Triton Volleyball wins big in final week at home

Tuesday, October 28, the University of Missouri – St. Louis volleyball team hosted their fourth annual ‘Dig for the Cure’ game, where they partner with local UMSL sororities to raise money to donate to breast cancer research. This year, the Tritons took on their in-town rivals, the Maryville University Saints. Earlier this season, the Saints beat UMSL with a stunning 1-3 loss. Needless to say, UMSL’s volleyball team was ready for retribution. On top of that, the Tritons had an extra reason to be excited going into this game. Allie Ewing, junior, liberal studies, said “We just got our regional rankings, and we are in the top 8 which is huge!” Along with being in front of a larger than normal home crowd, the special night helped in getting the Tritons pumped for the game.

On a quick 3 sets, the Tritons put down 48 kills against the Saints, while also scoring 6 aces. Outside hitter, captain Haley Brightwell, graduate, business administration, led the team getting 11 kills, bringing her season total to 169. Against Maryville, outside hitter Gina Peze, freshman, nursing, followed with 9 kills and gave UMSL 2 of our 6 aces. The Triton’s libero Emily Bragaw, senior, liberal studies, contributed 20 digs in their effort against the Saints.

(Continued on Page 6)

Elections break-down

KAT RIDDLER
NEWS EDITOR

Tuesday, November 4 is Election Day. Whether or not young voters will turn out to exercise their right to vote continues to be an open question. To assist you in knowing more about what will be on the ballot here in Missouri, we are providing this simple voters guide. The ballot will change depending on the individual’s residence. Here are the four statewide propositions which will be on the ballot and some of the other St. Louis area candidates and races of note.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 2
Amendment of Missouri Constitution to be permissible to allow relevant evidence of prior criminal acts to be admissible in prosecutions for crimes of a sexual nature involving a victim under eighteen years of age. This will have no impact on tax.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 3
Amendment of Missouri Constitution to require teachers to be evaluated by standard-based performance evaluation system, or student end-of-year standardized tests. It will allow teachers to be dismissed, retained, demoted, promoted, and paid primarily using the results of the standardized tests. It will also limit teachers contracts of three years or fewer in public school districts and prohibits teachers from organizing or collectively bargaining regarding the design and implementation of the teacher evaluation system.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 6
Amendment of Missouri Constitution and will extend the early voting period in person or by mail to six business days before Election Day, including the Wednesday before the Election Day in general elections. It excludes voting on Saturday and Sunday. This measure will not affect taxes, but has an estimated startup cost of approximately $2 million and costs to reimburse local election authorities of at least $100,000 per election.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 10
Amendment of Missouri Constitution that will change the requirements placed on the governor for proposing a state budget and for withholding money appropriated in the budget passed by the legislature. It prevents

(Continued on Page 2)
Elections break-down

(Continued from Page 1) the governor from reducing funding passed by the general assembly without first getting legislative consent. It restricts the governor from increasing or decreasing line items in the budget.

Candidates

The Missouri State Auditor race is not as exciting as other races. Incumbent Republican Tom Schweich is running for the office again. There is no Democratic candidate filled for this office, but there is Constitution party Rod FartHING and Libertarian party Sean O’Toole running against Schweich. For more information visit www.tomswich.com and www. rod4moe.com.

U.S. Representative District 1 race is between Incumbent Democratic U.S. Representative Lacy Clay, Republican Daniel J. Edler, and Libertarian Robb E. Cunningham. District 1 is North St. Louis County, most of central St. Louis County, and St. Louis City. For more information on the candidates visit www.lacyclay.org, www. eledelander.com and www. ballotpedia.org/Robb_Cunningham.

Two of the most competitive State Senate races are in the greater St. Louis area this election season. Senate District 22 are both considered “toss up” elections at this point. In Senate District 24, Democratic State Representative Jill Schupp faces off against Republican Jay Ashcroft, son of former U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft. Both sides have spent well over $1 million for this open seat, which stretches from Maryland Heights south to Chesterfield. Additional information about each candidate can be found at www.jillschupp.com and www. ashcroftforsenate.com.

In Senate District 22, Democratic State Representative Jeff Roorda is running against Republican State Representative Paul Vondran. Again, this is an open Senate District. Unlike the 24 District, which had been in Republican control, the 22 District was held by a Democrat. So both political parties are hoping to gain an additional senate seat, if they were to win both. Spending has been somewhat less than the other district, but is in the neighborhood of around $300,000 to $900,000 each. Roorda is also the Executive Director of the Fraternal Order of Police and has received a great deal of publicity for his defense of Officer Darren Wilson in the Michael Brown shooting. For more information on both candidates visit www.jeffroorda.org and www.wielandnow.com.

