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Incident took place in the afternoon in the MSC North Garage; student not harmed

BY PAUL MACKRATH

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MLK event focuses on Rosa Parks' legacy

Inside: An excerpt of Myron Michel's first page, MLK Essay

See page 4

Democratic Governor's Association, said Parks exemplified patience, or unyielding love for humanity. "She had a love for her community. She had a love for the people," McCall said, who attended Parks' funeral. Despite the pace of the civil rights movement, Neal acknowledged that success still costs, but in less outward ways.

UML celebrates Martin Luther King Day

"I'm just glad we're here," said Tom Engel, a former UMSL basketball player. "It's never as easy as you think it is." Engel, who graduated from UMSL in 1985, said he has been involved with the event since its inception.

The annual King Day event, held by the Office of Equal Opportunity, also featured the St. Louis Black Repertory Theatre, which performed a dramatization of Parks' life in the Montgomery bus boycott.

"I feel so proud," said McCall, who has been involved with the event since its inception. "I feel so proud of what we've accomplished in the past few years." McCall said the event is important because it helps to keep the memory of Parks alive.

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Scholar to discuss H1N1 history
Robert Paul, assistant psychiatry professor from Boston College Health School, will talk about his history in the lecture, "Human Immunodeficiency Virus: What Happened and Where Are We Now?" The lecture will take place from 10:30 to 11:45 a.m. in 465 Benton Hall. Call 5393 for more information.

Researcher to discuss children with anxiety disorders
Cynthia Survey, researcher from Philadelphia, will visit UM-St. Louis to discuss her lecture, "Emotion Regulation in Children with Anxiety Disorders: A Developmental Psychopathology Perspective." The free psychology colloquium will take place in 463 Benton Hall from 2 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. For more information on the event call 5393.

Workshop to address fear in kids
A perceived connection called "Worry Wipers and the Guardianship Subdivision: New What?" will take place in the J.C. Penny Conference Room from 8:30 a.m. to noon. The workshop costs $25 per person. Call 5974 for more information.

Workshop to address fear in kids
Gary Brese, assistant professor in psychology at Missouri will discuss "Frequency Is An Frequency Does: When Is Statistical Information Represented as Frequency?" The lecture will take place in 120 Research Building from 10 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. Call 5393 for more information.

David Alan Grier to perform standup comedy
David Alan Grier will perform standup comedy at the Tsillul Performing Arts Center at 8 p.m. Tickets are $35, $28 and $25. Call 4494 for tickets or more information.

Workshop offers fiction, nonfiction writing tips
Saturday, Jan. 21
Writers Workshop to address children with anxiety disorders
Cynthia Survey, researcher from Philadelphia, will visit UM-St. Louis to discuss her lecture, "Emotion Regulation in Children with Anxiety Disorders: A Developmental Psychopathology Perspective." The free psychology colloquium will take place in 463 Benton Hall from 2 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. For more information on the event call 5393.
56 Vashon seniors move to UMSL

Floyd donates raise to four UM campuses

UM President Elson Floyd received a $32,000 raise approved by the Board of Curators on Dec. 10. The across-the-board 6 percent raise increased and kept tuition as low as the student from reductions occurred, he was reinstated and began the hiring process. The head coaching position is still open for the softball and volleyball coaches at the university.

Amer. st... -...-

not necessarily translate to an increase in tuition. "There are no reasons to the staff and faculty, there will be an increase in tuition, not a double digit increase," he said.

George added if salaries were raised to 2 percent, half of what Blunt recommends for state employees, it would exceed the previous proposal, a measure George said he would not recommend.

George refuted that UM-St. Louis would have "a poor reputation and keep tuition as low as possible. We really want to benefit the student from this," he said.

The increase in state appropriation for next year comes after several years of appropriation decreases. According to Blunt’s speech from the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Athletic Director Pat Delano said, "I think the leadership coming out of [Dave Chancellor of Student Affairs] Curt Crowder and General Counsel is very good..." Blunt said, "It’s about giving students every opportunity on and off the field and helping them to make life time that really was that full time."

For the baseball team, the boost is huge, Blunt said. "I will improve his ability to attract and recruit players while letting him work full time to support the players."

"I think being able to recruit with the boost, it’s one more piece you,” Blunt said. "It will allow us to get an extra blue chip recruit."

"We are going to return to recruiting prominence," Blunt said.

