Light-ning up the sky

By Becky Rosner
News Editor

The Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center is almost ready to open its doors for the very first performance. A week of events is scheduled to kick off the inaugural season.

There will be an opening event as well as a series of opening acts. The pre-opening performance will be the Ballet Folklorico de Mexico on Sept. 11 at 8 p.m.

"In the official opening week, there have been Glover, St. Louis Symphony Orchestra and Maynard Ferguson," John Kennedy, director of the PAC, said.

An Open House will kick off the opening week of the center. A ribbon-cutting and tours will be included in the Open House. It will be the first event to give everyone a chance to view the building and see what it has to offer. Following the Open House will be two Broadway shows as well as a performance by the University's Festival Orchestra.

Gregory Hines was originally scheduled to be the opening act, however, he recently died. Savion Glover was chosen to do a tribute to Hines in his place.

"Savion Glover is Hines tonight, and Hines was his mentor," Kennedy said. "It was a logical segue into looking for a new person to act as a mentor, with a logical segue into looking for a new person to act as a mentor, an upcoming professional with skills in dance throughout the year.

Only the first season has been announced so far. They are keeping their options open for the future. They will announce what it has to offer.

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First day of classes marred by traffic

By Melissa McCarty

On Aug. 20, many students found their first day of school to be a traffic congestion nightmare.

"I didn't want to leave campus on the first day because I wasn't sure if I came back, my parking spot would be gone," said Emily Allen, senior, secondary education.

With UM-St. Louis' large freshman percentage of commuter students, almost every parking spot was taken. School officials and the UM-St. Louis Police Department helped by directing traffic.

The UMSL Transportation and Parking Department anticipated that the traffic would be a problem on the first day of classes due to many students not knowing where to park, said Debbie Allen, administrative assistant of Parking and Transportation.

Many students drove around searching for parking after reaching parking garages with signs that read "George Pull." Because many of the parking garages filled quicker than expected, only lots were opened. The UM-St. Louis Police Department did not issue any tickets to those who parked in locations other than the normally designated lots.

Besides the lack of parking, many students had trouble finding their classes.

New and old students packed the hallways in search of their classrooms.

"Living in the Normandy Complex, I've noticed many students all week long moving among different residence halls," said Carleigh Smith, freshman, studio art.

Despite many of the first day frustrations, the week provided numerous events to welcome new students and the new semester.

The official Welcome Back Picnic was held on Aug. 11. Those who attended enjoyed free food, pony rides, a petting zoo, games and prizes.

Different activities took place throughout the Millennium Student Center during the first week. On Wednesday, students searched and participated in a scavenger hunt. Organizations advertised from booths by handing out informational fliers. On Friday, senior orientation took place in the Pilot House.

Mike Bracken The Current
Mon 25 welcome
A climbing wall is at the MSC from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Test your skills on the climbing wall sponsored by the Army, while listening to live radio music.

25 Chemistry & Biochemistry colloquium
A chemistry and biochemistry colloquium begins at 4 p.m. in room 411 of Brown Hall. Visiting professor Wilfried T. Mahncke, from the University of Western Cape, South Africa, presents a seminar titled “Synthetic Studies Towards A Diamine-Sugar Conjugates.” The colloquium is open and free to all audiences.

Tues 26 Welcome week
Free Sports Day is from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the MSC. Celebrate Welcome Week with Excursions Sports fun and games. Also look for the free cotton candy and poppers during lunch.

26 Bible study
Chemist Christian Center is holding a Bible study at 7:30 p.m. at embassy suites Hotel (international X & Lindberg). 11237 Lone Eagle Drive St. Louis, MO 63144 (314) 719-1020.

Put it on the Board!
Place your event on the Board in our upcoming edition; restrictions apply. Call 314-516-8000 for information.

Wed 27 Welcome week
Free Sports Day is from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. outside the MSC. Make sure to stop by the ExPOS where students can meet representatives from some of the student organizations at UMSL. Louis as well as enjoy a free snack. The UMSL administration will be serving snow cones to all guests throughout the fair as well.

Fri 29 Pre-Optometry Club
The Pre-Optometry Club meeting is from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. in room 344 of Meramec Hall on South Campus. This event is free to students. Finally, it is significant for who are also welcome. For more information, call Dr. Ruth Brown, Club Advisor at (314) 516-9030.

Sun 31 Church service
A Choir Christian Center church service is at 8 a.m. in the Pontifical House on South Campus.

