Halloween Edition

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Comments from the WEB

on "Proposition B will help Missouri's canines" issue 1320

"Vote YES and stop the thugs breeding so many pitbulls in awful conditions."

-Mark

on "Abrupt DADT repeal is better than none" issue 1325

"And this is why I say that they should just let all military/army/macy whatever people take a vote on it. At the end of the day it is the joe schmo in the army uniform that will be around the gay person, so let him decide and not the politicians who aren't even in the army in the first place and therefore should have no opinion on it.

I am all for letting gays in if it means I don't have to ever be forced (I am very anti-women being in the army)."

-E.C.

on "A vote's a vote, except when it is for the Tea Party" issue 1324

"I think Mr. Seal is trying to say that this November, don't vote for Republicans that have Tea Party ideals or backing. Seems simple to me."

-Johnny G.

VERBATIM

"I would say the league is viable as long as you have owners who want to continue funding losses. But it's not on the long term a sustainable business model that we're happy to be supporting. It needs to be reset."

-David Stern, NBA Commissioner

"The Obama experiment has failed"

-John Thune, Senator in South Dakota

"You are not alone. You didn't do anything wrong. You didn't do anything to deserve being bullied. And there is a whole world waiting for you, filled with possibilities."

-President Barack Obama, in a YouTube message directed at gay youth.

WEATHER

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College of Business Administration trick-or-treated by Princeton Review

In the guidebook, the business program at the University of Missouri-St. Louis was described as having a "good reputation in the St. Louis area for providing a good, quality business education." Princeton review also stated that the average starting salary for UM-St. Louis business graduates is $48,067. "Regarding the fact that we have a lot of part-time students as well as transfer students, who often times are left out of the statistics in terms of the rankings, we should be proud," Womer said. However, since the rankings are based on surveys filled out by volunteer students, the validity of the review has been questioned by many students and faculty members around the country. "All the rankings are basically imperfect, which explains why all the institutions cannot generate the same results," Womer said. College ranking systems have drawn criticism from within and outside the United States since the ranking reviews started to be published. In 2007, it even brought a major movement against international college ranking systems, bearing the outcome that approximately 80 percent of college expressed their position that they no longer intend to participate in the U.S. News college ranking list for the last few years.

New print quota no reason to be scared

Many students were shocked when they returned from summer vacation and discovered their printing on campus computer labs would be limited this semester. The university has taken new measures to guarantee appropriate campus printing. The new system, PaperCut, keeps track of printing for Instructional Computing network print servers. "PaperCut was set up so the university could help manage printing, better understand academic needs and to be green," Ken Boss, director of Computing Services, said. PaperCut works by giving a print quota to each individual user.

The present print quota for students regardless of their year or major is 2,000 pages a semester but may be changed based on overall academic need. Instructional computing will evaluate how well 2,000 pages works for students and either increase or decrease the printing limit. "We did not want to set a quota students couldn't meet; 2,000 is a pretty high quota," Boss said.

Many students agree that the limit of 2,000 pages is a bit excessive. "I transferred from a campus where the printing limit was under 100," Ben Schisler, senior, finance, said. "I probably am not going to use all 2,000 pages this semester. I am only at 1600 and it's already mid-semester," Sawyer Lisk, junior, finance, said.

If students print more than 2,000 pages in one semester, they will not be punished. The print quota is simply to inform students of their printing habits and to help them print more wisely. If students do not use all 2,000 pages and have leftover quota, they are not allowed to transfer it to the following semester or to give it to another student. The transfer of leftover quota would defeat the purpose of the experiment Instructional Computing is running.

Keeping track of individual print quota should be easy for students. Whenever students log on to their accounts a small box with their print quota pops up in the top right corner of the computer screen. "It does not matter to me if the amount of pages is over 20. PaperCut also keeps track of how much printing is done in each of the various computer labs. "It will give us the ability to really understand where most printing is done," Boss said.

Fifteen percent of students have left over quota, with 20 percent over quota. "I think 20 percent is a lot of students," Boss said. "I think 20 percent is a lot of students that are printing more than they should."

The University of Missouri-S. Louis is actually lagging behind when it comes to installing PaperCut. Other universities such as "The University of Missouri-Columbia, The University of Missouri-Kansas City and The University of Missouri-Rolla already have controlled printing systems. "I can't say always because you never know what will happen in the future, but there will be a quota at UMSL from now on," Boss said.
University NRA group more like a ghost town

The National Rifle Association wants to recruit University of Missouri-St. Louis students. Unfortunately for the NRA, it appears few students want to be recruited.

NRA University was held in the Pilot House in the Millennium Student Center last Tuesday, Oct. 19. The sparsely attended event was designed to educate UM-St. Louis about the second amendment and how to get involved in its protection. Kristiana R. Cupp, a grassroots coordinator for the NRA, was the evening’s main speaker.

During her presentation, she lectured on the history of the NRA, referring to it as the oldest civil rights organization in the country and highlighted pro-gun rights candidates currently running for election in Missouri. Ed Martin and Roy Blunt have both received high marks from the NRA where as both of their Carnahan opponents are failures, according to Cupp.

Brady Gibson, an NRA Campaign field representative, was also on hand discussing his work with the Blunt, Martin and other pro-second amendment candidate campaigns in Missouri.

The issue hitting closest to campus was the NRA's lobbying for nationwide laws giving students of legal age and faculty the right to conceal and carry on campus.

"Individuals who are of age and have taken the proper classes should be able to carry [a concealed firearm] on campus," Cupp said. "If you can carry one across the street at 7-11, you should be able to carry one on campus."

Eric Hamre, junior, nursing, one of the few students at the event, questioned the wisdom of the presence of guns on a college campus.

In response, Cupp cited the 2007 Virginia Tech massacre as an instance when a properly armed student body could have potentially been lifesaving.

Cupp blamed the low turnout of the event, which was co-sponsored by the UM-St. Louis College Republicans, on the time of the year and a lack of preparation.

"We really just set this up seven days ago," Cupp said. "We've had recent NRA University at University of North Carolina and around 350 showed up and University of Virginia with 120. I was disappointed not to have the same turnout here."

Of the students who did make it to the event, most said they were not NRA members, but wanted to find out more about the organization. Jeremiah Vistine, senior, history, said he came because he was curious about what was going to be discussed. Vistine said he would not call himself a gun enthusiast though he does do some occasional target shooting.

Lauren Rodriguez, a member of the UM-St. Louis College Republicans, said she met with the representatives from the NRA and booked the Pilot House but made it clear to them there was little else she could do. "I wasn't going to be able to go out there and cheerlead for the event," she said.

Rodriguez said interest in the College Republicans has waned recently at UM-St. Louis. She went as far as to refer to herself as UM-St. Louis' only remaining member.

The following criminal incidents were reported to the University of Missouri-St. Louis Police Department between October 14, 2010 and October 22, 2010.

October 14, 2010
Stealing under $500.00-Mark Twain Soccer Field
A student left his bag at the soccer field at 2:00 PM and went inside to use the restroom. When he came back at 2:15 PM his cell phone was missing from his bag. There are no suspects in this incident.

