RARE SOTHEBY’S ARTIFACT COMES TO UMSL AS PART OF NATIONWIDE TOUR

KARLYNE KILLBREW
STAFF WRITER

The first book ever printed in the United States, “The Bay Psalm Book: Property of the Old South Church in Boston” was exhibited at the University of Missouri-St. Louis’s Mercantile Library from September 13, 2013. The exhibit featured this artifact and some of the Mercantile’s own irreverable texts, all open to be viewed by the public. A private exhibition was hosted on the preceding night, September 12, 2013, for those invited to the private viewing.

This honor was extended to the school by Sotheby’s, a New York-based auctioning agency known for its highly valuable international artifacts, with a very large focus on books.

This particular artifact is currently being taken on a nationwide tour to raise awareness of its existence and generate interest for the upcoming auction. It came to St. Louis following a stint in Chicago’s Newberry Library and left for the Cleveland Public Library on the eve of the thirteenth.

The historical hymnals is estimated to garner between $15 and $30 million dollars at the upcoming auction on November 26. Published 373 years ago by the Massachusetts Bay Colony Congregationalist Puritans, “The Bay Psalm Book” has been a key part of America’s religious and political history in more ways than one.

Comparable to the “Gutenberg Bible” in age and significance, however lesser known, “The Whole Book of Psalms” (an alternate title) signifies both the institutional beginnings of the U.S. and a religious revolution.

Sotheby’s Senior Vice President Selby Kiffer noted, “To a way, it represents the founding of the United States...it was printed in 1640, just twenty years after the pilgrims landed on Plymouth Rock...one way of establishing their independence was they decided to translate the psalms into rhymed, metered poetry...In a way, it’s a religious declaration of independence.”

Due to a significant difference in Puritan worship from the established Church of England, a new practice where the entire congregation sang the hymns rather than just the choir, it was necessary for the members to have access to the psalms in a hymnal. This led to a wide desire for a more accurate translation of the original Hebrew versions of the psalms than the Henry Ainsworth versions they originally brought with them from England. They duly imported a press, book materials, and a locksmith to operate the press that fall.

Of the 1700 copies originally printed, 11 are still in existence, two of which are still property of the Old South Church in Boston. The congregation voted to sell one of the copies in order to raise money for church upkeep and future missions.

The November auction will be the first since 1947—when it sold for a world record price surpassing the “Gutenberg Bible,” “The First Folio of Shakespeare,” and Audubon’s “Birds of America” in sales—that a copy of the book will be available for purchase.

The volume was bound in black leather and was displayed with it laying open about a third of the way on a black velvet sheet-covered bookstand. The pages were colored with age but none were torn, bent, or water marked. The artifact was stable enough to allow non-flash photography.

In the spirit of showcasing treasured text, the St. Louis Mercantile Library created a small exhibit surrounding the book including their copies of the “Gutenberg Bible,” an original publishing of the first “Book of Mormon,” and multiple well-preserved religious pamphlets.

This rare event was courtesy of auspicious relations between John Hoover, director, UMSL Mercantile Library, and Sotheby’s Senior Vice President Selby Kiffer.
UML resident reported missing

UMSL resident Allison B. Reed was reported missing Sunday, September 15, 2013. According to an official release, Reed was last seen by her father on Thursday night when he was dropping her off at a campus living community. Reed is 21 years old, stands about 5 ft. 5 in. in height, weighs 125 pounds, and has brown hair and eyes.

Anyone with information regarding Reed is encouraged to contact the UMSL Police Department at (314) 516-5155.

World Ecology Award will be presented at gala Sept. 22

The University of Missouri-St. Louis' Whitney R. Harris World Ecology Center will present its 2013 World Ecology Award to Prince Albert II of Monaco at a gala on September 22 at the Missouri Botanical Garden's Ridgway Center.

