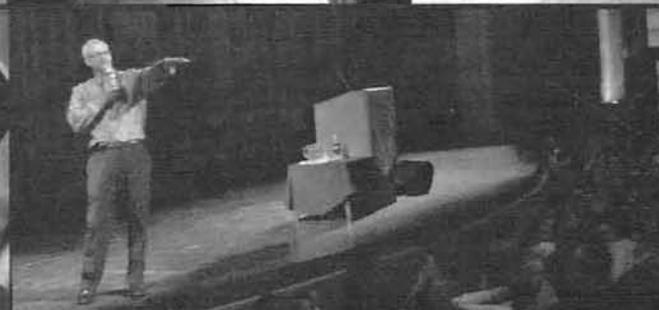
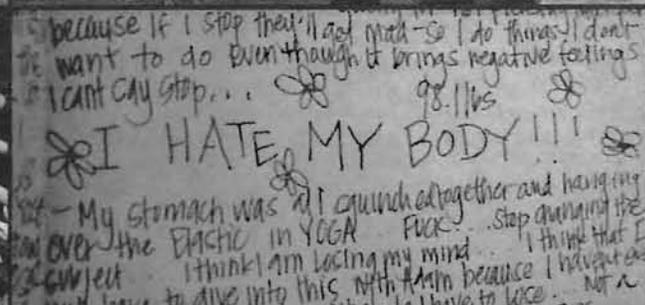


The Current

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The Current
VOLUME 43, ISSUE 1313

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SABC allocations questioned

► **ANDY PHIPPS**
News Editor

Some University of Missouri-St. Louis student organizations have received funding decreases from the Student Activity Budget Committee for the upcoming fiscal year. The cuts come coupled with increases to some organizations' budgets in addition to funding being provided to new organizations for the first time. However, some student leaders have questioned SABC's method in dolling out the allocations and whether or not they are fair.

Some organizations received no funding this year because of lapses in leadership. The UM-St. Louis Gospel Choir received no SABC funds this year after their SGA representative failed to attend meetings, which got their budget frozen. In the end, the group was not given a budget allotment for this reason.

"There were a lot of things that came up against the gospel choir as far as with the budget being frozen and there was so much stuff going on, so we were working hard trying to get things settled," Krystal Wilson, sophomore, communications and gospel choir president, said.

In the case of the gospel choir, the president and vice president of the group were transfer students who had recently come to UM-St. Louis and were unaware of how student organizations were structured and administered.

"There were things we had to learn, it wasn't like someone just took us by the hand and said, 'Ok, this is what you should do and this is this and this and that.' There were some things that we had

to learn ourselves, and when things happened, we didn't know what would be the aftereffects," Wilson said.

The UM-St. Louis Hispanic Latino Association, which provides counseling and scholarships to Hispanic students who are struggling in adjusting to college life, received no funding for fiscal year 2010-2011 after they failed to file a budget by the submission deadline and had received no funding the previous year. Lauren Rodriguez, junior, anthropology, an active member of the group and treasurer of the College Republicans, said that she begged SGA comptroller and SABC committee member Dan Rosner to let the group submit the budget late so that the group could receive funding and continue its work on campus. Her request was denied. "I think that the university has an obligation to minority students to ensure that they have the services that they need in order to be successful in life. It's one thing if a person doesn't have the motivation, but if access to programs and funding isn't available what options do they have?" Rodriguez said.

Rosner said that there are other avenues for such groups to peruse for funding, including co-sponsorships and grants from the state. "There are a lot of co-sponsorships available for a lot of these organizations as well. There is a diversity initiative co-sponsorship that is available, UPB does a lot of co-sponsorships ... [SGA gives] out \$250 at a time, which is more than enough money to do a substantial amount of programming, UPB gives out up to \$500 at a time. As far as doing community service and philanthropy, there are many

grants available through the state for free money as long as it's used for community service," Rosner said.

Currently Rodriguez is working with the mayor of Normandy to try and secure outside funding to keep the group afloat for the next year. Meanwhile, her own College Republicans received a \$515 decrease to their budget for next year when the group ran afoul of SGA rules when its representative missed what SGA deems to be an excessive number of meetings. According to Rosner, SGA held 12 meetings is past year and any group whose representative misses three overall or two consecutive meetings gets its budget frozen. If a group's budget was frozen at the time budget requests and allocations were made, they automatically received a 10 percent cut to their funding for the following year.

Rodriguez is one of the student leaders who are questioning the fairness of this practice.

"I think that being tough on the rules is important. However, I think there should be an option if an SGA rep were to miss the meeting to submit an excuse ... Because I know that sometimes you may be sick; things come up, life is unpredictable and I think that should be an option," Rodriguez said.

Her feelings are echoed by Claire Beeman, senior, business administration and treasurer of PRIZM. The group fell victim to the 10 percent cut when their budget was frozen.

"It would be nice if they would be a little but more flexible—I mean, thankfully we've had a good SGA representative this semester, but previously sometimes it's just

not always that easy with an organization at UMSL with it being a commuter campus. Sometimes if people live off campus it's not always that easy to get up to campus on a Friday," Beeman said.

Rosner defended the policy of mandatory 10 percent budget cuts, saying that such regulations are necessary to hold student groups accountable and trim the budget. "There has to be some method to eliminate some money from groups and to make cuts places, because the cuts are very hard to make at times," Rosner said. Despite Rodriguez and Beeman's criticism, Rosner believes that attendance is necessary in order for SGA to keep students and organizations informed about what is happening on campus. He feels that consistent absences by an organization's representative breaks down this process and could serve as an indicator of the strength of a group's leadership and their responsibility in handling allocated funds from SABC.

"You are allowed two consecutive [absences], or three per year. We've had 12 meetings this year, so that's a fourth of our meetings if they miss all three meetings, and I think that's a pretty high rate," Rosner said. "There needs to be some level of accountability for the money. I mean, we're handing out money and we're really only asking for sometimes an hour—not a lot of time."

In addition to the 10 percent cut, PRIZM lost an additional \$400 from their requested allocation for next year as it had been allocated in their budget to be used for giveaways.

See SABC, page 3

WEATHER

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| MON. 82 56 | TUES. 84 63 | WED. 88 64 | THURS. 84 66 | FRI. 68 50 | SAT. 68 51 | SUN. 70 55 |
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SABC, from page 2

Beeman believes that SABC was not educated on the nature of the allocations and what the giveaway items would be when they decided to cut the amount, which according to Rosner, they believed were unnecessary.

"A lot of the money that we asked for were for condoms and that is to promote sexual responsibility," Beeman said.

Another group, the Helping Hands Student Organization, which provides counseling to African American students struggling to adjust to college life, received a similar cut from their budget. The funding that was cut had been asked for to pay for a social educational trip to Chicago.

"During their presentation, they said that they were going to go shopping ... And our members didn't feel that was a good use of student funds," Rosner said.

Groups that believed their budget allotment was unfair were allowed to appeal their budget recommendation to the SABC. One such organization was sorority Alpha Xi Delta, which saw a \$925 increase in their budget after appealing.

"There has been an increase in our funding, generally, because in past years our chapter has been able to provide a lot more for us, but in these hard economic times everyone's been hit pretty hard. So, we just figured that we'd ask for some other things from the school to see if we could get them and some other things we just managed to get." Erin Jenkins, Alpha Xi Delta president, said.

In addition to the funding increase, their budget appeal

got the sorority the funds needed to attend their chapter's national convention.

In all, 10 of the 15 Greek organizations at UM-St. Louis received budget increases for the upcoming fiscal year.

The Panhellenic Counsel, which represents all sororities on campus, received an additional \$3,795 for the coming fiscal year.

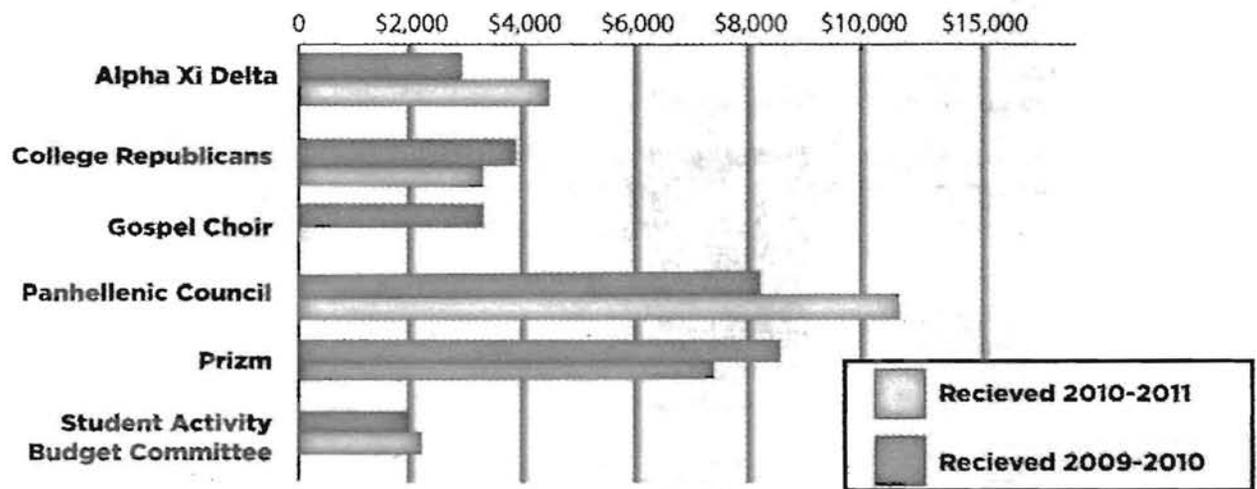
The group says it uses the funding to hold recruitment events for sororities, which interested persons already pay \$20 to \$25 to participate in. In addition, \$9,575 of their \$12,075 allotment for next year will be used for various programming events, such as Big Man on Campus.

"Our big things are recruitment and Big Man on Campus, and I think we just need the extra money for that. So, certain things we've had to cut back on in the past because of the low amount that we've gotten before," Chelsea Italiano, treasurer of the Panhellenic Counsel, said.

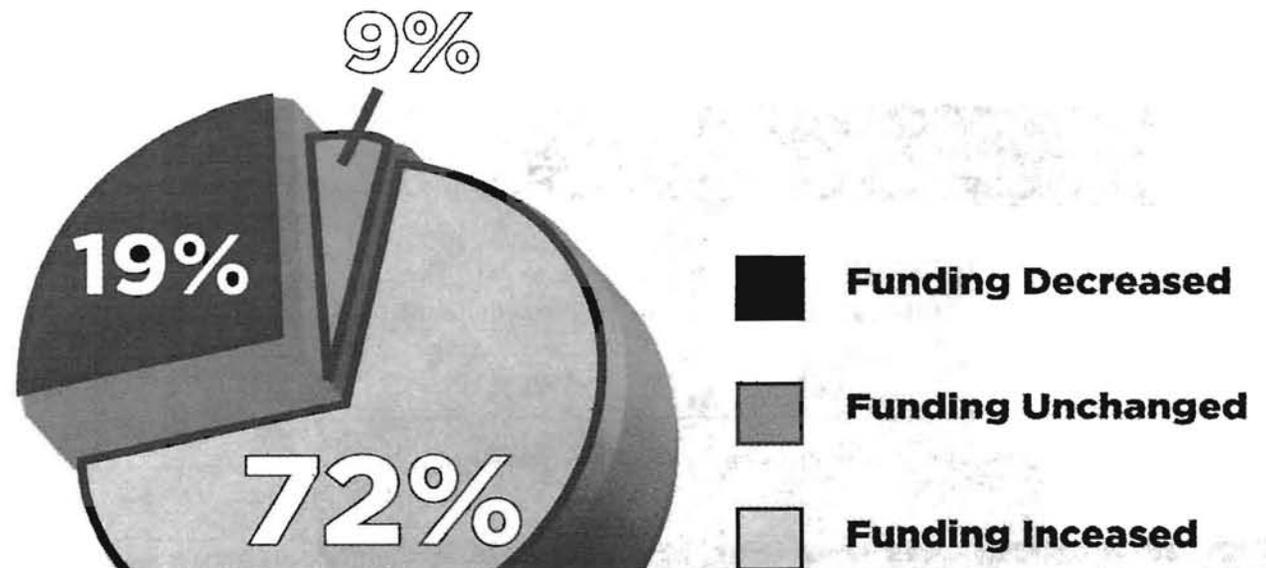
In total, \$641,588 dollars in student activity fees were allocated to 75 student organizations, 17 of which are new groups that will have to put forth a variety of programming and maintain compliance with SGA rules and SABC guidelines if they are to retain their funding next year. According to Rosner, the increase in the number of groups is part of the budgeting headache itself.

"There's a lot of promising groups and leaders on campus that are fighting for the same amount of money that we've had for the past three years, and unfortunately there has to be cuts somewhere," Rosner said.

INCREASES/DECREASES IN FUNDING FR SELECTED STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS



OVERALL BUDGET CHANGES



*Based upon funding for veteran organizations, new organizations not included

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Statshot

UNDERCURRENT by Leanna Bales

Last week Arizona passed a controversial immigration law. What do you think about the Arizona Immigration law?



"It's taking away from our freedoms"

Mike Merx
International Business
Junior



"I think it's bad, it's going to be very inconvenient for people"

Jasmine Collier
Graphic Design
Junior



"It's just a bad approach and it's just a legalized form of discrimination"

Gethorio Davidson
Business Administration
Sophomore



"It is crucial to understand the people subject to this law are human beings and this law forgets that"

Luimil Negron
History
Graduate student

YOU SAID IT

in response to
"Tony Alamo no man of God" from issue 1312

"In a nation that honors freedom of speech, even the prodigious 'follower' of such a deviant group is able to 'air' their dirty laundry. But just keep that bird**** off my windshield!!! Peace, out."

-Whiterussian

"Pastor Tony Alamo is not guilty, yet they still convicted him."

-Allexus

in response to
"Teachers works are the worst" from issue 1312

"Regardless of what students think of their prof's textbook, the professor - who is not lazy - is the expert in the classroom and commands respect."

