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10-4-2010

## Current, October 04, 2010

University of Missouri-St. Louis

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# The Current

WWW.THECURRENT-ONLINE.COM

OCT. 4, 2010

VOL. 44;

ISSUE 1323

## ***Knockout***

UM-St. Louis student, Adnan Smajic, looks towards future in Mixed Martial Arts

By Michael Frederick

► **Page 5**



ALSO INSIDE

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The Current  
Vol. 44, Issue 1323  
www.thecurrent-online.com

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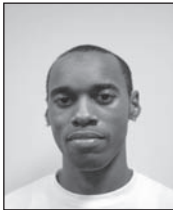
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CONTACT US

Address 388 MSC, 1 University Blvd  
Saint Louis, MO 63121-4400  
Newsroom 314-516-5174  
Business/Advertising 314-516-5316  
Fax 314-516-6811  
E-mail (General) thecurrent@umsl.edu  
E-mail (Advertising) thecurrentads@umsl.edu  
E-mail (Employment Inquiries) thecurrentjobs@umsl.edu  
E-mail (Tips) thecurrenttips@umsl.edu  
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The UNDERCURRENT by Yumeto Yamazaki



"School starting back makes me one semester closer to graduation."

Jerron Jones  
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"The weather changes."

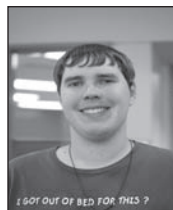
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Sophomore

"What do you enjoy most about the fall season?"



"What I enjoy most about fall is turning colorful leaves into art. Making collages that hang on the wall, beautiful nature with harmony and creating artwork out of nature."

Rena Gee  
Psychology  
Sophomore



"My favorite thing about fall is the trees changing colors and leaves on the ground."

Ryan McHugh  
Psychology  
Sophomore

Comments from the WEB

on "Non-discrimination resolution proposed by SGA" issue 1321

This resolution sounds very confusing. Was there ever a situation that has happened that resulted in needing this? I thought it was already established by law that you can't discriminate and in school rules too. Is this just to avoid future legal troubles such as with the aforementioned case? I mean I agree that we shouldn't discriminate at all and a Muslim should be allowed in a Christian Bible study so as long as the Muslim respects the way the Bible study works. I am just curious if something like this has been a problem because from what I have seen myself, it has been the opposite.

-Elaina C.

on "Do not drive and dial!" issue 1322

I am against this legislation for the simple fact that it infringes on personal liberty and, like a large part of legislation today, starts on the premise of, "You are too stupid to do the right thing, let the government make your choices for you because they know best." I am sure the main argument for this bill will involve the argument that "texting while driving endangers the public at large", which is true. But so does unplanned pregnancy and STDs. In fact, I would posit that unplanned pregnancies and STDs have a much larger public safety impact than cell phone use while driving.

-Robert M.

VERBATIM



"I am amazed that CNN can't get its act together."

- RUPERT MURDOCH

"When the gavel falls tonight, members of Congress are literally as I said, adjourning the Congress to go home so they can work to save their jobs with not having lifted a finger to protect the jobs of millions of Americans from taxes and a tax increase in January."



-NEWT GINGRICH



"I will never be like those people who go down in the ocean and feed the sharks. I'll feed the homeless instead."

- CHRIS ROCK

WEATHER

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# News



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NITESH JAIN / THE CURRENT

## Chancellor sets a \$10 million scholarship goal

### ► CHARDAIS BASTIEN

Staff Writer

The University of Missouri St. Louis is taking steps to attract talented, hard working individuals from the St. Louis area. Many students ranked at the top of their high school classes go away to some of the bigger cities for college and do not return after graduation. UM-St. Louis decided to try to keep them from leaving St. Louis in the first place.

When the Post-Dispatch launched “Can St. Louis Compete,” UM-St. Louis’ Chancellor Thomas George teamed up with some of the faculty, including Vice Chancellor Martin Leifeld and Dr. Brenda McPhail, to answer back, “Yes we can!” Chancellor George said this really came out of discussions he had with some of the community corporate leaders and that there is a need in St. Louis to retain some of the best and brightest young people who come from a diverse background and have an interest in majoring within the fields of science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM) or business.

Dr. Brenda McPhail was able to organize meetings with the academic side of the university and with that information

helped craft a package that they presented to Emerson and other local businesses. The result was a success. Emerson gave a gift of \$1.65 million and plans to donate another million once the fund reaches \$9 million to achieve the \$10 million goal set by the chancellor. The university also has commitments from Energizer, World Wide Technology Chairman David Steward and his wife as well as a few other anonymous donors.

“What we are really doing is putting together a program to strengthen our ability to attract the best and the brightest in this region of young men and women who are interested in studying in the STEM discipline,” Dr. Brenda McPhail said. “Hopefully then they will stay in St. Louis and feed our workforce here for the corporations who are keen on the STEM discipline.”

The program is not just a free ride with room and board. It will also serve as a mentoring program and provide recipients with first hand experience, internships and local job opportunities. Those involved with the program believe that the more local career opportunities are publicized in St. Louis the greater the success rate will be in keeping gradu-

ates here.

“We want to keep this program sustainable, so we are going to start out by offering the scholarship to 10 high school graduates per year starting next fall,” Leifeld said. This scholarship is geared for first generation students and students under-represented in the STEM discipline. “For example, we don’t have enough women in the STEM discipline so if we find women who may not be first generation but meet the other criteria they will qualify,” McPhail said. The scholarship criteria is a ranking in the top 5 percent of their class, a cumulative G.P.A of 3.5 or higher, 28 or above on the ACT, strong leadership skills, letters of recommendation and a personal essay.

Although the Opportunity Scholarship program requires substantial qualifications, McPhail and Leifeld are confident the students that meet the requirements are out there and this program will bring a handful of them to UM-St. Louis annually. UM-St. Louis has never offered a full scholarship opportunity like this and those behind it hope it is the start to opening doors for future programs and opportunities.

## LOCAL NEWS

### *Bicyclist killed in St. Louis*

A 27-year-old man riding his bicycle died late Saturday night after being struck by a car, police said. The man was hit about 11:30 p.m. in the 4000 block of Gravois Avenue. A man, 21, driving a Chevrolet Impala, was heading north on Gravois near Dunnica Avenue when he hit the bicyclist, police said. The driver remained at the scene. It is not clear what caused the crash. Police were working to notify the deceased man’s relatives before releasing his identity. The crash reconstruction is expected to take 12 to 16 weeks, police said.

Via St. Louis Post-Dispatch

### *St. Louis police seek suspects in triple shooting*

Police say they are looking for three to four men who shot and wounded three people Saturday evening. Two women and a man were shot while sitting in a parked vehicle about 6 p.m. in the 4900 block of Highland Avenue, police said. The male driver in the vehicle was not shot. A white car with three to four men inside drove down Highland, passed the victims’ vehicle, made a U-turn and came back, police said. Shots were fired from the white car, striking three of the four people. A man and woman, both 19, were taken to a St. Louis hospital where they were in critical condition, police said. The man was shot in his back and hip. A woman was shot in the face and stomach. Another man, 21, was shot in the thigh and listed in serious condition at a St. Louis hospital. Police said the white car drove off after the shooting. Police had no description of the suspects. Police did not identify the victims.

Via St. Louis Post-Dispatch

### *Nonprofits’ tax returns are due soon*

Thousands of nonprofit groups in Missouri and Illinois stand to lose their tax-exempt status if they do not file a tax return in the next two weeks. For years, nonprofits with less than \$25,000 worth of revenue did not have to file. That changed in 2006 with a new law requiring all tax-exempt organizations to submit a tax return, called a 990. Scores of nonprofits across the country have either ignored or not noticed the change despite numerous efforts to get the word out since 2006, the IRS says.

Via St. Louis Post-Dispatch

### *\$5 million dollars set aside for high-tech firms*

The University of Missouri system has earmarked up to \$5 million to encourage entrepreneurs to develop businesses using technologies developed on campus. The system is taking applications through the end of the year for seed money, with up to \$500,000 for each of the selected companies. Officials said preference will be given to high-tech firms with a strong potential for growth. Those include life sciences, nano sciences, engineering and medicine. Among the selection criteria will be the prospects for the system to get a return on its investment and the potential to create jobs.

Via St. Louis Post-Dispatch

# The wonders of critical mass

*Dr. Joyce Mushaben lectures on women in the European Union*

► **MITRA RAHMANI**

Staff Writer

The second part of the Women, Gender and Political Institutes Fall 2010 Short Course “Women in Decision-Making in the European Union: The Wonders of Critical Mass” was presented on Wednesday September 29 from 7 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. The lecturer was Dr. Joyce Mushaben, professor of political science at the University of Missouri -St. Louis.

The event was sponsored by the Sue Shear Institute for Women in Public Life, the Gender Studies program, the Center for International Studies and the Department of Political Science at UM-St. Louis. The Sue Shear Institute is a nonpartisan organization on campus that works to encourage women participation in the public policy making process.

“This series is an important part of our mission because it informs us on the institutional structure that shapes women’s political participation,” Dayna Stock, manager of the Sue Shear Institute for Women in Public Life, said.

“I worked with Dr. Jalalzai to coordinate the series. We just know that there were a lot of women political scientists who were doing interesting work about women in politics. We saw this lecture series as an opportunity to showcase their research,” Stock said. “We are excited that the audience both weeks now has been a great mix of graduate students and people from the community and people from the university.”