The World Ecology Center is a collaborative effort between the Department of Biology at UMSL, the Missouri Botanical Garden and the Saint Louis Zoo which has become a world-renowned leader in graduate studies in ecology, biodiversity and conservation. The program supports graduate student researchers from over 20 countries. The collaboration provides academic research partners for the Garden and Zoo's mission and work.

The World Ecology Award is presented to a prominent individual who has made significant contributions towards bringing international attention to biodiversity, conservation and ecological issues. Past recipients have ranged from Dr. Jane Goodall to Harrison Ford and Conservation International to nature filmmakers Beverly and Derek Joubert.

World Ecology Award will be presented at gala Sept. 22

A prince might just occupy his time with the formalities and pleasantries of his office. Prince Albert II of Monaco and the son of Prince Rainier and Hollywood star Grace Kelly. Although Monaco is a small country, it is world known and the prince has chosen to use his position and influence to draw attention to important global ecology issues.

The award will be presented at gala dinner, which will begin with cocktails at 6 p.m. and dinner at 7 p.m. The award will be presented at 7:45 p.m. Information about the event, the award and the World Ecology Center can be found at the center's website www.umsl.edu/~biology/lwec/Events.html.
UMSL celebrates quilt unveiling
LATWUANNA TROUPE
STAFF WRITER

The Jubilee celebration sees another landmark with the reception and unveiling of a quilt that commemorates the 50 years of service, community and academic presence that UMSL has held in the region since its founding in 1963. The event was held in the NOSH of the Millennium Student Center on Sep. 12 at 11 a.m. Tiara Rogers, coordinator, Building Operations, reached out to special guest speakers Ron Edwards, Rachel Houston, and student Elizabeth Dunn. Dunn delivered aounding dedication by singing the alma mater.

Ron Edwards began his collegiate career as a student at UMSL from 1966 to 1969. Although he did not graduate from UMSL, he continued to be a part of campus. Edwards worked for UMSL from 1970 until he retired in 2011. "I worked the Arr department for the first 5 years and was with the Student Center, for the last 36 years, the longest tenure to be held in school history of anyone in the Center operations group," Edwards said. He tickled the crowd with his timeless memories of the first mascot being "Rivermen" and the first-come first-serve parking spots for staff and students. "It took me a while to find a parking spot today, and I see after all these years that still has not changed," Edwards said.

The concept of having a Jubilee quilt came from Gallery Visio, student-operated art gallery housed in the MSC. Gallery Visio approached Rachel Houston, a graduate from UMSL, from spring 2011 with a Bachelors of Fine Arts in Studio Art. She maintained a great rapport with the university on when approached with the idea, she was excited to take on the project.

"Quilts are timeless," Houston said. "They live through generations and are universally accessible. The art of quilting is easy for anyone; you don't need a higher education to appreciate what they represents.

The quilt was created with the idea to gather personal memorabilia from the last 50 years and represents that time period as a whole. Everyone from student, faculty, alumni, and staff were welcomed in the effort by donating all the memorabilia used to make the face of the quilt.

The symbols and style of the quilt were inspired by the many transformations during the university's history, including the Rivermen and classic seals that document the many insignias that have signified the institution.

Before the quilt was presented to the audience, Elizabeth Dunn, UMSL student, screened the crowd with the UMSL alma mater, which officiated the significance of the quilt. As Ron Edwards unveiled the quilt, students, faculty and staff looked on with common admiration of the great texture and styles that made up the quilt.

The quilt had stitching of another landmark with the Rivermen being UMSL's first mascot. The current also represented the naming of the student newspaper "The Current." With the 50th Jubilee year coming in its last months, this quilt will give students something tangible to represent the many great things that were dedicated to the institution and of how it has developed over the years.

