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Current, September 14, 2009

University of Missouri-St. Louis

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The Current

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Fair held at
Mark Twain**
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THE STUDENT VOICE OF UM-ST. LOUIS SINCE 1966 | WWW.THECURRENTONLINE.COM | VOLUME 43; ISSUE 1287 | SEPT. 14, 2009

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SOFI SECK / THE CURRENT

The University of Missouri-St. Louis' chapter of fraternity Sigma Pi abruptly cancelled their "Wet N Wild" party scheduled for Saturday. The fraternity publicized the cancellation by placing two large signs reading "No Party" outside their house located at 8645 Natural Bridge Road. Two members of Sigma Tau, across the street from Sigma Pi, stated that they heard that Sigma Pi was "in trouble with their national chapter" for "advertising free alcohol" and placing "risqué photos" on a Facebook group made to publicize the party. CJ Montiel is the president of the UM-St. Louis chapter of Sigma Pi. "Anything that's out there right now is pure speculation," Montiel said. Montiel would not comment any further and referred *The Current* to the fraternity's national chapter. The national chapter was unavailable by *The Current's* deadline and will be contacted for a follow-up.

Loud explosive noise heard on South Campus

► ANNA MARIE CURRAN
News Editor

Thursday, at approximately 9:30 p.m., an explosion went off on campus at the University Meadows Apartment Complex.

Bystanders said that a red Malibu drove into the parking lot at the back of University Meadows and dropped something off on the ground.

The car then allegedly drove away, and moments later whatever had been left on the ground exploded.

There were no injuries to residents but the "loud" explosion was heard across South campus, even as far as Oak Hall dormitory.

Resident of University Meadows, Cesar Molina, senior, biology, said that he received calls from concerned

friends when they heard the explosion at the meadows.

"I was out on a scavenger hunt, [and] I got a call from [a friend from Oak Hall] saying he'd heard a large boom," Molina said.

"He knew that I live in [the] Meadows and wanted to see if I was okay."

Campus Police were called in order to investigate the explosion.

The police determined that the explosion had been caused from residents of the University Meadows Apartments setting off firecrackers.

The police confirmed this determination to *The Current*.

Police Sergeant Armentrout was not available for comment.

See EXPLOSION, page 4

VP shows UM System compensation shortfalls

► ANNA MARIE CURRAN
News Editor

Vice President for Human Resources for the University of Missouri System, Betsy Rodriguez, gave a presentation to the faculty and staff of University of Missouri-Saint Louis on Tuesday. The presentation was a shortened version of the four and a half

hour long presentation she gave to the University of Missouri Board of Curators on August 20. The presentation included a review of University of Missouri compensation, benefit programs for faculty and staff, and the University's system in comparison with other Universities.

According to Rodriguez's

presentation, the UM system "attracts and retains" employees by aiming to provide salary and benefits that are competitive in relation to peer comparisons, cost effective when "measured by national and regional benchmarks," and valuable in the eyes of the employee and when compared to other peers. Rodriguez explained

that while the University spends \$1 billion every year on benefits and salaries, the university has fallen greatly behind in relation to other universities.

"UM salaries are below peers regardless of how data [is] analyzed," Rodriguez said. She also said that in order to "catch up" with the compensation and benefit

programs of other universities, the UM System would require a "strategic multi-year investment."

Rodriguez also discussed the UM System's lack of domestic partner benefits which can make it difficult for the universities to "attract and retain" new hires.

See RODRIGUEZ, page 3

WEATHER

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News

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The Current

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Chancellor George names new diversity chief

► **BRIDGET RYDER**
Staff Writer

On Friday, September 12, at a meeting of the Chancellor's Diversity Initiative, the chancellor of the University of Missouri-St. Louis Thomas George introduced Deborah Burris, director of the Office of Equal Opportunity and Development as interim Chief Diversity Officer.

At the meeting, George said that he decided to appoint a Chief Diversity Officer at the Recommendation of the Chancellor's Diversity Initiative, a task force George began in September 2004.

This is the first time that UM-St. Louis has had a Chief Diversity Officer, and it is a step toward making the position permanent.

As Chief Diversity Officer, Burris reports to the Chancellor and is responsible for overseeing the implementation of diversity pro-

grams and compliance with equal opportunity policies throughout the campus.

She will attend the meetings of the Chancellor's Diversity Initiative, as well.

Malaika Horne, executive director of the Leadership Institute and chair of the Chancellor's Diversity Initiative, welcomed Burris' new role and participation.

"We appreciate Deborah [and] your office. You will add a lot. We will be in communication and collaboration. It will do nothing but move this campus forward [in diversity]."

According to its website, the Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity (OEOD) assists staff, faculty and students who feel they have been discriminated against and helps ensure compliance with equal opportunity laws and regulations.

See DIVERSITY, page 3



JENNIFER MEAHAN / THE CURRENT

Members of the Diversity Initiative listen to the presentation at their September 11th meeting, which took place at the JC Penny Conference Center.

SGA elects Student Court members

► **ANNA MARIE CURRAN**
News Editor

The Student Government Association held their second meeting of the year on Friday in the SGA chambers. The meeting lasted about an hour with the time divided between various reports to the assembly, filling the vacant positions on University of Missouri-St. Louis' student court, and nominations for the Associated Students of University of Missouri.

Before asking the assembly for nominations to student court, SGA President Grace-Marie Ritter informed the assembly of her personal appointments to student court, which were Matt Bono, Jordan Ullom, and Jonathan

Martin Kirner. The assembly voted to affirm Ritter's appointments and then the assembly was asked for nominations. Five candidates were nominated: Mike Rosenski, Matt Schroeder, Ethan Chou, Christine Bono and Nickia Munsen.

After the nominations, each nominee took a moment to give a brief description of themselves as well as why they felt they were capable of the job. The candidates were then asked to leave the room so that members of the assembly could speak on behalf of some of the candidates. Since there were four vacant positions on the student court, each organization's representative had four votes. The assembly elected

Matt Schroeder, Ethan Chou, Christine Bono and Nickia Munsen. Matt Bono asked to hold a brief meeting with the newly elected members of the student court after the conclusion of the SGA meeting.

Next, the Associated Students of the University of Missouri asked for nominations for the their board. Andrew Abraham was nominated although he was not present at the meeting. There was a motion to vote and the assembly held a vote of affirmation, electing Abraham to the ASUM board.

Prior to electing members to the student court and to the ASUM board, the bi-weekly reports were given to the assembly from President GraceMarie Ritter, Vice Pres-

ident Greg Meyer, Comptroller Dann Rosner, Student Court Justice Matt Bono and Student Senate Kyle Kersting.

Ritter also mentioned at the meeting that anyone interested in assisting in the planning of The Big Event should come forward soon.

Greg Meyer talked of homecoming details such as the parade's recently set date (October 1 at 1:45 pm) and the deadline for homecoming king and queen applications (last Friday). Meyer also mentioned that overnight parking passes have now been approved for when on-campus residents have overnight guests.

See SGA, page 3

DIVERSITY, from page 2

OEOD also coordinates programs to promote diversity, consults with faculty, staff and students about diversity and equal opportunity, and provides professional development opportunities to educate staff and faculty.

Chancellor George initiated a task force on diversity in September 2004 as a way of seeing what more could be done to promote diversity at UM-St. Louis. Later, the task force renamed itself the Chancellor's Cultural Diversity Initiative.

"It was not started because of unrest. I thought it was a good thing to do. We wanted to get out in front of it so we don't have issues," Chancellor George said.

The activities of the Chancellor's Cultural Diversity Initiative include "World View," a cultural diversity radio show on The U, a web page, a photo project, scholarly lectures and research.

Burris sees her role as Chief Diversity Officer as one of collaboration.

"It's about seeing where the problems are and then pulling together the resources in the different units and the support of the Chancellor and the Provost," Burris said.

According to both Burris and Horne diversity is the proactive piece of equality because it creates a culture where the equal opportunity regulations can take effect.

For Burris, her job in promoting diversity and equality at UM-St. Louis has two parts.

"We look at complaints to see what is necessary then program accordingly," Burris said.

Also introduced at the meeting were members to the Chancellor's Cultural Diversity Initiative, Jessica Keil, junior, political science and editor-in-chief of *The Current*; Charlotte Petty, advisor to *The Current*; and M.K. Stallings, coordinator of Student Activities-Student Life.

Sue Shear Institute sponsors walk with public officials

► AARON HOLDMEYER
Staff Writer

On the morning of September 26, University of Missouri-St. Louis women will be waking up early to get a chance to walk with elected officials. Awaiting them at Tilles Park will be qualified elected female officials. Current statistics show that women hold approximately 24 percent of state legislative positions, which is one of the higher percentages regarding women in U.S. politics.

The Sue Shear Institute for Women in Public Life is a non-profit group which provides education for women wanting to pursue careers in public service. Founded in 1996, they have been promoting women's civil service in several ways, one being the annual walk.

They will be hosting their fourth annual Women Walk Before They Run event.

Women will have a chance to engage with other women who have successfully campaigned their way into titles such as school board members and city councilwomen, to

possibly a United States Senator and Congresswomen.

Dayna Stock, manager of The Sue Shear Institute, likes to consider the event as "networking in sweat pants." She said that at the event the public officials are very approachable.

"They're very accessible because they are standing there eating a bagel and you can walk right up to them and talk to them," Stock said.

Women from all around the St. Louis area will be present to provide advice to walkers such as St. Louis County Councilwomen Hazel Erby, Kathleen Kelly Burket, Barbara Fraser and Colleen Wasinger. They were asked to chair the event because they hold a female majority in the St. Louis City Council. Councilwoman Burket will be attending for the first time in her political career. "Anytime that you can focus on women and women-in-politics is good," Burket said.

Councilwoman Hazel Erby finds the walk to be a great source of encouragement. "It

implies a lot more than politics—it's uniting women together," Erby said.

The walk is a tradition that was started to commemorate the tenth anniversary of The Sue Shear Institute's establishment. To show the accomplishments of local elected women, their campaign signs are posted along the walking route. Stock finds this to be a powerful image but it also stands as a reminder.

"We can't fill a park with the signs. If we went to congress and had all the men's signs we'd have the lawn full," Stock said. "There's still an awareness, and part of the focus of the event is to remember that we need more women to come out, and we need more women to put themselves forward."

The proceeds of the walk will be put towards furthering the Institute's goals by sending four UM-St. Louis female students to the 21st Century Leadership Academy.

This is a weeklong program that focuses on women's leadership. The program is held in late May and is sponsored by the Sue Shear Institute.

SGA, from page 2

Bono talked of how parking and transportation will be tightening their grip on parking on campus without the proper permits. Kyle Kersting discussed the recently elected chair to the curriculum committee, Michael Allison from the economics department as well as the also recently-elected chair to the publications committee, Kristen Tucciarone. Also, the budget and planning committee has elected Terrence Jones from the political science department for their chair.

The next SGA meeting will be on Friday, September 18 in the SGA chambers.



JENNIFER MEAHAN / THE CURRENT

RODRIGUEZ, from page 1

Rodriguez said that it is an important issue to the president of the UM System, Gary Forsee, as well.

"I was at the UM department chair meeting last week, and I asked by a show of hands—these are department chairs, there were eighty of them—how many had lost a significant hire in the last year," Rodriguez said. "One third of the people raised their hand."

Various faculty members asked questions, including UM-St. Louis' representative on the UM System's retire-

ment and benefits committee, professor Joe Martinich, and professor of history, Mark Burkholder. Burkholder asked Rodriguez why the UM System only strives to be average when ranked next to other universities instead of "the best."

"It would be refreshing if the board would start talking about being the best at something instead of setting as its highest objective reaching the midpoint of whatever this week's peers happen to be," Burkholder said. "It seems to me the philosophy ought

to include something about excellence instead of just hitting the average." After the presentation, Rodriguez also expressed her opinion that faculty and staff members of the university need to understand how their salaries and benefits are created.

"I think these presentations are very important because compensation is really important to employees and they need to understand how the compensation works," Rodriguez said. "So this is a chance to explain how salary and benefits are made."



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Statshot

UNDERCURRENT by Jennifer Meahan

Morale is important to the health of a university. **What could be done to increase our school spirit?**



"UMSL students generally lack school pride. This means that student participation is very low compared to other universities."

Amanda Hughes
Senior
History



"Better teams and interesting schedules."

Haitham Mahmoud
Sophomore
Business



"As a student here, I know very little about the sports. Maybe if there were rallies for certain home games, students would be interested."

Tom Goldacker
Business
Sophomore



"Contests, giveaways, things like that make students feel more involved."

Michelle McClain
Junior
Psychology



"More announcements about athletics through the form of flyers, maybe perform active skits in The Nosh."

Precious Miller
Sophomore
Elementary Education

VERBATIM

"I just hope that Lady Gaga's hair doesn't catch on fire."

-Billie Joe Armstrong of
Green Day at VMAs

"The past year was like balancing ourselves on a sea of rolling logs. Thankfully, no one fell in."

-Steven Spielberg

"The American people understand that death is an awful and inescapable part of war."

-Bill Gates

"There's no 'I' in team, but there's 'I' in win. So whichever way you want it."

-Michael Jordan

"My mistakes are kind of a little bit harder because they are in front of millions and millions of people."

-Miley Cyrus

"I'd be the first president to wear eyeshadow since Nixon."

-Britney Spears

"I spend time with my kids and I write horrible songs. I play the guitar and I love music, but I really suck!"

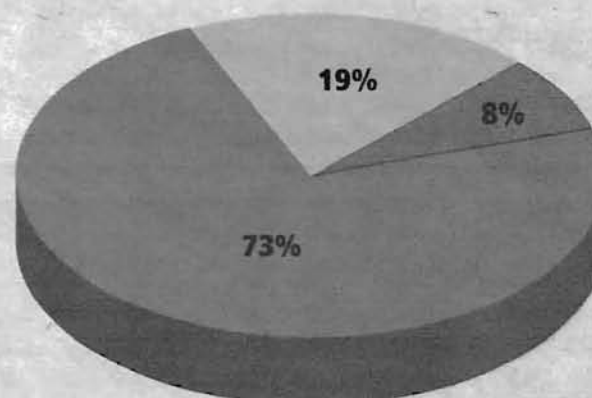
-Brad Pitt speaking
about his home life

"It was uncomfortable for everybody. We were unsure of what was really going on. At some point, I think he was like, 'Forget it.' And then he just let his personality show."

-Quintin Mikell
of the Philadelphia Eagles

POLL

What do you think of President Obama's address to elementary schools?



- ☒ I'm delighted. It's a great opportunity for those students to here the President speak directly to them.
- ☐ I'm outraged! This is an interruption for their typical school day.
- ☐ I don't care. I'm sure most of them slept through it anyways.

This week:

What should our mascot really be?

