From YouTube to Touhill, Pentatonix music amazes

YouTube sensation and acapella group, Pentatonix, perform at Touhill Performing Arts Center

On one of the last stops of their 2014 tour, Pentatonix rocked St. Louis with a sold-out concert at the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center at the University of Missouri-St. Louis on October 4 at 7 p.m. Pentatonix had the crowd on their feet cheering "PTX" for not just one, but two encores.

Commonly known as PTX, Pentatonix is a vocal sensation as well as the winning group of the third season of NBC's "The Sing-Off." An American acapella group that consists of five vocalists who originated from Arlington, Texas. Pentatonix is comprised of lead vocalists Scott Hoying, Kristin "Kristie" Maldonado, and Mitch Grassi, vocal bassAvriel "Avi" Kaplan, and beatboxer Kevin K.O. Olusola. Originally a three member group comprised of Scott, Kristie, and Mitch, they eventually found the need for a bassist and a beatboxer to reach stardom. The band name derives from the five-note music scale, pentatonic, replacing the 'c' with an 'x'. The band redefines the meaning of an acapella concert.

Pentatonix performed some songs from their previous albums along with a couple of other selections from their newly released third album. Their unexpected soprano to bass vocal range and stylistic capability had them performing covers of different genres such as pop, electronica, reggae, R&B, dubstep, and more. This attracted a diverse audience.

Despite being an acapella group, Pentatonix showcased Avi's skill of overtone singing, the ability of singing more than one note at a time, and Kevin's skill of playing the cello while beat-boxing, also known as 'cello-boxing'. Kevin was even able to perform his own original piece called "Renegade." The audience were truly in awe with the performance, with some fans screaming their love for the group.

Another highlight of the night was the group's cover of "Say Something," originally performed by A Great Big World feat. Christina Aguilera. The vocalists' voices echoed throughout the theater and sent chills through the captivated crowd. Their performance of the "Evolution of Music" demonstrated their technical skills, and accommodated their audience of different ages.

Pentatonix's involvement with their audience, a connection that is rarely seen at concerts, was definitely one of the key reasons why audiences were begging for an encore. Mitch, wanting a photograph of the enthusiastic crowd, took out his cell phone and started to take a panoramic photo as Scott hummed to the tune of "Jeopardy".

Audience participation in creating the background vocals for their original song "Natural Disaster". The crowd did not hesitate to sing and clap along when instructed to do so. In addition, as a surprise to the audience, Avi took a chair out from the side of the stage and chose a very lucky audience member to be seated in the hot seat: this individual would get the opportunity to be sung to during the concert.

Another audience member, a big thank you to you, and in turn received cheers and a standing ovation. They look forward for their return to the city. Their new album PTX Vol. III is currently available, one a new Christmas album, "That's Christmas to Me", is on its way to production.

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The vocal group closed with a big thank you to you, and in turn received cheers and a standing ovation. They look forward for their return to the city. Their new album PTX Vol. III is currently available, one a new Christmas album, "That's Christmas to Me", is on its way to production.
Correction for Issue #1447

The Current wishes to apologize to the Chancellor of University of Missouri — St. Louis, Thomas George. A misprinting of his name in an article located on page 8, “Alumni attend Founder’s dinner at Ritz-Carlton,” was, not unwittingly, allowed to be put into print. We offer our deepest apologies to Chancellor George.

Ferguson arrests continue

WILLIAM PATTERSON
CRIME REPORTER

The night of October 2, 13 more people were arrested outside of the Ferguson Police Department during a protest. The police say that the protesters were arrested for what civil rights groups thought were uncalled-for reasons, such as violating noise ordinances. They were taken over to the Ferguson jail because the Ferguson jail has been too over capacity.

SGA parking questionnaire

DANIEL C. HODGES
STAFF WRITER

The University of Missouri — St. Louis Student Government Association (SGA) is taking on the issue of student parking. Following up on student complaints, senators from the SGA are circulating among students asking them how they feel on the issues of parking and shuttling at UMSL. Those who are unhappy with the status quo are being asked to sign a signature page. The SGA plans on gathering support for the position before deciding on a course of action. SGA President Cameron Roark, junior, criminology, said, “As a student government, we do not believe in sitting around and doing nothing about complaints.” Students who were not approached by the SGA, but would like to contribute to their initiative, can either stop by the Student Government Office or send an email to sga@umsl.edu. Roark said that all emails will be documented.

The Current
ON AIR
WEDNESDAYS @ 8:45 A.M.

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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.

THE UNDERCURRENT

By Ashlee Carlstrom

WHAT IS YOUR DREAM JOB?

MAYRA RICO, Junior, Nursing

“To be the owner of my own clinic. I would like to provide resources that are affordable to the community, offer service to bilinguals in the Hispanic community.”

