

The Current

August 28, 2006

www.thecurrentonline.com

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INSIDE

Professors can report students at risk of failing with early alert system

The system has professors alert the Center for Student Success to try and help failing students.

See page 3



Is 'Snakes' worth all the hype?

Our movie critic takes a look at Samuel Jackson's latest film, 'Snakes On A Plane.'

See page 8

CORRECTIONS

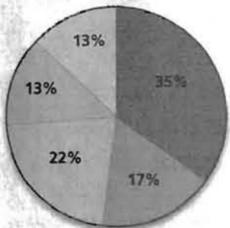
Regarding the Aug. 21 story "No taste test required": Pepsi's contract with the University is for \$71,500 per year for 10 years while Coca-Cola's contract was for \$40,000 per year over a seven year period.

Regarding the Aug. 21 story, "UMSL business professor named director of ESI business park": The land for the business park currently costs \$2.50 per square foot, and in the future, the cost could rise to between \$4.50 and \$5.50 when Express Scripts occupies the site.

ON THE WEB

The Current

Web poll results: What do you think about paying for Metro passes?



- At \$45, it's still a bargain.
- I bought one, grudgingly.
- It's not worth the money
- I don't use Metro, so I'm not buying one.
- We have to pay for Metro passes now?

This week's question: What did you think of parking on campus during the first week?

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Sprinkler break floods new dorms



INSIDE:

Elizabeth Waclawik, junior, nursing, puts the lid back on a shop vacuum after emptying water from room 605 in Oak Hall on Thursday afternoon.



Photos by: Adam D. Wiseman • Editor-in-Chief

OUTSIDE: Alex Geiselmann, freshman, computer science, waits outside the new dormitory, Oak Hall with other students living there. All residents were evacuated after the sprinkler system malfunctioned Thursday afternoon.

Flood marks second time that sprinklers failed

BY ADAM D. WISEMAN
Editor-in-Chief

Quick Read

For the second time in two weeks, the sprinkler system in the new dormitory, Oak Hall, has malfunctioned.

The first malfunction happened on Aug. 12 in room 621 in the South Wing. No students were living in the dormitory at that time. The water went from the sixth floor down to the basement.

This past Thursday in the mid-afternoon the sprinkler system malfunctioned again on the same floor, but in room 605 in the North Wing.

Emma Harris, sophomore, music, said the alarms went off twice and

Oak Hall residents had to leave their dormitories on Thursday after the sprinkler system of the newly-opened residence hall burst, spreading water from the sixth to second floors. The sprinklers also broke on Aug. 12, which flooded from the sixth floor down to the basement. University administrators have sent a complaint to Kozerny/Wagner, the construction firm that handled the \$30 million residence hall that just opened its doors for the first time the week before school started.

they were "extremely loud."

When the first alarm sounded, residential assistants who live in the dorm hall evacuated the residents. After several minutes, the alarm stopped and the residents returned to their rooms.

"When we got back in the dorm, there was water pouring down the

walls. We had time to put trash cans down to try and stop the water, and then the second alarm went off," said Kristin Sopko, sophomore, psychology.

A second alarm threw many RAs into action; they reportedly ran through the halls evacuating everyone for a second time.

John Klein, residence hall coordinator, said the RAs did an "awesome" job evacuating the building.

Jonathan Lidgus, Assistant Director of Student Life, said, "Everyone did a wonderful job of getting the students out and with cleaning up."

Several different offices were called to help in the cleanup of the water. Student Life, Recruitment Services, The Welcome Center and the Center for Student Success sent people over to help pull carpet tiles up and use shop vacuums to stop the spread of the water.

See **SPRINKLERS**, page 14

Woman struck by MetroLink survives

Incident near UMSL North station was suicide attempt, according to police

BY MELISSA S. HAYDEN
News Editor

Wednesday, Aug. 23, a Westbound MetroLink train struck 39-year-old Jennifer Silvia, of the Washington D.C. area, 200 feet from the UMSL North Station in what police are reporting as an attempted suicide.

"We regret that anyone, even by their own choice, was injured by one of our vehicles," said Dianne Williams, director of communication for Metro (the owner and operator of MetroLink and other St. Louis area public transportation systems).

Tracy Panus, media relations officer for the St. Louis County Police Department, said Silvia did not die from her injuries, as earlier news reports had said. "Apparently, she is not going to," she said.

As of Friday at approximately 11:15 a.m., Panus said Silvia was in stable condition with severe head injuries. She said Silvia's vital signs were stable at that time, but, "what it sounds like is there is not a lot of brain activity."

Quick Read

That's what happens when you stick your head in front of a train," she said, adding that it may sound callous, but it is the truth.

"She was in critical condition with life-threatening injuries. It really made a turn for the better," she said.

She said both Normandy and Campus Police were called to the scene for an injury involving public transportation.

After police arrived, Silvia was transported to the hospital in critical condition.

Panus said a previous call had been made to the police a little before 5 a.m. Wednesday.

See **METRO ACCIDENT**, page 14

New Metro extension offers alternate way to campus

BY PAUL HACKBARTH
Design Editor

MetroLink unveiled its new \$676 million Cross County Extension last weekend, adding nine new stations and eight miles of track between Forest Park and Shrewsbury.

Regular passenger service on the extension starts today, allowing more UM-St. Louis students to ride the train to campus, their jobs or other venues near MetroLink stations.

Along with a revamped Forest Park-DeBaliviere station, MetroLink now serves Skinker, University City-Big Bend, Forsyth, Clayton, Richmond Heights, Brentwood I-64, Maplewood-Manchester, Sunnen and Shrewsbury-Lansdowne I-44.

Leah Gossage, junior, psychology, plans to ride the train to campus from the Brentwood I-64 station

near her home. "It will take me only 20 minutes to get to school now," she said.

MetroLink trains will now follow two routes, one from Lambert Airport to Shiloh-Scott and another from Shrewsbury to Emerson Park.

Students living along the extension who take MetroLink to campus will take one train to the Forest Park-DeBaliviere station, get off and transfer to another train heading toward Lambert Airport, according to Metro's Web site, www.metrostl.org.

The extension route was chosen because it connects two major employment centers, downtown and Clayton, said DJ Wilson, spokesman for East-West Gateway, an agency that plans road and public transit routes. "Further south, it goes along a major shopping center near the Galleria," he said.

See **EXTENSION**, page 3

MetroLink Cross County Extension

• MetroLink opened the Cross County Extension last weekend between Forest Park and Shrewsbury after construction started on the \$676 million project in the spring 2003.

• The initial alignment between Lambert Airport and East St. Louis, Ill. opened in July 1993 with a capital cost of \$464 million.

• Construction began in 1998 on an extension to Southwestern Illinois College, which opened in May 2001 and had a total project value of \$339.2 million.

• The tracks were extended further to Shiloh-Scott in Illinois in June 2003, a \$75 million project.

Source: www.metrostl.org

International business college ranked 8th in U.S.

BY TOBY KNOLL
Proofreader

UM-St. Louis' undergraduate International Business Program received an eighth place rank for 2007 from U.S. News & World Report magazine.

This is the fourth consecutive year the program has listed in the top 20. The list is compiled annually for U.S. News & World Report's college and university ranking reports.

Allan Bird, director of the International Business Program, said he was "pleasantly surprised" by the ranking and added "it's nice to be recognized by colleagues."

Elizabeth Vining, senior lecturer of marketing for the International Business Program, said the ranking is "very exciting for the school."

Vining said the reason for the program's success is due to a number of contributing factors. "The University

has been making a concerted effort to hire nationally respected professors," she said.

Bird said that the department has been "doing some innovative things" and credits the high-ranking to "quality faculty, on-par with other programs."

"Ricks" [David Ricks, professor and former head of the program] combining the Honors College with an international business degree has been very innovative," Vining said.

"The international business program linked with an honors program is the only one like it in the country," said Bird. "What put us on the map is having this type of high quality program."

The International Business Program currently has about 120 students, with 25 more in the honors program. Course offerings range from an undergraduate emphasis in international marketing, an Honors College program and an International MBA Program.

See **RANKING**, page 14

THE CURRENT: FORTY YEARS ON CAMPUS

UMSL Birth Announcement

For the third time in four years the student newspaper at the University of Missouri-St. Louis will have a different name.

The *Mizzou News*, formerly the *Tiger Cub*, will now be called the *UMSL Current*, according to Editor-in-Chief Barbara Duester.

The change resulted from pressure put on the newspaper by some administration members and students who wished to break the connection between this campus and the Columbia campus that they felt the use of the word "Mizzou" implied.

The name, *UMSL Current* was chosen for its association with the recently adopted mascot, "Riverman."

ABOVE:

Where it all began. In the first issue of *The Current* (Then called *UMSL Current*), this small article (or 'birth announcement') appeared to mark the inaugural issue of the campus newspaper.

The article states that the name change came about in order to coincide with the unveiling of the then-new mascot of the Rivermen.

The newspaper sought to mirror the river-theme of the mascot.

Over the next year, *The Current* will be sharing with its readers pieces of history from the past 40 years. *The Current* has been around for the changes on campus and also in the world.

Each installment will include artifacts of *Current* history, including articles, photos and advertising from our archive covering 40 years of UM-St. Louis history.

Our first selections are from our first year in production. We hope you enjoy this series and we thank you for reading.

TAILGATING AT THE DRIVE-IN



Cadence Rippeto • Staff Photographer

Mike Pfaender, freshman, business, cooks hot dogs and burgers for his friends at the drive-in movie Thursday evening put on by UPB during Welcome Week. The drive-in movie this year was "Animal House."

CAMPUS CRIMELINE

The UM-St. Louis Police Department did not have any new reported crimes during the week of Aug. 18-25.

If you see any suspicious activity on campus, call the police at 516-5155.

What's Current

Your weekly calendar of campus events

"What's Current" is a free service for all student organizations and campus departments.

Deadline for submissions is 5 p.m. the Thursday before publication.

Space consideration is given to student organizations and is on a first-come, first-served basis.

We suggest all postings be submitted at least one week prior to the event.

Email event listings to thecurrent@umsl.edu.

All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.

MONDAY, AUGUST 28

Police accreditation hearing

The UM-St. Louis Police Department is holding a public hearing at 1 p.m. in the Telecommunity Center. The hearing is part of the department's effort to gain accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies.

Those unable to attend the hearing may make comments by calling 5282 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Written comments may be mailed to the commission at 10306 Eaton Place, Suite 320, Fairfax, Va. 22030-2201. Call 5155 for information.

Chemistry Colloquium

Zhi Xu, associate professor of chemistry at UM-St. Louis, will discuss "From Fundamental Research to Cutting Edge Technology" at 4 p.m. in 451 Benton Hall. Coffee will be served at 3:45 p.m. The colloquium is free and open to the public. Call 5311 for more information.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 29

Catholic Mass

The Catholic Newman Center is holding mass at 5:30 p.m. at the center located at 8200 Natural Bridge Rd. A simple dinner of soup and bread will follow mass. Call Tracy or Denny at 314-385-3455 or e-mail cnucmsl.ed@aol.com.

PRIZM Meeting

PRIZM, the alliance of gay and straight students at UM-St. Louis will hold its first meeting from 4 to 5 p.m. in the Office of Student Life, 366 MSC. Open house with light refreshments to follow from 5 to 7 p.m. All students, faculty, and staff are invited to attend. Call 5013 or e-mail prizm@umsl.edu for more information.

Auditions for UMSL play

Auditions for the UMSL production of "The Imaginary Invalid," a comedy by French playwright, director and actor Moliere (1622-1673), will take place from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. today in the Lee Theater and 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday in the Whitaker Rehearsal

Callbacks will occur from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Wednesday. "The Imaginary Invalid" will be performed in October at the Touhill. Auditions are open to the public. Resumes and headshots are not required. Those who audition should prepare a one-minute comedic monologue. Auditions also will include cold readings from the script. Click here to view the script. Call 4572 or e-mail robgrumich@yahoo.com for information.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30

Welcome Dinner

The Catholic Newman Center, located at 8200 Natural Bridge Rd., is holding a Welcome Dinner at 6 p.m. The dinner is free and all students, faculty, and staff are invited to attend. Call (314) 385-3455 to R.S.V.P.

Senate panel to discuss funding

State Sen. Gary Nodler will hold a hearing on "The Cost of a College Education" at 1 p.m. in Century Room A at the MSC.

The committee will review higher education funding and governance. This hearing is open to the public. Call 5823 for more information.



State Senator Gary Nodler

THURSDAY, AUGUST 31

Alumni Association Open House

The UM-St. Louis Alumni Association will be holding an open house from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Office of Alumni & Constituent Relations, in 101 Woods Hall. The association is extending free memberships to UM-St. Louis faculty and staff. Call 5833 or e-mail kinneyk@umsl.edu for more information.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

Soccer Home Openers

The men's and women's soccer teams will begin their home schedules today against conference rivals the Quincy University Hawks. Men's game is at 5 p.m. The women's game will follow at



The Riverwomen and Rivermen soccer teams will play their season home opener Friday, Sept. 1 against the Quincy Hawks.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

Observatory Holds Open House

The Richard D. Schwartz Observatory will hold an open house at 8 p.m. Guests will be able to view the following planets and constellations: Jupiter, Hercules Cluster, Ring Nebula, and Andromeda Galaxy. In case of inclement weather the open house will be held at 8 p.m. September 3. This event is free and open to the public. Call 5706 for more information.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

Catholic Mass

The Catholic Newman Center will be holding mass each Sunday night from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. in the Provincial House Chapel on South Campus. Snacks and drinks will be served afterwards. For directions, call Tracy Van der Riet or Denny Handley at (314) 385-3455.

Men's soccer vs. SIUE

The men's soccer team will play the Cougars of Southern Illinois University Edwardsville at 7:30 p.m. UM-St. Louis students are admitted free with identification card. Call 5661 for more information.

Women's Soccer vs. Saginaw

The women's soccer team will play the Cardinals of Saginaw Valley State University of Saginaw, Mich. at 11 a.m. UM-St. Louis students are admitted free with identification. Call 5661 for more information.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

Labor Day Holiday

The University will not be open Monday in honor of Labor Day. No classes will be held. Classes will resume Tuesday morning at their regular hours.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

Volleyball, ice cream social

The Catholic Newman Center, 8200 Natural Bridge Road, holds a volleyball and ice cream social at 7 p.m. The event is free. Call (314) 385-3455 for more information.

