

UMSL'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWS

Weeks of Welcome Picnic

DONNA BRANDY
STAFF WRITER

What better way to kick off the semester and beat the heat than being at the annual Welcome Picnic during the University of Missouri—St. Louis' Weeks of Welcome? Following on the heels of the Serendipity Sendoff, the Welcome Picnic was packed with food, fun, music and exciting giveaways. Lauren Frank, freshman, business, stated, "[I] think it was a good idea to bring all [the] students together and a great way to make memories!" Playing that night was Vote For Pedro, the band who brought back old memories while creating new ones, playing songs such as The Wobble, We Are Family and Happy. Various students took advantage and danced to the variety of songs or just sang along taking a mental trip down memory lane.

The quickest solution to satisfy any gnawing hunger pains was to take a stroll through the food line. It appeared everyone's appetite was satisfied, including vegetarian Clarissa Reel, junior, sociology, who thought, "the food was delicious!" There was plenty to go around and Sodexo kept the tables stocked with veggie burgers, hamburgers, bratwurst,



Picnicing students near the Nosh in the MSC

corn, homemade potato chips, baked beans, fresh fruit, cookies, brownies, colorful rice krispy triangles for dessert along with Coke products to drink.

Not only did everyone walk away on a full stomach, there were various prizes, giveaways and activities for everyone. If students stopped by the registration table located just outside of the Millennium Student Center

cafeteria and swiped their Student ID card, they were automatically registered to win one of the two large UMSL blankets or the sixteen prize bags filled with donated items like coffee mugs and back to school supplies. They could even get a sweet or sour sugar rush having stopped by the Pucker Powder Candy Art station. The bonus giveaway was "a free UMSL blanket which is a really cool thing

to have [because] it will come in really handy this fall," said Marie Steinbach, Manager of Event Services at Touhill Performing Arts Center.

Parents who brought their children, friends who met or came together and faculty and staff who worked the event had the opportunity to get their faces painted, draw on the Virtual Graffiti Wall, receive balloon

art souvenirs, test their strength in friendly competitions on the Bungee Run and the Rock Climb and Slide and challenge each other with the life size Ker Plunk, Connect Four and Jenga games. Just about everyone who attended could find something to enjoy as well as helpful hints for the upcoming school year by stopping at the Coca Cola promotion table which was providing sample tastings of their Vitamin Water Energy drink, stopping by US Bank who was informing everyone that they are 'The Only Bank On Campus' or stopping by the Welcome Center who provided shuttle schedules and maps of the campus. Even Louie got in on the action taking pictures with the children, students, faculty and staff and dancing to the music provided by Vote For Pedro.

Many people worked together to make this a memorable event. "A lot of the departments contribute[d] by offering their support and showing up and encouraging students to come and encouraging everyone in their staff to come as well," said Tegan Klevorn, Coordinator of Student Activities. Those students, faculty and staff who didn't attend missed out on a great time.



Students line-up for free food

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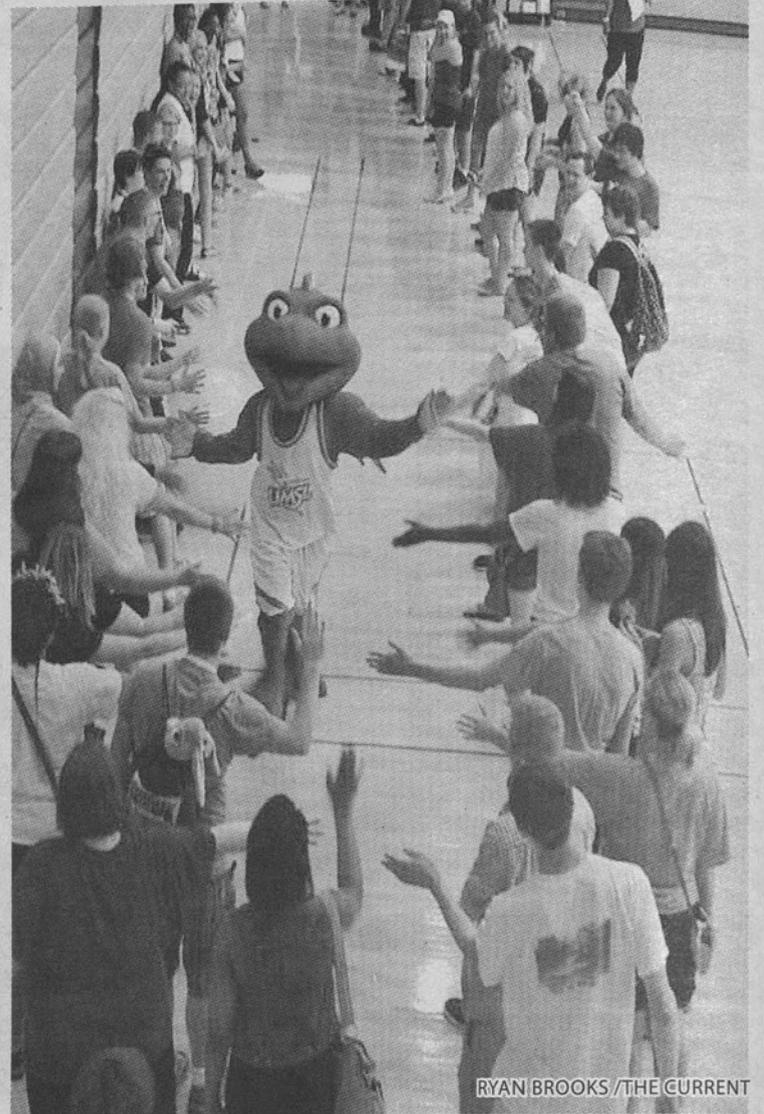
THE CURRENT ONLINE



Incoming honors students attended orientation Aug 22nd



New, returning students mingling at Greek Freeze ice cream social in the Provincial House Dining Hall



Students met Louie at the Welcome Kickoff in Mark Twain

Campus Crime Report

WILLIAM PATTERSON
 SENIOR CRIME REPORTER

There have been multiple car accidents on campus this past week. Both of them have occurred near the Millennium Student Center Parking Garages. The first accident the University of Missouri—St. Louis Police Department described as

minor, occurred on August 25 on West Drive. No one was injured. The next two happened on August 26 within a few hours of each other. The first was reported around 9:30 a.m. near the Millennium North Parking Garage. The second accident, police described as a

hit and run occurred in the Millennium South Parking Garage. No injuries were reported in the accidents. Though not a car accident, a student reported a backpack, computer and personal items stolen from their unlocked car. The perpetrator is still at large.



