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INSIDE



Student Diauna Tyson has a passion for business
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Friday's Beach Party offers 'Nothing More' than a good time
See Features, page 14

Texting ban doesn't go far enough
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Weak economy means less help from financial aid

► **MARK WEBBER**
Staff Writer

Students at University of Missouri-St. Louis may notice a little less help from financial aid funding this year.

The Access Missouri Financial Assistance Program is handing out less funding to college students who need help paying for school. This year, those who are eligible will receive \$1,680 from Access Missouri for the 2009-2010 fiscal year. Last year, UM-St. Louis students received \$2,050.

This may come as a disappointment to many UM-St. Louis students who may

already be struggling in a recessive economy. James O'Steen, Coordinator of Financial Aid, believes that the economy might be to blame.

"The issue isn't that the state of Missouri is giving less funding toward the Access Missouri overall pot, it's that more students are going to school and they need financial assistance," O'Steen said. "Access Missouri must distribute less money per individual because of more students in need."

O'Steen expressed the economy's accountability further saying that numerous students have begun to look at financial aid as a

source of income. According to O'Steen, this means that students are taking the opportunity of programs such as Access Missouri and using them as a reason to go back to school in order to be more competitive in the job market.

The Access Missouri Financial Assistance Program is a \$92 million program which helps students in both public and private universities all across Missouri. Private university students receive approximately double the amount of public university students because of such high costs.

Earlier in the year, Gov-

ernor Jay Nixon proposed to decrease the amount of maximum funding for private universities so that funding could be increased for students attending public universities.

He had hoped to set the limit for both public and private universities at \$2,850.

However, the proposed bill did not make it through either the Senate or the House chambers of legislature.

Jason Pogue, a sophomore attending Lindenwood University, hailed the result as justice for students such as himself.

"I have been out of

school for four years and found myself forced to go back because I lost my job," Pogue said. "I would have gone to the University of Missouri-St. Louis if I could, but Lindenwood had the program I needed. Tuition costs so much at Lindenwood. Some of us that go to private colleges need the extra help."

Despite an increase of students going to college, and an increase in students needing financial aid, overall funding for the program has not increased. James had a hunch as to why.

See FINANCIAL AID, page 5

SGA elects executive board at Friday meeting

► **JESSICA KEIL**
Editor-in-Chief

The first Student Government Association meeting of the school year was held Friday. In keeping with last year's tradition it was held in the SGA Chambers and began at 12:30 p.m. Concluding at around 1:30 p.m., the bulk of the meeting was spent holding SGA executive board elections. The elections were held by opening the floor to nominations. Each nominee spoke briefly about their qualifications and the assembly voted. Originally, the assembly was hesitant to nominate for positions, with some representatives making nominations that were not serious

and resulted in laughter. However, after the joking ceased, two men were nominated for the SGA chair position: Mike Soltys, a sophomore and Leo Bay, a senior. The chair position was the only paid position to the SGA executive board at \$500 a semester. Bay, a residential assistant at Mansion Hills apartments, was announced the winner. Other nominees to the executive positions went uncontested. Michael Soltys, a member of Sigma Pi fraternity, was accepted to the position of vice-chair. Erin Potts, sophomore, biology was accepted to the position of parliamentarian.

See SGA, page 5



AHMAD ALJURYED / THE CURRENT

Greg Meyer, vice-president of SGA, conducting a SGA executive board election.

WEATHER

MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.	SUN.
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The Current
VOLUME 43, ISSUE 1285

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Repairs on South Campus hint at larger additions

► **ERIK BRUNER**
Staff Writer

Education majors and optometry students are aware of the current facelift the University of Missouri-St. Louis is undergoing. The front of Marillac Hall is, at the moment, a scene of jack-hammers, taped-off pathways and unearthed pavement.

However, the campus improvement, while it looks chaotic, is simply a routine sidewalk pavement replacement.

The temporary change is a small price to pay for the reassurance that campus facilities are being maintained this semester. Sam Darandari, the director of facilities planning

at UM-St. Louis, assures students of just that in a conversation with *The Current*. "We're mostly focused on maintenance and repairs right now," Darandari of the current projects said. "There's a lot that needs to be done."

Of the many projects Darandari is juggling on campus right now, a few include: a roof replacement on the Regional Center for Education and Work on north campus, a Seton Hall transformation of living space into classrooms, labs and office space for the College of Nursing, and a roof replacement and masonry repair on the Honors College Provincial House.

While sidewalk repairs and renovations of living

spaces are priorities, the exciting news is in the planning.

With an ever-expanding student body, UM-St. Louis may need development at many of its major schools.

Among the projects that UM-St. Louis' Planning and Construction team are developing right now are: a new building at the former site of Normandy hospital which, in the near future, will house both the College of Nursing and the College of Optometry, a \$25 million unified College of Business building, possible new buildings for the College of Fine Arts and Communications, and a university-wide facility and grounds renovation appealingly titled "Campus

Development Phase I."

A complete list of developments in progress for the UM System can be found on the Web at www.um-system.edu under the "Finance and Administration" department.

While a considerable amount of academic developments are in the works for the next couple years, students wish that there were just a few more places for entertainment and recreation on campus. Some students have expressed that campus has little to offer students living on campus or enrolled in late classes once the available coffee shops and eateries close.

See **CONSTRUCTION**, page 7

UMSL STARS win research awards

► **NICK BISHOP**
Staff Writer

This summer more than 70 high school students had the opportunity to work on collegiate-level research projects through the Students and Teachers as Research Scientists program with university researchers from St. Louis. During the six-week long program the secondary school students were investigating college-level research questions.

Keith Stine, professor of chemistry at the University of Missouri-St. Louis in the Center of Nanoscience, reflects on his feelings about the STARS program, "I think it's a great program," Stine said. "It gives these high school students an opportunity to see what scientific research is really all about. It gives them a good head start. It's the kind of

experience that can really have a good impact on their future careers."

Of the students who participated in the program, three who worked on the UM-St. Louis campus were winners of the 2009 Pfizer and LMI Aerospace/D3 Technologies Award for Excellence in Research; there were only 24 winners total. Kenneth Mares, director of the STARS program based on the UM-St. Louis campus, expressed his happiness with the participants.

"They're the best of the best," Mares said. "These are kids that have come in, worked hard on a research project, written a research paper on the project, and then presented it."

He also mentioned that because of their excellence, each STARS participant will receive a half-time

tuition waiver to UM-St. Louis. The winners of the program are also given five copies of their research papers to be given to the top five colleges of their choice with their applications.

Merideth Redick from Clayton High School, mentored by James O'Brien, won an award for her research paper entitled, "Intracavity Laser Absorption Spectroscopy of Transition Metal Diatomic Molecules: Electronic Transitions of Titanium Fluoride in the Near Infrared Spectral Region." O'Brien mentioned that this particular student's work will most likely be published in two or more journals.

Marta Wells from Lafayette High School in Wildwood, Mo. wrote "Nanoporous Gold as a Support for Competitive Immunoassays in Prostate Cancer

Diagnosis Using UV-Visible Spectrophotometry" while under the mentorship of Keith Stine.

Saya Jacob from Ladue Horton Watkins High School wrote, "Expression of a Putative Non-Specific Phospholipase C in Arabidopsis (PLC 514)" while under the mentorship of UM-St. Louis' Xuemin (Sam) Wang from the E. Desmond Lee and Family Fund Endowed Professor in Plant Science.

These students get a hands-on feel for real scientific research but are also learning that things don't always go as expected. "Often times the things you discover aren't anything like what you were expecting to discover, and many times it turns out to be more interesting than what you were planning to do anyway," O'Brien said.

Learn and Serve program gives UM-St. Louis tuition, more

► JASON BECKRING
Staff Writer

Kay Gasen, director of the Community Partnership Project, offers breaking behind-the-scenes news that "The University of Missouri-St. Louis has been awarded a Learn and Serve America Higher Education grant from the Corporation for National and Community Service."

According to Gasen, the project will focus on the housing market as well as "public education challenges exacerbated by the economic crisis." Through the project, participating college students will engage in activities about foreclosure prevention, non-profit capacity building and neighborhood improvement efforts as well as mentoring and tutoring programs. "UMSL students of Service" will "engage over 1,400 students [in] 23,000 hours of service over the three year period."

The official announcement will be made September 1 on the UM-St. Louis website and stems from a campaign promise made by President Barack Obama in the 2008 election. Obama promised the nation that an investment in higher education would be a pillar of his administration. Claiming roots in community organizing, Obama pledged to constituents the creation of a program where students, who sought supplementary aid for tuition, could serve their community and receive this additional funding.

The legislation passed over the president's desk and was introduced into law on April

21 bearing a new name: The Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act. However, the act was not a single piece of legislation but rather a fragment of the Learn and Serve program that is sponsored by the Corporation for National and Community Service.

The campaign promised financial support to students who were attracted to the idea of lessening their tuition debt through community service.

However, this article of the legislation is found deep within the links of the Learn and Serve website. The program in fact falls under the AmeriCorps program.

To students who complete a term of service, the Segal AmeriCorps Education Award rewards them \$1,000-4,725. When the Learn and Serve Act goes into effect on October 1, the Segal AmeriCorps Education Award will increase to match the maximum Pell Grant amount which now awards \$5,350. This amount is set to inflate over time.

Students are offered the option to either pay their current tuition or to apply the funds to any outstanding student loans. Each program participant is eligible to receive the award twice and is allowed seven years to make use of the funds.

The bill enhances service opportunities by elevating AmeriCorps available positions from 75,000 annually to 250,000 by 2017. These new AmeriCorps positions will spotlight education, health, clean energy, veterans, economic opportunity and other national priorities.

All service work must

be completed through the AmeriCorps program. A student cannot perform service hours when or wherever he or she wishes; instead the bill insists that all work must be performed through AmeriCorps whether in a full-time position or possible part-time arrangement. All efforts and placement would be controlled and assigned by AmeriCorps.

Kate Palmer, junior, social work, implied that she did not feel the program was necessarily what she needed.

"Being where I'm at ... the \$4,500 for a year's worth of service would barely get me through one semester at the university," Palmer said, "though I think it is a great program and if I were in the position, [I] would maybe try it out for the experience."

As an umbrella program, Learn and Serve America works to sustain service-learning projects from elementary to high schools, community groups and higher education institutions by providing grant support, training and technical assistance, research, effective practices, curricula, and program models. The grants that are intended for higher education facilities are meant to support programs that provide aid for both the community and those that serve the community. The awarded funds support such practices as training, course development and community service Federal Work-Study programs.

"This personally would give me that capacity to better understand which career path I would like to choose," Palmer said.

UM-St. Louis optometrist honored in Vision Monday

Dr. Barbara Brown, manager of student and special services for the College of Optometry at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, was recently named one of the 2009 Most Influential Women in Optical by Vision Monday, a nationwide "eye care trade publication." Brown was selected as a "mentor," defined by Vision Monday as "women who are team builders and developers of talent."

Brown earned her doctorate degree in optometry in 1988 after receiving her bachelor's degree in chemistry at University of Missouri-St. Louis. Brown began working at the College of Optometry in 1999 after working at an optometry practice full time.

As manager of student and special services, she acts as a fundraising liaison and oversees recruitment, admissions, placement and scholarships. She is also secretary of the board of the Missouri Optometric Foundation of which she is also a lifetime member. Additionally she is involved with the American Optometric Association, Heart of America Contact Lens Society and the St. Louis Optometric Society.

Enrollment at UM-St. Louis continues to grow

The University of Missouri-St. Louis has seen an increase in on-campus enrollment from last year. Enrollment is currently at 12,024 students but is expected to exceed 15,800 on October 1 when fall enrollment ends.

The number of freshman in enrolling at UM-St. Louis was especially high, with an increase of 20 percent over the 2008 enrollment. Transfer students who are typically the bulk of new UM-St. Louis students also increased 5 percent.

In a UM-St. Louis press release, Greg McCalley, Associate Vice Provost for Enrollment Management, attributed the increase in enrollment to the school's growing reputation.

"We believe students are responding to the great value UMSL represents. It's a matter of quality and affordability," McCalley said. "UMSL has a great faculty with several nationally ranked academic programs."

In the press release, McCalley also mentioned UM-St. Louis' freeze on tuition and increase in financial aid package which he also believes helped raise enrollment numbers.



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Statshot

UNDERCURRENT

Some believe that Greek life gets a bad reputation, others feel they are a positive influence. **What do you think?**



Sister Clementia Toalson
Sophomore, Business

"They can [be positive], if approached with the correct morals and gives opportunities for real friendships based on community and not so much on wrong doing."



Randall Lewis
Senior
Electrical Engineering

"I don't really see them doing much. I think they should have more advertising for their events on campus for the whole UMSL community."



Hannah Suire
Sophomore
Nursing

"They have an extremely positive effect on campus. They raise money for various organizations on campus and in the community in general."



Jacob McDaniel
Senior
Political Science

"I feel that the things that these organizations promote are not what should be pushed by the school."



Mark Winterowd
Senior
Mathematics

"As a commuter student, I have not been able to notice the impact of greek life at all."

What about you? Sound off at www.thecurrentonline.com

VERBATIM

"It is going to be a great book."
-Dick Cheney, on his soon-to-be published memoir

"Listen carefully—there were again people that did not listen and people that got burned and really badly injured because they did not listen."

-Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger during a raging wildfire in California

"I don't even remember life without him."

-Actor Tracy Morgan, at a party for Michael Jackson

"I think she can handle it."

-Jim Bell, executive producer for "Today", about hiring Jenna Bush Hager

"I'm not saying it was inappropriately prescribed, I'm saying he didn't know the risks."

-Dr. Drew Pinsky, on DJ AM's apparent overdose

"Now Teddy has become a part of history, and we are the ones who will have to do all the things he would have done,"

-President Obama on Ted Kennedy's death

"We got along very, very well and very, very quickly and that's always helpful for a comedy."

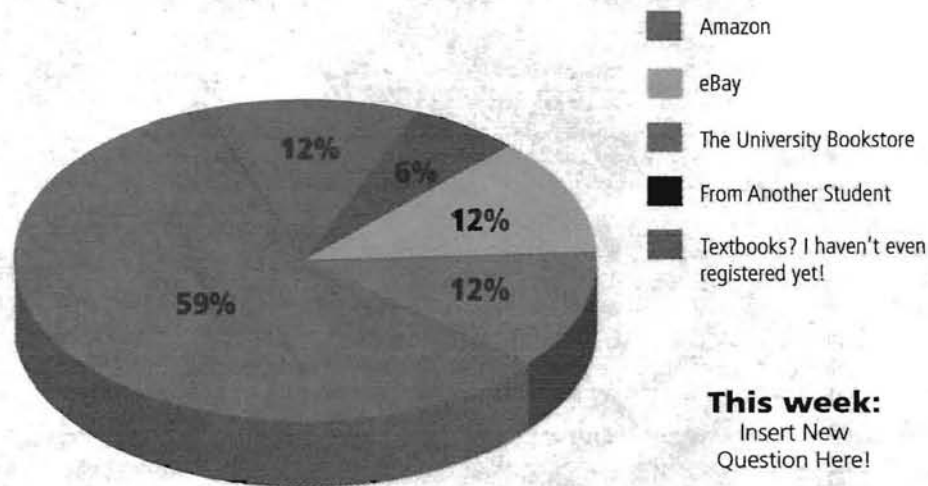
-Ben Affleck during an interview promoting "Extract"

"They're real lad's lads."

