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Abduction at **GUNPOINT**

On Tuesday, July 6th, an University of Missouri-St.Louis student was abducted and sexually assaulted by an unknown assailant who remains at large.

BY ANDY PHIPPS



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The Current

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Abduction at gunpoint

UM-St.Louis student sexually assaulted

► **ANDY PHIPPS**
News Editor

On Tuesday, July 6th, an University of Missouri-St.Louis student was abducted and sexually assaulted by an unknown assailant who remains at large. The student was abducted by the armed assailant at around 10 p.m. as she was approaching her parked car in the 8200 block of Natural Bridge. The student was forced at gunpoint to drive to a location in Normandy where the assailant sexually assaulted her. Following this, he forced her to drive to a gas station on natural bridge and withdraw money from an ATM. The student used this opportunity to call 911 while the assailant drove away in her car.

Hampering the investigation is the fact that the assailant wore a ski mask during the entire incident, which has kept police from drawing up a facial composite of the individual to help identify him. A Clery Release sent out by UM-St.Louis police to all students and university faculty about the incident describes the suspect as being a 5'5" to 5'6" African American male in his mid

to late 20s weighing around 150 pounds.

Despite the lack of an accurate description of the suspect, there has been some progress on the case. The student's car, a grey 2007 Nissan Altima, was discovered abandoned in the 3400 block of Lucas and Hunt on Wednesday. St.Louis County police have impounded the vehicle and are in the process of searching it for forensic evidence. According to UM-St.Louis spokesperson Bob Samples, the student was treated at a nearby hospital and a rape kit was performed.

This incident comes seven months after two assaults on the UM-St.Louis campus in December of 2009. The two incidents happened within 24 hours of each other, one involved an attack on a female student in a bathroom located in the Social Science Building on north campus, the other involving the sexual assault of a female student on south campus. In the wake of those incidents, UM-St. Louis police responded by offering students self-defense classes and increased patrols on campus. In addition, the Student Government Association responded by canvassing campus shortly thereafter to identify areas with low lighting and to identify other safety

concerns.

SGA president Dan Rosner, expressed shock over the latest incident. "Something like this is very difficult to prevent. When a person commits a crime of this magnitude, he or she is definitely on a mission and the successfulness of the deterrence the university puts in place becomes less. Both the administrators and the police department are working very diligently to reexamine areas around campus in regards to safety to help prevent another attack like this." Rosner said.

Although both UM-St. Louis and Normandy police were called in initially to investigate the incident, because of the nature of it, St. Louis County police are handling the investigation, with UM-St. Louis and Normandy police assisting. UM-St.Louis police refused to comment on the investigation, referring all inquires to university spokesperson Bob Samples and university police have not commented on what, if any, action they have taken in response to the incident.

As of press time, no arrests have been made in the incident.

What's in store from SGA for fall semester

► **MARIAN JONES**
Staff Writer

The University of Missouri-St. Louis Student Government Association is working diligently this summer to serve students while dealing with a gap in their leadership following the departure of Vice President Leo Bay.

Shortly after elections for their executive staff this spring, SGA proceeded with normal protocol, holding internal elections for the

assembly and working on their own agendas for office. Shortly thereafter, they were informed that Bay was stepping down following his acceptance to medical school in Arizona.

"I knew that he applied but he was very adamant about going in the fall unless he [was accepted] in his first choice school, but he would have known that before we started campaigning," Dan Rosner, SGA president, said.

See SGA, page 15

Interim deans fill gaps in leadership

► **RYAN KRULL & BLAIR STYLES**
Staff Writer

Heading into the fall semester, two departments at the University of Missouri-St. Louis lack deans. The UM-St. Louis' library administration has lacked a permanent dean since the unexpected passing of Amy Arnott in 2008 and as of this August, the College of Fine Arts and Communication will also be without a dean

following the retirement of John Hylton from the position.

With the UM System budget dealing with the current economic climate, UM-St. Louis has been left without the ability to conduct the traditional hiring process used to fill vacancies.

Instead, the university has been appointing interim deans to fill vacant positions and administrations.

See DEAN, page 16

WEATHER

MON. 91	TUES. 84	WED. 87	THURS. 92	FRI. 89	SAT. 91	SUN. 90
72	68	74	74	72	76	79

Campus safety experiment

UMSL ID's program still up in air

► JEN O'HARA
Staff writer

An experiment taking place on south campus could determine a fate concerning the rest of the University of Missouri-St. Louis. The School of Social Work, residing in Bellerive Hall, began an experimental ID test last semester.

Though the theory of creating a safer campus has been in the back of minds for years, the recent events of assaults on campus inspired a quicker result to derive.

In March, students and faculty in Bellerive Hall were instructed to begin wearing their UM-St. Louis ID's around their necks while in the building. A card swipe system was installed in April, allowing access only to those taking classes or employed within Bellerive

after 5 p.m.

Because of its isolation to the rest of the campus and the population of the building in general, Bellerive was chosen as the testing zone.

"Because this building is somewhat isolated, that is, not connected to other buildings, it's easy for people to wander in and out of the building." Dr. Lois Pierce, director of the School of Social Work said.

"We don't have a receptionist, somebody sitting at the front door. Then there's nobody checking to make sure [the people] in the building really should be in the building. We've had two computers disappear already, and so we were concerned about people stealing additional computers and things like that. It's a combination of a number of things. The safety of the students and being able to [make

sure] people in the building have a reason to be in the building," Pierce said.

The suggestion for ID's was a combined effort from faculty at Bellerive and campus police as the next safety solution. However, mixed responses show several students are concerned about their identification being stolen.

Others confirm that the ID's do make them feel safer.

"My first reaction to the lanyards was that they were not going to do anything. I thought they were kind of silly" Janice Weatherly, senior, Public Policy Administration said. "I didn't like the ID's at first, but I like the idea of knowing who should and shouldn't be in the building. The lanyards give you a feeling of security," Weatherly said.

While the lanyards are meant for student and faculty protection, it would also allow police to be wary.

"From the law enforcement end, there's been incidents before that happened on campus, so it's difficult for us to tell sometimes who the students are and who the visitors are and that type of thing." Sergeant Daniel Contarini, campus police, said.

"Because of my background in law enforcement, I've always worn my name on my uniform. I've worked in secure environments where it was required and I think it helps foster security, and it doesn't hinder it," Contarini said.

Those who cannot acknowledge why they are present at Bellerive will be asked to leave the building. The campus police are on standby for any persons who resist.

Not much enforcement has taken place thus far, according to Pierce, but plans to bring stricter implementations begin in the fall as new social work students are brought in.

As far as how effective the ID's would be among the entire campus, given that it is an open university, is also in question.

"Really, the law enforcement community would be hopefully ready to identify who belongs here. I also know human nature being what it is, [people] are going to forget their ID, maybe leave them in their car. How practical it is in the long run? I don't know. But I think the overall concept of what they're trying to accomplish with is a good thing" Contarini said.



Local News

Kidnapped toddler found in Fenton

Four-year-old Alisa Maier, who was abducted from the front yard of her Louisiana, Mo. home last Monday night was found unharmed in Fenton on Wednesday. Maier was found in the parking lot of a strip mall and the investigation into her abduction remains open as the search for her kidnapper continues. One suspect in the case, Paul Smith, 38, a registered sex offender, shot himself as police approached him for questioning in the yard of his home on Wednesday.

Federal grant aids Loop trolley

A federal grant has provided funding for the installation of an electric trolley that will run through the Delmar Loop and Forrest Park. The \$25 million federal grant was announced at a press conference Friday outside of Blueberry Hill attended by U.S. Reps. Russ Carnahan (D) and Lacy Clay (D) and St. Louis county executive Charley Dooley. The federal grant will back up an additional \$44 million raised by the St. Louis Loop Trolley project. Groundbreaking is slated for late 2011.

Suit filed over Healthcare reform

Missouri Lt. Gov. Peter Kinder (R) and three plaintiffs filed a lawsuit on Wednesday against the recently passed federal health care act. Kinder and the other three plaintiffs argue that the health care act raises costs, weakens their coverage and violates the U.S. and Missouri state constitutions. The lawsuit has been a source of controversy, as Kinder is funding the lawsuit with private donations to a corporation he has set up and has yet to make a list of donors public.



National News

U.S. and Russia swap spies

The U.S. Department of Justice swapped 14 spies with Russia at a Vienna, Austria airport on Friday. American officials said that they had been laying the groundwork for the exchange since before the arrest of 10 Russian spies in the U.S. According to DoJ officials, the exchange took about an hour and children and relatives of the spies were exchanged separately. The 10 spies arrested in the U.S. two weeks ago had already pleaded guilty to espionage in American courts.

BP promises fix with new well cap

The Deepwater Horizon oil leak could be completely contained as early as Monday if a plan to fit a tighter cap on the gushing well is successful. BP technicians using remote controlled submarines were working on installing the cap, after being delayed by choppy seas and stormy weather. BP also continued work on drilling two relief wells to be operational by mid-August. The U.S. government estimates that 1.5 to 2.5 million barrels of oil are escaping from the well each day.

DOMA ruled unconstitutional

A federal judge in a Boston U.S. district court has ruled that part of the Defense of Marriage Act is unconstitutional. The federal law defines marriage as being only between a man and a woman, but this latest court decision questions the constitutionality of this definition. Judge Joseph Tauro ruled on Thursday that the law unconstitutionally steps on state's rights to define what is legal marriage in their own borders. At question in the decision was how DOMA affected Massachusetts' law allowing for same sex marriage in the state.

Statshot

UNDERCURRENT by Riki Tanaka

"What would you like to see change for the upcoming school year?"



"I would like to see more outreach opportunities like the big event on campus."

Chris Schaefer
International Business
Junior



"I would like to see expanded hours for food services and a larger variety of choices."

Robert Morgan
Computer Science
Sophomore



"I would like to see more activities for the students."

Lee Franklin
History Education
Graduate

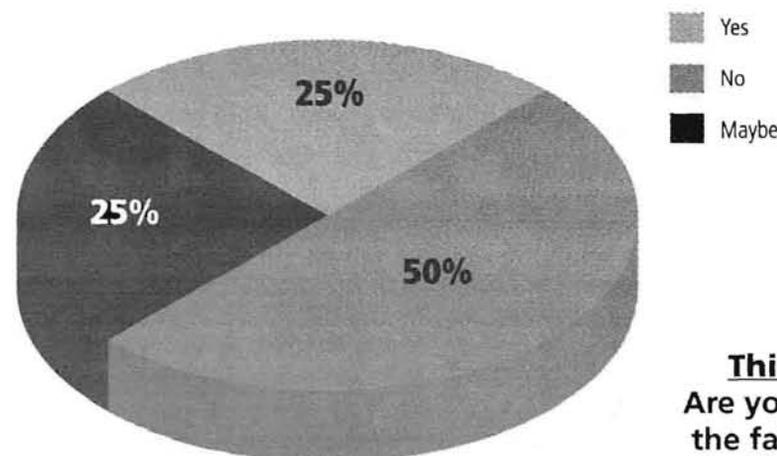


"I would like to see longer library hours."

Rick Barton
MIS
Graduate

POLL

Is it the president's fault for the BP oil spill?



■ Yes
■ No
■ Maybe

This week:
Are you ready for the fall semester?
Submit your answer at
www.thecurrent-online.com

We're hiring for the 2010-2011 school year!

News Editor
Asst. News Editor
Illustrators
Page Designers
Staff Writers
Staff Photographers

YOU SAID IT COMMENTS FROM THE WEB

"NEW CHIEF OF POLICE IS SWORN IN" FROM ISSUE 1314

"What a great choice. I have know Forrest for many years. You could have not found a better Police Chief. Very honest, intelligent, stand up guy!"

-R. Browning

"THE FIRST AMENDMENT" FROM ISSUE 1313

"FIRE ran a great campaign against the actions of Marsh Garst, including providing legal representation and volunteers. As a direct result of their support all but 20 of the photographs seized from The Breeze were ordered returned and inadmissible by the court. PLEASE do a story about FIRE (Foundation for Individual Rights in Education). The awareness of the student body must be raised, and that is definitely within The Current's purview."

-Robert M.

"FIRST ANNUAL JAZZ EDUCATION CONFERENCE TURNS CAMPUS INTO MUSICAL HAVEN" FROM ISSUE 1314

"The JEN was a true learning experience for us here @ The U. Our support we provided this conference by staffing the 'Media Room' gave us a learn by doing experience. Thanks 'The Current' for running this story, mucho Kudos* to Cate Marquis."