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THE CURRENT ONLINE

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.

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

The Current is now seeking students to fill a number of positions. These positions are available on a volunteer basis, pay or for internship credit. Applications are available on our website at the-current-online.com. Please submit completed applications to 388 Millennium Student Center or the-currentjobs@umsl.edu to be considered for open positions. For more information, contact us at the-currentjobs@umsl.edu.

UMSL helps reconstruct Natural Bridge Road

CULLEN WILLIAMS
STAFF WRITER

Over the past few months, students who commute to campus via North Hanley Road and Natural Bridge Road may have noticed a bit of a change. In June, construction started to revamp the five-lane road into a two-lane road, running both east and west with a new landscaped median and wider sidewalks. The end goal of the project, named The Natural Bridge Great Streets Project, is to turn the neighborhood surrounding the University of Missouri—St. Louis into a thriving, pedestrian friendly shopping district.

The goal is seen as ambitious by some but for Missouri Department of Transportation's (MODOT) North County Project Manager, Lee Hillner, it is just what the campus and surrounding area needs. Hillner said, "The area is an excellent location for a project of this type due to the characteristics of the local neighborhood along the corridor which includes, in addition to the large UMSL Campus, a MetroLink Station, a County Library, a Post Office, local schools, small retail outlets, plus historic residential communities with pre-World

War II architecture."

Though MODOT is overseeing all the construction, the project was actually conceived on campus. Over the past few years, the University of Missouri—St. Louis has decided to take the initiative in restoring the local area. Betty Van Uum, Senior Official for Public Affairs and Economic Development at UMSL, came up with the idea of reconstructing Natural Bridge and the surrounding area years ago.

After a couple years of research and development, the plans were finalized during the latter part of last year. The project calls for two phases of construction. The first part, currently under construction, includes the 1.5 mile of roadway that runs from Lucas and Hunt Road down to North Hanley Road. As for the second phase, it will add another mile of new roadway from North Hanley Road up until the connection of I-170 and Natural Bridge Road.

There is no deadline for the completion of the project as a whole; however, the first phase, running from Lucas and Hunt Road to North Hanley Road, is

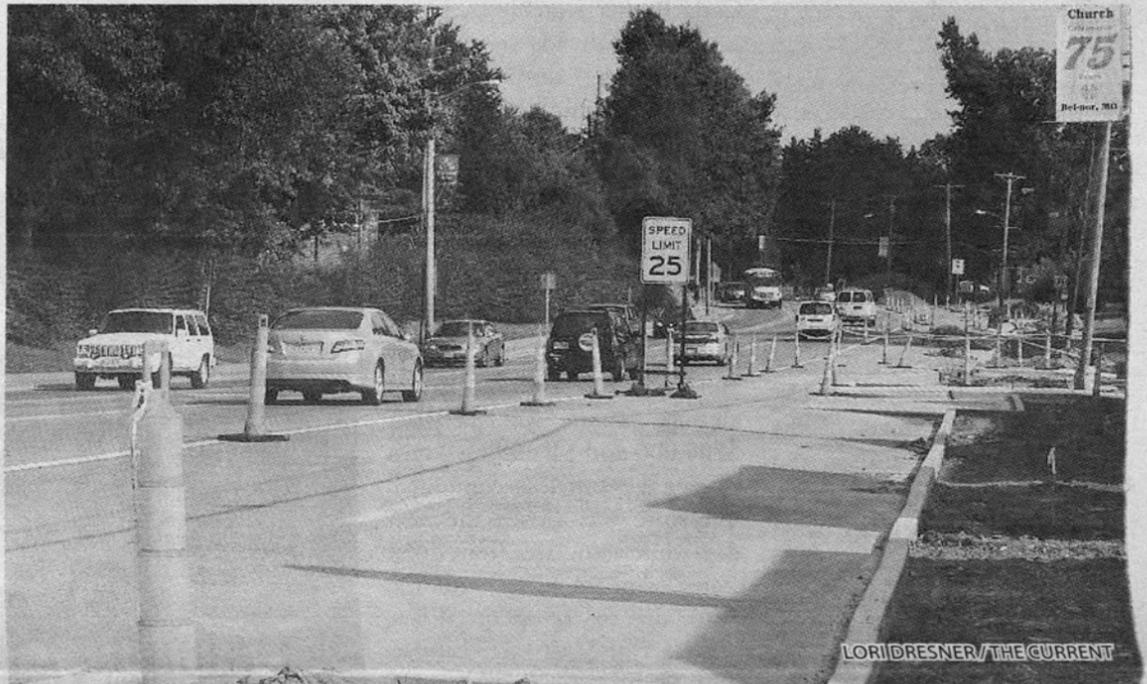
slated to be finished by the end of next year. As for the second phase, "there is no timetable," Hillner said. "MODOT's current funding provides only for maintenance of existing roadway pavement and bridges."

Officials with both UMSL and Great Rivers Greenway are hoping that the finished product will be similar to that of both Wydown Boulevard, next to Washington University, and

North Grand Boulevard, which runs through the middle of St. Louis University. It is anticipated to be more pedestrian and bike friendly with the addition of wider sidewalks, bike lanes and a walking trail which will connect to the existing trail that runs through the campus grounds. The walking trail is being paid for by Great Rivers Greenway.

The first half of the proj-

ect, which is forecasted to cost around \$13 million, is being primarily funded by MODOT, though Great Rivers Greenway and St. Louis County are contributing a small portion. MODOT will provide \$12.1 million, Great Rivers Greenway is providing \$500,000 and St. Louis County will contribute the final \$400,000 to the project.



Natural Bridge Road Construction

The CCDC hosts Ferguson Community Forums

KAT RIDDLER
NEWS EDITOR

The Chancellor's Cultural Diversity Council (CCDC) hosted two open Campus Community Forums on August 27 and 28 to begin a community dialogue following the death of Michael Brown and public reaction following his shooting. Students, faculty and staff of the University of Missouri—St. Louis and community members filled the Pilot House in the Millennium Student Center on August 27. The second forum was held at Marillac Auditorium on Thursday at 4 p.m.

