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University of Missouri-St. Louis

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The Current

VOL. 44, ISSUE 1339
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AFFILIATIONS

News

UMSL professor plays an active part in EPA's 2011 Clean Air Act

Economist and environmentalist Kosnik works to improve the EPA's latest undertaking

DAVID VON NORDHEIM
Staff Writer

On February 23, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released the new Clean Air Act standards for boilers and incinerators, aiming to significantly reduce the toxic air pollution from major corporations. The University of Missouri-St. Louis' own Professor Lea-Rachel Kosnik was able to play a role in the success of this legislation, working in tandem with a menagerie of other experts and icons in a wide assortment of fields.

According to Kosnik, a group known as the Union of Concerned Scientists spearheaded the initiative. They drafted a select group of people, including a celebrity, Natalie Portman, a climate scientist and an economist. The Union of Concerned Scientists, a nonprofit advocacy group involved in a number of environmental causes, sought to bring the input of the scientific community to the EPA's latest venture. As a leading environmental economist, Kosnik is in high demand for projects like these.

Professor Kosnik has been doing work in air quality for

Kosnik believes that the new standards issued by the EPA marks a victory for both herself and the Union of Concerned Scientists. While the group supported the EPA's initial Clean Air Act standards in its efforts to hold companies to stricter emissions standards, they felt the plan was not very economical. They urged a trimming of some of the budget excesses of the EPA's original proposal.

The receptive, diplomatic attitude the EPA takes towards its policies meant that the group's input was integrated into the act without conflict. The EPA determines their standards through input from outside sources, meaning that anyone, whether a scientist, economist, or student can get involved. Kosnik believes that the group was successful in achieving what it wanted with its letter to EPA administrator Lisa Jackson. The admissions standards are strong, and they effectively halved the costs of implementing the act from around \$4 billion to \$2 billion, making them both cost-effective and stringent.

Although Kosnik's part in the Union of Concerned Scientists' latest outing may be coming to a close, she still considers her work far from over. Kosnik remains committed to bringing her unique perspective as an economist to the ongoing envi-

“The admissions standards are strong, and they effectively halved the costs of implementing the act from around \$4 billion to \$2 billion”

some time now, and has become a popular economist in Missouri based on this subject. Her official role as an environmental and energy economist (Kosnik being one of the few people with a PhD on the subject) means that when private or government organizations are looking for an expert on an environmental issue, especially one with a background in economic policy, Kosnik is key figure.

ronmentalist dialogue. She encourages UMSL students to take a similarly passionate approach towards their particular areas of interest, hoping that this gives them a greater stake in their future. If nothing else, it provides a great way to meet interesting, and famous people like Natalie Portman.

WEATHER

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Early Alert System aims to help students

Advising suggests students enroll mid-semester

RYAN KRULL
News Editor

Some department heads as well as the University of Missouri-St. Louis advising staff are acutely aware that many students may be in a unique bind early on in the semester and they are doing their best to help.

Students struggling with a class early on in the semester often find themselves in a bit of a catch-22. On the one hand, they shy away from dropping the class because they need to stay enrolled in at least 12 credit hours in

other hand, a class that is difficult early on in the semester is likely to only get more difficult and might wind up as a D or F on a transcript. It is a tough situation, but UMSL now has in place an Early Alert System and, in conjunction with new mid-semester classes, hopes to help out these very students.

The Early Alert System is a process in which professors refers students struggling early in the semester to academic advising who then reach out to the students and help to ensure the worst of outcomes is avoided.

given semester she may get 800 to 1000 Early Alert System referrals.

Clark said that a student who receives one of these early alert emails would be wise to not ignore it.

"For those who do [respond] some outcome is positive," Clark said.

Students are encouraged to respond promptly so that they might drop the class they are struggling in and enroll in a mid-semester class. This way, a bad grade can be avoided and full time student status can be maintained. The cut off for dropping a class

"We are pushing mid-semester courses as a way of increasing the variety of courses offered at UMSL as well as a mechanism for increasing our retention rates," said Ronald Yasbin, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. "Basically, we have found a considerable number of students who get into academic trouble because they have either taken too many courses or have miscalculated the difficulty of the schedule that they established. These students will often stick with a course in which they know they can't do well because

"The Feds have really cracked down on what is called 'making satisfactory academic progress' towards your degree."

-Clark

order to be considered a full time student and stay qualified for financial aid. On the

Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences Sharon Clark said that in any

and picking up a mid-semester one with no financial cost is four weeks into a semester.

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they don't want to lose their financial aid." Sticking with a class in which success is unlikely solely for financial aid reasons is not a wise move anyway, said Clark.

"The Feds have really cracked down on what is called 'making satisfactory academic progress' towards your degree. So if you're not [making satisfactory academic progress] then poor old financial aid has a responsibility to cut you off," Clark said. "You have to be successful in three quarters of the course work you're registered for in a semester to not come up on the radar screen of financial aid."

"What do you think of Albert Pujols' asking price to continue with the Cardinals?"



"I think it depends on how much benefit he brings to the team. If the benefit is high and the team thinks that he is worth that value, then why not?"

Lucy Huayanay
Marketing
Senior



"I think Albert Pujols is a terrific player and should get the 300 million dollars for 10 years. I would like to see him and his career in a Cardinal's uniform."

Carlos Cuartas
International Business
Senior



"He is a famous player, but I don't know how much other players get, so I don't know how much he should deserve."

Zihao Wang
Information System
Freshmen

"Are video games more harmful than we think?"

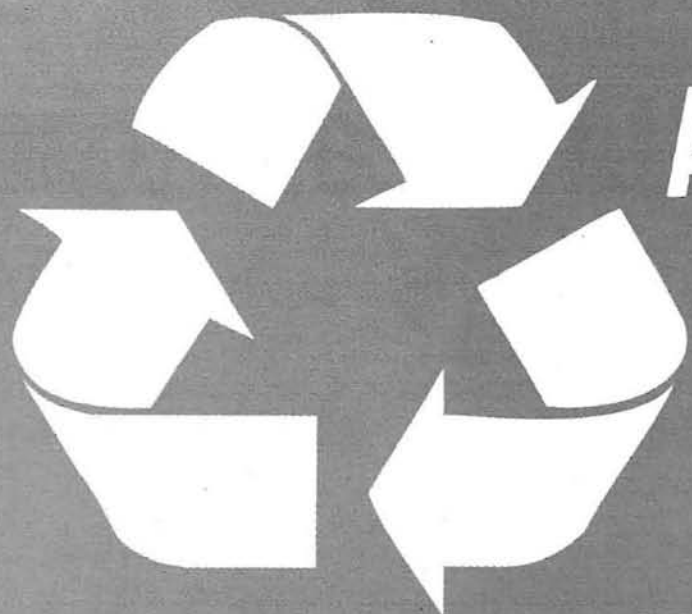
- From issue 1338

It's all bogus. I was in high school during the Columbine tragedy. I was playing the same video games as they were. Video games and movies are fantasy.

Children know that. Parents know that. It is all in the parenting. When a something drastic happens we seem to blame the wrong people. Blame video games, blame movies, blame Marilyn Manson. What about parents?

Let's face it, the majority of parents in this country are under-qualified. So, instead of being a good parent...they depend on the government. Regulate bad words on the TV, regulate violence on video games.

-Student



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THINK?**

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Triton softball opens with 4 wins, 2 losses in Arkansas



The softball team practices at UMSL's softball field on Thursday.

JENNIFER MEAHAN / THE CURRENT

CEDRIC WILLIAMS

Sports Editor

After a 2009 season in which it won the Great Lakes Valley Conference Regular Season Championship and a 2010 campaign where it broke the school record for home runs in a season, the University of Missouri-St. Louis women's softball team opened play last weekend with fans excitedly wondering what they should expect this season.

If the first weekend is any indication, Triton fans should expect lots of offense and lots of victories. UMSL claimed victories in four of the six games it played at the Quad State Tournament in Bentonville, Ark.

The event was hosted by NCAA Division II number 13-ranked Arkansas-Monticello and featured teams from four different states.

UMSL opened its season this past Friday with games against Missouri Western and Southwest Baptist. The Tritons lost the opener to Mo West 10-2 but bounced back for a 5-3 win against SBU.

In that victory, Crystal Koehler, senior, business adminis-

tration, picked up eight strikeouts in a complete game win, which featured the first home runs of the season for outfielder Karey Kruse, senior, special education, and infielder Heather Arras, junior, education.

On Saturday, the Tritons swept a pair of wins over Oklahoma Panhandle and Lincoln University.

Arras was the star in the 3-2 victory over Oklahoma Panhandle.

The third-year UMSL starter had three hits, including the game-winning base-knock in the bottom of the seventh.

In a 9-2 win against Lincoln University, Leslie Davis, sophomore, psychology, was a star in the pitching circle and at the plate.

In the circle, Davis tossed a complete game at the Blue Tigers, allowing just five hits and no earned runs.

At the plate, Piasa Southwestern High's all-time leading homerun hitter, blasted a three-run shot that gave the Tritons more than they needed to handle Lincoln.

Jacee Ellis, senior, business management, UMSL's all-time leading home run hitter, blasted her first dinger of the season, another three-run blast.