-Stephen

We selected these highlights from reader comments on our website. To see more, check out www.thecurrent-online.com

No experience necessary!
Job descriptions and how to apply at
www.thecurrent-online.com/about-us/employment/

FIFA World Cup at UMSL

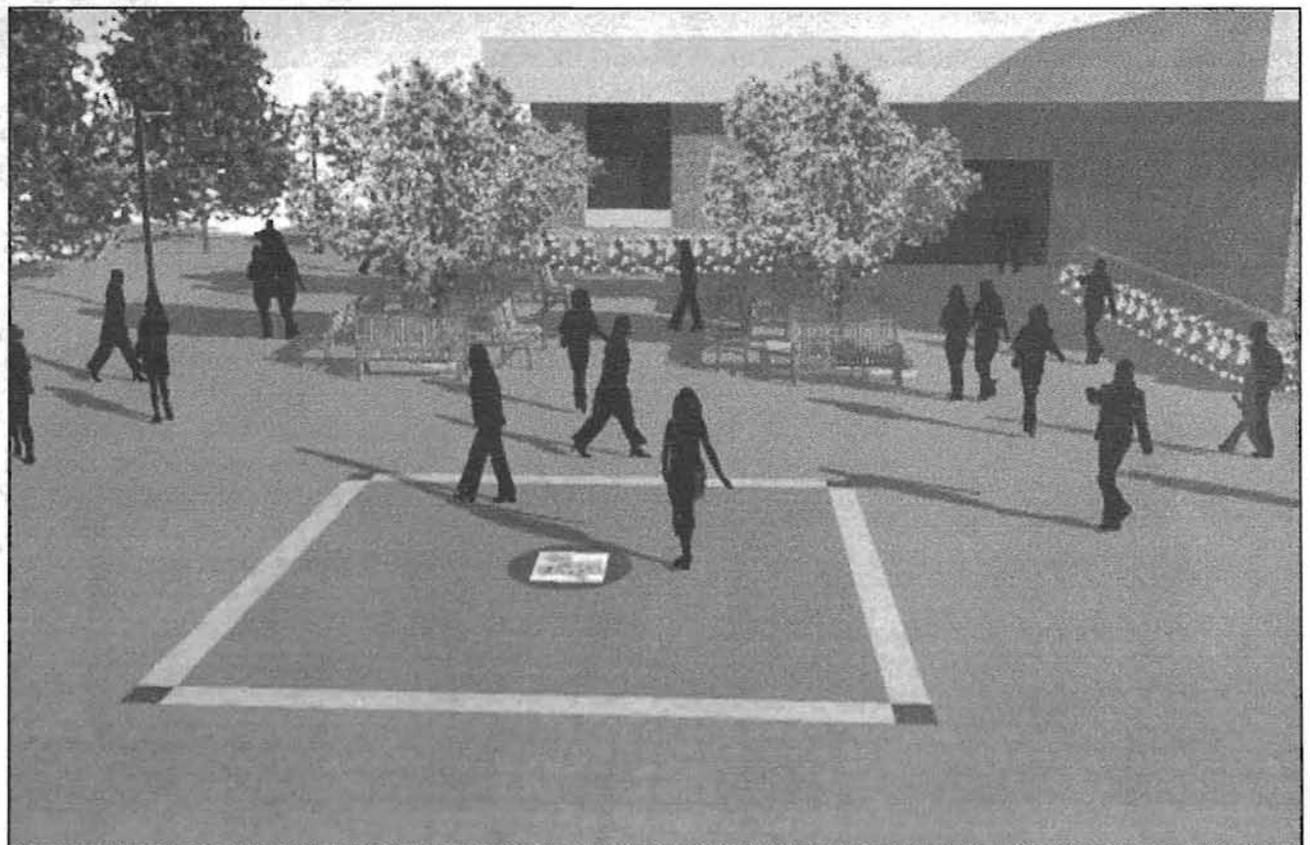
MSC shows the true spirit of the World Cup

► **TROY PETERS**
Staff writer

The University of Missouri St. Louis' Millennium Student Center was packed with eager sports fans on Wednesday afternoon as they gathered to watch the second game of the semifinals for the World Cup in South Africa, with Germany vs. Spain.

Fans from all over the St. Louis area came to enjoy the game in the comfort of the Millennium Student Center. Whether they were students who stopped by between their classes, teachers taking their lunch, or just avid Soccer fans from the community, they all had one thing on their mind and that was the game. UM-St. Louis' Millennium Student Center offers one of the best venues for a viewing party with large comfortable chairs, spacious open areas for the crowds to come in droves, and the most important part of any sports party, the big screen television, which the MSC has two.

SEE FIFA ON PAGE 6



COURTESY OF UMSL ALTHETICS

Mark Twain building to be renovated *Without additional cost to UMSL Students*

► **MICHAEL FREDERICK**
Sports Editor

The Mark Twain Building at the University of Missouri-St. Louis north campus pales in comparison to the recreational and athletic facilities at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Mizzou sports one of the top college recreational facilities in the country. The Tigers also have one of the best athletic programs in the country excelling in mens and womens basketball, football, and baseball.

To date, Triton student-athletes cannot train as a team with strength and conditioning coaches. Instead, they are required to do such activities on their own time.

Other teams in the Great Lakes Valley Conference, such as the University of Southern Indiana Greyhounds, have up-to-date facilities open to student-athletes, general students, faculty, and adjacent communities. The Tritons do not have strength and conditioning coaches on staff.

Lori Flanagan, UM-St. Louis Athletic Director, has a solution for this problem that would not increase student fees—selling personalized bricks to replace the

cracking cement in front of the main entrance to the gymnasium.

"Anyone can purchase a brick. It does not matter if you are a student at the university, a parent, alumni, or just someone who enjoys the university," Flanagan said.

The bricks range in sizes from about the size of a cinder block to about four feet in circumference. Director Flanagan also mentioned that the money raised from the bricks and other fund raising events would be to aid in renovating Mark Twain Building facilities, such as more study areas for students.

Tritons Volleyball coach Trent Jones explained that he was more than happy to be a part of this revitalization of UM-St. Louis Athletics. "I think this would raise awareness and help get the word out that we are very serious about everyone, not just athletes, at the UM-St. Louis community to have better recreational facilities," Coach Jones said.

As of last week, construction has begun on the front of the Mark Twain Building to replace the cracking sidewalk with trees, benches, and temporary bricks that would be replaced with personalized bricks.

"One thing we always want to show

is that work is occurring, almost every day to make sure that we can have the temporary bricks placed by the start of the semester," Flanagan said.

The St. Louis Cardinals also had a similar campaign with the building of the new Busch Stadium. Flanagan admits, though, that this is a much smaller scale. "Our goal is to reach \$500,000 over the course of a year by selling bricks and raising funds by other means," Flanagan said.

The Mark Twain Building is used for more than Triton Athletics. An estimated 80,000 people step foot into the Mark Twain Building every year, according to Flanagan. The number includes students, athletes, parents, events, and UM-St. Louis staff.

Flanagan also stressed that the renovations would benefit everyone in the UM-St. Louis community. "This is not just for athletes. This is for everyone," Flanagan said.

Whether or not the Tritons reach their goal is debatable. But this aggressive approach by the UM-St. Louis Athletic Department has shown Lori Flanagan's commitment to university athletics.

UPCOMING GAMES

TEAM	DATE
Womens volleyball Vs. Alabama-Huntsville (UWF Comfort Inn-vitational)	SEP. 3, 2010
UMSL Mens soccer Vs. Newman	SEP. 2, 2010
UMSL Mens Soccer Vs. Indianapolis	SEP. 5, 2010
UMSL Mens Tennis Vs. Mckendree	SEP. 16, 2010
UMSL Womens Golf Vs. Drury Fall Shootout	SEP. 12, 2010
UMSL Womens tennis Vs. Maryville	SEP. 9, 2010

○ HOME ● AWAY

STATS BOX

MENS SOCCER		WOMENS SOCCER		WOMENS VOLLEYBALL	
Overall:	9-7-2	Overall:	4-11-1	Overall:	21-11
Conference:	7-5-2	Conference:	4-9-1	Conference:	11-3
Home:	6-1-1	Home:	3-4-1	Home:	7-1
Away:	3-6-1	Away:	1-7-0	Away:	7-5
Goals scored per game:	1.56	Goals scored per game:	1.19	Kills:	1598
Assists per game:	19	Assists per game:	17	Errors :	631
Corner kicks:	65	Corner kicks:	17	Total Attacks:	4335
Penalty kicks:	2-3	Penalty kicks:	1-1	Kills/Set:	13.1
Yellow cards:	34	Yellow cards:	4	Assists:	1477
Red cards:	2	Red cards:	0		

FIFA, FROM PAGE 5

Ready for the match to begin Dave, a teacher from the St. Louis area, sits enthusiastically in his team's trademark green jersey hoping that Germany can once again deliver a win for their fans. Dave, who has watched several World Cup games at UMSL, returned Wednesday for the relaxing cool environment on a hot day. The unique and diverse atmosphere, and the great energy of the other spectators who brought a grand sense of comradery, regardless of their team affiliation.

One of Dave's as well as the majority of the group's favorite aspect of the MSC was The Nosh. Which is a

quick service restaurant that offers every sports lovers favorite game foods, including the essentials to any game day celebration with pizza, chips, burgers and wings to name a few. Dave could only make

one suggestion, remarking jokingly, "We could use some beer."

Along with comfort, food and the energy of the fans, the MSC also boasts a very practical amenity for

game day. With free high speed wireless internet allowing fans to work on homework, check their emails and look up stats on their favorite players and other game details right from their seats. Another

spectator, Tyler Bedell, also sat down to enjoy the game coming from a Bible discussion group, with his hopes on Spain to get the win. Bedell, who hadn't planned on watching the game, thought

the MSC was a great place to enjoy the festivities with a few friends.

"I don't watch TV often, but the MSC provides a great place to go with a good group of people," Bedell said. UMSL and the Millennium Student Center offered the perfect location for these sports fans to all come together, relax, have some food and just enjoy the game. As the teams' national anthems began to play, you could feel the anticipation and excitement surge through the room, as everyone prepared to support their team and bring home the win.

Final score: Spain 1, Germany 0.

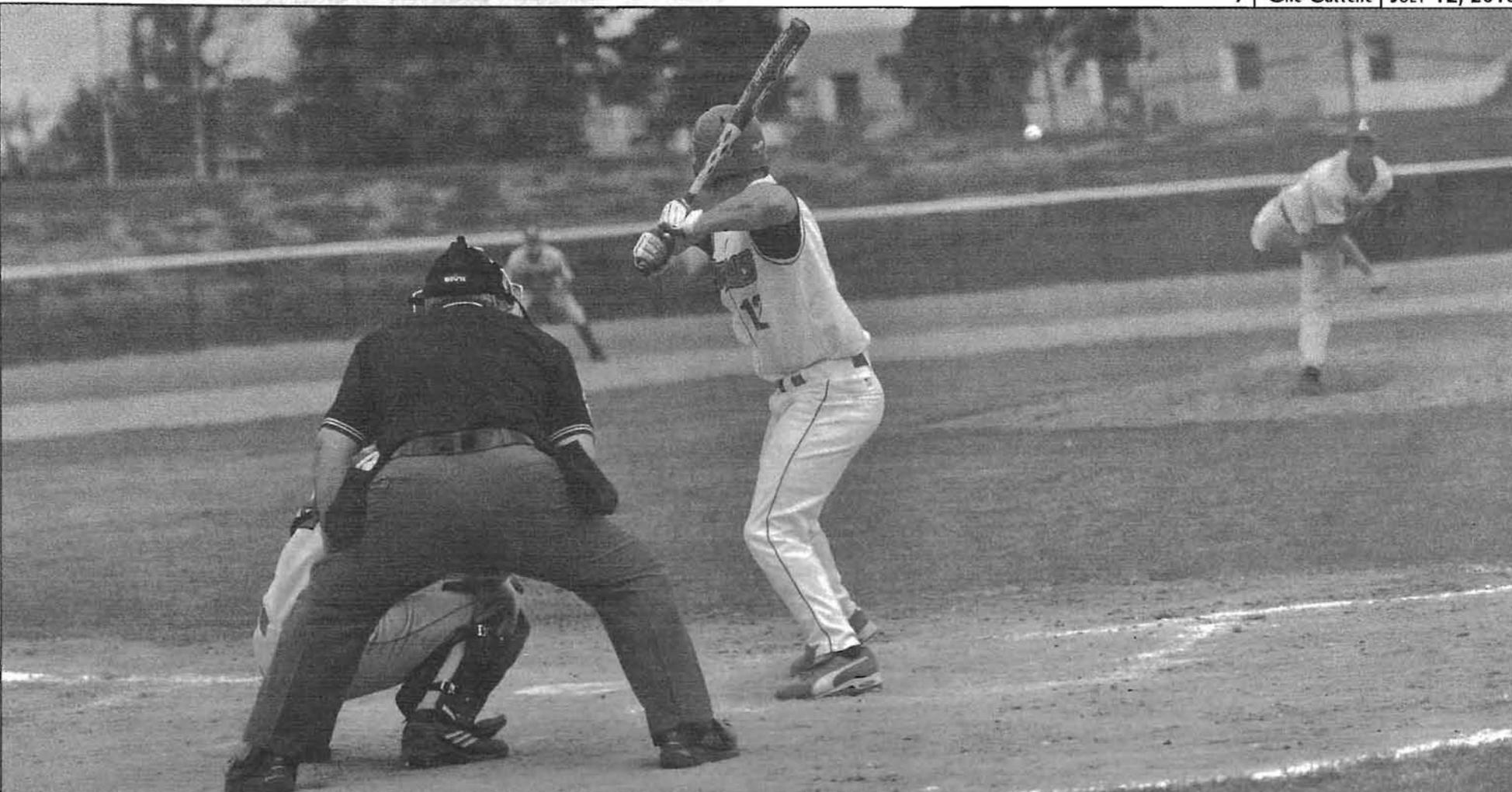
"I don't watch TV often, but the MSC provides a great place to go with a good group of people."

