

The Current

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INSIDE



Apocalypse When...

Read the film review for the long-awaited and highly acclaimed graphic novel turned film *The Watchmen*.

See A&E, page 6



Celebration: China

See photos and read about the cultural experience this UMSL tradition offers to students who attend

See Features, page 8

Keep Going Green

Chartwell's decided to become more eco-conscious by using renewable resources for plates, see what we think about that.

See Opinions, page 4

Ballet fairytales

The Alexandria Ballet brought *Cinderella* to the Touhill Saturday night, read the review of this classical fairytale turned beautiful ballet.

See A&E, page 6

Ed says Goodbye

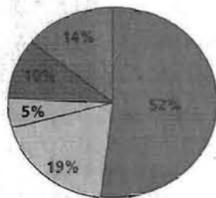
UMSL's favorite shuttle driver writes a final farewell to the students he served so loyally for ten long years, read his goodbye letter.

See Opinions, page 5

ON THE WEB



Web poll results:
Where do you get your textbooks?



- Campus bookstore
- Online
- Off-campus bookstore
- Library
- I don't even bother getting any

This week's question:
Where do you get your textbooks?

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STIMULUS BILL SPENDING

UM-St. Louis creates funding 'Wishlist'

By ANNA MARIE CURRAN
Staff Writer

All around Missouri, public Universities and Colleges are coming up with "wish-lists" of how they will spend federal funding they could potentially receive from the recently passed Stimulus Bill. Of the nearly \$800 billion included in the package, there are various categories. The Stimulus Bill allots \$4 billion to the state of Missouri. Some of the items included on other Missouri univer-

sity wish lists are: \$14 million for an undergraduate study center for engineering programs at Missouri University of Science & Technology (Rolla), \$4.6 million to replace roofs on buildings at the University of Missouri-Columbia and \$40 million for an arts complex at Missouri State University in Springfield. The University of Missouri-St. Louis' wish list is comprised of 10 "shovel-ready" projects that would enhance the campus for its faculty and students. At the top of the list is

Quick Read

UMSL awaits the results of funding the government could potentially give to finance any of the ten campus priority projects on UMSL's wishlist.

\$20 million to renovate the Benton-Stadler Building, as well as the construction of a new Science Complex. Other items on the list include: \$66.7 million for a new building for the Colleges of Optometry and nursing, \$34.35 million for Campus wide fa-

cility and infrastructure renovations, \$30 million to fund an addition to the Mercantile Library, \$10 million each to go to both biotech and information technology business incubator and instrumentation purchases at the Center for Nanoscience, \$7 million to help fund the construction of a new building in Grand Center to house the KWMU public radio station and \$5 million to commercialize a non-invasive blood sugar measuring device that could be used by diabetics. In all, the list contains requests for projects

totaling over \$200 million. The administration at UM-St. Louis began working on the wish-list before the stimulus bill was even passed. The administration began the compilation of projects as soon as the bill became public when the administration of President Obama submitted the bill to Congress. As the bill was modified through each chamber of Congress, changes to the UM-St. Louis wish-list were made.

See WISH LIST, page 12

POLICY CHANGES AT THE U



Matthew Hill • Photo Editor

Station manager Keith Robinson of The U discussing on Friday the removal of a DJ earlier in the week. The incident began when the DJ played an offensive song over the air.

Incident leads to clamp down at The U

By SARAH O'BRIEN
Editor-in-Chief

The University of Missouri St. Louis' The U student radio station tightened its on-air speech regulations this week after an incident on Monday caused an upset around the Millennium Student Center.

On Monday, a DJ for The U bypassed station rules about song selection pre-screening, obscenity, indecency rules, and upon request refused to turn off the song that was apparently offensive to listeners around the MSC and the MSC Bridge.

According to The U's staff manual, "Each DJ is responsible for the content of the selections played" and

is required to pre-screen each of the songs selected for his/her time slot. According to Keith Robinson, The U station manager and systems support analyst specialist for University Technology Services, the DJ in question ignored the prescreening rule by going straight to an artist's website and playing one of the unedited streaming songs on the website.

The DJ was released from The U after the incident occurred.

The U is required to abide by FCC (Federal Communications Commission) regulations as well as the station's own mandates regarding on-air and DJ conduct. Despite the limited area that the station reaches, The U is required to abide by these

Quick Read

One of The U's DJs broke obscenity policies by playing music which was offensive to listeners causing a tightening down of policies at The U.

regulations or they could face fines from the FCC.

The U has explicit policies outlined in their manual about the use of explicit or offensive language. However, after the event on Monday, Robinson and other Executive Staff within The U have decided to further these policies to preempt future problems for The U.

See THE U, page 12

FORSEE'S BONUS

Forsee declines bonus and salary increases

By ALEC PLANT
Assistant News Editor

University of Missouri System president Gary Forsee turned down an annual \$100,000 performance based bonus as part of an ongoing effort to help the cash starved UM-system save money during difficult economic times. He also stated he will not seek a bonus or any additions to his salary next year.

The bonus is awarded based on an evaluation by the Board of Curators. Scored in nine areas, Forsee earned an overall "exceptional performance", which would have allowed him to receive almost all \$100,000.

Much of the staff applauded the decision. Mathew Keefer, Chair Person of the Faculty Senate at University of Missouri St. Louis, thinks it is a sign of good character. "Forsee definitely sends the right message to faculty, students and staff by forgoing the bonus given the difficult economic conditions and choices we are faced with."

He is pleased with Forsee's performance overall and thinks that his latest action is part of a pattern of good administration. "Many of us, myself included, think that President Forsee is doing an excellent job with the Board of Curators and the Legislators arguing that the University of Missouri is both efficient and under funded." He also thinks students should remember the million dollar donation Forsee made last October to build a new technology building. "That was also very generous of him and he should be

commended for doing that as well." Jay Dow, an executive member of the faculty senate at University of Missouri-Columbia, also thinks that forgoing the bonus bolstered an already positive image. "President Forsee has been well received on this campus and I think this particular example illustrates in part why this is the case." UM-St. Louis has already taken steps to alleviate budget shortfalls. To save paper costs professors are encouraged not to print syllabi, a hiring freeze has been enacted, members of faculty have been forced to pay into their retirement plan, and accept unpaid furloughs. The recent stimulus package will provide relief to the university. Forsee recently made a deal with governor Jay Nixon that will freeze tuition costs to ensure that public funding for the colleges will not be decreased.

The move came after a spat between Forsee and the faculty over a change in the pension plan and the introduction of furloughs, which left many faculty members feeling like they were left out of the process. To show support for the president, members of the student senate passed a resolution commending him for the work he has done.

See FORSEE, page 12

SGA MEETING

Smoking referendum, Missouri Access Grant brought to assembly

By ELIZABETH SWOBODA
News Editor

This Friday's Student Government Association (SGA) meeting opened with reports from committees and organizations. Chartwells let the SGA body know that student surveys will be available starting next week, along with the institution of the Share-a-Meal Program, where students can donate an extra meal to charity. Already 76 meals have been donated, totaling \$450.

Organizations made several announcements about upcoming events; so many that the SGA board wished to remind organizations to submit their events to the SGA calendar in order to get free advertising on the table tents in the Nosh. A report was made by Grace Ritter, junior, liberal studies and SGA President, saying that there will be a mascot by next fall. Ritter also reported on a group of students from

Missouri's 13 public universities that traveled to Jefferson City to lobby to senators regarding healthcare, higher education, the student curator bill and tax education credits.

However, one of the two main issues discussed at this meeting was brought to the floor by SLA/ASUM.

Access Missouri Grant, the replacement of the Charles Gallagher Student Grant and the Missouri College Guarantee Scholarship, is a state need-based award that is currently awarding more money to attendees of private universities than public. ASUM believes that the allocation of funds should be equal.

Currently the level of money given to attendees of public universities is a maximum of \$ 2,150 a student while private university attendees can receive an amount up to \$4,600. There have been house and senate bills filed that would equalize that amount to \$2,850 for both public and

Quick Read

SGA discussed both the difference in money that is given to Public Universities versus Private Universities as well as campus smoking.

private university students. ASUM asked that students show their support by meeting at the MSC this coming Tuesday, March 10, at 9 a.m. to travel to the Jefferson City press conference in support of these bills. There are also letters ASUM has drafted for students who cannot attend to sign, which will be presented to the legislature on Tuesday. In a show of support, the SGA board, led by SGA Vice President Jessica Cowan, senior, psychology proposed that a letter of support pre-drafted and displayed for the approval of the meeting attendees be ratified. This led to discussion of the Access Missouri Grant. Questions were asked about the grant itself, with



Matthew Hill • Photo Editor

SGA VP Jessica Cowan (CENTER) discusses the Missouri House Bill that would reapportion grants given to college students in Missouri.

questions focusing on the issues of private institutions being more expensive to attend, the amount of money given to private university students, percentages, and the amount given to public university students.

See SGA, page 12

Stay Current with this week's weather	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Weather predictions taken from www.weather.com
	Hi/Low: 59/52 Precip: 10%	Hi/Low: 71/32 Precip: 40%	Hi/Low: 38/25 Precip: 10%	Hi/Low: 43/28 Precip: 0%	Hi/Low: 49/32 Precip: 10%	Hi/Low: 52/34 Precip: 0%	Hi/Low: 56/38 Precip: 0%	

CAMPUS CRIMELINE

MONDAY, MARCH 2

ASSAULT 3RD DEGREE METROLINK NORTH AREA

The victim reported that sometime between 9:00 p.m. and midnight while he was walking from Florissant Road to the Metro-Link North station he was assaulted. The victim (who is not affiliated with UMSL) reported that he was pushed down to the ground from behind by an unknown person while he was cutting through the abandoned streets of Oxeye and Everts. The victim only remembers lying on the ground for a long time, then walking up to the Police Station to report the incident. Nothing was taken and the victim was not seriously injured. There are no suspects to this incident.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4

STEALING UNDER \$500.00 PARKING LOT C

The victim reported that sometime between 8:00 am and 5:00 p.m. on 3-2-2009, his license plate tabs were stolen from his parked motor vehicle. There are no suspects in this incident.

THURSDAY, MARCH 5

STEALING OVER \$500.00 COMPUTER CENTER BUILDING

Around 12:25 p.m. a computer video projector valued at over \$3,000.00 was stolen from a classroom. The unknown suspect(s) apparently just walked into the empty classroom, stood up on some tables and cut the security cables and wires and removed the projector from the ceiling. The UMSL Police Department is currently reviewing some video camera footage in order to help identify the suspect. The projector was entered into the computer system as stolen.

STEALING UNDER \$500.00 MILLENNIUM STUDENT CENTER

Around 11:50 am the victim reported that a suspicious person was in the area. When the UMSL Police investigated they did not locate anyone. Around 2:50 p.m. the victim again called the UMSL Police when she discovered that her purse was missing \$6.00 in cash. Nothing else in the room or office area was missing or disturbed.

There are no suspect(s) in this incident.

Remember that crime prevention is a community effort, and anyone who has information concerning these or any other incidents should contact the Campus Police. It is necessary for everyone to lock their doors when they are out. Even if it is only for a minute, simply locking the door will prevent most thefts from occurring.

As a reminder, please report any suspicious people or activity to the UMSL Campus Police immediately by calling 911 if it is an emergency, or the main number of 314-516-5155.

CORRECTIONS

The Current regrets that sometimes in our making of this publication, we make mistakes. What we do not regret is correcting our mistakes. Please let us know of any corrections that need to be made.

On Page 8 for the Celebrating Culture at UM-St.Louis' Black Culture Day, the event was wrongly listed as being put on by ABC, the event was run by UPB.

Also on Page 8, the writers Jessica Keil and Yoshimi Tomono were wrongly listed for the story Celebrating Culture at UM-St. Louis' Black Culture Day, their positions are Features Editor and Staff Writer respectively.

To report any corrections, please contact The Current at 314-516-5174 or by e-mail at thecurrent@umsl.edu.

CHIP KIDD: GRAPHIC DESIGN GURU



Matthew Hill • Photo Editor

Graphic designer, musician and writer Chip Kidd gave a lecture on his work Thursday in Lucas Hall. Kidd primarily designs book covers and has done work for Augusten Burroughs, Davis Sedaris and Michael Crichton. He is a regular contributor to The New York Times and is the author of the national bestseller "The Cheese Monkeys." His most recent novel, "The Learners" was released last year.

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. Listings may be edited in regards to space availability and style. Email event listings to thecurrent@umsl.edu with the subject "What's Current." Only e-mailed submissions will be accepted, for more information call 5174.

All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.

MONDAY, MARCH 9

Wellness Classes!

Campus Rec's Aerobics & Spinning classes (Session 2) will begin March 9 and run through May 8 in the Aerobics Room at the Mark Twain Rec Center. One fee allows participants to attend any class at any time for the entire session (students- \$25, faculty/staff/alumni- \$35, others- \$45). Certified fitness instructors teach classes such as Spinning, Body Challenge, Boot Camp, Step & Tone, Trim N Tone, Yoga, Water Exercise Training, and more. Classes are free March 9-13, so come try them out! For more class times and descriptions, drop by the Campus Rec Office, 203 Mark Twain or visit our web page.

March 9, Mark Twain Recreation Center (Aerobics Room). Campus Recreation Office, 203 MT at 5326.

Executive Lunch Series

The purpose of the Executive Lunch Series is for students to interact with business leaders in an intimate and personable lunch setting. The series is designed to enhance business conversational skills, foster personal growth and career opportunities. The belief is that students who are exposed to business leaders will be more acculturated or socialized about real world applications, customs and culture. Hence, this exposure will result in them being more effective in the business world.

March 9, 11:45 a.m. to 1:45 p.m., MSC Century Room C. For Info: Malaika Horne at 4749.

That Darned S!

Plurals, possessives, subject-verb agreement and contractions--it's all so confusing until you review these basics. Lesson includes explanations of embarrassing errors like its or it's.

March 9, 12:00 p.m. to 12:45 p.m., SSB 204. For Info: David Linzee at 5950.

Beyond Aida, Beyond Carmen

Suzanne Wohl, who has facilitated numerous classes on musical composers, opera, drama, and literature, goes beyond Carmen and Aida to explore Bizet's Les Pecheurs des Perles (The Pearl

Fishers) and Verdi's La Forza del Destino.

March 9, 12:15 p.m. to 1:15 p.m. 222 J. C. Penney Building. For Info: Karen Lucas at 5699.

Writing a Targeted Resume

Learn how to identify your unique skills and market yourself to employers through your resume. Visit <http://careers.umsl.edu> and click on "Workshops" for more information and to register.

March 9, 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., 278 MSC. For Info: Career Services at 5111.

TUESDAY, MARCH 10

Pre-reg Deadline for Teacher Job Fair

This is your opportunity to meet and interview with many school districts in one location! Pre-registration is only available for current UMSL students and UMSL alumni - you must present your admission ticket at the door. Pre-registration deadline is Tuesday, March 10, 2009. Click on Job Fairs at <http://careers.umsl.edu> to pre-register. Admission for UMSL students/alumni who do not pre-register is \$5.00 at the door and for non-UMSL job seekers is \$10.00 at the door. For more information, visit UMSL Career Services, 278 MSC, 5111.

March 10, Mark Twain. For Info: Career Services at 5111.

Soup Lines

Purchase a bowl of soup and bread (donated by Chartwells) to help fight hunger. All proceeds donated to local, national, and international hunger-fighting organizations. (Donations of any value will be accepted-\$2 suggested).

March 10, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., The Nosh. For Info: Liz Detwiler at 314-358-3455.

Distinguished Speaker Series

In recognition of women's history month, Brenda D. Newberry, Chairperson & CEO, founded the Newberry Group, Inc. in August 1996 following a prestigious career spanning over 20 years in network and systems software. Today, The Newberry Group is a global IT consultancy with more than 135 employees. The company has distinguished itself as a leading technology services firm

by providing the technical competence and the proven capacity and capability to meet the needs of a wide variety of clients.

March 10, 5:30 p.m. to 7:15 p.m., MSC Century Rooms. For info: Malaika Horne at 4749.

3-Point Shoot Out

Show off your shooting skills and win a t-shirt in Campus Recreations 3-point shoot-out held Tuesday night, 6:15-9 p.m. at the Mark Twain gym. Separate divisions for men and women. No advance registration is needed for this fun contest; just show up and give it your best shot! Spectators welcome!

March 10, 6:15 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Mark Twain Recreation Center Gym. For Info: Campus Recreation Office, 203 MT at 5326.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

Irish Dance and Music Day

Join the University Program Board in the Nosh for Irish Dance and Music. Stop by to participate in all the activities! See you there!

March 11, 12:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., The Nosh. For Info: Katie Magraw at 314-477-2996.

Tips for Effective Presentations

Does the thought of delivering a presentation in class sound frightening? Attend this workshop and demystify the process! Learn how to organize your presentations and receive instruction on effective delivery techniques.

March 11, 2:00 p.m. to 2:45 p.m., 225 MSC. For Info: Chad Hoffer at 5300.

Bad Samaritans?

Have first-world nations been deliberately misleading developing nations about the road to economic prosperity? Economist Ha-Joon Chang presents and explains his theory in Bad Samaritans: The Myth of Free Trade and the Secret History of Capitalism.