Tues 2 Rec Sports
Ric Sports’ Spring Athletics classes begin next week through Dec. 13. These sessions are offered: Sept 2 to Oct 18 and Oct 20 to Dec 13. Due to space limitations, participants are limited to one class only at any time. Choose from such classes as Step, Yoga, Total Body Toning, and more. Make reservations now or stop by the Rec Sports Office, KOMT (516-5306) or check out our web page - www.umsl.edu/recreation/.

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New garage nears completion

BY BECKY ROSNER
News Editor

The new parking garage is set to open at the beginning of next year, construction is slightly behind schedule due to the weather during last winter.

Around January or February students and staff will be free to park in the brand new garage. The parking facility will be located directly adjacent to the Millennium Center parking garage. "It was part of the master plan to introduce parking, and we are going to be getting rid of some of the older garages," Tony Bayer, communications manager, said.

Garages B and N are only being partially used at this time. They are scheduled to stay open for now but will be torn down sometime in the future. They were built to be temporary parking structures.

The garage will be named the same as the Phase I garage, known as the PAC. Parking Garages II and III will have two additional levels of parking. Approximately 500 vehicles will be able to use the new facility.

It was originally scheduled to open sometime in December of this year. The rough winter and hot summer has caused delays. "It was part of the master plan to introduce parking, and we are going to be getting rid of some of the older garages," Tony Bayer, communications manager, said.

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Did you vote in last year's SGA elections? Why? It's your right. If anyone tries to tell you otherwise, just reply, "I voted." 

The SGA elections are supposed to reflect, in a minute or two, the sentiments of the students. Well, last year's vote was a big shock for many students. The election results were nothing short of confusing and leaden, because they were not worth its consideration.

Here's what happened for a bit of background:

The day that SGA elections were over, the office of the United States of America decided to arbitrarily move the duly elected Vice President out of that office, and elected some Vice President to run for themselves. That's right, this is the time when House, Senate, and in the end, the President, elects who shall sit at its front end as a member of the executive, and perhaps, lead it as well.

What's worse, the Senate elections were not for the voice of the students, or for the students, or for the student body, or for the student government. They were nothing short of confusing and leden, because they were not worth its consideration.
Revenge of the Nerds" takes on "Animal House" in the wild

Evolution, in popular lore, is supposed to take place in a straight line of human progress, over the millennia, from one cell to the next. But some recent studies suggest that evolution may be more complicated than that.

In terms of genetics and biological outcomes, the key to everything is the co-evolution of males and females, which allows the strongest, most desirable males to reproduce and pass on their genes. This is found in the dung beetle species, in which the alpha male is the one who digs the tunnel near the big males of the species is not the alpha male to win the biggest, strongest mating ball of the day, as some have thought. Instead, the alpha male is the one who digs the tunnel near the big males of the species. He is often the only one who gets to mate with the females, and he is able to pass on his genes to the most desirable males, who will then have a chance to reproduce and pass on their genes. This is found in the dung beetle species, in which the alpha male is the one who digs the tunnel near the big males of the species.

Animals with the best adaptations in their environment are the ones that are most successful in reproducing, and passing their genes to the next generation. This is found in many different species, and is known as natural selection.

The key to everything is that the alpha male is the one who digs the tunnel near the big males of the species. He is often the only one who gets to mate with the females, and he is able to pass on his genes to the most desirable males, who will then have a chance to reproduce and pass on their genes. This is found in the dung beetle species, in which the alpha male is the one who digs the tunnel near the big males of the species.
Money, that's what I want

Payment options abound for students

BY SABANNA HAMILTON
Staff Writer

The bookstore Matha has come up with new ways to pay for items, making their shopping experience easier and more convenient for students. Whether you are a regular patron or a first-time shopper, there are now several payment options to choose from at the bookstore.

Cash is the most widely accepted payment method. Students can pay for their purchases using cash directly when they go through the checkout line.

Credit card payments are also accepted. Students can use their credit cards to pay for their purchases at the bookstore.

Debit card payments are also an option. Students can use their debit cards to pay for their purchases at the bookstore.

We hope this information has been helpful. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask our staff.

UMSL offers activities for everyone

BY MELISSA R.
Features Editor

"The Nature of Things" is a student-run magazine that features articles, poetry, and other creative works. The magazine is published quarterly and is available for free at the Student Life Center.

The magazine accepts submissions from all UMSL students, and it is run by a group of student editorial board members. The magazine covers a wide range of topics, including nature, science, and the environment.

The magazine is published quarterly and is available for free at the Student Life Center. Students can submit their work to the editorial board for consideration. The magazine is a great way to get involved in the UMSL community and to share your creative work with others.

