

From YouTube to Touhill, Pentatonix music amazes

JENNIFER EMILY
STAFF WRITER

ADDY LAI
STAFF WRITER

YouTube sensation and acapella group, Pentatonix, perform at Touhill Performing Arts Center

PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY OF ADDY LAI/THE CURRENT



as well as the winning group of the third season of NBC's "The Sing-Off." An American acapella group that consists of five vocalists who originated from Arlington, Texas. Pentatonix is comprised of lead vocalists Scott Hoying, Kristin "Kristie" Maldonado, and Mitch Grassi, vocal bass Avriel "Avi" Kaplan, and beatboxer Kevin K.O. Oluola. Originally a three member group comprised of Scott, Kristie, and Mitch, they eventually found the need for a bassist and a beatboxer to reach stardom. The band name derives from the five-note music scale, pentatonic, replacing the 'c' with an 'x'. The band redefines the meaning of an acapella concert.

Pentatonix performed some songs from their previous albums along with a couple of other selections from their newly released third album. Their unexpected soprano to bass vocal range and stylistic capability had them performing covers of different genres such as pop, electronica, reggae, R&B, dubstep, and more. This attracted a diverse audience.

Despite being an acappella group, Pentatonix showcased Avi's skill of overtone singing,



the ability of singing more than one note at a time, and Kevin's skill of playing the cello while beat-boxing, also known as 'cello-boxing'. Kevin was even able to perform his own original piece called "Renegade." The audience were truly in awe with the performance, with some fans screaming their love for the group.

Another highlight of the

show was the group's cover of "Say Something," originally performed by A Great Big World feat. Christina Aguilera. The vocalists' voices echoed throughout the theater and sent chills through the captivated crowd. Their performance of the "Evolution of Music" demonstrated their technical skills, and accomodated their audience of different ages.

Pentatonix's involvement with their audience, a connection that is rarely seen at concerts, was definitely one of the key reasons why audiences were begging for an encore. Mitch, wanting a photograph of the enthusiastic crowd, took out his cell phone and started to take a panoramic photo as Scott hummed to the tune of "Jeopardy". Later, they asked for audience participation in creating the background vocals for their original song "Natural Disaster". The crowd did not hesitate to sing and clap along when instructed to do so. In addition, as a surprise to the audience, Avi took a chair out from the side of the stage and chose a very lucky audience member to be seated in the hot seat: this individual would get the opportunity to be



sung to during the concert.

The vocal group closed with a big thank you and in turn received cheers and a standing ovation. They look forward for their return to the city. Their new album PTX Vol. III is currently available, one a new Christmas album, "That's Christmas to Me", is on its way to production.

On one of the last stops of their 2014 tour, Pentatonix rocked St. Louis with a sold-out concert at the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center at the University of Missouri — St. Louis on October 4 at 7 p.m. Pentatonix had the crowd on their feet cheering "PTX" for not just one, but two encores.

Commonly known as PTX, Pentatonix is a vocal sensation



After the show, people gathered around The Pentatonix Merchandise Booth

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Hartl, Mike "MR" Nash

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 Advertising Director **Britni Fischer**
 Distribution Manager **Lori Dresner**
 Social Media Director **LaTuanna Troupe**

CONTACT US

388 MSC, 1 University Blvd
 St. Louis, MO 63121-4400

Newsroom
 314-516-5174
 thecurrenttips@umsl.edu

Business/Advertising
 314-516-5316
 thecurrenttads@umsl.edu

Fax
 314-516-6811

Editor-in-Chief
 thecurrenteic@umsl.edu

Internships and Volunteer Positions
 thecurrentjobs@umsl.edu

Letters to the Editor
 thecurrenttips@umsl.edu

Twitter
 @UMSLTheCurrent

Facebook
 /TheCurrentStudentNews

THE CURRENT ONLINE

Correction for Issue #1447

The Current wishes to apologize to the Chancellor of University of Missouri — Saint Louis, Thomas George. A misspelling of his name in an article located on page 8, "Alumni attend Founders' dinner at Ritz-Carlton," was, not wittingly, allowed to be put into print. We offer our deepest apologies to Chancellor George.