-Bedell

Are you near a computer?

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FILE PHOTO / THE CURRENT

College baseball sizzles this summer

Two Tritons take advantage of opportunity with summer baseball league

► **MICHAEL FREDERICK**

Sports Editor

The University of Missouri-St. Louis baseball team's season ended in early May. But two players are taking advantage of an important opportunity with a summer league that plays some games at UM-St. Louis.

For two UM-St. Louis baseball players, the maple, or sometimes old-fashioned ash, bats bring out the best in them.

Outfielder Drew Standefer, sophomore, nursing, and pitcher Austin Shuler, junior, media studies, both agreed that wooden bats used in summer leagues, such as the St. Louis Metro Collegiate Baseball League, bring out the best in any baseball player.

"As a pitcher, it makes things better because you really have to muscle the ball with wooden bats," Shuler said. "I throw a four-seam fastball, two-seam fastball, curveball and slider. With the metal bats, you always are afraid of the cheap, Texas leaguer hit."

Standefer, who recorded two hits in two at-bats for the University City Lions on Thursday, also said he enjoyed the

wooden bat. "There's really nothing like the 'crack' of it. It doesn't sting as much, and when you really get a hold of one, it feels great," Standefer said.

Standefer and Shuler both play for the University City Lions in the St. Louis Metro Collegiate Baseball League, where

"There are guys on my team from Yale, Washington University—all over."

-Austin Schuler

seven other teams also compete. The league is composed of junior college and four-year school baseball players who either

wish to make it in the professionals or want to get the extra edge in the college baseball arena.

"It's a good league that has some really good talent from around the country," Schuler said. "There are guys on my team from Yale, Washington University—all over."

On Thursday, Standefer recorded two hits off the bench for the Lions against the Alton Indians. "It looked like he changed his stance a bit," Shuler said. "He put his hands down a bit and doesn't try to kill it anymore. He really stays within himself now."

The fireplug of the Tritons team, Standefer also tried something different for the Lions. He played centerfield, which he only played for UM-St. Louis twice, starting most games in leftfield.

"It's still kind of new to me, but I think I can handle it," Standefer said.

The outfielder also had some positive things to say about his Triton and summer league teammate: "Austin has really good stuff and he came up big with us down the stretch," Standefer said.

Toward the end of last season, UM-St. Louis baseball finished strong, winning five of their last seven games. Shuler, Standefer and UM-St. Louis baseball coach Jim Brady agreed that hard work from the majority of the team allowed them to earn the split in the final four games of the season.

"I think it is definitely something we can build on for next season, especially since we will know whose roll is whose," Shuler said.

The UM-St. Louis baseball season officially starts sometime in February. But from the looks of Standefer and Shuler, who has only surrendered one earned run in relief for the Lions, UM-St. Louis should be competitive next season.

Bump, set and spike

UMSL volleyball is well on their way to another promising season

► **STEPHANIE BENZ**
Staff Writer

For the past several seasons the Tritons volleyball team has been competitive. Last season they sported an astonishing 21-11 record and help solidify the Tritons volleyball as a powerhouse in the Great Lakes Valley Conference.

The University of Missouri-St. Louis volleyball players are in training for another aggressive season. Practice for the athletes is scheduled to begin on August 16, giving the team just over two weeks until its season opener at the University of West Florida on September 3 and 4.

Head Coach of the UM-St. Louis Volleyball Team, Trent Jones, is currently entering his third year at UM-St. Louis. In the past two years, Jones has led the UM-St. Louis Volleyball Team to back-to-back 20-win seasons, something that has not been done in over a decade, since 1995 and 1996.

The organization will also be welcoming a new staff mem-

“We’re very excited about the experience that he’ll bring.”

-Trent Jones

ber to the program this year. Coach Jones will be joined this season by new Assistant Coach, Corey Arbini, who comes to UM-St. Louis with coaching experience from Saint Louis University and several local club teams. “We’re very excited about the experience that he’ll bring,” Jones said.

Coach Arbini is not the only addition to the team this season. There have also been four freshmen added to the UM-St. Louis Volleyball roster in 2010. Erin Klostermann, comes to UM-St. Louis from Dubuque, Iowa, Anna McNulty from Des Moines, Iowa, Chelsea Burkle from Marion, Iowa, and Tabatha Albers from St. Rose, Illinois. They all have very competitive and impressive high school volleyball backgrounds, and show promising potential for the future of Tritons’ Vol-

leyball.

In addition to the strength brought by the newcomers, Jones is confident that the returning athletes possess significant talent and leadership to bring to the court. “We will have six or seven starters returning this season,” Coach Jones said. Experienced athletes in conjunction with a number of strong young players predict an auspicious near future for the team.

For anyone who has not had the experience of watching the UM-St. Louis Volleyball team in action, there will be several

opportunities to see and to support the athletes at home during the 2010 season. On September 10 and 11 the Tritons Classic will bring contenders from Harding University, Arkansas-Fort Smith, Truman State, and Minnesota-Crookston to the Mark Twain Gymnasium for competition. During the season as a whole, there will be 13 home games. This number has almost doubled in comparison to last season’s mere seven home games.

The UM-St. Louis Volleyball team should be competitive



FILE PHOTO/THE CURRENT

A&E

'Despicable Me'

is anything but

Making a children's movie that also engages adults is tough enough without having to go up against the animation juggernaut known as Pixar.

Sure, "Despicable Me" may have a despicable release date, a mere three weeks after Pixar's third movie about toys. But Illumination Entertainment's first animated film has a lot to offer for both kids and adults alike, and should not be missed.



IMAGES COURTESY / UNIVERSAL

Gru (voiced by Steve Carrell), a super villain with dreams of stealing the moon is the main character of "Despicable Me," a feel-good family film kids and adults alike will enjoy.

"Despicable Me" is the story of Gru (voiced by Steve Carrell), a super villain who has big dreams. All of his heists before this have been chump change. His next plan is to steal the rarest thing of all: the moon.

Along to help is his army of miniscule minions, who resemble nothing more than sentient Twinkies in overalls and goggles, and Dr. Nefario (Russell Brand), his aged inventor assistant.

In a twist on the classic villain's lair, Gru lives in the suburbs, but that does not stop him from having an immense underground facility, cool rocket-powered land and air vehicles.

Despite having no money and relevancy issues with newer, hipper super villain Vector (Jason Segel), Gru devises the perfect plan to nab the moon. All he has to do is shrink it down and simply take it from the sky.

To do that, he needs to re-steal

the shrink ray that Vector stole from him. The only way he can do that is by using three orphaned girls to get inside Vector's base for him.

It is not too terribly hard to see where the movie is going.

The girls see Gru not as a super villain, but as a father figure, he eventually returns their feelings, and so on and so forth. "Despicable Me" is not breaking new ground by any means here but that is perfectly all right.

Indeed, cuteness is the order of the day here, more so when the three girls arrive. There is Margo (Miranda Cosgrove), the eldest; Edith (Dana Gaier), the middle child; and Agnes (Elsie Fisher), who absolutely steals the show as the cute-as-a-button youngest child with an obsessive addiction to unicorns.

The same kind of cheeky humor that appeals to both kids and adults is in abundance here, and thanks to a few especially "grown-up" jokes - such as one about a particular "evil"

financial institution - the movie is successful. As Vector kidnaps the children, he shouts something that could either be heard as "Unpredictable!" or better yet, "I'm predictable!" - a self-referential shout-out that is just hilarious.

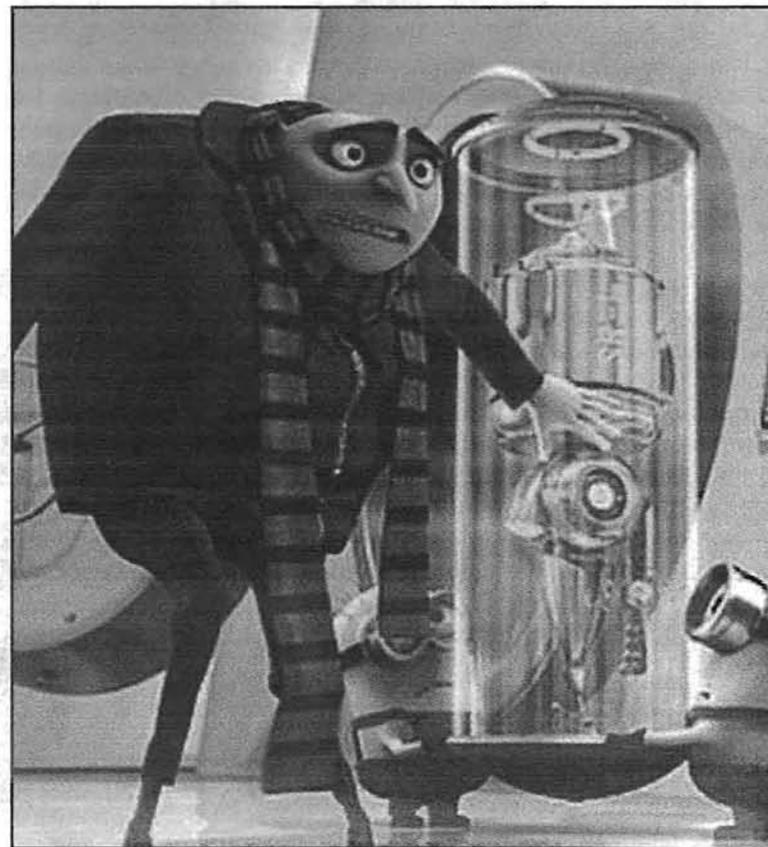
The movie is not without its problems.

While the flick does have some erroneous ideas about adoption (one cannot simply give children back so easily when things do not work out), it all works out for the best in the end, as it should.

The movie was shown in 3D, which is a nice touch but totally unnecessary. "Despicable Me" is not a movie that requires viewing in the third dimension.

Regardless, kids and adults alike will love "Despicable Me." It is a fine debut film and it bodes well for Illumination Entertainment's future films. One can only hope that they are all this cheeky and full of heart.

B+ -Andrew Seal



FILM

'Girl Who Played With Fire' proves fast-paced thriller

"The Girl Who Played With Fire" is an edgy, riveting crime thriller with a unique, brainy and tough female lead character and a tattooed computer expert with a shady past. It is a film that puts most other entertainment films in theaters this summer to shame. This top-quality crime tale has enough mystery and surprises to please any movie fan.

It is the kind of production Hollywood used to do so well, yet this delightful entertainment treat is no Hollywood movie - it is Swedish.