-Dolores O'Riordan on her band "The Cranberries" regrouping for their tour

POLL

Where did you buy your textbooks this year?



- Amazon
- eBay
- The University Bookstore
- From Another Student
- Textbooks? I haven't even registered yet!

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SGA, from page 1

Jericha Selby, sophomore, criminal justice was accepted to the position of secretary.

The position of sergeant-at-arms had two nominations: Mike Carr and Matt Schroeder. Schroeder, a non-member of SGA, lost the election to Carr, a member of Phi Kappa Alpha.

The Associated Students of the University of Missouri also brought nominees to be approved by the assembly. The ASUM board

member nominees were Susan Jones and Andy Abraham; both were approved.

Also on the meeting agenda was Marie Mueller, a nurse practitioner in Health, Wellness and Counseling Services. Mueller spoke to the assembly about the H1N1 virus or 'swine flu,' and passed out flyers on how to avoid spreading the virus. Her primary advice: wash your hands.

Additionally, Dan Ros-

ner, SGA comptroller, presented the current SGA budget to the assembly. The total budget allocation from the Student Activities Budget Committee for SGA is \$103,400.00.

Although the president of SGA, GraceMarie Ritter, had expressed concern prior to the meeting over whether or not the representatives from the various student organizations on campus would attend, 67 organiza-

tions were represented out of 107.

"This is similar to our average," Ritter said, "as only about 80 organizations receive funding from SABC."

The next SGA meeting will be held on September 11 at 12:30 in the SGA Chambers. The following SGA meetings will be: September 18, October 2 and 30, November 13 and December 4; same time and place.

SGA Budget

Operations	\$38,000
Homecoming	\$50,000
Leadership	
Development	\$6,000
Co-Sponsorships	\$4,000
Student Body	
Relations	\$2,000
Big Event	\$2,000
Reception	\$1,200
Mirthday/Expo	\$200

The Current regrets that sometimes in the making of this publication, we make mistakes. What we do not regret is correcting our mistakes. Please let us know of any corrections that need to be made.

On page 25 of the August 24, 2009 issue, Sofi Seck's "Foreigner's Corner" should have been "Understanding Ramadan." Instead the article placed was "Senators throw in their two cents on health care." Read Sofi Seck's real column in this issue or at thecurrentonline.com.

On page 5 of the August 24, 2009 issue, the crimelime had multiple spelling and gramatical errors. The crime-line is sent to *The Current* by the campus police department. It will be proofread and edited for future issues.

FINANCIAL AID, from page 1

"If it was my guess, I'd say that it would have to do with overall cuts in state funding," James said. "Everything takes a hit some way or another."

On its website in Febru-

ary, the Missouri Department of Higher Education touted the federal stimulus package for its potential "to provide Missouri with needed flexibility to make college more affordable by

maintaining state support for institutions of higher learning."

At least for now, Access Missouri overall funding will not be increased by federal stimulus. Financial aid did

want it to be known, though, that the Access Missouri funding per UM-St. Louis student did increase from its original 2009 projection. "Students were originally going to receive \$1,600. The

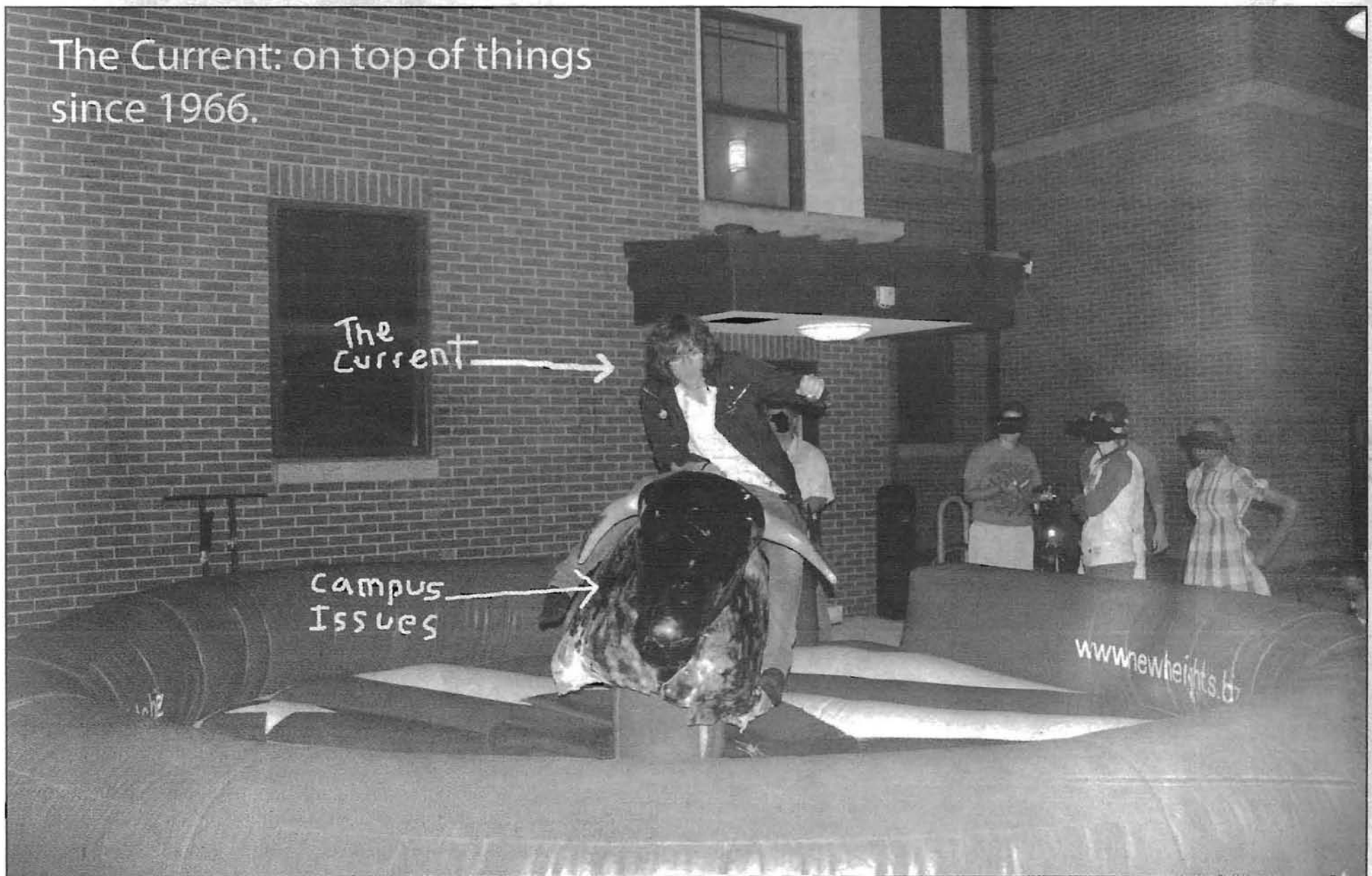
state government increased it to \$1,680."

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Business

Why is Express Scripts here anyway?

► ANTHONY PADGETT
Asst. Sports Editor

Located on North Campus off of University Place Drive is a series of buildings on the University of Missouri-St. Louis campus that are owned by Express Scripts Incorporated.

The buildings on the campus are ESI's world headquarters. In 2005, their lease in Maryland Heights, Mo., was ending and the company was looking to relocate its headquarters. According to George Paz, the CEO and chairman of ESI and UM-St. Louis alumnus, UM-St. Louis had a few advantages over other potential locations. When UM-St. Louis made a bid to be the new location for their headquarters, Paz jumped at the opportunity to give back to the university that he once attended. In 2005, ESI signed a 99-year lease for the property and paid for it up front. At first there were only 1,200 employees working at the new location, but since their recent expansion that number has ballooned to 2,400. There is talk that ESI is looking to expand even more.

Express Scripts International currently has three buildings on the UM-St. Louis campus. Originally, they built only one building which measured 320,000 square feet



Illustration by ZACHARY JAMES KRAFT

upon completion. In 2008 they expanded with an additional office building and a parking garage. The additions are 180,000 square feet.

ESI is the highest ranked Fortune 500 Company to have its headquarters on a university campus.

In Missouri, ESI is currently ranked as the second biggest corporation trailing only Emerson Electric. Chancellor Tom George said that he believes ESI will pass Emerson in the near future.

Nationally, ESI currently employs 12,000 people and fill prescriptions by mail or at local pharmacies. According to Paz, the reason that they are so successful is that they find ways to obtain less expensive medications for people. Founded in 1986, ESI is proud to have never been owned by a drug company, and cuts costs by recommending less costly generic drugs instead of expensive

newer drugs. In addition, they fill 90-day prescriptions which save both money and time when compared to 30-day prescriptions. ESI's philosophy is accessibility and low cost.

George said that UM-St. Louis has more than enough room for planned future developments, and he hopes that this will be only the beginning of what he referred to as a business park.

The perks of having ESI on campus are numerous: business classes are taught in the ESI buildings; over 140 internships and full time positions have been created with the UM-St. Louis Career Services office; artwork from UM-St. Louis students is displayed in various parts of the original building; money is donated to local schools; and UM-St. Louis staff members are given Express Scripts cards good for discounts on prescription drugs.

Tyson has a passion for business

► BRIDGET RYDER
Staff Writer

Diauna Tyson, a business management and organizational behavior major at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, has always had a passion for girly things, as she put it, a passion she has used to start her own business.

From a young age, Tyson has dreamt of two things: designing her own fragrance and having her own business.

As a sophomore in high school, she began researching and experimenting with making fragrance oils. Playing chemist in her kitchen, she eventually combined olive oil, vitamin E and plant extracts into an aroma she could call her own. Tyson says that she continued to learn about making and selling fragrances by talking to store owners and shoppers at the St. Louis Mills shopping mall. This led to her first big business break when the owner of Mark Anthony's, a boutique in the St. Louis Mills, offered to let her sell her fragrance oil in his store at no cost to her.

Tyson sold her fragrances at Mark Anthony's until she launched her own online store in February 2009, D Dreamz Boutique at www.ddreamzboutique.com. In addition to the fragrance oils Tyson makes, D Dreamz offers clothes, purses, jewelry and other fragrance oils. She promotes her business through what she calls "promotional shows," because, she said, "Whether I sell anything or not, I pass out flyers and get email addresses."

Tyson had her first promotional show at the UM-St. Louis on April 20, 2009. Since then, Tyson has had



MATTHEW HILL / THE CURRENT

Diauna Tyson, junior, business management, works at her boutique D Dreamz in the MSC last spring.

shows at different venues throughout the summer. "I did a show at Elaine Stevens Beauty College and from there a lady said to me, 'Would you like to do a show at a graduation party? There will be a lot of ladies there.'" Sometimes she creates her own shows as well.

Her last one was in a park. "I invited fifteen women. We had cocktails, ate sandwiches ... it was a lot of fun." And, of course, she sold purses. But for Tyson, business is not all about money. "It's the pleasure of being in business. I like making people happy, especially women. Whether it's a fragrance or a purse or a shirt, I believe women love nice things."

For Tyson, business has its less pleasant aspects, as well. "You're not an expert in everything. You can love the business concept all day, but I hate entering in the receipts and keeping up

on books," she says. Nights when she is up late making her fragrance oil to fill orders is not easy either. But she has the help and support of friends as well.

One of her closest collaborators is India Jordan. Jordan and Tyson met at UM-St. Louis during the spring 2009 semester in a computer class they had together.

Jordan was also dreaming of starting her own business. "I had different ideas that I had not shared with anyone," Jordan said. She shared them with Tyson and since then has been assisting her with promotions. "I help her by setting up purse parties, telling people about her business, calling around..."

Tyson said that it is friends like Jordan who help keep her on track. All the hard work is paying off as Tyson reports a record sixty bottles of fragrance oils sold in August.



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position!

International Business School ranks in top 20 nationally

► JASON BECKRING
Staff Writer

In a poor economic climate where many institutions cannot post good numbers, the University of Missouri-St. Louis College of Business Administration has defied the odds. Competing with a variety of top-tier schools, the CBA was ranked the 15th best school for the International Business specialty by the U.S. News and World Report. The CBA has received a top-twenty ranking for the past seven years.

One of the reasons why this rank has been sustained is the work of the International Business Institute, a facilitator to the actual school. Their recently appointed director, Steve Burrows, brings a critical perspective to the institute from his 30 years of experience working for Anheuser-Busch. Burrows served as the former CEO and president of Anheuser-Busch International and Anheuser-Busch Asia Pacific

Operations. Burrows said of the reasons for their success, "It's both the faculty and the students. The faculty help[s] start the program, but at the end of the day it's what you produce, and what we produce here is graduates."

Senior academic advisor Monica Farrell sees a lot of these graduates throughout their time at UM-St. Louis and says the ranking definitely is an attraction for prospective students. Burrows points out that this not only entices students but faculty as well. For example, Dr. Hung-Gay Fung, professor in Chinese Studies, was ranked among the top 50 of all finance scholars and Dr. Janet Y. Murray is considered among the 25 most prolific scholars in International Business research.

The school's unique approach does not end with the students and faculty. Just as important are their relationships not only to regional business but international business as well. Some would

find UM-St. Louis handicapped because of their location, but Burrows states the contrary: "Just because this isn't the Mecca for Fortune 500 companies doesn't mean there's not a large group of companies that are doing international business." Citing various companies like Boeing, Anheuser-Busch and Monsanto, Burrows finds St. Louis to be an opportune environment for learning. Along with being potential employers of graduates, these companies participate in the education of the students through internships.

The final key to the success of the school lies in the international experience requirement. To complete their degree, students must participate in either an international internship or study abroad. UM-St. Louis provides students summer tours to places such as China, Thailand, Austria and Japan, and makes several opportunities for internships available in over 100 countries.

CONSTRUCTION, from page 2

"A lot of the buildings and facilities do need to be renovated, but at the same time it would be really nice to have a place for students when they're not in class," Paris Thompson, senior, communications, said. "Everyone flocks to the MSC but we need more places like it that

are open later for students to eat and hang out." While it may be the consensus with students that UM St. Louis needs more in terms of recreation and entertainment, it won't have a place in the budget in the near future. In fact, for the three new building funding requests UM St.

Louis has submitted to the UM System for the 2010 fiscal year, the total expenditures reach well over \$100 million dollars. "If the money becomes available, the Benton-Stadler addition and renovation is our priority," says Darandari, "But right now it's all about the money."



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UM-ST. LOUIS' CAPTAINS OF INDUSTRY

Alumni named Most Influential Business Woman of 2009

► **INTERVIEW BY AARON HOLDMEYER,**
Staff Writer

Karen Rosen received her doctor of optometry degree from the University of Missouri-St. Louis in 1984 as a part of the first class to graduate from the College of Optometry. Twenty-five years later she not only has her own practice, Rosen Optometry, but the St. Louis Business Journal recognized her as one of the Most Influential Business Women in St. Louis for 2009.

The Current: How did you become involved in optometry?

Dr. Karen Rosen: My husband was already an optometrist and he was going to a legislative cocktail party and I went with him. We were trying to convince the legislature to open an optometry school here, and there I met some prospective students for the optometry school who asked me why I was not considering going to optometry school, since my degree was in biology and my husband was an optometrist. I decided that might be a good course for me, so I applied to optometry school in 1980 and was in the first class. We started in 1980 and we graduated in 1984.

TC: The St. Louis Business Journal recently selected you as one of the most influential businesswomen in St. Louis. What does that mean to you?