-Anne-Sophie

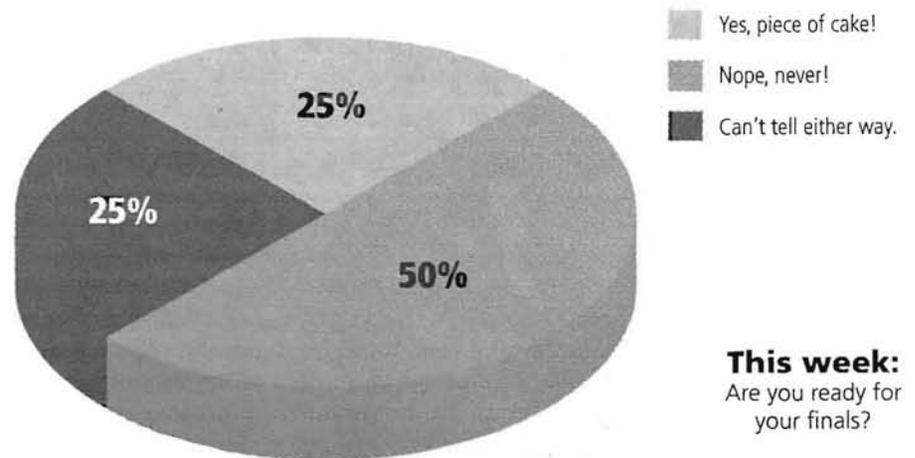
"Everyone in entitled to an opinion, however they all don't have to match up. There is no "right" or "wrong" in this given situation."

-Samantha

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

POLL

Would you use a Metro pass if it were free?



- Yes, piece of cake!
- Nope, never!
- Can't tell either way.

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UMSL-TV gets off the ground

▶ JEN O'HARA
Staff Writer

UMSL-TV and the Media Production Society were finally deemed as a dual organization in mid-April, due to that fact they both have the same general mission. The idea of the two collaborating was formed less than a half year ago, but the hope that improvements would be made to each society began over two years ago.

Originally, student Ryan Ordway pursued the idea of media improvements on the University of Missouri-St. Louis' campus, but because of a lack of response the organizations remained in limbo.

Derrick Thompson, junior, media studies, is finishing his second semester at UM-St. Louis and has taken an interest in reigniting student involvement with the organizations.

"I think it was a matter of not getting out there and doing the work," Thompson said. "There's a lot of students that want to make television and movies here, you just got to talk to them, and get people motivated to do what they want to do. Lots of people are sitting back wanting to do things and they just don't do them."

Despite Thompson's am-

bitious words, there have been discrepancies within the media department that question the possibility of promoting and keeping the organization sustained.

Initially planning to reintroduce the organizations late in March, the process was stalled because of conflicts within the department. An e-mail from Rita Csapo-Sweet, associate professor of media studies, described the situation.

"There have been some serious complaints that he contacted people about working on a film, they started contacting others, and then he disappeared and left everyone hanging. The department is looking into this right now because of the unprofessional manner in which this was handled," Csapo-Sweet said.

Also, a lack of response for weeks from faculty deemed as advisors or having a relationship with the group begs the question as to how anxious the group is to promote the organization.

Nevertheless, there seems to be some encouragement with the act of passing out fliers and setting up a table during Mirthday.

Should the organization get off the ground, Thompson has a number of ideas to contribute to the organiza-

tion.

He is looking to promote the campus' actors and actresses, dancers and models to perform in front of the camera.

Also, he would like to encourage those who wish to work behind the scenes—directors, producers, cameramen—to join. Thompson has expressed original ideas for shows and movies, such as music videos, comedy skits or even a spinoff of "American Idol" with "St. Louis Idol." The idea is to bring life back into UM-St. Louis media with a high rate of student participation.

Students in the performing arts and media majors have had a positive response to the idea.

"I think that it is a wonderful idea and I think this group is long overdue. We have an excellent theatre and dance program, and radio station. I think it's time for TV and film groups to be developed as well. It would give practical world experience about being on camera to the aspiring actors, and technical experience to the people behind the camera. I am very much looking to participate in the organization," Kate Rehagen, senior, theater and dance, said.

Mixed reaction to Metro pass program

▶ RYAN KRULL
Staff Writer

Right now, 50 cents per credit hour of a University of Missouri-St. Louis student's tuition subsidizes the cost to students who ride the Metrolink. This coming fall, that number will jump to \$2, but for that price, every student will receive a Metrolink pass. Depending on who is asked, that may or may not be a really good deal.

On one hand, there are the students who rely on the Metrolink to get to and from class and currently pay \$110 per semester for the service. These students will only have to pay \$2 per credit hour for transportation starting this fall. But that fee will apply to all students except those only taking online classes, whether they use the Metrolink or not.

On the other hand, there are students who do not and never will use the Metrolink and would rather keep the \$1.50 per credit hour in their wallets.

Fees for the program will be capped at 12 credit hours. No student will pay more than \$24 per semester.

The decision to go to a

universal pass program was actually made in April 2008, when a referendum to do so was passed by a student-wide vote. But because of confusion among UM-St. Louis administrators about which fees would be limited by the tuition freeze agreement, which blocks any increase in tuition, the universal pass program was not given the OK from the Board of Curators until administrators took the proposed fee to them at their April 15 meeting.

The UM-St. Louis Office of Student Affairs is optimistic about the changes coming in the fall, saying in a written statement, "With the passing of Proposition A, the campus feels strongly that Metro will be able to provide students with valuable access to the campus and Saint Louis as a whole."

D'Andre Braddix, assistant to the vice provost for the Office of Student Affairs, said that there is some inherent risk involved in charging every student for a service that not everyone will use. Braddix said the Office of Student Affairs would be spearheading an ad campaign in conjunction with Metro to make sure students

are aware of and take advantage of the universal pass.

Given the minimal amount of money involved per student, as well as the nature of collegians in general, most UM-St. Louis students are likely to agree with Jacquelyn Greber, junior, communications, who said, "I don't care. My parents pay for it," concerning the fee increase.

But others take a more thoughtful view. Daily Metrolink rider Rachel Hosna, freshman, biology, said that the changes sounded "Nice for me but I guess it blows for all the people who don't use Metro." Hosna said she hopes the universal pass will have the environmental benefit of encouraging UM-St. Louis students to drive less.

Jasmin Halilkanovic, junior, psychology, is one of the many students who do not use the Metrolink to get to campus and are leery of any tuition increase, however small, for the universal pass. But when reminded the universal pass could also be a way to avoid expensive parking for Cardinal games, Halilkanovic said, "I could think about that."

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Gurdine Acklin shows true grit in win

► **MICHAEL FREDERICK**
Staff Writer

Last Saturday, senior day at the University of Missouri-St. Louis baseball field, Tritons southpaw Gurdine Acklin, senior, liberal studies, made certain that he would go out a winner against Missouri S&T.

Entering Saturday's doubleheader against the Miners, UM-St. Louis baseball had a sporting chance to qualify for the Great Lakes Valley Conference Tournament as an eighth seed wild card.

"There are a lot of 'ifs,'" Jim Brady, UM-St. Louis head baseball coach, said. "If we win at least three out of four this weekend, if Maryville beats Rockhurst, if Quincy loses, and if we come to play."

Entering the four-game series, Tritons baseball sports a 3-20 record at the UM-St. Louis baseball field, but are .500 at visiting ballparks with a 10-10 record.

"We came to play at Rockhurst; there's no doubt about that," third baseman Erik Walk, senior, liberal studies,

said before the S&T series. "We took three out of four against a real tough team. If we play like that here and everything falls into place, we can keep playing ball."

In game one, the Tritons committed four errors and left nine men on base.

Despite a stellar pitching performance by starting pitcher Brandon Fear, junior, finance, the UM-St. Louis bats failed to hit in the clutch. Fear threw over 100 pitches in seven and one-third innings giving up four runs on ten hits.

In the bottom of the eighth with two outs and UM-St. Louis down by one run, the as-of-late hot-hitting Manny Flores, junior, physical education, struck out swinging on a 2-2 wrap-around breaking pitch.

After the strikeout, Flores, who hit two homeruns at Rockhurst, threw his helmet in the dugout as an act of frustration.

"Flores worked so hard this off-season and during the season. He does everything right and to see him struggle just isn't fair to him," Coach

Brady said.

The Tritons lost the first game 5-3. But before the second game of the doubleheader, Gurdine Acklin turned to his downtrodden teammates.

"Guys, we're not giving up this easy," the hard-throwing Acklin said.

According to the Tritons athletic web site, Acklin stands at six feet, five inches. "He can reach high 80s and low 90s on the gun. He's also coming off a couple of quality starts," Andy Ford, graduate assistant coach, secondary education administration, said.

Acklin did not give up on his Triton teammates or coaches.

In what could be his final collegiate baseball game the West Plains, Mo. native threw a five-hit, complete game shutout victory.

While pitching to contact and working around two Triton errors, Acklin walked only one hitter and struck out nine.

But Acklin, whose mother, father, and sister were in the bleachers for senior day, saved his best pitch for last. With

the Tritons leading 4-0, two outs and a runner on a first, the Miner's second baseman, Brandon Cogan, worked a full 3-2 count on Acklin.

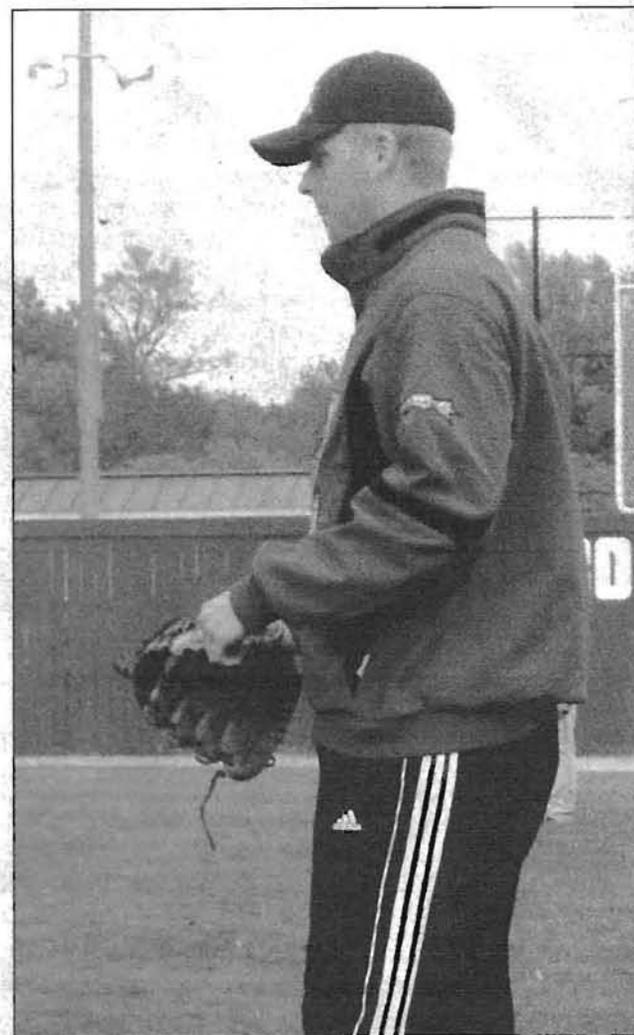
"Cogan refused to go down without a fight. But I was not going to give in, not on senior day and especially not on my last pitch," Acklin said.

Tritons catcher Dean Streed, senior, physical education, called for a fast ball on the third 3-2 pitch. "I just leaned back and threw that ball as hard as I could. It was my best pitch all game," Acklin said.

The senior's fastball was too much for the Miner's second baseman as he swung and missed to end the game, erupting the Tritons dugout with applause and hollers.

"I am very proud of my son," Acklin's father, Gurdine Acklin, Sr., said after the game. After the weekend series with Missouri S&T, the Tritons baseball season will possibly end, but Acklin's dominant shutout performance kept UM-St. Louis alive for the GLVC playoffs.

Sports



MICHAEL FREDERICK / THE CURRENT

Gurdine Acklin plays catch before game at Rockhurst.

UMSL hosts National Signing Day

► **CEDRIC WILLIAMS**
Sports Editor

One of the most important dates for any college sports program came and went several weeks ago, with some good immediate news for the University of Missouri-St. Louis athletics program.

April 14 was National Signing Day for many NCAA sports, including basketball, baseball and softball. Officially, April 14 is just the first day any prospective college student-athlete can sign a national letter of intent (NLI) to accept a scholarship from the school of their

choosing.

The signing period actually lasts until May 19, and any time during that 36-day period, a student-athlete can make his or her college choice official by signing an NLI agreement with that school.

But because that first day of the signing period tends to be one of high anxiety and excitement for both the student-athletes and the college coaches that recruited them, that date is usually the most observers look to the most.

This year, UM-St. Louis received two signed NLIs on April 14. The first to come in came from Quincy, Ill., with

high school soccer standout Matt Burrus, who chose the Tritons over Great Lakes Valley Conference rivals Quincy University, Drury University, and Missouri S&T.

A three-year letterwinner, who scored 35 goals and added 21 assists in his high school career, Burrus is a two-time all-conference and all-sectional honoree and was an Illinois all-state choice by the Chicago Tribune his senior year.

"Matt is a very accomplished midfielder with great potential," UM-St. Louis men's soccer coach Dan King said in a statement released by the UMSL sports infor-

mation department. "He has the ability to excel on both sides of the ball and we are extremely happy to have a player of his caliber commit to our program for the next four years."

Another new Triton who made her college choice official on National Signing Day was women's basketball player and Springfield, Mo., native Hana Haden.

Haden, an all-conference and all-state performer at Kickapoo High, after leading that team in assists her sophomore and junior years, transferred to Oak Hill Academy in Virginia.

Oak Hill, one of the top high school programs in the country, was 14-3 last year and finished its sea-

son by playing in the ESPN Rise High School National Championship Game.

Haden chose UM-St. Louis over hometown programs Drury University, Missouri State University, and nearby Missouri S&T.

