

The Current

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INSIDE



Blunt signs SB 389 on UMSL campus

Gov. Blunt held a press conference at UMSL to officially sign the Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative.

See page 3

University of Missouri still searching for a new president

Curators decide to start the search process over after a candidate turned down the University's offer.

See page 3



Express Scripts opens its doors at ribbon cutting ceremony

After years of planning, and several months of construction, ESI is ready for business.

See page 6

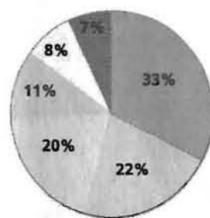
ON THE WEB

Breaking News Coverage

Stay Current with UMSL news by logging on to our Web site for the latest campus news.

The Current online.com

Web poll results: What was the best part of the '06-'07 school year?

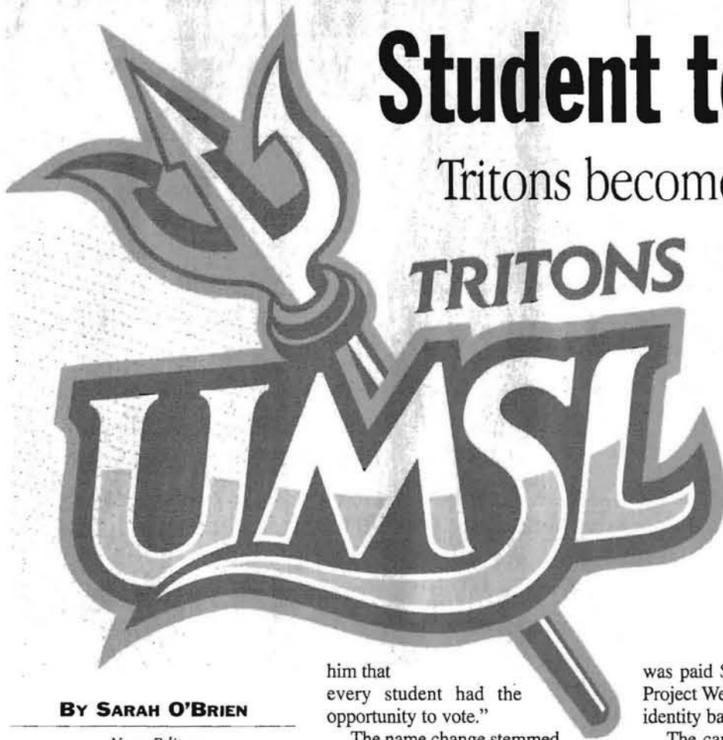


- When it ended
- The UMSL hockey/rollerhockey winning streaks
- Jim Brady gettin' paid
- Homecoming '06
- The flooding of Oak Hall
- Mirthday 2007

This week's question
Where is your dream vacation spot?

INDEX

What's Current	2
Crimeline	2
Opinions	4-5
Features	6-7
A&E	8
Sports	9
Comics	11



Student tested, board approved

Tritons become official mascot of UMSL

BY SARAH O'BRIEN
News Editor

Last Friday the University of Missouri unanimously accepted the new identity of UM-St. Louis, the Tritons.

The external affairs committee of the UM Board of Curators voted Thursday on the recommendation given to the board on Friday. They also voted unanimously on the approval of the Tritons.

According to Bryan Goers, SGA President; board member Warren Erdman was the only curator to pose questions concerning the process of the identity project.

"He asked about the input students had, and about the choosing process," Goers said of Erdmann, "and I told

him that every student had the opportunity to vote."

The name change stemmed from a pressing desire to create a mascot that would be embraced by the student body and that would embrace UM-St. Louis's large female athlete population.

"There were issues with the name Rivermen, partly due to gender and partly because the whole idea of the Rivermen never caught on," Curt Coonrod, Vice Provost of Student Affairs said.

Early in the Winter 2007 semester, outside graphic design and brand identity organization 501 Creative

was paid \$17,000 to run the Identity Project Website and help create a new identity based on student input.

The candidates for UM-St. Louis' new identity included: the Archers, the Aviators, the Mudcats, the Tritons, and the 41-year standing mascot, the Rivermen.

Quick Read

The Board of Curators at their last meeting on June 1 put the final stamp of approval on the new nickname for UM-St. Louis. The mascot has not yet been designed but the University is seeking student input on the design and any ideas.

What is a Triton?

According to Dictionary.com, a Triton can be "a son of Poseidon and Amphitrite, represented as having the head and trunk of a man and the tail of a fish, and as using a conch-shell trumpet."

Triton is also the name of Neptune's largest moon, measuring 1/5 the size of Earth.

Where did the Riverman go?

The Peoria Ice Hockey team will now be one of the last living remnants of the Rivermen. According to Vice Provost Curt Coonrod, "the whole idea of the Rivermen never caught on."

were confused by the Mudcats—they were split on whether the mud cat was a cat in the mud or a catfish."

Mudcat is local jargon for bottom-feeding catfish in Missouri's Missouri and Mississippi rivers.

According to Coonrod, Chancellor George has approved one of the logos created by 501 for the Tritons.

Maria Kerford, Student Representative to the Board of Curators, voiced a hope that the students would have some say in the actual design of the Triton mascot.

"In the meeting Chancellor George said that graphic presentation of the Tritons was in the works but I would like to see one that represents a mascot and goes beyond the letters UMSL," Kerford said.

See TRITON, page 7



UM-Columbia Tiger



UM-Kansas City Kangaroo



UM-Rolla Miner



Summer students prepare to board the MetroLink at UMSL South Station. No Metro passes were offered this summer through UMSL.

Metro and UMSL agree, \$60 fall semester passes

BY CANDACE ANDERSON
Assistant News Editor

The Metro Pass program will see at least one more term at the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

The pass will cost \$60 for the fall semester, a \$15 increase from last year's \$45 per semester price.

Fall 2006 was the first semester students were required to pay \$45 per pass. Until then, the passes had been available to students free of charge. Since the quota of 3,300 Metro passes was not met in winter 2007, officials at UM-St. Louis thought the program would not continue this coming year.

"We set up a meeting with Metro and explained our interest in keeping the Metro Pass Program here at UMSL," said Vice Provost for Student Affairs Curt Coonrod.

After numerous conversations between the University and Metro, the two parties reached an agreement to continue with the program

Quick Read

After announcing the loss of the Metro pass program last semester in an SGA meeting, Student Affairs has announced that the program will restart this fall, with a new price of \$60, which is still less than half of the Metro 'student pass' which costs \$125.

in the fall.

An e-mail was sent to students via MyGateway informing them of the recent decision.

"We knew we had to raise the price from \$45, but we also knew we didn't want to raise the price to \$125, which is the actual cost," Coonrod said. "I understand that the Metro Pass is important to students. I also understand that the cost is a major concern too," Coonrod said.

The \$60 charge decided for next semester was the fruit of a final negotiation between Metro and the University.

See METRO, page 7

MOHELA student loan sales cover Benton-Stadler building renovations

BY CANDACE ANDERSON
Assistant News Editor

Thanks to Gov. Matt Blunt, Benton-Stadler Hall will soon undergo needed renovations.

Chancellor Thomas George said that the plan to renovate Benton and Stadler Hall began about 10 years ago. The project finally received its funding when Gov. Matt Blunt signed Senate Bill 389 which allocated the project a budget of \$28.5 million.

The new building is planned to be "green" or eco-friendly. The phrase "going green" refers to the general concern for the preservation and restoration of the natural environment by conserving energy.

"When we came up with the amount figure for the renovations \$28.5 million bought much more than it does now," Chancellor said. The project will receive as much "green" certification as the project budget allows.

According to Chris Spilling, department chair of chemistry and biochemistry, the renovation plans will include spacious labs dedicated to science study and research.

"The undergraduate labs was one of the major reasons for renovations," he said.

Spilling said that there has been some preliminary planning for the upcoming project but the plans are not yet concrete.

Quick Read

After years of deliberation, Benton-Stadler will finally be updated, and possibly green. An SGA initiative from last school year could mean a more environmentally friendly science complex.



Danny Reise • Staff Photographer

Students of Eric Mandell's basic physics course do labwork in one of the labs of Benton Hall. Gov. Blunt approved a bill that would use money from the MOHELA sale to renovate Benton-Stadler Halls.

See BENTON, page 7

Stay Current

with this week's UMSL weather.

Monday
Hi/Low: 80/65
Precip: 60%
T-Storms

Tuesday
Hi/Low: 87/66
Precip: 10%
Sunny

Wednesday
Hi/Low: 89/70
Precip: 10%
Mostly Sunny

Thursday
Hi/Low: 88/71
Precip: 10%
Partly Cloudy

Friday
Hi/Low: 85/72
Precip: 10%
Partly Cloudy

Saturday
Hi/Low: 88/72
Precip: 10%
Partly Cloudy

Sunday
Hi/Low: 88/71
Precip: 60%
Partly Cloudy

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.

TUESDAY, JUNE 12

Athletics Director Interview

An open interview session for John Garvilla, candidate for director of athletics at UMSL, will be held from 2:30 to 3 p.m. June 12 in 411 Woods Hall. The session is open to students, faculty, staff and alumni. Garvilla's credentials are on file at the reserve desk in the Thomas Jefferson Library and Ward E. Barnes Library. Call 5213 for more information.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13

Bosnian Language and Culture Class

Bosnian Language and Culture will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. June 13, 20 and 27 at the Bayless School District Administration, 4530 Weber Road in south St. Louis County. The class will provide Bosnian history and culture and teach basic phrases in Bosnian. The fee is \$15 for an individual or \$30 for an organizational staff member. Call 5948 for more information.

THURSDAY, JUNE 14

15 Survival Strategies for Instructors

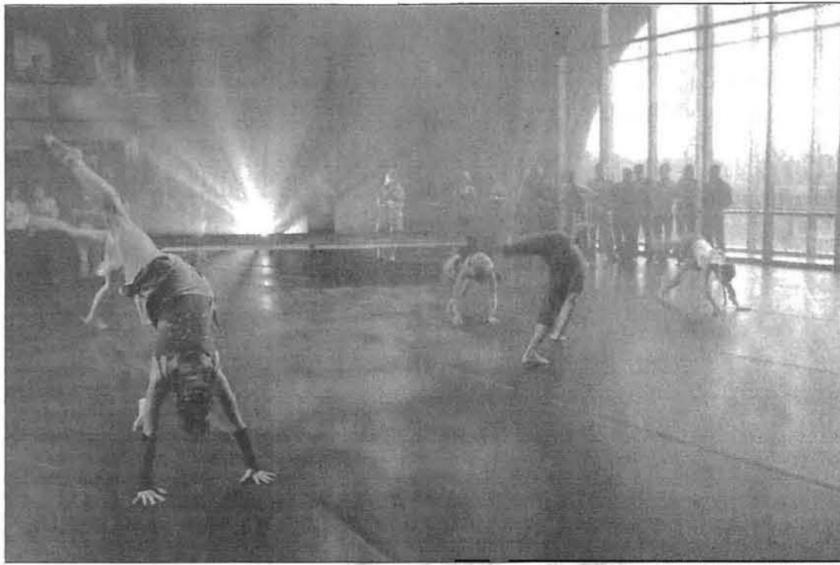
"15 Survival Strategies for Instructors in Higher Education: A Webinar" will be held from noon to 1:30 p.m. in the Board Room at the J.C. Penney Conference Center. New instructors, teaching assistants and graduate student advisors will hear teaching strategies for large enrollment and small seminar classes. For info contact Cheryl Bielema at 314-516-4508.

TUESDAY, JUNE 19

Resume Success Workshop

This free, one-hour workshop is open to current UMSL students & UMSL alumni. Whether you are seeking an internship or a full-time position, a marketable resume is a necessity. This workshop discusses appropriate resume formats and content. Visit our web site at www.umsl.edu/career for an organizational staff member. Call 5948 for more information.

MADCO LIT UP THE TOUHILL



Danny Reise • Staff Photographer

Performance at the Desmond E. Lee Theatre by MADCO (Modern Arts Dance Company) last Friday and Saturday night.

Spanish Course to Involve Families

Conversational Spanish for Families will be offered from 6 to 7:15 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays through Aug. 2 (except July 3 and 5) at Francis Howell North High School, 2549 Hackmann Road in St. Charles. For fees and more information call 5974.

FRIDAY, JUNE 22

New Student Orientation

New Student Orientation is for first-time freshmen students entering UMSL in Fall 2007. Students can register to attend orientation by calling the Office of Student Life at (314) 516-5291. There will be orientations in June, July, and August this summer.

SATURDAY, JUNE 30

UMSL Hall of Fame

UMSL has announced the 2007 inductees to the Sports Hall of Fame. This year's induction ceremony will be held on Saturday, June 30, 2007, at 4:00 pm, in the Lee Auditorium at the Touhill PAC. For info call Alumni Relations at 6453.