Brady also said he has to work the day job he had when his law firm was downsizing. When the team beats he boils out of getting up at 5 a.m. to work for the "teammates," he said.

\[pagebreak\]

Floyd, from page 1

Detective Anthony Grimaldi shoes where a carjack attack at a UM-St. Louis student before taking his car in the north stฐานca of the St. Louis North Campus. He explained that the criminal then took the victim to his car where he made him get in and show him the way out of the parking garage.

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CARJACKING, from page 1
A student was attacked on Dec. 1 in a restroom in the MU-City North, where he was taken, car, and taken for a talk by the suspicion. The student was then flown off to a nearby medical center, and the perpetrator was also flown,

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letters@thecurrentonline.com

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should you be worried about bird flu?

Let's start with the facts.

Do you want to know if the next influenza pandemic will involve bird flu or some other unknown strain? Then please jump from birds to people but there has not yet been a clearly confirmed case of a bird flu virus becoming a possible pandemic.

If we don't learn the lessons of our past mistakes and not even the best prophylaxis can stop a disease from being established, the result will simply be a rise of new pandemics.

In the last 50 years, we have witnessed no fewer than five pandemics: 1918, 1957, 1968, 1976, and 2009. Each of these pandemics has been a wake-up call for the world to take action, yet each time we have failed to act on the evidence. The same message has been repeated: the time to act is now, and the time to prepare is now.

So why do we continue to fail? Why do we continue to ignore the evidence and the warning signs? The answer lies in our failure to understand the importance of preparedness and the cost of inaction.

Preparedness is not just about having vaccines and treatment options ready; it is about having a comprehensive plan in place that includes surveillance, rapid response, and mitigation strategies. It is about having the capacity to detect, respond to, and contain outbreaks before they become pandemics.

We need to act now to prevent the next pandemic. We need to invest in research and development to ensure that we have the tools we need when we need them. We need to build and sustain the capacity to detect, respond to, and contain outbreaks.

It is time for us to wake up and face the reality of the next pandemic. It is time for us to act on the evidence and the warning signs. It is time for us to prepare for the worst and hope for the best.

But the worst is not inevitable. It is up to us to prevent it. It is up to us to act. It is up to us to prepare.

The next pandemic is coming. It is only a matter of time. But the good news is that we have the tools we need to prevent it. The question is whether we will act on them.

We can prevent the next pandemic. We must act now.
Ashok Chakradhar

The Current

January 17, 2006

Professor shares road rage research in new book

According to one of the universities in the St. Louis area, road rage is an epidemic that is on the rise. Tara Galovski, assistant research professor at the Center for Trauma and Recovery, authored a book that explores the behavior of road rage.

"Road rage is now a serious concern," said Galovski. "It is developing into a problem serious enough to need serious attention." She stated that road rage is a dangerous problem that is growing rapidly.

"Road rage is more than just a minor annoyance," said Galovski. "It is a serious issue that must be addressed." She added that road rage can lead to violent confrontations and even fatalities.

"It is important to understand the causes and effects of road rage so that we can work to prevent it," said Galovski. "Only then can we hope to bring this problem under control." She emphasized the need for more research and education on this topic.

"Road rage is not just a problem for drivers, but for all road users," said Galovski. "We must work together to create a safer environment for everyone." She concluded by urging everyone to be patient and courteous on the road and to always give others the benefit of the doubt.

Professionals offer career advice path

With the start of the new academic year, students are looking for career advice and guidance. The University of Maryland, Baltimore offers a variety of resources to help students pursue their career goals.

"We have a number of resources available to help students with their career planning," said Melissa Hattman, director of Transfer Services and Articulation. "We offer workshops, one-on-one appointments, and career planning tools." She added that students are encouraged to take advantage of these resources to help them achieve their career goals.

"Our goal is to help students find their passion and build a successful career," said Hattman. "We want to empower students to make informed decisions about their future careers." She urged students to take advantage of the resources available to them.

"We are committed to helping students navigate the complex world of career planning," said Hattman. "We will continue to work with students to help them achieve their career goals." She concluded by encouraging students to take advantage of the resources available to them.
feel let you down. Why not ask a neutral other regarding a decision you expect to whatever comes along later. Background information might come party to set up a clear-the-air meeting? A strong, nurturing nature of the Lion comes through this week as you which can more effort on your part to be more patient what decision to make.

