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The Current

WWW.THECURRENT-ONLINE.COM

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The Current

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AFFILIATIONS



News

UM-St. Louis officially ends their contract with Chartwells

UM-St. Louis welcomes SodexoUSA as its new food service provider

SEQUITA BEAN
Editor-in-Chief

After nearly a decade of food service and almost a year of speculation, the University of Missouri St. Louis announced Friday that they will be officially ending their contract with Chartwells, Compass Group North America.

The decision was announced via campus-wide email from Vice Provost of Student Affairs, Curtis Coonrod. "The University of Missouri-St. Louis welcomes our new dining partner, SodexoUSA, with limited service beginning in January 3, 2011," the email said. Chartwells will continue their retail and residential service through December 17 and any confirmed catering orders will be honored through

December 23.

Beginning in February 2010, Student Services planned a series of food service forums in which UM-St. Louis students were invited to share their opinions on the quality of food on campus. The input was compiled and passed on to Chartwells as recommendations for improvement.

Chartwells' original contract, which was a long-term one, had become out-dated and the needs of the university had changed. "There comes a point when you can band-aid the contract but it really needs a fresh look," Curtis Coonrod, vice provost, said in a previous interview.

The new food service committee prepared a request for proposal that allowed all food service providers, including Chartwells to bid for the January 2011 opening. In

an effort to help their reputation, Chartwells began their "We Heard You" campaign at the beginning of the Fall 2010 semester. They implemented several changes to their menu including "flexible to go" combo meals, different catering options and fresh pastries at the Aroma Cafe. Other changes included extended dining hours throughout dining areas on campus. However, Chartwells had to raise their prices almost 2 percent in order to supplement the changes.

Despite their campaign and the new menu changes, Chartwells will no longer be the food service provider for UM-St. Louis.

SodexoUSA is the foodservice provider for other colleges and universities including the University of Missouri Kansas City, Central Missouri State University and Missouri State University.

Their Web site boasts a series of national brands including Chic-fil-A, Panda Express and Blimpe. They also offer convenience stores, catering and vending services. Sodexo's dining hours on campus will not be available until next year. "[The new hours] haven't been worked out yet," Bernard Diggs, director of Millennium Student Center Operations said. "Throughout the month of December we're going to be meeting to work that out." Unconfirmed catering contracts with Chartwells will not be honored at this time. SodexoUSA's new dining hours will be set to be released on or before January 3, shortly followed by any catering information.

Curtis Coonrod, vice provost of Student Affairs, declined to comment on the new contract.

One lost and found location turns into several

CAITLIN E. L. MYLES
Staff Writer

Lost and found at the University of Missouri-St. Louis might receive a new home or, to be more specific, many new homes. The information desk located between Aroma's Bakery and the Advising Center in the Millennium Student Center is currently in charge of lost and found

items, but the Welcome Center, near the bookstore, is taking over and has plans for change. These plans are under debate about how beneficial they are to students.

At the present time lost and found items from the entire campus are transferred to and held at the information desk for the duration of one semester. However, after control of the policy is put into

new hands, the arrangement is for each campus building to have its own lost and found instead of the Welcome Center being in charge of lost items campus wide.

"We are making some changes with the information desk at the MSC to allow for more coverage and hopefully provide even more service to our students, faculty and staff. The information desk

will be managed by the Welcome Center. With regards to the lost and found policy, no change has been implemented. As we look to making changes, we are looking for ways to enhance our service to the campus community," Curt Coonrod, vice provost for Student Affairs, said.

See LOST on page 6

WEATHER

MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.	SUN.
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Controversy surrounds Millennium Student Center arrest

Student witnesses dispute UM-SL's official account of the incident

RYAN KRULL
News Editor

Controversy continues to surround the Nov. 17 arrest of University of Missouri-St. Louis student Brian K. Massey outside The U in the Millennium Student Center. The Facebook group UM-SL Police Went Too Far!!! now boasts 90 members and is circulating an online petition.

The petition, titled Permanently Remove the Offending Officers from the UM-St. Louis Campus, currently has 11 signatures.

The group was created by the Facebook profile Ann Greestudent. The owner of the profile told *The Current*, "Things are in motion. The students are going to push and the more we are not heard the harder we are going to push. There isn't one person on this campus whose job is not based on student enrollment, and those who choose to ignore us will be reminded of such. Everything we do will be legal, and they should know that there are many legal routes that we can, will and are taking."

The Current reported on Massey's arrest last week and since that time several students have contacted the paper saying they witnessed the incident and wanted to give their account of what happened.

The student witnesses take particular exception to Police Chief Forest Van Ness' claim that Massey grabbed at the

arresting officer when the officer was placing handcuffs on him.

"As he was being arrested he was just asking why and asked if he could just put his wallet back before being handcuffed," Kendeh Isom, senior, biology, said. It was after asking why he was being arrested, according to Isom, that Massey was thrown on the ground and dragged out of the MSC lobby and into the part of the building where The U is located as well as several other offices, including the Center for Student Success. While in this area of the MSC, Isom said that the door was open and she and several others could see two officers on top of Massey, one punching his legs and another hitting Massey's head into the ground. She said Massey was making no attempt to resist or fight back while on the ground.

Dasma Hopkins, junior, media studies, who was also in the MSC at the time of the incident, gave essentially an identical account of the events as Isom did. Both Hopkins and Isom's accounts coincide by and large with what Justin Collins, senior, studio art, told *The Current* previously. Isom also said that she felt that the UM-St. Louis Police were "nonchalant" when taking her statement and she feels as though they will not be taking what she or any of the other student witnesses say seriously.

"I am sorry to hear that some students

felt our officers were 'nonchalant,'" Van Ness said. "At no time did I ever want an officer to indicate that a student or staff member could not come forward and freely, without restraint provide a statement. Although I've attended to a lot of issues, I personally spent about 45 minutes with one student."

In response to students' complaints about the behavior of the arresting officers, Van Ness said, "I understand that there are students who have expressed concern. Their statements will be reported in a supplemental police report. We are following our policy regarding the use of force." Van Ness said that the State Prosecuting Attorney will have access to this supplemental report.

The November 17 incident began when, according to Samples, "police received a call about a student in crisis at the radio station in the Millennium Student Center. Three officers responded."

"I asked Brian to leave from in front of the radio station," said John Edwards, sports director for The U. "Our goal was to remove the distraught student from inside the radio station and not have her be more upset by seeing Brian outside the radio station. When asked, Brian refused. When he refused I walked back into our offices and waited for campus police to arrive."

When asked if an UM-St. Louis student would actually have to obey such a request from someone like a manager of The U, Curtis Coonrod vice provost for Student Affairs, cited the Student Code of Conduct.

"In most cases, a student would only be requested to vacate a classroom or building if their behavior was determined to be disruptive," he said. "According to the Student Code of Conduct, Section 200.010 B.10, students must comply with the request of University officials acting in the performance of their duties. If the student feels that this request is unfair, they are still obligated to leave but can contact the appropriate office to report their concern."

The UNDERCURRENT

by Riki Tanaka

"What do you plan for winter break?"



"During winter break, I plan on getting a second job, because I got accepted into a university in the Netherlands."