March 11, 2:00 p.m., 331 SSB. For info, visit the Center for International Studies.

Weightlifting Contest

Win a t-shirt in Campus Rec's intramural weightlifting contest taking place Wednesday at 1:00pm in the Mark Twain Rec Center

Weight Room. Men and women, in a host of weight classes, can compete in squat, deadlift and bench press events. Participants do not need to register in advance but must weigh-in between 12:00 p.m. & 1:00 p.m. Wednesday. Everyone wins a t-shirt!

March 11, 2009 1:00 p.m., Mark Twain Recreation Center (Weight Room). For Info: Campus Recreation Office, 203 MT at 5326.

THURSDAY, MARCH 12

radioACTIVE Party

radioACTIVE: Young friends of KWMU Launch Party! Featuring: A LIVE News Producers Round Table Thursday, March 12, 2009 at White Flag Projects Gallery 4568 Manchester Ave. Free to radioACTIVE members, \$5 for non-members. Doors open: 6:00 PM for reserved guests 6:30 PM for the general public. Seating is limited Light hors d'oeuvres Cash bar/Prizes! Sponsored by The Royale and Local Harvest Cafe & Catering. March 6, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., UMSL, One University Blvd.

March 12, 6:00 p.m. to 9:45 p.m., White Flag Projects Gallery. For Info: Tiffany Anderson at 6779.

Hunger Banquet

Experience the unequal distribution of wealth in the world as you eat as the world eats, and learn to appreciate what you have. The banquet is an educational and thought-provoking experience that is well worth the hour and free food!

March 12, 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m., MSC Century Room C. For Info: Liz Detwiler at 314-358-3455

The Apollo at the Pilot House

Talent Show presented by ABC & The Office of Multicultural Relations Parent Support Group. This is a fundraiser for PSG Student Emergency Fund. Featuring Chancellor Thomas F. George and Associated Black Collegians Step Team. Admission cost: \$5.00 each at the door.

March 13, 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Pilot House. For Info: Linda Sharp at 6807.

For a complete list of upcoming events, visit the What's Current section of <http://www.thecurrentonline.com>.

The Current

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

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The Current

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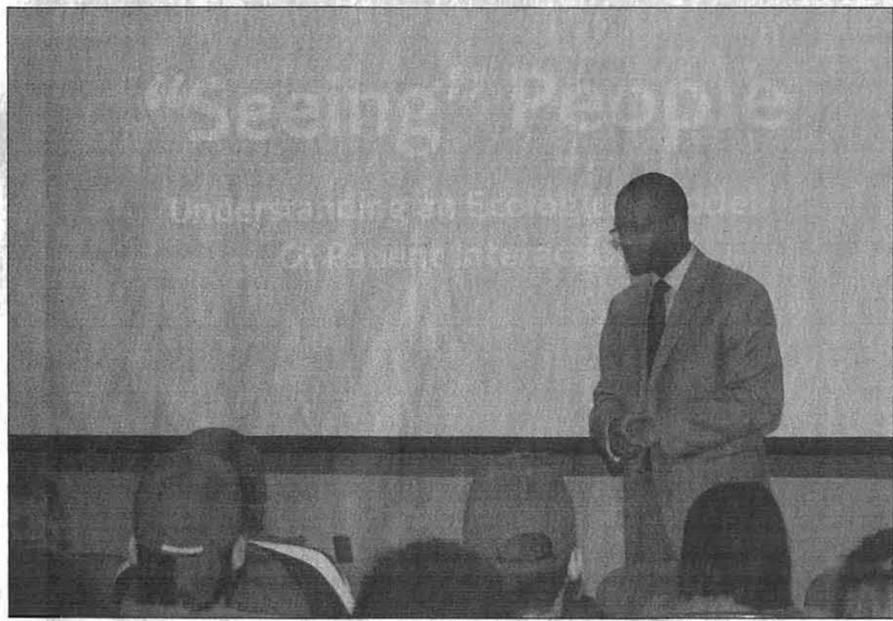
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AFFILIATIONS





Chera Meyer • Staff Photographer

Harlan Hodge spoke at a presentation entitled 'Seeing People' for the students at the College of Optometry on Tuesday. Hodge, who is a social worker and life coach, spoke of the importance of the personal connections that they will make with future patients.

Alumnus focuses on people, not problems

BY ELIZABETH SWOBODA
News Editor

Harlan B. Hodge came to Marillac Auditorium to speak to the College of Optometry students Tuesday, March 3.

Sponsored by the College of Optometry and the National Optometric Student Association, Hodge presented the topic of "Seeing People," a workshop which hopes to expand a view of an individual with a community behind them.

This event was organized by Eric Harris, optometry student, professional year two, who stated, "This event fulfills a need. Our coursework consists mostly of clinical classes, clinical and medical concerns with a lower emphasis on patient relationships."

Hodge's presentation focuses strengthen those relationships. In an interview with *The Current*, Hodge remarked that the presentation "con-

tinued the purpose of seeing people and not just their problems."

The presentation was attended by around 35 people, with deans and teachers also represented in the audience. Hodge, a UM-St. Louis alumnus, emphasized his presentation through his own personal experience.

A graduate of UM-St. Louis in 1996, he transferred into the social work program from the University of Tennessee because of UM-St. Louis' reputation as a business school. At that time, there was a collaborative effort with Washington University's social work program which made UM-St. Louis the best choice.

Hodge titled himself, a "social entrepreneur, a person tries to make money in social work," adding, "it doesn't work."

His credentials and accomplishments are definitely present, even if money is not: A Leader and People Management Coach, involved in FOCUS: Youth Leadership St. Lou-

is, a chess coach, owner of Imagine Videos, along with being a lecturer in UM-St. Louis's School of Social Work, are the highlights of his resume.

Starting out the workshop, he played an interactive game, "The Brain Game," a sheet of paper he handed out to each student. According to the sheet, each student was a brain cell. The instructions said, "Maximize your potential!" and had boxes for basic information such as names, ages, hobbies and ranging to fears.

Students interacted with each other to gather the data to fill the boxes within a time limit. Hodge stopped them and asked each student how many boxes they had filled, with the total being the room's potential.

The demonstration showed that, like brain cells, the more connected a person is, the better that person can perform tasks.

See HODGE, page 14

Guiding life after college

BY BEN GEMIGNANI
Staff Writer

This past Wednesday, the University of Missouri-St. Louis' University Program Board and Career Services hosted "Life After College," a presentation by Andy Masters, UM-St. Louis and Webster alumnus, polymath, recent Florida resident, author and speaker, in order to facilitate the transition from college to a career. He is the author of the book "Life after College."

The presentation itself consisted largely of advice. As Masters puts it in the preface of his book, "The purpose of... my on-campus speaking program Life After College, is to provide direction, advice, resources

and inspiration to those just entering, or soon to enter the workforce."

Topics covered included the importance of liking your job, deciding what kind of employment to go after, how to get preferred jobs, career hunting in our present economy, along with resume-highlighting tips. Masters related anecdotes about some of the more unusual attention-getters, like packaging a small shoe with a resume and making a crack about getting one foot in the door, or attaching a "Hire One, Get One Free 'coupon' to the paperwork. According to Masters, around 90 percent of job applicants are going after a tip-of-the-iceberg 10 percent of all available job opportunities on the basis that those are the ones being adver-

tised while the rest, like Microsoft and other big, famous companies, wait for applicants who researched the field to come to them.

Inspiration was offered in the demeanor of the speaker and in the success stories that he presented, where perseverance and good planning aided some of the speaker's friends in finding their careers.

Particularly impressive was the story of one man who, through networking, was gainfully employed as a pharmaceutical rep within 24 hours of graduation.

He also pointed out that people are not limited by their degrees or courses of study.

See LIFE AFTER COLLEGE, page 14

Women Learn About Aging

Women meet at UMSL to discuss aging gracefully

BY ALEC PLANT
Assistant News Editor

On Saturday the University of Missouri St. Louis hosted Celebrating Women: Reinventing Ourselves After 50 at the J.C. Penny Conference Center. About 300 attendees at the event participated in workshops, perused vendor stands and informational booths and were treated to complimentary breakfast and a lunch.

Experts in fields related to aging women held 29 workshops. Topics were split into four different categories, with classes ranging from "Scrapbooking 101" and "How to Write Your Story and Get it Published" to "Turning Fat, Female and Fifty into Fabulous, Forward-Thinking and FEARLESS!" and "Life Force Yoga". The workshops lasted an hour and had between 20 to 50 attendees apiece. Many were lectures, some were panels, and others were group discussions.

The conference was organized by Connie Jeffries. Jeffries has been providing resources for older women for 20 years. This was the third conference designed for older women, the first two occurring 2005 and 2006. She has plans to make the conference annual.

Jeffries thinks older women

are finding their place in society. "They're becoming less and less neglected. As Baby Boomers move up they've made a real impact on events and resources."

She thinks the needs of old people are unique. "A lot of women over 50 have lost parents or have gone through divorce. There are a lot of things that become more important. The goal of the conference, she says, is 'to let women know what's ahead'."

Visitors at the conference could purchase items and find information from over a dozen booths in the lobby and on the second floor. Perfume, clothing, novels, jewelry and even a miniature inflatable golf course were on sale.

One of the themes of the conference was confronting health problems that develop as aging occurs. Loss of calcium in bones, loss of muscle mass and decreased energy are all negative health conditions associated with old age. Menopause also occurs, which causes a myriad of health problems, the thyroid functions less efficiently, stomach fat develops, maximum heart-rate goes down, balancing becomes harder and the combination of all these negative health factors can lead to a loss in self-confidence.

Rae Mormon decided to start

running marathons at 49 and continues to run many marathons a year at 56. She hosted a workshop called "Fitness after 50", that focused on ways to combat health problems associated with old age.

She explained that an active lifestyle could reverse many of the problems associated with aging. "Inactivity", she stressed "is more damaging than aging." She cited statistics that showed that regular weight training could increase lifting power among the elderly by 200 percent and explained how much exercise a woman over 50 should do in a week.

Another major focus of the workshops was adjusting to the world of work in old age.

Many older women find themselves overqualified for jobs, working for the first time after a spouse dies, wanting to try new jobs just for the experience or having trouble adjusting to technology.

Susan Gale hosted a workshop designed to address questions older women have about the business world.

She told listeners how to adjust to the technology gap and explained ways to cope with changes in the job market.

See AGING WOMEN, page 14

New class being offered through CHERP

BY ELIZABETH SWOBODA
News Editor

A new class will be offered through the Pierre Laclède Honors College this summer as part of the Campus Honors Environmental Research Platform (CHERP). A 2000 level course, "Urban Ecology: Communities and Habitats" will examine the ecology of communities and the relationships between organisms and environments.

This will be done through the study of four to five acres of land that the University of Missouri-St. Louis owns on South Campus below the South Parking lot, as well as 120 acres of St. Vincent's Park, in conjunction with the State Park Department.

In an interview with the Current, Jay Fish, teacher and coordinator of the program, hopes that students will do an ecological survey of what is on the land. "This land used to be owned by the Sisters of Charity and was the grounds for a mental hospital, so think hospital grounds, big trees, trails that have pretty much been neglected and reclaimed by nature. There's a lot of variety there now, a cattail swamp, a stream, a near savannah; there's a variety of habitats to look at," Fish said.

The objective of the program, as defined by Fish, is for, "students to learn about science by doing science." Students will conduct field studies of the land with the data they

collect contributing not only to a record of natural history but also to research used by state departments such as the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC).

The MDC will hopefully be able to use stream data collected by student team that contain biological and chemical analysis. Preliminary studies have shown life in the stream along with fertilizer and parking lot run off. This information is especially essential to the MDC, due to the fact that this stream is one of those feeding the River des Peres Watershed.

This project was originally the idea of Biology Post-doctorate, Andrea Bixler in 1998. It has gained a lot of support since then. This project will be a collaborative effort between the State Park Department, MDC, University of Missouri Extension, The Pierre Laclède Honors College, along with the Florissant-Ferguson School District. As, dean of the Honors College, Robert Bliss, stated, "It's not a monopoly." He hopes to involve high school student from the area as dual-credit, along with collaborations with the Biology department as well. "This is a site," Bliss said, "for innovative courses in environmental ethics along with other options that include hands-on field work."

Currently classified as a Continuing Education Course, the course's enrollment is open to honors students. Depending on enrollment

level, that may change. "We really want to get students involved," said Bliss.

The students will be stationing out of what is a temporary classroom. A former construction trailer, it is equipped with AC for the summer months. Students will go out and gather samples in the field and come back to record their results. "We see this as an inquiry based science experiment." The class also includes a lab section which would satisfy general education science requirements.

According to Bliss and Fish, one of reasons for developing this program was to further the development of a student intellectually as a whole person, a primary Honors College concern. Fish said, "There will be important ecologist decisions that have to be made in the future. Life on earth will become more tenuous, more interesting." The hope is for this program to educate students to that fact and encourage further interest and research using a hands-on approach.

The summer class will be called "Urban Ecology: Communities and Habitats," with classes in the same vein to be following in the fall and spring semesters. Pre-enrollment for the class begins March 16 with the class itself being held on Mondays and Wednesdays, 9:00-10:45, for the seminar section and the lab being held directly after from 11:00-11:45.

Have an opinion on the topics we covered?
Let us know!

Send your letter to the editor to us at
thecurrent@umsl.edu!

THE ANDALAFTE

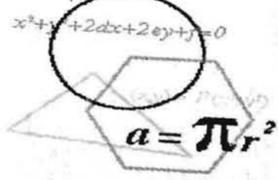
MATHEMATICAL COMPETITION

The Department of Mathematics and Computer Science will sponsor the Andalafte Mathematical Competition on Wednesday, April 15, at 1:00 pm in 306 Clark Hall.

This will be a two hour exam consisting of five challenging problems, accessible to students who have completed at least Math 1900. Prizes will be as much as \$1000 and winners will be recognized at the 12th Annual Spencer & Spencer Lecture on Tuesday April 28 at 7:30pm in the Century Room of the MSC. Competition open to UM-St. Louis undergraduates only.

Further information and an application form can be obtained by visiting the department website www.umsl.edu/mathcs/ or by contacting Dr. R. Dotzel at 516-6337 (or at dotzelr@umsl.edu)

Applications must be received by Monday, April 13.



OPINIONS

OUR OPINION

Good, clean, responsible media

As a fellow media outlet on campus, *The Current* holds The U student radio station to many of the same standards and ethics that we hold ourselves to. We fully endorse The U and the work they are doing furthering the reach of student media at The University of Missouri-St. Louis and encouraging the student voice—something *The Current* aims to do on a daily basis.

This week, a DJ at The U refused to abide by some of the station's very basic guidelines and caused a scene in the Millennium Student Center, embarrassing those in charge at The U, as well as us at *The Current*. While we hate to lord our position over others, or get into a discussion about the job of the media, or how the media may be single handedly destroying values, it is important for us to say how influential and powerful positions in the media can be.

As Franklin Delano Roosevelt wrote in a speech, but Uncle Ben from Spider Man says famously, "With great power comes great responsibility," and *The Current* believes that this applies to every arm of the media here at UM-St. Louis. From staff writer to DJ, those who are given the opportunity to speak to the students in a special way must understand the responsibilities that are included.

For each arm the responsibility is different, and *The Current* believes that with the advancement of positions in each organization, the responsibilities change. The DJ who caused a stir on Monday ignored his responsibility to remain inoffensive to those individuals around campus who have no choice but to hear what he was playing. Similarly, the administration at The U must see to it that this individual's foul behavior is not allowed to spoil the responsible manner in which other DJs act.

The U has enforced newer and stricter policies, policies that some DJs and some of us at *The Current* view to be preemptive and toeing the line to infringing on some DJs rights to free speech.

The power that comes with being a part of the media is very obviously not meant for every person. At a university with a small media studies program and absolutely no journalism program, knowledge about journalism,

ethics, slander and libel laws are all taught and upheld by the organizations themselves. Additionally, as equal opportunity organizations we are responsible for any person who wishes to give journalism (either paper or radio) a shot—this includes people who cannot handle the responsibilities.

It is a fact of life as a journalist on this campus that we will not always have the most qualified individuals on staff. Surely we have handfuls of other individuals who are more than qualified to do their jobs, however some simply are not capable of this. To allow one person who cannot handle the power that being a member of the media accompanies, to ruin rights and liberties for the remainder of the qualified staff are questionable.

It is further the responsibility of other members of the media to uphold ethics and evenhandedness when questions of censorship and freedom of speech come up. As the cliché goes, do not let one bad apple spoil the bunch, be fair and slow to make tighter rules that put into question the freedoms of your capable and responsible staff.

The Current is always wary of censorship in any degree—simply, censorship is un-American and is unconstitutional. At this public university students have full rights. The right to free speech is one of our most enjoyed and protected liberties, and we are wary of any organization or person that seeks to take these rights away from themselves or another. However we reiterate that there comes a paramount responsibility when being a part of the media and encourage any DJ, staff writer, or UM-St. Louis TV reporter to use ethics and sensitivity when covering an issue.