Answer at
www.thecurrentonline.com

EXPLOSION, from page 1

Molina heard the same story. "I called a friend and coworker from Emergency Services and asked him if he knew anything," Molina said. "He called me back later and told me that the police had told him that it had been firecrackers."

However, several residents who had been present expressed that the explosion seemed a lot louder than mere firecrackers.

Resident of University Meadows, Andres Hammer, freshman, undeclared, was present outside the Meadows when the alleged firecracker exploded.

"It was definitely not a firecracker," Hammer said.

"It was too loud."

The University Meadows has had to tackle the issue of security, specifically regarding the security gate, in the past. Individuals, both residents and non-residents, have forced the gate open by bumping it to trigger its mechanical opening function. Since the occurrence of such issues, a sign has adorned the gate advising a heavy fine imposed on those who abuse the gate in such a manner.

While University Meadows Apartments is a gated community, other residents of University Meadows expressed discomfort with the ease that visitors are able to get into the Meadows, even if

they do not possess the gate key to open the gate.

Felipe Naranjo, sophomore, international business, and resident of the Meadows, expressed that it made him uncomfortable to know that even though it was a gated community, outsiders could still get through the gate with relative ease.

"It gives you a feeling of uncertainty, knowing that you're living in a gated community but people still somehow get through and are able to drop off things that explode," Naranjo said.

Of the explosion, Naranjo confirmed the loud noise and even added that he saw a flash of light near Building 6.



Crimeline

Wednesday, SEPTEMBER 9, 2009

Stealing Under \$500.00 - Thomas Jefferson Library

This is a delayed reported stealing of a cell phone. The original incident occurred about days earlier. The victim reported that she was in the T.J. Library Computer Lab area and went to retrieve a piece of paper from the printer, when she returned to her desk her cell phone was missing. The victim indicated that she left it on the table where she was working. The victim managed to call the phone and later track some information about who was using the cell phone before it stopped working. The victim had talked to the suspect, and at one point agreed to give her phone back. The victim never received her phone, so she reported it stolen. The UMSL Police are investigating this matter in hopes of recovering the victim's cell phone.

Thursday, SEPTEMBER 10, 2009

Stealing Over \$500.00 - Parking Lot AA-Fine Arts

Between 11:30 AM and 12:10 PM person(s) unknown broke into the victim's vehicle while parked in Parking Lot AA and stole several items from inside. The victim advised that the items were located on the front seat and in plain view. The items included a new lap-top computer, the victim's backpack with text books and the victim's purse, wallet and credit cards. There are no suspects in this incident.

Friday, SEPTEMBER 11, 2009

Stealing Under \$500.00 - Millennium Student Center

The victim reported that she was using the bathroom between 12:50 PM and 1:00 PM when an unknown suspect came into the bathroom and removed the victim's property from her backpack. The victim had placed the backpack on the counter and went into a stall. The stolen items included text books, and a calculator. There are no suspects in this incident.

Property Damage-University Meadows

The victim reported that sometime during the day person(s) unknown did damage to the dead-bolt lock to his apartment. Although some damage was done to the lock, entry into the residence was not gained.

Remember that crime prevention is a community effort, and anyone having information concerning these, or any other incidents should contact the Campus Police. It is very necessary for everyone to lock their doors when they are out. Even if it is only for a minute or two, a simple locking of the door will prevent most thefts from occurring. As a reminder, please report any suspicious people or activity to the UMSL Campus Police immediately by calling 911 if it is an emergency, or the main number of 314-516-5155.



Hey You!

Wanna be this happy?

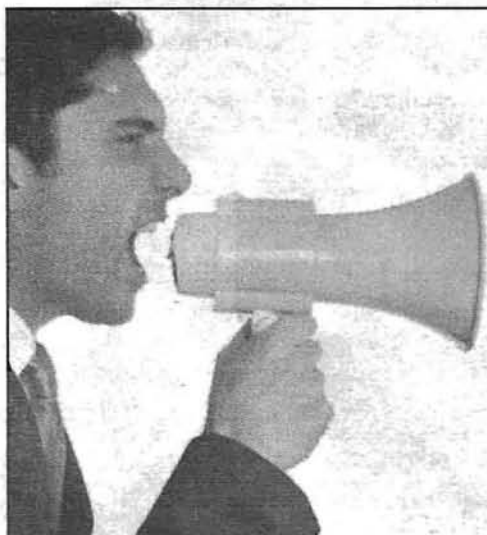
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Even Robots Read The Current

Business & Tech

Mediocre Metrolink prices rise as frequency goes down

► JESSICA KEIL
Editor-and-Chief

This semester, University of Missouri-St. Louis students enrolled in nine credit hours can purchase Metro passes for \$110 a semester. Previously (beginning in 2006), students could purchase the pass for \$60, and before 2006 the passes were free. Despite the increases, the Metro student passes are still cheaper than buying monthly passes for \$70 a month. Previously, monthly passes were \$60 and a one-ride fare price was \$2; by now that has increased to \$2.50.

The price increase for Metro passes is just one change of many that has been implemented by the company.

On November 4, 2008 voters voted down Proposition M, a proposition that would have increased Metro's

funds and in turn allowed the company to create an extension and increase bus routes. When Proposition M did not pass the opposite happened in March of this year; bus routes were cut, the rail began to run less frequently and fares increased. Additionally, hundreds of jobs were cut.

According to Metro's 2008 Onboard Survey- Executive Summary, one reason that has been voiced by those who voted against Prop M is that the Metro stops increase crime. One student, Steven Stull, graduate, education, calls that assumption "stupid."

"I would love to see Metro stops increase," Stull said, "I think it's stupid that people think it increases crime."

After a fight ensued last week near the South Campus Metro stop, David Becker, freshman, business admin-

istration, did not blame the incident on the Metro stop's location.

"Crime happens everywhere," he said "I mean, at Mizzou there are murders."

With two Metro stops located on UM-St. Louis' campus, today some students are feeling the weight of Metro's cutbacks.

"I tried to catch the bus recently and so I went online and found a route and then I went and saw a 'cut route' sign," Andrew Arato, freshman, business, and frequent MetroLink rider, said. "The bus line on Tuesdays and Thursdays to downtown is good, except in the evenings when it only runs once an hour."

Although there are a substantial amount of UM-St. Louis students who rely on public transportation, many do not. For students who live



Illustration by Zachary James Kraft

in West County, bus routes were cut, affecting local businesses with employees in the city. For those who live in North County cities such as Florissant, the closest Metro stop is at North Hanley, a couple minutes from cam-

pus.

Despite the fact that students like Stull would like to see Metro expand, it is unlikely the company will be doing so any time soon. Although stimulus money was recently allotted to Metro,

the money was not enough for Metro to reinstate its cutbacks, let alone to expand or increase jobs.

Currently the MetroLink trains at UM-St. Louis run every 20 minutes and the last train comes at 1:00 a.m.

Free barcode with purchase tech of an equal or lesser value

► JOYCE GATES
Staff Writer

Technology: defined by dictionary.com as "the sum of the ways in which social groups provide

themselves with the material objects of their civilization." During the past decade, technology leaders and users on various continents have seen and created multitudes of technology: from the Game Cube to the Xbox to the iPhone, and now barcode marketing.

"It's not a bad idea," Ellie Ordway, physics, senior, said. "It's another form of advertising, like Twitter updates. It's probably a good way to market to teenagers and college students; [companies]

have to target to that demographic."

Brian King, owner of a Blackberry 8900 Curve, agrees. "As far as the texting thing, I think it's alright as long as you don't get a bunch of spam," King, senior, psychology, said.

Launched in 2004 in Asia by Olympus Corp., bar code advertising has made an impact on local technology gurus like Microsoft and Neo Media.

The purpose of barcode scanning is to "transform physical media (print advertising, billboards, product packages, information signs, in-store merchandising, or even video images)—into live links for accessing information and entertainment

online," stated Microsoft on their website.

According to Wireless Watch Japan, the technical operation of barcode advertisement is as follows: the two-dimensional code, called STCode, consists of tiny dots placed within a square measuring 7mm per side.

The new code takes up less space than other codes that can be read by camera cell phones, and is easier to read even if the print is smudged or bent. "I don't think it's a scam," King said. "It might be an easy way for [companies] to advertise, like with a survey that enables you to receive additional information and offers."

Denny Curtis a senior systems analyst, offered ad-

ditional bar coding information on the Gadget Venue web page. "The barcodes can be as small as three-fourths of an inch to as large as 10 feet square and they are easy to create. Most of the Microsoft products, such as Word or PowerPoint, are able to use the barcodes."

Current films, like Shane Acker-directed and Tim Burton-produced '9,' have already taken advantage of the new form of technology. In the lower right-hand corner of at least one poster for '9' is a small barcode with an even smaller text stating "TXT 'Reader' to 4Focus." However, when tried, the message, "Message to failed: Network problem" was received.

Caitlin Kelly, a sophomore

majoring in criminology, stated that not too long ago, she participated in a similar promotion for Walmart.

For the promotion, consumers had to purchase a Rolling Stones magazine product in order to get a year's subscription to the magazine.

"It's a little misleading because you don't really know [from first glance at a barcode] what type of product you'll get ... on the other hand, I really like getting [free] stuff," Kelly said.

Microsoft created Microsoft Tag for those interested in exploring barcode marketing. "If there is a scheme with these barcodes, it must be a corporate effort where the barcode can only work

on phones of the participating company promoting the need to buy these certain phones to receive special coupons," Kenneth Mucalo, sophomore, biology/pre-med, said. To an extent, he may be right.

Microsoft Tag Reader is available for most smart and multi-feature phones like Windows Mobile, J2ME, iPhone, Blackberry and Symbian S60 phones.

The required phone software for barcode scanning can be found on Microsoft's website or at gettag.mobi. Microsoft warns that although the application is free to download, phone's service providers could charge additional fees for data services or text messaging.

STUDENTS' UNEMPLOYMENT VIEWPOINTS

Photos by Sofi Seck, interviews by Joyce Gates



Kathrine Damm
Senior, Business



Alan Bauer
Senior, Mathematics



Justin Bello
Junior, Graphic Design



Vedad Guimirovic
Junior, Biology



Monea Kimble
Sophomore, Psychology



Vincent Gasperson
Junior, Psychology

What are your thoughts/hopes/views for the economy and/or job market?

"Difficult; At the moment, it's very hard to find a job. I hope the situation is better when I am ready with my studies."

What type of employment are you seeking and/or hoping to find?

"During my studies: student job. After my studies: human resources. I would like to travel around the world."

Do you think that being unemployed in this economy is a hinder to future career development?

"I don't think being unemployed now will deter my career to what I want to do later."

Have you been getting any job interviews?

"Actually other than on campus, I haven't been looking for jobs...just have been focusing on finishing my degree."

Have you recently lost your job?

"[chuckles] No, not recently."

What have you been doing to cope with employment?

"I've signed up for unemployment...gotta get my money somehow."

Do you think that being unemployed in this economy is a hinder to future career development?

"Of course, it sucks."

What are your thoughts/hopes/views for the economy and/or job market?

"I hope it gets better, gas prices are ridiculous."

Have you recently lost your job?

"No, I haven't...I quit because school started and I just wanted to be a full-time student."

What have you been doing to cope with employment?

"Help my mom with her real estate; nothing much really, didn't have to pay for much over the summer."

Have you been getting any job interviews?

"Yes, I've had one recently."

Have you recently lost your job?

"I was laid off the second day of school."

What have you been doing to cope with employment?

"I have taken out loans [subsidized and unsubsidized], so I am sufficiently and financially stable right now."

**How's the recession affecting you?
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Sports

Women's soccer in full swing, limit Pumas to a meager three points

► **ANTHONY PADGETT**
Asst. Sports Editor

Summer has officially ended and fall is in the air. Here at the University of Missouri-St. Louis we are starting our fourth week of school, and the women's soccer team hosted their first two home games of the season.

Last Friday night, the Tritons hosted Saint Joseph's College, a Great Lakes Valley Conference rival. The Tritons won the game in a nail-biter by the score of 1-0.

Anne Nesbit, senior, criminal justice, scored the lone goal of the game, on a header, in the third minute of the first half off a pass from Caitlin Farrow, junior, international business.

The Tritons outshot the Pumas 19-4 and had 10 shots in the first half to the Pumas one. Amy Boehm, senior, business marketing, played the entire game in goal and recorded three saves.

The Triton defense did an excellent job to limit the Pumas to only three shots on goal. The victory was the first of the season for the Tritons and, hopefully, the first of many for head coach Bobby Lessentine.

UM-St. Louis hoped to get a second win of the season when it hosted the University of Wisconsin-Parkside at Don Dallas Field on Sunday.

The teams were ready to play, but the mood changed when Triton goalkeeper Hannah Sayre, sophomore, business marketing, got injured during warm ups. The game was supposed to begin at noon, but was delayed while paramedics carted Sayre off the field.

The Tritons appeared sluggish and disillusioned following Sayre's injury. Wisconsin-Parkside, which entered Sunday's game ranked sixteenth in the nation, with a 3-0-1 record and a perfect



Triton Jessica Hampton moves the ball up the field Friday.

CHERA MEYER/THE CURRENT

2-0 record in the GLVC, took advantage. The Rangers struck first in the second minute of the match when Meredith Novak scored her fourth goal of the season.

The Tritons would bounce back with a goal of their own in the seventeenth minute, when Caitlin Farrow, senior,

international business, scored her second goal of the season, off of a rebound to tie the game at 1-1.

The Rangers reclaimed the lead just before the half ended, when Brynn Darga hit the back of the net off a free kick 40 yards from the goal.

their goals."

The loss puts the Tritons record for the season at 1-3 overall, and 1-2 in the GLVC.

"I'm proud of the way we are playing," Lessentine said. "If we can get everyone healthy, I expect great things of this program."

UM-St. Louis will play its next match Friday at noon, on the road against Lewis, another GLVC rival. Two days later, the Tritons will once again be on the road to face another GLVC foe, the University of Illinois-Springfield. That game will also begin at noon.

It is key for the Tritons to get at least one victory on their two-game road trip.

"Road games are always difficult," Lessentine said. "We have to come into the game prepared to play. We try to make the road as familiar as possible and keep to a routine."

Women's volleyball goes 2-2 at the Peggy Martin Volleyball challenge

► **CEDRIC WILLIAMS**
Sports Editor

The University of Missouri-St. Louis women's volleyball team heads back to campus this week after splitting four matches at the University of Central Missouri's Peggy Martin Volleyball Challenge in Warrensburg, Mo., last weekend.

On Friday, UM-St. Louis looked like one of the best teams at the tournament when it easily dispatched St. Mary's (Texas) University by a three games to none score, then took care of Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, three games to one.