October 14, 2010
Stealing under $500.00-Millennium Student Center
A student reported that between 5:00 PM and 6:00 PM she was in the MSC building on the 2nd floor and place two cell phones on a bench and walked away. When she realized she forgot them, she returned and they were gone.

October 21, 2010
Assault third degree-Touhill Performing Arts Center
After an event at the Touhill Performing Arts Center, two custodian employees got into an argument over potato chips. One of the custodians threw the chips at the other, then they both got in each other’s face and starting yelling. The other custodian grabbed a trash can and threw it at the other one two times and chased them out of the building. There were no injuries in this altercation. This matter will be reported as an assault with no criminal charges filed, but will also be handled as an employee/resource violation.

Remember that crime prevention is a community effort, and anyone having information concerning these, or any other incidents should contact the Campus Police. The UMSL Police would like to remind all persons to be aware of our surroundings, walk in groups and stay in well lit areas if possible. 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.
On Friday, October 22, the Tritons men’s soccer team defeated the fifth ranked team in the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II soccer poll, the Northern Kentucky University Norse.

Before the game, Coach Dan King, The University of Missouri-St. Louis men's soccer head coach, emphasized that the Tritons needed to perform well against the Norse at home. "We're undefeated on the road," Coach King said, "but we are not getting results at home." Entering their game against the Norse, UM-St. Louis has three wins and five loses with no draws at Don Dallas Field this season. Away from home the Tritons have six wins and two draws.

The Tritons took an early lead in the first half. Striker Almin Sabotic, junior, media relations, received a cross in the 18-yard-box by midfielders Evan Schumaker, junior, business administration and David Schwer, junior, undecided.

Schumaker intercepted a Norse pass and then weaved his way through the Northern Kentucky defense. Sabotic made a good off the ball run towards the six yard box. Schumaker attempted a shot from just inside the penalty area, but was saved by the Northern Kentucky goal keeper, Michael Lavric. However, Schwer followed the shot and crossed it to a waiting and onside Sabotic who touched the ball in the back of the Norse goal. "Coach put me up top," Sabotic said. "And I'm really feeling good up there and the game has been finding me."

The Tritons went into the locker room at the halftime interval with a one goal lead, but the Norse continued to force the issue as they pushed numbers forward from the backline. Northern Kentucky outshot the Tritons eight to four in the second half and 12 to seven overall. The Tritons, though, overcame the pressure.

Midfielder Jordan Bruce, sophomore, criminology, slipped his man on the left side of the pitch and got into the Norse’s 18-yard-box drawing a penalty kick. Sabotic, who recently took over most of the Tritons set pieces and dead ball situations, lined up the penalty kick and made Lavric guess the wrong way, sending the Norse goal keeper to the right and the ball to the left. With the penalty kick conversion, the Tritons took a commanding two goal lead.

But the Norse continued to apply pressure to the Tritons. In the 60th minute, UM-St. Louis gave up a penalty kick to Northern Kentucky University. Goalkeeper Adam Giesegh, senior, accounting, lost the battle of wits against Norse midfielder Steven Beattie. The number five for Northern Kentucky converted the penalty kick opportunity cutting the Tritons lead in half 2-1.

UM-St. Louis held on and grinded out a tough victory in the final 30 minutes. "One lesson from today is never give up on this team," Coach King said. "These guys showed what we're made of."

With the win, the Tritons are still alive for the Great Lakes Valley Conference Tournament.

The Tritons women’s soccer team fell to the twentieth ranked Northern Kentucky Norse 1-0. Hannah Sayre, junior, business marketing, kept a clean sheet until the 73rd minute when Norse Striker Taylor Jennings took advantage of a Triton mistake and scored far post on Sayre.

Kaylee Neutzling, junior, criminal justice, was the lone striker in UM-St. Louis' 4-5-1 formation. Both UM-St. Louis men’s and women’s teams will look to qualify after Friday's games.
SPORTS COLUMN

College zombies more fun than NFL corpses

College football at the Division I level is far more enjoyable than watching the National Football League on Sunday afternoons and Monday nights. College football games are an all day experience and watching the University of Notre Dame, University of Southern California, University of Missouri-Columbia or any other of the big name college football programs beats any Sunday afternoon telecast of players like Terrell Owens, Brett Favre or any other professional personality.

Saturday afternoons and evenings are college football time in America. It seems this season that more people are watching and talking college football than the professionals that play on Sunday for the National Football League.

Watching the University of Missouri-Columbia Tigers play a barn burner against the University of Oklahoma Sooners, it seems that the college football game is more marketable and much more fun to watch than the NFL. It seems more bars and houses were filled with people chanting M-I-Z-Z-O-U, than people cheering on the Rams.

If one faces the facts, the college game is more enjoyable. Looking on Stubhub.com, the Tougher ticket in St. Louis this weekend was the marquee matchup against the two top teams in the Big 12 Conference. The Rams, as of Saturday night, are still looking to sell tickets to their home game against the winless Carolina Panthers.

Skepticism regarding the Rams has been expressed previously in the Does St. Louis Really Need the Rams column. The National Football League and the Rams are often embroiled in off and on the field scandals. Brett Favre of the Minnesota Vikings is always coming in and out of retirement. His off the field issues are also questionable.

The collegiate football game is not entirely perfect either, but watching on ESPN this weekend it seemed more people are excited about Gary Pinkel's Tigers squad. Heading into Saturday's game, Missouri is undefeated and have a chance at a national championship. What do the Rams have to look for: an outside hope of Sam Bradford leading an old team with a not so good coaching staff?

The experience and price level may have something to do with the better marketability as well. The college experience is more coincident with college football or basketball. Even University of Missouri-St. Louis students may attend an occasional basketball, soccer or volleyball game.

At big time NCAA Division I programs, like the University of Missouri-Columbia, St. Louis University and Missouri State University in Springfield, there are stadium sections denoted for the sole purpose of students.

Professional teams hope for the best when selling tickets to football games. Oh, and good luck trying to find a ticket deal to a Rams game. The average price for a Rams ticket is over 45 dollars.

Freddie Kruger is Sports Editor for The Current.
On Tuesday, October 19, hundreds of flannel wearing indie kids packed into St. Louis' The Firebird to see Alaska's Portugal. The Man (punctuation intended).
The audience gathered around the stage like a pack of hungry wolves waiting with steeped anticipation for Portugal. The Man to hop on stage and rock them with a soulful blend of vintage and modern pop-rock.

The sudden light show began with thick smoke jetting out as the band took the stage: guitarist and vocalist, John Baldwin Gourley; bassist and vocalist, Zachary Scott Carothers; drummer, Jason Sechrist; and keyboardist Ryan Neighbors. The quartet grabbed their instruments and kicked off the set with "My Mind" from 2001's 'Church 1v10th.' The cut soared with Gourley's pitch-perfect and tightly delivered lines. "The Sun," from 2009's acclaimed 'Satanic Satanist' opened with ethereal, falsetto vocals, guitar twang and thrumming bass, before the song leapt into its Oasis influenced chorus.

Ryan Neighbors' keys supported the catchy "Shade." Gourley's vocals spiraled down like a winding staircase in a light-house, delivering one solid, grounded hook after another. "Oh Lord," also from 'Church Moth,' channeled the British invasion style of Wolfmother. "Marching With 6" was a jam fest, sticky like peanut butter caked on the teeth, featured trade off vocals among Gourley, Neighbors and Carothers and walk-the-dog piano. "Stables and Chairs" wobbled with plucked minor chords and Animal Collective drums. The song's swagger got everyone in the audience swaying like dandelions in the wind. The acoustic and piano based "And I" brought the show to a soulful quiet, before Portugal. The Man leapt into fan-favorite "People Say" from 'Satanic Satanist.' The track featured white-hot guitar licks and a characteristic bee-bop, lyrically complex verse. Waving hands in the air, the crowd joined the topical chorus, "What a lovely day, yeah we won the war, may have lost a million men, but we got a million more." This is when the crowd became a single organism whose heart beat only for Portugal. The Man and their diverse set.

Portugal. The Man ended with "AKA M80 the Wolf" which employed Radiohead-esque drumming, long guitar strums and an industrial tinged chorus. Beckoned back to the stage by the hungry crowd, Portugal. The Man charged into their encore as the lights show clicked into finale mode and featured a three-dimensional dot pattern that refracted through the thick smoke to create an effect of floating in space.

Portugal. The Man's packed show at the Firebird was a stylistically epic tour-de-force that spirited the audience through the hills and valleys of accessible indie rock, classic rock, contemporary pop and vintage psychedelics. Portugal. The Man's return to St. Louis was one of rock, passion, power and unbridled skill. B+ - Herschel Knife
‘Jackass 3D’: frighteningly stupid

The high school daredevils and amateur skateboarders who go see “Jackass 3D” will undoubtedly leave the theater with plenty of dangerous activities to imitate, film and post on YouTube. Many others will leave wondering what all the hype is about and where their $7.50 went.

The film suffers many shortcomings, but none of them is a result of a lack of effort from the cast.

No less than three segments feature horn-headed animals stalking and eventually striking members of the Jackass crew. In a particularly memorable scene, Knoxville himself literally goes to great pains to prove once and for all that people really cannot roller skate in a buffalo herd.

The exotic wildlife that made the Jackass spinoff “Wildboyz” so memorable and post on YouTube. Many and amateur skateboarders have always been a lack of self-satisfaction, but none of them is a result of a lack of effort from the cast.

In fact it is during that very scene that many viewers may all of sudden begin to feel uncomfortable. As Barn screams for help and curses his conniving friends who tricked him into the snake pit, whether or not these dare devils are still having fun becomes a very legitimate question. Barn’s cries for help sound too real and make Knoxville and company’s laughter seem nothing but cruel and callous. Of course no one is forcing these guys to submit to this inhumane treatment, but a $50 million opening weekend is undoubtedly hard to say no to.

One thing the “Jackass 3D” cast undoubtedly did say no to was the “no nudity” clause of whatever contracts they signed with MTV films. The instances of male full frontal nudity are too many to keep track of without a tally sheet and go well beyond the criteria necessary to qualify as gratuitous. Though gratuitous and hilarious are not always mutually exclusive.

Cameras in the film include Sean William Scott, singer songwriter Will Oldham and several NFL players, including the St. Louis Rams very own kicker Josh Brown (he place kicks a football right into Preston Lacy’s face.)

The scene featuring Josh Brown highlights a technology featured in this film that is just as interesting as the real 3D. Much of the filming was done with a Phantom high-speed camera, which captures 1,000 frames per second. As a result, every single twinge and jiggie in the fat of Lacy’s face is captured as the speeding pigskin makes contact. The amount of movement that occurs during the milliseconds of contact, invisible to the naked eye, is fascinating to watch within any context, slapstick or otherwise.

James Cameron, the man responsible for the reemergence of 3D, has stated his belief that shooting in 3D should be done primarily to differentiate background from foreground. In doing so, the medium is understated and does not feel gimmicky. But the Jackass guys clearly do not subscribe to the Cameron school of thought. Early and often, Knoxville or one of his cohorts shoot projectiles directly out from the screen, apparently aiming for the audience members’ red and blue framed cardboard glasses.

University of Missouri - St. Louis, College of Arts & Science Gender Studies Program, Sally Barr Ebest, Ph.D., Director

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'My Soul to Take 3D' will disappoint Craven fanatics

Wes Craven wears out welcome

Wes Craven has once again worn out his welcome in the thriller/horror genre with his latest project "My Soul to Take 3D." Besides a storyline that failed to stay true to its original concept, the film struggled with how to properly market itself to an adult audience.

The film is centered on a small town, known as River­ton, and the legend of the schizophrenic serial killer that resides there. It is 16 years from the night of the killer’s arrest and disappearance and it is believed that he has returned to claim the souls of the seven children born on that very night. Out of the seven teens targeted, the tormentor takes great pleasure in turning the skittish, sleep-deprived Bug (Max Thieriot) into his own personal pawn of deception.

While this storyline, on its own, sounds somewhat interesting, Craven feels the need to suffocate it with scenes revolving around what it is to be a man, a classroom project involving a giant bird attacking a student and a “Mean Girls” cliché. Most viewers, at this point are contemplating as to whether or not they are still watching a horror film. Confusion is even present during scenes of soul possession versus scenes of domestic violence. Why was the main character being physically abused so much?

So, even after adding in all of this adolescent nonsense, did Craven manage to spark an interest in the younger generation of movie goers, who tend to gravitate toward the gory "Saw" franchise? Unfortunately, no, compared to the box-office numbers that the ever so popular "So-
cial Network" brought in. And why is that?

The answer lies in marketing. This film was branded with an R-rating because of its use of blood and obsessive throat slashing, keeping the teen audience it was obviously marketed for away. Craven, who is known for his free use of R-ratings in past screenplays, should have gotten off of his high-horse for the sake of the film’s box-office results. There are other ways to depict a murder in a horror film besides a throat slashing, especially when its over-usage gets to the point that it becomes ineffective and predictable.

On the subject of casting for this film, it seemed as if Craven had hijacked these actors from the next casting of "High School Musical." While most of the actors were playing characters of a younger nature, such as Zena Grey (as Penelope, the faith driven loner), and Paulina Olszynski (as Brittany, the shallow popular girl), on screen they still appeared too young to be considered high school students. How is an adult audience supposed to relate to a high school tale with child star actors?

And, it was distressing to see “Great Debaters” actor Denzel Whitaker reduce his talents to a cheesy horror/thriller.

Overall, this movie was not well thought out and had no significance what so ever. Viewers see this when Craven has the villain talking to a girl on a cell phone. Sound familiar? The only positive thing that can be said about the movie is that it eventually comes to an end. As far as the option of viewing the film in three dimensions, it was a waste of money and clearly a promotional tactic to increase box office sales. If one cannot live without seeing this film, even after reading this review, it is still recommended that one wait, not for it to come to their local video store, but until it premieres on television.

D -Health Hazard
Kathleen Turner confronts scary subject in Rep’s ‘High’

Kathleen Turner, starring in the Broadway-bound “High,” was greeted by an enthusiastic packed house opening night on October 13. The play made its debut at the Repertory Theater of St. Louis’ Loretto-Hilton theater in Webster Groves and is scheduled to run through November 7.

Typically, Broadway plays have out-of-town openings to work out kinks. Although billed as a world premiere, St. Louis is one of three cities hosting versions of “High,” with re-writes for each.

Turner first wowed movie audiences in “Body Heat.” The actress still has that smoky voice and sly delivery. On stage, she was a delight, giving the audience everything they hoped for. The other actors in this three-person play, Michael Berresse and Evan Jonigkeit, offered strong performances aided by the skillful direction of Rob Ruggiero. The production as a whole was perfect.

The play? Not so much.

With the wonderful Turner and the Rep’s strong production, the stage was set for success but the play itself does not measure up. Playwright Matthew Lombardo creates interesting characters and chose a socially-significant topic with dramatic potential but seems not to know what to do with them.

“High” opens strong, with Turner alone on a bare stage, backed by a starry sky. With dry humor, she recalls childhood memories of her sister, the pretty, smart one to her less-than-perfect ugly duckling. The dialog is just the right mix of funny and ironic and is telling. Turner's timing and skill at phrasing are impeccable, delivered in her distinctive deep voice. She could have held the audience rapt all night.

Turner plays a fascinating character - a wisecracking, salty-tongued nun. Sister Jamie favors casual clothes over the nun’s habit and has moved in with teens from affluent families.

But the ending is unlikely to appeal to those of faith. Turner crafts a distinct, complex character yet her actions at the end ring false. The playwright seems desperate to inject some fresh twist, even to the point of undermining the play’s believability.

Turner certainly did her part to aid success. Jonigkeit is impressive as the haunted, manipulative Cody. Berresse does well as the priest but the acting fireworks largely belong to the two other characters.

Sets were spare but evocative - the starry sky, a white hospital office, two tall brick walls. Costumes were simple, neutral tones with a touch of palest blue, well-suited to the subject.

“High” has potential but a rewrite, perhaps a drastic one, is needed before it is ready for Broadway.

C - Casket Maker
January 3-15, 2011
earn 3 credit hours
in 2 weeks
To end a week of fun and welcoming back alumni, the University of Missouri-St. Louis hosted the annual homecoming dance and dinner last Saturday. This year, the event was held at the Missouri-based hotel inside one of the university’s buildings, other than its main campus. The doors opened at 6 p.m. to reveal a sea of red and black on the tables, decorations and place settings with salad and water prepared for around one thousand guests.

The light sounds of soft rock and music of the early 20th century welcomed the crowds of people walking in. Dozens gathered just outside the ballroom in anticipation of the rest of the night.

At seven, an announcement was made for attendees to begin eating dinner. When buying tickets, purchasers were asked to choose between chicken and a vegetarian platter. Neither failed to impress most of the guests. While dinner was wrapping up, the announcements for the homecoming king and queen were made. Those nominated for king and queen had participated heavily in homecoming activities throughout the week, including attending games and the homecoming fair and parade. Among the court, were Andrew Black, sponsored by Sigma Pi, and Courtney Luchrman, sponsored by the Catholic Newman Center.

“My favorite part about homecoming is seeing the school come together. Just seeing everyone participate in things, going to the soccer games, having school spirit for one week on campus; it’s really awesome,” Luehrman said.

Other members of the court included Brandon Corbin, sponsored by Pi Kappa Alpha; Jillian Richardson, sponsored by Associated Black College Students; Tom Dixson Elisha Seals, both sponsored by Residential Hall Association; and Marshall Lee

and Ann Korth, sponsored by Sigma Tau Gamma and women’s rights. In the end, Tom Dixson and Jillian Richardson won home the crowns.

Though one might think a "simple" dinner and dance is easy to put, it is not. Student Life has actually been organizing this year’s homecoming since last December. The homecoming committee booked the venue in December and chose the theme last January.

"We’ve been working steadily on it since January. It’s actually been a very long process, but it’s been fun and there has been a lot of committees members involved," Jericah Selby, junior, criminology, said. The choice of the dance, and the entire event, was inspired by the venue itself.

"We went through a couple of venues and I really loved this place when I walked through it. This is actually a building that was here during the 1904 World’s Fair. So, I thought it’d be kind of neat to incorporate St. Louis. I really wanted to do something that was a little more different than past years but still kind of St. Louis based," Selby said.

Although the dance was a hit, several attendees were there to please their significant other or to enjoy the food.

"My girlfriend wanted to come. If my girlfriend wants to come, I’ll come back next year. It’s nice meeting friends and having fun. But, I don’t really dance." Teri Choi, junior, business, said.

Just as soon as it had ended, plans for next year’s homecoming will soon be on the way.
A frightful fun time at the mini fair

- DARKO TEMPEST  
  Staff Writer

Student Life at the University of Missouri-St. Louis kicked off the week with an exciting mini-fair filled with games, music, food and other activities. This event took place October 18 on the patio lawn of Millennium Student Center, which began the commencement of homecoming week.

The fair kicked off the 2010 Homecoming, which was cleverly named, "Meet Me at the Fair." The area was filled with activities and booths such as bottle throw, pick-a-duck, ring toss, sack toss. Other attractions included a mini skating rink and the spinning ferris wheel. The ferris wheel was the biggest attraction and went a lot faster than the average ferris wheel. Many of the fair's participants seemed impressed.

"I liked the Ferris wheel, it was cool and went super-fast and I kept screaming the whole time," Jackie Woodard, freshman, communication, said.

To make the event even more entertaining, student life was able to get a DJ to play music and keep the excitement going. Along with that, UM-St. Louis Triton Cheerleaders also paid a visit to the event. Students were able to take pictures and meet Louie, the new school mascot.

There were raffles, contests with prizes and students were able to take green screen pictures, and also tons of free food available. There was homemade cotton candy, ice cream cones with strawberry, chocolate, and vanilla flavors; and candy from the booths as prizes.

The event lasted from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Later that night, Student Life set up "Toy Story 3" on the big screen on the MSC lawn. The movie started at 7 p.m. Everyone enjoyed s'mores, had fun near the bonfire and were able to watch a funny Disney cartoon. "I was excited because I saw candy and I got to do other things besides homework. I only had a problem with Louie. I'm scared of clowns and things that look like them," Rebecca Moran, freshman, nursing, said.

Other homecoming week events consisted of a blood drive, chili dinner, volleyball and soccer game and the Associated Black Collegians' Step Show at the Touhill Performing Arts Center.

Voting for homecoming queen and king advertisements were everywhere; on the ground, in public announcements and UM-St. Louis' homepage, which is the place to vote for the winners. The homecoming dance was located at Union Station in the Marriott Hotel. All the events and games are what lead up to the best part, the homecoming dance. "I like to dance all night long, I'm always having good time when I'm dancing with my friends," Nick Ussery, freshman, computer science, said.
The Big Scary Man on Campus

JEN O'SCARA
Features Editor

The 12th annual Big Man on Campus pageant was held at 12 p.m. in the Pilot House last Wednesday. Psychology professor, Dr. Jennifer Siciliani, hosted the pageant. This year's contestants were Charlie Kenison, Marshall Lee, R.J. Miller and Ryan Robinson. The Judges were Nick Messing, Ashlee Roberts, Jessie Chandler and Kelly Sieddall.

The sportswear round started the event. Kenison walked out first wearing gray triton sweatpants and a red University of Missouri-St. Louis hooded jacket. He carried a basketball with him and pleased the crowd by performing a few tricks before leaving the stage. Lee, clad in his Victory Fuji suit, rolled onto the stage and did a series of flips. Miller wearing white baseball pants, a red UM-St. Louis t-shirt and a baseball helmet carried a baseball bat and had an audience member toss soft balls at him to hit. Robinson wore khaki slacks and a black and red UM-St. Louis shirt. Robinson used a golf club to whack a beach ball into the audience.

Round two was the talent portion. Kenison played the piano and sang an acoustic version of "Down" by Jay Sean. Lee, accompanied by two friends, performed a step routine for the show. Lee then lay on his back and used his arms to lift up one of his friends 19 times to prove his strength. Miller played his drum and rapped an ode to the university.

"I love UMSL. I love the tritons. I love my girlfriend. Man, I love UMSL," said Miller.

Ryan Robinson earned a standing ovation for his solo dance to "Single Ladies" by Beyonce. The crowd cheered and applauded while he shimmied, dipped and ran in circles across the stage.

Rounds three and four, the formal wear and question rounds, were combined. Kenison came out in a charcoal colored suit, a baby blue shirt and a blue and gray striped tie.

Messing, one of the many judges, posed the question "Who is your favorite fictional character?"

Kenison answered Huckleberry Finn, but then changed his answer.

"Will Smith. Because he gives 100% no matter what," Kenison said.

Lee walked on stage in a gray collared shirt, black pants, a black tie and a black belt.

Roberts, also a judge, asked Lee which part of his body he considered his best asset.

"Honestly, I think it's my chest because I work out a lot. I do pushups every morning," Lee said.

Miller wore a black suit over a white shirt along with a gray and red striped tie.

A third judge, Chandler, asked, "If you could be any superhero, who would it be?"

Miller had to take a moment to think about this.

"Hmm...superhero...superhero...Spiderman...I like him," Miller said.

Robinson wore a black three-piece tuxedo with a white shirt underneath. Sieddall asked who's life Robinson would live in for a day if he could and why.

"I would be Kyle Kerston because he takes a lot of responsibilities every day. I wish I could be like that," Robinson said.

Ryan Robinson was announced the winner at the Greek versus Roman soccer game last Friday. All donations earned at the 12th annual Big Man on Campus pageant were donated to the Girls Inc. of Normandy.
Spirit Points help ignite an inferno of participation

> NERO ANGELO  
> Staff Writer

Homecoming Week each year explodes with festivities. Be it Big Man on Campus, the Homecoming Blood Drive or the week-long campaign for the prestigious positions of Homecoming King and Queen, students show active involvement and spirit on campus during Homecoming Week.

In an effort to help give incentives for the hundreds of large student organizations on campus to get involved with each event, Homecoming week features a point system called spirit points.

“Homecoming week is a way for students to engage in the university and reflect on the accomplishments and contributions that students, faculty, staff and alumni have put into our university since its establishment. The spirit competition is a way for us to thank student organizations with the most involvement throughout the week,” Jeriah Selby, junior, criminology and criminal justice, said.

Selby also cited that the system has checks and balances to help ensure that no organization receives preferential treatment based on its being larger than another. The way this is done is by limiting the number of sign-ins per organization that actually count for spirit points. While any number of organization members may attend and participate in events, only 13 of them will actually count toward tallying points.

“To be recognized as a student organization, you must have 13 members, which is why we picked this number. This allows for each organization, large and small, to take advantage of the competition,” Selby said.

Spirit points, then, are the currency of Homecoming week and the proof that one’s organization is contributing to the spirit of the week. However, what happens to organizations that do not participate as heavily or, in some instances, at all? Well, Selby had an answer for that one, as well: this is meant to be purely for fun, and will not reflect negatively on organizations that simply cannot find the time to participate.

At the end of the week, though, what is the true point behind Spirit Points (pun intended)? Why would organizations strive to earn points by participating in these week-long activities, especially with midterms in full swing?

“The points will be added up and the organization who wins the competition will be announced at the Homecoming Dance this Saturday. The winning organization will receive their name engraved on the Homecoming Spirit Plaque in the Office of Student Life and will have bragging rights as the most spirited student organization,” Selby said.

As for this year, the winners were announced at the dance itself, as tradition demands. As the ballroom grew anxious, Orlandis Barge approached the stage to announce placing in the competition. Having announced second and third, his final announcement incited an eruption of cheering and clapping.

“And in first place is Residence Hall Association! Congratulations to everybody who took part!” Orlandis Barge, sophomore, pre-engineering, said.

General celebration followed, as the victorious organization jumped around and cheered each other on.

So, with a victory prize of a plaque and pride, the mass celebration of the victors certainly qualifies the true strength of their spirit for the University of Missouri-St. Louis. For those interested, who may have missed out this year, be sure to keep an eye out next fall for Homecoming Week’s plethora of festive occasions: those bragging rights may just be up for grabs again!
Opinions

Politics in Misery has boiled into a litany of smears

Once again the issues and the candidates’ views on them have taken a back seat to the mud-slinging and personal attacks in an election. Missouri’s senate race between Roy Blunt and Robin Carnahan has devolved into a contest to see who can smear the other side more effectively.

In their attack ads the Carnahan and her supporters have attempted to paint Congressman Blunt as a corrupt political insider who serves special interests on Wall Street. Of course, those ads neglect to mention that Blunt’s largest political donor in the financial industry is St. Louis’ own Edward Jones.

Of course, there are allegations coming from the other side that are just as outrageous.

Blunt’s campaign has focused on linking Robin Carnahan to unpopular Democrats like Nancy Pelosi, Harry Reid and President Obama. Blunt’s campaign has also criticized her for supporting the unpopular healthcare reform and stimulus program. The problem with those allegations is that Carnahan has only held state office throughout her career and thus never voted on those aforementioned pieces of legislation. Nor has she ever worked with Obama, Pelosi or Reid.

Even the candidates’ families are not safe. Robin Carnahan’s brother, Tom, has been attacked for operating a wind farm that received Federal stimulus money. Blunt’s wife and son, both of whom are lobbyist, have been brought into the fray as well.

The disappointing thing is that the Blunt-Carnahan hatefest is not the nastiest Senate race in the country. Earlier this month Kentucky’s Jack Conway ran a television ad in which he accused his opponent Rand Paul of blindfolding a woman and forcing her to pray to an “aqua Buddha” idol, despite there not being a shred of hard evidence behind the allegation.

At best, name-calling and sensationalized personal attacks merely distract voters from the issues being decided primarily on shady half-truths and hearsay. At worst the negative ads make the electorate cynical and apathetic to the democratic process causing America’s chronic low voter turnout to plummet even further.

It is irresponsible for politicians to base their entire campaigns on digging up dirt and slandering their opponent. This strategy may yield short-term gains but ultimately it is reinforcing the perception that all politicians are sleazy immoral creatures who will do anything to get and stay elected. All too often politicians promise to run civilized and positive campaigns only to abandon such intentions the second they begin to struggle in the polls.

The sad reality is that the only reason negative campaigning is so prevalent is because it works so well. Voters need to say no to negative ads and demand their candidates focus on issues over personal attacks.

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Unique editors reflect the majority viewpoint of The Current’s Editorial Board: Urdoom Issseled, Bunny Boo Bean, Jen O’Scara, Herschel Knif, Freddie Kruger, Grave Dweller, Greenman.

Ballot propositions, brass zombie style

The future of Missouri is in voter’s hands on November 2. It is every citizen’s duty to be enlightened and knowledgeable about the issues at stake come each Election Day, and this year is no different.

Especially this year, though, are some Propositions that have the potentially to acutely affect the way Missouri will operate in years to come. There is a lot of rhetoric going around and it can be confusing as to what the actual issues are.

So without further ado, here is the Seal of Approval take on the Propositions up for vote:

PROPOSITION A:
Prop A is the sole work of one man and his millions. Rex Sinquefield is a local “zillionaire”, according to the Riverfront Times. He has his hands (and money) all over Missouri politics.
His latest gig is his very own “Let Voters Decide” initiative, aimed at eliminating certain cities’ local earnings taxes. Essentially, it is a way for the rich to get richer and for the rest of us to suffer for it. He’s poured $10.8 million of his own cash into it, hoping for a bigger payoff down the road.

Getting rid of the earnings tax would result in cities like Saint Louis and Kansas City being underwater. Almost 30% of Kansas City and Saint Louis’ general revenue comes from that earnings tax, according to that same article in the RFT.

Sinquefield is no econom-
Point

Should the US cut off relations with Iran completely?

Yes: Severing relations would help America

Despite a popular and public policy to the contrary, the United States seems to be pretty comfortable negotiating with at least one terrorist, Iran's President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. That needs to stop.

Where to even start with Ahmadinejad? He is a theocratic totalitarian who chooses to use Iran's vast natural wealth pursuing a nuclear weapons program instead of feeding the starving and homeless in his own country. And by the way, he wants those nuclear weapons so badly so that he can use them to wipe America's closest ally, Israel, off the map. In the meantime, he has had to settle for funneling funds to and training members of the political party/terrorist organization Hamas. On August 31 of this year, Hamas militants killed four Israeli civilians, including one pregnant woman.

Ahmadinejad also allows women, lots of women, to be stoned to death in his country in accordance with Sharia law and fervently denies that the Holocaust occurred. As if all that was not enough, Ahmadinejad recently told a United Nations general assembly that America was responsible for the 9/11 terrorist attacks. And he was not criticizing US foreign policy, claiming that America invited the attacks. Even that stance is too sane for this guy. Ahmadinejad said that the 9/11 attacks were the result of a conspiracy perpetrated ostensibly by George W. Bush.

Unfortunately, the Obama administration is fine with going to the table with Iran without preconditions. That is inexcusable. Sitting down with another country without preconditions is basically giving a thumbs up to that nation's status quo. It is, at the very least, a sign of respect and respect is not something a person like Ahmadinejad deserves. The Obama administration simply needs to sever all diplomatic ties with Iran.

Supporters of continuing relations with Ahmadinejad point out that it is wise to keep an enemy close and the only way resolution will come is through an open dialogue. That is a nice sentiment, but unfortunately history begs to differ.

President Clinton and Israeli President Yitzhak Rabin came to the table with the leader of the quasi-terrorist Palestinian Liberation Organization, Yasser Arafat, in the early 1990s. Clinton was criticized for legitimizing a terrorist, but his supporters insisted that it was worth it and peace in the Middle East was just around the corner. The resulting 1993 Oslo Accords only legitimized Arafat and failed to move forward the peace process even one iota.

President Obama, Secretary of State Clinton or any other American official sitting down and talking with Mahmoud Ahmadinejad will only have the same effect. A lunatic cannot be reasoned with and giving Ahmadinejad a worldwide platform to spew his hateful rhetoric will only make the situation worse.

Counterpoint

No: Iran needs to be treated

The United States plays a large part on the world stage. Generally, whenever America does something, other countries follow suit. See, for example, the Iraqi War. Even though the United Nations did not support the U.S.-led invasion, countries like Great Britain and Canada gave their support.

There has been some talk recently as to whether the United States should totally cut off relations with Iran. We already do not have an embassy there, why not just take it one step further and totally ignore Iran? Cut ties completely, and disregard them until a different leader is in power or until the reign of the Ayatollah is over, whenever that is.

The thing is, we can't. The United States has a responsibility to the world and its peoples to set a good example for other countries to follow. Sure, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad isn't the easiest person to get along with, but remember, for all his fiery rhetoric and Holocaust-denying, he's not the real one in power; the Ayatollah is.

The world stage isn't some middle school where we can just ignore the kid no one likes until they go away. Severing all ties with Iran could lead to devastating results. We're all adult-run countries here; there should be a way to work with Iran that doesn't involve shutting them out.

There are several very good reasons as to why Iran should be worked with and not ignored and shunned by the United States and her allies.

For starters, who do you think is keeping the Iranian nuclear program at bay? Sure, they've probably bought enriched uranium from North Korea already, but at least the U.N. can still get the occasional inspector into Iran. If the world shut off Iran entirely, there'd be no oversight to prevent them from stockpiling the world's largest collection of nuclear warheads ever.

There's also the question of Middle Eastern peace. Israel and Iran are already at each other's throats. If Israel thought it could get in a few punches (or nuclear missiles) at an unsuspecting Iran and not have to face any reprisals or sanctions from the international community, it'd do it in a heartbeat.

Now, the United States and her allies are not the only things standing in the way of war and anarchy in the Middle East. But with the knowledge that the U.S. has washed its hands of any goings on involving Iran could make for a very rough time if you live in or near a country that ends in -stan.

The United States needs to redouble its efforts to maintain a working relationship with all of the countries in the Middle East. Sure, we can't trust Iran any farther than we can throw them, but keeping an eye (or two, or three) on them isn't a bad idea at all.
STAFF VIEWPOINT

Drug companies are frightfully irresponsible

As cold and flu season approaches, lines at local pharmacies are becoming unimaginably longer. Customers are getting grumpier, louder, all waiting for that taste of hope. They are all awaiting that medical fix that guarantees jobs, vacations and most importantly the person themselves. Shaken, not stirred. Swallowed, not crushed. Capsule, chewable, take with food, take without, take through a syringe, snort this. Have a favorite color or flavor? No worries, behind the great white counter of miracles rest the colors of the rainbow.

Basically, the pharmaceutical companies have become the Willy Wonka to societies Charlie Bucket. And a golden ticket is expected.

So, are these drugs we are willing to spend an arm and a leg for, (literally, for those without insurance) worth the risk that they produce? Why doesn't the public care what they put into their bodies?

It is because of this motivation to stay healthy that the drug companies still continue to thrive despite their recent conflict in drug manufacturing. Just earlier this week, the Johnson and Johnson McNeil Consumer Healthcare unit had to remove Adult Tylenol from store shelves for the thirteenth time this year. This action was put into affect after the company had received complaints about the product's containers producing a musty odor. Customers who had taken the pills were experiencing stomach pain, vomiting, etc. The odor was believed to have come from a chemical used in shipping pallets the company claimed to have stopped using since their large callback of product last January.

Despite this serious conflict, everyone knows that come Monday morning another person will stroll out of the store with a new repackaged bottle of Tylenol, as if nothing had ever happened. Society is full of stressed out individuals who also suffer from extreme sleep-deprivation, factors that further contribute to the development of a sickness. The mentality that is owned is “what can I get?” and “when can I get it.” And if all else fails, whatever they can not get from Tylenol, they can get from another pill maker on a temporary basis which turns out to be a benefit for Tylenol competitors. The fact of the matter is that drug companies are wealthy empires and billions of tainted bottles would never shut them down.

How many people have ever taken a diet pill? A diet pill in Canada was recently pulled off of the shelves because it was leading to heart attacks and strokes. So, what will happen to the unaffected users who still have weight to lose and are without a product? Are they going to say to themselves, “Hey, maybe I should find a healthier way to lose weight” or are they going to say “what else can I take?” A human would take rat poison if it promised them eternal life.

There has even been controversy over certain menopausal drugs causing breast cancer. What is a woman suffering from these symptoms supposed to do if the drug that is supposed to be helping them is hurting them? She takes it anyway.

Some extremists have talked of conspiracy that the drug companies are purposely making society sicker through drug distribution in order to main business. Others continue to debate that what a person chooses to put in his or her body is a decision of their own. Either way, because of the demands of the lives we live, society does and will continue to live at the mercy of the pill, with children to raise, jobs and appearances to maintain. And maybe that is what is being sold. The drugs are killing us, yet the drug pusher remains supreme.

Health Hazard is a staff writer for The Current.

Teenage pregnancies, especially unplanned, have become a serious problem in this country. There are several offenders that help to cause this rising trend, but today, one in particular will be brought to light: purity rings, pledges and all their associated forms.

As this is Pop Culture with Poposky, Mr. P. is here to lead everybody through some of the dangers which have arisen due to this in America. Will this offend some people? Yes. Does Mr. P. care if some people are too oblivious to realize what is causing problems? No. This is actually part of a much larger problem: early, excessive sexualization of teens. However, one step at a time, young grasshoppers.

Oh, Mr. P. is quite aware of what these purity rings and religions are attempting to accomplish. If a teenager takes such a pledge, they are supposed to be in control of their sexuality, more so than the “slut” who thinks this sort of thing is ridiculous. However, there are some startling statistics regarding this, as well. Interestingly enough, according to a federal study completed in December of 2008, teenagers participating in purity pledges are not only just as likely to participate in sexual activity as their “whore” equals, but are also 10 percent less likely to make use of any sort of contraceptive or protection during or after partaking of sexual activity.

So, what does this mean? Who cares if these girls are 10 percent less likely to protect themselves? Well, if parents of such teenagers truly gave two drops about their youths, they would certainly care. However, assuming the parents actually care about their children, and not just about an appearance they want their children to have, we shall point out even more statistics, assuming their innocent ignorance, instead.

Here are reasons parents of pledge takers should be concerned about that 10 percent lapse in contraception use compared to their peers.

To begin with, there are 750,000 teenage pregnancies per year. Eighty-one percent of these are born to unmarried teens, and the same ratio are unplanned. These statistics are from a 2009 federal study, which also showed that 2009 was the second consecutive year in which unplanned teenage pregnancies were on the rise.

Naturally, there is no telling how many of these pregnancies, in total, were actually from purity pledge couples, and how many were not.

However, if Mr. P. was a parent of such a teenager, having seen these statistics, he certainly would not be assuming the purity pledge was the best method of sexual education for young teens. Seeing as abstinence alone does not seem to be preventing anything at all, maybe it is time for a new approach.

Now, it is time for Mr. P. to do his happy dance, for new information has come to light: the recent purity ring craze awoke roughly in 2007. So, readers will remember that earlier, we cited a two-year consecutive increase in teen pregnancies between 2007 and 2009, yes? Mull this over for a while: some call it a direct correlation, in which one rising action accompanied, according to the given timeframe, another rising action. Mr. P. likes correlations, as they allow us to understand relationships amongst certain occurrences.

Teenagers are not abstaining from sex due to purity rings. They are actually more at risk if they are not taught about contraception. So, parents, for the sake of the next generations’ prosperity, teach your teenagers more than just abstinence. Is over sexualization at a young age a problem? Yes. Can parents help protect their children from its more harmful impacts? YES!

Nero Angelo is a staff writer for The Current.

Don’t think Health Hazard is right? Does Nero anger you? Sound off at our website, www.thecurrent-online.com
SCIENCE MATTERS

It is the spooky time of year, so let's bring out the spiders

Halloween brings to mind all things spooky. There are scary things in nature, creeping things. Among creepy creatures, it is hard to top the black widow spider.

Black widow spider - the very name conjures Halloween, as does its signature black and red coloring. The spider's spooky name comes from its color and the female's reputation for killing and eating the male after breeding.

What is more, the spider spins a disorganized web - a cobweb - to capture its prey of flies and other insects. When bugs wander into the web, the spider is alerted by vibrations and rushes out to inject its prey with venom. When its victim is dead, the spider injects enzymes to digest its meal and sucks it dry. Creepy, eh?

Actually, female black widow spiders do not always kill their mates. But it does appear common for Latrodectus mactans, the Southern black widow spider, the species indigenous to Missouri.

Latrodectus mactans fits the description we typically picture for the black widow spider - shiny black, with a rounded, larger abdomen and a red hourglass-shaped mark on the underside of its abdomen. But not all widow spiders, as they are called, are black - some are reddish or brown, and not all have the distinctive red hourglass-shaped mark on their undersides. Sometimes the mark is absent or has other colors.

Black widow spiders are actually part of a group of spiders found in temperate zones worldwide, with 31 species worldwide. They are Arachnids in the family Theridiidae and of the genus Latrodectus.

Three North American black widow species previously were grouped together but are now recognized as separate. Besides the southern black widow, Latrodectus mactans, there are the Northern black widow (Latrodectus variolus) and Western black widow (Latrodectus hesperus). North America also has gray or brown widow spiders (Latrodectus geometricus), and red widow spiders (Latrodectus bishopi). False widow spiders, of the genus Steatoda, are often mistaken for black widows.

Latrodectus mactans is one of two venomous spiders found here. It is the most venomous spider but bites are rarely fatal to healthy adult humans. It can, however, make one very sick and may kill small children, the elderly and those already ill.

The venom is a neurotoxin. So what about that blood-thirsty courtship? The female does sometimes kill and eat the male but this does not happen in all cases or is even common for all widow species. In some, the males breed with several females, although they typically have shorter lives than females, who can live 1 to 5 years.

Black widows are usually solitary except for mating. Females are the ones most likely to bite, as a defensive measure. The much-larger females are shiny black with the red hourglass shape on their underside, and some may have red spots on their back as well. The males are about one fourth their size and usually brown with stripes, looking more like juveniles. The hourglass mark is usually lighter, maybe yellow or even white.

The spiders lay 100 to 400 eggs in an egg sac in its web. The spiderlings hatch in 20 to 30 days. Many do not even survive to hatch and fewer yet survive after hatching and dispersing. The little spiders sometimes engage in cannibalism.

Black widow spiders have their natural enemies, besides your shoe foot. In North America, the flightless wasp Baeus latrodeti parasitize the egg sacs. The adult black widows can fall prey to the blue mud dauber (Chalybion californicum) or the spider wasp (Tastiotenia festiva). Get the Halloween spirit, but watch out for those black widow spiders.

Casket Maker is Associate A&E Editor and a columnist for The Current.

Agree with Casket? www.thecurrent-online.com
PUT! THAT COFFEE! DOWN!

Coffee's for closers only.

The Current & National Sales Network

The Current in conjunction with the National Sales Network an organization of sales professionals will hold a training session on advertising sales.

Kendra Neely-Martin of the National Sales Network St. Louis Chapter and Chapter President, Michael Whitley will talk with students about the in's and out's of advertising sales and sales as a career.

When: Tuesday, October 26
Where: Clark Hall room 312 at UM-St. Louis

For More information contact
Charlotte Petty
Adviser to The Current
pettyc@umsl.edu
They teach that? by Samuel Killer

Letter to the Editor by Jaggernaut Putz

Storytime by Manananggal

Max and Lobo by Nail Spike
CURRENT CROSSWORD

**HALLOWEEN**

**Across:**
1. Disguise
3. Night flying mammals
4. ______ Or Treat!
6. Human that transforms into a wolf
9. Web creator
10. Ghastly Talk
12. A house where ghosts live is considered ______

**Down:**
2. Halloween month
5. Scary creatures, or ______, Inc.
7. Placed over your face
8. Dracula is one of these
11. Stirs potions in a cauldron
13. Carved pumpkin

The first person to bring this completed puzzle to The Current's office at 388 MSC will win 2 tickets to the "Bodies" exhibit at the St. Louis Galleria!

CURRENT WORDSEARCH

**HALLOWEED SEARCH**

- AMUSEMENT
- BLACK
- CAT
- EERIE
- FRIGHTEN
- GOBLIN
- HAYRIDE
- MUMMY
- ORANGE
- PUMPKINS
- SHADOWS
- SPOOKY
- APPLES
- BOO
- COSTUMES
- EXCITEMENT
- GAMES
- HALLOWEEN
- MASK
- NIGHT
- PARTY
- SAFE
- SKELETON
- TRICKORTREAT

CURRENT HOROSCOPES by A Zack of the Living Dead

**ARIES** (March 21 - April 20)
Your boyfriend starts yelling at you about how you stole his Justin Bieber costume idea when you show up to the party, to which you reply: "Oh yeah, it's Halloween!"

**LIBRA** (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
You're a beautiful young girl running from a murderer in your OWN house and all logic tells you to run out the front door. But alas, you run up stairs like an idiot and get murdered. You deserve it.

**TAurus** (April 20 - May 20)
Later this week you and your friends will be interrogated by the police because a friend of yours is confused about the rules. If you think it's something you call "Brick or Beat."

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23 - Nov. 22)
Your hatred for children and of fun usually leads you to simply leave the front lights off on Halloween. But this year, you think of something better: pass out carrot sticks.

**GEMINI** (May 21 - June 21)
For some reason, during a full moon, you'll be brutally murdered by an enormous hairy monster. Then you learned: Getting eaten hurts.

**CANCER** (June 22 - July 22)
Your 42 year old diabetic uncle Bubba steals the show at the Halloween party and wins the "Most Accurate Celebrity Costume Contest" dressed as SnooK.

**LEO** (July 23 - Aug. 22)
In your new house, breakfast is on the table every morning, your laundry is always done, and the bathroom is always spotless. You learn later that the house is haunted by the nicest ghost ever.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)
This Halloween you eat entirely too much candy, and you explode. The person who wrote your obituary is fired for titling it "Death by Chocolate."

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)
A scientific breakthrough in energy technologies occurs this week which scientists simultaneously discover nuclear fusion properties in Candy Corn and the source of all cancer.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)
Your dad takes you to school one day this week. He has trouble driving because his arm is dropping off, he only talks in moans and grunts, and eats your boyfriend's face. Parents are sooo lame.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19 - March 20)
If you've learned anything from every horror movie ever, this Halloween you'll refrain from: drinking, being alone in dark rooms, sleeping and/or showering, and being stabbed. Good luck!
Your weekly calendar of campus events. "What's Current" is a free service for student organizations. Submissions must be turned in by 5 p.m. the Thursday before publication; first-come, first-served. Listings may be edited for length and style. E-mail event listings to thecurrentads@umsl.edu, with the subject "What's Current." No phone submissions.

Happy Halloween from everyone at The Current!

Monday, Oct. 25
Arianna String Quartet
From 12:15 p.m. to 1:15 p.m., the Arianna String Quartet members return to discuss their work and teaching in the J.C. Penney Conference Center. For info, contact Karen Lucas at 314-516-5698.

Tuesday, Oct. 26
Ad Workshop
From 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The National Sales Network is hosting a sales workshop for all interested UMSL students. The workshop includes 2 speakers and a question/answer session. For more info, contact Charlotte Petty at 314-516-5174.

Wednesday, Oct. 27
Protect St. Louis
From 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., an informational workshop on Missouri's Proposition A will be held in 450 Lucas Hall. Pros and Cons of the proposition will be discussed. For more info contact Gerda Ray at 314-863-3166.

Thursday, Oct. 28
Children's Game Night
From 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., a Hispanic game night will be held in Pilot House. Students are invited to come play Hispanic games they may remember as children. For more info, contact Lidia Aponte at 314-825-8977.

Friday, Oct. 29
Psychology Dept. Colloquium with Tara Barnes
From 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Tara Barnes, PhD. hosts a seminar on firing patterns in neurons of the sensorimotor striatum during learning will be held in Benton 101. For more info, contact Tara Galovski at 314-516-7232

Saturday, Oct. 30
Hermann London Halloween 5K
At 11:30 a.m., a 5K run/walk will start and end at Schlafly Bottleworks parking lot, 7260 Southwest Ave, Maplewood, MO. Proceeds go to Missouri Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence. For more info, contact Chris at 314-381-9215.