On Sunday, Amanda Seib, senior, finance and manage-

ment, struck out six and did not allow any earned runs in a 3-1 win over Henderson State University.

Kruse had a hit and drove in a run, while teammate Shannon Beatty, junior, social work, had a hit and two runs batted in for the Tritons.

The final game of the Quad State Tournament did not go so well for UMSL. The Tritons lost 13-5 to Arkansas-Monticello.

Final details for this game were not available at press time but the Tritons still managed to go 4-2 on their opening weekend, and those are the only stats that really matter.

UMSL will return to campus this week for classes and practice, before heading out on the road again next Sunday, March 6, when they will travel to Warrensburg, Missouri, to take on the University of Central Missouri.

The Tritons will play a series of road games before finally getting to play their home opener on Tuesday, March 22 against Lincoln University.

That home date will be a doubleheader day for the Tritons and Blue Tigers with first pitch scheduled for 2 p.m.

Triton guard Gerald Fulton named First Team All-GLVC

CEDRIC WILLIAMS

Sports Editor

University of Missouri-St. Louis junior guard Gerald Fulton was named All-Great Lakes Valley Conference First Team today, in an announcement by the league office.

Fulton, a native St. Louisan, who attended Hazelwood East High School, becomes the first UMSL men's basketball player to earn First Team All-GLVC honors in the program's history. Brett Ledbetter was an All-GLVC honorable mention selection in 2007, but Fulton is the first player to make the league's All-First Team.

The last UMSL men's basketball player to receive First Team All-Conference honors was Darren Hill, who was chosen First Team All-Conference in 1993. The recognition was made back when UMSL's teams were still known as the Rivermen and they competed in the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association against teams like Truman State and Northwest Missouri State.

UMSL's 2011-2012 season ended two weekends ago when the Tritons were knocked out of the GLVC Championship Tournament, following a first round loss at Kentucky Wesleyan.

Fulton scored 20 points in that game, and finished the year second in GLVC scoring and 13th in all of NCAA Division II, at 22 points a game.

The 6'2" transfer from Mineral Area College hit the 20-point plateau 18 times, scored in double-figures in all but two games this season and twice went over 30 points.

He netted his career high of 32 points against Wisconsin-Parkside back in December and again against No. 2 ranked Bellarmine back in January. Fulton also ranked among the league leaders in three-pointers made (71), and in free throw shooting (88 percent). For the season, Fulton finished the year with 573 points scored, making him the first UMSL player to reach the 500-point plateau since Jonathan Griffin in 2005.

The 573 points for Fulton also ranks as the seventh-best single season total in UMSL history. Fulton also narrowly missed breaking the school record for three-pointers in a season.

He finished the year with 71 three-pointers made, falling one short of Troy Slaten's record of 72 set in 2007.

UMSL finished the year with a 16-11 record – the most wins for the program since the 1991 team had 22 wins. The Tritons also posted a 10-8 mark in GLVC play, finishing in second place behind Drury in the West Division.

The 10 league wins tie for the most by any UMSL men's basketball team, while the 10-8 record marks the first winning GLVC mark in program history.

Joining Fulton on the All-GLVC First Team were Indianapolis senior guard and league leading scorer Darius Adams, Southern Indiana senior center Mohamed Ntumba, Bellarmine junior guard Braydon Hobbs and Bellarmine senior guard Jeremy Kendle, who was selected GLVC Player of the Year, after leading the Knights to a 25-2 record and a No. 2 national ranking.

Bellarmine's Scott Davenport was chosen 2011 Coach of the Year, while Jordan Mach, the playmaking guard from Wisconsin-Parkside, was named 2011 Freshman of the Year.

All-GLVC First Team:

Darius Adams, Indianapolis, Sr., G

Gerald Fulton, Missouri-St. Louis, Jr., G

Braydon Hobbs, Bellarmine, Jr., G

Jeremy Kendle, Bellarmine, Sr., G

Mohamed Ntumba, Southern Indiana, Sr., C

GLVC POTY: Jeremy Kendle, Sr., G, Bellarmine

GLVC Freshman OTY: Jordan Mach, G, Wisc-Parkside

GLVC Coach of the Year: Scott Davenport, Bellarmine

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Jennifer Weigel, one of the artist featured in the Lifeblood Exhibit, talks about her displayed work on Thursday.

YUMETO YAMAZAKI / THE CURRENT

“Life Blood” exhibit showcases local talent

ART

The ‘Life Blood’ exhibit now on display at the Gallery Visio uses a variety of media to express the tribulations and beauty that are intrinsic to being a woman.

In the words of Gallery Director Stephanie Sivils, Life Blood depicts “the personal journey of womanhood.” The artistic formats are truly diverse with glass, quilt fiber, pencil, paint and digitally altered photography all represented.

Connie Laflam’s “Most of Life is Unexpected” utilizes the medium of photography. The installation shows a young blonde woman, several months pregnant, on her knees looking up.

“The blood of life cycle never really ends even when it’s unexpectedly interrupted,” Laflam says in her artist’s statement. It is fitting that right next to Laflam’s piece is Roxanne Phillip’s “What If.” Using pen and paper, Laflam has written the words “What If...” several hundred times in thin, black writing. At the bottom left of the piece, the phrase is written once in red.

Laflam in her artist’s statement said that piece is intended to capture the “unknown medical issues of being a woman.”

Sivils recommended Lisa Becker’s piece entitled “Miscarriage” as a standout, calling it the most powerfully visual and emotionally real, while still being direct and straight forward.

Becker’s work is a glass rendering of the female torso, with red outlined holes in the center of the figure’s stomach as well as near the left breast. The holes represent the void that exists in a woman’s womb as well as her heart in the fallout of miscarriage.

“The female torso is a consistent theme,” Sivils said about the exhibit as a whole. In her artist’s statement, Becker said that the piece was inspired by two of her friends becoming pregnant around the same time and one of the women having a baby and the other going through a miscarriage. The woman who miscarried had to go through that experience again and again until she finally had a healthy baby boy.

The largest piece is “Maiden’s Delight” by Pat Owoc. Ac-

cording to the artist’s statement, the title comes from a traditional quilt block from the 1930s. In Owoc’s piece, the traditional block is used to create a sort of calendar tracking the monthly cycle of menstruation.

The 18 pieces in the Gallery Visio are the result of a call that went out for local artists to submit work that fell in line with the ‘Life Blood’ theme. Much of the work is from University of Missouri St. Louis students, although one piece came all the way from Spain.

The artist is unknown and the piece is nuanced and abstract. The inclusion of this piece alone is reason enough to check out ‘Life Blood.’ ‘Life Blood’ is a traveling exhibit currently on display at the Gallery Visio on the first floor of the Millennium Student Center. The exhibit has previously been on display at Florissant Valley Community College as well as Fort Gondo. It will be at UMSL through March 24.

A- - Ryan Krull



MATT DAMON stars in the romantic thriller "The Adjustment Bureau"

COURTESY OF UNIVERSAL STUDIOS

Science-Fiction thriller "Adjustment Bureau" lets Matt Damon and Emily Blunt shine bright

MOVIES

Fate, or some grand plan, can throw lovers together, but in the romantic science fiction thriller "The Adjustment Bureau," a grand plan instead seems to thwart the romantic attraction pulling two people together.

Do we control our fate or is there something else that directs our lives? That metaphysical question plays a role central in this engrossing thriller romance. The reality-questioning theme is reminiscent of "Inception" but at heart, "The Adjustment Bureau" is a romance. Thanks to the chemistry between its stars, it is a deeply effective one.

Matt Damon plays rising-star politician David Norris who has a reputation for both straight talk and having an impulsive streak. A chance encounter brings him and Elise (Emily Blunt) together. Sparks fly immediately between Norris and the rising-star ballerina but the forces soon seem to keep them apart.

A mysterious host of button-down bureaucrats is behind what is keeping them apart. When Damon's Norris stumbles across them in the midst of an "adjustment," things become very complicated for him.

The film is loosely based on "The Adjustment Team" a short story by Philip K. Dick, whose speculative fiction works also inspired "Blade Runner" and several other films. Questioning perceptions and reality are common themes in the author's fiction and that is the portion of the film's plot taken from his short story.

The star-crossed lovers are entirely new but people dealing with a philosophical conundrum are typical of Dick's work. The film is the directorial debut of "Bourne Ultimatum" co-writer George Nolfi, who also wrote the script, pairing again with that franchise's star, Matt Damon.

Cedar Lake Contemporary Ballet is a real dance troupe,

which recently performed here at the Touhill Performing Arts Center under the auspices of Dance St. Louis.

The success of "Black Swan" has made baller at hot item for film audiences. Cedar Lake's artistic director, French-born choreographer Benoit-Swan Pouffer, prepared Blunt for her role as a dancer although, in truth, there is relatively little dance in the film. +

Blunt and Damon have real on-screen chemistry, which adds immensely to the romantic appeal of the story and helps fire up the thriller's excitement level.

The film is filled with "what-if" twists, another signature of Dick's work, with the primary one centered on whether we control our own destiny. Anthony Mackie and Terrence Stamp are among the highlights in a strong supporting cast.

