sort of father-figure to her before she left the Galactic Federation’s service.

Throughout this entire chain of events, Samus Aran talks. And talks. And talks some more. There are real movie-quality themes here: abandonment issues, character immaturity and guilt issues abound.

In trying to give Samus more of a back-story, Nintendo has managed to remove some of the mystique that made Samus such an interesting figure, and by giving her a voice actor, has turned her into an extremely chatty character.

Thankfully, her chattiness does not last forever. The first hour or so of the game is dangerously deceptive. Sadly, it is also what will turn gamers off the most about “Other M.” Those who stick with the game through that first exposition-filled hour will find a

game reminiscent of the best of the series’ 2D platformer heyday.

Reminiscent only, though, because the game is still plagued by issues that even Samus cannot work through by becoming a better person: controller issues.

The game is controlled by holding the wiimote sideways, using the d-pad for moving and the 1 and 2 buttons for jumping and shooting.

In what initially seems like a nice nod to the “Prime” trilogy, there is a first person view activated by turning the wiimote and pointing at the screen.

The problem lies in the fact that while in first person mode, Samus stays absolutely still.

Sure, she can shoot and look around, but God forbid that she should actually be able to move around like she was able to for her past three games.

On top of that, the shoddy map system is not a boon to exploration, which being a series hallmark, is kind of a hindrance.

In the end, just too much has changed in the MetroidVania genre that not even one of the originators of the genre can keep up.

“Metroid: Other M” is a respectable entry, but sadly, last year’s “Shadow Complex” game managed to out-Metroid Metroid. **C+** —Andrew Seal

THE TOWN, from page 7

The cast delivers excellent performances. Renner’s Jem is a loose-cannon, but his devotion to his friend Doug is almost smothering. The gang includes Dino, played by Titus Welliver, who also appeared in Affleck’s “Gone Baby Gone.”

Blake Lively plays Jem’s sister Krista, a bar-hopping blonde in tight-clothes who is also a single mother with a toddler. Blake Lively’s Krista presents a tough exterior but is pitiful in her longing for Doug. Pete Postlethwaite gives a chilling performance as the flinty Irishman Fergie, a flowershop owner who offers the gang assignments.

Against this backdrop, Claire’s openness and straight-forward human kindness is a

bracing experience for Doug. Yet the romantic aspect fits into a larger picture of life in Charlestown.

The action sequences are outstanding, with switchbacks and disguises that keep us guessing.

The story plays out in quaint, narrow Boston streets and in iconic locations like baseball’s Fenway Park. Cinematography by Robert Elswit, who also did “There Will Be Blood,” tends toward dark, muted tones and striking compositions.

Overall, “The Town” is worthy film, both a moving drama and harrowing crime film, one that shows Ben Affleck retains promise as a director and actor. **B+** —Cate Marquis

FALSE PRIEST, from page 8

“Famine Affair” is quite possibly the best song on the entire album. Think catchy chorus meets a “Nick-and-Norah’s-Infinite-Playlist”-inspired-melody. It is one of the tamer songs, but it is definitely one of the strongest.

The quippy lyrics speak of times of heart-break, but cause the listener to think of it in a way that is not so painful.

All in all, this entire album is an interesting buy. Again it is not for the casual music listener, but those looking for something a little different should get this album in a heartbeat. With enough random musical nonsense mixed together in possibly the most creative way, there is no way for a true music lover to not love ‘False Priest.’

B+ —Janaca Scherer

KEIR GILCHRIST EMMA ROBERTS and ZACH GALIFIANAKIS

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Features

Release the inner poet!

WU Slam visits Pilot House to share an evening of poetry, memories and motivation

► MATTHEW B. POPOSKY
Staff Writer



Fior Baptiste, graduated, is requested to sing a song on the stage.

PHOTOS BY YUMETO YAMAZAKI / THE CURRENT

“I spoke on the beauty I had never seen in my hometown...”

“Eternity is kind, she does not envy, she does not boast, eternity is not proud,” Leah Nixon, WU Slam, said in the Pilot House last Thursday evening. WU Slam, the premier poetry slam group from Washington University, was hosted at the Pilot House by the University Program Board for a live poetry presentation. “Our goal was to target the arts community of UMSL. I’ve seen WU Slam perform at Washington University and thought they were really good. For the most part, I was very satisfied with the outcome. We’re always happy to see student participation and there was a lot tonight,” Mari Carter, junior, psychology and program chair of UPB, said. WU Slam themselves performed several pieces split into two acts with a rather lengthy intermission between. “I spoke on the beauty I had never seen in my hometown of Denver. It’s actually a funny story how I came up with this one. WU Slam went head to head with Slam Nuba, from Denver, Colorado. I wanted to be a sacrificial poet, to calibrate the judges. Thus, I spoke on my hometown of Denver that evening,” Adam Segai, WU Slam,

said. Poetry normally reflects artists’ lives. “My second piece, regarding my younger brother, is about how he was bullied pretty seriously by one of his classmates,” Lucy Gellman, WU Slam, said. “It’s a poem of being protective of my brother.”

This poem in particular received a great deal of praise from the audience. Love and protection for family seemed a universal idea in their hearts. A third member of WU Slam personified the concept of eternity at length.

“I was reading a book called ‘A Severe Mercy.’ He talks a lot about eternity. I was just thinking about how we can never control time: it always seems too fast or unpredictable,” Leah Nixon, WU Slam, said. The intermission was not barren of talent. Rather than a time for refreshments and conversation, it was a moment when the poet hidden within each audience member could step up on stage to spit its deepest meaning. There were poems about freedom, change, unity and peace. True love unrequited took the floor, as did the innermost feelings of one scorned by a man she let into her heart.



Poets from WASH won a lot of clapping at Pilot House on Thursday.

The intermission was followed by WU Slam’s return to the stage. “This was something my mom referred to as having happened in the neighborhood. My neighbor, he was abusive of his wife and horrible to his neighbors. There are very small snippets of info I have, but this is the guy who lives right across from us and the couple directly next to him. It may seem unreliable,

like hearsay, but with such a small group, I believe these snippets,” Lauren Banka, WU Slam, said.