Xuandrea Tullie
Undecided
Sophomore



"I'm planning on doing a little travelling between work and family obligations. I'd like to go far away; however, I don't think time will permit it."

Cody Hill
Computer Science
Graduate



"Spending time with friends and family and drinking hot cocoa while trying not to forget Spanish, French and Japanese."

La'Ondrill Brown
Linguistics
Senior



"I am going to NYC with some international friends of mine to celebrate the New Year's Eve. I've always wanted to go there and I think that it will be a good occasion to see this big city enlightened with Christmas light!"

Anderson Denis
English
Junior

"UM-SL police arrest Student in MSC" - Week of the Nov. 29 Web Edition

This should have been the story published in *The Current's* hard-copy for the week of Nov. 29. I commented on another story that the staff should double-check its content and add a layer of polish instead of focusing so much on less-newsworthy pursuits, and this is a prime example why. The published version takes great pains to avoid naming the suspect until the man's last name is dropped in the latter part of the article, thereby invalidating the entire purpose. Lines are unwieldy, placement could be better, and the article raises more questions than it answers.

However, that isn't the primary reason as to why I'm commenting today. I'm curious, confused, and concerned (yes, all at once) as to why *The Current's* staff has not pursued this story further given it has had nearly two weeks since the incident to do so. The published account does leave some to the imagination, yes, but there could have been much more done with this piece. For example, why has there been no published research done on a student's rights on campus? This story shows that campus staff (of which the alleged perpetrator is ostensibly a member) seemingly has a veto power over the student body at large – that is, they can direct anyone to not only leave the building, but campus itself. Is this true? Can the director of Student Services (whom I'm sure is terribly nice, but only an example) walk up to me and say "Shove off, you're ruining the scenery"? Where has the precedent been set?

-Justin Young

COMMENTS FROM THE WEB

“

Things are in motion. The students are going to push and the more we are not heard the harder we are going to push.

”



The Benton-Stadler building that was expected to receive student fee funding for re-construction.

CHENHAO LI / THE CURRENT

Long awaited Benton-Stadler renovation hits road block

RYAN KRULL
News Editor

University of Missouri-St. Louis students will not be seeing a proposed \$4.10 per credit hour student fee increase any time soon. However, that means that students will have to settle for the same old Benton-Stadler for the time being.

The student fee increase would have supplemented money brought in by a recently approved University of Missouri System bond issue to help fund a major Benton-Stadler renovation, but UM System President Gary Forsee chose to not propose the student fee increase to the UM Board of Curators in November.

Vice Chancellor of Managerial & Technological Services, James Krueger, was a vocal supporter of the student fee increase and bond issue. Several weeks before Forsee made his decision, Krueger told the Student Government Association that, given the historically low interest rates, before the end of the year would be the perfect time for the UM System to raise money via a bond issue. Though the Board of Curators approved the bond issue, Forsee’s decision to not bring up the UM-St. Louis student fee increase for approval as well means that the Benton-Stadler project will not be part of the bond

issue. Forsee’s decision came as a surprise to many at UM-St. Louis, especially after Forsee expressed his strong support for the Benton-Stadler renovation at a recent townhall meeting held at UM-St. Louis. Krueger said that Forsee’s decision does not mean that the system president is backtracking on his support for the Benton-Stadler renovation. “He understands the need for the project,” Krueger said. “He’s committed to us to figure out ways to find money for the project.” Krueger said that Forsee did not propose the student fee increase because of a state law that requires an exception from the Missouri Department of Education to be granted if a public university wants to raise undergraduate resident tuition at a rate that exceeds the consumer price index.

“No four-year public higher education institution has ever asked for an exception because of previous agreements with the governor on tuition,” Krueger said. “Our campus will be proposing fee increases that exceed inflation for the next fiscal year, we will have to ask for an exception. The amount of increase would have been much higher [if the \$4.10 per credit hour had been included]. Since it is the first year that we will ask as a campus for an exception, the president [Forsee] didn’t know how well that would be perceived.”

Despite the recent setback, Krueger said that he is still op-

timistic about the Benton-Stadler renovations happening in the future. “Benton-Stadler is number one campus priority project until it gets funded,” Krueger said. “We have other projects, but I believe it will stay number one.”

Krueger said that one possibility might be reevaluating the student fee one year from now. Another possibility is a state wide bond issue that would have to be approved by the Missouri general assembly then go to voters on the ballot. Krueger said that Forsee is in favor of a state wide bond issue and that if it were to pass it is his belief that UM-St. Louis would get a second building project in addition to the Benton-Stadler renovation. “A statewide bond issue has tremendous positive economic benefits,” Chris Kelly, a state representative from the Missouri’s 24th district, said. “State government will always borrow money to build on public campuses, its not if we will borrow but when.”

The statewide bond issue option may be appealing to students because going that route would not require a student fee increase as a supplement. “Student fees are wrong because it says students and their parents have to do the work that [the] state should do,” Kelly said. Kelly said that he will definitely bring the statewide bond issue proposal before the legislature this session.

Crimeline

The following criminal incidents were reported to the University of Missouri-St. Louis Police Department between November 18-19, 2010.

November 18, 2010 Fraudulent Use of a Credit Card-Millennium Student Center

During the day, two employees used a credit card which did not belong to them to make purchases at the bookstore. When the Fraud was detected by the employee at the bookstore, the UMSL Police were called. The Police made contact with the owner of the credit card and determined that it was not in her possession. The UMSL Police did make two arrests of the employees in this case, and when the report is completed it will be sent to the St. Louis County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office for review. The employees will also face disciplinary action from the university.

November 19, 2010 Stealing Under \$500.00-Oak Hall

Sometime between midnight and 3:00 a.m. the victim had his game console system stolen from his room. The victim advised that his room was left unlocked, however, the suite door was closed. The game system was entered in the computer system as stolen. There are no suspects in this incident.

Remember that crime prevention is a community effort, and anyone having information concerning these, or any other incidents should contact the Campus Police. The UMSL Police would like to remind all persons to be aware of your surroundings, walk in groups and stay in well lit areas if possible. Please report any suspicious people or activity to the UMSL Campus Police immediately by calling 911 if it is an emergency, or the main number of 314-516-5155.



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LOST from page 2

The Student Government Association is not in favor of the new policy and prepares to fight to get their way.

"SGA is able to make recommendations directly to the vice provost for Student Affairs as well as vote on the Student Affairs committee," Daniel Rosner, Student Government president, said. With these powers, SGA is going to voice their opinion.

"I personally think it makes more sense to have one centralized location for lost and found on campus and the MSC makes the most sense as it is our (the students') building. And the MSC houses other services for students," Rosner said, therefore making sense to keep lost and found in the MSC.

There are not any issues with the way lost

and found is currently organized. The debate on changing the lost and found location is merely because its new owner wants to change it. "Everyone knows how frustrating it is to lose something," Rosner said and if this policy is put into act students will no longer have one central location to find their belongings. They will have to hunt throughout the campus prolonging their search and the reunion with their missed items.

Within the next few weeks, a meeting will be held between the Student Affairs office members and SGA president, Dan Rosner. Before any final decisions are made, "If there are any recommendations [for the lost and found policy] they will be fully vetted," said Coonrod.

