



Pauly Shore gets lots of laughs
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UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI - ST. LOUIS

Student killed in crash is remembered at memorial

BY PAUL HACKBARTH
News Editor

UM-St. Louis student Danielle Pinkley was killed in a single car accident Sunday, Sept. 25 after her vehicle slid off the rain slick road and struck a utility pole on Natural Bridge Road near West Drive.

Pinkley, junior, business, was from Fredericktown, Mo. but lived in the University Meadows Apartments. She was 21.

According to the Missouri

Highway Patrol crash report, Pinkley was driving northbound on Natural Bridge Road when she lost control of her vehicle about noon.

Pinkley was transported to DePaul Hospital in Bridgeton, Mo., where she was pronounced dead after arrival. The Missouri Highway Patrol is investigating the cause of the accident.

Last Tuesday evening, the Rev. Bill Kempf from the Catholic Newman Center led a memorial service for Pinkley in the University Meadows clubhouse. About 20 of Pinkley's friends, concerned students

and Residential Life staff members attended the memorial.

Kempf said dying anytime is always difficult but especially difficult at the age of 21. He said dying at a young age does not make missing or saying goodbye to Pinkley any easier. "It's the day we're born for," he said.

Ann Marie Schreiber, graduate student, industrial organizational psychology, witnessed the accident, which took place directly in front of

see PINKLEY, page 11



Kevin Ottley/The Current

University Meadows RA Megan Rhodes wipes her tears away during the memorial service of Danielle Pinkley which was held in the Meadows clubhouse Tuesday afternoon.

Students take trip to help Katrina survivors

BY CHRISTINE ECCLESTON
Copy Editor

Eight UM-St. Louis nursing students and two nursing professors rearranged their scholastic, work and personal schedules to make time to volunteer at two subacute care facilities in Biloxi, Miss.

The group of 10 left early Monday, Sept. 26 and returned late afternoon Sunday, Oct. 2.

According to Jennifer Taylor, nursing clinical instructor and retention coordinator, Diane Saleska, clinical assistant professor of nursing and Nursing Arts Lab coordinator, was the "driving force" behind the trip.

"She called me the day after [Hurricane Katrina struck] and asked 'Do you want to go?'" Taylor said. The two planned to go but had to wait because of the dangerous conditions in New Orleans.

Later, Saleska contacted the Mississippi State Board of Nursing and discovered that two residential care facilities, Biloxi Community Care Center and SunPlex Sub Acute Care Facility, were in need of nurses. Many of the staff nurses either had evacuated or had their homes destroyed. The nurses who remained had been working nearly around the clock and needed assistance.

Saleska and Taylor, not wanting to waste any time, worked quickly to prepare for the trip. They hand-picked eight junior or senior nursing students to accompany them and began collecting provisions to take to Biloxi.

The trip was financed in large part by a \$1,500 donation from New Hope Presbyterian Church in St. Peters that covered gas and certain supplies. St. Paul Methodist Church donated supplies its congregation had collected, and local businesses like Bed Bath & Beyond offered free or discounted materials for the trip.

South Town Dodge donated one of the vans and a generous employee of Enterprise Rent-a-Car reached into his own pocket and donated the second van after his company refused to give the group a discount. Taylor said she was overwhelmed by the generosity of the community and the local businesses.

When asked if she was nervous about going to Biloxi, Taylor said her husband, who was not going, was a lot more nervous than she was.

see KATRINA, page 5

Homecoming week begins after move to fall semester

BY PATRICIA LEE
Features Associate Editor

Homecoming at UM-St. Louis has traditionally been held in the winter semester, but in September 2004 the Student Government Association voted to move homecoming to the fall.

The work for planning the event was divided among the homecoming co-chairs and publicity, spirit, alumni and diversity and elections committees, who had to work on a shorter timeline. The bulk of the planning took place over the summer.

"There weren't as many people as there normally were doing the work," said homecoming co-chair Brian Rails, senior, marketing. "Homecoming itself is a very difficult task because you're talking about the contract and negotiating with the hotel, pictures, DJ, decorations, food and getting people there."

"It was stressful and confusing but there's been so much excitement about it on campus and from the rest of the people involved," said Tanzeena Hossain, junior, psychology, and homecoming co-chair. "It's had a completely different atmosphere to it. People come back to school and they're excited."

One of the reasons homecoming was moved to fall was to encourage more student participation and school spirit. Hossain said more student organizations have shown interest in events such as banner wars and Big Man on Campus this year.

"I think the big thing is that homecoming is one of the few events that bring all the organizations together and more people wanted to see that happen earlier in the year and see more of a campus unity instead of waiting until spring," Hossain said.

"Especially for incoming freshmen and transfer students, that's a big part of people not feeling like this is a campus, because there wasn't anything going on for a full semester," Rails said. "We thought it would be a good idea to have something in the fall to keep them here."

Students have mixed feelings about fall homecoming. Bill Costas, senior, history, said, "I think the change is more traditional, even though we don't have a football team, but I think it's all for the better."

see HOMECOMING, page 3

Sorority Mom ...



Adam D. Wiseman/The Current

Danielle Cooney, freshman, math and computer science, plays with her son, Jourdan, on Friday afternoon.

Freshman hopes to launch new sorority for single moms

BY PATRICIA LEE
Features Associate Editor

UM-St. Louis recognizes more than 100 different student organizations, including athletic clubs, curriculum-oriented organizations, and religious or special interest groups. One student, however, saw a void and is trying to fill it by starting a sorority for single mothers.

Danielle Cooney, freshman, math and computer science, thought about joining a traditional

sorority over the summer. Instead, she decided to create one where the sisters would also be a support group for single mothers.

"I decided to pursue this idea because I know that I'm not the only mom in the world who would like to be in a sorority but feels like they can't because they have children," Cooney said. "I just became so passionate about going forward with it."

Since she started working on her idea over the summer, Cooney has expanded its mission to include non-mothers after others showed interest in joining.

"What sets this sorority apart is that it will try to work with other people's schedules," she said. "Moms have different schedules than everyone else. They have to be home at a certain time to pick their children up from school so therefore I plan on trying to make the events and meetings flow along their schedules."

Unlike other UM-St. Louis sororities, which are local chapters of a national organization, there is no national sorority for single mothers.

see SINGLE MOM, page 5

Storch warns of 'radical change' at Capitol

BY BEN SWOFFORD
News Associate Editor

Ideology is subverting common sense in the state capitol, Democratic State Rep Rachel Storch warned at ASUM's "Lunch with the Legislator" on Wednesday.

Storch met with students, faculty and staff in the Millennium Student Center over lunch in an informal question and answer session.

Health care and state budget issues were the topics highlighted by Storch

in the discussion.

"Missouri is in a period of very radical change," Storch said. "There really is, I think, a pretty deliberate effort to unravel what was the status quo. We fought this year, more specifically, about Medicaid and health care issues."

Storch mentioned changes to Medicaid by Missouri Governor Matt Blunt, tax reform measures intended to restructure the Missouri tax code and school vouchers.

"I think there is going to be a real push to change the way public educa-

tion is handled in this state," Storch said, referring to school vouchers. "I'm not happy at all with the way these changes are happening."

Storch represents the 64th district, which covers all of Forest Park most of the Central West End and a corner of University City. A native of Clayton, she received her bachelor's degree from Harvard and attended Washington University in St. Louis for her law degree.

see STORCH, page 11



State Rep. Rachel Storch speaks at ASUM's "Lunch with a Legislator" on Wednesday in the MSC.

Mike Sherman/The Current

Is 'Corpse Bride' dead as a doornail?



See page 9

Volleyball continues roller coaster of a season



See page 12

Student gears up for service in Africa



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Bulletin Board

Put it on the Board! Call 516-5174 for details or email current@jinx.umsl.edu

Monday

Chemistry colloquium
David Lewis, professor of chemistry at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, will discuss "Flat Lux: One Role of a Synthetic Organic Chemist in Molecular Biology" at 4 p.m. in 451 Benton Hall. Coffee will be served at 3:45 p.m. The colloquium is free and open to the public, and sponsored by the Department of Chemistry. Call 5311 for more info.

Tuesday

An evening of 'step'
The dance group Step Afrika will perform from 8-10 p.m. in the Lee Theatre at the PAC. The group highlights the African-American fraternity and sorority art form of "stepping" and its link to traditional African dance. The event is free and open to students, faculty and staff. Tickets are required, however, and are available at the Touhill box office or 366 MSC. Call 4833 for more info.

Wednesday

Lunch & Lecture: Baseball in St. Louis
Author Steve Steinberg will discuss his book, "Baseball in St. Louis 1900-1925: History in the Making," at noon in Century room A at the MSC. The presentation is part of the Lunch and Lecture series sponsored by the St. Louis Mercantile Library. The lecture is free. Lunch is \$15 for mercantile members; \$18 for non members. Call 4833 for more info.

Free depression screening
Counseling Services will offer confidential screenings for depression, bipolar disorder, generalized anxiety disorder, and

post-traumatic stress disorder from 5-7 p.m. today and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Oct. 6 at a booth on the second floor of MSC. Immediate feedback will be provided. The screenings are free to all members of the campus community. No appointment is necessary. Call 5711 for more info.

Workshop to focus on "Using Groups"
Barbara Millis, director of the Excellence in Teaching Program at the University of Nevada-Reno, will discuss "Using Groups Wisely and Well" from 2-4 p.m. in the Hawthorne Room of the J.C. Penney Conference Center. The workshop will demonstrate how to create a cooperative classroom in combination with direct instruction, interactive group work, and whole-class discussions. UM-St. Louis faculty panelists will describe parallel uses in MyGateway. This program is part of the Conversations about Teaching and Technology Series co-sponsored by the Center for Teaching and Learning and Information Technology Services. Anyone interested in attending is asked to visit <http://www.umsl.edu/ctl> to pre-register. Call 4508 for details.

Women in the Arts Lecture
Jackie Chambers will be giving a lecture today at 3 p.m. in Gallery 210 entitled, "And With Her Needle Composes: Needlework, Authorship, and Professionalism in the Nineteenth Century."

Tuition Forum hosted by University of Missouri President Elson S. Floyd
University of Missouri President Elson S. Floyd wants to hear what you think about tuition. Continuing his statewide tour, Floyd will hold a public forum at the UM-St. Louis to seek input about the concept of guaranteed tuition. The forum will be held

at 7-8:30 p.m. in the MSC. All members of the public are welcome. For a complete schedule of the University of Missouri tuition forums, please visit www.umsl.edu/tuitionforums.

Thursday

Homecoming Parade: 'I'll Take You There'

The 2005 Homecoming Parade will be held today, with all individual and department vehicles meeting at 11:30 a.m. in parking lot U. The parade will proceed down Natural Bridge, turning into the MSC parking lot, and ending at the viewing area near the Nosh Patio. The parade's theme is "I'll Take You There" with the selected destinations of Beijing, Fiji, New York or Paris. Decorations of signage may be used, but only vehicles decorated with the theme will be eligible for trophies. Trophies will be awarded for best student organization and best campus department. Call 5760 for more info.

Mobile Mammography Van on Campus
Missouri Baptist Medical Center's Mammography Van will be on campus from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in front of the MSC on the east side of the building. The cost of the screening is covered by most medical insurance plans. Bring your insurance card to your appointment. Call 314-996-5170 or 800-870-5731 to schedule an appointment for this 10-minute breast cancer screening, sponsored by University Health, Wellness & Counseling Services.

Friday

Safe Zone Brown Bag Seminar Series: 'Bisexuality'
Lori Curtis, a lecturer in the School of Social Work at UM-St. Louis, will discuss "Bisexuality"

Put it on the Board:
The Current Events Bulletin Board is a service provided free of charge to all student organizations, University departments and divisions. Deadline for submissions to The Current Events Bulletin Board is 5 p.m., every Thursday before publication. Space consideration is given to student organizations and is on a first-come, first-serve basis. We suggest all postings be submitted at least one week prior to the event. Send submissions via mail at 388 MSC, One University Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63121, fax at 516-6811 or email at current@jinx.umsl.edu. All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.

at noon in the conference room at 225 MSC. This is the first presentation in the Brown Bag Seminar Series, sponsored by the UM-St. Louis Safe Zone program. The series will present LGBT and Ally-related topics to the UM-St. Louis community. The program is free and open to students, faculty and staff. Attendees are welcome to bring their lunches. Drinks and cookies will be provided. Call 5008 for more information.

