

The Current

July 14,
2008

www.thecurrentonline.com

VOLUME 42, ISSUE 1251

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Registration for fall classes

Registration is currently open for all returning, transfer and new students. Classes begin Aug. 18 at 8 a.m. The last day for enrollment is Aug. 24.

INSIDE



Who is this man, and why should you care?

Get to know UM-St. Louis' chancellor and his plans for the 2008-2009 school year.

See page 3

What's so funny about an UMSL education?

"On Humor and Laughter" is being offered this fall. Check out the other new courses you can sign up for now.

See page 3

We think you should get involved

Find out what's in it for you if you get involved in organizations and campus activities.

See OPINIONS, page 5



Organizations at UMSL from A to Zeta

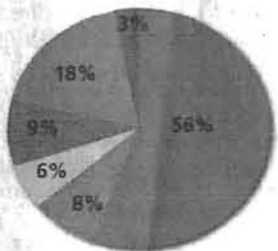
Learn the ABC's of starting or joining a student organization at UMSL.

See FEATURES, page 6

ON THE WEB

The Current online.com

Web poll results:
What should UMSL's new mascot be?

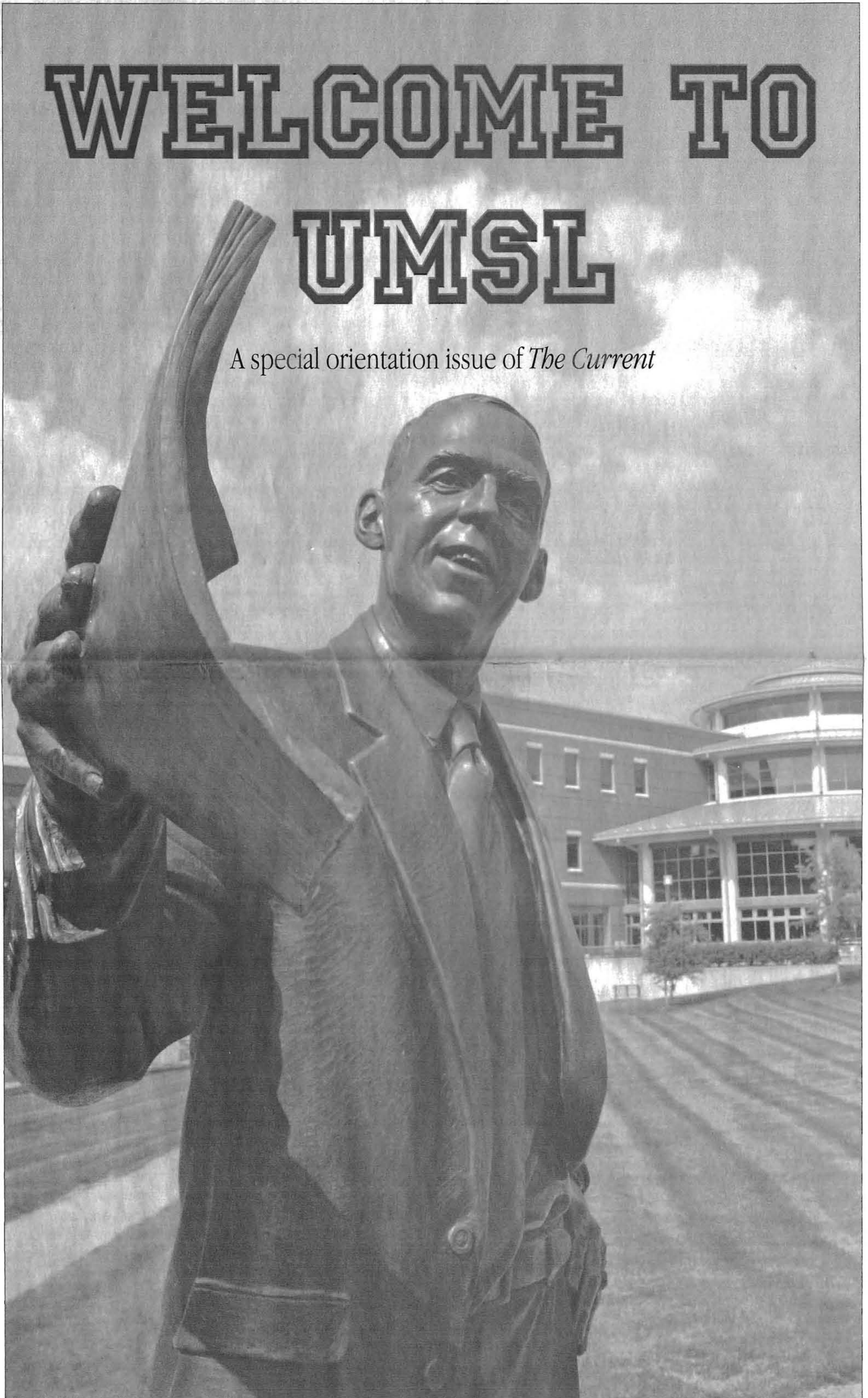


- A male character.
- A female character.
- A trident.
- A goose.
- Bring back the Riverman.
- No mascot, they are silly.

This week's question:
How involved are you?

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WELCOME TO UMSL

A special orientation issue of *The Current*

Matthew Hill • Photo Editor

A statue of Sen. Wayne Goode, UM-St. Louis' founding father, greets students and visitors to campus near the lakes outside of the Millennium Student Center. The statue was unveiled Sept. 21, 2006 to honor Goode and his efforts sponsoring legislation in the early 1960s to create a public university in St. Louis. On Sept. 15, 1963 a dedication ceremony was held for the university.

Stay Current with this week's weather	Monday ☀	Tuesday ☀	Wednesday ☀	Thursday ☀	Friday ☁	Saturday ☁	Sunday ☀	Weather predictions from www.weather.com.
	Hi/Low: 89/68 Precip: 10%	Hi/Low: 90/71 Precip: 10%	Hi/Low: 93/72 Precip: 20%	Hi/Low: 93/73 Precip: 10%	Hi/Low: 91/74 Precip: 20%	Hi/Low: 90/74 Precip: 20%	Hi/Low: 91/75 Precip: 0%	

CAMPUS CRIMELINE

THURSDAY, JUNE 12

**THEFT UNDER \$500 -
MILLENNIUM STUDENT CENTER**