In an email to the UMSL community, the CCDC explained that the goal of the event was to call "upon members of the UMSL community to bring their voices, thoughts and ideas as we seek to develop community strategies for the future." Following an afternoon marked by storms, the event got underway at 5:30 p.m. with about 50 in attendance.

Pierre Laclède Honors College Dean Robert Bliss and co-chair of CCDC opened the event asking for "civil discus-

sions" to engage in a respectful dialogue. Chancellor Thomas George soon followed, commending the efforts of the small subcommittee for quickly organizing such an event to hear concerns.

The forum was organized into several tables of about 7 participants with a CCDC volunteer facilitator who would direct the conversations to his or her fullest potential. Harlon Hodge, adjunct instructor of social work, served as moderator for the event, asking each group to send a representative after each question to share their discussions with the entire assembly. Hodge presented three questions, gave 15 minutes to discuss with groups and then gave each group's spokesperson 30 seconds to present their collected conversation points. Each table's findings were then posted on a wall and all participants were given a sheet of round stickers which they then could place next to the items that they felt were the best suggestions in their opinion.

The questions were (1) What experiences, images or stories will have a lasting image on you? (2) What are the lessons for UMSL from the Ferguson experience? (3) What actions should we take now to improve the UMSL community as individuals, groups and a university?

Most were happy with the non-typical organization of the forum but one man was not. A community member appeared

agitated by the format of the forum and spoke out about his concerns briefly before walking out. Hodge handled it by explaining that "there are about 50 people here and if we gave them each 2 minutes we would run out of time." Hodge followed the man out to listen to him directly but the man did not return.

McKena Miller, freshman, nursing, liked the forum discussion but said "I wish there were

more students there." Amber Daly, junior, psychology, agreed with Miller's observation. Both Miller and Daly were not from St. Louis. Daly said, "It would have been nice to hear more thoughts from local students."

All of the suggestion sheets were collected at the end of the evening and are being compiled into a report for review by the CCDC on what can be done.

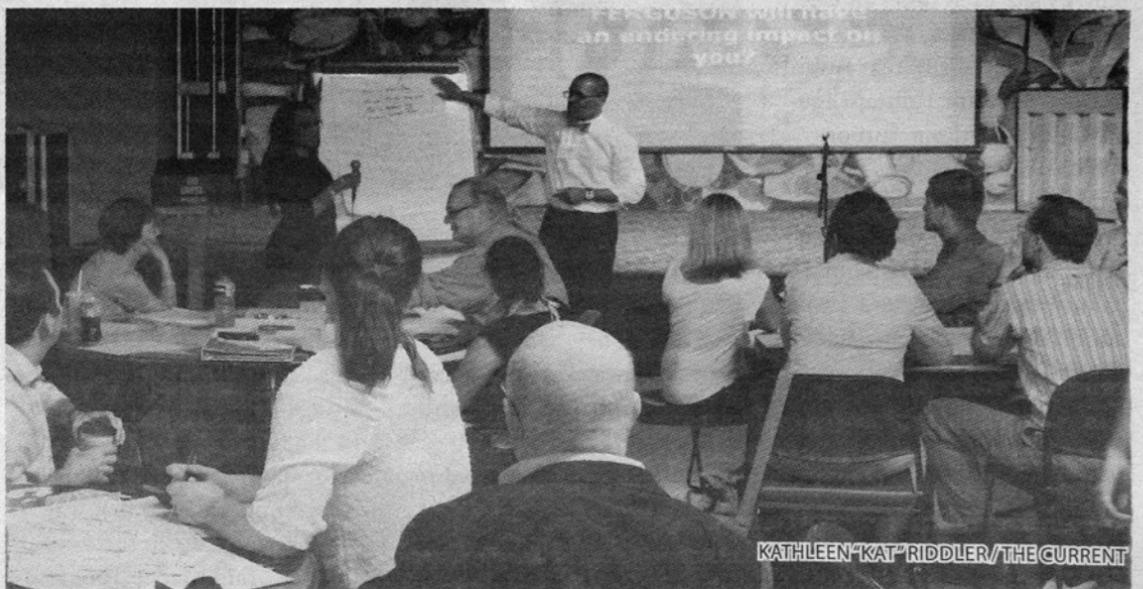


Table representative presenting at Campus Community Forum in Pilot House

Businesses recovering in Ferguson

CARMEN HENSE
STAFF WRITER

Amidst the socio-political upheaval and the destruction of businesses on West Florissant Avenue in Ferguson, Missouri, there is hope. All is not lost. The community has begun to rebuild after a week of emotion-fueled catastrophes.

On August 9, 2014, Michael Brown was gunned down by the police. In outrage, citizens of Ferguson began protesting the following day. After some time, a mob even developed that began looting stores on West Florissant Avenue between Ferguson Avenue and Highway 270.

What started out as a peaceful candlelight vigil for the slain victim ended with days and nights filled with rioting, looting and protesting. There was a large gathering of people, consisting of members of the Brown family, civil leaders and people from the neighborhood. The tensions caused by what had happened turned to anger, and that anger circulated within the large crowd of people. A surplus of police officers from different municipalities began showing up to assist in keeping the crowd under control. The demonstration on that Sunday turned into a riot.

There were several businesses broken into and looted in the aforementioned area. One of these businesses was Quik Trip, a gas station with a mini mart located at West Florissant and Canfield. It was firebombed, eventually collapsing entirely. Another Quik Trip located only 2 miles away on West Florissant near Highway 270, was also looted. The manager on duty, Cody Becker stated, "the store at 270 had already re-opened." However, the store that was completely demolished at West Florissant and Canfield will not be re-opening.

Another store that was looted and vandalized was the Ferguson Wal-Mart. Manager, Michael Klosterhoff, said that looters came into the store on Sunday August 10th just before closing. There was between \$700,000 and \$1 million worth of damage and loss combined. The store was closed the next day, while associates from other stores came to assist with the clean up to re-open. When asked if Wal-Mart would move from the location in Ferguson, the store manager replied, "Wal-Mart is staying and is open for business."

Another store that was heavily hit by looters was the Shoe Carnival located in the Ferguson Festival Mall on West Florissant near Highway 270. The manager on duty could not give any information about the store at this time. However, the store is open for business.