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We hope this information has been helpful. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask our staff.

Wellness resource center opens for student use

BY ANGELA ASHLEY
Staff Writer

The Wellness Resource Center has opened its doors to students. The center is located in the Student Life Center and is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The Wellness Resource Center is a one-stop-shop for student health and wellness needs. The center offers a variety of services, including mental health counseling, substance abuse counseling, and nutrition and fitness counseling.

The Wellness Resource Center is located in the Student Life Center and is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Students can visit the center to receive services or to learn more about how to access services.

We hope this information has been helpful. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask our staff.

Pyschics & seers, and oh my! (LEFT)

LEFT: Sharon Carpenter, sophomore, mass communications, sits for a session with psychic Judy Ballew during the Psychic Fair held Thursday in the Student Union. Carpenter works for the University Program Board, which sponsored the event.

RIGHT: Jing Xu, graduate student, accounting, waits for her "spor­

LEFT: Sharon Carpenter, sophomore, mass communications, sits for a session with psychic Judy Ballew during the Psychic Fair held Thursday in the Student Union. Carpenter works for the University Program Board, which sponsored the event.

RIGHT: Jing Xu, graduate student, accounting, waits for her "spor­
Many previous recipients of the Chancellor's Award have gone on to win the Presidential Award. Carroll said that he was more relieved than surprised to receive the award.

The honor was based on the numerous articles and encyclopedia research that Carroll has done within entries. The University of Missouri, one award is handed out each year. It's a great honor. It represents a wonderful man, and it's nice to be recognized for my contribution," Guen said.

Fourteen years, Carroll has worked in the English department at the University. He spent four years at the University of Denver before coming to UM-St. Louis; however, he didn't begin his research until coming to this campus. He has written several books, numerous articles and encyclopedia entries.

The Ratchford award is given to someone who shows outstanding commitment, dedication and effective connections between one discipline and another. Produced from the leadership shown by the late, former president of the University of Missouri, the award is handed out each year. "It's a great honor. It represents a wonderful man, and it's nice to be recognized for my contributions," Guen said.

Joseph Guen has been at the University for 16 years. He helps to connect the University and the community in as many ways as possible. Doing a lot of activities and helping with the community and neighborhood partners has proved to be beneficial to the campus, as well as to the St. Louis area.

This year is also the first year that a faculty member from UM-St. Louis has received the Ratchford award. It will be the fifth year that the award has been available to accept. Both recipients received plaques and money for their accomplishments. The awards are given each year, system-wide, beginning with nominations from each of the four universities.
Chris Pilz to lead Rivermen B-Ball

BY STEVE HARRELL

Sports Editor

It took sixty all summer to find him, but last Monday UM-St. Louis formally announced the hiring of a new men’s basketball coach. His name is Chris Pilz and he comes to UM-St. Louis from eight down the road at Hazelwood Central High School, where he compiled a 137-55 record in his six-year tenure.

Pilz, an UM-St. Louis alumna, is excited about coaching at the school that gave her a chance. “I was very fortunate to get the opportunity to play here at UM-St. when there were so many other options for me as a player, and now I’m getting the same opportunity as a coach here at UM-St.,” he said. “I was pleased, of course, and I got a great education here. I’ve always understood the importance of a college coach, and this was a career move for me.”

Both as a coach and as a player, Pilz Pilz is used to winning. In his 2 seasons as a head coach, Pilz has

I’d like to recruit a lot of local players, then maybe pepper in a couple from out of state.

Chris Pilz, new Rivermen basketball coach and former UM-St. Louis player

...there were seven or eight guys getting a lot of reps during conditioning.

There are seven or eight guys getting a lot of reps during conditioning, and leaders come into play.

We’ve been working on the system, and leaders come into play. This year, the team was a long, hot training system is both grueling and intense, and leaders come into play.

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The system is both grueling and intense, and leaders come into play.
Above: Safiya Farrakhan, of Chicago, goes way, way down as she wins the beach limbo competition at the MTV Beach Party Friday night at the Meadows apartment complex's pool and pavilion area. The night was sponsored by the University Program Board as part of the Welcome Week series of events.

Above: Veronica Portillo, from MTV's "Road Rules: Semester at Sea" was one of the featured guests Friday night. Portillo, with Theo Gantt of "The Real World - Chicago" emceed the event.

One of the evening's competitions was a dance-off between male contestants, before the somewhat-embarrassed host Veronica Portillo. Approximately 250 people turned out for the MTV Beach Party, held Friday night from 8 p.m. to midnight.