The victim's cell phone was stolen during lunch. She got up to get something and left her cell phone on the table. When she returned a few minutes later, her cell phone was gone. There are no suspects in this incident.

THURSDAY, JUNE 19

**PROPERTY DAMAGE -
NORTH MILLENNIUM GARAGE**

The victim indicated she parked her car in the Millennium Garage, and when she returned she discovered that someone had entered her car, opened the glove box and center console area and rifled through some papers. Nothing was stolen. Upon investigation it was determined that the unknown suspect(s) damaged the driver's side door lock to gain access to the vehicle.

FRIDAY, JUNE 20

**PROPERTY DAMAGE -
UNIVERSITY MEADOWS PARKING LOT**

Sometime overnight the victim's vehicle was damaged. The victim discovered scratches to the doors and fenders. There are no suspects in this incident.

MONDAY, JUNE 23

**THEFT UNDER \$500/ARREST -
MSC BOOKSTORE**

An adult male subject was arrested for stealing from the Bookstore. The suspect entered the store, walked to the textbook aisle, picked up two books and left the store without paying. The suspect was arrested just outside the building and the books were recovered. The suspect was transported to the UMSL Police Station where he was processed for the stealing charge and released pending the application of warrant through the St. Louis County Prosecuting Attorneys Office.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25

**TELEPHONE HARASSMENT -
EXPRESS SCRIPTS**

A claims worker with Express Scripts received a threatening phone call from a client. This client had a claim denied 2 years ago. The client was angry and threatened harm to the worker. Although the client lives on the East Coast, the employee wanted to have a report on file.

TUESDAY, JULY 1

**THEFT UNDER \$500 -
GENERAL SERVICES BUILDING**

Sometime between Friday night and Monday morning several pieces of copper piping were stolen from a locked storage area in the building. There are no suspects at this time.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 2

**THEFT UNDER \$500 -
MILLENNIUM GARAGE**

The victim reported that sometime during the day, the license plates were stolen from her vehicle while it was parked in the Millennium Garage. There are no suspects in this incident.

