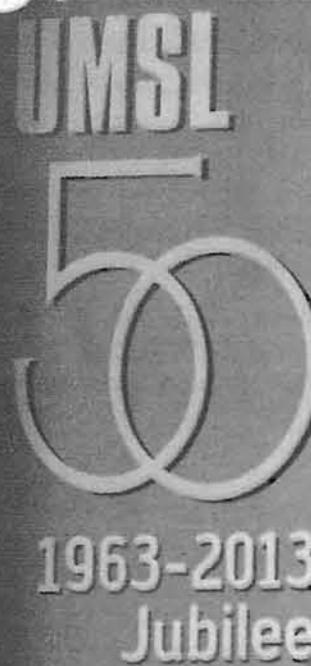


Jubilee Kick-Off



Wayne Goode, chair of University of Missouri Board of Curators and UMSL founder, speaks at the 'Jubilee Kick-Off' at UMSL.

Photo: Leon Devance / The Current

Jubilee kicks off with night of magic

CATE MARQUIS
Editor-in-Chief

The University of Missouri-St. Louis launched the year-long celebration of its 50th anniversary with the Jubilee Kick-Off gala on Feb. 1, at the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center.

Former chancellor Blanche M. Touhill, for whom the performance center is named, was among the notable UMSL alumni, chancellors past and present and distinguished guests who were part of the evening's program.

The master of ceremonies was UMSL alumnus Frank Cusumano, sportscaster at KSDK-TV, who was at the helm for a program that honored important figures in the founding of the university and presented an entertaining short recap of its history and included a little magic. Before the program, appetizers were served to the fancy-dress crowd at the sold-out event and a special Jubilee Brew beer from Ferguson Brewing Company was sold at the concessions counter.

Cusumano welcomed the crowd that packed the Anheuser-Busch Performance Hall on the chilly Friday evening as the program began at 7:30 p.m. The master of ceremonies set a light, humorous tone to the proceedings before turning the podium over

to Chancellor Thomas George for his opening remarks. George introduced the next speakers, Timothy Wolfe, president of the University of Missouri System, and George Paz, chairman and CEO of Express Scripts and another UMSL alumnus.

Paz spoke about his family's immigrant roots and the positive experience that led to bringing Express Scripts and its partnership opportunities to the UMSL campus. As Paz was concluding his remarks, he was interrupted by a man driving a golf cart onto the stage.

"UMSL History in a Nutshell" offered an entertaining little recap of the university's history, with James Fay, associate professor of theater, dance and media studies, playing a golfing grandpa returning to campus in search of the old Bellerville Country Club golf course that once occupied the site. Grandpa and his grandson (Stephen Ordway, senior, physics) discussed the changes of the last 50 years with a professor that they meet crossing campus. The professor was played by Andrea Purnell, communication and artistic director of Missouri Institute of Mental Health, another community partner with UMSL.

The skit was followed by remarks

by Wayne Goode, chair of the University of Missouri Board of Curators. As a Missouri state representative, Goode was instrumental in establishing the university in St. Louis, which lacked a public university until 1963. Goode's comments were followed by a ceremony recognizing some significant figures in the history of UMSL.

"I worked for this campus, helped get it started, worked here 24 years and then I've been retired for 25 years," John Perry, one of the evening's honorees, said. "I was first business officer and then vice-chancellor for administration services."

Perry was one of a handful of honorees brought to the stage to be individually recognized for their contributions to the founding and growth of the university. The

honorees were presented with posters of the UMSL campus drawn by noted local artist John Pils.

Among those honored was Chancellor Touhill, who received a big round of applause from the audience.

Several elected officials attended or sent good wishes. Among those present was Hazel Erby, St. Louis County councilwoman for the first district. "UMSL is in my district," Erby said. "I'm here to celebrate all the wonderful accomplishments over the past 50 years."

The last speaker, motivational speaker and UMSL alumnus Shep

Hyken, offered a highly entertaining and inspiring presentation that ended with a few magic tricks and delighted the audience.

The program concluded with the singing of the alma mater, "Heart of Missouri," led by the University Singers and UMSL Brass band, under the direction of Jim Henry.

After the program ended, the evening continued with a champagne and dessert reception. Live music by the Fabulous Motown Revue got the crowd dancing before the gala was capped with a fireworks display.



A sold-out crowd at the Touhill PAC enjoyed appetizers before the Jubilee Kick-Off. LEON DEVANCE/THE CURRENT

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"What's Current" is the weekly calendar of UMSL campus events and is a free service for student organizations. Submissions must be turned in by 5 p.m. the Thursday before publication; first-come, first-served. Listings may be edited for length and style. E-mail event listings to thecurrenttips@umsl.edu, with the subject "What's Current." No phone or written submissions.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4

Monday Noon Series: 'Laced' Artist's Talk

Peregrine Honig, a Kansas City artist, discusses her delicate and disturbing work about complicated subjects, which appear in the Gallery 210 exhibition Laced, 12:15 - 1:15 P.M. in Gallery 210 Auditorium. For information: Karen Lucas at 314-516-5698.

Soledad O'Brien talk

Soledad O'Brien, anchor for the CNN morning show Starting Point with Soledad O'Brien and a special correspondent for CNN/U.S., will discuss her diverse experiences as a journalist as well as her passion for giving back to the community, 7 - 9 p.m. in Millennium Student Center Century Room. For information: Office of Student Life at 314-516-5291.

Welcome Back Dinner and Ping Pong Tournney

The free spaghetti dinner will begin at 6 p.m. followed by Ping Pong Tournament at Catholic Newman Center.

For information: Rachelle Simon at 314-385-3455 or www.cncumsl.org.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

International Business Club meeting

First Meeting for the semester features a guest speaker talking about her international experience, information on upcoming trip to Chicago and a free lunch. For information: Katrice Saddler, 314-629-9994.

UMSL Town Hall meeting

Second of three town hall meetings, an opportunity for the campus to speak directly to the chancellor and provost about setting priorities for the university. This meeting focuses on growth plan and community partnerships for retention.sources, 2 - 4 p.m. in 126 Social Sciences & Business Building. For information: Patricia Dolan at 314-516-5303.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6

News at Noon: 'Mental Health Awareness: School Violence & Personal Recovery'

Free pizza lunch and discussion of mental health issues in the wake of the Sandy Hook shootings, 12:15 - 1:30 p.m. in MSC Century Room A. Katherine Buchholz, MA, Center for Trauma Recovery, gets student-led discussion started. For information: The Current at 314-516-5174 or www.thecurrent-online.com.