STEFAN SMILJANIC, Sophomore, Accounting

“I’d say working with wild life probably somewhere in Alaska.”

EVAH HURT, Senior, Psychology

“My dream job is to be a psychiatric physicians assistant. It gives me an opportunity to mold myself in a growing and accelerating field.”

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Missouri Governor Jay Nixon held a press conference on October 2 in Woods Hall 101 announcing a new partnership between the University of Missouri—St. Louis and North Campus. The North Campus is an organization founded by St. Louis Alderman Antonio French in 2012 to provide targeted, intensive educational supports to help lift students and their families out of poverty. Currently, it serves 150 children in North St. Louis County providing in-school and after school programs. The press conference was called for 10:55 a.m., but the Governor was unable to arrive until 11:30 a.m.

"There is no greater tool to reduce poverty than education. And what we know is that there is no greater way to increase the hope in a young person than to empower them with education and then to allow them to break their own chains of poverty and the social ills that have kept our community back for so long," Alderman French said.

Nixon along with State Senator Jamilah Nasheed and Alderman French announced a $500,000 grant to expand access to math and science tutoring and enrichment programs for an additional 350 students from low-income families in St. Louis. The funding will be provided by the Department of Social Services to the College of Education at UMSL through the federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. This partnership will also give UMSL students a place to volunteer their time and gain hands-on experience.

Chancellor Thomas George was unable to attend because of a curator's meeting in Kansas City, so Carole Basile, dean of the College of Education, gave introductions and began the press conference. Also in attendance were former State Senator and minority leader Maida Coleman and Judge Marvin Tee.

"The $500,000 will go toward those men and women who want to do better in school. They will get the opportunity now, to get the tutoring that they need in order to move forward in a global economy where we know that math and science, if you don't have it then you're out of the loop when it comes to job opportunities," Senator Nasheed said.

Governor Nixon created the newly formed Office of Community Engagement led by Senator Coleman and Deputy Director Judge Tee. The Governor started several constructive activism groups around St. Louis that are meeting now to help.

The Governor hosted training for over 200 North County teachers and administrators and will continue to meet with them in the future. Dan Ison and Attorney General Kris Koster met in a round table discussing policy issues around the state, the growing coalition of judges and attorneys getting behind reforming the justice system. The business community has stepped up led by UMSL and The Current alumni State Treasurer Clint Zweifel reached out with the Regional Chamber and other business groups to provide $1 million to support businesses affected in these areas.

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On September 27, the Veteran Feminists of America (VFA) presented "Labor & the Women's Movement: The untold story and why it matters" at the Renaissance Grand Hotel in downtown St. Louis from 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. A group of prominent speakers on feminist history delved into an exploration of the key roles that women played in the second wave feminist movement with an emphasis on organized labor. Topics at the seminar ran the gambit from "Equality in the Age of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964" to "Rocking the Boat—Union Women's Voices, 1915-1975." In addition, the objective of the seminar included highlighting triumphs for women, as well as the role that women are playing in contemporary organizational strategy. At the end of the lecture there was a cocktail and awards dinner to honor national and local labor leaders, as well as to name feminists from the past.

The second-wave feminist movement was a period of political crusading for women's issues that first began in the United States in the early 1960s and lasted through the early 1980s. Second-wave feminism expanded to the initial triumphant achievement of voting and property rights secured in the first wave feminist movement in the early part of the 20th century. It spread into public debate on such issues as the workplace and its effects on the family, sexual harassment and equal pay and conditions for women. Pam Ross, a treasurer of VFA introduced Kathy Rand who gave an overview of the second wave feminist movement in St. Louis. Rand, a member of the VFA's Board of Directors, elaborated on the origins of second wave feminism, which she described as the "untold story." According to Rand, many women during World War II worked in factories while the men were at war. "When the second wave women's movement was beginning in the early 1960s, the assumption was the movement was led by professional, well-educated, upper middle-class suburban women," Rand said.

"Many of the women factory workers did not want to go back home to be housewives. They wanted and needed jobs, and working within their organizations and unions. They were involved in starting the second wave feminist movement," Rand said.

Kimberly Gardner, a member of the Missouri House of Representatives in the 77th district in St. Louis, was also part of the introductions. "This conference is very important, because when we talk about the movement, it is about the vote for equal opportunities for all," Gardner said. "We ask you to encourage women, as well as men with the same ideas to support universal rights for all." Gardner said.

The conference included a line-up that featured keynote speaker and feminist scholar Brigid O'Farrell, the author of "Rocking the Boat—Union Women's Voices, 1915-1975." "I look forward to a discussion of how we can move forward with one movement. The challenge for each of us in the room today, is how we can use our history to help in our continuing struggle for women's equality," O'Farrell said. She then quoted Eleanor Roosevelt who said at a 1955 convention, "We can't just talk, we've got to act."