There is speculation on whether the Michael Brown

shooting and the global attention on Ferguson have hurt the city. There is also the question of whether these incidences have caused damage to the shopping district on West Florissant in Ferguson.

Presently, many stores are open for business and at the public's service. Although millions of dollars of damage

was done to the businesses, all is not lost. What is needed to keep the stores open for business is customers. These neighborhood stores are still open for business for the people of the community. The road to recovery may be long but an influx of revenue will make a quick recovery more feasible.



Corner Coffee House is one of Ferguson's businesses open and looking for customers now calm has returned. UMSL students can reach this and other Ferguson restaurants by riding the free Ferguson Lunch Trolley on Wednesdays.

Students become artistic at Paintapalooza

DONNA BRANDY
STAFF WRITER

Pierre Laclède Honors College Student Association (PLHCSA) didn't let the weather stop them from expressing themselves at their annual Paintapalooza event. On Thursday, August 28 war was declared (a dry paint war that is)! Approximately 75 students gathered on the front lawn of the Pierre Laclède Honors College at 5 p.m. to face each other in the battle of all battles. Winner of Organization of the Year Award in April 2013 for Paintapalooza, Katelyn Dierksen, junior, English, said, "that was pretty awesome" so they held it again because they were able to plan better by having more paint, paint water balloons and a paint bucket dump raffle. The rules are simple and straightforward. At the beginning of the event, everyone selects one cup of dry paint, aligns themselves face to face in a straight line, tries not to get the paint into each other's eyes and at the sound of go, "have at it!" as Dierksen put it.



Students participate in paint war at PLHCSA's Paintapalooza

At first sight, it would seem that the event is just a way to kick off the new semester. However, there was also an underlining theme: charity. Plain white T-shirts were sold at \$2.00 each for any person who wanted to participate. Of course, there were some brave individuals who dared to participate in

their own clothing, taking the cheapest route to tie-dying. The funds collected from the sales this year will be donated to The Bridge homeless shelter located in the Centenary United Methodist Church. "[The Bridge] is St. Louis based so that way we're giving back to the community," said Marlee Thomas,

senior, biology and President of PLHCSA.

This event brought out many brave individuals who accepted the challenge. Having only heard about the event, Charles Frye, junior, accounting, said, "so many people have urged me this time. I can't get out of it now." Erik Vazquez,

senior, international business, said, "It was not what I expected. It was really colorful." Ashley Taylor, freshman, biology, noted, "I think it was a lot of fun. It was crazy and wild."

Inquiring minds might want to know if the students had any kind of strategy before and after the 'war'. Let's just say some did, but most did not. They charged right in, throwing dry paint on any and everyone, including the friends they came with. If it appeared a person did not have enough paint on them, someone doused them with more. After each round of battle, more and more of the students became colorful pieces of artwork—a compilation of determined individuals who stamped their mark on each other and in the history books of PLHCSA. Only experiencing the event firsthand could truly capture the excitement and explosive fun that Paintapalooza was and will continue to be as PLHCSA carries it on!

Mercantile Library houses art, history on UMSL campus

TYLER RYAN STAFF WRITER

Contained within University of Missouri-St. Louis' Thomas Jefferson Library building is the St. Louis Mercantile Library. Founded in 1846 by civic leaders and philanthropists, this specialty library became affiliated with the University of Missouri system in 1998. Along with books, the St. Louis Mercantile has an abundance of historic paintings, manuscripts, photographs, sculptures and other assorted artifacts and memorabilia.

The library is also home to numerous newspaper, railroad, photo and film archives. Notable among the library's numerous collections and objects are works by famous American artists such as Audubon, Meeker and Deas. It also houses the newspaper archives and printing morgue of the St. Louis Globe-Democrat and special collections of presidents Washington, Jefferson and Theodore Roosevelt.

The Mercantile offers free tours on Saturdays at 11 a.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Check the library's website for more information: www.umsl.edu/mercantile or phone 314-516-7240.

The four major collections currently on display on the second floor of the library are the Fine Arts Collection, the John W. Barriger III National Railroad Library, the Herman T. Pott National Inland Waterways Library and the Dr. Allen B. and Helen S.



Political campaign buttons and other memorabilia are part of the Mercantile Library's collection of historical objects and art

Shopmaker American Political Collection.

The Library has collected art since it was founded and now has a large collection of landscape paintings from the 19th century to the present as well as an extensive print and photograph collection. The inland waterways and railroad collections document the history of each of their respective modes of transportation. The collections contain items such as business records, maps, manuscripts and a variety of other artifacts that detail the history of America's rivers and railroads. Similarly, the Shopmaker Political Collection shows the history and evolution of American political campaigns through objects like campaign

buttons, political cartoons and even cigars and razors. Among the displays on the first floor are the Bruce and Barbara Feldacker Labor Art Collection along with selections from the Library's painting collection.

Although a large part of the first floor is currently closed for exhibit installation, things will change on October 20 when the new "Mapping St. Louis History" exhibition will open in celebration of the city's 250-year anniversary. The exhibition will contain maps detailing the development of the city before its founding all the way up to the present day. The exhibit will also have a gallery featuring "now and then" comparison photos of particular monuments and places throughout the city.

In the spring the Mercantile will play host to the annual St. Louis Fine Print, Rare Book and Paper Arts Fair. The fair is held the first weekend in May and provides a unique opportunity for students and residents of the St. Louis area to see rare books and enjoy works of art from dealers from all over the country.

The use of the Mercantile's many resources are free to UMSL students and the library itself provides a nice quiet place to study. Students are also able to conduct research on rare books and manuscripts in the library's own Reading Room. While free to UMSL students, the Mercantile remains a membership library to others. Besides access to

the millions of books in the University of Missouri-St. Louis catalog, benefits of membership to the Mercantile include access to special lectures and informal talks, openings of special exhibitions, colloquia and many other programs. The Mercantile is open during the same hours as the Thomas Jefferson Library building: Monday-Thursday 7:30 a.m. - 10:30 p.m., Friday 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m., Saturday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., and Sunday noon - 8 p.m. The Reading Room is open Monday from 12:30 p.m. - 4 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., and is closed on Friday and weekends.