Against St. Mary's, Erin

Higgins, sophomore, early childhood education, and Liz Cook, junior, education, each posted nine kills, while teammate Weslie Gaff, sophomore, accounting, added six others, to lead the UM-St. Louis offense, which won the match by scores of 25-20, 25-14, 25-12.

In the Edinboro match, it was Cook who starred, posting a team-best 15 kills to lead the Triton attack. Higgins added 10 kills, and teammate Kayla Kinzinger, junior, education, dished out 39 assists, as UM-St. Louis won by scores of 25-22, 23-25, 25-21, 25-19.

Saturday was a different story, as they lost both their

matches by identical three games to one scores to Pittsburg (Kan.) State and NCAA No. 8-ranked Central Missouri.

Against Pittsburg State, UM-St. Louis lost the first two games, rallied to win the third game, and had a late lead in the fourth game.

The Tritons even had two game points, at 29-28 and 30-29, but they couldn't close out that fourth game, and eventually lost the match by scores of 20-25, 18-25, 25-16, 32-34.

Sarah Eisnaugle, senior, art history/graphic design, posted a season-high 14 kills against Pittsburg St., leading a group of five UM-St. Louis

players in double digit kills in the match. Kelsie Rankin, freshman, undeclared, had 13 kills for the Tritons, while Gaff added 12, and Higgins and Cook posted 10 kills each.

In the final match of the weekend, UM-St. Louis and Central Missouri split the first two games. But eighth-ranked Central Missouri closed strong in the third and fourth games, to claim a 19-25, 27-25, 17-25, 16-25 victory.

Cook posted a team-high 13 kills, Rankin added 11 kills, and Kinzinger dished out 39 assists against Central Missouri. But it was libero Carolyn Holstein, junior,

business, who proved to be the Tritons standout player in the match, posting a career-high 33 digs, including 16 in that second game.

Holstein, a defensive specialist at the libero position, has recorded 20 or more digs in nine of UM-St. Louis' 12 matches this season, and unofficially has already amassed 253 digs on the year.

Holstein's brilliant effort in Warrensburg comes one week after her scintillating play earned her Most Outstanding Libero honors at the Towne Place Suites Classic in Ohio last week.

This week, the Tritons (8-5) won't return to game action until the weekend,

when they will open up GLVC play with road matches at Illinois-Springfield and at Quincy.

The Friday night match at UIS is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m., and will be web-cast through that university's athletics website, <http://www.goprairiestars.com>. The Quincy match is Saturday at 3 p.m., and is not scheduled for broadcast.

UM-St. Louis' next home match is next Tuesday, Sept. 22, when the Tritons will host crosstown rival and NCAA Division III No. 8, Washington University, at the Mark Twain Building. The match that night will begin at 7 p.m.

CEDDIE SAYS...

Coach Brady's new baseball field up to snuff

► CEDRIC WILLIAMS
Sports Editor

Sometimes I trek over to South campus, even when I do not need to, just so I can take in the view of the beautiful covered bleachers, the batting cages, or even that cool looking scoreboard.

Several times this semester, I have driven down West Drive and circled around Marillac Drive, so I can take in the new ballpark from every angle at once.

The new UM-St. Louis baseball field really is pretty from the outside.

The inside though, at least certain parts of it, are not so great looking right now.

The infield dirt, the pitcher's mound, the grass around the infield perimeter and the grass near the dugouts are all in shoddy condition

That is the nice way to describe it. UM-St. Louis baseball coach Jim Brady describes it a different way.

"It's terrible," Brady said. "I'm not happy at all. I'm so disgusted with the whole process. The job was just poorly done."

The primary problem with the field right now is the infield dirt, especially the dirt around the first and third base areas. It's very clumpy and hard, and seems to be littered with rocks.

That may not seem like much of a problem, but have you ever tried fielding ground balls on hard and clumpy infield dirt? What about on a field littered with rocks, where balls take crazy hops and go flying in every direction?

It can be painful and sometimes dangerous.

"Ask my first basemen and third basemen how dangerous it is," Brady said. "It's almost to the point where they're gonna need armor suits. The ball's coming at them, and all they can do is protect themselves. We can't even conduct a proper practice."

The infield grass area is also in bad shape. The grass is uneven in some areas, while other areas are discolored and look like the grass died a long time ago. Even though it was supposed to be ready prior to the start

of last season, the field has not been used for an actual game,

"This should be the nicest facility of its type in the Midwest," Brady said. "Instead, we've got something that's not up to anybody's expectations. Definitely not mine. We just didn't get the quality of work we thought we were getting."

As angry as Brady is about the condition of the new baseball field, he doesn't blame the university. The coach was very complimentary of the efforts university administration has made to try to fix the problems with the field.

Brady's anger instead, is directed at the company the university hired to build the new stadium. The coach believes the company botched the job by not being finished on time the first time. Since then, Brady said the company seems more interested in making excuses than it is in trying to fix the problems once and for all.

"They ought to change their name to just 'E', for excuses," Brady said. "That's

all they've been giving us, a thousand excuses."

Fortunately, there's still time to get the field conditions fixed. The Tritons are practicing this fall until October, but haven't scheduled any fall games.

That means even though the team might have to deal with a bunch of errant ground balls at practice, they can still use the field for their fall workouts. When practice ends in October, the construction company should have plenty of time to fix the field's infield dirt and grass problems before the season begins next March.

"I just hope they don't plan on putting a little band-aid on this problem," Brady said. "We shouldn't have to settle for second rate, when we paid for top-notch. We're gonna play come spring. I hope the field's ready by then."

I hope so too. It would be a shame to waste the new ball field's aesthetic beauty on an infield that is literally and figuratively an eyesore.

MEN'S GOLF

Cochran in third

► CEDRIC WILLIAMS
Sports Editor

Tim Cochran, junior, political science, made a sensational fall debut for the University of Missouri-St. Louis men's golf team last week at the Missouri Intercollegiate Golf Championships.

Cochran shot rounds of 68, 72, and 76 on the 7,000 yard Jack Nicklaus designed Porto Cima course, finishing with an overall score of 216, which earned him third place at one of the most prestigious events in fall men's golf.

Clarke Fry of Rockhurst University and Justin Yoder of Central Missouri State University were the only

golfers in the 79-man field to finish ahead of Cochran. Fry earned medalist honors by finishing 11 under par, while Yoder was second at five under.

As a team, the Tritons finished with a cumulative score of 925, which was good enough for seventh place at the Missouri Intercollegiate, four spots ahead of the 11th place finish UM-St. Louis had at the event last year.

Two other Triton golfers finished in the top half of the event scoring: Matt Rau, junior, marketing, finished tied for 29th place with an overall score of 230, while Ryan Penfield, junior, business administration, finished 32nd with a 231. Ryan Higgins, senior, history, was the fourth UM-St. Louis golfer at the event. He finished 58th with a score of 248.

But it was Cochran who should be credited with getting UM-St. Louis off to a fast start.

His sizzling first round score of four-under par was a career-best low round and put him in the event lead af-

ter the first round. Fry shot a 69 and was one stroke back after the first round, while Yoder shot 71, and was three strokes back.

Cochran's second round 72 was even par on the course. But Fry shot a career-best 65, seven-under par, to grab a commanding two-round lead at 10-under par.

On the second day of the event, which consisted of just one round of play, Cochran never got within striking distance of the lead. His four-over par 76 was no match for Fry's one-under par 71. The Rockhurst sophomore bested every other individual player's final score by six strokes.

UM-St. Louis will take its next shot on the links this Sunday and Monday, Sept. 20 and 21,

when the team will travel to South Haven, Mich., to play in another prestigious fall event: the Great Lakes Fall Regional.

More than 20 teams and nearly 100 individual players will compete in that event, which will be held at the Hawks Head Links Golf Course, a 7,000-yard course designed by world renowned golf architect Arthur Hill.

One week later, the Tritons will travel to Noblesville, Ind., to play in the Ken Partridge Intercollegiate, an event hosted by the University of Indianapolis.

In October, UM-St. Louis will play two events. On Oct. 4 and 5, the Tritons will play in the UIS Invitational, hosted by the University of Illinois-Springfield.

UM-St. Louis will then conclude the fall portion of their schedule by traveling to Lockport, Ill., on Oct. 12 and 13, to play in the Lewis Fall Classic, hosted by Lewis



Women's tennis smashes Maryville

► CEDRIC WILLIAMS
Sports Editor

The University of Missouri-St. Louis women's tennis team took home a rousing eight matches to one victory over crosstown rival Maryville University last Wednesday at the UM-St. Louis tennis courts.

The Tritons swept all three doubles matches from the Saints and then won five of six singles matches to claim the lopsided victory.

Stephanie Thompson, junior, international business/marketing, and Sai Pujitha Bandi, sophomore, business, opened the day with an 8-3 win over Maryville's Chelsea Travis and Erinne Haff at

No. 1 doubles.

UM-St. Louis teammates Altanzul Gombo, junior, accounting, and Katie Rynekiewicz, sophomore, anthropology, continued the Triton domination with an 8-1 win over Victoria Roberson and Anne Kilian at No. 2 doubles.

The doubles match sweep concluded with UM-St. Louis's Leticia Garcia, sophomore, information systems, and Kristiana Lazarova, freshman, nursing, claiming an 8-0 win over Beth Nunn and Karen Schwarm at No. 3 doubles.

After a short break, the singles matches began. But it wasn't long after that the

UM-St. Louis winning continued.

Thompson jumpstarted the Triton solo winning act with a hard-fought 6-1, 6-3 win over Maryville's Travis at No. 1 singles. Garcia then followed suit with a 7-6 (7-2), 6-0 win over Roberson at No. 2 singles.

Maryville's lone match win of the day came at No. 3 singles, when Haff defeated UM-St. Louis's Rynekiewicz in a three-set thriller: 7-5, 2-6, 6-2.

At No. 4 and No. 5 singles, the Tritons claimed consecutive 6-0, 6-0 victories, when UM-St. Louis's Lazarova defeated Maryville's Nunn, and Annie Gonzalez,

junior, business administration, knocked off Maryville's Kilian by those scores.

Cassandra Maerz, junior, nursing, closed out the scoring with a 6-0, 6-1 win over Schwarm at No. 6 singles.

The overwhelmingly victorious performance was just what the Tritons hoped for in their season opening outing.

The team will look to continue its winning ways on Wednesday, Sept. 15, when it hosts a home match against McKendree University at the UM-St. Louis tennis courts. The matches that day will serve as McKendree's season opener, and are scheduled to begin at 4 p.m.

A&E On Campus

XXX-posure 12 at Gallery 210 is overexposed, under-realized

► **ZACHARY JAMES KRAFT**
Page Designer

The silence slowly wafts over a group of patient art seekers waiting for gallery doors to swing open.

After a long day of work, Gallery 210 director Terry Suhre emerges, smiling and greeting the first arrivals. Suhre, as always, has presented the University of Missouri-St. Louis campus with another incredibly complex show.

Filled with anticipation, students and faculty begin to file in and observe the work

of three truly distinct modern artists. Each artist's unique angle proves just how vividly different human experience can be and the journey on which art takes the individual. The exhibit, subtitled "Implied Narratives: Paintings by Jamie Adams, Bill Kreplin and Kit Keith," features the artwork of three local artists.

The artworks are on loan from the Phillip Stein Gallery and the exhibit is exactly what the name describes: it pulls no punches, just hands you exposures.

This latest version of Gallery 210's annual "Exposure

art exhibit has no particular style of art presented.

Instead, it shows each artist's own niches and mediums. The artworks of Jamie Adams, Bill Kreplin and Kit Keith prove to be enigmas worth cracking.

Jamie Adams' smooth-brushstroke oil paintings favor the rich black and shaping grays that roll around his cinematic figures, revealing Adams' love for the "silver" in silver screen.

Quirky and arguably perverted, the images depict nudes such as a young stoic male artist unaware of the

maturity depicted around him.

Though the work centers on the gaze of actress Jean Seberg from Jean Luc-Godard's 1959 film "Breathless," it says more about the artist's emotional reaction to film than a painting of still frames from a classic film.

Kit Keith is a strong local artist who reshapes found objects into self-directed portraits reflecting the female narrative.

Now, dream up images from early 1950's film noir and so-called modern man. Next, outline that dream in

black strokes with interesting juxtapositions of figures and patterns, and you have Bill Kreplin's pieces in the exhibit.

Differing from the other artists in this exhibit in both intent and execution, Kreplin has mastered the complexities of printing art from a computer.

The depth of talent laden in this exhibition makes it worthwhile, but "Exposure 12" also gives the viewer nudity, introspection and 1950's Americana. What more could one desire?

The exhibition is between

Aug. 27 and Oct. 10, so yes, there is still time to have a quick peek between classes.

Admission is free. Gallery 210 hours are from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. It is closed Sunday and Monday.

"Exposure 12" is sponsored by The Department of Art and Art History at UM-St. Louis, The Center for the Humanities at UM-St. Louis, Missouri Arts Council, and The Regional Arts Commission. Contact the Gallery at 314-516-5976 or visit them online at <http://gallery210.umsu.edu>.

Irv Schankman's memoriam burns bright in Gallery 210 "St. Louis Through the Lens" exhibit



CHERA MEYER / THE CURRENT

Visitors to Gallery 210 get a look at St. Louis "Through The Lens," a memorial to Irv Schankman running through Dec. 5

► **MARK WEBBER**
Staff Writer

September 10 marked the opening of the second installment of Irvin Schankman's memorial photography contest called "St. Louis Through the Lens" at the campus' Gallery 210.

Schankman's photos can be viewed along the outer walls within Gallery 210, located on North Campus near the Metrolink station. They are fascinating and each one represents a vivid footnote of Schankman's visual documentation of St. Louis through photography.

Every photo stands out in astonishing clarity and compassion and represents the city through a fascinating perspective.

The Irvin Schankman Memorial Photography Contest, established after Schankman's passing in 2004, exhibits 36 images by 19 photographers that were selected from over 400 images.

The competition specified that contestants submit photography representing the essence of St. Louis taken within the last 50 years. It was also asked that photo enhancement be minimal.

Many of the 36 images were quite extraordinary and likely represented Schankman's vision well. Gallery 210 opened the exhibit on Thursday at 5:30 p.m.

At 6:30 p.m., when Terry Suhre and Olivia Lahe-Gonzales announced the contest winners, the first place, second place, third place winners did not come as much of a surprise.

Amanda Pfister won first place for her photograph titled "Carondelet School XIV."

The photograph shows a deserted and depleted classroom, detailing the empty leftovers of a town that has often fought and battled through a long and eventful St. Louis history.

Second place went to Andrew Raimist for his "Ando's

Past: Pulitzer," a photograph of the The Pulitzer Foundation for the Arts which was designed by the famous Japanese architect Tadao Ando.

The third place went to Jason Gray for his photograph titled "Dorothy Bergman."

The turnout for the event was impressive.