Good non-predictable romantic stories are a too rare thing in movies. Blunt and Damon make one sexy pairing and their scenes together entice the audience to fall in love with them both and hope for their love's survival.

The characters are likeable and the story is involving but the film is visually dynamic as well. It has terrific visual style, with some fine noir-ish touches.

Racing across a New York cityscape, Damon and Blunt, electrifying in a red dress, are pursued by men in gray suits and hats, images evoking another era of film. The action sequences are brisk and exciting, with some "Inception"-like visual effects.

"The Adjustment Bureau" offers a terrific entertainment break from the changeable weather. Damon and Blunt create sparks and the story is a winner for fans of thrillers or romance, which makes it an excellent date movie. The doldrums of March often have few goods to offer in terms of movie entertainment, so "The Adjustment Bureau" is a welcome exception.

A- -Cate Marquis

LATEST + GREATEST

New Films Opening Friday, March 11

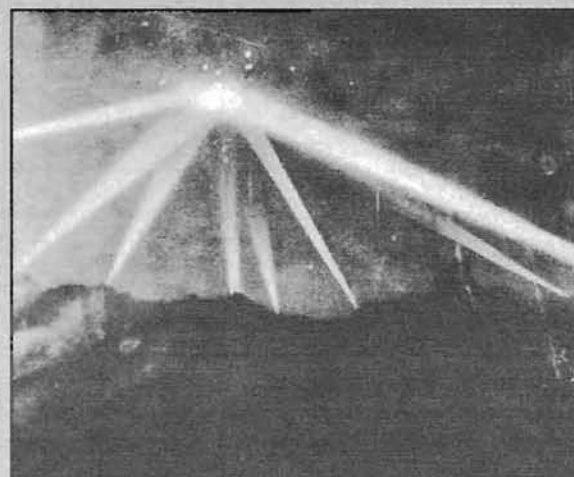
"RED RIDING HOOD"

"Twilight" director Catherine Hardwicke creates a twist on this familiar fairy tale, with a werewolf stalking a medieval village, a young village girl falling for an orphaned woodsman and a love triangle. Stars Amanda Seyfried, Lukas Haas, Gary Oldman.



"BATTLE: LOS ANGELES"

A platoon of marines, led by a veteran staff sergeant played by Aaron Eckhart, battles space aliens invading Los Angeles to conquer the planet, in this big-budget, special effects extravaganza. Also stars Bridget Moynahan and Michelle Rodriguez.



"EVEN THE RAIN"

(Tivoli only) - Gael Garcia Bernal ("Motorcycle Diaries," "Amores Perros") stars in this highly-praised Spanish-language film with English subtitles. Bernal plays an idealistic Spanish film director, who has come to impoverished Bolivia to shoot a film about Columbus in the New World, when local demonstrations break out against a multinational corporation trying to privatize the water, even the rain. A thought-provoking mix film that draws parallels between past and present, with a lush historic film-within-a-film.



Forever the Sickest Kids still sick

MUSIC

Releasing their second full-length album, Forever the Sickest Kids have once again pleased pop-punk listeners. Hitting the stands on March 2, FTSK's latest self-entitled addition is the same old sound with a little maturity added in.

During the creation of the album, Kent Garrison, keyboards and synthesizers, ultimately decided to leave the band. Not much information is known about why Garrison is leaving or who will replace him.

Straying away from their original "The Weekend" idea, (releasing three separate short albums, entitled "Friday," "Saturday" and "Sunday") the boys decided while working on songs for "Saturday" that they would much prefer to write a full-length album.

The album art channels an almost Calvin and Hobbes feel and features a little boy and girl sneaking out and running away together. The feeling projected on the front of the album does not mesh well with the sound of the album itself.

Forever the Sickest Kids have been classified as a bunch of goofy boys playing even goofier music that makes their lis-

teners just want to get up and dance. But for some reason, they appear to have grown up slightly since the release of "The Weekend: Friday." The themes that taint most of the songs are not about stupid girls and crazy parties; they are about heartbreak and love (while parties do tend to come up in certain songs).

For example, "Forever Girl" is an acoustic song that will melt any girl's heart. The simplicity of the guitar riffs and the vocals mix to create quite possibly the sweetest song that will cross any speakers. This declaration of true love will have all the girls hitting repeat and all the guys listening for ideas to steal.

"What Happened to Emotion? (Killing Me)" also leans toward the more mature sound of 'Forever the Sickest Kids,' depicting the end of a failing relationship. The heartfelt lyrics combined with the poppy background music will make listeners understand the pain of heartbreak.

While many "mature" songs are included on the album, FTSK have not entirely retreated from their goofy side. Multiple tracks still feature the same old FTSK that fans have grown to love. The variety of songs just proves that the band is grow-

ing along with their listeners. Their range of musical style and lyric themes will allow them to remain relevant to their fans.

"Bipolar Baby!" is one of those goofy songs. For returning fans of FTSK, think "She's a Lady" from "Underdog Alma Mater" revamped. Jonathon Cook sings of his love for a girl that cannot make up her mind. "Bipolar Baby!" is a classic Forever the Sickest Kids song that will instantly be added to their best hits list.

Another song that leans towards their fun side is "Life of the Party." It focuses on a girl who just happens to be, (imagine that) the life of the party.

This track is slightly different for the band and seems to channel Rhianna's "Umbrella," ("Party -arty/ ah ah/ Party -arty") which gets annoying pretty quickly. However, it still deserves a listen and can be quite catchy.

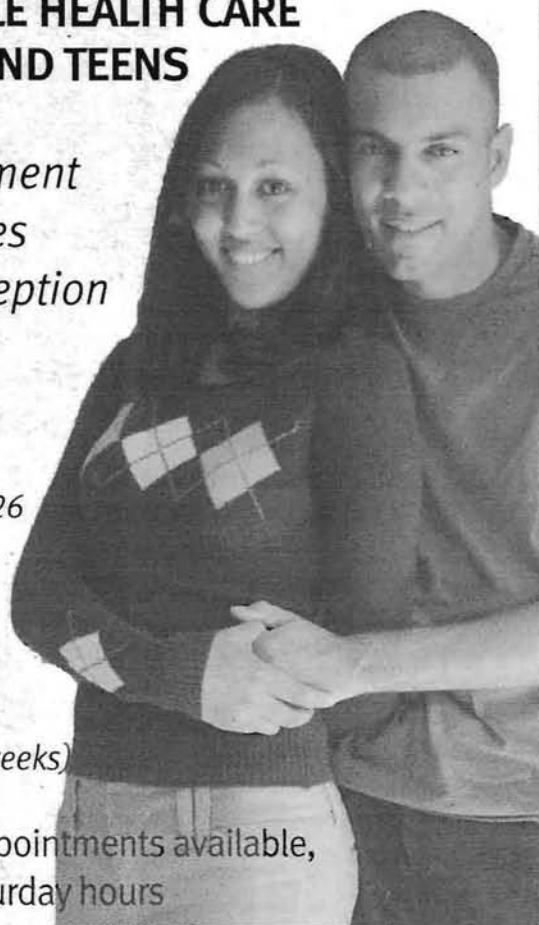
Forever the Sickest Kids has once again pleased their fans with another amazing album that goes beyond what their past ones have been. Combining their old sound with a new maturity, they are proving that, not only are they here for business, but they also want to grow with their audience.