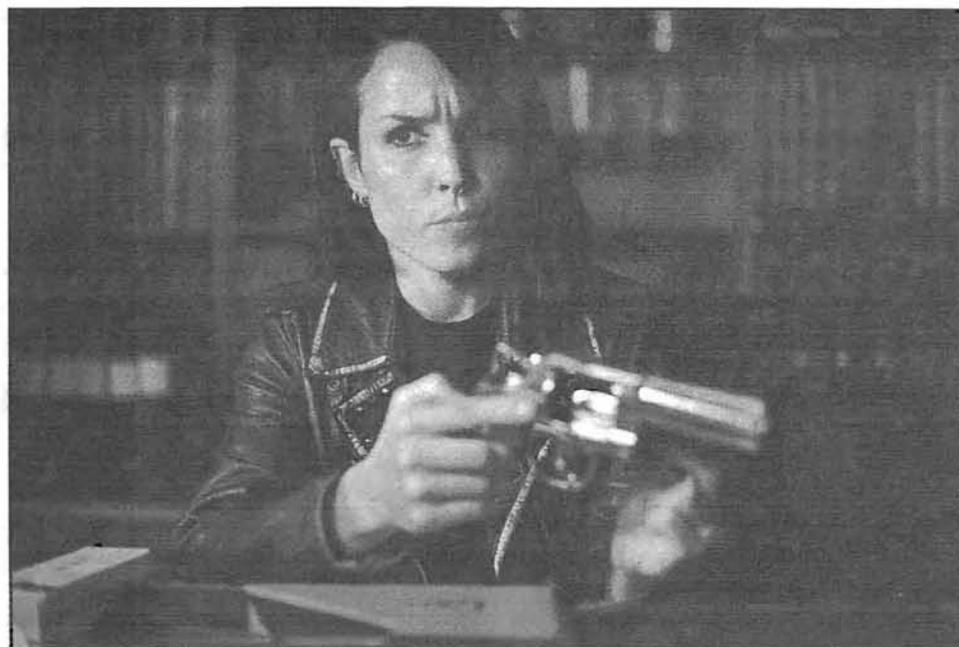
"The Girl Who Played With Fire" is the next film in the series based on the bestsellers by Swedish author Stieg Larsson. Like the first film, "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo," which is now playing locally at the Hi Pointe Theater, it is an international hit.

As a gritty crime thriller, it is not dialog-heavy, so reading subtitles is less of an issue, but the well-crafted, unpredictable plot certainly gives those who like to tackle a puzzle more to work on than the average thriller. Seeing the first film is a plus but this new one stands on its own.

Journalist Mikael Blomkvist (Michael Ny-

qvist) was convicted on defaming a powerful corporation when his proof of their misdeeds mysteriously disappeared, but took a job investigating a decades-old mystery as he awaited the start of his jail term. The job brought him in contact with a brilliant but taciturn computer hacker-turned-security analysis Lisbeth Salander (the remarkable Noomi Rapace). Tattooed and pierced Lisbeth is a private, even secretive young woman with a mysterious, violent past. But someone with her won sense of right and wrong is a strong-willed relentless foe.

The first film focused more on Mikael but this one delves more into Lisbeth's story. A year has passed and Mikael has finished his sentence and is working on an investigative piece about the sex trade, one that will embarrass some highly placed officials. Lisbeth vanished a year ago, but has recently secretly returned to Sweden, although she has told almost no one, including Mikael, that she is back. Just as Mikael's magazine, "Millennium," is due to go to press with the exposé, three people turn up dead along with evidence that points to Lisbeth.



COURTESY / ZODIAC ENTERTAINMENT

Noomi Rapace stars as Lisbeth Salander in "The Girl Who Played With Fire."

This thriller depends on story twists and strong characters rather than CGI explosions and car chases. "The Girl Who Played With Fire," like its predecessor, delivers clever plotting that is neither predictable nor unbelievable. Characters are fully rounded people and one never knows what lies around the next bend, not the same old familiar types playing out familiar tropes. It is not a profound or significant tale but it is the kind of fresh, engrossing entertainment moviegoers desire.

This story is more straight-forward, stripped of the subplots in the first film, but still an always surprising film that keeps one off-balance.

"The Girl Who Played With Fire" is a worthy successor to "The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo," whetting our appetite for the upcoming third in the series. This excellent film, in Swedish with English subtitles, is now playing at the Plaza Frontenac Cinema. **B+** -Cate Marquis

IN PRINT

Rehash of old characters lacks fresh ideas in new Bret Easton Ellis novel

Bret Easton Ellis' 1985 novel "Less Than Zero" tells the story of the author's alter ego, Clay, returning to his native Los Angeles after his freshman year at Camden College in New Hampshire. Through the voice of Clay, Ellis allows all of America to be voyeurs to the apathy and amorality that accompanies the excessive consumerism and vanity of a small clique of elite, white teenagers occupying the upper crust of Los Angeles.

Twenty-five years later, "Imperial Bedrooms" tells the story of 40-something Clay, now a successful screenwriter living in New York, again returning home, this time to help cast a film he wrote and is producing.

Ellis' modern Los Angeles is one in which the framework is essentially the same

as it was 25 years ago, only the accoutrements have been swapped. Characters now zone out watching "The Hills" on MTV instead of music videos, and Quaaludes have been replaced by drugs the narrator "has never heard of."

Apathy, amorality and nihilism all run rampant in "Imperial Bedrooms," to even a greater extent than they did in "Less Than Zero." But what was fresh in 1985 is tired 25 years later, and a lot of readers will likely ask themselves why they should care about Ellis' characters when the characters themselves show a complete disinterest in their own lives as well as the lives of those around them.

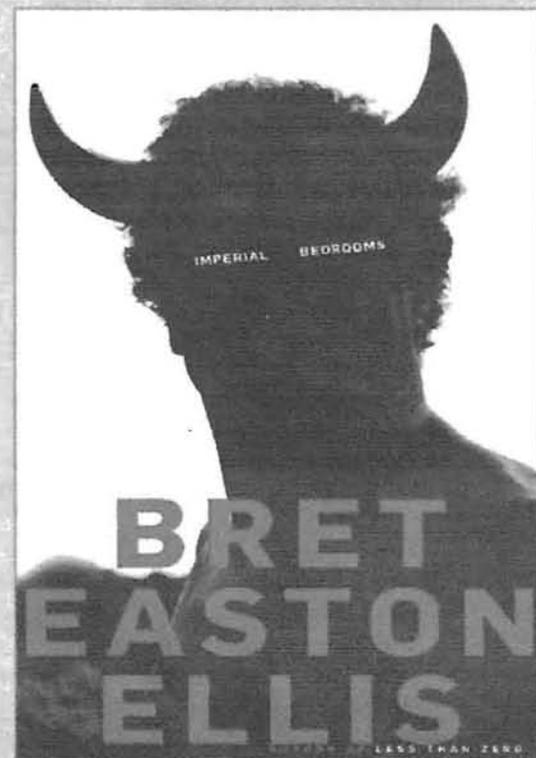
In the world of "Imperial Bedrooms," brand names are everywhere. Vodka is always Grey Goose, Tequila is Patron

and suits and handbags are almost always designated as being Versace, Gucci or the product of some other high-end designer. The manufacturer of just about every non-living noun mentioned gets a shout out. Even though this novel is a quick read at only 192 pages, occurrences of the word iPhone approach triple digits.

Ellis would probably say that he clogged the novel with brand names to complement the shallowness of its characters. Character descriptions comprised of what designer is being worn or the make and model of the car driven reads at times like lazy writing. When he cannot fill in holes with brand names, Ellis' writing sounds lackluster. Passages such as "I throw the glass against the wall. Blair looks

away, embarrassed," sound more like stage directions than minimalist prose.

"Imperial Bedrooms" succeeds in the areas where it is decidedly different than its predecessor. Elements of classic Los Angeles noir reminiscent of Raymond Chandler are everywhere in the novel, in the form of a tinted black Mercedes stalking Clay and ominous text messages from blocked numbers frequently causing his iPhone to vibrate. But Philip Marlowe cracking the case typically proved to be a rewarding experience for readers of Chandler, whereas in Ellis' Los Angeles the damsels in distress usually do not deserve to be saved and there is so much bling that no one would bother to report a few jewels gone missing. **C** -Ryan Krull



COURTESY / KNOPF

ALBUMS

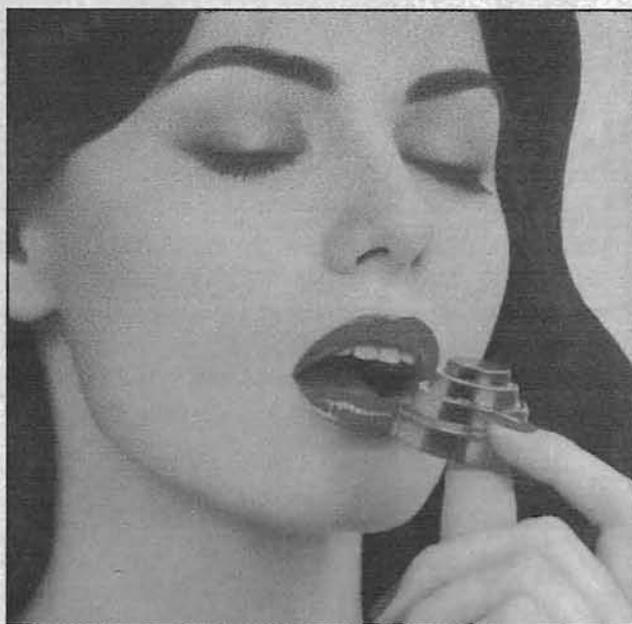
Dance pop with subliminal messages

After 20 years, Devo is back with 'Something For Everybody'

Artists who actively question our modern consumer culture are nothing new, but back when Banksy was probably in diapers and the guys who founded AdBusters were in grade school, Devo had perfected it and long since disappeared from the music scene.

In the '70s and '80s they created post-modern, anti-consumer protest music one could dance to while preaching their message of devolution—the idea that modern man was evolving backward because of technology, advertising, politics and American consumer society. For instance, according to Devo, their early '80s hit, "Whip It," is about either Thomas Pynchon's novel "Gravity's Rainbow" which questions deviance as conformity, Jimmy Carter's inability to bring American hostages home from Iran or both.

After a 20-year hiatus, Devo is back with a new album, aptly entitled "Something For Everybody" and an updated version of their band's concept. In today's Devo narrative, devolution has occurred and affected every part of society. Devo Inc., although they once spoke out against it, has become yet another cog in the corporate/consumer machine. Their lat-



"Something For Everybody" by Devo

est album has been subjected to extensive market group testing by an advertising firm which has consulted consumers about everything from the mixing of the songs on the album to the image on its cover and even what matching uniforms they wear on stage.

But while the band makes a farce of marketing and modern advertising in promoting their latest release, their music is still as solid as it has always been and the lyrics still carry the same hardcore, anti-consumerist message. Musically, "Something For Everybody" has all of the energy of Devo's breakthrough material

from over 30 years ago, plus some. There are face-melting guitar riffs jumping out from a wild sonic jungle of synth leads and pads along with a primal, punk-like feel to the percussion and bass.

Every song on the album caters well to dancing or working out. This usage is a bit odd given the band's message, but this is exactly the reception they had hoped for. With this new album, Devo manages to sneak subliminal messages about society into the music by making it sound like the latest Lady Gaga or Black Eyed Peas track.

The use of this sound is

perfect for launching their latest round of lyrical criticism at the devolved society they are actively marketing it to. While listening to a head bobbing track like "What We Do Is What We Do" tune into the lyrics: "My car does what I say / I say 'start' and it jumps out / But my dog doesn't do what I say / My girl doesn't do what I say / My mind doesn't do what I say / I don't know what to do!"

In this way, "Something For Everybody" really is something for everybody. For those who wanted a nice pop album, it is one. And for the rest of us who want to throw a brick through an Apple Store's window, it would be a great soundtrack for that. It is a fresh, powerful offering by a band almost everybody had filed away as an '80s one-hit wonder.

Yes, it is disposable dance music, but dig deeper and there is a wealth of lyrical surprises that negate its surface appearance. By throwing critical firebombs at the soulless nature of our consumer society through innocent sounding bubblegum pop, Devo reminds us how easy we can be fooled by packaging and marketing more effectively than they ever have.