Leslie Gerard, who said this was not her first time going to an event at Gallery 210, was also impressed.

"I'm excited about these events because they showcase art in St. Louis."

Anytime this many people show up to an event like this, it really shows our enthusiasm for culture and art appreciation," Gerard said.

"I really hope Gallery 210 continues this kind of success. The artwork here really is amazing."

Appearing among the photos taken by Irvin Schankman is one that really stands out.

It is a silhouette of a fireman amidst a dramatic bat-

tle against catastrophe. An enormous flame looms large in the background.

It is the only one of his photos presented that is not powerful in clarity but instead powerful in dramatics. Next to the photo, it says that Schankman took the photo at the age of 15, well before he became a professional photographer.

However, the photo that he took after running past police lines to photograph the fiery gasoline facility was his first to be published.

This photo is interesting because it probably represents most what an event like this is about.

However, they are seizing opportunity.

Artists are given a chance to be seen in the forefront, with Irvin Schankman's blazing respect and honor looming in the background.

Gallery 210 will continue to display Schankman's and the rest of the finalists' photographs through December 5.

What's your favorite movie in theaters?

Let us know!

www.thecurrentonline.com/messageboard



White Out

Kate Beckinsale, Gabriel Macht, Tom Skerritt
Warner Brothers, R

I like cheese. Cheddar, Gouda, Edam, Brie, Monterey Jack—I like all of them. I can only think of three cheeses that I actually dislike: Casu marzu (maggot cheese) and Limburger. The third kind of cheese that I simply cannot stand is movie cheese. You know, the kind of movie that has more holes in it than a block of Swiss.

"Whiteout" is that kind of movie. It is the most terrible type of bad movie: the sort you keep watching just to figure out what the director and screenwriters were thinking.

The plot manages to be simplistic, yet completely full of holes. Carrie Stetko (Kate Beckinsale) is a U.S. Marshal posted to the remotest location on the planet: Antarctica. She has been there for two years, and is about to leave Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station for good when a body is "discovered" on the ice. Do not bother asking yourself how or why a single frozen corpse was found in the vast expanses of Antarctic tundra, because the movie never bothers to explain that somewhat crucial fact.

Murder is afoot at the South Pole—the FIRST murder at the South Pole, the movie might add. Stetko, of course, investigates and, in the process, gets involved in a bizarre mix of horror, crime drama and mystery. It is as if the screenwriters could not settle on a genre, so they included all of them and hoped it would work out.

It did not. Stetko quickly crosses paths with newly-arrived U.N. agent Robert Pryce (Gabriel Macht) and together, the two traverse the treacherous landscape to get to the bottom of the mystery surrounding the murder. Along the way, more people end up dead (naturally) and the fierce snows and winds become as deadly a foe as the murderer.

The crime drama part of the plot revolves around a crashed Russian plane from the 1950s. It was carrying some mysterious cargo which the murderer deemed worth killing for. Why a Russian cargo plane—Russia, mind you, is nearer the North Pole than South—was flying over Antarctica is never explained, nor why it was carrying the mysterious cargo (and once it is revealed what exactly the cargo is, it will become even more confusing).

The ending can be easily figured out for anyone who has seen a horror movie in the past. The revelation of the killer's identity is easily deducible from at least halfway through the film and the plot's final resolution is, well, just plain lame.

That is not to say that the movie is all bad. There are a few tense moments, especially after two of the fingers on Stetko's left hand develop frostbite. The station's doctor pokes a hypodermic needle into her blackened and dead fingers multiple times. It is hard to watch, to say the least.

Additionally, within the first ten minutes of the movie, the audience is treated to a lengthy shower scene courtesy of Beckinsale. Of course, nothing is actually shown but there are ample shots of the actress in her underwear.

It is as if the director knew the film was bad and resorted to bribery to get the audience to keep watching: "So yeah, there is no plot yet and everything is confusing, but look! A scantily-clad woman! That is interesting, right?"

Move along, folks. If you are looking for a movie that accurately portrays the isolation and remoteness of the tundra, (as well as being one of the finest horror movies ever) go rent John Carpenter's "The Thing." It is a far superior film and well worth watching, unlike this cheesy flick. **F** — Andrew Seal, Staff Writer.

Film

Also in Theaters

I Can do Bad All by Myself. Ah, Tyler Perry. Sweet, subtle Tyler Perry. His latest film is thoughtful, succinct, and revelatory. Its examination of contemporary issues deftly moves from heart-renderingly serious scenes of penetrating drama to deeply humorous portraits of American life. More than anything, Perry is a master of understatement **B+** — *The Current's Secret Movie Insider*. Read our review at www.thecurrentonline.com.

All About Steve. The latest in the it-would-be-stalking-in-real-life genre of romantic comedies is imbued with a particular bad taste as Sandra Bullock's manic, ridiculous stalking of Bradley Cooper parallels her insistence in haunting us in audience-land long after we thought we'd dumped her. But all metacinema philosophy aside, this is an awful, horrible film. **D-** — *The Current's Secret Movie Insider*.

Inglorious Bastereds. (Still) 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.

Gamer. Dear Michael C. Hall: You were so good in *Six Feet Under* in a role that constantly required you to push the limits of psycho-sexual-emotional blah blah blah. And now in *Dexter* you are the brilliant, effortlessly watchable core of a show that would otherwise soon become dull and repetative. Now, you've gone and done this. Don't get us wrong, we will see *Gamer*, and we will enjoy it. But after it's over and the dirty feeling sets in, we will wash it off. But you can't ever wash it off, Michael C. Hall. Never. **C-** — *The Current's Secret Movie Insider*. Read our review at www.thecurrentonline.com.

9 Elijah Wood, Jennifer Connelly Focus Features, PG-13

The poster for the animated science fiction "9" features an appealing little puppet-like character set in a post-apocalyptic landscape, and is emblazoned with the name "Tim Burton."

Do not be fooled. "9" is definitely not for children and Tim Burton is not the director. The rubble-strewn backdrop tells you more about this dark film than that cute little character in front.

That said, this animated feature, directed by Shane Acker, based on his award-winning animated short and produced by Burton and "Night Watch" director Timur Bekmambetov, does offer polished animation, imaginative imagery and an original, if flawed, story. In a world of remakes and

sequels, that alone has to count for something.

"9" is a very dark story set in a broken-down world devoid of all organic life.

The film creates a world with a distinctive, steampunk style, although this old-fashioned futurism is not Victorian but instead circa 1940.

"9" is the name of a little burlap-covered rag doll (voiced by Elijah Wood) given the spark of life, whose awakening in a dusty, disheveled room is the launching point of the movie.

He almost immediately rushes outside the half-destroyed house to encounter a devastated, dead, urban landscape where he finds another little homunculus like himself.

This fellow "stitchpunk," with the number 2 on his back (Martin Landau), quickly saves 9 from a malicious wandering machine

but is himself swept away, which sets our hero 9 on a quest to rescue him.

In the near-colorless landscape, that quest brings 9 to a host of fellow puppets, hiding out in a half-destroyed cathedral and led by 1 (Christopher Plummer), a puppet with a cape, scepter and hat that make him look suspiciously like an archbishop.

9 is quickly befriended by supportive if cautious 5 (John C. Reilly), and meets warrior woman 7 (Jennifer Connelly), visionary artist 6 (Crispin Glover), muscle-bound enforcer 8 (Fred Tattasore) and mute, scholarly twins 3 and 4.

The visual style does have some Tim Burtonesque elements but the story and characters evoke the movie's other producer, Timur Bekmambetov.

The Current talks with Ra Ra Riot

► **INTERVIEW BY ANNA-MARIE CURAN**
Asst. Design Editor

The Current talks with Ra Ra Riot

The band Ra Ra Riot will be on stage at the Firebird, 2706 Olive Street, on Sunday, September 20. The Current spoke to them by phone in anticipation of their concert here.

The Current: *Where are you guys from?*

Ra Ra Riot: Ra Ra Riot is from Syracuse New York. We met at School up there at Syracuse University. We are Alexandra Lawn on cello, Rebecca Zeller on violin, Milo Bonacci on guitar, Mathieu Santos on bass and Wes Miles on [vocals and keyboard].

TC: *How long have you*

guys all been playing together?

RRR: About three and a half years. We pretty much got to know each other [then]. A few of us had played in bands and orchestras together so it wasn't like we were strangers, and then John, our original drummer, and Wes had been roommates and friends throughout the years."

TC: *What genre of music do you guys consider your work to be?*

RRR: I'd say indie, indie rock. I don't know, just poppy indie rock.

TC: *Who are the band's biggest influences?*

RRR: The Police, U2, Talking Heads, Fleetwood Mac, The Beatles, The Beach Boys.

TC: *How did you guys come up with the name for the band?*

RRR: We actually borrowed it from a friend; she had a band name and no band and we had a band and no band name. It was going to be temporary and we never got around to it.

TC: *If there was any artist or band that you guys could play with, who would you select?*

RRR: I guess any one of those bands and musicians that inspire us would be quite an amazing thing.

Read more at
www.thecurrentonline.com

Arianna celebrates ten years with "Innovation"

UM-St. Louis' artist-in-residence earns extended ovation in recognition of their performance

► **CHRIS STEWART**
Asst. Design Editor

The Touhill Performing Arts Center debuted its new season with "Rhythmic Innovation," a concert by the Arianna String Quartet, on Friday, September 11 at 8 p.m.

The University of Missouri-St. Louis faculty roster is riddled with individuals and groups whose accomplishments quietly rest somewhere just beneath the radar, it seems, of many students.

While most UM-St. Louis attendees are aware of our high-ranking International Business program, frontier accomplishments in Benton-Stadler, and far-recognized Optometry, many other areas seem to get lost

in the shadows.

The Arianna String Quartet is such a hidden campus gem.

It is unfortunate that an award-winning group that has traveled far beyond the campus walls to perform in Mexico, Japan, and France, among other places, is known to many simply as the on-hold music when calling a UM-St. Louis department number.

John McGrosso (violin), David Gilham (violin), Joanna Mendoza (viola), and Kurt Baldwin (cello) as an ensemble make up the Quartet—the UM-St. Louis artists-in-residence since 2000.

The evening was light and had the air of a celebratory event and a milestone performance.

The auditorium was packed, food and beverages were served afterward, and the Quartet received a standing ovation after the performance's conclusion and was applauded until they came back for a second and then third bow.

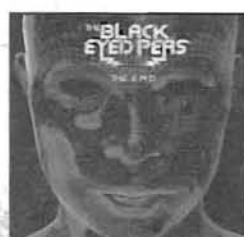
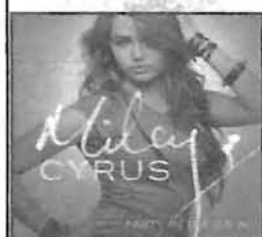
Before resuming after intermission at Friday night's performance, Gilham spoke to the audience.

"This year is a big year for Arianna. It's our tenth year [as artists-in-residence] and we've had such a great run," Gilham said.

He then caught his word choice, continuing, "I don't say that because we're leaving," to which the audience responded with laughter.

See ARIANNA, page 22

ITUNES TOP 20 DOWNLOADED SONGS



01 *I Gotta Feeling*
Black Eyed Peas

02 *Party in the USA*
Miley Cyrus

3/Down
Jay Sean

9/She Wolf
Shakira

15/Obsessed
Mariah Carey

4/Whatcha Say
Jason DeRulo

10/Take a Bow
Glee Cast Version

16/Young Forever
Jay-Z

5/Run This Town
Jay Z

11/Boom Boom
Pow
Black Eyed Peas

17/Paparazzi
Lady Gaga

6/Use somebody
Kings of Leon

12/Say Hey (I Love You)
Michael Franti

18/One Time
Justin Bieber

7/Good Girls go Bad
Cobra Starship

13/Empire State of Mind
Jay-Z

19/21 Guns
Green Day

8/Hotel Room Service
Pitbull

14/You Belong with Me
Taylor Swift

20/Smile
Uncle Kracker

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HAIR BY JEFFREY M. SHAPIRO
MAKEUP BY JEFFREY M. SHAPIRO
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS: JEFFREY M. SHAPIRO
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IN THEATERS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

The Mars Volta plays The Pageant, talks with *The Current*

► **INTERVIEW BY CHRIS STEWART**
Asst. Design Editor

Before playing The Pageant, Mars Volta guitarist and songwriter Omar Rodriguez-Lopez spoke with *The Current*.

The Current: I know that you have expressed that you are a big fan of David Lynch and David Cronenberg's films. What part does cinema play in yours and The Mars Volta's songwriting?

Rodriguez-Lopez: Cinema is probably my biggest influence in songwriting, more than books or paintings or other music itself. I really just like movies and the idea of trying to capture them and recreate a certain character or scene or tone in my music.

TC: So might you say that that's been a part of The Mars Volta's evolution into more expansive sounds where you cover so much ground and so many moods, kind of trying to achieve that same cinematic feel?

Rodriguez-Lopez: Yeah, definitely. That's why I am so long winded with my music, I can't [indistinguishable] that's why our records are so long, I mean, everything we get criticized for, like ... I don't get to the point and ... too many interludes ... it's because I'm in no rush. I'm not part of fast-food culture. I like setting a scene and telling a story ... I think you can think of my records as films of sound.

TC: So here's one about The Mars Volta's lyrics, and this is maybe Cedric's territory, but I'm sure you can shed some light on it. Almost all of your lyrics are stream of consciousness and don't necessarily follow a narrative line. What kind of things enter into those lyrics, though?

Rodriguez-Lopez: Well, you know, having been working with Cedric for twenty years ... I know that he writes, like you said, stream of consciousness, and what he calls "automatic writing."

And I think that if you examine all of his lyrics closer, you'll see that they're full of references to pop culture, movies, inside jokes that we have, actresses that he's fond of...it's very much like that Tom Waits-ish feel.

TC: Right, pulling from all sorts of areas.

Rodriguez-Lopez: Sure, an amalgamation of things, not even something that you realize when you write it.

TC: Branching away from the music, I know that at a similar point in your life to where I and many of my readers are, you hitchhiked for a year, is that true?

Rodriguez-Lopez: Yeah ... yeah that was in 1994. I was ... 17 and wasn't sure exactly what I wanted to do. So...yeah (laughs).

TC: Well, I mean that's the kind of thing that, like I said, me and some of our readers maybe still romanticize or think about and I was wondering, maybe, what you got out of it and could say about it.

Rodriguez-Lopez: Oh, I ... you know I think it's a wonderful experience that most people should do, especially when you're at that age and making a transition from adolescence to ... some sort of [indistinguishable] of adulthood.

TC: Right.