**News at Noon talks self-defense laws, rights**

PAUL PEANICK
STAFF WRITER

Students, faculty, staff and visitors met for the monthly "News at Noon" discussion entitled, "Self Defense, Hard to Sippin," on September 11, 2013, at 12:15 p.m. in the Millennium Student Center (MSC). News at Noon is a forum for discussion of the latest politically and socially relevant issues of the day. The talk centered on the recent trial Florida v. George Zimmerman, a trial with important implications for self-defense law.

The discussion was moderated by Sharon Pratt, editor-in-chief, The Current, and led by Dr. David Klinger, associate professor, criminology.

Dr. Klinger, a former Seattle area police officer, rose through the ranks to serve as an advocate for police officers charged with the abuse of force. He current professorial work is in self-defense law. "My focus is on the legal use of force, particularly deadly force," Klinger said.

Prosecutors had initially decided not to charge Zimmerman, citing lack of evidence, and that what evidence existed seemed to point in favor of his version of events. Tragically, Mr. Martin's own account will never be heard. "We may never know the complete truth," Klinger said.

"The impetus is on the prosecution in a trial to prove guilt. The defense need only show a reasonable doubt," one student argued.

"George Zimmerman stalked Trayvon Martin down, an unarmed teenager, and shot him," another student said.

"The defense bungled this case from the very beginning. There would never have been charges if this hadn't become a political football" a third stated.

Florida is one of 26 states with a controversial "stand-your-ground" law. These laws provide an interpretation of self-defense in which a person need not retreat first, or be backed into a corner before using force. "The basic idea is that we all have a right to be in the public space. I shouldn't have to flee the public space from an aggressor. I have a right to be there," Dr. Klinger explained.

"That doesn't mean you can just shoot somebody for slapping you in public.

The court judges on what a 'reasonable person' would think of as a reasonable response to aggression. A larger aggressor and smaller defender, might, for example, justify the use of deadly force by the latter in more contexts than if the roles were switched, and sooner in the altercation. The Zimmerman trial is a good example. It was thought that George Zimmerman, being so much larger than Trayvon Martin—250 versus 170 pounds—would certainly have not been justified in shooting unarmed Trayvon; it was thought that such a large man had to be the aggressor.

According to Klinger, the evidence showed that when Trayvon was shot he was on top of George Zimmerman in a mounted position. Zimmerman was just in poor shape, a bungler. Martin had at least seen mixed martial arts enough to know what a mounted position is. And from the bottom of such a place, a man might fear for his life. A reasonable person in that context would be justified in using deadly force. Florida's stand your ground law need not even apply, as if Zimmerman was on his back, then he had his "back to the wall," and could not retreat any further.

News at Noon is a monthly series by "The Current" Staff Writer and "The New York Times" with support from the Office of Student Life and the Center for Teaching and Learning. The next discussion will be held on October 9, 2013 at 12:15 p.m. on the topic "Should We Put a Price on Carbon?" in Century Room C, third floor of the MSC.
Dr. Blanche M. Touhill authors photo history of UMSL’s first 50 years

HEATHER WELBORN
OPINIONS EDITOR

Dr. Blanche M. Touhill came to the University of Missouri—St. Louis as a professor in the campus’ second year. Within three decades, she worked her way up from faculty member to university chancellor. She is credited for the computerization of the campus, acquiring large land grants, and implementing dozens of new degree programs. She is releasing a new book, *A Photographic History of the University of Missouri—St. Louis: The First Fifty Years*. She spoke with The Current about her UMSL experience.

The Current (TC): Tell me a little bit about your newest book.

Dr. Blanche M. Touhill (BT): I wrote a history of the first 20 years of the campus, years ago, and since I retired, I’ve been working on a second volume of that. The first volume went from 1963-1983, and the second will pick up there in 1984 and go to when I left in 2002. About two years ago, the campus asked me to do a photographic book of the 50 year history of the campus. I took the info in volume one, which is published, and volume two, which is unpublished, and made seven chapters. What I tried to do is think of a main thing that each chancellor did, and then I tried to get pictures of the people involved in those activities. I’ve chosen pictures of students, faculty, staff, members of the community, foreign visitors, and I made sort of a photographic family album of the history of the campus.