Habitat for Humanity Workday
Join Sigma Pi Fraternity and the Catholic Newman Center as we help eliminate substandard housing in St. Louis. Meet at the Newman Center at 8 a.m., then we'll carpool to the work site and return at 3 p.m. Breakfast and lunch are provided. To sign up email Bobby at ncumsl@aol.com please register no later than Wednesday Oct. 5.

Ongoing

10th Anniversary of the Million Man March
Pan African Association of UM-St. Louis is going to the 10th anniversary of the Million Man March in Washington DC on Oct. 15. The purpose of the march is to form a movement to enhance the current state of African-Americans. For more info contact Nikia Paulette at nspp5f@umsl.edu.

Short Course Classes Sept. 26-Oct. 6
Instructional Computing Labs will offer free one-hour classes at a variety of times on several topics, including Microsoft Office, HTML, CD Writing, File Management, UNIX/Macintosh, Adobe Photoshop basics, viruses and spyware and Studentmail basics. The classes will also be taught on various "Instructional Computing Fridays" and on four "Marathon" days. To sign up or

view a course list visit www.umsl.edu/training or ask a computer lab consultant for more information.

Busy Persons Retreat Oct. 9-13
Want the retreat experience, but just too busy to give up a weekend? Then sign up for the Busy Person's Retreat--spend one hour a day in quiet reflection and spiritual guidance. All times are worked around YOUR schedule. There is no cost! To sign up, or for more info, email Tracy or Bobby at the Catholic Newman Center ncumsl@aol.com or call 385-3455.

New UM-SL Cookbook
The UM-St. Louis Staff Association is looking for recipes to be submitted for a new cookbook. The cookbook will be sold later in the year to raise money for the John Perry Scholarship. If you would like to have your recipes published in the cookbook, please submit them via email to cookbook@umsl.edu or you can drop them by the Advising Center in 225 MSC. Recipes must be submitted by Oct. 14 to be included.

Penn Station Share Night
Students Today Alumni Tomorrow is having a fundraiser on Oct. 11 from 3-8 p.m. at the Penn Station on Natural Bridge Rd. The company will donate 20 percent of all food and beverage sales related to the Share Night Certificates redeemed on Share Day. Students and faculty need to bring the certificates to Penn Station for the donation to STAT. You can pick up the certificates in Student Life. For more information contact Thomas Stork at 314-346-1796.

Put your event on the Bulletin Board by emailing information to current@jinx.umsl.edu

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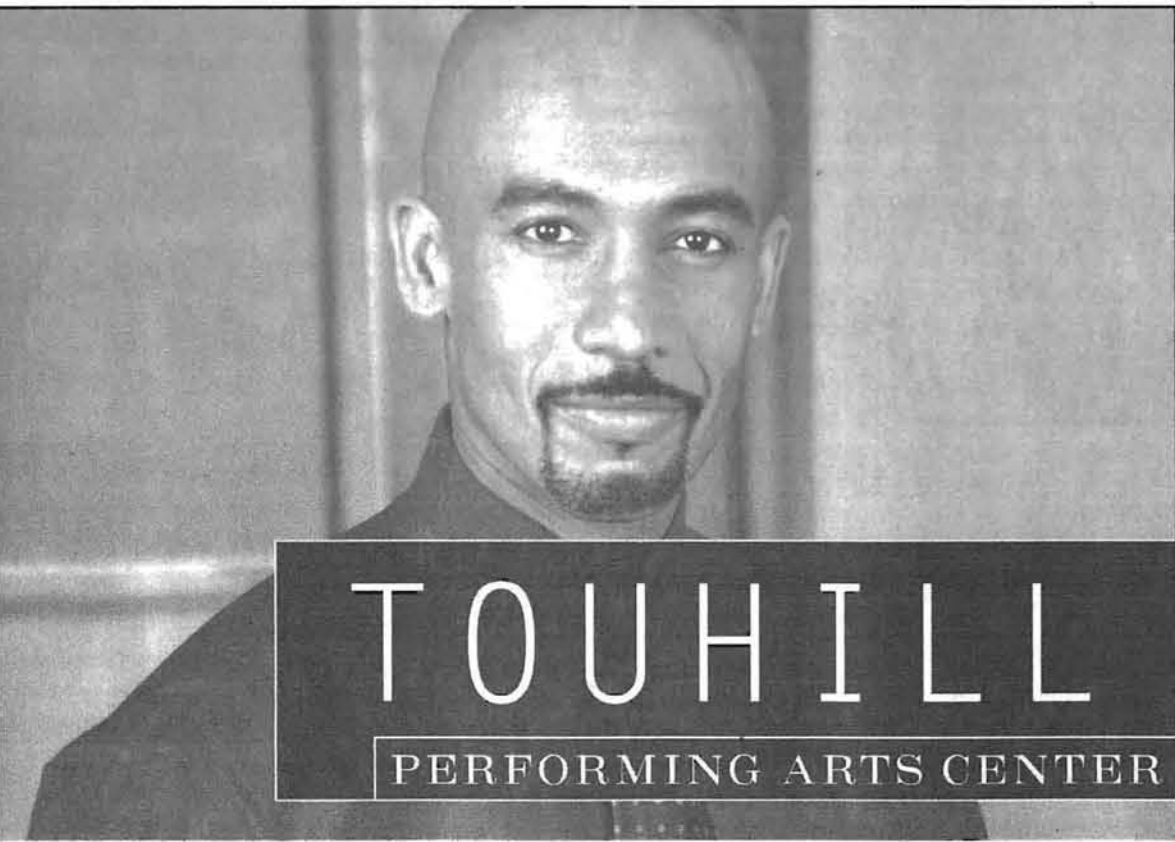
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MONTEL WILLIAMS

"OVERCOMING THE ODDS"

OCTOBER 4, 7:30 p.m.

Since being diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, Emmy Award-winning TV host Montel Williams speaks about "Overcoming the Odds" through fierce determination and awe-inspiring courage. Williams to follow talk with Q&A.

Sponsored in part by Anheuser-Busch, Inc. Vision Speakers Series and CLEAR CHANNEL 46

ROSEANNE BARR

OCTOBER 19, 7:30 p.m.



One of stand-up comedy's premier legends of the stage - the one and only Roseanne Barr comes to the Touhill. A groundbreaking pioneer for over 20 years, the "Queen of Comedy" still delivers the edgy, acerbic humor her fans love her for. Opening Act: Alexandra McHale. Intended for mature audiences. Sponsored in part by Metro Y99.

DIE FLEDERMAUS

PRESENTED BY THE CZECH OPERA PRAGUE

OCTOBER 23, 7 p.m.



Strauss' comic operetta is presented in its original German with English supertitles, full chorus and orchestra, and dancers from Bulgaria's Ballet Arabesk. Translated to mean "The Bat" this comedy of errors reveals trickery and misperception at a costumed New Year's Eve party. Presented by EMERSON.

CARNIVALE D'ART

OCTOBER 8, 10 a.m.



Carnivale d'Art features an entire day of theater, music, dance performances, workshops, visual art, cultural exhibits and family programming. Events begin at 10 a.m. \$11 adults, \$7 students, \$5 kids. www.carnivaledart.com for event schedule.

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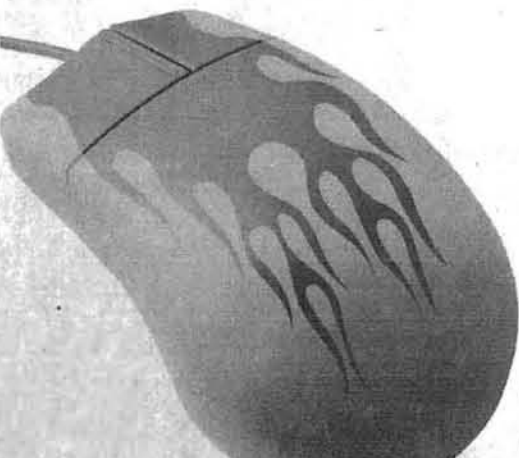
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New board members begin term with ASUM

BY PAUL HACKBARTH
News Editor

After losing three board members last summer, Associated Students of the University of Missouri is back to full strength with two new board members and one former member returning to fill a gap.

Daniel Flees, sophomore, psychology, and Becky Miller, junior, political science, were successfully elected as ASUM board members at the last Student Government Association meeting on Sept. 16.

At the same meeting, the SGA voted to have David Dodd, senior, international business, fill the remaining board position until January elections. Dodd served as an ASUM member for two and half years previously.

Miller, who joined because of her major, hopes to gain experience at ASUM. "I hope it can help me in the future when I go into politics. Plus, I want to help the students get to know what they want to know," she said.

On the other hand, Flees said, "I'm just interested in campus politics in general." Flees expressed interest in ASUM to see how campus politics are handled and "try to represent the students of the UM system to the best of my ability."

Flees, Miller and Dodd will join current board member Thomas Helton, sophomore, political science, in representing UM-St. Louis at the regular statewide ASUM meetings.

"Each of our different points of view are looking to put into the board what St. Louis needs and what St. Louis wants," Dodd said.

Dodd explained the role of the 15 ASUM board members across the four UM campuses. "The 15 of us work together to put forward what we're going to lobby for, what issues and what policies we're going to support or

oppose at the state house," he said.

The number of ASUM board members at each campus are chosen based on student enrollment. UM-St. Louis has four board members.

Helton explained that this year, ASUM lobbyists will tackle certain issues, including higher education. "There are a lot of different proposals on how to budget higher education," he said. One suggestion is to create a voucher system where high school graduates receive a certain amount of state money to help them finance their college expenses.

Another issue concerning ASUM has been talk of centralizing the organization through the UM-Columbia campus. Helton said centralization would help keep consistency in ASUM and cut down on travel expenses. Starting this year, all ASUM meetings will be held in Columbia, instead of rotating between the four UM campuses.

Helton explained their budgets could also become centralized in Columbia as a result. Instead of UM-St. Louis paying its own ASUM interns, the money would come from a central fund. However, whether or not to continue paying interns is also being debated. Currently, only interns from UM-St. Louis and UM-Kansas City are paid.

"If you're not really informed on exactly what's happening, it can look like everything is being centralized. However, in a sense it is being centralized under ASUM, not ASUM-Columbia," Helton said.

Dodd explained that ASUM began in Columbia, but since then, ASUM has made changes to "encompass all the students." Dodd said concern exists over what he called a temporary centralization, but "we just need to make sure that in the end, we'll still be where we need to be as far as representing all the campuses, representing all the students."

Students learn tools of the trade at 'Activist Workshop'

BY MELISSA HAYDEN
Staff Writer

The UM-St. Louis chapter of Amnesty International and University Students for the Ethical Treatment of Animals sponsored the event, which featured speakers Besty Reznicek, a Community Arts and Media Project volunteer; Colleen Tilford, president of St. Louis Animal Rights Team; Ted Heisel, executive director of The Missouri Coalition for the Environment; Tarah Demant from Amnesty International and Joann Stephan, treasurer of the Missouri Alliance for Animal Legislation.

The first speaker, Betsy Reznicek, discussed her group's involvement in the community. The organization started as several individual activist groups which came together by purchasing the Randall Building in the area of Gravois Park, at the Cherokee Street and Minnesota Street corner. The organization's involvement does not stop

with their efforts toward the community. The volunteers also put a lot of work into everything they do in holding their events.

"Everything we do is do-it-yourself," Reznicek said.

Tarah Demant discussed Amnesty International and its visions, specifically to ensure global human rights, the control of arms and putting an end to violence against women.

"Your most powerful tool as a global citizen is your voice," Demant said. "I think the most important thing is to get the information out to people and give them the tools to do whatever their passion is."

Colleen Tilford passed out a demonstration check-list to all of those that attended. The check-list had information for putting together and holding a safe, legal and responsible demonstration. She encouraged students to practice environmentally-sound activism and make sure they clean up any leaflets they bring to their

demonstration.

Ted Heisel gave a presentation for the Missouri Coalition for the Environment, covering ways students can make a difference. One way, Heisel said, is to vote.

"(Voting) is the most direct way of making changes," Heisel said.

The last speaker for the event was Joann Stephan. She left a lasting impression on students, telling them Missouri is the puppy mill capitol of the nation.