"I am pleased to have Hana join our program," UM-St. Louis women's basketball coach Lisa Curliss-Taylor said in a separate statement released by UMSL sports information. "She is coming from a prominent high school program that has helped her prepare for this level of competition. Hana will be able to help us at the point guard position."

Another standout player, Phoebe Robertson, a versatile guard/forward from Bishop

Kelley High in Tulsa, Okla., announced on April 24 that she too had decided to join the UM-St. Louis women's basketball next season.

Robertson averaged eight points and four assists a game her senior year at Bishop Kelley, where she was also a two-time all-conference selection after helping her team win the Oklahoma Class 5A Regional Championship as a junior.

Robertson and Haden join Kaitlin Sweatman, a prime-time scorer from Owen Valley High in Spencer, Ind., who signed with UM-St. Louis during the November early signing period, as the newest members of the Tritons women's basketball program.

Baseball finishes season strong

► MICHAEL FREDERICK
& CALEB HARRIS

Starting pitching was essential to the University of Missouri-St. Louis' five wins in their last seven games, including winning three games out of four against the Rockhurst University Hawks in Kansas City two weekends ago.

On Sunday at the UM-St. Louis baseball field, the Tritons attempted to end the season strong against Missouri S&T.

The Tritons split the first two games of the four-game series, led by left-hander Gurdine Acklin, senior, liberal studies, who threw a complete game four hit shutout. Sunday, the Tritons, although dropping the first game of the series, finished the season by winning the final game of the season, 11-6.

"When Kenny Ford pitches to contact and has a defense behind him, he can really have a good game," Jim Brady, UM-St. Louis head baseball coach, said before the game.

Ford, senior, secondary

education, threw first pitch strikes to the first four hitters. But after a foul ball on the bat handle of Missouri S&T Miners second baseman Zach Carter, Carter protested the call, claiming that he was hit by the pitch on the elbow. After the two-man umpiring crew convened, Carter was awarded first base.

Coach Brady jolted out of the dugout and into the first base umpire's face, arguing the overruling by the first base umpire.

Despite Ford staying around the plate, he could not recover from the frustration of the blown call by the Division II umpires. "We just wanted an explanation and the umpires couldn't give us a decent one," Ford said, who pitched in his last collegiate baseball game.

The Minor's relief pitcher, Andrew Paige, kept UM-St. Louis hitters off-balance with sharp curveballs and a well-mixed fastball. After coming into the game in the fourth, Paige struck out the side in the fourth and fifth innings.

Texas native and Tri-

tons starting pitcher Austin Schuler, sophomore, media studies, went to the bump in game two. "I feel really good today and hope to finish the season on a winning note. We didn't play well this year, but finishing with a win would make the off-season a bit better," Schuler said.

With the 11-6 win, the Tritons finish the season 15-37 overall and 11-21 in GLVC play this season. Coach Jim Brady mentioned that he would be looking for quality players this summer. "We will be recruiting heavily and we would like to have a much better record next spring," Brady said.

The Tritons will have plenty of holes to fill for next baseball season. UM-St. Louis baseball will be losing eight seniors, including five regular starters.

"I don't know what I'm really going to do after school," third baseman Erik Walk, senior, liberal studies, said after his final collegiate baseball game. "I'll probably go home, work, cool off a bit and eventually settle down."

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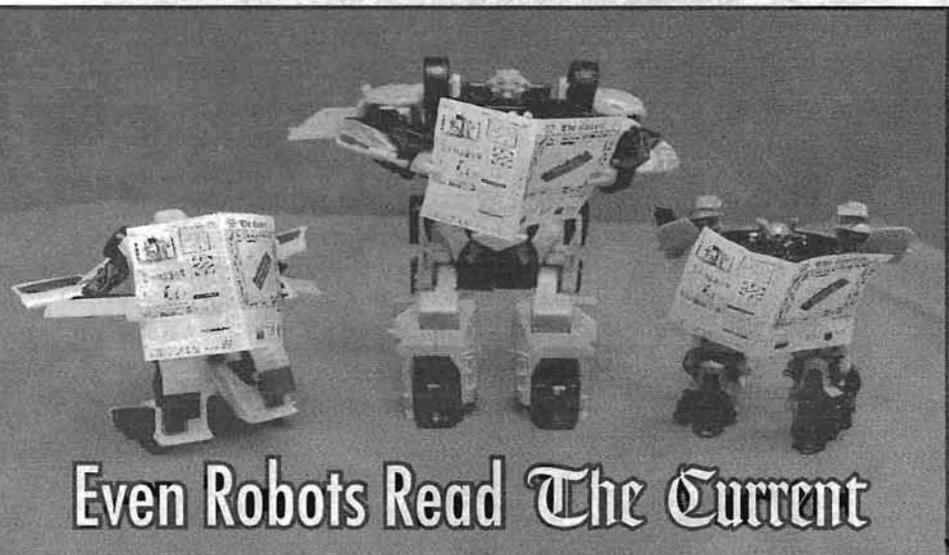
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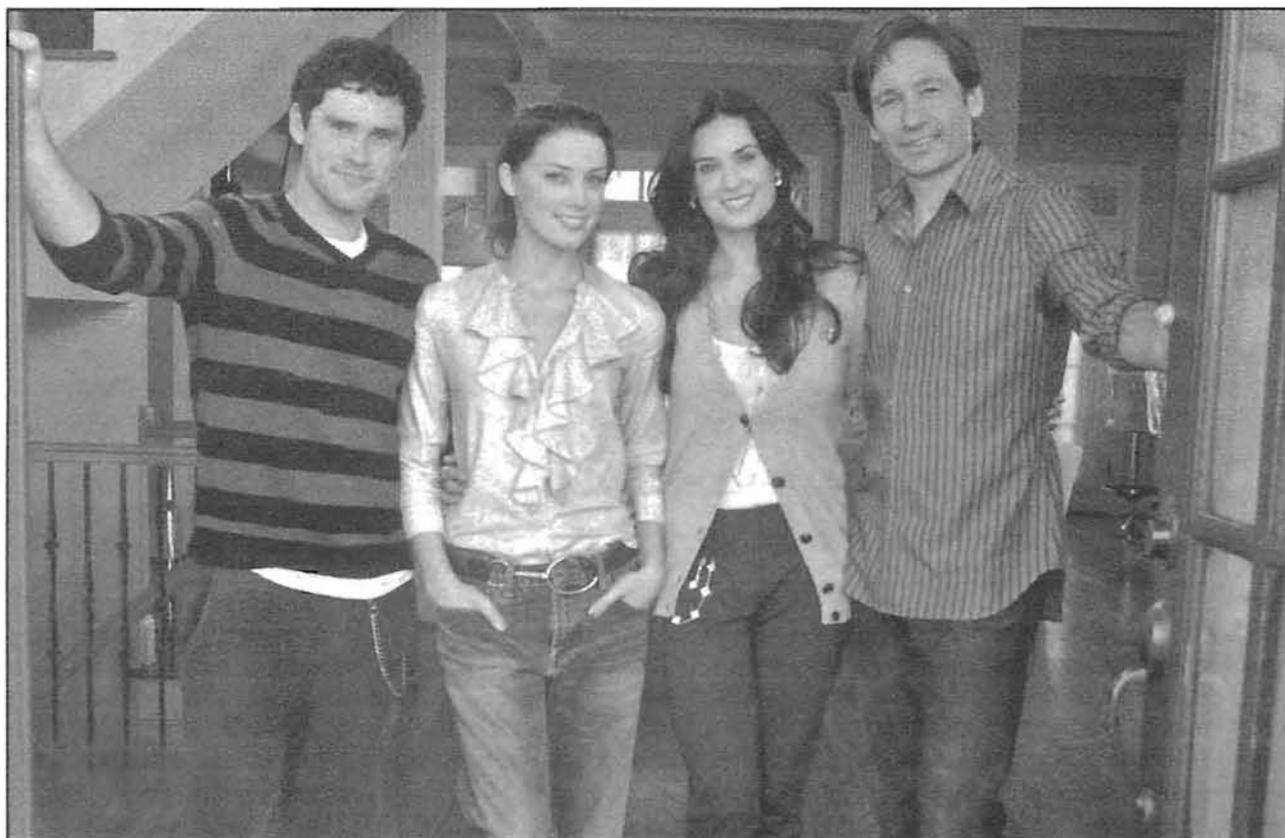
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COURTESY / ROADSIDE ATTRACTIONS

Keeping up with 'The Joneses' on way to financial trouble

Heard of "viral marketing"? It is the concept of a company selling things by identifying "trend-makers" on campuses or among the young and affluent, and paying them to promote the company's products by using them and talking them up without letting on that they are paid salespeople.

The ambitious satire, "The Joneses", takes viral marketing to a new level, creating an entire family of perfect style-setters. The company sets them up in a McMansion in a high-income gated community, with all the goodies—furnishings, cars, clothes and high-tech toys—needed to drive their neighbors wild with envy and straight into the nearest high-end store.

Of course, Jones is not their real name. In fact, they are a bunch of strangers, carefully selected salespeople hired to pose as a family and covertly sell, sell, sell.

"The Joneses" is a satire of consumerism gone wild, es-

pecially pointed now, and a brilliant idea for a film. But "The Joneses" falls short in execution, losing its nerve to bite the commercial hand that feeds it.

David Duchovny and Demi Moore star as Steve and Kate Jones, who have just moved into a huge new house along with their teenagers Jenn (Amber Heard) and Mick (Ben Hollingsworth). Although their furniture has just arrived straight from an Ethan Allan showroom, the Jones family eagerly welcomes neighbors Larry (Gary Cole) and Summer (Glenn Headly). Although Larry and Summer do not have children for Jenn and Mick to befriend, they do seem impressed with all the Jones' stuff. Score one for the sales team.

Of course, all the neighbors are wowed by the new Jones family's non-stop stream of new goodies, although there is some curiosity about exactly how they

make a living. But the Joneses are just so likeable, everyone quickly stops asking questions and soon, the whole neighborhood is all about keeping up with the Joneses.

Out of the public eye, the Jones family is much more business-like, much to the disappointment of newest team member Steve, a former pro golfer and car salesman. Steve has romantic designs on Kate, the sales team leader, but Kate is focused on their sales numbers and their upcoming visit from corporate, in the form of Lauren Hutton.

The actors are all good, and there is a kind of off-beat chemistry between Duchovny and Moore. It is director Derrick Borte who loses his nerve in going for the satiric jugular.

Having set up its incendiary premise, the film loses steam as it unfolds. It offers some commentary on spending beyond one's means and empty consumerism, but

only obliquely. Ultimately, the film focuses more on romance and each family member's desire for personal freedom, rather than on qualms about their unwitting customers. The focus becomes being true to one's self, not questioning if one's deceit is wrong.

One of the film's problems is that it seems to strike a pose of snubbing product placement while simultaneously engaging in product placement. The film creates such a rosy picture of the Jones' lavish lifestyle, paid for by the company, that audience members might be more prone to wonder how they could land that cushy job than to think there is something deeply creepy about the marketing strategy.

Strangely, when the Joneses begin to chaff in their fake roles, questions about giving up all that money hardly seemed to come up, unlike follow-your-heart platitudes.

That is not to say the film does not make some chilling points, just that it does not go far enough.

"The Joneses" is a good film with a premise that could have made it a great one. **B** —Cate Marquis

A&E

'This Is Happening' is more than fun dance music

The tag on LCD Soundsystem is that it is fun dance music but better, because it is a full band comprised of an insightful fanboy from New York (James Murphy) and his cool friends.

Murphy figured it out, so to speak.

He micro-edited, commented on, cross-sectioned all of his favorite styles and sounds and produced great, thoughtful dance rock better than his influences, better than anyone. It took a little time, but people have forgotten to criticize him for being old and pudgy because, lyrically, he is too obviously correct to disregard and, musically, he is too good with a cowbell.

"This Is Happening" is the fourth full-length album from LCD Soundsystem. It is also purported to be the last album Murphy will make performing under the name. It is safe to expect all-night release parties that play "Losing My Edge" at earthquake-inducing levels every half hour.

Lead-off track "Dance Yrself Clean" starts off slow and suspicious, sparse electronic blips complement repetitive and shaky vocals.

It quickly builds into one of the more assertive jams LCD Soundsystem has put out. Murphy tries to remain thoughtful but seems compelled to shriek as the song crescendos with an ecstatic synth riff that sounds like something DFA label mate Jona Bechtolt (from YACHT) has done. The connection is interesting because Murphy practically built DFA and undoubtedly influenced him.

Apparently, they do recycle at world-class record label offices.

See LCD SOUNDSYSTEM, page 10

Trailer Stars

The year in film, good bad and otherwise.

The Twilight Saga: New Moon. Vampires not juicy enough for ya? We've got wolvey men! Still not enough juice? Hot wolvey men! Still craving a drink of sweet juicy juice? Hot native American wolvey men! Yet further juice doth ye desire? Main hot Native American wolvey man is underage! Now that's the juice. **D** —Chris Stewart.

Avatar. The monstrous Na'avi mount everything in sight with their tail tendrils which are either sex organs or some kind of USB port. Either way, nobody is safe, not sacred trees, flying dyno-birds, or even other Na'avi. Still, watching this movie is like taking a bath in an underwater neon pastel rainbow land. **B** —Chris Stewart.

Sherlock Holmes. The year's most pleasant surprise: a witty, pleasing, exciting, and unforgivably entertaining film. **A+** —Chris Stewart.

Gallery Visio's 'Giving Tree' reinvents nature

► **ASHLEY ATKINS**
Staff Writer

For the student who lives for the "Go Green" lifestyle, the "The Giving Tree," an interactive and collaborative installation, is currently being showcased at Gallery Visio, located on the lower level of the Millennium Center. The free exhibit runs from April 22 to June 24.

The ultimate idea of the exhibition is to express how much waste our society actually creates. This is displayed on an artificial tree made out of green recyclables and computer parts.

The top of the tree consists of green streamers, dangling bottles, Mountain Dew products, green plastic, cardboard beer cases, and green Mardi Gras beads. The tree stump was created out of black and white computer cords. Sitting under the tree are a variety of black records, the contents of a computer, and a petite tree. The star of the exhibit seems

to be the walking toy dinosaur, who staggers around the room and greets the guests.