A- -Janaca Scherer

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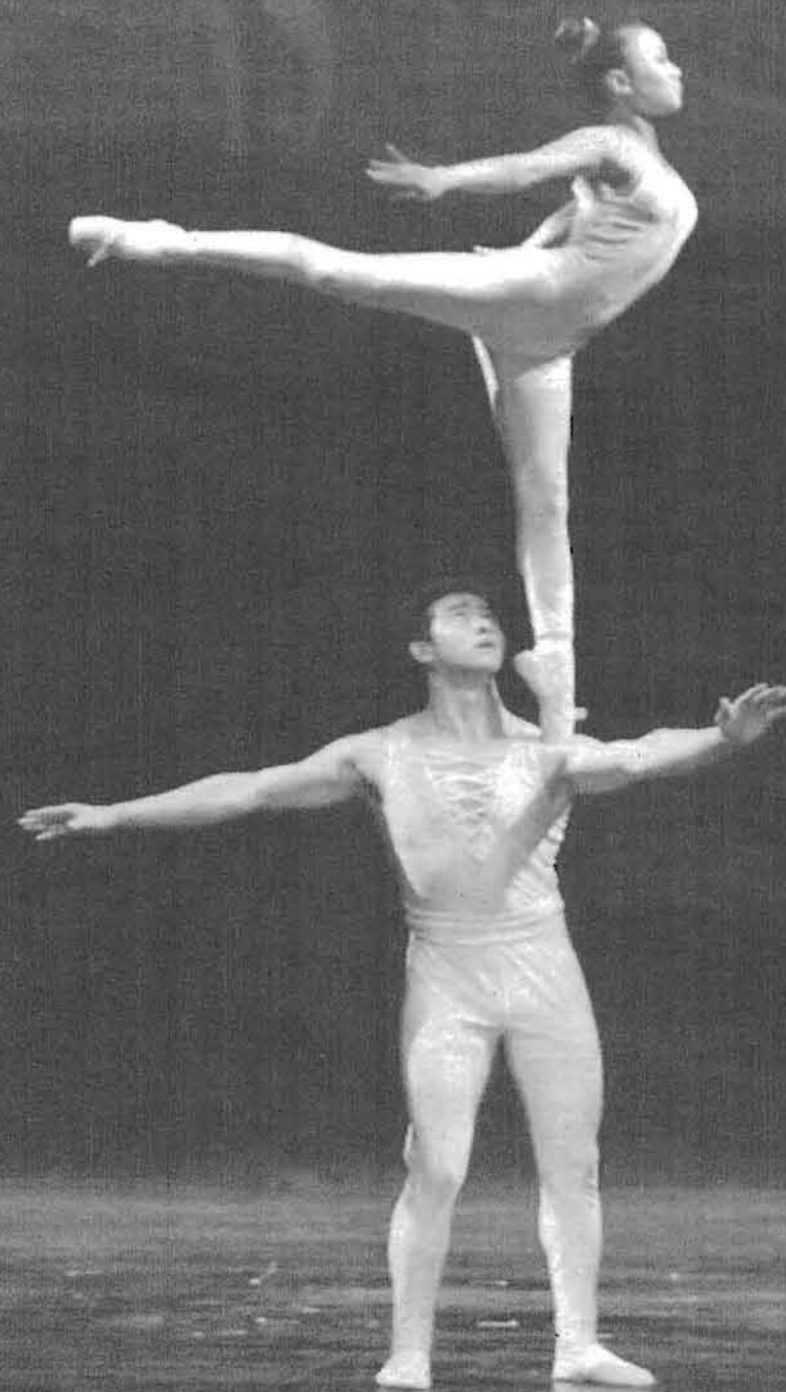
*While supplies last. Passes are available on a first-come, first-served basis. No purchase necessary. Two admit-one passes per person. This film has been rated PG-13 by the MPAA for sustained and intense sequences of war violence and destruction, and for language.

www.BattleLA.com

Features

GOLDEN DRAGON ACROBATS

Chinese contortionists and acrobats come to the Touhill



SHARON PRUITT
Staff writer

Acrobatic art is a much-loved tradition that has existed in China for over two thousand years and on Saturday, February 26, Cirque D'Or: Golden Dragon Acrobats visited the Touhill Performing Arts Center for two stunning performances.

Hailing from Hebei, China, the Golden Dragon Acrobats are an internationally acclaimed company who have visited every state in the United States and as many as 65 countries on five continents.

The group was founded in 1967 by Lien Chi Chang and is currently led by company president, Danny Chang.

Meeting for over 40 years, the Golden Dragon Acrobats have been traveling the world to dazzle audiences of all ages.

"I liked when they first came out and it looked like there was only one girl, but there were six," Betty Hun, audience member, said. "The guys, they're really good too. The whole show is so good."

The show began with the "Thousand Hand Dance," where women stood together to appear to be a single many armed goddess figure.

The show continued with contortion demonstrations and swaying board balancing, followed by impressive juggling acts where the performers juggled everything from umbrellas to balls to hats.

The male performers really got to take center stage in the hoop diving portion of the show.

Demonstrating impressive agility and grace, they filled the stage in an act that included

jumping through a series of hoops balanced atop each other.

The jumps, impressive enough on their own, were mixed with complicated tumbling and partner-work.

Though featuring fast-paced shows of physical strength, the performance also included more delicate demonstrations of muscle control.

"Pas De Deux," a quietly intense two-person acrobatic ballet, finely meshed the grace of ballet with the skillful contortion of acrobatics.

Bathed in an ethereal blue light, the two performers seemed to be dancing in the fog of an unearthly lake.

The real crowd-pleaser, however, was the awe-inspiring "Tower of Chairs," during which one performer balanced himself on top of a number of chairs that seemed to almost reach the ceiling.

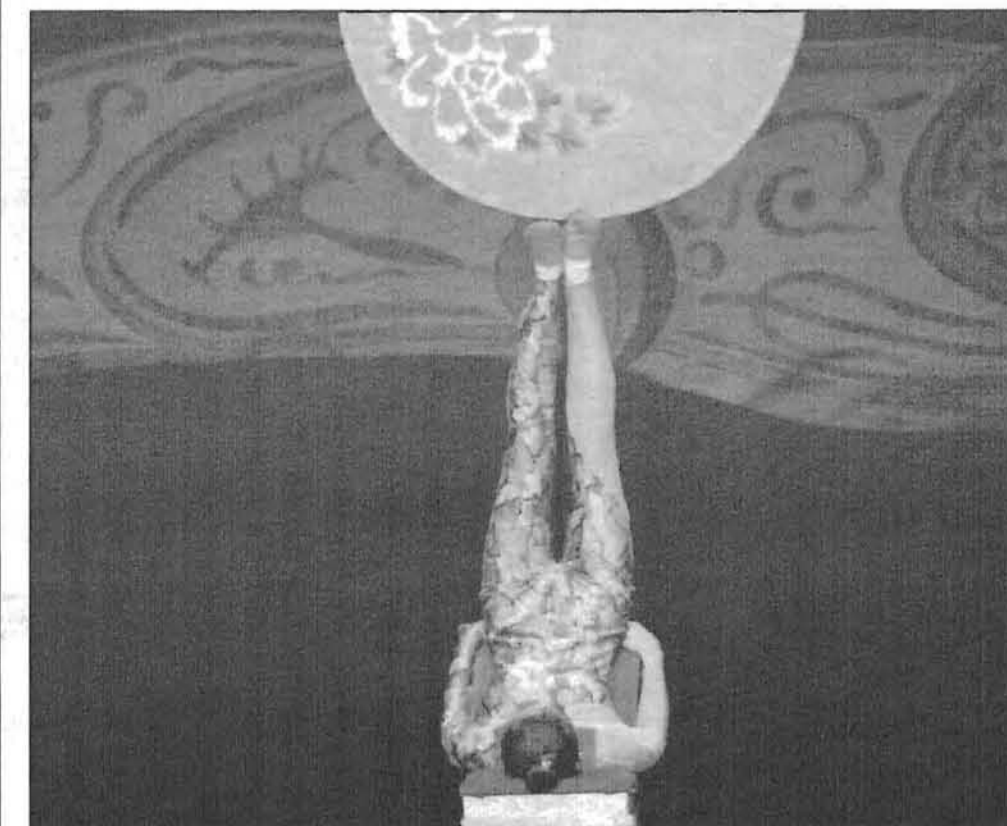
Towering over the crowd, he sat cross-legged atop the tower of chairs and playfully called out to the audience: "One more?"

The crowd urging him on, he added one more chair to the tower and then balanced himself atop the formidable tower.

He then raised one arm out in front of him, striking a Superman pose, much to the delight of the audience.

Missy Borchardt brought her St. Charles gymnastics group to see the show. "The show was awesome. We were on the edge of our seats a lot," Missy Borchardt said. The girls all agreed that the show was great.

Rife with vibrant colors and palpable energy, The Golden Dragon Acrobats present a show that is visually stunning to watch and a pleasure to experience.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE TOUHILL

Faculty Profile:

Barbara VanVoorden: living the circus life

JEN O'HARA
Features Editor

Looking at English professor Barbara VanVoorden, the last thing that comes to mind is that she was born and raised into and still shares a love for the circus life. Her partner, Timothy Tegge, is equally involved and spends the year traveling and performing. Tegges' family owned a small circus show for 25 years. His father began as a clown, later becoming a ringmaster who ran his own show. Tegge got started in the circus at an early age.

"When I was three years old, my dad thought it'd be great to put little Timmy in clown makeup and that's what started it all. I rode my tricycle in clown makeup and wardrobe in a parade. I guess that's all it took. I fell in love instantly," Tegge said.

One of the University of Missouri-St. Louis' English professors was born into a line of circus performers. VanVoordens' grandparents owned a small circus in the Netherlands. Her family came over in 1950 when the infamous Barnum and Bailey circus invited VanVoordens' mother to be one of the European acts in their show.

VanVoorden spent most of her younger life on the road, traveling with the circus.

She received her education mostly through correspondence, what we know today as distance education. Children of performers in the circus are expected to follow in their parents' footsteps. Because of this, VanVoorden was trained in the art of antipodism, or foot juggling.

When VanVoorden was 21, she gave birth to her son. A couple of years later at 23, VanVoorden decided to do the unthinkable; she decided to go to college. "In that world, that was sort of the wild, rebellious thing to do; go to college. That was kind of rejecting the standards of that community. It's kind of the reverse of running away to join the circus," VanVoorden said.

She began taking classes because work in the show-business world was slowly decreasing. VanVoorden realized in being a single mother she would need to go to college and find a more stable job to support herself and her child.