Ferguson arrests continue

WILLIAM PATTERSON
 CRIME REPORTER

The night of October 2, 13 more people were arrested outside of the Ferguson Police Department during	Michael Brown protests under unclear circumstances. Police say that the protesters were arrested for what civil	rights groups thought were uncalled-for reasons, like violating noise ordinances. They were taken over to the	St. Ann jail because the Ferguson jail has been too over capacity.
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SGA parking questionnaire

DANIEL C. HODGES
 STAFF WRITER

The University of Missouri — St. Louis Student Government Association (SGA) is taking on the issue of student parking.	and shuttling at UMSL. Those who are unhappy with the status quo are being asked to sign a signature page. The SGA plans on gathering support for the position before deciding on a course of action. SGA, President Cameron Roark, junior, criminology, said, "As a student government, we do not	believe in sitting around and doing nothing about complaints." Students who were not approached by the SGA, but would like to contribute to their initiative, can either stop by the Student Government Office or send an email to sga@umsl.edu. Roark said that all emails will be documented.
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Campus Crime Report

WILLIAM PATTERSON
 CRIME REPORTER

October 1, two people, one of them a University Missouri — St. Louis student, were arrested at Oak Residential Hall for marijuana possession. On October 2, a handgun was displayed after a confrontation between two students in Millennium South Garage. The UMSL police department is still investigating.



The Current ON AIR A COLLABORATION WITH THE RADIO. REDEFINED.

WEDNESDAYS @ 8:45 A.M.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the editor should be brief, and those not exceeding 250 words will be given preference. We edit letters for clarity and length, not for dialect, correctness, intent, or grammar. All letters must be signed and must include a daytime phone number. Students must include their student ID numbers. Faculty and staff must include their title(s) and department(s). The Editor-in-Chief reserves the right to respond to letters. The Current reserves the right to deny letters.

GET INVOLVED

Do you have a tip regarding a story? Have a correction to report? Do you have a question or comment for our staff? Contact us at thecurrenttips@umsl.edu. We look forward to hearing from you.

The Current values feedback from the campus community. What do you think of our campus coverage? Let us know your thoughts at thecurrent@umsl.edu.

THE UNDERCURRENT By Ashlee Carlstrom

WHAT IS YOUR DREAM JOB?



MAYRA RICO,
 Junior, Nursing
"To be the owner of my own clinic. I would like to provide resources that are affordable to the community. I offer service to bilinguals in the Hispanic community."



STEFAN SMILJANIC,
 Sopomore, Accounting
"I'd say working with wild life probably somewhere in Alaska."



EVAN HURT,
 Senior, Psychology
"My dream job is to be a psychiatric physicians assistant. It gives me an opportunity to mold myself in a growing and accelerating field."



Governor Nixon unveils UMSL partnership plan

KAT RIDDLER
NEWS EDITOR

Missouri Governor Jay Nixon held a press conference on October 2 in Woods Hall 101 announcing a new partnership between the University of Missouri—St. Louis and North Campus. The North Campus is an organization founded by St. Louis Alderman Antonio French in 2012 to provide targeted, intensive educational supports to help lift students and their families out of poverty. Currently, it serves 150 children in North St. Louis County providing in-school and after school programs. The press conference was called for 10:55 a.m., but the Governor was unable to arrive until 11:30 a.m.

“There is no greater tool to reduce poverty than education. And what we know is that there is no greater way to increase the hope in a young person than to empower them with education and then to allow them to break their own chains of poverty and the social ills that have kept our community back for so long,” Alderman French said.

Nixon along with State Senator Jamilah Nasheed and Alderman French announced a \$500,000 grant to expand access to math and science tutoring and enrichment programs for an additional 350 students from low-income families in St. Louis. The funding will be provided

by the Department of Social Services to the College of Education at UMSL through the federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. This partnership will also give UMSL students a place to volunteer their time and gain hands-on experience.

Chancellor Thomas George was unable to attend because of a curator’s meeting in Kansas City, so Carole Basile, dean of the College of Education, gave introductions and began the press conference. Also in attendance were former State Senator and minority leader Maida Coleman and Judge Marvin Teer.

“The \$500,000 will go towards those men and women who want to do better in school. They will get the opportunity now, to get the tutoring that they need in order to move forward in a global economy where we know that math and science, if you don’t have it then you’re out of the loop when it comes to job opportunities,” Senator Nasheed said.

Governor Nixon created the newly formed Office of Community Engagement led by Senator Coleman and Deputy Director Judge Teer. The Governor started several constructive activism groups around St. Louis that are meeting now to help



Missouri Governor Jay Nixon outlines partnership with UMSL details

North County. The Governor hosted training for over 200 North County teachers and administrations and will continue to meet with them in the future. Dan Isom and Attorney General Kris Koster met in a round table discussing policing issues around the state, the growing coalition of judges and attorneys getting behind reforming the justice system. The business community has stepped up led by UMSL and The Current alumni State Treasurer Clint Zweifel, as Missouri teamed up with the Regional Chamber and other business groups to provide \$1 million to support businesses affected in these areas.