"I would like students to realize that the situation for animals in Missouri is grim and that their voice can make a difference," Stephan said.

Organizers of the event said they wanted to stress to students that they can make a difference through activism.

"Most importantly we wanted to familiarize (students) with tools and techniques that would help them become empowered citizens," said Daron Dierkes, senior, history, who

helped organize the event and arrange for the speakers at the workshop.

"If you want something to happen with anything you care about, you have to be active," said Michele Landeau, senior, history, and coordinator and president of the UM-St. Louis chapter of Amnesty International.

"If you want action, you have to step up," Landeau said.

Donna Hart, lecturer in anthropology at the Pierre Laclède Honors College and faculty sponsor of USETA, said she was pleased with the workshop.

"This was such a great range of approaches to activism," Hart said.

For more information about these groups, visit the following websites: C.A.M.P. at www.stlcamp.org, Amnesty International at www.amnesty.org, S.T.A.R.T. at www.start.enviroweb.org, The Missouri Coalition for the Environment at www.moenviroweb.org, and M.A.A.L. at www.maal.org.

News Briefs

Floyd to talk tuition at UM-St. Louis

University of Missouri President Elson Floyd will visit the UM-St. Louis campus Wednesday, Oct. 5 to hold a forum about his proposal to implement fixed tuition for all incoming students at each of the four UM campuses. The discussion forum is open to the public and will take place from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in Century Rooms A and B of the MSC.

Floyd will discuss his tuition plan, which guarantees a fixed tuition rate for incoming students to the University of Missouri. The incoming rate would not increase for the duration of the student's program

at the University. The rate will stay fixed for the two, three or four years a student is enrolled.

Floyd's visit marks the last stop on his tour across the state of Missouri talking with concerned individuals about his proposal. Floyd will use the feedback and input he receives from students, faculty, staff and the concerned public in his decision. Floyd will present the fixed tuition proposal at the Board of Curators meeting here at UM-St. Louis on Oct. 6-7.

Touhill PAC extends student discounts

The Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center announced

Sept. 29 the expansion of student discounts for performances. UM-St. Louis students will continue receiving 25 percent discounts for up to two tickets with student ID. A new 10 percent discount will be given to non-UM-St. Louis college and high school students with a student ID for the 2005-2006 season. Students not attending UM-St. Louis are also eligible to receive rush tickets at 50 percent discount.

Cisco Systems speaker starts new ITS seminar series

Information Technology Services has partnered with Career Services

and Alumni Relations to host the "Technology and Career Briefing Series," a set of seminars on technological issues and careers involving information systems. The seminars will feature a variety of guest speakers from local technology firms. The first of these seminars will focus on information and network security and feature Bill Hentschell of Cisco Systems. The event will be held in MSC Century Room B on Tuesday, Oct. 11, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Students of all majors are encouraged to attend the program. Registration and event information can be found at http://www.umsl.edu/technology/briefing_series/. Lunch will be provided.

Homecoming, from page 1

Amy Jordan, junior, theater thinks the change is better since temperatures will be warmer this time.

"It seems more sudden this year, since we just had a homecoming last spring, but the change is good," Jordan said.

Harrison Smith, senior, marketing, helped plan three previous homecomings and preferred a winter homecoming.

"I thought it was a little better in the winter semester because it gives people more of a chance to settle in," Smith said. "Also, I think the basketball needs a little more support than volleyball."

Homecoming this fall will include some of the traditional events such as the blood drive, banner wars and BMOC.

but powder puff football will be replaced with karaoke and the traditional homecoming games will be soccer instead of basketball.

"There were a lot of people that wanted to watch [powder puff] but not a lot of people who wanted to do it," Hossain said. "We wanted something more comfortable that you didn't need a lot of people participating in but everyone can come and enjoy the atmosphere."

The dance will also be moved from Friday night to Saturday, because soccer games are on Friday and Sunday.

At a homecoming meeting last spring, students voted on the theme of "I'll Take You There," which is built around New York, Paris, Beijing and Fiji.

"UMSL has a huge multicultural base and we wanted to incorporate not just the traditional homecoming theme of stars and the moon, we wanted something kind of different this year," Hossain said.

Homecoming festivities start on Oct. 3 and last through the week with activities including a blood drive, banner wars, a parade, BMOC, bonfire, soccer games and homecoming dance.

For each event students attend, they will receive raffle tickets which will be drawn at the dance. Prizes include a flat-screen TV, mini iPods, portable DVD players and airline tickets. The dance will be at the Airport Marriott on Oct. 8. Tickets are available in the Student Life office.

Announcement of nomination to



Who's Who among students in

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an annual honors program recognizing our nation's leading college students

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- Show potential for future achievement

Students may nominate themselves or each other by:

1. Picking up a nomination form at a dean's office or 366 Millennium Student Center
2. Completing the form
3. Returning the form by Friday, October 14, 2005 to the dean's office in which you are enrolled.

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Our Opinion

Go ahead: Put on your dancing shoes

Homecoming's move to fall semester is the right move for the UMSL campus

No more waiting in the lingering cold of mid-February for the limousine to pick up the party of UM-St. Louis students headed for Homecoming.

This year marks the end of winter semester homecoming and a return to the traditional fall homecoming season.

The SGA voted in September 2004 to change the date of homecoming to make it more in line with other universities.

Student government leaders hope the change will improve student retention by providing a major social event during the fall semester.

Previously, homecoming and

Mirthday were concentrated in the winter semester, leaving UM-St. Louis students who only attend the fall semester with the impression that campus life is insufferably nonexistent.

Some students may argue that the winter semester homecoming was one of the quirks that gives UM-St. Louis its unique non-traditional character.

But, even though many of our students are non-traditional, or perhaps are not vested enough in campus to care whether UM-St. Louis even has a homecoming, many students are still looking for vibrant campus life and it is better to show those students what the campus has to offer right off the

bat. Moving homecoming to the fall gives those students a chance to see that there are well-organized social activities on campus like other campuses and should help convince those students to stick around and soak up the school spirit.

Besides, perhaps homecoming's move to fall is already paying off, what with the Riverwomen soccer team's stellar record this season (8-4 for the season as of Sunday).

We have a great soccer team to cheer on, so let's enjoy our new homecoming week and thank the SGA that we won't have to wear mittens to the next homecoming dance.

Editor's Viewpoint

'Some' stereotypes deserve to be talked about



KATE DROLET
Managing Editor

Some blondes are stupid. Some black people live in poverty. Some men are better at sports than some women.

These assertions are not stereotypical. They're real.

Stereotyping, also referred to as prejudice, comes from our need to mentally control the constant stream of information that floods our brains. We generalize, categorize and obsessively tuck people into tidy groups so our mind doesn't have to work as hard.

Society generally regards this classification process as a negative, socially destructive mind frame. Our desperate attempts to speak in politically correct language have limited our ability to accept certain situations.

When you read my first three sentences, did you automatically gasp? Did you plan on telling your friends what another-adjective person wrote this column?

One of my classmates made an honest, accurate observation last Friday. We had been discussing a race-related literary piece involving the struggles of some black women, and I was worried about offending people with the subject.

"These situations are real," he said. "If you ignore what actually happens in some neighborhoods, you're living in a dreamland."

I respect his remark because it included an essential four-letter word: "some."

In a few words, my classmate drew an important distinction. We stereotype by lumping people into groups. We ignore problems and allow them to stew by glossing over uncomfortable subjects.

Many stereotypes come from one particular encounter or experience. We shouldn't shy away from talking about real, controversial issues because we're afraid of sounding prejudiced.

Racism won't abolish itself. Poverty won't fix itself. Social issues like these deserve discussion among a diverse group of concerned individuals.

Engage in an "uncomfortable" conversation this week. Ask someone of a different race, religion, economic class, gender or lifestyle a few questions about their personal beliefs and opinions. Go beyond the ambiguous goal of "promoting diversity."

Keep your language concise, and don't let touchy subjects scare you away from intelligent conversation.

Staff Viewpoint

The need for unions hasn't gone away

Last week, representatives of seven labor unions met in St. Louis to found an alternative to the AFL-CIO called the Change To Win Coalition. Their plan is to devote as much of their resources as possible to organizing non-union workers in industries that cannot go overseas.

It won't be easy, but workers need unions.

Under current law, if you work in the private sector and don't have a contract, you are what is called an "at will employee." That means that the employer can fire an employee or the employee can quit at will. In other words, you can get fired for no good reason.

Federal law protects employees from being fired if they can prove that they were victims of discrimination based on age, race, sex or religion or for trying to organize a union, and probably a couple of other reasons that I don't know about. To get your job back, you have to sue. That takes time and money. Most employers know that the person suing has the burden of proof, so most of the time, you are out of luck.



BY BENJAMIN ISRAEL
Columnist

Employers also know that there are other people who need work, so if you don't like the wages or working conditions, they can always hire someone else.

Workers in union shops have contracts. The contract not only spells out wages and hours and working conditions, but it gives reasons that an employee can be fired and what procedure the company has to go through to fire someone. And it spells out a binding grievance procedure if an employee believes the company has violated the

contract.

Back in the mid-1970s I worked at a now-closed factory that made hospital beds and the insides of sleeper sofas. The United Steelworkers of America represented us. I was fired and immediately filed a grievance. The company looked at my grievance, realized I would win, and the personnel director called me up.

"We've decided to take you back." It was early morning and I was lying in bed with my wife and three-month old baby.

"When do you I go back?"
"Can you come now?"
"Tomorrow," I said.

The company had to pay me back pay, so it didn't cost me anything to wait an extra day.

That's what the contract said, and the personnel director knew it.

Human resource executives don't want to lose any power, so they often do everything they can legally to keep unions out.

see UNIONS, page 5

Letters to the Editor

Editorial cartoon is offensive

I found the cartoon pertaining to Dean Travis' resignation in the editorial, "Nursing students efforts deserve applause," to be both distasteful and offensive. This cartoon with its implied message in no way reflects admirably on the College of Nursing nor does it promote the positive type of image that the College of Nursing should be striving towards at this time. I personally wish to extend a public and most sincere apology for the hurt that this cartoon must have brought to her.

Jan Sherman, RN, NNP, Ph.D
Adjunct Assistant Clinical Professor, College of Nursing

By doing so, students will not have to subject themselves to parking lot stalking and parking lot rage, which in all sense can be very uncomfortable for both the stakee and the stalker.

Debbie Chapman, senior

Go vegetarian

[Regarding the article "College' and 'nutrition' aren't contradictory," in the Sept. 19 edition]

Students who want to avoid the dreaded "Freshman 15" and other health problems, such as heart disease, diabetes, and cancer, should consider switching to an all-vegetarian diet. Studies show that vegetarians are generally at least 10 percent leaner than meat-eaters. The American Dietetic Association has even stated that "vegetarians, especially vegans, have closer to desirable weights than do nonvegetarians."

According to a nationwide survey conducted by ARAMARK, a company that provides food to universities and school districts, one out of every four college students wants vegan meals. As a result, ARAMARK now offers dozens of vegan menu items, such as sweet Thai tofu stir-fry, vegan cheese quesadillas, faux chicken burritos, eggless "egg" salad, and more, on select campuses.

Students who want healthier options in the school cafeteria may want to visit PETA2.com to find out how students at the University of California at Berkeley and other colleges nationwide have convinced their school officials to offer more vegan options. Students may also visit GoVeg.com to order a free vegetarian starter kit, including expert nutritional advice and resources for healthy dining away from home.

Sincerely,

Heather Moore, Senior Writer, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA)

Parking lot stalker

Since the new semester has started, I have to admit that I have become a Parking Lot Stalker. If you are on campus Mondays and Wednesdays between 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. trying to find a parking spot, I am almost positive you have become one to. Recently, I've learned to master tactics in locating potential targets from a distance, intense blinker use, idle & creep along, how to steer & stare away my competition and the power of prayer... "Lord, please, just any legal spot so I am not late to class." All kidding aside, the new improvements to parking have enhanced the campus look and parking will be better once all the improvements have been completed. In the meantime, I would like to suggest allowing students & faculty to parallel park on the West Drive, before the North Campus parking garage. If anything, allow parking between peak campus hours, say 9 a.m. to noon. Better yet, take out the median and make the street wider, so we can utilize the street for addition-

Guest Commentary

Servant leadership is the model to follow

BY ALEX KERFORD
Senior, Engineering Student

I was in Washington, D.C. two weekends ago for the National Student Leadership Forum. For the past 30 years, there has been a gathering of college students from across the country to come together at this nation's capitol to reflect, learn and discuss what our goals and leadership roles will be for the next generation, our generation.