KR: I never really thought of myself as that kind of a person because I'm not a CEO ... I don't run a major conglomerate. I am basically in the business of helping people with their vision and that is that way I look it. I'm a doctor and my goal is

to help people see and to make sure that they can keep their vision for as long as they are on this earth. I think it was such a great honor and I am very pleased that I was recognized, but it is still very difficult for me to see myself in the same category as the other women.

TC: I read that you do mission trips to developing countries. Why?

KR: The reason I became an optometrist was to help people and I think that is why a lot of people go into a particular field. We do free exams for children and make ... free glasses [for them]. The OneSight Foundation—which is the charitable foundation of Luxottica—gave me the opportunity to travel outside of the United States to help people in developing countries, and once you go do that you get hooked. Seeing people who never have seen an eye doctor before, and most likely the only eye doctor they are going to see, and then they have never been able to see [clearly] before and you put a pair of glasses on them and they can see for the very first time ... it is quite rewarding and there is nothing like it. You just get sort of misty-eyed and it is an unbelievable experience.

TC: If presented with the decision again to enroll in optometry school back in the 80s, would you do it?

KR: Absolutely. I love what I do ... I think kids should try to find that path, try to find something they really like to do. Not just a job you clock-in and clock-out of, but something that they are passionate about. Money is important but you really have to like what you do because sometimes quality of life is more important than just making money.



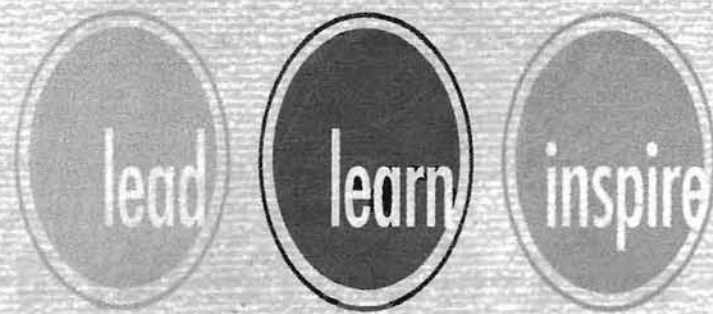
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Dr. Karen Rosen at her office.

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Sports

VOLLEYBALL

Volleyball wins three out of four doubleheaders at CBU tourney in Tenn.

► **CEDRIC WILLIAMS**
Sports Editor

The University of Missouri-St. Louis women's volleyball team began its 2009 season by traveling down to Memphis and winning three of its four matches at the Christian Brothers University (CBU) Invitational Tournament.

The Tritons played doubleheaders on both Friday and Saturday, against teams from different areas of the country. It's safe to say, UM-St. Louis more than held its own.

"We're really ready to get going," Triton head coach Trent Jones said, before the team left for Memphis. "There's going to be some

good teams down there. But we really believe we can go 3-1, maybe 4-0 down there. But we're going to have to play well to do it."

On Friday, the Tritons easily won both their matches. First, they took care of Alderson-Broadus of West Virginia, three games to one in an early afternoon contest. Then later that evening, UM-St. Louis dispatched Ouachita Baptist of Arkansas, three games to none.

Outside hitter Kelsie Rankin, sophomore, undecided, and middle hitter Erin Higgins, sophomore, early childhood education, were the standout players in that first match.

Rankin led all attacking players with 12 kills on 24

attempts, while Higgins added 11 kills on 23 attempts. Teammate Kayla Kinzinger, junior, education, directed the Triton offense with 34 assists. And Carolyn Holstein, junior, business, paced the UM-St. Louis defense with a career-high 21 digs.

Against Ouachita, Rankin was one of three Triton players to finish with a match-high eight kills. Sarah Eisnaugle, senior, art history/graphic design, and Liz Cook, junior, education, each had eight kills for the Tritons as well.

Kinzinger had 17 assists, while new teammate Samantha Martley, junior, biology, added 16 assists to lead the UM-St. Louis passing. And Holstein nearly matched her

career-best effort from earlier with 20 digs.

The first match on Saturday didn't go so well for the Tritons. They lost three games to one against Northwest Missouri State.

UM-St. Louis started well, winning the first game 25-20. But the Tritons were unable to sustain their play, and lost the final three games and the match.

Against the Bearcats, Higgins led three UM-St. Louis players in double-digit kills with a match-high 15. Rankin and Eisnaugle added 11 and 10 kills, respectively, for the Tritons.

Kinzinger played almost the entire match and posted a match-high 40 assists, while Holstein added 16 digs.

The difference in the match though, was play around the net. Northwest Missouri hit a .357 clip, while UM-St. Louis hit a dismal .268. The Bearcats also held a 10-2 blocking advantage.

In the final game of the weekend, against host school Christian Brothers, the Tritons looked like a much more focused group. UM-St. Louis came out firing from the start and never really looked back, on its way to a three games to one win.

Christian Brothers came into the match having won all of its previous contests, including a victory over Northwest Missouri earlier in the day. But the Buccaneers simply had no answer for Triton middle hitter, Weslie Gaff,

sophomore, accounting.

Gaff set a sizzling pace, with 12 kills on 19 attempts and no attack errors. Every time Gaff went on the attack it seemed Christian Brothers either couldn't or didn't want to defend it.

UM-St. Louis' Cook led all hitters in the match with 13 kills, thanks in part, to the brilliant passing of Kinzinger, who posted a match-high 41 assists.

"We've got a bunch of good players," Jones said. "We're still working to find that right mix."

The Tritons will host their home opener this Tuesday, Sept. 4, when crosstown rival Missouri Baptist will visit the Mark Twain Building for a 7 p.m. match.

Women's soccer is moving up, ready for the season to come

► **ANTHONY PADGETT**
Asst. Sports Editor

The soccer season is almost upon us and the women's soccer team is optimistic about the upcoming season.

The Tritons are looking to rebound after a disappointing 2008 season where the team went 6-11-1.

The head coach quit right before the season started.

Tom Champion became the temporary head coach, but had no intentions of staying on for the next season.

The team did not play to its full potential due to these distractions off the field.

The women's soccer team will not have such off-field issues, as there is a brand new face at the helm of the women's soccer team this year,

Bobby Lessentine.

Coach Lessentine, or just "Bobby" as his players call him, is the third full time women's soccer coach in UM-St. Louis history.

For the last four years, Lessentine was the head coach at Rhodes College in Memphis.

The coach made quite a name for himself by putting up what some would deem remarkable numbers and receiving numerous honors.

His record at Rhodes was an impressive 50-17-8. Lessentine's team was ranked in the top ten regional and top 25 national rankings all four years.

He led Rhodes to its first conference title in 17 years and the school's first NCAA Division III tournament appearance in school history.

Lessentine was named league Coach of the Year twice during his tenure and was chosen as the NSCAA Division III South Region Coach of the Year last year.

In addition to having a brand new head coach with an outstanding resume who is coming off his best year yet as a coach, 17 letter winners are returning to the team, six of which were starters.

One of the returning players, goalkeeper Hannah Sayre, sophomore, business marketing, is looking to pick up where she left off last season.

In 2008, Sayre played a total of 14 games accumulating over 1,200 minutes of play time and only allowed an impressive ten goals all season, while making 55 saves and posting three shutouts.

The average goals that teams scored against her in a game were .714, which ranked her fifth in the conference.

Sayre, who also ranked fourth in the conference in save percentage last season at .846, says that she owes it all to her "great defense."

"They are why I don't get scored on a million times a game," Sayre said.

The starting goalie for the team is not set in stone. The other goalkeeper for the team is Amy Bohm, senior, business marketing.

"Both goalies are playing very well," Lessentine said, "and it's exciting to watch them push each other to be better."

To be successful you have got to have depth at every position."

Lessentine also comment-



AHMAD ALJURYED / THE CURRENT

The women's soccer team trains at Mark Twain field.

ed on the transition from last year to this year.

"We are going to change our style from how we played last year," he said. "(We'll) play more high pressure and attacking style."

This will help us not only create more scoring opportu-

nities, but also help us to play to our potential."

UM-St. Louis was voted eighth out of 15 by the head coaches in the recently announced GLVC preseason poll.

See **WOMEN'S**, page 13

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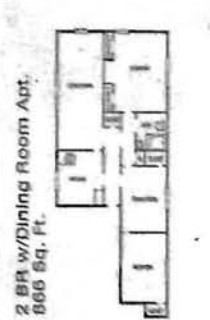
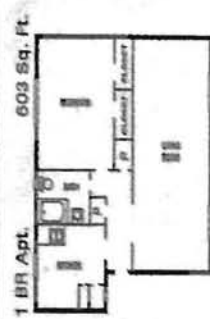
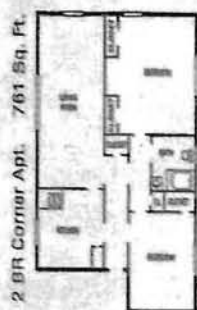
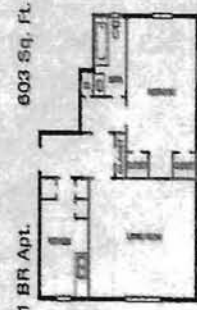
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MEN'S SOCCER

Veteran players back to lead men's soccer

▶ MATTHEW B. HENRY
Staff Writer

The University of Missouri-St. Louis men's soccer team kicked off its 2009 season this past weekend with a game in Kirksville, Mo., against Truman State. The outcome of that game was not known at press time. Whatever that game's final score, the Tritons are focused on having a successful 2009 campaign.

"The team is in really good physical shape," Triton head coach Dan King stated. "They came back prepared to strive to improve on last year's record, which was one of our goals."

In 2008, UM-St. Louis had a 6-10-2 record and finished 12th in Great Lakes Valley Conference play.

This season, the Tritons hope its 16 returning letter winners and seven returning starters will help the team move up in the standings.

"I think they are prepared to strive to reach that goal," King stated.

Of UM-St. Louis' 16 returning players, ten are seniors. That makes the Tritons one of the more veteran teams in the league this year. King believes his many seniors are a group worthy of being trusted.

"We've decided that it's their team," King said. "We want to build a team concept with this group, especially. The seniors have taken control."

One of the senior leaders that King is relying on is center/back Ryan Vines,


AHMAD ALJURYED / THE CURRENT
UM-St. Louis Men's Soccer Team Scrimmaging at the Don Dallas Field last two weeks.

senior, business administration. A 5'11, defensive specialist, Vines is, according to King, "one of the best marking backs in the league."

Vines' job every time the Tritons take the field is to defend the other team's best offensive player. Vines understands that duty and accepts that challenge.

"I have no doubt if I have to mark anybody that I can shut them down," Vines said.

Another player UM-St. Louis will be relying on this season is midfielder Chris Clarkin, senior, accounting. Clarkin is a four-year starter for the Tritons and was team captain last year. Midfielder Andy Schaul, senior, biology, is a "dedicated role player" King cited as another important player this season.

King also stated that midfielders Ryan South, senior, business administration, Blair Spencer, senior, business marketing, and Paul Hummel, senior, liberal studies, will be counted on heavily.

The trio has known each other since tenth grade, when all were students at Glenwood High School in Chatham, Ill., Glenwood went 48-2-1 during their junior and senior years, and won a state championship.

The Tritons hope that long standing relationship among the three will translate to cohesion on the field.

"We know each other and how we play," South said.

Other veteran returnees to the team include Joe Randazzo, senior, media studies, Matt Burch, senior, business, Danny Muesenfechter, senior, media studies, and Eric Pitlyk, senior, accounting.

Among the underclassmen expected to make major contributions are Johnny O'Mara, sophomore, business marketing, Adam Giesegh, junior, accounting, Tim Boruff, sophomore, accounting and Kyle Wogtech, junior, nursing.

See MEN'S, page 13


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-YOUR FRIENDS AT THE The Current

Men's soccer said to finish 10th in GLVC preseason poll

► CEDRIC WILLIAMS
Sports Editor

The University of Missouri-St. Louis men's soccer team was picked to finish tenth in the recently announced Great Lakes Valley Conference pre-season poll.

UM-St. Louis returns 16 letter winners, including seven starters to this year's team. Coming off a 6-10-2 campaign last year and a 12th-place finish in the league, not many GLVC coaches were willing to predict great things for the Tritons in conference play this year.

For the second consecu-

tive year, Northern Kentucky was chosen the favorite to claim the GLVC Men's Soccer Championship. In a vote of the league's 15 head coaches, Northern Kentucky collected 190 total points and 10 first-place votes.

NKU returns 14 lettermen and eight starters including NCAA Division II Player of the Year Steven Beattie. He is from a squad that advanced to the National Semifinals last year, and edged Lewis for the top spot in the poll. The Flyers collected 180 total points and two-first place votes.

They were followed by defending GLVC cham-

pion Rockhurst, which finished third in the vote with 174 points and two first-place votes. The final first-place vote went to Drury. Drury finished with 153 total points.

Indianapolis finished fifth in the voting with 127 total points and is followed in the poll by Wisconsin-Parkside (125 total points), Bellarmine (124), Missouri S&T (110), Quincy (101), UMSL (66), Southern Indiana (66), Saint Joseph's (58), Illinois-Springfield (56), Kentucky Wesleyan (27) and Maryville (21).

The 15 member institutions will compete in a 14-match round robin

conference schedule and the top eight teams in the league standings will advance to the 2009 GLVC Tournament which is scheduled to begin on Nov. 1. The highest remaining seed following the quarterfinal round will host the GLVC semifinals and final on Nov. 6 and 8, respectively.

UM-St. Louis will begin play in the GLVC this Sunday, when they will visit Indianapolis for a 5 p.m. kickoff. The home opener for the Tritons is Friday, Sept. 11, when they will host Saint Joseph's at Don Dallas Field. Kickoff that evening is 7:30 p.m.

2009 GLVC Men's Soccer Preseason Poll

School (Record)	Total Points (1st Place Votes)
1. N. Kentucky (16-3-4)	190 (10)
2. Lewis (14-1-4)	180 (2)
3. Rockhurst (16-1-4)	174 (2)
4. Drury (10-7-3)	153 (1)
5. Indianapolis (6-7-4)	127
6. UW-Parkside (8-6-3)	125
7. Bellarmine (12-9)	124
8. Missouri S&T (6-9-4)	110
9. Quincy (9-6-2)	101
10. UMSL (6-10-2)	66
11. S. Indiana (8-10)	66
12. St. Joseph's (7-10-3)	58
13. Ill. Springfield (10-5-3)	56
14. Ky. Wesleyan (0-17)	27
15. Maryville (7-11-2)	21

GLVC Coaches Pick Women's Soccer to Finish Eighth

► CEDRIC WILLIAMS
Sports Editor

The University of Missouri-St. Louis women's soccer team was picked to finish eighth in the recently announced Great Lakes Valley Conference pre-season poll.

UM-St. Louis returns 17 letter winners and six starters from last year's 6-11-1 team. Despite their record, the Tritons made their 11th straight trip to the GLVC Tournament. They hope for a deeper run this season.

Wisconsin-Parkside, which won the GLVC championship last year, was unanimously predicted

to repeat as champ in 2009 by the league's 15 head coaches. UWP received 14 of 15 first-place votes and 196 total points to outdistance Northern Kentucky and Quincy, who finished second and third, respectively.

Northern Kentucky, which garnered the final first-place vote, finished with 176 total points. Quincy tallied 174 total points to finish third. Drury, Rockhurst and Indianapolis finished fourth through sixth, respectively, separated by just two points. Drury grabbed 144 total points, Rockhurst collected

143 and UIndy snared 142.