Rodriguez-Lopez: And, you know, and ... I guess there's just nothing more important in general, whether you do it by means of hitchhiking or by means of just dedicating time...there's nothing more important than being with yourself and being alone and letting go of, you know, everything ... or either letting go of or questioning everything, everything that defines you. For me I had to ... get to a place where I was no one. I was not ... somebody's son, I was not somebody's brother. I needed to be no one and figure out who that no one was.

Pageant at the mercy of The Mars Volta's progressive thrashmospheric banshee thunderstorms

► **CHRIS STEWART**
Asst. Design Editor

There was no opening band when The Mars Volta played at The Pageant on Tuesday, September 8. The giveaway was not when the band came on stage but the moment that audience members entered the auditorium. The wall behind the stage was a mosaic of polygons and patterns whose edges lit up throughout the show, revealing a large painted face. The face, seemingly belonging to someone indigenous to the Americas, was sharply angled

and curiously dehumanized, even though it was wrought in bright, chalky colors.

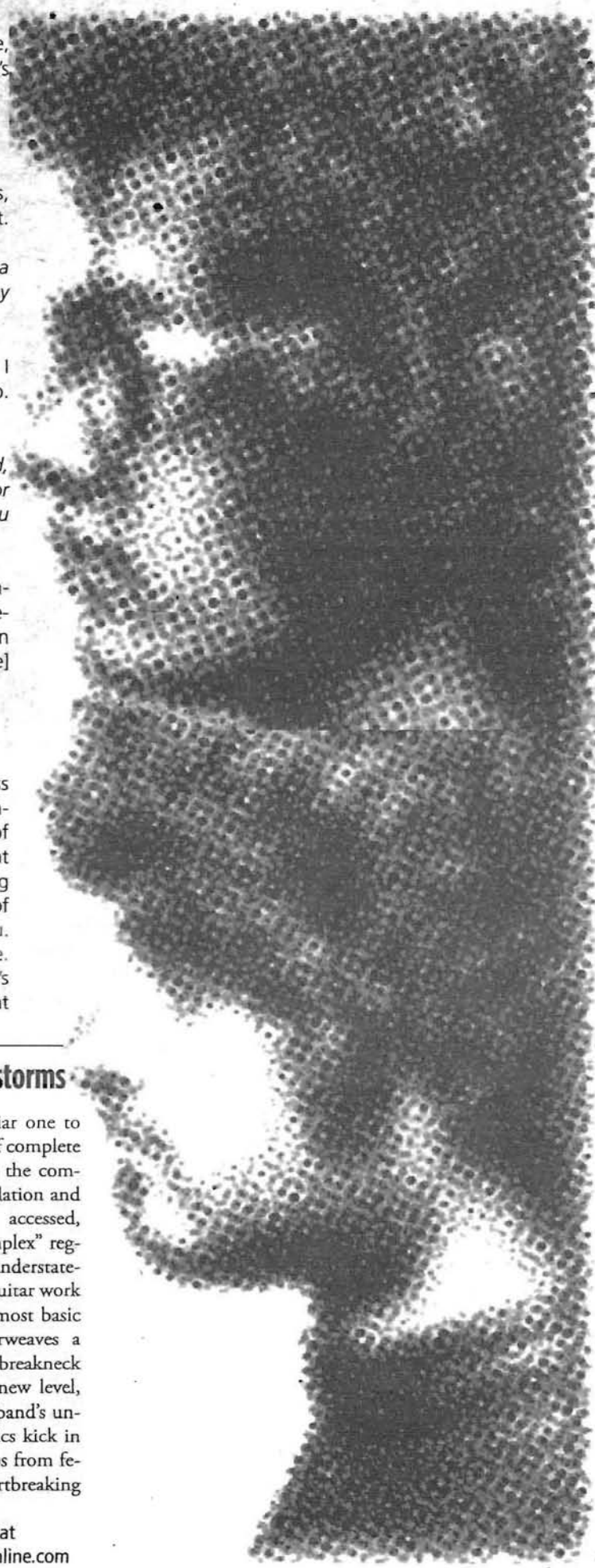
Omar Rodriguez-Lopez and Cedric Bixler-Zavala are a duo, showmanship-wise and in the area of musical mechanics, that beg comparison to Jimmy Page and Robert Plant. Zavala's skin-clinging clothing, noisy hair, and ability to imbue his falsetto wailing with depth-charged potency make him a dead-ringer for Plant. The crucial difference is Zavala's youth. Plant always made it clear during Zeppelin shows that his main product was sex.

Zavala replaces Plant's oozing (though somehow forgivable) lechery with a hypnotic stage-domination dance that is somewhere between the moonwalk and a spiritual seizure. This act, a hell of a sight to see, has become a part of the band's persona. A YouTube search of Zavala will quickly offer up "Cedric tripping balls" and "Cedric spazzing out."

Rodriguez, for his part, accomplishes something incredible that musicians will be inclined to find more mesmerizing than Zavala's antics. Rodriguez' face while per-

forming is a familiar one to musicians: a look of complete focus that suggests the complex blend of calculation and spirituality being accessed, and the word "complex" registers far beneath understatement. Rodriguez' guitar work is complex in the most basic definition: it interweaves a sonic tapestry at a breakneck pace. It reaches a new level, though, when the band's unpredictable dynamics kick in and Rodriguez leaps from ferocious riffs to heartbreaking melodic streams.

Read more at
www.thecurrentonline.com



Features

Fall Job Fair held at Mark Twain Center

► BRIAN CRAYCRAFT
Features Editor

The University of Missouri-St. Louis held the Fall Internship and Job Fair on Friday, September 11, at the Mark Twain Center on the North Campus.

Hundreds of job seekers came together to meet with representatives from over 70 employers.

UM-St. Louis students and alumni were allowed to pre-register for free admission, or pay \$5 at the door if they had not pre-registered. General admission was available to any other job seekers for \$10 at the door.

At the 10:00 a.m. starting time, getting a chance to speak to most of the representatives did not take long, but as the morning progressed, the waiting time increased.

A line of potential applicants waited in front of the Express Scripts booth all morning.

Some of those who attended the fair might be taken at a glance for college students, while others did not fit the stereotype, but almost everybody was in professional attire as the guidelines for the event suggested.

Steven Gust, senior, business administration, is a non-traditional student who was at the job fair searching out employment opportunities.

Gust used to run his own landscaping business but has returned to school full-time to get a degree. "Every day it just got a little harder to get up and do that job," Gust said.

At the far end of the center aisle on the job fair floor, job seekers could speak to Gunnery Sergeant Garza of the United States Marine Corps, who was in uniform and on duty representing the Marine Officer Program.

"We're looking for students that are currently enrolled, or graduates. This is a program that is designed to keep them in college, and once they graduate they have an opportunity to come out and lead Marines as a Marine officer."

Garza was enjoying working at the fair and talking to the attendees.

"We usually do pretty well at UMSL; we send quite a few candidates out for Officer Candidate School."

Meanwhile, Teresa Smart, graduate student, social work, was at the job fair looking for something in her field. "I just spoke to a lady from the Veterans Administration because I'm interested in working with geriatric clients," Smart said.

She left a resume there, hoping it would get into the right hands. Smart is not working since she closed her beauty shop in order to work on her master's degree. She thinks her perfect job would be working in geriatrics with people who are having problems with post traumatic stress disorder. "I really want to work with veterans," Smart said.

Near the entrance, Robin Winn, graduate student, public policy was sitting in the bleachers above the job fair floor, working on filling



JENNIFER MEAHAN / THE CURRENT

All together, 74 companies registered for the Job Fair on Friday, September 11th at the Mark Twain Lake building. The Fair was to introduce students to the job market.

out an application.

She had not been at the fair for very long when she found something that interested her. "I've only been to Girls, Inc. so far, but I'm going to go to a couple of other nonprofit organizations. I really want to help people. I'm not looking to work at any of the major business corporations."

Career Services hosted the event and considers it an unqualified success, even though registration for the job fair was down just a bit from last fall's event.

"Last fall semester we had about 900 pre-registrants, and this fall we have around 700," Kristin Harrington of Career Services said. "Last year it was much more difficult to find a job—not that it's easy now—so we had



JENNIFER MEAHAN / THE CURRENT

Students signed in and hoped to make a good first impression at the Job Fair in the Mark Twain building on Friday, September 11th. The fair was open from 10am to 2pm.

more registrants."

The Internship and Job Fair is a semiannual event, held for Friday, February 12, 2010.

Did you find a job at the Job Fair? Let us know: thecurrent@umsl.edu

Environmental Venture Organization seeks to reduce UMSL's carbon footprint

► JOE SCHAFFNER
Staff Writer

Several days a week at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, thousands of students find themselves in a competition for parking spots.

Because St. Louis is a sprawling metro area, there are students who simply do not have the opportunity to share in the public transportation provided by Metro-Link and MetroBus. As a result, many UM-St. Louis students commute by automobile, and what they end up sharing are parking problems and the high cost of gasoline. At the same time, all those cars are creating CO₂ emissions.

The Environmental Venture Organization, a UM-St. Louis student group, has proposed a solution based on a different kind of sharing: carpooling. EVO wants to use modern technology to create a fully organized and formal carpooling database. They hope that it will be up and running this fall.

"Over half of UMSL's carbon footprint is from commuters," Craig Robinson, UM-St. Louis' Coordinator of Environmental Health and Safety, said. "It's a glaring obstacle in becoming carbon neutral." From

a conservationist's perspective, increased carpooling would be a step in the right direction for UM-St. Louis.

EVO's idea is not without precedent. Northern Illinois University, also a commuter school, has had such a network for over two years, thanks to their Commuter and Nontraditional Students department. "It works well; a lot of people use it," Audrey Hill, an employee in the department and a carpooler herself, said.

NIU has implemented a database that provides a secure link using anonymous emails between students with similar schedules who live near each other. Personal information is only revealed when the potential carpoolers decide that it should be. If it is deemed necessary before carpooling begins, a meeting is arranged independently.

"This [database] will be a good opportunity for students to save money, as well as have someone to interact with on the way to school," EVO's president Julia Kreis, senior, economics, said. "Since there are many students who would find their commute too unique to just run into another willing carpooler on campus by luck, or to even suggest the idea,

a carpooling database would help a lot of people."

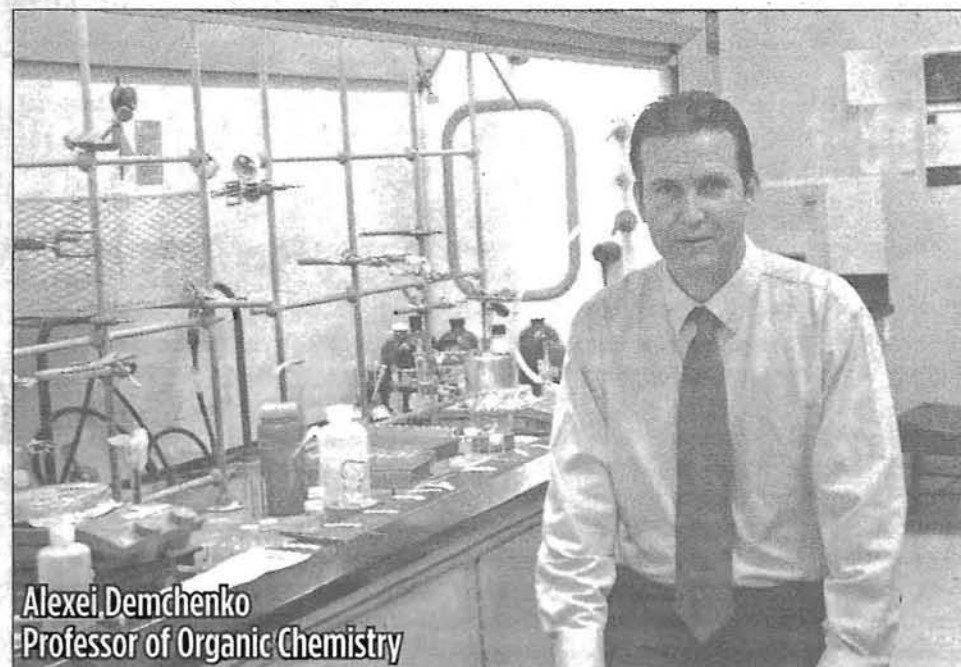
The prospect of sharing the cost of gasoline may be an attractive thought for most college students, but EVO is interested in promoting other benefits as well. Increased carpooling benefits the environment by reducing the pollutants from gasoline, and congestion in the roads and parking lots could decrease, which means students may spend less time in traffic.

EVO is committed to raising awareness about the environment and is open to all students' ideas. They are planning a meet-and-greet style canoe trip on Saturday, September 17, and students can email the group for more information from their website at www.umsll.edu/~evo.

"It's fun to get out in nature, and it's hard to care about the environment if you're never around it," Kreis said.

Every student might not be able to find what he or she is looking for in a carpool mate, even with such a system in place, but for every student that does find a carpool, there will be one more open place on UM-St. Louis parking lots to slide into.

Faculty Spotlight



Alexei Demchenko
Professor of Organic Chemistry

CHERA MEYER / THE CURRENT

The Current: Where are you from?

Alexei Demchenko: Well originally I'm from Moscow, Russia, and this is where I spent thirty years of my life, so all of my degrees are from there. My first degree is in chemical engineering and my PhD is in organic chemistry.

TC: How did you end up a professor at the University of Missouri-Saint Louis?

AD: Well, throughout my career and even life, I've been always moving to the west and until I saw the Arch I've been moving and moving. From Moscow I went to England where I've done my post doc[torate] and spent three years, and my boss from England moved to the University of Georgia and he offered me a non-tenured faculty position there. When I came to Georgia I realized that I'm ready for my independent career, so I looked around and applied to 80 schools—12 of them wanted me for an interview but the first two offered me everything I ever wanted ... so UMSL was the first choice because the second one was somewhere deep in Mississippi, and [it was a] comparable school but facilities here were better.

TC: What is it that made you decide you wanted to become a professor?

AD: I think I wanted to become a teacher relatively early in my life, but it was not until my senior year at the high school when my dream to become a Professor shaped up. It was mainly based on [a] desire to study organic molecules, but the teaching component (at any level: undergrad, grad, mentoring research) is of particular importance. At the end

of the day, the work is done by the students that we teach. All we do research-wise is just [write] grants. ...

TC: What classes do you teach at UMSL?