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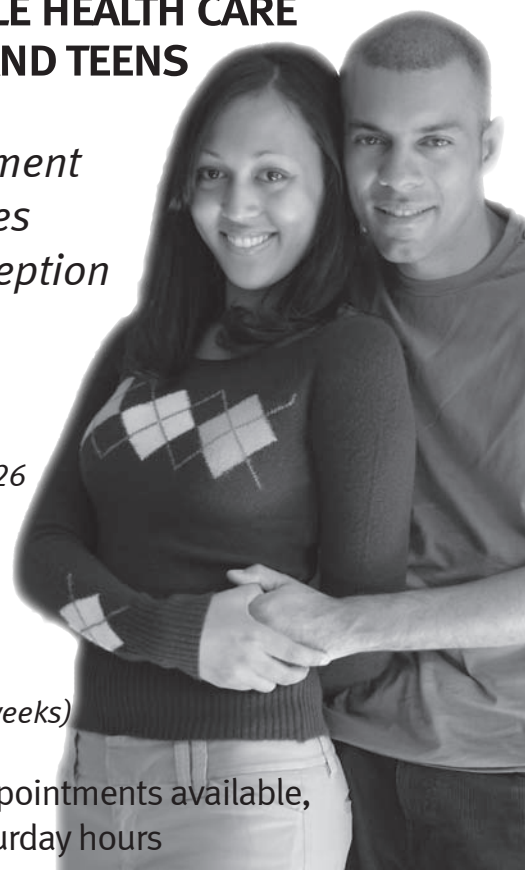
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A purchase from 'Arts for AIDS' helps another

Matt Guempel paintings hang in Gallery Visio during the Art For Aids exhibit to raise money to help families affected by HIV-AIDS.

NITESH JAIN / THE CURRENT

ART

Still in search of that perfect gift for that eccentric friend who marches to the sound of his or her own drum? Then slide on down to Gallery Visio's current exhibition entitled, "Art for AIDS." The brain-child of past director for Gallery Visio, Patricia Johnson, "Art for AIDS" is an exhibition fundraiser where 100 percent of the gallery's proceeds are donated to community members living with HIV-AIDS. This showcase has taken place every year since 2006 and is open, free to the public, until December 16.

Should one decide to inquire about this colorful exhibition, located on the lower level of the Millennium Student Center at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, one will find a room of spacious white walls covered with a mixture of artwork created in different media, such as oil, mixed media, or digital photography. Gallery Visio prides itself on the fact that it has created an environment where student artists are welcome to display their artwork for all to see and that is what

viewers get when entering the gallery.

In this exhibit, one may take notice of Kristin Franke's oil on canvas "Only In His Dreams," which is selling for \$100. The viewer is introduced to what appears to be an aged man and the younger, optimistic version of what he once was. For the guest who has the room and means to purchase something more pricey from the gallery, Melissa Whiteman's duo oil paintings, each selling at \$1,600, are suggested. Both of these paintings entitled "Sunset Storm" and "Moonstruck" are great for the person who has ever dreamed of being a storm chaser without the element of actual life endangerment. "Sunset Storm" provides its owner with more of a quiet storm with its warm hues and highway perspective. "Moonstruck" can be described as a dangerous adventure into a stormy night. A thunderbolt strike illuminates a jet-black sky with what little light it can provide.

And for the college student on a budget, the exhibition is selling various digital prints for \$25 a piece. If one is in the mood for a black and white print, then look no farther than artist Katharine Leighton, whose photos capture deteriorating

houses, structures and barns. Digital artist, Jennifer White's \$25 prints provide a contrast with an extreme focus on flowers and the captivating colors that they provide. Not interested in flowers? This same artist has also taken photos of the St. Louis Arch from unusual perspectives, taking the onlooker on a rollercoaster ride of stainless steel.

There is bound to be a little something for everyone in this exhibit and buyers will feel wonderful to know that this year they have made a donation especially to the Will Flores Fund, which provides help for HIV-AIDS families around the St. Louis area. In the past, Gallery Visio has worked with organizations such as Camp Hope and Project Ark, among others to achieve this same goal. Clearly a purchase from "Arts for AIDS" will not only make the holiday better, but will also help out someone else in need along the way. AIDS may not be a subject discussed on a daily basis but it continues to be an important cause. This January, Gallery Visio will be introducing a digital exhibition featuring work from UM-St. Louis students who work in all forms of digital art.

B+ -Ashley Atkins

Dark, eerie 'Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows' begins wind-up of series

MOVIES

The cast has remained the same, but the series of "Harry Potter" films has had its ups-and-downs as directors have come and gone. Fortunately, "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, Part 1" is one of the better installments, in the hands of director David Yates. The film is the first of two films covering the final book in the movie adaptations of J.K. Rowling's best-selling books.

Despite its two and a half hour length, the fact that "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, Part 1" is the first of two is inescapable. Yet the movie is exciting and satisfying. The film's tone overall is quite dark, although there are a few moments of comic relief. The story of being on the run allows a dazzling array of breathtaking landscapes and visually dynamic effects, making the visual side of the film especially enjoyable.

The film's tone is also more grown-up, as the characters themselves have grown into young adults. Gone are the scenes of the old school, as now, Harry Potter (Daniel Radcliffe), Hermione Granger (Emma Watson) and Ron Weasley (Rupert Grint) send

their families into hiding before escaping under cover themselves. They and their supporters are forced into hiding by the rising power of those linked to the shadowy Lord Voldemort (Ralph Fiennes). Arrayed against them is an army of darkness that includes that vision of evil in pink, Dolores Umbridge (the wonderful Imelda Stanton).

With Harry, Hermione and Ron on the run, the overwhelming feeling is foreboding, scenes are dark and music is eerie, as the heroes relentlessly seek the magical evil Horcruxes they must destroy to break the grip of evil.

Many of the delightful cast of supporting characters returns, including Robbie Coltrane as Hagrid, Michael Gambon as a remembered Professor Dumbledore, Alan Rickman as Professor Snape and Helena Bonham Carter as Bellatrix Lastrange, but in much reduced roles. Instead, the focus falls much more on the central three. Adapting a book into a movie requires changes, but overall the film sticks to the intent of the book. The plot of pursuit by organized evil, plus lots of talk about subjugating "inferior" Muggles and the horrors of "mixed blood" amps



COURTESY / WARNER BROS.

up the Nazi overtones already in the story. Harry's task of collecting the Horcruxes with the help of loyal friends Hermione and Ron seems an echo of "Lord of the Rings," especially when wearing a Horcrux around one's neck appears to have a nasty effect on disposition. However the plot device does allow the storyline to bring to the surface underlying tensions in this triangle that needed to be addressed, including any attraction between Harry and Hermione. Why she would pick Ron over the "chosen one" is touched on, although that actor Rupert Grint has grown into a bit of a hunk might make this less a mystery for women in the audience. But the characters did need to address it.

The film also has more character development. As always, girl-power Hermione is far more resourceful and prepared than her two male companions, but she gets to show her softer side as well. The relationship between Harry and Ron is further explored and they find a more even footing. While there is less emphasis on magical fireworks, there is still enough to satisfy. Mysteries are revealed but there is less emphasis on political maneuverings and betrayals.