What will this nation look like 20 years from now? Fifty? How about 100 years from now?

It is difficult to think that far ahead and because of that many people our age don't do it at all.

What if we did?

What if we started planning how this world is going to look for our children's children right now? What would it change about the way you

live your life? Would it change the way you live at all?

This is only a slice of what the National Student Leadership Forum is all about. We asked deep questions, learned from student leaders' experiences, while also receiving words of encouragement from current U.S. Senators Jim Talent, Barack Obama, Tom Coburn, and many others.

One of the main themes the forum was "servant leadership." We discussed what it meant to be a leader from a position of authority rather than from a position of power. While each may achieve the same means to an end, there is a fundamental difference in these two styles.

The latter may maintain great influence for a time, plus get the goals accomplished, but there is a tendency to have a lack in the relationships formed between the leader and those following.

The leader tells people what they need to do to get things done and the person under the power of that leader is then compelled to work because it is what they have to do. A person who leads from a place of authority will have the same results as the person leading with power, but the person that are working for this individual work because it is what they want to do and have seen it exemplified in that leader. This authoritative leadership is earned by first being a servant.

We discussed the leadership, and person of Jesus of Nazareth throughout the entire forum. Often when people hear the name of Jesus they are trained to immediately associate it with religion.

Regardless of what your faith is, it is intriguing to look at Jesus from the perspective of a servant and as an authoritative leader.

see LEADERSHIP, page 11

Editorial Board

- MIKE SHERWIN
 - KATE DROLET
 - MELISSA MCCRARY
 - PAUL HACKBARTH
 - PATRICIA LEE
 - CHRISTINE ECCLESTON
- "Our opinion" reflects the majority opinion of the Editorial Board.

LETTERS

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Letters to the editor should be brief, and those not exceeding 200 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). Editor-in-chief reserves the right to respond to letters. The Current reserves the right to deny letters.

Under Current

by Kevin Ottley
Photo Associate

Can you fit UMSL into a popular product slogan?



Rebecca Castaneda
Senior, Spanish



Steve Kondracki
Junior, Computer Science



Louis Robinson
Senior, Finance



Brandi Wilson
Junior, Nursing

UMSL, The friendliest school in town! (Schnucks)

Good life, Great School - UMSL (Sears).

UMSL - Fifteen minutes could cost you 15% or more on fees (Geico).

UMSL - Cheap, Cheap! Fun, Fun! (Dirt Cheap)

Science Column

More biodiesel means more dollars for farmers

Recently, I wrote about alternate power sources beyond fossil fuels. Some people like to lump this issue altogether but it really divides up nicely into a few topics. One is power sources for your home and power sources for your vehicle. Apart from all-electric cars powered by the same electricity that lights up our houses, nuclear power is not a solution to diminishing gasoline supplies. This means nuclear competes with wind power, solar power and other energy sources to generate electricity for the home. The rest of the developed world is going forward with new technologies and industries that use wind and solar power to replace both fossil fuels and nuclear. We are lagging behind

this trend.

Another topic is the use of clean and sustainable power versus limited and polluting power. Although there are still people staunchly denying it, it is worth noting that last summer even the Bush administration admitted the reality that global warming is happening, although they are still arguing about the extent to which human activities contribute to the warming. Some substitutes for oil help reduce our contribution to this warming trend more than others. Reducing



BY CATE MARQUIS
Science Columnist

greenhouse gases is one goal but we should think twice before we trade one waste problem for another by choosing nuclear. Once again, the rest of the developed world is moving away from nuclear to safer technologies, while we lag behind. A bonus is that new technologies drive job growth and economic booms. Remember the changes that computers brought in the nineties. But here is another division: centralized versus decentralized power. Here is one key to why lobbyists for

oil interests and big power companies clamor for nuclear power, coal and hydrogen over wind, solar and biomass: control and profits. You are not going to set up your own nuclear power plant but you can do a lot on your own with wind and solar power and biofuels. There are initial costs for the technology for wind and solar power but it is on a much smaller scale. It is very doable for communities, even small ones. Since it is decentralized, it strikes fear in the hearts of large corporations because it threatens the near-monopoly hold big oil and power companies have on power grids.

see SCIENCE COLUMN, page 7

Staff Viewpoint

An apology to my professors

Dear Professors, I would like to confess something to you. I am sorry for the way I have acted over the last six weeks. Here are some reasons why you deserve an apology.



BY ADAM D. WISEMAN
Photo Director

- I am sorry that my cell phone rings in class, and sorry about that one time I actually talked on my phone for several minutes.

- Please forgive me for my addiction to tobacco. School is stressful, I needed that smoke during my 50 minute lecture last week.

- I am sorry for talking to my friends in class. I needed to hear what my one friend said about my other friend.

- I apologize for coming to class late, and asking questions about things you just covered. I know it is frustrating.

- I am sorry for when there are 10 minutes left in class and I start packing my things. I really need to leave class so I can call my friend, light my cigarette, and talk badly about you.

- Oh yeah, I need to apologize to you

for all the bad things I have said about you. I have called you "stupid" many times in the last six weeks. In class when you make a mistake, I turn to a classmate and roll my eyes. I want to make sure they know I think you are stupid.

Ok, now that I have given the reasons that I want to apologize,

please forgive me. I promise to change, starting today. I will come to class on time, I will turn off my cell phone, I will quit smoking, I will not talk in class, I will wait until you are done with your lecture to pack up and I will understand that you are qualified for your job, and I will not call you 'stupid,' or look at my peers for reassurance that you are. Most of all, I will respect you, my classmates and myself.

Please Forgive Me,
Adam D. Wiseman

P.S. If any students read this, and it reminds them of themselves, please stop. You are really starting to piss me off!

KATRINA, from page 1

"I'm nervous about the logistics of things," she said. "I mean I'm worried but not too worried. I think the term 'cautiously optimistic' would sum up my feelings pretty well."

Taylor felt this was a great way to get back to the root of nursing. "Nursing was borne out of assisting patients in the community ... but it has evolved into more of a hospital setting now," she said. "This is a nice way for the students to experience the community aspect of nursing."

The group of 10 split time between

the two subacute nursing facilities and worked an average of eight hours a day with the patients.

"A lot of our time at the facilities was spent doing wound care," Kristin Kreitler, senior, nursing, said. "Some of the wounds were nearly bone-deep because patients had been sitting in wheelchairs for days at a time."

When the students were not working in the care facilities, they were cleaning yards, stripping houses and working in clinics run by the Salvation Army in Biloxi. While the group was there, they

helped unload a semi-truck full of clothing, toiletries and other supplies that arrived. They also helped Eric Hollar, pastor of the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, who lost his home and was living voluntarily in his church so he could remain in Biloxi to help.

The group agreed that the staff nurses, the patients in the facilities and the people in the community were grateful for their help. For some patients, having someone there with them was more than enough.

"In one room a lady was sitting there

crying," Kreitler said. "When I asked her what I could do, she said she wanted me to hold her hand, so I sat there with her for about 20 minutes."

Overall, the group felt the trip was a success because they not only helped the people of Biloxi by donating their time, supplies and money, but also because they were able to implement successfully their nursing skills in a crisis situation. More importantly, however, the eight students and two professors left feeling they had touched the lives of people who had lost nearly everything.

SINGLE MOM, from page 1

"I was unable to find a national organization for single mothers, with regards to it being a sorority organization," said Allyson Wilson, Greek advisor in the office of Student Life. "So from that aspect it is unique."

Starting a University-recognized organization can be a difficult and sometimes daunting task.

"I think initially the biggest issue is just finding people who share that same interest," Wilson said. "Especially in this case, there might be the question of making sure it offers good opportunities and events for support but not so much that it detracts from their ability to be a mom and go to school and all those other things they're trying to juggle."

Creating a student organization is a

multi-step process and each year students start several new ones, some lasting longer than others.

An organization must have 10 active members to be officially recognized by the University, and 13 to receive financial support from the Student Activities Budget Committee. All organizations are also required to have a constitution and by-laws.

"All that takes time and effort so the more people you have, the better so there's not a select group of people putting out all the effort and doing all the work," Wilson said.

In the past few months, Cooney has put much energy into starting Kappa Lambda Delta, the name she picked for the sorority. In addition to creating a

website, she has been publicizing the organization through flyers around campus and so far, she said she has heard from several other women who wanted to help her start the sorority.

For more information about Kappa Lambda Delta, students can visit www.angelfire.com/blues2/kappalambdadelta or email Cooney at ddc539@umsl.edu.

Juggling school and family life can be stressful, but Cooney said she manages by trying to separate them.

"At school, I'm a student, therefore I should do all my work on campus to the best of my ability and focus on being a mom when I go home," she said. "Since my last class ends at 12:15 and my son doesn't arrive home from day-

care until 4:15, I have a good amount of time to finish up my work assignments."

It has been two years since the birth of her son Jourden and two years since she has been in school, but Cooney hopes other single mothers will also strive to achieve their goals despite having the added responsibilities of motherhood.

"It took me two years to figure out how to deal with my son and how to be able to get back on my path and start school," she said. "I would like to share with everyone ... although I'm a single mother and I go to school full-time that if my dreams can come true then so can yours. All you have to do is believe in yourself."

UNIONS, from page 4

In some companies, the job descriptions for management positions include a phrase like "must work to keep (name of company) a union-free environment."

As someone who participated in a union organizing drive recently, I know it won't be easy.

I was a reporter for the North County Journal and was part of an organizing drive there.

We needed a union. I was one of the higher paid reporters there and made \$11.25 an hour, less than the average unskilled union factory worker, and we had heavier workloads than at other newspapers. We were supposed to crank out 10 stories a week.

Under federal labor law, 30 percent of workers in a bargaining unit must sign cards saying they want a union. Then the National Labor Relations Board supervises an election.

Pulitzer Corporation, which then owned the Journals, hired King & Ballow, a law firm that practices what it calls "preventive labor law." That means it has developed a winning formula for keeping unions out of workplaces and every newspaper that faces an organiz-

ing drive hires King & Ballow. It even tells managers what to say in meetings. "I felt hurt personally when I heard you wanted a union." The firm has developed slide shows to show small groups. The most outspoken union supporters went last so we wouldn't have time to formulate a response.

And then if you win an election, they have procedures for stalling the negotiations long enough to call an election to vote you out.

Not long after we lost our election by a single vote, I quit. A few months later, the Journals offered three of the leaders of the organizing drive cash bonuses to quit if they promised not to talk publicly about the Journals. None of the leaders of the organizing drive still work for the Journals.

Not long after that, one anti-union employee, an ad salesman who had persuaded others to vote against the union, was fired. He had failed to increase his ad sales over the previous year (something the Journals required) and the union fought to change. I think he may have had second thoughts about his stand against the union.

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How safe are you on campus?

Criminology department shows how to reduce chances of being a victim

BY BRIAN E. OLIVER
Staff Writer

Although crime rates in America have dropped substantially in the last decade, college-age students, those between the ages of 18 and 24, are victimized at higher rates than older adults.

Many believe that part of the reason for this has to do with the fact that the lifestyle that goes along with being a young adult often corresponds with increased risk, which in turn corresponds with increased victimization.

Callie Rennison, assistant professor of criminology and criminal justice at UM-St. Louis, said that it is important for students to make smart decisions to reduce the chance that they will become victims of crime.

"Do not put yourself in places where you could be put in danger," Rennison said.

In addition, Rennison said that a second way a student can reduce the chance of being victimized is to educate themselves about what the true risks are so they can make smart decisions.

For example, many studies have found that women are particularly fearful of being raped by a stranger and tend to be on guard when around men they do not know.

There is nothing wrong with taking this precaution. However, the Bureau of Justice statistics reports indicate that over two thirds of adult female rape victims are victimized by people they

know.

Knowing this and taking a proactive approach to preventing rape with this fact in mind would be one way to reduce the chances of victimization.

"Women tend to be victimized by people they know, not by strangers," Rennison said. "So they need to realize this and take precautions based on this fact."