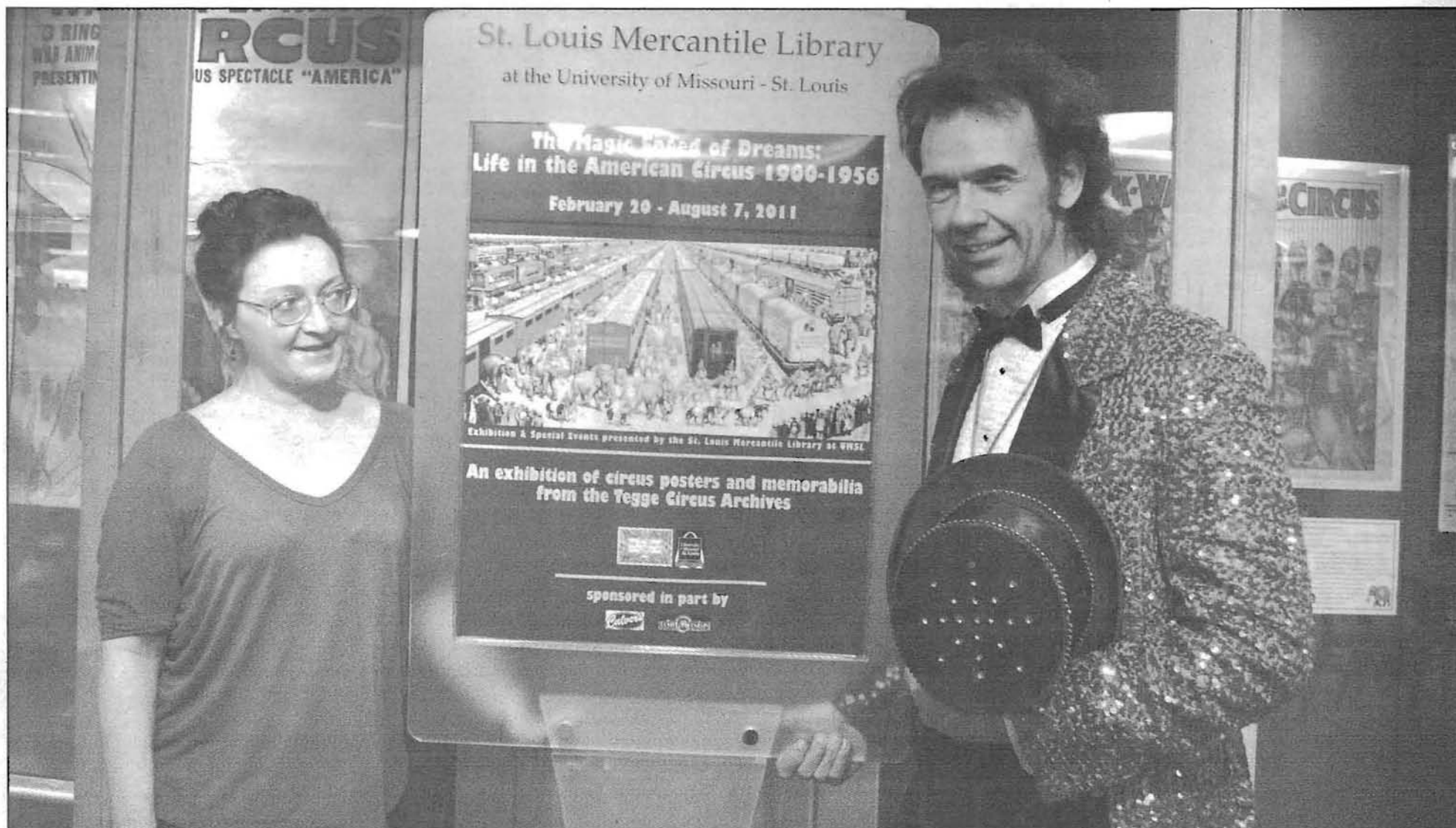
She began taking classes at Belleville Area College and found that she loved it. She applied to Washington University, realizing at the same time that it was a long shot.

"I thought just for the hell of it, I'm going to apply to Wash U to see what happens. And, they took me, [I] was accepted and was offered all this financial aid," VanVoorden said. She received her bachelor's and master's degrees in English. She came to UMSL in 1990, where she has worked as an English professor since.

Tegge and VanVoorden met in 1980 when Tegge's family circus hired her to perform. Though Tegge was married at the time, and VanVoorden was with child, the two hit it off immediately. They lost touch, but Tegge found VanVoorden in 2005. It was not until then that the two revealed their feelings for one another. Tegge convinced VanVoorden to return to the circus world and perform for the first time in over a decade.

VanVoorden describes being an English teacher as a great choice segueing from the circus. "Teaching really is a performance in so many ways. Your subject matter is different, but it's being in front of an audience and making some kind of connection," VanVoorden said.

Tegge is also a circus historian. An exhibit of circus life will be running in the Mercantile Library until August 7. The exhibit includes artifacts ranging in age, the oldest being from the 1800s.



Barbara VanVoorden, Associate Professor of English and Tim Tegge, husband and owner of the Tegge Family Circus Archives, at his exhibit in the Mercantile Library on Friday. JENNIFER MEAHAN / THE CURRENT

Badminton tournament encourages healthy competition

ASHLEY ATKINS

Asst. Features Editor

On Saturday, February 26, Campus Recreation hosted a badminton tournament in the gymnasium of the Mark Twain building on the North campus of the University of Missouri-St. Louis. The tournament welcomed beginners, intermediate and advanced players.

"It is for our badminton enthusiasts who love to play and they have the opportunity to have the whole gym, win a t-shirt and show off their skill," Susan Dibb, intramural coordinator, said.

The tournament is usually thrown once a year and for the past three years, Dibb has had regular faces come out to participate.

Those in attendance had no problem getting into the sync of the game, evidenced by how quickly the beginners began to pick up the playing style of the more advanced players.

The men in the competition did not hesitate to start the day out aggressively as a talented pair smacked the shuttlecock, also known as the "birdie," back and forth, both unwilling to throw the private game they had between them.

Although the prize of the tournament was a t-shirt, they were playing as if trophies were an option.

Badminton comes in fifth worldwide as the most popular sport played. Some of its best players have been known to come out of China.

One of the gentlemen from Saturday's event, also treasurer of the badminton club at UMSL, had dabbled in badminton at Henan Agricultural University in China.

"I have been playing badminton for five years," Xinliang Huang, graduate student, biology, said. "We have had a badminton club at [UMSL] for probably about a year. Saturdays are our regular time for exercise."

It did not take long for the women playing in the tournament to show their passion for the game.

What started out as an event centered on the men in attendance, turned into a fierce death match between the female players.

One of the highly recognized participants among the event turned out to be staple member, Sudeshna Roy, PhD. student of chemistry and biochemistry.

"Actually, when I came here to [UMSL] to study chemistry, I had that intent and passion for playing badminton but there was no badminton club," Roy said. "I thank Qiong for forming a badminton club [and] taking active participation in a badminton club."

Qiong Song, post doctorate student for the college of optometry is the president of the badminton club.

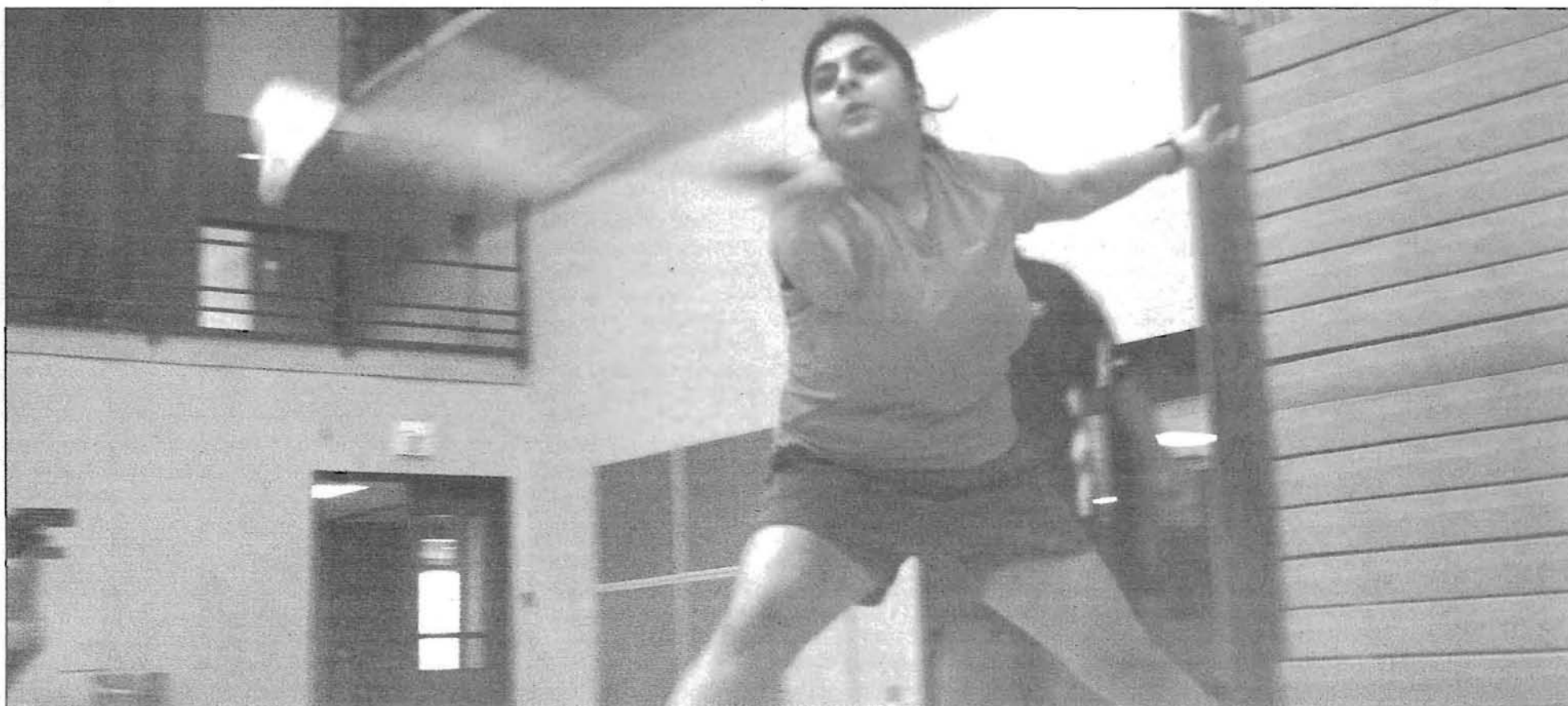
"She is so passionate about it and that made me come to the badminton club often and play regularly," Roy said.