All in all, "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, Part 1" is a well-made, appealing-looking, satisfying film, and a fine first step to wrapping up the beloved series.

B -Cate Marquis

A Day to Remember stays true

MUSIC

After much waiting, A Day to Remember fans can finally relax after the release of their latest album 'What Separates Me From You.' The ever changing sound that some have disowned A Day to Remember for is prevalent in this album but not in the way that most were expecting. Released on November 15, the fourth installment in A Day to Remember's discog-

raphy will have alternative fans everywhere addicted.

Progressing back to their roots, A Day to Remember has finally retrieved some of the harder sound that they seem to have been losing for the past two albums. While "Homesick" and "For Those Who Have Heart" were both widely accepted and appreciated in the musical world, fans that initially listened to A Day to Remember will miss the screams and heavy guitar riffs that they fell in love with

on their first album, "And Their Name Was Treason." But all fans will be happy to know that 'What Separates Me From You' brings out the highlights of both sides that A Day to Remember balances precariously in their music.

When first listening to the new album, newer fans may be shocked. The first thing that blares through the sound system is the wonderful scream of Jeremy McKinnon. McKinnon's voice has been almost the defining point of

ADTR in previous albums and he definitely is not letting anybody down in this one. The amazing, heartfelt lyrics that have also become synonymous with A Day to Remember's name can also be seen on this album. Verse after verse, chorus after chorus, the words ring true to all fans. The words that ADTR put with the music are just screaming to be chanted at their next concert.

See **DAY** on page 9

LATEST + GREATEST

New Films Opening Friday, December 10

"Black Swan"

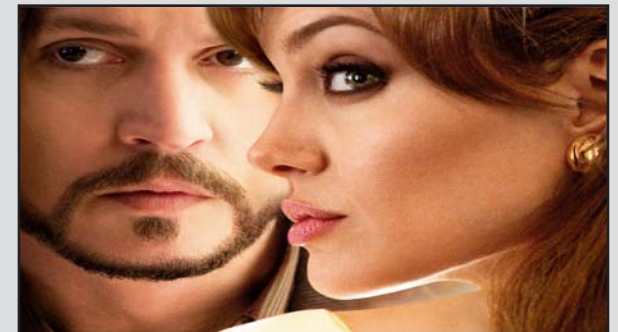
The big hit of Sundance and a top contender for the Oscars race, Darren Aronofsky's ("Requiem for a Dream") mad psychological thriller about ballet backstage stars Natalie Portman (in a jaw-dropping performance), Mila Kunis, Winona Ryder, Vincent Cassels and a scary Barbara Hershey.

Anyone expecting a glossy costume drama, be warned--this wonderfully bizarre, twisted film is not that.



"The Tourist"

Johnny Depp stars as a tourist trying to recover from a broken heart and Angelina Jolie stars as an Interpol agent in a action thriller set in Venice, directed by Florian Henckel Von Donnersmarck, who helmed the wonderful "Lives of Others," now making his American movie directorial debut. Also stars Paul Bettany.



"Tamara Drewe"

This hilarious dark British comedy, set at writers' retreat in the English countryside, brings together a cast of characters including a philandering author, a rock star, a pair of trouble-making small-town teens, and a once-homely rich girl who has been transformed into a beauty and is now bent on settling some scores. For those who relish British humor or dark comedy, this one has the goods - very funny stuff indeed.



DAY from page 8

Songs range from heartfelt love songs to all-out mosh pit brawls. "It's Complicated" is an interesting combination of their newer style, but insanely catchy and something that will speak to listeners.

The guitar sound can be extremely poppy, but it is not a bad thing in this case. On the other hand, "2nd Sucks" is very reminiscent of their older and much harder sound. Almost the entire song is screaming, which is a welcome shift from the first half of the album, which plays more to their softer and newer sound.

The entire album deserves, not just one, but multiple listens. No song deserves the skip

button, but rather will leave the listener waiting for another play. Hit after hit will come streaming through the listener's speakers. It will be hard for anyone to be upset with this album.

As a whole, the album is unexpected but entirely wonderful. A Day To Remember has not only found a way to stay true to who they are as a band, but a way to please both new and old fans. With the way they cater to everyone's needs, it is easy to see that not only will A Day To Remember continue to put out amazing records, they will also only get bigger from here.

A+ Jananca Scherer

FILM REVIEWS + MORE

MovieMarqueeByCateMarquis.com

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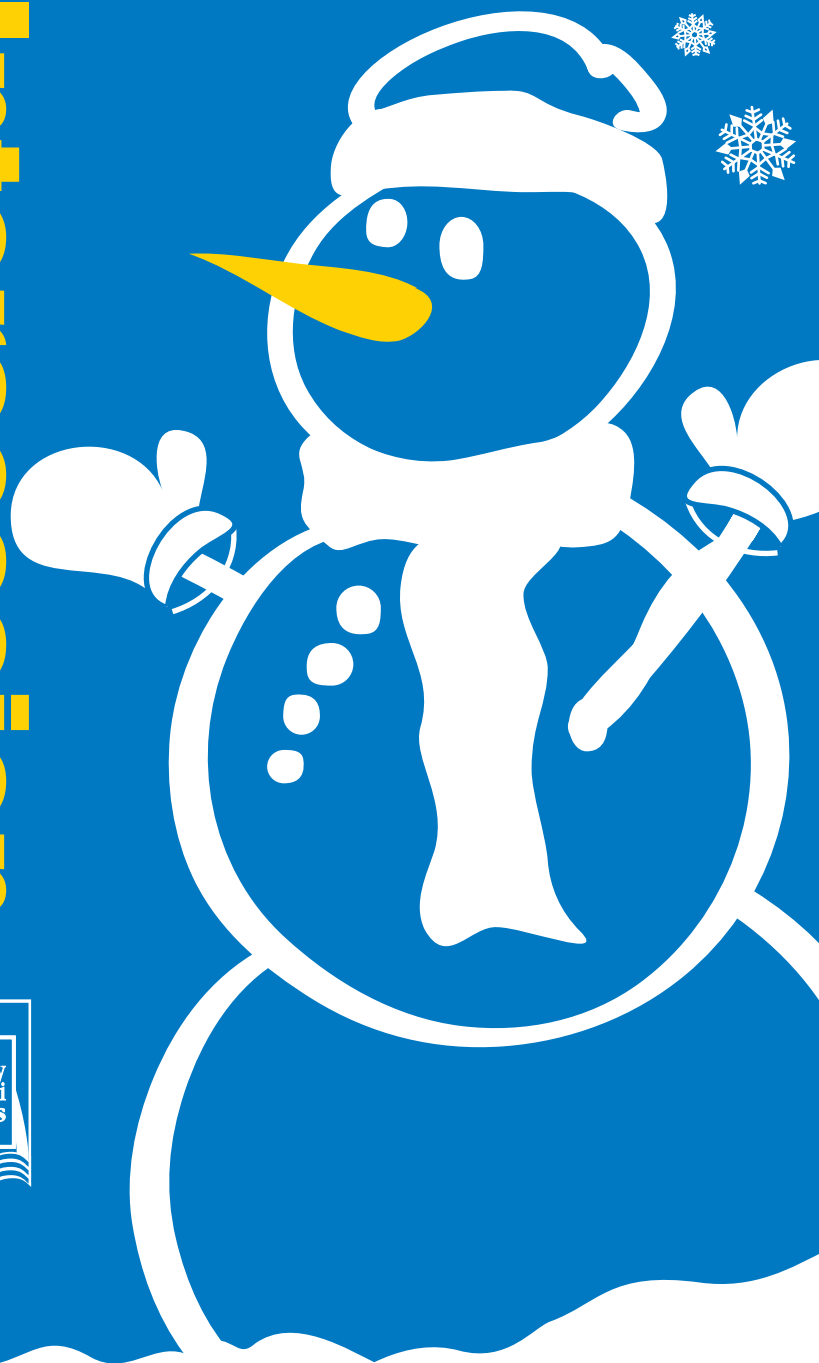
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Features