Other partnerships to benefit the community include: North County Inc. and the Regional Business Council are launching a program that provided relief to small business owners; the state of Missouri partnered with Centene to create 200 new jobs in the area; Emerson Electric Company is donating \$4.4 million in scholarships, and the Urban League hosted a Ferguson Job Fair.

“We can rest assured that Marget Mead was absolutely right when she stated, ‘One should never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed it is the only thing that

ever has,” said Senator Coleman.

Governor Nixon has made education a top priority during his administration. Missouri’s high school graduation rate is now the eighth highest in the nation, according to the press release. “This is just the beginning; our children need our help more than ever before. Our children are below proficiency and a major way when it comes to math and science in proficiency. We are going to get them where they need to be,” Senator Nasheed said.

Disability discussed at What’s Current Wednesdays

ALBERT NALL
STAFF WRITER

On October 1, Dr. April Regester, assistant professor of special education at the University of Missouri—St. Louis discussed the challenges of Disability Awareness in a college setting. The dialog was part of the monthly “What’s Current Wednesday” discussion series that is co-sponsored by “The Current” and “The New York Times” with support from the Office of Student Life and Community Outreach and Engagement at UMSL. The lecture by Dr. Regester took place in the Student Government Association chambers in the Millennium Student Center from 2 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. with approximately 30 people in attendance. Pizza and beverages were served, and a flyer summarizing an article published in “The New York Times” about disability awareness was distributed at the event. The discussion was opened with an introduction by Current News

Editor Kat Riddler, graduate, English, moderator of the event.

The overtone of the discussion was the concept of disability. Dr. Regester highlighted that the university provides information and processes for accommodations mandated under the Americans with Disabilities Act. “Disability means a lot of different things to various people. The notion of who has a disability is often described by people who do not have a disability, and through their perspectives, belie the definition of what is normal,” Regester said. “We often put labels on people based on what is the most obvious. And what does that kind of thinking say about how we value people with disabilities?”

“We often label a person with a disability based on categories such as race, gender or sexual orientation for example. When we do that we often ignore the other attributes that

is associated with that person,” Regester said. She addressed the concept of what is called ‘identity language,’ when people talk about their disabilities. “What identity language means is that the person with the disability is free to identify themselves in any way they like, and that is their right. This is the difference between another person imposing on a person with a disability, and empowerment for that person,” Regester said.

One of the things that Regester discussed was the use of language in communicating about those who have disabilities. “While the use of language may be small, I prefer to think of the university as providing disability services to students. In that way, we define the concept of a service over the place where the services is provided,” she said. Regester spoke of etiquette in approaching people with disabilities. “Address the person with the disability, and not the

person who is assisting with him. Also, ask if the disabled person wants help,” Regester said.

“The New York Times” article, published October 30, 2012, distributed at the lecture, strengthened the discussion on wheelchair accessibility. Many in attendance addressed that very issue. David Harris, senior, nursing, did not think too much about the article at until he started reading the article. “I like how the young man described himself as not being handicapped, but got into a wheelchair, and rode around like he was. He was struggling right and left. So in that situation, I would be like, ‘how did I get in here, I don’t know.’ It would take me a lot longer, and there would be a lot of detours,” Harris said.

Patricia Zahn, director of community outreach, spoke on how UMSL compares to other college campuses on accessibility

to people with disabilities. More specifically, Zahn spoke of the SUCCEED program on the UMSL Campus. SUCCEED is a post-secondary program at UMSL for students age 18 to 25 years old with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Designed to encourage confidence building for its participants, SUCCEED utilizes an individualized curriculum and approach to career development services for its members. According to Zahn, the UMSL campus is one of two universities in the area to have a program like SUCCEED. “I feel that our university is very welcoming and open to people with disabilities, and UMSL is a leader in the state on expanding the concept of diversity beyond just being race and gender, to include disability awareness,” Zahn said.

Veteran Feminists of America sponsor lecture

ALBERT NALL
STAFF WRITER

On September 27, the Veteran Feminists of America (VFA) presented "Labor & the Women's Movement: The untold story and why it matters" at the Renaissance Grand Hotel in downtown St. Louis from 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

A group of prominent speakers on feminist history delved into an exploration of the key roles that women played in the second wave feminist movement with an emphasis on organized labor. Topics at the seminar ran the gambit from "What happened to Rosie the Riveter?" to "Equality in the Age of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964." In addition, the objective of the seminar included highlighting triumphs for women, as well as the role that women are playing in contemporary organizational strategy. At the end of the lecture there was a cocktail and

awards dinner to honor national and local labor leaders, as well as to name feminists from the past.