Some University Meadows residents preferred to stay above the revelry, sheltered on a nearby balcony.

The Current is still hiring:
• Staff Writers
• Sports Writers
• Staff Photographers
• Business Associates
• Distribution Associates

Come by MSC 388 or call 516-6810 if you are interested. Ask for Nichole LeClair, managing editor of The Current. She will contact you about interview times and dates.

*The Current is an equal opportunity employer

The Lucas & Hunt and Natural Bridge
License Office is Now Open!
(Located at North Oaks Plaza #1F – Next Door to the Deals Store)

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<th>Business Hours</th>
<th>Our Office Issues</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday &amp; Tuesday</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
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<td>Sunday</td>
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For Information Call 314.389.5300

The magnificent new Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center at the University of Missouri-St. Louis is opening its doors this September. The Center is seeking dedicated, enthusiastic volunteers for a variety of performances and special event functions. Ushers, tour guides, administrative help, behind the scenes workers – all in support of the new home for the performing arts in St. Louis.

Please come to the informational meeting to be held in the Touhill Performing Arts Center on the UMSL campus and have a sneak peek of the new jewel in St. Louis’ cultural crown.

Thursday, August 28, 5:00 p.m.

Information will be provided on the many exciting opportunities available. There’s no need to sign up in advance - just come to the session to learn more. See our new web site at www.touhill.com.
**All A&E Calendar Articles**

**Movies**

### Search for a revolution

**BY AMY GONWA**

It’s fun. It’s free. You kids will love it. A core of those playing have been writing, acting and more for years, reaching kids a little bit so we can explore into a world only of our imaginations. Those rhythmic patterns and flowing guitar riffs are not new, but what we played with their free-spirited work, a pure expression of our desire. They are, **Oi! A Revolution!** and their name makes with their style that fits into a live setting.

OAR’s newest release, **In Between Now and Then**, is a suitable start to the band’s first album. Many midwestern America’s youth. Tracks like “Bones” and “Slang” make us happy. This title’s youth can relate to it. Starting lives, growing up in a world and expressing what life will bring. Also, the other album that has a main theme of now, forever. It is an overall album within a long yearning to love, so we can learn from it. Another quickie but has some essential elements. His reggae reggae is closely packed. Their first indie album is a major hit. This album is worth a listen. If you like it, buy it.

### The Ben and Jerry’s ice cream of music

**The New American Man of OAR are setting out to positively stunt main stream music with their latest release In Between Now and Then.**

OAR: An American band, from Vermont, composed of Ben liberation, Jerry, and with槟．．．

### CD REVIEW

**An innocent reflection**

**BY AMY GONWA**

MUSIC CRITIC

For those who love rock and roll, for those who love music that is both out of this world and in the current trends, there is no better band to listen to than OAR (Ocean Avenue Records). From their previous album, **Follow Me Down**, this band has proven itself to be a true powerhouse of music. OAR’s latest release, **An Innocent Reflection**, is a testament to their musical genius.

When four high school playgrounds get together, music is born. When they all have the same dream, that dream is turned into reality. OAR’s music is a perfect example of this dream coming true. Their music is a combination of rock, reggae, and folk, creating a unique sound that is both familiar and new.

The album opens with the title track, “In Between Now and Then.” This track sets the tone for the rest of the album, with its upbeat tempo and catchy melody. The lyrics are about the constant struggle of finding oneself, and the journey of self-discovery. The chorus, “In between now and then, I lie and die,” is a powerful statement that captures the essence of the album.

The next song, “Bones,” is a powerful ballad about the pain of love and loss. The lyrics are poignant and emotional, and the guitar work is hauntingly beautiful. The song is a perfect example of OAR’s ability to combine different genres and create something truly unique.

“Slang” is another standout track on the album. The lyrics are about the struggle of overcoming personal demons, and the music is driving and intense. The guitar work is fast and furious, and the lyrics are powerful and thought-provoking.

The album closes with the powerful “Follow Me Down.” The lyrics are about the eternal search for meaning and purpose in life. The music is driving and intense, with a driving rhythm and a powerful guitar work.

Overall, **An Innocent Reflection** is a powerful album that is both familiar and new. OAR’s musical genius is on full display, and their ability to combine different genres and create something truly unique is evident throughout the album. This is a must-listen album for anyone who loves rock and roll, and for anyone who appreciates a powerful and meaningful message in their music.
**Movie Review**

**‘Magdalene Sisters’ reveals secret world**

**BY CATHERINE MARSHALL-HOWEY**

The film, released in the UK earlier this year, is a tense and harrowing story drawn from real events that occurred in Catholic Church-run laundries in Ireland. The story focuses on the tales of girls who were taken to the Magdalene Asylums, a Catholic Church-run institution established to house women that society deemed suspect or undesirable.