TC: Why did you decide to publish a photographic history of UMSL?

BT: We found some wonderful pictures, we have students at homecoming and at classes and going out to do internships in the community, I have the faculty that got awards, but now there’s something else that goes in. The 50 yrs have been a really, I don’t want to say revolutionary, but a time of great change in American society. You can trace, by these pictures, just looking at the pictures alone, you can trace how women have greater potential in American society. In the first couple chapters there are no women athletes, because women weren’t on the team then Title IX came into operation, and all higher education had to develop intercollegiate teams. I show the first four pilot teams that the next year join the NCAA.

We also have a small section on the Vietnam War. Most campuses in the US had dialogue on the pro and con of the Vietnam War. I took those pages from The Current and printed them, so people can see the pictures of the students gathering to discuss the Vietnam War, we have faculty talking to students at bug lake. I talk about what happens to some of the faculty that canceled classes afterwards, to ROTC on campus once the demonstrations were over, it tracks that. It tracks African Americans coming to the university in large numbers. With the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and its re-authorization in 1972, more higher education was held accountable for both women and African American empowerment, anybody who was a protected class. I also have a page on the ADA (American Disabilities Act), how the affirmative action officers and dean, vice chancellor of student affairs got together and made changes on the campus, made it disability-friendly. I talk about the coming of international students to the campus, our greater interest in global affiliation. I try to talk about the university as a mirror of the society, I also talk about our interest in helping elementary and secondary schools become better, in the form of the bridge program, which is still on the campus, and tries to get students ready to go to college.

If you’re interested in one particular era, you could read one chapter. If you’re interested in knowing what happens to a university in a reflective mirror of society, then you read the whole book.

TC: How were you able to go from a faculty member to chancellor within 30 years?

BT: I was prepared, I had my doctorate, I began to publish and teach, and had an opportunity to become an administrator. I was the first woman to be the head of the senate. Because of that, I got to know everybody.

READ THE FULL INTERVIEW ON THECURRENT-ONLINE.COM

UMSL Bookstore hosts launch and reception for “First, A Dream”

ALBERT NALL
STAFF WRITER

When it comes to the University of Missouri-St. Louis’s 50th Anniversary celebration, one of the most talked-about projects is “First, A Dream: Reflections for a Golden Jubilee 1963 – 2013.” “First, A Dream” is a collection of personal essays about the founding of UMSL and the legacy it has built in the St. Louis region over the past 50 years. The book also features classic photos from the university’s archive collections, as well as more recent shots by campus photographer August Jennewein.

The book, edited by Ron Gossen, Chief Marketing Officer and Senior Associate Vice Chancellor of Marketing and Communications, features a range of contributors, from members of faculty and staff to students and alumni. A number of the book’s contributors were present for the launch and reception, held at the UMSL Bookstore on September 11 from 4 to 6 p.m. At the reception, members of the campus community could mingle, enjoy light refreshments, and purchase a signed copy of “First, A Dream.”

“The mix of old and new conveys the growth of this wonderful institution and the sense of its immeasurable worth to the St. Louis region,” Linda Belford, Senior Manuscripts Specialist and archivist at the Thomas Jefferson Library, said. Belford, along with many other members of the campus community, had a hand in bringing the book to completion.

“We are honored to have this book,” Chancellor Tom George said. “The book contains wonderful examples of individuals who have made their mark on this campus and this community in myriad ways.”

Innovative technologies and a virtual university community are among the predictions of UMSL’s future that can be found in “First, A Dream.”

“I have not read “First, A Dream” yet,” Miller said. “However, I love the university and wanted my own copy of it when I saw it was out.”

“First, A Dream” is available for purchase purchased at the UMSL Bookstore for $29.95 or online at umslbookstore.com.