The UM-St. Louis Police Department is open 24 hours a day. If you see anyone that looks suspicious or out of place you are encouraged to call the UM-St. Louis Police at 516-5155 or 911 if it is an emergency.

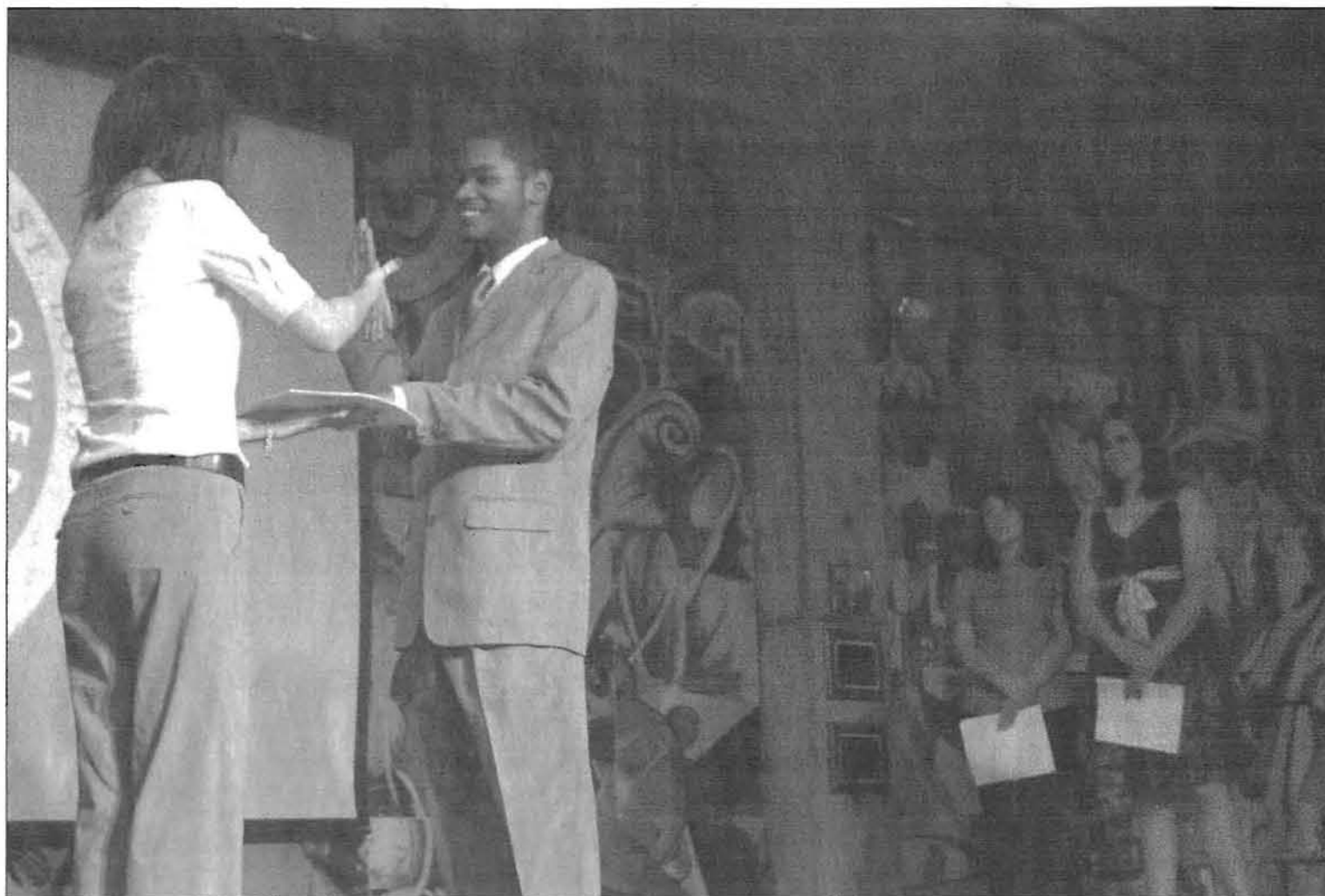
Remember that crime prevention is a community effort, and anyone having information concerning these or any other incidents should contact the campus police.

