Ferguson puts STL in spotlight

KAT RIDDLE
NEWS EDITOR

Two weeks before the start of the fall semester a tragic shooting occurred in the nearby community of Ferguson, Missouri. A 19-year-old African-American male, Michael Brown, was shot and killed by Ferguson police officer Darren Wilson. While similar incidents have occurred elsewhere, the story of what happened in Ferguson – the ensuing protests, looting, and news coverage fanning a frenzy on social media – focused the world’s attention on this small community of 21,000.

Here The Current presents a chronological summary of some of the coverage we provided over the past two weeks.

Saturday, August 9 - Michael Brown, a 19-year-old African-American was shot around noon in the 2900 block of the Canfield Green apartment complex by Ferguson Police Officer Darren Wilson. Brown was walking in the street with his friend, Dorrin Johnson, when stopped by police.

Sunday, August 10 - Looting, vandalism, and arson happened Sunday night after the vigil. At least two officers and police cars suffered damage during the chaos as local businesses were looted and vandalized. Ferguson’s Quick Trip was in effect from the hours of 12 a.m. to 5 a.m. Captain Johnson told the press that there would be a staging area that they would have to stay in if they were going to be out past curfew. A group of peaceful protestors asked them to leave. About 12:30, the police put on gas masks and used tear gas to disperse the crowd.

Thursday, August 14 - Missouri Governor Jay Nixon appointed Missouri State Highway Patrol Captain Ron Johnson to head security for Ferguson. President Barack Obama gave an address condemning the violence protestors and police towards police, and police reaction towards peaceful and non-peaceful protestors. Thursday had successful peaceful protests for the Ferguson community all across the nation.

Friday, August 15 - Against the advice of the Department of Justice, Ferguson Police Chief Thomas Jackson released a surveillance video which purportedly shows Michael Brown stealing cigars from a convenience store and shoving a clerk minutes before his death. They released this information with the name of the police officer who shot Brown. Friday night after peaceful protest, looting and vandalism occurred again. This time it was directed towards the convenience store from the surveillance video and a meat market next door. Peaceful protestors tried to stop looters by blocking the doors but to no avail.

Saturday, August 16 - Saturday afternoon’s press conference Governor Nixon called a State of Emergency in Ferguson. As part of this order, a curfew was put into effect from the hours of 12 a.m. to 5 a.m. Captain Johnson told the press that there would be a staging area that they would have to stay in if they were going to be out past curfew. A group of peaceful protestors stayed out past the imposed curfew. Police and other peaceful protestors asked them to leave. About 12:30, the police put on gas masks and used tear gas to disperse the crowd.

Sunday, August 17 - U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder had ordered a federal autopsy to be conducted. Another curfew was in effect from 12 a.m. to 5 a.m. This time trouble started before curfew was in effect. Police say they were bombarded with Molotov Cocktails and gunshots around 9:30 p.m. Sunday night. Police responded with tear gas and rubber bullets.

Monday, August 18 - A press conference was held by the attorneys for the Michael Brown family to allow their nationally known pathologist to discuss his private autopsy findings. Brown had been shot 6 times. Ferguson-Florissant school district also canceled the start of classes until August 25 citing the situation in Ferguson.

Tuesday, August 19 - Nixon hinted for Bob McCullough, St. Louis County Prosecutor to recuse himself from the case, but McCullough has no intention to do that. Instead he said that Nixon should “man up” and directly tell him not to and stop dodging the situation. Tensions rise around midnight as bottles were thrown at police who then responded by charging the protestors to disperse them. Police even charged the media staging area.

Wednesday, August 20 - U.S. Army General Eric Holder visits St. Louis to oversee federal investigation. Caucasian couple decides to protest and support Darren Wilson, police quickly escort them away from Brown protestors. Wednesday night’s heavy rains keep most protestors away. 7 arrests were made overnight.

Thursday, August 21 - National Guard pulled out by Governor.

Friday, August 22 - First night where no arrests were made. Peaceful protesting and community cleanup during the day. 7 arrested overnight.

Saturday, August 23 - Despite the heat index over 100, the NAACP had a large turnout for a planned march down West Florissant. West Florissant remained open to traffic. Later that evening, police made 7 arrests, the first arrest in over two days. President Obama to review government practice of providing military hardware to police agencies.

Sunday, August 24 - Brown’s funeral is set for Monday.