The Veteran Feminists of America is a nonprofit organization for those who were involved in activism during the second wave of the feminist movement. The aim of the organization is to chronicize material from archives and oral histories about the second wave women's movement for the benefit of journalists, historians and other scholars of feminism. The end goal of VFA is to encourage the solidarity forged during years of impassioned activism, to honor feminist heroes, as well as to document the history of the women's movement. For more information about Veteran Feminists of America, contact their website at www.vfa.us. VFA also has pages on Facebook and Twitter.

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Gerard Way debuts great solo album ‘Hesitant Alien’

JACQUELINE IRIGOYEN
STAFF WRITER

Gerard Way produced “Hesitant Alien” after the breakup of his former band, My Chemical Romance. Way, who was the former lead singer, had broken his silence and made his way back into the music business as a solo act. My Chemical Romance split up in late 2013, after the band expressed different views about where it was headed.

In the midst of what would be the last MCR album, Way was writing some of his own music that would later result in “Hesitant Alien.” This music is not associated with anything that he has written and produced before giving Way a certain kind of freedom that he did not have with MCR. It certainly feels like he is using some similar sounds from some of his favorite bands like “Praze” and the “Smiths.” Gerard Way re-invented himself with this record and did it in a big way.

The song “No Shows” starts off with a guitar ballad and some background vocals by Way. The summary almost seem like they are more of the main act, while his vocals are more of a background noise. In this case works out perfectly. Way uses a range of pitches in this song that really showcase his talent.

“Jester” starts off really heavy with a guitar riff following the drums. This is definitely an angrier song off of Way’s album. His vocals consist of yelling and a lot of angry guitar solos.

“Drug Store Perfume” is more melancholic and classical. The overall feel reminds this reviewer of an ‘80s prom dance. This is a love ballad about a girl who has waited for the real deal when it comes to falling in love, but she is having a hard time finding it. It is one of Way’s more personal songs.

“How’s It Going To Be” seems upbeat and employs a synthesizer which adds to that happy feeling. However, after looking at the lyrics like, “You made a promise then you hide, and you said we’ll be all dead by twenty-five,” it doesn’t seem quite so joyful. This song almost feels like Way is singing this to a particular person, or more than one, but either way he is definitely sending a message.

“Brother” is another personal song from this record. When Way was in MCR, he was battling drug and alcohol addiction and it almost took his life more than once. This song talks about the things needed to bring out a certain feeling or emotion. Way uses a lot of metaphors in this song that make sense, considering where he was mentally and physically during these last few years.

Overall, this album is remarkable. Gerard Way found himself and took his own voice, and is making a name for himself. This album really shows how talented and original he is as an artist. With any musician who goes solo after a band breakup, there is an element of taking a big chance with how people will react. Way took that chance and he did not disappoint.

GRADE: B+

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Ad Core, the student Advertising Club in the College of Fine Arts and Communications, is sponsoring this program.

Membership in Ad Core is free to all UMSL students. To reserve space for your group, contact Dr. Dennis Ganahl, ganahld@umsl.edu, Ad Core faculty advisor.
Triton volleyball beats S&T rivals

ERIC HARRIS
SPORTS EDITOR

Going into the Mark Twain Building Friday night, October 3, the University of Missouri—St. Louis volleyball team knew what to expect from Missouri University of Science and Technology. Just two weeks ago, the Tritons traveled to Rolla, Missouri to take on the Miners. They returned with a disappointing 3-1 loss.

The Tritons came out in the first set on the offensive, coming from behind to win the first set with Allie Ewing, senior, liberal studies, scoring the final point to win the first set 25-21. UMSL posted a powerful second set score of 25-22. In the third set the Tritons were able to make a comeback and held the score close.

The Tritons capitalized on the momentum built up in the third, to close a set score of 25-22. Reversing the result with a 3-1 win over S&T in an exciting fashion.

Jory Siebenmorgen, sophomore, studio art, led the team with 15 kills, followed closely by Ewing with 12 kills and Carly Ochs, junior, with 11.

This thrilling victory comes off the heels of a tough loss in in-town rivals. Maryville University, with 3-1. The Tritons volleyball team followed up their victory over Missouri S&T by defeating Drury University the following afternoon in a close game in all five sets with a final score of 3-2. Tritons took the first, fourth and fifth sets, set scores were 25-12, 21-25, 24-26, 25-22 and 15-9 respectively. In Saturday's game, Siebenmorgen and Ochs led the team with 15 kills each, followed by Jessica Ploss, junior, criminal justice, with 10.

With these two wins added to the record book, UMSL's volleyball team currently stands 9-5 overall and 6-3 in conference. Next week, they travel to Kansas City and Liberty, Missouri to take on Rockhurst University and William Jewell College before heading to the Great Lakes Valley Conference and Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Crossover Tournament (GLVC/GLIAC), October 17-18 in Aurora, Illinois.