Farida Jalalzai, an assistant professor



Women and Gender Studies lecturer Dr. Joyce Mushaben

of political science at UM-St. Louis, who will also be the last speaker of the series on Dec. 1, introduced Mushaben. She spoke of Mushaben’s numerous accomplishments, including being a recent recipient of the UM-St. Louis Chancellor’s Award for excellence in research creativity.

Mushaben began her lecture with noting that the European Union is half the physical size of

the United States, but is one-third larger than the U.S. in terms of population (The European Union has over 501 million where as the United States has 370 million). That population encompasses 27 member states, speaks over 13 official languages and is 50-53 percent female.

“The term critical mass embodies the shift from a small, barely visible group

whose presence is judged inconsequential or temporary to the broader purposes of the institution, economic inspiration, trade relations to a larger salient minority capable of making its presence felt in more of the token ways,” said Mushaben.

Dr. Mushaben said that if the EU is to achieve gender equality some of its burgeoning policies have to be targeted specifically at women. She elaborated that EU leaders “must mobilize all general policies and measures specifically for the purpose of achieving equality by actively and openly taking into account at the planning stage their possible effect on the respective situation of men and women.”

For more information about the lecture series, visit [www.umsl.edu/~iwpl](http://www.umsl.edu/~iwpl) or call 516-6623.

## Carnahan and Martin open questions to the public

► **MICHAEL FREDERICK**

Sports Editor

GOP candidate for Missouri’s third congressional district Ed Martin and Democratic incumbent Russ Carnahan squared off in an open forum debate at St. Louis Community College-Forest Park campus on Friday September 24.

Before the debate Ed Martin was asked to comment on Metro and the effects of mass transit on local students at UM-St. Louis. “I know the Metro tax

passed and that is what it is,” Martin said. “You don’t make a policy decision based on one segment, but you look at society as a whole.”

During the debate’s opening statements, Russ Carnahan said that he had reached out in a bipartisan way to help St. Louis. “We need to bring people together for serious solutions to get jobs back in St. Louis,” Carnahan said.

The debate was set up by the St. Louis League of Women Voters. Audi-

ence members in the Forest Park auditorium were given index cards to write out questions. In this open forum format, the ground rules required audience members to hold applause and cheering until the end of the debate. However, as the debate lasted from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. supporters for both candidates lauded, booed or cheered depending on the two men’s answers.

See **PUBLIC**, page 17

## USA NEWS

### *Serb pilgrims gather in Kosovo for enthronement*

Thousands of Serb pilgrims gathered in a medieval monastery in western Kosovo amid tight security on Sunday to attend the enthronement ceremony of the new Serbian Patriarch Irinej. The ceremony, in the Pec Patriarchate, the spiritual seat of Serbian clergy, took place just outside the ethnic Albanian-dominated town of Pec. Serbia’s President, Boris Tadic also attended the ceremony.

-Via The Associated Press

### *Ninety-four year-old man beaten to death at nursing home*

Authorities say an 81-year-old man has been arrested on suspicion of murder for allegedly beating to death his 94-year-old roommate at an Orange County nursing home. Sheriff’s spokesman Jim Amormino says William McDougall allegedly took a bar used to hang clothes from a closet to repeatedly strike his roommate, Manh Ban Nguyen, late Friday. Amormino says detectives are still investigating a possible motive for the assault, which occurred at Palm Terrace Healthcare Center, a 99-bed residential facility in Laguna Hills. The Los Angeles Times reports that Nguyen, who was found beaten around the head, was pronounced dead at Saddleback Memorial Medical Center.

-Via Los Angeles Times

### *Pastor says he won’t be pulled into ‘street fight’*

A megachurch pastor accused of luring four young men into sexual relationships said Sunday that he will not be pulled into a street fight over the allegations and vowed that his faith has been strengthened.

Bishop Eddie Long did not directly mention the accusations to thousands of cheering supporters during services at New Birth Missionary Baptist Church in suburban Lithonia, but his remarks seemed directly addressed to his accusers.

-Via The Associated Press

### *Stem cell pioneer mentioned for Nobel Prize*

A Japanese researcher who discovered how to make stem cells from ordinary skin cells and avoid the ethical quandaries of making them from human eggs could be a candidate for the medicine award when the 2010 Nobel Prize announcements kick off Monday, experts said. Several prominent Nobel guessers have pointed to Kyoto University Professor Shinya Yamanaka as a potential winner of the coveted award. Yamanaka in 2007 discovered how to tinker with human skin cells so they behave like embryonic stem cells, which can potentially morph into things like heart and nerve cells, as well as lead to new therapies for currently incurable diseases. The tightlipped Nobel committees give no hints about who is in the running before presenting their decisions. The medicine award is the first of the six prizes to be announced Monday, followed by physics on Tuesday, chemistry Wednesday, literature on Thursday, the Nobel Peace Prize on Friday and economics on Monday, Oct. 11.

-Via The Associated Press



# Sports

## Kicking it with Adnan Smajic

*Student looks towards mixed martial arts*

► **MICHAEL FREDERICK**  
Sports Editor

Adnan Smajic, junior, psychology, has been kick boxing since he was six years old. Now he is looking to the next level of mixed martial arts. “I would love to do MMA and ultimate fighting,” Smajic said.

Smajic, who is 20 years old, said he first started kick boxing training around five or six years old under Charles Jarnagian at Karate Life Studios on Chippewa in South St. Louis. “Adnan is easily the top fighter in my dojo (school),” Jarnagian said.

During the war in Bosnia during the early to mid-1990s, Smajic and his family immigrated to America through Germany. While attending Mehlville school district in south county, Smajic and a group of his friends stumbled upon Jarnagian and his karate school. “One thing I noticed with a lot of Bosnian families and immigrants,” Jarnagian said, “is that the parents would work one or two jobs. The kids would then kind of wander the neighborhood.”

According to Jarnagian, Smajic became a regular at his dojo. He also gave himself the nickname

“DJ.” “He and another boy named Adnan decided to give themselves nicknames,” Jarnagian said. “He just picked DJ and ever since everyone in the dojo has known him by that name.”

Jarnagian also mentioned that his young student is also one of his most well rounded. “He is one of the nicest and most selfless individuals you will ever meet,” Smajic, though, prefers to downplay that notion and says that kickboxing is the best way for him to relieve stress and exercise. “It’s a real macho-guy thing to jump in the ring and kick box,” Smajic said. He does, however, know that there is much room for improvement. “One thing I need to work on if I want to do MMA is my ground game.” Compared to traditional boxing and kick boxing, the Ultimate Fighting Championships, held on pay-per-view, involve a mix of stand up fighting and wrestling.

“MMA is a lot tougher than what he does now,” Jarnagian said. Smajic sports a 3-1 record in St. Louis kick boxing events. “But he definitely has the potential.”

See KICK, page 17

# Miners knock down men's and women's soccer

► **MICHAEL FREDERICK**  
Sports Editor

Before Saturday afternoon's matchup, the Tritons women's soccer squad seemed relaxed and upbeat after a one win and two loss, three game road trip. Coach Bobby Lessentine mentioned before the game that there would be no major changes.

"Our system of choice is a 4-3-3 and we're going to do our best bringing the game to them," University of Missouri-St. Louis women's soccer coach, said before the game against the Missouri S&T Miners.

From kickoff the Tritons controlled the pace of the game, keeping the ball in the Miner's part of the field for most of the first half. Despite going into halftime with a 0-0 tie, Leah Williams scored in minute 48 to give the miners a 1-0 lead. After the goal, it seemed to wake up the UM-St. Louis front three: Kaylee Nueztling, Kelly Muesenfechter and Samantha Faron.

"Keep your head up girls," Tritons captain Jessica Hampton, senior, political science said after the first goal.

Entering the game, Kaylee Neutzling, junior, criminal justice, was second in the Great Lakes Valley Conference with seven goals in eight games. She also has the top score on the 2010 Tritons squad and was named GLVC

player of the week after a hat trick performance against Illinois-Springfield.

In minute 58, Neutzling scored on a floating ball from the backline by teammate Michelle Cissi, sophomore, nursing. The Missouri S&T back line let the ball drop in the 18-yard box in front of Neutzling who buried the ball into the far post, tying the score and erupting the crowd at Don Dallas Field. But the celebration was short lived.

With five minutes remaining Miners striker Kelsey Salzman scored on an overlapping, counter-attack.

Despite UM-St. Louis outplaying Missouri S&T, the Tritons could not recover from the devastating blow in the waning moments of the match. The Tritons lost 2-1. "We need to work on finishing and be a little more composed towards the end of the game," Neutzling said. "We definitely outplayed them from the first whistle."

The Tritons men's soccer team, though, had a much more difficult time against the Miners. Before the game, Coach King emphasized the frustration of not performing well at Don Dallas Field.

"We're undefeated on the road," Coach King, UM-St. Louis men's soccer coach, said. "We just need to get the results at home." Frustration was palpable from the UM-St. Louis starting 11 as they could not get into a



Lynn Cerny, senior, accounting, stealing the ball from Missouri S&T on Friday.

ZHENG ZHANG / THE CURRENT

passing rhythm.