Roy is also interested in a career in badminton. She trains for the sport in St. Louis.

As the event came to a close, it was no coincidence that Huang's double group would be up against Roy's. In the end, although both teams gave it all they had, Huang's team took home the bragging rights.



A graduate student reaches to hit the shuttle at the badminton tournament on Saturday in the Mark Twain Gym.



A student leans to hit the shuttle before it goes out of bounds at the badminton tournament on Saturday at the Mark Twain Building.

PHOTOS BY NIKKI VAHE / THE CURRENT

Opinions

OUR OPINION

Spike in oil prices can only aid the oppression of Libya

Libya is currently in the beginnings of what could very well turn into a civil war. Rebel forces are striking out against dictator Moammar Gadhafi, attempting to re-take their government for the people of Libya, and place the cogs of true democracy in motion. What a novel notion.

The two forces have been vying against one another for control of major cities. Gadhafi loyalists have a general stranglehold on western establishments, whereas the rebel forces have managed to gain a strong foothold in eastern cities such as Brega, the site of a major oil field and military airstrip.

So, what is America doing about this? Until recently, they have been twiddling their thumbs in the face of a dictator making threats along the lines of Libya becoming the "next Vietnam" should anybody intervene.

Granted, this is certainly a terrifying concept. Anybody who lived through Vietnam will gladly recall terror stories broadcast by the television and radio. Most people can recount tales such as this even if they have not lived through such a crisis. However, this is still no reason for a country which claims it thrives on the concept of "democracy" to sit idly by and watch a dicta-

tor slaughter his own people, simply so that he can remove any form of resistance to his retention of power. Other countries, upon witnessing the horror occurring within Libya, immediately began providing support. Countries such as Egypt and Tunisia, for example, have been providing care and refuge, as well as safe passage, to refugees since the rebellion began. Recent counts put the total number of refugees near 180,000 Libyan citizens, all of whom are receiving protection from neighboring countries. The United States though? We waited until one of our primary interests came under attack: oil prices. As soon as America noticed that oil prices from African fields had risen to nearly \$102 a barrel, great interest was shown in preventing the dictator Gadhafi from continuing his stranglehold. The American government has since stepped in, assisting Britain in enforcing "No-Fly Zones" around Libya to prevent air-strikes against rebel establishments, and demanding that Gadhafi step down from dictatorship immediately. But, will this really help much of anything? Take a look at America's recent involvement in removing dictatorship from Egypt, and, further back, in Iraq. America has a tendency to

remove power from one horrendous individual, and then back new militaristic forms of government, such as what has been done in Egypt. In the case of several countries, we force our own twisted form of democracy upon them, and just expect that since it "works so well for us," it must work for the entire world. Well, look at Iraq. Granted, things have calmed down a bit, but American government still is not exactly being taken kindly by the populace. Take a closer look at present day Egypt. The military council we placed in control of Egypt, under the pretenses that "true democracy" would be implemented, giving power to the people, has been less than honest in their dealings. Egyptian citizens continue to die in the streets, simply for demanding that the equality they were promised is granted. When it comes right down to it, America has an interest in foreign affairs only when it either directly impacts our own economy and/or safety, or when it will make us look like heroes to assist a foreign power.

Unsigned editorials reflect the majority viewpoint of The Current's Editorial Board: Andrew Seal, Ryan Krull, Jen O'Hara, William Kyle, Cedric Williams, Jennifer Meahan, Zachary Kraft.

SEAL OF APPROVAL

School shooting game mod crosses line of good taste

The Columbine High School Massacre in 1999. The Virginia Tech shootings in 2007. Various thefts, crimes, and murders around the world: Video games have been accused as the reasons behind some pretty heinous things, all three above included. Critics cite the violence of some video games as the reason that children turn violent.

Indeed, for the critic of violent video games, there is an ever-increasing supply of fodder for the media machine. Games like "Postal 2," which lets you urinate on deceased individuals after brutally murdering them. Or games like the newly-released "Bulletstorm," where the entire point of the game is to murder and maim as many enemies as possible, as quickly as possible, in a great number of gruesome ways. Or the mod "School Shooter: North American Tour 2012" for the PC game "Half-Life 2".

"School Shooter: NAT 2012" is the creation of Checkerboarded Studios, a small independent group of game modders. Like many other video games and video game mods, "School Shooter: NAT2012" lets players step into the shoes of a killer.

In this mod, however, the killers are the perpetrators of such heinous acts like the Columbine High School Massacre, the Virginia Tech shootings and Sasebo.

Sasebo, for those who may not have heard of it, occurred in 2004 in Japan; where an eleven year-old girl brutally stabbed one of her classmates to death.

The mod promises "6 amazingly realistic maps... and multiple students for you to shoot at," as well as "a points system that tracks every murder you commit. Bonuses are recieved for various things such as headshots, difficulty level you are on, [and] what your health is."

Suffice it to say, this mod is atrocious. Its developers have been very vocal about their creation of the mod and their supposedly good reasons for doing so. "Pawnstick", one of the anonymous developers, said that one of Checkerboarded's jobs was to make the school shooting experience "entertaining".

In his words: "Nobody has ever tried to create a proper game about a school shooting. Which is to say, something intended to be "entertainment," rather than going for pure shock value or thought-provocation."

Let's start with that point: the game that Pawnstick and Checkerboarded is creating is entirely and purely for shock-value. Otherwise, they would be putting some effort into making it as real as possible.

A "proper" game about a school shooting would be thoroughly researched and treated with the respect a subject like it deserves. Instead, "most of the research consisted of simply Googling the shooters and their weapons," said "Pawnstick" in an interview on escapist-magazine.com.

He freely admits to never having been affected by a school shooting. School



Andrew Seal

shootings, he says, affect him as much as the earthquakes in Haiti did, "which is to say, not very much at all."

"Pawnstick" also argues in favor of the California game censorship bill, which not only undermines his argument but pretty much invalidates it.

He is all for keeping M-rated games out of the hands of minors, yet "School Shooter: NAT 2012" will be available as a free download for anyone with a copy of Half-Life 2 or a Source-engine-powered game to download and install.

This kind of blatant disrespect and disregard for the victims of school shootings and their families is horrifying.

The developers should at least be upfront with the real reasons why they are creating what they are: they want the attention and they want to cause controversy.

In essence, they appear to be attempting a real-life troll, perhaps hoping Fox will latch onto the story.

Thanks for setting back the cause, guys.

Andrew Seal is Editor-in-Chief for The Current.

What do you think?

Let us know at

www.thecurrent-online.com

SCIENCE MATTERS

'BPA-free' plastics can still leach dangerous estrogen chemicals

Think your environmentally-friendly BPA-free plastic water bottle is safe? Think again.

Last year, this column focused on health concerns about plastics containing bisphenol A (BPA), one of several chemicals that mimic estrogen. Animals studies have found some troubling effects from exposure to estrogen-like substances, including developmental harm to fetuses, fertility problems and cancer.

The National Toxicology Program, part of the National Institutes of Health, expressed "some concern" about the effect of BPA exposure of brains and prostate glands of infants and small children. Links to obesity, infertility and cancer have also been suggested. An Environmental Protection Agency program formed ten years ago, to study health concerns on the effects of chemicals in plastics, has produced few results. While several nations have banned BPA, the U. S. federal government has yet to act. However, many manufacturers of plastic water bottles and containers heeded public concern over BPA and removed it from their plastic products, which were labeled "BPA free." Now a new study casts doubt on whether removing one chemical is the whole solution.

The study, published in the scientific journal *Environmental Health Perspectives*, calls into question an even wider range of plastics, finding that most plastics leach hormone-like chemicals.

Because most studies have been done with rats or mice,

it has been argued that the potential harm of estrogen-like chemicals to humans is not clear. This study did not look at the health effects of estrogenic chemicals, or even at whether plastics leached BPA in particular. It only examined whether common products made from plastic released estrogen-like chemicals. The study used a number of common plastic consumer products used with food, purchased from commercial retailers like Wal-Mart or Whole Foods. The plastic items were chopped up and soaked in water or alcohol, then tested for any estrogenic chemicals that leached out.