The second-wave feminist movement was a period of political crusading for women's issues that first began in the United States in the early 1960's and lasted through the early 1980s. Second-wave feminism expanded past the initial triumphant achievement of voting and property rights secured in the first wave feminist movement in the early part of the 20th century. It spread into public debate on such issues as the workplace and its effects on the family, sexual harassment and equal pay and conditions for women.

Pam Ross, a treasurer of VFA introduced Kathy Rand who gave an overview of the second wave feminist movement in St. Louis. Rand, a member of the VFA's Board of Directors, elaborated on the origins of sec-

ond wave feminism, which she described as the "untold story." According to Rand, many women during World War 2 worked in factories while the men were at war, "When the second wave women's movement was beginning in the early 1960's, the assumption was the movement was led by professional, well-educated, upper middle-class suburban women." Rand said.

"Many of the women factory workers did not want to go back home to be housewives. They wanted and needed the well-paying jobs they held during the war. The women spent the time from 1945 to the early '60s, fighting to keep their jobs, and working within their organizations and unions. They were involved in starting the second wave feminist movement," Rand said.

Kimberly Gardner, a member of the Missouri House

of Representatives in the 77 district in St. Louis, was also part of the introductions. "This conference is very important, because when we talk about the movement, it is about the vote for equal opportunities for all," Gardner said. "We ask you to encourage women, as well as men with the same ideas to support universal rights for all," Gardner said.

The conference included a line-up that featured keynote speaker and feminist scholar Brigid O'Farrell, the author of "Rocking the Boat-Union Women's Voices, 1915-1975." "I look forward to a discussion of how we can move forward with one movement. The challenge for each of us in the room today, is how we can use our history to help in our continuing struggle for women's equality, O'Farrell said. She then quoted Eleanor Roosevelt who said at a 1955

convention, "We can't just talk, we've got to act."

The Veteran Feminists of America is a nonprofit organization for those who were involved in activism during the second wave of the feminist movement. The aim of the organization is to chronicle material from archives and oral histories about the second wave women's movement for the benefit of journalists, historians and other scholars of feminism. The end goal of VFA is to encourage the solidarity forged during years of impassioned activism, to honor feminist heroes, as well as to document the history of the women's movement. For more information about Veteran Feminists of America, contact their website at www.vfa.us. VFA also has pages on Facebook and Twitter.





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Gerald Way debuts great solo album 'Hesitant Alien'

JACQUELINE IRIGOYEN
STAFF WRITER

Gerard Way produced "Hesitant Alien" after the break up of his former band, My Chemical Romance. Way, who was the former lead singer, had broken his silence and made his way back into the music business as a solo act. My Chemical Romance split up in late 2013, after the band expressed different views about where it was headed.

In the midst of what would be the last MCR album, Way was writing some of his own music that would later result in "Hesitant Alien." This music is not associated with anything that he has written and produced before giving Way a certain kind of freedom that he did not have with MCR. It certainly feels like he is using some similar sounds from some of his favorite bands like "Pixies" and "the Smiths." Gerard Way re-invented himself with this record and he did it in a big way.

The song "No Shows" starts off with a guitar ballad and some background vocals by Way. The drumbeats almost seem like they are more of the main

act, while his vocals are more of a background noise. In this case it works out perfectly. Way uses a range of pitches in this song that really showcase his talent.

"Juarez" starts off really heavy with a guitar riff following the drums. This is definitely an angrier song off of Way's album. His vocals consist of yelling and a lot of angry guitar solos.

"Drug Store Perfume" is more melancholic and classical. The overall feel reminds this reviewer of an '80s prom dance. This is a love ballad about a girl who has waited for the real deal when it comes to falling in love, but she is having a hard time finding it. It is one of Way's more personal songs.

"How's It Going to Be" seems upbeat and employs a synthesizer which adds to that happy feeling. However, after looking at the lyrics like, "You made a promise then you hide, and you said we'd all be dead by twenty-five," it does not seem quite so joyful. The song almost feels like Way is singing this to

Gerard Way

Hesitant Alien



IMAGE COURTESY OF WARNER BROS./REPRISE RECORDS

Hesitant Alien cover art

a particular person, or more than one, but either way he is definitely sending a message.