Some poems were more observational. “I moved into a new apartment over the summer. I rarely saw my neighbors, but often heard them.

See COFFEE on page 17

Many hopefuls show for cheerleading tryouts

► **MINHO JUNG**
Staff Writer

The University of Missouri-St. Louis cheerleading tryouts were held in the Mark Twain building on September 12. The entrance of the Mark Twain building was crowded early in the morning with the many applicants who came early to practice their performance before the tryouts, which were scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m.

"I'm very excited. Being a part of [the] cheerleading squad is, I believe, one of the best ways to reach out to students. Besides, it is very honorable thing," Whitney Stone, freshman, mathematics said.

Before the tryouts, applicants also had to attend clinics which are the pre-education for applicants about what should be performed in what order at the tryouts. Clinics were conducted for three days prior to the tryouts in order to organize the event in an orderly manner so that judges could evaluate the applicants' performances based on the same content.

"I was waiting for this opportunity for [a]

long [time]. I was a cheerleader all years in high school. This is very important to me. I hope I can make it. If I don't, I will come back for this again next year," Emily Freng, sophomore, biology, said.

The number of available positions for new students was not initially revealed for applicants. Currently, there are eight members of the UM-St. Louis cheerleading squad and few more positions are expected to be filled through the tryouts.

"I'm really nervous. The fact they did not tell us how many spots are available for us makes me even more nervous," Marissa Steimel, freshman, nursing, said.

The students' performances were given at the Mark Twain basketball court in the presence of 13 judges.

"The judges we selected are people from a variety of fields. We have people from the radio, people from other universities [and] a choreographer. I'm so excited about how [the] judges will think about students," Sandy Ray, an UM-St. Louis cheerleading coach, said.

See Tryouts on page 17

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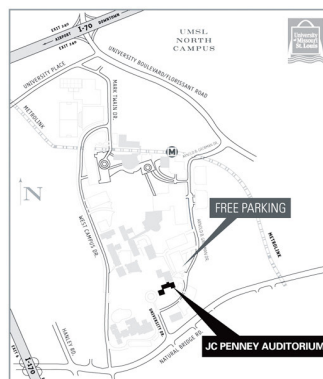
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Irish poets share the spotlight

Joan McBreen and Eamonn Wall show their poetic insight



Eamonn Wall and Joan McBreen at Oscar's Cafe on Natural Bridge Road on Tuesday.

JENNIFER MEAHAN / THE CURRENT

► **JEN O'HARA**
Features Editor

What do professor Eamonn Wall and Joan McBreen have in common? Both come from Ireland and are well-known poets.

The Current: *What got you interested in poetry?*

Joan McBreen: My earliest interest in poetry came from my parents' interest in poetry. Growing up and living in Sligo, it would be a rather insensitive child to have not somewhere liked poetry, particularly Irish poetry.

Eamonn Wall: I was encouraged by teachers in school to develop my talents as a writer of poems and stories.

TC: *How long have you actually been writing poetry?*

JM: I was writing and publishing in my teens. Then when I married and started to have children, I stopped. I found it very difficult... to figure out how to be a mother and a poet. In the end, I abandoned it. When my youngest child was about eight, I decided to stop

teaching. And, suddenly the pen found me, or I found the pen and had a whole new career.

EW: At 17, I decided I wanted to be a writer and I had my first poem published when I was nineteen. I have published five books of poetry. My sixth book will be published in 2011.

TC: *How would you describe your poetry?*

JM: I would describe it as poetry that's rooted in my life, in my relationships and in the landscape. Particularly the landscape of western Ireland.

EW: It is not easy to describe one's own work. I'd say mine emerges from the landscapes of Ireland and America.

TC: *Joan, how did you end up here at the University?*

JM: I was invited here five years ago by Mr. Eamonn Wall and this is a return visit. At the moment, I am engaged in a very big American region tour.

TC: *What defines "good poetry" to you?*

EW: It should be driven by a strong poetic voice and a lively form. It should have some personality.

TC: *How did you two meet?*

JM: We shared the same publisher in Ireland. That's how we came to know of each other. I actually knew Eamonn through his work first.

TC: *What has been one of the proudest moments in your life?*

JM: I think the proudest moment in my life was when my first manuscript was taken up by an American publisher. I had entered [in a contest] and part of the prize reward was publication. That's how my first book came to be published by an American press.

EW: The best moments in my life are meeting my wife and the birth of my children.

TC: *What advice would you give to someone who wanted to begin writing poetry?*

JM: I would say, first of all, turn off the

television. Secondly, read, read, read. Whatever the person would be tempted to write, only share with people you absolutely trust. And revise, revise, revise. Also, attempt to publish. Do not be afraid of your work being rejected. It happens to everybody.

EW: Don't get discouraged. Find some other writers to interact with. Read a lot.

TC: *Reading seems to be a key to poetry writing. Do you find you get a lot of inspiration from books?*

JM: Yes and also I would suggest to people that they start to build their own personal library. Particularly, people who are tempted to write poetry.

TC: *What is something you are interested in besides writing and poetry?*

JM: I'm particularly interested in theater, particularly contemporary Irish theater.

EW: I have a few interests beyond reading and writing: traveling, walking, music, a night on the town with friends and concerts.



One team of students walk to the MSC to think of ways to increase safety. The Safety Walk is sponsored by SGA, Residential Life and Housing, and Student Life. JENNIFER MEAHAN / THE CURENT

One walk around campus makes it a safer place

Students took a walk to voice their opinions about campus safety

► **CAITLIN E. L. MYLES**
Staff Writer

Last Tuesday night, students, faculty and staff took a walk around campus, but this was unlike any other walk. This walk in particular held the purpose of making the University of Missouri-St. Louis a safer place. The annual campus safe walk is open to anyone frequenting campus and wanting to ensure UM-St. Louis continues to stay a secure area.