Further, *The Current* believes that this problem could be solved if the University looked more seriously on developing media studies programs and encouraging the growth of student media on campus. College media is an important part of student life and at a university whose growth is in question, expanding and improving college media (by adding more courses regarding the subject, and perhaps expanding the media studies program, not by tightening rules and regulations) can only improve the admissions, as well as the quality of college media available on campus.

The Chartwells Change

Since the 1960s citizens of the United States have become increasingly more concerned about the way we treat our environment. This is not to say that previous to that decade that no one in the U.S. had environmental concerns, but the dominant social paradigm of citizens was, and still often is, individualism and development first, environment second.

Yet, in the 1960s it tended, due to people like Aldo Leopold, Rachel Carson and many others, to become popular for Americans to care about their environment.

This is also around the same time that the 22nd day of April became Earth Day.

By the 1980s public opinion on the environment had shifted slightly back to the pre-flower power days, but no matter what, Americans always agreed (and still do) that a clean and sustainable environment is a good thing.

Today it seems as if public concern for our environment is growing once again, this time due to "inconvenient truths" about "global warming," "climate change," "greenhouse gas emissions" and so forth. Yet despite Al Gore's Nobel Prize winning message on the state of our environment and the increase in concern for renewable energy sources, many wasteful policies throughout the United States remain intact.

It is true that many people might talk like they want to do good for the environment, but when it comes to actually making the switch (be it because of high expense, laziness, stubbornness, politics and so on) hesitation abounds.

However, here at the University of Missouri-St. Louis there is one company that has done good for our environment this week and should be commended for their efforts in this slowly warming world.

Chartwells, everyone's favorite (and only) campus food provider, announced their change this week in the packaging of their products. The difference is this, the company from now on will be offering "sustainable packag-

ing" of products such as outtakes containers, au bon pain soup bowls, plates, water cups and to-go containers. The packaging of such products will now be made from a sugarcane by-product instead of the previous petroleum based products.

This ensures that when the containers are made that less fossil fuels are used in the process, therefore emitting less environmentally harmful greenhouse gases into our world. Additionally, these new items will be made partially from recycled source materials and can all be composted so as not to later clog up landfills.

The Chartwells change, though it may have slipped under the radar of many UM-St. Louis students, is a step towards a more environmentally-friendly world and all of us should be proud and appreciative.

Lori Liming, the marketing manager for Chartwells at UM-St. Louis should be especially noted when commending the company's change. Liming, who previously has been involved with the Sierra Club, spearheaded the green initiative on our campus.

Indeed, Chartwells has not only made the effort to "go green" on the UM-St. Louis campus but many other college campuses and even high schools as well. Their work to provide schools with greener eatery options should set a precedent for other companies involved at UM-St. Louis and beyond to do the same.

Not only that, but the new packaging from Chartwells is actually physically better suited now for use. For example, the new plates in the Nosh are much sturdier than the previous black plastic (and flimsy) Nosh/La Cantina Loca plates.

So therefore we at *The Current* give the campus food provider Chartwells a giant betwixt pat-on-the-back. If more companies were like you, Chartwells, maybe the planet Earth would be a better, and cooler, place to live.

Explore other options before banning smoking

This week at the Student Government meeting, PASS (Peers Advocating Smoke-free Solutions) introduced a referendum that asked "Should the University of Missouri-St. Louis move toward becoming a smoke free campus?". While some members of *The Current* staff have explicitly stated their opinions regarding this matter, we believe and endorse the assemblies decision to change the wording of the referendum to "Should UM-St. Louis explore solutions towards modifying our current campus smoking policy?".

The revised referendum was passed close to unanimously, which is furthering PASS's movement to stop smoking on UM-St. Louis campus. This motion is now in the hands of the students on campus, we at *The Current* encourage every student to share their opinion on this issue, and vote in the campus-wide referendum (as well as in the Student Government elections).

Smoking on campus is obviously a hot button issue, and brings into questions the rights of students to smoke if they please, as well as the apparent nuisance that smoking causes for other students.

While we at *The Current* are still waiting alongside the rest of the world for fundamental and conclusive evidence that second-hand smoke can cause death, we understand other students health concerns regarding allergies and asthma. Smoking is very obviously an unhealthy habit, however, its effects in an outside (as ventilated as possible) area have not been proven to cause major health problems.

We do not believe that UM-St. Louis should jump on the smoking ban bandwagon, and do not believe other campuses movements towards "smoke free" environments necessitate our own banning of smoking on campus. PASS's argument that SEMO and Mizzou are moving towards smoke free campuses have very little credence—these universities are not UM-St. Louis.

The Current believes that there are other solutions that can serve both the smoking and non-smoking communities on campus, but that banning smok-

ing all together is not the correct or fair solution.

If UM-St. Louis were to make changes in their policies that accommodated smokers and non-smokers, we believe that this would be the most progressive and just option.

One of the options for accommodating both groups would be to create designated smoking areas outside of buildings with a roof or canopy of some sort. Other options include fining people if they are caught dumping their butts on the ground and not in a designated butt receptacle.

Smokers who understand the health concerns and their smoke's affects on other people are often very considerate of the wishes of non-smokers, perhaps a student smokers group needs to form to stand up for smokers rights on campus as well as come up with solutions for making sure that their habit does not affect others around them.

Through everything, it is important that both parties are considerate of the other's choices. Non-smokers should be respectful to smokers, and smokers should in turn be respectful to those who do not wish to share their habit.

There are numerous other options for dealing with the concerns of non-smokers that do not include taking away the rights of smokers on campus. *The Current* endorses the assembly's decision to begin a discussion about the current situation and what we all can do to accommodate both parties involved with the situation.

Consistently, *The Current* does not believe it is ever appropriate to take away one group's rights without first researching the alternative options. In the case of smoking on campus, we believe that there are numerous other options that need to be tested and tried before any smoking ban should be allowed to occur.

We also do not believe that we necessarily need to jump on the bandwagon—just because every one else is doing it is not a valid reason to put out an entire population on campus.

EDITORIAL BOARD

- Sarah O'Brien
- Elizabeth Swoboda
- Jessica Keil
- Cate Marquis
- Bryan Goers
- Gene Doyel
- Matthew Hill

"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. The Editor-in-Chief reserves the right to respond to letters. *The Current* reserves the right to deny letters.

For information on writing a guest commentary, contact *The Current's* Editor-in-Chief.

STAFF VIEWPOINT

Compulsion or Compassion?

By PAUL MAGUIRE

In a world where humans are suffering and others are living, as they say, high on the hog, the concept of compassion is extremely relevant.

Currently, there are people with physical distresses far beyond some

of our comprehension levels, including that of hunger, political and social strife, warfare and disease to name a few. Some of us may personally know others who suffer distress on a daily basis. Our well-to-do acquaintances can even go through emotional trials, those of which cause 'distress'.

When seeing another person in distress one may feel a compulsion deep inside to help. This is a common occurrence amongst many humans called compassion. We can follow this compulsion blindly at times and assume that we are doing the right thing. After all it is something ingrained in many of us.

Recently, I have been rationally exploring the validity of many assumptions ingrained in me. There have been assumptions about God, the soul, the afterlife and even other people groups. As I have explored these assumptions I have tried to leave none untouched, including the assumptions underlying that of human compassion.

I have found that human compassion seems to function as a result of at least two assumptions: First, the human species is important and deserves to be preserved. Second, in preserving the human species one must help preserve as many individuals as possible. After all, each individual deserves as much as any other to live a long, healthy, prosperous life.

Although there may be more assumptions under which compassion functions, these seem to be the most prevalent.

In considering these assumptions, I tried to consider their origin. My upbringing maintained that God, or the Creator, directly passed on compassion to humans, for He is a compassionate being who helps those in need. I have failed to accept this view, because the God of my youth can possibly give everyone a long, healthy, prosperous life. He has nothing keeping Him from doing so, since He is God. Yet, He does not.

If it logically followed that compassion is not something innate and stemming directly from God, where else was I to look in order to explain it?

I deduced that the Phenomenal World (Observable Nature) might help to explain the origins of compassion. Therefore, I looked to Nature to find my answers.

First, I looked at the examples of compassion amongst animals. It seemed that when I watched The Discovery Channel—or observed my girlfriend's cats—that they took care of one another. Lions hunted for the entire pride. Bees made honey for all the young. My girlfriend's cats cleaned each other's fur. What is compassion other than those within a species providing the needs of others within the species? Indeed, some animals see a need in others and alleviate the distress caused by the need.

Second, I looked toward human compassion and how it correlates. In theory (whether by creation or evolution), early into the human stand on this planet people gravitated toward the forming of groups.

These groups we can call tribes or clans. Nonetheless, they consisted of communities very small in size, some merely in the dozens. With a group so small the immediate necessities were very evident: each member had to help sustain high numbers within the group so as to maintain the human species.

In order to do this, each member had to perform his or her job (or set of jobs) for all the other individual members, whether they hunted, gathered, built, defended, etc. These actions required some form of compassion.

UNDERCURRENT

By Sofi Seck • Staff Photographer

Do you think that private colleges should get more government funding than state universities?

What do you think? Send your own response to thecurrent@umsl.edu or talk about it in our online forums at thecurrentonline.com.



Hannah Suire
Sophomore
Nursing

"Everyone should get the same funding. Education should not be limited no matter where you go."



Lesley Newlin
Senior
Accounting

"It should all depend on the school's accreditations."



William Backer
Senior
Political Science

"If public schools are held to the same standard of accountability and budget transparency, I'm okay with it."



Dara Peete
Senior
Social Work

"It's fair, since they're supporting tax dollars."



Son Yo
Freshman
Chemistry

"It's not fair at all. What's the point of being a 'private' school if you get government help."

FOREIGNER'S CORNER

The value of modesty

By Sofi Seck

It seems that the older I get, the more I cover up my body. I am a Muslim and as a Muslim woman, modesty is a huge part of my culture. The message is simple; good Muslim women must be covered to remove temptation from men. More impor-

tantly, it means that you are not just a sex symbol - you have something to offer other than just your looks.

When I was younger I did not really understand the significance of that point. I wore what I wanted to and I did not care what anyone thought about it. Things were simpler back then. Shopping was simpler then.

The truth is, I love fashion. I would rather wear skirts, shorts, tanks tops and dresses everyday, but I cannot and I understand why I cannot. But still, getting dressed each day is a struggle. I am a 22-year-old college student and very devoted to my sense of style. But that devotion is in a constant battle with the tenets of my faith. To combine Western fashion into a traditional Muslim wardrobe is to walk a very fine line.

Most of my Muslim friends dress more conservatively than I do, in fact, a lot of them wear hijabs (heads-carves). But wearing a hijab invites a lot of problems. Truth be told, being around masked people is awkward for a lot of people.

Many Westerners look at the hijab as an example of the suppression of women under Islamic law. This is simply not true; the hijab makes it so that women are known for their minds and not their looks. It is also supposed to prevent molestation.

There are two views about what is appropriate to wear as a Muslim woman; some Muslims say that as long as you are modestly dressed that you do not have to wear a hijab. The other view is that if you want to be respected, you will wear a hijab or niqab (full body cover up). So, we not only have a choice in wearing a hijab but on covering up the rest of our bodies as well.

About two months ago, I decided to wear a hijab for a day. I can honestly say that it was one of the most awkward days of my life. I guess a part of me thought that if I wore it, I would feel closer to Allah in some way but I did not. All I felt were millions of eyes staring at me throughout the day. There were people everywhere, reminding me with every stare how different I was. The end of that day came with great relief for me and I now know that a hijab is not for me. But I did learn to greatly respect the women who get up every morning and put it on.

To understand the value of the hijab you must ask yourself this: if a female judge came into the courtroom wearing a tight miniskirt and low-cut blouse, would you take her seriously? Men look at women's bodies, it is a fact, so in the Islamic world a woman who covers herself is more likely to be respected as a person than looked upon as a piece of meat. Nowadays, many women who follow Islam have chosen to wear the headdress because they feel it represents liberty, emancipation and freedom.

Being a fashionable, respectable Muslim woman is hard work. We must work to find a style that is beautiful but not provocative, modest but not gloomy and stylish but not flashy. It is not just that we cannot show too much skin; we also cannot wear clothing that is too tight on the body. This search for balance makes getting dressed a calculated, mindful process. Until an easier day, the search continues.

Sofi Seck is a photographer for The Current.

THE O'BRIEN FACTOR

I stress, you stress

Time to de-stress

By SARAH O'BRIEN

Very rarely do I come into the process of writing my weekly editorial with a specific idea for what people want to hear from me or what I want people to hear. Typically, I sit at my computer for 20 minutes blankly staring into the screen.

I know exactly what needs to be said right about now, because as a student, I am feeling the burn (and the burn-out) just like every other student does around this time.

How do you handle all of this stress? It seems like every class, and every professor is riding you and asking for so much more than you can actually deliver—yet at the same time some of you may be experiencing boredom with your classes and a general disillusionment with college—I am there, too.

Since everybody gets stressed out, I thought it would be appropriate to let you in on a few things that help me to relax and forget about all the bullshit that college life brings to your front door.

Most importantly, get your stuff

done. If you have a teacher to talk to, do it as soon as possible, get it off of your plate. Have homework? Finish it. Turn it in, erase it from the list. Procrastinating is a stressful habit and is only powerful for those individuals who find their motivation through stressful situations. This is not everybody—if you think you do well under stress, re-evaluate that conclusion immediately. If you still think you are that person, good for you, if not, now you know and you can move forward.

As soon as you are done for the day, or even in between stressful activities, take a few minutes to free yourself. Sing, dance, pump yourself up and de-stress yourself. Everyone has one song or even a TV show that helps you to let loose.

Doing this either completely allows you to let loose or it clears your brain of all those cloudy stress chemicals so that you can focus better on the upcoming tasks. So when you get in the car or get into your dorm room, blast something stress relieving and give yourself a minute before you jump right back into homework or hanging out with your friends.

One of my favorite things to do when I am stressed is to watch a good stand-up comedian. Thanks to YouTube you can do this anywhere

now and you do not have to wait until stand-up times on Comedy Central. Never watch comedians? Start. Science has proven that laughter is one of the best things for stress and depression. Double gut-busting laughter with the brain-dead TV time, you will be one chilled out SOB.

Since it is sunny outside now (kind of), go outside to do reading. The sun, the wind and the geese—all perfect stress relieving environmental factors. Seriously though, even if you are not reading, sitting outside in the sun will help you to relax. The sun is humans' most potent resource for vitamin D, a vitamin essential in...um...everything.

Vitamin D deficiencies are blamed for seasonal affective disorder, memory loss, cognitive impairment and foggy brain (a real disorder)—sound familiar? After this long winter, it is likely that many of us are a little deficient in this vitamin—go sit outside and boost your resources for midterms.

The University offers a handful of time management and organizational courses. If you feel that our stress may come from a lack of organization or poor time managing, sign up for one of these classes—it may be something you will use for the rest of your life, and who knows

how much it could help. It definitely cannot hurt.

Lastly, realize that if you need help your friends, family and most of your professors will all be willing to help you out, give you an extension or whatever. As social beings, talking and interacting with other people is one of the most pleasurable and relaxing (typically) things.

It is important also to understand that the stress is manageable, and it is not healthy to let it over take you. Stress can be easy to control or can easily become a nightmare. If you are getting too stressed out, do not be afraid to reach out to friends or family or even a counselor to help you to relax. Millions of students are in the same boat as you are and millions of students go to a counselor to get things off of their chests.

School is always important, however your personal health is more important. So take a couple of minutes to consider these ideas and come up with some other activities that may help you to de-stress. Regardless of what calms you, do it. You will be glad that you did—and then you can get back to the fist clenching that comes along with midterms. Hooray.

Sarah O'Brien is Editor-in-Chief of The Current.

COMPASSION, from page 4

If one needed more assistance than another, compassion became a beneficial attribute to be passed on to future generations. Compassion then became good for the whole tribe, and a necessity in order to preserve the human species.

This was my most plausible conclusion about the origin of compassion, but what about now? What is necessary in order to preserve the human species in light of its current circumstances?

As a result of previous popula-

tion explosions, humans are presently facing high population growth with few controls. There is no balance. This, couple with a reliance on modern, technological advancements and a planet which contains limited resources has created quite a situation.

When observing a growing culture that is left with no population control and limited resources, one will find that the culture reaches a peak. Next, it contracts a disease or faces starvation, and finally, the

population plummets. Some may survive, but usually, many die. This occurs whether the culture is bacterial, floral, animal or human. This is what our species faces in the near future.

Humans must make lifestyle changes, stop reproducing on such levels, and possibly even lower population numbers through abstinence, in order for the species to survive. If we do not, Nature will do it for us.

Since humans have evolved

with this compulsion to help others, we find ourselves at odds. Is it possible, that in our current situation, not every one is going to be able to live a long, healthy and prosperous life? Likewise, are those who maintain a prosperous lifestyle going to be able to alleviate the problems of others? Could our species reach a point to where it plummets as a whole, in part because of compassion?

Paul Maguire is an illustrator for The Current.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Editor:

Ten years ago this past November a bus driver with some experience driving call-a-ride services in northern Illinois and northwest Indiana moved to St. Louis and started driving for a bus company here in the area.

A couple of months later a route with times he was looking for opened up at UMSL. He had never heard of UMSL before and had much to learn about it.