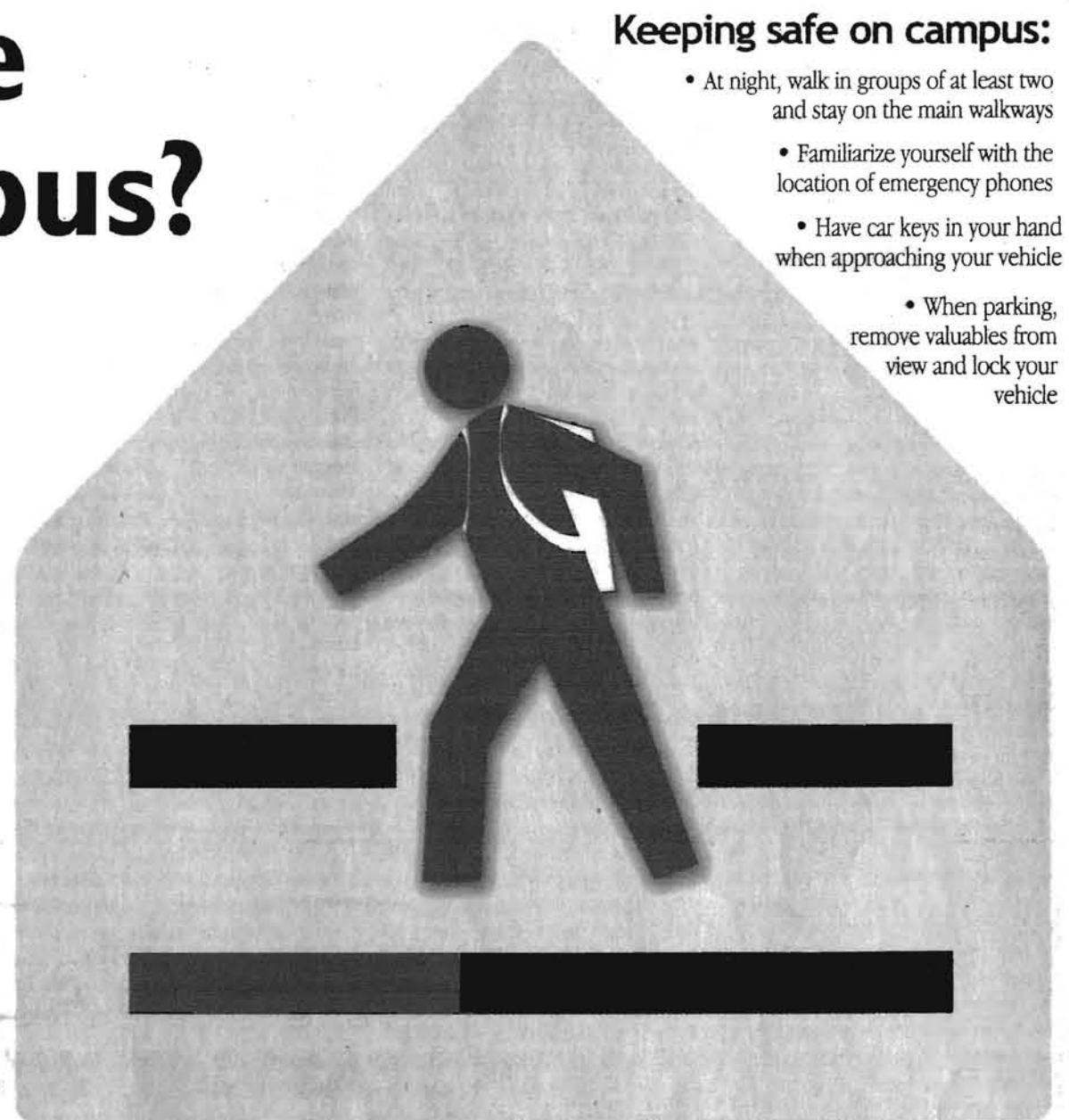
Another thing college students need to realize is that, with the exception of sexual assault, college-age men are victimized for all violent offenses at higher rates than college-age women. Part of the reason for this is that young men often do not focus on crime prevention and end up putting themselves in high risk situations (such as walking alone at night or walking in unfamiliar neighborhoods) more than women.

By knowing that their lifestyle can put them at increased risk, men can reduce the chance that they will be victimized by limiting the number of high risk situations they place themselves in.

With this caution in place, one important fact about crime that college students need to realize is that violent crimes rarely occur on campus.

Richard Rosenfeld, professor of criminology and criminal justice, said the UM-St. Louis campus is a relatively safe place and Rennison echoed this statement by pointing out that over 90 percent of crimes committed against college students happened off campus.

A final thing students need to real-



Source: UM-St. Louis Police Web site

Keeping safe on campus:

- At night, walk in groups of at least two and stay on the main walkways
- Familiarize yourself with the location of emergency phones
- Have car keys in your hand when approaching your vehicle
- When parking, remove valuables from view and lock your vehicle

ize, according to Rennison, is that alcohol is related to increased rates of both victimization and offending.

In line with this knowledge, one way college students can reduce that chances that they will be victimized is to limit the amount of alcohol they use. They can also keep their victimization chances low by not buying or using illegal drugs.

One reason why heavy alcohol use or illegal drug use increases the

chances of being victimized is because it impairs people's judgment and makes them less able to defend themselves if they happen upon a potential perpetrator.

In addition, perpetrators are more likely to see an intoxicated person as an easy target.

Another way to reduce the chances of being victimized when consuming alcohol is to choose to drink in the company of friends and travel with

others after drinking (preferably with a designated driver).

Although some crimes occur regardless of the precautions a person takes, many crimes can be prevented by performing the necessary precautions. By knowing the facts about who victimizes people, why they do it and making lifestyle changes, students are more likely to be able to complete college without becoming a victim of crime.

UMSL alumna shares ups and downs in job pursuit

BY KATE SHAW
Staff Writer

How hard is it to get that dream job after graduation? Some communication majors got the inside scoop on those odds, as well as the good and bad news of the job search from UM-St. Louis alumna Stephanye Pitts.

The 22-year-old said she is thrilled with her position as marketing coordinator for radio station KEZK but that she endured nine months of "constant, constant searching" before getting her foot in the door. Pitts was invited by Michael Murray, curators' teaching professor of media studies, to return to campus earlier this month to share these experiences and to offer advice to students in his broadcast news writing class.

Her story began in 2003, during her last year at UM-St. Louis. Pitts had studied studio production for television, but realized at a job fair that she was not as interested as she thought. "Everyone at this fair was really into it, talking about gear, popping out tapes," recalled Pitts. "I had nothing."

A short while later, Pitts attended a talk sponsored by the National Broadcasting Society. As the organization's student president, Pitts had selected the speaker herself, but it was not until the woman spoke about her marketing and promotions career in radio that Pitts realized what she wanted to do with her life.

"She worked at a radio station,



Adam D. Wiseman/The Current

Stephanye Pitts, who received her degree in communications from UMSL, sits in one of the radio booths at KEZK. She is the marketing coordinator for the radio station.

doing everything I wanted to," said Pitts. "Everything she said touched my heart. I was almost in tears."

"I bombarded her with questions," said Pitts. "What classes did I need to take? Did I need business? Did I need sales? She went the extra mile for me, looked at my transcripts and my writ-

ing classes and said that I was good."

Pitts used this example to stress the importance of making connections and also to recommend that communication majors consider joining an organization like N.B.S.

"Lots of people work and go to school and are busy, but you have to

make time for something more powerful than just work and school," said Pitts.

"Listening to professionals who speak about your field of interest will offer you more knowledge going out then when coming in."

Like every communication major, Pitts then had to get an internship, preferably at a radio station. After making a connection at the since deceased Q-95.5, Pitts was told for two months to contact various people at the station before she was hired as an intern. Pitts said that her persistence was worth it.

"It was the best experience. My love for radio and promotions came from that station," said Pitts.

She advised Murray's class to consider working several internships before graduating.

"You want as much access to people as possible. Take those cards, call those people. Make an impression. It could be your lucky break in the job search later," Pitts said.

Pitts also offered at least one juicy tip for internship interviews.

"Everyone wants to know: how do you keep yourself organized?"

Pitts said that those who had interviewed her were impressed with her use of a "track record."

"I write down everything I do, the time, the date, everything," said Pitts. "It keeps me on track and I have a record of my day for myself and for anyone else who wants to see it."

Once out of school, Pitts wasted no time or resource in hunting down the kind of work in which she was interested.

see ALUMNA, page 8

The Rogue Librarian

The rogue guide to spicing up boring research papers

BY RALEIGH MUNS
UMSL Reference Librarian

In 1978 as an undergraduate psychology major, I woke up one day and realized I didn't have to write boring term papers. I immediately started working on a paper for my chemistry class entitled "How to Kill More than a Million People for Less than Five Bucks." Not only did I get an "A" grade, I also became a favorite of all the poor chemistry TA's who were otherwise grading reams of papers on exciting topics like "A Review of Analysis Procedures of Various Halides" or "Preparation of Complex Carbon Based Metabolites."

As a reference librarian, I regularly get to see what topics people are working on for their own papers as they ask for assistance. Though there's nothing inherently wrong with writing about topics like "Capital Punishment" or "Legalizing Marijuana" most students don't realize that these subjects are being duplicated by their fellow students year after year after year. This is quietly driving the professors and TA's insane as they grade the umpteenth undergraduate treatise on "Abortion: Pro or Con?" So, I'm going to try to help you find your inner paper-writing freak by making a few humble suggestions for possible future term paper ideas.

Super Guinea Pigs. Refer to the

Economist magazine (available online in the Academic Search Premier database) for the article "A Guinea Pig for All Tastes and Seasons" (Jul. 17, 2004, p. 37). Not only will you get started on learning about the exciting subject of raising guinea pigs for food, you will also find out that Peruvian scientists have bred a new "Super" guinea pig weighing up to 10 pounds. It feeds a family of four. A Google search for "guinea pig recipes" will turn up a few interesting sites with culinary suggestions.

Cannibalism. Always good for a few laughs for the sociology and criminal justice students. Suggested paper titles should be something like "Who Ate Whom ... and Why?" Extra

credit for inserting in your paper that the last man convicted specifically of cannibalism in the United States has at least one school cafeteria named after him. Google "Alferd Packer" or "Alfred Packer" to learn more.

If you're going to write about "Capital Punishment" why not write about "Capital Punishment of Animals?" According to an Atlantic Monthly article "Bugs and Beasts Before the Law" (Aug. 1884, p. 235) there is a long history of courts trying animals for crimes and then executing them. Typical crimes were murder (mostly committed by pigs) and bestiality. Apparently one equine caught in flagrante delicto with its owner had its good character vouched for by the

local citizenry. Rather than be executed and burned as was normally the case, the noble steed was allowed to live out its natural life on the grounds of the local church. The good citizens claimed that the owner must have forced the poor horse into the heinous act against its will.

Finally, I give you all permission to update "How to Kill More than a Million People for Less than Five Bucks." Basically, you determine what is necessary for manufacturing some deadly substance (I chose VX nerve gas) and determine the costs of the components needed to create it. Of course when Attorney General Alberto Gonzales's minions come to pay you a visit, you're on your own.

FEATURES

EDITOR

MELISSA MCCRARY

Features Editor

phone: 516-5174
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The 2005 Homecoming Parade will start in Parking Lot U, proceed down Natural Bridge, turn into the MSC and end at the Nosh patio. Call 5760 or e-mail gloria_schultz@umsl.edu for more info.

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Student volunteer efforts send her to Africa

BY MELISSA MCCRARY
Features Editor

A former UM-St. Louis student, Current staff writer and acting president of the Association of Black Journalists has decided to take a year off to complete a volunteer program in Africa.

Although Shante Davis has been involved in other community services and has participated in other volunteer events, this is the first time that she will volunteer in a third-world country.

Davis said this idea came after she had seen fliers posted on the bulletin boards around UM-St. Louis campus.

"The fliers said 'Volunteer in Africa'. The program was advertised on campus, so I filled out an application and they accepted me," Davis said. "I also thought that this would be a good opportunity for me to learn

about the African culture, be productive and find out the different area of resources."

This volunteer in Africa program is made possible through the Institute for International Cooperation and Development and the Humana People to People Movement.

In their 15 years of existence, IICD has helped over 1,000 students train to be volunteers and complete service missions in Africa, North America, the Caribbean, Asia and Europe. Their primary focus is on Zambia and Mozambique.