This year, nearly 60 students attended the safe walk along with faculty and staff members such as professor Michael Murray, and senior associate vice chancellor of marketing and communications, Ron Gossen. The walk did more than help the campus feel safe. “This is one of the activities to make our

campus more engaged,” Murray said. The Safe Walk was a great way to get students involved on campus, make friends and talk to faculty members. Many people mingled with each other before the walk began and after its completion.

Everyone met in the Provincial House museum room where refreshments were served. Guests were then given name tags and assigned to groups. At the start of the event Daniel Rosner, event coordinator, explained how the safe walk helped the campus last year and his appreciation for this year’s attendants.

“Several blue call lights were replaced within a month and there are many more of the improvements we noted on the way as well,” Rosner said. “Thank you for coming out tonight and being a part of this year’s effort to

make campus a better place.”

After Rosner’s pep talk, the team leaders explained in further detail to their groups how the night would play out. Team four’s leader, Ryan Robinson, junior, industrial organizational psychology, informed his group that all they had to do was point out anything possibly dangerous or anything they could add to lower the risk of danger as they walked their path and he would make note.

“Anything we think could potentially harm a student, we’ll report it,” Robinson said.

Team three’s leader, Brett Evans, junior, finance and international business, took a different approach than Robinson on how to inform his group before heading to their assigned location and expressed the importance of the event.

“This walk needs to be done so authority has a better idea if students feel safe on campus,” Evans said.

A police officer escorted each group as they walked to destinations such as the Mark Twain facilities, the quadrangle, or the Millennium Student Center.

The lists had suggestions like adding a blue call light to certain areas, cutting down a specific bush someone could hide behind, or building a fence to keep strangers out of a designated spot.

As the event slowed to an end, each group turned in its list and overall everyone appeared satisfied.

“I feel pretty safe around here,” Jacob Riess, junior, music education, said.

Opinions

OUR OPINION

Cardinals need to include gays and lesbians on 'Kiss Cam'

When going to Busch Stadium, the Edward Jones Dome or the Scottrade Center for a sporting event fans will often be entertained by the occasional "Kiss Cam." Sometimes there are couples and sometimes the camera confuses family members for couples.

Couples in attendance are picked out by various cameras around Cardinals, Blues and Rams games, as well as others around the country and are shown on the big screen smooching. One thing that is a constant is that the couples are exclusively straight.

The St. Louis Cardinals front office said in a St. Louis Post-Dispatch article that, "There's not a lot of time to allow us to make calculated judgments in terms of demographics." However, most fans would notice when going to a game that all of these individual couples are straight. The Cardinals explanation is also questionable at best. In the same Post-Dispatch article a Cardinals front office spokesperson said, "Do you pick a guy and a girl? And what if you pick someone who is not together?

er? And two guys and two girls? Same thing. You'd be in a total mess."

The St. Louis Rams also took it too far, though, during their season opener on Sunday September 5. According to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, two men were shown wearing Arizona Cardinals jerseys. As the crowd began to boo and laugh the couple attempted to shoo away the cameras. The St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported that "it was offensive that the Rams organization would choose to embarrass Arizona fans by portraying them as a gay couple."

Last season, the Women's National Basketball Association team Washington Mystics created controversy when the team's managing partner found that the "Kiss Cam" was inappropriate. According to Washington, D.C., local gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender groups the decision to remove kiss cam was because of the large gay and lesbian couples in attendance at the Mystics home games.

The Current believes that the Cardinals and Rams are being unfair to gay and lesbi-

an couples at Busch Stadium and the Edward Jones Dome. If it is okay in today's post-modern society to show a straight couple showing their affection in public, then why is it not also a good thing to show two same-sex couples on a "kiss cam" at a stadium?

It is a simple solution to a simple problem.

The issue at hand is that gay and lesbian couples attending sporting events are not being treated fair by sporting event promoters. Their rationale is borderline prejudicial.

There is no reason why a man and another man, or a woman and another woman, cannot be shown the same courtesy and respect as gay and lesbian couples.

The Current wants the Cardinals, Rams and Blues to show loyal gay and lesbian fans their appreciation. Put everyone regardless of sexual preferences on "Kiss Cam."

Unsigned editorials reflect the majority viewpoint of The Current's Editorial Board: Sequita Bean, Gene Doyel, Jen O'Hara, William Kyle, Michael Frederick, Jennifer Meahan, Zachary Kraft.

SCIENCE MATTERS

Playing shell games with BP spill oil

A government report released in August concluded that most of the oil from the BP Deepwater Horizon spill was now gone. After a three-month long gusher, the idea that an estimated 4.9 million barrels of oil had vanished so quickly seemed extremely unlikely. Many scientists and the general public understandably were skeptical.

Now marine scientists have reported finding a thick layer of oil on the seafloor of the Gulf of Mexico, while surveying between the shore and the Deepwater Horizon well. Aboard the research ship Oceanus, researchers from the University of Georgia's Department of Marine Sciences found a very large area with an oily layer, ranging up to about 2 inches thick. They had not yet even sampled the area nearest the blown well.

The government report released seemed focused on oil on the water's surface - oil washed up on beaches or still floating in the gulf. The report concluded as much as 75 percent of the oil had been collected, evaporated, eaten by microbes or scattered by dispersant. Oil on the seafloor did not seem to enter the picture.

The report seems to ignore the obvious. After all, this was a deep-water seafloor spill, not a tanker spill, where one could reasonably expect most oil to float on the surface.

The oily layer Oceanus researchers found on the seabed was described as "fluffy," apparently a mix

of oil and the mucus abundantly secreted by oil-eating microbes. As the sticky mucus sinks through the water, it collects more oil before settling on the bottom. Underneath the oily layer, the scientists found dead crustaceans, worms and other invertebrates. The oil layer was clearly fresh.

They will need to chemically "fingerprint" the oil found to confirm that it is from the Deepwater Horizon but the sheer size of the deposit leaves few other options as a source. Another research group had also found oil on the seafloor, off the coast of Florida.

It is important to recall that this kind of deepwater oil spill is unprecedented. Oil sinking to the bottom in shallower water near the Gulf shore or in marshlands is potentially devastating to the ecosystem.