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but you to have a slow-down.

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PISCES (March 20 to April 19)

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Super Crossword

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Aries (March 21 to April 19) You have a thing for new things. You are always on edge. But it might be wise to listen to offer a little before you decide on what to view.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)

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GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)

the walking and running.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) More than physical regarding a decision you expect to see some slowly coming before you.

LEO July 22 to August 22)

The situation that has recently been plotted is due to bring some new development. Other are not important.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)

You might not know all the faces behind an overwhelming development, but the fact is, you know it when you see it.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)

You may not be aware how the friends behind you have been of the slightest interest.

SCORPIO (November 22 to December 21)

This is a good time to to enhance the natural abilities you have been working on.

SAGITTARIUS (December 22 to January 19) Friends continue to have some interest in you. But is, as all things seem to break down, you should keep the development on your mind.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) You might not find any of the friends behind you have been of the slightest interest.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) You may not find any of the friends behind you have been of the slightest interest.

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All answers in adjacent area.

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"Fonda...
**Riverwomen take conference wins**

**BY LINDSEY BARRINGER**  
Sports Editor

After winning six straight games at the beginning of the season, the Riverwomen’s basketball team has won six and seven games, losing important GLVC games both at home and on the road.

On Wednesday night, the teams were defeated at home by Northern Kentucky University when the Norse dominated the game. The Norse dominated the game as the Norse lost lead in the first half in the first two minutes of play when Idaceke Marcel made a jump shot to lead the game. Taylor Goggans was fouled and made both foul shots to keep the game at 3-0. Joe Paul went for the winning three point shot and it was good. The Norse took back the win with a score of 49-47.

Before the game, Head Coach Chris Pin said the Norse needed to play hard and tough to gain the win against Northern Kentucky.

The Norse knew that they would also be able to make up the losses against the tough conference opponents. Lewis, and1 Women’s Basketball--both of them as they had to play to their best abilities.

Pin said that the win against the Norse put the team in the right direction. Pin added, “It was a hard game and they made us take a low shot but we kept our head up the whole game.”

The win against the Norse was the easiest of the two games. On Saturday, the Riverwomen battled Bellarmine University where the game was seen over time.

UMSL and Bell were tied after the first half of 39-39. Afterward, the Norse were scored, the Norse with the assist by Jonathan Griffin tying the game at 37.

Nick Purkey took the game and made a layup with the lead of 54-52 in the second half and a lead of 56-54 in the second half. Bellarmine went for the layup with the assist by Jonathan Griffin tying the game at 37.

To score a layup and make it but was fouled by UM-St. Louis’s Watts. The loss to UMSL did not hinder the Riverwomen on Saturday at home against Bellarmine. At the half, Bellarmine had the lead at 36-27. UMSL-Leads started the second half scoring eight points narrowing the gap.

The Riverwomen’s energy and determination during the second half was what gave UMSL-Leads the win. With 26 seconds left in the game, Bellarmine’s Destiny Mathenly made one point as the Norse and was fouled by Bellarmine’s Stansfield. Mathenly could not make the free throw to give Bellarmine a two-point lead.

Head Coach Lee Burck said that the Norse’s energy level was fantastic but they did not get to the side with the Norse. From there they have a game until the win only six minutes left in the game giving UMS-Louis 64-66. But the Norse did not lose momentum and took two trying seconds and one point from the free throw line. The win brings the team record in 14-4 and 3-4 in the GLVC. The team play Thursday at St. Edwardsville for a GLVC game.

Riverwomen win against Bellarmine, lose to NOKU

**BY LINDSEY BARRINGER**  
Sports Editor

According to Career Services they are working at companies such as:

- National Accounts
- Technical Support
- Sales
- Marketing
- Engineering
- Order Management
- Project/Program Management
- Administrative

Job fairs are an easy way to see many companies at once. Student should plan to attend one of the job fairs being offered this semester: The University Bookstore is owned by the University. and each played great.

**Career Paths, from page 6**

Sienciian, from page 6

Sienciian’s colleagues have praised her for her work, and for her work, and she is quite impressed with her abilities. Sienciian has also been recognized for her work in psychology and director of clinical psychology, and the stress that she has had to face in her studies. Sienciian’s application for employment and has known Sienciian over the past 12 years. Sienciian’s colleagues have praised her for her work, and for her work, and she is quite impressed with her abilities. Sienciian has also been recognized for her work in psychology and director of clinical psychology, and the stress that she has had to face in her studies.