While State Senate District 4 is considered a relatively safe Democratic seat, Republican Courtney Blunt is trying to unseat Democratic incumbent State Senator Joseph (Joe) Kavaeney. District 4 includes portions of Brentwood and University City, as well as portions along the western edge of St. Louis City. For more information on the candidates visit www. twitter.com/JoeKeaveney and www.facebook.com/voteblunt.

There are a myriad number of State Representative races. While there are many contested races throughout the region, the most excitement seems to be centered on Jefferson County. How the State Representative races go in this area could well determine whether or not the Republicans in the Missouri House of Representatives will have a veto-proof majority with which to override vetoes by Governor Jay Nixon. The importance of these house races has been underscored by the high levels of campaign spending resulting in some of the most expensive State Representative races in Missouri. These include the State Representative Districts 114, 113, 112 and 111.

One of the hottest races is for St. Louis County Executive. Democrat Steve Stenger, a current County Council member, defeated County Executive Charles Dooley in the Democratic Primary, August 5. He now faces Republican State Representative Rick Stream for this office. The University of Missouri—St. Louis earlier hosted a debate at the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center on October 14 for these two gentlemen. Information about these candidates can be found at www.stevestenger.com and www.teamrickstream.com.

One of the more interesting races in the City of St. Louis is for the office of Recorder of Deeds. Long time office holder Sharon Carpenter resigned earlier this year over charges of mismanagement. The vacancy was filled by the appointment of Alderwoman Jennifer Florida by St. Louis Mayor Francis Slay. The twist to this race, however, is that Carpenter had her name on the August Primary ballot and won the Democratic nomination. Florida had to then file as an independent to try to retain the office she was appointed to. For more information on these candidates visit www.carpetterforcouncil .com and www.jenniferflorida .com.

While there are so many races throughout the region where UMSL students may live, we can only offer the highlights here and encourage students to find out more about local races and local initiatives by visiting the Missouri Secretary of State website (www.sos.mo.gov), St. Louis County Election Authority website (www.scbmo.org/Elections), St. Charles County Election Authority (www. sccmo.org/410/Election-Authority), and Jefferson County Election Authority (www. jefco.org/Clerk.aspx?nodeID=CountyClerk). For any students living in Illinois, visit the Illinois State Board of Elections website (http://elections. il.gov/).
The University of Missouri-St. Louis is considering purchasing the nearby Normandie Golf Club (NGC) to keep it from falling into the hands of anybody who would develop it without consideration for UMSL and the surrounding communities. Both the option to purchase and the funding are gifts from anonymous donors and will not affect students’ tuition or fees.

"Friends of UMSL," as described by Chancellor Thomas George, "acquired the option to purchase the property to stave off "improper development of the course [which] could have dire consequences for the campus and other surrounding entities." These friends of the university passed that option on to UMSL during the week of October 26. Currently, UMSL is discussing the purchase with University of Missouri system personnel, the curators of UMSL, and the campus Budget and Planning Committee. If they agree that the option to purchase should be exercised, the ultimate decision lies with the UMSL curators. Chancellor George said that the decision is still uncertain, and will be discussed for a few weeks before being made.

There will be absolutely no UMSL or state funds used to purchase the NGC. Instead, an anonymous donor has offered to gift the University the needed capital. This anonymous donor is part of a group that has donated to UMSL in the past. This means there will be no tuition increase, no fee increase, and no additional cost associated with the purchase. "We are cutting budgets right now," Chancellor George said to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. "You don't cut budgets and then go buy a golf course," Furthermore, though current plans are to keep the site as a golf course, the University has explained they "have no intention of using state or campus funds to operate or maintain the property as a golf course," said Chancellor George. If they go through with the purchase, the University plans to make the venture neither profitable nor an expense to the campus, instead sinking any profits back into the management of the golf club by a third-party management company.

On October 23, the University held a meeting with residents of Bel-Nor and Greendale to discuss the NGC and their potential purchase. According to the Post-Dispatch, Chancellor George and University spokesman Bob Samples, associate vice chancellor of advance- ment for communications, were both on hand to assure residents that UMSL has no plans to disrupt the golf course. However, neither could promise the attendees that the NGC would remain unchanged for decades to come. Bel-Nor village chairman Kevin Buchek told the Post-Dispatch that was his biggest concern. "We'd rather hear them guarantee that it will stay a golf course for the next 20 or 30 years."