But the deep seafloor is little understood and we know little of the role that the deep sea plays in the ecology of oceans.

The disconnect between the official government report and the findings of scientists has led to calls for establishing standards in assessing the impact of the huge oil spill. The United Command, the agency in charge of spill response, has no organized plan for assessing biological damage. Some Marine biologists have expressed frustration about agency control of tissues samples, with limited access to both samples and information.

The joint BP - federal



Cate Marquis

response to the oil disaster never did much to inspire public confidence in their pronouncements. Concerns about the dispersant used surfaced quickly, as well as reports of plumes of oil beneath the surface.

Blocking reporters from photographing dead wildlife, announcing they would have full access and then restricting access around clean-up efforts all contributed to the appearance that something was being hidden. Reports by marine toxicologist Riki Ott, who had helped with the Exxon Valdez clean-up in Alaska, that BP workers were cleaning up dead wildlife on beaches in a manner inconsistent with autopsies needed to link them to the oil spill were particularly damning.

The impression left was that the oil spill response was more about PR than doing the right thing, and that BP, not government, was in charge. Clearly, both standards and an independent assessment of the oil spill's impact are sorely needed.

Cate Marquis is Associate A&E Editor and a columnist for The Current.

Got an opinion of our opinion?

www.thecurrent-online.com

SEAL OF APPROVAL

Sainz incident blown out of proportion

Last week, there was a little “incident” in the New York Jets’ locker room.

Because of this, the National Football League has gotten involved, rule books were consulted, teams across the nation were lectured and press releases were written.

That “incident” was TV Azteca sports reporter Ines Sainz.

Who is Sainz? She has reportedly called herself “Mexico’s hottest sports reporter” and is a former Miss Spain. She has appeared in a bikini for Esquire Mexico. It is fairly safe to say that she is known for her body and has made money off of her good looks.

Last week, Sainz had an interview with Jets QB Mark Sanchez after a practice session. Apparently, this interview had to occur in the Jets’ locker room.

She waited in the locker room for Sanchez to arrive. Then the catcalls started. Some were not so bad: “Eres muy guapa!” one player allegedly shouted.

Some were over the line, such as, “I want to play with a Mexican.”

Now, for a female, a men’s locker room would be one of the places maybe not to interview a male athlete. Call it sexism all you want, but the truth remains: you would never see a man interviewing a female athlete in the women’s locker room. So why is the reverse okay?

Did Ines have it coming? Certainly not. Female or no, everyone who is a reporter and trying to do their

job should be treated with professional courtesy. But should she have taken the alleged “harassment” seriously? No.

Boys will be boys, as the saying goes.

On top of that, if you have made a career out of being attractive, why should you take offense at people calling notice to that?

Sainz herself appears to be a little confused on whether she felt harassed or not. She originally “felt very uncomfortable” while in the locker room.

A few days later though, (after the Jets ownership and NFL had freaked out), she acknowledged that the players’ catcalls were harmless, “I never felt attacked, nor that they reacted grossly toward me,” she said. If that is the case, then why had she supposedly felt uncomfortable earlier?

Here is the problem with Sainz: two decades ago, there was another female reporter who was sexually harassed in a locker room.

In the 90s, Lisa Olson was sexually harassed in the locker room of the New England Patriots. Only for her, she didn’t end up with an apology from the team involved, nor was she catapulted onto the national stage as a media darling.

No, the then-owner of the Patriots allegedly called her a “classic bitch,” and due to slashed tires and repeated death threats, she was forced to leave the country in self-imposed exile for eight years.

Women in sports report-



Andrew Seal

ing have come a long way since then. Unfortunately, now that media outlets have discovered that their mostly male viewer/readership responds positively to “female encouragement,” we are seeing a flood of attractive female journalists.

Think Morgan Webb or Olivia Munn on G4TV. Think Maria Menounos, or Erin Andrews. Hell, FHM has a “Five Sexiest Sports Reporters in the World” segment on its website.

Not to say this is a bad thing: anyone, with the proper training and guidance, can be a journalist.

The problem is that many of these women are hired based on their looks alone and not their journalist qualifications.

Regarding Sainz, columnist Mark Kriegel from FOX-Sports.com put it best, “If a woman who’s marketed in a sexual context was noticed in a sexual context, then what’s the big problem?”

Sainz does a disservice to real women reporters everywhere.

Andrew Seal is a columnist and staff writer for The Current.

STAFF VIEWPOINT

St. Louis: a city for music hunters

For concert-goers, the St. Louis music scene is all about adaptation and patience. Yes, certain bands will invariably skip over St. Louis. Let us not forget that invariably, no matter what the genre, a favorite band will skip over not just St. Louis, but any home city. It is an inevitability to be disappointed in this manner.

What can be done? Write the band a letter; tell them how much they need to roll through St. Louis and how much they need to come to our broken, nightmare-Mecca city. Or phone one of St. Louis’ bigger radio stations and flood their lines with suggestions to host said band. Or better yet, log onto the web and spam the band’s Facebook, MySpace or Web site.

But more importantly, listeners, especially so-called music sophisticates, ought to be able to adjust their expectations from say, their favorite alt-heavy-indie guitar lead, buzz saw rock or speaker-punching, word-spitting hip-hop in order to hear the merit in bluegrass, folk, country, blues and whatever else the Big Muddy washes up. There on the banks lies a rife cornucopia of excellent

music that contains hints and tropes of the most beloved famous national acts like the innards of a chisel-cracked geode.

For this reason, fans should not wait for a specific band to come to town, rather get out and see as many acts as possible and be happily surprised when one really possesses that “wow” factor. It is also vitally important to support such bands on the up and up as they grapple and claw for recognition. As a fan, it is better to go see an unknown band and be surprised, than to go to a show with every song, lyric and chorus memorized just to end up disappointed and dejected after a lackluster performance. For this reason, music very quickly comes down to hunting, gathering and educating oneself about new acts.