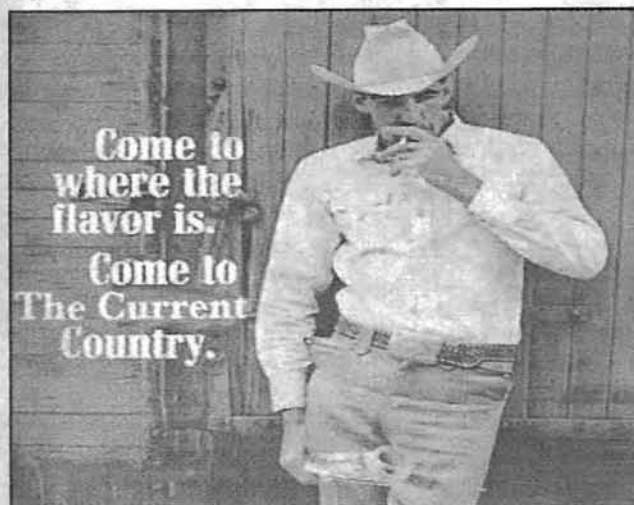
AD: I usually teach organic chemistry one and two, which is the worst class to teach because everybody knows this is the horrible class ... when I was interviewing for the faculty position I met someone, a visitor to the University of Georgia, [who] became a good friend of mine but he was much more senior academically. So he said, "Ugh, you're going to be teaching organic chemistry? The students are going to hate your subject, and the students are going to hate you."

So my commitment at that point was at least I want the students to not hate me, 'cause it was kind of scary. They don't hate organic chemistry, they're just afraid of it ... I call it a service course because [the] majority of chemistry majors take organic chemistry elsewhere. They transfer here from community college which is a bad thing in general, because [the] level of teaching at UMSL [for] organic chemistry is higher.

TC: Is there any pet peeve you have when it comes to student behavior?

AD: I am particularly annoyed when I get to realize that the student does not care. I have never worked with top-tier students that go to top schools, but I truly believe that even average students will improve and excel in what they do if they have a desire to learn, and if they care.

The interview was conducted by Anna Marie Curran, News Editor for The Current.

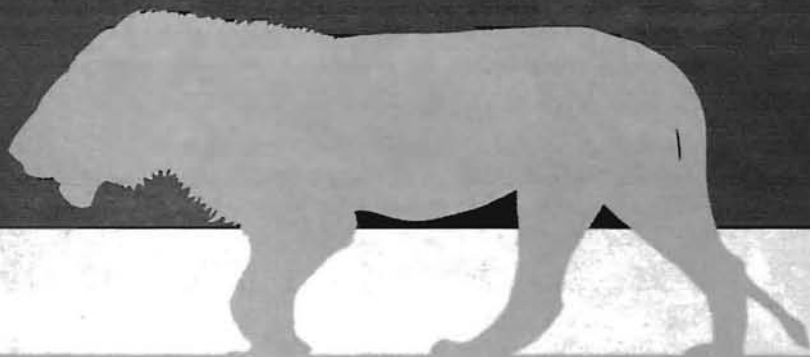


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Parking and Transportation does more than write parking tickets

► **MATTHEW B. HENRY**
Staff Writer

What students might know about the Parking and Transportation department at the University of Missouri-St. Louis is that they enforce regulations on the parking lots around campus, but the department has many duties besides writing parking tickets, and they perform those duties with only four full-time and three student employees.

The Parking and Transportation Department operates under the umbrella of the Institutional Safety Division, and Leo Gutierrez has managed the department for the last six years.

"[The department] oversees 6,182 parking spaces, of which approximately 80 percent are dedicated to students," Gutierrez said. "We watch over approximately eight miles of campus roads and in fiscal year 2008-2009 we transported 168,000 passengers on the campus shuttles. One of our goals is to focus more on customer service."

One of the department's employees who spends time performing customer service is Antonio (Tony) Rosas (pronounced row-sah-sis). Rosas has been an Emergency Road Service Driver for Parking and Transportation for 10 years, but first started working at UM-St. Louis as a cook

in the old Underground Cafeteria.

Rosas supervises the parking attendants who issue the tickets for parking violations, but that is not all he does. His duties are a catalog of all the services that Parking and Transportation performs for the university.

Rosas places cones on the parking lots, inspects the legibility and condition of signs, and blocks off parking lots when necessary.

He gives directions to visitors and provides rides for those students with special needs, or sometimes to students who simply miss a shuttle. Rosas looks over the lots and roads for potholes and other hazards while he

keeps his eyes open for vandalism.

"Rosas is a good mechanic, professional, and has very good and important qualities in dealing with people," Gutierrez said.

Even though Rosas' duties do include making sure that all vehicles have the proper parking permits, it is the other aspects of his job that gives him the most pleasure.

"My greatest love is helping the kids with their cars," Rosas said. He is concerned that many students just don't know about cars these days. "There are special requirements in jump starting a vehicle so you don't fry the auto's computer."

Rosas likes to tell the

story about his toughest day at work. "One night in my first fall semester, it rained and the temperature dropped and it got really cold. All that moisture and freezing temperatures froze the car doors shut. I received 35 calls, one right after another, from people who were standing outside freezing and waiting for help."

Because of his knowledge and the equipment he had available, he was able to get every person into their vehicles.

"To me it was the roughest but most fun night because I was helping the kids," Rosas said.

"We get letters at least once a week for him. Peo-

ple are so gratified that he's helped them in situations. Even faculty sends letters," Debbie Black, Administrative Assistant at Parking and Transportation, said.

Parking and Transportation staff members provide some other emergency services, including helping drivers with lock-outs and tire problems.

These services are provided to students, faculty, staff and guests of UM-St. Louis at no cost.

And finally, students should be aware that they can appeal parking tickets to the Student Court. Even a department that is focused on customer service can make mistakes.

Sing, UM-St. Louis, sing

► **JEN O'HARA**
Staff Writer

Karaoke has been around for almost four decades, and there are a few speculations as to how karaoke officially began. The origins trace back to Japan, and from there the fad has continued, and it never seems to fail at rallying a crowd.

For those out of the loop, karaoke is an activity in which a person sings into a microphone—generally in front of a group—while the music of a song plays in the background and the lyrics are displayed on a screen for the singer to follow.

For many people, karaoke presents the opportunity to let out their inner musician even if they are not good singers. Students at the University of Missouri-St. Louis are no different than other enthusiasts of the art, and they hosted Karaoke Night last Thursday in the depths of the student residential building Oak Hall.

The sounds of soul, pop, rhythm and blues, and old-school music could be heard blasting throughout the

building from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. Those sponsoring the event acquired karaoke music from online sources and put the song lyrics onto a screen for everyone to see. Why is it so popular? There are several opinions, but the general response seems to be just plain old fun.

"I think a lot of people like to sing, so they feel like with karaoke you can sing whatever you want, however you want, and whatever song they feel like singing for fun," Lowanda Sampson, freshman, early childhood education, said.

"People go to it because they think it's fun. Most of the time, you don't know the words until you see them on the screen, and so you're just reading them off the screen and you look like a fool," Keandre Johnson, freshman, business, said.

Overall, the karaoke night was entertaining for all who attended.

"They would make really entertaining television—maybe on American Idol if they were to audition. As far as I am concerned, they all sang really well," La'Ondrill

Brown, senior, French, said.

"Some of them have been OK. Other people have really gotten into it, and they liked it, and most of the people have just had a good time," Lauren Kenney, freshman, psychology, said.

Those who have never participated in singing at a karaoke event should consider the following advice on what makes a good karaoke singer.

"A good karaoke singer is someone who has fun with what they are doing, and doesn't pay attention to the audience," Sampson said.

"A good karaoke singer is somebody who can go up there and get into the song and have a good time. They don't have to be the best singer, but as long as they are having fun, that's all that matters," Kenney said.

"Someone who is good at karaoke is enthusiastic. They don't need to have a great voice, but just a lot of energy," Brown said.

UM-St. Louis students can keep an eye out for more karaoke nights, where there is no room to be shy if they want to get out there and sing.

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Our Opinion

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Mascot choice could have been better

University of Missouri-St. Louis has had a long battle finding a suitable mascot that will not offend any demographic of its students. The former mascot, the Rivermen—which excluded the female athletes—was thrown out in favor of something that would appeal to all students at UM-St. Louis. The proposed gender-neutral replacement the administration came to land on? The UM-St. Louis fighting Tritons ... yawn.

While a fine albeit, mediocre, symbol for UM-St. Louis, *The Current* feels that there were several other notable suggestions that should have been at least considered before settling for something that feels so ordinary. Some claim the Triton is a unique mascot because after all, there is no other university that shares the Triton as its mascot, but unfortunately this is not true. UC-San Diego and Eckard College in St. Petersburg, Fl. are also Tritons. It is disappointing for the university to have selected such an average mascot when there were so many suggestions that were much more creative and distinct.

One example of said inimitable suggestions that *The Current* would have liked to see considered is for the UM-St. Louis Rivermen to be transformed into the fearsome Hellbenders.

A hellbender is fierce looking giant salamander that is covered in folds of dark, reddish-brown, mottled or spotted skin that is native to cold Missouri streams.

Despite the name, a hellbender is actually quite harmless to people but secretes toxins from their skin that are poisonous to other animals.

There are two types of hellbenders, Eastern and Ozark. Missouri is the only state that has populations of both, therefore making the hellbender a perfect mascot for a University of Missouri school.

If it was the word "hell" in the name that was making the



PHIL FREEMAN / THE CURRENT

administrators of UM-St. Louis reluctant to adopt the mascot, there are plenty of other names that the hellbender is known by: mud-devils, water-dogs, alligators of the mountains, walking catfish, devil dog, mollyhugger, mud cat, snot-otter and grampus. By any name, the hellbender has a much stronger tie to Missouri than the generic oceanic triton.

Even if the administration had taken the time to consider the hellbender and decided against it, there are plenty of other mascot possibilities that have a stronger tie to Saint Louis and Missouri than a triton.

Is anybody even all that clear on what exactly a triton is? It seems like being dubbed the Tritons has done nothing except

confuse students of UM-St. Louis of the differences between a triton and a trident (yes they are different). Could the university not have chosen a mascot that students and other members of the UM-St. Louis community could really get fired up about, like the hellbenders?

If the university administration had truly exhausted every possible option for a mascot with a stronger tie to the location of UM-St. Louis, it would be perfectly acceptable for them to have landed on the tritons as the new mascot to represent us. However, it feels more like it was just easier than looking for something with more sustenance to it. It looks like for now we are all stuck being boring, safe, generic tritons.

Remembering 9/11: the impact of an emotional response

Friday was the eighth anniversary of the 9/11 attacks. Not since the attack on Pearl Harbor December 7, 1941 had Americans felt so vulnerable. Despite Hawaii not actually being a part of America at the time, the vast majority of Americans still viewed it as an attack on their homeland. Approximately 2,400 people lost their lives at Pearl Harbor—an unprecedented tragedy. The result of Pearl Harbor was America's entrance into World War II. The result of 9/11 was the beginning of the War on Terror, the invasion of Afghanistan and Iraq, and the overthrow of Saddam Hussein. Last week there were 9/11 memorials across the country, but how many people really remember or memorialize December 7 today? How long will it take before we forget about 9/11 as well?

The correlations between both events are telling. In 1942, President Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066 and forced over 100,000 Japanese-Americans into internment camps for the remainder of the war, fearing that they would sabotage the American war effort. Panic had eclipsed all reasoning and logic. Later, the U.S. Congress passed the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 that acknowledged the government's wrong-doing to-

wards Japanese-Americans.

After the terrorist attacks of 9/11, many Americans allowed their fear to control their actions and some Americans of Middle Eastern descent were viewed as part of the same group of people that carried out them out; thankfully none were put in internment camps.

The Patriot Act however was passed, and it greatly expanded the government's reach while denying some civil rights that are guaranteed to citizens in the Bill of Rights. In 2001, President Bush signed an executive order that allowed the military to indefinitely detain any non-citizen of the U.S. who was suspected in performing international acts of terror. One year later, the Guantanamo Bay detention camp was opened in Cuba to house these suspected terrorists.

The attacks of 9/11 were designed to instill fear into the American people and it succeeded. Americans wanted to ensure that their homeland would never be attacked again. Instead of rationally viewing the situation and seeing that this was exactly what the terrorists wanted us to do—to give in to fear—we allowed our civil rights to be reduced in the vain hope

that it would reduce the chances of such an attack on our shores happening again. Just as America wanted retribution for the attack on Pearl Harbor, we wanted revenge on those responsible for the 9/11 attacks brought to justice. We allowed our hearts and not our minds influence our actions.

Following 9/11, the country came extremely close together, but over time we forget how vulnerable and weak we all felt on that fateful day. Now many people look back and condemn former President Bush for getting us into a fruitless war. They forget Bush's soaring approval rating after 9/11 and that the majority of Congress voted to allow Bush to unilaterally invade Iraq, without UN approval (an organization that we started during WWII, but today whose authority we often reject).

9/11 was a soulless attack and a terrible tragedy, yet Americans would have benefitted by not allowing emotions to control actions. We should not allow any event to affect our deep-rooted value of the basic rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. We are all human and thus we all make mistakes, but we must learn from them to guarantee we do not repeat them.

Viewpoints

What's the proper driving age?

Remember the day you turned 16? The biggest significance the age probably held was the sudden, legal permission to drive all by your lonesome.

For years, the average American has been given the keys at the age of 16. However, the debate still lingers over the "correct" age. Should the legal driving age remain at 16-years-old, be pushed farther to 18 or 21, or should it fall before the age of 16?

As a 15-year-old, with my driver's license so close I could taste it, the possibility of it being taken away was reason enough to riot. But now, at 21, having witnessed more ignorance in the world than ever thought possible, I can understand a debate over the driving age.

At 16-years-old, teenagers are well into the effects of their hormones, causing enough of a distraction. In addition, the teen years seem to hold any excuse for rebellion and experimentation.

All the above put behind the wheel of a car creates a question of whether we should allow any teenager to drive.

It is scientifically proven that the average human brain does not fully finish developing until at least 18 years of age (the average age is in the lower 20's). Until this age, the frontal lobe, the part of the brain that controls judgment, reasoning, and problem-solving, continues to grow and shape, which explains why more

teens than adults are in accidents every year. Also, teens are more likely to feel effects of peer pressure, which can lead to incidents such as speeding or substance abuse.

At the age of 18, society grants us ten times more responsibility than we had at 17. At 18, we can vote, leave home without permission, and enlist in the military. Those in favor of changing the driving age to 18 argue that these suddenly gained responsibilities might also alter our maturity in our driving.

My biggest problem with obtaining a driver's license at 18 is that by the time members of our society turn 18, they are legal "adults." For those attending institutions of higher education, adulthood can sometimes mean traveling several hours of the week to get to and from school.

For those not attending higher education, it generally means traveling several hours of the week to get to and from work. For some, it means both. Should we not allow our teens to gain the experience of driving before we have no say in the matter whatsoever? I also beg the question: does the sudden independence at the age of 18 harm or help us? Does this newfound independence, ironically, make teens more irresponsible? If so, would a teen's irresponsibility affect his or her driving abilities?

Of course, the question remains: are 16-year-olds more likely to be involved



Jen O'Hara

in an accident than adults because they are more irresponsible, or simply because they are inexperienced drivers?