Arianna String Quartet concert with Elias Goldstein

Arianna String Quartet welcomes violist Elias Goldstein, a rising star among viola players, at 7:30 p.m. at Touhill Performing Arts Center. For information: Touhill box office 314-516-4949.

Campus Crimeline

THEFT - POST OFFICE

Jan. 18, 10 a.m. Report # 13-012.

An UMSL employee reported that their debit card was stolen after they used it at the Post Office and was later used at several locations in St. Louis City. Investigation continuing. Disposition: Report taken.

THEFT - LOT E

Jan. 22, 4:30 p.m. Report # 13-016.

An UMSL student reported their parking permit stolen from their parked car. Disposition: Report taken.

THEFT - PLAZA GARAGE

Jan. 24, 5:25 p.m. Report # 13-020.

An UMSL student reported the theft of their parking permit from their parked vehicle. Disposition: Report taken.

PROPERTY DAMAGE - UNIVERSITY MEADOWS

Jan. 27, 1:45 a.m. Report # 13-022.

An UMSL student was involved in an altercation with an ex-boyfriend who broke an apartment window. Investigation continuing. Disposition: Report taken.

THEFT - THOMAS JEFFERSON LIBRARY

Jan. 30, 4:30 p.m. Report # 13-032.

An UMSL student reported the theft of an unattended cell phone. Disposition: Report taken.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Breakfast and Business: 'What Recovery? Outlook for the Economy and Markets'

Breakfast and Business discussion, sponsored by the College of Business Administration, is 7:30 - 9 a.m. in SGA Chambers, MSC. For information: Jane Ferrell at 314-516-5883.

Anthropology, Sociology and Languages Jubilee Culture Series

First of three lectures in the ASL Jubilee Culture Series: "Language Contact in a Global World," 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. in JC Penney 202. Refreshments will be served. For information: Beth Landers at 314-516-6546.

Spoken Word Artist: Shanelle Gabriel

Entertainment by spoken word artist Shanelle Gabriel who has been featured on HBO's Def Poetry Jam, 8 - 10 p.m. in Pilot House. For information: R.V. Jenkins or other UPB member at 314-516-5531.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8

'Romeo and Juliet' ballet

Celebrate Valentine's Day early with one of the most passionate and dramatic story ballets, Romeo and Juliet. Saint Louis Ballet's production of Shakespeare's romantic tragedy features music by Prokofiev, choreography by Horiuchi, sword fighting, court dancing and the iconic balcony pas de deux. Performances February 8, at 8 PM, February 9 at 2:30 PM and 8 PM, and February 10 at 3 PM at Touhill PAC. For information: Touhill box office 314-516-4949.

Natural Bridge birthday and Literary Journal Symposium

Panel discussion and party with snacks and cash bar, 7 - 10 p.m. in J.C. Penney auditorium and lobby. For information: Mary Troy at 314-516-6845.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Monday Noon Series: 'Explosion in the Middle East Art Scene'

MariLu Knodel, director of Laumeier Sculpture Park and Aronson Endowed Professor of Modern and Contemporary Art History, describes her work in the Middle East, particularly Egypt, over the past decade, 12:15 - 1:15 p.m. in J.C. Penney Conference Center. For information: Karen Lucas at 314-516-5698.

THEFT - SOCIAL SCIENCE BUILDING

Jan. 28, 12:55 p.m. Report # 13-024.

An UMSL student reported the theft of a parking permit that had not been applied to a vehicle. Disposition: Report taken.

PEACE DISTURBANCE - SOCIAL SCIENCE BUILDING

Jan. 29, 11 a.m. Report #13-027.

UMSL PD responded to a complaint of a student causing a disruption in a classroom. Disposition: Report taken.

THEFT - LOT N

Jan. 29, 1:30 p.m. Report #13-028.

An UMSL student reported the theft of their parking permit. Disposition: Report taken.

THEFT - THOMAS JEFFERSON LIBRARY

Jan. 30, 4:30 p.m. Report # 13-032.

An UMSL student reported the theft of an unattended cell phone. Disposition: Report taken.

UMSL Alumni Travel Program benefits all

SHARON PRUITT MANAGING EDITOR

The University of Missouri-St. Louis Alumni Travel Program has planned four trips for this year. The trips – which include a Broadway show in New York City and a cruise around the British Isles – are the brainchildren of Susan Sander Honich, president of the UMSL Alumni Association Board of Directors. Sander Honich launched the travel program last year after brainstorming with fellow UMSL alumnus Graydon "Gig" Gwin of Gwins Travel. Gwin, who has traveled to every country in the world, owns one of the largest travel agencies in the St. Louis area and can count among his clientele the St. Louis Cardinals, St. Louis Rams, St. Louis Blues and many universities. Sander Honich reached out to Gwin after realizing that there is no single travel agency exclusively used by UMSL for the needs of faculty, staff, students and alumni.

Providing students, alumni, faculty and staff with a travel agency to suit their needs is among the key reasons Sander Honich gives for launching the program. Additionally, for every campus-related travel booking or for any booking made by an UMSL student, faculty member, staff member or alumnus,

a portion of the profit is donated to the UMSL Alumni Association, which in turn uses that money for scholarships. Sander Honich views the travel program as not only an opportunity to build camaraderie in the widespread UMSL community, but a way to offer another benefit to being an UMSL alumnus, much the same way that optometry and insurance deals are perks that UMSL students and alumni are able to enjoy.

Students are welcome to participate in any of the trips hosted by the UMSL Alumni Travel Program. The alumni-hosted trips also offer students and alumni the opportunity to have fun while getting to know each other, Sander Honich noted. In the future, Sander Honich would like the program to host smaller-scale trips that would be more accessible to students and is open to suggestions and feedback from the student body regarding what types of trips would appeal most.

"I worked my way through college, and I have an appreciation that most of our students don't have a thousand dollars for travel," Sander Honich said. "I would love to see trips involving more students."

The first trip of the UMSL Alumni Travel Program was a fall foliage trip through Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont in September of last year. Sander Honich hopes the program will become a staple of campus life in the years to come.

"I'd really like to do all I can to help promote travel as [a way] to further connect alumni and retired members of faculty and staff with students and current members of faculty and staff," Sander Honich said. "I'm looking for ideas, what [students] think will work and what will appeal to them."

The four excursions planned for 2013 are:

- a trip to New York City from June 1 to June 4
- a trip to Jupiter, Fla., for Cardinal Spring Training from March 7 to March 10
- an UMSL ski holiday in Salt Lake City from March 23 to March 27
- a 12-day cruise sailing the British Isles on July 11

For more information or to offer feedback or suggestions, Sander Honich can be reached via email at susaneshonich@sbcglobal.net.

NEWS BRIEF

Campus smoking target of new effort

University of Missouri-St. Louis officially became a smoke-free campus on Jan. 1, 2012, when smoking and other tobacco use was banned on all campus property, indoors and outdoors. While the ban is firmly in place in buildings, compliance has waned somewhat outdoors, with clusters of smokers sometimes forming in certain spots around campus. Concerned with this trend, the university has launched the UMSL Seriously Tobacco-Free campaign. The campaign is intended recruit members of the campus community to help enforce the campus-wide smoking ban. It will proceed in phases, beginning with posters around campus and then with student volunteers. Groups of volunteers will approach smokers violating the ban in common areas of campus, such as the North Campus Quadrangle, offering information on smoking cessation and samples of Nicorette gum. Anyone wishing to volunteer or seeking more information on the campaign should contact Alexis Nugent, senior information specialist, at nugenta@umsl.edu.

Jubilee Flashback

The Current has been part of the university since 1966. In honor of the campus' 50th anniversary, we are reprinting selected articles from our archives. This article originally ran in The Current on Feb. 4, 1982.

Snowstorm shuts down campus

St. Louis' worst snowstorm in about 70 years resulted in the closing of classes for the first part of this week. As of Wednesday, most of the parking lots were yet to be cleared and additional snowfall was making snow removal difficult.

To make matters worse, the university's lone snow plow broke down early in the week and the university had to contract with an outside company to have

the lots plowed.

According to one grader operator, the snow had drifted to as much as three feet on some parking lots, adding that these lots had probably not been plowed since the snow started to fall. The operator had called for additional help, but said he did not know how long it would take to clear the lots.

"They should go ahead and See "Snow," page 2

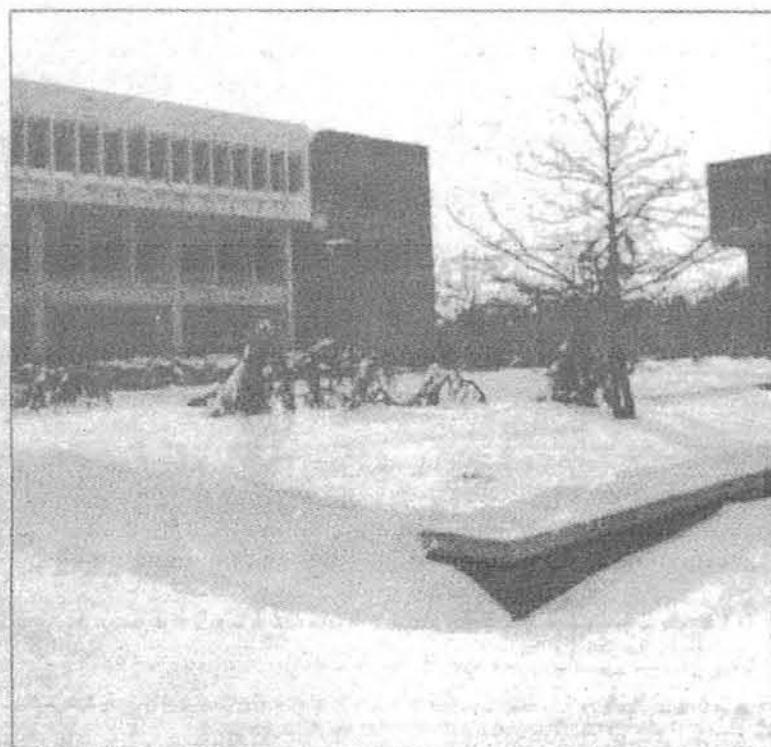


Photo by Jim Hickman.

UMSL SKI RESORT: The UMSL campus was bombarded with snow earlier this week (above), but people like Frances Young (right), a physical therapist at Normandy Hospital, didn't mind. Ms. Young found the best way to get around the UMSL campus was on skis.

SNOW (page 2 continuation from above)

... close the campus the rest of the week and bring in the proper equipment so they can get everything cleared," the operator said.

Photo by Sharon Kubatzk

4 FEATURES

Illusionist Joel Meyers performs at Pilot House

ALBERT NALL STAFF WRITER

Illusionist Joel Meyers performed mind tricks in the Pilot House at University of Missouri-St. Louis at 7 p.m. on Jan. 29. The performance was sponsored by the University Program Board. Meyers's appearance was re-scheduled from its original date of Jan. 24 due to a snowstorm in another city where Meyers was performing.

Meyers is an interactive comedy magic performer who does a special brand of wizardry for celebrities and audiences of all ages worldwide. His background as a magician ranges from star performances on Broadway to shows for 500 companies, charities and universities. On tour in China, he was given 2012's Best Rising Star award, as well as two campus magazine awards.

Erin Potts of the UPB was in charge of the sponsorship of the event. Katie Green, the UPB's chair, said that Meyers came to their attention while at an October conference held by the National Association of College Activities. "We met Meyers at the airport in Arlington, Texas, where the conference was taking place, and he performed some tricks for us," Green said.

"Meyers is really cool in the way he engages the audience into his act," Green said.

"Magic is less about what you think you saw and more about the illusion of what I want you to think you are seeing," Meyers said. He demonstrated this by switching bottles of beer and glasses from cylinder to cylinder and interlocking silver rings together with a volunteer from the audience. During one act, he passed two blue balls from his hand to the hand of an audience member. When she opened her hand, several blue balls came out.

Meyers was not as stoic and intense as the promotional posters would project with a red card in front of his face. In fact, Meyers was quite animated, charismatic and comical and often brought up people from the audience, who he danced with before his acts.

Still, there were many symbols of the intensity of what magic entails to its audiences in Meyers's act, which included using butcher knives to open packages and creating the appearance that he cut

off his arm.

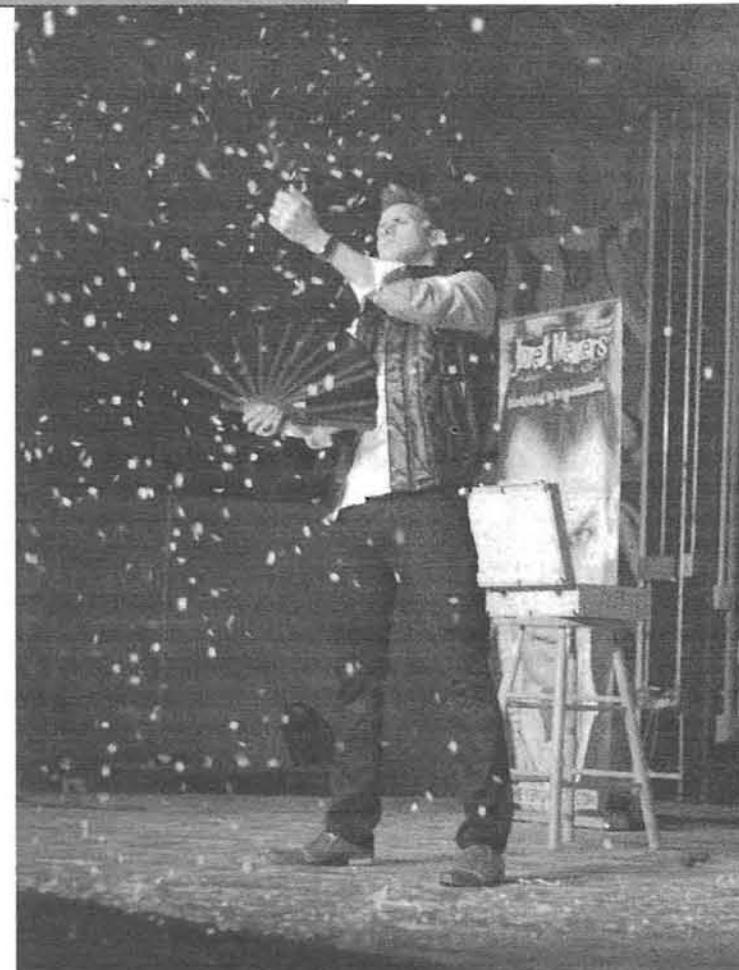
There was the straightjacket, which is very much a staple in magic acts. As a couple of volunteers were strapping the straightjacket on Meyers, he told of the legacy of straightjackets as a means to restrain the mentally ill.

"The straightjacket has now become a form of cruel and unusual punishment, and it often took someone days at a time to escape," Meyers said. He then told of how Houdini escaped from the straightjacket in four minutes. Meyer's goal was to escape from the jacket within two minutes, and a volunteer with a stopwatch confirmed that the illusionist was able to do this to the roar of the audience.

A couple of the more noteworthy acts by Meyers included a "slight of mouth" in which he pulled out a folded-up spade card where a young lady signed her name earlier. The volunteer also held up a diamond card, which was later uncovered in one of the lemons that Meyers sliced open. And then there was the table with a purple cloth and a wooden box on it, which Meyers lifted up by lifting the table cloth with great ease, sometimes with the assistance of the volunteer on stage. The audience was charmed when a red rose Meyers gave to the young lady appeared from under the tablecloth during the act.

Meyer's performance concluded with the illusionist waving a Chinese fan with confetti pouring out on the stage from nowhere, to the enchantment of the audience. After the performance, members of the UPB handed out comment cards, and Meyers signed promotional posters for the audience.

Meyers was the second illusionist to perform at UMSL this year. Last semester, magician Christopher Carter performed at the Pilot House on Oct. 25. While magic acts have been popular at UMSL, Green said that Meyers is the only one that has been sched-



Joel Meyers works his magic.

PHOTO: JENNY X. LIN / THE CURRENT

uled to perform at the Pilot House for the Spring semester, and the UPB has no immediate plans to book other illusionists.

"Based on the strong audience reception to Meyers and Carter, it is possible that the UPB could schedule other magic acts for the Fall semester, although we do like to switch up acts from semester to semester," Green said.

Save the Date!!

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UMSL
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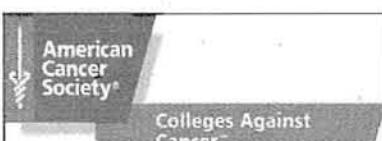
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John Convertino (L) and Joey Burns PHOTO COURTESY OF ANTI RECORDS make up the duo Calexico.

Calexico and Yo La Tengo double pleasure at Pageant

DAVID VON NORDHEIM A&E EDITOR

All too frequently, the opening act at a concert is little more than a watered-down imitation of the headliner, a fledgling band trying to siphon some of the goodwill of their better-known tour partner. This notion was completely reversed at the Pageant on Jan. 31 as roots rock ensemble Calexico and indie rock godfathers Yo La Tengo shared the stage for a phenomenal headlining performance.

After a three-show stint on the Midwestern legs of their 2013 tours, Calexico and Yo La Tengo closed out their supporting gigs in St. Louis. Calexico, touring to promote their 2012 release "Algiers," was the first to perform. The brainchild of singer/songwriter Joey Burns and percussionist John Convertino, Calexico's rich, jazz and Latin-inflected roots music captures the dusty border-towns and lonely deserts of their Arizonan upbringing.

Although Burns and Convertino comprise the core of the group, their concerts feature a talented ensemble that captures the grit and soulfulness of their textured compositions. The supporting cast rotated through brass, cello bass, electric and pedal steel guitar, accordion and vibraphone throughout the performance, showcasing their versatility and the ambition of Burns and Convertino's arrangements.

Drawing equally from samba, folk, country-western and jazz, Calexico's set was a scrumptious cross-cultural gumbo. Their songbook spanned their entire discography, including highlights from their breakthrough albums "The Black Light" ("Gypsy's Curse") and "Feast of Wire" ("Guero Canelo"). The selections from the Creole-influenced "Algiers" were especially lively, the pumping brass and accordion inspiring the crowd to surge and shimmy like they were at a Mardi Gras parade in the Latin Quarter. The set closed with phenomenal, flamenco-fied covers of forward-thinking punk group Minutemen's "Corona" and psychedelic rock gurus Love's "Alone Again Or."

It is no mean feat to follow up such an electrifying set, but Yo La Tengo, the elder statesmen of indie rock, rose to the occasion. It is nothing short of miraculous that a group nearly 30 years into their career can still manage the level of quality YLT strives for, but seeing YLT perform their latest opus, "Fade," was just as engaging as their last Pageant performance nearly three years ago, supporting the 2009 release "Popular Songs."

Though frontman Ira Kaplan may joke about his age (he expressed his concerns that the audience might not have bundled up enough before leaving the house), he still wields his guitar like a demented barbarian, thrashing about furiously for his signature distortion-laden guitar freak-outs.

The beauty of Yo La Tengo is their mastery of dynamic. The group seamlessly alternated between the longer, Kaplan-led electric guitar suites and the gentle, Georgina Hubrey-penned selections from "Fade" ("Cornelia & Jane," "Before We Run"). They cribbed Calexico's brass section for the feel-good funk of "Mr. Tough" and brought Joey Burns out for an exhilarating vibraphone workout on "Pass the Hatchet I Think I'm Goodkind" (both from their latter-day masterpiece "I'm Not Afraid of You and I Will Beat Your Ass").

The set ended with the hypnotic anti-climax of a quarter-hour rendition of "Ohm," the psychedelic rock excursion that opens "Fade." The crowd cheered Kapan on as he subjected his guitar to just about every sort of trauma imaginable short of smashing it, segueing into an encore performance that brought Burns and Convertino back to the stage for a joint cover of "The Little Black Egg," 1960s folk rock troupe The Nightcrawlers' lone hit single. It was an inspired choice for a genius pairing.

'Sound City' is heartfelt tribute to analog

HUNG NGUYEN STAFF WRITER

Rock royalty graced the Tivoli's main auditorium screen on Jan. 31 as it opened a one-night screening of Dave Grohl's "Sound City," a documentary chronicling the history of Sound City Studios. Nested in Van Nuys, Los Angeles, the studio launched the careers of countless musicians. Artists like Stevie Nicks, Queens of the Stone Age, Johnny Cash, Tom Petty, Rick Springfield and Nirvana laid down some of their first tracks on the magnificent Neve, a legendary analog soundboard that made recording at Sound City truly exquisite.

After its initial struggles, Sound City made its name as the recording home of Fleetwood Mac. The industry shift toward digital recording in the 1990s made the Neve appear obsolete, however, too rough and laborious to operate for the sounds that computerized consoles could easily produce, prompting Sound City Studios to officially close its doors in 2011.

It was around then that Dave Grohl acquired the Neve for his own private studio, inspiring him to direct "Sound City." The documentary follows over 20 artists, groups, producers and affiliated staff as they gather around the Neve and reminisce about their Sound City days, using vintage photographs and chart-topping tunes to transport viewers as the story unfolds.

Grohl and his "royal court" all agree that the rawness of the Neve, along with the remarkable people working there, made Sound City a remarkable studio. Without Auto-Tune and digital manipulations, artists had to rely on their own talents. As a tape-based studio, mistakes meant starting over from the beginning of the recording. But it is precisely these imperfections and idiosyncrasies that made Sound City so unique. Artists were rendered as they truly were, not as they should be.

"The fact that that board made us sound like us is what people appreciated," Grohl said about Nirvana's first record with Sound City.

The imperfections made the music imperfect, a human effort. The Neve was the source of it all, a device these artists instill with life, making it the focal point of the film. To celebrate the Neve's new home, the artists decided to record "Real to Reel," a collaboration album slated for release in March. The documentary follows Stevie Nicks, Paul McCartney, Dave Grohl and others as they work on the album.

Like the widely successful music that originated from the studio, "Sound City" is a very sincere effort. In detailing the process of music production and providing a portrait of Sound City's most celebrated tenants, Grohl captures the excitement and honesty of the analog era. His use of footage from live recording sessions enables viewers to see this synchronicity in work, experiencing the instinctual "feel" when the right chords are hit and the right notes are sung. The film is a godsend for audiophiles, but the uplift of seeing this struggle for perfection makes the appeal of Grohl's meticulously assembled story universal.

"Sound City" is not a self-gratifying, nostalgic vision of the bygone days of an outdated recording technique. It is an invitation to celebrate a place that countless music legends once called home. It is a coming-of-age story showing viewers how these icons developed from budding musicians to professional, internationally best-selling, Grammy-winning artists at a "home away from home," as Stevie Nicks describes the studio. It is the Neve's final testament, Dave Grohl's gift to the next generation of rock 'n' rollers.

'Compliment Day' brings smiles

ALBERT NALL STAFF WRITER

Have you received a good compliment lately? Has somebody told you that your laugh sounds like angels giggling or your voice is like the purring of 1,000 kittens? Has somebody told you that you are so super that Superman looks up to you?

For many, the ultimate validation is having somebody say "I like you and your face and your personality." If the above compliments sound familiar to you, they are samples of what were on yellow sticky cards that were posted in the Millennium Student Center and at other sites on the University of Missouri-St. Louis campus on Jan. 30 between 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Compliment Day was sponsored by the University Program Board, and the general objective of the day and the message from UPB was, "If you see one of the yellow post-it notes around the campus, take it personally, because yes, it is geared toward you." Teagan Klevorn, the UPB student activities coordinator, and Scott Morrissey were the organizers of Compliment Day, although Morrissey was the main planner and commented on behalf of the UPB.

"Compliment Day was no one person's idea. It was actually an idea that the board came up with during one of our planning meetings," Morrissey said.

Morrissey said that the UPB went around putting up all of the post-it notes full of compliments to help lift people's spirits during the first weeks of classes. "Sometimes people can go around frustrated all day, and the only thing they would need to cheer them up is a simple compliment. The majority of the compliments are geared toward anyone who might walk by," Morrissey said.

Morrissey said that the post-it notes on the walls were just one part of the event. The second part was that the UPB sent out some executive and general members around campus with "Ask Me for a Compliment" T-shirts, sticky note pads and pens. Their mission on Compliment Day was to seek out people around campus who looked like they might be in need of a compliment. At that time, the UPB pulled out their sticky note pads and pens and wrote a quick compliment to hand to the person on the receiving end.

"Once again, this is just another way for the University Program Board to let the public at UMSL

know that they are loved and that they deserve praise. Being a student can be difficult, and a quick pick-me-up such as a compliment on a sticky note can cheer up someone's day quickly," Morrissey said.