Reminder that the story of the shooting of Michael Brown will continue to dominate the news for weeks ahead. The grand jury will probably not render a decision about whether to bring charges until October. If they do, then there will be a lengthy trial period. Likewise the parallel investigation by the United State Justice Department may file its own charges based on Civil Rights violations against the City of Ferguson or other governmental departments or agencies.

For more day-to-day summaries please go online to the current-online.com/sections/news.
THE CURRENT STAFF

EDITORIAL
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Advertising Director Britni Fischer
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CONTACT US
388 MSC, 1 University Blvd
St. Louis, MO 63121-4400

Newsmail 314-516-5174
thecurrenttips@umsl.edu
Business/Advertising 314-516-5316
thecurrentjobs@umsl.edu

Fax 314-516-4411
Editor-in-Chief thecurrent@umsl.edu
Internships and Volunteer Positions thecurrentjobs@umsl.edu

Letters to the Editor thecurrenttips@umsl.edu
Website www.thecurrent-online.com
Facebook /TheCurrentStudentNews
Twitter @UMSLTheCurrent

THE CURRENT STAFF

THE CURRENT ONLINE

Sasha & Nathan

ALL RIGHT NATHAN, I STARTED MY NEW YEAR’S RESOLUTION AND JOINED WEIGHT WATCHERS!

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the editor should be brief, and those not exceeding 250 words will be given preference. We edit letters for clarity and length, not for dialect, correctness, intent, or grammar. All letters must be signed and must include a daytime phone number. Students must include their student ID numbers. Faculty and staff must include their title(s) and department(s). The Editor-in-Chief reserves the right to respond to letters. The Current reserves the right to deny letters.

GET INVOLVED

Do you have a tip regarding a story? Have a correction to report? Do you have a question or comment for our staff? Contact us at thecurrenttips@umsl.edu. We look forward to hearing from you.

The Current values feedback from the campus community. What do you think of our campus coverage? Let us know your thoughts at thecurrent@umsl.edu.

WELCOME BACK TO UMSL!

Weeks of Welcome began on Friday, August 22 and will end on September 26. Be sure to pick up a copy of The Current each week and follow us online for more coverage.

Students gather in front of the Wayne Goode statue to celebrate the Serendipity Send-Off
Rec Center Construction on Schedule for 2015

The University of Missouri-St. Louis' new Wellness/Recreation Center is still on schedule to open during the Fall 2015 semester.

Resurrecting a 2004 proposal in 2010, the Student Government Association surveyed students on interest in a new recreation center. This led to a March 2012 campus-wide referendum where 64.57% of students (from a ballot pool of 1,543) approved of the new facility. Construction began in December 2013 and continues today.

Effective fiscal year 2016, a new $19.25 per-credit-hour fee (up to a maximum of 12 credit hours per semester, or six credit hours in the Summer) will be rolled into the tuition to pay for the Recreation Center. The new Student and non-student memberships to the Center are the sole sources of funding for the new building because facilities such as the Millennium Student Center and the Wellness/Recreation Center cannot be funded with state money. These fees were presented to students as part of the 2012 referendum. Regarding when the construction would be paid off, UMSL Chancellor Thomas F. George told The Current, "The construction is being paid for by issuance of long-term bonds. The bonds will be paid off over thirty years."

The Recreation Center, situated across the quad from the MSC, occupies some space previously devoted to about 375 parking spots in lots C and D. Seventy-five new spaces will be constructed adjacent to the new building. Despite a net loss of parking, and the potential for increased visitation due to the attraction, administration sources do not expect a strain on the remaining parking available due to sufficient unused capacity in the Grobman Drive parking garages.

On the subject, Chancellor George said, "We do not expect the Rec Center to significantly affect traffic or parking." No additional parking structures or lots are planned for the future, though the Chancellor noted that more parking will be available "when the Science Learning Building is completed."

Because the Recreation Center is being built at student request, so too are the amenities included. According to the Recreation Center website (checktherec.umsl.edu), the 99,000 square-foot building will feature a three-lane jogging track, three-court gymnasium, four group fitness rooms, a climbing wall, an indoor pool (with lap lanes, zip line, and aquatic climbing wall), whirlpool, pro shop, and juice bar. Thus far, none of these amenities have been affected or lost to construction, nor does Chancellor George foresee such happening.

Use of the Recreation Center will be free for all current students (with their Triton ID card). Faculty, staff, and alumni will have to pay a membership fee commensurate with local gym and fitness centers; a more definite pricing plan should be available late this semester. The Center will also provide employment opportunities for students.