Over time, I have learned much and started feeling at home around here. Having been a student myself I could relate to riders in a way many drivers cannot. I was also comfortable walking around various buildings, eating lunch in the cafeteria etc. because I felt welcome here.

But what really made the route

for me was all the people I was able to meet while driving the bus. Be they staff members, students who later became staff members, or students who moved on to other things, I got to meet many nice people from all over the world. I have some understanding of world geography and really enjoyed meeting people from places I've only ever heard of or seen as an area on world maps or globes. I learned so much about these places from talking to riders and when things happen somewhere I now wonder if some of my riders were affected by them. Many times people had a compliment or a little gift and it really made my day to get one.

Sometimes students got me into athletic events or invited me to campus activities and it really made me feel a part of the University when

this happened.

Enough though of the rambling. I come now to the real purpose of the letter. UMSL is a place of change. I've seen buildings torn down and new ones go up. I've seen new students come and older ones either graduate or otherwise leave.

I often wondered if I would see a time when all the construction on campus was done and the campus complete.

The answer to this is no. Shortly after Thanksgiving break this year I learned that the contract for the shuttle routes had been given to another bus company. I had hoped to remain on as a driver for that one but there were issues that were not mutually agreeable so I chose to remain with my company instead.

What really hurts is for whatever reason students apparently were not

told of this decision before I left. I did not think it was appropriate for me to be the one to break the news so I said nothing about the possibility of leaving until just before the end of exams to a few people I met on the bus in the last couple of days of finals. I really would have liked to have personally said goodbye to so many more people than I did. I am writing to say that goodbye and hope that many of you people (anyone who knew me in any way) will read this letter. I have a new route at another company, but will miss UMSL and the people I knew here very much.

You've been very kind and nice to me over the years and I will miss being a part of your community very much. I wish you all the best.

Ed Kroon is a former UM-St. Louis Shuttle Bus Driver.

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SCIENCE COLUMN

Springtime Science in St. Louis

By CATE MARQUIS

Just like crocuses popping up in a lawn, March brings St. Pat's, thoughts of spring and an annual trip to the Missouri Botanical Garden. Not just for the first flowers but for the World Ecology Center's delightful annual Jane and Whitney Harris Lecture.

The all-audience Harris talks offer a delightful multi-media discussion on a variety of world ecology topics by authors and leading researchers. Past speakers have talked about lions in Africa, old growth forests, preserving wildlife in war-torn areas, hunting for golden frogs in South America and a host of intriguing global-trotting topics.

This year the subject is "Acid Rain: An Unfinished Environmental Problem."

The speaker is Dr. Gene Likens, founding Director and President Emeritus of the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies in Millbrook, NY.

Likens' work focuses on the ecology of forest and aquatic ecosystems. His research has teased out important links between land-use practices and ecosystem function. He was among the first to discover acid rain in North America. His efforts forged the evidence for the link between the fossil fuel combustion and increased acidity of precipitation. In 2003, he was a co-recipient of the Blue Planet Prize, an award given for outstanding scientific research that helps to solve global environmental problems.

The 2009 Jane and Whitney Harris Lecture on Tuesday, March 17, at 7:30 p.m., at the Missouri Botanical's Ridgeway Center Shoenberg Auditorium is free and open to all.

The Harris lecture is for both nonscientists and scientists alike, but the more seriously science-minded might be interested in some of the other campus science talks are popping up like hyacinths.

The Physics Department hosts Juergen Kurths on March 13 for the Moss Distinguished Lecture. The talk takes place 3 p.m. in Benton Hall room 328, and coffee is served before the talk, starting at 2:30 p.m., in Benton room 516.

Chemistry and Biochemistry Department's Visiting Speaker Seminar topic on Monday, March 16 is nano-medicine. "Nano-medicine theranostic agents for cancer and cardiovascular disease" is presented by Samuel A. Wickline, M.D. Professor of Medicine, Biomedical Engineering, Physics and Cellular Biology, Director, Center for Translational Research in Advanced Imaging and Nanomedicine at Washington University.

As we slip into April, the campus observatory opens for the season. The Astronomy Open House on Saturday, April 4, 8:00 p.m. is the "100 Hours of Astronomy Event." On view through the telescope are Saturn, Beehive Cluster and M35 open cluster. Check out the observatory's new location on top of the hill next to the Fine Arts Building on Florissant Road.

Solidly into spring comes the Distinguished Alumni Lecture on May 4. This year's talk will be given by Donald G. Hesse, BS 1984, and PhD 1991. Hesse is owner of Veritas Analytical Services and Vice-President of Information Technology at the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Cate Marquis is the Arts and Entertainment Editor and a columnist for The Current.

The Current is student voice of UM-St. Louis! Let us know what you think!

the current online .com

A&E

NOT YOUR AVERAGE SUPERHEROES

By Cate Marquis • A&E Editor



MOVIE OPENINGS

THE LAST HOUSE ON THE LEFT

Modern update of Wes Craven's groundbreaking 1970's horror film. Part torture-porn and part social commentary, the movie's plot revolves around a violent gang who kidnap and assault two young women. After they are finished, they take up in the first home they find; which happens to be the home of one of their victims. The parents of the girl realize who their guests are and devise a series of brutal punishments. At several theaters.

MISS MARCH

After swearing to lose his virginity to his girlfriend on prom night, a young man is knocked into a coma for four years. Unbeknownst to him, his dream girl is now a Playboy model. Hilarity ensues. At several theaters.

RACE TO WITCH MOUNTAIN

Disney family film about a pair of super-powered siblings who get involved in a race against time and villains who would use the kid's powers for evil. Along the way they team up with a cabbie and a UFO expert. At several theaters.

TOP TUNES

DOWNLOADS



- 01 Right Round
Flo Rida
- 02 The Climb
Miley Cyrus
- 03 Poker Face
Lady GaGa
- 04 Kiss Me Thru the Phone
Soulja Boy Tell 'Em (feat. Sammie)
- 05 Gives You Hell
The All-American Rejects
- 06 Dead and Gone
T.I. (feat. Justin Timberlake)
- 07 Crack a Bottle
Eminem, Dr. Dre & 50 Cent
- 08 My Life Would Suck Without You
Kelly Clarkson
- 09 I Love College
Asher Roth
- 10 Just Dance
Lady GaGa & Colby O'Donis

The graphic novels "Watchmen" and "V For Vendetta" were both written by British author Alan Moore. Unfortunately, the film version of "Watchmen" was not helmed by the same director as that other excellent adaptation but by the man who brought us "300," a film which transformed a graphic novel about an ancient battle into a defense of Bush administration policies and neo-con ideas. No small feat.

Grim, cynical and right-wing describes Zach Snyder's "Watchmen." In this world, right wing dreams have come true: the U.S. won the Vietnam War, Watergate never happened and Nixon never resigned. In fact, Nixon is now in his fifth term. In this world, a group of costumed crime fighters, men and women, only one of whom has actual superpowers, apart from enormous strength and a large capacity for pain. But this is a dark and crime-ridden world where they battle the country's bad guys, sometimes in the government's employ, as the world divides into right-wingers and commies and the Cold War marches on, taking us ever closer to nuclear war.

The story unfolds much like a murder mystery, as Rorschach (Jackie Earle Haley), gumshoe detective who wears a mask with ever-shifting black and white patterns, investigates the death of the Comedian (Jeffrey Dean Morgan), an aging but still muscular, armored fellow masked "adventurer" who sports a dimpled smirk beneath his mask and a smiley button on his chest. Both men were former members of a group of costumed vigilantes called the Watchmen. In unraveling the mystery, the other former Watchmen get visits from the somewhat unhinged Rorschach and we get flashes back and forward in time as we get to know the costumed characters formerly known as the Watchmen.

Leaving aside the director's bias, "Watchmen" is primarily a film for the many fans of the graphic novel. Its complex, multi-character story and frequent forays into back stories are likely to lose many viewers. Certainly, it is not for the movie fan expecting Batman-type superheroes. These masked men and women are not necessarily on the side of good and are riddled with human, and even inhuman, failings.

That the brutal masked enforcer called the Comedian has even less humor than the villainous Joker of Batman fame is a tip-off that we are in far different territory than comics like Superman and Spider-Man. The story ranges back to 1939 from its present in 1986. Some of the masked vigilantes have aged out or been replaced by younger versions of the same character but most of them have retired anyway. Kind-hearted, bespectacled Dan Dreibeig (Patrick Wilson) took over as the now-retired Nite Owl II, wealthy, brilliant Adrian Veidt (Mathew Goode) has cashed in on his superhero Ozymandias character with action figures and merchandising and Laurie Jupiter (Malin Akerman) took over her mother Sally's (Carla Gugino) character as Silk Spectre II. Now, Laurie's role is mostly as the love interest of the only super human character, the giant blue and bare-skinned Dr. Manhattan (Billy Crudup), once a nuclear physicist named Jon Osterman who was transformed into a god-like creature by a lab accident.

The ground-breaking graphic novel of the 1980s spanned the ground between traditional comic book heroes and darker, more adult material of

underground comic like "Maus" and still-earlier illustrated detective fiction, in a kind of deconstruction of the universally good superhero. Like other film adaptations of his work, Alan Moore rejected screen credit and compensation, which only goes to the graphic novels' illustrators.

The film version of "Watchmen" does a good job of capturing its visual style. To his credit, the director does remain faithful to large chunks of the source material and steers the film away from an inappropriate fate as a Hollywood comic book superhero movie. However, the British author's irony in the use of right-wing platitudes is entirely lost in this film, where insults at "liberals" are hurled with sincerity and venom.

The women of this group are especially harshly treated in this story, discarded as they age, while the male heroes seem more untouched by time. At certain points, the Cold War story and even its visual elements puts one in mind of Stanley Kubrick's dark comedy "Dr. Strangelove" but this film is nowhere near as entertaining or as insightful. Inadvertent ironies abound, including that in this right-wing reality, a whole city full of people is coldly sacrificed to end the Cold War, whereas in the real, liberal-infested world, the Cold War ended when ordinary people simply got tired of the fight and dismantled the Berlin Wall.

Like "300," the film has lots of violence and near-nudity, both male and female. We get repeated full-frontal male nudity, sexually explicit and sexist material along with plenty of brutal mayhem. Unlike "300," this is live action with special effects instead of rotoscope-type animation. This film is not for kids.

When the film eventually moves past both the repeated back stories and the repeated snarls about "liberals," it picks up a bit and becomes a more interesting film. While Rorschach continues his dogged quest, another story develops around the former Nite Owl and Silk Spectre, while the otherworldly Dr. Manhattan becomes increasingly detached from humankind. As the world edges closer to nuclear war, the murder mystery reveals a plot involving the Watchmen themselves.

The film is overly long at almost three hours and drags a bit before picking up steam.

Strong acting by Jackie Earle Haley as the odd, relentless Rorschach and a sensitive, emotionally powerful performance by Billy Crudup as Dr. Manhattan give the screen adaptation an extra boost but other performances are less inspired.

Overall, "Watchmen" is primarily a film for fans of the source material and particularly for those also liked "300." For the rest of us, you are better off renting "Dr. Strangelove" and "V For Vendetta," and reading the graphic novel itself.

Watchmen

★★★★☆

Director: Zach Snyder

Stars: Malin Akerman, Billy Crudup, Matthew Goode, Carla Gugino, Jackie Earle Haley, Jeffrey Dean Morgan, Patrick Wilson

Synopsis: A team of disbanded, disillusioned vigilantes reunite as the world faces nuclear holocaust.

A&E ON CAMPUS



(LEFT) Cinderella dances with the Spring Fairy and (RIGHT) again alone during Act One of the Alexandria Ballet's presentation of Cinderella. The performance was held in the Anheuser-Busch Theater inside the Touhill Performing Arts Center on Saturday and Sunday.

Alexandria Ballet presents 'Cinderella' at the Touhill

By KIARA BRELAND

Staff Writer

"Happily ever after" is associated with fairytales. The most commonly thought of happily ever after fairy tale, at least in the United States, is "Cinderella."

On Saturday, March 7, the Alexandria Ballet presented "Cinderella" at the University of Missouri-St. Louis' Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center. The ballet's artistic director, Alexandra Zaharias, was responsible for the style that easily managed to represent an early 17th century time period while having a nice modern approach. The play was dedicated to the late Petrus Bosman, who was working on the choreography for the play when he passed away last summer. His best friend, David Keener, finished the choreography of the play in his memory. The stunning talent of both was clearly visible.

The ballet was broken up into two acts and it had two 20 minute intermissions. In the first part of the ballet, the performers take the audience into Cinderella's house where she is busy doing chores while her sisters belittle her and her father watches. This is an easily noted difference from the common version, where Cinderella's father is dead and she is left in the care of an evil stepmother. The arrival of the Fairy Godmother, with her magical helpers, left the audience mystified. Although there were many talented performers in the ballet, the leads were Kristi Capps as Cinderella, Anthony Krutzkamp as the Prince, Megan Buckley and Andrea Lucas as the stepsisters, Bill Lynch as Cinderella's father and The Fairy Godmother. The rest of the ballet performers including the seasonal fairies, merchants, the dance master, attendants of the Prince, clock elves, stars, the jester, friends of the

Prince and ladies of the court.

Act two closely followed the well-known story of the Prince meeting and being dazzled by Cinderella. Cinderella and the Prince's chemistry and talent were so mesmerizing to the crowd that they were constantly applauded throughout their performance.

The court jester, who was played by Dillon Malinski, was arguably the biggest star in the second act and also in the third. His lively performances were dynamic and his happy-go-lucky behavior brought much amused laughter from the crowd. The step-sisters performances which had them fighting over everything from orange juice to dancing with the Prince's friends also was well received with the crowd.

The last act took the audience to Spain where the women dressed in flamenco skirts attempted to unsuccessfully fit into Cinderella's shoes

and India where the smooth rhythmic hand gestures were captivating, but the shoes were just still too small. The ending of the play is wrapped up where it starts, in France, and after the young lovers are reunited, an array of beautiful performances by the entire cast.

Many patrons attended in casual and sophisticated attire and many of the audience, as well as the talented performers, were from out of town or state. Anita Krutzkamp and some of her family flew in from Alexandria, Kentucky to watch her son, Anthony perform the role of the Prince.

Many in the audience seemed especially delighted by the seasonal fairies. While she enjoyed the entire ballet, Anita Krutzkamp said "My favorite part of the play was watching (the) Seasons perform. I do not know why, I just liked them." Nikki Nelson, sophomore, music, who attended for a class, said that she was thoroughly

impressed by play but also liked the seasons the best because "All of the costumes were nice, but they had the best looking ones to me."

Julie Rundell came in from Champaign, Illinois, where she is assistant professor of theater at the University of Illinois, to support her friends who did the wonderful choreography for the play. "My favorite character was the jester because he always looked like he was having a good time."

Dillon Malinski, who danced the part of the court jester, has been studying ballet for seven years. His hopes for the ballet were that "People gained a new perspective on the English influence in the styles of ballet."

The ballet was a huge success and the performance finished with a standing ovation that lasted for almost 10 minutes. The ballet can best be summed up by saying it was just beautiful.



Sofi Seck • Staff Photographer

The UM-St. Louis Opera Theater takes on the Seven Deadly Sins in a compilation of opera scenes in "Desire, Deception, and All Things Wicked" Wednesday in the Lee Theater at the Touhill Performing Arts Center.

Desire and Deception: Oh my!

By KIARA BRELAND

Staff Writer

Salvation for the sinners is what many University of Missouri-St. Louis, students, faculty, friends and other area natives gathered to receive by watching the UM-St. Louis opera theater production "Desire, Deception, and All Things Wicked."

"Desire, Deception, and All Things Wicked" was presented last week on both Wednesday and Thursday night at 7:30 p.m. at the Touhill Performing Arts Center's Lee Theater. The opera theater production had a wonderful attendance for the second night and the cast of 18 talented UM-St. Louis students were on par with some acts shown at the Fox Theatre.

The evening of opera inspired by the seven deadly sins started with a brief introduction that included the themes of "Be Welcome to UMSL," and three other songs that lightly set the mood.

The act titled "Desire" kicked off the show. In this act, Brendan Lally, Ryan Myers, Victoria Hood, Amie Hopkins, Dale Robison and Breianna Brewer told the story of Don Giovanni who was a well-known womanizer in many countries.

It was followed by acts titled "Gluttony," "Deception," "Greed," "Lust," "Pride," "Envy," "Wrath," "Sloth," "Knowledge" and "Wicked." The production was a compila-

tion of scenes from many famous musicals and plays such as "Porgy and Bess" "Summertime" and "The Crucible's" famous court scene.

In "Wrath," the scene was intensely spiritual with the cast's rendition of "Susannah." The mood changed drastically from the earlier light mood of "Desire" and the other acts.

The preacher's scene with the congregation in church really took the audience to an early Sunday morning service. The congregation along with the pastor's accusing eyes and speeches that were focused on the young Susannah brought a serious undertone and hush from the audience.

In the last scene of the opera, which was taken from "The Crucible," the singers' portrayal transported the audience into the courtroom where they were immediately confronted with the accusing yells of Abigail Williams.