Some people may be under the impression that Compliment Day at UMSL was rather silly and irrelevant. Others may wonder why the ability to give a compliment is important. It is no secret that many organizations place great emphasis on the giving of compliments, as there are often kiosks at worksites where colleagues can write notes commending the good work that their co-workers have done on the job. One of the most important skills that graduates of UMSL can take to their careers is the ability to give compliments.

The ability to give compliments may be interpreted differently for different people. Some may simply want to be uplifted by the compliment and feel like they matter, especially at a time when there is much press on incivility in social culture. For others, being able to give compliments could be a determinant as to how far an UMSL graduate advances in a career. Sometimes, it is difficult for a person to give a compliment, especially if the person who is being complimented is rather unkempt or does not appear to be that socially popular. Sometimes, for everyone from students to professionals, the real challenge is finding something to compliment a person on.

Dr. Raj Raghunathan, a professor in the Department of Marketing at the University of Texas School of Business cited on a blog for psychologytoday.com that a number of findings show that those who are good at complimenting others gain many advantages. "When you compliment others, you are liked by others, and you will be forgiven for committing a mistake more often," Raghunathan said. The blog also said that giving compliments increases the likelihood of favors from others. Finally, by complimenting others, "you enhance both yours and others' well-being," Raghunathan said.

"It is important for people to be able to give a compliment because it is a nice gesture. People need to hear how they are doing and for encouragement," Erica Cotton, a staff member of Career Services, said.

Women's basketball ready to roll

LEON DEVANCE SPORTS EDITOR

Under former head coach Lisa Curliss-Taylor, the University of Missouri-St. Louis women's basketball team struggled to win 10 games because of injuries to the line-up. At 10-8 this season under Coach Katie Vaughn, the team seemed primed to put number 11 in the win column.

And with conference season play in the stretch run, Great Lakes Valley Conference Western Division team Quincy appeared to be on the ropes. But then, an eight-plus minute plus cold shooting affected UMSL, allowing Quincy to escape with a 47-42 road win.

The win boosted Quincy's overall record to 10-8 and 8-2 in GLVC league play this season. UMSL fell to 10-8 with the loss and trails Quincy by three games at 5-5 in league action.

The UMSL website said that UMSL opened the second half with 16-5 run, on Devonna Smith, senior, sociology, offensive putback with 10:41 left in the game. UMSL assumed its last lead of the game at 36-34. UMSL's next basket did not come until Kelly Kunkel, freshman, business, nailed a three-point basket when 1:52 remained in the game. UMSL trailed 40-39 at that point.

Vaughn said that UMSL looked good at the basket, but the shots did not fall.

"We need to build some confidence and find some consistency to put the ball in the hole for the next game, because we had good looks at the basket. The defense is good enough to win, holding people to 49 points. We need the offense to come around," Vaughn said.

That was never more clear than when UMSL held Quincy to 32.6 percent as UMSL connected on 27.6 percent of the shots. In the second half, Quincy made just 15 percent of their shots (three

of 20) and owned a 43-34 rebounding advantage.

Smith led UMSL with 11 points, nine boards and three steals, and Kunkel posted a career-high nine points and five boards, all on the offensive end. Kelly McGovern, sophomore, special education, dished out six assists and Angela, senior, criminal justice, collected four steals.

Vaughn noted that in film study, the UMSL players understand where the shots should come from. Starting against Illinois-Springfield, Vaughn insists that UMSL will become more aggressive on offense and push the ball to attack the opposition.

"Starting against Springfield, we are going to be aggressive and push the ball to get quality shots," Vaughn said.

Another aspect of continuing to see good looks at the basket, Vaughn said, is that players have to communicate on the court.

"Defensively, we want players to communicate with their teammates when the opponent uses ball screens. We want to box out, limit them to one shot and give them no easy looks [at the basket]" Vaughn said.

Vaughn said she is pleased with the effort of the players this season, her first as UMSL's head coach.

"We stubbed our toes a little bit with eight losses, but I am pleased with the effort [the players] have given. They have a great desire to win and are beginning to understand the grind. Hopefully, we are peaking at the right time ... We've got to play to our capabilities and put together a 40-minute game. This [is] the month and time to do that. I am anxious to see where we land," Vaughn said.

COMICS & GAMES

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Four By Tenn

-UMSL Theatre

March 14-17

\$5

Carmina Burana

February 21-24

\$10

MADCO: Momentum

March 23, 2pm

FREE

St Louis Jazz Orchestra:

A Night of Count Basie

February 26

\$10

Chick Corea & Béla Fleck

March 23

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UMSL

STAFF OPINION

Lowering credit hours required may help students

MADDIE HARNED
STAFF WRITER

The terms "four-year degree" and "bachelor's degree" have almost become synonymous. While the two terms are often used interchangeably, it may be that they are being used in error.

Most departments require students to complete 125 or more hours of credit to earn a bachelor's degree. Yet if 12 credit hours is considered to be full-time, then it would take students five, not four, years to earn an undergraduate degree.

In order to make earning a bachelor's degree more manageable, departments currently requiring 125 or more hours of credit for graduation should lower their credit hour requirements.

The goal of undergraduate programs should be to thoroughly educate students of a specific field in a manner that is both timely and comprehensive. Every semester in which a full-time student is enrolled adds more student loans, stress and time not spent working full-time in their desired field.

Additionally, it is completely unreasonable for departments to expect students to enroll in more than the 12 hours needed to be considered full-time. Quite simply, departments are placing full-time students in a rather demanding situation — they can either overwork

themselves by taking an abundance of credit hours every semester or take five years, rather than the traditional four, to earn their bachelor's degrees.

However, there is a way to make earning a bachelor's degree more manageable while also ensuring that students graduate fully prepared for employment and success in their specific fields. Cutting even a fairly small amount of the general education credits required for graduation would allow full-time students to complete their undergraduate degrees in four years.

In the grand scheme of things, there is no reason conducive to a person's employment in their field of study to take classes that have absolutely nothing to do with their area of interest. There is no reason why a French major needs to take multiple math classes or why a chemistry major needs to take multiple literature classes.

While these classes may be interesting or fun, a small reduction in general education requirements would be beneficial for students because it would make getting a degree more manageable, reduce stress and allow students to progress from school to gainful employment more efficiently, and isn't that what earning a bachelor's degree is all about?

COLUMN *Unsolicited Advice Society is stupid about age*

HALI FLINTROP
OPINIONS EDITOR



Everyone has already heard that our society is obsessed with youth and cruel to age. But what's with that? And it's as if we cannot even manage to have a real, legitimate idea of what actually constitutes "old."