On the subject of fitness and wellness classes being held at the Recreation Center, Chancellor George said, "The site and space availability in the new facility will provide the opportunity for a robust class schedule, double or triple what we are currently able to offer. Many classes will be free; some classes that require significant instructional expertise, or advanced skill may have a fee."

UMSL Bookstore Construction: "Pardon Our Dust"

"Pardon Our Dust" state various signs which can be seen by the entrance to the north entrance of the Millennium Student Center. In November 2000 the bookstore, without a major design plan, was opened for business to sell textbooks and supplies to students. At the beginning of this summer semester, the bookstore started undergoing renovations with a planned completion date before the start of the fall semester. Due to the delay of the arrival of the entrance doors, which will allow the entrance to be shifted from the far right side of the store to the center of the store to provide a quick view of the entire store, it is estimated to be completed by the middle of October.

Upon entering the store, vast changes can be seen in the wide open space. Stephanie Eaton, Manager of the UMSL Bookstore and Computer Shop, said, "New look, new brand," referring to the renovations as well as a name change, UMSL Triton Store. Originally occupying 10,145 square feet of space, the UMSL Triton Store has given up 1,450 feet of space back to the building. On first sight it does not appear that way; however, the user friendly design and brightness of the store provides a more welcoming feeling. Funding for this great project was provided through Capital funds.

Eaton said, "[UMSL] Triton Store is a better description of what we do...much, much more." Textbooks, books, bags, food, and technical equipment are just some of the various items you can purchase here. As people enter the store they are first greeted by clothing and apparel on the right is the cash registers next to the refrigerated food items, notebooks, pens and pencils, etc., to the far back left is the technical counter and just in front of it is the early bird book pick-up section and additional supplies for classes. Upon the final turn to the far right of the store is the beginning of the textbook section with the help desk located almost in the center of the store.

Although the process for finding textbooks for class has not changed, students now have an easier way of accessing books for the semester. There is a computer with a large sign above it on the far back wall of the store for students to use to print out their booklist in search of their textbooks. All books are listed in alphabetical order on the booklist and the shelves by the authors last name, just look for the letters of the alphabet that have been strategically placed along the walls and shelving racks.

A grand re-opening is planned once the final renovations have been completed which will be approximately the middle of October. Eaton said "I am so happy because this has been a long time coming for me."
“Masters of Sex” reimagines St. Louis legends

ABBY NAUMANN
STAFF WRITER

Viewers are giving Showtime’s drama “Masters of Sex” rave reviews. The series highlights two St. Louis legends, obstetrician/gynecologist Dr. William H. Masters and psychologist Virginia E. Johnson, who pioneered the science of sexology and sex therapy.

Set in the 1950’s and 60’s, the show is based on Thomas Maier’s biography. It features Michael Sheen (the Twilight Saga) as the irritable Dr. Masters and Lizzy Caplan (Mean Girls) as the charming, tenacious Johnson balancing career goals with being a single mother. The duo began a relationship behind the closed doors of Washington University and Barnes Hospital to brothels and hotel suites in search of participants and colleagues who accept and understand their ambitions.

Maier feels that the show met the task of portraying the real personalities and struggles of Masters and Johnson. “Michelle Ashford [executive producer] has done a wonderful job...It’s been a lot of fun seeing how my book is incorporated,” said Maier. He referred to “The Fight” episode, which introduced Masters’ abusive childhood and Johnson’s failed relationship with a man she loved but who married someone else, both of which are factual.

Other aspects are purely fictional, like Johnson’s friend and colleague Dr. Lillian DePaul. Maier said Newweek in their December 2013 article that DePaul was used as a contrast, helping to “define the role of Johnson in the context of the medical world and it underlines that Johnson had no credentials and was often looked down upon by all the doctors.”

The second season takes place in a primarily African-American fictional hospital, “Buell Green,” which Maier considers another way to “expand upon and explore subjects touched upon in my book.”

Then there is Scully. Introduced as Masters’ fictional mentor and boss, Scully is the provost of Washington University and a homosexual man desperately trying to keep his marriage together while still satisfying his own needs. Maier explained that Scully is based on two real men—Ethan Shepley, Chancellor of Washington University (1953-1961), and Dr. Wilford Allan, Department Chair and Professor of Obstetrics at Washington University Medical School (1940-1971). Yet neither is identified as homosexual.

Scully’s character represents the opposition Masters faced at Wash U, as well as his friendships and prestige.