READ AN INTERVIEW WITH THE BOOK’S EDITOR, RON GOSSEN, ON THE CURRENT-ONLINE.COM

OPINIONS EDITOR

SUSAN MILLER, Graduate, Genealogy, was one of a number of students who attended the book launch and reception in order to show their Triton pride.

“I have not read “First, A Dream” yet. However, I love the university and wanted my own copy of it when I saw it was out,” Miller said, adding her prediction that UMSL will continue to be a major university that produces top notch students 50 years from now. “At UMSL, there are practical applications of theory and engagement of the professors. Along with the [sense of] camaraderie among students, that will make the university a household name in the future.”

“The foundation of UMSL was centered, from the first day, in building a great faculty. And that continues to be our substance, Chancellor Tom George said. “The book contains wonderful examples of individuals who have made their mark on this campus and this community in myriad ways.”

Innovative technologies and a virtual university community are among the predictions of UMSL’s future that can be found in “First, A Dream.”

“Will music superstar Taylor Swift perform a farewell concert 50 years from now at UMSL? To find out which of the book’s contributors made this prediction, check out “First, A Dream: Reflections for a Golden Jubilee 1963 – 2013,” available for purchase purchased at the UMSL Bookstore for $29.95 or online at umslbookstore.com.”

READ AN INTERVIEW WITH THE BOOK’S EDITOR, RON GOSSEN, ON THE CURRENT-ONLINE.COM

STUDENTS ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO A FREE PRESENTATION ON THE TOPIC OF ADMISSION TO LAW SCHOOL

Students are cordially invited to a free presentation on the topic of admission to law school on Monday, Sept. 23, from 12:30 – 1:30 pm, in Room 315 MSC.

The presenter will be Alice Dickherber, Assistant Director, Admissions Office, Saint Louis University Law School. Thomas P. Knoten, UMSL Pre-Law Advisor, will introduce the speaker.

As an extra bonus for seniors applying to SLU Law this year, application fee waivers will be available. Light refreshments will be served. It is requested to RSVP Grace Derda, derda@umsl.edu. Please include full name and UMSL email address.

READ AN INTERVIEW WITH THE BOOK’S EDITOR, RON GOSSEN, ON THE CURRENT-ONLINE.COM
Chicago-based band is retrospective R&B

ALBERT NALL
STAFF WRITER

Is the Chicago-based band JC Brooks & The Uptown Sound a victim of its own prowess? Based on first impressions of Chicago-based band JC Brooks & The Uptown Sound's album "Howl," one might conclude that their style is that of the underground punk sound, complete with distorted guitar and lyrics designed to entice. But what we get from the beginning on the title cut with JC Brooks & the Uptown Sound, contrary to first impressions, is nothing short of true finesse. "Howl" begins slowly in a way that is introspective and polished. The beat with Billy Bungeroth on guitar and Ben Taylor on bass is professional with great text and a pulsating vibe that is upbeat and optimistic. With Kevin Marks (drums) and Andy Rosenstein (keyboard) backing lead singer JC Brooks on vocals, their album is a retrospective blend of rock and "old school" R&B that puts a personal stamp of their unique sound.

Some of the premises included in "Howl" appear quite oblique and centered on issues of trust and illicit love and the denials that go with it. What resonates in the same vein of the number of someone who is a snob and a patron of outdated art. There is a lost for power, dominance and control over the other as well as co-existence and a learning of the beloved. At the same time, there is a clear revelation of what the promise in this tale has become, in songs "Married for a Weck" and "Rouse Yourself!" In "River" and "Cold" the subject is holding on when things are collapsing. Both numbers go from melancholy at the beginning to angry and hostile defiance. The meekness and ineffectiveness of an ancient romantic becomes part of the quest for personal triumph over romantic complications that evolve into rebellion and nonconformity.