CAMPUS CRIMELINE

Remember that crime prevention is a community effort, and anyone having information concerning this or any other incidents should contact the campus police at 516-5155.

SUNDAY, MAY 6

BURGLARY - GARAGE CONSTRUCTION SITE (SOUTH CAMPUS)

Sometime over the weekend person(s) unknown entered unlawfully into the construction area and cut the hasps off the locking mechanisms to the trailers. At the time of the report three trailers were broken into, however it appears that nothing was taken from inside. The investigation is continuing.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 9

PROPERTY DAMAGE - UNIVERSITY MEADOWS

The victim reported damage to her vehicle. The victim explained that her rear window was shattered out by an unknown object while parked in the parking lot sometime between 5-8-07 at 8:00 p.m. and 5-9-07 at 3:00 p.m.. Information was obtained that the possible source was caused by person(s) unknown shooting a BB gun in the area. Witnesses stated that they saw two people shooting BB guns at cans in this area during this time, but did not see if any cars were struck. Two BB's were found on the parking lot by the victim's car, and were seized as evidence. The investigation is continuing.

THURSDAY, MAY 10

STEALING OVER \$500 - 427 SSB

Sometime between January 7, 2007 and April 27, 2007 a digital camera and accessories were stolen from the office area. The office personnel indicated that the office is often left insecure during the day, and the camera was allowed to be used by other workers as long as they checked it out. After checking with all the other employees and not locating the camera it was reported stolen.

SATURDAY, MAY 12

STEALING OVER \$500 - TOUHILL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

The victim reported a cell phone was stolen.

STEALING UNDER \$500 - 7818 SOUTH FLORISSANT RD. (UNIVERSITY PARK APARTMENTS)

The victim reported that sometime during the night a cell phone was stolen from the apartment. The victim explained that there was a party at her apartment and several people were in and out of the apartment all night long. Some of the persons at the party came with the victim's friend and were only known by first name. The identity of the possible suspects is unknown at this time. The investigation is continuing.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16

ASSAULT THIRD DEGREE - 8209 NORMANDY TRACE

A dispute led to a minor assault between a boyfriend and girlfriend. The victim in the assault indicated that she did not want to press criminal charges, and did sign a no prosecution form. A police report was made and will be sent to the Prosecutors for review.

THURSDAY, MAY 17

ASSAULT THIRD DEGREE - FUGITIVE ARREST - MSC

A husband and wife argument about getting some property led to the male subject assaulting the female. The male then left in the victim's vehicle. The suspect was arrested at his residence on Florissant Road shortly after the incident. The suspect will be charged with assault, and also had an outstanding warrant for his arrest from Ladue Police Department.

FRIDAY, MAY 18

HARASSING TELEPHONE CALLS - GALLERY 210

The victim indicated that he had received numerous phone call messages from a former student. The phone calls were threatening and cursing in nature. The victim indicated that he had also received these same types of calls at his residence, and filed a separate police report in that case. The investigation is continuing.

SUNDAY, MAY 20

HARASSING TELEPHONE CALLS - GALLERY 210

Sometime between May 17 and May 20 while the victim was away from work, a lap-top computer, digital camera, digital voice recorder, cordless mouse and a projector were stolen from the office area. It appears that a window was left open during this time which was used as the point of entry. The scene was processed and evidence recovered at the scene will be analyzed to try to determine a suspect.

TUESDAY, MAY 22

STEALING OVER \$500 - VILLA BUILDING

Sometime between 5-17 and 5-20 while the victim was away from work, a lap-top computer, digital camera, digital voice recorder, cordless mouse and a projector were stolen from the office area. It appears that a window was left open during this time which was used as the point of entry. The scene was processed and evidence recovered at the scene will be analyzed to try to determine a suspect.

SATURDAY, MAY 26

IDENTITY THEFT - MANSION HILLS APARTMENTS

The victim reported that when she tried to use her debit card, it was rejected. The victim called the bank and was told the card was used in Mexico for a \$ 263.00 purchase. The victim advised that she has her card in her possession and used it just the day before without any problem. It is apparent that someone stole her information and is using it fraudulently and without permission. The investigation is continuing.

MONDAY, MAY 28

VANDALISM - QUAD AREA BUILDINGS AND MARK TWAIN

Sometime during the late evening or night person(s) unknown spray painted graffiti on the walls and windows of various buildings on the North Campus. There were over 45 different areas that were painted. The vandalism also included spray painting words on a parked campus vehicle. The outside handball courts were especially badly painted. The UMSL Painters were called in and were able to remove/ or paint over the affected areas. Numerous cans of spray paint were recovered and processed for fingerprints. The results are being sent to the crime lab for comparison in order to determine a suspect.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 30

BURGLARY SECOND DEGREE - VILLA NORTH BUILDING

Between 5:30 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. four unlocked rooms at the Villa building were entered and items stolen from inside. The four victims are part of the M-Fuge group that stays on campus during the summer. After they arrived and checked into their rooms, they all went out to dinner. The four victims had left their rooms unlocked during this time, and items such as two lap-top computers, a digital camera, I-Pod and a beard trimmer were stolen. The identity of the possible suspects is unknown at this time. The investigation is continuing.

MONDAY, JUNE 4

STEALING OVER \$500 - MARILLAC HALL

The victim stated he parked and secured his vehicle in the garage the night before, and when he returned early the next day, he discovered a window was broken out, and his stereo equipment was stolen from inside.

TUESDAY, JUNE 6

STEALING OVER \$500 - MARK TWAIN GYM MEN'S LOCKERS

The victim reported that he put his personal items in a locker at the Mark Twain Building without a lock and when he returned he discovered that his wallet containing \$30.00 cash, credit cards, and his cell phone was stolen. The victim advised that he did see a suspicious black male subject approximately 50 - 60 years old in the locker room at the time he was there. This person appeared to be homeless as his clothing was dirty and unkempt. The area was canvassed and failed to turn up the suspect in question. The investigation is continuing.

STEALING UNDER \$500 - SSB BUILDING PATIO

The victim reported that he put his personal items in a locker at the Mark Twain Building without a lock and when he returned he discovered that his wallet containing \$30.00 cash, credit cards, and his cell phone was stolen. The victim advised that he did see a suspicious black male subject approximately 50 - 60 years old in the locker room at the time he was there. This person appeared to be homeless as his clothing was dirty and unkempt. The area was canvassed and failed to turn up the suspect in question. The investigation is continuing.

THURSDAY, JUNE 8

BURGLARY SECOND DEGREE - VILLA NORTH BUILDING

At approximately 2:00 p.m. two victims discovered that their lockers were cut from their lockers in the Men's locker room at the Mark Twain Building, and various items were stolen from inside. The

victims advised that they remembered seeing a suspicious black male subject in his late 50's in the locker room when they were changing to prepare for a workout, but did not think much more about it. They immediately told the security personnel working at the Gym about the theft and possible suspect. The security people checked the area and found the man walking away from the gym with a large suitcase behind the General Services Building towards the MetroLink North Station. The UM-St. Louis Police were notified and stopped the man at the North Metrolink area. Upon checking the suitcase of the man, it was discovered to have a pair of bolt cutters and a cut lock, along with numerous personal other items.

The subject was arrested and once at the Police Station, more evidence linking him to other crimes on the UMSL campus as well as at St. Louis University and Washington University was found in his possession.

The suspect was apparently cutting the locks off and taking anything he wanted. The suspect was found to be in possession of one of the victim's money and the other victim's comb. The suspect was transported to St. Louis County Justice Services where he was held until warrants charging him with felony stealing were issued.

The suspect is still being held pending many more charges of stealing from various Police Department venues.

**Note: If you had anything taken from a locker in the Mark Twain Building in the last two weeks and did not report it; please contact the UMSL Police Department to make a report. Some personal items recovered in the suspect's possession are believed to have been recently stolen, but have not been identified yet.*

CORRECTIONS

The Current regrets that sometimes in our making of this publication, we make mistakes. What we do not regret is correcting our mistakes. To report any corrections that need to be made, please contact The Current at 314-516-5174 or by email at thecurrent@umsl.edu

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The Current

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

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Got a tip for a story or photo opportunity? Have a correction to report? Do you have a question or comment for our staff? Are you interested in working at *The Current*? Please contact us:

Newsroom | 314-516-5174
Advertising | 314-516-5316
Business | 314-516-6810
Fax | 314-516-6811

Email | thecurrent@umsl.edu

Mail | 388 MSC

One University Blvd.
St. Louis, Missouri 63121

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<http://www.thecurrentonline.com>

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AFFILIATIONS



Gov. Matt Blunt finalizes SB 389

BY SARAH O'BRIEN
News Editor

Gov. Matt Blunt signed Senate Bill 389 Wednesday in Century Room C of the Millennium Student Center. The bill will allocate \$28.5 million for complete renovations of UM-St. Louis's Benton and Stadler Halls.

After a brief introduction by 16th district representative Carl Bearden, Chancellor Thomas George took to the podium to graciously thank the governor for signing 389 into legislation.

"I want to thank the gov. so much for focusing on higher education," George said. "selfishly we are especially happy here at the University of Missouri St. Louis because a component of that bill is the Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative."

The Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative will cover the funding for much needed renovations on the Benton-Stadler science complexes here on campus.

"It's been a top priority for a couple of years," George said. The sale of \$350 million in student loans was approved by the legislature, and after Blunt's signature, will provide funding for campuses all around Missouri to build new facilities and offer new need based student aid.

According to Senator Gary Nodler, the "architect" of bill 389, the sold loans are not the loans of Missouri students. Additionally, nothing about the loans will be changed.

"They're simply changing hands," Nodler said concerning the loans in question, "the rates will not increase or anything."

"This is a very good bill," Gov. Matt Blunt said. "The legislature and I have worked together on this Lewis and Clark Discovery project list that will truly benefit Missouri students and families."

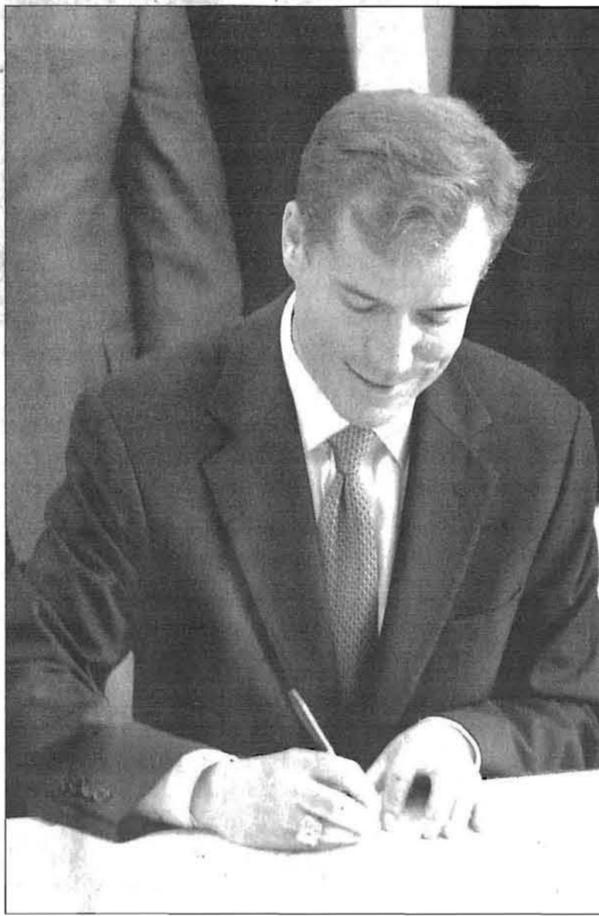
This distribution will additionally offer need based aid to two times the number of UM-St. Louis students as before, bringing the amount from \$27.5 to \$72.5 million.

"Our students are our future, and this investment will help insure that they have a competitive environment that will help them reach their full potential," Blunt said.

The bill had originally allocated upwards of \$85 million to UM-Columbia to build a new Life Sciences facility, however, after pressure from anti-embryonic stem cell research organizations, Elson Floyd replaced the plans with a new cancer research center.

Gov. Matt Blunt, who is for the research of stem cells, has previously been noted as saying that Floyd's decision was a wrong one, in turn, UM-Columbia will be receiving less than half of their original allocated amount.

Newly elected Bryan Goers, president of Student Government, feels that UM-Columbia's decision not to host a life sciences facility may be why UM-St. Louis received so much funding for Benton and Stadler.



Carrie Fasiska • Managing Editor

Gov. Matt Blunt signs the Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative at the campus of UM-St. Louis earlier this month.

Search for UM president starts over after rejection

BY SARAH O'BRIEN
News Editor

The search for a new University of Missouri system president has started over.

Months after Elson Floyd's resignation from the title of the University of Missouri system president, the UM Board of Curators has called for a clean slate in the search for a new system president, sources say.

According to Maria Kerford, student representative to the Board of Curators, the call came after a negotiation was broken off with Terry Sutter, previous president of Tyco Plastics and Adhesives in New Jersey.