The NGC is 118 acres to the southwest of UMSL and was established in 1901, laying claim to being the oldest public golf course west of the Mississippi River. Prior to 1985, when the club opened to the public, the golf club was renowned as a venue for the rich and famous. Once called "the top gambling club in the nation" by Colliers, The Riverfront Times highlighted local lore claiming that celebrities Babe Ruth, Bob Hope, and Frank Sinatra all gambled at Normandie. The family trust in control of the Normandie Golf Club has attempted several times in the past to sell the property. According to the St. Louis Business Journal, the appraised value of the golf club is $1.2 million, and its property taxes in 2013 were $30,458. St. Louis County tax records have an "Eomon W. Harold Trustee" listed as the current owner.

**UML considers purchasing Normandie Golf Club**

**Daniel C. Hodges Staff Writer**

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**Journalist Ian Johnson speaks about life in China**

**Jacqueline Iriogoyen Staff Writer**

The University of Missouri-St. Louis' International Studies and Programs brought journalist and Pulitzer Prize winning author, Ian Johnson, who held a discussion with students at 3 p.m., October 30 at the Social Sciences and Business Building about his time spent in China.

The Marketing Coordinator for International Studies & Programs Erica Fierro said, "Our Director, Joel Glassman, was contacted by the Pulitzer Center, a nonprofit that supports independent international journalism to increase interaction between journalists, scholars and universities." The organizer of the Pulitzer Center asked if the department would be willing to host a lecture by Johnson. Johnson's interest in China began with the requirement of having to take a foreign language as a student. "I got interested by chance," Johnson said. "I wanted to learn a different language in school and I thought Chinese would be fun," said Johnson. Becoming a journalist for Johnson was all about his "curiosity with how things worked in the real world and how journalism affected that."

When thinking about China, Johnson believes that people see it as darker and more negative place than what it actually is. "The media focuses more on the negative aspects and all they read is bad news, but the society is actually rising," said Johnson. Johnson talked about the political movement and religious groups in China. He spoke about a few of the protests that have happened in China over the past decade which included the now well known 2011 Wukan protest. Johnson explained that even with all the talk about the corruption and lack of trust in China, "China is actually free than it was decades ago. The government is more tolerant of protests, if they don't challenge the system." He also spoke about the five major religions in China. "There are five main religions starting with the biggest being Buddhism, then Christianity which is split into two sects and rising up, but the government is not moving along with the people," Johnson said.

Johnson is currently writing a new book about the spiritual aspects of China. Johnson's goal for his event was to provide spiritual awakening and to explain how China is changing and striving for new values.
Haunted Honors was a spooky treat

SEAN MARSHALL
STAFF WRITER

Last Thursday, October 30, over 200 students, family, and staff members packed into the Multipurpose Room of Provincial House's basement, biting their nails and nervously chatting as they waited for their turn to enter the haunted tour.

As the students reached the entrance, they were broken into groups of 10 and taken through the dimly lit corridors of the basement. The tour, which was arranged by members of the Pierre Laclede Honors College Student Association (PLHCSA), gave students a macabre "history lesson" as their guide disclosed the eerie folklore.

The building, which once housed a community of nuns, is said to be haunted by the ghosts of several spirits that still remain.

Eerily creeping down the hall to the Anthropology Lab, patrons made their way in to see a dismembered student laying on the ground, rumored to be the product of an experiment by researchers that were out for blood. As the group sidestepped their way to the next surprise, the guide urged the group to be careful where they looked.

"The thing" was the next obstacle of the tour. A red-eyed monster approached from under a table with the description of "an abomination, spawned from your most fearful thoughts."

After diving their hands into the bowl which housed the slips of paper needed to enter the common, cursed by the Nuns to make students hunger for human flesh, zombies trickled out from behind drapes and groaned.

Escaping the zombies, the group huddled into a crowded elevator to go up to the Villa attic. They hesitantly approached a room with a blood-splattered film, and as they rounded the corner, were revealed to Derek, the dead nursing major, dissecting a corpse on his table, as he chased the group out, surgical knife in hand.

As the next part of the tale unfolded, a hacking and sneezing sound crept out from the doors of the dark room. Sick fluids coated parts of the floor and sprayed on the group from the dying faculty members that had been poisoned in the kitchen.