"Brother" is another personal song from this record. When Way was in MCR, he was battling drug and alcohol addiction and it almost took his life more than once. This song talks about the things needed to bring out a certain feeling or emotion. Way uses a lot of metaphors in this song that make sense, considering where he was mentally and

physically during these last few years.

Overall, this album is remarkable. Gerard Way found himself and found his own voice, and is making a name for himself. This album really shows how talented and original he is as an artist. With any musician who goes solo after a band break up, there is an element of taking a big chance with how people will react. Way took that chance and he did not disappoint.

GRADE : B+

STL fries fish and chicken

WILLIAM PATTERSON
STAFF WRITER

If one is tired of the monotony of cafeteria food, a good change-up would be the St. Louis Fish and Chicken Grill located at the intersection of New Flo-rissant Road and Airport Road. St. Louis Fish and Chicken provides a variety of fried fish and poultry dishes. Along with those meals, other entrees such as burgers, Philly cheesesteaks and T-bone steaks are available. They serve beverages and desserts such as cheesecake, too. A dieting individual is not highly recommended by the reviewer to dine in at.

People who walk in this restaurant will notice that there is not much room to line up at the counter or seating room inside, giving it an intimate, somewhat hole-in-the-wall feel. There is seating outside, if one chooses to enjoy their meal outside. It is open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

St. Louis Fish and Chicken has a multitude of menu items of various sizes. One menu option is the chicken wings. It comes in orders as small as three wings with French fries for \$4, or as large as 100 wings for \$60. The 100 wings order does not come with fries. Another chicken option is a chicken mix consisting of chicken wings, thighs and legs. The pricing is similar to the chicken wing options. Another choice is the chicken dinner. One can choose from chicken tenders, nuggets or gizzards. Chicken dinners are served with fries and cost up to \$6 for the small, half pound option or \$9 for the large whole pound option.

There are several fish options. Fish dinners are served with fries in small and large sizes. One can choose tilapia, catfish, jack fillet or shrimp. Jumbo shrimp is the most expensive item, costing almost \$11 for the small portion and \$19 for the large one. Similar to the chicken selections, one can also get fish trays in family size portions as small as

12 assorted pieces for \$24 and as large as 50 pieces for \$80.

Sandwiches are additional items on the menu. Choose from options such as cheeseburgers, Philly cheesesteaks and gyros. All sandwiches come with fries and cost under \$8. After the sandwiches are the salad choices and side orders. These include chicken ravioli, onion rings and okra, with prices ranging from about \$2 to \$6. Listed desserts provide people the choice of small or large size cakes and pies. Steak options one can choose from are T-bones and rib-eye steaks. These options also come with shrimp or potatoes.

During a Saturday evening visit, the restaurant was a bit crowded. Although this was the case, this reviewer still receive his food quickly. For dinner, this reviewer ordered a small chicken gizzards meal. The meal consisted of half a pound of fried chicken gizzards and fries. The chicken gizzards were very flavorful and well-seasoned. The food was very hot, since it is not cooked until ordered. This makes it fresher. The meal cost about \$5 and some change, not too expensive for a college student.

St. Louis Fish and Chicken is one of several restaurants one can visit by riding the free Ferguson Lunch Trolley, a shuttle that takes students from the University of Missouri-St. Louis campus throughout Ferguson to different restaurants such as The Whistle Stop and the neighborhood Imo's Pizza. This is a great option for students who do not want to lose their parking spot, do not have a car, or would like to save on gas. The Ferguson trolley runs every Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the afternoon. It picks students up at several locations around the UMSL campus and will take them back to campus, similar to the UMSL shuttle service.

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Century Room C, third floor MSC
Refreshments served afterwards.



Meet Courtney McCall, Vice President of Strategic Communications for the Missouri Foundation for Health. Ms. McCall will present "Finding your community with your communications," and then offer a Q&A for students about finding a job in strategic communications.

Ad Core, the student Advertising Club in the College of Fine Arts and Communications, is sponsoring this program. Membership in Ad Core is free to all UMSL students. To reserve space for your group, contact Dr. Dennis Ganahl, ganahld@umsl.edu, Ad Core faculty advisor.

ad
core

Triton volleyball beats S&T rivals

ERIC HARRIS
SPORTS EDITOR

Going into the Mark Twain Building Friday night, October 3, the University of Missouri – St. Louis volleyball team knew what to expect from Missouri University of Science and Technology. Just two weeks ago, the Tritons traveled to Rolla, Missouri to take on the Miners. They returned with a disappointing 3-1 loss.