IICD volunteers help build schools, plant trees, spread awareness about HIV/AIDS, assist the elderly and educate children.

Some of the volunteer service openings include Child Aid, people who fight against poverty and help children stay safe, teacher training programs and farm training.

Before Davis can go to Mozambique, Africa, she has to spend six months at the IICD loca-

tion in Dowagiac, Mich. to receive the proper volunteer training and to study global education.

"I'll be here for six months and then I'll go to Africa for six months," she said. "When I return, I will complete my last semester at UMSL and receive my bachelor's degree in mass communication."

Some of the things that she is learning at IICD include speaking Portuguese, learning about the general organization's programs and the Humana People to People Movement, studying African culture and finding ways to connect with and help the community in Mozambique.

Another requirement of the first part of the program is fundraising. Each student must raise enough money to purchase a visa, pay for international airfare, vaccinations, insurance and educational materials.

see DAVIS, page 8



Photo courtesy M.K. Stallings

Shante Davis, former UM-St. Louis student, is preparing for a volunteer effort that will take her to Mozambique, Africa. Davis is taking part in a six-month training session in Dowagiac, Mich. before she leaves for Africa to work as a Child Aid worker.

BIODIESEL, from page 5

If communities can generate their own power, the laws of competition mean that big profits are threatened. Besides, what is more American than thumbing your nose at the big guys and striking out on your own independent course?

But how about fuel for your car? Unless we suddenly develop lots of mass transit, you will still probably need your car to get around. When I talked about this before, one of the alternate power sources we looked at was biodiesel. Let's take a closer look at biodiesel as a power source for your car.

If a car that smells like french fries does not make you gag, you could go with biodiesel power. To make biodiesel cost-competitive, gasoline has to reach close to \$3 a gallon. We crossed that line recently and are likely to cross it again. Biodiesel might not be likely to be a total replacement for gasoline but it has great potential as something to stretch the supply and your miles per gallon.

Biodiesel means diesel engine fuel made from vegetable oil. This can be used or fresh, from food plant sources or non-food plant sources. Like ethanol made from corn, it is renewable. Interestingly, the inventor of the diesel engine in 1892, Rudolf Diesel, touted as one of its strengths the fact that it could run on castor or peanut oil. So, biodiesel fuel is coming full circle.

There are several appealing things about biodiesel for the average citizen. Conventional diesel cars can burn it, although you might want to make a few modifications to run 100 percent biodiesel. You can process it to burn better by removing the glycerin. However, it does require a diesel, rather than gasoline, car. Gasoline cars can be adapted to burn high ethanol-gasoline mix. Maybe a hybrid electric biodiesel car is something some entrepreneur should be working on.

Biodiesel cars can utilize used cooking oil from restaurants, a form of recycling. A variety of vegetable oils are suitable as fuel. Besides buying waste cooking oil and grease from fast food restaurants, there are plans afoot to widely offer biodiesel at retail fuel pumps, just like gasoline and petrodiesel. Supporters of farmers are among those going forward with these plans. Country star Willie Nelson has started a company to sell it at truck stops. Soybean farmers are at the forefront of the retail biodiesel industry. There are at least 300 pumps in operation so far.

In the wake of Hurricane Katrina, "Veggie Van" owner Joshua Tickell and other biodiesel proponents are delivering the biofuel to the fuel-starved Gulf Coast areas. Tickell launched the trend to biodiesel in this country in 1997, and wrote the "biodiesel bible": "From the Fryer to the Fuel Tank."

One of the downsides of biodiesel is the use of food crops for fuel, crops which need fertilizer and petroleum products for production. Once this was a barrier to biodiesel but more efficient production has changed this. However, using non-food crops, chosen for this purpose only, is a better choice and could give U.S. farmers an extra boost as well. Biodiesel production is more efficient than in the past, which is also true for ethanol. Soybean and canola oil provide between three and four times the energy needed to produce the fuel. However, the amount of land needed to grow all our fuel would be quite large.

Mixing with conventional petrodiesel and powering at least some trucks with this renewable fuel is a more practical idea. Replacing gasoline is likely to call for a combination of solutions rather than a single fuel.

Biodiesel, like regular diesel, tends to gel at cold temperatures, so engines need to be warmed to use it. However, the fuel can be processed to remove glycerin to make it useable in cold engines. Biodiesel can be used as a mix with conventional petrodiesel.

One hundred percent biodiesel is the best, for clean, low emissions power. Biodiesel emits no sulfur or lead, and less carbon monoxide and hydrocarbons than petrodiesel. Pure biodiesel reduces carbon dioxide emissions because the plants that yield the fuel are absorbing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. Particulate pollution is reduced 90 percent.

The benefits decline with smaller percentages of biodiesel in the mix. Mixes of two percent biodiesel are really just marketing tools.

The National Biodiesel Board, a trade group promoting biodiesel, is based right here in Missouri, in Jefferson City. They report that there is enough waste cooking grease available each year to make 100 million gallons of biodiesel. Their website has much more information on biodiesel for further research.

Of course, if you go with biodiesel, your car may smell like french fries. But you might get the fun of waving bye-bye to big oil companies.

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The Intern Diaries

Gary prepares body, mind and soul for porno film

Katie Holmes, actress and scientist, once said, "I watched a porno once. It was really funny."

One of the most difficult decisions I ever had to make was choosing between my art and my morals. Would I bare my body "for unlawful carnal knowledge" on camera in the new John Cameron Mitchell film "Short Bus?" Or would I turn down the role of a lifetime and keep my clothes on while upholding my image as a "good boy?"

Even though I was not sure I would be a sextra, I told my agent that I would take the gig anyway. I paid cash and I was broke. Besides, I wanted to get more exposure as an actor and being in a John Cameron Mitchell film would look great on my resume since Mitchell won numerous awards for his previous movie "Hedwig and the Angry Inch."

The idea of being intimate with someone also sounded appealing. I had not been romantically involved with anyone since being in St. Louis. I missed being close to someone, touching someone, kissing someone ... I would rather that person be someone I know well, who I have developed a friendship with before going to bed with her. I would rather

make love to one person without a soul around.

However, neither life nor love is perfect. So, that's how I came to making love to two women while being videotaped in front of the whole production crew—for the sake of art.

I figured since I would be completely naked on camera, I needed to make sure that I knew all my best angles. After a few poses, I was satisfied with what I saw. The only thing I saw that needed serious attention was my love handles. I hid this flaw by sucking in my stomach, puffing my chest out and tilting to one side. (I practiced this position and was sure that if I could hold this move for five minutes or one take, I would be able to fool the audience into thinking that I am in perfect shape.)

While posing for possible camera angles, I also thought about whether or not I should shave since I have hairy arms, legs and chest. I contemplated on whether or not my body hair would be distracting to the audience. To shave or not shave—that is the question. In the end, I figured that I should not shave since my head is already completely shaved.



GARY SOHN
New York Correspondent

The next thing on my checklist, which was the most important part of the film, was that I needed to make sure that my whole body was in tune to my character. I remember porn star (and actress) Jenna Jameson once said she didn't like working with new guys in her films because they would get nervous sometimes and weren't able to perform their roles in front of the camera.

Forget good angles and body hair. If I didn't get "Little Gary" into the act, then my performance as a whole

would be insufficient to my character and a major embarrassment.

I decided to buy a box of ginseng tea, a great aphrodisiac, and drink a few glasses to give me the fuel I need for tomorrow's big shoot.

Since my body was ready for the role, the next thing I needed to do was work on my character.

In acting, certain questions must be answered to figure out who the character is in any scene, such as, Who am I? Where am I? What do I want? Why do I want it? How will I get it?

Those were really tough questions to answer, especially since I hadn't received a script yet. I decided to develop a temporary background for my character for now.

My character's name would be Jack Hammer, a Quaker who runs away from his enclosed community to the big city for a chance to live out his own life. While in New York, Hammer decides he wants to fall in love but finds that he is not good with the ladies. Misguided, Hammer goes to a gentlemen's club looking for a decent woman to date. There, he meets two dancers, Shena and Lolita, who take pity on him after discovering his ordeal. The

ladies decide to take Hammer to their apartment and teach him how to meet women, how to talk to women and how to make love to them.

I stayed up all night thinking about the next day. I have always been nervous and excited about being in a movie, but this one was different. I asked myself, should I tell anyone? Do I want my family and friends seeing it? What if I have kids? How do I tell them that I was pretending to have sex with Shena and Lolita for art and that it's different with mommy?

Reality started sinking in and I wondered if this was the right thing to do.

The next morning, after drinking four glasses of ginseng tea, I caught the train to Brooklyn. As I walked down the sidewalk to the shooting location, I saw catering trucks, cable, lighting equipment and people with headsets on, a typical scene at every shooting location.

I took a deep breath and entered the holding area. Inside ...

Stay tuned next week when Gary builds houses with celebrities in front of the GE building for Katrina victims.

DAVIS, from page 7

"There are currently nine other students studying with me, from all over the world, like Ethiopia, Wisconsin, Germany and Portugal," Davis said.

She said that she is responsible for raising \$6,000 before the end of her six months of schooling in Dowagiac.

"In Africa, I will be a Child Aid worker, working to empower families, especially the children, in the villages of Mozambique with the basic skills in the areas of health, agriculture and food security," she said.

Davis said that to participate there was an initial enrollment fee of \$250 and a tuition fee of \$3,800.

According to IICD's website, www.iicdmichigan.org, 20 percent of the children die before the age of five and 15 percent of the population in Mozambique are infected with HIV/AIDS.

MK Stallings, graduate student, sociology, became friends with Davis on campus and through working with volunteer efforts.

"I think that this is an excellent opportunity to reconnect with something that is symbolic to African students," Stallings said. "Just to dedicate her time, work, money and prolong her education is tremendous."

Davis said that she hopes to make a difference in the Mozambique community and learn life skills.

ALUMNA, from page 6

She laughed especially at her recollections of the odd jobs she encountered along the way and cautioned the class about certain promotion companies.

"Watch out for jobs that sound appealing at first," she said. One company promised her she would be making "millions of dollars in 2017" by selling vitamins. She also worked briefly for another company that hinted that she would rub elbows with top recording artists and travel the world. She said that where she ended up instead was in a suit in a Wal-Mart parking lot during a heat wave.

"By August I wanted to give up," said Pitts, who graduated in January 2004. "I thought, I have a great job at the YMCA, I love kids, I'm through

[with the search]."

Another fateful job fair saved the day. Pitts said that she worked part-time for a friend from church who thought she could do better. He signed her up for a job fair but she said she did not want to go. "It was downtown and I didn't want to drive," said Pitts. "But he told me, 'whether you go or not, I don't want to see you here on Thursday. And I want to hear some good news on Friday.'"

Pitts went and ran right into what would become her dream job at KEZK. "After that it was like clockwork," said Pitts. "I interviewed Monday and was hired Tuesday night. I called my cousin at the YMCA, did paperwork on Wednesday and started on Thursday.

On my birthday."

Pitts said her job started immediately with the organization of a charity event involving free haircuts. "The boss said, 'I'm going on vacation.' Bam," said Pitts. "I had to pitch, I had never done sales. I had to say [to hair stylists] 'I need you on your busiest day, Saturday, and I need you to do it for free.'"

"I was meant to be there," said Pitts of her love for her job.

When a student asked Pitts about moving to a larger market like New York or Chicago, Pitts offered her personal outlook.

"I looked at New York, because my uncle is there," said Pitts, in reference to Veteran CBS reporter Bernard Pitts. "But did I have as much to offer

there as I do here? Would I know the area, the people? Can I relate to the people?"

Pitts also spoke about the Writing Certificate she received from UM-St. Louis.

"Everyone should work on their writing skills," said Pitts. "It's what people look at, it's how people will judge you in the work place. I took so many writing classes here, they wouldn't let me take anymore."

Pitts praised the writing classes and instructors available to UM-St. Louis students. She said she especially appreciated classes taught by news and public relations writing instructor Judy Linville. "She challenged me constantly," Pitts said with a nostalgic smile.