Free wellness classes

Rec Sports' fall aerobics classes begin today and run through Dec. 16 at the Mark Twain Athletics Building. Classes are free today through Sept. 9. Registration is available at 203 Mark Twain. Call 5326 for more information.

The Current

The University of Missouri-St. Louis
Student Newspaper Since 1966

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ON THE WEB

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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). Editor-in-chief reserves the right to respond to letters. *The Current* reserves the right to deny letters.

ABOUT US

The Current is published weekly on Mondays. Advertising rates are available upon request; terms, conditions and restrictions apply.

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The University is not responsible for the content of *The Current* and/or its policies. Commentary and columns reflect the opinion of the individual author.

Unsigned editorials reflect the opinion of the majority of the Editorial Board. *The Current* requests the courtesy of at least 24-hour advance notice for all events to be covered. Advertisements do not necessarily reflect the opinion of *The Current*, its staff members or the University.

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First copy is free; all subsequent copies are 25 cents and are available at the offices of *The Current*.

ADVERTISING

All UM-St. Louis students, alumni, faculty and staff are entitled to free classified advertisements of 40 words or less.

The Current also offers display advertisements at a rate of \$8.75 per column inch for off campus advertisers and \$7.75 for on campus organizations and departments. Various discounts may apply. To receive an advertising rate card, contact our advertising or business staff or download a rate card from our Web site at www.thecurrentonline.com/adrates.

AFFILIATIONS

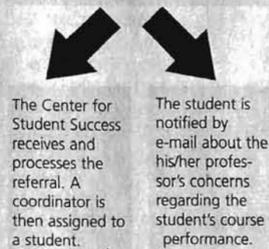


Early Alert System helps students at risk of failing

By **MELISSA S. HAYDEN**
News Editor

How does the Early Alert System work?

Once a professor recognizes a student is at risk of failing, the professor will refer the student via the Electronic Early Alert System.



The student is sent an invitation to meet with his/her professor and coordinator.

If the student does not respond to two invitations from his/her coordinator, the referral is closed after one month of no contact.

The coordinator will recommend campus resources to the student and coordinate the student's progress. The professor will be able to track the student's progress in the system.

The Early Alert System, a new campus-wide program, has been implemented this year by the Center for Student Success to grab students' attention if they are at risk of failing.

"I think that it's an important chance for us to get in there a little bit sooner and get [students] help while things can still be fixed," said Greg McCalley, assistant vice provost for Student Affairs and Student Success.

Jennifer Taylor, retention coordinator and clinical instructor for the College of Nursing, said faculty were sent an e-mail explaining the program and it was discussed at orientations for new faculty and three open-house demonstrations.

"It is an option for [faculty members] to use, it's totally voluntary," said McCalley.

The faculty members who use the program will base the risk of a student's failure on seven "warning signs." The signs include excessive absence, missing assignments and failed quizzes or exams.

McCalley said he thinks the majority of students referred to the program will be at risk from excessive absences. "A lot of students just stop going to classes, thinking they can drop it that way," he said.

He said students also tend to not show up for the first week of classes. "They think that it's not important," he said.

McCalley said the first step of the

Results of Pilot Program

- Of 68 total referrals, 65 were failing at the time of referral
- 26 students met with the Retention Coordinator and/or their professor.
 - 7 received a final grade of B
 - 11 received a final grade of C
 - 7 received a final grade of D
 - 1 received a final grade of F
- 36 students did not respond to their referrals
 - 7 received a final grade of B
 - 17 received a final grade of C
 - 5 received a final grade of D
 - 5 received a final grade of F
 - 2 were excused from the course
- Six refused assistance and stated they had obtained other assistance. All six students successfully passed with a B or C.

program is for a faculty member to send out a referral. That referral is sent to the student and himself, and it can be seen by the advisor, dean and department chair of a particular college, based on the student's major. "It's totally individually based," he said.

If the student responds to the referral, they meet with McCalley or another employee of the Center for Student Success. Then, plans are made to assist the student.

A second personalized e-mail will be sent to students who do not respond. "We'll only try to contact them three times, we're not going to harass anyone," McCalley said.

He said he does not want students to worry about the referrals because they disappear after the semester and are not a part of their permanent records.

"Don't think of it as a black mark, think of it as someone reach-

ing out to help you," he said.

He said he and Taylor created the program using resources already available to the University. "Jen did the bulk of the work, but I've been a part of it the whole time," he said.

The program itself works through the MyGateway system and Taylor said the only real cost was production time. "I've lost a lot of sleep working on it," she said.

Taylor headed the program while it was piloted in the Nursing College last year. "We had good success and it was easy to use, as we hoped it would be."

"I'm so proud of the program; I love helping students make the connection to resources that can help them succeed," Taylor said.

McCalley also said he was proud of the program and how far it has come. "I'm excited, but there's a little fear of being overwhelmed," he said.

EXTENSION, from page 1

Wilson said future plans for MetroLink extensions include an extension from downtown south to Interstate 55 and north to Florissant Valley Community College, Interstate 70 and Goodfellow Boulevard.

In addition to the new extension opening, UM-St. Louis initiated a new surcharge for Metro passes this fall semester.

This year, students will pay \$45 when they buy their pass at the Cashier's Office. Students already pay 50 cents per credit hour into the infrastructure student fee for the program.

Mitch Hess, manager of cashiering, said rising fuel costs and Metro's initiative to have local universities near MetroLink stations pay a similar price were the reasons behind the surcharge.

"That driving factor has changed where we had to start charging for the passes," he said.

The combination of a \$45 charge and the new extension allowing more students access to MetroLink has made the decision to buy a pass difficult for students.

"I think [the extension] will affect how many students get passes, but how much? I just don't know," Hess said.

Hess said many students were not aware of the price change this semester.

"They said they'll come back

and think about it, and I'm honestly thinking a lot of students will return and get one. It's still the best deal in town," he said.

Metro fares are also increasing today; a one-ride MetroLink ticket will cost \$2 for an adult, this is a 25-cent increase from this summer.

Metro also sells student semester passes; starting today these passes cost \$125 per semester. Making its cost \$7 more than last year.

"The problem with the student pricing in the model that MetroLink really wants us to follow is that the students must be enrolled full-time, but they also have to meet the maximum age of 23," Hess said.

"Since our average age is 27, a lot of our students wouldn't qualify for it."

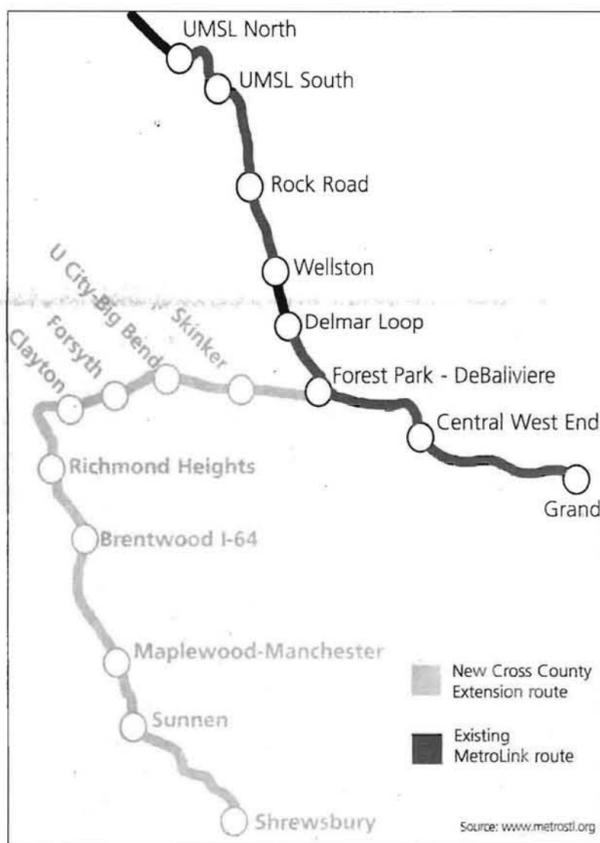
As of Wednesday morning, the Cashier's Office had given out 1,500 Metro passes.

In the contract with MetroLink, UM-St. Louis pays nearly \$189,000 per year for 11,000 MetroLink passes.

Of that amount, \$54,000 is paid through the infrastructure fee, leaving students to pay the remaining balance of \$135,000.

If each student pays \$45 per pass, "we would need to sell 3,000 passes to break even," Hess said.

"And we're not there yet. At the current rate and based on our experience from past semesters, we won't make that rate," he said.



UMSL plans to unveil IT incubator in 2007

By **PAUL HACKBARTH & SEAN MICHAEL**
Design Editor & Staff Writer

With the idea to help technology-based companies make the leap forward, UM-St. Louis plans to install an information technology incubator with a High Performance Computer Center as the hub by early 2007.

"The IT incubator is a place where start-up IT companies can locate. Those companies can come from anywhere—UMSL faculty, industry spin-offs, individuals, students, etc.," said Tamara Kratochvil, director of Technology Transfer and senior grant writer.

No specific location has been determined for the incubator and the HPC Center, but it will likely be in the business park north of campus.

"A business incubator helps emerging high-growth companies survive and grow during the start-up period when they are most vulnerable," she said.

Most incubators provide affordable office or lab space, shared equipment and services, assistance working with investors and education programs for funding opportunities, Kratochvil said.

"Startups have good ideas, and they need assistance for business planning, accounting and guidance on their project," said Mark Showers, chief information officer at Monsanto. "We foster startups through mentoring and providing reasonable cost space."

Kratochvil said the incubator can host 10 to 12 startup companies and within, two to five years, those companies will be able to leave the incubator. "It's a quicker cycle than with biotech incubators," she said.

The IT incubator at UM-St. Louis will include a High Performance Computing Center with consulting services from staff including computer science and management information systems faculty, post doctoral students and graduate students.

With the help of grants, Kratochvil said services of the HPC center will be available to anyone in the country but for a fee. S

he said the HPC Center will offer consulting services to tenants and faculty at UM-St. Louis and other busi-

nesses, but a model for fees has not been set.

Jim Tom, chief information officer at UM-St. Louis said HPC centers should not be called supercomputers because the term has become outdated. He said the HPC enables the University to solve problems that are more complex and take too much time on a regular computer.

"At the University, we've been running a cluster of 200 computers which use 100 nodes that researchers in biology, chemistry, physics and math have been using to solve complex problems," Tom said.

With the HPC, scientists can assimilate larger systems and enzymatic reactions easier, said Chung Wong, assistant chemistry and biochemistry professor.

"We are able to understand how enzymes work and occur as well as use the computer to design therapeutic drugs," Wong said.

Many compounds exist that scientists have to test before they find ones that work, he said. The HPC uses power depending on its processors and the communication between the processors.

"There must be a fast connection to get some of the results we need," he said.

The incubator also "helps bring companies together, and it helps companies make the transition from ideas to real products," Tom said.

Showers said connecting the incubator with an HPC center and linking both to the universities assets such as professors and students across different disciplines is advantageous.

"We are devoted to information technology and the Center for Emerging Technology uses an incubator that UM-St. Louis, Washington University and St. Louis University are a part of," Showers said.

The nearest incubator in the region is Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville's incubator dedicated to the biosciences. "The one at UM-St. Louis is the first one devoted to information technology," he said.

The HPC center should be ready to open by March or April of 2007, Kratochvil said, "but we have to be flexible on the opening date to allow time to make the right decisions regarding construction, location and financing."

NEWS BRIEF

Readership Program kicks off with a glitch

The USA Today's Collegiate Readership Program began last Monday despite card readers for the program not being in place.

The UM Board of Curators approved a \$2 fee per student per semester for the program at a meeting in Rolla on March 24.

The program allows students to pick up a copy of USA Today, the New York Times and the St. Louis Post-Dispatch Mondays through Fridays during both this semester and the winter semester.

The papers were supposed to be picked up from newspaper racks with magnetic card swipes that have the ability to read a student's I. D. card, a

feature that would limit access to students. However, the card readers are not in place at this time.

Katie Pesha, manager of USA Today's Higher Education Programs, said the card readers are supposed to arrive the first week of October. "We had a hang-up with getting these made," she said.

The papers are currently being made available on racks in the MSC, Benton Hall, the SSB, the Thomas Jefferson Library, the Provincial House, Oak Hall and Merillac Hall.

Pesha said the number of papers dropped at each location will be based on consumption and it will take a few days worth of pick-up for the basis of those numbers. "We like there to be enough (papers), but we also want to stay in our budget," she said.

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Tuesday

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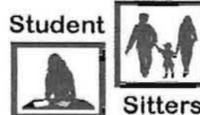


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OPINIONS

OUR OPINION

Are the Metro passes' days numbered at UMSL?

With few students opting to pay \$45 for Metro passes, the program could face trouble unless changes are made

With the start of the new semester, students at UM-St. Louis are paying, for the first time, a fee for Metro passes.

For years, students have grown accustomed to being offered the passes for free at the Cashier's Office, and the prospect of having to pay \$45 for something that used to be free has some students asking, "Who cares."

For commuters who always drive to school, the Metro passes may have been simply an unused bonus for those attending the University.

Now that students have the choice of paying for passes or not getting them, the response has been resoundingly clear.

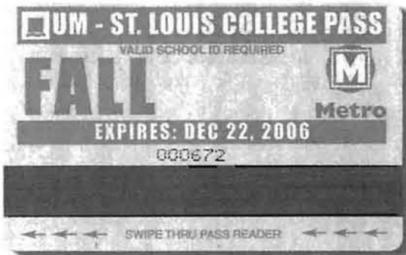
Students don't really seem to care that much about buying the Metro passes, even if it's at a steep, steep discount from even the student semester pass that Metro offers.

As of last week, only 1,500 students bought a Metro pass, which is far from the 3,000 the University needs to break even on the \$189,000 it spent on the 11,000 passes purchased.

So, why aren't students buying?

Forty-five dollars really is a bargain. For their normal student semester price (which they usually only offer for full-time students under the age of 23), Metro charges \$125.