A bigger city will certainly have a “hipper” scene, i.e. more national acts, but is this a good thing? Such territory comes with increased ticket prices, bigger crowds, less intimacy and less emotional resonance. Those scoping only for nationally recognized acts on a regular basis would certainly have it better in Chicago, but those



William Kyle

willing to forage for music’s morsels in the bushes near the banks of the Mississippi get more than rewarded. With its cheap living, sincere attendance and drunks clothed in flannel, St. Louis music deserves much more of a chance than whatever-fill-in-the-blank band is willing to offer.

So do not blame St. Louis, blame the bands that skip over the sweet, sweet Lou. Extend to them a hearty double-handed, middle-finger hello as they drive by or fly over. It is their loss, not ours. Besides, there is more than enough local music to fill the eardrums of concert attendees awash in St. Louis’ cobbled, stinking and fermented streets.

William Kyle is A&E Editor for The Current.

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Point

Counterpoint

Should third-party sites track web activity?

Yes: tracking allows targeted ads that are better for business

The Center for Democracy and Technology says that “any web site you go to can secretly search your browser’s history file to see what sites you have previously visited. All the site owner has to do is ask.”

The term for this is “sniffing” and a lot of people out there are condemning the practice as Orwellian and overbearing. Those people are just wrong. Organizations like the CDT are just trying to scare people and make a story out of nothing. Look at the language in the statement from the CDT: “can secretly search.” If it is such a big secret then why are companies who practice it doing so totally out in the open?

Google and Facebook both use “sniffing” to determine what advertisements an individual will see when using those sites.

It is simply convenient and it makes these types of new media attractive to advertisers. What is so bad about an UM-St. Louis student googling Vampire Weekend and then later on having an advertisement for the band’s October 3 con-

cert in St. Louis popping up somewhere on his browser? Or another student buying Mystic River on Amazon and later an advertisement on Facebook letting her know that Dennis Lehane’s new book will be in stores in November.

Now that previous paragraph contained a plug for a novelist and one for a rock n roll band.

Both were probably irrelevant or uninteresting to 95 percent of the people who read them. And that is exactly why “sniffing” is integral to online marketing. “Sniffing” allows media to change so that it may better suit the consumer.

It allows companies to use their advertising budget more effectively by making ads more relevant to those who see them. Because, really, what good is a tampon ad to a man? And isn’t it just a waste of everyone’s time and money for Mormons to have to sit through pop-up Bacardi ads while they wait for Drudge Report to load.

But I don’t want the Internet to know I’m Mormon is exactly what those opposed to “sniffing” would

say after reading the previous sentence. And the point is valid, sort of. It is understandable that some people would not feel comfortable with a collective of faceless advertisers knowing intimate details of their lives, such as their religion, political beliefs, what kind of socks they prefer, etc. But frankly this is a brave new world and the anonymity the Internet once provided is quickly going to way of the fax machine.

Google CEO Eric Schmidt recently said to a technology conference that “true transparency and no anonymity” is the future of the web. “Privacy is not the same thing as anonymity,” he added.

Fans who go to Cardinals games are going to see ads for Cardinals jerseys. Readers who go to bookstores are going to see ads for the latest Stephen King. Strip club patrons are going to see ads for porn shops and massage parlors.

Just because the equivalent of these behaviors is done online, why should anonymity or immunity from specialized advertisements all of a sudden come into play?

No: tracking web activity is just another invasion of privacy

In the younger years, some parents like to say, to the child who chooses to rebel “privacy is earned.” Who knew that in the future we would be living by those words? Protecting financial records, visiting Facebook pages, venturing onto scandalous sites at night and playing on the computer at work is getting harder to do for the incautious. But has it gone too far?

Privacy Rights Clearinghouse, a non-profit consumer organization who has been established in San Diego since 1992, inspires to raise awareness in consumers on how personal privacy is taken away by technology. Take the current hiring in the job market these days.

MacWorld.com recently did an article last year about how around 50 percent of employers hunt down potential applicants through social networking sites and search engines. The majority of this percentage claimed to stick with the search engines while around 10 percent of companies said that they relied on Facebook. Sites such as this are meant to connect with a person’s social circle, announce engagements, post embarrassing pictures of siblings and post embarrassing

pictures of yourself at your worst. This is why these sites have made it so you can try to secure what you want and not want the outside world to see.

In the article on MacWorld.com, it was said that two out of five of these employers have declined a candidate based on their Facebook page. These companies have taken research methods way too far. This goes all the way back to the saying “a picture has a thousand words.” But pictures are not always accurate. So, if a person has a photo of themselves stumbling out of a bar, does that mean that they are a lush? These companies are not getting the accurate truth about the person that they are going to hire. An individual has a right to have a life outside of work.

By a show of nodding heads, not that it could be seen, who has ever been warned by an employer to be careful about what they put of their Facebook pages? Suddenly, as social networking sites grow stronger every day, so does the fear in companies. They wonder whether you are talking smack about the company outside of work, causing some to suggest the signing of docu-

ments stating that you will never involve the company or employee names in your Facebook discussions. This concern seems unnecessary to the worker who would contemplate the identity of any individual that would waste their time on Facebook complaining about their jobs to a community who could care less.

There has been some software used to track employee internet usage at the job to see what sites they are visiting. This is the exception to the following complaint, seeing that a person would be stupid to Facebook, Twitter or search for Star Wars memorabilia on eBay in the backroom, on their boss’s computer.

The Privacy Rights Clearinghouse apparently has a hotline for consumers who have been victims on privacy abuse, but seriously this topic of personal invasion through internet tracking is unstoppable, no matter how wrong it is.

The best method is to control what one does and says when on the internet. Be responsible people when you are at work: work. And when you are not, do not accept your boss’s friend request. It is too dangerous.

What do you think?