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Movie Review



Photo Courtesy Warner Bros. Pictures

'Corpse Bride' is fun, familiar Tim Burton fare

BY CATE MARQUIS

A&E Editor

Despite its necrophilia-tinged topic, Tim Burton's animated "Corpse Bride" is surprisingly light and funny. "Corpse Bride" uses the same claymation stop-motion techniques, and much the same look as his previous "Nightmare Before Christmas," which makes the film suspiciously familiar. It spends a bit too much time on singing and dancing for my tastes but it is humorously entertaining enough in the long run.

Shy, stick-legged Victor (voice of Johnny Depp) is set to marry Victoria (voice of Emily Watson), a woman he has never met, in a wedding arranged by their parents. Victor's wealthy but lower class fishmonger parents are hoping to step up socially by marrying their awkward son to the shy daughter of an aristocratic but impoverished family.

see **CORPSE BRIDE**, page 10

A&E

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Movie Review

Great cast wasted on bad movie with 'Flightplan'

BY CATE MARQUIS

A&E Editor

Jodie Foster, Sean Bean and Peter Sarsgaard add up to a pretty good cast. However, the implausible "Flightplan" is not up to the quality of its cast.

All entertainment films require some suspension of disbelief, but there is an awful lot of disbelief to suspend in the thriller "Flightplan." Clearly, the filmmakers were hoping for something along the lines of "Panic Room" by choosing this first-rate cast but not even Jodie Foster can entirely rescue this wildly unlikely plot.

German director Robert Schwentke

helms this movie, in which Jodie Foster plays Kyle, a recently widowed aeronautics engineer who has been living in Germany with her husband and six year-old daughter Julia (Marlene Lawston). The engineer and her daughter are flying back to New York with the coffin of her dead husband, who died in a fall. In scenes before they board the plane, we see her fragile mental state as she dreams about walking in the snow with her deceased husband, remembers viewing his body in the morgue and comforting her daughter after a nightmare. The emotionally fragile mother and daughter board the plane far ahead

of the other passengers and when everyone has settled down for the long overnight flight, they move to a couple of empty rows to stretch out and sleep. When she wakes, her daughter is gone. Only Julia's teddy bear and passport remain.

As the crew helps Kyle search for her missing daughter, they all become increasingly skeptical that the little girl really exists. Regardless, the plane's captain (Sean Bean) gives the mother every benefit of the doubt. A sky marshal (Peter Sarsgaard) aboard the plane tries to keep a lid on Kyle's growing hysteria, while he expresses a warm, sympathetic understanding for her situation. As events unfold, the story moves

beyond playing on parental fears of kidnapping to everyone's fears about airline hijackings and terrorism, as Foster tears through the plane accosting Middle Eastern-looking men and tossing about accusations about molesters and hijackers alike. It becomes clear that none of the crew, or even passengers, believe her daughter is on the plane.

The movie trailers, which you likely have seen, show a woman on a plane who believes she has lost her daughter, yet no one saw the child board the plane. This idea is a bit of a stretch already, but add in the fact that the large, double-decker plane is fairly full and

that there are other kids in the next row, who always see other kids even when adults don't, and this tale becomes even more unlikely. This leads us to believe the distraught mother is delusional, rather than waiver between believing her or not, as the plot clearly hopes we will.

Our sympathies are with Foster's character from the start but that does not mean we rule out that she might be mentally unhinged.

There is indeed a plan for this flight but not quite the one we are led to expect.

see **FLIGHTPLAN**, page 10

Shorter and orchestra make for memorable night at PAC

BY ALBERTO PATINO

Staff Writer

Jazz aficionados and classical music lovers alike were treated to the best of both musical worlds on Wednesday night when the Wayne Shorter Quartet played a thrilling set with members of the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra at the Touhill Performing Arts Center.

This was the first show in the SLSO Fusion series, a trio of shows at the Touhill exploring the merging of classical with more diverse forms and expressions of music.

Shorter, appearing stately and refined as would be expected of a virtuoso saxophone player and composer of over 40 years, was in good form, playing sparsely and reservedly over various originals which were lovingly embellished by the SLSO under new director David Robertson. Highlights included the serene take on "Orbits," the speedy and explosive "Joyride" and the technical, busy fusion number entitled "Over Shadow Hill Way."

The Quartet itself was a conflagration of energy, particularly in the almost telekinetic rapport between bassist John Patitucci and drummer Brian Blade. Blade was a joy to watch, completely frenzied in his assault of the drum kit, often lifting himself off his chair and hunching menacingly over his drums like they were wayward children. Likewise, Patitucci was a flurry of fingers and precision amidst head nods to Blade, clearly in love with the spontaneity of the music. Pianist Danilo Perez comped with the two very well, interplaying tastefully with a keen ear.

Robertson was highly impressive in his role as conductor and host, with an exuberant and very physical approach at conducting. He was charismatic and respectful in introducing the Quartet and their tunes, but was duly violent and powerful with his baton during the course of the performance. With such a vigorous display, it was as if to say Robertson was threatening to usurp and fill in Blade's position on drums.

Blade eventually did sit out for one tune, which Robertson introduced as Shorter's anti-war instrumental commemorating the 60 year anniversary of the Hiroshima bombings.

The piece was strikingly avant-garde, beginning with Perez plinking and pulling at his piano strings, evoking uneasiness and disharmony before leading into a highly somber crescendo, somehow not at all out of place with the other more traditional jazz-oriented numbers.

The SLSO executed Shorter's compositions with grace and unmatched musicality and added flair and resonant atmosphere to the Quartet's progressive jazz sound. "Seeing Debussy, Hearing Monet," is the next exciting chapter in the Fusion Series on Nov. 16 at the PAC.

Music Review

The Redwalls deliver solid, if unimaginative, new album

BY ZACH MEYER

Staff Writer

There is a certain unacknowledged appreciation for stripped down rock 'n' roll that few people turn away from. Songs such as the Beatles' rendition of "Twist and Shout" is one classic example; another might be Jimmy Hendrix's "Purple Haze." Even today, one can find straightforward rock like the White Stripes' one-riff single "Seven Nation Army." However, considering the surplus of mediocre songs that hit the airwaves, it is often difficult to locate the good amongst the bad.

Nevertheless, thanks to the Redwalls, music just got a little better.

Straight from Chicago's garages, the Redwalls consist of four members: lead vocalist and guitarist Logan Baren, his brother, vocalist and bassist Justin Baren, vocalist and lead guitarist Andrew Langer and, finally, drummer Ben Greeno. All are barely 20 years old and are already turning heads.

Formerly known as the Pages, the Redwalls started out as a Beatles cover band. Much to their surprise, they soon

had a cult following and began to inject their own written songs into the set list. Soon after, the quartet, now under the name of the Redwalls, signed on with Capitol Records.

The band's love of the Beatles still shows in their music. Dressed in matching mod-styled suits with mopy hair cuts, Logan Baren's voice is the closest anyone will ever come to imitating John Lennon, and Justin Baren's bass skills sound as if Paul McCartney himself was playing.

"De Nova," released in late June, is packed with potential hits. Their most recent single, "Thank You," sounds as if it might have been stolen from the vaults of the Beatles' B-Sides. With a simple rhythm section and flanked melodic lead, the song is delightfully addicting. Yet, the album's high point, known as "It's alright," is by far the best song, not only because of the high-energy guitar riffs but because it stands on its own. Instead of ripping off Beatles melodies, "It's alright" hones in on the bands independent musical ideas.

One negative aspect of the



(From left) Logan Baren, Andrew Langer, Justin Baren and Ben Greeno make up the Redwalls, who recently released "De Nova."

Photo by Daniel Gabbey, Courtesy Capitol Records

Redwalls' "De Nova" is that it suffers from "The Vines Disease" because the band bases their music on the careers of other bands. The Vines, a former Nirvana cover band whose early 2000 hit "Get Free" is rumored to be a stolen song from Kurt Cobain's secret vault,

are often written off for being too much like Nirvana and not themselves. The same applies to the Redwalls: full of potential but lacking in creativity.

All in all, "De Nova" is a solid album with crisp guitars and flowing rhythms which make the listeners want

to subconsciously bob their heads. However, it fails in being a great album in that it's already been done ... over 30 years ago. Although I'm not ready to write the band off just yet, they seriously need to think of something more original.

Arts on Campus

'Fire in the Lens' exhibit captures world of St. Louis firefighter

BY MELISSA MCCRARY

Features Editor

While investigating and working on a history project for the North County Fire Department, David Dubowski never imagined that his love for photography would become an exhibition at UM-St. Louis.

Dubowski began his career as a volunteer firefighter in North County in 1983, but never gave up his hobby of taking photos of blazing fires and firefighters in action.

With a fire and police dispatch scanner at his house and an old camera from his parents, Dubowski said that whenever he heard of a fire, he would jump in his car, drive to the scene and shoot some photos.

Over the years, Dubowski has

built up a portfolio of over 10,000 fire photographs. Some of his work has been published in fire department magazines, trade magazines and in the St. Louis Post Dispatch, but he said that this is his first exhibition.

"It all started out when I was working on a project to preserve the history of the North County Fire Department. I was collecting old pictures from the archives at the Western Historical Manuscript Collection Gallery," he said. "On my second visit, I was talking to Mr. Fischetti [Associate Director] and I showed him some of my own photos. He was surprised at my works and became interested in hosting an exhibit."

Over 25 of his favorite photographs showing fire scenes from Illinois to St. Louis are currently on display in his "Fire In The Lens"

exhibition in the Western Historical Manuscript Collection Gallery, located on the second floor of the Thomas Jefferson Library at UM-St. Louis.

"The purpose of the exhibit is to show the general public what firefighters are all about and how they give back to the community with their services, unselfishness and by making the ultimate sacrifice of risking their lives," he said.

In the piece, "#7 Engine Co. #24 and Hook and Ladder St. Louis Fire Department Co. #2," it shows the brave men trying to put out the blaze at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, on May 13, 1986.

Another piece shows the wreckage and burnt ashes of the Wabash Triangle Cafe (currently "The Pageant" on Delmar), which took place on March 18, 1994.

All of the fires in the photographs took place from 1984 to 1999.

Other pieces display fires at Unity Lutheran Church, located at 8454 Glen Echo in Bel Nor, The Alton Plaza Shopping Center in the 1600 Block of East Broadway, the Flower City Warehouse at 201 Dickson Street (north of Laclede's Landing), the Granite City Fire Department Warehouse, Spatz Paint Company, L&R Distributing Company on Olive Street, and other fire incidents at McDonnell Boulevard, in Wellston, Maplewood and Walnut Park.

A display case also holds fire memorabilia and equipment such as a fire alarm pull station, a chemical fire extinguisher, an MSA mask, presto brass fire extinguisher, a brass fog nozzle, head gear, a fire hat and archived photos of old fire vehicles.

Kenn Thomas, Senior Manuscript Specialist, said that his favorite piece is the #21 Mary Carter Streets on Aug. 1, 1999.

"I like this photograph because it is almost like an impressionist painting," Thomas said. "You can see the waves of heat radiating in the sky and the flames look like dabs of paint. This is more of a work of art than a document of a natural disaster."

Thomas said that all of the photographs show stories of these brave heroes.

"I don't consider myself a professional photographer," Dubowski said. "It's just a hobby that has blossomed into more."

Dubowski said his ultimate goal is to get a book published capturing these fire scenes of St. Louis, like Los Angeles and New York.

Carnivale d'Art coming to Touhill PAC

BY **MONICA MARTIN**
Staff Writer

St. Louis' Mid-Sized Arts Cooperative will be showcasing its Carnivale d'Art, a 12-hour art extravaganza, at UM-St. Louis.

The event is being held on Saturday, Oct. 8, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. in the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center. It promises fun for the whole family.

The event plans to exhibit 17 local art organizations such as theater, music, dance performances, art exhibits, hands-on interactive demonstrations and workshops.

The different performances and workshops being offered are Art St. Louis, Black World History Museum, a Trek Dance Collective, Compton Heights Concert Band, Faces of Love, The Many Are

One, a dance workshop, a theater workshop, Hot City Theater, Metro Theater Company, Piwacket Theater for Children, Springboard to Learning, St. Louis Art Works, That Uppity Theater Company and Young Audience of St. Louis.

Several activities that will last all day include the Black World History Museum, an interpretive exhibit; Art St. Louis and St. Louis Art Works, an art gallery and art sale; and African Mask Making.

St. Louis' Mid-Sized Arts Cooperative is headed by president Diana Lia Barrios. Their mission is "to promote a vibrant St. Louis cultural environment by involving member organizations in community initiatives that enhance the region."