But, many students don't see the value of Metro if they don't typically ride the MetroLink. Although riding the train to campus is a great bargain in terms of the gas money it can save,



How do we pay for the passes now:
All students pay 50 cents per credit hour as part of the infrastructure fee. In addition, students who want the Metro pass pay \$45.

the time it takes to park at a lot, wait for the train and walk from the station may be too much for many students with extremely hectic schedules.

And \$45 isn't quite the bargain if you only use the Metro pass two or three times a semester to go to a Cards/Blues/Rams game or a festival downtown.

However, University leaders should press to make sure that the Metro pass program doesn't die out. Although student interest may not support the program, it is a worthwhile one to have at the University.

The Metro pass program allows for all students to have cheap, reliable transportation from almost anywhere in the region.

University administrators and SGA leaders should work on consolidating the 50 cent infrastructure fee that cur-

What if:

UMSL would institute a new \$1.30 per credit hour fee that would allow all students to have a Metro pass without the voluntary \$45 fee now in place.

Otherwise:

Students choosing to buy a pass could have to pay up to \$90.

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WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

As a forum for public expression on campus, *The Current* welcomes letters to the editor and guest commentaries from students, faculty, staff members and others concerned with issues relevant to the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

Letters to the editor should be brief, and those not exceeding 200 words will be given preference. We edit letters for clarity and length, not for dialect, correctness, intent or grammar. All letters must include a daytime phone number. Students must include their student ID numbers. Faculty and staff must include their title(s) and department(s). Editor-in-chief reserves the right to respond to letters. *The Current* reserves the right to deny letters.

Guest commentaries are typically longer (generally 400-600 words) on a specific topic of interest to readers. If you are interested in writing a guest commentary, please contact *The Current's* editor-in-chief.

CONTACT US

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One University Blvd.
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St. Louis, MO 63121

Email:
current@jinx.umsu.edu

STAFF VIEWPOINT

Crime reports use race selectively



By MYRON MCNEIL
Staff Writer

In last week's issue of *The Current*, nine criminal actions were reported in a section titled, "Campus Crimeline." Three out of the nine reports supplied details of the assailants.

The other six reports (one must assume) did not give information or descriptions about the suspects or those suspected. However, out of the three reports that had accurate information of the victims and victimizers, only one mentions race, and as usual it was a black male and, of course, he was the victimizer.

First off, I do not want to deduce from this that racism was the reason.

I don't know. It could be coincidence. Maybe the other eight reports ignored race. Maybe the extent of the crimes committed determined what was said or written in the reports.

Once again, I don't know. And truthfully, I didn't care to ask those responsible for the reports nor did I really care to know, period. Point blank.

When it comes to race and issues, I see a tireless cycle of inconsistency.

So, rather than asking questions and getting an, "Oops I hadn't noticed this," or, "It was just coincidence" response, I choose to help those who may not be savvy or understanding enough of what it means when a black law-abiding male, like me, reads this.

Unfortunately, when I read this and analyze it, I see the obvious.

Out of all of the crimes reported, race was mentioned in one. Then I ask myself, like any other sane person should, why race was mentioned in one, and not mentioned in the others.

Need I say more? The question "why" alone is enough.

I don't need to quote any civil rights speeches, language of injustice or words of discrimination from a great freedom fighter.

Why? In my mind we've been over this a million times and like most people, race seems to be a cliché circumstance or card that people play when all else fails.

So, how do we know when to point it out? Should we know better by now? Is it common sense to know that if race is important in one, maybe you should include it in all?

If 12 people are in a room and only one is black, does it stand out? Well, how does it read to when 12 criminal reports are published in a public newspaper and one mentions race, which happens to be black and male.

Yep, it stands out. I know many people feel that black males are the poster children for rage (this article of course), hip-hop and all of its misogynyn, violence and loud talk, raunchy sex, drugs, jail and finally crime; however, it is not true.

Other races commit crime, so please include them in your reports. Remember, it doesn't help when others reinforce negative ideas. It is just as damaging and offensive.

And no, you don't have to be racist to reinforce negative images of racism. It could mean you're careless, insensitive or simply ignorant of others. You be the judge of it yourself.

So, for next time, let us remember to report all races in crime reports or not include race in any of them.

This is called racial sensitivity 101.

STAFF VIEWPOINT

Military recruiters might have a good pitch, but just say 'no'



By STEVEN ADAMS
Columnist

Let me begin my first column for *The Current* by making something clear: military recruiters should be allowed to "peddle their wares" or, even, "war fares" in the Millennium Student Center just like any other business, social organization, or whatever else is allowed to, just as they did on the first day of classes.

We're all supposedly grown-ups here, and we should make our own decisions. This is a free and beautiful country, one I'm proud to be a part of. Well, most of the time, anyway.

But in that same spirit of democracy, capitalism and free speech, allow me to use this space to say to those of you who are considering signing up: PLEASE DON'T DO IT.

It's not like I know you.

I didn't grow up with you, I don't know what your situation is at home-I don't even know how you found a parking place to get yourself into the MSC in the first place. But I do know that you are a human being and you have some sort of educational potential or you wouldn't be here at UM-St. Louis, and that's enough for me.

Stay here, work on that degree, and

let the nation's all-volunteer military recruit someone else.

I have actually been a college recruiter, and I know that military recruiters are great salespeople. They had big advantages over me: slick videos showing young people manning high-tech equipment or Marines brandishing swords and conquering dragons.

I had a brochure or two, which doesn't compete with dragon slaying.

The big one I couldn't compete with, though, was the scholarship money. There was a time where the military scholarship was probably a good deal,

and I have had friends who have successfully taken advantage of it. It used to be that you could get some exercise, learn a trade and maybe see the world a bit before you came home to learn.

But right now, and I suspect into the immediate future, that scholarship is basically a gamble. If you sign up now, you're most likely going to the Middle East, and there's a pretty good chance you won't come back with your life or all your limbs. I won't even mention what may happen to your mind.

The government does do one thing right: you can borrow money from them for college. It's the best loan you will ever see, because that degree is going to pay off for the rest of your life. Take advantage of it.

I've got nothing against those who did sign up, and in fact, I'd like to show some real support and say, "C'mon home. You did a great job, given the situation you were put into." But if you're willing to risk it and enlist, by all means, do so.

But here is one person that is just saying, "Don't."

If this war keeps up, pretty soon we may not have a choice in the matter.

STAFF VIEWPOINT

Cultural barriers are the best kind to break through



By PAUL HACKBARTH
Design Editor

There is nothing worse than seeing orange traffic barricades ahead in traffic. Sometimes, I just want to break through them, but I know that MoDOT frowns upon that.

I don't like barriers of any kind, whether they be traffic cones, no trespassing signs or barriers that students put up on campus.

Since I can't take my frustrations out on traffic cones or barbed wire fences, when I see barriers of other kinds on campus, I'm not shy about breaking through them.

Having an international, cultural or language barrier is hard enough when students from abroad come to this country to study. What is even worse are the barriers that UM-St. Louis students put up to international students new to the University.

On the Sunday before the first day of classes, I witnessed at least two cases and heard several more of students who arrived in the United States from overseas looking lost, looking for assistance,

looking for anybody who had a clue. What I also witnessed or heard were students and staff ignoring those international students.

One student from abroad needed a phone card to call his parents at home in Germany. Two other students from China needed an explanation of what to do with their Metro ticket.

Luckily, three friends and I were on campus that Sunday. One friend took the German student down to Walgreens to purchase a phone card and explained to him how to use it.

The other two friends and I explained to the Chinese exchange students that their Metro ticket would expire in two hours, but we didn't stop there. They needed a ride back to Mansion Hills and we drove them there.

I have seen the international students that my friends and I helped since then. I stop to say hi to them. I ask them how they are doing. I ask them if they need anything.

See BARRIERS, page 14

UNDERCURRENT

By Cadence Rippetto • Staff Photographer

What is your favorite or least favorite thing about the first week of school?

What do you think? Give your own response on www.thecurrentonline.com/undercurrent. The best response each week wins a free T-shirt.



Erica Brown
Junior, Communication

"My favorite thing is seeing all my sorority sisters and friends I haven't seen all summer. My least favorite thing is the parking madness!"



Mandy Altman
Senior, Political Science

"Going to class."



Tim Volkert
Sophomore, Physics & Astronomy

"The freshman and how excited they are. They are very enthusiastic."



T. Ryan
Junior, Media Studies

"Having to wake up early."



Bryan Goers
Junior, Education

"There is no ticketing for the first week. You can park wherever you want!"

SCIENCE COLUMN

Pluto will always be a planet to some sentimentalists

It has been coming for some time, since Copernicus' time. At their convention in Prague, Czech Republic, astronomers have been discussing a definition of a planet. This past week at the conference, the International Astronomers Union decided against defining as planets Pluto, its moon Charon, the asteroid Ceres (which had been a planet in the 1800s but was demoted) and a more recently discovered icy object named 2003 UB313.

UB313, nicknamed Xena by its discoverer, is actually larger than Pluto. The idea proved controversial with the astronomers. For Pluto, which does not fit the profile of the other eight planets, rejecting that idea meant the choice was whether to grandfather it in arbitrarily or take it off the list of planets.

Then the decision came in on Aug.

24: Pluto was off the list.

Classroom charts of the solar system everywhere are now outdated and will have to be redone.

Demoted from the status it has held since 1930, Pluto joins the list of other large orbiting objects in the solar system as a "dwarf planet," one among many and not even the biggest one. That would be 2003 UB313.

Besides defining what is and is not a planet, the astronomers created the new category of "dwarf planet," for celestial objects that previously had been called "minor planets." There is also a third category of "small solar system bodies," created for asteroids, comets and other small natural satellites circling the Sun.

Here is the new definition of a planet: "a celestial body that is in orbit around the sun, has sufficient mass for

its self-gravity to overcome rigid body forces so that it assumes a ... nearly round shape, and has cleared the neighborhood around its orbit."

Pluto did not measure up, because its oval orbit overlaps with that of its neighbor Neptune.

Of course, the decision was made on reasonable, purely practical, scientific grounds. The astronomers wanted a firm definition of what is a planet, something that, amazing as it sounds, they had lacked.

Still, many people were rooting for including Pluto as a planet, which we have grown up knowing, as a kind of sentimental thing, even by some of the astronomers. Some precedent for



By CATE MARQUIS

A&E Editor

grandfathering in solar system objects exists. By some views, our Moon and Earth could have been called a double planet because of the moon's relative size. But we did not want to do that, and so the Moon remains a moon.

Will there be a traditionalist backlash against the decision, mirroring many social debates over science? Will groups pull for keeping Pluto on classroom solar system charts while modernist groups push to adopt the new definition immediately?

Just kidding - I am being a little silly here but I wonder if there will be a little "Save Pluto" outcry. There seems to be sentimental feeling for old

Pluto, even at the astronomers' convention.

Speculation on a pro-Pluto backlash is not entirely out of line. Remember, traditionalists succeeded in squashing efforts to switch American schools to the metric system, like the rest of the world. If we kept the old English system of weights and measures in schools, why not Pluto? Look at all the textbooks and classroom materials we will have to change, a daunting task for cash-strapped public schools.

Actually, it seems to be science types who are raising doubts about whether the new designation will stick, even if it does make sense. But assuming the new rule does stand, we can spare a sentimental sigh for the planet that was.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Greek service includes APO

I was excited when I first saw the article "Greek clubs give back to community through service" in your July 10 issue. I thought "This is a great way to recruit new brothers for my fraternity, Alpha Phi Omega."

I was extremely upset when I discovered that Alpha Phi Omega (APO) wasn't even mentioned!

We are the service organization on campus, and we don't get even a courtesy name-drop? If you are going to advertise about community service, at least get it right.

The whole idea behind APO is service to the community. APO participates in, at least, 4 service events a month, every month. By not mentioning APO, you have done a great disservice to the campus.

APO has participated in service events including The Canine Carnival for the Animal Protection Agency, Habitat for Humanity, Road Side Clean-up, Hurricane Katrina Relief

Fund (APO came up with the idea for this and saw it through with help from Pi Kappa Alpha. We are actively involved with the community surrounding UM-St. Louis, volunteering for the Humane Society, Operation Brightside, Trick-or-Treating for Canned Goods, The Big Event, Scouting for Food and countless others.

If anyone would like to get more information or would like to join APO, contact alphaphiomega@umsl.edu.

We are always looking for new brothers to join us, and welcome everyone to participate in any of our service

Jen Noel

UMSL Graduate and APO Alumni

Greek housing article

My name is Susie Sippel and I am an alumna for Alpha Xi Delta. I currently work with the Epsilon Xi Chapter of Alpha Xi Delta at UM-St. Louis as the President of the Housing

Corporation Board. In response to your articles highlighting Greek Life, I would like to say Way to Go!!! However, there are several portions regarding the housing spotlight that I would like to address due to some changes that have been made over the last few months.

The Alpha Xi Delta Corporation Board of St. Louis, Missouri, Inc. made changes in their rent schedule in July, 2006 due to rent increases by the University. All 3 sororities were impacted. Our new rent amounts, which are based on the amount of women living in the house, begin at \$275 for 6 or more people living in the house. The amounts increase if there are less people living in the house.

As was stated before, the women of Alpha Xi Delta were able to save money by completing chores themselves, it isn't only a cleaning person we saved money on. We also rearranged some of our services that we provide such as DSL computer lines, Cable television, and land line

telephone services (which are required for safety) to save money.

Another issue I would like to touch on is the paragraph where alcohol is mentioned. While it is true that the University of Missouri - St. Louis is a dry campus, Alpha Xi Delta National Fraternity and its National Housing Corporation have strict guidelines

Susie Sippel

President, Alpha Xi Delta Corporation Board of St. Louis, Missouri, Inc.

Nascar drivers are athletes

In regards to the article "Should NASCAR drivers be considered athletes? I don't think so," by LaGuan Fuse in the Aug. 21, 2006 issue of *The Current*. I disagree with several of the statements written by the sports editor.

For instance, the statement about it being dangerous to drive at extremely high speeds contradicts his statement about "NASCAR drivers not being athletes because athletes train their

bodies to be vessels of their skills."

NASCAR drivers drive extremely fast several times a week for up to four hours per race, so they must train their bodies to endure the extreme speeds and long hours in a car, and the excessive heat that has been proven to reach temperatures up to 120 degrees and 170 degrees on the floor-boards.