CORRECTIONS

The Current regrets that sometimes in our making of this publication, we make mistakes. What we do not regret is correcting our mistakes. Please let us know of any corrections that need to be made.

To report any corrections, please contact The Current at 314-516-5174 or by e-mail at thecurrent@umsl.edu.

A GLIMPSE AT SGA 2008



Dorian Hall was sworn in as SGA Comptroller on Wednesday, June 4 in the Pilot House. Looking on are SGA President GraceMarie Ritter and Vice President Jessica Cowan.

What's Current

Your weekly calendar of campus events

WEDNESDAY, JULY 16

ASIA Annual Salary Increase Application Basics

Session covers how annual salary increases are processed to HR and into PeopleSoft. Runs from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. in 107 SCB. A second session runs from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Open to UMSL only. For more info, visit <https://tomsawyer.umsl.edu/webapps/mygateway/training/login.cfm>.

UMSL Summer Teacher Job Fair

Meet and interview with school district representatives. From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the MSC Century Rooms. Admission is free with pre-registration. Tickets must be presented at the door. Deadline is July 14. Otherwise admission for UMSL students/alumni is \$5 at the door and is \$10 for non-UMSL job seekers. For more info, call 5111 or visit <http://careers.umsl.edu/>.

THURSDAY, JULY 17

imPOSTERS

Poster exhibit at Gallery Visio from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. Features posters by regional and local artists. Call 7922 or visit <http://www.umsl.edu/~galvisio/> for more info.

Getting Started in Voice Acting

Get started in voice acting. Learn from instructors who have many years of experience in the voiceover industry and are masters at teaching the information pertinent to success. Session runs from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the J.C. Penney Conference Center. Cost is \$59. For more info, call 5974 or visit <http://www.umsl.edu/ce/financearts>.

TUESDAY, JULY 22

Job Search Strategies Workshop

Learn about networking methods, Internet resources, and other techniques. Current students and UMSL alumni may register online at careers.umsl.edu (click on "Workshops"). Workshop runs from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. in 278 MSC and is open to students. Call Career Services at 5111 for more info.

SATURDAY, AUG. 2

Commencement

All ceremonies will be held in the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center. Each ceremony will be approximately 1 to 1 1/2 hours in length and will include bachelor, master and doctoral candidates.

MARK THE DATE

The Current's next issue is due out August 18, the first day of the fall semester. See you then! Enjoy the rest of the summer break.

"What's Current" is a free service for all student organizations and campus departments. Deadline for submissions is 5 p.m. the Thursday before publication. Space consideration is given to student organizations and is on a first-come, first-served basis. We suggest all postings be submitted at least one week prior to the event. Email event listings to thecurrent@umsl.edu.

All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.



Last year's Student Government officers were sworn in by this year's SGA President GraceMarie Ritter.

10 a.m. - College of Nursing, College of Education, College of Fine Arts & Communication.

2 p.m. - College of Arts and Sciences, School of Social Work, Bachelor of General Studies, Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies, Master's in Gerontology, Master's in Public Policy Administration.

6 p.m. - College of Business Administration, UMSL/WU Joint Undergraduate Engineering Program.

No tickets are required and seating is open. Call 5442 or visit <http://www.umsl.edu/commencement> for more info.

FRIDAY, AUG. 8

New Faculty Orientation

Brief introduction to teaching strategies and supports at UMSL for new full-time faculty interested in making early progress on a syllabus and for those who are unable to attend New Faculty Orientation, August 13-14. From 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. in Bibliographic Instruction Room 315, Thomas Jefferson Library. Open to faculty. Please pre-register on the CTL web site: <http://www.umsl.edu/services/ctl/orientation/fschedule08.html>. For more info, call Peggy Cohen at 4508.

MONDAY, AUG. 11

2008 Professional Development Conf & Orientation for TA/RAs

Day one of two for new and continuing RA and TAs. Special sessions for RAs are a new feature for 2008. Sponsored by the Center for Teaching and Learning, the Graduate School, and the Office of Student Affairs. Conference takes place in the MSC from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Pre-register on the CTL web site: <http://www.umsl.edu/services/ctl/events.html>. Open to students. Call Sally Ebest at 4508 for more info.

TUESDAY, AUG. 12

2008 Professional Development Conf & Orientation for TA/RAs

Day two of two for new and continuing RA and TAs. Conference takes place in the MSC from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Pre-register on the CTL web site: <http://www.umsl.edu/services/ctl/events.html>. Open to students. Call Sally Ebest at 4508 for more info.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 13

New Faculty Orientation

Day one of two for new full-time faculty. Sponsored by the Center for Teaching and Learning and the Office of Academic Affairs. Event runs from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the MSC. Please pre-register on the CTL web site: <http://www.umsl.edu/services/ctl/events.html>. Open to faculty. Call 4508 for more info.

THURSDAY, AUG. 14

New Faculty Orientation

Day two of two for new full-time faculty. Event runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the MSC. Please pre-register on the CTL web site: <http://www.umsl.edu/services/ctl/events.html>. Open to faculty. Call 4508 for more info.

Basic Conversational French II

For people who know a little French but want to expand their vocabulary and develop their conversational skills. Cost is \$65. Held in University Extension Conferenc Rm., 121 Meramec, 5th Fl. from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Call 5974 for more info.

For a complete list of upcoming events, visit the What's Current section of <http://www.thecurrentonline.com>.

The Current

The University of Missouri—St. Louis
Student Newspaper Since 1966

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ON THE WEB

The Current
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

ABOUT US

The Current is published weekly on Mondays. Advertising rates are available upon request; terms, conditions and restrictions apply. The Current, financed in part by student activities fees, is not an official publication of UM-St. Louis. The University is not responsible for the content of The Current and/or its policies. Commentary and columns reflect the opinion of the individual author. Unsigned editorials reflect the opinion of the majority of the Editorial Board. The Current requests the courtesy of at least 24-hour advance notice for all events to be covered. Advertisements do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Current, its staff members or the University.

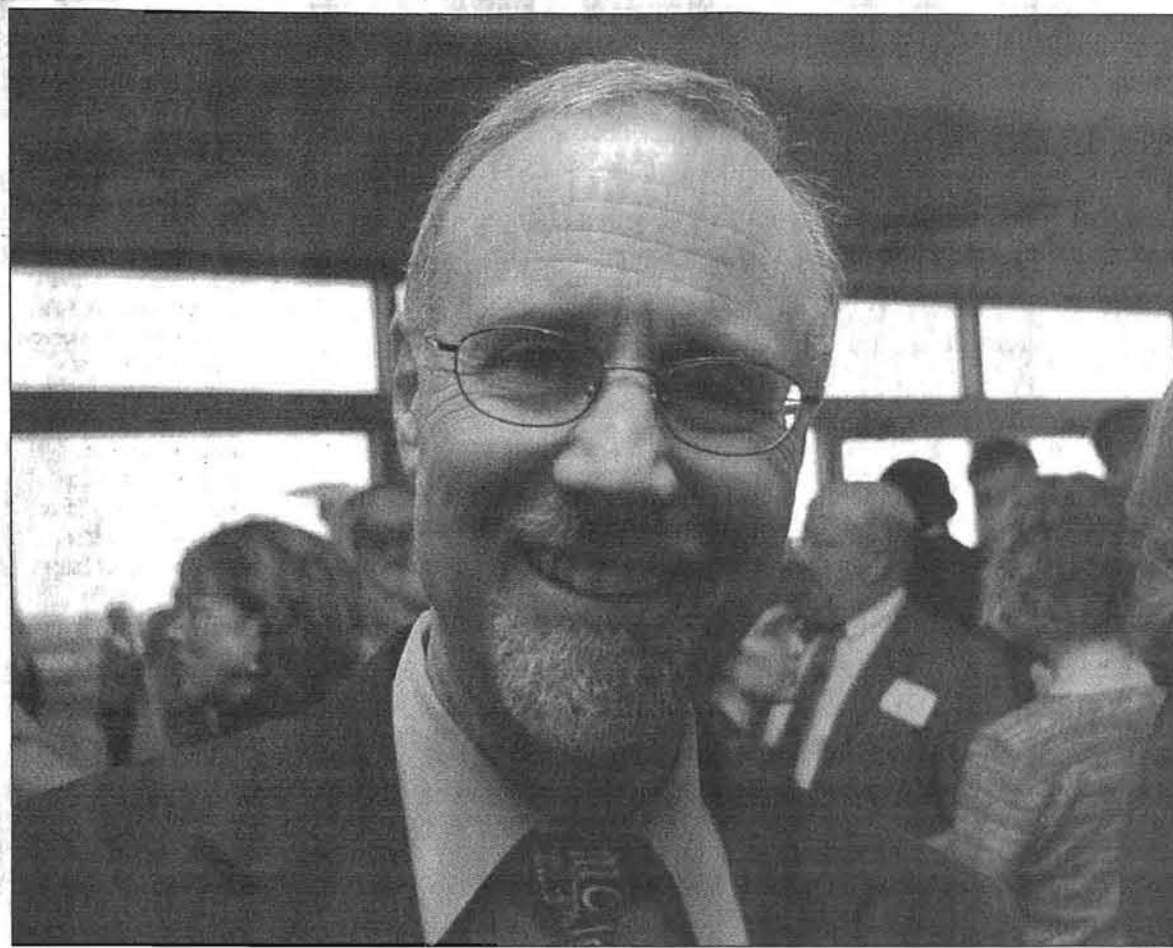
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AFFILIATIONS