In other countries, the average age for legally obtaining a driver's license is 18. Statistics show that far fewer accidents occur in these countries than in the United States. However, the United States is more dependent on cars than these countries. Some European countries travel by bicycle or by foot a majority of the time. Are there fewer accidents in other countries because of the higher driving age, or is it because the population does not drive as often?

Overall, I believe the driving age should be pushed up to 17 or 18. There is simply too much evidence suggesting that younger teenagers are not mentally prepared for driving. The maturity difference between a person of 16 and a person of 18 is very different, so hopefully, those of 18 will be more logical in their decision making processes.

Jen O'Hara is a staff writer for The Current.

For savvy shoppers, the Internet holds no bounds

In this economy, it is tough to be a college student and still enjoy some of the finer things in life.

Or is it? Just because you are living on a budget does not mean that you cannot find great deals any day of the week. There are many great websites and resources available for the savvy college consumer to find discounted and even free stuff.

If you are a video gamer like me, sites like <http://www.cheapassgamer.com> and <http://www.cheapcolleg gamers.com> are great places to discover deals on both old and new video games. Both sites offer forums whose worldwide members post the latest deals. Membership is required to view the sites' forums, but signing up is completely free.

Cheap Ass Gamer also hosts a "Contests & Free Stuff" forum. Many other websites post their contests here in order to draw users to their own sites. Over the past year, for example, I have won a variety of things, from an MP3 player to a Nintendo DS and multiple gift cards. Keep in mind that experiences vary, and most winners are chosen by a random number generator. Nevertheless, people do win—I am proof of that.

For the dedicated bargain hunter, Twitter has evolved to be more than just a status updater. Cheap College Gamers

has a dedicated Twitter (@CCGamers), and it is regularly updated with daily deals recaps and breaking video game deals.

For the discerning audiophile, Amazon's MP3 service has daily deals and weekly specials. Last week, to celebrate over 1 million songs downloaded, Amazon gave every customer who wanted it a free \$1.29 in download credit—enough for a free song or a decent discount on a \$5.99 album. Amazon also routinely offers free MP3 downloads. It may not be a song you want or have even heard of, but free is free, right? You can keep up to date on Amazon's deals via their Twitter, at amazonmp3.

Amazon has more than just audio. Their video-on-demand service, Unbox, has some great deals as well. I recently picked up season one of Tina Fey's phenomenally funny show "30 Rock" for \$5 as well as season one of "Battlestar Galactica" (in HD, even!) for the same price.

They are digital only, but you can watch them anywhere via Amazon's website, or even download it to your PC and watch it there (or take it with you on Amazon-video-supported devices—sorry iPod users, you are out of luck).

Sites like <http://www.slickdeals.net> update frequently with all the internet's latest deals and coupons.



Andrew Seal

While sites like Cheap Ass Gamer and Cheap College Gamers usually focus on video games and accessories, Slick Deals spans a wide variety of bargains.

From shoes and swimwear to software and survival gear, Slick Deals usually has a deal for anything you are looking for.

Earlier this semester, I found a coupon on Slick Deals that gave me \$10 off of \$100 worth of textbooks on Buy.com. Not too bad at all.

The users on all of the websites I have mentioned are quite prolific, updating forum posts not only hourly, but sometimes within minutes of a deal being announced. These days, we all need to save as much money as we can, and the internet can be a great tool for finding deals. Sure, they may not be on things you particularly need, but they can at least make entertaining yourself cheaper and easier.

Andrew Seal is a staff writer for The Current.

"Be careful. Journalism is like crack cocaine." —Dan Rather

Got an opinion on our opinion? Let us know!
Write a letter to the editor and drop it off at 388 MSC

Campus eating: expensive and unsavory

My first year at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, I thought the food service on campus was pretty good. That was before I really got to know UM-St. Louis' food service, and as the years have progressed, I have gotten to know our little food service company called Chartwells Catering. For better or worse, they offer us our meals on campus, but does it have to stay like that forever? It does not if we speak up about how we honestly feel about our campus food service.

We are paying customers of UM-St. Louis and Chartwells Catering. The saying, "The customer is always right," only works when the customers express their opinions.

In my first year, La Cantina Loca was the best place to eat on campus. The meals were cheap, the salsa delicious, and the food always hot and prepared well. In addition to being an all-around tasty experience, the people working there were genuinely nice and friendly. Being a regular to La Cantina, I got to know the people, and they got to know me.

All of that has changed. Every year La Cantina Loca has become more expensive while the food's quality has steeply declined. Even worse, the staff that currently works there is obviously not interested in their jobs. They do not care about the customers,

what they think, or the quality of the food's preparation. It is truly a shame because the La Cantina used to be the best place on campus to eat, and I hope that in the years to come they start to improve a bit.

The Nosh, however, is a little different. The Nosh's food quality has generally stayed consistent over the years.

There are actually more options now in the Nosh than previous years. The food is for the most part all right: some things are delicious while others are average.

What makes the Nosh better than La Cantina is the staff. They are generally friendly and personable people, positively interacting with the students coming to get food. However, the Nosh isn't perfect: the prices there are still outrageous.

I think that the prices of the food at the Nosh are definitely steep for what you are getting. The excessive prices they charge are a lot for a college student's budget. I think Chartwells Catering takes advantage of the lack of alternate locations around campus to get a bite to eat by charging such an exorbitant amount for the convenience. They could charge less for their food and still make a good profit from students. La Cantina was created because of negotiations between the student government and our



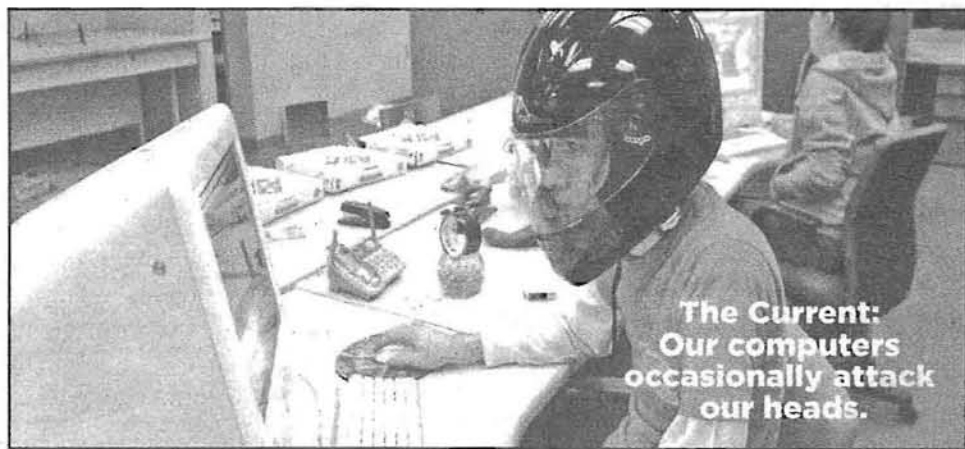
Nick Bishop

campus food service, and it might be time for more negotiations.

We shouldn't just deal with what we have, and should always seek to improve our campus's culinary service. Should we continue using Chartwells Catering as our only source of campus cuisine? Maybe other companies can offer us a better campus food service. Should we continue with the food we have available at the Nosh and La Cantina?

Maybe it's time for an improvement in the food's quality. If you feel the same way, contact the student government or Chartwells Catering directly. Let them know what you like and do not like about the food service on campus, or whether or not we should continue using Chartwells Catering as our only source for campus cuisine. We are the customers, and we are always right, as long as our voices can be heard.

Nick Bishop is a staff writer for The Current.



SCIENCE COLUMN

Students should know about campus preparedness for H1N1

Are you taking steps to avoid H1N1, or "swine flu"? Is the University of Missouri-St. Louis campus prepared for an outbreak?

As early as two weeks ago, UM-St. Louis had no preparedness plan for an H1N1 outbreak. A lot has changed in those two weeks, and the threat of an H1N1 resurgence has become real. The first week of school, the H1N1 flu was quiescent and few cases remained. However, past experience with pandemic flu told us it would re-emerge, and outbreaks at universities popped up almost immediately. By the second week of school, Saint Louis University reported confirmed cases of H1N1 on their campus.

Fortunately, SLU had an H1N1 outbreak preparedness plan that was clearly communicated to students in advance. Information about their campus preparedness plan, advice on recognizing and avoiding H1N1, and links to updated information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are all on a SLU website.

UM-St. Louis now has a plan for dealing with a pandemic flu outbreak and a website with information for students: <http://www.umsl.edu/services/academic/news/h1n1.html>.

[ic/news/h1n1.html](http://www.umsl.edu/services/academic/news/h1n1.html).

The webpage has information on H1N1 from the campus's University Health, Wellness and Counseling Services, such as the status of outbreaks on campus (of which there are currently none), a description of symptoms, and how to recognize, avoid and treat the flu. It also has links to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for national H1N1 information.

As the webpage indicates, there are things this campus can do to both minimize the spread of this potentially dangerous flu and allow the university to continue to function in the event of an outbreak.

Off-campus students with symptoms are urged to stay home until 24 hours after symptoms end. On-campus students experiencing symptoms should also isolate themselves, and the webpage offers a phone number to have meals delivered by the Office of Residential Life and Housing. If students experiencing symptoms also have underlying health issues, they are urged to seek medical attention. It also suggests ways for affected students to stay in touch with their professors and makes suggestions for faculty who must continue

classes remotely.



Cate Marquis

Of course, unanticipated things happen and no amount of preparedness can prevent all disasters. We were fortunate to have the summer to prepare and to learn from previous occurrences of flu pandemic. Public health experience with the influenza pandemic of 1918 teaches us that "social isolation" is more effective in stopping pandemics than the more traditional strategy of quarantine. In quarantine, sick persons are isolated from others. In social isolation, both the sick and the well avoid social contact and all large gatherings are banned. While it sounds extreme, the technique has been proven to stop the spread of disease more efficiently and with ultimately less long-term disruption and loss of life.

Cate Marquis is A&E Editor for The Current.

He's happy because he's had his
dose of *The Current* today.

Have you?



Got an opinion on their opinion?

www.thecurrentonline.com
thecurrent@umsl.edu

Let us know.

Turn on the Lights: A light introduction

► **NICK BISHOP**
Staff Writer

Sex. We all do it, some more than others, some better than others. However, sometimes those of us who get it on just do not have all the data at our fingertips.

It is true that anyone can have sex, but not everyone knows the consequences. The emotional, psychological, biological and interpersonal implications of doing the nasty can profoundly impact all players of the game called sex, and that is where I hope to come in with this column.

In my biology class, I can remember reading a chapter that touched on the biological consequences of having sex. In this class of mostly freshmen, I overheard students asking each other questions like, "When you catch chlamydia, do you catch gonorrhea at the same time?" I almost died! I had to step in and inform the class about a few things. Then, after answering a few questions, I was bombarded with more and more questions. I knew there were people that needed some information.

This column is a good way for advice and information to be relayed on a larger scale, and it offers anonymity for those people who are wary of talking about sex.

I hope that the student body will send questions in to be answered, even if they are a bit hesitant at first. In addition to "Turn on the Lights," the Youtube.com sex talk show "Talk Sex with Dr. S," featuring Dr. Jennifer Siciliani, associate teaching professor in the Department of Psychology, will also draw

questions from this question bank.

We are here to offer our readers the sound advice they may be craving. With our combined talents, your questions can be answered.

Dr. Siciliani got her doctorate in experimental psychology and her research since has been featured in APS Observer, the Annals of Behavioral Medicine and probably millions of others.

However, of me you are probably wondering, "who's this schmuck and why should I listen to his advice?" While I don't have any fancy degrees, I do have some credentials.

Previously, while assisting one of the professors of psychology with her research, I was posted as a recruiter for research participants at a clinic for sexually transmitted diseases. I thought I knew a lot about sex before I started volunteering at the clinic, but while volunteering I learned some new things.

I read pamphlets on STDs and sat in on counseling sessions with the Department of Health team at the clinic. In those sessions, not only did I learn about the variety of infections and their transmission, but I also gained insight into the sexual behaviors of humans.

Some of the things I heard shocked me, and some made me laugh, but all of them were a learning experience.

In addition to volunteering at the STD clinic, I have a unique interest in research. I am in my last year of undergraduate study in psychology and very interested in sexual minority research. I am currently developing a research project with Dr. Siciliani



Nick Bishop

and collaborating with other professors on campus that focus on sexual minorities. Although the research questions are not finalized, my research on the academic literature in this field has been very extensive.

In addition to my experience (academic and otherwise), there will be a team of doctoral psychologists with whom I will be consulting on any questions and topics I receive that are beyond my experience. One such consultant is Dr. Jamie Linsin, the coordinator of outreach at the UM-St. Louis Health, Wellness and Counseling Services.

So pitch us some ideas, even a curve ball or two. We're ready for them, just throw them our way, and let's start a dialogue about the unmentionable in our culture: Sex.

"Turn on the Lights" is a Q&A column written by Nick Bishop for students to submit questions on sex. Please send your questions to thecurrenttips@umsl.edu with the subject "sex question."

To send an anonymous question, go to thecurrentonline.com and submit a letter to the editor with the title "sex question." Please submit a nickname for yourself.

Columns

September 11: Eight years after

► **SOFI SECK**
Photo Editor

I woke up this morning and realized that the date is September 11.

I was 13 years old when the twin towers were hit. Like most people, I was scared, confused and did not understand how it could have happened.

That confusion quickly turned to anger as the hours passed and the death count rose. As the days went by, I realized that American anger was directed towards all Muslims, including myself.

Like a lot of Muslims around the world, I stuck firmly to my spiritual beliefs. I could not let go of a faith that had given me and my family comfort and support for generations.

When I came to America, I worried incredibly about my identity as a Muslim living in America.

A survey conducted by the Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life stated in 2007 that 35 percent of Americans had a hostile view about Islam. I thought that one of those 3 in 10 people could be my teachers or coaches.

What I did not realize

was that I was protected by my skin color. I am black and I do not wear a headscarf, which allows me to assimilate into American culture effortlessly.

There is no way to know that I am Muslim unless I tell you, and most do not ask.

Although I did face hard times, those times were not related to my religion.

I have read about Muslims being discriminated against and mosques being trashed over the last eight years. I have seen people taunt Muslim students and call them terrorists.

I have heard stories from friends about the terrors that they had to go through after 9/11. What scared me the most was that Islamophobia would rob opportunity and self-respect from upcoming generations.

As I look toward the future, I cannot help but ask myself what will I tell my children in ten years about 9/11. I imagine and hope that their lives as Muslims will be better than those of the past eight years in American society.

After 9/11, I felt the need to defend my religion. I had feelings that I never had be-



Sofi Seck

fore then. I would say the usual: "Islam is not violent. Sociopolitical factors created lunatics who kill people."

As I grew older, I realized one thing: I should not be worried about my identity as long as I am doing the right things.