According to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Sutter turned down the offer with the University of Missouri to head Gerdau Ameristeel Corporation, a Florida-based steel company.

Dan Walsworth, chairman for the Board of Curators, commented that he believed Sutter "was not prepared to enter the academic world at this time."

Through the extreme confidentiality

occurring during the search for the new president, Sutter, a former UM-Columbia chemistry student, was believed to have been the number one candidate for the position.

According to Walsworth, the board is starting over completely. "We're going to start the search all over anew,"

Walsworth told the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

In addition to Sutter, Rep. Kenny Hulshof from Columbia had listed himself as a top candidate in the initial search. Hulshof told the St. Louis Post-Dispatch he was a candidate for the

position, but said it was not clear if he was in the top three candidates. Other former candidates remain unknown.

Kerford stated that she was unable to say whether Hulshof was among the top three candidates.

Hulshof wanted to make it clear that he has not withdrawn his name from consideration for the position despite the call to start over.

“
We're going to start the search all over anew.
”

— Dan Walsworth,
Board of Curators Chairman

See SEARCH, page 10

NEWS BRIEFS

UMSL Founder dies

Morris E. Blitz, one of the founding members of the University's campus, died on Friday, June 8, 2007 at the age of 93. Blitz died in his home because of complications from cancer.

Blitz served as superintendent of the Normandy School District for five years. He was a member of the committee that successfully worked for a bond that allowed UM-St. Louis to

buy land. Blitz accepted the chancellor's medal in 1994 during his time as an administrator at UM-St. Louis.

Visitation will be held at Rindskopf-Roth Funeral Chapel, 5216 Delmar Blvd. from 9:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. Interment will be private.

Contributions in memory of Blitz can be made to the Blitz Scholarship Fund, Normandy High School Alumni Association, Box 210869, Normandy, Mo. 63121.

New Curator to be named

A new Student Representative for the UM-Board of Curators will be elected by month's end.

Former representative Maria Kerford as well as the Intercampus Student Council have reviewed the applications and interviewed the applicants before narrowing them down to three and sending their rankings to the Governor's office.

After viewing the ISC's ranking of each candidate, the Governor will interview each candidate by phone and then choose the new representative.

"The opportunity rotates between campuses and this year the representative will be from Columbia," Kerford said.

"The Governor's office said they will be appointing the representative in two to three weeks, but that could mean two days," Kerford said.

UMSL mourns loss of dance, theater professor

BY CANDACE ANDERSON
Assistant News Editor

Carlene Nicholson Juncker, assistant professor of theater and dance, lost her battle with cancer on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 13.

Juncker leaves behind friends, a host of colleagues and students, and her family, including her two children, Steven and Laura Juncker.

A memorial service was held for Juncker last Friday at Lupton Chapel in University City.

One of her former students, Auburn Miller, junior, communication, remembers asking Juncker if she was feeling okay on the last day of class.

"She said she didn't feel well, but she looked the same as the first day of class," Miller said. "She was still energetic and optimistic as always. She still pushed us to do our final projects as always."

Juncker was a graduate of Washington University's School of Fine Arts, where she first studied fashion design. Miller said Juncker

loved theatre.

"That's all she would talk about in class: the plays she attended, the costumes she designed.

You could tell it was her passion," Miller said.

Juncker began designing costumes for theaters in the Midwest. She went on to teach at both her alma mater and Lindenwood University after receiving an M.F.A. in costume design. She was an assistant professor of costume design at UM-St. Louis and has taught since 2005.

Juncker was also the costume designer for the most recent production at the Touhill Performing Arts Center, Booth! as well as The Imaginary Invalid, Topdog/Underdog and The Rambling Nut and Pippin.

"I never experienced a loss of a teacher, but I have experienced a loss of a mother," Miller said. "She will be missed."

The American Cancer Society at 4207 Lindell Boulevard in St. Louis is accepting memorial contributions.

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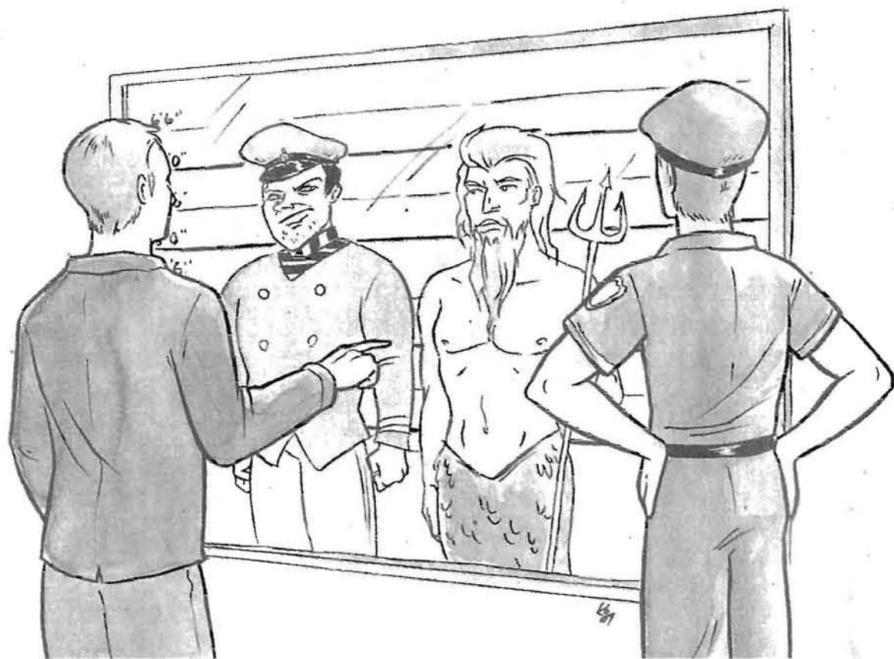


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OUR OPINION



Identity Project leaves more questions than answers

Greetings, fellow Tritons. Or haven't you heard? We are no longer the Rivermen and Riverwomen. As of two weeks ago, the University of Missouri Board of Curators approved Tritons as the new identity for UM-St. Louis.

Just like that. We have a new identity. We are the Tritons now. Five months and \$17,000 later, we are the Tritons.

But wait, throughout the five-month duration of the Identity Project, how did this University's identity go from being a Riverman to a Triton? Sure, a handful of students suggested the name, but was Tritons the number one choice?

That was the question one curator posed during the meeting in Columbia two Fridays ago: did the students at UM-St. Louis vote for the Tritons?

The answer: sort of. After all, Tritons were one of the six finalists in phase two of the Identity Project. The others included the Mudcats, Red Thunder, the Aviators, the Archers and the Rivermen. However, these finalists were not the most suggested possibilities that voters in the online poll recommended. That is just one example of what makes the whole process so confusing and questionable.

The road to choosing the Tritons was full of bumps and turns, including the supposed push of Creative 501, the consulting firm hired for \$17,000 to help with the search process, to choose another identity besides the Riverman. The consultants were the ones pushing for it, despite certain students, espe-

cially alumni, disagreeing with a need for a change.

The Mudcats were the initial frontrunner, according to the naming committee, which consists of students and administrators, but after confusion surfaced about what exactly a mudcat is, Creative 501 and the naming committee went back to the drawing board.

This time, they came up with Tritons, but this time there was no confusion despite Triton being the god of the sea and a moon of the planet Neptune.

However, neither the Mudcats nor the Tritons were the lead pick of students in the initial poll, which returns to the initial question of whether students did, in fact, vote for the Tritons.

Student Government Association President Bryan Goers reasoned that while the majority did not vote for the Tritons, a majority did vote for a change in the University's identity. And that is how the Tritons became UM-St. Louis' new identity, but it had to get approval from the chancellor first.

While the process took five months, it may not seem like picking Tritons was a hasty decision, but near the end of April, the chancellor felt the need to make a decision and he went with the Tritons.

This decision came, however, at a poor time, near the end of the spring semester when students are more concerned about finals and graduation than a new identity. The decision was then sent to the Board of Curators to discuss at its meeting June 1. Why was

the decision made in the summer, when hardly any students are around?

When the decision was made is just as important as where the decision is made. To make a decision about UM-St. Louis' next identity in Columbia seems to beg the question, why was this decision that affects the entire UM-St. Louis campus not made on campus?

While the Board of Curators is known for making quick decisions at meetings since they meet every two months and have full agendas they must complete in two days, we at The Current wonder whether any of the discussion generated from the article we published in the April 30 issue had any bearing on the curators' choice to approve the name change.

In addition, was gender neutrality, one of the goals of the name change, considered? Will our women's athletic teams be called Tritons, despite the fact that the name is masculine? Will the women's teams be called Lady Tritons or Mermaids?

We at The Current believe it is important to go back to the beginning of the Identity Project and look at the goals of what UM-St. Louis wants in an identity. Will we accomplish those goals with the Tritons?

This is a question that will be answered in this coming year at UM-St. Louis. After all, a Triton is not just a mascot. It is an identity. So, fellow Tritons, will there be more school spirit? Will students rally around the idea of being a Triton? Will we support our athletic teams more?

Only time will tell.

EDITORIAL BOARD

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"Our opinion" reflects the majority opinion of the Editorial Board.

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

Mail:
One University Blvd.
Room 388 MSC
St. Louis, MO 63121

Email:
thecurrent@umsl.edu

EDITOR'S VIEWPOINT

Father's Day is a reminder of what was

Why do we honor fathers when they are not around anymore? Next Sunday, fathers across the St. Louis area will receive another tie or golf shirt to add to their collection of past Father's Day presents, which consist mostly of other ties and golf shirts.

Not my dad. His job doesn't require him to wear a tie and he does not play golf either.

The present that I am getting my father this year will be the same thing I got him for the past two Father's Days: flowers.

Flowers may not seem like an appropriate gift for a father, but tradition has it that if your father is living, you should wear a red rose. If your father has passed away, wear a white rose. I will be wearing white next Sunday.

This July will mark the three-year anniversary of my father's death. He died of renal cell cancer (cancer of the kidneys for non-medical professionals) three summers ago.

He died right before my first semester transferring to UM-St. Louis, before my first year working for *The Current*, before getting a new job at an ice cream parlor. All those things he missed, plus three more years worth of memories.

Father's Day has become easier to celebrate now. It wasn't at first because the memories were too recent. The last Father's Day before he passed away, my sister held a barbecue for our father. It was the first time we held a barbecue for our father. I remember talking with my



BY PAUL HACKBARTH
Editor-in-Chief

sister about making the barbecue annual event every Father's Day.

My father was my role model. He always knew the answers to my calculus homework even when I would wake him up to ask a question. In any difficult situation, he knew the right thing to say or the correct way to handle a problem.

My father, was in a sense, the ideal father, like the ones you see on TV.

Sure, he was no Mike Brady, Ward Cleaver or even Al Bundy, especially not Al Bundy, but he was a good father.

I hear stories about fathers not talking to their children and vice versa or stories about how so-and-so does not get along with his father or how her father left her when she was too young to remember.

When I hear these stories, all I can think about is how lucky it is to still have father who is alive. I want to tell these people that I do not have a father to argue with or avoid altogether.

Each Father's Day is a time to reflect. I wonder what he would think of me now. One year away from graduating with a bachelor's degree. New editor-in-chief of a student newspaper.

I also wonder what he would be doing now. What would we do for Father's Day next Sunday? What would I get him that he does not already have? Maybe he took up golf as a hobby since his death. Maybe I should get him that golf shirt after all.

STAFF VIEWPOINT

It's time for a revote

Students across the board were emotional after Chancellor Thomas George announced the decision to change UMStL's mascot to the trident-wielding half man-half sea Tritons from the traditional, but bland, Rivermen.

Sources say that the change came from a need to have a mascot that students could rally around, and one that would embrace both men and women and that Riverman simply did not cut it.

Some sources may also, and rightly, say that Tritons was not the pick of the students, that in fact Rivermen won-by a landslide, and that Tritons was not even runner up. When the votes came in from the Identity Project, it was Rivermen in first with the Mudcats nipping at its heels for second, however, the Mudcats were not chosen.

According to Student Government Association President Bryan Goers, people were confused about the name Mudcats.

"Is it a cat that's muddy or is it a catfish," Goers said about the idea. "Everyone was confused."

While I don't question Goers' thoughts on the issue, I think it is absolutely ridiculous that either UM-St. Louis students did not know what the term "mudcat" meant or the UM-St. Louis administration had little faith in the students' knowledge of local jargon. Simply, the administration did not put nearly enough hold in the student's voice or knowledge about this very



BY SARAH O'BREIN
News Editor

large and important decision.

The term Mudcats is assigned to the catfish that feed off the bottom of the rivers in Missouri. Catfish fishing is a popular hobby in the area, and the catfish is by no means a pushover. With hollow and strong bones that can lock in place in its defense, some

species even have a ray that can sting and deliver deadly poison to the stung.

Students fell for the identity project hook bait and sinker, but really, could students be trusted to make this sort of a decision?

A year before the identity project came about students came up with a mascot that everyone could rally around; a type of gecko found only in Missouri streams-the Hellbenders. Chancellor George turned down the name because of the risqué first syllable, having a name with hell in it is certainly not proper.

After the Hellbenders fiasco the administration took name-change matters into their own hands. With the help of Creative 501, a design company specifically geared towards this sort of issue, SGA adviser and Vice Provost of Student Affairs Curt Coonrod helped the administration help the students pick a name that would be embraced by all students and would of course, be gender friendly.

See REVOTE, page 5

What's your opinion?

How do you feel about the topics we've covered?

- The Tritons
- Father's Day
- Coffee

You can make your voice heard in a variety of ways!

- Submit a letter to the editor
- Write a guest commentary
- Visit our online forums

UNDERCURRENT

By Danny Reise • Staff Photographer

What do you think of the mascot change?



Mike Olsen
Senior English

"As much as I mocked the Rivermen; I will miss him."



Mark King
Senior Business Administration

"Should of stayed the Rivermen."



Elizabeth Carington
Graduate Student History

"They could of better utilized the old mascot."



John Barnes
Senior History

"I did not notice any change."



Jen Beckman
Sophomore Communication

"It does not matter one way or the other."

What do you think? Send your own response to thecurrent@umsl.edu. The person who submits the best response each week wins a free T-shirt.

STAFF VIEWPOINT

I'll have a venti 'drip': Why coffee is and always will be my favorite drink

I had my first cup of coffee when I was seven years old. My mom worked third shift and would often leave a half-finished cup of black coffee. One night I finished her coffee, after I added a lot of milk and sugar. Since then, coffee became one of my favorite drinks.



BY LAQUAN FUSE
Sports Editor

I could not drink black coffee until I was about 21. Before then, my coffee always tasted like a cup of coffee-flavored sugar. My coffee taste remains similar to this day. Sometimes I drink black coffee, but only when I need a caffeine boost.

Some people might drink coffee because it is a morning ritual, while others are addicted to caffeine and need it to get through their day. Then there are some people, myself included, who just love the taste.

I lived in Seattle for seven years and I cannot recall the number of times I ordered a hazelnut cappuccino from Starbucks. Let's just say during high school, I averaged four cups per day whenever it was cold or rainy.

Starbucks was not the only place I ventured to whenever I needed a sugar rush, but somewhere on my java drinking timeline, hazelnut cappuccinos became my official drink.

I recently started a new job and I am able to get unlimited Starbucks coffee and espresso. I am not sure how many people know what having four double shot hazelnut cappuccinos for five consecutive days does to your body.

Sleep has become less important

in my life and I really have not noticed. I have not been sleepy since my third cup last Tuesday. I have noticed that my hand moves a little faster when I am writing, but I am sure that is nothing to worry about.

Now that I have access to unlimited espres-

so, I think it is time to give other espresso drinks and flavors a chance at becoming my new favorite. Starting today, I will have one new drink per day and I may or may not find a new favorite.

I will be making all of the drinks myself and I am not a barista, but I think I can figure it out. Hazelnut cappuccinos have been the reigning undisputed champion for a few years and honestly, I think it will stay that way.

One of my top choices for my taste test is a white chocolate mocha. I am not really big on counting calories, but this thing is just ridiculous. There are 630 calories in just a 20 oz. serving and 260 fat calories. This calorie count includes using whole milk and whip cream. I know that something with that many calories must taste good.

I have been drinking coffee for most of my life and that is not going to stop anytime in the near future. I am not sure if I will find a new favorite drink, but I am glad that I do not have to pay nearly \$4 per cup anymore. Even if I do not find a new drink, I know I will have a great caffeine rush in the process.

SCIENCE COLUMN

Not all alternative energy is created equal

Recently the St. Louis Post-Dispatch ran some articles, with alarming headlines, about pollution created by one alternative fuel, ethanol made from corn.

The panicky folks at the Post need to take a deep breath and a look at the bigger picture. No one solves problems by just panicking.

Corn ethanol is hardly the perfect replacement for oil and other fossil fuels but much of the pollution cited by the Post is due to agriculture run-off, a consequence of petroleum-dependant big agriculture practices, whether we use the corn for ethanol or animal feed.

Solving the global warming crisis and weaning ourselves from oil dependency is going to take a number of approaches. We will have to weigh the trade-offs for each step and work with the whole big puzzle to solve this.

Agricultural run-off was a problem before corn was being converted to ethanol on the present scale. One solution to that is to switch to more sustainable agriculture practices.

Growing food organically, on smaller farms, which means the old-fashioned way, means less chemical burden on water resources.

If we all make an effort to buy our foods locally and in season, as we can

do in this area easily this time of year, we not only support local farmers and the local economy but reduce our carbon footprint by not shipping produce across the country or across borders.

It is one of the many little things we can all do to

reduce consumption, a big key to solving the global warming crisis. No need to wait for governments or industry. The point is to get moving on solving the bigger problem.

But let's also look beyond corn ethanol. Corn ethanol is a renewable biofuel, but it is not the only one. In Brazil, they make ethanol from the waste of sugar cane processing, while we are using the food portion, not the waste. We can do better.

In Germany, they have done a lot to convert to biodiesel, which can be made from waste cooking oil or other vegetable oils. Little is being done on this biofuel here but it is relatively easy to adapt diesel engines for biodiesel. How about some consumer



BY CATHERINE MARQUIS-HOMEYER
Science Columnist

incentives to kick start the process?

Nearly all energy substitutes have their downsides. One of the few that does not is solar power. A limiting factor is short supply of solar panels. Another is battery technology. Supply and demand, any-

one? It is not an exotic technology

and entrepreneurs should be saying "I smell opportunity." A little government incentive would help there too. Most technologies to solve the global warming crisis already exist, however they just need further refinement. Hydrogen power is different. It may eventually play a role, but right now, it is too expensive.

In the 1990s, American car manufacturers produced plug-in electric cars for the California market. Why not bring them back, especially since batteries have improved? Speaking of batteries, students at MIT and other universities think batteries are the limiting factor in alternative energy, so they are working on better ones.

Europe is far ahead of us in the use

of wind power. A few problems with placement issues and impact on wildlife are problems that can be worked out, rather than throwing up our hands and saying we have to stay with oil and coal. They have plenty of impact on wildlife too. Once again, individual communities can act on this, as they have in the Netherlands, without waiting for the federal government or big business.

Other energy choices come with a higher cost. Nuclear power is one. If someone could solve the serious problem of how to permanently deal with the deadly waste of nuclear power plants, it could play a role in the energy picture too.

As it stands, there is to permanent way deal with radioactive waste that will be deadly for centuries. Temporary storage and pushing the problem off on a future generation, hoping they can solve it, is no good solution. There is also no real way to de-couple nuclear power from nuclear bombs, which makes it risky for other reasons.

The truth is that this is a crucial challenge, which we have a small window of opportunity to meet. Solving the challenge of global warming should be our moon shot. The stakes are too high for us to do otherwise.

REVOTE, from page 4

At the end of the project the student voice was pointedly not heard, nor was it respected.

The move to become the Tritons without a second clarification vote reconsidering the Mudcats was a blatant "washing the hands" of the issue by the administration.

Yet students will protest the change, and athletics and school unity will suffer the consequences of the change.

The administration does not seem to trust student input on issues that directly affect that student's experience at the University. The administration has not put nearly enough

faith in the students during the identity changing process.

In order to restore student input it is necessary to hold a revote. Nothing fancy like the identity project is necessary, but a simple ballot revote between the top three candidates: Rivermen, Tritons, and Mudcats. This time it may be necessary to clarify what a mudcat is just in case there is a misunderstanding.

The students of UM-St. Louis are intelligent, and they want a say in what goes on at this University, but by ignoring their voices the problem of student apathy at UM-St. Louis will grow.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Mascot Name Change

There is nothing wrong with the Rivermen mascot name. If the former AD and UMSL Administration hadn't run the UMSL Athletic program into the ground the past 12 years this waste of time and money to change the mascot name would not be taking place. Cyclops George (cousin of Neptune) and the UM-St. Louis Identity Project Committee need to get a clue. Did anyone bother to ask the current athletes and coaches who represent the university about the name change? I know how alumni like me would answer. Over four decades of UMSL Alumni athletes and everyone else who gives a damn about UMSL will find this name change a laughing matter. UMSL should concentrate on supporting their own coaches and student athletes who represent the university as well as recruiting instead of worrying about a name change. Over 35 coaches have left UMSL the past 12 years because of frustration and abuse. St. Louis history is tied in with the mighty Mississippi and Missouri Rivers and the correlation with the Rivermen mascot name makes sense. The late, great Mark Twain (Sam Clemens) would have a field day on this name change and I'm sure his satire would be another masterpiece. I don't think the inept UM Board of Curators will give this

much thought and Cyclops George and others might get their way. Maybe NASA should be contacted and we can rocket Cyclops George and the Identity Project Committee to Neptune so they can observe Triton up close. Keep up the good work Cyclops!

Pat Williams
Alumnus

Green Energy in St. Louis

The "green energy" movement sweeping the country enjoyed a boost in St. Louis last night with a major event attended by many local political and business leaders, which I was shocked to find attracted no media attention. Recognized as "the greenest building in the world", the LEED platinum-certified Alberici Construction headquarters in Overland hosted an electrifying address by Robert Kennedy Jr. detailing the urgent need for a new energy policy to address the burgeoning climate crisis threatening our planet, and record levels of pollution that are devastating our children's health. Kennedy pointed to the reversal of over 400 separate environmental protection laws under the Bush Administration as a key factor in the spiraling environmental crisis we now face, but noted that it will take cooperation across party lines to move us for-

ward to a solution. We stand at the crossroads of a historic opportunity for America. Renewable energy could supply up to half the nation's current electricity demand by 2025 if we implement laws and policies to encourage its development and use (American Council on Renewable Energy). Like the Alberici headquarters building, we can deliver huge amounts of energy in an environmentally sustainable way with the political will and leadership to act. America is being left behind as the world races forward in developing and implementing sustainable energy technologies. If we set our priorities straight, we can turn this crisis into an opportunity, jump-start our economy and revitalize our communities with sustainable transit-oriented development focusing on mass transit as well as renewable energy and green building. America can do better!

Melanie Shouse
Overland Resident

Email letters to thecurrent@umsl.edu. Please include your name, major and year in school if you are a student, and your position and department if you are a faculty or staff member.

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SINCE 1966
STUDENT NEWSPAPER

Check out the online forums all summer long where you can comment about stories, photos and more.
www.thecurrentonline.com/message-board/

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The Current

During the dog days of summer, stay Current.

Check out thecurrentonline.com and read about the latest in UMSL news, sports, arts and entertainment.



Photos by: Matthew Hill • Photo Editor

Express Scripts had its grand opening celebration last Friday at its new world headquarters on North Campus. Participating in the ceremony was (from left) St. Louis County Executive Charlie Dooley, Missouri Gov. Matt Blunt, Express Scripts CEO George Paz, Congressman William Lacy Clay Jr. and UM-St. Louis Chancellor Thomas George.

Open for Business

Ribbon cutting at ESI marks first corporation on college campus

BY PAUL HACKBARTH
Editor-in-Chief

Less than two years ago, members from UM-St. Louis and Express Scripts came together on campus with shovels in hand to break ground on the new headquarters of a Fortune 500 pharmaceutical company.

For Larry Zarin, vice president of marketing and corporate communications for Express Scripts, last Friday was when his vision for the future was made official as Express Scripts held its grand opening to the public.

"For 20 years, we've had this vision, and now about 300,000 square feet later, it's here," Zarin said.

Express Scripts becomes the first Fortune 500 company to locate its world headquarters on a university's campus. The new headquarters will house about 1,100 employees.

Being the first was what made the event special for Chancellor Thomas George.

"When we were in the first talks about the potential of this project, Express Scripts asked for an example that we could copy, but we couldn't find one to copy it. We found out we were the model. Express Scripts is the model. UM-St. Louis is the model," George said.

In addition to George, Missouri Gov. Matt Blunt, County Executive Charlie Dooley, Rep. William "Lacy" Clay and Express Scripts CEO George Paz were also on hand for the ribbon

cutting and official grand opening. George explained that from about 10 to 15 years ago, UM-St. Louis had a vision of building a research park on the north side of campus.

"The match was so natural. We're a young university and we think outside the box. Express Scripts is a young business, so there are two new entities," George said.

Express Scripts, which was founded in 1986, went public in 1992.

The construction of Express Scripts has been a learning opportunity for George. "I've learned more about real estate, more about Brownfield tax credits in the past two years," he said.

The construction of the new headquarters was completed on time with the help of Brownfield tax credits, which helped pay for the cleanup for debris found on the construction site last March.

The Express Scripts headquarters is also expected to be LEED certified by early 2008, according to Rita Holmes-Bobo, senior manager of public affairs for Express Scripts.

LEED, which stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design,



Chancellor Thomas George (far right) speaks about the benefits that Express Scripts will bring to the campus. Also in attendance at the grand opening were (from left) Missouri Gov. Matt Blunt and Express Scripts CEO George Paz.

is a "points-based rating system that was developed by the United States Green Building Council to provide a standard for assessing the environmental responsibility of a project," according to a press release from Express Scripts.

The landscaping outside and plants inside are all native to the area, and as Holmes-Bobo explained, the lights in the building automatically turn off when a person leaves the room to save on energy.

If Express Scripts becomes LEED certified, it will join the more than 200 "green" structures in the nation.

While Express Scripts held its grand opening Friday, the company has already started forming partnerships

with UM-St. Louis. "The new Express Scripts headquarters is a great step and we can now focus on the many intellectual talent that makes UMSL such a great place to learn," Clay said.

Holmes-Bobo said a committee of about 15 University faculty and staff and 15 Express Scripts employees have discussed potential partnerships.

One of those partnerships involves internships, which Express Scripts is utilizing for the first time. The internships are open to UM-St. Louis students and other metropolitan area university students. UM-St. Louis professors are working on research projects with Express Scripts, especially in the information technology sector.

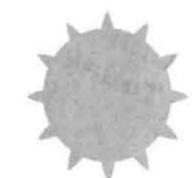
The partnerships also extend through art displays provided by UM-St. Louis art students. Artwork from Gallery Visio was on display, but new artwork from fine art students will rotate in the new headquarters every six months and will be available for purchase.

“When we were in the first talks about the potential of this project, Express Scripts asked for an example we could copy, but we couldn't find one to copy it. We found out we were the model.”

— Thomas George, UM-St. Louis Chancellor

TOP 10

Ways to Spend Your Summer Vacation



1. Train for a marathon.
2. Volunteer for a non-profit organization.
3. Take a summer class.
4. Adopt a pet.
5. Study Abroad.
6. Become a Big Brother or Big Sister
7. Lose 10 pounds.
8. Develop a new hobby (*The Current*, anyone?)
9. Declutter and organize your dorm, apartment or house
10. Catch up on sleep, friends, family or reading

If you have an idea for the next top ten list or any suggestions of what you would like to see us cover in our Features section, please send your ideas to us:

thecurrent@umsl.edu

New Student Orientations

Friday, June 22 - 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Tuesday, July 10 - 5:15 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Friday, July 27 - 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

All new student orientations will take place in the Millennium Student Center. Call 314-516-5291 for more information.

Returning acts, fresh faces highlight season at Touhill

BY AMY RECKTENWALD
Features Editor

On June 3, the Touhill Performing Arts Center announced their fifth season for the 2007-2008 school year at UM-St. Louis.

Rachel Queen, director of marketing for the Touhill PAC, said, "Everyone's really excited about it. We've had calls from the media about how excited they are and from others saying that it's the best one yet."

The season is comprised of four different series that are pre-packaged for subscribers: Opera! Opera!, Laugh Lines, Swingin' Sounds, and the Fusion series. Each series will present three shows. Also, there will be additional performances not part of the subscriber series that will be available, including the annual holiday concert and Valentine's Day performance.

This year's Opera! Opera! Series will present "The Merry Widow," an operetta by Franz Lehár performed by Czech Opera Prague on Nov. 18. The Merry Widow illustrates a man's struggle in trying to understand the women in his life.

On Feb. 16, Teatro Lirico d'Europa will present Puccini's "Tosca," a story set in Napoleon's Rome. The third part of the series is Gilbert and Sullivan's "The Mikado," performed by the Carl Rosa Opera Company on



The Second City comedy troupe will return to the Touhill for the fourth consecutive season May 16 and 17 to perform.

April 9.

Students and subscribers will find the return of Kathy Griffin to the Touhill this year as a part of the Laugh Lines series. Her performance was so well received when she was brought in by Student Activities for the 2006-2007 school year that she was asked to return for the series.

Also included in the Laugh Lines series are performances by Mario

Cantone and returning The Second City. This will be the fourth year that The Second City will be performing at the Touhill. Queen said, "I've seen them every year. They are so funny!" She added that even though she has seen them every year, they always stay funny and entertaining.

The Swingin' Sounds series has the privilege of kicking off the new season at the Touhill with "Sinatra

Sings," featuring vocalist Frank Sinatra, Jr. on Oct. 7. The Glenn Miller Orchestra will make a return to the Touhill as part of the series in April. May will deliver not only flowers, but also Maynard Ferguson's Alumni Band performing an 80th Birthday Tribute.

See TOUHILL SEASON, page 7

Planes, trains and automobiles, but no Metro this summer

Students still opt to use Metro despite UMSL not offering passes this summer

BY CANDACE ANDERSON
Assistant News Editor

While some students purchased Metro passes "just in case," other students depended on it as their only means of transportation.

At the end of the spring semester, the decision was made to discontinue selling Metro passes.

Because the program did not reach its quota of 3,300 passes, the program could not afford to keep Metro passes at \$45 per pass. Now with no Metro pass program and outrageous gas prices, how are students getting around?

Jhonna Woodard, sophomore, psychology, said she still uses public transportation.

"It's cheaper than gas, but it is costly," Woodard said taking the MetroLink is easier than driving.

"You avoid traffic and ridiculous gas prices," Woodard said.

Woodard said she takes the MetroLink for 45 minutes from Fairview Heights, Ill. to school everyday.

Marina Fischer, junior, nursing, who also lives in Fairview Heights, uses public transportation by choice. "The gas in Fairview Heights is more expensive than in St. Louis," she said.

Fischer agreed with Woodard. "It is cheaper to ride Metro, but I still have to pay \$60 out of pocket for a monthly pass," she said.

“A lot of students depend on the pass program. For some students, public transportation is the only way.”

— Adrian Walker, freshman, sociology

Adrian Walker, freshman, sociology, said he felt the decision to discontinue with the Metro pass for the summer semester was selfish.

"A lot of students depend on the pass program," Walker said. "For some students, public transportation is the only way."

Walker said the decision to discontinue the Metro pass program has affected his travel. Walker said he takes bus 70 Grand to the Grand MetroLink station to north campus throughout the week.

Dinae Fobish, junior, psychology, said that even though she has a car, the expensive gas prices have affected her travel more than anything.

"Gas is expensive but a necessity to your car," Fobish said. "I travel less now and my friends and I carpool to save gas."

The Metro pass program will continue in the fall but the passes have increased in price from \$45 to \$60.

While Fischer is happy about the Metro pass coming back, she wonders if it will disappear again because of lack of participation.

"If students didn't buy the passes at \$45, then why would they raise the price?" Fischer said.

Woodard says students would probably be more likely to buy passes this time around because of the increase of gas prices.

"I think people now realize how they rely on public transportation, and the Metro pass helps defer a decent amount of the cost," Woodard said.

"I am ecstatic that UMSL is bringing the Metro pass back. For the amount I pay for a month, I can pay for a semester," Woodard said. She now pays \$60 per month.

"I will be happy to have the Metro pass back for the fall," Walker said. "It is unfortunate that they have to increase the price, but it will still be the cheapest way to travel."

Culture, celebrities highlight Study Abroad for student at UMSL

By AMY RECKTENWALD
Features Editor

Some students dream of traveling overseas, while others dream of meeting famous people. But for Heather Nichols, junior, business administration, both dreams have become reality through her experience with the Study Abroad program.

Nichols is currently spending a semester in Madrid, Spain, and is thrilled for the opportunity to travel overseas.

"I had never been out of the country before. Having the opportunity is amazing," Nichols said.

The UM-St. Louis volleyball player said she enjoys the ease and expense of traveling in Europe. Nichols said, "I'm going to Rome and Berlin for two weeks for \$200."

Because travel is so inexpensive, she and a friend took a trip to Ireland for St. Patrick's Day. "She was from Wisconsin, and I am too. We're both

Irish, so we thought we'd go to Ireland," she said.

Her vacation in Ireland led to an even bigger experience than she expected. Nichols encountered a high profile person at the airport: former President George Bush, Sr.

On the way home to Madrid, they were waiting in the small shopping area at Shannon Airport. Nichols saw about 10 men dressed in black with a young man and an older gentleman. After watching a lady speak with the security guards, she approached the woman and asked if she knew who the people were.

Nichols said, "She told me, 'That's your president's father, dear.'" Nichols asked the guards if she could possibly speak to him and they agreed to let her talk to him. Bush introduced her to his first aide, and they spoke for about 45 minutes. He offered her some salmon for a meal, and also a beer, but she turned down the drink because she is an NCAA athlete.

Nichols said that he was very nice



Photo Courtesy Heather Nichols

Heather Nichols and her friend pose with former president George Bush Sr. Nichols and her friend were waiting at an airport to travel to Ireland during a Study Abroad trip to Spain.

and friendly.

"There was no talk of politics. He asked about my family, so I asked about his," she said.

The excitement of meeting a former president is not the crowning

moment of Nichols' summer abroad. She said that she loves the entire experience.

"It was something I was looking forward to. Ever since high school, it was something I wanted to do," said

Nichols. Both her sisters had studied abroad and had great experiences.

She said that while she wanted to improve her Spanish, and that it would assist her with her studies in international business, her sisters were the

main reason she wanted to study abroad.

She learned about the UM-St. Louis Study Abroad program through her volleyball coach. "It's ok, but not normal for athletes to take off a semester to study abroad," Nichols said. The coach was very encouraging, and Nichols felt it was "awesome" to have found out about the program that way.

Nichols said, "We don't have a program that goes to South America. So my choices were Mexico or Spain." She chose Spain because she would have more opportunities to speak English in Mexico. Also, more of the business classes she would be taking would have been taught in English rather than Spanish.

"At first, I was nervous. I was rooming with only Spanish speaking roommates," said Nichols. Her roommates are from Argentina and Korea, so the only common language they had was Spanish.

"You grow into the language and acclimate," she said.

Nichols said that it is good for Americans to study abroad, because "it shows you how Americans are viewed. Also, it shows them what Americans are like - real people, nice people." She added that she is asked questions about the United States every week.

She encourages everyone that can to study abroad.

"It's the best thing anyone can do," Nichols said. "You get great exposure to another culture and independence I don't think you could get in the U.S."

TOUHILL SEASON, from page 6



Photo Courtesy Touhill PAC

The Maynard Ferguson's alumni band will perform in his 80th birthday tribute.

The Fusion series returns to the Touhill as a cooperative effort of performances by the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra for the third year. According to Queen, the series is always about pushing musical boundaries.

"Different from what you'd see from Powell Hall," Queen said.

The first performance in the series will be "An Afternoon of Bluegrass" on Dec. 2, followed by Messiaen's "Turangalila Symphony" on Jan. 29. This event will explore the creation of the "Turangalila Symphony" in a multimedia blend of visual and musical displays, coupled with a lecture and a full performance of the music.

The third part of the Fusion series is "becoming the most popular every year," according to Queen. "Explosions" is a recurring event featuring percussion performances.

METRO, from page 1

"We came to an agreement that we would sell passes based on consignments," Coonrod said. "We don't have to buy a certain number of passes whereas in the past we did."

"This has been an ongoing conversation between Metro and the University," Coonrod said. "We want to find out what will be the best program for our students."

Starting in early fall, Student Affairs will work on giving students more information on where the passes

It will feature not only St. Louis Symphony percussionists, but also returning group Afriky Lolo, a local African dance and percussion group.

Students and subscribers will recognize the names of several repeat performers, including: Manhattan Transfer, third year; Chris Botti, third year; Michael Amante, second year; Glenn Miller Orchestra, third year; and The Second City, fourth year.

New stand out performances for this year include Bernadette Peters, Michael Feinstein and Frank Sinatra, Jr. Regarding Peters, Queen said, "I'm so excited to have her here."

Michael Feinstein is scheduled to give the Valentine's Day performance this year. "We try to have a romantic performance for Valentine's," said Queen.

Manhattan Transfer will be performing for the holiday concert on

December 12. Queen said having them in for the holidays has practically become a tradition.

In honor of Black History Month, Ladysmith Black Mambazo will be performing on Feb. 10. The performance by the Grammy-winning group will feature traditional dances to a South African beat.

Queen said that in choosing performances for the season, the Touhill tries to create the best of both worlds. "We look at what's done well in the past, see what's available, and make a match," she said.

According to Queen, the season only comprises six to seven percent of the total performances at the Touhill each year.

UM-St. Louis events make up about 70 percent of the Touhill calendar, including student performances and events like last year's "Booth."

gram is heading.

"We also want to get more feedback from students about how they feel about the program and what would suit the student body as a whole," Coonrod said.

"I think the decision to continue with the Metro Pass program is a good idea," Student Government Association president Bryan Goers said. "A lot of people use and depend on the pass for public transportation."

"It is unfortunate that the passes

went up in price, but it is still cheaper than gas and the regular student passes," Goers said.