The Tritons came out in the first set on the offensive, coming from behind to win the first set with Allie Ewing, senior, liberal studies, scoring the final point to win the first set 25-21.

UMSL posted a powerful second set score of 25-22. In the third set the Tritons were able to make a come back and held the score close.

The Tritons capitalized on the momentum built up in the third, to win a close fourth set 25-22. Reversing the result with a 3-1 win over S&T in an exciting fashion.

Jory Siebenmorgen, sophomore, studio art, led the team with 15 kills, followed closely by Ewing with 12 kills and Carly Ochs, junior, with 11.

This thrilling victory comes off the heels of a tough loss to in-town rivals, Maryville University, with 3-1. The Tritons volleyball team followed up their victory over Missouri S&T by defeating Drury University the following afternoon



Junior Jory Siebenmorgen leaps to strike the ball against S&T

in a close game in all five sets with a final score of 3-2. Tritons took the first, fourth and fifth sets, set scores were 25-12, 21-25, 24-26, 25-22 and 15-9 respectively. In Saturday's game, Siebenmorgen and Ochs led the team with 15 kills each, followed by Jessica Ploss, junior, criminal

justice, with 10.

With these two wins added to the record book, UMSL's volleyball team currently stands 9-5 overall and 6-3 in conference. Next week, they travel to Kansas City and Liberty, Missouri to take on Rockhurst University and Wil-

liam Jewell College before heading to the Great Lakes Valley Conference and Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Crossover Tournament (GLVC/GLIAC) October 17-18 in Aurora, Illinois.

Fall tennis ends at home

ERIC HARRIS
SPORTS EDITOR

The fall individual portion of the tennis season came to a close Sunday, October 5th when the University of Missouri – St. Louis hosted their first Women's Tournament. This tournament provided some solid competition for the Tritons. It featured other local schools such as Lindenwood University, Maryville University and Truman State University. The Triton's tennis team now has approximately a three-month break to prepare for the duals portion of the season, which starts in late January.

Highlights from the men's side include Tim McLarty, senior, international business, and Alberto Maza Martin, freshman, business administration, winning their flights at the Billiken Classic while Dario Vidaurre, sophomore, business, went 3-1 in his flight at the Eastern Illinois University Invitational. At the Intercollegiate Tennis Association Midwest Regionals, Nils Mueggenburg, senior, international business, along with Maza Martin made it to the semifinals in doubles, while Harry Heyburn, senior, economics, made the top 16 by upsetting the No. 10 seed player from conference rival Lewis University.

McLarty discussed the first portion of the season saying, "The fall [season] was a little bit up and down, we had both successes and disappointments but we're feeling extremely positive and upbeat going into the spring [season]. In the past, we've always been a better 'singles' team than 'doubles' team, but we had some success at the ITA tournament in

doubles, so that was a nice surprise."

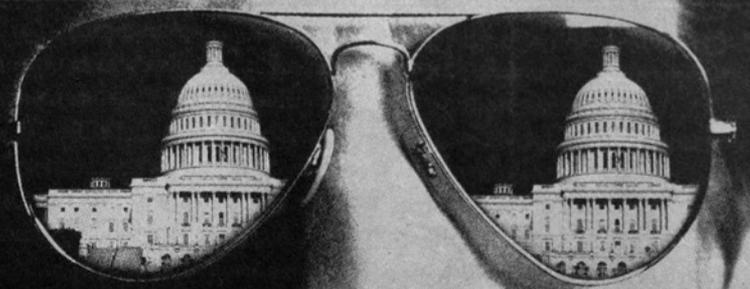
On the women's doubles team, Renee Verboven, junior, civil engineering, and Annie Hayes, freshman, undecided, along with doubles team Leanne Cantalupo, senior, civil engineering, and Natalia Carvalhais, junior, business, made it to the top 16 round at the Women's ITA Midwest Regionals. Coach Rich Gyllenborg is interested to see how the women will fare this spring stating, "[The] women have all been solid so far. Cantalupo has had a good fall, freshman Annie (Hayes) has done good, too. Verboven and Carvalhais went to the ITAs and did great. They are practicing hard. They are competing hard." Awaiting results from UMSL Women's Tennis Tournament Oct 4-5.