Fall tennis ends at home

ERIC HARRIS
SPORTS EDITOR

The fall individual portion of the tennis season came to a close Sunday, October 5th when the University of Missouri—St. Louis hosted their first Women's Tournament. This tournament provided some solid competition for the Tritons. It featured other local schools such as Lindenwood University, Maryville University and Truman State University. The Triton's tennis team now include Tim McLarty, senior, international business, and Alberto Maza Martin, freshman, business administration, Renee Verboven, junior, civil engineering, and Natalie Carvalhais, junior, business, making it to the top 16 round at the Women's ITA Midwest Regionals. Coach Rich Gallenberg is interested to see how the women will fare this spring stating, "[The] women have all been solid so far. Carvalhais has had a good fall, freshman Annie (Hayes) has done good, too. Verboven and Carvalhais went to the ITAs and did great. They are practicing hard. They are competing hard." AWAITING RESULTS FROM UMSL WOMEN'S TENNIS TOURNAMENT OCT 4-5.

Going into this winter's training session, Coach Gallenberg already has plans set and knows what they will need to work on. "We had a little wake up call, which is good news going into the spring. It [fall season] was kind of a rollercoaster ride," Gallenberg said. "I think they are more focused now and will take this winter more seriously. Our mental toughness needs to get stronger. We have a lot of skill. Our doubles need to be better. We work on mental toughness through our physical workouts and getting our confidence and skill level[s] higher for doubles. We have a tough schedule this spring. I expect the players to be better then than they are now. We have had discussions at practice, we will give them the tools that they need."
The verdict is in, and actually, it has been for quite some time now. As of January 1, 2012 the University of Missouri St. Louis has joined other college campuses to become a smoke-free zone. According to the American Nonsmokers’ Rights Foundation, there are at least 500 universities and colleges that have campus-wide smoking bans. Many students wonder where this policy came from and where their opinions factored in the debate. Some students argue that smoking cigarettes helps them manage their daily stressors from college life, while others propose that ‘smoking provides excuses for stress.’ It is not only dangerous to the smoker, but it also to the environment and their peers. The fact that smokers find this solution to be inconvenient can lead them to seek alternative ways to manage their stress.

When asked if schools should have a zero-tolerance policy to nicotine smoking, many of the students surveyed suggested activities like sports, herbal teas and exercising as opposed to smoking. One valid point that arose was that e-cigarettes are perfectly legal at UMSL, and have none of the harmful effects of traditional cigarettes.

Many students wondered where this policy was at and what consequences there would be if one were to smoke on campus. Students still have the ability to smoke in their cars. Many smokers find this solution to be inconvenient. So what about the smokers? Do they have a say in the matter? Their stance on this issue is quite obvious when anyone sees a group of smokers gathered outside of the Social Science Building during their break. Where some student smokers feel that their rights have been invaded by the new policy, the nonsmokers already felt invaded by the smoke itself.

There are a great number of alternatives to nicotine smoking. Many of the students surveyed suggested activities like sports, herbal teas and exercising as opposed to smoking. One valid point that arose was that e-cigarettes are perfectly legal at UMSL, and have none of the harmful effects of traditional cigarettes. Some students argued that smoking cigarettes helps them in managing the stress of college. The University of Missouri – St. Louis academic policy relays the message that, ‘Students are expected to attend class regularly and, in accordance with the UMSL bylaws, faculty may establish penalties for excessive absences. Students absent for more than three consecutive classes may be reported to the dean.’ And while I agree that students should not miss consecutive class time, a day here and there throughout the semester should not result in a penalty towards the student’s final grade.

The majority of students suggested the school charge fines to those found sneaking a smoke on campus. 41% suggested a $5 fine and about 32% suggested a $15 fine, while only 15% felt that a $50 fine would be reasonable. The best suggestion I found was to have smoking zones, actual designated areas for student smokers. Since the area outside of SSB seems to be the smoker hot-zone, why not have the smoking zone near that area?

Students should also feel free to voice their concerns. UMSL has always been a campus which encourages student opinions and this case is no exception. As the debate continues, students must recognize that the policy has already taken effect, whether or not they agree with it. As we come to accept or reject this regulation we also must take into consideration the rights of others, smokers and non-smokers, alive.

**Mandatory attendance called into question**

CULLEN WILLIAMS  
STAFF WRITER

The life of a student can be quite hectic. Between going to class, homework, work and other day-to-day activities, there is not much time for anything else, and what happens when these obligations interfere with each other? What happens if a student has to skip class to cover a work shift or if they miss a day or two in order to take a much needed break? For the majority of classes they would lose, the message the rights of others, smokers and non-smokers, alive.

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