Bellarmino finished seventh with 120 total points, followed by UM-St. Louis (98 total points), Lewis (95), Southern Indiana (76), Missouri S&T (73), Kentucky Wesleyan (46), Maryville (37), Saint Joseph's (33), and Illinois-Springfield (22).

The 15 member institutions will compete in a 14-match round robin conference schedule and the top eight teams in the league standings will advance to the 2009 GLVC Tournament. The tournament is scheduled to begin on Nov. 1. The highest remaining seed following

the quarterfinal round will host the GLVC semifinals and final on Nov. 6 and 8, respectively.

UM-St. Louis will open its season Friday, Sept. 4, when it travels to Allendale, Mich., to take on Grand Valley State at 4 p.m. Two days later, the Tritons will begin GLVC play, when they'll visit Indianapolis for an 11 a.m. kickoff.

UM-St. Louis' home opener will be Friday, Sept. 11, at Don Dallas Field, when the Tritons will host Saint Joseph's in another GLVC contest. Kickoff that evening is at 5 p.m.

2009 GLVC Women's Soccer Coaches' Preseason Poll

School (Record)	Total Points (1st Place Votes)
1. UW-Parkside (16-3-4)	196 (14)
2. N. Kentucky (16-4)	176 (1)
3. Quincy (12-7-2)	174
4. Drury (10-7-3)	144
5. Rockhurst (10-6-3)	143
6. Indianapolis (11-5-2)	142
7. Bellarmine (10-8-1)	120
8. UMSL (6-11-1)	98
9. Lewis (6-10-1)	95
10. S. Indiana (5-11-1)	76
11. Missouri S&T (7-8-2)	73
12. Ky. Wesleyan (7-13-1)	46
13. Maryville (9-11-1)	37
14. St. Joseph's (1-15-1)	33
15. Ill. Springfield (4-8)	22



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WOMEN'S, from page 10

"It takes time to go from the middle of the conference to the top," he said. "I want to take the program to the top of the conference, but it will take some time."

The season officially begins for the team on Friday,

Sept. 4, when they will play at Grand Valley State.

The game that every Triton needs to mark their calendar for is on September 11. That night, the Tritons will play their first home game of the season at Don Dallas

Field, against conference rival St. Joseph's, at 5 p.m.

"I hope that playing at home will be an advantage for us with both the familiarity with the playing surface and having great crowds," Lessentine said.

MEN'S, from page 11

"I have a real strong feeling about this team this year," Wogtech said. "Team chemistry is better than it's ever been."

The Tritons also became a closer unit through their community service efforts and by pushing each other to work harder in the classroom, which are both clear athletic department objectives.

King made it a point to mention that his squad served at soup kitchens throughout

the area and has three players in the Pierre Laclède Honors College.

"We're out here working hard," Schaul, a 2008 Academic All-Conference selection, said. "We want to show what we have. And it would be great to have some support out there (from the) students (and) faculty."

UM-St. Louis will take the field next, this Sunday, Sept. 6, when it visits GLVC rival Indianapolis for a 5 p.m.

match.

The Tritons' home opener is Friday, Sept. 11. That evening, UM-St. Louis will host St. Joseph's College, at Don Dallas Field, at 7:30 p.m.

"Each season is a process," King said. "You don't know what road you're going to take until you get on that road. We're anxious to get on that road and get going. We're ready to beat up on someone else."

Triton hoops fun this winter

► **CEDRIC WILLIAMS**
Sports Editor

Ceddie says..... it's gonna be a whole lot of fun following the University of Missouri-St. Louis basketball this year.

I know it's only fall, and there are other UM-St. Louis teams that are just getting their seasons started right now. I can't help but be a little fired up for UM-St. Louis hoops this season.

The Triton women bring back almost everybody from last year, including long range sharpshooters Kristi White, Kelly Mitchell, and Lindsey Ransome.

Don't let last season's 7-20 mark fool you. The Triton women were about as dangerous a team as any in the region during the final month of the season.

That team, made up mostly of freshmen and sophomores, learned a whole lot by competing in one of the toughest women's basketball conferences in the country.

This season, head coach Lisa Curliss-Taylor has got a bunch that's ready to hit the floor with as much fire and

passion as she does.

Fortified with one of the program's best recruiting classes ever, the Triton women have their eyes on making the postseason. Most regional hoops experts seem to think they are gonna get there.

On the men's side, the Tritons are truly going to be a new look squad. The program graduated six seniors from last year's 14-13 team, and Coach Chris Pilz had to do some scrambling to find quality players to fill out the roster.

I'm told that until UM-St. Louis athletics makes an official announcement, I shouldn't name names (you can find the new players names on the umsltriton.com website though). Let's just say the coach found himself some real good players.

They are some "straight up ballers." That is how my little bro would say it.

What I can tell you about the new guys is several of them have local ties and championship credentials to go along with their sweet long-range jumpers and sick crossover dribbles.

It won't only be about the new guys this season. The Triton men bring back an awesome backcourt with leading scorer and point guard Beaumont Beasley and high-flying combo guard Jeremy Brown.

You remember Beasley. He's that fiery kid from Kansas City that will not back down from anyone.

You must remember Brown. He's the former minor league baseball player who wanted to get back into basketball. Then he came to UM-St. Louis and immediately became the best athlete on campus.

Guards Ryne Bechtel and Ryan Lawrence, along with 6'9" Adam Kaatman are back as well.

Add in the fact that the GLVC had a best-in-the-nation nine teams finish with winning records last year, including six that made the NCAA Tournament, and there's no doubt, UM-St. Louis plays in the best D-2 men's basketball league in the country.

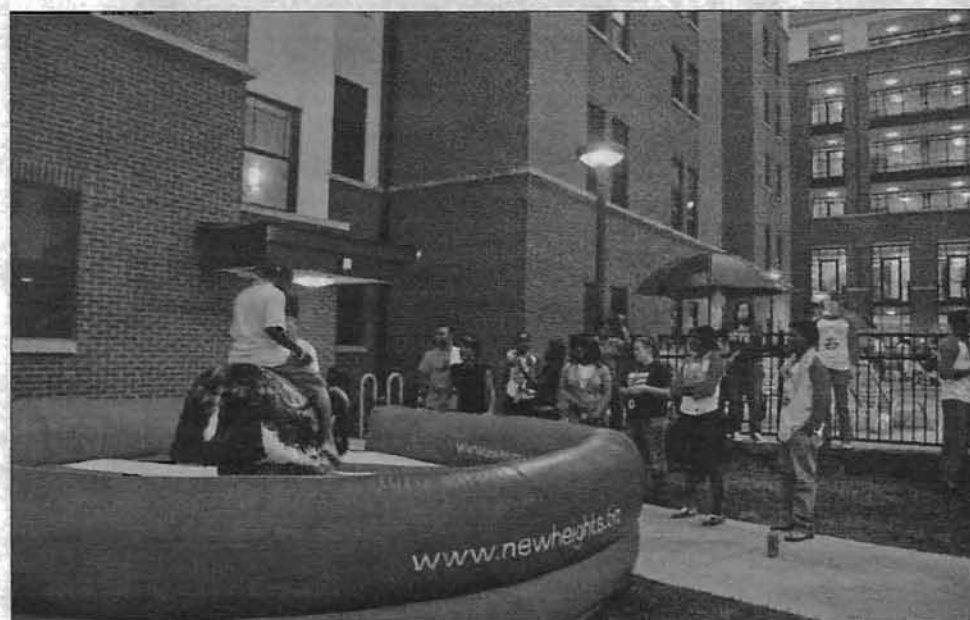
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Features

Beach Party offers 'Nothing More' than a good time

Story by Chris Stewart • Asst. Design Editor

Photos by Ahmad Aljuryyed • Staff Photographer



(LEFT, BOTTOM RIGHT) Nothing More, a rock band based out of San Antonio, Tex. performs their new album at the Beach Party Friday at Oak Hall. (TOP RIGHT) A student rides the mechanical bull while others wait for him to lose balance and fall. The Beach Party was the final event of Welcome Week, sponsored by the University Program Board.

The MTV Beach Party at Oak Hall is a mainstay of the beginning of fall semester at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. This year there was indeed a beach party at Oak Hall, but the MTV aspect was absent even though students at the event continued to refer to it by its old name.

"We usually have a couple guys from 'The Real World' come out, but this year we got a band instead," said Katie Magraw.

"The show ['The Real World'] isn't as popular as it once was, and so they aren't touring like they used to, so tonight we have Nothing More." Nothing More, a rock band based out of San Antonio, Texas, headlined the event.

The beach party began at 7:30 p.m., and for the first two hours, a steady supply of free hot dogs and soda kept students coming out to the pool on the first level of Oak Hall. Soon a mechanical bull—a pool party tradition that goes back to

the first event in 2006—was set up. From the moment it was ready, the bull was the main attraction with crowds of students cheering on the participants.

"My friends are trying to talk me into [riding the bull]," Ralph Jenkins, sophomore, business administration and accounting said.

While they may not have been successful, many others were. Some students took it upon themselves to adamantly encourage their friends to jump in the pool, whether they saw it coming or not.

"This is a new flavor on campus, and I think people are opening up," Keith Darris, junior, graphic design said.

Once the band took the stage the focus shifted. Nothing More made no initial announcement but instead dove right into a pounding opening riff in which one member rode a

driving rhythm on large booming drums while another member used a metal trash can to punctuate the rhythm. The band played through sets of their own songs as well as a cover of Katy Perry's summer hit "I Kissed a Girl," which drew enthusiastic applause.

The missing "Real World" crowd was not the only difference in this year's party. A sudden 5:30 p.m. downpour had the organizing staffers unsure if they would even be able to go through with the event.

"We were out here wondering if it would clear up in time, but we figured that even if we lose a lot of people because of this we're still going to do whatever we can for whoever comes," Magraw said.

See BEACH PARTY, page 26

IWGS offers recycled clothes

► JEN O'HARA
Staff Writer

Many people are saving money any way they can by taking advantage of special offers, such as lowered ticket prices for movies, sales at grocery stores, and through government programs such as Cash for Clunkers.

The University of Missouri-St. Louis was doing its part when it held the Back-to-school Recycled Clothing Sale last Thursday.

Gently used clothing and accessories were offered, ranging from shorts and t-shirts to winter coats and shoes.

Most items were priced at \$5 or less. Outerwear, such as winter coats and hoodies, were around \$15 each. A bargain rack was filled with mis-

cellaneous apparel marked at \$2 per piece.

The highest prices were on the designer clothing, with labels such as Nautica, Men's Wearhouse and Ralph Lauren being priced at about \$25.

While going green may be enough of a reason to recycle clothes to the public, there was a more altruistic angle to the event.

According to Dr. Kathy Gentile, director of the Institute of Women and Gender Studies, the proceeds are going into scholarships and other programs her department sponsors. All unsold clothing and accessories will be donated to local organizations that help victims of domestic violence.

"We can shop and feel like we helped at the same time,

and the prices are great," Pam Spreen, business manager at the Thomas Jefferson Library said.

In addition to shopping for a good cause, the sale was an opportunity for students living on strict budgets to buy inexpensive attire.

Senior Diana Jones was quite excited in finding a great deal on pants.

"It's a very good cause and the prices are very fair," Jones said. "These pants were originally \$159 and I'm getting them for \$5! They'd be great for a job interview. The only thing is I wish they had more hip or modern clothes."

"Everything is great—the event, the prices... I just think they should have more styles of clothes," Hyoyoung Lee, foreign exchange student said.



CHERA MEYER / THE CURRENT

Students could shop at the Back To School Clothing Recycle Sale Friday.

Many people donated articles to the sale, from faculty and students to the chancellor and state senators.

Even though it is a new event, the Recycled Clothing Sale saw an estimated 100 people within the first three hours of opening. Most shoppers made positive re-

marks and left with several new articles for their wardrobe.

Gentile would like to hold the Recycled Clothing Sale more frequently.

"I think it would be great if we could have an ongoing space here on campus where we could sell recycled clothes

every week or every other week," Gentile said. "I think it would be beneficial to not only the Institute of Women and Gender Study programs, but also to students here on campus who simply can't afford new clothes."

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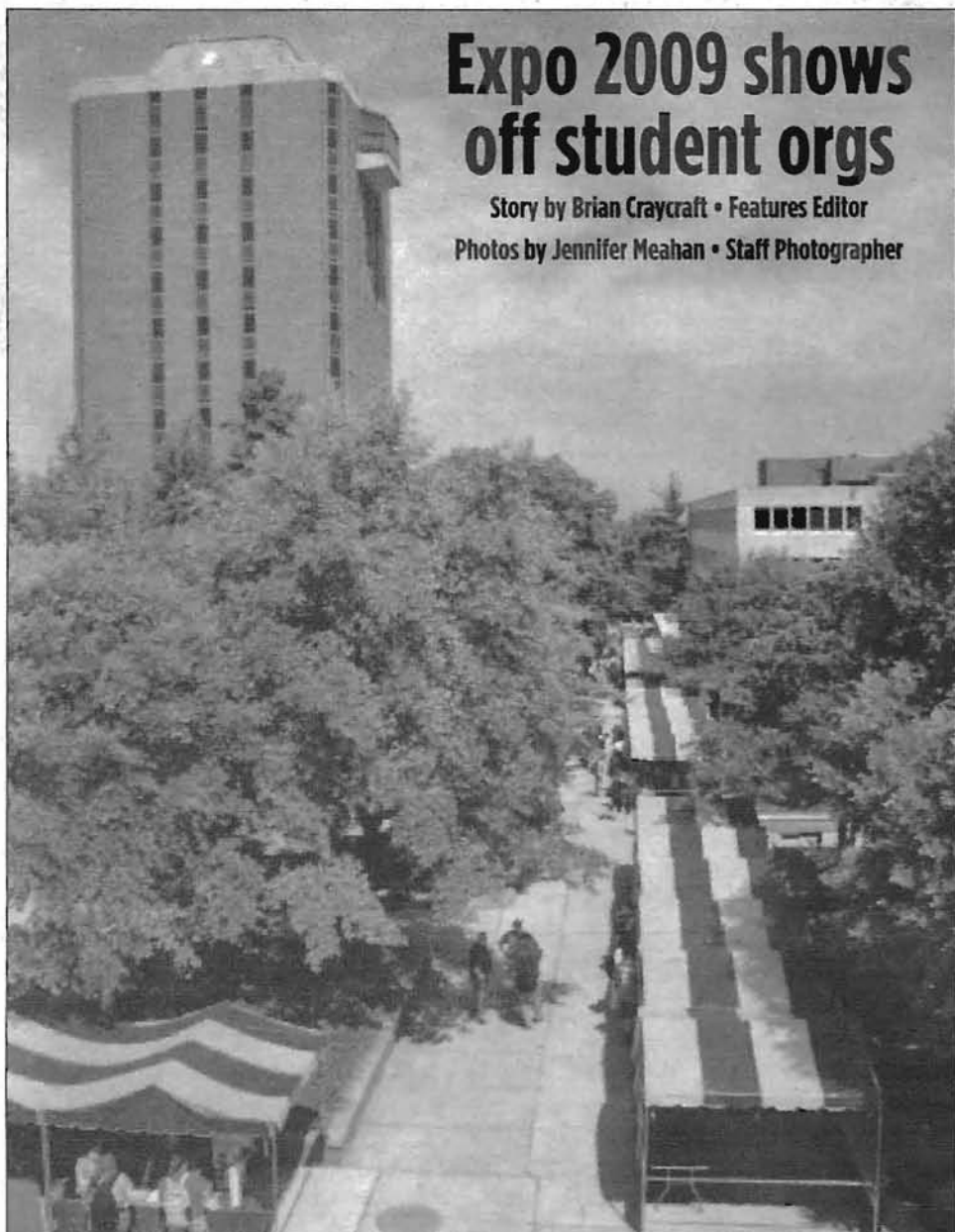
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Expo 2009 shows off student orgs

Story by Brian Craycraft • Features Editor
Photos by Jennifer Meahan • Staff Photographer



Blue skies and a few high clouds looked down on the fall 2009 Expo held last week in the shaded confines of the University of Missouri-St. Louis quadrangle.