As a finale, barely escaping the presence of a demonic possession and a nun who prayed for the release of her soul, was the horrifying room of Dr. Wendigo. The PHCSCA office was once said to have been the home for this deranged doctor, who would feast on the insides of his patients. After murdering hundreds, he decided to cut himself open and feast upon his own organs.

As the group hurried out, they let out a sigh of relief when they saw the light and were led back to the multipurpose room. All who completed the tour were given T-shirts and candy pieces as they were congratulated for surviving.

This year tradition has been a staple of success for UMSL's PHCSCA members, winning the "Most Innovative Program" at the Student Leadership Awards for its second year and "Most Outstanding Program" its first. All of the characters and decorators were staffed on a volunteer basis and wanted to make the event available for family and friends of UMSL students as well.

"It was scary and interesting. I was surprised by the amount of community members. It's good to see they are reaching out to the whole community with this," said Dana Channel, freshman, anthropology. PLHCSA holds monthly events with the mission to promote social interactions and relationships between the faculty, staff, and students of the Honors College. Past events have included Paint-Palooza, Toss for Toiletries, and Trivia Night.
The Variety Children's Theater's production of "Disney's The Little Mermaid" musical at the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center in the Anheuser-Busch Performance Hall at the University of Missouri - St. Louis was an amazing sight to see.

The play opened on October 24 with two shows, 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. and completed its final performance on October 26 at 1:30 p.m. Friday's evening performance was sign interpreted by J. Eric and Regina Dendel from St. Louis Community College at Florissant Valley.

Hundreds of children arrived excitedly for the occasion, anticipating the timeless story of Ariel's dream of visiting the human world. The 3-D design of the scenery gave the appearance of actually being underwater, on the beach, and in the castle. Variety Children's Theatre is a charitable organization that helps children with physical or mental disabilities through the staging of professional-level theater productions for children. The charity's mission is "to help local children with disabilities reach their full potential by providing services every time they need assistance." Their cases include children, adults, and "Variety kids" who receive assistance from the organization.

The play's opening scene was filled with a virtual, colorful bubble filled underwater background as Ariel (Audren Bolmen) "swam" her way across the stage to watch Prince Eric (Ben Nordstrom) and his fellow sea men sailing in a ship. Enchanted by the beautiful scenery and the lovely voice of Ariel, some audience members sang along word for word and note for note to the song "Part of Your World."

The transition from scene to scene was magnificent with colorful water plants floating above the stage animatedly. This reviewer, along with the audience, felt like the "water" was real by the way King Triton's servants swam still, yet ever so slightly, swayed from side to side as the Mermaid sang for their father during a celebration scene.

Joy Boland stunned the audience as Ursula, making an electrifying entrance with her miniskirt and glowing green with envy as they plotted revenge against King Triton (Christopher Limber). The Mermaids (Cheryln Alvarez, Abigail Isom, Lauren Lomke, Taylor Hetz, Jamie Jacobs Powell and Erica Stephen), entered under bright psychedelic circles of light, singing "She's in Love with the Mermaids." Flounder (Nicholas George, who is a Variety Child member) almost stole the show with his witty quips in response to Ariel falling for a human and not him. Shawn Bowers held his own, providing the walks and talk for Sebastian, the sea cat. "He and the ensemble of sea creatures got the audience moving and enthralled with the song "Kiss the Girl."" The show ended with a tag team of Flounder and Sebastian compelling the audience to donate $10 to The Variety Children's Charity by texting Mermaid to 80888.

Future shows planned by the charity organization include Champions for Children's Summit, November 12, and Bikes for Kids Giveaway, December 6. For additional information and donation options, please visit their website at www.varietystyl.org. The organization is located at 2200 Westport Plaza Drive, Suite 306 in St. Louis, MO.

This reviewer has seen many plays at various local theaters. However, this has been the most captivating and impressive display of light by the actors, stage and costume designs, musical scoring and singing, and overall expression of life that makes this reviewer want to become "part of their world."

Jake Gyllenhaal is scary good in "Nightcrawler"

Jake Gyllenhaal gives a chilling performance as a sociopath, who finds his niche as a freelance cameraman capturing gory accident and crime videos for local TV news. "Nightcrawler" is one creepy film, but is so well done that it is worth seeing - even after Halloween.