In about 70 percent of all cases, estrogenic chemicals were found. After the addition of conditions that reproduced common use, such as exposure to sunlight, dishwashing or microwaving, the plastics leaching out estrogenic chemicals jumped to about 95 percent. Ironically, plastics labeled "BPA-free" sometimes released higher levels of estrogenic chemicals, indicating that the less-well studied substitutes for BPA may be even worse.

The researchers did point out that some plastics did not release any chemicals. The study did not identify which chemicals in the plastics were associated with the release of estrogenic substances.

This means determining which plastic is safe may not be so easy for consumers. So why not use non-plastic options? While plastics are cheaper to ship from China, other food storage and cooking option are made from



Cate Marquis

inexpensive materials. Glass, stainless steel and ceramics are safe for storage in the refrigerator and can safely be put in the dishwasher. Tempered glass and stainless steel are great for cooking. Glass and ceramics work fine in a microwave. Cooking in cast iron with a wooden spoon is not only safe but even adds iron to the diet. These products may have to be handled and cleaned somewhat differently than plastics but none of this is difficult. After all, everyone used to do this, pre-plastics.

While other countries remove potentially hazardous substances until proven safe, our government seems to prefer to leave products on the market until proven hazardous. It is a stark contrast to federal behavior towards substances that might be used as recreational drugs, where there is a rush to ban them first and evaluate safety later.

Make no mistake; this is not an argument in favor of legalized drugs, merely an observation on a strange quirk of government priorities. Is it a matter of profits or people?

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

POP CULTURE WITH POPOSKY

Fashion and sexiness meet

Fashion. Perfection. Modeling. Flawless complexions. Washboard abs. Perfectly toned arms. The ultimate physique. Sound familiar? They really ought to, seeing as they are the pinnacle of popular culture.

Yes, it is sad, but it is also true. The primary focus of the vast majority of people can, at any given time, be attributed to their physical appearance.

Health? That really is not important as long as one looks sexually and/or monetarily appealing. Because honestly, that is what we all want, is it not: to attract as much attention and complimentary behavior to our appearances as possible?

Quite frankly, physical attractiveness is certainly a quality which has been held in high esteem since the beginning of time. It is also a quality which has completely altered in meaning and reception over the thousands of years of humankind's existence upon the Earth. There are some cultures in which physical attractiveness is gauged by how much weight one has. Both extremes can be examined in this category. For instance, many poorer cultures throughout history have placed great emphasis upon an individual having extra weight. The reason? An individual who could afford to eat that well was clearly a good match for marriage and child-rearing.

On the opposite end of this spectrum, we have modern views in countries such as America and Japan, along with several other highly industrialized countries. No longer is "excess" weight considered a positive in these cultures. Rather, the smaller a woman is, the better: it proves she has the time to take care of herself, and thus must be at least somewhat well off. Likewise, a man who is morbidly ripped will often be chosen over the slight, lanky alternative, as this, too, is proof of time available for working out, and thus, financial stability.

Now, on to the fashion end of this article. Fashion is, much like physical appearance of one's body, given far too much weight in many cultures the world-round. In some instances, it is a matter of control. There are several schools across the globe which, to this day, require military-grade uniformity in the attire of all of their students on a daily basis. Granted, this is a great training tool to prepare students for the world of business they may enter into, a world where uniformity is praised, and differences are shunned. However, such an attention to uniformity only proves to train children to shun differences in appearance, often leading to skewed worldviews in which anybody who looks "unusual" is a horrendous example of humanity.



Matthew B. Poposky

On the opposite end of this spectrum are people who place far too much emphasis upon being on the "cutting edge" of fashion design. Such individuals will often imitate the same attitudes as those taught to pay too much attention to uniformity. Interestingly enough, the emphasis placed by such individuals upon fashionable appearance will often lead to even worse alienation of peers than the uniform-training may result in, often leading to immense "clique" activity in schools and workplaces, based entirely upon a code of "who has the newest American Apparel."

Learn to judge those in society based upon more than just looks. Honestly, the results can be shocking, as social circles tend to grow, rather than dissipate, when physical appearance is not the prime focus.

Beauty does not have to be only skin-deep. Look further.

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

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We agree with Matthew.
Do you?
www.thecurrent-online.com

Point/Counterpoint



Should the wall street bankers be on trial?

Gambling with other people's money has repercussions

Wall Street's financial powerhouse of executives got away with fraud and theft and none of them were sent to jail. Since when is it okay to commit fraud and theft and not be punished by law?

It does not even begin to make sense as to why the government did not do anything drastic to punish the executives of the many companies that were involved in crashing the United States of America's financial life support, dragging us into an economic crisis.

On Rolling Stone magazine's website, it reports that the only executive to serve jail time was Bernie Madoff, who according to Rolling Stone magazine is a, "pathological celebrity con artist."

Why was he the only one who ended up in jail? He certainly was not the only one involved in thieving money from the government.

Specifically, the definition of fraud is intentional perversion of truth in order to induce another to part with something of value; combine theft with that and then it has crime written all over it.

This is exactly what the companies such as, AIG, Goldman Sachs, Lehman Brothers, JP Morgan Chase,

Bank of America, and Morgan Stanley did on Wall Street.

They lied, deceived, tricked, and stole their clients and the public's money. Should that not spell out right there clear as day as to why they should be in jail?

They stole money that wasn't theirs to benefit them, and how is the government handling it? They are not doing a single thing to punish the criminals.

All they did was give them a little smack on the hand and say, "No, very bad" and let them go hoping they learned their lesson, but that just does not seem logical with such a big "no no" as this.

The government clearly knows exactly what has happened and who was involved, but instead of taking care of the problem they let them off with petty fines and little jobs.

The government obviously has enough proof to put them behind bars for many years, but apparently crashing the world's economy is not a big deal or anything.

It is an understatement to say that the crash only left billions of people stranded without a job or home. To

say the least it shouldn't have happened and could potentially be avoided in the future.

If they used the executives who committed the crime in the first place as an example, to prove to people who will take over these jobs in the future, not cave into the madness of thievery, they could avoid being punished and having to deal with jail.

It is truly sad to say that our government failed at correctly punishing the Wall Street executives in their wrongdoing. How is any one supposed to learn from this incident to prevent it from happening in the future, if we do not take care of it the proper way now?

They will never learn and people will go on thinking that they will not get into too much trouble for crashing an economy and they will continue to think that they can get away with such crimes, rather than paying the price of jail time.

Does that sound morally right to you? Justice should be served! Will anything really ever be done to penalize this treachery?

No punishment for those who did nothing wrong

The answer to why no one from Wall Street went to jail in the economic crisis and bail-out of 2008 has a very simple answer: no one broke the law. As astounding as that seems, it is true. Corporations that do wrong do not go to jail, only people do. Bernie Madoff went to jail for his investment scam because he broke the law, by running an illegal Ponzi scheme. The risky, complex investment speculation that was behind the stock market collapse was based in part on buying and selling mortgages that turned out to be less solid than investors were told. Basically, telling investors "trust me," even if the broker making the recommendation knows better, is not illegal. It is "buyer beware." The whole situation is explained clearly in the fact-filled documentary "Inside Job," which assigns blame to both political parties in setting the stage for this mess.

Of course, most business people do not engage in this kind of unethical behavior. Besides the fact that most people have moral limits on their behavior, it is not good business to mislead or cheat your customers, if you are selling a product of service