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MIMH from page 3

While the collaboration will be centered on collaborative research work, it will not be confined to just the Department of Clinical Psychology. "The collaboration can be across several departments including faculty from psychology, social work, counseling education, among others," Arshadi said. Many MIMH investigators received their doctorates from UM-St. Louis, soon becoming productive researchers in their specific areas at MIMH, such as Dr. Debbie Zand, who was recently selected as a member of the 2010 Leadership Institute for Women in Psychology. MIMH has also opened up doors for students through teaching, advising and internships. "Brianna D. Mann, who is currently in our doctoral program of clinical psychology, is working around twenty hours a week for Dr. Zand as a research assistant," Steffen said. "This is what funds her way through her doctoral program and teaches her how to do this research." "One of the aspects I have enjoyed most about working for MIMH is the fact that I have had a wide variety of valuable experiences," Mann said. "Over the past year [and several months], I have written grants, scholarly articles and technical reports; collected data from adolescents in the foster sys-

tem, given presentations for the Department of Mental Health, facilitated focus groups and attended several monthly comprehensive system management team meetings in Jefferson City."

Joseph Grailer, graduate, creative writing, will soon be working as a graduate research assistant in the MIMH library in conjunction with the UM-St. Louis libraries. "As a student, I feel it is beneficial to have exposure to as many real world learning opportunities as possible, and UM-St. Louis's collaboration with MIMH certainly qualifies," Grailer said. "This partnership will also help provide students access to a working institution and its professionals," Grailer said.

Currently, MIMH is working on a web conference titled, "Suicide among African American Teens and Youth Adults: A Discussion for People in the Position to Help" Thursday October 14 at 1:00 p.m. "This is a lovely example of how MIMH takes what they are learning in their research and shares it with a broader community of mental health professionals," Steffen said. In early October, UM-St. Louis and MIMH will both come together at a research retreat where they will discuss potential areas of collaboration.

GOLF from page 4

However, the NCAA, according to UM-St. Louis athletic director Lori Flanagan, does not condone ignorance as an excuse for violations. "We have taken necessary measures to educate coaches and student-athletes about gambling and fantasy sports violations," Flanagan said. "We have also hired a full time compliance officer."

In 2009, Jessica Chandler was hired as the Tritons compliance director. Chandler's duties include monitoring student-athletes and coaches for possible NCAA violations. Chandler was not available for comment.

Flanagan also mentioned that Ashby should have known the rules regardless. "Every coach should know that gambling at any level is banned by the NCAA," Flanagan said. "Ignorance is really no excuse."

Before arriving at UM-St. Louis Flanagan was athletic director at St. Louis University. According to Flanagan these infractions are minor compared to other major universities. "Compared to the University of Southern California, these did not affect on-field performances and advantages," Flanagan said.

In September 2007, during UM-St. Louis

men's golf programs infractions period, the *New York Times* published an article by Mark St. Amant entitled, "When Fantasy Players Go All in." St. Amant quoted Ashby in his article saying, "We want to make the WCOFF a household name."

The article features several prominent members of the World Championship of Fantasy Sports, including Jesse Herron, co-owner of Ashby's Company. Herron, who is also chief financial officer of Atlanta based Gran-Quaterz of Pearlman Enterprises, did not return *The Current's* phone calls regarding the World Championship of Fantasy Sports.

"When I wrote the article," St. Amant, who is an author and freelance writer said, "I was not aware of Dustin's background."

The World Championship of Fantasy Football began their major drafts on Friday September 10 through Sunday September 12, 2010. In an e-mail to *The Current* Ashby said he would not comment on the World Championship of Fantasy Sports. He did mention that he is no longer a public figure at UM-St. Louis.

COFFEE from page 10

The piece is about all these intimate facts I knew about them, and realizing how basic these facts actually are. I thought it was an interesting concept to speak on," Kim Frisch, WU Slam, said.

Workshops are offered to aid others in writing. "We have writing workshops every Monday, in

the residential area of Washington University, at 8:30 [p.m.]. Our blog is at Wuslam.blogspot.com, for anybody interested," WU Slam said. To those looking to get a peak at how simple yet complex poetry can be, looking into WU Slam may be just the ticket.

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TRYOUTS from page 11

Each team consisted of two girls who each performed a team cheer, dance and individual performance in front of the judges. In the end, a question for each student was asked.

"I was asked to come here for the feedback. My daughter is the captain of the cheerleader squad. I commend all the students who performed today. The fact that only a handful of students [are] going to be picked must be a lot of pressure for them, but they came out of their comfort zone," Gladys M. Schubach said. The number of students who will be picked for the cheerleading positions is going to be decided in the meeting later today. "I think all applicants are all very talented in

some ways. Although you don't get selected, don't be discouraged. Everyone did a great job. Sometimes it all just came down to the positions available as much as their talent, because everyone is very talented," Jessica Chandler, assistant athletic director said.

Although several showed potential for the squad, not everyone will be accepted this year.

"I saw a lot of [potential] in students today. I commend them for what they showed. Keep trying, and never give up whatever you have a passion for, even if you don't get selected today. It is not the end," Alba Brady, a cheerleading coach at Harris-Stowe State University, said.