In answer of JC Brooks, "Howl" is a form of postmodern rock that has transformed itself from its early soul music roots to overarching themes and interpretations of contemporary culture. There is an interplay of divergent cultures and systems where what is the idealistic peaceful existence is counteracted by violent anarchy or wanting more detailed with the artwork, or were so deeply entrenched that the only discernible emotion was fascination.

"I don't know if I like it. I do enjoy looking at it, seeing how the artist made it," Doug Kinkaid, member of the Gallery 210 Board of Directors, said. While there was an intended theme focused on the primitive art and the natural, each artist conveyed a personalized message through their abstractions.

Marti Steiner, UMMS alumnus and former Gallery 210 employee, was captivated with Jane Birdsall-Lander's work. "[Her] use of language and how it represents letters and their true meaning is fascinating." There was a panel discussion with the three artists in the gallery auditorium before the gallery reception. Visitors were permitted to ask questions pertaining to the exhibit or its creators. Each of the three artists explained their intentions, what materials they used, and what influences inspired their art.

They all have a childhood background somewhere rooted in the natural world and were fascinated by potential manipulations and constructions of natural things. Jane Birdsall-Lander had been trained as both a writer and an artist. Her creations are essentially compliments to her writing. A particular poem might be the story and her three dimensional art is the illustration of realization of it. The works were her own way of playing with the shapes of ancient alphabets and characters in order to connect with the viewers at a fundamental level beyond language. This visual communication was the common goal for every member of the trio. When asked to assign a name to this style of natural world-inspired art, Melody Evans made the point that stuck. "There's less naming of movements," Evans said. "It's more something to name it...we all come from the same world and we're all influenced by what's happened right now. You see a lot of things that are influenced by the concept of the internet. It's [all] very accessible and rearing down what we used to call the high art."
Women's basketball team, coach ready for change

Katie Vaughn, head women's basketball coach, and the women's basketball team face a big season of change. The team is adjusting to many fresh faces for 2013-2014.

Four freshman have joined the team, including Sydney Bloch, freshman, business administration; Jordan Fletcher, freshman, accounting; Danielle Daum, freshman, biology; and Jordan Royce, freshman, undeclared.

Additionally, two transfers have added depth to the lineup, Jamie Madden, sophomore, played one season at the University of Texas at El Paso and appeared in 17 games off the bench. Alyssa Likes, senior, communications, started her college career at Olney Central College where she was a 2011-12 NJCAA Third Team Division I All-American. Like them spent a year at Murray State before joining the Tritons this season.

The additions do not come without losses, with two players sidelined with injuries. A freshman player sustained an ACL tear this summer, and a sophomore who saw significant playing time last season will be out for three months with a shoulder injury requiring surgery.

Coach Vaughn and her assistants remain determined and optimistic about the season in spite of the change of the team and injuries sustained. "We've kind of had to sit back this last week and kind of revamp what we were wanting to do... We have an offense and a defense that we worked on last year and we have quite a few returners so we're going to stick with that and add a few things based off the incoming kids that we brought in," Vaughn said.

"To help the team prepare for success," enlists the help of the strength and conditioning coach, Josh McMillan. McMillan spends countless hours every week with the players. Their regiment includes heavy conditioning and weights, as well as individual player and teamwork activities. "Getting them conditioned, I mean that's the biggest part right now. It's getting them in shape, being in condition, so that we can be an aggressive, hard-nose team," Vaughn said.

The hard work in the offseason with McMillan is expected to pay big dividends for the team. Students will have the opportunity to see the growth and change at November and the excitement of new season starts to roll in.

Coach Vaughn works diligently with every intent to see the basketball team, full of old and new faces, succeed in the basketball court. "Our returners are doing a great job. I mean they are where they need to be from last year. And obviously, our goal is to be better than we were last year, so we have some improvements to make and again I think our conditioning is our biggest improvement right now. It's hard to be disciplined on the court defensively or work hard offensively while you are fatigued or tired. But we like what we see and we'll just keep moving forward with them."