Bingo study break

CAITLIN E. L. MYLES
Staff writer

Last Thursday night, campus recreation sponsored a bingo study break party, where students had time to get away from pre-exam nerves. From 7 to 9 p.m., students and their friends and family gathered in the multi purpose room in Provincial House on South Campus where they relaxed and enjoyed a night of bingo.

Everyone sat at tables of eight, and was given two bingo boards to play with. Susan Dibb, the Campus Recreation coordinator, sat at the front of the room and directed the evening. Dibb explained the rules then began to yell out the various numbers that would soon be the winning combination for several players.

“B5, N32, O63, I30, G46,” Dibb said.

After a player called bingo, that person walked to the front of the room and had someone check his or

her board. If the player actually had bingo, it was announced to the room.

“Looks like a winner,” Dibb said. The winner was then told to pick a prize.

There were three prize tables mostly filled with University of Missouri-St. Louis apparel. Prizes for rounds one through five were on table one, prizes for rounds six through ten were on table two, and prizes for rounds 11 through 15 were on table three. Winners had to choose from the appropriate table but could exchange for something in their size if it was on another table. The first winner chose a red sweatshirt that said “UMSL” in yellow letters on the front. The next set of winners chose a gray UM-St. Louis t-shirt, a red yo-yo and a pink UM-St. Louis shirt respectively. Other excited winners chose from the remaining UM-St. Louis related items.

In between a few games of traditional bingo, there were rounds called “The Loser Game.” Dibb asked everyone to stand up and then she started calling out

numbers. If one of a player’s numbers was announced then that person had to sit down. The person who was the last one never to have any of the numbers on his or her board called won the game.

After each round, Dibb told the crowd to uncover their board and prepare to start over. People became pretty competitive as the night went on. One person jokingly screamed, “I hate you!” after losing a game.

Some guests did not put much effort into the games as they snacked on the free food. Nachos, Fritos and bean dip, pretzels, peanuts, popcorn and a big assortment of drinks were available to each guest.

“The food is great,” Jennifer Adams, freshman, nursing, said.

Bingo night was just what many students needed to relax.

“I still have a bunch of homework to do, but at least I got to take a break for a little while,” Tiffany Mayo, senior, criminology, said before heading home.



Smi-Smi Réveiller, junior, mathematics, remaining for the Loser Game during the Bingo Study Break Party on Thursday.



The Bingo Study Break Party was held by UMSL Campus Recreation at the Provincial House on Thursday. PHOTOS YUMETO YAMAZAKI / THE CURRENT



Stephanie Sivils, Director of Gallery Visio, on Wednesday in the Gallery.

JENNIFER MEAHAN / THE CURRENT

Gallery Visio welcomes a new director

JEN O'HARA
Feature Editor

Stephanie Sivils has been passed the torch of directing Gallery Visio and Sivils definitely has the creativity and history to do great things.

***The Current:** Can you give us a little background on yourself?*

Stephanie Sivils: I'm originally from Kansas City, but I grew up in Washington, Missouri. I started studying art at the junior college out there and I got an associate's in fine arts. I transferred to Maryville and I wanted to be an art teacher; I was really into teaching. I started working at the St. Louis art shop about three or four years ago and I just really liked the setting. Then, I started working for City Museum. So, I started really getting into the environment.

***TC:** What do you do at the City Museum?*

SS: I work at City Museum on the weekends. I'm an art instructor in a little section of the museum called "Art City." We develop a lot of art projects from recycled material.

***TC:** How did you become the Gallery director?*

SS: I started volunteering at Gallery Visio a couple years ago and [the previous director] and I just evolved a great relationship. I started learning how to put shows together, installing, everything about the whole process. It was so exciting to me. So when [the previous gallery director quit], she called me one day and said, "This position might be up, you should definitely apply for it." I went through a long interview process; they wanted to make sure they were hiring the right person.

***TC:** Rumor has it there will be some changes going on within Gallery Visio. What kinds of changes can we expect to see?*

SS: What I'd like to see is more interaction. We are in a very obscure location, unfortunately. When I was getting my bachelor's when I was in the art history program, I didn't really see or hear of Gallery Visio much, so I'd like to change that. I want to build on the groundwork [the previous director] ... raised before. I'm starting to put together a street team, if you will. We're just making ourselves known a little bit more.

***TC:** What is an average day for you in the Gallery like?*

SS: Every day, we open up the gallery and make sure every-

thing is tidy; make sure the artwork is straight and everything looks nice for the public to come through. What I do a lot of is answering emails, getting ready for the next show. It is quite a process and things have to be done at particular times. It's basically a lot of interacting with people via email [and] over the phone. On a daily basis, I'm constantly working with the students who work in the gallery. I'm kind of a middle man and advisor because I'm making sure these students have the opportunity to do all the things that make the gallery run.

***TC:** What says creativity to you?*

SS: Just thinking outside of the box, really. [Also], seeing something in ordinary objects and making the extra effort to do something that no one has done before. Really taking a risk, and that's what it is. Having an imagination and taking risks. It really doesn't get any ... simple[r] than that. And, of course, just making it fun.

***TC:** What inspires your artwork?*

SS: I'd have to say I think I am inspired by people and emotion. I think figure drawing and portraiture really capture that. I like art that evokes emotion. I don't think anything does that better than the human form.



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Opinions

POP CULTURE WITH POPOSKY

Buying stuff, greed and storage units

Stuff. Everybody wants this one thing. With the Christmas season right around the corner, it seems the right time to discuss stuff and figure out just why stuff is so important to people.

Now please, do not misunderstand this. Wanting new things is great. Everybody gets bored with their material possessions eventually. At least, in this society, we do; there are other people around the world who are not so lucky as to have that right.

But, with the focus on America and capitalism, it is relatively safe to say that everybody gets bored eventually and wants something new. This much makes sense.

The concept which does not really make any sense is when an individual has got so much stuff, that said individual then has to acquire a new location in which to keep said stuff. In this case, several people turn their situations over to storage units and simply start cramming stuff into 10x25 foot box.

This really makes little to no sense. Most of the time, people who throw stuff into a storage unit do not see it again. Storage units make sense if, for some reason, a family needs someplace to store things temporarily while moving. If there are extremely valuable heirlooms in the home and the family

is taking a vacation, by all means, store them temporarily.