Merwin Shaw, a student at St. Louis Community College - Florissant, came to support his friend, April Lowe, who did a wonderful job in the show. Shaw enjoyed all of the acts but said that his favorite was the church scene. "It was vivid (and) imaginative," he said.

Shaw mentioned that he was quite impressed with the play. "I liked how every actor stayed in character the whole time. There were no mess ups. It was very professional." Shaw

said. "I thought it was great bliss."

Stephen Jones was also another student in attendance at the opera. Although he said he immensely enjoyed all the acts, actors and actresses, he said his favorite actor was Ryan Myers who played multiple roles in "Desire," which consequently was Stephen Jones' favorite act. "Ryan was my favorite actor because he had to play multiple parts of male and female roles and he was hilarious doing both" said Jones, junior, biology.

Lauren Weber was one of the talented cast members in the opera theater production. She has been singing since she was thirteen and was quite happy to see all of the casts hard work pay off. "We've been working on this opera since the fourth week of last semester," said Weber, senior, vocal performance.

Her favorite scene was the very popular Susannah church scene because "I thought it was the most dynamic moving scene in the whole play," she said.

Gustavo Perez was another talented cast member of the opera and has been singing since he was 11 and studying opera since he was 14. He also said that the Susannah scene was his favorite because "It was very intense and (screamed) opera," said Perez, freshman, vocal performance.

Overall the opera was a great success and can be best summed up by Merlin Shaw's comment on the opera overall as "great bliss."

'A Song for Coretta' at Black Rep is homage to wonderful woman

By KIARA BRELAND

Staff Writer

Five talented African American women pay tribute to Coretta Scott King in the Black Repertory's current theatrical production "A Song for Coretta."

The play is set in the famous Ebenezer Baptist Church where Dr. Martin Luther King preached and was later laid to rest. The women in the play are among the 14,000 mourners who have come to Georgia to pay tribute to the late Coretta Scott King.

At the performance on Friday evening, March 6, the Grandel Theatre had nice attendance and the audience was quite diverse and into the play. The Black Repertory Theater, which is the largest African American professional theatre company in the country, presented the play at the Grandel, their home venue. "A Song For Coretta" was written by New York Times best-seller Pearl Cleage and starred Andrea Frye, Cathy Simpson, Candice Jeanine, Rory Lipede and Leah Stewart. The play runs 85 minutes, has no intermission and is directed by Erik Kilpatrick.

Although the five women in "A Song For Coretta" are all born in the different decades leading up to today, and have different backgrounds, they all find out that they have something in common while trying to pay tribute to Coretta Scott King. The characters include a woman who marched alongside Coretta Scott King during the Civil Rights Movement (Andrea Frye), a Katrina survivor (Cathy Simpson) whose history is as colorful and interesting as her African garb, an aspiring young journalist (Candace

Jeanine), a pregnant 17-year-old (Rory Lipede) and a young woman who is enlisted as a doctor in the army (UM-St. Louis student Leah Stewart).

As they wait in line to pay their respects, four women are interviewed by the young journalist. All of the women, despite their varying ages come together at the end of the play upon the realization that they have all had some hard struggles to get them where they currently are. In remembering Coretta Scott King, they all realize that she is a great symbol of their struggle and many other women as well.

University of Missouri-St. Louis student Leah Stewart, a senior majoring in theater and dance, played the part of Gwendolyn, the army doctor. The vivid storytelling of soldier Gwendolyn, played by Leah Stewart, and Mona Lisa, played by the colorfully-dressed Cathy Simpson, kept the audience spellbound. Rory Lipede's portrayal of Lil' Bit, the pregnant 17-year-old, brought constant laughter to all upon entering the stage.

One audience member, season ticket holder Martha Stewart, said she enjoyed the play and that "My favorite part of the play was when they combined Mona Lisa and Gwendolyn stories of pain and suffering. I enjoyed this part the most because the storytelling was very vivid and it showed similarity between very different situations of the Iraq War and the disaster of Hurricane Katrina."

Another audience member, Erin Otey, a student at St. Louis Community College - Florissant Valley campus who came because her aunt, Cathy Simpson, was in the play, commented that she really enjoyed the play. "It allows people to get a new perspective on the impact of Coretta Scott King in different people lives," she said.

Cathy Simpson, who played Mona Lisa in the play, said that she hoped the audience learned more about history. "My favorite part of the play was the ending (the storytelling scene with Mona Lisa and Gwendolyn) because it wrapped up the show with an incredible message," she said.

Leah Stewart, the UM-St. Louis student who played the army doctor, said that "My favorite thing about the play that every woman had a turn around. They [the women in the play] all also realized by the end that everyone has a story and that they are not always right." Leah Stewart was really happy with the play's success and at the wonderful job that the other cast is doing. The production is quite a feat because, according to Stewart, they learned the play in only four short weeks. Stewart hoped that the play not only went over well with audience but that, "It opened their eyes and let them appreciate life."

Overall, "A Song For Coretta" was great success and the audience seemed to agree as well because they gave a standing ovation. The show is running until mid-March, so come out and have "your eyes opened, enjoy unlimited talent, learn some history" by watching this intriguing, dynamic play.

The Black Rep's "A Song for Coretta" is performed through March 15 at the Grandel Theatre, 3610 Grandel Square. Tickets are \$17 to \$43 and you can call 314-534-3810 for more information or visit their website at www.blackrep.org.

BOOK REVIEW

'Sisters' is four times as strong

By KIARA BRELAND

Staff Writer

In Danielle Steel's novel "Sisters," Steel introduces readers to four young women who are very different in many ways: the men they love, their career choices and their outward appearances but are all linked by their loving family home.

Two other things that all of the young women have in common besides their devout love for the family and each other, is beauty and talent. The women are all sisters as the title would imply and they were all raised in a well-to-do, loving family in Connecticut. Now that all the women are grown, they live very different lives across the country and even out of the country, but all remained close. In the words of their mother "they are the greatest gift to each other."

It is family tradition that all the women go home to their parents in Connecticut for Christmas, Thanksgiving and the Fourth of July, and all of the women make time to stop, their hectic lives and come home for the occasions. Candy, the youngest of the sisters, is tall, blonde and has made a career for herself out of being beautiful. She is a famous international supermodel, and although she owns a penthouse in New York, the world is often her home since she travels so much. The next oldest is Annie a chestnut haired, artist who makes her home in Florence, Italy, where she is studying the technique of the "Masters." Although she is educated at some of the best schools in the United States and abroad, her career has not quite taken off and her parents handle her ex-

penses. Tammy, who has red wavy hair like their mother, is the second oldest. She is the successful producer of a prime-time, Emmy-winning show and resides in Los Angeles. The oldest sister is Sabrina, a successful divorce attorney in New York.

The book starts with a brief introduction of the women and has them all preparing to attend the annual family get together at the Fourth of July. They are soon reunited, and shortly after they are, a tragedy ensues in their close-knit family.

The tragedy forever changes the "perfect" family and lives of their sister and their parents. Afterwards, all the sisters become closer and eventually move into a brownstone in New York together to piece together what is left of their family. They all become even closer before as they manage to surpass death, lovers, new jobs and other events that are typical of everyday adult lives.

The women who at times, although seem to be a little superficial because of their previous perfect life, looks, careers and relationship gain depth through their problems and struggles. The women's fears which are common ones of shyness, insecurity and commitment issues are ones that both men and women alike can easily relate.

Steel's central theme is this book is a recurring one of family first. "Sisters" is also a great reminder that every bad event in people's lives may actually benefit people in the long run. The second reminder, but definitely not the least, is that even the seemingly "perfect people" have everyday problems just like everyone else. Overall, "Sisters" was an enjoyable read.



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FEATURES



Irene Budioni, graduate, business administration, and Regina Abbot, senior, math and finance, displayed items from Ukraine at this year's Global Village.



UM-St Louis students displayed cultural items at this year's Global Village. These postcards portray the beautiful landscape and countryside of Vietnam.

Want to get out of the U.S.?

The Global Village Exposition hosts booths from all around the world

By YOSHIMI TOMONO
Staff Writer

Have you ever been overseas? Or thought that you want to get out of the United States and see a new world, different from American culture? On March 4, 2009, the University of Missouri-St. Louis held the Global Village Exposition on the third floor at the Student Millennium Center.

The Global Village exposition features the UM-St. Louis international students and organizations with exhibition tables to tell students about their cultures, studying abroad and interning abroad.

Each booth showed off the dynamics of different cultures. There were booths from organizations named AIESEC, HISLA, Vietnamese Student Association, Japan-America Student Association, Muslim Students Association, Chinese Student Association and a booth from Ukraine.

AIESEC, which was originally an acronym for Association Internationale des Étudiants en Sciences

Économiques et Commerciales, is an international, not-for-profit, non-political organization run by students.

AIESEC runs an exchange program that enables over 5,500 students and recent graduates with the opportunity to live and work in another country. AIESEC is present in 107 countries and territories worldwide.

Also, each year, AIESEC provides over 4,500 members with the challenging opportunity to live and work in a foreign country in areas of management, information technology, education and development. It is beneficial for American and International students.

In addition AIESEC supports students by providing transportation, housing and even setting up trips to movie theaters in foreign countries.

AIESEC displayed a blue T-shirt which stated "Get in touch with the world" in English, Spanish, French, Chinese and Japanese.

Apparently, it seems that you do not need to be scared to go overseas because AIESEC will support you to

get a great experience.

The Japan-America Student Organization (JASA)'s President, Lindsay Blum, senior, public relations was at the exposition.

"It is very welcome to join our organization," she said "it is no big deal where you are from. American people, Japanese people, Spanish people, everyone can join our organization."

The atmosphere at the JASA booth was welcoming. The volunteers played a Japanese TV drama called "Yoshitsune," a program about people important to Japanese history. They also offered students to learn how to write your name in Japanese.

Additionally, they gave students traditional Japanese sweets called "Dai-fuku," a dessert consisting of a small round rice cake stuffed with sweet filling, most commonly sweetened red bean paste.

Muslim Student Association booth exhibited a plethora of jewelry and clothes from Pakistan, Palestine and Oman. They also had a temple shaped alarm clock and explained that it rings

five times a day to let them know when it is time to pray.

There were many Vietnamese students around the Vietnamese Student Association (VSA)'s booth at the beginning of the event, many talking to each other about the booth. They seemed to have a strong connection with one another.

The booth exhibited a traditional Vietnamese red wedding dress.

"I am not going to wear this dress for my wedding, it is too traditional," Lin Chau, junior, international business/finance and VSA member said.

There was also Vietnamese art, which looked similar to Chinese art. Red is a symbolic Chinese color but Chau said that red is a color of Vietnam as well.

She also explained that in Vietnam the people used to use Chinese characters for communication with one another, but nowadays it is only used for the arts.

See GLOBAL VILLAGE, page 12

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Lt. John Schupp

By SAMANTHA SONDEREN
Staff Writer

A great number of staff and faculty fill the halls and departments in the University of Missouri-St. Louis, but there is only one group whose specific duty is to protect and serve- the UM-St. Louis campus police. One such staff member is Lieutenant John Schupp.



Lt. John Schupp
UMSL Police

After High School, Schupp attended St. Louis community college and worked for the St. Louis County Police Department during that time. A long time employee for St. Louis County, 32 years to be exact, Schupp was well into his career when he decided to work for the University Police Department.

May 2009 will mark Lieutenant Schupp's seventh year at UM-St. Louis. In addition to his rank of Lieutenant, which he has held the title of since September 2007, Schupp is also the operations and accreditation manager for the Police Department.

A story lies behind Schupp's reasoning for choosing the University Police Department.

"The chief of Police here at UMSL, [Bob Roeseler] I knew well from when we worked together with the county," Schupp said. "When I was with St. Louis County, in the mid to late 90s, my assignment was on the metro link... We would try to use the UMSL station as a stop-off to use the telephone, the restroom or to do investigations and I got to know all of the officers here pretty well."

A typical day for Lieutenant Schupp consists of managing the everyday operations of the Police Department and maintaining its accreditation with the organization known as CALEA (Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies).

Though Schupp has many tasks and responsibilities, he favors one task in particular.

"I probably enjoy the accreditation part the most. It's challenging to maintain the high standards that are demanded by the CALEA organization and I enjoy the challenge," Schupp said.

With a total of 39 years of police work, Schupp has no desire to move up in rank.

"I'm perfectly happy to stay right where I am and work for Chief Roeseler," Schupp stated.

Throughout his time at the Police Department, Schupp has participated and spoken in many events that were hosted by various University-based organizations, and in 2002, he received a Chief Letter of Commendation.

As for future plans, Schupp has a few ideas in mind.

"I hope to stay here until I can retire from UMSL, and then I can enjoy two retirements: one from St. Louis County and one from UMSL. I'm going to have to with the way the economy's tanking," he said.

When asked where he sees himself 10 years from now, Schupp had it all figured out.

"I see myself retired to a warm climate."

Oldies music, Stephen King novels and movies such as "The Godfather" and "Patton" will add to Schupp's retired lifestyle.

Schupp began his career in February 1970 but before then, he was unaware that the boy who grew up taking jobs in restaurants and laying sod would come to be ranked as a lieutenant of the UM-St. Louis Police Department.

China Night brings music, dance to UMSL

By SUZANNE ROGERS
Staff Writer

While the 56 ethnicities of China all follow their individual traditions, the Chinese Student Association at the University of Missouri-St. Louis follow their own set of traditions. China Night is an event that is organized by the Chinese Student Association every year and this year's event took a couple of months to plan, practice and prepare.

On Sunday, March 8, more than 100 ticket holders found their way into the JC Penney Conference Center on UM-St. Louis' North Campus. After promoting China Night last week by handing out flyers and setting up a table in the Millennium Student Center, the Chinese Student Association put on a show that included ten performances, three interactive games and three raffle drawings.

"I just love culture. I always go to the International Dinner every year, but this is my first time going to China Night," Stacy Beckenholdt, graduate student, sociology said.

"I'm really looking forward to the performances and the food," Beckenholdt said. Beckenholdt recently started working in the Lost and Found office in the MSC and said that she

first learned about China Night from her job there.

One of the Chinese-Student Association members talked to her about China Night and gave her the flyer with all of the detailed information.

"When I walked by they had a table set up and it just looked so pretty. They were just so eager and so excited to put on the event, I just had to go," she said.

The Chinese Student Association gave away either a scarf with embroidery or a pair of chopsticks to all ticket holders who arrived early.

Hosted by James Wu and Lai-Ping Yan, the show began at 6:30 p.m. and lasted for almost two hours. The first performance, "Lion Dance" was led by Yi Su Liu.

The third performance was led by Shu Yang. She sat at a guzheng, a plucked string instrument that is considered to be an ancient Chinese instrument, and played with diligence, her eyes never leaving the strings of the guzheng.

After the third performance, Wu and Yan asked for ten volunteers - five teams of two people per team.

"We thought we'd introduce you to a popular TV game show in China," Wu said.

In the game, one partner describes



The Chinese Student Association put on its annual event called "China Night" in the JC Penney Building. It was a night dedicated to Chinese culture, both traditional and modern.

a word on the screen without saying the actual word and the other partner tries to guess the word by yelling it aloud.

For example, "Michael Jackson" appeared on the screen and the hint was "He's both black and white."

While this team did not get the points for this word, laughter broke out throughout the auditorium and from then on the audience was overheard participating, too.

The fifth performance was a por-

trayal of the ancient art of Tai Chi, one of the first and oldest kinds of Chinese martial arts. Tai Chi has over 100 different kinds of possible movements and positions.

Four male performers dressed in all white started the performance. They performed gentle, physical exercise and stretching techniques in a slow, graceful manner.

See CHINA NIGHT, page 9

Texas Hold 'Em donates proceeds to Gateway Green

By KIMBERLY HUDSON
Staff Writer

Are you a poker fan? Well, every year the University of Missouri-St. Louis holds an annual Texas Hold 'em Poker game in Provincial House's Museum room.

This year, the tournament started at 7:30 p.m. while 23 students and faculty played their hand at four rounds of poker until around 10:00.

The Catholic Newman Center sponsored the poker game and does so every year as a part of Social Justice Month through March.

Each week a different activity is arranged and has its own theme. This past week was "Environmental Week." Next week, March 11-Friday 16 is Homelessness Awareness Week.

Last year's theme was "Hold 'em for Hunger," this year the new theme was changed to "All in for the Environment."

"The program is to raise aware-

ness. It's a means to get out information and the [students] to enjoy themselves while they play poker," Mike Ruzicky sophomore/junior, English said.

Poker is played all over the world and originated in Germany as a bluffing game called "Pochen." It was then adopted by the French and called "Poque" and brought over to New Orleans.

Obviously, poker is a game of both luck and great skill. It is said to be a game of math and require concentration and patience as well.

In a game of Texas Hold 'em, two to 14 players are dealt two facedown cards, known as "hole cards" from a 52 card deck and they all share five community cards.

Then the betting begins.

The objective of the game is to have the best five-card poker hand at the end of the game. In each round the players can choose to forfeit (fold), call (someone's bluff) or raise when it

is their turn to bet.

After the first round, the dealer discards the top card of the deck, called "burning," just to make sure no one has seen the top card and prevents cheating. The dealer then flips three cards face up on the table. These cards are called the "flop cards."