A+ —Andy Phipps

Cannot kill the Metal

Lamb of God anthology perfect for newcomers, fans

It is rare for an anthology collection to offer something for everyone, especially the newcomer, the fan, and the collector.

Lamb of God's new anthology collection, "Hourglass," does just that. Comprised of lead singer Randy Blythe, guitarists Willie Adler and Mark Morton, bassist John Campbell, and drummer Chris Adler, Lamb of God is one hardcore metal act.

"Hourglass" breaks down Lamb of God's 20-year career into three discs,

each one packed absolutely full to bursting with songs.

For the newcomer, "Hourglass" offers a perfect introduction to Lamb of God's version of New American thrash-metal. It features not only all of their singles from every album, but also some other tracks.

For the uninitiated, prepare to rock - and look up lyrics. Blythe's growling vocals almost require multiple listens or a translator to understand what is being said - and that is not a bad thing by any

means.

For fans, the first disc may introduce them to Lamb of God's earliest pieces, which they should love.

The first disc, named "The Underground Years," of course, shows off the band's early years, including some of their stuff from when they were known as Burn the Priest.

Some of the band's breakout tracks are on here, like "Black Label," "Ruin" and "11th Hour."

Even better is the fact that disc one alone has 13 songs on it.

The second disc is what is going to be most recognizable to newer fans.

See LAMB OF GOD, Page 12

LATEST + GREATEST

MUSIC

Arcade Fire The Suburbs

After their massively successful 19-country "Neon Bible" tour, Arcade Fire is dropping a whole new album later this summer. Bonus: to pre-order from the band's website access is available to two songs off of the upcoming album early. Available August 3.



Katy Perry Teenage Dream

The Princess of Pop has returned, this time with her royal retinue in tow. Featuring her insta-summertime classic "California Gurls," "Teenage Dream" will help the singer's second studio album recapture her crown from the Gaga. Available August 24.

The Goo Goo Dolls Something for the Rest of Us

Ah, the Goo Goo Dolls. The quintessential '90s band is back with their new album, "Something for the Rest of Us." Can the Dolls once again capture that "sound of an era" like they did with their smash '98 hit "Iris"? Only time will tell. Available August 31.



MOVIES



Micmacs

"Amelie" and "City of Lost Children" writer/director Jean-Pierre Jeunet offers comic whimsy again with the year's most inventive film, about misfits going after weapons manufacturers. Opens July 16.



Inception

"Dark Knight" director Christopher Nolan teams with Leonardo DiCaprio for a dark, ominous sci-fi tale about spying on minds, anticipated to be among the year's biggest releases. Opens July 16.



Salt

Angela Jolie stars as a U.S. agent accused of being a Russian double agent. With a little truth-mirroring-fiction boost from recent news, it is a contender for top Hollywood action movie this summer.

See LAMB OF GOD, page 12



COURTESY / EPIC

Titled "The Epic Years," it features tracks from their most recent albums, including songs from 2006's amazing "Sacrament" album and last year's "Wrath."

For the fan, disc two is probably nothing special, sadly. It is Lamb of God's most prolific stuff and fans probably own all of it already. Sorry.

"The Epic Years" really shows off Blythe's vocals, more so than either of the two other discs. Featuring songs like the excellent "Redneck," "Set to Fail" and "Blacken the Cursed Sun." Like the first disc, disc two also has thirteen songs - that is 26 tracks thus far.

The third and final disc of the collection, "The Vault," again has some of Lamb of God's older material on it but as an added bonus, some unreleased material as well. For all the content that is featured, "The Vault" could have been a stand-alone release.

It collects all of the band's Japan-only bonus tracks, as well as some rare rehearsal tapes, and their earliest Burn the Priest vinyl singles

all on one disc. Oh, there are 18 of them on the disc.

That adds up to a whopping 44 songs contained in "Hourglass."

For the collector, this last disc is essential. No longer will die-hard fans have to buy imported albums and scour the Internet for those rare rehearsal tapes.

If anything, the worst part of the whole package is how sparsely presented the collection is. It is merely three discs in slim CD cases.

No liner notes, no lyrics sheets, nothing. For the newcomer, this would have been a nice addition. For the fan and the collector, it is absolutely fine.

By far, however, the best part of the anthology is the price. At \$27, it is an absolute steal, even for the third disc alone.

Newcomer, fan, or collector: no matter what category one falls under, Lamb of God's new "Hourglass" anthology offers a massive bang for the buck. **A** —Andrew Seal

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FACULTY PROFILE

Over and beyond:

Dr. Donna Hart assists with Fulbright

► JEN O'HARA
Staff writer

A professor at the University of Missouri-St. Louis since 2000, Dr. Donna Hart, has assisted four students to achieve the Fulbright scholarship in just the past four years alone.

The Current: How did you get into anthropology?

Donna Hart: I had a first career in wildlife conservation and I realized that, because multilateral wildlife treaties were my specialty, that really all the problems that impinge on wildlife survival are people problems. Anthropology, with its holistic nature, was really a good way to look at how we've evolved, [about] our place in the ecosystem, and how we interact with domesticated and wild animals. So, that was the reason I changed direction.

TC: So, you have trained students for the Fulbright scholarship?

DH: We get highly motivated students and then I mentor them through the process,

which takes about a year. So, we don't actually train them. What we do is guide and advise and then mentor them through this rather complex, long-term process that has culminated into receiving a Fulbright scholarship.

TC: Do you seek students out for this award or do students come to you?

DH: We don't have a formal process at all. All the faculty actually are on the lookout for exceptional students with high motivation and sometimes they have come to me. Sometimes we have sought them out.

TC: Is there a "secret recipe" for success in earning a Fulbright?

DH: It is a very close relationship because it is as important to me that they get the scholarship as it is to them. I get very invested in their success. If there's one thing that I think that I've learned and that I think is important, is that you cannot in any way have the application rest just on the research. It has to include a nicely tailored and very well thought out approach to how you're going to fit into this community and what you're going



Donna Hart, author of the book "Man the Hunted: Primates, Predators, and Human Evolution," holding the oldest skull in the collection, which dates back 7 million years ago.

JENNIFER MEAHAN / THE CURRENT



JENNIFER MEAHAN / THE CURRENT

Donna Hart joined the UM-St. Louis staff in 2000, and is the Director of Undergraduate Research for the Anthropology and Languages Department.

TC: How do you feel that you have helped these students achieve the scholarship?

DH: It's very satisfying. We became very close friends with all of them, and I think we'll probably retain a friendship for a long time because we worked on something together. I could not be more thrilled. I'm second only to themselves in the amount of thrill I get from them achieving this.

TC: What is something you love doing that people may not know about?

DH: My husband and I are so committed to environmentalism. I love gardening. I love flowers. I love tending to gardens. I guess that's a relaxing option.

TC: What is the aspect of teaching you like most?

DH: I like teaching how to do research. That is, in all the classes I've taught at the Honors College and here, I've tried to have a component of the course include some of the basics on how you do research and how you analyze data after you've collected it.

TC: Do you believe anthropology is misunderstood in certain ways?

DH: I think anthropology is perhaps not appreciated for its practical use. Other than that fear over anthropologists being hired by the army to sort of outtake the Taliban, usually anthropologists are not regarded as advisors. Yet, anthropologists understand other cultures. They see human needs and motivations so I think that the practical nature of anthropology is misunderstood.

“I get very invested in their success.”

- Donna Hart



St. Louis summer events

Whether music, relaxation, athletics, or otherwise, the city offers something for everybody in summer of 2010

▶ MATHEW B. POPSKY

Staff writer

First up on the list is the continuation of the Not So Quiet Concert Series, occurring at the Old Post Office Plaza. The series began last week, but will continue throughout July. July 16 will offer Dogtown Allstars, a funk band. The July 24 will continue the series with Keven Lucas Orchestra, an Indie Jazz/Pop group, and the series will wrap up on July 30 with jazz group Park Avenue Jazz.

The best thing about this series is that every concert is absolutely free. Music lovers, even those living on a budget, no longer have an excuse to complain about a lack of events this summer: with three free concerts occurring throughout July alone, everybody ought to have at least one evening open.

While St. Louis may not be the largest city in the country, the Gateway to the West still manages to put on a plethora of fantastic events year-round. However, it would seem that several of these events are completely unknown to many, and thus a list has been compiled to present a wide range of activities and events to the University of Missouri-St. Louis' summer

community. After all, a break from studying and working once in awhile never hurt anybody.

For those looking for a more laidback, less crowded, or even more personal environment, there's Quail Ridge Park's 10th Anniversary Celebration. Taking place on July 25, at Quail Ridge Park, the event will offer a wide range of activities to attendees.

There will be live music for those who still want to dance. Barbecue will be provided for the hungry, and those hoping to get a few moments away from the kids can leave them in the Kids' Fun Area, which will feature entertainers, contests, and demonstrations to wear the buggers out.

There will be hourly raffles for prizes, in addition to community exhibits by several organizations such as the Astronomical Society of Eastern Missouri and the Missouri Master Naturalists. Of course, the park itself is massive, covering over 250 acres. With this much space, anybody looking for a relaxing moment away from the noise should have no problem finding some space to relax.

Lastly, a large three-on-three soccer tournament will take

place on July 30 and August 1 at the Assumption Athletic Fields in O'Fallon. This will be a tournament for all ages, meaning whether the entire family wants to go, or just an older group of friends, there will be plenty of entertainment. The lowest age bracket will serve competitors in a six and under tournament, followed by a six to 15-year-old bracket, followed by older teenage/adult tournaments.

Furthermore, the tournament will provide discounts to sponsoring businesses for attendees, as well as barbecue on the spot. Anybody interested in participating should hurry, however, as there is a 350 team limit.

Is nothing listed here quite the style needed? Well, this is only a small taste of St. Louis' event lineup for the rest of the summer. A simple trip to Google can easily turn up hundreds of events, ranging from athletics, to concerts, to intellectual debates and symposiums.

So, rather than complaining of boredom, take a few moments to seek out events in St. Louis: this city is full of life, just take the time to participate!

SGA, from page 2

"He felt extremely guilty leaving after getting elected and putting the work into it. We are here to get an education first and that's what's most important," Rosner said.

According to the constitution and by-laws, the SGA chairperson serves as the interim President, Vice President or comptroller in the event that the office is vacated, until a campus-wide election can be held. In this case, SGA chair Jericah Selby is now the interim Vice President. Although she was not elected in the general election participated in by all students in the spring, Selby will hold the position for the remainder of the year. "I do feel comfortable about this because [Selby] received the most votes from our student center race," Rosner said.

Selby has taken over Bay's responsibilities as a vice president and is carrying out some of his ideas. She is involved with organizing for homecoming and is set to look into revamping SGA's election process. A major goal of Bay's that Selby is working on is "adopt a game" where an organization and all

of it members will attend a game. "Adopt a game" will engage new students, build awareness, increase alumni relations and create an opportunity to network. "The goal is to get students out to sporting events," Rosner said. This also links to a new program SGA would like to launch this year and that's Spirit point system. When each organization gets involved, they receive points for their involvement.

Other SGA officials are also hard at work over the summer as well. Comptroller Ryan Kersting is coordinating tabling events and working on SGA plans to give a student wide survey to get feedback on increasing student involvement. "You can look at our voter turn-outs and you can really see that there's an issue in engaging... our commuter students," Kersting said.

Kersting is also overseeing the budget submission process on the SGA Web site. "We're still working to evaluate what we can do to improve [it]," Kersting said. Some issues with the

Web site are: not being able to save work, browser timeouts and organizations not having enough room to discuss their request. The comptroller is also preparing for 10 budget workshops and has set tentative dates for them.

Meanwhile, SGA president Dan Rosner is working on a parking report by analyzing other school's parking systems to see if there is a better way to handle the situation other than what is currently in place at UM-St.Louis. "I'm working with the chief justice on that since they handle appeals. They have better information on what students get tickets for and how often they are appealed," Rosner said. Establishing a safety committee is another project that Rosner is working on. He is working to create a crime awareness program. "A lot of our crimes, such as car break-ins, I would say, 90 percent of them are preventable," Rosner said.

Read The current

The University Program Board delivers

University is hard at work planning fun and entertaining events for the student body this fall semester

► TROY PETERS

Staff writer

Once again the University Program Board at the University of Missouri-St. Louis is hard at work, planning, scheduling fun and entertaining events for the UM St. Louis student body this upcoming fall. The University Programs Board, or the UPB, is a vital part of UM-St. Louis life that helps create and plan events intended to best appeal to the interests of, not just students, but to the entire surrounding St. Louis area communities as well.

"Our mission is to present a series of educational, social, cultural, recreational and entertaining programs which attempt to meet the diverse needs and interests of the University of Missouri-St. Louis community," Jared Thimes, Executive Chair of the UPB, said. With a staff of dedicated students, some paid, and others volunteer, the UPB houses a diverse group of intelligent and creative leaders who continually deliver exciting programming to the UM St. Louis community.

The UPB offers a wide variety of events to appeal to everyone's taste huge concerts, festivals, high profile public speaking events including the creator of "The Boondocks," Aaron McGruder; and educational sessions as well as other on and off campus activities. "Each year, UPB plans and implements approximately 80-90 campus programs for students, faculty, staff and the St. Louis community", Jessica Long, Student Activities

Coordinator at the Office of Student Life, said.

This summer, the UPB's staff has been working away, trying to plan and organize programming for the fall that will best represent the interest of the community as a whole for August when courses resume. During the first week of fall classes, the UPB will present Welcome Week for all the new and returning

"Each year, UPB plans and implements approximately 80-90 campus programs for students, faculty, staff and the St. Louis community."

-Jessica Long

UM-St. Louis students starting Monday, August 21. The year kicks off with a slew of events going on throughout the week including, Spirit Day, Las Vegas Hypnotist Michael Johns, and a Drive-in Movie.

The week finishes with the culmination of the Welcome

Week featuring the MTV Beach Party with Real World cast members Landon and Robin. The UPB will then start their regular programs with events throughout every month including trips to the City Museum in September, and Homecoming Week and Laser Tag in October.

The UPB is always searching for new ideas, working with the National Association for Campus Activities (NACA), as well as taking suggestions from the UM St. Louis community through their email at UPB@umsl.edu, through their Facebook page, in person at their office in room 366 in the Millennium Student Center, and by telephone at 314-516-5531.

Those who would like to become a member of the UPB team can apply in the spring for an executive board position, or can join as a general member by attending one of the UPB meetings that are held throughout the year.

Those interested in times, dates, and other information about upcoming events hosted by the UPB can visit their website for details at <http://www.umsl.edu/studentlife/up-board/> or by checking the calendar at UM St. Louis' website www.umsl.edu. The University Programs Board works hard to plan and organize these events for students as well as for the community, and has a lot of exciting events and surprises to come in fall, 2010.

DEANS, from page 2

of these departments continues. As of last week, Christopher Dames was appointed as interim dean of the libraries while James Richards, the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, is set to become the interim dean for the College of Fine Arts and Communication in August.

In the case of both vacancies, the problem with filling the positions with full time replacements is financial. "The current state of the economy is such that it is very expensive to do a national search for a dean-level position. So, this is a good way to save for a couple years until the economy settles down." Christopher Dames, interim dean of libraries, said.

In this situation, an interim dean is a way for the university to save money without losing leadership. Dames is quick to point out that in terms of powers and carrying out responsibilities, an interim dean is just as effective as a permanent dean.

He said his decisions receive full support from the provost and his temporary status does not cause him to be treated differently by anyone above or below him.

The requirements for an interim dean are that an applicant to hold a degree in the appropriate field, possess a distinguished record of intellectual and academic accomplishments, and be a tenured faculty member of UM-St. Louis, in addition to holding the rank of professor.

According to UM-St. Louis Provost Glenn Cope, she looks for a person with, "strong leadership and interpersonal skills, university administrative experience at the department level or higher, and a demonstrated commitment to promoting and embracing diversity." Cope also added that the presence of two interim deans does not mean that the system is in any kind of holding pattern although she does not expect either position

to be filled permanently for at least a few years.

In terms of their current positions, both of the interim deans are already working to act as the leaders of their respective departments. Dames has already begun an initiative at the libraries to provide more materials to students and faculty electronically. Meanwhile, in the college of Fine Arts and Communications, Dean Hylton expects James Richards, his interim replacement to "do an excellent job [and] enjoy the responsibility and relationships that are part of being dean."

Both men are able to apply for the official position as dean of the division they currently are serving as interim dean for, as Dames already has for his position as head of the libraries. "I can't imagine they would let [the vacancy] go on any longer than a few years," Dames said. "A dean level position is very important."

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OUR OPINION

How has Obama done so far?

As mid-term elections approach, it might be a good time to assess President Obama's performance.

However, any assessment should focus on what that majority of Americans who voted for Obama were hoping to see, not the preferences of those who opposed him, and still do, may have wanted. Obama largely won by bringing in those who had not been voters—young people, blacks who felt marginalized, liberal Democrats and progressives, who saw little in previous candidates. Obama promised fresh ideas and perspectives, a change from the same tired debates, winning voters who hoped for change.

Focusing on some of Obama's campaign promises might be a good start. Several websites, including one from *The Washington Post*, rate the president on fulfilling his campaign promises.

On changing the tone in Washington, the president deserves credit for his efforts to reach across the aisle. Although crafting all legislation out in the public spotlight proved too challenging, the process has been far more

open than when Dick Cheney held secret meetings with oil and energy companies to craft legislation. Obama has made every effort to work with Republicans and conservative Democrats on legislation, a far cry from when George W. Bush took office with promises of bi-partisanship, which quickly became clear meant inviting Democrats to join in supporting the Republican agenda.

But if progressives were to name one frustration, it may be his tendency to chase after Republicans and conservative Democrats, who seem bent on running ever rightward, to avoid any agreement with the Democratic president. This game has diluted legislation, thwarting the hope for change.

Obama also promised to clear up Washington by banning lobbyists from his administration and restricting their power. He has delivered mixed results on this, putting in new rules but then making exceptions. However, the effort may yield little anyway, in light of the Supreme Court decision opening the door to unlimited campaign spending by corporations, even multinationals and foreign companies.

On healthcare, the president delivered a bill, although many supporters hoping for a more comprehensive, less costly single-payer system, something taken off the table before the process began.

Foreign policy has been one of Obama's biggest successes, where he has changed the tone, brought in a bipartisan approach and a less unilateral tone. On the other hand, he has not closed Guantanamo, although conditions improved, and we are still in Iraq.

On the economy, letting the Bush tax cuts for the wealthiest expire seems on track and promises for a middle-class tax cut have taken place. But real changes for Wall Street following the bail-out seem less certain.

Is Obama doing too much or too little? One argument is that the president is being too hands-off on certain topics or just trying to work on too many at once. It is debatable, but what is clear is that he is getting far too little help from politicians in his own party, who seem too happy to stand back and let him take the heat.

Quinn's hypocrisy

Education is the cornerstone of the American dream. Of course, without adequate funding the education system cannot function. But in Illinois, it is obvious that children are being left behind. Pat Quinn could be heading towards the same path with his recent budget for the fiscal year.

Democratic Governor Pat Quinn, Blagojevich's replacement, announced on Thursday, July 1 that \$1.4 billion in budget cuts for the fiscal year would start. The cuts also included \$200 million in education and nearly \$100 million in higher education. However, on July 7 the Associated Press report-

ed that Governor Quinn gave up to 20 percent raises to his staff, which included 43 salary increases. The day before Governor Quinn, according to the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, called the budget cuts a "shared sacrifice."

The Current understands these are difficult economic times, especially for college students trying to make ends meet. However, Governor Pat Quinn's proposed "sacrifice" pales in comparison to the sacrifice of millions of Illinois k-12 students who will have fewer books, computers, and other necessary learning supplies.

Cutting close to \$100

million in higher education is another prime example of corruption in the Illinois executive branch. Pat Quinn, of course a college graduate, failed to take notice of Missouri Governor Jay Nixon's strategy.

The Current does not stand by or endorse politicians who do not invest in the most important natural resource in the world—children. Education starts at home, but without the necessary funding a school will not be able to prosper and children will be left in the dark about science, reading, math, art and other school curricula.

When schools fail, teach-

ers, administrators, and students also fail. But do not worry Governor Quinn. The private schools in Chicago where your children attend will not be affected by the public education budget cuts.

In light of these events, *The Current* is grateful that Missouri Governor Jay Nixon has frozen tuition throughout the entire Missouri system. It is unfortunate that Governor Quinn did not follow Jay Nixon's example. There is only one word that highlights Pat Quinn's unethical and almost corrupt approach to the Illinois budget-hypocrisy.

EDITOR'S VIEWPOINT

Campus crime is out of control

The crime on campus has gotten nonsensical. The University of Missouri-St. Louis is gaining a horrible reputation for its lack of safety and it seems as if little to nothing is being done to prevent these crimes from happening. Every time a student logs into their university email account there seems to be a release for some assault, misconduct, theft or robbery and the latest crime addition—abduction.

The campus police, along with Normandy and Bel-Nor police need to be doing more. They most certainly do a good job at patrolling. It is impossible to drive through the outskirts of campus without seeing a Normandy or Bel-Nor police car parked and lurking. With all of their patrolling one would think that it is the safest municipality in St. Louis County, but what Normandy police is good for is writing traffic tickets. While Johnny Law is writing four-miles-over-the-speed-limit tickets to secure money for Normandy, someone is getting sexually assaulted in a nearby bush.

In fairness, the police simply cannot be every place crime is happening whenever it is happening, but there is safety in numbers. If there were 30 police cars driving around campus regularly there would still be constant crime. Police officers cannot see what is going on if they are behind a wheel. They need to be out of their cars providing a direct, intimidating presence on campus. Criminals would less likely to commit crimes if they knew an officer was walking



Sequita Bean

around the MSC that could easily catch them versus having an officer just drive by.

Along with a stronger presence, there also needs to be more light around campus at night. Although it seems annoying, the lanyard program the School of Social Work is proposing may be a good idea for all campus students. If every student is required to wear ID badges, then students could spot potential predators easily.

UM-St. Louis has had retention problems for a while now. The fact that safety on campus is becoming a huge problem is not making the university look desirable to students. There is absolutely no reason why anyone should feel unsafe at a learning institution. The Student Government Association did a good job last year organizing the Campus Safety Walk and getting the results to the appropriate university parties, but that is just step number one. The perpetual crime on campus should urge them to do something with those results sooner. How many assault victims will the university have before they start counting bodies?

Sequita Bean is Editor-in-Chief of The Current.

SCIENCE MATTERS

East African Rift unearths buried treasure

The earth is tearing itself apart and a new ocean waits to be born in East Africa. Interestingly, this is happening in the same region where the fossil bones of our earliest ancestors are working their way to the surface: the Afar valley.

The Afar valley in east Africa certainly is one of the earth's most fascinating spots. In 2005, a 35-mile-long rift, a crack in the earth's surface, suddenly opened near Afar, Ethiopia.

At the time, there was speculation among geologists about the significance of the rift but a November 2009 publication in *Geophysical Research Letters* confirmed what was suspected: that the rift was the beginning of a new ocean.

The Afar Rift is one of two places on land where scientists can study the spreading apart of two tectonic plates, the action that is occurring in the deep in the Atlantic Ocean at the Mid-Atlantic Ridge. A part of that divergence zone runs through Iceland but what is happening in Africa is the birth of the next great ocean.

The Afar rift is a geologically interesting area. It is a triple point where three tectonic plates are pulling away from each other. One is the Arabian Plate, which has already split the Arabian Peninsula from Africa and opened the Red Sea. The other two are the African plates, the western Nubian Plate and the

eastern Somali Plate, which are pulling the African continent apart along the East African Rift, also called the Great Rift Valley.

The reason why the Afar Rift is so exciting is that it gives scientists a way to study the very beginning of what will be the next major ocean, in a far easier and accessible spot than the bottom of an ocean. As the plates pull apart, the area will eventually fill with water but at this very early stage, the process can be observed on dry land.

Not that the Afar region is easy or accessible, as anthropologists well know. As the African continent comes apart, ancient fossils come to the surface, hominid fossils among them.

In this dry, sparsely-populated area of Ethiopia, but not at this exact location, one of the most famous fossils was found.

The 3.2 million-year-old early hominid fossil skeleton known as Lucy was found in the region in 1974, the location reflected in Lucy's scientific name, *Australopithecus afarensis*.

This small hominid lacked the big brain of later human ancestors but walked upright. Walking came first, brain power later.

Last October, researchers published the results of another big find, a 4.4 million-year-old fossil, *Ardipithecus ramidus*, nicknamed Ardi. Ardi brings us closer to the



Cate Marquis

last common ancestor with chimpanzees and made a splash when 11 papers were published in the journal *Science* after 15 years of study of the fragile fossil. Ardi presented an interesting mix of human and chimp-like traits, but make it clear that our ancestors were not chimp-like. Rather, it seems chimps have evolved significantly since our species diverged.

Hominid fossils abound in the East African Rift, with finds including *Homo*, *Australopithecus*, and *Ardipithecus* fossils.

Recently, new species *Orrorin turgensis* and *Sahelanthropus tchadensis*, both more than 6 million years old, were found, indicating we may be able to reach further back.

With the chance to study the birth place of a new ocean and older fossils served up as this part of Africa pulls itself apart, the Afar Rift is one hot spot for new scientific discoveries.

Cate Marquis is A&E Editor for The Current.

Dressing for the weather

Revealing skin can be sexy, but it can also be a fashion disaster. It is July, and as the temperature increases, the amount of clothing women wear decreases. Too many women wear unflattering clothing in order to stay cool, but they do not have to do that. Better yet, women should not do that.

Every woman is blessed with a unique body shape. She should embrace herself by wearing clothing that adds to her appearance not take away from it. It is never OK to look a mess unless it is spring-cleaning day or maybe laundry day. Even on a lazy day when a woman is clad in a t-shirt and jeans or sweats, her attire is better than what many other women have been spotted in during the summer. Women can both keep cool and look hot if only they learn what looks best on them.

A suggestion is for women to put themselves in one of six categories. These categories are just various body types. Voluptuous women fall in the categories: busty, hippy or cushiony. The slim and trim ladies fall in: small chest, abs or legs. There may even be a little mixing and matching of the groups. For instance, women might be

busty and cushiony, hippy and busty or legs and hippy and so on. Tyra Banks would fit in every category but cushiony. Paris Hilton is everything but voluptuous.

Since every female has a different body shape, every female looks good in different clothing. This is why two people can wear the exact same outfit, but one person gets several compliments and the other person gets none.

Busty women look incredible in halter-tops or spaghetti-strap shirts. A little cleavage can go a long way when dressing to impress.

Big-hipped women look great in Bermuda shorts or fitted skirts. It gives them that famous coke bottle shape. It might be best for women with big hips to not wear short shorts unless they are purposely trying to reveal their rosy cheeks.

Women with a little extra cushion in their midsection look absolutely amazing in flowing, loose blouses. This way, no attention is given to unwanted areas, and they still can keep cool.

Women with small chests are more than flattering in tube tops. When busty women try to wear tube tops



Caitlin E.L. Myles

"thy cup runneth over."

If women are rocking a six-pack, they definitely should wear midriff tops. There is nothing sexier than a flat, sculpted stomach.

Last but not least are the long-legged women. Women with lengthy legs should undeniably wear shorts. When a woman shows off her model legs, every sidewalk becomes her catwalk.

There is nothing wrong with showing a little skin in the summer. However, it is plenty wrong when women do it the incorrect way. Women should do themselves a favor and wear what looks best on them and not what looks best on someone else. In the end, there are many items of clothing that can be worn to stay cool. Please choose wisely.

Caitlin E.L. Myles is a Staff Writer for The Current.

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What's Current

Your weekly calendar of campus events. "What's Current" is a free service for student organizations. Deadline for submissions is 5 p.m. the Thursday before publication. First-come, first-served. Listings may be edited for length and style. E-mail event listings to thecurrent@umsl.edu with the subject "What's Current." No phone submissions. All listings use 516 prefixes unless noted.

Monday, July 12

UMSL Soccer Camp - Session II on July 12, 2010 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Located on Soccer Fields. Open to all.

UMSL soccer is pleased to offer three sessions of youth soccer camps this summer for kids ages 5-18. Each 4-day camp session will be broken down into age appropriate groups including: Juniors (boys and girls ages 5-7), Academy (boys and girls ages 8-13) and Girls Prep (girls only ages 14-18). Half day and full day options are available. The camp dates are as follows: Session I June 7 - 10 Session II Jul 14 - 17 and Session III Aug 5 - 9. Discounts are available for the children and grandchildren of UMSL Faculty and Staff! For more information about the camp and for registration details please visit umslsoc-cercamps.weebly.com or call 314-516-5646.

Thursday, July 15

Travel Writing: Journaling on July 15, 2010 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Located 63 University Center. Open to all.

Participants will learn how to create three-dimensional, written memories by using rich sensory details and the emotions that they evoke. Special tips for scrapbookers will also be covered.

For Info: Raina Traore-Gress at 314-516-5974

Friday, July 16

Tai Chi Qigong at Noon on July 16, 2010 12:00 to 12:30 PM

Located at Room 119 Benton Hall. Open to all.

This Tai Chi Qigong session is a blending of meditation, breathing, and slow fluid movements incorporated into a 30-minute set with an emphasis on the breathing. This practice is FREE and open to all UMSL faculty, staff, and students. It is suitable for people of all sizes, ages, and fitness levels. No previous experience or special clothing is needed. The practice begins at NOON. If no participants have arrived by 12:05pm, the instructor will assume no one is coming and the practice will be canceled. Email Linda Gatson at gatsonl@umsl.edu for more information.

For Info: Linda Gatson (gatsonl@umsl.edu) at 314-516-5091

Where can students find news?



www.thecurrent-online.com

Stock Fest



A St. Louis style festival and Float trip

AUG (19,20,21,22) 2010
opens at 1pm on the 19th

End of Summer Jam
PROMOTED BY



DIRECTIONS

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DNATION
ECADENT
DECADENT NATION

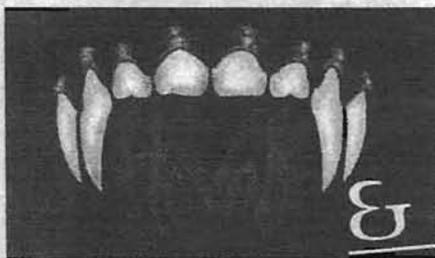
DEADSKY



LowHer Boy **via sleep**

JUSTICE 2 DJ Hamblin

DJ BIRDHOUSE



& **FReaKY peTe**

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and **FREE BEER ALL WEEKEND**
from 7pm-11pm (21 and up only) **RAFFLE INCLUDED**
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Buy Your Tickets Soon - We will sell Out!
Add Promoters on Face Book for direction and ticket details:
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FREE TICKET

GIVEAWAY

@ the internet
underground
radio show
EVERY Sunday
7:30-9:30pm



- * Full concession will be available along with novelty booths.
- * Tattoo Artist will be available.
- * NO! Water and electric sites available.
- * #1 RULE: DRAMA FREE WEEKEND! VIOLATORS WILL BE KICKED OUT WITH NO REFUNDS
- * YOU CAN BRING: DOGS (MUST BE ON A LEASH)
- * YOU CAN NOT BRING: ATV'S OR FOUR WHEELERS
- * GUNS OR ANY OTHER WEAPONS ARE PROHIBITED (VIOLATORS WILL BE PROSICUTED)

*** DO NOT BRING THE "CHIP ON YOUR SHOULDER" ***

Comics

THE CURRENT NEEDS CARTOONISTS!

CAN YOU DRAW?

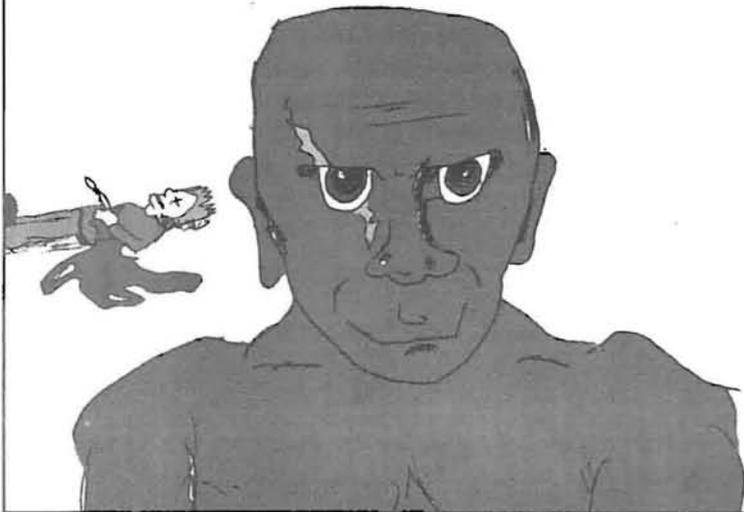
ARE YOU HILARIOUS/WITTY?

IF YOU ANSWERED "KINDA" TO THE ABOVE QUESTIONS, STOP BY 386 MSC AND FILL OUT AN APPLICATION. TURN IN SOME SAMPLES OF YOUR STUFF, ALSO, YOU CAN ALSO E-MAIL THECURRENTJOBS@UMSL.EDU

Kriminals

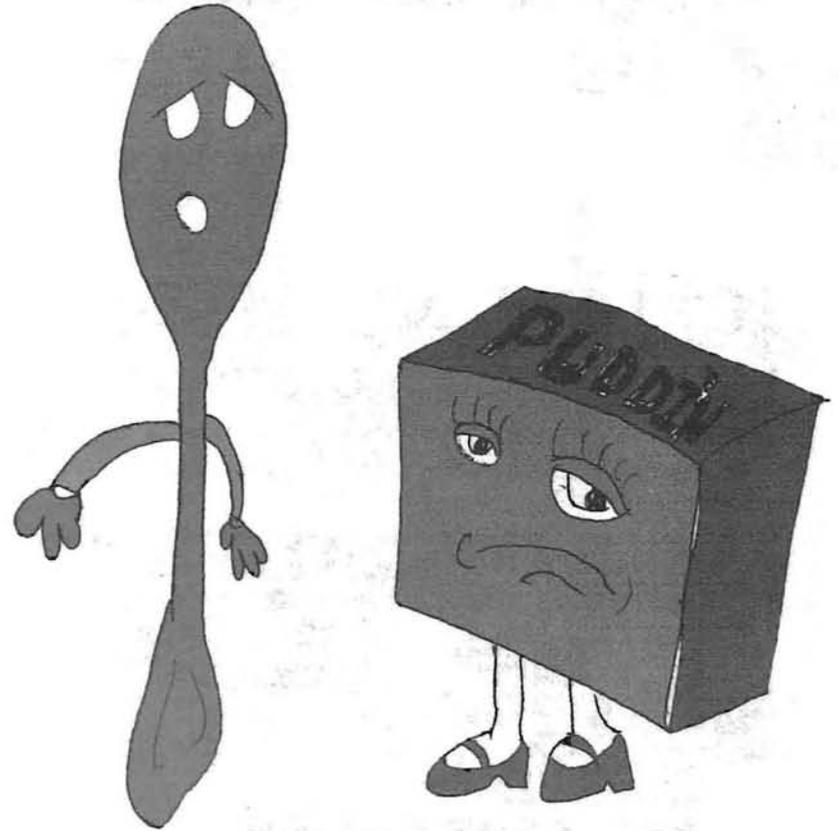
by Andy Phipps

"No, Thats a Boxcar willie"