Tickets for Carnivale d'Art are

\$11 for adults; \$7 for students and seniors, and \$5 for children ages 10 and under. The tickets are good for the entire event, even if visitors need to leave and come back several times.

All proceeds are being donated to Hurricane Katrina and Rita relief efforts. Hurricane evacuees are eligible for free tickets, as a welcoming gesture to St. Louis. Evacuees can get their tickets by calling 314-535-1135, or emailing info@mid-sizedarts.org. Tickets are on sale now at the Touhill PAC, or online by going to www.midsizedarts.org.

So come to this cultural artistic extravaganza. Stay for a few hours or stay all day. It is for a good cause and maybe you will see or learn something new. What are a few hours for a good cause?

Sufjan Stevens: mix of mirth and 'Illinoise'

BY **ALBERTO PATINO**
Staff Writer

As a big fan, I have been waiting over three years to see Brooklyn-based balladeer Sufjan Stevens perform his gorgeous songs. You see, three years ago I saw him play guitar for the infectiously quirky Danielson Famile (not knowing it was him at the time), have since loved all of his solo albums on Asthmatic Kitty Records, and have bought out-of-print compilations just for his tracks alone.

To my dismay, all of his tours would tend to come through Chicago and then zip right around St. Louis, certainly par for the course for a lot of great acts crossing the midwest. Yet I knew that this young singer/songwriter would easily garner quite a following in St. Louis if just given the right exposure and a little time for people to catch on.

His music? An ingenious and inspired variation on American folk with piano and banjo as primary instruments, augmented with guitar, trumpet, slide trombone, sleigh bells, pan flute, drumkit and a larger array of musical distinctives such as glockenspiel.

Lyrically, Sufjan (pronounced "SOO Fee On") paints hearty and familiar portraits of everything Americana, sometimes tragic, sometimes nostalgic, often gleeful, but always poignant. It's of no detriment to his storytelling skills that he has a master's in creative writing, either.

Fueled by his love for the rolling plains and people of this country, and side-stepping the innate bummer of political rhetoric to the right or left, Stevens is bravely (read: masochisti-

cally?) creating individual albums dedicated to each of the 50 states. He has already dropped two in the barrel, namely one for his original home state of "Michigan", and most recently the goofily titled "Come On! Feel the Illinoise," a tribute to the great state of Rhode Island. Just kidding.

I must confide that due to the overwhelming ambitiousness of the 50 states concept, the plenitude of instruments on his albums, and repeated rumors of crippling shyness on and offstage, I did not think that Stevens would be able to pull his act off live.

On Sept. 22 at Mississippi Nights, not only was I pleasantly proven wrong, but he played what I can confidently say was one of the best live shows I have ever seen.

To kick things off, labelmate Liz Janes opened. She had a smoky, bluesy voice, played her ukelele and acoustic guitar with steely confidence, and was very warm and personable with the 'Nights crowd.

Unfortunately, her songs were nothing memorable, mostly repetitive, and had some potentially decent hooks that unfortunately dead-ended. It was fortunate, however, that she played a short set, whetting a collective appetite for Stevens to take the stage.

Or rather, for him to take center stage, as he played drums quite competently as part of her back up band.

A brief intermission for costume changes, and Stevens and the Illinoismakers (including Janes and two other ladies) came decked out in adorably sporty Illinois-themed cheerleader outfits. Stevens, soft spoken and demure, had a conversely huge personality on stage, leading his small orchestra of fellow multi-instrumentalists in hilariously sweet pep rally

cheers preceding the best songs from "Illinoise."

The band ran through a number of Stevens' new songs, including "Come On! Feel The Illinoise!," "Jacksonville," "Chicago," "Decatur," and of course, "Casimir Pulaski Day."

Most of the selections were very uplifting and energetic, wisely leaving out the mournfully lovely "John Wayne Gacy Jr." from the set list, as it certainly would have battered down the dominantly jovial spirit of the show.

His voice may have had a limited range, but God bless Sufjan if he did not have the most captivating soprano since Jeremy Enigk. And the Illinoismakers? Their collective voices proffered harmonies nothing short of celestial. The cheers were well-choreographed, giddy and fun, included a bit of humorous impromptu stretching.

The thing that struck me most about this show is that in a time where American cynicism and anti-nationalistic sentiments are at an all time high (not excluding some of my own, in all honesty), Stevens and his bandmates wore their hearts on their sleeves and blessed the audience with an honest, unpretentious profession of love for this country, despite its undeniable shortcomings. Even their musical rendition of "The Star Spangled Banner" was very well received by the audience and carried not an iota of irony or irreverence.

Given his natural gift for songwriting and weaving together consistently great albums without being formulaic, I am strongly anticipating the 48 remaining albums of perfect American folk from the likes of Mr. Sufjan.

Save the last Poco Poco Ria for me...



Valerie Breshears/The Current

Cochie Putri, sophomore, accounting, dances the Poco Poco Ria, a traditional dance during Indonesian Cultural Night: "A Night in the Oasis Archipelago" on Saturday night in the Pilot House. During the performance, everyone in the audience was able to stand up and dance along. The event was sponsored by the Indonesian Students Association.

STORCH, from page 1

"I did not have any long term plans to get into politics," Storch said. "I say it was serendipity."

Storch began her political career working on the Mel Carnahan campaign for U.S. Senator in 2000. After the election she went to Washington, D.C. as Jean Carnahan's deputy chief of staff.

"In early 2000 I received a call that changed my career path," Storch said. The call was from Vivian Evoloff, director of the UM-St. Louis Sue Shear Institute for Women in Public Life.

"I was really someone that was mentored and helped by the Sue Shear Institute and I would really encourage

anyone to here to take advantages of the resources there," Storch said. "It's an entity that is set up to encourage women and really anybody to take an active part in politics or public life. I was somebody that institute touched."

In Washington, D.C., Storch said she felt there was a real disconnect between Capitol Hill and the needs of the state.

"I was always a little uncomfortable at the federal level," Storch said.

In 2002, she returned to Missouri and ran for the General Assembly.

"I had a sense some very important fights were gonna be fought in the state capitol," Storch said. "On issue after issue, the status quo was being

changed and the programs and principles and protections that are important to a Democrat like me were on the table, they were at stake, they were jeopardized. It didn't matter if it was health care, Medicaid, education, the environment: things were changing. There was this movement to ... make some very radical changes."

Lunch with a Legislator is a regular series sponsored by ASUM. It is a chance for students to meet face to face with their representatives and discuss issues important to them.

Scott Muschany, Republican, District 87, will be on campus Oct. 12 at noon as part of the Lunch with a Legislator series.

PINKLEY, from page 1

Schreiber heard a noise, walked outside and saw Pinkley's vehicle lodged against a telephone pole near her property. Lightning struck that same pole twice Monday night, causing the North Campus to lose power.

"I called 911 and the line was busy," she said. Schreiber eventually contacted authorities while another driver stopped to help. Schreiber remembers only two accidents involving cars hitting that same pole since she lived at her residence for eight years.

"I only knew Danielle the last 20 minutes of her life," she said.

While Schreiber knew Pinkley a short time, her roommates knew her only since August. This marked Pinkley's first year at UM-St. Louis. She transferred from Jefferson College.

Elizabeth Stroup, junior, business, and Chrystalynn Creasy, a student at St. Louis Community College - Forest Park, were Pinkley's roommates. The two students told stories of the first time they met Pinkley as they tried unsuccessfully to hold back tears.

Creasy remembered walking into the apartment and finding the bathroom partially painted. She said Pinkley had run out of paint and asked Creasy where to get more. "The next thing I know is all the doors are open and windows are open, and she's in there painting away, just smiling," Creasy said.

Stroup remembered Pinkley keeping the apartment tidy and decorating the rooms with flowers and bows. "My first memory was her and her mom cleaning when I walked in the

door," Stroup said.

Her roommates said Pinkley loved sports and worked out at the gym often. Creasy described Pinkley as a hard worker and "the type who didn't like to get overwhelmed, but was easily overwhelmed."

Pinkley also loved her job at the Cheesecake Factory, her roommates agreed. They also said Pinkley was like a mother figure. "She was real family oriented, real close to them," Creasy said.

Representatives from Residential Life and Counseling Services said at the memorial they will continue to support Pinkley's roommates and friends.

"I believe when people are grieving, it's incredibly important to experience a sense of community," Schreiber said.

LEADERSHIP, from page 4

He is without a doubt the most influential historical figure the world has ever known and he is also the absolute perfect example of a servant leader.

While at this forum we met in small groups to discuss all of these

concepts and tackle several of the hard questions. I learned many of the student leaders that made up this stellar cross section of the American universities agreed that this model of servant leadership is what they wanted to imitate in their own lives. I encourage

you to take a look at the example of Jesus for yourself and be awesome leaders. Think about some of these questions and set goals for your own life.

This is your moment! Young people: make your mark on history.



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OUT 'N BUT THE FURY

Hey, Tyler! I found something really cool to do this month!

Oz, remember that October two years ago where we all got lost camping, and Oscar went insane and tried to kill everybody?

Yeah...?

And remember last October when you decided that you didn't need sleep, which eventually made you go insane and try to kill everybody?

Minnnn, I seem to recall a rampage of some sort, yes. So?

So I'm sayin', every time this month comes around, some funky horror crap always happens! Well, this year I'm not taking any chances!! I'm gonna park my ass in front of the TV and let this horrific month just roll on by!

But Tyler, old man Alucard down the street is going on vacation, and he's paying us to watch his house!

So you down?

No

I hear he has cool stuff in his booseseent

No, Oz! Shut the hell up!

Continued!!

LIFE IN HELL

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ALL I WANT IS LOVE.

LOVE LOVE LOVE.

LOVE LOVE LOVE LOVE LOVE LOVE.

LOVE LOVE LOVE LOVE LOVE LOVE LOVE LOVE LOVE LOVE.

LOVE LOVE LOVE LOVE LOVE LOVE LOVE LOVE LOVE LOVE LOVE LOVE LOVE LOVE.

STOP! I GIVE YOU ALL MY LOVE.

GREAT!

#2 ON MY LIST: COMMITMENT COMMITMENT COMMITMENT.

Salome's Stars

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) A workplace change doesn't seem to have turned out quite as you'd hoped. Never mind. Just treat yourself to a healthy dollop of that Aries self-confidence, and you'll soon view things differently.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Some of the support you might have hoped for in a difficult situation might not be there. But you have the strength to rely on your own capabilities if you must. Good luck.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) A disagreement with a longtime friend can be painful, but it can also be a learning lesson. Insist on a full and complete airing of views. You'll both come away the better for it.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) A stalled relationship can be restarted with some give and take on both sides. And while it could take more time than you expect, don't rush it. Be patient, and let it happen naturally.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) An opportunity to move a long-stalled project from concept to construction might be opening up for the Big Cat. Meanwhile, be prepared to spend more time dealing with family matters.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Use your Virgo organizational skills to line up support to help you deal with a sticky workplace problem. A personal matter might also be helped with friendly intervention.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Trying to resolve a workplace problem with a longtime associate can be difficult. Consider bringing in an impartial third party to help you both reach a mutually acceptable solution.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) This is a good time to assess your current career situation. Consider whether you have a chance to move up where you are now, or if you should look elsewhere.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) With education being a dominant part of this week's aspect, one of the things you might want to think about is taking courses to enhance your career opportunities.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) You might have a problem trying to stay focused on a matter you'd rather not deal with. But the sooner you do, the sooner it will be resolved and out of the way.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) An unforeseen complication creates a difficult problem. But things get resolved once you use your ability to turn negative situations into positive experiences.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) The Pisces penchant for doing the right thing at the right time helps you deal with a particularly troublesome situation. Consider your best option and act accordingly.

BORN THIS WEEK: Although you might sometimes seem rigid in your views, your love of justice makes you a trusted friend everyone can rely on.

Super Crossword FILM CLIP

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Banner Wars and Penny Wars

OCTOBER 4

Karaoke 6-9 p.m., Pilot House

OCTOBER 5

BMOC 1 p.m.

OCTOBER 6

Parade 12:30 p.m.

OCTOBER 7

Soccer Games 5:00 & 7:30 p.m.
Bonfire 6:15 p.m.

OCTOBER 8

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