"The Metro pass program is very convenient for those students who do not have access to a car," said Wendy Elmore, sophomore, theater and dance. "I happen to be one of those students."

"I am thrilled that the program is back," Elmore said. "I am a little disappointed on the increase in price, but I understand."

TRITON, from page 1

Goers seconded that opinion, adding that the Tritons should be a thought out image, and not a faceless one like the Riverman.

"I think that's where we went wrong with the Rivermen," Goers

said, "UMSL did a bad job marketing the Rivermen to students and students didn't have an image to rally behind."

Curt Coonrod said that there will absolutely be opportunity for student input on the visual design of the

Tritons mascot.

The Triton is the seventh moon of the planet Neptune as well as the son of Poseidon/Neptune in mythology.

The god is traditionally seen with a trident and is half man half fish.

BENTON, from page 1

Chancellor George said with the renovations, "swing space" will need to be created. "During the renovations, the people have to have some where to go," George said. "Especially in the labs."

The Student Government Association of UM-St. Louis passed a resolution in October 2006 to adopt eco-friendly building. The benefits of building green will save the University money and benefit the environment.

"Going green is an excellent idea," Spilling said. "It is energy efficient, well insulated and better for the environment."

The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Resolution drawn up by a few UM-St. Louis students, recommends and encourages the UM System to meet new standards of environmental

design and sustainability by seeking LEED accreditation on all new buildings built by the University.

According to United States Green Builders Council (USGBC), an ordinance to adopt LEED for all newly constructed and renovated city-owned facilities greater than 5,000 square feet in size was adopted February 2007 in St. Louis. In addition, each facility must achieve LEED Silver status using the most current version of the plan for accreditation.

Express Scripts International's new headquarters, located north of the Mark Twain Athletic Complex, is also a LEED certified building.

SGA President Bryan Goers said he hopes the administration encourages and includes LEED certified designs in the plans for renovation.

Sam Darandari, director of

Planning and Construction said his department has been working very closely with the Chancellor's office and the UM-System.

"We have yet to set a date for construction to begin," Darandari said. But George said he hopes to begin sometime in the upcoming academic year.

"Right now this project is among top priority in the UM System and in the state of Missouri," George said. "Some funds are expected to be released to begin late this summer."

"It's hard to say the impact renovations will have on classes held in the building, but it will not affect classes scheduled of [the] upcoming fall semester," Spilling said.

The plans may possibly consist of renovations to the existing building, a new building(s), or a combination of both.

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A&E

SUMMER READING

1. Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows by J.K. Rowling

Anyone who claims they are not anxiously awaiting the 7th Harry Potter installment is lying through their teeth. J.K. Rowling has kept readers enticed with her witty and charming tales of the young wizard and his friends, though the blockbuster movies do not hurt either. Well, wait no more because July 21 marks the day when all questions will be laid to rest, as the final installment is released.

2. The Book of Useless Information by Noel Botham and the Useless Information Society

The Useless Information Society is a group of journalists, TV personalities and other informed beings who get together bi-annually to get drunk and swap useless tidbits of information. Wouldn't you like to know what they have to say.

3. Empire of Blue Water: Captain Morgan's Great Pirate Army, the Epic Battle for the Americas, and the Catastrophe That Ended the Outlaws' Bloody Reign

Oh, this title speaks for itself. With this page turner you can find out what that connoisseur of rum has been up to all his life.

4. Let's Get Primitive: Urban Girl's Guide to Camping

This pocket guide is the surest way of getting your lady out in the wilderness.

TOP TUNES

DOWNLOADS

1. Umbrella - Rihanna featuring Jay-Z



2. Party Like a Rock Star - Shop Boyz

3. Makes Me Wonder - Maroon 5

4. Big Girls Don't Cry - Fergie

5. Buy U a Drank - T-Pain featuring Yung Joc

6. You Give Love a Bad Name - Blake Lewis

7. Never Again - Kelly Clarkson

8. This Is My Now - Jordan Sparks

9. Home - Daughtry

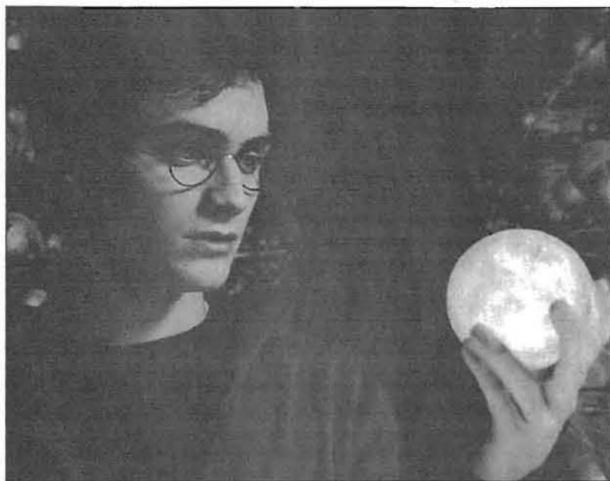
10. Thks Fr Th Mmrs - Fall Out Boy

What will Harry Potter fans do?

Fifth Potter movie, final J.K. Rowling book due out in July

By CATE MARQUIS

A&E Editor



Harry Potter gazes into a crystal ball in the not so long awaited but highly anticipated "Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix."

The literary and cinematic stars are in alignment for Harry Potter fans this summer, with the release of the movie adaptation of "Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix" and release of what author J.K. Rowling says is the final book in the series "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows," both due out in July.

The movie will be released July 11, 2007. J.K. Rowling's last book in the series is due to be released one week after the new film's opening.

The well-crafted movie adaptations boosted the profile of the already-popular books to new heights, creating the now-perfect storm of Harry Potter mania. What will Potter fans do with Harry when the series ends?

They will have two more movie adaptations to look forward to, after the release of this summer's book five movie. The movie series has accumulat-

ed an impressive cast of supporting actors, from Maggie Smith, Alan Rickman, Robbie Coltrane and Michael Gambon to Gary Oldman, Ralph Fiennes, Helena Bonham Carter and Jason Issacs, to name a few.

This time the director is David Yates, who is set to also direct the next Harry Potter film but whose previous work was mostly in television. Both directors Mira Nair ("The Namesake," "Monsoon Wedding") and Jean-Pierre Jeunet ("Amelie," "City of Lost Children") were asked to direct this film but declined.

The movie series has gone through several directors, and Yates is only one of two directors to helm more than one, but the cast has been more stable so far. The characters age a year for each book, but since the films have been taking longer than a year to make, there has been speculation about a change in cast.

Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint and Emma Watson are back again for this next film, and the series' studio, Warner

Brothers, has announced that all three principle actors will return for the next two films, completing the series.

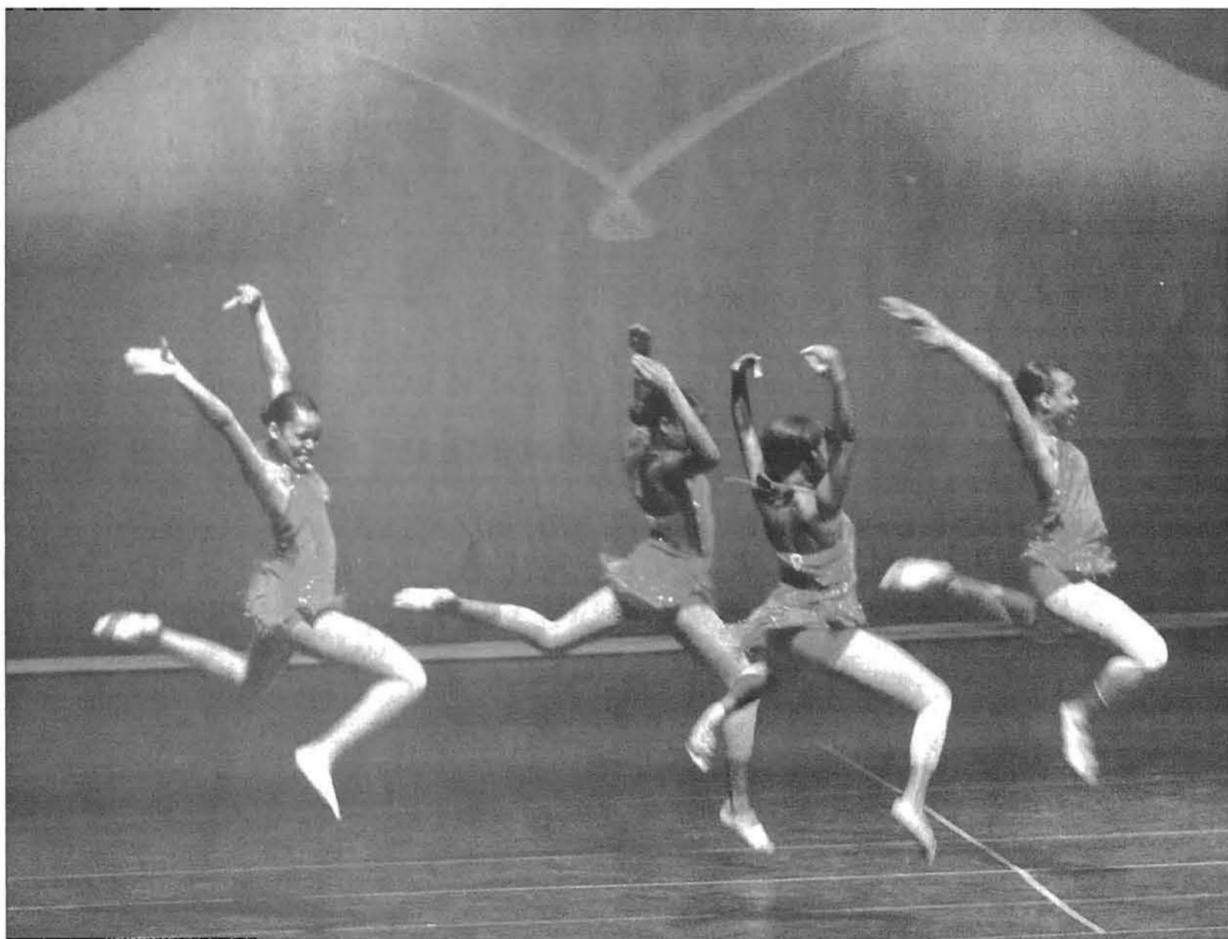
But all good things come to an end, as the saying goes.

There is of course a plethora of Web sites devoted to all things Harry Potter, and the number of fans is legion. One popular website is the Leaky Caldron (www.the-leaky-cauldron.org), devoted to both the books and movies and including a count down to the release of the last book.

Doubtless, each fan has their favorite site. Depending on how Rowling ends the series, and security is tight on that, the series might be continued in some fashion by fans.

The back story on Harry seems pretty complete but the prequel is always a possibility, plus spin-offs on other characters in Harry's world. Where author J.K. Rowling goes next after her spectacular success is also unknown at this time. Speculation alone can fuel web content for awhile.

DANCE DANCE REVOLUTION



Students from the Saint Louis Dance Academy perform at the Touhill during their 2007 recital.

Maria Jenkins • Staff Photographer

MOVIE REVIEW

Ocean's 13 still comes up lucky

By CATE MARQUIS

A&E Editor

Three's the charm for this summer sequel. "Ocean's Thirteen," the third movie in a series that started with a remake of the Frank Sinatra Rat Pack classic "Ocean's Eleven," is still hitting the entertainment jackpot. For just plain old escapist entertainment, it delivers the goods.

Danny Ocean (George Clooney) and his pack of heist meisters are back in Las Vegas with another caper to pull off. This one dispenses with the romantic complications, and has the team focused on righting a wrong, in their own style, after one of their own (Elliot Gould) is ripped off by an unscrupulous casino entrepreneur W. Bank (Al Pacino).

Brad Pitt, Don Cheadle, Bernie Mac, Carl Reiner and Matt Damon are among the returning cast, along with some new faces among the team of high tech, high concept gentleman thieves.

Of course, the team count has to come up to thirteen for this one, although they dispense with the countdown this time. It is just the guys in this one, with no Julia Roberts or Catherine Zeta-Jones on Ocean's team, although casino mogul Pacino's right hand man is a coldly-efficient, fiercely-loyal, corporate tiger of a woman, played by Ellen Barkin.

Ocean's Thirteen is more of an action movie than caper film, but I found this sequel more focused and entertaining than the previous one.



Rusty Ryan (Brad Pitt) and Danny Ocean (George Clooney) enjoy the atmosphere of a tunnel-borer as they go over blue prints with their crew.

Photo courtesy of RottenTomato.com

It is lighter and funnier, with loopy, non-sequitur patter, reminiscent of Robert Altman, peppered throughout. George Clooney and Brad Pitt's tongue-in-cheek exchanges are particularly good, but there is plenty of laugh-making throughout.

In a classic caper film, the fun is in figuring out how the thieves are going to pull off the crime, but all that is spelled out up-front in this case.