It is also proven by doctors that the driver's heart rates sustain 80 to 85 percent of their maximum allowance; this could be compared to a marathon runner.

Unlike many sports such as basketball, football, etc., there are no timeouts or breaks in a race; they must stay in the car for up to 500 miles.

The other statement: "There are millions of people in the world who can operate a motor vehicle, but they are not all athletes" is a poorly meditated concept.

Of course a person can eat a "jalapeno-cheeseburger" while they drive, but I would like them to try it while they are driving at 180 mph on

turn two at Talladega.

There are millions of people who play basketball, baseball, etc., but they are not all athletes as well.

Only the exceptional athletes go on to play professional sports, the same goes for NASCAR drivers.

I think LaGuan should have done just a little research instead of just relaxing and making a fool of himself in the first issue of *The Current* for fall of 2006 with just his ignorant opinions.

Kurtis Parks

Sophomore

Criminology and criminal justice

Have something on your mind? Write a letter to the editor by emailing thecurrent@umsl.edu or through our online submission form at www.thecurrentonline.com/lettertotheeditor. Letters under 250 words are preferred. Please include your name, major and year if you are a student and your position and department if you are faculty or staff.

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 Submit your resume on line at resumemania@umsl.edu so that one of our professional staff members can critique it. Your resume will be critiqued and emailed to you within 24 hours!

UMSL Fall Internship & Job Fair
 Friday, September 15, 2006 (10 a.m. - 2 p.m.)
 Touhill Performing Arts Center, UM-St. Louis campus.
 Admission is free only for pre-registered current UMSL students and alumni. For a list of companies and to pre-register, click on "Job Fairs" at www.umsl.edu/career. Pre-registration deadline is 9/12/06.

Mock Interview Day
 Tuesday, September 19, 2006
 Practice your interview skills with an employer! Call Career Services at ext. 5111 or stop by 278 MSC to sign-up for an interview time. You **must** submit your resume at time of sign-up. Space is limited!

On-Campus Interviews
 September 25, 2006 to November 17, 2006
 All interviews will take place in Career Services, 278 Millennium Student Center.
 Companies will schedule dates throughout the semester. You **must** be registered with Career Services and have your resume in our Candidate Database to participate in these interviews. Visit our web page for a list of companies scheduled to interview on campus.

Etiquette Banquet
 Wednesday, November 8, 2006 (12:30 p.m.)
 Century Rooms, Millennium Student Center, UM-St. Louis campus.
 Polish your etiquette and dining skills during this lunch session with guidance from a professional etiquette consultant. Tickets may be purchased in Career Services. Admission is \$10 for Career Services registrants and \$20 for all other students. Space is limited!

Please contact Career Services for more information on any of these events:
 278 MSC * 314-516-5111
career_services@umsl.edu
www.umsl.edu/career

The Flames heat up the dance floor

Story by Mabel Suen • Photographs by Matt Johnson



LEFT: Stephanie Schuette, captain of the UMSL Flames, performs a new dance during practice on Thursday in the Mark Twain Building. Schuette, senior, business administration, has been part of the UMSL flames for the past four years.



ABOVE: Amanda Lucido, freshman, music education, leads the UMSL Flames dance squad during practice last Thursday on the balcony of the Mark Twain Building.

BELOW: Jessica Cross, junior, business marketing; Alex Christopher, sophomore, political science; Stephanie Schuette, senior, business administration practice a new dance they will be performing during half time at the Rivermen and Riverwomen soccer games this upcoming season.

Dance squad works hard to get prepped for fall games

One common interest unites girls from many different backgrounds and majors - the love of dance. Actively promoting athletics and campus pride, the Flames dance squad has been a campus organization since 2003 and has attended summer camps since last year, their first year under the guidance of a coach.

"We started out performing in jeans and t-shirts. Each year has gotten a little bit better. Now we have a lot of technique and our dancing has evolved to more of a college level," said Captain Stephanie Schuette, senior, business administration, who has been on the team for all four years.

Volunteer Coach Crystal Schmidt said they have gone from hip-hop club dancing to a mix of jazz, hip-hop and poms set to pop, r&b and various music mixes.

In order to prepare for the 2006-2007 school year, the Flames attended a four day camp hosted by the National Dance Alliance at the University of Kentucky at Louisville from Aug. 3 to Aug. 6 to learn the material for several of the

The Current

Visit www.thecurrentonline.com for a photo gallery with more images of The Flames.

dances they perform all year at home sporting events.

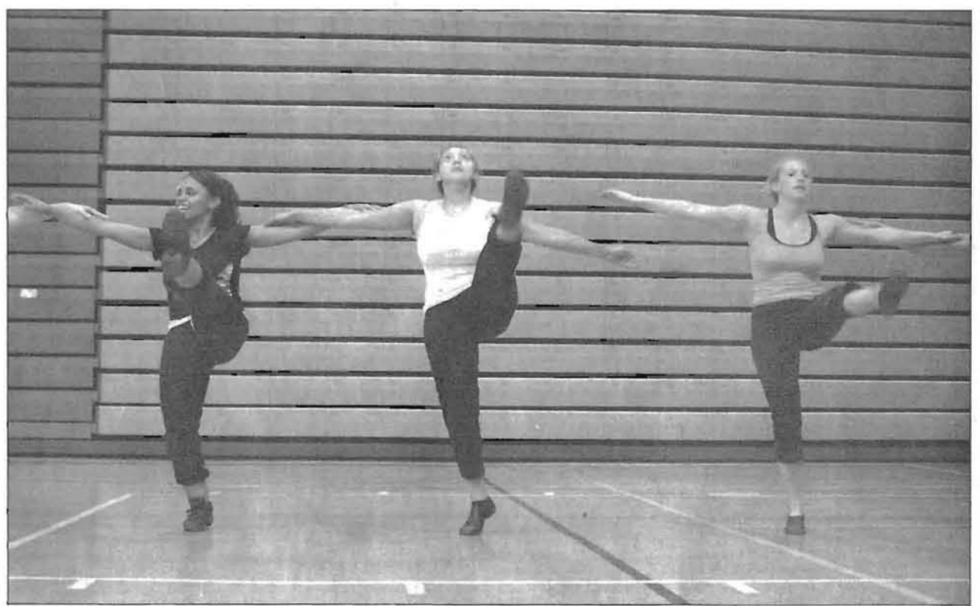
Out of nine college dance teams, the Flames proved to be the smallest, but definitely not the least spirited, bringing back both a spirit stick and a blue ribbon "superior" rating after professional evaluations. The following is a day in the life of a Flame during their first day at dance camp.

7:00 a.m.

Eight girls. One destination. The Flames departed St. Louis in two cars headed towards the University of Kentucky at Louisville.

1:00 p.m.

They arrived right on time for check-in, instead of two hours earlier as intended



because of an unknown time zone change. After dropping their things off in the dorms, they attended a welcome, during which staff performed the routines they would be learning.

2:30 p.m.

Warm up and stretches.

3:00 p.m.

Workshop for technique classes, during which the team separated into groups and each girl was taught three dances over the course of three days.

4:00 p.m.

Learned the team's dance routine. 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Break for dinner.

See **FLAMES**, page 7

RIGHT:

Mary Ann Coker, senior, criminology and sociology, received a Distinguished Service Award from UM-St. Louis in June. The award is in recognition of Coker's work with students.

Coker is the student coordinator for the University's Tsunami Reconstruction Project, president of the Students with Disabilities Association and a tutor for Student Support Services. Last Spring, she served as chair of the Undergraduate Research Symposium held by Golden Key.



Non-traditional student recognized for leadership in campus groups

BY SEAN MICHAEL
Staff Writer

A UM-St. Louis student dedicates her time to college life in a traditional sense, despite the age gap she experiences between herself and the other students.

Forty one-year-old Mary Ann Coker, senior, criminology and sociology, manages to live life to the fullest despite her difference in age from her fellow students.

Coker has been involved in several organizations like Tau Sigma, Golden Key, and she was co-vice president of Student Government. She has also been president of Students with Disabilities Association. "I enjoy helping people and it's a challenge to get the university to

recognize and adapt, but it's getting better," she explained.

Coker began attending the University in 2003. She said that she was tired of having a job and wanted a career. "I have sold Real Estate and I still have my broker's license. I was a computer analyst and a legal secretary," she said.

She added that when students get out of high school, they go to college and join organizations, develop social networks and they are of service to their college.

"Out of high school I went to college, but I got engaged and broke into motel restaurant management. This allowed me to travel all over the country," she said.

According to Coker, returning to college can be a struggle since older students may have more responsibilities at

home, especially if they have children. She said that there are so many benefits in networking, that any time students can spend on it is valuable, especially if they are reinventing themselves.

She has received recognition from her peers through some of the awards she has received. In May, she received a distinguished service award for her work with students. "When some one else received the award a year ago, I had goose bumps. I felt it was such an amazing honor to be recognized like that," she explained.

Coker explained that she was nominated for the award because of the work that she did for the Undergraduate Research Symposium, which was sponsored by Golden Key.

See **COKER**, page 7

FEATURES

TOP 10

Excuses for skipping class

1. It's only the second week of school, the teacher doesn't know my name yet.
2. Two words - Judge Judy.
3. Taking attendance is so high school. I'm paying for the class I don't have to go if I don't want to.
4. I don't have any clean underwear and I went commando yesterday.
5. The syllabus says I have two unexcused absences. I'll use one now and one the day after my birthday.
6. I'm hungry.
7. What we're talking about today won't be on the test anyway.
8. Sir Coughs-A-Lot sits next to me and I'll get sick.
9. Einstein only went to school through the 8th grade and he turned out okay.
10. Maximo told me to stay away from people this week.

Do you have an idea for the next top ten? Send your top ten idea idea to us: thecurrent@umsl.edu

BEST BETS

Seeing Stars

The Observatory on South Campus will hold a public viewing Sunday, Sept. 3 at 8 p.m. Guests can view Jupiter, Ring Nebula, Andromeda Galaxy and the Hercules Cluster.

FLAMES, from page 6

7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Learned the rest of the team's routine.

9:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Practiced until the gym closed.

10:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. Went back to the dorms and practiced some more.

11:00 p.m. - ? Talked and bonded, which included a late night trip to Taco Bell.

Next morning at 6:00 a.m. Woke up, got dressed and ate breakfast. Then they danced 'til they dropped and did it all over again.

Of course, with any set of girls comes a set of hygienic and cosmetic needs. Unfortunately for the team of eight females, they had to deal with limited shower space and even a minor pest problem.

"There were only three showers. We had to all fight for the showers with all the other teams that were there. We were upstairs with the cheerleading squad and got put on the floor with all the guys and had to share all the bathrooms," said Jessica Cross, junior, business marketing.

"In the dorms, there was a huge cockroach probably the size of your pointer finger! Later that night, we heard the cheerleaders on our floor screaming because they saw the same one and were trying to kill it with hairspray," said Amanda Lucido, freshman, music education.

Throughout their bout with bathroom and bug atrocities and high camp costs, at \$242 per girl out of their own pockets, the girls all thought that it all paid off in the end.

"The third night and fourth morning were evaluations. We competed in the second division with four other colleges. We would have received a red ribbon judging by the mock evaluation, but when we actually performed, we got a blue ribbon. We improved overnight," said Tina Ly, sophomore, business administration.

What it costs to be a Flame

- Three-day intensive dance camp: \$242
- Transportation to Louisville, Ky: \$26
- Practice clothes: \$62
- Soft-soled dance shoes: \$49
- Performance makeup: \$18
- Bottles of Gatorade and H2O: \$5
- Winning a blue ribbon at trials: Priceless

Upcoming performances

The Flames will perform at the following soccer home games at the Don Dallas Soccer Stadium on campus:

Sept. 1: during 5 p.m. game

Sept. 22: during 5 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. games

Oct. 6: during 5 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. games

Oct. 17: during 7:00 p.m. game

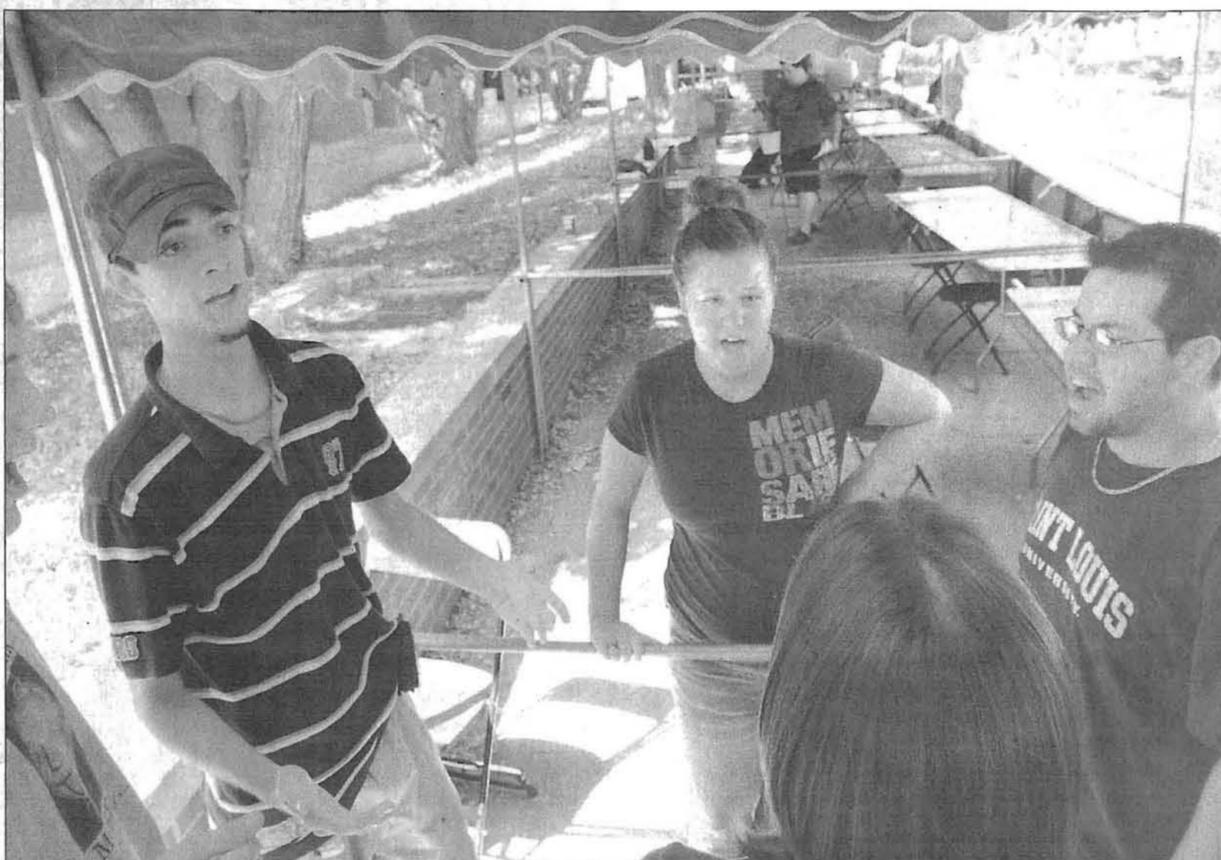
Oct. 18: during 7:00 p.m. game

Open tryouts

The Flames are holding tryouts on Tuesday Sept. 5 at 5 p.m. and Wednesday Sept. 6 at 5:30 p.m. in the Mark Twain Building. Those interested must bring a photo and wear appropriate dance attire and shoes.

E-mail captain Stephanie Schuette at srswd6@umsl.edu for more information.

IN HARMONY AT EXPO



Mike Sherwin • Managing Editor

Cameron Strider, sophomore, music, Gina Greaves, sophomore, music education, and Anthony Eck, junior, psychology, harmonize on a rendition of Harold Arlen's "Somewhere Over the Rainbow," during Expo on Wednesday afternoon in the quad. The trio are members of the University Singers organization. Representatives of student groups and University departments set up displays to acquaint students with campus resources.

COKER, from page 6

"I decided it was very important work and an opportunity for students to be involved with a larger cause," she added.

In addition to larger achievements like this, Coker oversaw activities like a blood drive, an ice-cream social and others. "Overseeing different activities gets me involved in day-to-day operations of the university, especially Student Senate, where I am vice chair," she said.

According to 59-year-old Ann Chisholm, senior, social work, Coker has a dedication and work ethic that is

extremely high. "I think she's a great person. She works so hard to lead other people," Chisholm said.

Coker and Chisholm were both in student government and Tau Sigma. She said that getting the organization started was an exciting experience and it gave transfer students the opportunity to succeed and participate in various activities.

While thinking about the age gap between her and Coker as well as the other students, she explained that she does not consider anybody at Coker's age an older student. "She may be a

non-traditional student, but she is very energetic and enthusiastic about anything she does," Chisholm said.

She said the experience is rich because of the diversity among the students. "There are times when I feel that Mary Ann and I are treated differently and it gives me more appreciation of other people's challenges," she added.

Student Senate Chair Joe Garavaglia remarked that Coker is a great person to work with. "She's extremely dedicated at everything she works on," he said.

When thinking about the age gap,

he explained that her age is a non-issue. "I'm 24, and Mary Ann's age doesn't affect me at all," he said.

Garavaglia said that he would be happy to work with Coker as much as he can. "She was an active member on the Student Senate, and I'm happy she received all the awards that she did," he explained.

Coker's expected graduation date is May 2007, and she plans to enroll in the Ph.D. program after graduation. She plans to do research and teach after she receives her Ph.D. at UM-St. Louis.

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What is SLA?

SLA is a part of the ASUM family. Together with our other chapters on the Columbia, Rolla and Kansas City Campuses, we work to represent the 60,000 students in the University System and act as a voice from the Campus to the Capitol.

Some of the things we do are Voter Registration Drives, Poll Working in the upcoming elections and Lunches that bring State Legislators to you. We even train and register students as lobbyists to fight for our rights at the State Capitol.

We're a nonpartisan group, unless you think of the Students as a party. Because that's who we are, that's who we represent and that's who we fight for.

If this is something you'd like to help out with, let us know.

For more information
Feel free to stop by
at 381 MSC or call
at (314) 516-5835

SLA
Student Legislative Association
Associated Students of the University of Missouri

Look for our Voter Registration tables this week in the Nosh and on the Bridge

Research Studies for Adults with Amblyopia

You are invited to participate in research studies conducted at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, College of Optometry and Washington University School of Medicine.

In studies at UMSL (450 Marillac Hall) you will be asked to look at patterns on a computer screen and make perceptual judgments. Study sessions last 1-2 hours and 10-20 hours are needed to complete the study. You will be paid \$12.00 per hour of participation.

In studies at WU (Neuro-Imaging Center) you will be asked to look at patterns on a computer screen during a functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) brain scan. Study sessions last 2 hours and 6-8 hours are needed to complete the study. You will be paid \$25.00 per hour of participation.

If you are age 18-60, have amblyopia ("lazy eye") and are interested in participating in either research study please contact:

Dr. Erwin Wong (Principal Investigator) at 314-516-6516 or wong@umsl.edu



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MOVIE REVIEW

'Snakes on a Plane' is surprisingly entertaining, funny

BY CATE MARQUIS

A&E Editor

There are snakes. They are on a plane.

That is about all you need to know about the plot of "Snakes on a Plane." But here is the surprise. It is by no means a must-see movie and it is not likely to win an Oscar but comic action-thriller "Snakes on a Plane" is surprisingly funny and, well, entertaining.

This was certainly more than I expected. As you surely know by now, "Snakes on a Plane," or at least its title, have been the source of much fun on the Internet, spawning Web sites, jokes and endless variations, with snakes on a train, snakes on a blog, and of course, planes on a snake. The movie's production company didn't get it at first, even originally planned to change the title, but they wised up and embraced the Internet fun and games.

Embracing its essential absurdity and going with the horror-film style humor was the best thing they could have done with what was always destined to be a cheesy fest of a movie experience. It also has its horror film, gross-out aspect. And anyone who has issues with snakes would be wise to stay away.

Here is the story, such as it is. Samuel L. Jackson plays FBI agent Neville Flynn who is transporting a witness (Nathan Phillips) to a brutal mobster killing. Somehow they need to get young surfer guy, Sean, from Hawaii to Los Angeles undetected, to testify against a ruthless, vicious Asian gangster. In an effort to elude the gangster's assassins, Jackson commandeers a commercial flight just before take off, shifting the first class passengers into coach and isolating the witness in the now empty, first class upper level of the plane.

Of course, this lets first-class types, like rich girl Mercedes (Rachel Blanchard) and self-absorbed hip-hop star Three Gs (Flex Alexander) and his guards — including video game playing

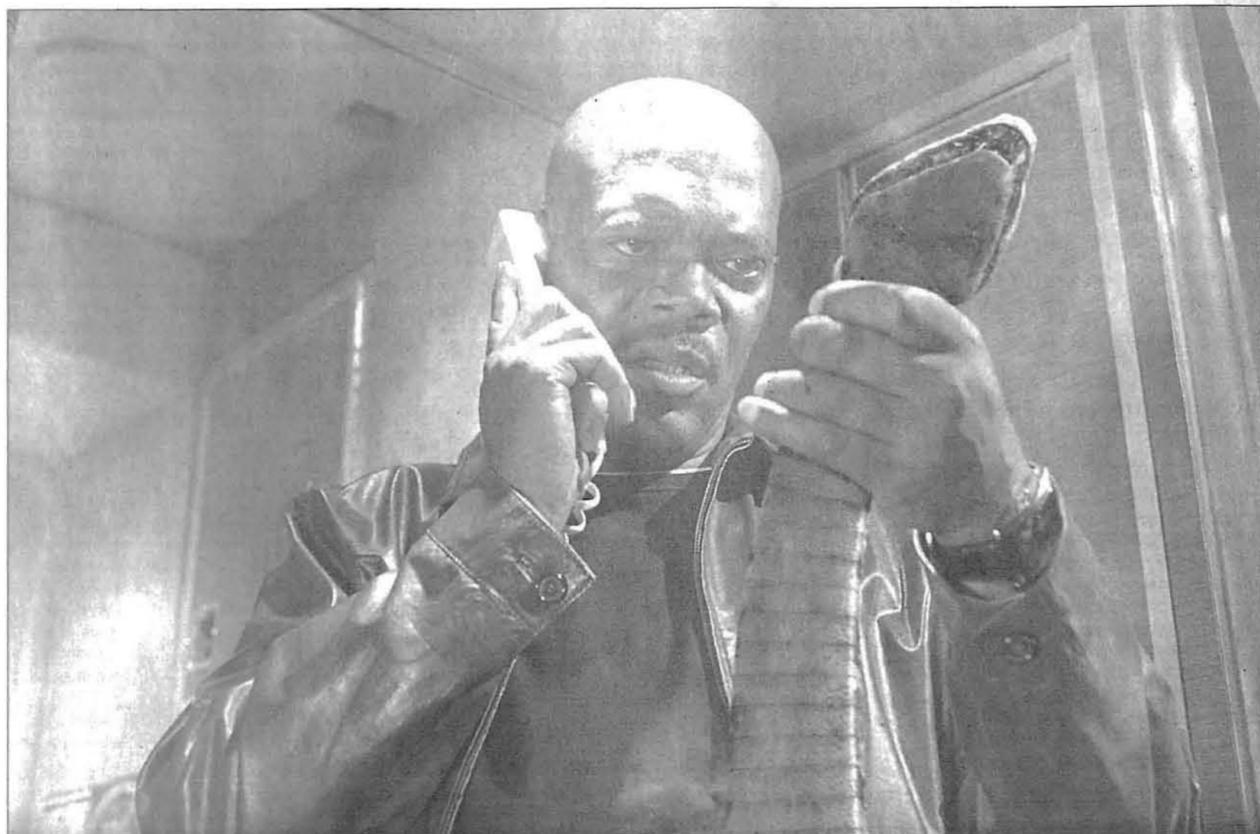
Snakes on a Plane

★★★★☆

Director: David R. Ellis

Stars: Samuel L. Jackson, Kena Thompson and Juliana Margulies

Synopsis: Jackson plays an FBI agent escorting a witness to a crime when a crimelord releases deadly snakes on the plane to eliminate the eye witness.



Samuel L. Jackson stars as FBI agent Neville Flynn in "Snakes on a Plane," a movie with a title that has spawned Web sites, jokes and endless variations including snakes on a train, snakes on a blog, and of course, planes on a snake.

Troy (Kenan Thompson) — rub shoulders with the more ordinary passengers. Flight attendant Claire Miller (Juliana Margulies), on her last flight before moving on to other work, gets to cope with it all.

Despite precautions, the cunning gangster is not to be foiled and loads the plane with an assortment of venomous snakes, which are unleashed once the plane is airborne. A dose of pheromone ensures the snakes are all really angry too.

The plot contains little suspense or thrills, so it falls to the special effects and comic lines. The audience howled with laughter through what turned out to be a surprisingly entertaining movie, a comic-horror cross between parodies like "Airplane" and winking horror flicks like "Dawn of the Dead."

This movie is not for the snake-phobic or squeamish viewers or children, as it has its gruesome side as well. It reworks a number of urban legends and old horror jokes into a snake themed

version. The couple who are set on joining the 'mile-high club' meet a very nasty fate, with a gallows-humor twist.

Jackson appears to be having a blast

“

The couple who are set on joining the 'mile-high' club meet a very nasty fate, with a gallows-humor twist.

”

in this movie, which incorporated suggestions and even lines from the many fan sites. The actors toss off lines that might have been inadvertently funny in the original script but are now delivered with a wink at the audience, who helped build the joke.

The director of this snaky treat began his career as a stunt coordinator,

so using real snakes, not computer generated ones, was likely a priority. In a movie that is all about the snakes, anything else would have been a mistake anyway.

However, the producers of "Snakes on a Plane" did make one big mistake. They decided that with all the Internet buzz, they didn't need no stinkin' film critics to review it in order to ensure big box office. Usually, when movie studios decide to forego screening a movie for the press, it means a real stinker. But the studio figured Internet fans would pour into theaters without any help from reviewers.

I went to see the movie on its opening night at 7 p.m. at the Esquire. The Esquire is a theater that draws audiences that are friendly to the kind of popcorn-munching entertainment "Snakes on a Plane" promised, so it should have been the perfect venue.

Shockingly, the big main theater was only one-fourth full, not the expected packed house.

Although the movie topped the box office for its opening weekend, ticket sales are well below expectations. Despite all the Internet attention, we all knew the movie would still be a major cheese-fest. What else could it be? While everyone had a lot of fun with the title, apparently far fewer actually wanted to see the movie.

The lack of press screenings meant few reviews but the reviews have been generally positive, so the studio made a major misstep in relying on Internet buzz alone. Of course, the Internet fun goes on, even after the movie release, because it was really more about that name, not the movie, anyway.

"Snakes on a Plane" delivers a surprisingly funny film with all the cheesy horror flick stuffing you could want. It is not a must-see movie by any means but the curious need not fear, if they just want to see how it turned out.

Oh, and be sure to stay for the theme song and its video as the credits roll. It is worth it.

CALLING ALL THESPIANS

Auditions for 'The Imaginary Invalid' this week

Auditions for French dramatist Moliere's comedy 'The Imaginary Invalid' will be held Tuesday, Aug. 29 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the Lee Theater of the Touhill Performing Arts Center and Wednesday, Aug. 30 from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the Whitaker Rehearsal Hall in the Touhill PAC. Come prepared with a one-minute classical comedy monologue and to do cold readings.

COMING ATTRACTIONS



Wayne Brady to perform at the Touhill PAC

Comedian Wayne Brady will kick off the 2006-2007 season at the Touhill Performing Arts Center at 8 p.m. Sept. 16. Tickets are \$65, \$55 and \$45. Students receive a 25 percent discount on two tickets with UMSL ID. Call 4949 to purchase tickets.

TOP ITUNES DOWNLOADS



1. Sexy Back - Justin Timberlake featuring Timbaland
2. London Bridge - Fergie
3. Call Me When You're Sober - Evanescence
4. Show Stopper - Danity Kane
5. Crazy - Gnarls Barkley
6. Far Away - Nickelback
7. Chasing Cars - Snow Patrol
8. (When You Gonna) Give It Up To Me - Sean Paul featuring Keyshia Cole
9. Buttons - The Pussycat Dolls featuring Big Snoop Dogg
10. Get Up - Ciara featuring Chamillionaire

MOVIE REVIEW

'Little Miss Sunshine' shines as best comedy of year

BY CATE MARQUIS

A&E Editor

Feel like having a good laugh? "Little Miss Sunshine" is just the ticket.

"Little Miss Sunshine" is the best comedy of the year and maybe even the best film of the year so far. It is laugh-out-loud hilarious, kind of dark and off-beat enough to seem more like an art house film than mainstream comedy, although it has kids. It is intelligent and clever but not afraid

to go for any silly laugh, yet it has a heart and drama, too. It is a must-see film and likely Oscar bait.

"Little Miss Sunshine" is not the nickname of 7-year-old Olive Hoover (Abigail Breslin) but the name of one of those little beauty queen pageants, a contest that Olive hopes to enter. A cute, sunny little girl in glasses and pigtails, who looks more like the science fair winner than one of the heavily made-up, mini-showgirls of the kiddie pageants, Olive nonetheless earns a spot in the Little Miss Sunshine contest, when the first-place girl is disqualified — "something about diet pills," as her mother says.

This unexpected good news launches the whole dysfunctional Hoover family on a road trip from New Mexico to California but this sly, clever comic

Little Miss Sunshine

★★★★★

Director: Jonathan Dayton

Stars: Toni Collette and Steve Carell

Synopsis: The Hoover family's trip to a pre-pubescent beauty pageant results in a moving look at being losers in a culture crazed with winning.



Abigail Breslin(left), Steve Carell and Toni Collette star in 'Little Miss Sunshine.'

gem is far from the usual Hollywood road picture.

The family is a true cast of characters but the roles are all fully developed as people in the film. Dad Richard (Greg Kinnear) is one of those secret-of-success, motivational speakers but he is spectacularly unsuccessful, drawing a scant handful of his lectures.

Porn-obsessed, foul-mouthed, druggie Grandpa (Alan Arkin) has been kicked out of his retirement home, while Olive's brother Dwayne (Paul Dano), a Goth-attired teen who adores Nietzsche, has taken a vow of silence until he is old enough to, of all things,

join the Air Force.

The whole family is being held together by kind-hearted, energetic mom Sheryl (Toni Collette), who has also taken in her suicidal, gay brother Frank (Steve Carell), an academic who describes himself as the world's foremost Proust scholar. Frank is nursing a broken heart over a lover, lost to the world's second best Proust scholar.

Ironically, every one of these guys clearly thinks he is normal but everyone else is nutty. All this works because everything is underplayed and ironic, and absurdities are treated as almost everyday difficulties.

"Little Miss Sunshine" is so off-beat and fearless that you would expect to see this little comic gem only in art house film theaters. Yet there it is, out there making everyone howl with laughter.

Really good comedies have been pretty rare in recent years. Sure, there has been no shortage of silly, dumb — even really dumb — comedies of the type Will Farrell excels in.

Last year, Steve Carell had his own silly humor comedy hit with "40 Year Old Virgin." That's fine for some fans of comedy, but those who prefer a different style of humor have been in a dry

spell of movie comedy for some time now.

No more. "Little Miss Sunshine" is a quirky, funny, fresh and unexpected comedy about a strange family who end up on the road with the unlikely goal of winning a kiddie beauty contest.

The humor is much drier, played with a straight face, not matter how absurd. The result is comic delight that breaks the too-long humor drought at last.

Besides the film's tongue-in-cheek restraint and clever script, the cast is just fabulous in this film, squeezing every drop of deadpan comedy out of each scene. Every role is perfectly cast and the ensemble really clicks.

I had not been a big fan of Steve Carell, but his pitch-perfect, low-key performance as the gay Proust scholar, haughty, humiliated and absurd at the same time, changed my mind. The gifted Kinnear delivers another memorable performance, as the self-absorbed, positive-thinking father who does not quite get why his formula for success is not more successful.

Arkin wonderfully portrays crusty ex-hippy Grandpa, who is, ironically, both a loving grandparent to Olive and an outlaw pain-in-the-rear to everyone else.

Collette, a rising star to watch after her stellar turns as the nerdier sister "In Her Shoes" and scary radio show fan in "Night Listener," creates yet another spot-on character as the upbeat person who keeps this whole family rolling. Dano and Breslin, as the two kids, are totally believable and wonderfully natural in their very different roles.

Contrary to expectations, the film's family also has a surprising sense of warmth. In spite of all their differences, the family has a kind of togetherness and affection that rings true.

Here is how I would sum up my reaction to this delightful comedy: I cannot wait to see it again.

Chaplin film fest, more offer something special for movie buffs



By CATE MARQUIS

A&E Editor

If you are a real film buff, you are in luck. Three film series offer a special cinema treat to St. Louis-area film buffs this fall.

These special film series have different appeals. One focuses on Charlie Chaplin's classic silent comedy greats, a must-see series for any serious film buff. Another fest is "Viva Pedro," a retrospective of a contemporary great of indie and art house films, Spanish director Pedro Almodovar. Almodovar's films include "Talk to Her" and "All About My Mother." The last film series in the bunch is "Reel Late," the Tivoli Theatre's annual series of cult and offbeat films.

"Reel Late" plays midnights on Fridays and Saturdays at the Tivoli through the fall. The series started in summer but remaining films include Dr. Strangelove (Oct. 13-15), Repo Man (Oct. 20-22) and the finale over two weekends, Rocky Horror Picture Show (Oct. 27-28 and Nov. 3-4).

Details on the Tivoli's "Reel Late" and "Viva Pedro" series can be found on the Landmark Theatre website at www.landmarktheatres.com under the St. Louis section. More on the eight-

film September "Viva Pedro" Almodovar festival will appear here next week. Right now, let's look at the other festival first.

There is a reason they call some films classics. It is not just because they are old but because they are so good.

The film festival you want to put on the top of your cinema calendar is the Webster Film Series' Charlie Chaplin Film Fest, which runs weekends from Friday, Aug. 25 to Sunday, Oct. 15. Many film fans are familiar with the legendary comic genius of Chaplin but have seen few, if any, of his films, especially on a big screen. This festival is surprisingly complete, a rare chance to see some of the best and most famous films and other less famous features by the movies' first international superstar.

Chaplin's career reached from the early silent comedies into the sound era beyond WWII. He not only starred in his films but wrote, directed and edited his films and even composed the musical score for his later films. Part of his genius was his ability to connect through the screen with his audience like no one else. His use of dramatic acting and pathos to sharpen his comedy is credited, by critics in the silent era and film historians now, with helping transform the new medium of film from a low-class entertainment to an art form. Come discover for yourself why Chaplin's iconic Little Tramp character was so funny and irresistible.

Films in the festival are shown every weekend on Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 8 p.m., with a Saturday matinee showing at 1 p.m. Each program includes a feature film

with a short. All films are shown in gorgeous 35 mm film prints, for best visual effect. As an added treat, there will be some live musical accompaniment - the best way to see a silent film - and many screenings have commentary by a Chaplin expert. Tickets are \$5 for non-Webster students and \$6 for adults.

The first program in the festival, which ran on Aug. 25-27, was "The Kid," Chaplin's biggest hit. It recreated some of the hardships of his London childhood and also made child actor Jackie Coogan a star. It was shown with short "Shoulder Arms," a WWI comedy that was the first to explore the humor in an ordinary soldier's life, a film that was one of Chaplin's many contributions to the war effort.

The next feature up, on Sept 1-3, is "The Gold Rush," one of Chaplin's most famous films and the one he said he wanted to be remembered by. This film includes the "dance of the dinner rolls" routine, one of the most famous comedy bits of all time. It is shown with "Easy Street," a short comedy that uses some of Chaplin's memories of London street life.

On Sept 8-10, "The Circus," which shows a famous routine of Chaplin caught in a house of mirrors, will be shown with "The Pawnshop," which is packed with hilarious visual tricks. Then it is on to "City Lights," one of Chaplin's best and most famous films, with a remarkable close up sequence at the end, a silent film made at beginning of the sound era. It is shown Sept. 15-17 along with "The Cure," one of Chaplin's best short comedies.

Next is "Modern Times" on Sept. 22-24, the last appearance of his Little Tramp character, co-starring Chaplin's second wife Paulette Goddard. At the end, Chaplin sings (and quite well) a comic song with nonsense lyrics, his farewell to silent films. This is shown with "The Rink," a short in which Chaplin showed off his considerable skills on roller skates.

On Sept. 29-Oct. 1 the film is Chaplin's 1940 swipe at Adolph Hitler, "The Great Dictator." Chaplin hated Hitler, and further resented that the dictator had adopted Chaplin's signature little moustache. Chaplin turned his skewering parody into a comic classic. It is shown with perhaps Chaplin's most famous short film, "The Immigrant," in which he underscored the plight of poor immigrants while still keeping the comedy.

The festival finishes up with "Monsieur Verdoux," a dark comedy in which Chaplin plays a villainous romancer instead of his familiar Tramp, shown with "One A.M.," a short solo performance by the comedian.

On Oct. 13-15, it is Chaplin's farewell to American filmmaking, "Limelight," about a fading vaudeville star and which features the only screen pairing of Chaplin and the other great comedy director/star of the silent era, Buster Keaton. It will be shown with the short "Behind the Screen," a playful comedy about a film studio handy man.

More details on the films, special guests and the festival are available at the Webster Film Series Web site at www.webster.edu/filmseries.html under Special Series.

CD REVIEW

Gnarls Barkley delivers funky new sounds with old school style

By TOBY KNOLL

Proofreader

The new CD by Gnarls Barkley crosses many musical genres and uses samples and breaks of the past to create a recording that is unique and one of the better releases of modern hip-hop. It's a mix of old school funk, soul, gospel, blues and a dose of the new stuff.

The musical collaboration known as Gnarls Barkley delivers an excellent recording with this release titled

'St. Elsewhere.'

The recording is a collection of songs that are each uniquely great but come together to make this release an interesting CD full of funky beats and plenty of lyrical humor. There is hardly a bad song on the album.

The group is a collaborative effort between a producer known as Danger mouse and the vocalist Cee-Lo.

Danger mouse's first major release, The Grey Album, is an unlicensed Internet release of a combination (known as a mash) of The

Beatles 'White Album' mixed together with Jay-Z's 'Black Album'. This hugely popular release made a name for Danger mouse but sent him into hiding due to the unlicensed content taken from both recordings. He also produced rap tracks that have been used in sound-



Gnarls Barkley

"St. Elsewhere"

★★★★☆

tracks for popular animated series.

Cee-Lo's voice has great range and fits in well with practically any vocal style he chooses. Danger mouse's great production is a vital part of the success of this album, but it is Cee-Lo's incredible voice that puts this recording over the top.

What sets this recording apart from others is the timeless quality of the music. Though composed in a current trendy style, using rapper-mixed samples and break-beats, Cee-Lo's soulful voice and Danger mouse's funky production gives the CD an old sound reminiscent of old

soul or gospel.

The high quality musicianship demonstrated for this project gives the compositions a transcendental quality that rises above typical time and genre classifications. The music and sounds of these songs have a new style hip-hop feel while retaining the funk and grit of the old soulful analog recordings of the past.

While most people have probably been exposed to the current chart-topping hit "Crazy" from the album, each song deserves a listen and will continue to make this release a phenomenal success.

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The Current is looking for students to fill practicum positions for fall and winter semesters.

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Mock Interview Day

Tuesday, September 19
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Mock Interview Day is an opportunity to sharpen your interviewing skills by interviewing with employers from such companies as MetLife, Edward Jones, Enterprise and more!

- ◆ Sign up by emailing career_services@umsl.edu or call 516-5111. An updated resume must be submitted to reserve a time slot (resumes can be emailed to the above email address or dropped off at 278 MSC).
- ◆ All interviews are one half-hour only and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Please call early to set up your interview!
- ◆ Critiques on interview skills and resumes will be given following the interview.

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Student Legislative Association
Associated Students of the University of Missouri

SPORTS

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



Jared Smith

In the first two games of the season Jared has already scored three goals for the men's soccer team.

His first two goals came against Lyon College on Friday. He scored one goal in the first half and one in the second.

In the second game of the season against Harding on Sunday, Jared scored on a penalty kick.

UPCOMING GAMES

Women's Soccer

Sept. 1
vs. Quincy
7:30 p.m.

Sept. 3
vs. Saginaw Valley State
11 a.m.

Men's Soccer

Sept. 1
vs. Quincy
5 p.m.

Sept. 3
vs. SIU Edwardsville
11 a.m.

Volleyball

Sept. 1
vs. Southwest Baptist
3 p.m.

Sept. 2
vs. Missouri Southern
9 a.m.

Sept. 2
vs. Northwood
1 p.m.

For more information go to www.umsl-sports.com



Matt Johnson • Photo Editor

Francis Lam, senior, mathematics, serves the ball to his opponent Friday afternoon during practice at the Mark Twain Building.

You've just been served.

UMSL's tennis teams prepare for the start of the season

BY LAGUAN FUSE

Sports Editor

The 2006-2007 school year will mark the first time that both men's and women's tennis will play during the same season.

Prior to this season, the men's conference season was played during the spring, while the women's conference season was played during the fall.

Head Coach Rick Gyllenborg has been in the charge of the men's tennis team since 1995. Gyllenborg coached the women's tennis team from 2000 to 2003 and then he returned as head coach for the team in 2005.

This year, Gyllenborg will coach both tennis teams during the fall season without an assistant coach.

"The difficult part of running a team by yourself is not so much the practices and the matches, it's the travel," Gyllenborg said.

"It's very difficult to travel with one coach because we normally go in vans," he said, "As much as they'll [an assistant] help on the court, they're almost more valuable off the court in helping with transportation and traveling."

The roster for the men's tennis team has changed a lot since last season.

Five of the eight players on this season's roster are new. Three of the five players are international students.

"We are basically a new team," Gyllenborg said. "The men's tennis team will take on a completely new look."

The three returning players from last year's roster are senior Francis Lam (Kettering, England), sophomore Peter Hantack (St. Peters, Mo.) and junior Ryan Burgdorfer (Downers Grove, Ill.).

The new faces to the men's tennis team are freshman Andre Chemas

(Cali, Columbia), freshman Andreas Dimke (Navenburg, Germany), junior Boris Simic (Bristine, Australia), freshman David Conley (Westminster Christian Academy) and freshman John Harte (St. Charles Community College).

Of the five new players, only Conley and Harte are from the St. Louis area. Harte transfers from St. Charles Community College but is still a freshman in terms of NCAA eligibility.

Simic is also a transfer student; he transferred from Lander University in South Carolina.

The women's tennis team will have the addition of three new players into the program. Freshman Sara Helbig (Rockwood Summit), freshman Stacy Goodman (Troy Buchanan) and sophomore Kristina Dyer (Lafayette) will all join the Riverwomen for this upcoming year.

Gyllenborg said that the main goal for both tennis programs is to make the conference tournament this year and that the higher goal for the teams is to make the national tournament.

The last time the UM-St. Louis men's tennis team made the national tournament was in consecutive years, 2002 and 2003.

The Rivermen were eliminated in the first round each year. The women's team has yet to make the national tournament.

Another goal that Gyllenborg has for his players is to make the Intercollegiate Tennis Association All-Academic team.

The ITA gives awards each year to tennis programs that have a team GPA of 3.2 or higher, according to Gyllenborg. Last year, neither the men's nor the women's team qualified for the ITA All-Academic team.

Two coaches promoted in the Athletic Dept.

BY LAGUAN FUSE

Sports Editor

UM-St. Louis has announced the promotion of two staff members in the athletic department. Rick Gyllenborg has been promoted to the position of associate athletic director and Beth Goetz has been promoted to the position of assistant athletic director.



Beth Goetz

Rick Gyllenborg served as the assistant athletic director since 1997 before being promoted to associate athletic director during the summer. Gyllenborg will continue to manage any facilities issues, as well as coach both the men's and women's tennis teams.

Gyllenborg's new responsibilities as

associate athletic director will include oversight of men's soccer, volleyball, women's basketball and special events.

"When the transition happened, it seemed to be well received," Gyllenborg said. "If there were people in the department who were unhappy, or didn't want it to happen, no one has led us to believe that. In other words, the transition, at least on the surface, seems to have been well received."

Goetz is currently the women's soccer head coach and the senior women's administrator for UM-St. Louis.

Goetz's new responsibilities as assistant athletic director will include supervising several student services such as athletic training, sports information and academic services. She will also oversee the baseball and softball teams as well as the men's and women's golf teams.

Goetz will continue her role as senior women's administrator of the campus. According to Goetz, the title of senior women's administrator is held by the highest female administrator in the

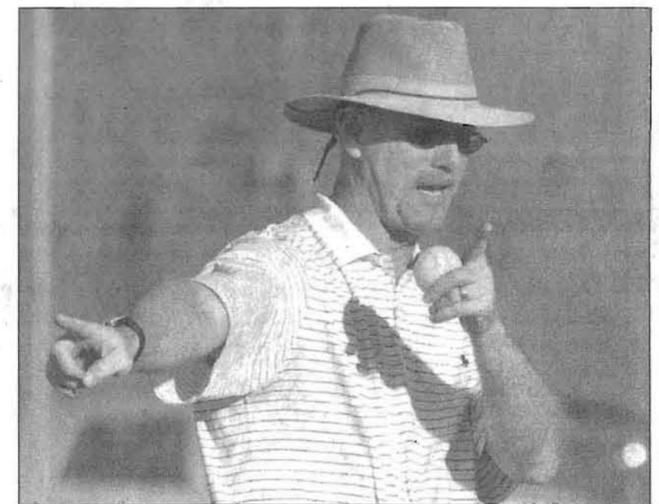
department. If the athletic director is female, then another administrator can be appointed. The goal of the senior women's administrator is to be an advocate for women's issues on the campus.

Goetz and Gyllenborg both will stop teaching at the end of this semester in order to balance their time with the new positions.

"To be honest, neither Beth nor I wanted to give up teaching," Gyllenborg said. "We understood why upper administration wanted us to. We both wear a lot of hats."

"The changes were made a little bit late in the summer, we wanted to make sure that the classes that needed to be covered were covered," said Goetz. "I had two classes before this and they could only cover one. I'll teach my one class and then I won't teach anymore after that."

The purpose behind the promotions was due in part to the 2005 Athletic Task Force recommendations on restructuring the Athletic department.



File Photo

Rick Gyllenborg became Associate Athletic Director this summer. Gyllenborg served as UM-St. Louis' assistant athletic director since 1997.

SHORT FUSE

Fans, not scores, determine outcome of a game

Short Fuse's top five rules for attending sports games at UMSL



BY LAGUAN FUSE

Sports Editor

What really makes the difference in determining whether a UM-St. Louis sporting event is good or bad?

The fans. It doesn't really matter who wins or who loses the game, the fans are all that really matter.

Think about it, if one of our soccer teams breaks the NCAA record for most goals in a game, but no UM-St. Louis fans are in the crowd, the record is just on paper. The fans could go on to tell other people about the game and the stats can only tell the score.

So with that said, here are Short Fuse's Top 5 rules for attending a UM-St. Louis sporting event.

Number 5: Make sure you represent your school by wearing UM-St. Louis colors.

If you aren't sure what the colors are, just walk into the bookstore, I'm sure you'll be able to find something to wear. Just make sure you don't wear

another team's shirt. I don't care if you used to go there, or if your sweetheart missed you so they sent a T-shirt. If you are a UM-St. Louis student and you are watching a UM-St. Louis game, wear UM-St. Louis colors.

Number 4: Don't leave until the game is over. I understand that due to time constraints some people may need to leave early or if they are worried about traffic.

The one thing that I can't take is for someone to leave when things don't look good for UM-St. Louis. If you

come to the game, stay through the whole game.

Number 3: Get loud! Don't just sit back and relax while watching the game, get up and make some noise, unless if it's golf, try to stay quiet.

Basically what I'm saying is don't let the other team's fans get louder than UM-St. Louis fans. Let everyone on the opposing team know that we are waiting for them to choke, not literally, and we can't wait to show them our team is better.

Number 2: Forget about the difference between a Division I and a

Division II athletic program. I'll tell you the difference, it's money. They have more, we have less. Get over it. I'm tired of hearing people say that they don't want to go to a game because we are a D-II school.

I have a question for all of the people who only want to watch D-I sports. Are you going to a D-I school?

Well if you just picked up this paper, probably not. Our athletes work just as hard as athletes at D-I universities and they deserve the proper respect.

Number 1: Attend at least one game! I know that people get busy but I am sure that everyone can make at least one game. If you're a student, a member of the staff of faculty or if you just stopped by the campus looking for directions to the highway, make time.

At the end of the season, a national championship just won't seem the same without the fans to go with it.

“
If one of our soccer teams breaks the NCAA record for most goals in a game, but no UM-St. Louis fans are in the crowd, the record is just on paper.
”

STATS CORNER

MEN'S SOCCER				WOMEN'S SOCCER				WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL			
GLVC standings:				GLVC standings:				GLVC standings:			
Team	W	L	T	Team	W	L	T	Team	W	L	T
Lewis	2	0	0	Northern Kentucky	2	0	0	Indianapolis	4	0	0
Bellarmino	2	0	0	SIUE	2	0	0	Rockhurst	4	0	0
UM-St. Louis	2	0	0	Indianapolis	2	0	0	SIUE	4	0	0
Indianapolis	2	0	0	Quincy	2	0	0	Southern Indiana	3	1	1
Northern Kentucky	2	0	0	Drury	1	0	1	Drury	3	1	1
UW-Parkside	1	0	0	Bellarmino	1	1	0	Lewis	2	2	2
Drury	1	0	1	UM-St. Louis	1	1	0	UW-Parkside	1	1	1
Rockhurst	0	0	1	UW-Parkside	1	1	0	Quincy	1	3	3
Saint Joseph's	0	1	1	Kentucky Wesleyan	0	0	0	UM-St. Louis	1	3	3
SIUE	0	1	1	Rockhurst	0	1	0	Northern Kentucky	1	4	4
Quincy	0	0	0	UM-Rolla	0	1	0	Bellarmino	0	0	0
Southern Indiana	0	0	0	Saint Joseph's	0	2	0	Kentucky Wesleyan	0	0	0
Kentucky Wesleyan	0	0	0	Southern Indiana	0	2	0	Saint Joseph's	0	4	4
UM-Rolla	0	2	0	Lewis	0	2	0				

BOX SCORES			
August 25	1	2	F
UM-St. Louis (W)	1	2	3
Lyon College	2	0	2
Goals - Jared Smith(2)			
Ryan South(1)			
Saves - Zach Hoette(6)			
August 26	1	2	F
UM-St. Louis (W)	0	2	2
Northeastern St.	1	0	1
Goals - Rachel Lee(1)			
Tara Reitz(1)			
Saves - Courtney Carmody(1)			
August 27	1	2	F
UM-St. Louis (W)	0	2	2
Harding College	0	0	0
Goals - Jared Smith(1)			
Paul Hummel(1)			
Saves - Zach Hoette(5)			

SPORTS BRIEFS

Rivermen soccer team start off season 2-0

The Rivermen soccer team are undefeated after winning both games on the road versus Lyon College Friday and Harding College Sunday afternoon.

After falling behind 2-0, the Rivermen came back to beat Lyon College 3-2.

Jared Smith led the way scoring two goals and Ryan South scoring the game-winning goal. Goalkeeper Zach Hoette had six saves versus Lyon.

On Sunday against Harding, Smith and Paul Hummel each scored one goal to shutout Harding.

The Rivermen will face Quincy in their home opener Friday a 5 p.m.

Women's soccer team splits first road games

The women's soccer team went 1-1 in their first two games of the season.

In the game against Northeastern State on Saturday, the Riverwomen fell behind 1-0 by halftime.

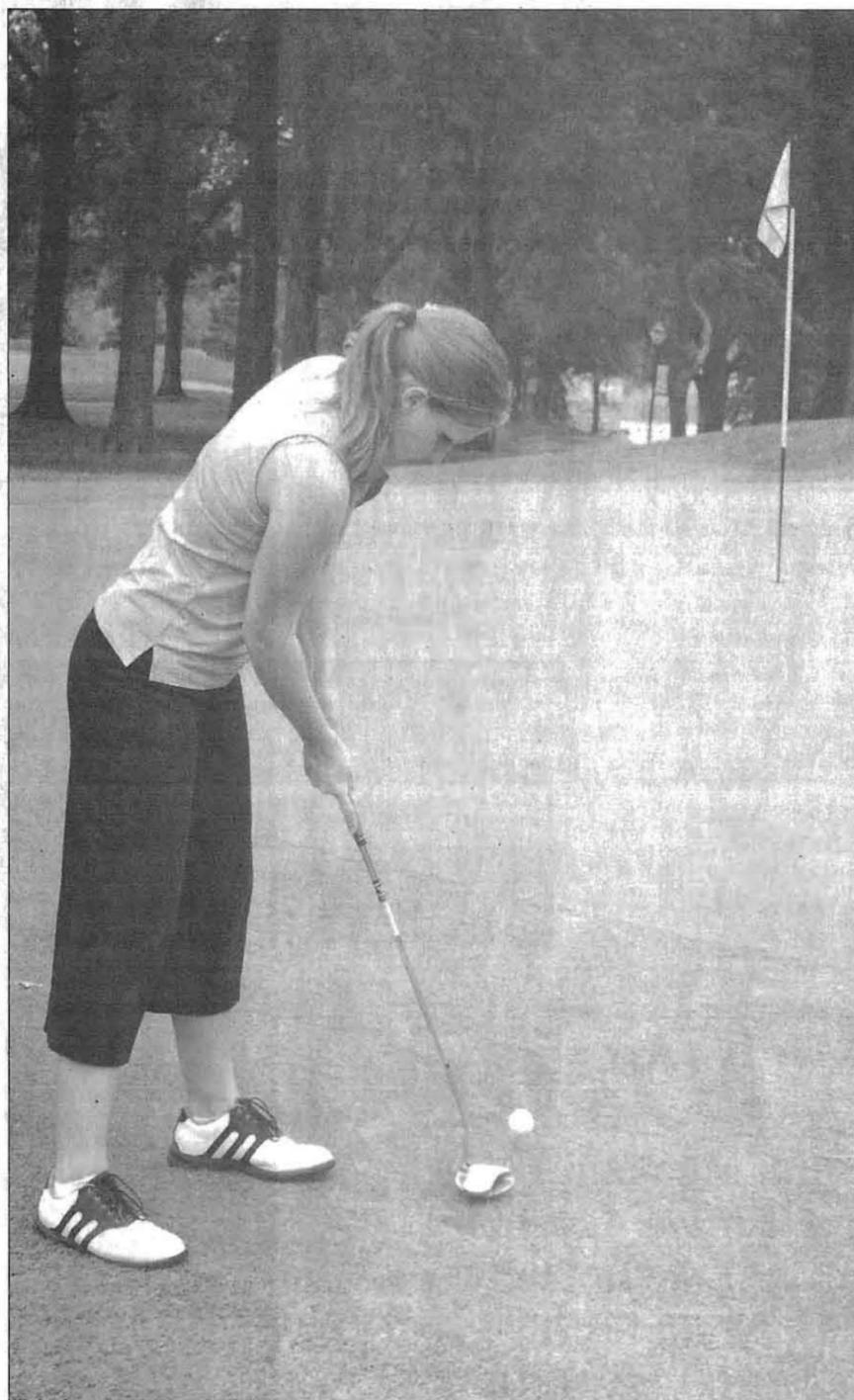
Courtney Carmado, goalkeeper, gave up the goal with five minutes left in the first half.

However, in the second half, Rachel Lee scored her first career goal and Tara Reitz scored the game winning goal.

On Sunday, the Riverwomen fell to Missouri Southern by a score of 1-0.

The women's soccer team will play Quincy in their first home game Friday on campus at 7:30 p.m.

Read about the latest sports every Monday.



PUTTING HER BEST FOOT FORWARD

Shannon Vallowe, junior, psychology, practices for the women's upcoming tournament at the Ferris State Bulldog Invitational in Big Rapids, Mich. Sept. 2 and 3.

Matt Johnson • Photo Editor

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11:30 SEPTEMBER 21st CENTURY ROOM C
President Pro Tem
State Senator Mike Gibbons

Majority Floor Leader
State Representative Tom Dempsey
11:30 SEPTEMBER 26th CENTURY ROOM B

Minority Floor Leader
State Senator Maida Coleman
OCTOBER TBA CENTURY ROOM B
UMSL alum
State Representative Clint Zweifel
11:30 NOVEMBER 16th CENTURY ROOM C

For more information
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Associated Students of the University of Missouri

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CERTIFIED LIFEGUARDS needed for UMSL Indoor Pool: Mon-Thurs 6:30-9:00PM; Sat & Sun 12:00-5:00PM. \$6.50/hour. Apply in the Campus Rec Office, 203 Mark Twain, 516-5326

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CAMPUS REC OFFICIALS needed this fall for intramural flag football, soccer, ultimate frisbee & volleyball. Afternoon and evening games. \$10/game. Knowledge & interest in the sport is required. Apply in the Rec. Office, 203 MT, 516-5326.

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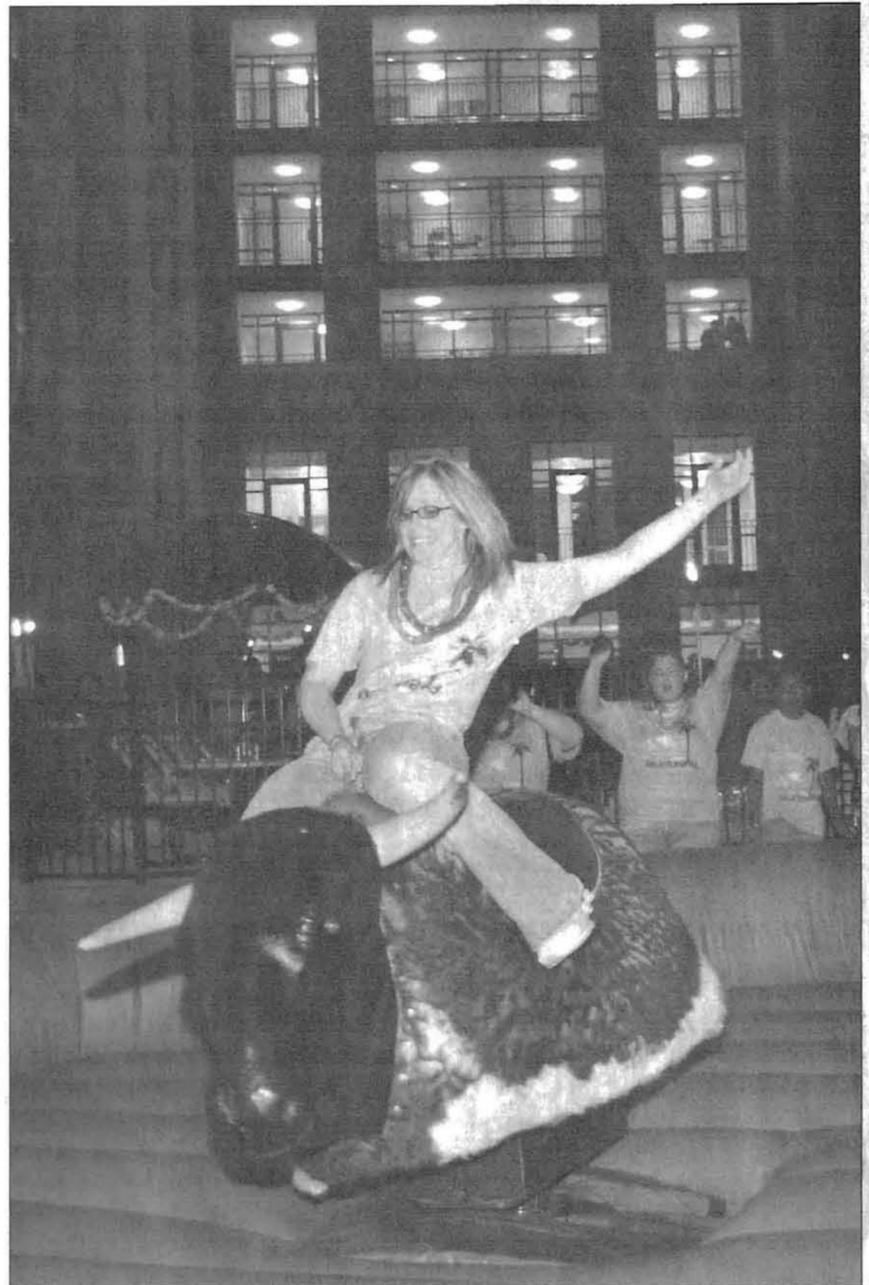
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MTV BEACH PARTY



Carrie Fasiska • Staff Photographer

Jenna McNew, freshman, biology, rides the mechanical bull at the MTV beach party last Friday.

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FROM THE PRODUCERS OF UNDERWORLD

THE COVENANT

IN THEATERS SEPTEMBER 8TH

PG-13

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COVENANT

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IN THEATERS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

The Current is your source for
campus news, sports and more.
Pick one up every Monday!

JAPAN

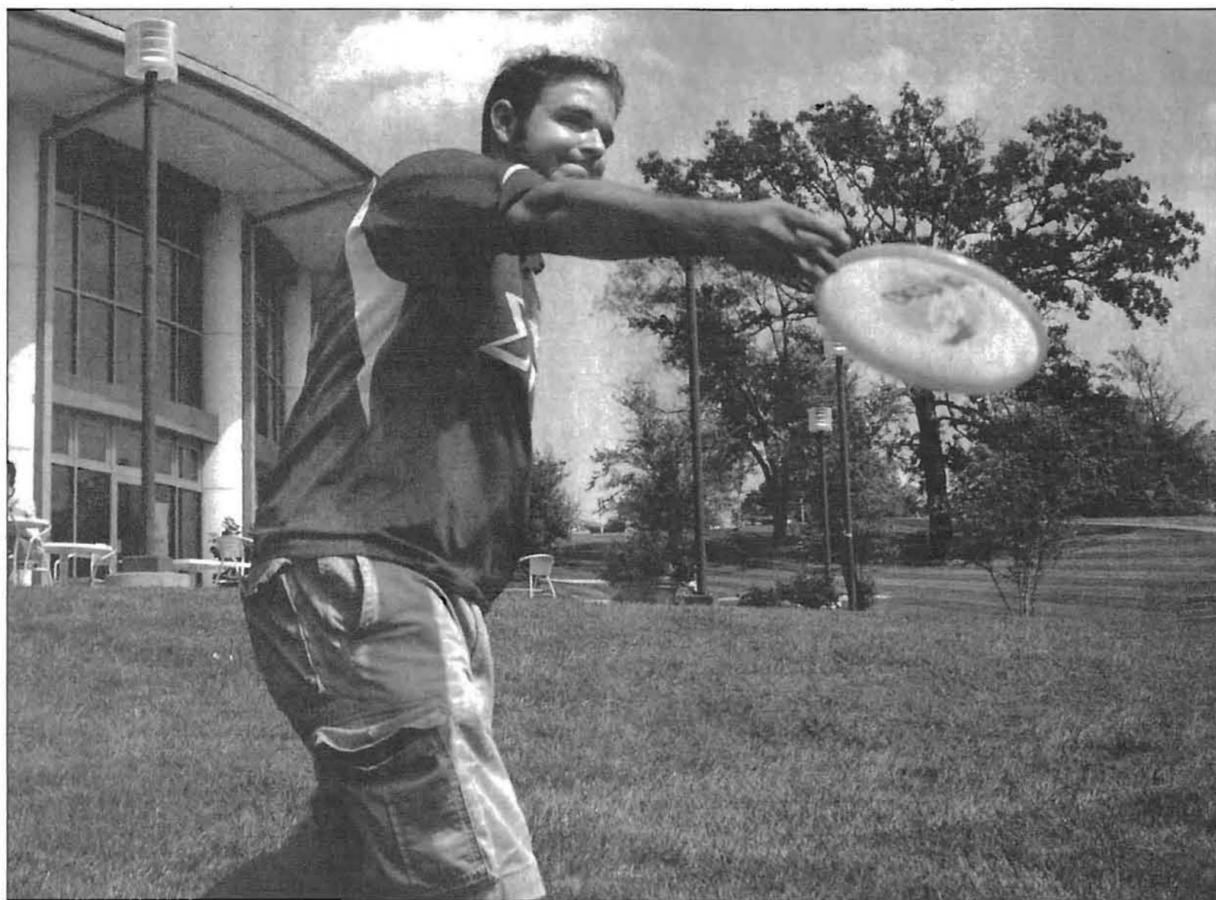
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FRISBEE ON THE FIRST DAY



Matt Johnson • Photo Editor

Joe Knichel, senior, business administration and finance, enjoys the beautiful day on Monday by playing frisbee outside the MSC.

RANKING, from page 1

The program also offers more than 70 study-abroad programs in more than 40 countries. The majority of foreign students participating in the program come from China, Japan, Europe, Latin America and India.

Bird said he hopes the rank will have a positive influence on how the community sees the University.

"We do many good things people are not always aware of," he said.

Vining also said the continued success for the program would be aided by a consortium for undergraduates made up of 10 of the best international programs in the country.

Bird said the Consortium for Undergraduate International

Business Education meets twice a year to "look at other schools with strong programs to mutually strengthen them to make them better."

In addition to the recognition of U.S. News & World Report, the department launched a new International MBA program last year.

This is a two-year program where students study one year abroad, study one year at UM-St. Louis and complete an international internship in the country of their choice.

Countries currently participating in the program are the United States, France, China, Austria and Japan.

METRO ACCIDENT, from page 1

She said it was reported that a woman was walking, closer than she should have been, in the area of the MetroLink tracks near the North Campus station.

Police did not find a woman near the tracks at that time, but they believe the call was about Silvia. "We think she was hiding to avoid interacting with the police," Panus said.

Panus said Silvia was reported as missing by a doctor from the Georgetown University Hospital of Washington D.C. in June. "She is what we would consider to be a transient. It means that she doesn't have a home really and is wandering about aimlessly," she said.

She said members of Silvia's family, who live in the D.C. area, have been informed of her condition.

Panus said she would imagine they are going to make a decision about what to do with Silvia based on the condition she is in.

"I would imagine that's what they are going to do, with little to no brain activity," she said.

She said at this time the police do not know for sure if Silvia was

attempting suicide because she is clearly unable to talk in her condition.

"We believe it was [a suicide] because of all the precipitation circumstances," she said.

Panus said the Bureau of Crimes Against Persons Unit of the St. Louis County Police Department is investigating the incident. She said this unit is generally called in to investigate incidents dealing with people like this case and other cases including things such as assault or homicide.

Williams said MetroLink service was stopped when the incident happened at approximately 5:05 a.m. and did not resume until later that morning at about 8:11 a.m.

She said she did not know at this time if the driver of the train was back on the job, but he was reportedly shaken up after the incident. "This is the first time we had anything like that happen," she said.

Michelle Landeau, senior, history, said, "It's really surprising and I never thought that anything like this could happen on this campus."

SPRINKLERS, from page 1

John Klein said the water reached the second floor. However, most of the concentration of water was in rooms that were not inhabited by residents.

In room 605, Elizabeth Waclawik, junior, nursing, said the "bathroom sprinkler is where it started." She was cleaning the water with a shop vacuum.

Last Friday, Kozeny/Wagner, the company that was hired to build Oak Hall, received an email notification of the incident from Sam Darandari, director of Planning and Construction.

In Darandari's e-mail to Pat Kozeny, President of Kozeny/Wagner, he stated, "There

was another pipe failure yesterday on the sixth floor in an identical location to the failure that occurred a few weeks ago. I can no longer accept the claim that these are isolated incidents."

He suggested that the company gives "immediate attention" to the sixth floor distribution system, pipe design, static pressure (floor & building) and pressure relief valves.

Klein said, "The cleanup will take a while because when you have water damage there are concerns about mold."

He said the main issue concerning the students living there now is "is this going to happen again?"

BARRIERS, from page 4

Did helping new students inconvenience me? No. Did helping them take some time out of my busy life? Yes, but to be honest, my life isn't that busy.

You see a student who looks lost? Maybe he's a freshman. Maybe she's a senior. The student does not have to be new to campus or new to the country. You can still help them.

During the night of the July 19 storms that ripped through St. Louis, my friend and I were waiting for a ride when we saw a female student asking for change. We gave her a quarter, but we realized she was heading for the pay phone. We both rushed to stop her from calling.

Why let her use a pay phone? We both had working cell phones. Why couldn't she use one of them? So,

she did, but why stop there? I realized we could help her out more since she could not get a ride home.

Both my friend and I argued over who would take her all the way home. I won. I was going her way.

Why do we ignore the signs? They're not the annoying solicitations on the Millennium Student Center bridge. They're students like you and me.

You don't have to avoid eye contact. You don't have to pretend like you're talking on your cell phone, either. You don't even have to pass them.

Helping out other students can make their day and make your day, as well.

Plus, it eases the urge to plow through the next traffic cones you see.

CAMPUS INTRAMURAL UPDATE



U.S. Cellular® gets me... so I can always get the score.

Tennis

Date: 9/16
Time: 9a-1p
Place: MT Tennis Courts
Sign up: 9/7
Division: M & W

Bowling

Date: 9/12-11/16
Time: Thur 3:30p-5p
Place: North Oaks
Sign up: 9/7
Division: Doubles

Soccer

Date: 9/25-11/13
Time: Mon 1:30p-5p
Place: MT Rec Field
Sign up: 9/20
Division: M & W

Volleyball

Date: 9/11-10/11
Time: Mon & Wed 7p-10p
Place: MT Gym
Sign up: 9/7
Division: CoEd

Softball BBQ

Date: 9/16
Time: Sat 12p-5p
Place: Softball Field
Sign up: 9/7
Division: CoEd

Punt Pass Kick

Date: 9/26
Time: Tues 1p-4p
Place: MT Rec Field
Sign up: Drop in
Division: M & W

Flag Football

Date: 9/12-11/7
Time: Tues 1p-5p
Place: MT Rec Field
Sign up: 9/7
Division: M & W

Golf Scramble

Date: 9/18
Time: Mon 10:30a
Place: Normandie G.C.
Sign up: 9/7
Division: Open

Ultimate Frisbee

Date: 9/20-10/18
Time: Wed 1p-4p
Place: MT Rec Field
Sign up: 9/14
Division: M & W



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