In episode “All Together Now,” Scully finds himself in a dangerous situation while rendering services to a male prostitute. Steven L. Brawley, Founder of the St. Louis LGBT History Project, commented on the accuracy of this portrayal, “LGBT life in the 1950s and 1960s was very closeted and underground in St. Louis, with most folks assembling in bars that might get raided, or going to private house parties, or enjoying weekend getaways to a friendly farm or campsite. It wasn’t until the early 1970s that gay and lesbian activism really picked up in the area and people became much more visible.”

Brawley continued, “In 1968 the Masters and Johnson Institute ran a program to convert homosexuals to heterosexuality. They boasted a 71.6% success rate over a six-year treatment period. During this time, homosexuality was classified as a psychological disorder by the American Psychiatric Association, a classification which wasn’t repealed until 1973. In later years, Virginia Johnson said she had very serious reservations about the success rates of Dr. Masters’ conversion therapies, and she suspected the results may have been fabricated.”

In his April 2009 article in Scientific American, Maier noted neither Johnson nor associate Dr. Robert Koluody ever saw Masters’ miraculous data from the homosexual therapy projects, leading them to believe that Masters either altered or exaggerated a small set of cases or completely fabricated the data. When “Homosexuality in Perspective” (1981) was published, the scientific community largely rebuked his ideas, lacking substantial evidence. Regardless, Maier noted that Masters and Johnson’s studies helped to legitimize homosexuality, and individuals who wanted to become heterosexual, but were unsure of their sexuality, felt helped by the theory. Brawley opined, “It’s a very controversial subject and topic, and St. Louis played a key role in its history.”

New students move in on campus

AARON CLEMONS
STAFF WRITER

Moving into a new environment after spending the majority of life at home can be an exciting and somewhat frightening experience. But thanks to the hard work and dedication of student volunteers, University of Missouri-St. Louis faculty and staff members, and U.S. Bank, the journey that the new residents of Oak Hall are embarking on has certainly begun on a positive note.

Early Friday morning, bundles of parents, donning big smiles and brimming with pride and excitement, poured onto UMSL’s South Campus along with their newly enrolled students. These parents were notably happy to see the location where their children will spend the next year of their lives pursuing their educations. However the excitement of these parents only paled in comparison to the overflowing joy emanating from the new students, who all seemed to be absolutely thrilled, even if they did seem a bit overwhelmed when they arrived at Oak Hall.

The excitement of these students only seemed to increase as they arrived at the entrance of Oak Hall to check into their residences. Upon arrival, students received free water bottles from U.S.Bank and a Tour of Oak Station. The students also were overjoyed to be met by a crowd of student volunteers, wearing red and gold shirts that indicated they were members of the moves team tasked with helping students locate their rooms and moving their belongings.

Despite the hot and humid weather, many student volunteers came out to show support for their fellow students and to assist them with the move-in process. Andrew Vaughn, a sophomore majoring in engineering, beamed with excitement as he assisted new freshmen. "I love to volunteer my time and help out all these kind, wonderful people at UMSL,” he said.

Greg Sullins, who is also a sophomore majoring in engineering appeared to be exhausted, but in good spirits as he heaved boxes full of student belongings into Oak Hall. For him the best part of volunteering was "meeting all the new students and getting to be a part of their first real UMSL experience.”

Jonathan Lidgus, Director of Residential Life and Housing, also appeared to be excited to help the students embark on their new journeys. He stressed the importance of having faculty and staff assist in the move-in process. He said that having the faculty and staff assist in the move-in process "really helps show the students that we are, as a campus, one family helping each other out, keeping students connected, and showing students and their families that we’re all in this together.”

Jonathan also offered some advice to our new UMSL students: “Don’t stay in your room. Go out and do everything you can for the Weeks of Welcome: connect with people and don’t be afraid to connect with your professors.”

If student reactions are any indication of the how the 2014-2015 school year will be at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, then this school year surely promises to be one of the most exciting ones to date!
The legacy of Ludwig Van Beethoven is among the highlights for the Touhill Performing Arts Center’s fall season for 2014. Events will include a performance by the Arianna String Quartet on September 5 and November 7. The Philharmonic Quartet Berlin, the premier British string act, will perform on October 18.

The Touhill’s fall season includes the prolific songwriter John Prine who will appear on September 26. Prine has produced musical material that has been performed by many icons in pop music. David Gray, a singer-songwriter with a deep-rooted style in indie and folk rock will appear at the Touhill on October 17 as part of Prine’s tour of sold-out concerts in the United States. The performances of Prine and Gray will be in the Anheuser-Busch Performance Hall at 8 p.m.