The Rentals are back with 'Lost in Alphaville'

MUSIC REVIEW

JACQUELINE IRIGOYEN
STAFF WRITER

It has been 15 years since The Rentals have come out with a full-length album (the severely undervalued 1999 "Seven More Minutes") but their new album "Lost in Alphaville" is not necessarily new music. The main members of this group include Weezer's ex-bassist Matt Sharp, Pat Wilson, Petra Haden, Cherielynn Westrich and Rod Cervera.

The Rentals collaborated with other artists for this new album, such as the Black Keys' Patrick Carney on drums, Lucius' Jess Wolfe and Holly Laessig on vocals,

Ryan Slego of Ozma on guitar and Lauren Chipman of the Section Quartet playing violin and piano and re-recorded the songs from their 2009 multimedia project "Songs About Time," a project that consisted of photographs, short films and three mini albums.

The need for "Lost in Alphaville" to be different and new is something to be expected after the long hiatus but the collaboration has brought on vocal and instrumental confusion. Compared to "Seven More Minutes," the lyrics seem

more personal and the inclusion of a variety of instruments is unusual. While fans may be expecting something different, the instrumentals and collaboration aspect may be the weakest point of this album.

The constant mid-range, out-of-breath kind of feel from lead singer Sharp and the overpowering of the instruments almost make the album feel more like background music. Having artists collaborate on an album can be a great thing for certain songs or even a whole album. In this case, it seems as if there should be some really great moments happening in these songs but the important aspects

are being overshadowed by constant guitar solos.

After listening to the entire album about three or four times the overall feel is personal with a little bit of edge. It still has that consistent '90s punk feel that the group has always used in their music. If you want something to listen to while getting some work done or looking for a music vibe that is related to The Replacements, Sonic Youth or the Lemonheads, "Lost In Alphaville" would be a great buy. There are some possible major hits with this album and with any long term absence, The Rentals have grown and matured not only musically but in the delicate lyrics that they have chosen

for this album.

While the album as a whole did not particularly make this reviewer want to go buy it, there are a couple of songs such as "irrational things" with its apparent violin and piano use that adds to the romantic feel of the lyrics. "Damarias" has a very vivid violin part along with Laessig's singing solo for most of the song, which made it different from the rest of the album. Then there are "1000 Seasons" and "Stardust" with their melancholy lyrics but a semi-upbeat tempo that not only feeds off The Rentals' work now but brought back some former sounds and memories of Sharp's Weezer years.

New year brings new attitude for tennis

ERIC HARRIS
SPORTS EDITOR

Tennis is one of those sports that calls upon strong individuals. The University of Missouri – St. Louis' Tennis programs are made up of these such strong individuals and have both earned a NCAA Division II top 40 ranking.

The Spring 2014 Tennis season ended with major highlights for both the University of Missouri – St. Louis Tennis teams when they both qualified for nationals. This is especially sweet for the Women's team because it is the first time in program history they qualified for the national tournament. Reaching this high point and making history has given both teams a new drive. The goal is qualifying for nationals again and going even farther. Head Tennis Coach Rick Gyllenborg said, "We have two competitive teams and last year gave them a good taste of Nationals. They both want to go back. We have enough talent and enough maturity to make it back and do well." Women's Tennis captain Leanne Cantalupo, senior, civil engineering, said, "We have high expectations for this season. Our success in the spring has definitely helped us all to be better motivated for this season." Tim McLarty, senior, international business, said, "I feel like we will match last year. We belief amongst ourselves that we will up what we did last year we will up what we did last year and go past that."

Both teams have plenty of athletes taking leadership roles this season. Coach Gyllenborg also said, "We have more matured teams this year." The men's

team is led by three outstanding seniors, Harry Heyburn, senior, economics, Nils Mueggenburg, senior, international business and Tim McLarty, senior, international business. McLarty said, "We all have worked hard over the past four years to revamp the team philosophy, make it a lot more professional. We want passionate people that want to win. We've reshaped it to a team that knows it can win. At practice I help set the tone for the day, and if I'm slacking anyone can tell me to pick it up, we're all in it together. We hope to instill a competitive philosophy for the UMSL team. We've done quite a bit to get it to this level and we want the young guys to continue it. We take it seriously."

Upperclassmen on the Women's team include Leanne Cantalupo, Lina Parra, senior, psychology, Natalia Carvalhais, junior, business, Chandler Duchaine, junior, business marketing, Selena Smith, junior, civil engineering and Renee Verboven, junior, civil engineering. "We are all looking forward to this season. The team is very close because we have so many upperclassmen" said Chandler Duchaine.

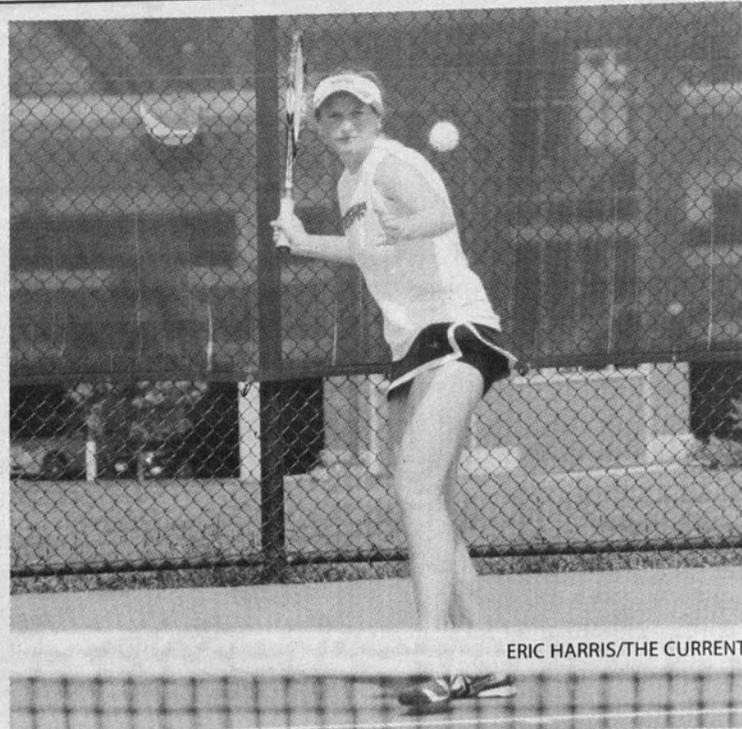
Summer for both teams have been spent training. Duchaine said, "Over the summer I did a lot of lifting and running. Also I played a lot of tennis back at home." McLarty said, "I spent the summer doing a lot of coaching which is a great way to learn new things about the sport from different coaches. It was good to keep a racket in my have

and stay on the court."

