In this issue:

Parking fees to be mandatory under new tuition-fee plan, facing SGA vote on Nov. 30

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HUNG NGUYEN
Staff Writer

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The committee report concluded, however, that students are actually expected to save money next year due to the new fee structure, with the exact amount expected to deviate slightly depending on deliberations that will take place in January.

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Japandroids’ sonic hedonism at Firebird makes for perfect escape

DAVID VON NORDHEIM
A&E Editor

From the mighty 1 billion drums in Neil Port’s percussion kit to St. Louis’ intimidating facial hair, rock reunions have always had a love affair with enormity. The long-held dictum that excess equals success has undergone a serious revision in recent years, however, as two-member outfits like The White Stripes, The Black Keys and The Strokes continue to set the trend for modern rock.

Shadowing that stage is formidable light boxer, King gave a ferocious performance, proving that one does not need a major label salary to be a rock star. He saved his signature anthems. The audience’s eagerness was contagious and well-deserved. The three years since the Japandroids’ last St. Louis performance has transformed King into the epitome of a front-man. Stroking about the stage in formidable light boxer, King gave a ferocious performance, proving that one does not need a major label salary to be a rock star.

Although there is always a certain expectation for a band on the run to give a flawless plug to their latest four-song, King and Prowse were never patronizing in their St. Louis psych-ups. Although the guys could have easily settled for a token set, the band kicked off the stage on returning heroes.

Matt King sings vocals for Japandroids at Firebird.

The show began with a set from Philadelphia’s Swearin’, who offered catchy, muscular power pop in the vein of Ash and The Breeders. Although the kinship of face made it difficult to dissect the snarled vocals, they sounded largely like the confessions of a 70-something bernard: Why college is remedied, why parents suck, why Philadelphi is awesome, etc.

While many groups in this vein would be content to play out the same two-to-three-minute choruses—a plenty ear candy, Swearin’ added some progressive textures to their start-stop dynamics that made them a compelling listen. It is worth noting that the members of Swearin’ each

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What's Current

Monday, November 26

Psychology Department Colloquium
Ananta Raffian, Ph.D., Post-Doctoral Research Scholar, Department of Psychology, Stanford University, speaks on “How Can We BeSmart? Beliefs About the Potential for High Intelligence,” 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. in 443 Benton Hall. For information, contact Joan Mayo at 314-516-3893.

One-Night Volleyball
Campus Rec's Volleyball Tournament, with divisions for men's and women's teams, 7 - 10 p.m. in Mark Twain Rec Center gym. Sign up by calling Rec office by 4 p.m. For information, contact Campus Recreation Office, 314-516-3326.

Tuesday, November 27

Student Chamber Music Concert
Department of Music student ensembles will perform a variety of classical to contemporary gems, 7:30 p.m. in Lee Theater of Touhill Performing Arts Center. For information, contact Touhill Ticket Office at 314-516-4949.

Wednesday, November 28

The "I" Declarations of Identity
Students are invited to present original or favorite works on the concept of identity, up to 5 minutes in reading time, and make donations to support the Reed Scott Heritage Foundation, 11 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. in SQ4 Chambers, 3rd Floor of the Millennium Student Center. Registration required by emailing Elizabeth at eae472@umsl.edu. For information, contact Ade Bennett at 314-516-5013.

Protect Your Balls
Colleges Against Cancer's annual Protect Your Balls Dodgeball Tournament for testicular and prostate cancers awareness, 6 - 10 p.m. in Mark Twain Gym. Pre-registration was required by November 16. For information, contact Brandi Greshaber at 314-516-5291.

Dance Series: Modern Dance
UPB’s learn to dance dance series concludes with “Modern Dance,” 7 - 9 p.m. in Pilot House in MSC. For information, contact Shatara Davis or other UPB member at 314-516-5531.

One-Night Indoor Soccer
‘King of the Court’ Indoor Soccer Tourney, 7 - 10 p.m. in Mark Twain Rec Center Gym. Pre-register with Campus Rec office before 4 p.m. For information, contact Campus Recreation Office at 314-516-5326.

Crimeline

BURGLARY - UNIVERSITY MEADOWS
Nov. 2, 3:10 p.m. Report # 12-01
A student's apartment was found with a front and bedroom door unlocked. It appeared someone had been eating in the apartment, unknown if anything was taken. Disposition: Investigation will continue when student resident returns.

LOST OR STOLEN LICENSE PLATE - WEST DRIVE
Nov. 6, 3:45 p.m. Report # 12-526
An UMSL student reported the theft of their front license plate, Disposition: Report taken.

ASSAULT - CLARK HALL
Nov. 7, 11 a.m. Report # 12-527
Two students were involved in a fight. One was conveyed to a hospital for treatment of minor injuries. Investigation continuing. Disposition: Report taken.

THEFT - OAK HALL
Nov. 7, 1:30 p.m. Report # 12-528
An UMSL student reported the theft of 17 pairs of socks left in a laundry room between 9 p.m. Nov. 5 and 10 a.m. Nov. 6. Disposition: Report taken.

THEFT - LOT D
Nov. 9, 4:35 p.m. Report # 12-530
An UMSL student reported a parking permit stolen from their vehicle on Nov. 1 between 12:30 p.m. and 4:45 p.m.

AUTO ACCIDENT LEAVING THE SCENE - WEST DRIVE GARAGE
Nov. 12, 8:09 p.m. Report # 12-534
An UMSL student returned to their parked car and found damage to their vehicle. Disposition: Report taken.

THEFT - MILLENIUM STUDENT CENTER
Nov. 13, 11:35 a.m. Report # 12-536
An UMSL student reported the theft of an i-pod from the dining area in the MSC. Disposition: Report taken.

THEFT - EXPRESS SCRIPTS HALL
Nov. 13, 1:45 p.m. Report # 12-537
An UMSL staff member reported the theft of their new parking decal between Oct. 28 & Nov. 13. Disposition: Report taken.

TRESPASSING - MARK TWAIN GYM
Nov. 18, 8:23 p.m. Report # 12-539
Two non-students were escorted from Mark Twain gym. Disposition: Report taken.
Book fair opens Gender Studies’ new home

HUNG NGUYEN
Staff Writer

For several years, powered by book donations from different sources on and off campus, the Gender Studies Program has hosted a book fair in an effort to introduce students to the program and also to get them interested in the program. This year, the fair was hosted on Nov. 2-3 inside the program’s brand-new home across the floor of Lucas Hall.

Students got a chance to get a few great books to take home, and the fair was an effective way of advertising.

“Part of the book fair was a collection and raffle to help a homeless single mother, which was an example of the many collaborative efforts of the program with the community to promote service and practical applications of theory in serving humanity,” said Dr. Kathleen Nigro, Department of English and Gender Studies Program adviser. Nigro said that her students have had opportunities others may not have had. They have had opportunities others may not have had. It’s a great privilege, and to me privilege comes not with power, but with responsibility, a responsibility to do good for others. Service learning gives students a chance to re-discover their humility and dampen their myopic sense of self-worth amidst intellectual experience.

More inviting is the program’s interdisciplinary nature. Students may fulfill requirements by taking courses that cross-list in the departments of English, History, Philosophy, Political Science, Psychology, and more, depending on the course topic. Students do not have to take ‘extra’ classes that they do not need, and the program is an immunizing 18 credit hour that can be tailored to the students’ career interests.

Nigro and her “America’s Slave Narratives” class will be hosting an open reading on the concepts of identity and growing up on Nov. 28 at 11 a.m. in the SGA Chambers. They will also be collecting money in any denomination to support the Fred Scott Heritage Foundation at this event.

“What I like about the book fair is that it enables me to talk to and meet students on common ground.” —Nigro

... Service learning gives students a chance to re-discover their humility and dampen their myopic sense of self-worth amidst intellectual experience.” —Ebest

New combined tuition and fee plan vote set for Nov. 30

(continued from page 1)

... and attempt to address any student concerns. The assembly will meet again for the committee to present their findings. In either case, both assembly and committee recommendations will be presented to University of Missouri System officials. The Current was unable to reach the administration for further comment over Fall break.

The SGA General Assembly will resume...

... if the assembly votes in the affirmative, the opinions will be presented to Chancellor Tom George, who will then make his recommendation to the Board of Curators for further action. If the vote is negative, the committee will reconvene and attempt to address any student concerns, and the assembly will meet again for the committee to present their findings.

Turn to page 7 for The Current’s take on this crucial issue.

Science Matters column: Post-election, where are the science issues?

CATE MARQUIS
Editor-in-Chief

Now that the election slogans are fading, can we please deal with some of the real problems facing the country? Not just the ‘fiscal cliff’, but matters where basic modern science and reality should prove to help us avoid disasters and human harm.

Science issues rarely surfaced during the recent political season, yet a couple of science-related topics received brief attention in the news. Superstorm Sandy and the growing fungal meningitis outbreak traced to contaminated injectable steroids. Both point to larger issues related to science and politics.

Superstorm Sandy and the havoc it dealt to the Northeast pointed out the need to improve our infrastructure to cope with extreme weather events. No single extreme weather event can be attributed to global warming and climate change, just as a particular hurricane cannot be tied to a baseball player’s use of steroids, as one expert put it. But increasingly frequent and stronger weather events are among the changes predicted with climate change. Superstorm Sandy’s unusual path has been attributed in part to warmer seas, which sent it north along the Atlantic coast and allowed it to combine with a nor'easter, forming a hybrid storm.

We should not assume this will be the only one.

Warmer seas, as well as polar warming, have contributed to higher sea levels, which are expected to continue to rise. Coastal areas will be faced with food and drug policies and FDA effectiveness. We have had laws in place for decades regulating drug safety, but this recent incident has called into question the reliability of inspections and the Food Drug Administration. Compounding pharmacies are supposed to prepare drugs especially tailored to the doctor’s prescription, creating a preparation not commercially available. Instead, this company, like several others, was a de facto drug manufacturer exploiting a regulatory loophole.

Continual federal and state failures and the Food Drug Administration failed to conduct routine FDA safety regulations and inspections.

This health disaster followed a series of four drug recalls. In each case, salmonella- contaminated cantaloupes killed two people and sickened 141 in 20 states at one year after bacteria-contaminated injectables killed at least 30 and sickened 146 more. Both disasters spotlighted weaknesses in our food safety system.

Both issues raise serious questions about our food and drug policies and FDA effectiveness.

Clearly, something is wrong, but less regulation is unlikely to be the solution. While a certain segment constantly complains about too much regulation, these troubling incidents point to inadequate regulation and too little regulation. A number of people have pointed to outdated methods and too few science-based procedures and inspections as part of the problem.

The FDA in both cases—dealing with extreme weather disasters and food and drug safety concerns—modestly to embrace current scientific and technological innovations offer real-world answers. Using real, present-day science is cost-effective in the long run and saves human lives. Continued short-term fixes, ineffective partial solutions that preserve this quarter’s profits and “kick the can down the road” attitudes cost the country as a whole much more.

Tell us what you think - at the current online
www.thecurrent-online.com
Japanese Hogaku and western classical unite for this Friday’s Touhill performance

James Nyorako Scheffler will assume his role as a champion of the Shakuhachi during this Friday’s Kammerrakku performance. Scheffler is one of the few non-native Japanese grand masters of the Shakuhachi and has been playing the instrument for over 34 years. Scheffler will be part of a troupe of Japanese virtuosos performing at the Touhill. Along with his Shakuhachi, Kammerrakku will feature the Japanese 20-string Koto and the three-stringed Shamisen.

The Koto is a large stringed instrument that dates back to sixteenth-century Japan. Measuring over 70 inches long, the Koto usually has between 13 and 25 strings, which are plucked using three finger picks. For Kammerrakku, the 20-stringed Koto will be in the capable hands of the Kurosawa sisters, who have been playing the Koto since age 3. Born and raised in Japan, Kurosawa is a member of the Hokusai Concert. Kurosawa has performed in Russia, Canada, Malaysia and the U.S. After moving to New York in 2002, she has appeared in many New York City venues, including the Lincoln Center and the Apollo Sounds Stage.

Like the Koto, the Shamisen is also a stringed instrument, its name literally translating to “three strings.” The instrument most closely resembles a western guitar or banjo. The Shamisen arrived in Okinawa, Japan in the sixteenth century. Visually, sonically and aesthetically pleasing, the Shamisen is often considered the national instrument of Japan. The Shamisen is often synonymous with the dance dramas and elaborate makeup of Japanese Kabuki theater.

Perhaps the best way to describe the sound of the Shamisen is through allusion. Japanese, or “love song” in Japanese, refers to music written for Rakugi, the principle instrument of which is the shamisen and the shakuhachi. Japanese musician master Yoko Kimura will play this lovely koto during Kammerrakku. A graduate of Tokyo University of the Arts, Kimura is a successful musician and vocalist. Always an ardent supporter of contemporary music, some of her more notable university performances have included Harvard, Texas A&M and City University in New York City. She has recorded numerous contemporary Shamisen works and currently teaches at the Institute of Contemporary Music for Traditional Japanese Instruments. For the Kammerrakku performance, Kyo-Shin-An Arts, has commissioned original pieces from some of today’s top composers. Original works by Daron Hayes, Paul Moravec, James Scheffler and Sonei Satoh will come to life in the capable hands of the three Shamisen players. The multi-talented American Vibes Quartet will accompany the performers as well, complementing the traditional Japanese instruments with their western counterparts.

Kyo-Shin-An is a non-profit organization founded in 2003, NSA runs the behalf of artistic director Scheffler and his wife Meg Fagan, KSA’s producer. KSA is committed to spreading appreciation of Japanese instruments in western classical music through commissioning, facilitating and producing new works for Koto, Shamisen and Shakuhachi.

“The purpose of shows like Kammerrakku is to help integrate mainstream classical music these three Japanese instruments,” Scheffler said. “We are gradually going to see more works and a greater prevalence of Shamisen, Shakuhachi and Koto in Japan and abroad. That’s really the goal of Kyo-Shin-An Arts.”

Paul Peanick
Director of Media Relations
Louisiana-based non-profit Kyo-Shin-An Arts, which supports the performance of Japanese instruments in Western classical music, announced today that it will be hosting a performance at the Touhill Performing Arts Center in St. Louis, Missouri. The performance, titled “Kammerrakku requires a great deal of skill to play well. One must have knowledge of both Japanese and western classical music.” —Scheffler

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What’s New in the Current?

Check it out! thecurrentonline.com

Traumatic event changes student’s life

Anya Glushko

Freshman, Student Nurse

Some college students are not sure about their choice of major. However, some have already found their educational paths to reach their goals. In their honors sophomore year, Barnes expressed her ambitions to nursing.

"When you love what you do, it doesn't feel like a real job to you. You feel fulfilled, the only way you could be best at your job if you've got passion for it," Barnes said.

Barnes came from St. Louis Community College in Florissant, Missouri. She chose University of Missouri-St. Louis because it was convenient and affordable.

"I like the hospital..." Barnes said. "It's a real job, the ambulances rush here. Doctors come in, and they do what's necessary, and nurses aid you mentally... They treat you like family. It was horrible." Barnes said.

Barnes was inspired by the nurses who treated her. She hoped that one day she could return their kindness to other patients in need.

"Doctors come in, and they do what's necessary, but nurses are the voice of the patient. Doctors care you physically, and nurses aid you mentally... They will soothe you; they will make you feel comfortable and happy." —Barnes

Washington University and Missouri have really expensive nursing programs... My mom is a nurse, too. She told me that UIU is a good choice because it's affordable enough.

Graduate students from UIU, had one of the highest rates of NCLEX (The National Council Licensure Examination) for registered nurses,” Barnes said.

Barnes works a part-time job and is guaranteed a spot in the hospital... It's a real job, you get hit... the ambulance was there very quick. I had the paramedics rushing to me... (The doctors) were sticking me with needles. People were cutting off my clothes. It was horrible." Barnes said.

Barnes was inspired by the nurses who treated her. She hoped that one day she could return their kindness to other patients in need.

"After the surgery, I remember waking up in the bed in my room, and the nurses were so kind to me..." I was coming from Japan, it was sporadic. I went from casual to historical states. And the nurses were there every time I needed them... I couldn't do anything on my own, but whenever they asked me if they could help, I was too tired. They didn't get frustrated. They would tell me, 'It's okay. That's what we're here for.' They showed compassion for me... they made me feel like I was the only patient at the hospital. Doctors come in, and they do what's necessary, but nurses are the voice of the patient. Doctors care you physically, and nurses aid you mentally... They will soothe you; they will make you feel comfortable and happy." Barnes said.

Barnes is following her family footsteps, and she is confident about her future plans.

Several women in my family are nurses. I was influenced by my grandmother, and I feel like nurses do what I want to do," Barnes said.

Barnes wants to help people. She plans to become a successful nurse. She plans to start off working at the local hospital and later advance to travel nursing after gaining some skills and work experience.
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A&E

...a group straggling in late was met with a spotlight, an alarm going off and a playfully scolding "warning—late arrivals," setting the show's silly, interactive comic tone and hinting at the silly, the weird and the unexpected to come.

Blue Man Group glows at Fox with humor, invention and intelligence

CATE MARQUIS
Editor-in-Chief

The crowd plays around with the Blue Men Group in Fox Theater.

The cast and crew of the Blue Man Group-Chris Wink, Philip Stanford and Matt Goldman-have now spun their hyperkinetic stage presence to their penchant for surrealism to deliver a color-drenched, multimedia show that mixes live music, performance art and comedy. At long last, the Blue Man Group brings their unique kind of entertainment to St. Louis Fox Theater for a run through Dec. 2.

A must-see show for those traveling to Chicago, it is a delight to see the expressions of the audience on opening night. While much of the show at the Fox was appropriate for all-ages, the group does have some content that is more appropriate for an older audience. The infusion of food and hug-a-bear from the audience, one of the show's sillier, interactive comic bits, is thought-provoking and decidedly entertaining.

While the Blue Men do not speak, voice-over commentary or instructions to the audience were sometimes broadcast. The show was becoming part of a comic bit playing with food and the other taking part in performance art poking fun at modern art techniques. The show's final gag involved the audience mock beaches in rock-concert dance moves with a giant stick-figure puppet before sending giant glowing balls bouncing around the theater.

The Blue Man Group has an all-ages appeal, and the group does have some content that is more appropriate for adults. The audience was sardonic to the silly, interactive comic tone and hinting at the silly, the weird and the unexpected to come.

The Blue Man Group is inventive, weird (in a good way), funny, a little bit thought-provoking and distinctly entertaining. Do not miss the chance to catch this unique show while is at the Fox through Dec. 2.

Blue Man Group's 'Lotus' panders to Gaga fans

HUNG NGUYEN
Staff Writer

After Maroon 5's "Overexposed," audiences anxiously awaited to see if the other artists they fell in love with for their unique styles would jump on the bandwagon of pop-singles. As a voice of her generation, it was expected that pop-rock queen Christina Aguilera would rise above this and stick to her guns. Aguilera once famously stated in defense of rapper-singer contestant Moises Stone of NBC's "The Voice," "The Voice doesn't need to be versatile in this industry. The Voice doesn't need to be some auto-tune, non-emotion, power-singer vocalist."

Aguilera's new album "Lotus," however, indicates that she is not exactly practicing what she preaches.

It is very difficult to distinguish "Lotus" from any of the recent trends in mainstream pop radio. "Round the World" and "Gipsy," among others, will likely cause Aguilera fans to do a double-take. Tracks like "Bad Bitch Blues," "Let Them Be Love," and "Your Body" are great songs to move your hips to, but they fall short of the depth and power Aguilera fans have been accustomed to from their idol.

Although most pop music predictably relies on sex as a source material, Aguilera has always been able to transcend the genre clichés and present a clearer and more original version of sexuality than other remorseless pop artists. She takes the same approach with "Lotus," referring to it as "a very multi-layered, very heartfelt album." She also said, "I have to be open to all kinds of stuff to grow and be relevant."

"Lotus" is Aguilera's opportunity to "share all the different sides of me, as a woman, and as a creator and an artist. Part of that is vulnerability. Part of that is aggression and angst. That is sexuality. Part of that is vulnerability. Part of that is aggression and angst. All those pieces make me who I am."

Japandroids at The Firebird

(continued from page 1)

John Rudder

Japandroids at The Firebird.

Japandroids is an alt-rock band from Vancouver, British Columbia. They released their debut album "The Head and the Heart" in 2009 and gained critical acclaim for their unique brand of indie rock.

"The Japandroids sound is a mix of DIY punk, indie rock, and folk music. Their songs are often driven by catchy hooks and harmonies, and they are known for their energetic live performances. The band's debut album "The Head and the Heart" was released in 2009 and received critical acclaim. The band's sound is often compared to bands like The Decemberists and Bon Iver."

Japandroids is a Canadian indie rock band formed in 2007. The band consists of Queen City native Brian King, who handles lead vocals and guitar, and Dallas Green, who sings backing vocals and plays bass. The duo have a distinctive sound that blends elements of punk, pop and folk, and their music is often described as twee rock or indie pop.

In recent years, Japandroids have gained a dedicated following and have released several critically acclaimed albums. Their music has been praised for its catchy hooks, harmonies and energetic live performances.

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University of Missouri-St. Louis students have another chance to vote—and ask questions—on a sweeping change in how they pay tuition. The university is considering a change on how it collects supplemental fees. These are not the same classes as a junior or senior in favoritism. New students have many classes to undergo to complete their degree programs. While new students may not get their seniority; certain hallways and days were not along in this new charge. Some may believe this unfair, but these people may not be considering the practical reasons behind this favoritism. New students will most likely not be taking the same classes as a junior or senior in college. A practical reason for this is that upperclassmen in college are upperclassmen because they are further along in their degree programs. This means that they have fewer classes to choose from that will apply to their degree programs. This new students may not get into one or two classes they hoped for because of the upperclassmen choosing first, they have numerous options that will not be available to them. They need to have many classes to undergo to complete their degree. You might be a little miffed that as a freshman you were unable to take Shakespeare Literature because the upperclassmen got to pick first, but a senior would be outraged if the final class needed for a degree was filled up with students who have had numerous other classes available to them. This practice is also beneficial to the classroom. Upperclassmen have had past experiences which will bring out the best in students who have had numerous other classes available to them.

Registration time should be GPA-based

Registering for classes is one of the most important things students have the opportunity to do each spring. These classes will give the best advantage and classes that will look great together on an transcript is an opportunity that should not be squandered. Upperclassmen trust the registration process diligently.

Some make advising appointments as soon as the course listing for next semester are released in order to ensure that their visions of their transcripts will come to fruition, while other students care significantly less about which classes they take and register for courses based on what they want to wake up in the morning and which professors are the most inoffensive. The bottom line is that when students sometimes sign up for courses for the wrong reasons, courses fill up for the wrong reasons. This can leave those who are genuinely concerned about their transcripts vandalized or locked out of a mandatory course that is filled with students who selected it only for convenience.

The way to rectify this problem and help ensure that the students to whom the final product of their transcripts is paramount get first pick at each new semester’s available courses in order to registration policy. Instead of opening registration to seniors, then juniors, then sophomores, registration should first be held for those with grade point averages above 3.6, then to students with high middle grade point averages, then open to the freshmen, and finally the students with the lowest grade point averages.

Fearing students who have the best grades with the opportunity to select classes first is only fair. These are the people who indicate that they care most about their transcripts, so it makes sense for their carrot to be an opportunity to have greater control over their transcripts come registration time. Students who are unwilling to put forth enough effort to get certain grades should understand why they did not win the earliest registration slot.

As for the myth of seniors who absolutely desperately need one specific, particular class to graduate? They, too, need a little miffed that as a freshman you were unable to take Shakespeare Literature because the upperclassmen got to pick first, but a senior would be outraged if the final class needed for a degree was filled up with students who have had numerous other classes available to them.

Opinion column: UMSL should contest new fee proposal

University of Missouri-St. Louis students have another chance to vote—and ask questions—on a sweeping change that will impact the cost of going to college at UMSL.

The university is considering a change on how it collects supplemental fees. These are not the same classes as a junior or senior in favoritism. New students have many classes to undergo to complete their degree programs. While new students may not get their seniority; certain hallways and days were not along in this new charge. Some may believe this unfair, but these people may not be considering the practical reasons behind this favoritism. New students will most likely not be taking the same classes as a junior or senior in college. A practical reason for this is that upperclassmen in college are upperclassmen because they are further along in their degree programs. This means that they have fewer classes to choose from that will apply to their degree programs. This new students may not get into one or two classes they hoped for because of the upperclassmen choosing first, they have numerous options that will not be available to them. They need to have many classes to undergo to complete their degree. You might be a little miffed that as a freshman you were unable to take Shakespeare Literature because the upperclassmen got to pick first, but a senior would be outraged if the final class needed for a degree was filled up with students who have had numerous other classes available to them. This practice is also beneficial to the classroom. Upperclassmen have had past experiences which will bring out the best in students who have had numerous other classes available to them.

If you never plan to use the fitness center, you will not be able to opt out, just as those who bike to campus or ride the MetroLink will still be charged for parking. Whether students still will get a breakdown of the various fees is also uncertain.

UMSL students should make themselves heard on this matter. There are several questions still unanswered:

The single fee approach would ensure funding for programs by requiring all students to pay the fees.

Student Abroad column

Culture shock hurts

RACHELLE BRANDEL
Staff Writer

When I first heard the words “culture shock,” I thought the term meant that I would be shocked to find myself in a foreign country. In reality, I would be shocked to find myself in a foreign country.

Culture shock, also known as transitional shock, is defined by dictionary.com as “state of bewilderment and distress experienced by an individual when suddenly exposed to a new, strange or foreign social and cultural environment.” This definition makes me think of a woman walking into a room for the first time. I could picture it like this: I’m on a plane in Tokyo and I realize that I’m in a foreign country. I’m feeling a little lost. Suddenly, I begin to ask myself, “Why did I ever come here?”

Suddenly, I began to ask myself, “Why did I even come here?”

But then things look another turn that I didn’t make, one additional problem that was specific for me my fear of flying. I began to get sick at my return trip home. I was anxious and afraid of the inevitable flight. I began to rise up in my room, thinking re-about thinking about the hundreds of factors of flying. It soon got so intense that I was having anxiety attacks and fatalistic thoughts. I soon began saying, “Why am I here? I would rather be with those I have that I’ll need to deal with in a few months.”

It was then that I realized something wasn’t right. I was afraid of flying, but that fear hasn’t kept me from leaving a plane to begin. I know that those feelings are

Suddenly, I began to ask myself, “Why did I even come here?”
THE UMSL MATH CLUB PRESENTS: PROBLEM OF THE MONTH

Our humble friend Uriah Heep is wrapping a small gift. He has a 4 x 8 rectangular piece of wrapping paper and he folds it so that one pair of diametrically opposing corners coincide. He wonders, “What is the length of the crease?”

Submit your solution to the problem below by Friday, December 7. THERE WILL BE PRIZES. Winners will be announced on the next Problem of the Month. Submit solutions to R. Dotzel in Express Scripts Hall 329.

November Problem solved by: Alex Kerford, Joe Koester and Susan Novak (By the way the answer turns out to be 502,146,957,312,000 or more than 500 trillion. If you are wondering how large is 500 trillion get this—if you count from 1 to 500 trillion pronouncing each number in 1 second it will take you almost 16 million years to finish! Yikes! Are any of you still counting?!) Please note: There will be a Fibonacci Day Festival in the MSC on Monday December 3. There will be games, demonstrations and great fun. Prizes will be available. Stop by and pay homage to this most famous of sequences: 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13...

BRAIN DEAD
Zach McDaniels

It's okay. I know it was an accident.

No...

I did it...

On porpoise.