Dance St. Louis, the local dance presenting organization, continues to make the Touhill its primary home. The New Dance Horizons III, is a team of local dance ensembles that will be teamed with nationally distinguished choreographers. The dance troupe’s units will perform multiple world premieres of commissioned productions of ballet and modern jazz on October 10-11. The Dance Theatre of Harlem, the premier African-American dance troupe, will bring its fiery magnificence to the Touhill on November 7-8. Both events, will be at the Anheuser-Busch Performance Hall and are sponsored by Dance St. Louis and will have 8 p.m. times. An additional recital for the Dance Theatre of Harlem event will be at 2 p.m. on November 6.

The Ziluin Art School Dancers, a classical Chinese folk dance company and conservatory, will appear on September 27 performing the traditional dance styles of China. On October 17, Kaitza, a musician from Cameroon, will perform music rooted in the romantic elegance of Paris. The Ziluin Art School dancers and Kaitza performances will be at 8 p.m. Finally, Jesus, the 75 member male vocal ensemble, will bring the rich music of municipalities in South Ostobodnia, Finland, to the Touhill stage on November 9 at 3 p.m. All events are sponsored by the International Student department and will be presented in the Lee Theater.

The St. Louis Jazz Orchestra under the direction of Jim Widner will perform “A Tribute to Woody Herman” on October 26 at 7 p.m. in the Lee Theater. Variety Children’s Theatre will present their live version of Disney’s “The Little Mermaid” in the Anheuser-Busch Performance Hall on October 24 at 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m., October 25 at 1:30 p.m. and 7 p.m., and October 26 at 1:30 p.m.

Pentatonix, a vocal music quintet and the winners of season 3 of The Sing-Off on NBC, will appear at the Anheuser-Busch Performance Hall on October 4 at 7 p.m. sponsored by Student Life. Also, there are free concerts and events sponsored by the UMSL Fine Arts & Communications Department, which will take place in November and December in the Lee Theater.

For a complete list of fall Touhill events, including free events, visit their website at www.touhill.org/events or contact the ticket office Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at (314) 516-4949 or (866) 516-4949. There are extended hours to 7 p.m. on Mondays and Thursdays.

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Please call 314-516-5299 if you have any questions or comments.
Women's Soccer: Not to be handled lightly

NICHOLAS PEREZ
STAFF WRITER

In the upcoming school year some people are going to need an escape—an outlet to get away from the hustle and bustle of everyday college and work. That escape will come in several different forms this year, including the sport of soccer.

If soccer is what you are looking for, then you are going to have a great time watching the women's soccer team this season. Some people think soccer isn't worth watching, but when you think about the athleticism that the players need to have in order to play for 90 minutes non-stop, you'll see what soccer is all about and it might change your tune.

"Our whole season is not going to be easy, but we are changing the culture of the team and the way we attack the goal," Wendy Dillinger, the Women's Soccer Head Coach said.

There are 17 games this season, 15 of which are conference games. Coach Dillinger feels good about her new plans for the team and the strategies that she is bringing to the University of Missouri—St. Louis.

Amanda Shuminske, sophomore, Biology, Goalkeeper said, "Wendy is the kick in the butt that we needed." The head coach Wendy Dillinger is originally from St. Louis and came back to UMSL in January of this year and is taking the Women's Soccer team head on. She attended Indiana University and played soccer for 5 years. She later came back to St. Louis and led the Wash U Bears women's soccer team for 6 years. She then went on to coach at Iowa State, in the Big 12 and when UMSL had an opening she jumped at the chance.

With Coach Dillinger at the reins, UMSL has the potential of going a lot farther this season and becoming an unstoppable force. Compared to last year, women's soccer team is changing the way they defend, attack, and go after the goal. Coach Dillinger said "Last year we had a lot of close games, a lot of late scoring games and ended up losing games. So we are going to change up the way we defend as a group, but we are not going to wait to attack the goal. We are going to attack from the first whistle."