For example, Comedy Central viewers may have recently treated themselves to watching Daniel Tosh make a list and show pictures of all of the celebrity women over the age of 40 that he would sleep with. He went through quite a long list, and the joke was that he would not sleep with any woman over 40 — actually, over 30. How funny!

Really, it's completely okay for people to have personal sexual preferences. But what Tosh did, plus the fact that it was aired on television and apparently found hilarious by at least his own audience members, indicates that society finds old people comical, so much so that people can discuss them in a way that dehumanizes them. Never mind that Annette

Bening and Lucy Liu, two examples of women on Tosh's list, are attractive women and wonderful actresses. They are women over the age of 40 and therefore bearing the brunt of a cruel joke.

They're definitely bearing the brunt of something, anyway. Our society tends to value physical beauty (particularly of women) over talent or intellectual prowess. So it makes sense in the context of our society that women who are talented, famous and quite attractive (either despite or because of age) can be reduced to aged objects of no use to Tosh and anyone who laughed with him merely because of the arbitrary number 40.

As a side note, 40 is barely half of our life expectancy! What the heck are people over 40 supposed to do after that big birthday if they become totally throw-away to the rest of us? Should they sit in their condos in shame and wait to die?

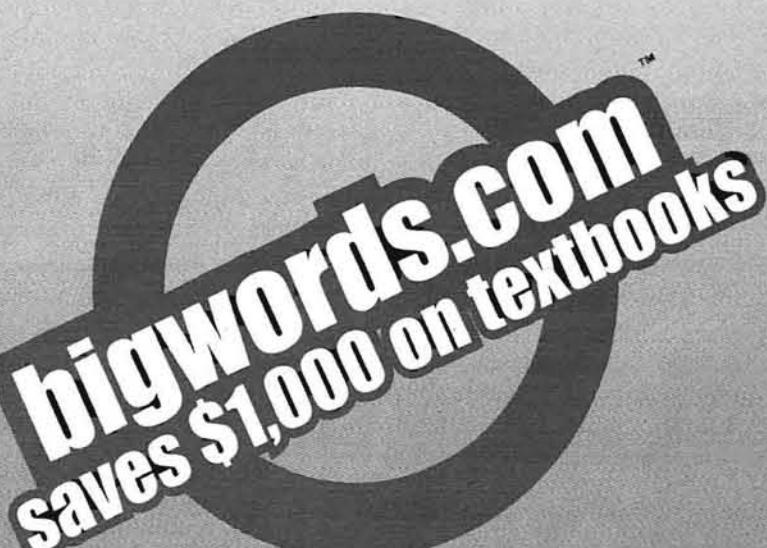
Or is that too cruel? Should we allow them out only to play golf, quilt and attend the early bird special? Because that is so much better.

We treat older people as if they are a completely different species. It is really insulting that when an older man dates a younger woman or vice-versa, our societal assumption is that the woman is only out for money while the man is only out for sex with a young woman. The implications of this are enormous and almost entirely bad.

First of all, it perpetuates the notion that women with a little more age on them are not sexy when they totally can be. Of course the man could be interested in the younger woman because he finds her youth attractive, but that does not have to be the case. Assuming her youth is the reason for his attraction reduces him to a pig and reduces her to a hot body with an empty head.

Making the assumption that the young woman is interested in the older man for money is just as naively and cruelly reductive. Without knowing anything else about the situation, it assumes that the female in question is capable of using someone romantically for shallow reasons, and it assumes that there can be no other merit to an older person than money, which is total idiocy.

Ultimately, old people and young people are all still people. When they choose to relate to each other (yes, it is in fact possible for the old and young to be complimentary companions), romantically or otherwise, we treat it as if it is perverse. It's not as if someone is choosing to have one-sided social relations with cats instead of people or cavorting with a different species. It's all human-on-human action, and old people and young people are not terribly different at all.



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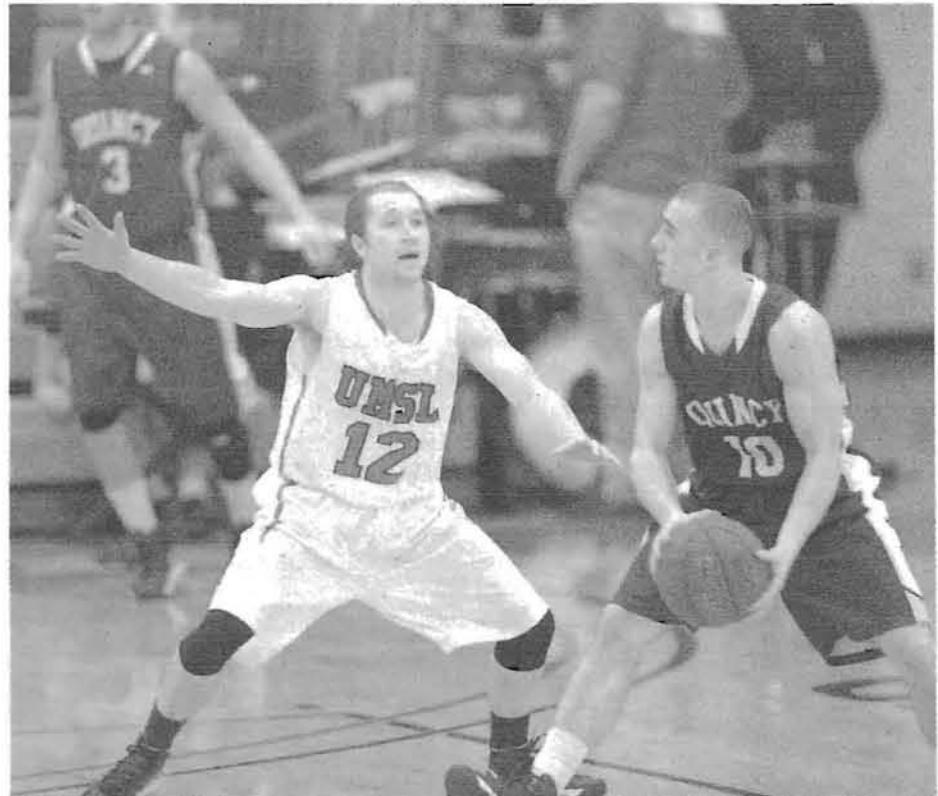
UMSL packs the stands for Tritons

UMSL's 5th Annual "Pack the Stands" event was held Jan. 31. Students, staff, faculty and family members gathered to watch the women's and men's Tritons basketball game, as well as enjoy complementary snacks and door prizes. The night began with door prizes, in which tickets were given to be later entered in an all-night drawing for school spirit prizes. Prizes included UMSL themed apparel, fleece throws and even some mugs. To keep the guests on their toes, prize drawings occurred every ten minutes thus giving chances to win throughout the night. Fans snacked on build-your-own nachos and other refreshments. Red and gold cupcakes were provided by Sodexo, campus catering.