The film, which stars Javier Bardem, is a powerful and poignant tale that explores the lives of girls who were taken to the Magdalene Asylums. The girls were subjected to a life of forced labor, with little to no privacy or freedom. They were subjected to a life of forced labor, with little to no privacy or freedom. They were subjected to a life of forced labor, with little to no privacy or freedom. They were subjected to a life of forced labor, with little to no privacy or freedom. They were subjected to a life of forced labor, with little to no privacy or freedom. They were subjected to a life of forced labor, with little to no privacy or freedom. They were subjected to a life of forced labor, with little to no privacy or freedom.

The film is directed by Peter Ramsey and is a powerful and poignant tale that explores the lives of girls who were taken to the Magdalene Asylums. The girls were subjected to a life of forced labor, with little to no privacy or freedom. They were subjected to a life of forced labor, with little to no privacy or freedom. They were subjected to a life of forced labor, with little to no privacy or freedom. They were subjected to a life of forced labor, with little to no privacy or freedom. They were subjected to a life of forced labor, with little to no privacy or freedom. They were subjected to a life of forced labor, with little to no privacy or freedom. They were subjected to a life of forced labor, with little to no privacy or freedom. They were subjected to a life of forced labor, with little to no privacy or freedom. They were subjected to a life of forced labor, with little to no privacy or freedom. They were subjected to a life of forced labor, with little to no privacy or freedom.

**Movie Review**

**‘The Mudfla­dger’ fails to show­case talented Chan**

**BY CATHERINE MARSHALL-HOWEY**

Jackie Chan fans don’t go to his movies for the plot; they just want to see Jackie Chan action. While better than last year’s ‘The Tuxedo,’ ‘The Mudfladg­er’ certainly won’t be the last Jackie Chan movie fans are disappointed by. The film, which stars Jackie Chan and Goldie Hawn, is a disappointing sequel to the 1999 comedy film of the same name.

The film is directed by John Woo and stars Jackie Chan, Goldie Hawn, and Yuen Biao. The story follows a gang of renegade CIA agents who are hired by a billionaire to stop a terrorist group from releasing a dangerous virus.

The film is a disappointment for fans of Jackie Chan and Goldie Hawn, as it fails to deliver the same level of action and comedy that made the original film a hit. The story is weak and the acting is lackluster, with Chan and Hawn appearing bored and disinterested in their roles.

**Movie Review**

**Movie showcases Bardem**

**Javier Bardem in the Lions Gate film MONDAYS IN THE SUN.**

Javier Bardem’s performance in ‘Mondays in the Sun’ is a masterful portrayal of a man struggling with his own identity and the pressure of societal expectations. The film is a powerful and affecting tale that explores the lives of working-class fishermen in Spain.

The film is directed by Alejandro Amenábar and stars Javier Bardem, Penélope Cruz, and Jordi Mollà. The story follows a group of fishermen who are struggling to make ends meet in the face of economic hardship.

The film is a poignant and moving tale that explores the lives of working-class fishermen in Spain. It is a powerful and affecting tale that explores the lives of working-class fishermen in Spain. It is a powerful and affecting tale that explores the lives of working-class fishermen in Spain. It is a powerful and affecting tale that explores the lives of working-class fishermen in Spain. It is a powerful and affecting tale that explores the lives of working-class fishermen in Spain.
The reason behind this change isn’t clear. Just returning to Hong Kong production isn’t the cure, as “The Medallion” was produced there, even though there was an eye towards Western distribution.

We don’t know if the reason for the unfortunate change is poor choices or lack of creative control, but each film like “The Medallion” is another missed opportunity. Tune in for Jackie Chan and his fans. With a talent like Chan’s, he should do the stunts he can do and avoid fakery. The special effects and wire-supports only remind the audience about what they are missing. A higher quality approach might yield something better than a higher budget approach. The muddled “The Medallion” was reportedly one of the most expensive Hong Kong films made, mostly due to the cost of its special effects. Although modern special effects allow Chan’s films to have stunts he can’t or won’t do now, his reputation rests on his “doing it for real.” His fans know the difference and it is just sad to watch. After all, reputation can only get a person so far.

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If you are interested in playing for a UML Kick Hockey team, please contact Mike at (314)663-3@tu.wlu.edu or call (314) 663-3.

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