The challenge of Texas Hold 'em is to determine which cards will appear, how other players will play and how to use the cards. After the flop, another card is burned and the dealer turns over another card called "fourth community." This is called "turn" or "fourth street" and the third round of betting begins.

Players use their bets only when they have a good hand or when they are bluffing.

There are 10 hands that can win a poker game. A Royal Flush hand is the best hand to win with along with Straight Flush. Four of a Kind, Full House, Flush, Straight, Three of a Kind, Two Pairs, Pair and the lowest

is a High Card hand.

After the "fourth street," the dealer burns the last card before placing one more face up called the "river" or "fifth street" and continues on to the final betting round.

Players now can use any combination of seven cards; the two in their hand and the five community cards on the table to form the best five-card poker hand. The player with the best hand wins.

The Texas Hold 'em game used one of its own alumni as a dealer for its games.

"I'm assisting the Newman Center because I work in a casino," Tom McFall, UM-St. Louis alumnus said.

"[Poker] is mostly luck on any given day but people win by bluffing. People who study people's expressions who can guess what the other play has are the people who are going to win."

See HOLD 'EM, page 9

TOP TEN

Most influential graphic novels

10 The Dark Knight Returns- Frank Miller's brooding, intense new vision of Batman that gave new life to the hero.

09 The Adventure of Tintin - Extensive series about a young, clever, idealistic reporter/detective and his wild, pre WWII adventures.

08 Sin City- Miller's masterwork is a nod to the Noir genre of yore and a pounding, bloody, hellish world of its own.

07 Our Cancer Year- "American Splendor" artist Harvey Pekar and his wife Joyce Brabner penned this account of his bout with cancer.

06 V for Vendetta- Alan Moore's searing dystopian tale of populist power.

05 All Star Superman Vol. 1- The first superhero and a groundbreaking work of American art.

04 A Contract with God: And Other Tenement Stories- Will Eisner's groundbreaking work, often called "the first graphic novel".

03 Persepolis- Harsh history and childish fantasy revolving around a young Iranian girl's experiences. Understated and heartfelt.

02 Maus- Holocaust allegory that's two parts "Animal Farm" and one part "Schindler's List". Humane, clever, and powerful.

01 Watchmen- Alan "Crazy" Moore's magnum opus cold war tale of murder, sex, and metaphysics-all as the world teeters on the edge of nuclear destruction.

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Gettin' some social action

By PAUL MAGUIRE

Illustrator

March is Social Justice Month at the University of Missouri-St. Louis and many organizations are gearing up to help their communities.

On Wednesday, March 3, 2009, the Community Partnership Project (CPP) met in the JC Penney building on the UM-St. Louis campus to discuss the effects that America's current economic down turn are having on local communities in and around St. Louis.

The discussion was led by Dr. Nancy Kinney, with Glenn Keonen and Major Janice Love as a panel of guest speakers. There was an open invitation to volunteer-organizations and individuals interested in social action in St. Louis.

Dr. Kinney is an associate professor of political science and public policy administration as well as director of UM-St. Louis' Nonprofit Management & Leadership Program. She began the meeting by tossing a few statistics to the group.

According to the Missouri Hunger Atlas, 13 percent of Missourians are subject to hunger, 17 percent in St. Louis City and 9 percent in the County.

While there are barely 6 million people in Missouri, 1 million use food stamps (aka SNAP).

Kinney mentioned some government programs such as Social Security and SNAP, but believed that there is a limit to their involvement and provision. This, said Kinney, is for two reasons.

First, it is difficult to predict such a demand as hunger and second there is reluctance in citizens to empower government enough to completely solve these issues.

Therefore, Kinney said that we must rely on private sectors to "fill in the gaps."

With this, she posed one general question to the attendees: How are we meeting the needs of people in St. Louis?

In order to answer this question the panel explored current needs in and surrounding St. Louis City.

As usual, people need food, shel-

ter and health care; children need education, the elderly need assistance, families need counseling and organizations need volunteers. It seemed to be a typical discussion when concerned with social needs.

So what difference has the current "Financial Crisis," as labeled on the CPP website, had on the St. Louis Region?

The panel, with agreement from those present, conceded that the difference is the influx of a new demographic: the Middle Class.

Glenn Keonen, Executive Director of Circle of Concern, pointed out that many of the people needing aid are used to living above their means.

Not only are some losing their jobs and in need of help but many are maxing out credit cards in order to pay their mortgages.

"What we have now," Keonen said, "are people who have jobs and can't make ends meet. Most people can't comprehend it. When they think of poverty, they think of the 1930s pictures. The harsh reality is that they'll have to make major changes in their lives."

Major Janice Love, Pastor and Corps Officer for the Salvation Army Euclid Center, pointed out some further consequences.

"We are recognizing stress on families," she said.

The economy as it is, causes problems for the children and a need for counseling. Also, come summer most families will not be able to afford summer camps and the children will have nothing to do during the day.

Both Keonen and Love say that alterations are needed in order to assist the new demographic. Aside from retraining the staff, both organizations are expanding hours.

It is difficult for, what Keonen calls, the "Working Poor" to receive aid during the day.

Also, Major Love spoke of offering family management classes, counseling and free summer camps for the children.

Furthermore, since most who donate to Circle of Concern are middle class there is less of an inflow of money.

"We've had to cut many of our budget and staff," Love said about her branch of the Salvation Army, "but we can't cut services."

Despite having less money, she still thinks that, "people's generosity...has gone up even though it hurts their pockets. It's a blessing."

As a supplement, Love encouraged organizations to collaborate.

"Collaboration is key," she said, "Reaching out to other churches and agencies...to best serve the people."

One such group whose actions Love calls "something to be commended" are the local college students.

"The college students have stepped up to the plate," she said.

According to Leah Jones, UM-St. Louis' Student Services Advisor, as UM-St. Louis has been planning more, students "rise to the occasion."

Recent changes that Jones noticed on campus are more focused on hunger and homelessness and less focused on the students' ability to contribute financially.

"Fundraising is decreasing," Jones said, and even though "people will have less to contribute [fiscally], time and effort will swap."

Jones voiced a desire to "step up involvement and focus more on the local, Normandy Community."

Thankfully, for Jones, "Students want to be involved."

For those interested in getting involved, Leah Jones and Megan Hill (AmeriCorp*VISTA and Missouri Campus Compact), recommended a few contacts and upcoming UM-St. Louis events. Students can stop by the Office of Student Life on the third floor of the Millennium Student Center, view Student Life's 'service' page (www.umsl.edu/studentlife/osl/service/), or contact them directly at OFLservice@umsl.edu.

A noted event in March is "Volunteering at Safe Connections" on March 13. On April 1 is "Civic Engagement Day," and on April 3 is "Volunteering at Mary Ryder Home."

As voiced by all the organizations mentioned, volunteering and assistance is much appreciated.

"Up until now, we've shown you traditional China. Now we are going to show you modern China," said Wu after the Night Blossom performance. Then, Yisu Liu played two pieces on the piano, the first one a duet and the second one a solo.

"I think the whole show was excellent. I learned a lot," Shanika Jackson, senior, communications said. "The costumes were beautiful and the music was great. I really enjoyed [Yisu Liu]. His singing was incredible."

"I couldn't understand what he was saying, but I could feel it," she added.

The final performance was a song sung by almost all of the members of the Chinese Student Association, as nearly 20 students came together on stage for the final routine.

"I think we did a good job," Yan said, who hosted along with Wu for the entire show.

"We had a few technical difficulties, but other than that it was really good," Wu said.

Robert Silvestri Jr., senior, elementary education, attended China Night with his mother, UM - St. Louis alumna Edna Harden.

"The singing and piano [by Yisu Liu] was exceptional," Silvestri said.

"I thought the whole show was wonderful all the way through."

Silvestri has been influenced by many cultures throughout his life.

"My mom used to get me Chinese children's books when I was a kid. That's [one of the reason's why] I'm in elementary education. I want to educate and bring all the cultures to the next generation," Silvestri said.

"I think it's important to learn about other cultures. There are so many misconceptions about China," said Harden, who earned her B.S. in biology in 1982 after taking a few night courses in the 60s. "I consider myself to be a citizen of the world," she said.

"I remember one time I went out to eat with my Korean friends and at the end of the meal they brought me the bill because I was the oldest," Harden recalled. "I love the different people I met and the different cultures I experienced here."

Afterwards, all ticket holders were invited to the Nosh to enjoy a buffet full of Chinese cuisine.

The Chinese Student Association not only helps Chinese students adjust to life in St. Louis and at UM - St. Louis, but they help others by educating the campus about their culture and heritage.

Each performance at China Night had unique characteristics that represented traditional Chinese culture as well as modern Chinese culture for students to enjoy.

Brainstew reborn and ranting

By ANNA MARIE CURRAN

Staff Writer

The Pierre Laclède Honors College has recently revived its student publication of the "Brainstew." The staff is student based with Dan Gerth, Assistant Teaching Professor in the Honors College, as the faculty member. This will be the Brainstew's 16th year of publication.

Chris Sell, freshmen, music, contributed a political comic to this first issue in the revival of Brainstew.

"Participating in the Brainstew is a great way to express your thoughts," Sell said.

Although the faculty member now in charge of the Brainstew is Gerth, the founding faculty member was Dennis Bohnenkamp, a late professor of the Honors College, nicknamed the "Lord of Misrule." After Bohnenkamp's death in 2006, the steady stream of issues released by the Brainstew slowed to a trickle; that is until the revival this year.

"I think one of the reasons that it fell in hard times is because too much responsibility got pushed onto one person," Gerth said.

"We are being very egalitarian [now]. There are 10 of us who are all essentially co-in-charge...well not me, I just help organize things. There are 10 students who all have a hand in designing this most recent issue."

In regard to Dan Gerth's revival of the Brainstew, Honors College Dean, Bob Bliss, is very pleased.

"I think Dan has done a wonderful job with getting it back on its feet. I am delighted they got so much stuff [at the first submission] that they have two issues [already],"

HOLD 'EM from page 8

Students were asked to donate \$10 to join the poker game and the money was donated to Gateway Green, an organization that promotes equality of life through community food projects, education and wellness programs and civic greening.

"I thought this was a good event to put on. You're making money, getting people involved in a game that is smart and [they] will have fun with," Rachele Kuhl, political

Bliss said.

The Brainstew's content spans a huge spectrum, filled with everything from political comics to satirical poems. Bliss even has his own section, titled the "Dean's Diatribe."

Bliss has written a diatribe for the last nine issues, with varying subjects including everything from the Obama craze to too-low trousers.

"I try to write about topics of some interest, but for the most part [I write] apolitical. I [like] to write about things that strike my funny bone and I can say something funny [or] meaningful," Bliss said.

Bliss began submitting in the hopes that it would "encourage people to think about what they wrote."

According to Bliss, students often do not realize the liability that they must take for their writing and while "freedom of speech" gives them the license to say whatever they choose, as an individual each student must still realize they are responsible for what they write and take that into consideration when submitting pieces to the Brainstew.

"Students should only ever insult themselves, their best friends or their principal (dean). So if you are going to insult someone, it is best to insult the dean, because he won't sue," he said.

Aside from the aforementioned types of pieces in Brainstew, Gerth says it has always been a more opinion based publication.

"It has always been an editorial based [thing]," Gerth said "there have always been a lot of opinion kind of pieces that [make] up the grunt of it. And I think the sense of humor, the sort of absurdist; nonsen-

sical appeal has been pretty constant the whole time."

Gerth also claims that one huge difference between Brainstew and other publications is that Brainstew publishes every submission it receives.

"It has always had that kind of super-democratic or perhaps anarchist sort of attitude with submissions, that if you write it, it will be published," Gerth said.

The publications of the Brainstew are as erratic as the content.

Gerth claims Brainstew has never had a regularized schedule and instead goes out when it has sufficient content.

The last issue of the Brainstew came out Monday, March 2, 2009, yet the date published reads March 2008.

The question of whether this was a mistake or a private joke for all the collaborators of the Brainstew remains unanswered.

One suggestion Bliss had in regard to improving Brainstew is for the students putting it together to "exercise more editorial control."

Bliss says this is not to keep a piece from being published but rather to just improve the quality of the publication overall.

"It provides another focus, a sort of outside the classroom focus for creative and critical writing," Bliss said after being asked what was significant about Brainstew.

"It provides a place for students to think ill of authority, which they should be willing to do."

If you are an honors student and are interested in seeing your work in Brainstew, submit your pieces via email to Ryan Gamel.

science, junior said.

Out of 23 people, four people ended up winning prizes. The first person out of the game won a Schnucks shopping bag with a mug. They also received a mug from Aroma's that could be refilled for 75 cents.

The third place winner won a coffee mug and a \$20 gift certificate to Schlafly Bottleworks in Maplewood.

The second place winner won

\$50 to Riddles Café and Wine Bar in the Loop and \$15 to Pagé Gifts and Craft in the Loop.

And the first place winner won \$50 to Terrene Restaurant in the Central West End and \$20 to Domino's and Pagé.

Poker is no easy game; it takes skill, patience and maybe even a 'poker face' to help win the game. Playing the game is what can make poker fun and who knows, you might even get lucky and win.

CHINA NIGHT from page 8

Each posture flowed into the next without pausing. Four more students wearing blue shirts appeared on the stage just as gracefully as the four students dressed in white exited the stage. It was hardly noticeable to the human eye.

After the sixth performance, Wu asked for three volunteers for a game. This interactive game taught the audience about the Chinese Zodiac, something Americans are familiar with because of the paper placemats usually found at various Chinese restaurants.

Each volunteer had to guess four of the 12 animals that represent the 12-year cycle of the Chinese Zodiac. Obviously, each year is represented by an animal. This game brought much laughter to the audience as each person was able to learn just a little bit more about him or herself.

"Night Blossom" was the eighth performance of the night, led by Shuang Liu. It depicted a bit of Shanghai's culture, a city that is comparable to New York City, Yan stated.

While this performance experienced some technical difficulties, the five female students on stage did not miss a beat. As soon as the music played again, they all picked up exactly where they left off without having to restart the performance, a talent that not everybody is capable of possessing.

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SPORTS

Softball wins six straight games

By **LAGUAN FUSE**
Staff Writer

The University of Missouri-St. Louis men's baseball team had a rough time on its season opening road trip to Arkadelphia, AR. The host Henderson State University baseball team swept all four games from the Tritons by a combined score of 40-23.

The Reddies, who already played 23 games and won 14 of them to this point in the season, looked like the more seasoned team all weekend long. While the Tritons, who were playing their first four games of this season, looked like the less experienced team right from the start of the first game.

Henderson State pounded out 15 hits in the first game and led 4-0 after the first inning.

After UM-St. Louis got on the board with a single run in the third inning and two runs in the fourth, the Reddies scored 11 times in the fourth and fifth innings to put the game away before winning 17-6.

Game two on Saturday started much better for the Tritons. Senior Phil Widel, interdisciplinary studies, who had two hits in the first game, blasted a grand slam in the second

inning. His first home run of the season, to give UM-St. Louis a 4-0 lead.

UM-St. Louis led throughout, but could not close out the win, as Henderson State rallied for two runs in the bottom of the seventh inning to win the game 6-5.

Game three of the series was the first of two the teams played on Sunday. Just like the first game on Saturday, Henderson State scored first.

The Tritons rallied with two runs in the top of the second inning on a two-RBI double by Steve Porter, senior, physical education.

But Henderson State answered with four runs in the bottom of the inning on its way to a 10-3 win.

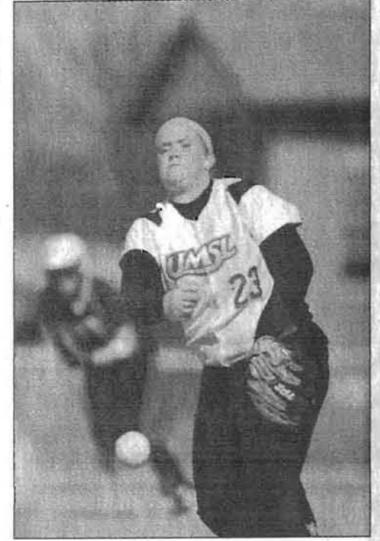
The final game of the weekend proved to be the most frustrating for the Tritons, as Henderson State took advantage of four UM-St. Louis errors to garner a 7-5 win.

The Reddies led 5-0 early, but the Tritons rallied to tie the score on a two-run single by Mike Hoosen, junior, business management.

Henderson State's Norman scored a go-ahead run for the Reddies in the bottom of the fifth, before UM-St. Louis errors in the bottom of the sixth allowed an insurance run to score that



Sarah Estopare tries to leg out a sacrifice bunt that advanced Holly Nichols to second during their game on Sunday afternoon. After Sunday's games it brings the Tritons winning streak to six.



Danny Reise • Distribution Manager

The Tritons softball team picked up six wins this week with the most recent of which on Sunday afternoon. Allyson Defosset closed out the 2-1 win having only given up 1 run in her past three games.

the Tritons could not overcome.

The four wins this past weekend gave Henderson State a nine-game winning streak, which might be enough to get them some votes when the national rankings come out later this week.

UM-St. Louis hopes to have a better road trip this week when it travels to Winter Haven, FL, to play in a tournament, which features quality teams from West Virginia, Pennsylvania and

Michigan.