The suspense is in whether the victim of the heist, the double dealing casino owner, is going to catch on in time and with any of a hundred things that can go wrong.

Along the way we get a workers' revolt in a Mexican factory, a balky card shuffling machine that tends to spew cards at inopportune moments and Matt Damon with a disguise that mostly consists of a prominent nose.

Plenty of spectacular special effects keep action fans entertained, but it is the clever set-ups, the banter, the humor and theme of standing up for your friends that really gives the film its charm.

There is probably no chance that the studio will stop the "Ocean" franchise with this one but it would be a fitting stopping point, as this one it just going to be hard to beat.

Circus Flora: suspenseful, unforgettable

By CATE MARQUIS

A&E Editor

One of the delights of living in the St. Louis area is the annual appearance of Circus Flora, our own first-rate European-style one-ring circus.

Part theatre, part magic, this circus is not just for kids (although they will love it too), but a fantastic world to thrill adults as well. Circus Flora is committed to persevering the art and artistry of classic circus.

It is unique because it uses a new theatrical theme each year to tie together the performances, using exotic costumes and sets to showcase and preserve traditional circus arts, performed under a big top, with a live orchestra providing original music.

The audience sits close, which heightens the suspense, and the circus features world-class performers from multi-generation circus families. It is one of the best new circuses in the world, and it is right here.

If you have never been to Circus Flora, you owe yourself a trip. This year's show is called "Marrakesh," and is filled with the spice of that fabled locale in the 1920s. It features a mystery to be solved by a detective in the style of Charlie Chan.

Circus Flora's "Marrakesh" runs until June 24, Tuesday through Sunday evenings, with Saturday and Sunday matinees, in the parking lot next to Powell Hall in Grand Center. Tickets are \$15 to \$30, and while no seat is further than 42 feet away, it is worth the extra money to be ring-side at least once, for an unmatched thrill. The circus is under a big top tent but the tent is air-conditioned.

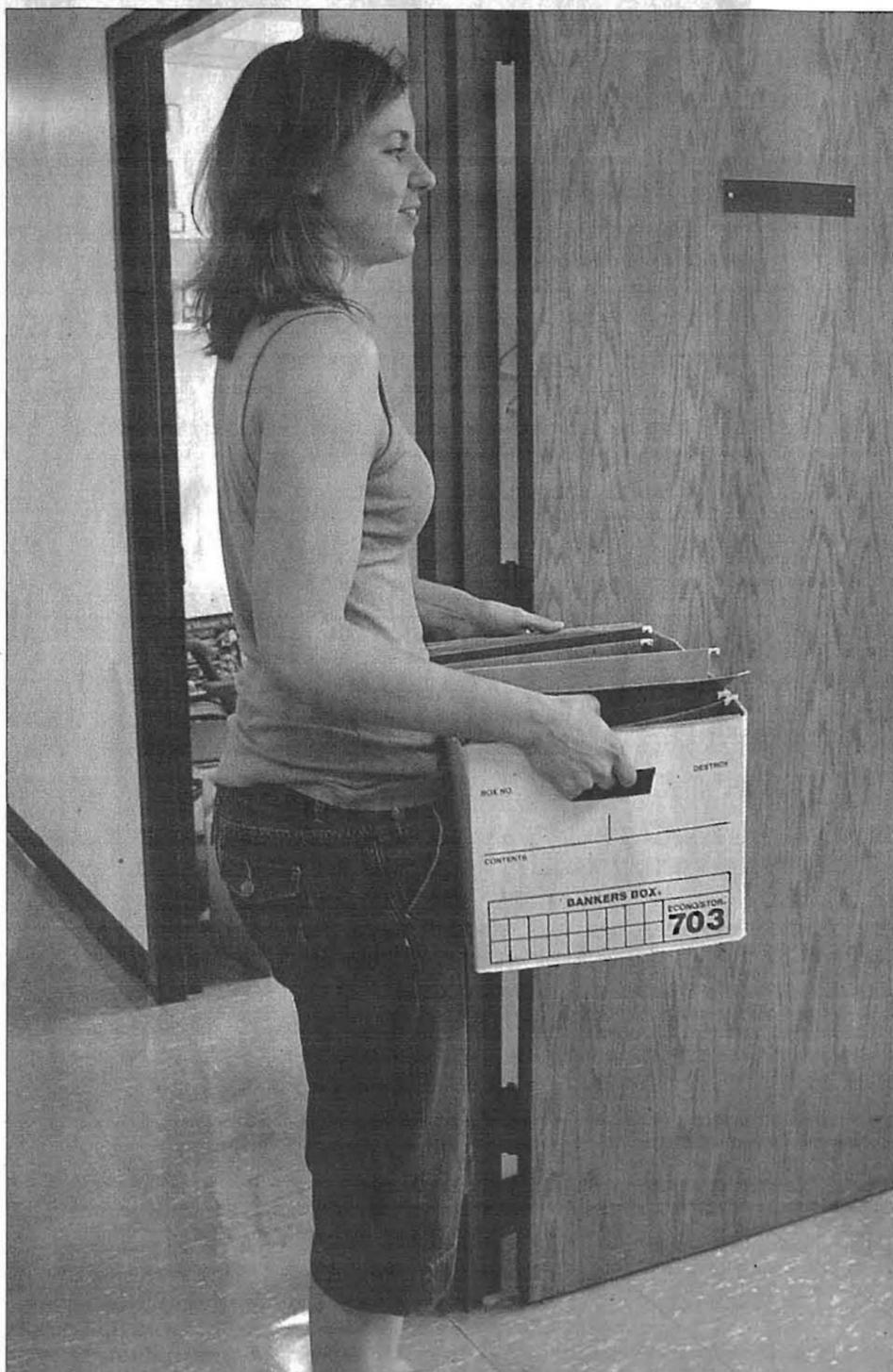
The great detective is played by an Asian elephant named Dondi. Circus Flora was named after Flora the Elephant, the featured mascot of the circus from its beginning. Since Flora's retirement, the circus has lacked an elephant act, but now that has changed with the debut of Dondi and her three assistants, Phil, Francine and Joshua Schacht.

Traditional circuses have both animal and human performers, and so does Circus Flora. Dogs, horses and elephants are among this year's acts, along with clowns, trapeze acts, the high-wire performers, jugglers and acrobats.

Circus Flora is always changing, with some anchoring performers to keep things consistent. Once again, Cecil MacKinnon's classic European clown Yo-Yo narrates and acts as mistress of ceremonies. Among returning old favorites are Circus Flora's gifted acrobatic clown Nino (played by Giovanni Zoppe), the famous Flying Wallendas and the St. Louis Arches, a team of child acrobats.

Trapeze artists The Flying Pages, who debuted last year, return as well. New acts include Dondi the elephant and the Schacht family, the clown-and-dog act of Pino and Bonzer, Katja Schumann and her halter-free "liberty" horsemanship act, Sasha Alexandre Nevidonski's aerials and horse act, and Ianna Spirit Riders horse and acrobatics act.

See CIRCUS FLORA, page 10



Danny Reise • Staff Photographer

Head coach Lisa Curliss-Taylor moves into her new office in the Mark Twain gym last Friday.

New women's coaches prepare for season

BY LAGUAN FUSE

Sports Editor

The UM-St. Louis women's basketball team will have two new coaches as they enter the 2007-2008 school year. Lisa Curliss-Taylor was hired as head coach and Lora Westling has been hired as assistant coach.

Curliss-Taylor comes to UM-St. Louis from Division III East Texas Baptist University where she served as head coach for four years. Last year, she led the team to a record 22-5 season and the American Southwest Conference East Division Championship.

Westling played basketball at Washburn University for four years before serving as assistant coach for the past two years. Washburn won the NCAA Regional Championship two years straight and compiled a record of 61-5 over the past two years.

Curliss-Taylor previously coached Westling a few years ago at Washburn University.

"[Westling] is going to bring a lot of energy," said Curliss-Taylor. "She is a very hard worker and is a hard worker as a player. She is very energetic."

Curliss-Taylor and Westling are taking over a basketball program which finished last season with a record of 6-20.

Curliss-Taylor becomes the tenth women's basketball coach in UM-St. Louis history.

"I felt like they were ready for something new and even a new style of play," said Curliss-Taylor. "Overall, I think there is excitement from my end and their end."

The team struggled at times with consistency and was unable to put teams away last season. Curliss-Taylor plans to change the style of play of the team to improve results.

"I am more of a fast-break type coach. So if the girls can adjust to that, hopefully that will improve the play," Curliss-Taylor said.

The women's basketball team will not have Jennifer Martin and will need



New assistant coach Lora Westling was coached by Curliss-Taylor at Washburn University.

Lisa Curliss-Taylor Career

- Head Coach
ETBU
Career: 57-48
2005-2006: 18-9
2006-2007: 22-5
- Assistant Head Coach
Washburn University
2002-2003: 30-4
(Won conference and regional championships)
2003-2004: 23-7

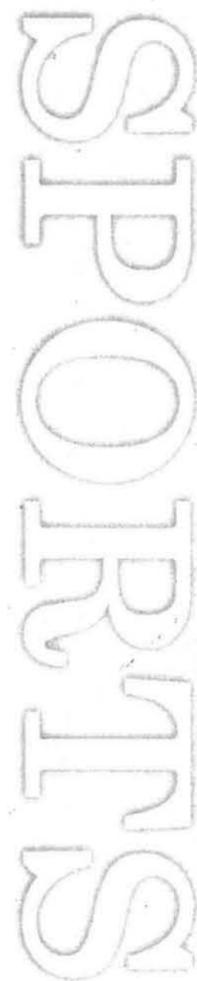
to find a new stats leader in rebounds, points and blocks next year.

"I think with any team you are always going to lose someone each year," said Curliss-Taylor.

"Some of the seniors, or some of the incoming freshmen, sophomores or transfers that we have coming in have to step up and fill the spot."

The off-season will be very important to the success of the team.

Curliss-Taylor said she has already given the players a preseason workout plan to ensure that they are in shape when the season begins.



UMSL SPORTS 2006-2007 RECAPS

Baseball
20-24 (16-20 GLVC)
Next season begins
March 2008

Softball
20-30 (8-16 GLVC)
Next season begins
February 2008

Men's Basketball
9-18 (4-15 GLVC)
Next season begins
November 2007

Women's Basketball
6-20 (2-17 GLVC)
Next season begins
November 2007

Men's Soccer
9-7-2 (6-5-2 GLVC)
Next season begins
August 2007

Women's Soccer
12-7-1 (8-5-0 GLVC)
Next season begins
August 2007

Mens' Golf
9th at GLVC
Champ.
Top finish - 5th at
Quincy Invnt.
Next season begins
September 2007

Women's Golf
7 of 12 GLVC Champ
Top finish - 2nd at
Spring Invnt.
Next season begins
September 2007

Men's Tennis
11-7 (3-2 GLVC)
Next season begins
September 2007

Women's Tennis
4-14 (1-4 GLVC)
Next season begins
September 2007

Women's Volleyball
11-18 (8-8 GLVC)
Next season begins
August 2007

Two candidates head to the forefront in search for new athletic director

BY TOM SCHNABLE

Assistant Sports Editor

Since the resignation of former athletic director Pat Dolan last April, the search has been on for a new full-time athletic director.

A search committee featuring members of the faculty and staff of UM-St. Louis formed with the intention of finding the new athletic director.

Committee member Beth Goetz, UM-St. Louis' women's soccer coach, said the committee is looking for someone who can communicate the UM-St. Louis philosophy throughout the entire athletic department.

She said the committee is interested in hiring someone who can create a vision for the department that involves more success, but contends that success is measured in more ways than just

wins and losses.

She added that the committee wants someone in place who will make athletics more of a presence on the campus and also in the community.

According to Goetz, the process is going very well thus far. The committee has been reviewing applications and conducting a few phone interviews. From all this, two candidates have come forward as the most likely choices.

Interim athletic director Lori Flanagan has already interviewed and John Garvilla will interview for the position next week. Goetz said she is unable to comment on anything in particular about either person at this time.

The committee would like to find someone as soon as possible, but the ideal deadline for hiring the next athletic director is July 1. However, Goetz said if the committee cannot identify the

right candidate for the job by then, the deadline would be extended until the right person is found.

Garvilla's interview is open to students, faculty, staff and alumni. It takes place Tuesday June 12 in 411 Woods Hall from 2:30p.m until 3 p.m.

Both candidates' credentials are available on file at the reserve desk in the Thomas Jefferson Library and the Ward E. Barnes Library.

SHORT FUSE

Will new name bring wins to UMSL?

This past school year, the athletic department had a lot of ups and downs.

Some teams and individual players succeeded, while others choked under the pressure.

None of that matters now because each team is going to have to look to the future if they want to win.

So what will next year bring for the Rivermen and Riverwomen? Wait, the Riverpeople are gone and they will not be returning. What are we now? Tritons - what the hell is a Triton?