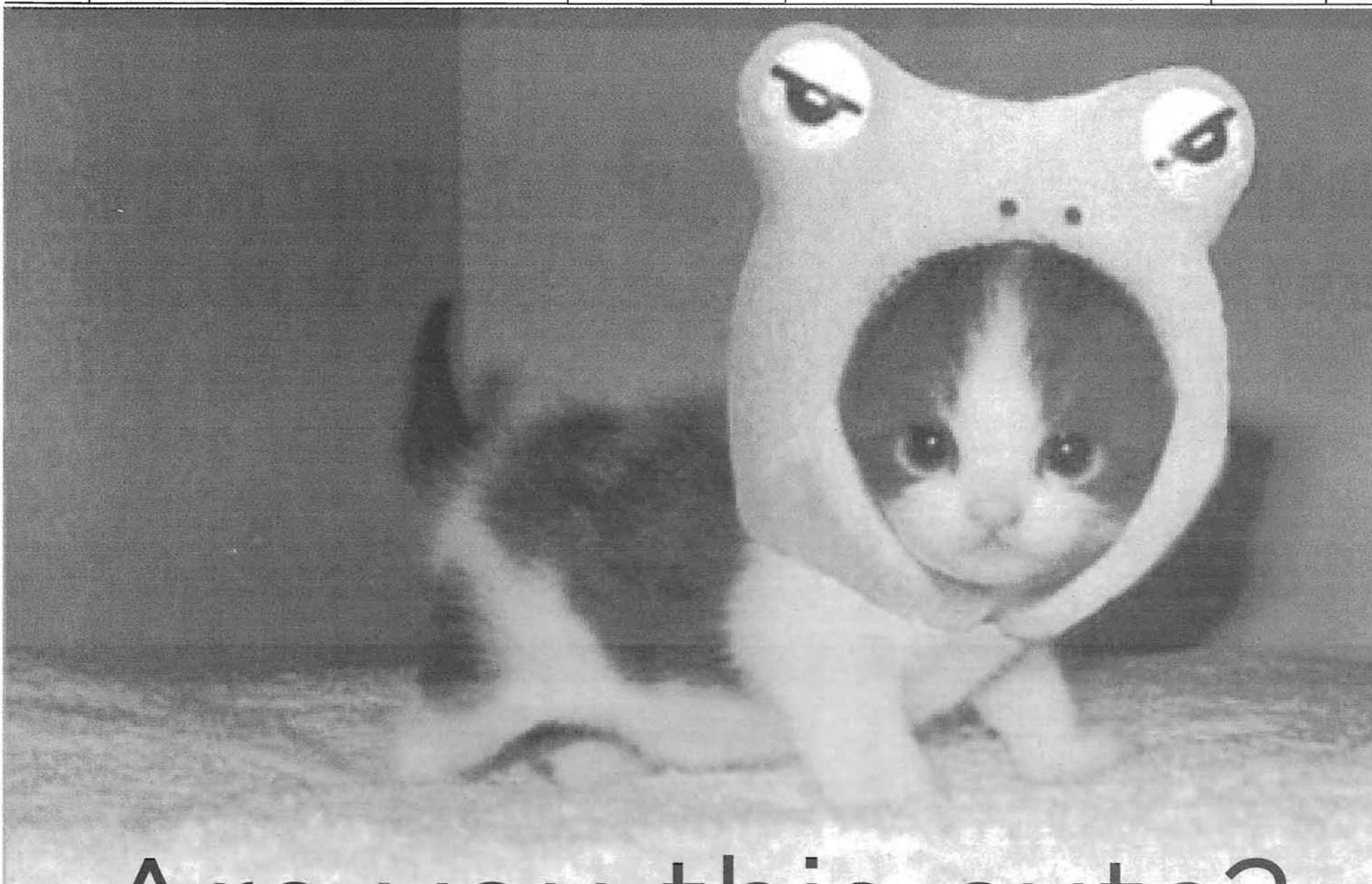
and need to maintain an ongoing relationship with your customers. Wall Street investing is a business far different, much closer to gambling than running a store. It depends on the ability to do the unexpected, seeing what the other guy did not. In that world of speculation, it is a matter of figuring out how to manipulate money and use information to make money by out-smarting the next investor. Actually, there are some benefits to the no-rules "greed is good" gamesmanship in investing and markets. The trick is to keep the rest of the economy from collapsing if things go wrong, and protect people who are not playing the game from becoming collateral damage.

We did not do that. So who is to blame? Greedy bankers or naive voters?

Actually, we used to have a brilliant solution in place: the Glass Steagall Act. This law separated ordinary banks, which made community loans and held mortgages, from investment banks, which made money on creative speculation. The ordinary banks had rules and protections for deposits. Investment banks had no rules but no bailout if things went

wrong. But Wall Street wanted that money from ordinary banks, from savings and pension funds. Arguing that the Glass Steagall Act was an old-fashioned law no longer needed, big banks persuaded the Clinton administration to drop it. If there are no rules against it, someone will do it. But while most people would not steal, we have laws against it because some people would. Some people call this regulation, others call it the rule of law. An honest investigation of the behavior of the Wall Street brokers and bankers involved in this debacle might uncover actual law-breaking but such an investigation is highly unlikely in a political system where money wields unlimited influence and corporate spending is limitless.

Basically, we the people are at fault, not Wall Street types. We did not insist on rules to prevent Wall Street types from bringing down the rest of the economy and then demanding a bail-out to keep things from getting worse. In the world of "greed is good," where ethics are a liability, why would we expect otherwise? It is up to us to make the rules, not them to just do the right thing.



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Puzzles

CURRENT HOROSCOPES



ARIES
(MARCH 21 - APRIL 20)

This week, school and work are going to be so hard you will probably drop out, but won't.



LIBRA
(SEPT. 24 - OCT. 23)

On Monday, you will think about how you are going to skip class on Tuesday to make it to that hot date on Friday.



TAURUS
(APRIL 21 - MAY 21)

Taurus, you normally go to a kitchen to touch your foot with small gloves and then fall asleep to Frank Sinatra!



SCORPIO
(OCT. 24 - NOV. 22)

This upcoming week, you will find a green shirt and when March 17th comes around it might be handy, so wear it for a week or two.



GEMINI
(MAY 22 - JUNE 21)

Lately, your twin found a claw machine. Now everyone on your block likes him more than you, this can't go on for much longer, don't worry.



SAGITTARIUS
(NOV. 23 - DEC. 22)

You might have noticed that when you eat cheese, people stay away from you. Make a little experiment: eat 3 lbs. of it then hug strangers.



CANCER
(JUNE 22 - JULY 22)

On Thursday, the sun will shine and the whole city will be out having a great time. You, on the other hand will start work in the box factory. Have fun!



CAPRICORN
(DEC. 23 - JAN. 20)

Whoa, guess what: last week was the same as this week. People and even small insects are angering you. Try meditation.



LEO
(JULY 23 - AUG. 21)

The sun and moon are almost aligned. It's finally time to reveal your secret five cheese, fish, and pasta recipe.



AQUARIUS
(JAN. 21 - FEB. 19)

The earth is moving inline with venus in a few months. That means you should buy chalk to eat as that is the only thing to end the werewolf cycles!



VIRGO
(AUG. 22 - SEPT. 23)

Wow, you cannot find time for your puppy: she is just waiting for a clear day to run outside and you just aren't free to play. Blow off everything and have fun this weekend.



PISCES
(FEB. 20 - MARCH 20)

Where is your hat? You can't find anything this Tuesday. The only option is to cook the turtle next door and tell people to mind their own business.

CURRENT WORD SEARCH

Mardi Gras!

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

Alcohol

Lent

Beads

Mardi Gras

Bourbon Street

New Orleans

Crown

Parades

Fat Tuesday

Gold

Comics

Simply Beagle by Karlee Sellars



Max and Lobo by Gail Fike



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.

OR YOU CAN E-MAIL US AT THECURRENTJOBS@UMSL.EDU

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, with the subject "What's Current." No phone submissions.



"Kiss Away Cancer Day" is an event which donates its proceeds. They gave kisses on some cheeks for \$1 on Monday, Feb. 28 in the MSC Nosh.

CHENHAO LI / THE CURRENT

Monday, March 7

National Foreign Language Week

Located in J.C. Penney Building, Clark Hall, Lucas Hall, The Nosh and is open to all. National Foreign Language week is March 7-10! There will be multiple free activities on those days, in a variety of events. Check out the flyer on the Languages and Cultures website! For information, call Beth Landers at (314) 516-6546.

Tuesday, March 8

Ward E. Barnes Library Annual Open House

From 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. located in the Ward E. Barnes Library-South Campus. Open to all. Please join the Barnes Library staff for our annual open house. We'll have cookies, coffee, and tea, plus lots of cool, free stuff. Play the Library Puzzler to win a gift certificate to the UMSL Bookstore, Starbucks, or iTunes! For information, call Betsy Williams at (314) 516-5576.

Thursday, March 9

Recreational Weightlifting Contest

From 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., located at Mark Twain Athletic/Recreation Center. Men and women, in a host of weight classes, can compete in squat, dead lift and bench press events. Participants do not need to register in advance but must weigh-in between 12:00 & 1:00pm today. Everyone wins a t-shirt! Call Campus Recreation, 203 Mark Twain at (314) 516-5326.

SOCIAL JUSTICE MARCH 2011 MONTH

THE CATHOLIC NEWMAN CENTER

WEEK ONE

FEB 28 - MARCH 4

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

THE CATHOLIC COALITION

ON CLIMATE CHANGE

SPEAKER

MARCH 1 7PM AT CNC

VOLUNTEERING AT

CITY SEEDS

MARCH 4 11AM-4 PM

(MEET AT CNC)

WEEK TWO

MARCH 7 - 11

HUNGER AWARENESS

SOUP LINES IN THE NOSH

MARCH 7 & 8 11AM-1PM IN

THE NOSH

ST. LOUIS AREA

FOODBANK SPEAKER

MARCH 9 7 PM AT CNC

HUNGER BANQUET

MARCH 10 12:30PM IN MSC

314 & 315

WEEK THREE

MARCH 14 - 18

HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS

CLOTHING DRIVE

MARCH 14 11AM-2PM IN MSC BRIDGE

HOMELESS OUTREACH

SPEAKER

MARCH 15 7PM AT CNC

SHANTYTOWN

MARCH 16 6PM-8AM ON MSC PATIO

WEEK FOUR

MARCH 21-25

IMMIGRATION AWARENESS

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE

SPEAKER

MARCH 22 7PM AT CNC

ANTE UP FOR IMMIGRANTS

POKER TOURNAMENT

MARCH 24 7PM IN THE PILOT HOUSE

\$10 TO PLAY AWESOME PRIZES