The Tritons' much anticipated home opener at UM-St. Louis' new baseball stadium on South Campus, is Saturday, March 14, when UM-St. Louis will host GLVC foe St. Joseph's University for a doubleheader beginning at noon.

The Tritons will host a second doubleheader against the the St. Joseph's

Pumas, the following day, Sunday, March 15. First pitch that day is at noon as well.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



Softball

This week's athlete of the week award goes to the entire University of Missouri-St. Louis Softball team.

The team snapped a seven game losing streak by winning six straight games, including a 9-0 blowout against Illinois-Springfield.

Perhaps the biggest win came against Emporia State, last year's NCAA Division II runners up, 2-1. The six wins brought the Tritons record to 9-9.

UPCOMING GAMES

Baseball

March 11
at Central Missouri
3 pm

March 14
vs. St. Joseph (dh)
noon

March 15
vs. St. Joseph (dh)
noon

Softball

March 10
vs. Lindenwood (dh)
4 pm

March 14
at Indianapolis (dh)
noon

March 15
at St. Joseph's (dh)
noon

Women's Tennis

March 9
at McKendree
4:30 pm

Men's Tennis

March 10
vs. McKendree
3 pm

Baseball

Tritons finds heaven at Winter Haven

By **CEDRIC WILLIAMS**
Staff Writer

After a rough, winless opening weekend in Arkansas two weeks ago, the University of Missouri-St. Louis men's baseball team needed a bit of a pick-me up as they make their final preparations for the upcoming Great Lakes Valley Conference season.

The Tritons left early last week for Winter Haven, FL to participate in the 2009 Russ-Matt Central Florida Invitational tournament and hoping to find the spark they needed.

And boy, did UM-St. Louis ever find its spark, as the Tritons played sizzling baseball in Winter Haven, winning five of seven games, including rallying from behind to win twice and pounding other opponents to win by big margins.

The signature win of the weekend though, came thanks to a dominant pitching performance by junior Justin Rodgers, physical education.

Pitching on just two days rest Saturday morning, Rodgers confounded Gannon University in the first game of a doubleheader for an 8-1 UM-St. Louis win.

The 6'4 junior from Barlow, KY had Gannon batters fooled throughout the game, giving his team the kind of performance that breeds confidence in the whole team.

That confidence showed in game

two of the doubleheader, as the Tritons rallied from four runs down to defeat Gannon 11-7. Sophomore Kevin Sullivan, criminology and criminal justice, got the win in that outing.

The most exciting win of the trip, came on Sunday, the final day of the trip. UM-St. Louis trailed heading into the ninth inning but rallied to score nine runs in the final inning to top Saginaw Valley State 12-6.

Several Triton players had big days at the plate against Saginaw Valley. Junior Erik Walk, liberal studies, who batted twice in the decisive ninth, had a two-run double and an RBI single for UM-St. Louis.

Senior teammate Andy Ford, physical education, had a two-run single in the ninth inning, while junior Matt Macke, accounting, added a run-scoring hit.

For the game, senior Phil Widel, interdisciplinary studies, led the team with four hits while fellow senior Steve Porter scored three runs. Sullivan picked up the win in relief while fellow sophomore Ryne Moleski, media studies, earned the save by closing out the game.

The Tritons got their first win of the season on Wednesday, when they pummeled Lock Haven University 13-3 in seven innings. That game was slated to be a nine-inning affair, but ended early due to the mercy rule because UM-St. Louis was up by 10 runs.

STAFF VIEWPOINT

Playoffs? We're talking about playoffs?

Why the Great Lakes Valley Conference Basketball Playoff system is flawed



By **BRYAN GOERS**
Sports Editor

The Great Lakes Valley Conference Championship Tournament tipped off on Friday without the University of Missouri-St. Louis men's or women's basketball teams in the mix.

The format for the GLVC Tournament is one that puts a large emphasis on the regular season. In fact, so much

emphasis that in order to lock up a playoff spot, a team must finish in the top three of their division. Two other teams then also make the tournament based on their conference record.

The problem with the system the GLVC uses is that the ranking of the top three teams in a division are based on their conference records, not a team's record within the division they compete in.

This means that a team could have a conference record of 10-6 and make the tournament, even though they went 5-6 in the division while a team who went 6-10 in the conference but 6-5 in the division gets left out.

While this format does get the teams with the most wins into the playoffs, it means that the division is basically meaningless. The idea is that the best teams in the western division will meet the best teams in the eastern division.

This is much like how the Big 12 football conference works. The teams with the best divisional records mean from the North and South division to determine a conference championship.

What really happens in the GLVC is that divisions have been created to cut down on travel only.

The reason is every GLVC team played their division opponents twice and the rest of the teams in the conference once.

The idea is that teams within the division will be closer than teams from the other divisions.

A better system is the formula that the Big East follows. Their system ranks teams one through 16 based off the regular season conference record and then has a conference championship where all the teams make the tournament.

The 9-16 ranked teams play each

other on the first day before they meet the next ranking of teams.

After that one day event is completed the winners then have to face the 5-8 seeded teams, who they had a first round by. Then the winners of those games play the top seeds, one through four, in a normal playoff format.

This system still rewards the teams who had the best regular season and it keeps the regular conference play relevant.

However it also does something that our current system fails to do; it preserves the Cinderella story.

Why did people get so excited when Davidson or George Mason made a deep run into the NCAA Tournament? Because they were not supposed to be there.

Our playoffs may give us a small Cinderella story, for example an eight seed (which is really a 4 seed from a

division) could win the whole thing but who cares?

Which would you rather see? A seven seed winning the championship or a 16 seed going all the way?

While this change probably will not happen any time soon, it would be nice in the mean time to see some sort of standardization as to how conference playoffs are handled. Some allow for every team and other only take a few teams into the postseason.

The NCAA and conference across the country should pick a style, and I think it should be how the Big East does it, and stick with it to make it completely fair for every college and university.

Whatever the format chosen it should allow for a true Cinderella story where a bottom of the bucket team comes out of no where and wins it all.

Roller Hockey National Championship bids announced

The University of Missouri-St. Louis hockey team has received a bid to attend the National Collegiate Roller Hockey Association National Championships in Pennsylvania on April 2nd.

This marks the second year in a row for the Tritons reaching the playoffs at the Division I level. Joining the Tritons will be two other teams from the Great Plains Region, the University of Missouri-Columbia and #1 Lindenwood University.

Those two teams and North Texas are the only schools that UM-St. Louis faced this in the regular season that made the Tournament.

Last season the Tritons finished second in the nation, losing to Lindenwood in the national championship game.

Teams invited to the National Championships:

- Arizona State
- Buffalo
- Central Florida
- Colorado State
- Florida
- Lindenwood
- Long Beach State
- Louisiana Lafayette
- Louisiana State
- Michigan
- Michigan State
- UM-St. Louis
- Mizzou
- North Texas
- Ohio State
- Penn State
- Rhode Island
- Rutgers
- San Diego State
- Stony Brook
- Towson
- UC Irvine
- UC Santa Barbra

Do you bleed red and gold? The University of Missouri-St. Louis men's tennis team is ranked sixth in the region, and one player is ranked ninth regionally.

2009 GLVC MEN'S BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

AT UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN INDIANA IN EVANSVILLE, IND.



2009 GLVC WOMEN'S BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

AT QUINCY UNIVERSITY IN QUINCY, ILL.



STATS CORNER

SOFTBALL

GLVC Standings

Team	Conf. (W-L)	Overall (W-L)
1. Lewis	0-0	16-7
1. Indianapolis	0-0	5-3
1. St. Joseph's	0-0	6-4
1. UM - St. Louis	0-0	9-9
1. N. Kentucky	0-0	4-4
1. Kentucky Wes.	0-0	6-9

Box Scores

Date	Team	Runs	Hits	Errors
March 5	Lincoln	3	5	3
March 5	UM-St. Louis	5	9	0
March 5	Lincoln	5	7	3
March 5	UM-St. Louis	6	8	3
March 6	Illinois-Springfield	0	-	-
March 6	UM-St. Louis	9	-	-
March 6	Truman St.	0	-	-
March 6	UM-St. Louis	2	-	-
March 8	Emporia St.	1	-	-
March 8	UM-St. Louis	2	-	-
March 8	Wisconsin-Parkside	4	-	-
March 8	UM-St. Louis	6	-	-

BASEBALL

GLVC West Standings

Team	Conf. (W-L)	Overall (W-L)
Rockhurst	0-0	8-4
Southern Indiana	0-0	8-5
Drury	0-0	6-7
UM - St. Louis	0-0	5-6
Missouri S&T	0-0	6-9
Quincy	0-0	4-7

Box Scores

Date	Team	Runs	Hits	Errors
March 4	Lock Haven	3	-	-
March 4	UM-St. Louis	13	-	-
March 5	Lewis	7	-	-
March 5	UM-St. Louis	11	-	-
March 6	West Virginia W.	13	-	-
March 6	UM-St. Louis	5	-	-
March 6	West Virginia W.	15	-	-
March 6	UM-St. Louis	4	-	-
March 7	Gannon	1	-	-
March 7	UM-St. Louis	8	-	-
March 7	Gannon	7	-	-
March 7	UM-St. Louis	11	-	-
March 8	Saginaw Valley St.	6	-	-
March 8	UM-St. Louis	12	-	-

- no stats available



Check out all the stats this season, more sports stories and more pictures online at www.thecurrentonline.com. Then click on sports. You can also comment on stories, email them to your friends, and have *The Current* sent to your email by simply by logging on.

ROLLER HOCKEY

Great Plains Region Standings

Team (Division 1)	Overall (W-L-T)	Pts
Lindenwood	23-0-0	46
UM - St. Louis	16-4-0	32
UM - Columbia	11-7-1	23
Missouri S&T	5-13-1	11

Upcoming Games

The Tritons will play in the National Championship Tournament which starts on April 2nd.

Missouri S&T Webster St. Louis University SEMO
THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI - ST. LOUIS
 Missouri State Mizzou UMKC **THE CURRENT** Washington University
 Rockhurst University

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SUM OF MOTION

MARCH 12, 13, & 14 / 8:00 PM / LEE THEATER

Guest Artists
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Student Choreographers
 Anica Brown, Jessica Cross and Katie Estes

Faculty Choreographer
 Rob Scoggins

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THE U, from page 1

In an email sent to The U staff following the incident, Robinson outlined the beginning for new policies regarding the DJ's speech rights on-air.

The initial email regarding the policies stated if any song includes a racial slur, the DJ will be "immediately removed from the station, there are no exclusions for this."

Additionally, if any person in the MSC becomes offended by what the DJ is saying or playing the song or discussion must be stopped. If this policy is ignored the DJ also faces removal from his/her position.

Further, Robinson wrote in the email that DJs would no longer be able to discuss issues regarding The U radio station, such as problems with staff, equipment or other related topics. To compound that policy, the DJs are not allowed to discuss problems they may be having with The University, any faculty, staff or students of The University, problems with school organizations, or any other problem they may be having with UM-St. Louis.

SGA, from page 1

Discussion ended and the proposal was put to a vote, which passed nearly unanimously.

The second main issue of the meeting was a referendum brought to the table by Colleges Against Cancer, Peers Advocating Smoke-free Solution (PASS) and Wellness Advocates Volunteering to Educate Students (WAVES). The referendum asked for the attendees of the SGA meeting to decide whether the question, "Should the University of Missouri-St. Louis move toward becoming a smoke-free campus?" should be including on April's upcoming ballot. The organizations exhibited over 400 petitions that were signed in support of a smoke-free campus, along with a plastic bag of cigarette butts picked up during one hour in the quad and also

FORSEE, from page 1

Forsee was appointed position of President of the University President in February 2008. He was the CEO of Sprint from 2003 to 2007, during which time Business Week included him in its list of "Top Managers". In 2007 he was forced to resign after a massive marketing debacle. Upon leaving he received a \$40 million compensation package that included an \$84,000 a month pension for life.

Many students at UM-St. Louis were not aware that Forsee declined his bonus. Kyle Valdes, theater, sophomore, said, "A lot of people don't know about it." But he thinks it sheds a positive light on the UM-system president. "It's pretty commendable. It shows that he's concerned about the economy".

GLOBAL VILLAGE, from page 8

The Hispanic Latino Association (HISLA) had two booths, one from Mexico and another from Peru. At these booths, loud Spanish music was playing and some students were dancing. The music was similar to Shakira's music, a singer famous in the U.S. but who is Colombian singer-songwriter.

"We love to dance!" Laticia Barcia, freshman, information systems said.

The HISLA booths also gave students some snacks with Mexican hot sauce.

James Heckman, international business/Spanish alumnus has been to Peru five times and loves the country. He explained his amazement by the difference in landscape, food, weather and the Peruvian people who are very friendly. At the Peruvian booth Heckman exhibited his personal pictures of Peru, which were of well known sightseeing ar-

Robinson admitted later that he may have "over-reacted" with these policies and that they may have been "too broad".

"Sometimes emotions get the better of you," Robinson said. "But my idea is this, I don't want this station and me being station manager to be used as some soap box or to be used as a way to talk bad about the University or talk bad about the radio station."

When asked if the incident on Monday involved slanderous on-air speech regarding The U or The University Robinson replied that it was.

"He continued to say that the complaint of the listener was not valid," Robinson said, however, followed by saying that no actual slander against The University had occurred.

Dr. Charles Granger, UM-St. Louis professor and advisor for The U commented that the new policies were even more necessary for The U, not only because of their status with the FCC, but because of their

gave the examples of Southeast Missouri State University (SEMO), which is smoke-free, along UM-Columbia (MIZZOU), which plans to be smoke-free by 2012.

There was discussion held in which the wording of the question was questioned. Ritter reminded those present of their status of representatives of a larger group, rather than their individual views. Katie Moore, a member of PASS, also reminded the assembly that this initial question was only the lead-in on the ballot. There would be a paragraph below the question that would outline the question in more detail. The discussion had to be refocused several times to the point of placing this question on the ballot, rather than answering the question itself at this time. Moore, along with Ethan

Chou, President of PASS, urged the assembly to remember that distinction, saying, "We would like to open this issue to the wider discussion of the student body." This statement brought up the question of including faculty and staff opinions, this issue affecting them as well and the assembly was assured that this was an issue that would also be brought before those boards. There was a motion to change the wording of the question and the final wording decided on was as follows: "Should UM-St. Louis explore solutions toward modifying our current campus smoking policy?" There was a motion to close discussion, the motion passed and the final question was put to a vote. The assembly voted by rows and passed overwhelmingly, nearly unanimously.

employees in higher education, the median salary for the president of a public university is \$427,400. Without the bonus, Forsee will receive just under the national average; even with the bonus his salary would not be among the higher in the nation.

According to the survey, some presidents of public colleges make over a million dollars a year. Salaries for college presidents, especially public college presidents, have been an exception to overall downward trajectory of economy, rising 7.6 percent between 2007 and 2008, though many are now coming under scrutiny as the colleges the confront budget crises.

According to a survey by the Chronicle of Higher Education, an agency that tracks salaries for em-

placations in the country such as Machu Picchu.

The Ukrainian exhibition displayed a jewelry box, a Ukrainian wall decoration and spoons that were all made of wood. In the past in Ukraine all of these items would have been handmade.

Lastly was the Chinese Student Association booth. This booth displayed to students a Beijing mask, chopsticks, skirts and a Chinese traditional instrument called the "Di." The booth also advertised "China Night," held on last Sunday (March 8th) at the JC Penny Building.

"I want people to know our culture," Shuang Lin, Physics, graduate student said.

At this event, UM-St. Louis also held Junior Chamber International (JCI) in the Century Room B. JCI is found all around the world with over 5,000 Local Organizations in more than 115 countries and terri-

location in the MSC.

"Our real problem is we are on the bridge and we are [in the MSC]," Granger said. Students and others in the MSC are not given a choice to listen to the music The U is playing, and therefore, Granger believes that The U must be sensitive to the community's wishes regarding what is being played and/or said on the station.

"If we were only on the Internet or only on the radio we would not have this problem," Granger said.

Robinson reinforced that the policies would be discussed further with the DJs and that he was not trying to irritate them or censor them, but protect the station from slander and other offenses.

"I believe that the policies need to be thought through for all the DJs to discuss, but I do believe that some of the policies need to be put in there and I'm not going to steer away from that," Robinson said, "that microphone is just way too powerful right now the way that it is, it's just too powerful."

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tories. JCI forms a vibrant international community of nearly 200,000 active citizens and all members who belong to a JCI Local Organization focus on finding solutions to improve their local community.

Arrey Obenson, executive Director of Growth and Development, gave students a presentation in Century Room B.

He explained to students that "the future belongs to the hundreds of thousands of young active citizens around the world who are JCI members."

For more information on other cultures or to study abroad there is the Center for International Studies Study Abroad Office which is located on second floor of the MSC. It is there to help students want to study abroad and workers can guide you to study abroad and offer you information.

So get ready and go overseas!

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IN THEATERS ON FRIDAY, MARCH 13TH.

WISH LIST, from page 1

Nasser Arshadi, vice provost for research and point-man of the Wish-list project, explained that because UM-St. Louis began working on the list before the bill was passed, as soon as it became law the list was ready to be finalized.