So we go from being Rivermen and Riverwomen to being a god of the sea in Greek mythology, the son of Poseidon and Amphitrite, represented as having the tail of a fish and the upper body of a man. Wow, doesn't that just scream school spirit?

OK, crappy new name aside, these players are still going to play. Volleyball, men's soccer and women's soccer finished the season and made it to the GLVC tournament. I really hope to see these teams continue on that success and hopefully make it out of the first round.

I am not sure what to expect from the basketball teams. Are we in store for another fan-deprived lackluster season, or are the teams going to start playing like everyone says they can?

New head coach Lisa Curliss-Taylor is going to have her work cut out for her as she tries to turn the Tritons, the great figures from the



BY LAGUAN FUSE

Sports Editor

sea, into a better basketball team.

If she is unable to recruit a dominant player in the key to replace Jennifer Martin, the team will come up a little short on blocks and rebounds.

I am not really sure what the men's team needs to do to improve, but they need to do it twice.

If coach Chris Pilz wants to get his team to the Great Lakes Valley Conference (GLVC) tournament, he is going to have to make sure his team does not go on two six-game losing streaks during the season. Maybe last season was just a one-time occurrence, but the team cannot afford a repeat performance.

I have a good feeling that our golf teams will have a great year. The women finished the season with a fourth place finish at the Robert Morris College Spring Invitational. The men had two play-

ers with top ten finishes at the GLVC tournament.

Will there be more players with top ten finishes next year?

The men's tennis team did great last season but could not advance past Drury in the tournament. Without Francis Lam, the team will be missing a consistent player, but I think they will do just fine.

The women's tennis team is going to need to make some serious changes if they want to improve on last season's 4-14 record.

The softball team came close to making it into the GLVC tournament, but they just ran out of games.

The last conference games of the season needed to be won if they wanted to advance to the tournament.

Losing the last four games of the season eliminated the chance of the team advancing.

I am interested in seeing if they can hold it together towards the end of next season.

What will next year bring to the inline hockey team? The team played great during the regular season, but fell in the Nationals. The team will need to stay focused and they will be able to win nationals next year.

I am still waiting on a baseball field. I am not the only person who is waiting either. So, um, where is the field?

I see a new parking garage on south campus, but no baseball field. Maybe we should ask daddy Poseidon and mommy Amphitrite for a new stadium for our birthday.

STAFF VIEWPOINT

NBA Revolution fit for a King

If you have been paying attention even a little bit this summer, it is possible you have now become a witness. At least, that is what the folks at Nike call it. What you are perhaps witnessing is the single-handed take over of the NBA, and his name is LeBron James.

Of course, by the time this article is published, it is likely his Cleveland Cavaliers are down 2-0 in their World Championship Series against the San Antonio Spurs, and even if they are not, their chances of victory are slim. But that is inconsequential in the long run, because the future of basketball is here right now, a year or two ahead of schedule.

After a regular season in which LBJ, one of his marketing monikers, was criticized from basically opening day until the end of the season for coasting through until the start of the playoffs, the playoffs have been a different story.

Cleveland breezed by two lackluster opponents in Washington and New Jersey, but the Cavs then found themselves going up against their longtime nemesis, the Detroit Pistons.

After losing the first two games, most people felt this is where Cleveland's season would end, another hard lesson in the education of the once-and-future King James.



BY TOM SCHNABLE

Assistant Sports Editor

However, the fighting LeBrons (you get the idea that he has a lot of nicknames) wanted nothing to do with this so-called foregone conclusion. They won the next two games at home, but then had to return to Detroit for the important game five.

LeBron was quoted before the game as saying if his team got him to the end of the third quarter with a chance to win, he would not allow them to lose.

No truer words have ever been spoken. With his team down, LeBron poured in shot after shot after shot, carrying his team all throughout the fourth quarter and into the overtime period and eventually to victory in double overtime.

He finished with his team's final 25 points and 29 of their last 30. It was one of the greatest single playoff performances the NBA has ever seen, at least since the days of Michael Jordan.

But his performance was more than just statistics. It was his arrival as the Global Icon (I swear that is the last nickname I can think of) he claimed he is. The game six victory was merely the coronation of King James and his Cavaliers.

See REVOLUTION, page 10

All good things come in three: The summer of triplets

Pirates 3



BY CATE MARQUIS

A&E Editor

Disney and Johnny Depp continue the enormously successful pirate movie series with "Pirates of the Caribbean 3: At World's End." The third movie completes a cycle of sorts with the first two movies, but sets up the series for another round, of course.

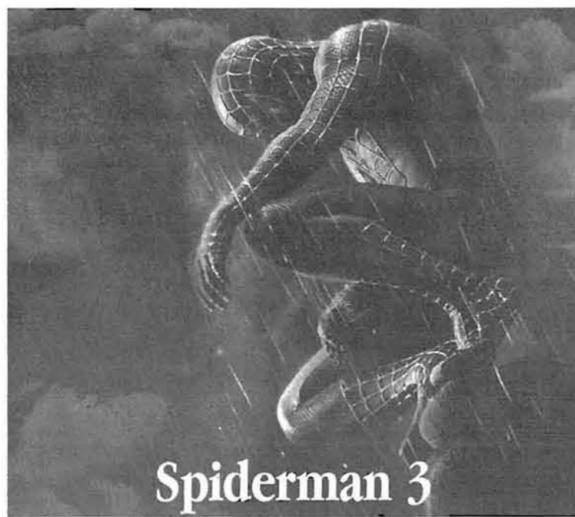
This movie is darker, with more action and less comedy, than the previous two. We knew it was trending that way but I miss the swashbuckling fun, and would guess that at least some others feel the same way. Still there is plenty of excitement and plenty of spectacular special effects.

The second Pirates movie hardly even had an end, so "Pirates of the Caribbean 3: At World's End" picks up immediately with Elizabeth Swan (Keira Knightly), Will Turner (Orlando Bloom) and Captain Barbosa (Geoffrey Rush) in a seedy and sinister Asian underworld, on the trail of Capt. Jack Sparrow (Johnny Depp).

Geoffrey Rush steals the show in many instances, although Depp is still good. Keira Knightly and Orlando Bloom's characters have gone through such changes from the first film, that they sort of walk through this. The Rolling Stones' Keith Richards, Johnny Depp's inspiration for his Jack Sparrow, makes his long-anticipated appearance late, as a menacing pirate and Jack Sparrow's dad.

The story is dark, even sinister, with more tragic touches than comic ones, especially for the young couple. It does neatly tie up the storyline, although more than a few things have little logic to them.

But this one is not really about the characters, and only somewhat



Spiderman 3

BY CATE MARQUIS

A&E Editor

The third Spider-Man movie is darker than the previous ones as well, but here the effect is more interesting, with deeper characters and reflection on ethical dilemmas.

Spider-Man 3 opens with Peter Parker feeling pretty cocky. He has the girl of his dreams, no super villains in sight, a great job at the newspaper and everyone loves Spidey. You know it can not last, and sure enough, a couple of events set things in motion.

One of these is the arrival of a space vehicle with an oily black goo from outside the solar system, which clings to living things and transforms them into shells to do its unpleasant bidding. A chance event also transforms an escaped convict into a creature of shifting sand but enormous strength, the Sandman. And there is still Peter Parker's old buddy Harry, the son of vanquished nemesis, the Goblin, and all their issues.

Then there is Mary Jane, whose career has hit a rough patch and is feeling overlooked as Spider-Man basks in his fame.

This Spider-Man movie is much more character and plot-driven, and less about action. Although Spidey

ends up with three villains to deal with, the film's focus is more on the characters, their interpersonal relationships and Peter Parker's internal struggles between impulses to good and evil.

This sequel also focuses on the relationship between Peter Parker and Mary Jane, giving it a surprisingly realistic and even romantic tone. While this new tact is handled with unexpected skill, both these factors are likely to make the film less popular with the hardcore comic fans and more popular with more general audiences, especially women.

Action fans will still find lots of eye-popping special effects and terrific battles between the web-slinger and his evil adversaries. But things are a little less cut and dried, which sharpens the suspense.

Purists are likely less pleased with the one, which compresses years of storyline into one film and burns through three villains at one go. But audiences who are more fans of the movies than the comics will be entertained, and the sequel's plot ties up story lines running from the first Spider-Man movie, making it easier for the movie series to take off in another direction, or even weather a change of cast, which has been rumored to be coming.

about the plot. It is about the action and effects, which appear in boatloads and are really top notch, of course.

If what you liked most about these pirate movies was the action and effects, you will not be disap-

pointed. If you like the comedy more, offerings are slimmer this time. Doubtless, the swashbuckling Jack Sparrow will likely go on new adventures, but maybe a little further afield from the playful antics of the first pirate hit.

Shrek 3



BY CATE MARQUIS

A&E Editor

The third Shrek movie maintains the same high entertainment quality but skews a bit more into grown-up humor with more jokes that will sail over little heads.

In Shrek 3, Shrek and Fiona are faced with the unappealing, for ogres at least, prospect of becoming the king and queen of Far Far Away, when Fiona's father passes away. Having had a taste of court life while Fiona's father was ill, Shrek has no intention of taking on the position for life.

He is faced with finding a more suitable and eager successor to the throne. While Shrek embarks on that quest, Fiona and her ladies in waiting, Snow White, Sleeping Beauty, Cinderella and Rapunzel, have to cope with a coup attempt by a scheming, rejected Prince Charming.

The focus of the comedy action is much more on the ladies than on Eddie Murphy's Donkey or Antonio Banderas' Puss in Boots, a let-down for fans of each.

Still there are plenty of humor and Hollywood references, along with the fairy tale jokes.

Like the previous two films, the story line is good and the characters remarkably believable and likeable.

Mike Myer's works his magic once again with his multilayered Shrek.

Once again, Shrek is worth the money.

It is an old superstition that good luck, or bad, happens in threes. This summer, number three sequels are everywhere, so entertainment-minded moviegoers have triple the effect.

Hollywood has always had sequels but they seem to take over summers now. Here are quick reviews on three number three sequels.

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SEARCH, from page 3

Gov. Matt Blunt supports Kenny Hulshof's candidacy for the position.

"I consider this position a rare opportunity to extend my dedication to public service in a unique way," Hulshof said about his candidacy.

Walsworth wanted to make it

clear that the board would not reject any of the former candidates.

Walsworth still has hopes of having a new UM System president before the beginning of the fall semester.

The systems interim president Gordon Lamb, who has been in position since April when Floyd

officially resigned, will president the system until replaced by a permanent president.

"Gordon Lamb has been so wonderful," Kerford said of the interim. "I wish he would just stay forever."

The Board of Curators is not scheduled to meet again until the end of July.

CIRCUS FLORA, from page 8

Other new acts are Giovanni Zoppe's Nino and his sister Tosca Zoppe, with a bareback equestrian act, and "Human Slinky" Alesyna Goulevich, who spins up to 50 hula hoops at a time.

Some of the newcomers provided this year's highlights. Human Slinky Alesyna was jaw-dropping good, with an amazing ability to keep all those rings spinning. She combined the basic hula hoops with classic circus ring juggling and added a new level to the routine by her flirtatious flourishes, charming the audience completely.

Pino and Bonzer were another big hit. In this act, Pino (Diane Wasnak), a silent, lively little Chaplinesque figure, is bedeviled by

a mischievous Australian Shepherd named Bonzer, with hilarious results. Both their comic timing and tight coordination in intricate, lightning-fast stunts were humor delights.

Dondi the Elephant was a hit as well, with an amazing routine by Joshua Schacht balanced, and even dancing, on the elephant's back while she executed a series of twists and moves, a routine unlike any you have ever seen.

The most beautiful, fantasy-filled and romantic performance was the acrobatic aerial and equestrian duet, performed heart-stopping grace by Andrew Adams and Erica Gilfether, in which they seemed suspended by sheer force of will above the saw-

dust.

The evening's highpoint for classic circus thrills belonged to the Flying Pages, who flew through the air with ease and successfully pulled off the triple somersault and flying double pass on their trapezes. As always, Nino the Clown and Yo-Yo kept things moving during setups and the Circus Flora band set the right suspenseful, romantic or comic mood.

As the happy crowd filters after the show, the circus performers are there to greet you, sign an autograph and thank you for coming.

What could be a better end, one that will make you want to let your imagination run away with the circus another day.

REVOLUTION, from page 9

They were crowned the next great team in basketball, which is remarkable because one needs to look no further than the roster to see exactly how lackluster King James' court is.

With a roster that features St. Louisan Larry Hughes and a group of also-rans that would most likely not start on any playoff team in the much tougher Western Conference, it only goes to show how amazing what we are witnessing truly is.

Maybe Bron Bron (apparently there was another one) can pull off one of the greatest upsets of all time and carry Cleveland to the promised land, or perhaps that is asking too much of the 22-year-old boy-king. Regardless of the outcome, the unquestioned future of the NBA is now, and it is something we should all witness.

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