The Current needs cartoonists

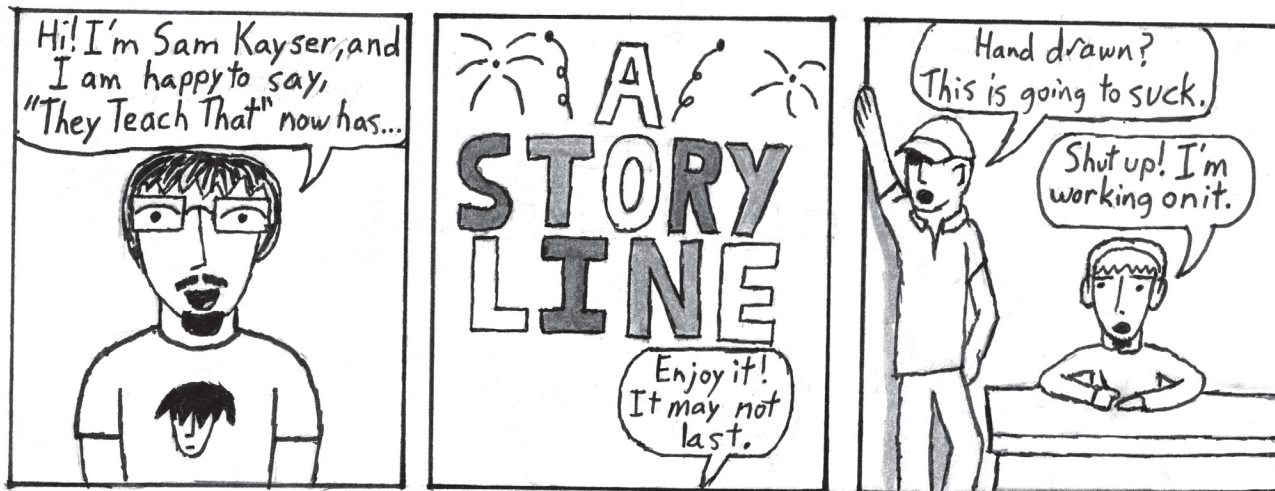
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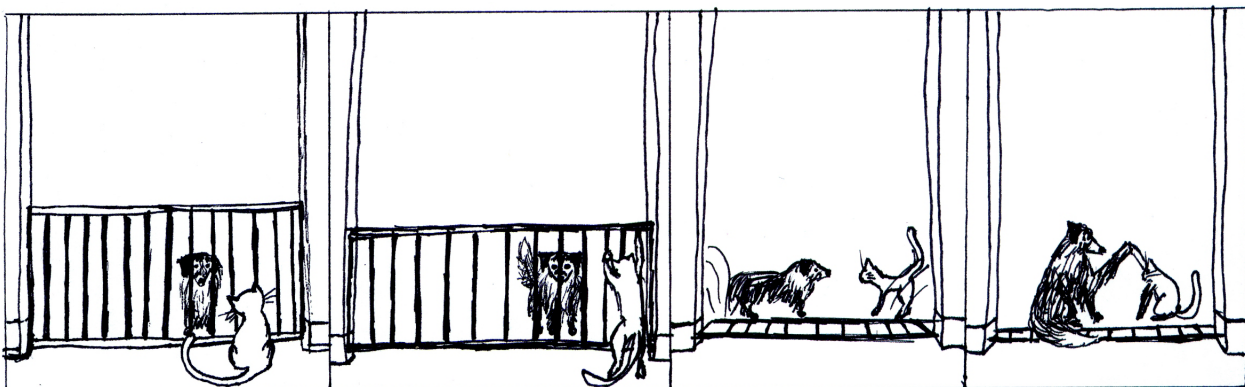
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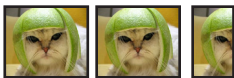


Puzzles

CURRENT SUDOKU

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		9						7
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DIFFICULTY RATING:



CURRENT WORDSEARCH

N E A G E M O I H P A H P L A D A K S H
J H F A L P H A K A P P A P S I W C R P
V J R L M M E Q E P Q G A I G A T Q J P
J O Z T T N E R R R U C E H T I W L V W
M R S W D V L L E B O P T O M E T R Y Q
J P S Y C H O L O G Y A D C O R P S F H
Z L P B X K C G N I T N U O C C A Q B E
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B L A C K C O L L E G I A N S X S X D S
G X A T L E D I X A H P L A C E S E I A

CAN YOU FIND ALL OF THESE
UMSL STUDENT ORGANIZA-
TIONS?

Accounting
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AIESEC
AIGA
Alpha Kappa Psi
Alpha phi omega

Alpha Xi Delta
Amnesty
Black Collegians
Optometry
Psychology
The Current


CURRENT HOROSCOPES

**ARIES**
(MARCH 21 - APRIL 20)

You are attracted to any-
thing new, though some-
times not for very long.
Today, you spot something
that look really exciting,
and it's a great idea to fol-
low up on it.

**LIBRA**
(SEPT. 24 - OCT. 23)


Your social intuition is quite
strong right now so make sure
that you're asking the right
questions and hanging out with
all the right people. You can
make almost anything happen if
you push it!

**TAURUS**
(APRIL 21 - MAY 21)

This is not the time for drama or
trying out crazy ideas — though
it's a safe bet that some of your
people are doing just that. Try
your best to rein them in, or at
least help them cope with the
consequences.

**SCORPIO**
(OCT. 24 - NOV. 22)


You need to change things
around the house — no matter
what anyone else says! If you
live alone, go nuts, but if you
have roommates or family
members involved, things could
get pretty hairy.

**GEMINI**
(MAY 22 - JUNE 21)


Your opinions are all over the
map today, but that's cool — in
fact, you often like it better that
way! Your mental energy isn't
scattered, though, just because
you've adopted a few contradic-
tory positions.

**SAGITTARIUS**
(NOV. 23 - DEC. 22)


You should do whatever it takes
to reconnect with your people
today — things are pretty
crazy! The good news is that
you're the right kind of crazy,
so you can surf the vibe with
great ease.

**CANCER**
(JUNE 22 - JULY 22)


A friend or ally needs some
persuasion to do what's right
today, but you can't go for the
gut — not yet, anyway! They
need to hear the logical reasons
why your plan is the best one.

**CAPRICORN**
(DEC. 23 - JAN. 20)

Cash flow is an issue today —
though if you're lucky, you have
more than you know what to
do with! In any case, you need
to tighten things up so that
your economy is as efficient as
can be.

**LEO**
(JULY 23 - AUG. 21)


The same old routines just
aren't going to work out that
well today. That doesn't mean
you're doomed — just that
you need to experiment and
try a few new approaches to
your problems.

**AQUARIUS**
(JAN. 21 - FEB. 19)

Those who question your brain
power live to regret it, and
today shows why that's true.
One quick inspiration is worth
ten thousand mundane ideas —
and that's all they can come up
with today!

**VIRGO**
(AUG. 22 - SEPT. 23)

You need to tweak your routines
today, or at least find some new
ways to get your work done.
It's a really good time for you
to shake things up — nobody
can see it coming, and you can
improve things dramatically!

**PISCES**
(FEB. 20 - MARCH 20)

The future is always at least a
little mysterious — and that's
why you spend so much time
pondering it! You love a good
enigma, and right now, you
might be dreaming up some
serious weirdness for tomorrow
or next week.