Going into this winter's training session, Coach Gyllenborg already has plans set and knows what they will need to work on. "We had a little wake up call, which is good news going into the spring. It [fall season] was kind of a rollercoaster ride," Gyllenborg said. "I think they are more focused now and will take this winter more seriously. Our mental toughness needs to get stronger. We have a lot of skill. Our doubles need to be better. We work on mental toughness through our physical workouts and getting our confidence and skill level[s] higher for doubles. We have a tough schedule this spring. I expect the players to be better than they are now. We have had discussions at practice, we will give them the tools that they need."

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IN THEATERS OCTOBER 10TH

No puff-zone passes, years ago

CYNTHIA FORD
STAFF WRITER

The verdict is in, and actually, it has been for quite some time now. As of January 1, 2012 the University of Missouri St. Louis has joined other college campuses to become a smoke-free zone. According to the American Nonsmokers' Rights Foundation, there are at least 500 universities and colleges that have campus-wide smoking bans. Many students wonder where this policy came from and where their opinions factored in the debate. Some students argued that smoking cigarettes helps them manage their daily stressors from college life, while others propose that 'smoking provides excuses for stress.' It is not only dangerous to the smoker, but also to the environment and their peers. Well, whether students are for smoking on campus or against it, the policy has been in effect for some time now. However, based on recent surveys conducted, the fact that UMSL is now a smoke-free campus came as a surprise to students: only 2% of those surveyed felt that UMSL is a zero-tolerance nonsmoking campus. UMSL may identify itself as a smoke-free campus, but the consequences of the violators remains unknown. I polled the streets (or the classrooms) of UMSL to find what students really thought about the policy.

Many students wondered where the policy actually came from and why they didn't get a vote in the matter. It turns out that students actually did have a say. According to Dan Rosner, accounting and management and Student Government Association president, "The smoking policy came about in 2008 when the student group Peers Advocating Smoke-free Solutions brought for a referendum to Student Government where it was passed by a student wide vote." (Bastien 2010, "New smoking ban policy to take effect Jan. 1, 2011"). This statement seemed to agree with the feelings of most UMSL students, almost 59% of students surveyed felt that college campuses should be allowed to enforce policies of smoking on campus. When asked if schools should have a zero-tolerance policy for smoking, the results were exactly 50%-50%.

According to the UMSL website, 'we are tobacco-free on all indoor and outdoor campus properties, which include university-owned and university-leased buildings, parking garages, parking lots, outdoor grounds, sidewalks and vehicles.' While it is prohibited to smoke on campus, students still have the ability to smoke in their cars. Many smokers find this solution to be incon-

venient.

So what about the smokers? Do they have a say in the matter? Their stance on this issue is quite obvious when anyone sees a group of smokers gathered outside of the Social Science Building during their break. Where some student smokers feel that their rights have been invaded by the new policy, the nonsmokers already felt invaded by the smoke itself.

There are a great number of alternatives to nicotine smoking. Many of the students surveyed suggested activities like sports, herbal teas and exercising as opposed to smoking. One valid point that arose was that e-cigarettes are perfectly legal at UMSL and have none of the harmful effects of traditional cigarettes.

Although the policy has been in place for almost two years now, a meaningful punishment for policy-breakers has yet to be established. Students surveyed had a few comical suggestions when asked what consequences there should be, such as 'non-smokers [should] hate them', but there were a number of plausible responses. One person suggest-

ed students should be forced to write an 'essay explaining why their prerogative to smoke is more important than the comfort and health of others'.

The majority of students suggested the school charge fines to those found sneaking a smoke on campus, 41% suggested a \$5 fine and about 32% suggested a \$15 fine, while only 15% felt that a \$50 fine would be reasonable. The best suggestion I found was to have smoking zones, actual designated areas for student smokers. Since the area outside of SSB seems to be the smoker hot-zone, why not have the smoking zone near that area?

Students should also feel free to voice their concerns. UMSL has always been a campus which encourages student opinions and this case is no exception. As the debate continues, students must recognize that the policy has already taken effect, whether or not they agree with it. As we come to accept or reject this regulation we also must take into consideration the rights of others, smokers and non-smokers, alive.

Mandatory attendance called into question

CULLEN WILLIAMS
STAFF WRITER

The life of a student can be quite hectic. Between going to class, homework, job and other day-to-day activities there is not much time for anything else, and what happens when these obligations interfere with each other? What happens if a student has to skip class to cover a work shift or if they miss a day or two in order to take a much needed break? For the majority of classes they would lose, what many professors call, 'participation points.' These 'points' are put in place to make sure that students attend every class, however; should professors make attendance mandatory, and should it automatically affect your final grade?