UMSL Roller Hockey Club hosts open tryouts

University of Missouri-St. Louis students who wish to participate in a competitive athletic team, this is your opportunity. The UMSL Roller Hockey Club will be holding an open skate at Midwest Sport Hockey, inside of Queen Park, on September 22 at 7 p.m.

The UMSL Roller Hockey Club is a Division I team within the National Collegiate Roller Hockey Association (NCHRA). It is independent of the NCAA and relies on funding outside of UMSL. They won a National Championship in 2009.

UMSL alumnus Andy Meade and his assistant Jason Holturn will coach the team, with three years of experience at the helm. Meade and Holturn formerly played for the UMSL Roller Hockey Club a total of 3 seasons each, winning a Division I National Championship as well as appearing in the finals and a final four.

Coach Meade emphasizes that the club is for the students and open to everyone. "The UMSL Hockey club is a very competitive hockey team that is a national contender year after year. We are open to students of all hockey backgrounds, and we have had females play in the past and certainly encourage them to attend our tryouts. The team is composed of both underclass as well as graduate students who meet a certain credit hour requirement."

We typically skate once a week during the year but this is totally dependent on the students; this is a student-run club."

Being a student-run club, the success of the program depends on the participation rate and support of the student body. Therefore, anyone having interest in the club is encouraged to attend the open skate on September 22.

The club will have a much different schedule and accommodate their schedule than other sports. The collegiate hockey season, unlike any other sport, runs the entire school year. We play tournament-style weekends, where you will play 3-5 games a weekend with a total of 5 or 6 weekends throughout the year and then ending with a National Championship, which is held at a different venue across the United States," Meade said.

The team is excited to start the season and invest much of their personal time and energy to the club and their passion for the sport. "We both have full time jobs and do this solely for the love of the game. We have dedicated countless hours and our own money to keep this club alive, with hopes that one day the school will help these students out and take away some of the financial burden," Meade said.
POINT: Walter White is a hero

It is difficult to envision the Walter who existed at the show’s inception five seasons ago, the mild-mannered high school chemistry teacher who enjoyed time with his children and got together with in-laws. Since his ominous diagnosis of terminal cancer, the certainty of death has hung heavy and hard over Walt increasingly-hanging bold as an executioner’s guillotine. In a refusal to abandon his family in his true intention, educator transforms himself into creator and ruler of a drug empire. In doing so, his death sentence becomes less unwarranted punishment, more Damoclean sword, a realistic end to an effort readily apparent.

It is hard indeed to be the king, to bear such power bestowed upon just one man by fate, daunting and intoxicating. In this respect, Walt’s decline towards nonexistence is not only lucrative, but memorable, in the monetary sense. Violent pastAside from perhaps alternative treatments deemed unacceptable by your country of residence, Methamphetamine synthesis has no rehabilitative effects on its users, nor does homicide and punishment, more Damoclean sword, a realistic end to an effort readily apparent.

COUNTER: Walter White is a villain

Walter White is an evil, murdering, ruthless murderer as he knowingly and willfully endangers his family in death, the weak-willed and heavy over Walt’s increasingly mannered high school chemistry teacher. The diagnosis of terminal cancer, the certainty of death, he is not ready, and fears of death at any cost? Is he fleeing from his guilt or trying to escape? Walter who existed at the show’s terminal cancer, the certainty of death has hung heavy and hard over Walt increasingly-hanging bold as an executioner’s guillotine. In a refusal to abandon his family in his true intention, educator transforms himself into creator and ruler of a drug empire. In doing so, his death sentence becomes less unwarranted punishment, more Damoclean sword, a realistic end to an effort readily apparent.

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Jubilee Flashback compiled by Albert Nall

The Current has been a part of UMSL since 1966. In honor of the campus’ 50th anniversary, we are reprinting articles from years past. This story originally ran on September 16, 1996. For more Jubilee Flashback, visit our website at thecurrent-online.com.