Gallery Visio and the University of Missouri-St. Louis' environmental group, the Environmental Venture Organization, have been planning this collaboration since last year. The collection of green recyclables, such as Mountain Dew bottles, was pulled together by donations throughout the campus and the St. Louis City Museum, which is already known for its extensive use of recycled materials to create playgrounds for its visitors.

Web Innovations and Technology Services donated the wiring.

The organization, whose slogan is "Building Communities through Reuse, Recycling, and Education," has rescued material from landfills, finding ways to reuse them in society and as a result has contributed to the preservation of natural resources.

As Missouri's largest non-profit recycler, they have worked with UM-St. Louis in the past, including holding an electronics drive on campus last spring.

The walls of the exhibit are decorated in photos taken by Julianne Wise, senior, photography. They focus on the placement of broken electronics back in nature, where they once existed as the plastic from rubber trees. Most of the pictures involve a broken computer, television, and keyboard placed in fields on the side of the road.



JENNIFER MEAHAN / THE CURRENT

The Giving Tree exhibits photos taken by Julie Wise, and the tree is made up of cups, bottles, boxes and green paper.

The photography was a nice complement to the constricted room, but it would have been good to see more of a variety of broken electronics, such as cell phones, laptops, and radios.

While this was a wonderful project to follow Earth Day, with its use of cords, computer pieces, green streamers, and recyclables, it could have been extreme had there been

more campus promotion other than word-of-mouth at Student Government Association meetings. Avoiding the worry of wasting a tree to spread word around campus turned out to be a promotion issue, so maybe a campus flier could have been sent through student e-mail. Next time, why not take it to another level and create a rainforest of recyclables, heavy on the walking baby dinosaurs?

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COURTESY / WARNER BROS.

'Nightmare on Elm Street' update more dull than cutting

After countless sequels, it is hard to see what more filmmakers could get out of "A Nightmare on Elm Street."

Even so, the 1984 horror movie hit has been remade and updated to the present in a new version just released. The new "A Nightmare on Elm Street" retains the general outlines of the original, but is not a shot-by-shot remake. And the original's director, Wes Craven, was not even involved.

The cast is all new and the story re-set in the present, which required a few plot adjustments. But the basic "boogey man in your dreams" idea remains, with teens in a peaceful suburb dying from attacks during nightmares about an evil man with a burned face, wearing a striped sweater and sporting a glove with razor-sharp knives. Several teens try to stay awake to escape the killer and find a way to stop him.

The cast has come and gone in the various sequels but this is the first "Nightmare" without Robert Englund as Freddie Krueger. Yet, Jackie Earle Haley is well cast as the murder-

ous, wisecracking Freddie. Kyle Gallner plays Quentin and Rooney Mara is cast as Nancy, the teens who try to unravel the mystery of Freddie. Katie Cassidy, Thomas Dekker and Kellan Lutz play other teens Kris, Jesse and Deant, who are caught in this nightmare. The director is Samuel Bayer, whose previous works are music videos and some short films.

There are several problems with remaking such a famous movie.

For one thing, the premise is so well-known that the element of surprise about the "who" and "how" of the killings is gone. Even without being a fan of the original, you know all about Freddie, his knife-tipped gloves and his attacks on his dreaming teen victims as they sleep.

That means this new movie has to entertain and surprise some other way. Reasonably, one would think that ever more creative dreams would be the way to create suspense, fear and shock. Yet the dreams show little imagination until near the end, where there are a few visually clever scenes. Worse, the

film always lets you know when characters are dreaming, eliminating a chance for suspense. There is more story than the original, but not enough overall creativity to overcome a certain dullness. Although resisting a temptation to simply up the gore factor is a plus.

Jackie Earle Haley is very creepy as Freddie but his strong performance is not enough to rescue the whole movie from its lapses into dullness. Yes, dullness. It has some moments, mostly thanks to Haley, but not enough to really make it consistently scary and revive a too-familiar horror tale.

The remade "A Nightmare on Elm Street" is not the worst horror movie ever, but it is more shrug-worthy than praise-worthy. Those who categorize films into separate scary genres may disagree, but if you really want to see truly frightening film dreamworlds, it is better to check out "Pan's Labyrinth" or "The Orphanage." **C-** —Cate Marquis

LCD SOUNDSYSTEM, from page 6

"Drunk Girls" is about having a good time. It comes across obnoxiously brazen, hedonistic and blatant variation on the Velvet Underground's "White Light/White Heat" theme at first, but as usual, Murphy proves himself to be a grower. After a few listens, the Eno influences start to make sense, the dense outro reverberates with good feeling and the realization that the song will be absolutely crazy when it is played live sinks in.

The three-minute intro to "You Wanted a Hit" is a pastiche of retro Aphex Twin. It is beautiful, it changes and then it mellows into an austere guitar and two-step flute arrangement. The song also features very curious lyrics, "You wanted a hit, but that's not what we do," which are delivered with the melody and confidence you would expect to find on a hit. The spacey intro effects integrate themselves back in at the end, bringing the well-crafted song to a crashing, glitzy close.

"All I Want" might be the ultimate tribute Murphy could make to his influences. The prominent and high-strung guitar line that slides around is practically identical to the guitar on David Bowie's mas-

terpiece, "Heroes." The refrain "All I want is your pity/All I want is your bitter tears" may seem desperate and unlikable, but considering the intelligence that permeates throughout the rest of Murphy's work, they are ultimately courageous.

It is not hard to imagine a problem with LCD Soundsystem. Murphy's stuff is pretty derived and mutable, maybe even a tad dishonest. Listening to it over and over can turn into a name-game of finding his influences. On the other hand, the update from someone who really does the legwork, who cares about figuring out what is best in pop music and produces some of the best dance rock songs in response to his discoveries, is easy to appreciate as well.

There is some weird stuff going on with the production; sounds will whimper when they should not and the vocals are always low. It probably sounds better on big speakers, but it seems like LCD Soundsystem could have benefited from collaborating with people more experienced in the studio. Regardless, "This Is Happening" is a great album. **A** —Joe Schaffner

WORST OF THE YEAR

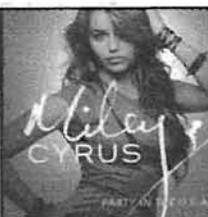
2009/2010's Trashiest Trash as reviewed by *The Current's* Chris Stewart

1 'Imma Be'
Black-Eyed Peas



Honestly, having to listen to all of these songs week after week some grew on me or at least instilled me with Stockholm Syndrome-y affection. This song still baffles me. It does not even sound like it thinks it is a song.

2 'Party in the USA'
Miley Cyrus



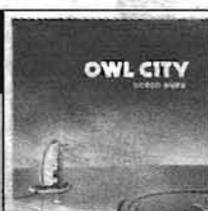
Chosen not because it's unbearably bad (only close) but more because it's such a fitting representation of the Pop Machine musical zeitgeist currently gripping our culture. Sure it was probably like that in the seventies too, but I choose to idealize the past, so there.

3 'Tik Tok'
Ke\$ha



This song was like the piercing, grating alarm bell that warned the world that a powerful new force of darkness had entered it. Where's Buffy Summers when you need here? I'm just slaying.

4 'Fireflies'
Owl City



A Death Cab For Cutie rip off that decided to take the worst part of Death Cab- their sticky-sweet sentimentality- and amplify it tenfold. The lyrics are comparable but without literary sensibility or believability. The music is paper thin and familiar.

5 'Hey, Soul Sister'
Train



Things I would rather do than ever hear this song again: steal a mother Grizzly's cubs from her, find myself on the wrong end of a hot glue gun, chug liquid nitrogen like water, listen to "Fireflies" by Owl City, eat my own ears, date Nancy Grace, swallow nails...

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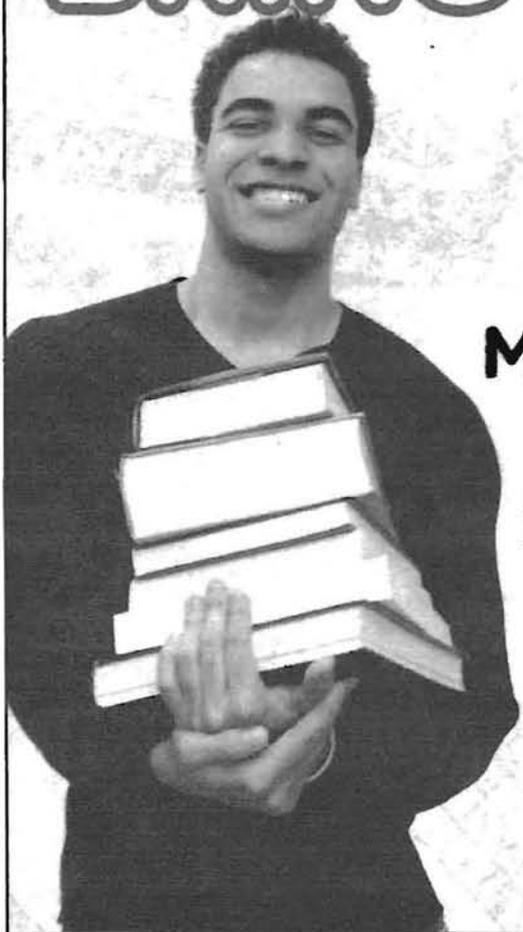
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CHARTWELLS CONTRACT WILL NOT BE RENEWED IN 2011



JENNIFER MEAHAN / THE CURRENT

Since 2002, Chartwells has been the food service provider for the UM-St. Louis campus.

In February, Student Services hosted food service forums with students and faculty to gauge the opinions of those who utilize and rely on campus dining. They were asked what they thought about the current offerings and what could be done to improve them. The input was compiled and passed on to Chartwells as recommendations for improvement. However, it is doubtful that Chartwells will be able to implement the recommendations, as the university has since decided not to renew the contract with the food service provider when it expires this December.

"The needs of the campus have changed," Curt Coonrod, vice provost of Student Affairs, said. "There are a lot of things that are different from the university's side—for example, having more students and more residents needing a weekend meal plan. Chartwells has expressed interest in making some addendums to the contract we had with them and we felt now was a good time to open it up to Chartwells or anyone else to submit a proposal."

Coonrod said that the information obtained at the February food service forums will be used by the food service committee in the Student Affairs office when they evaluate potential food service vendors in the fall. Tangie Brooks, manager of client relations, said that the new vendor would begin providing service in Jan. 2011. However, Chartwells is allowed to bid again.

Coonrod implied that students will be given an opportunity to get involved in the final decision over the new vendor.

TUITION STILL FROZEN



SOFI SECK / THE CURRENT

On Nov. 17, 2009, Governor Jay Nixon visited UM-St. Louis to announce that for the second year, all Missouri universities had struck a deal that would allow them to receive 95 percent of their state funding if they would hold all in-state, undergraduate tuition and fees flat. Despite the simplistic nature of the agreement, complications from it have been felt on campus and statewide.

First, there was confusion related to the definition of which student fees would be subject to the agreement, which put several fees on hold, until UM System president Gary Forsee clarified what would be subject to the agreement. Since then, the freeze barely survived the Missouri Senate budget committee. However, the measure is expected to pass with the entire state budget before the legislature's summer recess.

CAN UPB TOP DR. DREW?



JENNIFER MEAHAN / THE CURRENT

During the 2009-2010 school year, the University Program Board and Student Life brought a myriad of celebrities to the UM-St. Louis campus. Some of the guests were very well known, such as Dr. Drew, and others could hardly be deemed famous, such as the band that played at the Oak Hall MTV Beach Party last fall, Nothing More.

Katie Magraw, senior, media studies, and executive chair of UPB, said that next year UPB is going to try to bring more big-name speakers to campus, although no names have been confirmed. Magraw mentioned that low attendance at the Mark Zupan and Jeff Corwin events compared to attendance at the Dr. Drew event was frustrating, and that next year UPB would like to bring fewer celebrities to campus in order to spend more money to bring in bigger name stars.

YEAR IN

By Jessica Ke...

The 2009-2010 school year at the University of Missouri St. Louis are our picks of the top UM-St. Louis news stories for this school year. Will Chartwells still be grilling UMSL burgers next year? Did Nixon really...

COACH PILZ RESIGNS, TAPPM...



On March 3, the seven-season coach of the UM-St. Louis basketball team resigned. If Pilz chose to leave the team or if he was asked to resign. As the new mens head basketball coach.

Tappmeyer is currently most focused on recruitment for next season in the next year or two.

"I'm not going to make a lot of guarantees, but we don't have any. Tappmeyer said his coaching style is different than Pilz's and..."

NEW BASEBALL FIELD



On March 10, the Tritons baseball team had their first home game since the old field was torn down when Express Scripts came to campus as a home field for so long. Jim Brady, the head Triton baseball coach...

"There are still tweaks to iron out, like we need public restrooms in the clubhouse someday. We need to find an area where the umpires can sit in the best situation ... Also we need the addition of field lights."

Brady would like to see more fraternity, dormitory and UMSL next year.

REVIEW

Editor-in-Chief

nsisted of resignations, pandemics and dancing red Tritons. These r. Did the police ever arrest anyone for those assaults? Will Chart- e tuition costs indefinitely? Here are updates to the biggest news he year.

EVER READY FOR NEW SEASON



AHMAD ALJURYIED / THE CURRENT

ll team, Chris Pilz, resigned from his post. It was never confirmed a month later, on April 7, the university named Steve Tappmeyer

's season and said that he hopes to be competitive in the GLVC

o wait three or four years to be competitive," Tappmeyer said. change will be exciting for fans next season.

STILL NEEDS WORK



AHMAD ALJURYIED / THE CURRENT

e in five years at their new field on South Campus. The previous reseen problems, such as flooding, kept the team from having a d that the new field is a "good start."

s and the elementary school gym we would like to turn into a dress ... Right now they have to dress in their cars and its not y said.

/ Meadows students come to baseball games on the new field

WHAT'S NEXT FOR LOUIE?



JENNIFER MEAHAN / THE CURRENT

The 2009-2010 school year was monumental for the new UM-St. Louis mascot. Given a face on Jan. 21 at the literally packed "Pack the Stands" basketball game, and a name on the same date in April, Louie the Triton is now the face of UM-St. Louis athletics.

So what's next for Louie? According to Lori Flanagan, director of athletics, the university plans to market the mascot as much as possible. "We are going to market him more so that people identify him ... when you see Fredbird, you know he is with the Cardinals and we are going to market Louie so when you see him you immediately know he is with UMSL," Flanagan said.

Flanagan expressed her happiness that students welcomed the mascot and that 500 people helped to name him.

SWINE FLU HYPE DIES OFF



LEANNA BALES / THE CURRENT

With the world panicking about the impending chaos that the H1N1 virus (better known as Swine Flu) was supposed to cause, campus Health, Wellness, and Counseling Services prepared by ordering vaccinations for UM-St. Louis at the beginning of the new school year. On Sept. 25, 2009, the first case of H1N1 was diagnosed at UM-St. Louis.

Since then, Health Services has offered swine flu shots to students for \$10 and Chartwells delivered food to infected students' dorm rooms. Overall, there were a total of 21 cases of H1N1 documented at UM-St. Louis and 380 vaccinations were given out to students, faculty and staff.

The panic over Swine Flu has since died down and the Department of Health recently picked up 40 unused H1N1 vaccinations from Health Services that were due to expire at the end of April. Marie Mueller, nurse practitioner, said there have been "very few" requests for the vaccine as of the last couple months.

DID WE FIND 'HOPE FOR HAITI?'

The January disaster in Haiti made quite an impact on the world, but also on the UM-St. Louis campus this school year. The benefit concert "Hope for Haiti," held on Feb. 11, was one of many efforts on campus to raise money for the devastated country.

Jean-Germain Gros, associate professor of political science and public policy administration, is from Haiti and took part in many of the events.

"The response [at UMSL] has been very supportive of the Haitian plight," Gros said. "I would have liked to see more fundraising, but perhaps that would be asking too much. I would hope that interest in Haiti will be sustained next year [and that] we continue to focus on it because the reconstruction will take a long time."

MORE EXPRESS SCRIPTS DONATIONS?

On Sept. 22, Express Scripts, Inc., pledged a donation to the university of \$2.5 million, adding to past donations of \$1.5 million. The donation was announced at the 18th annual Founders Dinner at the Ritz-Carlton hotel downtown.

Martin Leifeld, vice chancellor for University Advancement, said that the money will go to the College of Business Administration, and partially for "new ideas in circular development." He also said the university has submitted another proposal to Express Scripts for a donation of \$600,000 to go toward the Bridge Program.

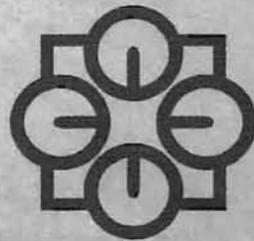
Whether or not Express Scripts decides to donate the money will be announced in a few weeks. The Founders Dinner will be held again in the fall to update friends of the university on any and all additional fundraising progress.

CAMPUS ASSAULTS REMAIN UNRESOLVED

On Dec. 8 and 10, 2009, two separate sexual assaults were reported to have occurred on the UM-St. Louis South Campus. Since then, the Bel-Nor and campus police have made no arrests but continue to search for a suspect or suspects in the case. Lt. John Schupp of the UM-St. Louis police department said that it is still an open case, one that is being actively investigated.

Recently, a Clery Release was e-mailed campus-wide notifying recipients of a reported sexual misconduct on April 27. The release stated that the suspect revealed himself and inappropriately touched the victim in the computer area of The Nosh.

Schupp said that the police department has no reason to believe that the recent sexual misconduct has anything to do with the sexual assaults reported last year.



STUDENT LEADERSHIP AWARDS 2010

Award Recipients

Student Leaders of the Year:
Daniel Rosner & Marcel Scaife

Advocate of the Year:
G. Scott Tapp

Best Overall Program:
Pizza with Professors (SGA)

Best Community Building Program:
Campus Safety Walk (SGA)

Outstanding Service to the Community:
Kerry Manderbach

Student Life Award:
Jennifer Siciliani, Ph.D.

Rising Leader:
Krista Hedrick

Most Innovative Program:
"Just Stand Up" Cheer Classic (ZTA)

Organization of the Year:
Catholic Newman Center

Best Sustained Program:
Lunch and Learn (UPB)

Greek Leader of the Year:
Kyle Kersting

Non-Traditional Student Award:
Paul "Tony" Laurence

Distinguished Service Award:
Gloria Schultz

Student Athletes of the Year:
Kristi White (Women's Basketball)
Katie Bartlett (Softball)
Ryan South (Men's Soccer)

Resident Advisor of the Year:
Daniel Rosner

Residential Life Program of the Year:
Damaris Carter & Jewelquelle Ballinger's
Hope Release

Resident of the Year:
Dakota Dancy

Desk Assistant of the Year:
Tiara Mayo

Features

INDIA NIGHT

► SEQUITA BEAN
Features Editor

Culture, music and dance filled the JC Penney Auditorium last Friday as the Indian Student Association of the University of Missouri-St. Louis celebrated its heritage with their annual India Night celebration.

Food, Bollywood, dancing and fashion were promised to a crowded auditorium as they waited for the extravagant festivities to commence. As the night began, the crowd stood in honor of the Indian National Anthem, "Jana Gana Mana," followed by a musical performance of "Vande Mataram."

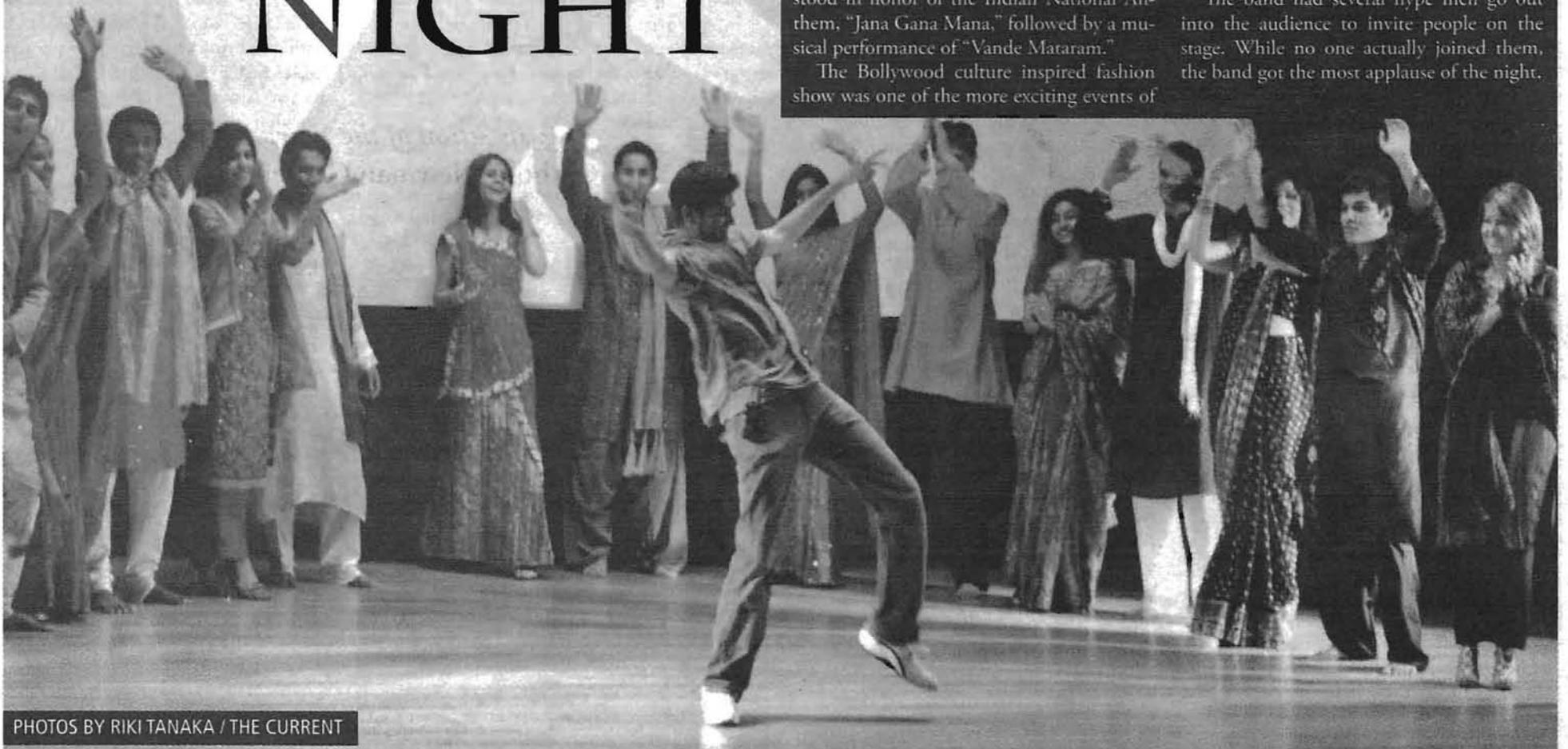
The Bollywood culture inspired fashion show was one of the more exciting events of

the evening. The fashions of the night were full of Indian heritage that is rich in tradition and also engaging with vibrant bold colors.

Soon after the fashion show, dancers graced the stage to perform Garba dances, as well as dance sequences from the popular British film "Slumdog Millionaire."

Several singers sang various songs from the film as well. Towards the end of the night the crowd got excited once rockers Sam, Siddarth, and Daman performed "Rock On," a song mixed with Hindi and English.

The band had several hype men go out into the audience to invite people on the stage. While no one actually joined them, the band got the most applause of the night.



PHOTOS BY RIKI TANAKA / THE CURRENT



Bringing Africa to our front door

Teacher exchange program brings new learning experiences

► JANACA SCHERER
Staff Writer

For the past 24 years, the University of Missouri System has been sharing its teachers with a higher education institute in South Africa. In the past two decades, over 400 faculty members studying in over 40 different fields have been exchanged with those of the University of Western Cape.

The University of Missouri South Africa Exchange Program has been in existence since 1986. It is the first agreement ever between a United States institution and a historically black South African institution.

"We have been recognized by outside groups that consider this partnership a model relationship between a United States university and African school of higher education," Rodney Uphoff, the director of the UMSAEP, said.

The program has received multiple grants, including the most recent one for over \$4.4 million from the National Institute of Health. The grants help to send the teachers overseas and also assist them with their research.

"Researchers from UM are teaming up with scientists from Western Cape

to study medicinal purposes of certain plants used by certain healers in South Africa to treat a variety of illnesses. Some may not work, some may work, but there hasn't been a scientific study of those plants, and we at UM, along with our partners, received the grant from NIH to study to see if they really work or not," Uphoff said.

Typically, eight to ten teachers are chosen to do research at the University of Western Cape campus. When the applicants are chosen, the teachers are sent over for anywhere from two weeks to more than a month. During their time there, the faculty members will meet with their counterparts from the UWC and work on their research.

Associate professor of sociology, Nancy Shields, has had the opportunity to participate in the exchange program multiple times. "Lois Pierce and I have been collaborating with Kathy Nadasen at the University of the Western Cape," Shields said. Together they have written three works on the topic of community violence both here and in South Africa.

The program is a great resource for

faculty and students, according to Dr. Joel Glassman, associate provost for Academic Affairs, director of the Center for International Studies and associate professor of political science. "It's a wonderful learning opportunity. We get to interact with their outstanding faculty in addition to learning about South Africa's education system," Glassman said.

Despite the program's bountiful learning experiences, the program's future may be in jeopardy. "We are concerned about the program during times of financial scarcity," Glassman said. As with all extracurricular opportunities, Glassman is worried that budgets may be cut because of current economical situations.

However, Uphoff has very high hopes for UMWCEP's future. "I am very hopeful that not only will we be able to move forward to build more research collaborations, but I am also hopeful that we will have more opportunities for our students to study abroad at the University of Western Cape," Uphoff said.

National Academy of Sciences of Argentina elective at UM-St. Louis

► JEN O' HARA
Staff Writer

Elizabeth Kellogg was recently accepted into the National Academy of Sciences of Argentina, standing on the same grounds as the infamous Charles Darwin. Serving the University of Missouri-St. Louis since 1997, she has promoted the study of plant life on and off campus.

The Current: How did you get into botany?

Elizabeth Kellogg: It's very interesting because botanical knowledge in the United States is not spread around very much compared to almost any place else in the world. I was just the same as everybody else. The first botany course I took was my last term in college, and I took it just because I needed it. It wasn't because I was passionate about plants. I graduated with a degree in biochemistry and worked in a biochemistry lab for a year, and I really didn't like it. And I started thinking, 'What else could I do that I know about?' and sort of randomly thought 'Huh, maybe I'll do something about plants.' So I worked for the forest service for a while, then I went and did a master's degree in ecology. So you need to be very careful about whatever you take your last year of college.

TC: What do you do with your lab on campus?

EK: My lab has two functions. One is a lab for training students for the Missouri Botanical Gardens. Those students are not necessarily working with me. They may have an advisor

at the Botanical Garden, or they may be advised by somebody else, but they're doing one component in my lab. The other chunk of the lab is my own kind of research mission, which is supported by my own grant. That is looking at the evolution of grasses. What we study is how those develop, who their relatives are, how they grow, who they cross with—just a variety of studies on evolution.

TC: How did you feel being elected into the National Academy of Sciences of Argentina?

EK: Surprised. I really didn't expect it. I mean, I've had a long-standing collaboration with colleagues in Argentina, but I didn't think I'd done anything particularly special. A couple of my colleagues nominated me. I was actually nominated a couple of years ago, but I went to Argentina this year for the formal follow-up ceremony.

TC: What are your connections with Argentina?

EK: I've collaborated with folks there for a little bit over 10 years. It started because I was planning a research project and realized that the real expert in part of it was a guy named Fernando Zulohe, who is one of my colleagues. He had the tremendous expertise that was going to be really important to the research project I wanted to do. I mean, I could spend the rest of my life trying to learn what he knew, or I could collaborate with him.

TC: What do you feel is misunderstood about

botany?

EK: An understanding of plants is essential to many of the issues facing the world today, in terms of global climate change, and issues of food security. And the United States in general has to start producing more plant biologists.

TC: What is something you like to do that not

many people know about?

EK: I play the piano, very badly. And so nobody knows about it, because I enjoy it quietly to myself. Well enough to take a lot of pleasure in it, not well enough for anybody to listen to it. I like sailing and canoeing, although I don't do very much of it here. Sailing is very hard to do in Missouri.



AHMAD ALJURYED / THE CURRENT

Elizabeth Kellogg UMSL Botanist recently elected to The National Academy of Sciences of Argentina.

Business/Tech

Tune into The U on the new 1620 AM

► **MATTHEW POPOSKY**
Staff Writer

For those who have managed to avoid hearing a radio broadcast by the University of Missouri-St. Louis' student radio station, The U, the excuses regarding lack of broadcast power off-campus have now lost their value.

The U recently purchased broadcast rights from the Federal Communications Commission on AM station 1620. "We're really excited that it gives the students involved in the radio station another opportunity to explore FCC regulations and practices, and another dimension to their understanding of radio transmission and broadcasting," Charles Granger, UM-St. Louis curator's distinguished teaching professor, said.

Students have complained that in order to tune in to The U, one must either visit the MSC or listen to internet broadcasts. The newly installed antenna atop Lucas Hall, however, will allow students to hear The U's broadcast campus-wide.

"The signal should reach our entire campus area, within distance of cars. It covers about a three-mile radius, although once you go past campus, the signal declines greatly," Marcel Bechtoldt, information technology services, said.

The U covers a wide range of topics. There are DJs who play music and little else. Talk shows are also presented, along with coverage of campus events.

In addition, The U offers free advertisement to campus organizations, has recently begun covering UM-St. Louis' sports, and is also working on a joint-effort broadcast with The Current to broadcast news reports from the paper.

"If there are organizations which want Public Service Announcements put out, they can contact Alfonso Hines or Keith Robinson, as this new expansion of our service is open to use by any organization for free," Granger said.

Naturally, broadcasting UM-St. Louis beyond the campus will help to grow

public interest. "This is a great step up for The U. Being able to hear The U around campus will be a great way to increase our listening base. It'll be great for the sports broadcast, as well," Leanica Adams, senior, business administration, said.

Advancements around campus have been a general trend this year. "SEMPA, Student Electronic Media Professional Association, which governs Student Campus Community Radio, as well as UMSL TV, are making huge advancements and will continue to do so," Granger said.

With such a magnitude of growth, it is no surprise that The U is excited about its own recent improvement. The more departments around campus improve the quality of their performances, the more the campus can grow as a community. The more the campus grows, the better the education provided to students will be.

"I think what will be popular on it is information, especially in the beginning of a semester. Students at UMSL sometimes complain that

there isn't enough outreach from organizations on campus, and that helps to keep UMSL stereotyped as a commuter school.

Information on activities and organizations students may be interested in, broadcast over 1620 AM, could lead to greater involvement around campus," Bechtoldt said.

The U's first use of the new broadcast signal was at Mirthday 2010. The events, music and spirit of students in attendance could be heard over 1620, as stated by Granger and Bechtoldt, within a three-mile radius of the campus.

Could this be the first in a line of improvements to student capacity to broadcast news around campus? Nobody can say for certain. However, one thing is certain: student views and news regarding UM-St. Louis are important matters to communicate to the community.

So, tune in to 1620 AM when near campus! Listen to what UM-St. Louis students have to say.



COURTESY / THEMATRIX.COM

TECH COLUMN

iPad: There may be an app for that

► **ANDREW SEAL**
Business/Tech Editor

Ever since Apple announced it earlier this year, the iPad has been hailed as the Savior of Everything, from Savior of the Publishing Industry to Savior of the Comics Industry.

In reality, it's neither of those.

The publishing industry has to contend with a few issues before ebook readers (like the Kindle and to an extent, the iPad) really come in to their own—and thanks

to infighting and bickering, they probably never will.

The first is price. When I can go on Amazon.com and preorder Stephen King's latest book "Under the Dome" for \$9.99 before it's released or \$16.99 for a Kindle edition, something is wrong. Granted, the book was only \$9.99 for preordering it; as of this writing, "Under the Dome" is \$20 new on Amazon.com.

What exactly is being paid for here? The e-reader is bought and paid for, and

the bandwidth to transfer the book to the device is as well. That \$16.99 price tag is ridiculous, even with the book costing \$4 more now. It is a fact that ebooks cost a lot less to produce than real physical books—their cost should reflect that.

Some will remember the pricing spat that Amazon and Macmillan had earlier this year: point in case. Until the publishing industry starts to agree on a universal pricing point for books, nothing will get done.

There's also the fact that for most bibliophiles and reading addicts, absolutely nothing beats the feel of a book in the hand. Physical books are less hazardous to the environment, and they have the bonus feature of never running out of battery life to boot.

Comic books, on the other hand, are a different beast entirely from either the publishing or newspaper industries.

See IPAD, page 18



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY PHIL FREEMAN

Unlike (most) books, they are episodic, so the tales told within are not self-contained.

While I love the stories they tell ("The Long Halloween" is one of my favorite Batman tales), I hate the fact that I generally have to wait till the next issue comes out to find out what happened.

As a result, I've never been a big fan of comic books. Of the characters and stories, yes, but not of the industry's distribution model itself. Purchasing weekly comics simply isn't my thing: never done it, never will. Collecting them isn't particularly attractive either.

For years, the comic book industry has been struggling. Revenue from movies

IPAD from page 17

like "The Dark Knight" and "Iron Man" pull in a lot of dough—sadly, more so than their weekly comic sales.

When the iPad was announced, popular science blog io9.com hailed it as the possible "savior of comic books".

On launch day, it seemed as if the iPad could be just that, thanks to Marvel rolling out a nice new Marvel Comics app on the same day.

However, just like the publishing industry, until Marvel (and DC, whenever it gets on board) won't be successful in the digital realm until they find a workable, sustainable distribution model.

Possible ideas could be a slightly-more-expensive print

comic with a code to get the same issue digitally, or maybe offering a discounted 'yearly' subscription to certain comics. Offering the ability to buy 'tpb' (trader paperback, or the collected version of an entire comic run) versions of comics would do a lot to appease on-again-off-again comic fans like me.

Both the publishing and comic book industries have been slow to adapt to this new digital age—and they're not the only industries lagging behind. There's an ocean of hungry media consumers out there, just waiting to be tapped...they just need to find out the right way to do it.

The F.A. Hayek Professorship Lecture Series Presents



"What's So Great About America: Why is America Loved, Why America is Hated"

May 5, 2010, 2:00 - 3:15 pm
McDonnell Conference Room
(331 SSB)

With Guest Speaker *Dinesh D'Souza*

The always engaging and often controversial Dinesh D'Souza is one of the most prominent conservative speakers of our time. Everyone is welcome - we encourage spirited discussion.

Mr. D'Souza is a Fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University and was previously a Fellow at the American Enterprise Institute. In 1987-1988 he served as senior policy analyst at the Reagan White House and from 1985-1987 he was managing editor of Policy Review.

Refreshments will be provided

How to make a pirate hat by: The Current

1. Take the front page of The Current



2. Fold the corners of the paper down to the center



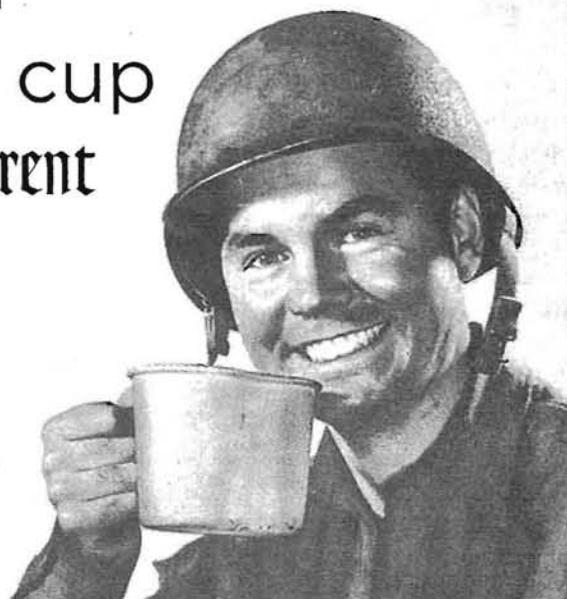
3. Fold up the bottom edge



4. Flip the paper over and fold up the bottom edge



Have you had your cup of **The Current** today?



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

Job descriptions and how to apply at www.thecurrent-online.com/about-us/employment/



Opinions

Unsigned editorials reflect the majority opinion of the Editorial Board:
 Jessica Keil • Matthew Hill • Andy Phipps • Gene Doyel
 Sequita Bean • Cate Marquis • Andrew Seal • Cedric Williams

Bon voyage Chartwells

Now students should take the helm

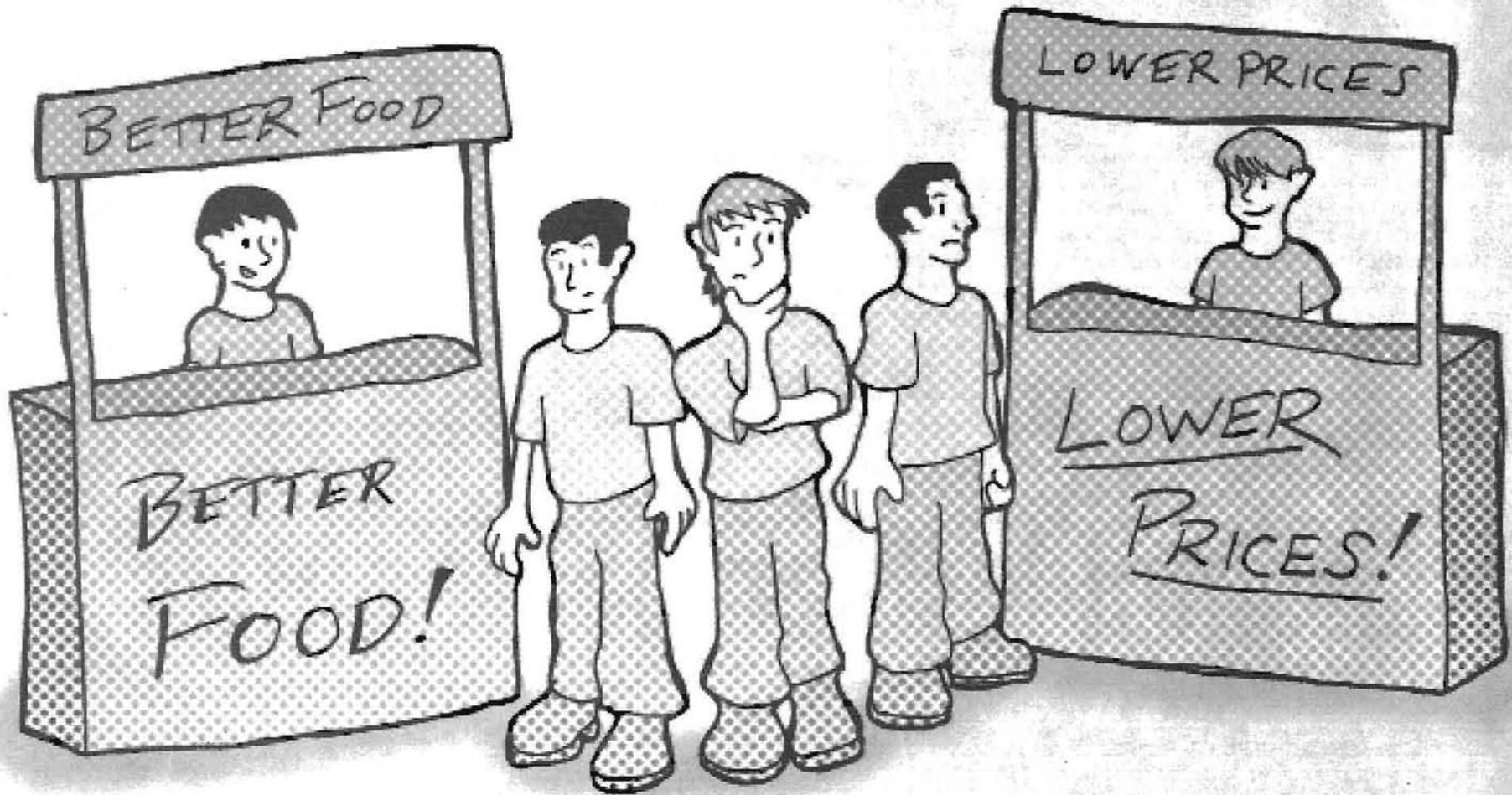


ILLUSTRATION BY PHIL FREEMAN / THE CURRENT

The news that the University of Missouri-St. Louis decided not to renew their contract in 2011 with food service provider Chartwells comes as a welcome surprise. Every year since 2002, when Chartwells first came to campus, students have become more and more vocal in their criticisms of Chartwells, with some of the most common complaints being that the food quality is low and the prices high. Whether or not the complaints are the reason the university decided not to renew the Chartwells contract is beside the point, but as the search for a new vendor proceeds, the university

and Student Affairs would be wise to remember the complaints.

Actually, the committee that will eventually evaluate new vendors for 2011 should not only use the student input gained from forums held this year, but actually include students in the decision-making process. One way to do this is by surveying students, either while they are eating on campus or through MyGateway. For instance, if students were asked specific questions on what foods they would like to eat on campus and the majority said "gyros," then the committee could grill the hopeful vendors on

their Mediterranean offerings.

Even so, just because a vendor offers gyros in its food service package does not mean they are edible. Meaning, just because a vendor can talk the talk, does not mean they can walk the walk (or should we say, cook the cook?). A vendor could have more variety than any other, but if their food is so bland that students cannot taste a difference between a ham sandwich and a hamburger, the university should not sign a contract with them. The students should get to voice their opinions on the quality of the vendors' food before the contract is

signed. Maybe vendors could come to campus one day and offer samples of their food to students? Such a request might be fanciful, but these vendors want to work for us and they should have to first prove themselves worthy. Let's make the prospective vendors politic for our votes.

The gist of it is that students need to be involved in this decision. The food service provider affects every one on campus, and the fact is that Chartwells was not meeting the needs of its consumers. One of the fundamentals of capitalism is competition. Whether or not one can

agree that such competition forces companies to adapt to consumer needs by improving quality, etc., the winning food service provider for 2011 will have a monopoly over campus food. It is important that a majority of students are satisfied with the new vendor as there will be no other food options available not only for student's meals, but for other campus events too.

The Current commends the university for taking the first step towards improving the food on campus and hope they continue to respond to the needs of the students in their search for a new vendor.

SCIENCE MATTERS

BP oil spill in gulf may have lasting impact

The ongoing gulf oil spill will be bigger than Katrina or Exxon Valdez



Cate Marquis

The recent explosion of a British Petroleum deepwater oil drilling platform in the Gulf of Mexico and the resulting oil spill have brought comparisons to the earlier devastation of Hurricane Katrina and the Alaskan Exxon Valdez oil spill. But with oil continuing to pump out into the Gulf, this environmental disaster is still unfolding. Its impact may ultimately be on

a much larger, longer-term scale.

What will happen to Gulf Coast wetlands as the oil reaches shore?

A whole ecosystem may be at risk. Fragile wetlands, wildlife, commercial fisheries and tourism will all be harmed by the spill. The oil slick is expected to reach shore first near the Mississippi delta on the Louisiana coast. The marshlands in that area are ecologically sensitive, serving as nurseries for numerous commercially important or critically threatened aquatic species. Young fish and crustaceans may be smothered by the oil.

Barrier islands, which serve to protect the coastal wetlands from erosion, are stabilized by marsh grasses. The grasses are also critical

for stabilizing coastal marshlands. The marshlands will be affected but the size of impact will depend on the amount of oil reaching shore. The marsh grasses can tolerate some oil, but a large amount may kill them and undermine the ecosystem.

Beaches can be affected as well, but cleanup is easier on beaches than in marshlands. On beaches, contaminated sand can be scooped up and removed.

The timing of the spill is a problem for many species, both from a commercial and conservation view. The shrimp and oyster fisheries may be strongly impacted, as young shrimp are just emerging in coastal wetlands. Oysters, which are filter feeders, may be smothered by oil, as efforts continue to contain

the spill by adding chemicals to make it sink to the bottom. Sea turtles are moving through this area of the Gulf to spawning grounds now and may have difficulty as they surface for air through the oil. An endangered Atlantic population of bluefin tuna are spawning in this area now, and because their eggs and larvae are near the water's surface, where the oil floats, the spill will likely impact that population as well.

Bird populations will be harmed as well, as several important bird areas are located nearby, including Louisiana's Delta National Wildlife Refuge and Pass-a-Loutre Wildlife Management Area. The brown pelican, Louisiana's state bird, is among the species likely to suffer harm from the oil spill. The spe-

cies, whose breeding season has just started, was recently removed from the endangered species list. Other species that may suffer greatly are Wilson's plover and the American oystercatcher.

Out in the ocean, the surface oil slick has the potential to harm plankton and a variety of larvae, mostly due to chemicals mixed with the oil.

Biologists are unsure what the long-term impact will be, but they do expect it to be bad. Researchers at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge are rushing to monitor the effects on coastal sites. Other conservation groups may act as well.

Unfortunately, there seems to be a too much of a wait-and-see attitude, of waiting for the disaster to hit and then cleaning it up, and not

enough scrambling to protect and preserve what can be saved before the oil reaches shore. Likely, we will pay a higher cost for this delay, in environmental and financial terms.

Beyond the oil spill's impact on the Gulf coast, the prevailing currents raise the possibility of spreading the oil up the Atlantic coast as well, expanding the environmental disaster even farther. Efforts to stem the oil's flow have so far failed, and one remaining option, drilling to re-direct the oil to another platform, may take three months to complete. Meanwhile, the damage will spread.

Cate Marquis is a columnist and A&E Editor for The Current.

Mississippi lesbian panic antics



Andrew Seal

Oh Mississippi. Your delightfully backward ways and quaint anti-LGBT antics are beginning to be not so endearing anymore.

Now, it appears as if your county school districts are just trying to see who can be more intolerant. Either that, or you have some serious problems with girls wearing tuxedos.

The little incident with lesbian student Constance McMillen last month was a gigantic public relations crisis for the Itawamba County School District. Not only did it attract national attention and the ire of LGBT activists, but the American Civil Liberties Union got involved as well.

Sure, the school shut down the prom because McMillen wanted to wear a tux. But at least it recognized that she was a student at the school.

Copiah County's Wesson Attendance Center, on the other hand, not to be outdone, tried to delete an entire student from its yearbook.

Ceara Sturgis, a student at Wesson Attendance Center for 12 years, is a lesbian. She also wanted to appear in her

senior photos wearing a tuxedo.

School officials, much like the school officials from Itawamba, overreacted and chose to retaliate by removing her senior photo and nearly any mention of her from the school yearbook.

This was just more than a removal of her "controversial" picture; any mention of Sturgis as a student was removed from the senior section. She only appears in the various groups and sports teams she was involved in, probably because learning the Photoshop skills to remove her was not in the school budget.

In the senior section, there are pictures of the kids who have been busted for drugs, as well as a picture of a senior who dropped out of school,

according to a statement from Sturgis' mother Veronica.

Apparently, Copiah County deems that its drug-gies and drop-outs are more valuable to the senior class than one of its top students.

Mississippi, it's about time to get with the program.

You were the last state to ratify the Thirteenth Amendment abolishing slavery—in 1995, no less, nearly 130 years after the rest of the country. You have a deep history with not only the Jim Crow system of the early- to mid-1900s, but problems with civil rights in general. Your intolerance is well, intolerable. Let me lay it out clear for you: lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people are not any different than anyone else. They are not out

to "convert" people, they are not out to offend anyone. They are simply trying to live their lives.

McMillen and Sturgis are not trying to act out; they are not trying to draw attention to themselves. All they want is to be accepted and be themselves.

For the most part, their fellow students are fine with that. Sturgis' classmates nominated her for prom queen. Sadly, because she knew the administration would never allow her that honor, she had to bow out of the running.

While some of McMillen's classmates have allegedly taken to the Internet, calling her an attention whore and full of herself, many more of her classmates accept her for who she is and have no problem

with her.

The wearing of a tuxedo to a prom by a female is for the most part a non-issue. Why these administrators saw the need to tell their students how to live their lives is beyond me.

It would have remained a non-issue except that the school administrations of Itawamba and Copiah Counties made it a problem.

Sure, it's not the so-called "norm," but freedom of expression is something guaranteed in the First Amendment—which, by the way, Mississippi ratified in 1817.

Andrew Seal is Staff writer for The Current.

Feminism, fashion and miniskirts



Jessica Keil

As popular music has become exceedingly hyper-produced and insipid, it is rare to happen upon a "Top 20" music video featuring an androgynous woman harmonizing with a synthesizer and wearing orange lipstick. This is why, when such happenstance occurred a few mornings ago, the orange-lipped artist seemed worthy of a Google search—after a quick

glance at the date to make sure it was not, in fact, 1985.

The artist proved to be Elly Jackson, the 21-year-old English front woman for La Roux (the band name being fitting, considering her lipstick color and hairspray-swept, reddish hair). Picking Google's brain a little further, a link to an interview with Jackson seemed intriguing. Reading through the interview, however, my feelings on Jackson and La Roux morphed from intrigue to admiration, then confusion and by the end, extreme indignation.

Jackson thinks that the overly sexualized mainstream popular culture, particularly in America, has encouraged mindless conformity, producing dime-a-dozen, big-boobed, tanned and scantily clad women. She believes

that a woman can be sexy and not wear high heels or miniskirts. She thinks there is a lack of unique female role models in music for young girls to identify with. These are all reasonable and agreeable complaints.

The rub, however, lies in Jackson's comments that "real women" can be sexy wearing "a plastic bag," implying that women who wear high heels or short skirts to feel pretty are insecure and inferior. Jackson even went as far as to say that women who dress that way attract abusive, "arsehole" men. In her own words: "Women wonder why they get beaten up or having relationships with asshole men. Because you attracted one, you twat."

Besides the obvious grammatical errors in Jackson's

diatribe, her logic is also quite flawed. In her arrogant attempt to distinguish herself as a strong female trailblazer in the pop music industry, not swayed by the temptation to give in to male sexuality and patronization, she, in effect, used the same trite logic that chauvinist men have for decades. Seriously, La Roux? Physical violence is never warranted, no matter if the woman "attracted" her abusive boyfriend after walking around in a miniskirt.

In the 1970s, feminists burned their bras and made it fashionable for women to wear pants. Yet, today there are juries that still base the outcome of rape cases on whether or not the victim was wearing a short skirt. When people like Jackson scoff at other women for their

attire, it divides the female sex and alienates us from the courageous women who have fought for centuries for women's liberation.

Sadly, La Roux's Elly Jackson is not the first to seemingly abhor sexism while simultaneously cutting women down. Actually, it has happened all semester to the fashion columnist at *The Current*, Sequita Bean. When womens and gender studies students spend their time criticizing Sequita for writing about one of her passions, they are forgetting why women fought for sovereignty in the first place. As Eve Ensler says in "The Vagina Monologues," "My short skirt is not proof that I am stupid or undecided, or a malleable little girl." It is Sequita's prerogative to write about fashion as

it is for any woman to wear either pants or a miniskirt, play football or be a working mom. Sequita is an exemplary case of how far minority women and women have, as a whole, come toward equal rights, and as a feminist I am proud of Sequita and her sterling fashion column. It is an honor to have someone as proficient as she take on my role as Editor-in-Chief next year.

And as for Elly Jackson, her eccentricities may be refreshing, but her hackneyed attitude could use a makeover. Let's just hope it does not involve any more neon military jackets.

Jessica Keil is Editor-in-Chief for The Current.

The Runway

Will the real designer stand up?

Whitney Port, star of MTV's hit reality show "The City" is currently being sued by her former employee Adrienne Baravetto who vehemently claims that she was the sole designer of Port's moderately successful namesake clothing line, Whitney Eve. She also claims that she presented design ideas to Port, who made little if any modifications to her work. The suit alleges that Baravetto was fired after Port's father, Jeffrey Port, inaccurately stat-

ed that Port was the line's designer and Baravetto was just a consultant. Now Baravetto is seeking \$90,000 in back pay along with punitive and statutory damages.

Of course Port hired a solid defense team and public relations people to do some damage control. Her lawyer Michael Taitelman says that the lawsuit is without merit. And that for more than two years Baravetto has been silent and now, at the height of Whitney Eve's popularity,

she decided to come forward with baseless claims.

The most vexatious thing about this entire ordeal is the idiocy of both parties. Port started her career at various fashion news outlets such as "Women's Wear Daily" and "W Magazine." Anyone who has watched "The Hills" will remember that she also worked for "Teen Vogue" along with her co-star Lauren Conrad as a fashion contributor. Seemingly overnight, Port changed from being a



Sequita Bean

fashion journalist to a fashion designer. Don't be fooled by the word "fashion" in front—the two career tracks are miles apart. Just knowing the extreme contrast between the two professions, it is not hard to be leery of Port's design credentials. Despite having little knowledge about her actual talent, she should have been smarter about the way she went about her business.

A name means everything in this industry. Celebrities often slap their names on

clothing lines with having little involvement in the actual design process. The whole idea behind it is that consumers will see and recognize the celebrity's name and purchase the merchandise. As manipulative as that sounds, this marketing strategy works every time. The key is to make sure everyone is getting their credit, both monetarily and on paper to prevent a mess like Port's situation from happening. We will probably never find out the truth behind the design ambitions of Whitney Eve, but it is safe to say that she, like most other celebrities, probably had a talented designer on her team designing most of what we see on clothing racks.

As for Baravetto, she, like most other designers in the industry who get stiffed when a clothing line takes off, should have had a lawyer write up a contract on her

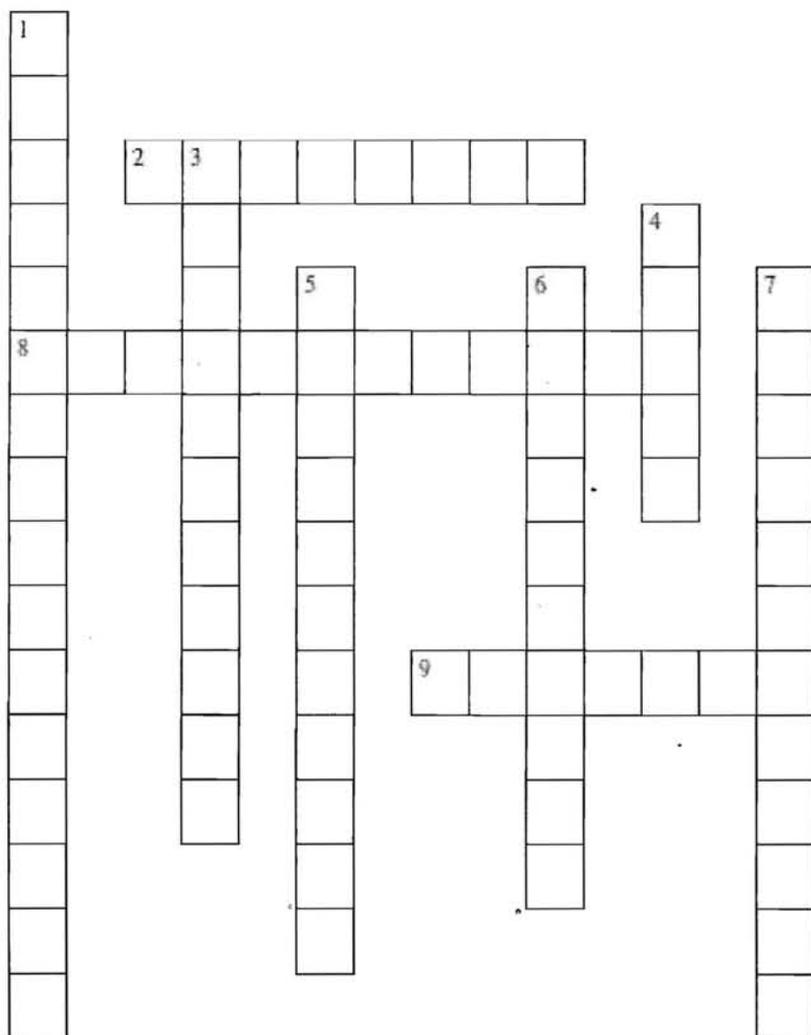
behalf before designing anything for Port. Many young designers are afraid to do that and stand up for themselves in general. They think the opportunity to design for a major label is a once in a lifetime opportunity, and they do not want to piss anyone off. Also, it would not have been a bad idea for her to copyright her work, as well as keep a log of any work done for Port. Without some solid proof that she designed each and every piece in Whitney Eve, her chances for a court victory will be slim.