Students get into the spirit of Pack The Stands.

LEON DEVANCE/THE CURRENT



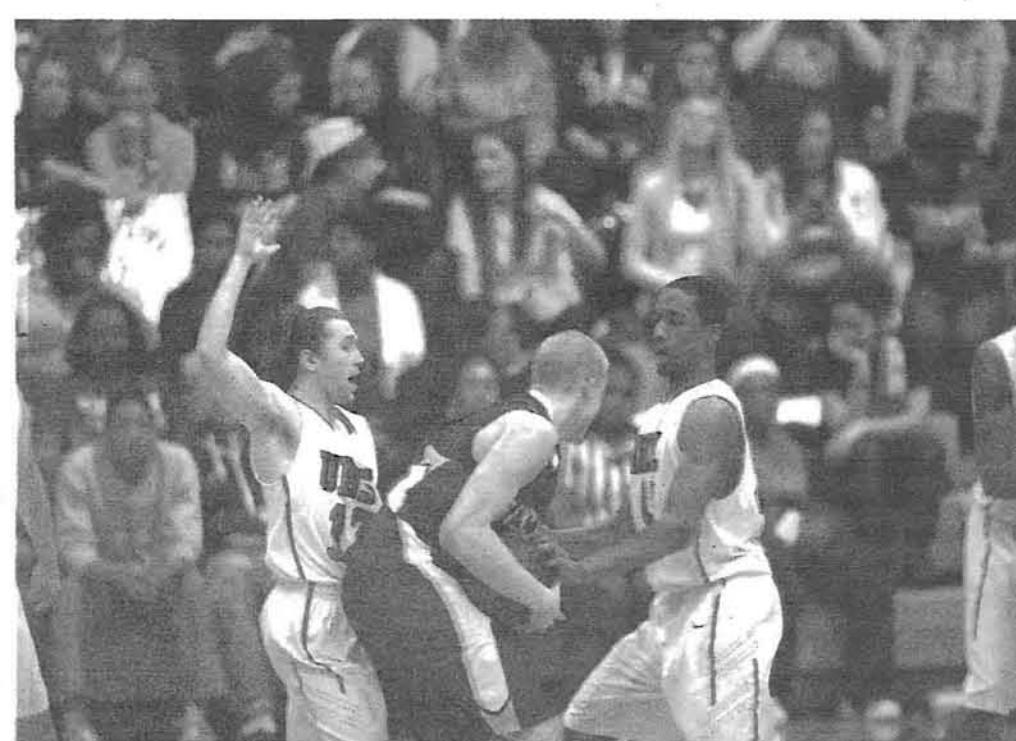
UMSL's Michael Weber goes to work.

LEON DEVANCE/THE CURRENT



UMSL brass band keeps the mood festive.

LEON DEVANCE/THE CURRENT



The Tritons drive to victory as the crowd looks on.

LEON DEVANCE/THE CURRENT

Men's basketball scores in 'Pack The Stands' game

LEON DEVANCE SPORTS EDITOR

With a ruckus band and festival crowd ready to celebrate a victory, the University of Missouri-St. Louis men's basketball team turned in another day at the office.

Quincy provided the opposition in a Great Lakes Valley Conference game held on the Chuck Smith court, and UMSL delivered a 69-55 victory.

UMSL improved its overall record to 12-6 and stands 5-5 in the GLVC. Quincy fell to 8-10 and trails UMSL by two games in the GLVC with a 3-7 league record.

UMSL never trailed in the game and used an early six-point run that fueled an 11-4 lead. Quincy kept the game close as they used a five-point run to close 14-12. Later, a 14-4 run gave UMSL a double digit lead, 25-15, on a Neil Braham, sophomore, finance, three-point basket with 8:14 left in the first half.

Head Coach Steve Tappmeyer said that UMSL was able to grab the early lead because they protected the basketball.

"We made sure that our energy level was good at the start of the game. When we made the [early] run, the execution [was there]. We shared the basketball, and we also rebounded the ball," Tappmeyer said.

Limiting Quincy to one shot early on provided UMSL with good energy throughout the game. Aareon Smith, sophomore, business, led a balanced UMSL attack as he scored 15 points. Smith connected on four of six field goals, including two of three three-pointers. Darian Cartham, junior, communications, added 12 points. Joshua McCoy, senior, communications, tied a career high with six assists, and Kevin Dwyer, junior, business, collected six boards.

A late Quincy run over six minutes made the score 29-27 with 1:37 before the half, but UMSL regained control to lead 35-29 at halftime.

Quincy opened the second half with consecutive baskets to close within 35-33. UMSL then responded with a 10-point run that keyed the 14-2 run and grabbed UMSL a 49-35 lead. An Isiah Nunn, senior, communications, fast break dunk built a 16-point lead for UMSL at 57-41. Quincy later went on an 8-1 run that trimmed the deficit to single digits at 58-49 but could not get any closer.

Tappmeyer said that Quincy was able to get back in the game when UMSL failed to do the things that allowed it to establish the lead.

"We did not take care of the basketball [when Quincy made runs at us], and we turned the ball over. I told the guys that we had to re-focus and get the energy back," Tappmeyer said.

The UMSL website said that UMSL shot 52.4 for the game. Defensively, UMSL forced Quincy to commit 19 turnovers that led to 27 UMSL points. Quincy's only edge was controlling the glass as they rebounded UMSL 30-25. Quincy held an 11-4 margin in offensive rebounds.

Tappmeyer said that UMSL only needs to improve its execution.

"We've got to sharpen our execution and get the rotations settled. We've got a three-game test on the road that starts against Illinois-Springfield that we've got to get ready for. We need to get back to fundamentals [of the game] and cut our turnovers down," Tappmeyer said.