"Nightcrawler" is an once a thrilling action film and a thought-provoking film. It is a grown-up kind of scary movie, with real-world frights, rather than ghosts and zombies. Director Dan Gilroy has created the kind of film to make you stop and think, about just where that shocking accident and crime footage on TV news comes from, and whether the focus on those stories is giving people the most important news stories.

"If it bleeds, it leads" is familiar shorthand for news programs prioritizing stories, where people died or were hurt. TV's visual nature can turn that into a lurid, voyeuristic impulse, like slowing down when driving by an accident, which has little to do with journalism. "Nightcrawler" spotlights this nasty side of TV crime and accident coverage through Lou Bloom, an unscrupulous young man desperate for a job in Los Angeles. Selling scrap metal of dubious origin to a recycler, Lou ladder into an odd, worous cover-letter letter likes, as he asks for a job. The junk man tells him he doesn't hire thieves.

But Lou hits on a career that is better fit for his unscrupulous nature, when he comes across an accident where he sees a freelance cameraman (Bill Paxton) shooting video footage to sell to local TV. Lou buys a cheap video camera and a police scanner and joins the dangerous, competitive world of "nightcrawlers," freelance camera crews who race to be first at scenes of accidents, fires, murders, and other bloody mayhem, in order to sell their footage to the highest bidder.

Renée Russo plays Nina Romina, a TV news director and the enabler for Lou's increasingly immoral tactics. Bloom uses his facility with "business-speak" in maneuvering a better deal with Nina, an aging TV anchor trying to stay in the game. Russo's character is more interested in ratings than in serving the public, and she likes Lou's eye for the lurid. Nina is not much interested in how he got that footage, despite the reservations of some at the station. She understands what it draws in her viewers. Gyllenhaal and Russo create creepy, amoral characters, but there is plenty of blame to go around for this tawdry situation, which should give us all pause.

Gyllenhaal is scary good in this role, perhaps his best yet. He lost weight, giving that gaunt, hungry appearance but such handsome face, Gyllenhaal develops a wild, sharp look in his eyes. Gyllenhaal's skill with the terminology of the business boardroom and human resources departments adds a strangely chilling aspect to this intelligent, relentless sociopath.

Russo is excellent too, as an aging news director and anchor willing to do nearly anything to hold on to her career, despite revelations expressed by her more ethically concerned staff. Their scenes together are as cold and horrifying as some of the material covered in the film. Still, Gyllenhaal's Lou is so far out on the edge that even ethically-challenged Nina sometimes hesitates, vaguely aware of how insane he is.

Lou eventually hires a homeless guy named Rick (Riz Ahmed) as his assistant. Rick's more normal, if not-too-bright, character gives us some measure of just how ruthless Lou becomes. "Nightcrawler" is a worthy film, both thought-provoking and pulse-pounding, with an outstanding performance by Jake Gyllenhaal, making it a good pick if you really want to see something scary.

Read More A&E
@ www.thecurrentumsl.com
Triton Volleyball seniors reflect on time at UMSL

For every athlete, there comes a time when there is no next year. When this time comes, it should never be a time of tears, but a time of reflection and rejoicing the memories made while playing the sport one loves. Each sport has some sort of celebration for those who are graduating out of the team, generally at the final home game. This honoring of the seniors is called Senior Night. As the end of the fall sports season brings to wrap up, many of our seniors are coming to the end of their journeys.

Eric Harris
Sports Editor

"We're going to miss all 3 players next year. At practice has made our team a very good decision when our block and defense get set up to stop their offense. We did a good stop their offense. We did a good serve, and I feel like here I gained more confidence in myself and I don't sweat the small stuff anymore. I know that if I mess up it isn't the end of the world." - Coach Young

"Our Lady Tritons did not let that small setback get to them. The following key.

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UMSL is missing civic spirit for elections

LOTTJE JONSSON  STAFF WRITER

As a political scientist, there is nothing more exciting than an election, and the American election in particular. It's perceived as the Olympics, at least were I am from in Europe. Considering everything going on in St. Louis the past couple weeks I think we all had no doubt that the election would be important. However, I must admit the election-spirit has been very lacking this year. There has been no discussions, and no political candidates have been present on campus. Where was the election-spirit of students like us, the Lipshitz, who studied political campaigns in the book "New Directions in American Politics," there is a simple reason for that. The election is not competitive. Missouri is what is called a "safe state." Very few elected positions are up for grabs. Very little of the local politics are competitive. For that reason, the political parties will not campaign in Missouri. They will instead spend time on the Mississippi.