The college tennis season is split into two halves. In the fall the team competes at three individual tournaments while the spring holds the more competitive half of the season for both teams where they compete in over twenty dual meets in and out of conference. The first of the individual tournaments this fall is the Billiken Classic hosted by St. Louis University (SLU). This tournament includes teams from SLU, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville and Lewis and Clark Community College. McLarty said, "The SLU tournament is always a tough first tournament to come back to, which is great." This year it will be held in Forest Park on September 5 and 6. Start times on both days is 8:45 a.m.. Both UMSL Tennis teams will compete in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) regional tournament which decides the players' individual ranking. This year for ITA the women will be going to Grand Rapids, Michigan and the men are going to Indianapolis, Indiana.

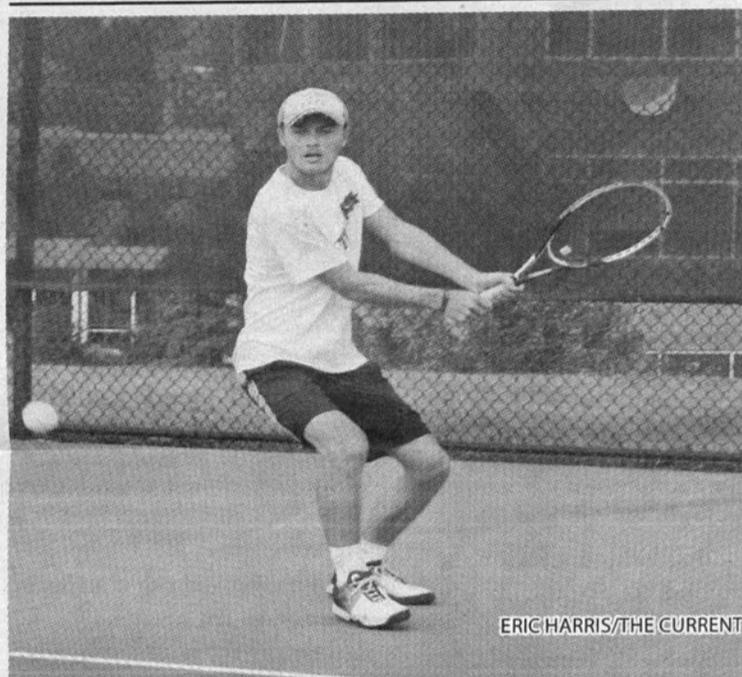
This fall, the men's squad will also compete in The Eastern Illinois Tournament and UMSL will be hosting its first women's tournament October 4 - 5.

Whether it is this fall at the Billiken Classic or at our first ever Women's Tournament or this spring at one of our many dual meets, make sure you come out and show your support for our nationally ranked Triton Tennis teams!



ERIC HARRIS/THE CURRENT

Senior Leanne Cantalupo doing the "100 ball drill"



ERIC HARRIS/THE CURRENT

Senior Tim McLarty focuses on his backhand technique

Will newly developed cohesion be the catalyst for success?

ERIC HARRIS
SPORTS EDITOR

When asked about the University of Missouri – St. Louis Women's Volleyball team's exceptional offseason, Emily Bragaw, senior, occupational therapy, said, "Everything just gelled at the end of last season." During this summer while most went home, more than half of the university's Volleyball program decided to take this offseason seriously. Eight of the team's ten returning starters elected to spend the summer on campus to attend summer sessions and to frequent open gyms twice a week. Alison Ewing, senior, liberal arts said, "We stayed over the summer, lifted and kept our skills sharp." Senior captain, Haley Brightwell, graduate student, said, "We trained twice as hard this year. There is less pressure. It feels more natural and comfortable."

Jory Siebenmorgen, sophomore, studio art, shared a similar level of enthusiasm and said, "A large portion of the team knows what to expect now. We have a more positive attitude. We can move on from small errors better and we can focus on the big picture."

This devotion has especially gotten fourth year Volleyball head coach Ryan Young excited for the 2014 season. He said, "With ten returners we will be a much more consistent team this year. They are better at staying focused, which allows for more in-depth game planning."

The 2014 team is well balanced between experienced players and new, young talent. Young explained, "Senior Haley Brightwell has developed a lot over the past three years, senior Emily Bragaw is always full of

energy, junior Lindsay Meyer's defense separates her from other setters in the conference, senior Alison Ewing and sophomore Jory Siebenmorgen are both extremely powerful and make a lot of plays for us."

When asked about this year's new faces, Young said, "Junior transfer Erin Walker from Kirkwood Community College (Iowa) is well rounded and has good communication, freshman Gina Pezze knows the game well for a freshman, Madyson Abeyta is a great athlete with good hands, and freshman Kristen Uradzionek is raw and powerful and should get a lot of kills for us this season."

One major highlight from last season was UMSL Volleyball's first ever All American, senior outside hitter Chelsea Burkle who led the

team with 410 kills last season. UMSL Volleyball has also been picked third in the Great Lakes Valley Conference West in a recent coaches poll.

The Triton Volleyball team will kick off their three-month season this weekend when they head to Evansville, Indiana for the 2014 Dunn Hospitality Invitational where they will face Ohio Dominican University, West Florida University, Hillsdale

College and University of North Alabama. September 13, UMSL hosts its season opener versus the University of Illinois Springfield at 5 p.m. quickly followed the next day when we host McKendree at 1 p.m. There are plenty of chances to see some action packed games. No one said it better than an enthusiastic Jory Siebenmorgen, "Come to our games, watch us play!"

Tritons in Town this Week:

Friday- Men's and Women's Tennis in Forest Park for the Billiken Classic---Women's Soccer vs. Waldorf @5 p.m.

Saturday- Men's and Women's Tennis in Forest Park for the Billiken Classic

Sunday- Women's Soccer vs. Lindenwood @1 p.m.