Baravetto gets credit for only suing for \$90,000. It is not unusual for someone in her place to go for hundreds of thousands; if not millions. Hopefully justice is served for whoever is the true designer in this case.

Sequita Bean is Features Editor and columnist for The Current.

Puzzles

The Great American Oil Spills



ACROSS

2. This ship released 5.1 million gallons of oil some 60 miles south of Galveston in 1990.
 8. The tanker that ran aground of Nantucket Island in 1976, spilling 7.7 million gallons of fuel oil.
 9. An estimated 7 million gallons were spilled after this 2005 hurricane.

DOWN

1. An explosion on this deep-water drilling rig caused it to sink, currently leaking 5,000 barrels of oil a day.
 3. The drunk captain of this spilled 10 million-plus gallons of oil, causing the worst oil spill in US history.
 4. This exploratory oil well spilled an estimated 140 million gallons of crude oil into the Gulf of Mexico in 1979.
 5. 567,000 gallons of crude oil was let into the lower Mississippi in 2000 from this tanker.
 6. This tanker collided with a barge on January 23 this year, releasing 462,000 gallons of crude oil.
 7. This ship broke in two near the Aleutian Islands in 2004, losing 337,000 gallons of oil.

CURRENT HOROSCOPES

ARIES
(MARCH 21 - APRIL 20)
Don't panic if life is feeling chaotic. Instead, find some time to figure out what's contributing to the confusion and start narrowing your life back down to the basics.

TAURUS
(APRIL 21 - MAY 21)
Friends and family usually love your idealism, but certain people might find it grating during the week. Don't try to force your optimistic outlook on others; they won't take it well.

GEMINI
(MAY 22 - JUNE 21)
You may feel unusually withdrawn and solitary this week. Give yourself time to recharge but remember that this weekend will be best spent in the company of friends.

CANCER
(JUNE 22 - JULY 22)
Trying to find a balance between work and play will be difficult this week. Don't be too hard on yourself, though. You'll quickly make up anything you momentarily put aside.

LEO
(JULY 23 - AUG. 21)
Why not shake up your usual routine over the next few days? A new hobby or a trip somewhere you've never been might provide the boost of energy you've been missing.

VIRGO
(AUG. 22 - SEPT. 23)
It may seem as though your friends and family are involving themselves a little too much in your personal life, but be tolerant. They're just trying to show that they care.

LIBRA
(SEPT. 24 - OCT. 23)
A difficult week lies ahead, but conflict early on will eventually give way to compromise. Keep in mind that these challenges are for the best and can only help you in the end.

SCORPIO
(OCT. 24 - NOV. 22)
A friend or loved one will give you ample opportunity to resent their happiness this week. Instead, you'll surprise them by genuinely sharing in it.

SAGITTARIUS
(NOV. 23 - DEC. 22)
Difficult issues seem manageable in light of the positive energy you'll be feeling early in the week. Hang on to that positivity to get you through the week.

CAPRICORN
(DEC. 23 - JAN. 20)
Take time out to talk about your feelings to those you're close with to help figure out what's really going on.

AQUARIUS
(JAN. 21 - FEB. 19)
Your emotions are running high this week, so make time to relax. But make sure that you don't take others for granted while dealing with your own problems.

PISCES
(FEB. 20 - MARCH 20)
This is a good week to make a new start in any area of your life. It may be easy for you to become over-ambitious. Don't bite off more than you can chew.

CURRENT SUDOKU by Gene Doyel

This week's rating:

★★

(Medium)

Last week's answers

Last week's rating: Easy

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

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

CURRENT CRYPTOGRAM

Find the original meaning of the message below. Each letter shown stands for another letter. Break the code for the letter H, you will have all of the H's in the message, and so on. (Hint: M = W)

MR'BR VLZPV JL JCWR JXR XCPOKNTTF LTT LT
UCM RPTLBKRSRPS.

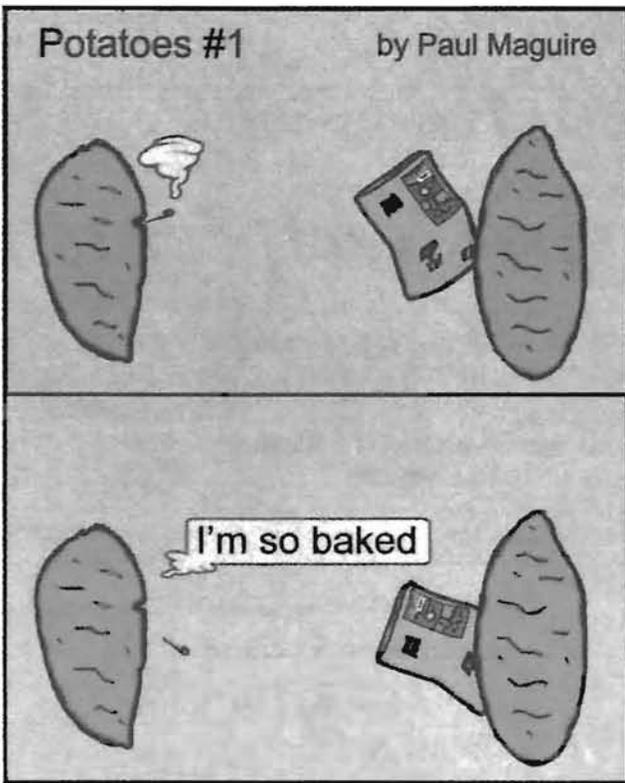
MR'BR VLZPV JL HNJ JXRS LP JXR GCO VNE.

The first student, faculty or staff member to bring the solution (along with who said it) to *The Current's* office at MSC 388 will receive a free T-shirt.

Comics

Potatoes #1

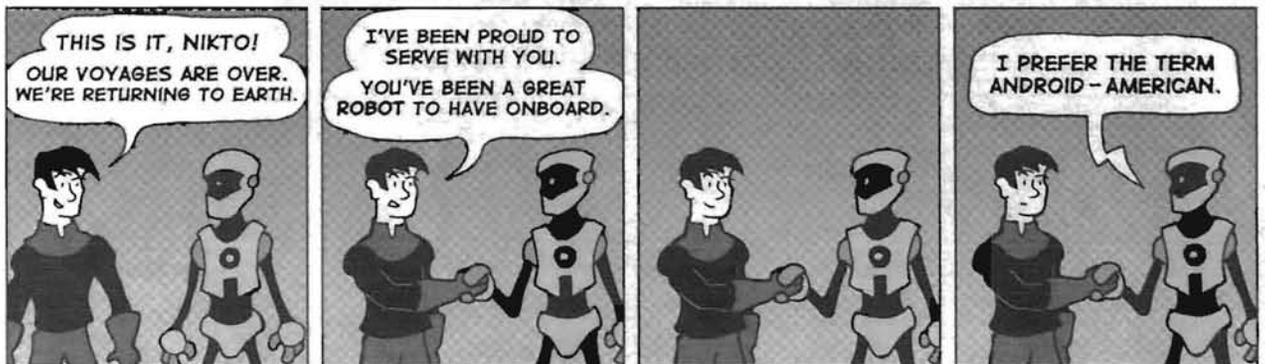
by Paul Maguire



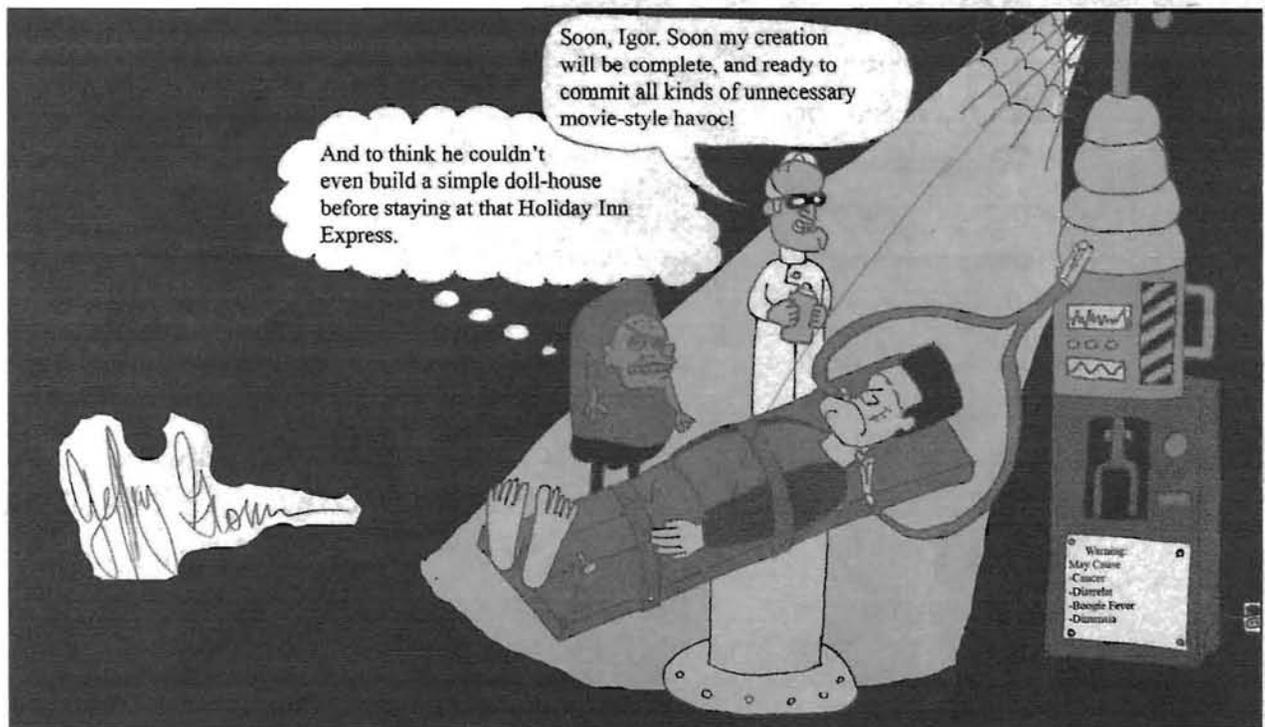
MARGARET & HOORAY BY CODY PERKINS



STARSHIP WHATEVER by Phil Freeman



RANDOM MINDS BY JEFF GROSSMAN



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

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THE CURRENT NEEDS CARTOONISTS!

CAN YOU DRAW?
ARE YOU HILARIOUS/WITTY?

IF YOU ANSWERED "KINDA" TO THE ABOVE QUESTIONS, STOP BY 388 MSC AND FILL OUT AN APPLICATION. TURN IN SOME SAMPLES OF YOUR STRIP, ALSO.

Who's Who at UMSL - 2010 Award Recipients

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 Charles D. Hayes
 Christopher E. Clark
 Danielle R. Fondaw
 David M. Putnam
 Erika L. Stasiak
 Holly N. Nichols
 James A. Littles III
 Jamie Fuston
 Jean V. Sexton
 Jeremy J. Kane
 Jessica R. Toledano
 Joe W. Moleski
 Kathryn B. Bartlett
 Kristina Darling
 Lai-Ping Yan
 Laura A. McCarty
 Leah M. Blain
 Leo Bay
 Mark W. Hauschild
 Mary E. Keithly
 Neil C. Angeli
 Rachel M. Gruber
 Sarah E. Abery

Business

Angela R. Bruns

Annah Thieya

Athinaree Pornrutchakit
 Azra A. Kazi
 Brian L. Ezell
 Caitlin N. Farrow
 Caitlynn C. Clark
 Chotirat Raksawin
 Edward Kiguoya
 Elane L. Swanick
 Esi G. Adeborna
 Jared Smith
 Jian Su Li
 Julie Burford
 Katherine M. Schmidt
 Kristen E. Whitfield
 Kristi White
 Larry Robinett
 Lauren B. Snowden
 Lisa K. Atkinson
 Mehdie Ataei
 Michael W. Schmidt
 Patricia A. Detwiler
 Sarah Tomaro
 Syeda M. Fatima Rizvi
 Talia J. Gholson
 Tatjana Mrnjavac
 Wookrae Cho
 Yuki Takashima
 Yuliya A. Pak

Education

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 Angela M. Perkins
 Billie G. Hinkle
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 Carol S. Van Rhein
 Cathy L. Farrar
 Chana D. Florans
 Debra K. Mertz
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 Glenna S. Clark
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 Jennifer Hagerty
 Joseph G. Maiden
 June L. Lansing
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 Kim D. Mckenna
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 Marti L. Baricevic
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 Nichole M. Gottuso
 Rachel O. Calhoun
 Randal M. Stevens
 Rona M. Robinson-Hill
 Sheila A. Mansfield
 Tina N. Gross
 William C. Breier
 William E. Wamser

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 Todd A. Ohmes

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 Mei-Mey S. Wang
 Nicholas R. Harris
 Scott A. Lyle

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Andrea Drussa
 Angelia Blake
 Cassandra Maerz
 Don Osmack
 Julie Irwin
 Lindsey Burroughs
 Madonna Lansing
 Melissa Buckner
 Paul Pfennig
 Shannon VomBey

Optometry

Brianne N. Hobbs