Booths representing over 60 student organizations were situated among the trees, and a mild temperature in the low 80s brought many students out to peruse what the groups had to offer.

"The purpose of the event is to get new students and current students involved in student organizations," Marcel Scaife, senior, public policy, said.

He was working at the booth for the event sponsor, the University Program Board.

"We get all the organizations together so that everyone has the opportunity to

see all the organizations and get involved on campus."

Many different types of organizations provided information about themselves hoping to get students involved in their activities.

Krystal Wilson, junior, communication, was working alone in the Gospel Choir booth as gospel music from behind her added its voice to the sounds of the Expo. Wilson is a transfer student from Webster University and president of the choir.

"We have about 15 members—it's a growing choir. We have our annual fall concert coming up, and we perform different church engagements," Wilson said.

She was, of course, hoping to entice new members into the choir. How many members does she want? "A

lot," Wilson said. Forty or fifty singers would be fine with her.

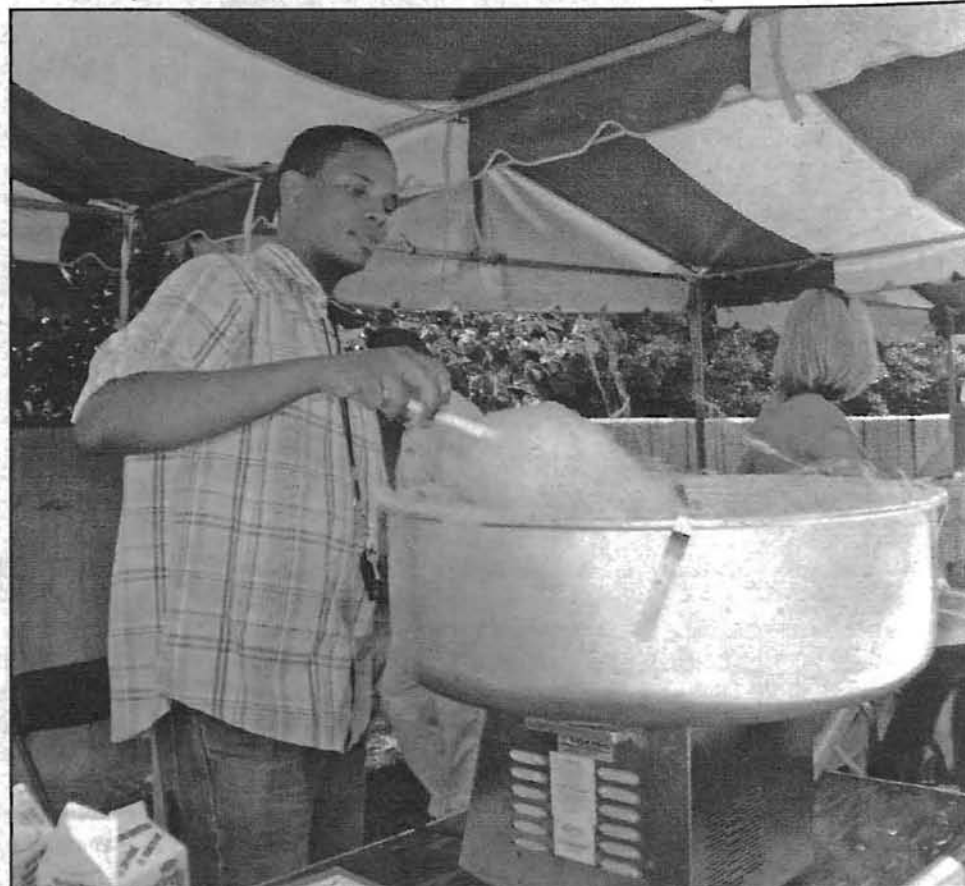
Peers Advocating Smoke-free Solutions was hoping to fire up some interest in their cause.

"We wanted to put together a pick-up-your-butts type thing," Ethan Chou, president of PASS said. What is the smoke-free solution? "We are looking to push towards a designated smoking area," Chou said. "We have a proposal that we sent in to the powers-that-be."

Greek life was well represented at the Expo.

Two women were standing in front of the booth for the Alpha Xi Delta sorority making conversation with passersby.

Why should a new student join their sorority? "It's a



(LEFT) More than 80 organizations set up at the Expo Wednesday on The Quad. The Expo was a chance for students to get involved with the various organizations that operate on campus. (TOP RIGHT) Tee Ryan, graduate student, provides cotton candy to UM-St. Louis students while representing Building Operations. (BOTTOM RIGHT) Students learning about the school's various organizations.

community within the UMSL community. We do a lot of philanthropy work, and we do events on campus. We

love doing community service, and we also go to all the games on campus," Natalia Thomas, sophomore, nursing said.

ing said.

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Spotlight

Who Should Be Our Next Faculty "Spotlight?"

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Cultural psychology professor hopes to broaden student views

► INTERVIEW BY SEQUITA BEAN
Asst. Features Editor

Dr. Matthew Taylor has been assistant professor of psychology at the University of Missouri-St. Louis since 2006. Although he is new to the UM-St. Louis family, he has become popular among his students and peers. His teaching style combines humor with cross-cultural scenarios for learning. As head of the Multicultural Research Lab, Dr. Taylor researches the mental health of minorities, multicultural psychology and African-American experiences with racism.

The Current: What sparked your interest in African American experiences with racism and racial socialization?

Dr. Matthew Taylor: I've always been intrigued both personally and professionally with how people learn about race in the United States, and what it means to be a person of color. I'm interested in the messages we get about who we are as individuals and as a group. Some of the messages that come down from broader cultural sources might not be all that favorable. I've always been intrigued with how families, peers and other entities have kind of socialized us and given us information, knowledge and messages about who we are and how we're supposed to be. As for [experiences with racism], racism these days has changed a great deal. It is no longer the overt, post civil war, KKK [era]. We've moved beyond that, but the reality is that racism is still around. This is where the work of micro-aggression comes in. Micro-aggression is racism in very subtle, racially-based tones, which is taking place more now than before.

TC: Does your own cultural identity help you understand the viewpoints of your test subjects?

MT: To some extent it gives me a starting point having gone through a number of scenarios personally, but I don't think that you have to match what your participants have gone through racially and culturally to be sensitive to that. I think it just takes someone who is compassionate and understanding, but certainly having first-hand experiences with these things does help.

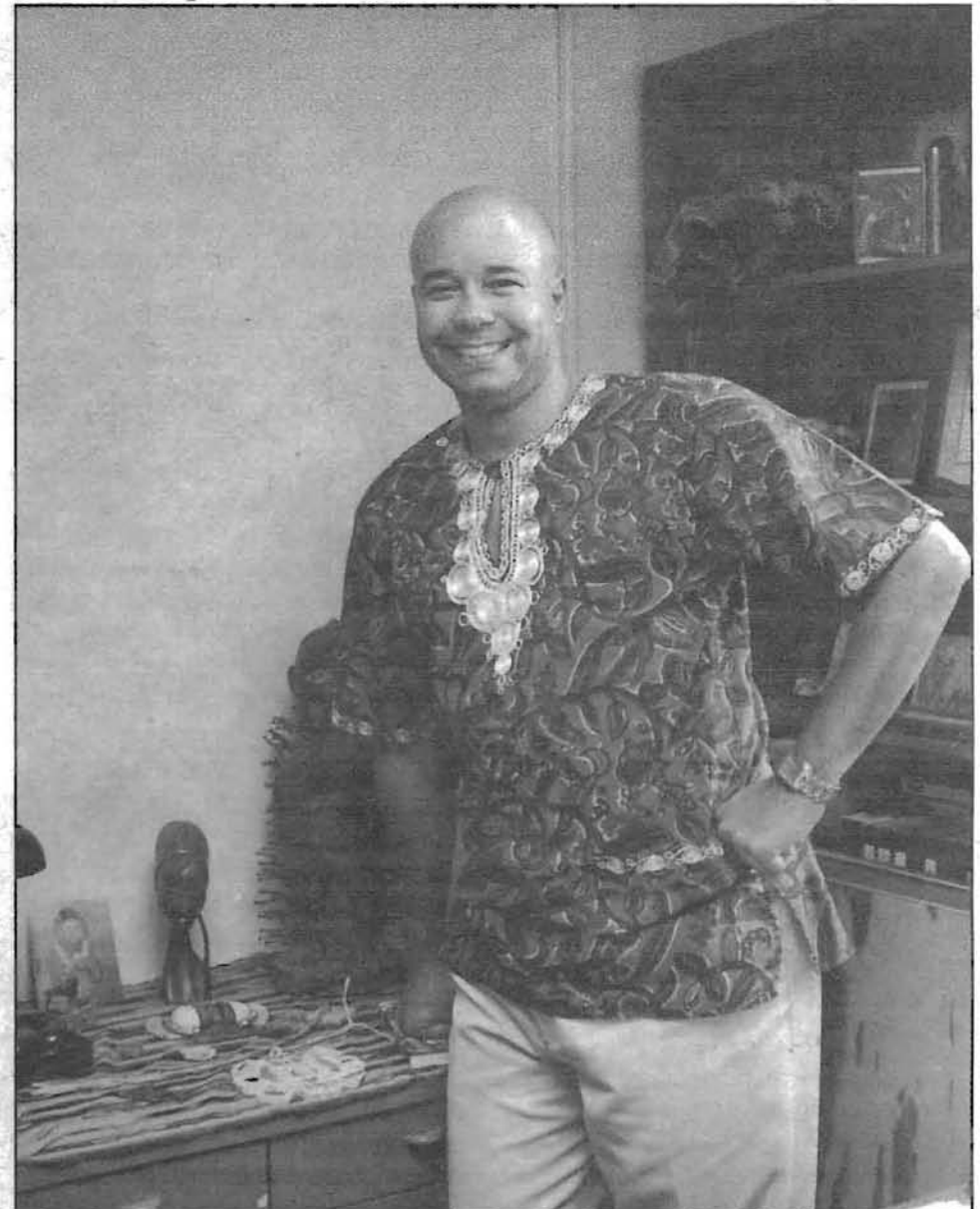
TC: What inspires you to continue your research?

MT: I think it needs to be done. When it comes to the most recent election, we have made many strides, but I also think that there is still a lot of work to be done. Despite the fact that we have a new president who is a person of color, he represents a very small percentage of Americans. There are still some people who are weighed down by the yoke of racism and discrimination in this country. We're not quite post racism yet, obviously it is less of an issue ... but it doesn't mean it's completely gone.

TC: You received your doctoral degree in clinical psychology from UM-St. Louis in 1997. Why did you choose that program?

MT: I wanted to come to a big city and I knew I wanted to do work with minority populations, so when this opportunity was offered to me, I thought it was a good thing. I also wanted to be in a large, public university that was urban and had a population that was more in step with the city.

TC: What is your favorite thing about teaching at UM-St. Louis?



CHERA MEYER / THE CURRENT

Matthew Taylor, Ph.D., in his office inside Stadler Hall. Dr. Taylor's many responsibilities on campus include teaching Multicultural Issues in Clinical Psychology and Cross-Cultural Psychology.

MT: As cliché as it sounds, I really enjoy interacting with the students. It is a two-way street; I learn so much from them and their different perspectives. The students at [UM-St. Louis] are good representatives of everyday people.

TC: What do you hope your students take away from your courses?

MT: I want them to understand that there is a big world out there. I don't want them to think one way is right or wrong. Different doesn't mean wrong, different means different. We all use different lenses to look at the world and it's important to recognize that there are a lot of differences in people out there. Each one is valid to some extent. If you're going to share time and space with people, you have to understand something about them. If we can do that, then we're more likely to get along better.

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Gallery Visio's latest exhibit meshes art with ads

► ERIK BRUNER
Staff Writer

There is nothing more appealing than subculture-media turned art.

Gallery Visio opens this semester with just that - an impressive collection of graphic design pieces from St. Louis and Chicago artists specializing in silkscreen prints. The exhibit, "Children of the Mesh," is a stunning array of urban-esque screen prints created in a process known officially as serigraphy - the production technique popularized by pop artists such as Andy Warhol.

"Children" features collections from local artists

John Vogl, founder of South City's Bungalow studio press, University of Missouri St. Louis' own assistant professor of art Jennifer McKnight, Billy Baumann and Jason Teegarden-Downs of Chicago-based Delicious Design League, as well as several UM - St. Louis students.

The art exhibit, sponsored and arranged by Gallery Visio and UM - St. Louis' AIGA student chapter, was executed beautifully in time for last week's opening reception Thursday evening.

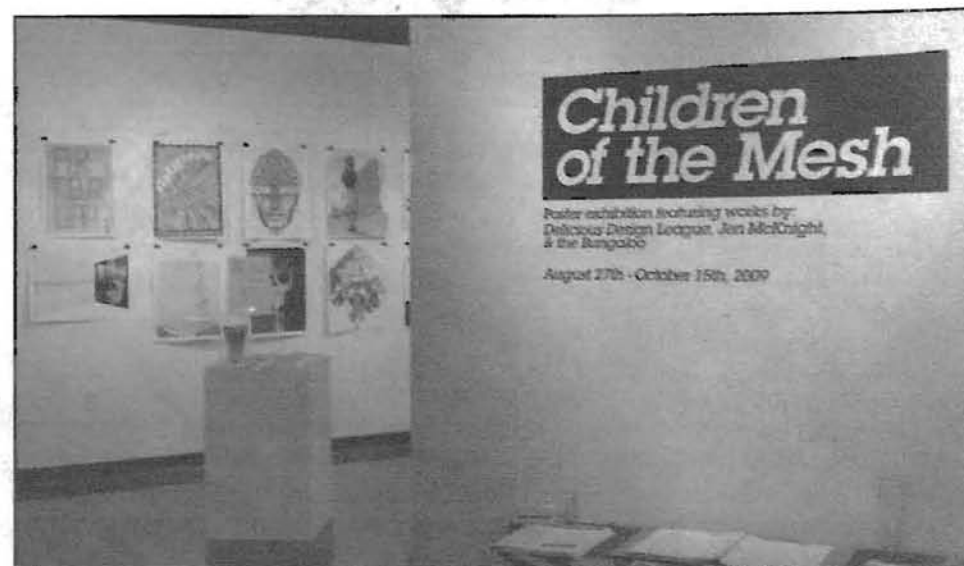
Partly inspired by last year's "imPosters" exhibit, which featured student promotional designs for fictional bands, "Children of the

Mesh" brings together professional and student graphic design in all of its stylized, modernistic, and somewhat grungy CMYK glory.

"With the growing graphic design department in the fine arts building, several design students were interested in having a similar show," said Sara Arnold, Visio director of last year's "imPosters."