What's Current

Your weekly calendar of campus events. "What's Current" is a free service for student organizations. Deadline for submissions is 5 p.m. the Thursday before publication. First-come, first-served. Listings may be edited for length and style. E-mail event listings to thecurrent@umsl.edu, with the subject "What's Current." No phone submissions. All listings use 516 prefixes unless noted.

Monday, Sept. 20

Monday Noon Series: Lincoln's America

From 12:15 PM to 1:15 PM located at 222 J.C. Penney Conference Center and open to everyone. Judy Cook, nominee for Best Female Vocalist in Traditional Folk in Washington DC, travels with the audience across Abraham Lincoln's America with songs from and about his lifetime. The songs take us from Lincoln's 1809 birth to his 1865 death, from Kentucky to California. Cook provides historical details about the songs and tunes. Audience members are encouraged to sing on the choruses, leaving with a deeper understanding of Lincoln's life and times. Louis Killen, a respected singer of English traditional song, says Cook's "depth of understanding and storytelling ability in ballad form is rivaled only by her dedication to the music and her willingness to do her research."

For more Information contact Karen Lucas at 314-516-5698.

Tuesday, Sept. 21

Be a Comma Queen/King

At 12:30 PM to 1:00 PM located at Clark 308 open to all. A grammar workshop offering clear explanations of comma rules and sentence structure.

For more Information contact David Linzee at 516-5950

Cassidy Turley Speaker Event

At 2:00 PM in the SGA Chambers (3rd Floor MSC).

Does your resume need a facelift? Do you enjoy free pizza and refreshments? Delta Sigma Pi is holding a professional speaker event with one of the largest commercial real estate employers in St. Louis area. Come out to learn some valuable resume building techniques, gain contacts and start networking and to learn more about Delta Sigma Pi.

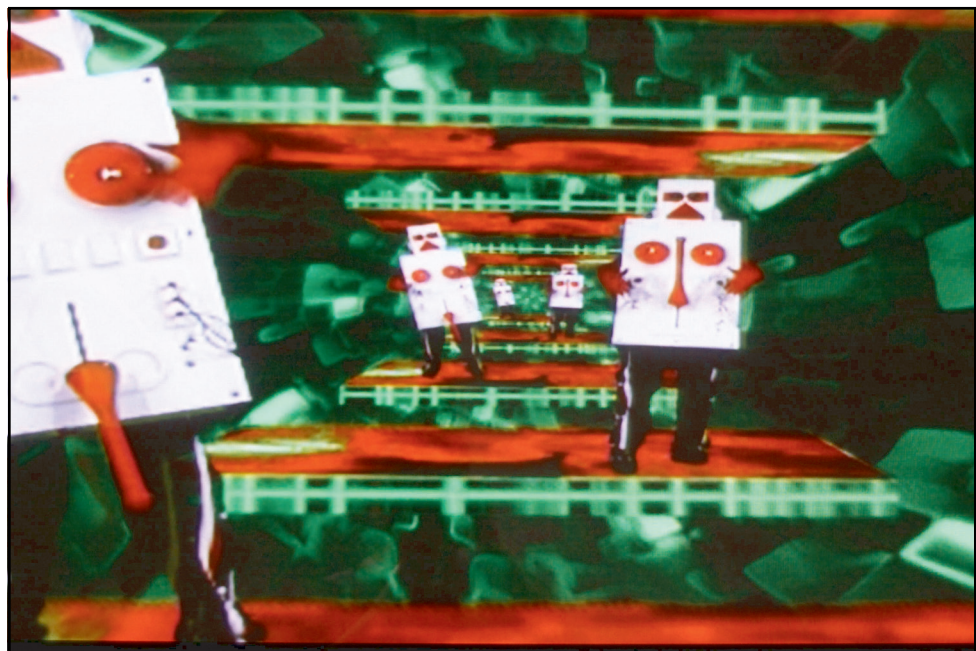
Event is free and pizza refreshments will be served promptly upon the beginning of the event.

Wednesday, Sept. 22

Make the Most of your Learning Style

From 2:00 PM to 2:45 PM at 225 MSC (Center for Student Success - Conference Room) Open to Students only. Find out how you learn and process information best. Do you learn easily by listening, watching or doing? Maybe a combination of all three is best. Hemispheric dominance (right or left-brain) will be explained. Understanding more about how our brains work makes us more engaged, more confident and higher achieving learners. Specific studying, note-taking and learning strategies for each learning style are provided.

For Information contact Antionette Sterling at 516-5300



In Gallery 210, Hilary Harp's "Robot Love" video is on display from August 26th to October 9th. The video is described as playful and brings the viewer to an universe different from our own. The video was inspired by the cover of "Megatron Man."

ZHENG ZHANG / THE CURRENT

Thursday, Sept. 23

The Korean Wave in Japan

From 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM at 331 SSB and open to all. In recent decades consumers in Japan became enthralled with South Korean cultural products. Given the history between the two nations, many observers were astonished at the positive shift in Japanese attitudes toward Korea that were engendered primarily through Kdrama fandom. Although critics often dismissed it as nothing more than middle-aged female excitement over the handsome actor Bae Yong-Joon, the popularity of South Korean cultural products defies easy generalization. This presentation will review some of the most notable aspects of the Korean Wave, tracking both the economic impact as well as areas of cultural fallout and influence. This presentation will include short media clips. For further information contact Bob Ell at 314-516-7299

Taste of St. Louis

From 12:00 PM to 1:30 PM located at the 2nd Floor Rotunda, open to all by. Come on down to the 2nd Floor Rotunda, get some great samples of St. Louis favorite food and some UPB information!

For Information contact Jaime Wacker at 314-516-5531

Friday, Sept. 24

Department of Physics & Astronomy Colloquium Series

From 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM located at 328 Benton Hall open to everyone. Dr. Matt Troutman, Dept. of Physics & Astronomy, UMSL will discuss "Observing CO in Planet-forming Disks." Coffee will be served at 2:30 pm outside 503 Benton Hall.

For Information contact Erika Gibb at 314-516-4145