Not only is the coach ecstatic about the upcoming season, the players cannot wait to get on the field and get a shot to go into the Tournament. Megan O'han, Junior, Psychology and Criminal Justice, Goalkeeper said, "We are ready for a challenge; it's going to show us what we are made of". Some players to look out for this season would be Brooke Barcezowski, Senior; Hunter Wagner, Junior; Katelyn Rapisardo, Junior and Jen Eaton, Junior. The women's soccer team is hungry for the championship, but they also want to play a game that people are going to want to watch. Coach Dillinger said, "The morale of the team is great and will produce a great game to play and fun to watch". So take a break on Friday and have a great night watching a fun and exciting sport. To catch one or all of their games this season, pick up a schedule from the Mark Twain building or the MSC. It's always better for a team to take home the Win with a roaring crowd cheering you on.

Head Coach Wendy Dillinger watches as the team works through drills.

Jaylon Griffin, Junior, practicing her ball handling skills.

Men’s Soccer: Kicking it up a notch

NICHOLAS PEREZ
STAFF WRITER

This year the men's soccer team is revamping their strategies and is going to play the game in a totally different way. They are up against one of the toughest divisions and they have their work cut out for them. Dan King, Head Coach of men's soccer said "We have NO gimmies this year".

With that in mind you may not want to miss a game this season. With an entire team of strong players the coaching staff feels good about the team this year, they have their back four running strong and they want to attack the ball more and get it in the back of the net. Coach King says "That's what the game is all about".

Dan King has been the head coach at University of Missouri—St. Louis for 14 years, is St. Louis born, and has a resume that would make David Beckham jealous—winning two national championships at Indiana, Head Coach at St. Louis Community College-Florissant Valley and then coaching at UMSL.

Tim Borough and Pat Shelton are assistant coaches for the men's soccer team, having been at UMSL for a total of 15 years between the two of them. They bring a great well-rounded attitude and experience to the team. With that magnitude of knowledge, students can expect some great soccer this season. Now, compared to last year's record, they want to improve as much as possible this year in order for them to get the NCAA Bid. Borough said, "This year we need to focus on our consistency, in the years past we were like a rollercoaster, started off good then started to drown our towards the end." Shelton said, "It's great that we win against on Friday, but can we come back Sunday afternoon against a bottom team and win?" Coach King and his staff have that utmost confidence that we will take back what we had in the 90's — the National Championship. As with any sport, it is always better to have a great fanbase, so make your way out to the soccer field, tailgate, have a BBQ, and watch some fancy footwork as the men's soccer team works their way to the finals.

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Head Coach Wendy Dillinger watches as the team works through drills.

Jaylon Griffin, Junior, practicing her ball handling skills.
A parking catastrophe

CULLEN WILLIAMS
STAFF WRITER

It is the start of yet another semester at the University of Missouri-St. Louis and, even though it is still under construction, many students on campus are anxiously awaiting the opening of the new $36 million, state-of-the-art recreation and wellness center that is set to open to both the public and those on campus in under a year. While I welcome the structural progress that has been taking place on campus over the past few years, I worry much of the campus’ resources are being spent on construction projects that are not necessarily time-sensitive, but rather on projects that could possibly wait their turn in line.

The Recreation and Wellness Center is set to open in the fall of 2015, and while it will become a much-needed centerpiece to an ever-expanding campus, I worry that campus parking and roads will continue to deteriorate. In fact, before construction of the $36 million project could begin, construction crews had to remove both parking lots C and D, which held over 300 vehicles. Unfortunately, these are not the only parking lots on campus that have recently closed. After doing some research, I noticed that a number of other parking lots have been closed due to upgrades on campus buildings – parking lots E, J, and Q. While the majority of these lots have reopened, lot Q (near Benton Hall) is to remain closed until next year. The closing of this lot has taken away parking for almost 80 vehicles. I assume Parking and Transportation would like students, as well as faculty and staff, to park in the West Drive Garage, but there is hardly ever an open spot, especially during the final weeks of the semester, causing many students to park in faculty parking.

Furthermore, since enrolling at UMSL, I have seen many of the roads on campus deteriorating. It seems as though Grobman Drive (the road that runs between the Millennium Student Center and the MSC Parking Garage South) is always laden with potholes. While I feel the maintenance crew tries their best to fill these potholes, the problem continues every semester. Perhaps there is a drainage issue that keeps causing the problem, but, regardless, something needs to be done to address the problem.

I hope that those in charge of Parking and Transportation realize how frustrating the parking situation has become over the past few semesters, as well as the condition of many of the roads on campus. I am not asking that the university put all current projects on hold in order to address the matter, but I would appreciate a plan of action in the coming months. There are roughly 16,000 registered students at UMSL, but only about 1,000 live on campus. For the majority of students who have to commute to campus, parking on the other side of campus in order to get to class can be quite frustrating.

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