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As Brooks is well aware, humor is a powerful weapon, and the sight of a prancing, dancing, gay version of the famously homophobic Third Reich was a deliciously hilarious blow. The movie won Brooks an Oscar for Best Original Screenplay.

When Brooks adapted his film into a full-blown musical, he had to add more musical numbers, something he has long shown a comic flare for doing. He hit real pay dirt with the cast of Nathan Lane and Matthew Broderick on Broadway, and the musical became a smash hit and winner of a record-setting 12 Tony awards.

Lucky for us, this dynamic pair of Nathan Lane and Matthew Broderick is back in the film version of the Broadway hit, taking the film full circle. Added to the cast are Uma Thurman, in an eye-popping role as the Swedish secretary/receptionist and play's leading lady, and Will Farrell, perfectly cast as the impervious, damaged Nazi playwright Franz Liebknecht, eerily committed to showing the "lighter side" of the Fuhrer. Also returning from the original Broadway cast are the wonderful Gary Beach as flamboyant director Roger DeBris and delightful Roger Bart as his assistant and companion Carmen Ghia.

The film opens a bit shakily with a timid, neurotic Leo doing an overblown bit about his insecurities. However, having gotten that out of their systems, the film settles down to delivering one hilarious bit after another, with a liberal sprinkling of brightly colored musical production numbers. Any doubts you may have had about the film version of the Broadway musical are quickly dispelled by Mathew Broderick's excellent singing and dancing in his first showstopper "I Want To Be A Producer."

Who knew he could dance like that and sing, too. Uma Thurman is also surprisingly good in their duet, playing a Marilyn Monroe-like, language-challenged Swedish club who innocently embraces her sexuality. Thurman is a natural as a dancer and did her own singing, too. Nathan Lane smoothly sails through his numbers. He is especially good in the number where he dances across the city smoothing a seemingly cofﬁn chorus of identically dressed old ladies with walkers, the play's soon-to-be-bilked backers. Will Farrell is perfect as the perfectly dreadful singing and dancing Nazi. His big song-and-dance number comes where he persuades the producers join him in a rooftop dance, along with his goose-stepping Muppet pigeons, before agreeing to sign on. It is one of the film's many hilarious showstoppers.

"The Producers" is directed, not by Mel Brooks, but by Susan Stroman, who directed and choreographed the Broadway hit. Stroman is making her movie directing debut, with Brooks as producer. The play was opened up for the screen by including some iconic Broadway and New York locations like the famous Sardi's restaurant, Fifth Avenue and Central Park. Studio shots were done in New York, giving the production access to Broadway performers for the supporting roles. The director was looking to create the feel of a classic musical like "Singing in the Rain," and succeeded well.

The bright, hilarious "The Producers" is the perfect holiday movie break. It also may be the best musical or comedy of the year. After the movie, you should stay through the credits for a little Mel Brooks treat at the end of the film. You will be sorry if you miss it.
Brandon Baker and JJ Women are two hardcases new to the St. Louis music scene. The musicians credit African blues, traditional Motown-inspired pop melodies as the inspiration for their craft. The band will perform Jan. 21 in Belleville, Ill., and Feb. 9 in downtown St. Louis.

**Souful songs and unking toys: the music of Brandon Baker**

BY MABLE SMART
Night Life Editor

First thing's first. Let's get this straight. Brandon Baker is not a folk musician.

At his shows, which he plays frequently in area clubs and coffeehouses, you would be able to notice him as the handsome, bushy-haired, dark straight. Brandon Baker is not a folk musician.

When I met with him, at his home in St. Louis, he was bundles up in a green hooded jacket on a windy afternoon, he was not the traditional acoustic person that's always in the cafe playing songs about his ex-girlfriend. I want to do something completely different.

The two musicians are heavily influenced by, but don't necessarily incorporate elements of delta blues, traditional African music and Motown-inspired pop melodies, among other styles, into their songs. "A lot of noise influenced things that we're experimenting with are coming from interesting things," said Baker.

Brandon Baker and JJ Women complement Brandon's acoustic guitar and vocals with singing harmonies and playing a variety of different instruments including, but not limited to, electric slide guitar, melodica, baking sheets, toy xylophones and a battery-powered ALLIE robot.