To receive funds, the University has applied to several different agencies, even agencies that normally would not fund these types of projects. From the Stimulus Bill, NIH (National Institute of Health) received over \$10 billion in additional money from the government and NSF (National Science Foundation) received over \$2 billion in additional money, so both are funding more competitive grants. UM-St. Louis has applied to many of these agencies, in hopes that one of the proposals will stick. Arshadi said,

"Usually these granting agencies have a pipeline of projects [and] each time a proposal is submitted, they get ranked. Even though you may be very highly ranked, you may still not get funded because somebody else is ranked just slightly better."

Arshadi explained UM-St. Louis does not expect every project to be funded because "it is a competitive world." The philosophy behind it is the more prospects the University puts out there, the better chance the University has of receiving funding for one of their projects. As a public University, UM-St. Louis requires more outside funding sources than a private institution might. In apply-

ing for new funds, Nasser said UM-St. Louis is being very "aggressive".

Many of the items on the Wish-list have been campus priorities in the past. Some of the projects, such as the science complex, have even received previous funding that was then suspended therefore the progress halted. If funding was received from the stimulus bill, it would allow the University to move at a "much bigger scale, and faster [pace]" in completing old and new projects that would keep improving the caliber of education students at UM-St. Louis receive.

The Benton Stadler Building, and the new science complex project is a priority for the University, largely due to the fact that much of the equipment in the science labs are outdated. The new science complex will serve "a vast majority" of faculty and students at UM-St. Louis and is part of the University's efforts to keep improving and updating the campus. Arshadi said,

"It is really great and everyone in the administration is working very hard to push this agenda forward; we care a lot about our students, [and] it is our determination to provide [the] best service to [them]."

The items on the wish-list will help the University to gain "infrastructure." The projects will bring new resources to faculty and students alike and will allow new research to be conducted and the best education possible offered to students. Along

with the progress the campus intends to make, Arshadi believes that the campus has already come a long way in expanding its resources and in improving the level of education students are able to achieve.

While other University of Missouri universities are applying for funds on their wish-lists, UM-St. Louis does not consider themselves to be in competition with their sister schools in the UM system. Arshadi explained that while UM-St. Louis is anxious to see their own projects receive funding, they would be "delighted" if one of the other UM system Universities receives funding for their own wish-lists. Arshadi said that the schools of the UM-System have formed a sort of "United Front".

Although the list has priorities, Nasser claims the University will take any amount of funding offered. Arshadi said,

"In this business you have to look at what is most important for [the] campus, but [also] what is most fundable [as well]. You go after low hanging fruit basically. We have 10 projects that are extremely important to us, fund as many as you can."

So when will the students of UM-St. Louis find out whether funding will be received or not?

According to Arshadi, this is on a pretty quick timeline, and word of what will or will not be funded might be known as early as two to three months.

In 1987...

...Subway attributed...

...selling more sandwiches...

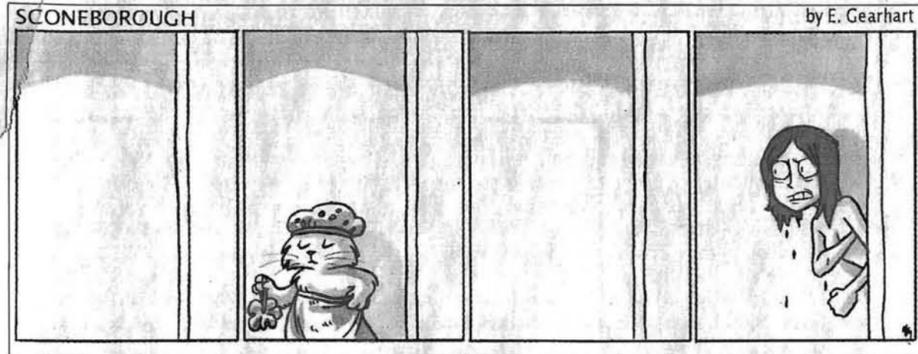
...thanks to an ad in *The Current*...

...actually that's a lie...

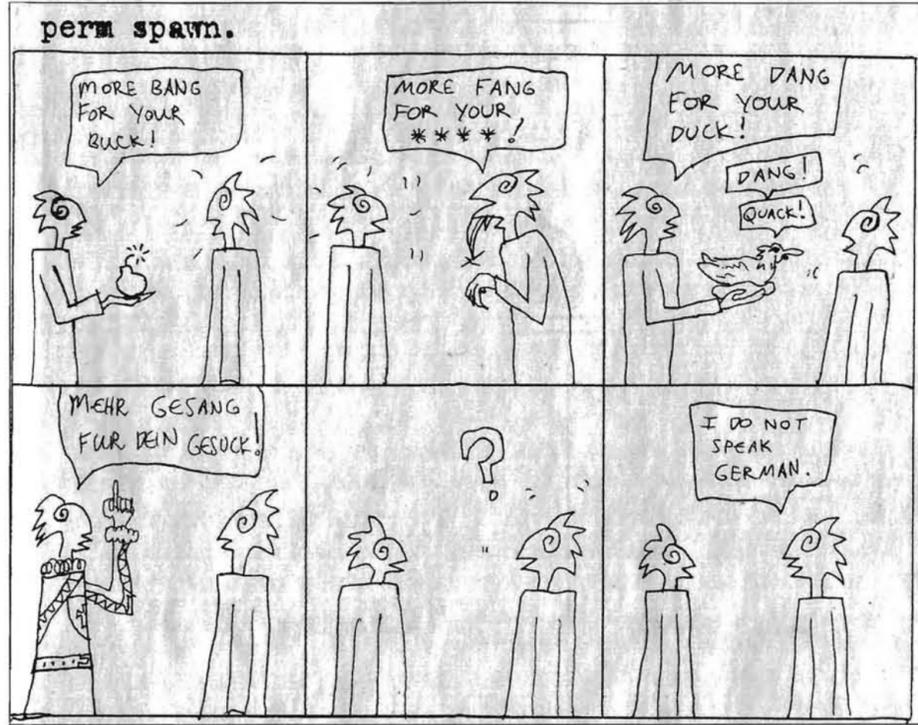
...but you read this...

...think of who else will.

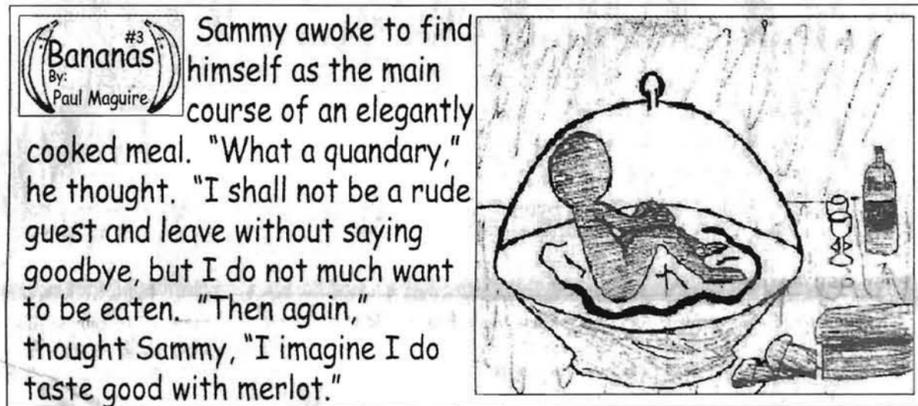
CURRENT CARTOONISTS



"Sconeborough" is drawn by Current cartoonist Elizabeth Gearhart



"Perm Spawn" is drawn by Current cartoonist Caleb True



"Bananas" is drawn by Current cartoonist Paul Maguire

CURRENT SUDOKU

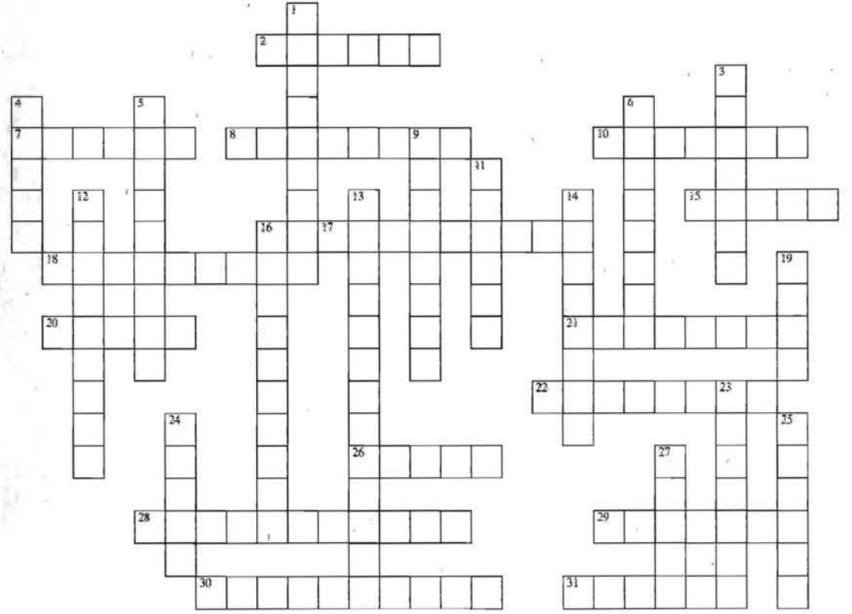
		4	1			2
	1		6	9	5	
8	5			2		7
			1	5		9
						4
3		1		4	9	
	6		3			9
			5	2	1	3
4			6		5	

Difficulty: ★ (Easy)

Current Sudoku is made by Gene Doyel, Design Editor

CURRENT CROSSWORD

Superheroes/Supervillains



ACROSS

- 2. Guy _____, historical figure whose mask "V" uses in Alan Moore's "V For Vendetta".
- 7. Hair-challenged super-villain.
- 8. Quick as lightning, also occasionally does time for public nudity. Get it?
- 10. What's part bacon, part metal, and all justice? Hint: 1987 Peter Weller role.
- 15. Batman sidekick who has yet to make an appearance in the most recent films.
- 17. Blind lawyer by day, this Frank Miller creation by night.
- 18. Creator of "The Watchmen" among many, many other things
- 20. Christopher _____, iconic "Superman" actor.
- 21. Mid-90s tongue-in-cheek British anti-heroine. Hint: she'll roll right over you.
- 22. The second super heroine played by Halle Berry. Meow.
- 26. Professor _____, his alter ego is mild mannered schoolboy "Butters".
- 28. Super heroine and member of the Justice League.
- 29. Last year's smash hit film. Also an iconic song for Black Sabbath.
- 30. Nick Cage role or, possibly, Casper's mean cousin.
- 31. Has no superpowers. Just lots of money and a kick-ass assistant named Lucius Fox.

DOWN

- 1. Ian McKellen embodied this "attractive" villain.
- 3. He wears his sunglasses at night. Hint: He was a gifted youngster.
- 4. Daywalker and bad-ass Wesley Snipe role.
- 5. Leaves of three, let them be. Unless they are as babely as she.
- 6. Polarizing "Watchmen" character whose death sets off plot of the novel and film. With "the".
- 9. The original and the best: the Cornflakes of Superheroes.
- 11. This mister will chill your heart. Hasta la vista, heart.
- 12. X-Man who you wouldn't want a massage from.
- 13. They could have been a string quartet, but instead, they fight crime!
- 14. Along with Chronic, he brings his own special strain of justice.
- 16. Super-weakness of Superman, luckily not found much on Earth.
- 19. This human mood ring changes color when pissed.
- 23. Fighting crime and sharks since 1941. Also Justice League member.
- 24. William that played villain in the first "Spiderman" film, and was arguably scarier without his Goblin costume.
- 25. Earth! Wind! Water! Heart! This Captain isn't quite a superhero, but super nonetheless.
- 27. X-Woman you would want a massage from. Am I tingling or is it raining in this room?

CURRENT CRYPTOGRAM

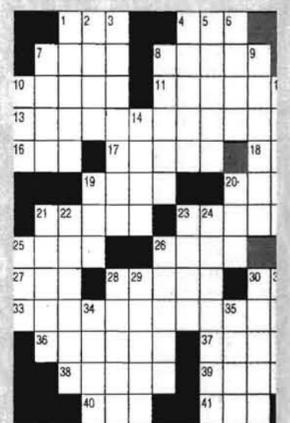
Find the original meaning of the message below. Each letter shown stands for another letter. Break the code for the letter A, you will have all of the As in the message, and so on.

FKGZMLY FN O LFP, O HFFC MZ EOQ'Z
 HYZG HIMYL. MQZMLY FN O LFP MG'Z
 GFF LOIC GF IYOL.

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The Current
 CLASSIC
 Coming soon.

HODGE from page 3

Hodge stated, "Relationships translate into connections. Like the brain, communities that are well connected function more effectively."

Hodge contrasted what he referred to as the Medical Model, prevalent pre-1960s, to the Reform Model, which took hold and gained support in later years.

The Medical Model held the view, according to Hodge, that, "There is something internally wrong with the client. Fix the client—fix the problem."

The Reform Model differed, in that, it "seeks to restore wholeness, relationships and homeostasis."

Hodge summed up his opinion, saying, "You cannot understand a system if you break it down to its parts. People are part of a system."

This system is built on people's relationships, whether personal or professional.

"There is an interchange of energy between," Hodge stated, "relationships help us do our jobs better."

He asked the attendees, "What is the highest value that you offer your community? I really want to appeal to you at this point, your community needs you."

Stressing this point of community and relationships, Hodge closed

by presenting a few challenges: Practice building community where you are, lean into your discomfort, whether racial, socio-economic, whatever it is and finally to volunteer in order to expand and serve your community.

The reactions to the program were very positive, as related by Remi Miljavac, second year optometry student, "The presentation was very beneficial to optometry students. It helps to have a world view and realize how to impact your community."

There were refreshments provided by Dr. Davidson of the School of Optometry.

LIFE AFTER COLLEGE from page 3

Most of these are versatile enough to be cross-applicable when it comes to employment and some remarkably well-paying jobs, like Official Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream Taster (one of the examples used) seem to use very little of a person's education at all. Just do not expect to try brain surgery with a Bachelor of Arts.

The speaker made certain to stress involvement in campus organizations like fraternities and student government and also suggested that students seek membership in larger-scale organizations like the American Marketing Association and American

Management Association (AMA and AMA, respectively).

When asked to distill his entire presentation into a single sentence, Masters suggested, "Target-market for your dream job and become the next young professional success story."

Attendance was not as high as it might have been, falling somewhere between 30 and 50 people. The audience was composed mostly students but there were some staff members present as well, mostly from the offices sponsoring the event.

Reactions were positive, if a

bit subdued, among attendees. "I thought it went OK," said Joe Elmore. "I think it was a good reminder we have the possibility of doing anything we want to," said Megan Hill, student. Attendees were presented with a signed copy of Life After College (Masters joked that this made the book worth \$15.00 on eBay, up from its retail value of around \$14.00) and treated to a catered Southwestern-style lunch.

The event began with a half-hour period for eating and mingling and was followed by the presentation proper.

AGING WOMEN from page 3

New ways of writing resumes, the advent of email, increased competition and the tough economy were concerns that older women at the workshop were coping with for the first time.

Of all the differences between young people hunting for jobs and

the elderly, one stuck out. "Technology is biggest difference," Gale said. "The youth are more comfortable with technology."

Sherrill Wayland, executive director of Sage, a gay, lesbian and bisexual advocacy group, hosted Coming Out as a Lesbian in Later Life,

a panel discussion designed to help women become more open with their lesbian or bisexual identity in old age.

Members of the panel recounted experiences of growing up confused, living through unfulfilling marriages and finally coming out as lesbians in

the later years of their life.

Ms. Wayland was happy to have a venue to spread her message and let older lesbian and bisexual women know about their options.

"They're marginalized, and they're less likely to seek aid simply out of fear.

If they're not seeking services they can become more isolated, which can lead to depression."

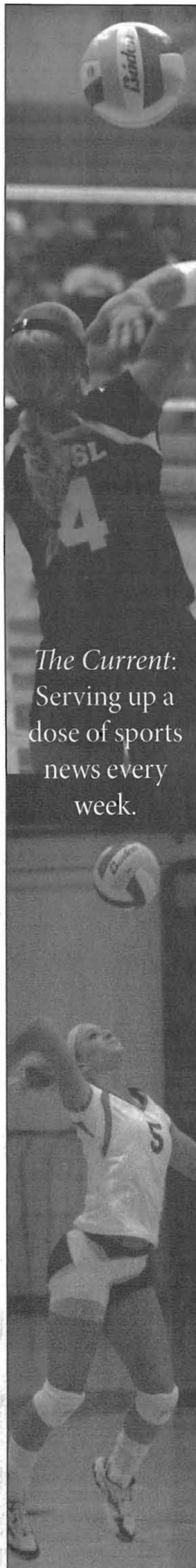
Most attendees were very happy with the conference.

"It's fabulous," said Shawn Pohlman, an attendee. "My favorite thing is that it focuses on what I'm inter-

ested in."

Kathy Borcharding was glad that she could meet other people like herself.

"Many of us have shared stories," she said, "Many of us have experienced traumas and lived through it."



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