"But what they really wanted was a show featuring students as well as professional poster makers."

The exhibit's featured artists satisfy almost every taste in the circle of Midwest design. Daniel Khang, an artist and student at UM - St. Louis, contributed an eye-catching



CHERA MEYER / THE CURRENT

Gallery Visio's "Children of the Mesh" was an exhibition with only student submissions.

poster of bold, black words on a chartreuse green background that says succinctly "Sometimes you have to look your reality in the eyes and deny it." "We've been working on this since last semester,"

Khang, graphic design, senior said.

See VISIO, page 21



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"Octahedron" aims below Volta's furious standards, scores direct hit

The Mars Volta, brainchild of Omar Rodríguez-López and Cedric Bixler-Savala, are perhaps the least likely Grammy recipients of the past decade. Their latest album "Octahedron" was released on June 23, 2009. The band is performing at the Pageant, 6161 Delmar, on September 8, 2009.

Rodríguez-López has called "Octahedron" his "acoustic album." While there are sporadic moments of acoustic, this term refers more to the lack of ten-minute breakneck progressive metal rants that were commonplace on TMV's astonishing previous album "The Bedlam in Goliath." It was that record that earned the group the Best Hard Rock performance 2009 Grammy Award, the first time the band was even nominated. They have grown steadily in popularity over the past six years, evolving from a fringe group whose mention was likely to draw blank stares to the kind of group that packs an auditorium at \$35 a ticket.

The group, which has cycled through many other members and is now holding at a total

of seven, can come off as cerebral. They are much more concerned with the morbid and the fantastical. Their stream-of-consciousness lyrics and tendency to include (and use as track titles) bizarre terminology serve to mask their core as storytellers, albeit most macabre and convoluted storytellers. Choose, at random, any track and it is a safe bet it will sound like something between calc lab shop talk and the fictional language of a sci-fi novel's alien race.



Mars Volta
"Octahedron"

The band's tendency to place their honky-tonk space metal alongside anything from a dreamily melodic ballad to a Spanish classical-guitar piece often gets them tossed into the "defies categorization" pile. While this is partially true, there has not been a band so furiously free-form yet strangely accessible since Pink Floyd. The Mars Volta is simultaneously too reminiscent of their influences and too coherent in their own structural narrative to be considering "genre-less."

See OCTAHEDRON, page 20

Iglu and Hartly fire up Firebird

► ANNA MARIE CURRAN
News Editor

Iglu and Hartly, a rap-rock/alternative pop band, was formed at the University of Colorado in Boulder, Colorado. It is made up of Jarvis Anderson (keyboard, vocals), Sam Martin (vocals and keyboard), Simon Katz (guitar), Luis Rosiles (drums), and Michael Bucher (bass).

The band is now based in California and signed with Mercury Records (in the United Kingdom) in 2008. Iglu and Hartly released their album "& Then Boom" in the United States on May 5 of this year. The album was first released in the United Kingdom on September 29, 2008.

Iglu and Hartly performed in concert here on Wednesday, August 26, at the Fire-

bird, 2706 Olive Street.

In their ripped jeans and tank tops, Iglu and Hartly took the stage at the Firebird around 9:45 p.m. While one would not say the Firebird was packed, or even crowded, the twenty or thirty people present witnessed a phenomenal show.

Iglu and Hartly's music sounds like a fusion between the Beastie Boys, The Red Hot Chili Peppers and a synthesizer. Singer Jarvis Anderson of I&H bears striking resemblance to RHCP lead singer Anthony Kiedis.

This reviewer must admit to not quite expecting the caliber of performance that Iglu & Hartly brought to the Firebird.

The few pre-concert songs were pretty good on the iPod. "Pretty good" does not normally translate into a ground-shaking, musically-

enlightening, crowd-begging-for-additional-songs set. The show felt like it should be at an amphitheater in front of thousands rather than a dim lit bar off of Olive Street before a handful of fans.

Throughout the concert, the band played numerous tracks from "& Then Boom" including their top 5 UK hit song, "In This City." "In This City" is a song one hears and instantly realizes you have heard it everywhere, its catchy beat and originality ensuring that it is played over and over at clothing stores and on the radio.

One can appreciate Iglu and Hartly's move of not playing the song that the meager audience was likely most familiar with last, instead choosing a lesser-known work to close the concert.

For the last song, Iglu and

Hartly, in a trademark move, pulled the entire audience up onto the stage to dance and sing, while Anderson, Martin and Katz moved off the stage to where the audience had formerly been standing. After the concert the band stuck around and talked with fans before sitting down for an interview with the Current.

While "In This City" is probably the band's only claim to fame in the United States of America right now, expect that to change soon, at least judging on their performance on Wednesday). After hearing Iglu and Hartly on CD and then in-person, this reviewer can say with certainty that Iglu and Hartly is a band that no digital track will ever do justice. For the full experience, catch them live and be on the lookout for their soon to be released

Also in Theaters

District 9. A South African sci-fi thriller with a cast unknown this side of the pond has become this summer's surprise hit, and for good reasons. Spot-on performances and deft direction that suggests the filmmakers know they're telling a good story create terrific entertainment. **A** -- *The Current's Secret Movie Insider.* Read our review at www.thecurrentonline.com

Inglorious Bastereds. Our pick of the week. Quentin Tarantino's love letter to the unapologetic violence of exploitation films of the '70s via a revenge-fantasy version of World War II. Elegant, inventive, and unmissable. **A+** -- *The Current's Secret Movie Insider.* Read our review at www.thecurrentonline.com

Julie and Julia. Fluffy like pastry, and sure to delight some just as much. For the rest of us, worth five curious minutes when it hits cable, so long as nobody else is in the room. **C** -- *The Current's Secret Movie Insider*

Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince. Finally the "they'll never top The Prisoner of Azkaban" crowd and the "they'll never top the Goblet of Fire" crowd can agree that they topped "The Order of Phoenix," but still lack the, er, magic of the series' best moments. **B** -- *The Current's Secret Movie Insider*

Ponyo. What to say when agreeing with Random Party Guy that "Ponyo" is a pleasure and a wonder: "Yes, Miyazaki is a living legend. Did you know he hand draws his animation? Oh, Spirited Away is definitely his masterpiece." Now off you go, my child. **A** -- *The Current's Secret Movie Insider*

ITUNES TOP 20 DOWNLOADED SONGS



01 Party in the USA
Miley Cyrus

02 I Gotta Feeling
Black Eyed Peas

03 Down (Feat. Lil Wayne)
Jay Sean

04 Whatcha Say
Jason DeRulo

05 Run This Town
Jay Z

06 Fallin' For You
Colbie Caillat

07 Use Somebody
Kings of Leon

08 Good Girls Go Bad
Cobra Starship

09 Hotel Room Service
Pitbull

10 She Wolf
Shakira

11 You Belong With Me
Taylor Swift

12 Send it on
Disney's for Change

13 One Time
Justin Bieber

14 Boom Boom Pow
Black Eyed Peas

15 Say Hey (I Love You)
Michael Franti

16 Fire Burning
Sean Kingston

17 Love Drunk
Boys Like Girls

18 Obsessed
Mariah Carey

19 Big Green Tractor
Jason Aldean

20 21
Guns Green Day

Breaking through the shadows

An exercise in "Metroidvania" excellence available through download only

► **ANDREW SEAL**
Staff Writer

Let me be forthright: "Shadow Complex" does not live up to its name. It is neither shadowy nor complex. That's not a bad thing at all, because it is incredible and exciting. It is incredible because the game is a technical marvel.

Developed by Chair Entertainment using the Unreal 3 Engine, "Shadow Complex" is one of the most gorgeous Xbox Live Arcade games in existence. The controls are tight and refined, and the game play is intense and compelling.

It is exciting because "Shadow Complex" is such a revolutionary game. The game is entirely 3D but is presented in more of a 2D, side-scrolling format akin to that of the old Metroid or Castlevania games.

However, the game is more than a next-gen update of its forebears. The game is chock full of innovations that elevate the genre to something new, something more.

For example, quite a few shootouts have the player shooting into the screen, making the experience more than just two dimensions.

One of the hallmarks of "Metroidvania" games is exploration, and Shadow Complex has it in spades. A massive, sprawling map had this reviewer boggling when it was learned at one point that only 50 percent of it had been un-covered.

Sadly, though the script borrows from the works of writer Orson Scott Card, as "Shadow Complex" is somewhat of a side story to the Card novel

"Empire," the story is perhaps the most lackluster part of the game. It stars a young man named Jason Fleming who, while hiking with a girl he barely knows, stumbles upon a hidden fortress within the mountains.

The girl is kidnapped and the story is about as clichéd as you would expect after that. It seems Chair knew that. The story is not what drives the game forward, it is the gameplay, pure and simple.

It is quite an exhilarating

experience. Though the various power-ups are essentially retreads of power-ups from Metroid, it is the things you can do with that that are incredible. People are already finding unique ways of using the foam gun (think Metroid's ice beam) to bypass entire areas of the game.

One of the things this writer found immensely enjoyable was the hyper-speed power-up, which allows one to blow past enemies and obstacles at, well, hyper speed. The game does a great job with the pacing, making gaining each power-up feel rewarding and exciting.

On top of the main campaign, Chair also added in something called "Proving Grounds." It is a series of time-attack maps. Some are very challenging. The others are down-right wicked.

The game is pretty revolutionary. The best part, perhaps, is that it is only a downloadable title, not a full retail release. It is only available on the Xbox Live Arcade for 1200 Microsoft Points (that is \$15 in real money).

See **SHADOW**, page 21

OCTAHEDRON, from page 19

Yet "Octahedron" is going to disappoint a fair group of TMV fans, since it is produced and performed in an altogether more polished manner. The first track (and U.S. single) "Since We've Been Wrong" is, from its title on down, distinctly non-Volta-esque. If it were not for the guitar landscaping and the fact that it is a shameless retreading of their own brilliant "Televators," from their first full-length album, "De-Loused in the Comatorium," it would be barely recognizable as TMV. The song is not much good except as introduction to the band for non-fans.

The same can essentially be said for two other tracks

on the eight-song album, "Luciforms" and "Cotopaxi." Standout moments in "Halo of Numbetals," and "Teflon" are punchy and accessible, reminiscent of "Amputecture's" "Vermicide," but they do not keep well past the fourth or fifth go-around. This is a sad fact considering that TMV has always excelled at the construction of albums that reward repetition and reveal unexpected satisfactions over time.

A lone track, "With Twilight as my Guide," elevates itself to the band's highest standards. The song is a haunting masterpiece that showcases exactly how tightly Bixler-Savala's trademark vo-

cals and intricate harmonies can underscore Rodriguez-Lopez's deft songwriting. Beyond "Twilight," "Desperate Graves" is probably the most promising track. Like "Numbetals" and "Teflon," it would be a breath of intense fresh air were it to be played alongside most all current rock songs.

Unfortunately, The Mars Volta has built up far too impressive a portfolio to get away with offering anything much less than an astonishing journey to the edges of emotional and cerebral reality. "Octahedron" is not much less but, by aiming to give their listeners a treat, they have ended up giving them a break. **B-** —Chris Stewart.

'Woodstock' focuses on blend of emerging cultures



Photo courtesy of www.focusfeaturespress.com

Demetri Martin (right) stars in 'Taking Woodstock,' inspired by real events that lead up to the

► **CATE MARQUIS**
A&E Editor

The documentary "Woodstock" showed us the music, mud, and happy hippie mayhem of the huge outdoor concert that became an icon of the peace-and-love 1960s.

Oscar-winning director Ang Lee's "Taking Woodstock" tells different version, a comic real-life tale about the local organizing of the iconic concert.

This is the concert's backstory, focused less on its famous musicians and flower children fans. It is focused on a down-on-its-luck Catskills motel run by a Jewish immigrant couple and their son. The locals seized an economic opportunity that transformed them and the imagination of the nation.

The Taiwan-born director, whose works include "Brokeback Mountain," creates a vibrant, colorful and playful film, with lots of laughs, ironic twists and an ocean of heart. "Taking Woodstock" is a trip, and a real slice of Americana.

Woodstock actually did not take place in Woodstock, N.Y. It had a hard time finding a location, as few local communities were eager to have a bunch of hippie musicians show up to party in the grass. This opened the way for an unlikely series

of events, chronicled in the memoir on which this film is based.

Despite its grandiose name, Sonia and Jake Teichberg's El Monaco "International Resort and Bar Mitzvah Center" was a run-down motel on the edge of tiny Catskills town. Their college-educated, interior designer son Elliot (Demetri Martin) moved back to help his Jewish immigrant parents (British actors Imelda Staunton and Henry Goodman) run their ramshackle resort, which is in danger of foreclosure.

Once Elliot hints on the idea of bringing the Woodstock festival to the little White Lake, a whole army of organizers and fans invade the resort and the sleepy town to the delight of some townspeople and the outrage of others. Mrs. Teichberg is in heaven as the money rolls in. The motel becomes the staging ground for the festival organizers, who invade with an army of carpenters, accountants, electricians and producers, all with bags of cash and in need of a place to stay.

A delightful cast of characters round out this comedy, including locals like Emile Hirsch as a stoned, flash-back-prone Vietnam veteran, Jeffrey Dean Morgan as his right-wing brother, who

leads the local opposition to the festival, and Eugene Levy as dairy farmer Max Yasgur, whose green, rolling pastures become the festival staging grounds. The festival brings "invaders," such as the gifted Israeli actor Liev Schreiber as drag-queen, ex-Marine, security guard and Paul Dano as a acid-dropping hippie. The actors all bring their A-game and the ensemble keeps the comic ball in the air.

This is not a concert film and we do not see any famous musicians. The music of Woodstock plays in the background. The visually bright film captures the Woodstock experience from a participant's view point, with the long lines on the narrow country roads, tents and VW buses with psychedelic paint jobs. It is as good a sense of really being there in the crowd as one is likely to get.

"Taking Woodstock" takes place at a cultural crossroads, not just between rural and urban life. It took place at a time when anti-war sentiment was building, the gay rights and feminism were on the horizon, drug culture emerged and rock and roll was in ascendance. Ang Lee takes all these culture-clash elements and crafts a very funny, sly and thoughtful slice of Americana at a pivotal cultural moment.



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"I'm really happy with how everything's come together."

St. Louis artist John Vogl submitted a sizable collection of mostly band promotional posters made for groups with a taste for eclectic, understated harmony.

With an instantly identifiable style of muted, two-tone printings accentuated with intricate patterns of deep black lines, Vogl's screen printing work is an icon of local design.

Jennifer McKnight's submitted work plays a lot with empty space and minimalist figures.

VISIO, from page 18

One of her pieces, titled "Mary Kelly," successfully takes a mostly white page, small negative-space letters, and what resembles the random splashing of an ink blot test and turn it into something elegant.

What makes "Children of the Mesh" even more satisfying is that almost all of the prints on display are for sale.

"I'm going to buy one for my apartment," says Megan Hill, UM - St. Louis Student Life staff member, "But I can't decide which one."

In addition to the exhibit, there will be a screening of the documentary "Died

Young, Stayed Pretty" by filmmaker Eileen Yaghoobian.

The film profiles the recent underground indie-rock poster movement in North America.

Presented by AIGA and Gallery Visio, the screening will be at 7 p.m. on September 2 at Visio.

Yaghoobian will be present after the film.