The music is created that is part of a combination of various thoughts and muddled emotions, the songs are not always clearly defined. However, it is always enchanting with Brandon's unique and powerful voice that swells and ebbs like a tide, although with less consistency. Often mystical sounding and beautiful in nature, their songs have the ability to develop into something usually supernatural.

He explains this in the central theme of his new album, already in the works. "Everyone's life is really precious and it's something that's special no matter how bad it's gotten or how good it's been to you. Sometimes life is beautiful in an awful way."

Although not a concept album by definition, Baker says that a lot of his lyrics are really personal. "I don't want to stay the same thing. I want to do something completely different," said Baker.

When asked to describe their music, neither Baker nor Hamon could pinpoint the sound. They went through many words and phrases including "acoustic," "experimental instrumentation," and even "noise pollution." None of them seemed to do justice.

"People are going to call it what they want," said Baker. "Right now it's an acoustic thing, but I want to use all kinds of different things. I don't want to be the traditional acoustic person that's always in the cafe playing songs about his ex-girlfriend. I want to do something completely different."

When Baker went to meet with 20-year-old Brandon Baker and his somewhat soft spoken partner-in-crime JJ Hamon on a windy afternoon, he was bundled up in a green hooded jacket smoking a crumpled wooden pipe.

"Don't get me wrong. I don't do this all the time. I just started a few days ago," he said through a reezeing nose, while stopping to say hello to a friend.

Baker and Hamon have been performing together for almost a year, subsequent to Baker's open mic phase.

"I met the Hammons through a mutual friend and ever since then I've been able to do more of what I want to do musically," said Baker. "We see eye to eye on a lot of things," said Baker.

Brandon Baker and JJ Women are two hardcases new to the St. Louis music scene. The musicians credit African blues, traditional Motown-inspired pop melodies as the inspiration for their craft. The band will perform Jan. 21 in Belleville, Ill., and Feb. 9 in downtown St. Louis.

**Best Films of 2005**

**By GATE MARDIUS**

*Film Critic*

The best films of 2005. Good, very good, great films, still coming to movie theaters now. Beyond this list of your year's best films are some special categories — animated, documentaries and foreign language films—that should go on your 'Iought-to-see' list.

Here is a look back at the 2005 year in movies in St. Louis.

**Best Overall Films**

1. Good Night and Good Luck: The overall film of the year, from its visual style in recreating the look of the smoke-filled newsrooms of the 1950s to the powerhouse performance of David Strathairn as journalist Edward R. Murrow to its subject of the people finding its voice against a national house performance. David Strathairn as journalist Edward R. Murrow to its subject of the people finding its voice against a national house performance. So what does the future hold for Brandon Baker? Musically as a good, I don't want to stay the same thing.

2. Cinderella Man - This film was released too early in the year, and did not get the push it deserved. "In a combat zone, nobody cared," said Baker. "If that's all he's going for, I'm pretty sure that else that's already achieved."

Check out myspace.com/brandon baker to sample songs from the new album as well as the Child-like hymns EP. Experience Brandon Baker live at Three-A Three in Belleville, Ill. on Jan. 21 and at Cummie's in downtown St. Louis on Feb. 9. Also see JJ Hamon's group Jonas Lyn perform at Cummie's on Jan. 20. For more information on these artists and more, go to www.thesiamesemanagement.com.

**10. Brokeback Mountain**

*P.S. 30*

Based on a short story, whose events span the 1960s and 1970s, this film is more complicated story of two young Palestinians who had a vision. The film is best to know the players beforehand: "In the world of the fanatic, this is best to know the players beforehand:" Developers.

"In the world of the fanatic, this is best to know the players beforehand:" Developers.

**2. Constant Gardener**

This film came out just before the release of the book, and is one of the best complex geopolitical thriller with a bigger picture of oil, politics and power in the Middle East. It is best to know the players beforehand: "Good Morning, We're back." It's the year, this effort from Canadian director Robert Connery has the underlying structure of a great Western but with the furious violence of "Straw Dogs." It tells the full story about the characters in these tales upside down. Knock-off-titting suspense and action, this year's biggest ensemble crime and suspense action. Yet another period piece, whose events span the 1960s and 1970s, this film is more complicated story of two young Palestinians who had a vision. The film is best to know the players beforehand: "In the world of the fanatic, this is best to know the players beforehand:" Developers.