A lot of my friends are non-Muslim Americans and I have never felt any discrimination from any of them because of my religion.

9/11 will forever be imbedded in my mind as the day that life changed forever, for Americans and non-Americans alike.

I learned that there is always a rotten apple in a barrel and terrorists can be found in any group of people, even my own. I believe extremism is wrong and the positions and actions extremists take can never be justified.

Sierra Mist
The official drink of
The Current
a more specific version of
Mountain Dew

Classifieds

100 ANNOUNCEMENTS

\$1000 Reward!!!*

Tell someone about this 2bdrm, 1bth house, 1.5 miles from UMSL, if they close, you get up to \$1000*! First-time tax credit = under \$400 a month. Nice neighborhood. Call for details 314-369-4925 or email dwallace74@hotmail.com \$59.9K *restrictions apply

200 TRANSPORTATION

Your classified ad here! *The Current* is happy to offer classified ads for all your transportation needs, including ads selling cars, trucks, vans, campers, boats, trailers, motorcycles and more. Call 314-516-5316 to place your ad today!

300 EMPLOYMENT

Graders/Tutors Wanted

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 or e-mail: jwchan@chesterfieldkumon.com.

LIFEGUARD

CERTIFIED LIFEGUARDS needed for UMSL Indoor Pool: Monday-Thursday 11:30AM-2:00PM. \$8.00/hour. Apply in the Campus Rec Office, 203 Mark Twain, 516-5326.

400 FOR SALE

U City Community Yard Sale

Heman Park Pool Parking Lot
7210 Olive Boulevard
Saturday, September 19, 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Call 505-8516 with questions

Moving Sale.

Furniture including: Computer Desk, Mattress, Bed Platform, rattan chair set, Bicycle, etc. The prices are reduced by 60% from the original. Please call: 314-480-2977 for detailed information.

500 SERVICES

Your classified ad here! *The Current* is happy to offer classified ads for people advertising services, including home and lawn care, business services, roofing, siding, cleaning, tutoring, and much more. Call 314-516-5316 or you can e-mail thecurrent@umsl.edu to place your ad today!

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Your classified ad here! *The Current* is happy to offer classified ads for people advertising services, including home and lawn care, business services, roofing, siding, cleaning, tutoring, and much more. Call 314-516-5316 or you can e-mail thecurrent@umsl.edu to place your ad today!

700 MISCELLANEOUS

UMSL ROLLER HOCKEY TRYOUTS

UMSL students wanting to tryout for Roller Hockey should be at Matteson Tri-Plex, 3501 Industrial Park Place West, St. Peters, on Saturday, Sept. 26, 2:00-3:30pm. Cost is \$35 for 1 1/2 hour rink time & t-shirt. Call Andy @ 314-422-5426 for more info.

GOLF SCRAMBLE!

FREE for UMSL Students! 18-hole, 4-player scramble will be held Friday, Sept. 25, 10:30AM Shotgun Start, at Normandie Golf Course. To play, sign up in the Campus Rec Office, 203 MT. Deadline is Thurs, Sept. 17.

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.

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.

NINE, from page 11



9
Elijah Wood, Jennifer Connelly, Christopher Plumer
Focus Features, Rated PG-13

COURTESY OF FOCUS FEATURES

The works of the Russian-Kazakh director, including his vampire films and action film "Wanted," are a better guide for what to expect than the colorful, Halloween-playful Tim Burton films.

"9" has plenty of action. The voice talent is very good, as is the animation itself, although the story is a bit more problematic, partially due to its unrelentingly grim tone.

There are vague references to the legend of the golem, talk of souls and hints about numerology.

"9" is packed to the rafters with iconic imagery of various sorts, including plenty

of "Lord of the Rings" references.

The movie is also filled with religious iconography, specifically Christian, enough so that some non-Christians may be uncomfortable.

The film is suffused with an anti-science subtext, affixing guilt to the inventor.

Additionally, it largely excuses the political and industrial figures who misused his invention, with a "they are bad, so what do you expect" attitude.

The message is clear: do not invent things, do not explore, and do not use the tools of science because it can

only lead to trouble.

Even so, the story could have been rescued by a more positive ending, perhaps repurposing the machines into rebuilding the world.

That, and a little more lightness or humor to relieve the tension, would have made this a far better movie.

Still, "9" is a sincere effort, at least an original one, and likely will appeal to many film-goers.

It is a worthy effort but does not hit the jackpot that "Coraline" did earlier this year. **B** — Cate Marquis, A&E Editor.

ARIANNA, from page 12

On the musical menu for the evening was Haydn's Opus 20 in D major, Bartok's second Quartet, and Brahms' F Major Viola Quintet. For the final piece, the Quartet was joined by a second violist, a visiting artist.

The music began with the wide-ranging Haydn piece, which covers varied flavors from baroque to folk. Next was Bartok's composition, written during the most turbulent portion of World War

I, and which, at its core, seeks to capture the movement of life's passages from triumph to defeat.

Finally came the hour-long Brahms opus, a stunning piece based on a key repeating theme combined with an overall powerful violin melody with cello and viola plucking that adds a darkly springing undercurrent.

The appropriately festive tone of the evening concluded with the Quartet's breath-

less Brahms coda and the audience's resounding, joyful response. In his intermission address, Gilham noted the audience's size, joking, "We usually tell our guests to bring a friend. We would now ask that you all select one friend to not bring."

Unlikely, considering the quality of the performance and moving recognition shown to the Arianna String Quartet, an exemplary part of UM-St. Louis.

The Current wants you to do some stuff.
Anything really... just participate in life for heaven's sake.

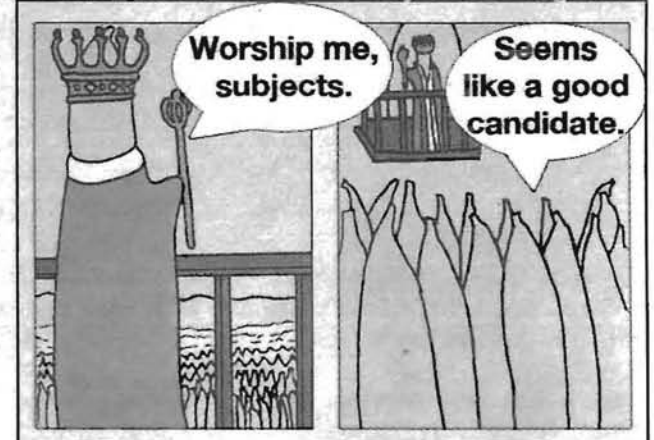
Comics & Puzzles

Magaret & Hooray by Cody Perkins



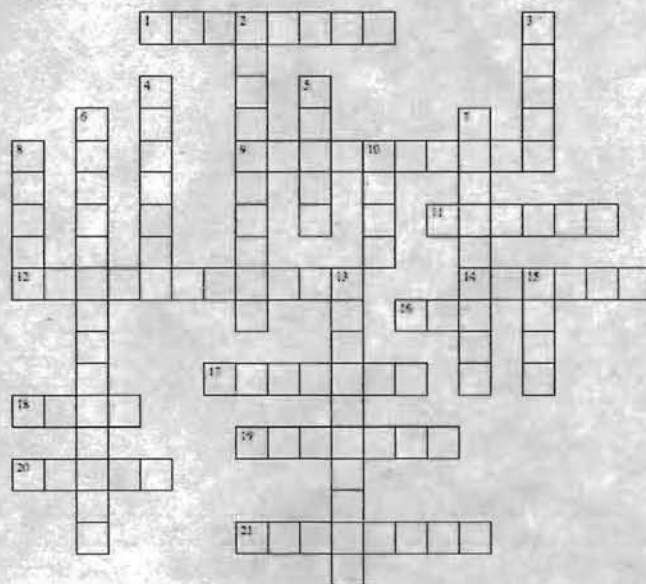
Bananas #11

by Paul Maguire



CURRENT CROSSWORD

College Mascots



ACROSS

3. Three Ohio State University campuses share this mascot.
5. What they call their women's teams in Central Missouri.
9. Brooklyn went with this landmark for theirs.
13. The 'Fighting' vegetable in Scottsdale, AZ.
15. Perhaps the oldest known breed of domesticated dog found in Southern Illinois.
16. What Memphis, Clemson, Missouri and Princeton have in common.
21. The highest ranking Mule in the Army.
22. It makes a little more sense for UC-San Diego to have this mascot than us.
23. Tufts super-sized mascots.
24. The 'Banana Slugs' home in California.
25. Alabama Tide and the Southern Nazarene Storm.
26. Vanderbilt's unintentionally funky mascot.

DOWN

1. The color of Tulane's Wave.
2. The school color of this University in upstate New York is also their mascot.
3. A charm doll invented in St. Louis.
4. Utah chose this Native American tribe for their mascot.
6. When two solids combined to form a liquid and the St. Louis College of Pharmacy's mascot.
7. The mountain near Penn State and its Lions namesake.
8. Wash. U. and over 20 other schools.
9. Cornell's is Green & Dartmouth's is Red.
10. Popular name for schools with an agricultural emphasis.
11. Pennsylvania's pacifist mascot.
12. Long Beach State's filthy name.
14. Kentucky State's equestrian mascot.
17. Rhode Island & Colorado State.
18. Gettysburg's macabre mascot.
19. The devilish mascot of Wake Forest.
20. The Warriors in Hawaii dropped this a few years ago.

by Matthew Hill

CURRENT SUDOKU

by Gene Doyel

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

Difficulty: ★★ (Medium)

CURRENT HOROSCOPES

Cancer
(June 22 - July 22)

Your emotions may threaten to get the best of you this week, but try your best to keep them under control. Although things seem chaotic right now, they'll settle down given time.

Leo
(July 23 - Aug. 23)

This week, temper optimism with a healthy dose of practicality. Don't get carried away with grandiose plans. Turn to friends to help you focus on your priorities.

Virgo
(Aug. 24 - Sept. 22)

Don't over-analyze things in order to delay making a difficult decision. Instead, rely on your instincts and remember that the sooner you make up your mind, the happier you'll be.

CURRENT CRYPTOGRAM

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: Q=M)

JRA MR XKC CRA XKC PSTC

FSV XJOC MZ CWWJP XKC

PSTC FSV QJOC

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, SEPTEMBER 14

RHA - Casino Night Come enjoy a night of poker, cards, and other fun games hosted by the Residential Hall Association. Guest dealers are professional staff from various departments on campus. Tournament prizes and light snacks will be available. Located in the Multipurpose Room in the Provincial House, from 6:00 PM to 11:00 PM. For more information contact Chesley Maylee at 314-516-6877.

It's About Time! (Management) Learn how to improve grades, improve your quality of life and divide time between work and recreation. This workshop will help you examine how you spend your time and how you might be able to become more efficient in your role as a student. Located at 255 in the MSC-Center for Student Success, from 2:00 PM to 2:45 PM. For more information contact Chad Hoffer at 5300.

Interviewing Skills Workshop Effective interviewing involves preparation. Avoid bloopers & become a star using effective interviewing techniques. Pre-registration required: visit <http://careers.umsl.edu> and select "Workshops." Lights, Camera, Action—this event is part of our September Career Month series. Located in Career Services, 278 MSC, from 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM. For more information contact Career Services at 314-516-5111.

Tuesday, SEPTEMBER 15

Fall Volunteer Fair Don't miss the opportunity to meet and connect with over 40 non-profit organizations in the St. Louis area to find that perfect volunteer position or service-learning opportunity. Located in the MSC 2nd and 3rd Floor Rotunda, from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM. For more information contact Megan Hill at 314-516-4031.

Rotary Club Ethics Panel A panel of leaders, all members of the Rotary Club, will serve as panelists discussing business ethics to students and faculty. Panelists' names and specific ethical issues will be forthcoming. Faculty gives credit for student participation. Located in the UMSL Executive Leadership Consortium, 118 SSB, from 5:30 PM to 6:45 PM. For more information contact Malaika Horne at 314-516-4749.

Winning the Battle with Procrastination How many times have you gotten sidetracked from doing an assignment? College students can easily fall into a cycle of procrastination. Getting at the reasons behind the procrastination is the key. This workshop will illustrate the steps and techniques to become a person who does NOT procrastinate. Located at 255 in the MSC-Center for Student Success, from 5:30 PM to 6:15 PM. For more information contact Chad Hoffer at 5300.

Wednesday, SEPTEMBER 16

Big Brothers Big Sisters Mixer Come find out more about being a mentor with the Big Brothers Big Sisters program. Already a Big? Stop by to hear about the BBBS student organization starting at UMSL this year. Located in the MSC Century Rooms, from 3:30 PM to 5:00 PM. For more information contact D'Andre Braddix at 314-516-5291.

Bowling Double League Bowling anyone? For fun pin action, join our league! Regardless of your bowling skills, this intramural handicap league is for you. We bowl every Wednesday afternoon, Sept. 16-Oct. 28, at North Oaks Bowl. Your 2-bowler team may consist of 2 guys and/or gals. For more info and to register, go on-line or contact Campus Recreation, 203 Mark Twain at 516-5326. Located at North Oaks Bowl at 7125 Natural Bridge Road, from 5:30 PM to 6:45 PM.

Lee Mentoring Project The purpose of this mentoring project is to help students meet their career goals after graduation. Executive fellows facilitate three sessions per program with small groups of three-to-five students. Students must attend all three sessions. Faculty gives credit for student participation. Located at UMSL Executive Leadership Consortium, 427 SSB, from 2:00 PM to 3:15 PM. For more information, contact Malaika Horne at 314-516-4749. For more information contact Chad Hoffer at 5300.

Read more event listings online at www.thecurrentonline.com

In Sept. 2001, the Normandy Fire Department raises the flag in tribute of those who perished in the terrorist attacks. Students, faculty and staff gathered in a somber moment of reflection.



FILE PHOTO / ELIZABETH GRINDSTAFF / THE CURRENT

Thursday, SEPTEMBER 17

Constitution Day: Conceal & Carry and the 2nd Amendment UMSL's Constitution Day observance includes disciplinary perspectives from Curators' Professors Dave Robertson and Rick Rosenfeld, a point-counterpoint debate between Missouri legislators Jim Lembke and Jamilah Nasheed, and a presentation by UMSL's InterAct Theatre Troupe. Faculty who plan to attend with their classes are asked to register in advance. Located in the MSC Century Rooms, from 12:30 PM to 2:00 PM. For more information contact Peggy Cohen at 314-516-4508.

Friday, SEPTEMBER 18

Effective Studying: Facts and Myths about Memory Learn more about how memory works and some tips that can be put into practice to improve recall. Find out about effective techniques for note-taking, goal setting for studying, concentration, reading a textbook, and test-taking skills. Located at 255 in the MSC-Center for Student Success, from 11:00 AM to 11:45 AM. For more information contact Chad Hoffer at 5300.