Gallery Visio is located in the lower level of the Millennium Student Center, between the Nosh and the Pilot House, and is open Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

SHADOW, from page 20

Saying it is a steal for \$15 is putting it lightly. It packs as much content into the game as many full retail games have, and for a quarter of the price.

This reviewer simply cannot recommend this game

enough. Buy it now.

At its heart, "Shadow Complex" is a game-changer. Not only does it forever change the field of downloadable games, it also revolutionizes the "Metrovania" genre forever.

Nintendo and Konami may have created the genre but Chair has perfected it. It will be hard to go back to the same tired old Castlevania graphics. You hear that, Konami? You are on notice.

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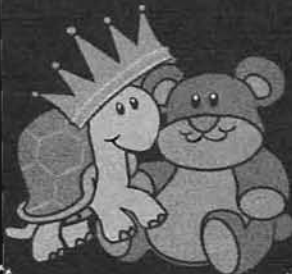
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Our Opinion

Unsigned editorials reflect the majority opinion of the Editorial Board. Signed opinions articles reflect the opinion of the author and not necessarily those of The Current.

Texting ban doesn't go far enough

For decades, laws have been in place banning reckless driving, driving over the speed limit, driving under intoxication and countless others that seek to promote safety behind the wheel. The newest addition to the collection of driving restrictions in Missouri (and in 21 other states) is a law that bans driving while "texting." But no worries if you are legal, the law only applies to the 21 and under crowd.

Indeed, texting while driving leads to an increase in carelessness behind the wheel and numerous accidents. What is difficult to understand however is why age is relevant. Is texting while driving, at any age, condonable?

In his press release on August 28, (the day the law went into effect) Governor Jay Nixon expressed that the law was geared to protect the under 21 drivers.

Nixon said, "This change in the law to ban texting will help protect the safety of these less experienced drivers, their passengers and other motorists."

If texting while driving is as bad as Governor Nixon claims, then why not make it a blanket ban, and "protect" some of the other demographics?

Put a Blackberry at anyone's fingertips and he or she is likely to have their reaction time diminished, no matter how many years they have spent behind the wheel. Is it a driver's inexperience that leads to increased accidents or the fact the focus is on a two-inch screen instead of the road?

Those in favor of the bill claim the age restraint was put in place because the 21 and under demographic has the highest



Illustration by Phil Freeman

rate of accidents. However what sort of message is being sent if we say it is acceptable to text as soon as a driver hits the ripe old age of 21? When the 21 and up bracket become the next demographic with the highest percentage of accidents (thanks to their newly found power to text and drive) will the law become that only those under 21 can text and drive?

Another irksome point of this law is that it seems to imply that the 21-plus crowd is less inclined to text while driv-

ing. Age discrimination anyone? In the growing sphere of technology it is foolish to assume that a person of any age is incapable or disinclined to pick up the mini keyboard while en route throughout the day.

While a good first effort at improving safety on the road, there seems to be a lot of room for improvement, starting with getting rid of the assumption that older generations are any safer texting while driving than the young-uns.

Suffering in silence: how to learn from tragedy

Some of you may remember the tragic incident that occurred in June when a student took her life by jumping from the top of a north campus parking garage.

The suicide was announced in a campus-wide email sent by Maureen Zegel from the Office of Student Affairs.

The e-mail, two sentences long, read as follows: "A UMSL student committed suicide on campus today. Until the family has been

notified, no names or other information will be released."

Being that it is now August 31, it can be assumed (rightfully) that the family has been notified, and yet no further information, not even the name, has been released. Although the name is not important, for the University to send out an e-mail about the suicide and never mention it again is irresponsible.

Considering that the student committed suicide on campus, during the day, and

in view of other students, the University should have done more to address the issue. This could have been done by offering special counseling sessions to students who may have seen the suicide happen or who knew the student who committed the tragic act.

It is also generally unhelpful not to address the overall issue of suicide, considering that other students may be suffering from suicidal thoughts and need help. If

the University shares *The Current's* concern for such students, they should take measures to ensure that such an incident does not happen again.

Although there are outlets on campus such as the Health, Wellness, and Counseling Services where students can get help, the University has not promoted nor shared their benefits to the campus in response to the public suicide.

Shocking as the suicide

was, the University took a reactive stance by sending out such a brief e-mail and then saying nothing further, possibly hoping that the event would simply pass from memory.

It could be possible that the family requested that the University not publish the name or any other information after they were notified about their family member's death.

This is understandable, as a suicide can be heartbreak-

ing for the surviving family members.

However, suicide is a public health concern and when someone commits suicide on campus in broad daylight, it affects the entire campus. Students at UM-St. Louis are aware that the suicide happened.

The University should have taken a more proactive stance on the issue in the hopes of preventing such a tragic incident from ever happening again.

Got an opinion on our opinion?

Let us know!

Write a letter to the editor and drop it off at 388 MSC

Viewpoints

Solution Found for Failing Economy

► **CHERA MEYER**

Proofreader

With the economic crisis we are in, researchers have been looking for more ways Americans can generate income and stimulate our economy. One option that seems to be overlooked is the decriminalization of cannabis and possible benefits we could get from it.

Our earliest founders used various forms of cannabis in their everyday lives. George Washington once told his farm manager to "Make the most you can of the Indian hemp [hashish] seed. Sow it everywhere." Thomas Jefferson also cultivated cannabis.

Benjamin Franklin, who started the first paper mill, did so using cannabis exclusively.

Nothing has changed with the plant, yet our civilization seems to think that those who enjoy are criminals. I bet our founding fathers are rolling over in their graves knowing how we criminalize those who participate in this activity.

Various Acts from the 1920s and 1930s were passed in order to criminalize marijuana and its use.

At first, it was merely a simple, revenue-producing move. As the years went by, states were encouraged to impose punishment to those who were caught enjoying its benefits. What is so wrong with it?

I've heard the arguments that it is a gateway drug leading to the abuse of other substances, but how valid is

that? I know of lots of people who enjoy marijuana—students, parents, grandparents, teachers, CEOs, even lawyers and politicians. Television shows and movies have no problem showing characters taking pleasure in marijuana as if it were common knowledge and an everyday occurrence, WHICH IT IS.

Why is hemp illegal and not just marijuana? The answer is so simple it makes me writhe with anger.

It looks too much like marijuana. I think it is ridiculous that such a thing that could help millions is not legal because of its appearance.

What benefits are associated with cannabis? Marijuana is not the only form of cannabis. Various forms of hemp are also included in the category.

Did you know that hemp can be used to make paper, plastic-like material, toiletries, cloth, and even fuel? The recent financial activity of our nation is looking for ways to answer this recession and come up with some new sources that not only help make money, but also create jobs. Legalizing cannabis would solve a lot of these issues!

Cultivating hemp to make products we use every day would not only solve the money and job problems, but we might also be able to save some of our forests from destruction. Animals would have homes—homes that would have otherwise been destroyed! So many of



Chera Meyer

our every day belongings and habits can be made of or fueled by a product of hemp.

We can use hemp to create material necessary to build sustainable homes and office buildings that are aesthetically pleasing and strong enough to endure earthquakes and home fires.

Plastic-like material can be made from hemp, too! Biodiesels produced from hemp can help decrease our dependence on foreign oil, not to mention the actual necessity of it.

For the many people who are jobless or looking for a better-paying position, look no further than hemp. The best solution, yet the only one not considered. I can't help but be disappointed that our leaders have been so blind to the opportunity hemp can offer.

For now, I guess we'll just have to keep polluting the air with our vehicle emissions and simultaneously killing innocent animals by knocking down the trees that provide them their homes.

Wake up America!
Its 2009!

The Surrender of Intellect

► **JASON BECKRING**

Staff Writer

Intelligence is the accolade that any institution of learning yearns to birth and nurture. The death of this child is frequently scripted by legislation. Bureaucratic slang constantly raids the cupboards of nourishment that intellect relies on for growth. Education is left with only a feast of crumbs to snack upon for strength. Now as we sit in this state of unhealthiness, more legislation is attempting to interject itself to tarnish the shine of whatever vigor that we do possess. How are we to sincerely promote the attainment of knowledge if we allow ignorance to be practiced parallel to it? The wielding of weapons upon any educational campus will be a precise image of our deficiency of logic. We are smarter than that.

We have heard the sounding ammunition from each side of the battlefield, identifying the dynamics and intensity of each individual report that we hear. We have listened to the automatic rep-

etition furiously firing the second amendment at its opponent. We cannot ignore the boom of thunderous declarations that continuously echo the words, Virginia Tech and Columbine. We hear no rustle of white flags waving in surrender amid their cry for self defense. We have heard pleading replies that this would only allow for more acts of violence. They have professed their crisis with the screening of those that would brandish the firearm. They have begged for understanding of why such complaint upon crime would then oppose any idea that would help to alleviate the infection. The battle is loud and the bullets are effective on both sides, but who shall hold victory? Is their diplomacy to be found?

It is my feeling that there is no compromise that would satisfy both armies. The division of principles is an ocean in proportion.

The two militias will never find common ground that they can walk upon because their ideals are immovable and can never be eroded,

leaving no opportunity for the sifting of shared soil.

One soldier raises a passive fist towards peace while the other clenches his around a lethal trigger. Both soldiers proclaim a valid argument, but I must lean towards the march of non-violent. It was more the gift of Martin Luther King than the force of Malcolm X that delivered equality so many decades ago.

My further objection is to the articles of the proposed legislation. The bill also sought to decrease the age limit to a mere twenty-one years.

I must wave my hands in furious protest. As we observe the exhilaration of freedom that the age represents we also are a witness to the virus of irresponsibility that exists within it. The binging of alcohol, the fatalities of intoxicated motoring, and now we would add a loaded weapon.

I recall my own activities of debauchery at the age and a loaded weapon would not have been a wise companion. I offer my apologies, but we are merely older children.



So, got any questions? Comments? Concerns?
Log on to TheCurrentOnline.com and tell us!

Be Careful Before You Jump on the Vegan Bandwagon

► **AFTON ANDERSON**
Copy Editor

2008 The things our generation find cool are so ironic to me. I think it is good young people are beginning to care more about the food they eat, especially seeing how artificial preservatives, junk food, high fructose corn syrup, and other artificial sugars are flooding our markets. Although vegan lifestyle is thought to be healthy, many of the vegan "treats" you find in stores like Whole Foods are comparably unhealthy in different ways, like artificial sugars. It is alarming to me is how people are so quick to jump on this vegan

lifestyle bandwagon. I think it may be more fitting to say people are trying to jump on the vegan bandwagon. Many people that attempt to convert to a vegan lifestyle without the right help end up malnourished, fatigued, and hungry. I feel that this lifestyle is extreme and anyone wanting to indulge should seek professional medical help.

The term "vegan" was coined by Donald Watson in 1944. He coined this lifestyle because he sought to take a stand against animals for food, clothing, or any other purpose as well as denouncing all products derived wholly or partly from animals.

There are many who are vegans because they feel the way to treat animals is inhumane. I am totally okay with that. However, I am not convinced at all that everyone can be healthy without any animal flesh or animal by-products in their diet. There are simply not enough long term studies on the effects of veganism to convince me otherwise. There are some whose bodies can sustain this diet. I do see, however, the mounds of ethical debates on people being brought to suit for killing babies and children by limiting their diets to vegan foods only. This

is even more inhumane than killing an animal for consumption in my opinion.

I have read several studies that suggest vegans may suffer from a lack of bone density over time, which makes it easier to break bones. Women, who suffer from osteoporosis more frequently than their male counterparts anyway, are particularly vulnerable. Then again, we are all wired differently. We have different genetic predispositions, and this makes some people more easily affected by the absence of so many food groups from their diet than others. Supplements are just that: supplements. Tak-

ing a supplement does not mean that your body will absorb it. Some people can absorb these supplements, some people cannot. I am also not convinced that these supplements are good permanent substitutes for everyone, especially for vitamin B12. This vitamin is essential for cell division and blood formation and is a common deficiency in vegans.

I am not saying veganism is bad or that there are not healthy vegans. I am saying people should not be so quick to cut out multiple food groups without doing extensive research. I have tried to conduct research



Afton Anderson

on it. I have found this task very difficult despite my scientific background. There are just not very many long term studies on its affects. If you choose to be a vegan, do so with the help of medical professionals.

Blogging and Journalism aren't mutually exclusive

► **ANDREW SEAL**
Staff Writer

Earlier this year, I finally "made it" in the world of gaming journalism.

Naturally, I was excited—really excited. After four years of reviewing video games for different publications, I had made it to the big time: a company sent me a review build of a game before it hit store shelves.

Gone would be the days of me waiting in a line at 12 a.m. to buy a game only to race home and beat it as fast as I could in order to be able to publish a timely review.

I could finally take my time and enjoy a game, assured that I had a week or two to play and then leisurely write up a review a few days

before street date.

Now, the Federal Trade Commission would like to tell me that unless I'm writing that review for a dedicated media outlet like *The Current*, then I'm not being "truthful" to my readers.

The disclosure rules of the FTC's "Truth in Advertising" guides are what roused the government body to take a closer look at bloggers.

The Commission is looking into blogger legitimacy and whether or not their reviews are influenced by free review copies.

Oddly enough, the FTC doesn't appear to care that free review copies are how the mainstream media has been doing business for years and years. It's just bloggers that have been singled out.

I myself, in particular, feel threatened. Why?

Instead of issuing simple-to-follow-and-understand rules, the "Truth in Advertising" guides only have examples to explain the issues that they're concerned with. And one of those examples is me.

I quote: "Example 7: A college student who has earned a reputation as a video game expert maintains a personal weblog or 'blog' where he posts entries about his gaming experiences."

Readers of his blog frequently seek his opinions about video game hardware and software.

As it has done in the past, the manufacturer of a newly released video game system sends the student a free copy of the system and asks him

to write about it on his blog. He tests the new gaming system and writes a favorable review.

The readers of his blog are unlikely to expect that he has received the video game system free of charge in exchange for his review of the product, and given the value of the video game system, this fact would likely materially affect the credibility they attach to his endorsement.

Accordingly, the blogger should clearly and conspicuously disclose that he received the gaming system free of charge."

The thing is, I don't entirely disagree. I think that a reader's audience, be it on a blog or in a newspaper, should know where the reviewer's game/movie/book

came from. Transparency isn't a bad thing.

The FTC is trying to draw a line of distinction between bloggers and journalists. For those like me, however, that are both journalist and blogger, the prospect of the government stepping in and telling me my blog-style news site isn't journalistic is a tad scary.

What's also troubling me about this is that the FTC is calling out just bloggers on this issue, and not mainstream media as well.

By differentiating between bloggers and journalists, the FTC is creating a slippery slope.

Depending on how far it goes, it's a road that could end with the federal government deciding what makes a



Andrew Seal

journalist—as in, who can be and who cannot be a journalist.

The FTC is creating an entirely new set of rules for those they don't deem journalists, and that's not good at all.

Read more online at
thecurrentonline.com

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Columns

RAINBOW RANTS

Time for a national transition

► **AMY BELL**
Staff Writer

Although I firmly believe the gay community as a whole is misunderstood, there is one group that tends to stand out as most misrepresented. The transgender community has not experienced the exposure and acceptance of the rest of the queer community. Most of the gay community has had their "gay icons," if you will, since the 1990's.

Gay, lesbian, and bisexual role models have been present and active in both the media and the community. Gay men had Elton John, lesbians had Ellen and Rosie, and bisexuals had Ani Difranco. Transgender icons have not been as present in the mainstream media until fairly recently. Think "Trans America" or even "Nip Tuck."

Just to be clear, "trans" is a general term that includes transgender and transsexual people. These individuals tend to diverge from their given sex and/or sex roles. Some, but not all, will undergo some sort of sexual reassignment surgery.

The trans community has been discriminated against not only by neo-conservative religious types, but also by their own queer community. In 2007, the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) was posed to Congress. If passed, it would ensure legal protection for differences in sexual orientation and gender identity. When the bill seemed as though it would not be passed, gender identity was removed.

This bill, although clearly leaving out a major group of people, was still backed by the Human Rights Campaign. The campaign that prides itself on inclusive poli-

cies still backed this bill with the sentiment of "at least some won't be discriminated against." The bill died in the Senate even with the exclusion of trans peoples.

Up until this point in time, I had the utmost respect for the Human Rights Campaign. The group is the most well known and publicized queer organization in the nation. With an equality centered message, how could this organization back a bill that left out much of its membership?

According to the Human Rights Campaign website, "HRC envisions an America where lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people are ensured equality and embraced as full members of the American family at home, at work and in every community."

Instead of sending one's money to support an organization that will leave out members to ensure others their rights, find a different organization whose integrity has not faltered. Funding has been and continues to be cut from organizations that could use some help. The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force stopped backing ENDA in 2007 when trans people were removed from the bill. I'm sure they would be more than happy to take your donations.

ENDA is being pushed again in Congress, as it has every year since 1994. Trans people are included in the bill. If the bill seems to turn sour, will it still be backed by the Human Rights Campaign? Hey HRC, what will you do this year to ensure safety in the workplace for all of the queer community?

For more information, visit hrc.org.

FOREIGNER'S CORNER

Understanding the holy month of Ramadan

► **SOFI SECK**
Photo Editor

The more I talk to my friends about this holiday, the more I realize how misunderstood Ramadan truly is.

In light of this and Ramadan starting this week, I have decided to share with you all that I can about why we fast.

Simply put, fasting during Ramadan is one of the five pillars, meaning it is one of the five most basic acts a Muslim has to do. It is part of our fundamental belief system.

Ramadan is the ninth month of the Muslim lunar year, which is celebrated by fasting for 30 days.

Because the Muslim calendar is lunar rather than solar, the month of Ramadan moves through the year.

Thus, sometimes it falls during the winter when the days are shorter.

Other times, it falls during the summer when the

days are longer.

Not everyone fasts during this month, as with anything, there are exceptions. Children under the age of puberty, the sick, travelers, pregnant women and nursing mothers, people who are mentally challenged, the elderly, and women who are menstruating are all exempt from fasting.

Those who are temporarily unable to fast must make up the missed days after Ramadan, or feed the poor.

Although we cannot eat or drink, fasting is so much more than that. Muslims are called upon to use this month to check their lives in light of Islamic guidance. We are to make peace with those who have wronged us, reinforce ties with family and friends, and change our bad practices.

We are to clean up our lives, our thoughts, and our feelings during this month. This means not only fasting from food and drink, but

from evil actions, thoughts, and words.

Before going to sleep each night, special prayers are made in which passages of the Qur'an are recited. This is in addition to the normal five prayers recited each day of the year.

Therefore, fasting is not merely physical, but is rather the total commitment of the person's body and soul to the spirit of the fast. We believe that fasting brings us closer to our spiritual side.

It was in the month of Ramadan that the Holy Qur'an "was sent down from heaven" and revealed to the prophet Muhammad.

During this month, the gates of Heaven are open, the gates of Hell are closed, and devils are chained up in Hell so they cannot tempt believers on Earth into wrongdoing.

This is a big part of why Ramadan is a holy month for us.

To be honest, it is very



Sofi Seck

difficult not eating during the day especially in the United States.

In my country, the restaurants would be closed during the day and everyone is fasting, so it's a bit easier.

For me, Ramadan is not about eating and drinking, it is a spiritual quest. It is a time for me to focus my energy on what is really important.

It is a time to better myself through my beliefs. I look forward to this year's journey.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

In the August 24th article "The health care debate rages on..." Bridget Ryder cites a figure of 46 million uninsured Americans. This oft-quoted statistic is actually a gross overestimation of the problem, as recent research suggests the number of Americans who cannot currently afford health insurance is much lower.

A new study by Dr. June O'Neill, who served as Director of the Congressional Budget Office from 1995-1999, shows that nearly half of those uninsured Americans could likely afford to purchase health coverage.

These individuals have incomes at least 2.5 times the poverty level, with the average "voluntarily uninsured" household making \$65,000 per year.

We should not rush into the creation of a new, expensive healthcare system without a better understanding of the uninsured population.

As long as we continue basing our arguments on inaccurate numbers, it's hard to see how we can make effective policy decisions.

Sincerely,
Kristen Lopez Eastlick



Want to throw in your two cents on one of The Current's HOT topics?

THECURRENTTIPS@UMSL.EDU

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A west county Mathematics and Reading learning center is hiring part-time graders/tutors helping children ages 3 to 15. We offer flexible schedule, fun and rewarding working environment. Interested candidates please call 636-537-5522.

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700 MISCELLANEOUS

FREE AEROBICS! Aerobics & Spinning classes are FREE, SEPT. 8-12 at the Mark Twain Rec Center! Check the Campus Recreation website for a schedule and more info- www.umsl.edu/services/recsport.

BOWLING ANYONE? Join Campus Rec's BOWLING DOUBLES League (Wednesdays, 3:30-5:00PM, Sept 16-Oct. 21) at nearby North Oaks Bowl. Only \$2/week for 3 games. 2 people per team. Register in the Rec Office, 203MT, 516-5326.

CAMPUS RECREATION! COME PLAY WITH US! UMSL Intramural COED VOLLEYBALL, SOCCER (Indoor & Outdoor), and FLAG FOOTBALL Leagues. To play, sign up in the Campus Rec Office, 203 MT. Deadline is Thurs, Sept. 10.

Tutor wanted for UMSL nursing student. I want an upper classperson to tutor me in the Assessment Lab 20 Minute Final Test-Out. Rate will be \$100.00/hour plus much more! Respond to matthewbhenry@gmail.com

Classified ads are free for students, faculty and staff. Other rates vary. To place an ad, please send your ad (40 words or less), your name, and student or employee number to thecurrent@umsl.edu, or call 516-5316.

BEACH PARTY, from page 14

Supplies of food and soda were gone long before students finished their games of twister on a bouncy-castle version of the game set up by the University Program Board. Along-


side the fence, other students frequented the tables where the UPB was offering free shirts emblazoned with "University Program Board Welcome Week" as well as a clearly visible tag

with the shirt's size near the base of the shirt.

The event was the culmination of Welcome Week during which the UPB hosts a string of free events and mixers.

Sports Writers: We Need YOU!

APPLY TODAY AT THE CURRENT



FOCUS *The Current*
FEATURES

INVITE YOU &
A GUEST TO SEE

For A Complimentary Pass For
Two To The Advance Screening
Log on to:
thecurrentonline.com

Screening is Tuesday,
September 8, 9:09:09pm

filminfocus.com/focusfeatures/film/9

*While supplies last. Passes are available on a first-come, first-served basis. No purchase necessary. Limit two admit-one passes per person. Employees of participating sponsors are ineligible. The film is rated PG-13. Pass does not guarantee admittance as theatre is overbooked.

9-9-09

IN THEATRES 9-9-09!

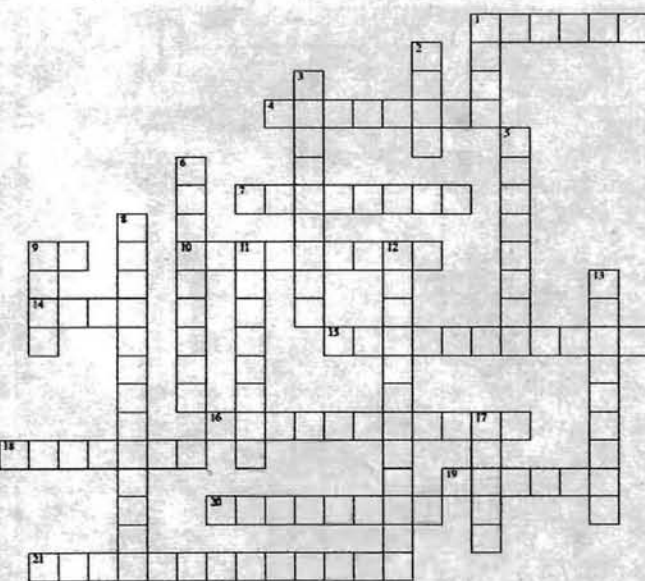
Comics & Puzzles

Margaret & Hooray by Cody Perkins



CURRENT CROSSWORD

This Year in Movies (So far...)



by Chris Stewart & Anna Marie Curran

ACROSS

1. Night at the _____.
2. Stiller versus...displays.
4. The long awaited adaptation of Alan Moore's epic saga.
7. Kirk and co. took to the stars. For the eleventh time.
9. Disney and Pixar's latest hit.
10. Clive Owen versus Julia Roberts. Yeah, we forgot about it too.
14. I _____ You Man.
15. Apatow's latest.
16. The sixth installment of this boy's life series arrived mid-summer.
18. Nick Cage versus ancient prophesy. Oh yeah.
19. This is what happens when your parents don't love you.
20. Surprise comedy hit, with "the". Hint: Vegas.
21. Depp vs. Dale.

DOWN

1. Sci-fi flick about Earth's favorite satellite.
2. The _____ Traveller's Wife.
3. The fourth Terminator installment's name.
5. Neil Gaiman's dream-fantasy about a girl.
6. Worst movie ever, according to Anna Marie.
8. Clive Owen versus a bank. Yeah, we forgot about it too. With "the"
9. The _____ Truth, R-rated rom-com.
11. Sandra Bullock is still alive? And still in romantic comedies?
12. Michael Bay's explosive sequel to his mechanized 2007 hit.
13. My Bloody _____ in 3D. Enough said.
17. Disney-based epic doc.



CURRENT SUDOKU

by Gene Doyel

		1		3		2	4
8			4	1			
9			7		2		
5						4	
3	6		2	4		9	5
		4					8
			9	1			3
				7	6		9
6	7		3			5	

Difficulty: ★ (Easy)

CURRENT HOROSCOPES

♈ Aries

(March 20 - April 19)

Sincerity will be key in all your dealings this week, so be straightforward.

♌ Leo

(July 23 - Aug. 23)

It's good to be focused, but try not to block out things happening around you. Take a break.

♐ Sagittarius

(Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)

What seems clear at first might be more complicated than you thought. Look deeper.

♉ Taurus

(April 20 - May 20)

Don't let others rush you into a decision. Don't act until you're sure of your choices.

♍ Virgo

(Aug. 24 - Sept. 22)

New information headed your way will clear up any confusion you've been feeling.

♑ Capricorn

(Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

Expect the unexpected, and don't be afraid to try different things to shake up your routine.

♊ Gemini

(May 21 - June 21)

Calmness and patience are your friends, so don't worry if life is slow. Instead, enjoy the lull.

♎ Libra

(Sept. 23 - Oct. 23)

Rather than letting unsolicited criticism get you down, try to learn from it.

♒ Aquarius

(Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

Figure out what future problems you may be facing, and do your best to nip them in the bud.

♋ Cancer

(June 22 - July 22)

Luck will find you this week, so don't be afraid to take chances, but remember to start small.

♏ Scorpio

(Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)

Life may be feeling a bit unstable--don't panic. Take it as a chance to learn some flexibility.

♓ Pisces

(Feb. 19 - March 19)

Turn to a neutral friend to help you solve a problem that's been bothering you.

CURRENT CRYPTOGRAM

by Jessica Keil

Find the original meaning of the message below. Each letter shown stands for another letter. Break the code for the letter A, you will have all of the As in the message, and so on. (Hint: D=I)

D ATKZ TGSTLX DETCDPZF

HATH ITJTFDZ SDGG UZ T ODPF

NM GDUJTJL

The first student, faculty or staff member to bring the solution (along with who said it) to *The Current's* office will receive a free Current T-shirt!

What's Current

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

Monday, AUGUST 31

Online Courses: What You Know May Just Give You An... This informative workshop is intended to give a comprehensive look at online learning. Not only will this seminar answer questions about online courses, but will also provide you with the tools to succeed in this new learning method. Located at 255 in the MSC-Center for Student Success, from 12:30 PM to 1:15 PM. For more information contact Chad Hoffer at 5300.

Tuesday, SEPTEMBER 1

Resume Critiques in the Nosh. Visit Career Services in the Nosh for resume assistance. Located at 278 MSC, from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM. For more information contact Career Services at 5111.

Home Volleyball Match. Home volleyball match vs. Missouri Baptist University. Located at Mark Twain Gymnasium from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM. For more information contact Rick Gyllenborg at 314-526-7016.

Online Courses: What You Know May Just Give You An... This informative workshop is intended to give a comprehensive look at online learning. Not only will this seminar answer questions about online courses, but will also provide you with the tools to succeed in this new learning method. Located at 255 in the MSC-Center for Student Success, from 12:30 PM to 1:15 PM. For more information contact Chad Hoffer at 5300.

Wednesday, SEPTEMBER 2

Career Services Red Carpet Event: Open House. Enjoy free food, enter to win movie tickets, and meet the Career Services staff. Located at 278 MSC in Career Services, from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Contact Career Services at 5111 for more information.

Screening of "Died Young, Stayed Pretty". Screening of a documentary on the art of poster making. Special appearance by filmmaker Elleen Yaghoobian to answer questions after the showing. Located at Millenium Student Center SGA Chambers at 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM. For more information contact Sara Arnold at 7922.

Effective Studying: Facts and Myths about Memory. Learn how memory works and some tips that can be put into practice to improve recall. Also learn effective techniques for note-taking, goal setting for studying, concentration, reading a textbook, and test-taking skills. Located at 225 MSC-Center for Student Success from 2:00 PM to 2:45 PM. For more information, contact Chad Hoffer at 5300.

Thursday, SEPTEMBER 3

Coed Kickball Tournament. This tournament, being sponsored by UPB, will be based on the number of entries with the guarantee of at least 2 games. Team entries are accepted in the Campus Rec Office, 203 Mark Twain, 5326. Entry deadline is Tuesday Sept. 1. For more information, contact Pam Steinmetz at 5326.

Accountant's Networking Night. Use this opportunity to meet potential firms you would like to work for, all accounting, finance and IS majors welcome. Located at MSC Century Rooms from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM. For more information contact Allison Loser at 636-279-0407.

Have your event listed on What's Current!

**E-mail thecurrent@umsl.edu
with the subject line "What's Current"**



SOFI SECK / THE CURRENT

IMPROVing campus spirits

Chicago-based 'Mission IMPROVable' brought their improvisational comedy to the Pilot House on Tuesday, August 25, inviting the audience to participate by thinking of scenarios for the "agents" to act out.

Sunday, SEPTEMBER 6

Sunday Mass: We aren't "morning people" either! Come to our evening Mass to reflect about the week up ahead. Music and Readings are prepared by young adults, and we would love to see you there. If you want to participate in choir, please arrive at 7:30pm on Sunday to practice. All students, staff, and faculty are invited to attend. Refreshments to follow after every Mass. Starting at 8:00 PM to 9:00 PM in Provincial House Chapel. For more information contact Liz Detwiler at 314-385-3455.

www.thecurrentonline.com