Schoolhouse Rock is back, and for many Tritons, it may be coming to a family near you. On September 16, 1996, The Current published a review of “Schoolhouse Rock! Rocks!,” produced by Atlantic Records. Schoolhouse Rock is based on a set of short animated educational programs that aired on Saturday mornings on ABC from 1973 to 1985. Both old and new episodes of Schoolhouse Rock aired from 1993 to 1999. New episodes have been produced on home video as recently as 2009.

Schoolhouse Rock uses music to teach young people everything from grammar and early American history to science, math and economics. Some of their most popular numbers include “My Hero, Zero,” from Multiplication Rock, “Verb, That’s What Happening,” from Grammar Rock, and “Just A Bill,” from American Rock. The most recent DVDs were released a few years ago and include such hits as “I Am Going To Send Your Vote To College,” which taught viewers about the Electoral College, and the “Presidential Minute,” inspired by the 2008 presidential election.

One of the most memorable songs in The Current’s 1996 article was the remake of “There Is A Magic Number,” produced for “Schoolhouse Rock! Rocks!” This was the last appearance made by the alternative rock band Blind Melon before the group’s lead singer, Shannon Hoon, died at the age of 28 of a cocaine overdose. With a remake of “Conjunction Junction,” Better Than Ezra was also another alternative rock band that contributed to the “Schoolhouse Rock! Rocks.” A portion of the money earned from sales of “Schoolhouse Rock! Rocks” were donated to the Children’s Defense Fund, an advocacy group founded by Marian Wright Edelman to aid children living in poverty.

The Schoolhouse Rock series was originally developed as a promotional project by David McCall during his work with the Madison Avenue advertising agency of McCaffrey & McCall. At the time, McCall’s young son was experiencing problems with mathematics, and McCall’s use of the same types of rhythms popular in the rock music of the time helped his son learn his multiplication tables. The original series has gone on to win four Emmy awards. Over the years, Schoolhouse Rock became so popular that a student from the University of Connecticut persuaded ABC to re-run the program as part of their Saturday morning lineup in 1992.

In 1993, a show based on Schoolhouse Rock was staged in the basement of Chicago’s Cabrini Green to packed houses. The script was written by teacher and writer Scott Ferguson. Ferguson’s story centers around Tom, an edgy schoolteacher searching for a new way to keep his Second and Fourth grade students engaged in his first day of class as an instructor. While Tom turns to his television and sees the characters of Dina, Dori, George, and Shulie, all of whom represent a different part of Tom’s personality, his new friends show him how to win over his students with imagination and music.

Ferguson’s show, “Schoolhouse Rock Live!,” is being licensed and performed on various venues across the United States. It will be performed at the University of St. Francis in Joliet, Illinois from October 16 to October 20.

For more Jubilee Flashback, visit thecurrent-online.com.

Various Artists—Schoolhouse Rock! Rocks!

(Atlantic)

Remember the days back when life was a lot simpler? Back when the only thing that really mattered was whether your mom bought a new Dukes of Hazard lunchbox and some G.I. Joes? Well you can relive those days and memories while listening to the new Schoolhouse Rock! Rocks.

Many of the best groups in music today are found redoing the classic hits that every one of us heard growing up. From the all-time best “Three Is A Magic Number” to the very little played “The Tale of Mr. Morton” and all of the great songs that Schoolhouse Rock has made. Blind Melon makes their first appearance on the disc as a group with their remake of “Three Is A Magic Number.” Shannon Hool the groups lead singer died after the song was recorded. The sound songs almost exactly like the original, in other words it sounds excellent.

One of the other better versions on the disc is Better Than Ezra’s version of “Conjunction Junction.” With all their adaptations to the song it is surprising that it still sounds as good as the version that was recorded 23 years ago. Also on the disc are Biz Markie doing “The Energy Blues” and Pavement doing “No More Kings.”

(Ken Dunklin)