Through much of the first half the Tritons were chasing the game, giving up a missed penalty kick in the tenth minute. But in minute 40 Missouri S&T midfielder Sam Shaefter scored his second goal of the season past a diving Adam Giesege, senior, accounting. The Tritons could not manage an equalizer as

they fell to the miners 4-0. Forward Johnny O'Mara, junior, marketing, was given a yellow card in minute 73 for a hard tackle.

Men's soccer's next home game is Thursday October 7 at Don Dallas Field against Truman State University. Kickoff is at 6 p.m.

## Tritons Volleyball upset eighth ranked team

► **RYAN KRULL**  
News Editor

The University of Missouri-St. Louis women's volleyball team began a busy weekend of play on a high note, defeating the visiting Lewis University Flyers on Friday, October 1. At beginning of play, held at the Mark Twain Gymnasium, the Flyers were ranked eighth in the nation, according to NCAA division II volleyball coaches' poll. Going into the match the Tritons ranked 20th, making their victory an upset.

"This is an incredibly critical match," Lori Flanagan, UM-St. Louis athletic director, said before the game. "It's good for the program to go up against such a high ranked team in home court."

The UM-St. Louis Tritons played with momentum starting with the first serve, pulling ahead to an early 6-0 lead in the initial set and capitalizing on Lewis' inability to keep the ball in play.

After easily winning the first set 25-17, the Tritons looked solid in the second, command-

ing at one point a 21-15 lead. After taking some of the starters out the score narrowed to as close as 24-22 before UM-St. Louis finally made game point, winning the second set 25-22.

The third set was the most contested with Lewis fighting to stay alive in a best of five format. For the first time all night, Lewis found itself leading UM-St. Louis in the set, though never by more than a thin, few point margin. The score was tied three times, at 7-7, 17-17 and 18-18. The Tritons broke the tie to a 19-18 lead by feigning a spike and gentling setting the ball into a Lewis defensive gap. From there the Tritons quickly took the third set 25-19 winning the game 3-0. The Tritons' win was notable for being their first against Lewis since 1997, ending a 15 game losing streak against the Flyers. It also marked Lewis' first loss in Great Lakes Valley Conference game since 2008.

After Friday's win, the Tritons went on to beat the Wisconsin-Parkside Rangers in three sets the following Saturday. These back-to-

back victories gave UM-St. Louis volleyball an impressive 5-1 record in GLVC play with eight remaining conference games this season. All five of their conference wins have been 3-0 shut out victories.

Friday night's game was also Dig for the Cure Night, sponsored by UM-St. Louis

Volleyball and the Zeta Tau Alpha sorority. Check back next week as *The Current* highlights this and many other campus initiatives taking place all this month raising money and awareness for breast cancer research and prevention.

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## A&amp;E



Ken Anderson, a painting and drawing professor at UM-St. Louis, displayed his sculptures at the Gallery 210 Faculty Exhibit.

ABIGAIL GILLARDI / THE CURRENT

## Fine arts faculty shine in Gallery 210's 'Biennial'

Students considering majoring in art, or anyone that is curious can sample art by University of Missouri-St. Louis fine arts faculty at the Biennial Exhibition. The free exhibit at Gallery 210 runs through October 9.

Every two years, Gallery 210 organizes an exhibit by tenured and adjunct faculty artists. Faculty artists have works in private and public collections including the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, Library of Congress and St. Louis Art Museum. This year's exhibit includes paintings, drawings, photographs, sculptures and examples of mixed media and graphic arts.

There are 22 works by eight artists this year. The great majority of the works in the exhibit are framed pieces of various media. Many works share a common theme of color, in cream and black with splashes of turquoise blue and deep orange.

The works are displayed on the gallery walls with the single exception of the small whimsical mixed-media sculpture. Phil Robinson's "Promises" rests on a lone white pillar in the center of the room. "Promises" is a clear plastic, rectangular box accompanied by a card of printed text drawn from TV ads, with phrases like "but wait, there's more."

Robinson is one of three artists with a single work in the exhibit. Gretchen Schisla displays a small, turquoise book and website on a computer focused on her graphic design work. Sharon Callner's piece, "The Dead Cat Series #1-17," is one of the most striking. It is a series of small, sepia-toned giclee prints in ornate gold frames, images of women in an eerie mix of Gothic imagery, anatomy illustrations and "Day of the Dead."

Three works by Jeffrey Sippel are displayed first upon entering the gallery. The painterly print "Hidden Duck" uses the cream, turquoise and black color theme in an abstract image with no apparent duck. Next is "Fables," a

toner drawing on mylar, featuring a silhouette of two bears, the smaller one seeming to leap over the larger standing one. On the opposite wall, his large "Crashing Gates" is a painterly off-white and orange abstract print.

Around the corner, Dan Younger offers four color-filled photographs featuring tourists in New York City, all labeled "Untitled: New York City." One shows a storefront window with a neon reflection forming an American flag, while tourists in foreground look up and take photos. In another, a women and pre-teen girl pose with someone costumed as the Statue of Liberty, while another Liberty nearby looks for the next customer.

Four poster-like silkscreen prints by Jennifer McKnight are next. McKnight has the greatest number of works in the exhibit with 10 pieces. "Mike Jacob" has whimsical, '70s comic book-style geometric buildings in orange and blue, sprinkled with artists' comments.

Perhaps her most striking works are "To Death with a Smile," an orange-and-black poster with a hand-like image on which are written musings about death falling in love with life's beauty and "Read More," which exhibits hardcover books cut to form those words. Two other works are prints from her nature-themed "Hothouse Series."

Marion Amies' works include pages from "Renaissance Florence/Contemporary London," which are sketches of travel scenes. The artist's "Art of the Book, Then and Now" is a small book decorated with a lovely design in deep red and blue.

The two other sculptures are large, eye-catching works by Ken Anderson, both untitled. One features two white window frames with diamond-shaped lattice framing a large, gnarled tree branch. The other uses simple building materials, boards and duct-work, to create a form like Greek pillars.

**A** -Cate Marquis





COURTESY / SONY PICTURES

## 'Easy A' is surprisingly hilarious

Released on September 14, "Easy A" is yet another movie about someone's high school experience that involves love, lust, bad choices and redemption. Emma Stone does a wonderful job in portraying an outcast student labeled a harlot after rumors begin to fly. "Easy A" takes the classic novel "The Scarlet Letter" and turns it into something that no one would have a problem watching.

The entire plot revolves around Olive Penderghast, portrayed by Stone, the typical invisible student at her local high school. Rumors begin to spread after Olive tells a white lie to a friend that is overheard by another student. She quickly gains the reputation of being the school floozy. After talking with her gay friend Brandon, played by Dan Byrd, about being bullied at school, they

come up with what seems like the perfect idea. In order to solve the bullying problem, they will pretend to have sex together at a party.

As word begins to spread, Olive becomes more and more infamous around school and more 'customers' begin to line up in her fake sex line. After being labeled outcast by the school and her only friend, Olive decides to take her role to the next level and dress in nothing but corsets adorned with a scarlet letter 'A' on the chest to school. As word continues to spread and the lies get more and more twisted, Olive is forced to regain her goodie-two-shoes title and attempt to find a boy that wants her for who she really is. The movie switches between what we perceive as real life and what appears to be some sort of video she is making. As

time goes on, the video tells not only viewers but also Olive's fellow classmates what has truly been going on. The web video scenes add a little spice to the movie, and so do Olive's title cards for each portion of her explanation.

While "Easy A" may not be exactly the best date movie (not all guys may appreciate its humor), it makes a perfect girls night out. Stone's character is the perfect combination of relate-ability and sass. Olive has the perfect comeback for every line thrown at her. Her parents also make the movie quite enjoyable. They are quirky, odd and perfectly delightful throughout the entire movie. Think of them as a modern day Lucy and Ricardo with more comedy (and less Latin flavor). Even Marianne Bryant, the school's abstinence aficionado (Amanda Bynes) is

hilarious to watch in action.

All in all, the only saving grace in this entire movie is Emma Stone. She has done beautiful work in the past and will continue to amaze critics in the future. She plays the role of Olive so well and deserves some serious recognition for her efforts. Her references to almost every major '80s movie about high school angst or love are done in a refreshing yet hilarious way. Perhaps Stone will begin to create the Brat Pack of our time? Maybe the final scene with the boy of her dreams holding the iPod speakers outside her window will become the next infamous scene for our generation? Who knows? But with Emma Stone behind the high school steering wheel, no one should have a problem reliving his or her high school days again.

**B+** -Janaca Scherer

## LATEST + GREATEST

### MUSIC

**Bring Me The Horizon**  
*There Is A Hell, Believe Me I've Seen It. There Is A Heaven. Let's Keep It A Secret.*



Finally ready for release, 'TISAH, BMISI. TISH, LKIAS,' has been in the works since the summer of 2009. Bring Me the Horizon, who plays metal-core music, has been issuing out teasers, song titles and hints about this album for over a year.



**Bruno Mars**  
*Doo-Wops & Hooligans*

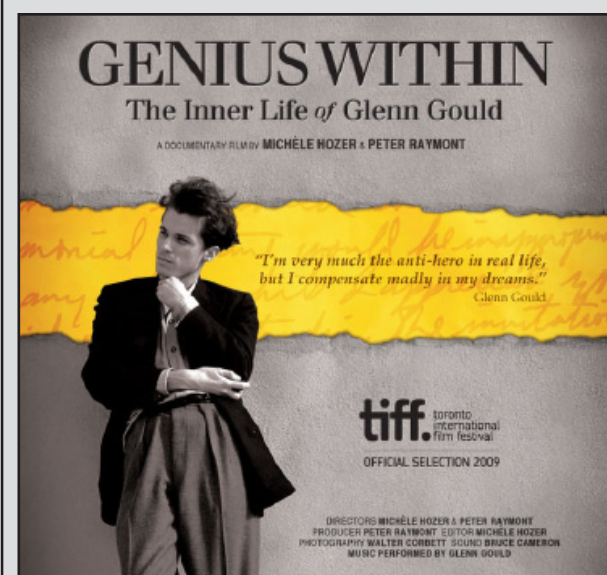
With the main single from this album, "Just the Way You Are," reaching the top in the US, Canadian and UK charts, how can this album not be good? Good things are to be expected from this doo-wop inspired pianist and singer come October 5.

**You, Me, And Everyone We Know**  
*Somethings Don't Wash Out*



You, Me, And Everyone We Know's third studio album is highly anticipated by the powerpop and emo crowd. It is their first in two years and the first released while on a label. It should prove to either be a major hit or a major disappointment. Listeners will decide on October 12.

### MOVIES



**Genius Within: The Inner Life of Glenn Gould**  
*Playing at Tivoli*

This compelling documentary about eccentric, celebrated classical pianist and composer Glenn Gould, who died at age 50 after a career marked by accomplishments and personal ups and downs.

# WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Let us know at [www.thecurrent-online.com](http://www.thecurrent-online.com)





Jimmy Hughes, guitarist and Andrew Rieger, vocalist and guitarist play with their band Elf Power on Wednesday at Off Broadway.

COURTESY / ROGUE

## Elf Power ignite Off Broadway

Elf Power quickly set up their instruments on the stage at Off Broadway on September 29. Lead man Andrew Rieger was dressed like a slacker from Seattle as he stood before the microphone and counted in “The Taking Under,” the lead-off track from their September 14 self-titled release. Bassist Derek Almstead hobbled around the venue on crutches before the show and remained seated for the entirety of the set.

“Like A Cannonball” rolled out next and sounded like the Gin Blossoms darkly laid on top of Toad The Wet Sprocket. The song featured delightful organ, a bouncy, geometric guitar line and lyrics that artistically harnessed elements of the psychedelic without beating the audience to death with the aesthetic. “Vainly Clutching At Phantom Limbs” and “Drug Store” offered up retro Elf Power with their fuzzed-out lyrics, pop-revival and thickly distorted guitar. The songs oddly conjured an electrified Mountain Goats or an acid-dosed Conor Oberst.

“Stranger in the Window’s” quiet contemplation enraptured the audience. They crowded in to get a little closer to the saccharine harmony between Rieger and Almstead. The song swept listeners into a parallel dimen-

sion where love’s loss doles out the careful cards of lament. The song was the highlight of the show and evoked comparisons with The Shins and Neutral Milk Hotel.

“Goldmine In The Sun,” “Tiny Insects” and “Owl Cut” all pulsed with grand drum-based energy direct from the flowery guts of Elephant Six. Rieger commanded each one with experienced precision as he leapt from one tune to another only pausing to say, “Thank you very much,” between each one. “Spiral Stairs,” a piece from the recent ‘In a Cave’ was another highlight which the audience crept on like an aviator-protected family friend drunkenly hitting on a twelve-year-old cousin of the bride at the reception. The song had a narrative quality that placed the listener in the shoes of Rieger. During the chorus, guitarist Jimmy Hughes shook a tambourine he kept threaded over his forearm and provided dulcet back up vocals. Rieger then launched into a pants-removing solo that shook the rafters as it bled back into the song’s final verse. As it spiraled back for the final chorus the song stood tall as an amazing example of form mirroring content.

“An Old Familiar Scene” and “Junkie Nurse” both

featured a rich blend of power-chords, ’90s throwback vibrations, rocking chamber-pop and Rieger’s come-hither vocals. “Junkie Nurse” was an appreciated alt-country folk detour about a hospital nurse addicted to morphine and a narrator hopelessly in love with her for her ability to access the sweet, sweet drugs. The song swayed with a nice blend of off the cuff humor and sincerity.

Elf Power was maddeningly adept at coalescing stylistically dissimilar aspects and implementing them seamlessly in their music. It is amid this tremulous balancing act that Elf Power shines brightest.

Elf Power closed the set with “Everlasting Scream” an ironic, sun-bright tune that chugged along with an undercurrent of surf rock and a dollop of Elf Power’s by now characteristic cheer-because-the-ship-is-going-down mentality.

Elf Power offered up a near pitch-perfect set that reflected their multifaceted catalogue. The audience happily trotted behind as Elf Power led them through the dark forests of chamber-pop, the colored alleyways of neo-psychedilica, the cobbled streets of indie rock and the wave-lulled beaches of surf rock.

**B+** -William Kyle

## Experience a ‘Birth by Sleep’

“Behold! These lifeless keys used to be full of power — united with the hearts of their masters! On this barren soil, Keyblades of Light and Darkness were locked in combat, as a great Keyblade War raged!” Master Xehanort, “Kingdom Hearts: Birth by Sleep,” says.

If the quote above sheds no light on the overall story of this game, go pick up copies of a few earlier installments. The game picks up where...well, nothing left off. This is a prequel to all other “Kingdom Hearts” games, graphic novels, etc. on the market.

“Birth by Sleep” (“BbS”) manages to accomplish what all but one of its predecessors managed in delivering an excellent story, soundtrack, gameplay system and graphical presentation all at the

same time, while not attempting in any way to look realistic. The one game that failed in this regard was the original “Chain of Memories,” a mistake quickly rectified with its re-release on the Playstation 2.

“BbS” begins with a short prologue, introducing players not only to the gameplay system as a whole (going deeply into depth on even some advanced techniques, for a tutorial), but also introducing the game’s three protagonists: Aqua, Ventus (Ven) and Terra. Yes fanboys, “BbS” has a total of three new characters to play as, and lord do they ever play differently.

Terra, a young man in constant search of power with which to protect his loved ones, will make most players frustrated due to his early lack of mobility. However,

the proper power ups and magic can easily remedy his turtle-esque movements, and besides, his physical strength is nothing to be laughed at when a boss dies in less than a minute.

Ven, the youngest of the crowd, and a dead-ringer for Sora and Roxas of previous games, is the most cheerful and lighthearted. He always feels a step behind his friends, which is interesting, seeing as he has the agility of a squirrel. His magical and physical prowess are well-balanced.

Aqua’s speed seems to be a slight notch above Terra’s, but is nothing compared to Ven’s. She is a calm, level-headed young lass with a favoritism of magic over brute strength.

For those questioning the soundtrack, it performs beautifully. In fact, physically, this game is wonderful overall.

See BIRTH, page 17

**The Current**

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**IN THEATERS FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8TH!**



# Screwtape sends letters from Hell

*Satan preaches to the choir at Touhill*

► RYAN KRULL  
News Editor

The Fellowship for the Performing Arts brought their on stage interpretation of C.S. Lewis' "The Screwtape Letters" to the Touhill Performing Arts Center for two shows over the weekend. The event, not quite sold out, had been publicized heavily in church bulletins and in other forms of Christian-based radio and print media.

The play is comprised entirely of a monologue delivered by the eponymous character Screwtape (Max McLean). Screwtape is a "senior demon" in the bureaucracy of hell, whose job it is to oversee the harvesting of souls for Satan. The monologue consists of Screwtape dictating letters to his servant, and reading the responses from the junior tempter Wormwood.

McLean proved himself able to become the embodiment of hellish evil, keenly including within his character a logical dose of a bureaucrat's indifference and quota-based thinking. The juxtaposition of these two distinctly dissimilar traits allowed McLean to create a truly unique character and avoid the typical clichés of an archetypal Satan. For any atheists who happened by this performance, the evil in McLean's Screwtape would have still possessed a wicked gravitas. A fear of eternal damnation was not necessary to appreciate the demonic Screwtape; a simple fear of

the secular DMV would have sufficed.

Though McLean, who also co-wrote the stage adaptation with Jeffery Fiske, proved to be quite the raconteur, C.S. Lewis was unable to provide sufficient ammo for this barrel-chested voice. "The Screwtape Letters" was originally published in novel form in 1942 and not adapted for the stage until 2000. The crux of Lewis' argument is that the Devil tries by any means necessary to distract a human from reason.

"Jargon, not argument, is your best ally in keeping him from the Church," Screwtape writes to Wormwood. "By the very act of arguing, you awake the patient's reason; and once it is awake, who can foresee the result?"

"Reason" seems to be a very poor choice of words on Lewis' part, given that any number of reasonable intellectuals could very easily take him to task.

Though the large ideas posited by Lewis in this work do not quite pass the universal syllogism test, many of the smaller ones are more spot on today than in 1942 when it was first published. Screwtape preaches to his minions that humans can be easily talked into following fads and phases that will change more easily than the weather. While reading a biography of Madonna, he muses that "jumping around from one religion to

another" is good for the soul harvesting business.

McLean's dominating presence was accompanied by the slithering actions of Toad Pipe (Elise Girardin), Screwtape's mute scribe and the only other character in the play. Her pantomime actions complimented the words of McLean and provided something else for the audience to look at throughout the 85-minute production.

After the two St. Louis performances, the Fellowship for the Performing Arts took their production back to New York City, where it has ran off and on for nearly two years. It will go on the road again later in the year to Cleveland in October and Raleigh, NC in November.

"Jargon, not argument, is your best ally in keeping him from the Church. By the very act of arguing, you awake the patient's reason; and once it is awake, who can foresee the result?"

*-Screwtape*



Max McLean stars as "Screwtape" in The Screwtape Letters at the Westside Theatre, 407 West 43rd Street, New York. To purchase tickets, call 212.239.6200 or visit [www.telecharge.com](http://www.telecharge.com). More information is available at [www.ScrewtapeOnStage.com](http://www.ScrewtapeOnStage.com). For groups of 10 or more call 866.476.8707 for rates.

COURTESY OF KATHARINE HUGHES

## Features

"Jumping around from one religion to another is good for the soul harvesting business."  
*-Screwtape*

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St. Louis Rams: Touchdown!  
Physics for St. Louis Blues Fans  
Curve Balls and Knuckle Balls  
with the St. Louis Cardinals

#### Health

Breakthroughs in Cancer  
Science of Tea and Tea Ceremony

#### Space

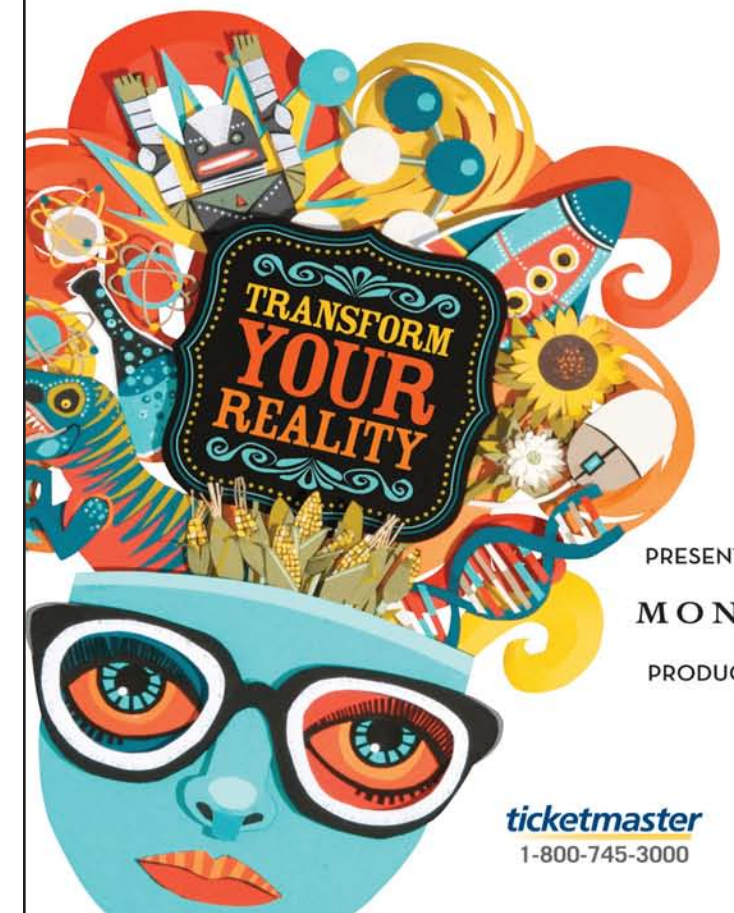
Journey through the Universe  
Fountains of the Moon

#### Food and Wine

Fabulous Fermentation  
Say "Cheese!"  
Edible Chemicals  
Chicks in the City  
Monsanto Urban Farm Tours

#### Climate Change

What We Really Know About Climate Change  
Beyond Nemo  
Honeybees' Backyard Battle



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Nicholas Karakas was awarded the E. Desmond and Mary Ann Lee Medal for Philanthropy on September 16 at the university's annual Founder's Dinner.

ABIGAIL GILLARDI / THE CURRENT

## Philanthropist Nicholas Karakas

► JEN O'HARA  
Features Editor

At the last Founder's Day Dinner, Nicholas Karakas was awarded the E. Desmond and Mary Ann Lee award; an award given for philanthropic activities in correlation with the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

*The Current:* What do you do as far as the Greek studies program at the university?

**Nicholas Karakas:** I'm chairman of the advisory committee. We work in concert with professor Cosmopoulos. We have periodic meetings where we discuss various projects we could do to not only try to enhance the school programs but also outreach. I think it's a very important part of the chair's responsibilities. During the course of the year, we have what I think are pretty well known and outstanding speakers to come to us, we invite the public for free, and we have lectures provided by them, and there's a question answer period.

*TC:* Why do you think Greek study is so important?

**NK:** We think it's very important from

the point of view that if you take our English language, you will find a good third of them are of Greek derivation. If you also add up the number of words that ... [Latin] took over from the Greeks, although they may get credit for it, there are actually Greek words that have been eased over into Latin. You might say the Greeks have had a very large doing in the English language, almost 50 percent.

*TC:* Can you tell us a little about the Karakas family foundation?

**NK:** We established ourselves 25 years ago. It's a very modest organization in the sense of what we hear about foundations. The principal thing is that my parents came from Greece, immigrated here in the early 19th century. They're both deceased now; however, we're carrying on in the family name. We're using the profits we have made in the course of the years, to help fund Hellenism, in a way.

*TC:* You have mentioned UM-St. Louis is one of your favorite places ... why is that?

See GREEK, page 17

The Office of Multicultural Relations, Hispanic Latino Association,  
Office of Student Life & Anthropology, Sociology & Languages

Present:

### **“GROWING HISPANIC COMMUNITY; ISSUES AFFECTING THEIR INTEGRATION INTO THE MAINSTREAM”**

**Wednesday, Oct 6, 2010, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
UMSL Millenium Student Center  
3rd floor, Century Rooms A & B**

with  
**Gilberto Pinela,**  
Facilitator,  
Panel Discussion



Topics/Speakers Include:  
Business: **Jorge Riopedre**  
Law/Immigration: **Richard Hein**  
Grass Roots: **Omar Maldonado**  
Education: **Rhonda J Broussard**  
& **Lauren Rodriguez**  
Health: **Teresa Moldonado**





## Organization Spotlight

# Safe Zone gathers new allies

*Organization still needs the support of LGBT individuals*► **MATTHEW B. POPOSKY**

Staff Writer

"A fellow student in your dorm sees the Safe Zone sticker on your door and does not approve. He/she comes to your room and challenges you on why you are displaying a sticker that is divisive and unnecessary," posed an example from an activity sheet.

How would most people handle this situation? If questioned about one's support and understanding of LGBT (or lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender) individuals, how many people would actually support their views and defend the freedom of those under attack?

The unfortunate answer, which most people consider to be heavily 'modern,' is far too few. This is the reason for programs such as Safe Zone.

"One of the main purposes of Safe Zone is to show support to LGBT individuals on campus, to show that there are allies who are willing and comfortable with talking to them about issues they may have. This way, those who are LGBT, or who may be questioning, are assured that it's ok to be here, that they are welcome and that they can be themselves," Lori Curtis, associate teaching professor of social work, said.

Safe Zone is just that; a training program meant to build awareness and a supportive community of allies to the LGBT members of campuses across the country, one of which is the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

The program takes about three hours to complete, including a short intermission roughly halfway through. The beginning is meant to make attendees as comfortable as possible, including several ice-breaking activities to foster familiarity amongst potential new allies.

Following this are a variety of activities aimed at constructing awareness within attendees regarding the very real threats and dangers faced by LGBT individuals on a day-to-day basis. Threats filled with violence and hatred, bullying in school and work places and even cold-blooded murder. These are very real threats with which the LGBT community must contend, despite America's supposed 'modernity.'

The exercise during the meeting that caused the most powerful reactions of grief and understanding was an activity that began with the words "Clear your mind and relax."

Having been given this instruction, attendees were asked to imagine a world opposite our own: a world in which LGBT was the standard sexual orientation set, comprising 95 percent of the population, and to be heterosexual was to face certain degradation and possible death with each passing day.

How would most homophobes and LGBT hating individuals feel in a world such as this? Chances are, they would feel quite as their victims in reality do: alone, traumatized, and most of all, scared daily for their lives.

Safe Zone is a nationwide program. While not in practice at every university across the USA, there are several programs currently enacted, including UM-St. Louis' own, which began in April of 2004.

"Safe Zone is meant to create a campus that is a more open, accepting place for everybody, regardless of sexual orientation," James Linsin, coordinator of UM-St. Louis' Safe Zone, said.

Allies are not necessarily LGBT people themselves.

"Traditionally, an ally supports a group they don't belong to. In this case, they are supporters of LGBT concerns and issues," Linsin said.

For those interested in becoming a Safe Zone ally, the next official event will be a brownbag seminar on October 15, in Lucas 303, at noon.

"This will go on until about 1:30, and is open to anybody who wants to learn more about LGBT," Curtis said. While this is not training in itself, it is a great opportunity for students, faculty, staff, etc, to learn about the issues facing LGBT individuals in a comfortable environment.

## UMSL-TV gets off the ground again

► **MINHO JUNG**

Staff Writer

Since UMSL-TV and Media Production Society were deemed as a dual organization in mid-April of this year, many students have been recruited and many projects have been tested and accomplished.

Since the former president of the organization, Ryan Ordway, left the group after he graduated from University of Missouri-St. Louis, UMSL-TV has conducted many new projects, and also has faced many obstacles.

"UMSL-TV has been re-born as a new student organization after going through some changes. Now we have Derrick Thompson who is executive producer of the group. Currently, we have been working on producing different kinds of TV shows," Stephen Francis Engelmeyer, senior, communications, said.

UMSL-TV began to plan out the group project during last summer break. The project has made progress in such areas as recruitment and an outline of the projects which will be conducted throughout the fall semester.

"Now we have our own Facebook page. You can check out what we have produced either on our Facebook page or on Youtube. Sooner or later, we will have our own TV channel on

campus. We are working on it," Engelmeyer said.

Since UMSL-TV got off the ground in April, the group has had a problem with a lack of response from students. To tackle this problem, the group is also working on a promotion tape in order to promote the organization in a more effective way.

"The trailer we are working on will be about [a] one minute video clip which can effectively promote what we are doing here," Engelmeyer said.

Those participating in UMSL-TV stress it is not solely focused on a television station.

"UMSL-TV is more than just a TV station on campus. It ranges from radio commercials to movie production."

*-Derrick Thompson*

"UMSL-TV is more than just [a] TV station on campus.

It ranges from radio commercials to movie production. What we are trying to accomplish here is to play a role as a UM-St. Louis media station," Derrick Thompson, junior, media studies, said.

The ambition of the group this year is to be an influential media organization on campus.

UMSL-TV had promotion problems along the way since the reintroduction of the organization in May. The group's progress even stalled due to the communication problems inside and out.

"I know we have had promotion problems but I think as long as each member of the group has a desire and passion, each member can bring viral effects," Thompson said.

The group has also faced financial issues since they have been working on a variety of projects.

"Basically, the problem is anything we are doing involves money issues. That is one of the reasons why the projects take some time to proceed," Andrew Krechel, senior, media studies, said.

UMSL-TV had their latest meeting on September 30. Specific production plans were discussed at the meeting.

"Being a part of the group makes me feel great. I'm happy to be here with a lot of smart people we have in [the]group," Krechel said.

# Opinions

## OUR OPINION

### Missouri Dems and Repubs: *Working to destroy Missouri's future*

In Missouri both Republican and Democrat congress members in Missouri have found something to agree on: harming the environment.

A recent article in the Saint Louis Post-Dispatch brought to light the fact that our Missouri representatives in Washington appear to be mounting a full-scale assault on the Environmental Protection Agency. It is typical politician drivel, complete with bogus rhetoric about EPA regulations threatening jobs.

Freshman representative Blaine Luetkemeyer, R-St. Elizabeth, is helping lead the charge, calling some of the EPA's proposals an "ongoing assault on rural America."

Really? Initiatives designed to reduce pollution and emissions and to help preserve our environment for future generations somehow translates into a struggle against Middle American farmers? Doubtful.

Last week, Luetkemeyer argued against "potential EPA expansion of the Clean Water Act and new curbs on atrazine, farm dust and drifting pesticides from chemical spraying."

Atrazine is an herbicide that some studies associate "with birth defects from tainted drinking water." Atrazine was found leaking into a watershed in Luetkemeyer's district, causing harm to aquatic life.

In a delicious display of

irony, Luetkemeyer said that "agriculture is what underpins the local business community. If you destroy the farming community, you have destroyed rural Missouri," he said.

What he cannot understand is that if farmers are allowed to keep using dangerous herbicides like atrazine, there will not be a rural Missouri left to destroy, because the water supplying our farms will be tainted.

Kit Bond, R-Mo. is also in on the action, helping to try and force a postponement of a vote on regulating greenhouse gases.

On the other side of the political spectrum, Ike Skelton, D-Lexington, is eerily echoing Bond by sponsoring "legislation to delay efforts to combat climate change," according to The Post article. The once-honorable Senator Claire McCaskill is unfortunately a "leader in the congressional drive that [is] preventing tougher smog rules from the nation's anti-pollution agency."

Thanks, Claire. Hopefully Saint Louis will not end up looking like Los Angeles under your watch.

Perhaps the most damning is this line from the Post article: "Taken together, Missourians in Congress have been one of the most anti-EPA delegations from any state."

From any state. Thankfully, Missouri seems to be

standing mostly alone on this anti-EPA stance.

While it is true that Missouri's economy is reliant on agriculture, it is important that we look to the future and find sustainable options. In order to move forward, we need to preserve our water supply and prevent dangerous infections from creeping into it.

These politicians are espousing shortsighted viewpoints that can only lead to the destruction of Missouri's natural resources. It is this kind of attitude that got our nation into the trouble in the first place. Remember "Drill Baby, Drill?"

It is about the big picture. Switching to safer herbicides would not only help continue to grow Missouri's agribusiness sector, but also protect and preserve our aquifers, and in turn, our farms.

With all the partisan bickering going on in Washington, it is refreshing to see both parties working with each other on an issue—it is just a shame that the only issue that Missouri Democrats and Republicans can agree on is destroying our state.

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

## SEAL OF APPROVAL

### Matt Mitchell is a monster

Multitasking does not always work so well for some people.

Take Matt Mitchell, for example.

Mitchell is a former Illinois state trooper who apparently never took to heart the "don't text while driving" recommendation.

He was trying to e-mail a fellow police officer, talk on his cell phone to his girlfriend and driving up to 126 miles per hour in his patrol car while heading to the scene of an accident.

His inability to juggle those three things resulted in the needless deaths of teenage sisters Jessica and Kelli Uhl. Mitchell's vehicle crossed a median while he was distracted and crashed right into the girls' vehicle, killing them, as well as injuring two other girls in the vehicle.

Some would call Mitchell irresponsible. Some would call him incompetent.

Others would call him a monster.

See, last week, Mitchell filed a claim for workers' compensation. As if his previous actions were not monstrous enough, this is a man who thinks he should be compensated for the time he spent recovering after the crash and deaths he caused.

On top of that, Mitchell "received his \$67,000 annual pay for two years while his criminal case was pending," according to an article on stl-today.com.

Mitchell is guilty, of that there is no doubt. All things

considered, he got off pretty easy for a man who outright killed two teenagers: he served zero jail time.

In exchange for a mere 30 months of probation, he agreed to plead guilty to two counts of reckless homicide. On top of that, he continued to draw that \$67,000 salary up until he resigned when the Illinois State Police started a disciplinary case against him.

It sounds like Mitchell got preferential treatment merely because he was a police officer.

The worst part is that, due to Illinois law, Mitchell is "almost certain to collect" on his claim, according to the same stl-today.com article.

Illinois has no negligence clause on their workman's compensation claim. That means that despite the fact that he killed two girls despite the fact that he was responding to a traffic accident that had already been responded to, that he will be able to collect comp because he was still technically doing his job at the time he crashed.

While the two Uhl girls are dead, the worst that happened to Mitchell is that he sustained severe leg injuries.

Just because he can claim workman's comp does not mean that he should. Out of respect for the victim's family, Mitchell needs to get out of the spotlight and let this all fade down.

For the Uhl family, the past three years must have been nothing but one nightmare after another. Mitchell



Andrew Seal

originally pled guilty, only to recant on the stand and say he was not responsible. He only pled guilty again when he received that sweet, sweet probation deal.

It is obvious that Mitchell shows absolutely no remorse for his gross acts three years ago. By filing for workman's comp, he shows himself to be one of the worst kinds of people.

Thomas Keefe, the lawyer who is representing the Uhls in a civil trial against the state, said it best: Despite all that he has done "he still has to get out of bed every day and know that he caused the death of those two girls, and know that he didn't take responsibility for that... He still has to look himself in the mirror and think about the fact his actions forever took two girls away from their parents, then he filed for worker's compensation benefits."

Sadly, Matt Mitchell will probably have no problem doing that.

*-Andrew Seal is Opinions Editor and a columnist for The Current*

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## STAFF VIEWPOINT

# Media's silence about new e-wiretaps is concerning

If the United States ever finds itself transformed into a Big Brother state it will have happened in two ways: little by little and then all off a sudden. In an unsettling move, the Obama administration announced last week that it will introduce legislation to the Federal government's authority to wiretap e-mails, Facebook accounts and other Internet services. The Fed's argument is that the way we communicate is changing rapidly and their ability to listen in needs to keep up.

Essentially, the Internet is hard to wiretap because, unlike phone lines, it is the epitome of decentralization. So the only way the Feds can tap into Internet communication is to ask companies like Facebook, Skype and Research in Motion (the maker of the Blackberry) to redesign their systems to include a "back door" that would be easily accessible to government agencies wanting to eavesdrop.

Even more unsettling than the White House's request for this "back door" has been the media's casual reaction to it.

In the early 2000s when the media started to report on what the recently passed Patriot Act actually entailed there was public outcry. A lot of Americans were not com-

fortable with the warrantless wiretaps, the sneak and peak searches or the FBI snooping through your library records. The public's fiery outrage and the media's fanning of these flames was probably a little over the top but it is never a bad thing to error on the side of caution.

But in response to these new propositions from the Obama Administration, the mainstream media has been largely hushed, if not completely silent. It is pretty obvious why, though. From about 2003 and onward, the media absolutely hated George W. Bush and were overly eager to report anything that painted him in bad light. So the media's negative response to the controversial portions of the Patriot Act was not incited by its love of freedom and fervent anti-totalitarian beliefs, it was simply a tool to bash Bush. However, now that a president who is well liked by the media is calling the shots it looks like the same anti-privacy agenda can march forward, only now uncontested by the media.

If the media will not stand up for civil liberties then who will? The American Civil Liberties Union has the legal resources, but they have cried wolf too many times



**Ryan Krull**

for the public to listen. Any Republican who speaks up will be vulnerable to the 'soft on terror' label by opponents and Democrats do not want a public face off with their own party leader.

It looks like the responsibility of protecting our privacy will fall to the corporations who control the systems of online communication. They are the ones, after all, who have to design and insert these "back doors" into their own systems.

Are Mark Zuckerberg or Tom from MySpace really the ideal people to be standing up against the erosion of American civil liberties? No, they are not. But hopefully that does not stop them from trying.

*Ryan Krull is News Editor for The Current.*

## SEAL OF APPROVAL

# Reassessing SciFest at St. Louis Science Center

SciFest 2010 takes place next week at the St. Louis Science Center, October 12-17. This is the third year for the international science festival at our Science Center, so it might merit both a preview and a reassessment of the local festival's success so far.

More than three years ago, the St. Louis Science Center fought hard to host SciFest 2008, as the successful British-based international science festival reached into the U.S. The Science Center beat out major cities like New York and San Francisco to win the right to host the event.

The original festival had been an enormous popular success. The multi-day event was very much a festival. With mind-boggling to silly science demonstrations, the fest aimed to make science topics both exciting and understandable, demonstrating science in everyday life and appealing to non-scientists and scientists. Events were paired with hard-hitting debates on challenging, timely science topics.

The original fest was a big event, intelligent, lively and fun - a lot to live up to.

The Science Center kicked off their first festival well, offering the right mix of silly and serious, science discussions and fun events. Topics ranged from "the science of dating," to nanotechnology jewelry to climate change. There were serious public debates on science topics impacting society.

They pulled it off, despite the Center's historic focus on

grade- to middle-school science and a decided tendency to shy away from controversial subjects. This last point is important, given the spirit of the original festival and science's role in some of the most critical and contentious challenges facing the modern world. Avoiding all such topics would diminish the festival's potential to generate public interest and to offer something meaningful as well as fun.

While the first-year festival met that challenge, the second year seemed largely a repeat of the first. More tellingly, there were even fewer of those hard-hitting discussions. So this year may be a critical turning point for the St. Louis Science Center's SciFest: repeat the same show or strike out in new directions, reflecting the original spirit. The Science Center describes this year's fest as a "celebration of science and technology" featuring "wacky experiments and engaging hands-on activities." Monsanto is sponsoring.

Like last year, SciFest 2010 kicks off with the Segway Scramble, maybe not such a great idea following the recent death of the company's owner in a Segway accident.

"Watershed Wonders: Mississippi River" features marine-researcher Marcus Eriksen describing his months-long trip "down the Mississippi River on a raft made of plastic bottles." There is plenty of kids' stuff, like the "Grossology" body function exhibit and Finnish science entertainer Heko the



**Cate Marquis**

Edutainer. There are workshops on film animation and appearances by sports figures.

Discussions are offered on the crises facing honeybees, coral reefs and science education in public schools. There is a discussion of recovery from the BP oil disaster, led by a business school dean. Not wacky nor challenging, the fest seems mostly kid-centric and safely non-controversial, very much like the Science Center year-round exhibits and events. It seems a far cry from the original. By comparison, the Edinburgh SciFest focuses on biodiversity and offers "Sonic Dreams," a demonstration of a hyper-realistic 3D sound system fusing art and science. There is more for adults than for kids, including discussions of particle accelerators and carbon capture. At the Flagstaff SciFest, the focus is on sustainable living.

The Science Center needs to re-think its approach to the SciFest, to keep this event fresh and also keep it in the spirit of the original.

*Cate Marquis is Associate ACE Editor and a columnist for The Current*

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## GREEK from page 12

**NK:** You know, I'm a graduate of St. Louis University and somehow, I never felt close there. Maybe it was because of the religion, I'm not sure. I don't fault them for anything, she was very encouraging to us and helped us in the formation of the Greek chair. So, that kind of nailed it to the fact our affinities would be with the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

**TC:** *What or who has had a major impact on who you are today?*

**NK:** My parents were very strict with us,

and that has done us very well in our upbringing. Subsequently, we just try to do right. Also, the fact that we were very close to the church; that [in] itself [did] a whole lot as well.

**TC:** *What do you like to do for fun?*

**NK:** Now that you mention that, I really have no room for fun. I'm like a workaholic in the sense that I spend most of my hours in [this office]. I love music and I do read.

## BIRTH from page 9

There are none of the control quirks prevalent in usual portables of this series, the graphics stream beautifully across the screen with little to no hitch and the musical score is exactly what a fan would expect: complete, appropriate and moving. For those looking for challenges, Square Enix listened after "Kingdom Hearts II" and promptly included a Critical Mode for the masochists in the fan-base. Now, Americans can spend countless hours screaming in frustration as their characters, unable to be strengthened in any regard, die countless times within the first world. Try it and understand. The story is where the meat of this game truly lies. Again, this

is a prequel meant to explain several of the missing links and fallacies, which fans have torn apart since the release of "II." The roots of Xehanort, as well as his insane ramblings about controlling "Kingdom Hearts," are finally explained in complete detail. The very fashion in which "Kingdom Hearts" itself is brought into existence is thrust upon players. The origins of the powers held by Sora are shown, as is an explanation as to why Sora is not the 'original chosen one.'

"BbS" is a must-have for any fan to the series. Pick it up and experience the links of advent. **B+** -*Mathew B. Poposky*

## KICK from page 5

Smajic did admit that he is not all brawn and no brain. "I really enjoy reading and playing my guitar," he said. "But I do admit," Smajic said, "my girlfriend does not really like coming to see me fight." According to Smajic, his girlfriend, Minela Vehabovic, senior, nursing, she has only been to two of his fights.

"She doesn't like to see me get hit." Karate Life Studios, where Smajic trains and works, has been serving local St. Louis youth for the past twenty years. Jargian and Smajic help train and coach local youths in karate and other martial arts. Smajic's next fight will be sometime within the next two months.

## PUBLIC from page 4

According to Ed Martin's opening statements, the Carnahan campaign has been embroiled in a scandal. "We see a scandal enveloping this family," Martin said.

According to a recent St. Louis Post Dispatch article, a Carnahan family member owned wind farm is on a United States government award list for one of the top performing projects in the country. The wind farm, according to Martin who is an opponent to President Obama's stimulus package and health care reform bill, was paid for in federal grant money. According to St. Louis Activist Hub, a Facebook page devoted to St. Louis political issues, the Martin campaign has the backing of local Tea Party members. Adam Shriver of Washington University in St. Louis, operator of St. Louis Activist Hub, posted on Thursday, September 23 at 3:40 p.m. that Martin and his supporters would

try to disrupt Congressman Carnahan during his answers. "Ed Martin's candidacy is part of a plan for Republicans to take control of the House of Representatives and shut down government by not passing any bills," read Shriver's post. However, despite The Currents submitted question about Metro and the state of St. Louis mass transit, neither candidate discussed the issue. Instead, Carnahan and Martin attacked each other's past. "He was named one of the most corrupt candidates in the nation," Congressman Carnahan said of Ed Martin. Carnahan mentioned the memo-gate scandal, which involved Martin's firing of one of the attorneys from former Governor Matt Blunt's office when Martin was Blunt's chief of staff. The case was settled out of court for \$500,000. The debate ended without interruption or strife from local Tea Party members.

# 2010 UMSL HOMECOMING MEET ME AT THE FAIR

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 18**

1PM: KICKOFF FAIR  
MSC LAWN

7PM: OUTDOOR MOVIE  
MSC LAWN

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21**

3PM: SHOPPING  
CART PARADE  
MSC LAWN

7PM: ABC STEP SHOW  
THE TOWHILL

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19**

ALL DAY: WEAR UMSL GEAR,  
GET A FREE COOKIE  
MSC NOSH

10AM-3PM: BLOOD DRIVE  
JC PENNEY SUMMIT LOUNGE

7PM: ALUMNI CHILI SUPPER  
OAK HALL

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22**

1PM: GREEKS VS. ROMANS  
FOOTBALL GAME  
MARK TWAIN

4PM: STAT TAILGATE  
MARK TWAIN

5PM: SOCCER GAMES  
MARK TWAIN

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20**

12PM: BIG MAN ON CAMPUS  
PILOT HOUSE

7PM: VOLLEYBALL GAME  
MARK TWAIN

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23**

6PM: HOMECOMING DANCE  
MARRIOTT HOTEL  
AT UNION STATION

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT  
THE OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE AT 516-5291

## WEEK OF EVENTS



# The Current needs cartoonists

CAN YOU DRAW?  
ARE YOU HILARIOUS/WITTY?  
IF YOU ANSWERED "KINDA" TO THE ABOVE QUESTIONS, STOP  
BY 388 MSC AND FILL OUT AN APPLICATION. TURN IN SOME  
SAMPLES OF YOUR STRIP, ALSO.  
YOU CAN ALSO E-MAIL THECURRENTJOBS@UMSL.EDU

## Storytime

By Sara Maxine Novak

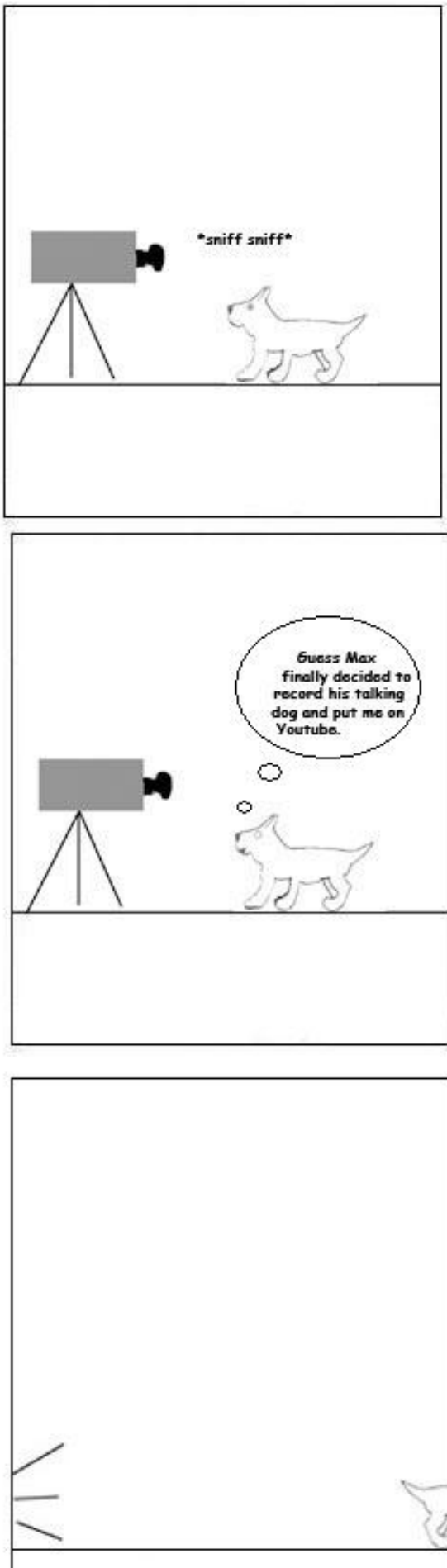


## They teach that? by Sam Kayser



# Comics

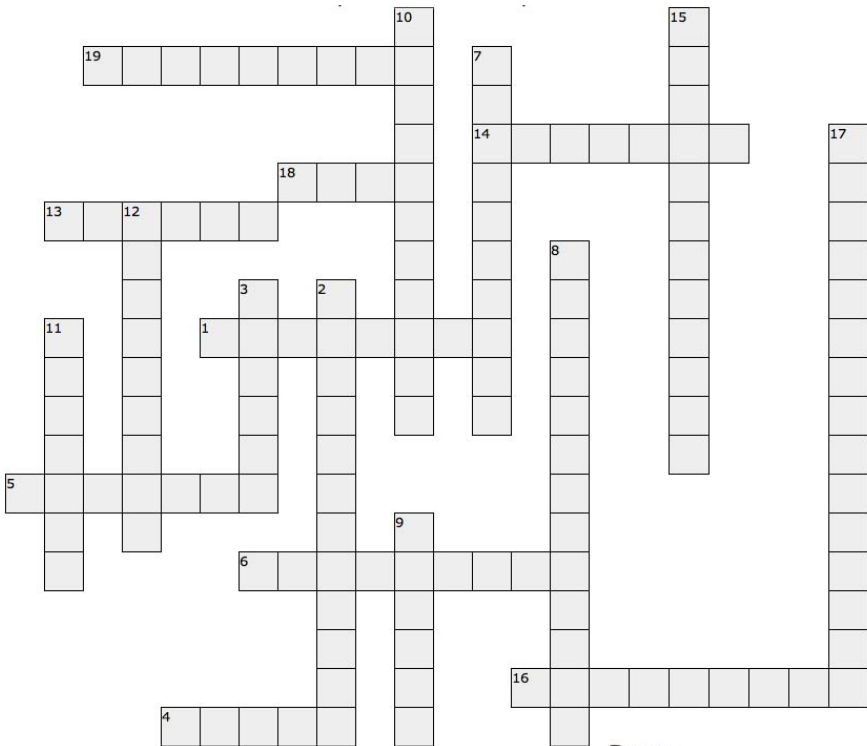
## Max and Lobo by Gail Fike





CURRENT CROSSWORD

AMERICAN REVOLUTION



- Across:
- Down:
1. colonists loyal to Britain

4. wrote 'common sense'

5. polish jew who helped patriots financially

6. wrote the declaration of indep.

13. birthday of the US

14. german who trained patriot soldiers

16. led the sons of liberty

18. british general

19. frenchman who helped patriots
2. patriots spent a cold winter

3. where the patriots dumped the tea

7. commander of patriot forces

8. forced colonists tho house british soldiers

9. made a midnight ride

10. hired soldiers

11. first signer of the declaration of independence

12. shot heard around the world

15. free, on your own

17. african who fell at the boston massacre

CURRENT WORDSEARCH

AUTUMN

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

- LEAF
- THANKSGIVING
- SCARECROW
- COLORFUL
- CORN
- AUTUMN
- HARVEST
- PUMPKIN
- FOOTBALL
- APPLECIDER
- FALL
- RAKE
- HALLOWEEN
- COOL
- TURKEY

CURRENT HOROSCOPES by Zachary Schwartz

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

Something about Jupiter and fish or something. Some more stuff about how bad your week will be, and how your family doesn't like you. You get the idea.

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

If you haven't already had your birthday, it's coming up. Another year of friends getting married, divorced, having babies, and buying houses. Happy freakin birthdays.

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

I was gonna write a horoscope about how awful this week is going to be, and how depressed you'll be by te end of it... but forget it. What's the point.

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

You deserve more praise from your peers for being such a great person. Let me get it started. Con-gratulations on having the creepiest sign.

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

Timmy is going to push you over on the playground at recess again. He's a doody face. Shelly is going to kick you in the shins at lunch, but it's just because she really likes you. Gross.

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

This week will be a (adj.) week for (noun). Make sure you (verb) your (noun) (adj.). As far as (noun) goes, the rest of the week will be (adj.).

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

Life is pretty rough right now, I know. If you think things are bad now, take it from someone who can predict the future -- you have no idea. Two words: Cat ladies.

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

If you're wondering if this is another one of those grisly-death horoscopes, relax: You will die peacefully in bed Sunday.

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

Another rough week: Mid-terms are approach-ing, Rahm is leaving, and Michelle keeps nagging about your smoking. Prob-ably not a good time to tell everyone you voted McCain.

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

"You will enjoy a beauti-ful cake soon." -- Actual fortune cookie message. As your future-info service pro-vider, I recommend sticking to horoscopes. What does Confucious know?

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

This week could very well end with a tragedy the likes of which will end up defin-ing your very existence on this planet, haunting you forever. But don't worry, I'm sure it's nothing.

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

Okay, let's be real. No one can tell you how to live. Ul-timately, you have to trust the decisions you make and develop a healthy au-tonomy of your own. Nah, just kidding. See you next week.

# What's Current

**Your weekly calendar of campus events.** "What's Current" is a free service for student organizations. Submissions must be turned in by 5 p.m. the Thursday before publication; first-come, first-served. Listings may be edited for length and style. E-mail event listings to [thecurrentads@umsl.edu](mailto:thecurrentads@umsl.edu), with the subject "What's Current." No phone submissions.



Stewart King makes a pass attempt in Tuesday's Punt Pass and Kick contest on the intramural field outside the gym.

CHENHAO LI / THE CURRENT

## Monday, Oct. 4

**German Unification**

From 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., guest speaker Ruth Wittlinger will discuss history and politics of Germany with regard to their re-unification after the cold war in the MSC. For more info, call 314-516-4908.

## Tuesday, Oct. 5

**40-Yard Dash Competition**

From 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., an open 40-yard dash competition will be held at the Mark Twain Recreation Field. No prior registration is necessary; students who want to participate can just show up. For more info, call 314-516-5326.

## Thursday, Oct. 7

**Urban Landscape**

From 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., three award-winning St. Louis artists will discuss their varied and diverse approaches to depicting the urban landscape in the Mercantile Library. For more info, call Julie Dunn-Morton at 314-516-6740

### ARE YOU DEPRESSED?

Do you want to join the fight against depression?

Dr. Jose Mathews is conducting a fMRI study using state of the art brain imaging techniques.

This study will detect brain changes in individuals with depression.

**You Might Qualify If You Are:**

1. Age 18 – 50
2. Not taking psychiatric medications
3. Experiencing low mood and decreased enjoyment of life
4. Not suffering from major medical illness

This study lasts up to 2 weeks and will take about 5 hours to complete. Study will include a fMRI scan, blood test and interviews. Up to \$125 is provided for time and effort. Call Jennifer at **314-362-5150**, or e-mail [mathews@wustl.edu](mailto:mathews@wustl.edu).

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