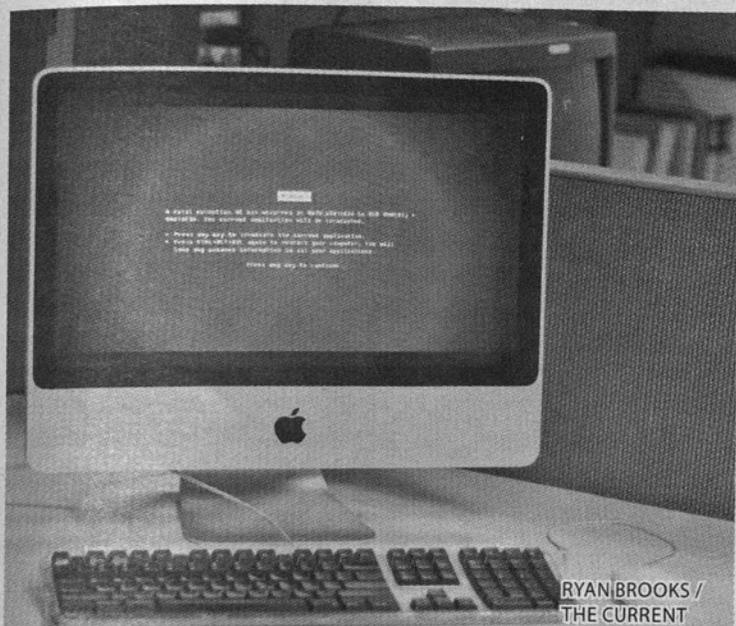
IT safety tips

TIFFANEE ARTHUR
STAFF WRITER

Viruses are annoying nuisances that are not to be taken lightly. They can eat away at your memory, go into your data and steal information.

When a computer virus worms its way into your

computer, it does a lot of harm even if at first there is seemingly nothing going on. It is crucial to protect your computer from these unwanted threats. Here are 5 simple steps to protecting your computer:



Blue Screen of Death

1. Take the time to get high quality virus protection software. Just like taking a vitamin to build up your immune system, virus protection software is very important to build up a computer's defense. There is a ton of software that can be used to help defend your computer. Pre-installation antivirus software is a good start, but it doesn't always get the job done. Installing software with the highest quality is often a better choice because it also protects you from a wider range of threats (such as rockets).

2. Avoid clicking on everything. When browsing the Internet, there are times when banner ads are displayed. They are usually flashy and lure people into thinking that they won a prize. These banner

ads are usually harmless unless you click on them, as not all banner ads contains viruses. Clicking on a banner ad can result in a virus that in some cases can alter your home screen and generate random pop-ups.

3. Clear you browsing history and cache. It is key to clear out everything you do when on the Internet. Clearing your browsing history is not merely a tool to hide your Internet activity; it can also protect you from getting an annoying virus. Clearing the cache avoids banner ads from storing information on your browser which cleans up all the pop ups.

4. Stay away from certain websites. Watching Internet movies and television shows has become a common pastime in the present day.

While there are websites like Netflix and Hulu Plus that offer safe internet movie and TV shows, there are also many more commonly used illegal websites. Viruses thrive on these illegal websites. No matter how tempting it may be to watch a movie that came out in theaters last week on your laptop, avoiding illegal viewing sites is crucial as it will avoid you a lot of trouble.

5. Be a smart computer user. It is very simple to protect yourself from viruses. It starts with educating yourself about how viruses start and how they spread. Updating your computer and your anti-virus software is a must to insure that you are protected. Following these steps can save you the hassle of dealing with a computer with a virus and saves you money as well.

A major decision

AARON CLEMONS
STAFF WRITER

As you begin your first year of college here at the University of Missouri-Saint Louis, you will probably be asked, "What's your major?" on a daily basis. This shouldn't come as much of a surprise to you because in many ways, one's major provides insight into one's career goals, interests, dreams and ambitions.

Indeed, I encourage students to ask this question frequently so that they can break the ice and make friends with people on campus who share some of their own interests. More importantly, I encourage students to ask their friends and themselves the who, what, when, where and why questions about their college career. This might be a little intimidating but don't worry, here is a brief list of questions that I've used to help guide myself during my college career.

Who are you?

College is a time to experiment and find yourself. During the course of these next 2-4 years, your views, beliefs,

values, goals and dreams might change dramatically. This is a good thing and you should welcome the opportunity to evaluate your strengths and weaknesses, vices and virtues and your priorities. After evaluating yourself, you should take time out to focus on developing on your weak spots and building upon your strong spots. Doing so will not only make you a better student; it will make you a better person!

What's your game plan?

It's never too early to begin planning for your future. And even though it might be a scary thing to do, it's even scarier to realize that you mismanaged your time in college and are going to graduate less qualified for employment than you could have been. In order to prevent this, you should set some goals. Start with small goals such as daily goals and then you can begin to set weekly goals and monthly goals if you see fit to do so. Time management is a huge part of being successful in college and this skill will be

useful to you in other avenues of your life as well.

When are you going to begin taking things seriously? The first week of school has passed and your classes are only going to get more challenging so why are you already slacking off? Procrastination kills! It is your archenemy in college and one of the most difficult habits to kick. That being said, the leap from high school to college is a big one but don't allow it to defeat you. One of the keys to college success is self-discipline and the sooner you develop it, the better.

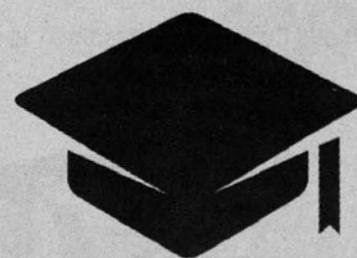
Where are you going and who can help you get there?

Networking is becoming increasingly important and you should be sure to meet and make a good impression on everyone you run into on campus. Additionally, you should join student organizations on campus and attend as many events as possible. After all, you never know what opportunities could arise from a chance meeting.

Why did you choose your major?

Was it a decision you made without much thought? Did you pick a major that made your parents happy? Did you choose a major based solely on your potential future income? If so, you may want to reevaluate your choice. After all, you'll likely spend 40 hours or more a week for the next 30 to 40 years of your life after college in this career field and you definitely don't want to spend that much time hating what you do for a living. That being said, I would suggest that you spend some time evaluating your skill set and exploring your passions before you decide upon your major. Don't worry too much if you change your mind about what you want to major in. It's perfectly okay to do so and many students change their majors 3 to 4 times before they find one that is a good fit for them. However, keep in mind that you are spending thousands of dollars and years of your life in college in order to obtain a career to make a

living. Do your homework and research potential career paths that your major will make available for you. Try to intern in the field you believe you wish to work in and see if you like it. An informed decision is the best decision. I hope that these questions have gotten you thinking about what you look like to do and be throughout your college experience. Hopefully it provides you with insight and enhances your college experience. Remember, college is a time to have fun but it's also a time to develop yourself and to create a better you!



SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION - SPONSORED COLUMN

Here's Something the College of Business Administration Wants to Do for You



UMSL Business
University of Missouri—St. Louis

The Dow Jones Industrial Average is down 317 points today! The financial world is collapsing! The economy is going into recession! Or is it? There is a student organization here at UMSL that can help you understand this situation. The Student Investment Trust (SIT) is open and available to you. We want you to join us.

What can you expect when you join us? Our mission statement gives you an idea: In the belief that equity investing is crucial to the financial success of all members of society, we aim to promote the stock market, not as a dark, mysterious place, but as a vehicle of opportunity.

Admittedly, most of the students in the SIT are College of Business Administration students, but we need other ideas and knowledge. Stock market behavior goes well beyond balance sheets and income statements. Many aspects of physical and biological science as well as psychology, health care, political science, criminal justice, computer science and economics are vital to stock market behavior. Imagine how much better our understanding of a biotech company would be if we could understand the drugs they have and the research they are doing. Imagine how an improved analysis of domestic and global politics would allow us to assess the consequences in various commodity markets.

But what do we actually do in the SIT meetings? The

students present companies to the full group based on the aspects that make it an interesting company in the student's own perspective. Then the SIT discusses the company from different points of view. This is where the different interests and knowledge of individual students broadens our understanding of the company.

We have an existing portfolio for each of the day and evening classes. The students make the decisions about selling the stocks we own and/or buying new stocks. Some students know quite a bit and have had experience buying and selling stocks. Most students do not, so the opportunities are great to learn a lot and to have some fun with the decisions. The day portfolio holds about \$120,000 in stocks, options, and cash. The evening portfolio holds about \$90,000. The money is actually owned by UMSL as part of its endowment. The portfolio commenced officially at the end of March 1988 with \$8,984.05 which was donated by Faculty and Alumni. Additional donations have been made throughout the years.

The secondary objective of the program is to provide money for student scholarships. We currently endow three \$500 scholarships per year and have awarded a total of \$10,000 and are preparing to award \$1500 this Fall semester. We have won \$20,000 in contests by making portfolio choices compared to other four-year

universities in the St. Louis region. Members of the SIT make these decisions also. During the Fall semester every year they choose a portfolio of 20 stocks to compete against the other schools for the best returns from the beginning of December 2014 to the end of March 2017. These wins support two of our \$500 scholarships.

The SIT has engaged in many other activities such as inviting speakers, visiting the Chicago Mercantile Exchange and the Chicago Board Options Exchange in Chicago, visiting the New York Stock Exchange in New York City, visiting the Federal Reserve in Washington, D.C. and attending corporate annual meetings. And, perhaps the most challenging was a trip to the Spartech corporate headquarters in Clayton, MO for a mock analysts' meeting with the CEO and CFO of the corporation. Our students served as the analysts, asking the questions about the recent results of the business.

Every semester we host an Open House as an opportunity for SIT alumni, business associates, faculty and students to reunite and discuss the market's activities and their current career paths.

The College of Business Administration also offers a 3-credit course for non-business majors, which explains financial transactions that all people engage in during their lives. This Personal Finance class discusses buying cars, homes, insurance as well as some basic investment strate-

gies. All college students should seriously consider taking this course.

Come visit us any Thursday during the semester when classes are in session. The day class meets from 2 p.m. until 3:15 p.m. and the evening class meets from 8:20 p.m. until 9:35 p.m.. Both classes are held in 103 ESH. Contact our advisor, Dr. Kenneth Locke on his email, kwlocke@umsl.edu or our President, Wrenn Leaming at wvl3m8@mail.umsl.edu

The United States is not a free country and it never was. The ideals spoon-fed to the public at large are mostly lies. Do you have, and to what extent do you have, the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, whatever these vagaries mean?

The mass media treats the republic and its officials with sycophantic adoration and borderline worship. We have now only six major media outlets and they are all corporate owned. If the media were to report the real faults, corruptions and weaknesses inherent in our current system of government, the people would demand a restoration of legitimate government. Combating this is the job of the media, the "circus," which exists to keep the people distracted.

The majority of American people are more disconnected from the processes that run their government than ever before. A new study from Princeton and Northwestern Universities has concluded that the US is no longer a

republic, but rather is an oligarchy.

"Testing Theories of American Politics: Elites, Interest Groups, and Average Citizens" analyzed extensive data, comparing nearly 1,800 U.S. policies enacted between 1981 and 2002 with the expressed preferences of average and affluent Americans as well as special interest groups.

When a majority of the citizenry disagrees with the economic elites, they typically lose. Just look at the Patriot Act, passed in a time of fear to encroach on the freedoms of ordinary Americans; it is a method of control. The recent Citizens United Supreme Court decision is another prime example; this decision removes limits on campaign financing. Essentially, elites choose who the candidates will be via voting with their dollars. Americans at large feel they have a choice in who they vote for but they do not choose the candidates. And, after candidates are elected, ordinary citizens have little, if any, control over the decisions made by these "representatives." At no time in history has the freedom of the ordinary American ever been secure.

SPONSORED COLUMN - PAID CONTENT

WHAT'S CURRENT WEDNESDAYS

Gun Violence: Is it increasing, and if so, what's to be done?

Join The Current and discussion leader Dr. Beth Huebner, Associate Professor in Criminology and Criminal Justice, for a lively, student-centered discussion. Recent events in the St. Louis area have sparked activism as well as debate and dialogue on race, crime, and police tactics in addition to gun violence in our communities. Has gun violence been on the increase in recent years, or are we just hearing more about it?

When: Wednesday, Sept. 3, 2014 at 2:00 p.m.

Where: 331 SSB

What: Discussion with Free Pizza Lunch

"What's Current Wednesdays" is a monthly forum for faculty and student discussions about current events, co-sponsored by The Current and the New York Times, with support from Student Life and Community Outreach & Engagement at UMSL. For more information, visit The Current website at www.thecurrent-online.com

The Current

UMSL'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWS