The University of Missouri-St. Louis kicked off its 50th anniversary with a sold-out event at the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center Feb. 1.

Wayne Goode, chair of UMSL’s Board of Trustees, spoke at the "Jubilee Kick-Off." The event included a special Jubilee Brew beer from Ferguson Brewing Company, and a fancy appetizer was served to guests who were part of the evening’s fancy dress crowd at the sold-out event in Busch Performance Hall on the UMSL campus.

The master of ceremonies was alumnus Frank Cusumano, who welcomed the special guests at the event. Several distinguished individuals received recognition and presented remarks about their lives and experiences that led them to their current positions or to the university.

The event began with a short recap of the founding of the university and included a follow-up to the Honors College skit that was performed at the 2013 "Alumni Kick-Off." The skit was followed by remarks from noted local artist John Pile.

Among those honored was Chancellor Thomas George for his opening remarks. George introduced the next speakers: Timothy Wolfe, president of the University of Missouri System, and George Paz, chairman and CEO of Express Scripts and another UMSL alumnae.

Paz spoke about his family’s immigrant roots and the positive experience that led to bringing Express Scripts and its partnership to the UMSL campus. Paz concluded his remarks by introducing a man driving a golf cart onto the stage.

"UMSL History in a Nutshell" offered an entertaining little recap of the university’s history, with James Fay, associate professor of theater, dance and media studies, playing a golfer/Grandpa returning to campus in search of the old Bellevue Country Club golf course that once occupied the site. Grandpa and his grandson (Stephen Outway, senior, physics) discussed the changes of the last 50 years with a professor that they met crossing campus. The professor was played by Andrea Purcell, communication and artistic director of Missouri Institute of Mental Health, another community partner with UMSL.

The skit was followed by remarks by noted local artist John Pile.

Among those honored was Chancellor Touhill, who received a big round of applause from the audience.

Several elected officials attended and sent good wishes. Among those present were Hazel Erby, St. Louis County councilwoman for the first district, "UMSL is in my district," Erby said. "I’m here to celebrate all the wonderful accomplishments over the past 50 years."

The last speaker, motivational speaker and UMSL alumnus Skip Hyken, offered a highly entertaining and inspiring presentation that ended with a few magic tricks and delighted the audience.

The program concluded with the singing of the alma mater, "Heart of Missouri," led by the University Singers and UMSL Brass band, under the direction of Jim Henry.

After the program ended, the evening concluded with a champagne and dessert reception. Live music by the Fabulous Missouri Review got the crowd dancing before the gala was capped with a fireworks display.

Wayne Goode, chair of University of Missouri Board of Curators and UMSL Trustee, speaks at the "Jubilee Kick-Off" at UMSL.

Wayne Goode, chair of University of Missouri Board of Curators and UMSL Trustee, speaks at the "Jubilee Kick-Off" at UMSL.
**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4**

**Monday Noon Series: 'Laced' Artist's Talk**

Pengpeng Hong, a Kansas City artist, discusses her delicate and disturbing works about complicated subjects, which appear in the Gallery 210 exhibition Laced, 12:15 - 1:15 P.M. in Gallery 210 Auditorium. For information: Karen Lucas at 314-516-5098.

**Soledad O'Brien talk**

Soledad O'Brien, author for the CNN morning show Starting Point with Soledad O'Brien and a special correspondent for CNN/USA, will discuss her diverse experiences as a journalist as well as her passion for giving back to the community. 7 - 9 p.m. in Millennium Student Center Century Room. For information: Office of Student Life at 314-516-5201.

**Welcome Back Dinner and Ping Pong Tourney**

The free spaghetti dinner will begin at 6 p.m. followed by Ping Pong Tournament at Catholic Newman Center. For information: Rachelle Simon at 314-385-3455 or www.currentonline.com.

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5**

**International Business Club meeting**

First Meeting for the twenty features a guest speaker talking about her international experience, information on upcoming trips to Chicago and a free lunch. For information: Kristie Sodder, 314-629-9994.

**UMSL Town Hall meeting**

Second of two town hall meetings, an opportunity for the campus to speak directly to the chancellor and provost about setting priorities for the university. This meeting focuses on growth plan and community partnerships for retention/imports, 2 - 4 p.m. in 120 Social Sciences & Business Building. For information: Patricia Dolan at 314-516-5303.

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6**

**News at Noon: 'Mental Health Awareness: School Violence & Personal Recovery'**

Free pizza lunch and discussion of mental health issues in the wake of the Sandy Hook shootings, 12:15 - 1:15 p.m. in MSC Century Room A. For information: Beth Landers at 314-629-2441.

**Arianna String Quartet concert with Elias Goldstein**

Arianna String Quartet welcomes violist Elias Goldstein, a rising star among viola players, at 7:30 p.m. at Touhill Performing Arts Center. For information: Touhill box office 314-516-4949.

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7**

**Breakfast and Business: 'What Recovery? Outlook for the Economy and Markets'**

Breakfast and Business discussion sponsored by the College of Business Administration, is 7:30 - 9 a.m. in SGA Chambers, MSC. For information: Jane Forrest at 314-516-5883.

**Anthropology, Sociology, and Languages Jubilee Culture Series**

First of three lectures in the ASL Jubilee Culture Series: "Language Contact in a Global World," 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. in J.C. Penney 202. Refreshments will be served. For information: Beth Landers at 314-516-6546.

**Spoken Word Artist: Shanelle Gabriel**

Performance by spoken word artist Shanelle Gabriel who has been featured on HBO's Def Poetry Jam, 8 - 10 p.m. in Pilot House. For information: R.V. Jenkins or other UBP member at 314-516-5531.

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8**

**'Romeo and Juliet' ballet**

Celebrate Valentine's Day early with one of the most passionate and dynamic story ballets, Romeo and Juliet. Saint Louis Ballet's production of Shakespeare's romantic tragedy features music by Prokofiev, choreography by Hontachi, sword fighting, court dancing and the iconic balcony pas de deux. Performances February 8, at 8 PM, February 9 at 2:30 PM and 8 PM, and February 10 at 3 PM at Touhill PAC. For information: Touhill box office 314-516-4949.

**Natural Bridge birthday and Literary Journal Symposium**

Poe discussion and party with snacks and cash bar, 7 -10 p.m. in J.C. Penney auditorium and lobby. For information: Mary Troy at 314-516-6845.

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11**

**Monday Noon Series: 'Explosion in the Middle East Art Scene'**

Marika Knoke, director of Laumeier Sculpture Park and Aronson Endowed Professor of Modern and Contemporary Art History, describes her work in the Middle East, particularly Egypt, over the past decade, 12:15 -1:15 p.m., in J.C. Penney Conference Center. For information: Karen Lucas at 314-516-5698.
University of Missouri-St. Louis Alumni Travel Program benefits all

SHARON PRUITT MANAGING EDITOR

The University of Missouri-St. Louis Alumni Travel Program has planned four trips for this year. The trips—which include a Broadway show in New York City and a cruise around the British Isles—are among the key events included in the Alumni Association's calendar of activities for the year. The program is designed to help current and former students, alumni, and faculty members explore the world and enjoy cultural and educational experiences.

Four excursions planned for this year are:
- a trip to New York City from June 1 to June 4
- a trip to Jupiter, Fla., for Cardinal Spring Training from March 7 to March 10
- an UMSL ski holiday in Salt Lake City from March 23 to March 27
- a 12-day cruise sailing the British Isles on July 11

For more information or to offer feedback or suggestions, Sander Honich can be reached via email at susansander@sbglobal.net.

The first trip of the UMSL Alumni Travel Program was a fall foliage trip through Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont in September of last year. Sander Honich hopes the program will become a staple of campus life in the years to come.

"I'd really like to do all I can to help promote travel as a way to further connect alumni and retired members of faculty and staff with students, alumni and current members of faculty and staff," Sander Honich said. "I'm looking for ideas, what students think will work and what will appeal to them.

The four excursions planned for 2013 are:
- a trip to New York City from June 1 to June 4
- a trip to Jupiter, Fla., for Cardinal Spring Training from March 7 to March 10
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For more information or to offer feedback or suggestions, Sander Honich can be reached via email at susansander@sbglobal.net.