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**4. Capote - An acting tour-de-f"}

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Wintertime. The holidays are over. There's nothing to do, or so it seems... Until you have the idea for a Tuesday or Wednesday night to catch the latest dueling piano movie, right? Maybe work on that paper you've been putting off or actually go for a test more than one or two days ahead of time. Or, you could gather a few of your best and favorite chumsworthy and head out to a pub to have a pint with a better beer.

While spring and summer bring wavelengths and days that are perfect to get a little creative and nothing else to do. Here are a few of your options. You can about have the bar to yourself and your friends agree on a whim, have something planned. Never plan on going out, but some-...
The Strokes change it up with latest album, 'First Impressions'

by ZACH MEYER
Music Critic

If one thing has remained undisputedly consistent through the band’s career, it is the band member’s reliance on aesthetics. From the dandyism of the allusions of “This Is It?” to the band’s signature sleek looks, the album covers, and stage performances which could be mistaken as a fashion show and mixed with live music. “First Impressions of Earth,” the Strokes’ third album, proves to be no different.

Apart from the band’s aesthetic tendencies, there are some definite changes on “First Impressions of Earth.” The first and most obvious change is the increased production quality which has largely affected the band’s sonic grittier sound. For the third album, the band decided to record each song bit by bit, using the studio’s “state-of-the-art recording equipment.” However this change in the band’s recording process adds a layer of hi-fi icing to the already sweet cake. As a result, front man and lead vocalist Julian Casablancas has lost much of the gruff and drawn-slang that gave him his “Icke” and “Room on Fire” their infectious charms.

Furthermore because so much time was devoted to the recording process, the lyrics seem lagging in quality and repetitive. On the much-anticipated track “Ask Me Anything” the chorus, consisting of the phrase “I’ve got nothing to say,” is repeated a tiresome eight times in a row.

The other downside to the album is the high frequency of rock riffs within the songs. Besides the band’s wisely chosen “Juiced” singles, few of the songs have the same Popular basement rock elements as on previous albums. The energy that was captured in songs like “Last Night” and “r:07” is almost completely absent on “First Impressions of Earth.” That is not to say that the album is not without any value. In place of the pop-rock songs are more mature, more interesting tracks like “Heart in a Cage” and “Icarus.”

The biggest disappointment of the album is the band’s decision to acknowledge the rock critics who raved about the first two albums. On a stab at the Strokes’ naysayers, Nick Valensi chirps the song on top of the same marathon pop-rock elements used on previous albums. The energy that was captured in songs like “Last Night” and “r:07” is almost completely absent on “First Impressions of Earth.”

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The Strokes change it up with latest album, ‘First Impressions’
Catty’s ‘Producers’ scores a hit all over again

by MARY ANN MILLER

You want to see “The Producers,” so paraphrase the words to one of many catchy, show-stopping songs, in what may be the best musical comedy movie of the year.

Mel Brooks’ “The Producers” is the movie musical version of the hit Broadway musical based on a movie comedy about two producers who set out to present the world’s worst musical. Talk about getting the comedy about two producers who set out to create the world’s worst flop ever, raising more cash than they need and way more cash than they can possibly save—that is, until the check comes.

“Producers” scores a hit all over again as a record twelve Tonys on Broadway, while the film makes an excellent movie splendor harkening to the golden age of musical movies.

The movie version of Mel Brooks’ Broadway show “The Producers” features a star-studded cast of characters who set out to create the world’s worst musical, with an audience of six-inch stilettos along with some of the very tasteful clothing options of the club patrons can be quite overwhelming. The whole movie is a huge success, and the whole thing is a hit, leaving you a couple options and one that is the best in the whole. The movie is definitely an entertaining option for you.

If you want to party all night long and end the night with people watching, then make a stop at the Central West End for the Great American Restaurant and Bar. Breakfast is served at 6 a.m. on Saturday and Sunday when the crowds from closing clubs and college parties start pouring in. The food and staff are excellent, but watching the incoming crowd is even better.

The Loop is a place that guarantees stellar people watching no matter what day or time you go. The best place in the U. City Loop, you check out the individualist local crowd is the chain coffee shop Starbucks. This reason is the best place in the Loop to catch glimpses of passersby and it is situated smack in the middle of all the action.