However, that is just the thing: a storage unit is meant as temporary storage. To use a storage unit to help with holding on to all the stuff one never actually uses is absolutely pointless. It shows a greed and a desire to possess inconsequential artifacts that makes no sense.

If the item is going to be put away in a storage unit and never used again, it seems more logical to give it away. Now, not only is the person buying something new that will likely end up in the storage unit itself in a few years (if this person's previous behavior is to be followed), but they are also wasting money on a storage unit to keep things that they will likely never use again.

Yet still, people want more stuff. Again, wanting new things makes sense in this society, especially when the economy is in the crapper. However, it would seem there is no logical reason to waste money holding onto useless stuff.

There are evolutionary biologists who have done research on greed, finding that the greedy are often more prepared to survive horrible situations. As a result, people such as those cited in this article, if confronted about greed, may use a line some-



Matthew B. Poposky

what like, "Well, if I'm simply better at getting more of what I want than you are, I deserve it, right?"

Quite frankly, greed, according to most evolutionary biologists and theorists, despite the objections of the few, is not evolutionarily advantageous. That which is evolutionarily advantageous focuses upon growth and development of an individual. Well, greed really does not help much at all, seeing as all greed wants is more--more of anything and more of everything, just more.

'Tis the season, folks. Buy gifts for loved ones, sure, nobody is denying that right. However, when "stuff" starts to take up so much space that it needs its own home, give some of it back. Help the world as a whole. It feels good and saves money.

Matthew B. Poposky is a Staff Writer for The Current.

SEAL OF APPROVAL

Wikileaks persecuted for doing good

If all the world is a stage, then Julian Assange is the leading man. And like most leading men, he is a celebrity that everyone is after.

Assange is a former computer hacker. He is also the founder of Internet whistleblower website Wikileaks.com. And as of last week, he is also a very wanted man.

American political figures like Sarah Palin and Mike Huckabee are calling for his assassination. Huckabee is a Southern Baptist minister--he should know there are ten Commandments, not nine.

Palin does not really have an excuse, except that maybe her brand of Christianity (Sarah Palin's Religion?) allows for killing those you disagree with.

Sweden wants him for questioning about possible sex crimes; and Interpol has just placed him on its Most Wanted list.

Ecuador, though, has invited him for a discussion on the leaked documents and also generously offered to process a residency request if Assange so chooses.

Reportedly, the sex charges against him in Sweden are hopped-up tomfoolery. Assange believes that they are part of a smear campaign against him.

Wikileaks has quickly become a lightning rod in the world's political landscape and its mysterious founder no less so. In April, Wikileaks posted a video and transcript from a 2007 incident in Iraq where civilians were slaughtered by American forces. However, the Web site "skyrocketed

to notoriety in July when it published 90,000 secret documents about the war in Afghanistan," according to an article about Assange on CNN.com.

But the final straw appears to have been the recent release of the United States diplomatic cables, which involved communications from the U.S. State Department and its various diplomatic missions all over the world.

The U.S. government has expressed that the documents hold the potential to jeopardize international relations as well as global security. As a result, Wikileaks and Assange have come under fire. Late last week, Wikileaks was cut off from Amazon's third party rental servers that had been hosting their site. Reportedly, the U.S. government pressured Amazon to pull the plug. So much for the land of the free and the First Amendment. When a private company that can host whatever it likes is forced to comply with the government's wishes, it spells a sad day for free speech everywhere.

The U.S. should be thanking Wikileaks. It is doing what to this day, we have never been able to: cut through the crap.

By making the government accountable for the information it wants to be kept private, Wikileaks might help usher in a new era of transparency. That may sound optimistic or unlikely, but the possibility does exist. Take the Collateral Murder video posted



Andrew Seal

in April for example. News organization Reuters has been trying since 2007 to get its hands on that video, which proves that American soldiers killed both Iraqi civilians and one of Reuters' cameramen.

Hopefully, this revelation will help the investigation move forward and bring closure to the man's family.

Despite politicians calling for Assange's head on a platter, U.S. Defense Secretary, Robert Gates, thinks the fallout from the diplomatic cables' release will be minimal. "The fact is, governments deal with the U.S. because it's in their interest -- not because they like us, not because they trust us, and not because they believe we can keep secrets," Gates said last Tuesday. "Is this embarrassing? Yes. Is it awkward? Yes. Consequences for U.S. foreign policy? I think fairly modest."

An open and transparent government is something to aspire to. Wikileaks is merely aiding in pushing the U.S. along to that lofty goal. If the American people will not insist on it, people like Julian Assange will.

Andrew Seal is a Opinions Editor for The Current.

What do you think?
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SCIENCE MATTERS

Food safety measures long overdue

Although it usually seems like these things get swept under the political rug, but this time, after a rash of food recalls and health scares, Congress is actually taking action on food safety. The action was long overdue.

On November 30, the Senate passed a significant overhaul of our food safety rules. Hopefully the House can finish the task quickly.

One day later, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration gave one of the two companies at the center of the recall, the Wright County Egg company, owned by Austin "Jack" DeCoster limited permission to resume fresh eggs sales, but only from a couple of barns at a single site and only in a limited area.

But here is the curious part: There was another egg recall in early November, after the FDA found *salmonella enteritidis* in a sample from egg distributor Cal-Maine. But those eggs did not come from hens owned by Cal-Maine but from a company whose biggest investor is Jack DeCoster, the man who also owns Wright County Egg. The recalled contaminated eggs were sold by distributors and retailers in several states, including Missouri and Illinois.

There is something seriously wrong with this system for food safety and a fix cannot come fast enough. If you wish to read more, here are links to the two stories, the Dec. 1 story in the Des Moines Register, desmoinesregister.com/article/20101201/BUSINESS01/12010344/-1/

ENT05/FDA-allows-DeCoster-farm-in-Iowa-to-again-sell-eggs, and the earlier Nov. 1 story in the Christian Science Monitor, csmonitor.com/Business/2010/1109/Egg-recall-DeCoster-linked-farm-releases-contaminated-eggs.-Again. Michael Pollan, author of "Omnivore's Dilemma" and other books on issues with our food, wrote an opinion piece on the matter recently in the New York Times.

Problems with the FDA and other science-based agencies was the topic on December 1 at the News at Noon discussion, a current event news discussion sponsored by *The Current* and the New York Times. The discussion topic was chosen in part due to the contaminated egg recall this past summer.

Contaminated eggs are not the whole picture, of course. Recent years have seen problems with peanut butter and spinach that sickened thousands of people. Consumer advocates have called for tighter government oversight and have even been joined by some concerned food companies.

The pending legislation, the Food Safety Modernization Act, contains some important changes that will benefit us all. The FDA has focused more on drug and medical oversight in recent decades than food safety. This new bill will give the FDA more power to take steps to prevent people from being sickened by contaminated foods, rather than simply responding to tainted foods



Cate Marquis

after people become sick. The bill would give the FDA the power to issue recalls rather than just suggest them to food companies, as well as increase inspections and accountability from food companies. However, the bill would not resolve the overlapping authority of FDA and the U.S. Department of Agriculture and other agencies involved in food safety, which may continue to be problematic.

A rising tide of imported food makes this issue even more pressing. Right now, only one pound in a million is inspected. One in a million - that is a lot of chance for tainted food to slip through.

Quick action is needed to finish the job, with the looming changes in Congress in January. Right now, Congress is working on this issue for the good of the whole country but there are sticking points about creating exemptions for small growers and other issues. Hopefully those issues will be resolved soon and we will get a strong law so we can all feel safer eating.

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

STAFF VIEWPOINT

Atheist billboard in New Jersey needs to be taken down

December is a time of holiday celebrations more than most other months. We have Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa, as a few examples. Although we may not always agree or understand other celebrations, we all tend to generally get along and join in a common base of general merriment.

Travel over to the Lincoln Tunnel area that connects New Jersey and New York and there is not as much joyfulness and holiday spirit as there should be these days.

This is because a billboard was recently erected by a different kind of belief group; Atheists. The \$20,000 sign complete with nativity scene reads, "You know it's a myth. This season, celebrate reason."

Have an open mind and keep in mind that this is, indeed, America, we all have the right to free speech. The United States has been known as a giant melting pot, so of course, we will have a number of different kinds of people with billions of different beliefs and values. We should not discriminate against someone's exclamation(s) just because we do not like it.

However, wrong does fall in this situation onto the atheists that placed this billboard up. To speak your mind about opinions is one thing, but to say another person's ideas and beliefs are totally wrong is another. Of course people are going to

get offended when a finger is pointed. Many Atheists argue that religion is shoved down their throats, but there has not been a billboard for a city that straight out aggressively proclaimed that atheists were wrong. That is, until a Christian organization in the same area felt the need to retaliate and put up their own billboard that reads "You know it's real: This season celebrate Jesus." It would be different if American Atheists had put up a billboard that simply said "American Atheists, Phone Number: 555-...."

David Silverman, the president of American Atheists, claims that atheists know for a fact that God and the stories from the bible are not real. Please sir, may we see this evidence?

Silverman also claims there are a lot of "closeted Atheists" because United States data shows thousands of persons who have an unclaimed religious status and believes this billboard will inspire people to come out of the "Atheist closet." Perhaps Silverman has not realized several people may think there is truth to several religions, or simply that people do not care about religion. Not being religious and not believing in a higher power is two very different things. This is not to support that the Bible and God are all real either. However, there at least has been supporting evidence that stories or people from the Bible are true, like



Jen O'Hara

the Dead Sea scrolls or historian documentation. There is more evidence and "reason" to support that there is a God than there is not.

Then there is the fact that Silverman states that the holiday season "has been co-opted by newer traditions," therefore, it is not just about Jesus. Uh, you think?

Flying reindeer and talking snowmen were surely not part of the original holiday traditions, but that is not the point on hand when someone brings in the religion factor as their fighting argument. Originally, Valentine's Day did not involve six pounds of chocolate and a Hallmark card. But, in the end, we still give ode to St. Valentine. In the end, holidays like Christmas and Hanukkah still should keep thought of the original intent as well, right?

Making it short, take the sign down and figure out a new way for promotion if need be.

Jen O'Hara is Features Editor for The Current.

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We agree with Jen.
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Point/Counterpoint



Are the new graphic FDA cigarette warning labels a good idea?

Warning labels are a necessary evil

Smokers are everywhere and we cannot deny that. When asked to put out a cigarette, move outside or even further away from the doors of public buildings, they get cranky.

When told of what smoking does to their body, responses range from ignorance to knowledge of the situation. So what is so bad about a little gentle reminder?

The biggest argument that most smokers have towards non-smokers is that it is their choice. No one can deny that. Smoking is a very large choice that affects one in every five people. But the other four people can be affected by that person's choice as well. Secondhand smoke is horrible to a non-smoker, but a smokers attitude when asked to move or put it out can be even worse.

If smoker's know exactly what they are doing to their bodies already, what is so bad about a reminder? Every time they open the cigarette carton, thoughts of tar filling up

lungs and voice boxes no longer existing should always be running through their heads.

A graphic picture may not change the mind of a 20-year veteran, pack-a-day smoker, but it might change the mind of a 13-year-old that is just trying to look cool.

The picture might scare the 13 year old but in all honesty, that is what todays society needs more than ever. An honest scare might actually be able to affect their lives in a positive way and maybe even on a larger scale later down the road.

The suggested photos to be used on the new warning labels can be found on the web site. Most of the pictures really are not offensive. Maybe the dead guy in the coffin, the dead guy's chest scar and the woman dying from lung disease are a little excessive, but the other pictures seem like they make the right point without going over the top.

The true question that should be asked when thinking about accepting the use

of these new warning labels is who would be against them. People who are in denial. People who smoke and do not want their children to see the label.

People who feel the images are too graphically striking: the images are supposed to cause emotions to run through you, even if they are emotions of disgust. If that happens, then the FDA is finally doing their job right.

Maybe instead of looking at a picture of a person with mouth disease, you will not smoke the third, forth, fifth cigarette. Maybe it will not affect you at all.

But saving even a few people from premature death, heart, lung and mouth disease and even secondhand smoke seems to be a better reason to implement the warning labels.

Critics need to stop blowing smoke

Smoking cigarettes is a choice. It has always been a choice. Despite the opinions of the holier-than-thou types, smokers are quite often aware of the dangers they are risking with each opened pack and with each smoked stick.

In a country where citizens are supposedly free, there are constant attempts by organizations such as the Food and Drug Administration to cut down and belittle those who smoke cigarettes, in one fashion or another.

The most recent attack would guarantee that anytime a smoker picked up a pack to smoke, his or her minds would be assaulted by images of decayed lungs and other diseases which smoking is capable of causing.

Granted, smoking can, indeed, cause lung cancer. Studies show that roughly 21 percent of all American adults smoke. That is a staggering number, given that the USA is estimated at roughly 310,000,000 residents this year.

Cigarette smoking, how-

ever, is no more dangerous than alcoholism. There are laws against public usage of both in certain situations. Both are frowned upon in excess. However, the large numbers of individuals who die of liver cancer every year are not pushing the FDA to add pictures to everybody's favorite bottle of Captain.

Certainly, wine bottles have not been tagged with photographs of mangled, charred remains from a brutal car accident caused by alcoholism. Another example would be something as common and, supposedly, harmless, as artificial sweetener. It tastes good (to some). It has fewer calories than natural sugar. In several grocery stores, it actually costs less to buy, as well. Most of all, it shows man's capacity to conquer Mother Nature and create a "better" product for himself. Want to know something interesting about artificial sweeteners?

Although the FDA has purported that the creations are not "directly linked" to cancer, there have been sev-

eral case studies showing that use of artificial sweeteners did, indeed, cause cancer in otherwise healthy studies.

Again, the FDA does not believe these to be guarantees, but then again, there are thousands of smokers who live to a ripe-old age, being smokers, and never develop the symptoms of lung cancer, or any other smoking-related cancer. So, seeing as the two stories are similar, why not put pictures of bladder cancer on Splenda packages?

Honestly, to plaster photographs of lung cancer and similar atrocities on cigarette packages may as well be an open invitation to uppity housewives to insult everybody they see buying the product.

Smoking is a dangerous habit; there is no denying this. However, there are plenty of other habits, just as dangerous, that never get the attack smoking does. Stop picking on specific groups and if an attack is going to be made, make it upon all offenders, not just the easiest target.

Have something on your mind this week?

www.thecurrent-online.com

Comics

Simply Beagle by Karlee Sellars



Question Marks by Stephen Peterson



They teach that? by Sam Kayser



Max and Lobo by Gail Fike




Puzzles & Classifieds


CURRENT HOROSCOPES

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

This week is going to be trouble. You have been placing your nuts all around town and now that it's cold you can't find one of them.

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


Later in the evening everyday this week your neighbor is going to ask for something ridiculous. Just oblige them because if you don't, they will just steal from you. Trust me.

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

Taurus, you normally go to the mall to shop and then fall in a large puddle of toddler puke. Make tonight different and go skiing while wearing those new hot pants you bought. You are emarrassing.

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


People like your company, you bring a fresh new perspective to every conversation you interrupt. Do it more. Speak mid-way into everyones sentences because you can.

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


Lately your twin has stopped following you and has yet to give a death threat this week. Is everything looking safe? Better check the fridge twice and buy more ammo.

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


Today be will be the same as yesterday, but tomorrow is going to be so similar to last Thursday, that yesterday will have a sorta Saturday vibe. Rest on Sunday then repeat.

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


The holidays have really got you down. Your're pretty much broke. Next year will be better with a sweet court case coming your way. 3-5yrs with probation ain't so bad.

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

You quit your job a few weeks ago and now you think it's time to take down your former boss. Dude, take your meds and join every other douche bag in the unemployment line.

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


Bobby stole your red crayon. That was your favorite, for sure. Now all you have to do is put a peice of gum in his hair and that will make his day as bad as yours. Sweet.

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

You stood and waited for him in the rain for 45 minutes, then a no-show. Guess you're not getting married again and someone threw coffee on you. Take tomorrow off.

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

This week, exercise more and then have three times the amount of sex you normally have with your signifigant other. They deserve it.

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

Don't do it. Stop going up to them and saying something. If you don't, there is going to be hell to pay. What is the worst that could happen? He/She will place a restraining order on you?

CURRENT CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1) Very thin model, e.g.
- 5) Bridge need
- 11) Knighted one
- 14) Archipelago member
- 15) Dawn of Roman civilization?
- 16) ___ heartbeat (instantly)
- 17) Author who'll never make a name for himself
- 19) Tire pressure meas.
- 20) Tiny Tim, to Bob Cratchit
- 21) King of classical tragedy
- 23) Late-summer bloom
- 26) ___-flung
- 28) "A ___ formality!"
- 29) Shoulder inflammation
- 31) Had a phobia of
- 33) "Today, I ___ man"
- 34) Getting clean
- 36) One's soul
- 41) It features back strokes?
- 42) Bullfight "Bravo!"
- 44) Wall-to-wall installation
- 47) Certain garden flower
- 50) Soothing succulent
- 51) Hobby room, perhaps
- 52) Trident's trio
- 53) Act the banshee
- 56) Frequent sound at a wine tasting
- 57) "Game, ___ and match"
- 58) Hard thing to diagnose
- 64) Get better in barrels
- 65) Prom attendee
- 66) Come-on
- 67) Was ahead
- 68) Hole in a tennis shoe
- 69) Something ___ (really special)

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DOWN

- 1) Permanent hairdo?
- 2) Volcanic stuff
- 3) Worldwide workers gp.
- 4) Admits (with "up")
- 5) Marjorie Rawlings' yearling, for one
- 6) "Gang" or "Town" opener
- 7) Canton bordering Lake Lucerne
- 8) Chopper spinner
- 9) "A ___ Grows in Brooklyn"
- 10) Nearly unsolvable
- 11) Hardly a guzzler
- 12) Underwrite
- 13) Like Braille characters
- 18) Spelling of television
- 22) Corporate concern
- 23) Hoops league of old
- 24) Math totals
- 25) Sand bunker
- 26) Orders from absolute rulers
- 27) Mollify
- 30) Plot shocker
- 31) Tax paperwork mailer
- 32) Dinner couple?
- 35) Uta of "The Other"
- 37) Force into motion
- 38) "The Facts of Life" actress Charlotte
- 39) T-bone's locale
- 40) Chimney segment
- 43) Ambulance letters
- 44) Type of relationship
- 45) Claim without proof
- 46) Overwhelmingly defeated
- 48) Hard thing to split
- 49) Baby bottle topper
- 51) Diplomat Silas
- 54) Church niche
- 55) "___ went that-a-way!"
- 56) Left during the regatta?
- 59) This means nothing
- 60) It's usually first into the tub
- 61) Not be well
- 62) ___ and outs
- 63) Bess Truman, ___ Wallace

Classifieds

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JANUARY 17, 2011

SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER AT:
<https://fusion.umsl.edu/studentlife/community/mlkdos.cfm>

DEADLINE TO SIGN UP IS JANUARY 1

What's Current

Happy Holidays from The 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, with the subject "What's Current." No phone submissions.



The Current wishes you luck on your finals and a great winter break!

JENNIFER MEAHAN / THE CURRENT

Monday, Dec. 6

Colloquium-Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

From 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in Benton Hall Room 451, open to everyone. "Photosynthetic Antenna Systems: Where Light Interfaces With Biology" presented by Robert Blankenship, Washington University. Coffee will be served at 3:45 p.m. For more information contact James O'Brien at ext. 5717.

Tuesday, Dec. 7

Staff Association Holiday Bazaar

From 10:00 AM to 2:00 p.m. located in the MSC, Century Room A. Open to everyone. 7th Annual Staff Association Holiday Bazaar. Holiday items, baked goods, books, gift baskets, sports memorabilia and more for sale; proceeds to benefit John Perry/Staff Association Scholarship fund. For information: Faith Lucas at 314-516-5090.

Faculty Senate Meeting

From 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. located in 126 JCPenney, Open to everyone. This meeting is a great example of shared governance at UMSL. For information: Loy Harvey at 314-516-6769.

Wednesday, Dec. 8

Holy Day Mass on Campus

At 12:20 p.m. in the JC Penny building at room 229, faculty, staff, and students come celebrate the Feast of Mary's Immaculate Conception with the Catholic Newman Center on campus. Contact Rachael Cimmon at 314-385-3455.

Employer-Led Interviewing Skills Workshop

From 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., this workshop will be led by representatives from Verizon. Come and learn about interviewing from those actually doing the interviewing: employers! Register to attend online at: <http://careers.umsl.edu>.

Student Chamber Music Concert

From 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. in Lee Theater, Touhill Performing Arts Center, this event is open to all. Join us for an evening of enchanting chamber music. The Department of Music student ensembles will perform a variety of classical to contemporary pieces showcasing their amazing skills. Contact Touhill Ticket Office at 314-516-4949.

Thursday, Dec. 9

The Basics of Writing a Business Plan

From 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the J.C. Penney Conference Center. Open to everyone. Create a business plan that appeals to lenders in substance and appearance. This workshop goes step-by-step through each section and offers a tool to help with the financials. Contact Alan Hauff at 314-516-6121.