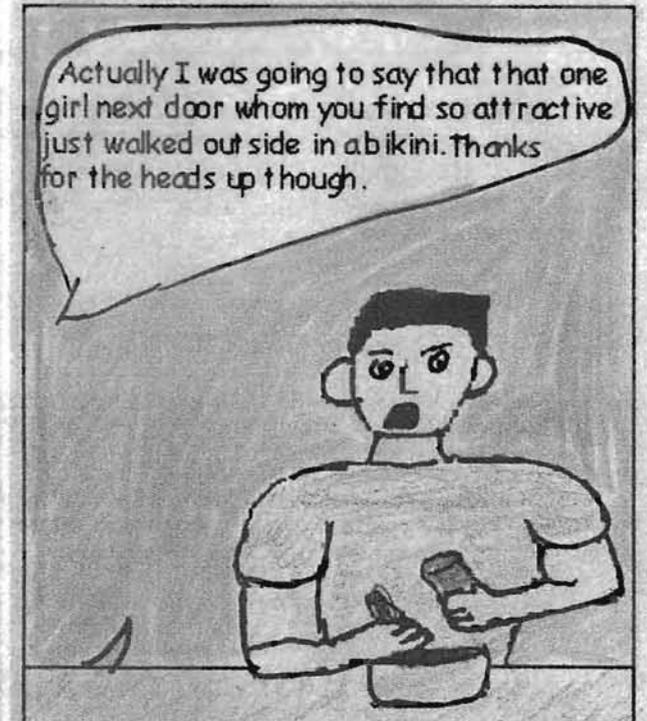
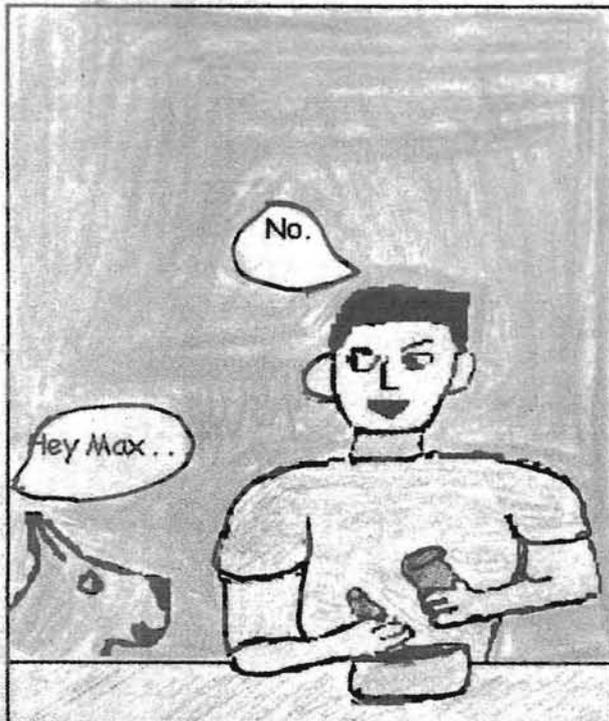
SNacks Food

by Zachary Kraft



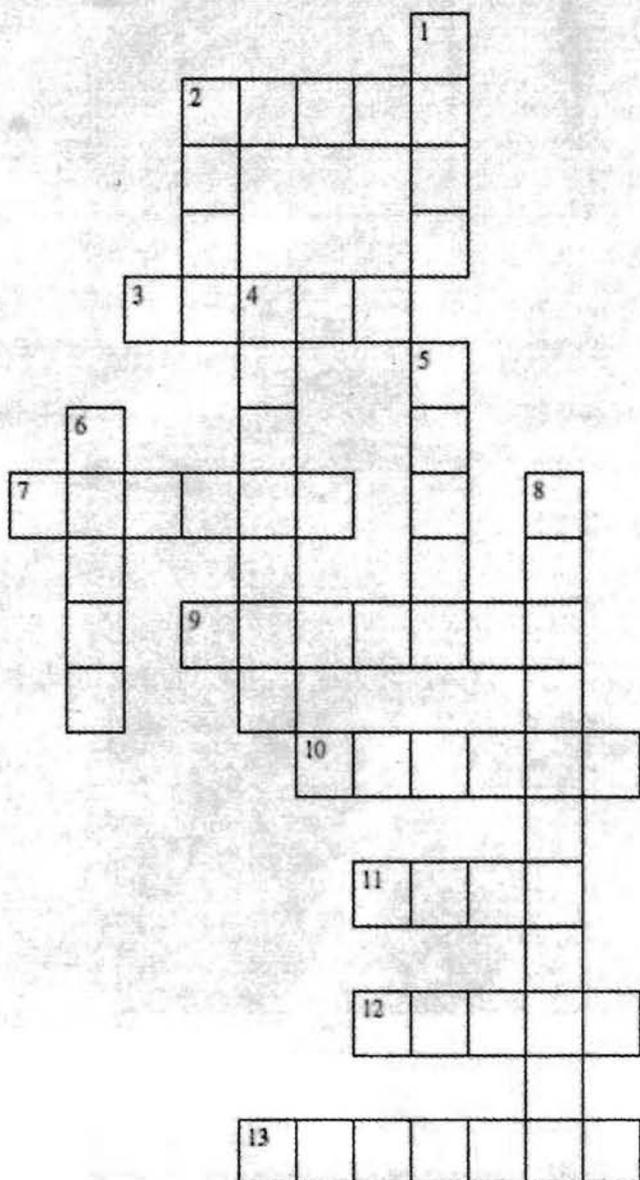
"i can't say puddin any more"

MAX AND LOBO by Gail Fike



Puzzles

CURRENT CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 2. This longtime computer maker announced they will have a major announcement on Jan. 27.
- 3. Afghan capital that was boldly attacked by militants.
- 7. Internet company not happy in China.
- 9. He now wants to talk about the past.
- 10. This movie moved past the \$500 million mark.
- 11. Would have been 81 on Jan. 15.
- 12. Over the hill QB who is one win from the Super Bowl.
- 13. English maker of chocolate eggs to be acquired by American cheese maker Kraft.

DOWN

- 1. Senate Majority leader who evidently still uses the term "negro"
- 2. Shot The Pope in '81; released from prison in '10
- 4. Speed star got her highest accolade of her career
- 5. Suffered a devastating earthquake
- 6. NFL team that is galloping through the playoffs
- 8. The Hollywood Foreign Press' favorite comedy this year.

CURRENT HOROSCOPES

ARIES (MARCH 21 - APRIL 20)

This week will be a bit hectic for the Aries people. In the professional sector you will have lots of financial deals and agreements with clients. Also new projects may take place. For your tight job schedule your personal life may be hampered.

TAURUS (APRIL 21 - MAY 21)

People under the zodiac of Taurus will find this week full of work and hardly get time for any personal duty. For the position of Saturn and Jupiter, you will have pretty hectic life in this week.

GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)

This is an average week for the Gemini people. However, at the mid of the week a financial problem may take place. Your professional life will remain good.

CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 22)

A professional chaos may happen due to the position of Saturn and Rahu. Try to be patient and control your emotion.

LEO (JULY 23 - AUG. 21)

This week new projects will come and you will have to face new challenges in your professional life. Your family life will remain harmonious.

VIRGO (AUG. 22 - SEPT. 23)

People of Virgo will have a wonderful personal life as well as a professional life all through the week. Though you may have to do some extra work but it will be fine all together. Mars is in your support and so you will get success in all your work and your family life will also be peaceful.

LIBRA (SEPT. 24 - OCT. 23)

This week will be pretty hectic for the people under the sign of Libra. Lots of important business deals may take place due to the position of Saturn.

SCORPIO (OCT. 24 - NOV. 22)

A family reunion may take place this week. Parties are in the air. It is also the high time for a short trip with your near ones. Professional life will be fine.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 23 - DEC. 22)

For the influence of the Saturn, this week you will be very busy with your tight job schedule. You may face some new challenges which you can easily manage.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 23 - JAN. 20)

You may be experiencing a lot of lucky accidents and happy coincidences this week. This stretch of good fortune will last quite a while, so enjoy it, and keep an eye out for new opportunities.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 21 - FEB. 19)

Be open to new ideas this week and you'll find inspiration in the most unusual places. It's a great time to look at what you're doing in life, and see if there's anything you can improve on.

PISCES (FEB. 20 - MARCH 20)

People of Pisces will have a fantastic professional as well as personal life throughout the week. You will be confident and energetic throughout this week due to the position of the Moon. Family life will also remain harmonious. Though a health problem may take place but it will be completely manageable.

CURRENT SUDOKU by Gene Doyel

This week's rating:

★
(Easy)

Last week's answers

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

Last week's rating:
Very hard

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

Crimineline

Monday, July 5

Property damage - parking lot NN

Sometime between 7:45 PM and 8:30 PM person(s) unknown broke into the victim's vehicle while it was parked in Parking Lot NN. The victim had left his vehicle in the lot and walked into the University Meadows Apartments. When he returned he discovered that his window was broken out. It appears that nothing from inside the vehicle was damaged or stolen. There are no suspects in this incident.

Tuesday, July 6

Stealing under \$500 - J.C. Penny Building

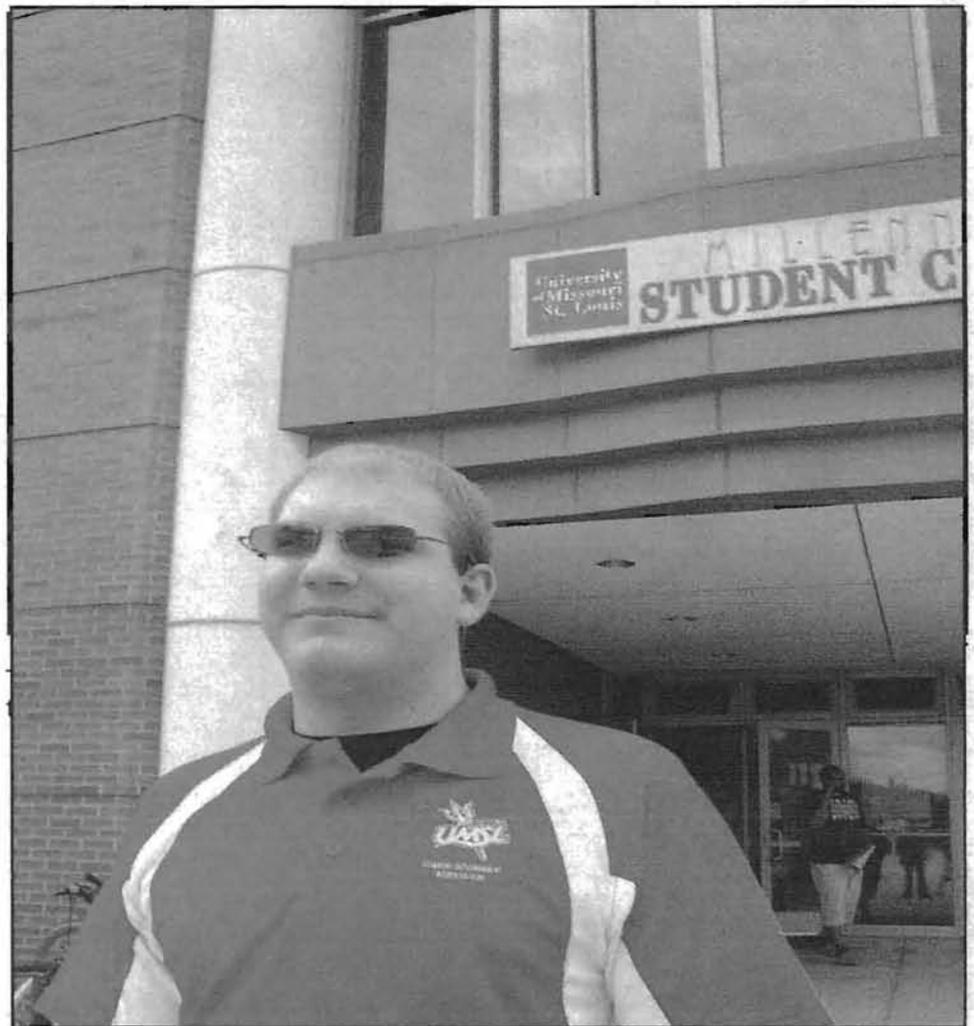
A visitor to the campus had left a cell phone in one of the classrooms at about 8:30 AM and when she went back for it a few minutes later it was gone. There are no suspects in this incident.

Tuesday, July 6

Abduction/Armed criminal action/Sexual assault

On Tuesday July 6, 2010 at 10:00 pm the University of MO-St. Louis Police Department received a call for an Abduction and Sexual Assault incident. The incident started at approximately 9:30 pm in the 8200 block of Natural Bridge Road. The victim reported that the suspect approached her as she walked to her parked vehicle. The suspect was wearing a ski type mask and displayed a handgun. The suspect ordered the victim into her vehicle and forced her to drive to an unknown location in Normandy and sexually assaulted her. The suspect then forced the victim to drive to a gas station on Natural Bridge and ordered the victim to go inside and withdraw money from the ATM. When the victim walked inside she called 911 from her cell phone to report the incident. The victim observed the suspect driving off of the parking lot with her vehicle. The vehicle was recovered the next morning.

Remember that crime prevention is a community effort, and anyone having information concerning these, or any other incidents should contact the Campus Police. The UMSL Police would like to remind all persons to be aware of your surroundings, walk in groups and stay in well lit areas if possible. 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.



MATTHEW P. HILL / THE CURRENT
Dan Rosner, President of UM-St. Louis' Student Government Association, in front of the millennium student center this past week.

**SOMETIMES IT'S OKAY TO LET
STRANGERS TALK TO YOU.**

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The Current**

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