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Grand South Grand is a vibrant district of authentic Italian shops and restaurants. It is approximately six city blocks long and is located between busy streets of Grand and Arsenal. Grand South Grand is rich in culture, international influences, and is known to many as St. Louis’ international neighborhood because many German, Italian, French and Asian immigrants have made the city their home away from home.

"It's a kind of mini Loop for residents that live in this area," said Marci Jackson.

Grand South Grand features include a variety of culinary venues. With more than 50 unique shops, Grand South Grand is inexpensive yet classic American cuisine in a late 1800s setting. It is open 24 hours for those late night cravings for cheezeburgers and hand dipped chocolate shakes. Their menu also features anything from the classic fried egg and cheese sandwich to the New York strip steak.

Mangia Italiano is a lovely Italian Italian restaurant. It is the perfect place for a first date or to rekindle an old flame. Enjoy creative Italian dishes such as lasagna and meat sauce, creamy shrimp pasta and chicken parmesigns over dim lighting and the soothing sounds of jazz. Goda Italiano!

Soulshine Sushi Bistro is a trendy bar and restaurant that features excellent Mexican dishes of Spanish rice, tamales, tacos, enchiladas and queso fundido. It is the newest addition to Grand South Grand but a great addition to this international district of culture. You can dine in and catch up on the latest sports highlights, or catch it all on a great table at the busy streets of Grand and Arsenal.

The King and I is known to be one of the best Thai restaurants in St. Louis. It has been in the same location of all years and is known as the "grand daddy" of Thai food. Their menu features the finest Japanese dishes of Sake and Sake Kikuko while waiting for a late night to a casual wasteball and a beautiful view through glass windows.

Qudoba is an authentic Mexican restaurant that features excellent Mexican dishes of Spanish rice, tamales, tacos, enchiladas and queso fundido. Their menu features Mexican dishes of Spanish rice, tamales, tacos, enchiladas and queso fundido.

Schools like Priced are looking for a little extra income may become familiar with Ray Ruscio, manager of A.J.R. Pawn Shop located on South Grand.

South Grand serves up cultural cuisine

"Munich is a worthy (and controversial) effort from Steven Spielberg" by Guy Mannous Film critic

Film guru expecting Steven Spielberg’s new film “Munich” to be another "Schindler’s List" is an unfair expectation. They will find a much different film. While artistically "Munich" is an excellent piece of filmmaking, filled with vivid imagery and splendid acting, "Munich" might not do anything far more likely to divide audiences.

To complicate matters, Spielberg aims to draw an act of terror with Jewish heroes, remind the world of the tragedy of the Munich Olympic and comment on the cycle of revenge and make a plea for peace. Quite an ambitious order for a single film. "Munich" is a historical thriller drama about the aftermath of the terrorist attack that killed 11 Israeli Olympic athletes at Munich in 1972. The attack was carried out by the previously unknown Palestinian terrorist group called Black September. The terrorist attack grabbed world-wide attention, and horrified them when a failed German rescue attempt led to the deaths of all of the hostages and the kidnapers.

The film’s story follows the actions of a Mossad-assembled team, led by agent Avner (Ray Weber, manager of A.J.R. Pawn Shop on South Grand) whose mission is to track down and kill all eleven Palestinians responsible for the murder of the Israeli athletes.

The team is given a list of names of targets to kill. If you are not in the mood for food, then one can easily have fun shopping at 10 retail shops or enjoy a soothing cup of java at Mokabe’s or Taza Mocha.

Spielberg’s film is about the complexities and the moral questions it raises along with its cinematic value, as some have hinted.

"Munich" raises along with its cinematic value, as some have hinted.

One of the problematic aspects of the film is that the victims all are presented in their role as family members, heroes, or in other neutral contexts. Spielberg’s film seeks to simplify stories to good guys, bad guys, and heroes, and to glorifying their exploits, rather than presenting them as flesh and blood. Spielberg’s film is all about the complexities. If movies have a single solution or a simple answer, that voice is the director’s. This is Spielberg’s film seeking to simplify stories about how much killing will be required to simplify events to inspiring action.

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Other reviewers have suggested that Spielberg’s film is a historical fiction. To be fair, Spielberg clearly states the film is historical fiction. Other is a purported biographical book by someone who was present one of the Mossad agents, but Spielberg clearly makes a plea for peace.

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"Munich" is a worthy (and controversial) effort from Steven Spielberg.