University of Missouri-St. Louis officially became a smoke-free campus on Jan. 1, 2012, when smoking and other tobacco use was banned on all campus property, indoors and outdoors. While the ban is firmly in place in buildings, compliance has waned somewhat outdoors, with clusters of smokers sometimes forming in certain spots around campus. Concerned with this trend, the university has launched the UMSL Seriously Tobacco-Free campaign.

The campaign is intended to recruit members of the campus community to help enforce the campus-wide smoking ban. It will proceed in phases, beginning with posters around campus and then with student volunteers. Groups of volunteers will approach smokers violating the ban in common areas of campus, such as the North Campus Quadrangle, offering information on smoking cessation and samples of Nicorette gum. Anyone wishing to volunteer or seeking more information on the campaign should contact Alexis Nugent, senior information specialist, at nugenta@umsl.edu.

Jubilee Flashback

The Current has been part of the university since 1966. In honor of the campus’ 50th anniversary, we are reprinting selected articles from our archives. This article originally ran in The Current on Feb. 4, 1982.

Snowstorm shuts down campus

St. Louis’ worst snowstorm in about 70 years resulted in the closing of classes for the first part of this week. As of Wednesday, most of the parking lots were still not cleared and additional snowfall was making snow removal difficult.

To make matters worse, the university’s lone snow plow broke down early in the week and the university had to contract with an outside company to have the lots plowed.

According to one grader operator, the snow had drifted to as much as three feet on some parking lots, adding that these lots had probably not been plowed since the snow started to fall. The operator had called for additional help, but said he did not know how long it would take to clear the lots.

“They should go ahead and see Snow),” page 2

UMSL SKI RESORT: The UMSL campus was bombarded with snow earlier this week (above), but people like Frances Young (right), a physical therapist at Normandy Hospital, didn’t mind. Ms. Young found the best way to get around the UMSL campus was on skis.

SNOW (page 2 continuation from above) ... close the campus the rest of the week and bring in the proper equipment so they can get everything cleared,” the operator said.
Illusionist Joel Meyers
performs at Pilot House

ALBERT NALL   STAFF WRITER

Illusionist Joel Meyers performed enthrilled the audience at the Pilot House on Oct. 2. While magic acts have been popular at UMSL, Green said that Meyers is the only one that has been scheduled to perform at the Pilot House for the Spring semester, and the UPB has no immediate plans to book other illusionists.

Based on the strong audience reception to Meyers and Carter, it is possible that the UPB could schedule other magic acts for the Fall semester, although we do like to switch up acts from semester to semester" Green said.

The performance at Pilot House was sponsored by the University Program Board. Meyers' appearance was rescheduled from its original date of Jan. 24 due to a snowstorm in another city where Meyers was performing.

Meyers is an interactive comedy magician who does a special brand of illusion for celebrities and audiences of all ages worldwide. His background as a magician ranges from star performances on Broadway to shows for 500 companies, churches and universities. On tour in China, he was given 2012's Best Rising Star award, as well as two campus magazine awards.

Erin Perri of the UPB was in charge of the sponsorship of the event. Katie Green, the UPB chair, said that Meyers came to their attention while at an October conference held by the National Association of College Activities. "We met Meyers at the airport in Atlanta, Texas, where the conference was taking place, and he performed some tricks for us," Green said.

"Meyers is really cool in the way he engages the audience into his act," Green said.

"Magic is less about what you think you saw and more about the illusion of what I want you to think you saw," Meyers said. He demonstrated this by switching bottles of beer and glasses from cylinder to cylinder and interlocking silver rings together with a volunteer from the audience. During one act, he passed two blue balls from his hand to the hand of an audience member. When she opened her hand, several blue balls came out.

Meyers was not as much and intense as the promotional posters would project with a red card in front of his face. In fact, Meyers was quite animated, charismatic and comical and often brought up people from the audience, who he danced with before his acts.

One week after Meyers' performance, the intensity of what magic entails to its audience in Meyers' act, which included using butcher knives to open packages and creating the appearance that he cut off his arm.

There was the straightjacket, which is very much a staple in magic acts. As a couple of volunteers were untying the straightjacket on Meyers, he told of the legacy of straightjackets in magic and how they are usually used.

"The straightjacket has now become a form of cruel and unusual punishment, and it often took someone days at a time to escape," Meyers said. He then told of how Houdini escaped from the straightjacket in four minutes.

Meyers' goal was to escape from the jacket within two minutes, and a volunteer with a stopwatch confirmed that the illusionist was able to do this to the roar of the audience.

A couple of the more necessary acts by Meyers included a "slight of mouth" in which he pulled out a folded-up envelope card where a young lady signed her name earlier. The volunteer also held up a diamond card, which was later uncovered in one of the lemons that Meyers slipped open. And then there was the table with a purple cloth and a wooden box on it, which Meyers lifted up by lifting the table cloth with great ease, sometimes with the assistance of the volunteer on stage.

The audience was charmed when a red rose Meyers gave to the young lady appeared from under the tablecloth during the act.

Meyers' performance concluded with the illusionist waving a Chinese fan with confetti pouring out on the stage from nowhere, to the enchantment of the audience. After the performance, members of the UPB handed out commemorative cards, and Meyers signed promotional posters for the audience.

Meyers was the second illusionist to perform at UMSL this year. Last semester, magician Christopher Carter performed at the Pilot House on Oct. 25. While magic acts have been popular at UMSL, Green said that Meyers is the only one that has been scheduled to perform at the Pilot House for the Spring semester, and the UPB has no immediate plans to book other illusionists.

Please email umslcac@gmail.com with any questions.
Calexico and Yo La Tengo double pleasure at Pageant

DAVID VON NORDHEIM A&E EDITOR

All too frequently the opening act at a concert is a little more than a watered-down imitation of the headliner, a B-list band trying to siphon some of the goodwill of their better-known tour partner. This notion was completely reversed at the Pageant on Jan. 31 as roots rock ensemble Calexico and indie rock godfathers Yo La Tengo shared the stage for a phenomena headlining performance.

After a three-show stint on the Midwest leg of their 2013 tours, Calexico and Yo La Tengo closed out their supporting gigs in St. Louis, Calexico, touring to promote their 2012 release “Algiers,” was the first to perform. The brainchild of singer/songwriter Joey Burns and percussionist John Convertino, Calexico’s rich, jazz and Latin-infused roots music captures the dusty border towns and lonely deserts of their Arizona upbringing.

Although Burns and Convertino comprise the core of the group, their concerts feature a talented ensemble that captures the grit and soulfulness of their textured compositions. The supporting cast rotated through brass, cello bass, electric and pedal steel guitar, accordion and vibraphone throughout the performance, showcasing their versatility and the ambitions of Burns and Convertino’s arrangement.

Drawing equally from samba, folks, country-western and jazz, the Calexico’s set was a scintillating cross-cultural goulash. Their songbook spanned their entire discography, including highlights from their breakthrough albums “The Black Light” (“Gypsy’s Car” and “Feast of Wire”) and “Querencia,” their recent release which is earning them high praise from critics, inspiring the crowd to surge and shimmy like they were at a Mardi Gras parade in the Latin Quarter. The set closed with phenominal, flamenco-flavored covers of forward-thinking punk group Minutemen’s “Corona” and psychedelic rock giants Love’s “Alone Again Or.”

It is no mean feat to follow up such an electrifying set, but Yo La Tengo, the elder statesmen of indie rock, rose to the occasion. It is nothing short of performance that brought Burns and Convertino back to career can still manage the level of quality YLT strive for; but singing YLT perform their latest opus, “Fade,” was just as engaging as their last Pageant performance nearly three years ago, supporting the 2003 release “Popular Songs.”

Though Ironman Ira Kaplan may joke about his age (he expressed his concern that the audience might not have bundled up enough before leaving the house), he still wields his guitar like a seasoned barbarian, thrashing about furiously for his signature distortion-laden guitar freak-outs.

The beauty of Yo La Tengo is their mastery of dynamic. The group seamlessly alternated between the longer, Kaplan-led electric guitar suites and the quieter, Georgia Hubley-penned selections from “Fade” (“Comedid a Jane,” “Before We Ruin”), they crafted Calexico’s brass section for the feel-good funk of “Mr. Tough” and brought Joey Burns out for an exhilarating vibraphone workout on “You Never Can Tell I Think I’m Goodluck” (both from their latter-day masterpiece “I’m Not Afraid Of You and I Will Beat Your Ass”).

The set ended with the hypnotic anti-climax of a quarter-hour rendition of “Olins,” the psychedelic rock excursion that opens “Fade.” The crowd cheered Kaplan on as he subjected his guitar to just about every sort of trauma imaginable short of smashing it, segueing into an encore performance that brought Burns and Convertino back to the stage for a joint cover of “Little Black Egg” 1960s folk rock troupe The Nightcrawlers’ lone hit single. It was an inspired choice for a genius pairing.

“Compliment Day” brings smiles

ALBERT NALL STAFF WRITER

Have you received a good compliment lately? Has somebody told you that your laugh sounds like angels giggling? or that your voice is like the purring of a 1,000 kittens? Has somebody told you that you are so super that Superman looks up to you? It’s not a bad thing (in fact, some psychologists believe that it is important to hear those compliments), but in order to be able to give them, you have to believe them yourself. The problem is that many of us are so insecure that we don’t think we deserve the compliments, as are often found at workshops where colleagues can write notes commending the hard work of co-workers to encourage them on the job. One of the most important skills that graduates of UMSL can take to their careers is the ability to give compliments.

The ability to give compliments may be interpreted differently for different people. Some may simply want to be uplifted by the compliment and feel like they matter, especially at a time when there is much press on inculcivity in social culture.

For others, being able to give compliments could be a determinant as to how the person is perceived, especially if the person who is being complimented is rather unknown or doesn’t appear to be that socially popular. Sometimes, however, compliments are given out of an overzealous recording tape.

The goal of the workshop was to teach everyone how to give compliments and how to receive them, making sure that no one felt awkward or intimidated. The workshop was led by Dr. Raj Raghunathan, a professor at the Department of Marketing at the University of Texas at Austin, who has written several books about compliments, including “Making People Feel Good: The Art of Giving Compliments.”

The workshop began with a discussion of what a compliment is and how they can be given. Dr. Raghunathan explained that compliments are a way to show someone that you care about them and that you want to help them feel good about themselves.

The workshop then went on to discuss how to give compliments. Dr. Raghunathan explained that compliments should be specific and should focus on something that the person has done well. He also explained that compliments should be given with sincerity and should be something that the person has not already heard.

The workshop then went on to discuss how to receive compliments. Dr. Raghunathan explained that receiving compliments should be done with gratitude and that it is important to accept the compliment and to thank the person who has given it.

The workshop ended with a discussion of how compliments can be used to make someone feel better. Dr. Raghunathan explained that compliments are a way to show someone that they are valued and that they are important. He also explained that compliments can be used to build confidence and to help someone feel good about themselves.

The workshop was well-received and attendees left feeling more comfortable with giving and receiving compliments. Dr. Raghunathan was pleased with the turnout and with the feedback he received from the attendees.

“I am always happy to see people take the time to learn how to give compliments,” Dr. Raghunathan said. "It is an important skill to have and it can make a big difference in someone’s life.”
Women's basketball ready to roll

LEON DEVANCE SPORTS EDITOR

Under former head coach Lisa Curlis-Taylor, the University of Missouri-St. Louis women's basketball team struggled to win 10 games because of injuries to key players. At 10-8 this season under Coach Katie Vaughn, the team seemed primed to put number 11 in the win column.

And with conference season play in the stretch run, Great Lakes Valley Conference Western Division team Quincy appeared to be on the ropes. But then, an eight-plus minute plus cold shooting affected UMSL, allowing Quincy to escape with a 47-42 road win.

The win boosted Quincy's overall record to 10-8 and 8-2 in GLVC league play this season. UMSL fell to 10-8 with the loss and trails Quincy by three games at 36-34.

UMSL's offensive effort was led by U1SL with 11 points, nine boards and three steals, and Kunkel posted a career-high nine points and five boards, all on the offensive end. Kelly McGovern, sophomore, special education, dished out six assists and Angela, senior, criminal justice, collected four steals.

Vaughn noted that in film study, the UMSL players understand where the shots should come from. Starting against Illinois-Springfield, Vaughn insists that UMSL will become more aggressive on defense and push the ball to attack the opposition.

"Starting against Springfield, we are going to be aggressive and push the ball to get quality shots," Vaughn said.

Another aspect of continuing to see good looks at the basket, Vaughn said, is that players have to communicate on the court.

"Defensively, we want players to communicate with their teammates when the opponent uses ball screens. We want to box out, limit them to one shot and give them no easy looks at the basket," Vaughn said.

Vaughn said she is pleased with the effort of the players this season, her first as UMSL's head coach.

"We've got to play to our capabilities and put together a 40-minute game. This is the month and time to do that," Vaughn said.

Eli Goldstein
February 6
FREE

Elias Goldstein
February 6
FREE

Alianna String Quartet: Razumovsky
March 1
FREE

Romeo and Juliet: Saint Louis Ballet
February 8-10
$10

Le Chant Sur La Lowe
March 2
FREE

The Improv Shop
February 13
FREE

Four By Tenn -UMSL Theatre
March 14-17
$5

Carmina Burana
February 21-24
$10

MADCO: Momentum
March 23, 2pm
FREE

St Louis Jazz Orchestra:
A Night of Count Basie
February 26
$10

Chick Corea & Béla Fleck
March 23
$10

Paco Peña: Flamenco Vivo
February 28
$10

The Second City
April 5 & 6
$10

Answer to last week's Cryptogram:
What would you do for a Subway sandwich?
Lowering credit hours required may help students

MADDE HARNED
STAFF WRITER

The terms "four-year degree" and "bachelor's degree" have almost become synonymous. While the two terms are often used interchangeably, it may be that they are being used in error.

Most departments require students to complete 125 or more hours of credit to earn a bachelor's degree. Yet if 12 credit hours is considered to be full-time, then it would take students five, not four, years to earn an undergraduate degree.

In order to make earning a bachelor's degree more manageable, departments currently requiring 125 or more hours of credit for graduation should lower their credit hour requirements.

The goal of undergraduate programs should be to thoroughly educate students of a specific field in a manner that is both timely and comprehensive. Every semester in which a full-time student is enrolled adds more student loans, stress and time not spent working full-time in their desired field.

Additionally, it is completely unreasonable for departments to expect students to enroll in more than the 12 hours needed to be considered full-time. Quite simply, departments are placing full-time students in a rather demanding situation—they can either overwork themselves by taking an abundance of credit hours every semester or take five years, rather than the traditional four, to earn their bachelor's degree.

However, there is a way to make earning a bachelor's degree more manageable while also ensuring that students graduate fully prepared for employment and success in their specific fields. Cutting credit hours of full-time students to complete their undergraduate degrees in four years.

In the grand scheme of things, there is no reason concomitant to a person's employment in their field of study to take classes that have absolutely nothing to do with their area of interest. There is no reason why a French major needs to take multiple math classes or why a chemistry major needs to take multiple literature classes.

While these classes may be interesting or fun, a small reduction in general education requirements would be beneficial for students because it would make getting a degree more manageable, reduce stress and allow students to progress from school to gainful employment more efficiently, and feel that what earning a bachelor's degree is all about.

HALI FLINTROP
OPINIONS EDITOR

Everyone has already heard that our society is obsessed with youth and cruel to age. But what's with that? And it's as if we cannot even manage to have a real, legitimate idea of what actually constitutes "old."

For example, Comedy Central viewers may have recently treated themselves to watching Daniel Tosh make a list and show pictures of all of the celebrity women over the age of 40 that he would sleep with. He went through quite a long list, and the joke was that he would not sleep with any woman over 40—actually over 30. How funny!

Really, it's completely okay for people to have personal sexual preferences. But what Tosh did, plus the fact that it was aired on television and apparently found hilarious by at least his own audience members, indicates that society finds old people comical, so much so that people can discuss them in a way that dehumanizes them. Never mind that Annette Bening and Lucy Liu, two examples of women on Tosh's list, are attractive women and wonderful actresses. They are women over the age of 40 and therefore bearing the brunt of a cruel joke.

They're definitely bearing the brunt of something, anyway. Our society tends to value physical beauty (particularly of women) over talent or intellectual prowess. So it makes sense in the context of our society that women who are talented, famous and quite attractive (either despite or because of age) can be reduced to age objects of no use to Tosh and anyone who laughed with him merely because of the arbitrary number 40.

As a side note, 40 is barely half of our life expectancy! What the heck are people over 40 supposed to do after that big birthday if they become totally throw-away to the rest of us? Should they sit in their condos in shame and wait to die? Or is that too cruel? Should we allow them out only to play golf, quilt and attend the early bird special? Because that is so much better.

We treat older people as if they are a completely different species. It is really insulting that when an older man dates a younger woman because he finds her youthful attractiveness, our societal assumption is that the woman is only out for money while the man is only out for sex with a young woman. The implications of this are enormous and almost entirely bad.

First of all, it perpetuates the notion that women with a little more age on them are not sexy when they totally can be. Of course the man could be interested in the younger woman because he finds her youth attractive, but that does not have to be the case. Assuming her youth is the reason for his attraction reduces him to a pig and reduces her to a hot body with an empty head.

Making the assumption that the young woman is interested in the older man for money is just as naively and cruelly reductive. Without knowing anything else about the situation, it assumes that in the female in question is capable of using someone romantically for shallow reasons, and it assumes that there can be no other merit to an older person than money, which is total idiocy.

Ultimately, old people and young people are all still people. When they choose to relate to each other (yes, it is in fact possible for the old and young to be complimentary companions), romantically or otherwise, we treat as if it is perverse. It's not as if someone is choosing to have one-sided social relations with cars instead of people or cavorting with a different species. It's all human-on-human action, and old people and young people are not terribly different at all.
UMSL packs the stands for Tritons

UMSL's 5th Annual "Pack the Stands" event was held Jan. 31. Students, staff, faculty and family members gathered to watch the women's and men's Triton basketball game, as well as enjoy complementary snacks and door prizes. The night began with door prizes, in which tickets were given to be later entered in an all-night drawing for school spirit prizes. Prizes included UMSL themed apparel, fleece throws and even some mugs. To keep the guests on their toes, prize drawings occurred every ten minutes thus giving chances to win through out the night. Fans snacked on build-your-own nachos and other refreshments. Red and gold cupcakes were provided by Sodexo, campus catering.

The Tritons drive to victory as the crowd looks on.

Men's basketball scores in 'Pack The Stands' game

With a necesario band and festive crowd ready to celebrate a victory, the University of Missouri-St. Louis men's basketball team turned in another day at the office.

Quincy provided the opposition in a Great Lakes Valley Conference game held on the Chuck Smith court, and UMSL delivered a 69-55 victory.

UMSL improved its overall record to 12-6 and stands 5-5 in the GLVC. Quincy fell to 8-10 and trails UMSL by two games in the GLVC with a 3-7 league record.

UMSL never trailed in the game and used an early six-point run that fueled an 11-4 lead. Quincy kept the game close as they used a five-point run to close 14-12. Later, a 14-4 run gave UMSL a double digit lead, 25-15, on a Neil Braham, sophomore, layup. UMSL led 35-29 at halftime.

A late Quincy run over six minutes made the score 29-27 before the half, but UMSL regained control to lead 35-29 at halftime.

Quincy opened the second half with consecutive baskets to close within 35-33. UMSL then responded with a 10-point run that knelt the 14-2 run and grabbed UMSL a 49-35 lead. An Isaiah Nunn, senior, communications, fast break dunk built a 16-point lead for UMSL at 57-41. Quincy later went on an 8-1 run that trimmed the deficit to single digits at 58-49 but could not get any closer.

Tappmeyer said that Quincy was able to get back in the game when UMSL failed to do the things that allowed it to establish the lead.

"We didn't take care of the basketball (when Quincy made runs at us), and we turned the ball over," Tappmeyer said. "I told the guys we had to re-focus and get the energy back."

Tappmeyer said that Quincy was able to get back in the game when UMSL failed to do the things that allowed it to establish the lead.

"We've got to sharpen our execution and get the rotations settled," Tappmeyer said. "We've got a three-game test on the road that starts against Illinois-Springfield that we've got to get ready for. We need to get back to fundamentals of the game and cut our turnovers down," Tappmeyer said.