The University of Missouri - St. Louis academic policy relays the message that, 'Students are expected to attend class regularly and, in accordance with the UMSL bylaws, faculty may establish penalties for excessive absences. Students absent for more than three successive classes may be reported to the dean.' And while I agree that students should not miss consecutive class time, a day here and there throughout the semester should not result in a penalty towards the student's final grade.

The other side of this argument suggested that UMSL and many universities, for that matter, along with the professor(s), require students to attend class for a number of reasons. These reasons would be to keep the class size up or to make sure that the students do well in class since providing a lecture to a class of three students may seem like a waste of time. These are all logical reasons that hold merit, but students are ultimately responsible for their attendance and

should not be penalized when and if a class is missed.

The average student, going to class, doing homework, and working a full-time job, is considered to have an 80 hour 'work' week. These over-worked students are paying anywhere from \$915-\$2500 per class. It should be their choice of whether they attend class or not. That being said, I do not condone missing out on class, but I also do not condone mandatory attendance. The professor is going to get paid regardless of students attending class and the student will be charged for the class regardless of the fact that he or she may miss a few days throughout the semester. It would be wise to attend each and every class, but that is simply not the case.

We are all adults. This is not kindergarten. We live in a fast-paced world where balancing class, homework, work and other activities is an everyday struggle. There are bound to be missed days, and it is these days that may ultimately affect a student's final grade. Whether or not you agree, I feel as though mandatory attendance should be abolished.

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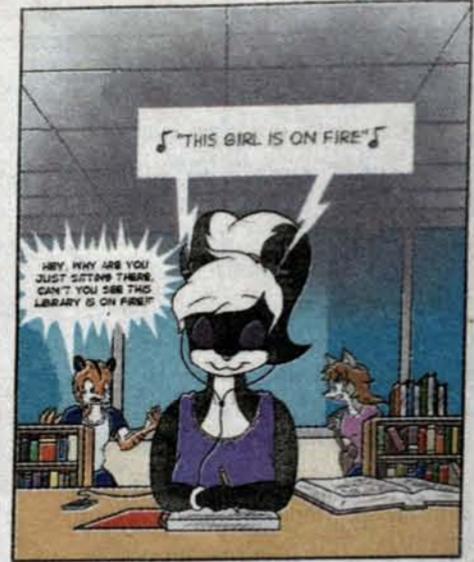
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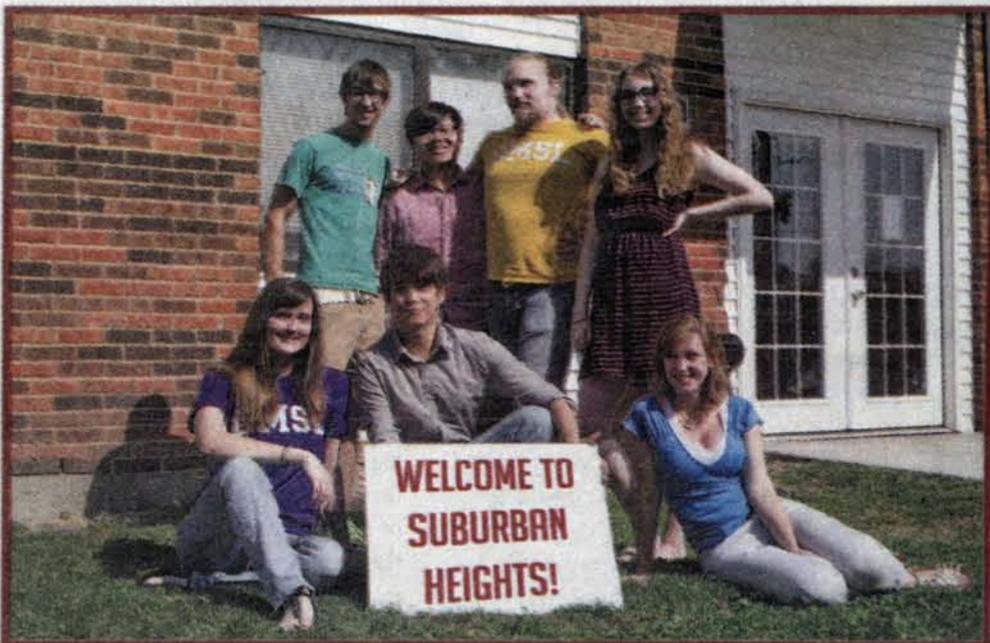
Sasha & Nathan IN: WIRE HAZARD



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