Matthew Hill • Photo Editor

Chancellor Thomas George attended the 2008 St. Louis Science Awards.

Providing a gateway for UM-St. Louis students

By CHRIS STEWART

Page Designer

In the approaching school year, UM-St. Louis is striving to improve, expand and reach new heights in every arena. Such an endeavor is impossible without two key components: vision and funding.

The man behind both aspects of growth is UM St. Louis' Chancellor Thomas George.

Describing the position of Chancellor, he notes that it goes by other titles. In the business world, a chancellor might be called CEO. At many other schools, the role is titled President. The UM system has one president, and four individual chancellors of the four campuses in St. Louis, Columbia, Rolla and Kansas City.

As a basic *modus operandi*, a Chancellor oversees general Univer-

sity life.

Intense, detailed and thorough strategic planning is the springboard of a University's growth; but fundraising is vital if these plans are to be carried out. Chancellor George spoke of the ways in which UM-St. Louis has excelled recently in its expansive ambitions.

"At a time when state and federal funds are decreasing, we have continually found ways to increase our funds while keeping tuitions low."

If that sounds like something of a balancing act, then consider all of the various parties involved whose needs must be served. From students to statesmen, Chancellor George has his work cut out for him when it comes to compromise.

Thus, it is helpful that the Chancellor has made himself a particularly approachable figure on campus.

He also represents UM-St. Louis abroad, something the Chancellor's office portrays via an eye-catching display of varied global trinketry. Most recently the Chancellor was in Romania to present a paper while his wife Barbara Harbach (professor of Music, Music History and Harpsichord) gave an organ concert in an 18th century cathedral. On campus he makes it a point to attend sporting events, hear guest speakers and work closely with the Student Government Association.

"There are countless students with ideas, complaints, and comments they need heard, and they are all able to speak through their representatives. Even when we don't agree, we agree to disagree and everyone gets to voice their opinion."

See CHANCELLOR, page 8

New courses include witchcraft, leadership, humor, death and everything in between

By JESSICA KEIL

Features Editor

Eric Wiland, the professor of a new class being offered at the Pierre Laclède Honors College this fall titled "On Humor and Laughter," must have been joking when he first responded to the question: Did you come up with the idea for this new course?

"I got the idea for the course from President Bush, in all his infinite wisdom, who showed me the importance of humor and laughter in our daily lives, as evidenced by his daring one-liners, such as "Rarely is the questioned asked: Is our children learning?" and "Too many good docs are getting out of the business. Too many OB-GYNs aren't able to practice their love with women all across this country," said Wiland, associate professor and director of Graduate Studies at UM-St. Louis.

Wiland is probably the only pro-

fessor who could get away with such a response, and in his case it is hard to make the argument that a more serious answer would have even been appropriate.

"This is the first time I've taught the course," Wiland later explained soberly. "I actually know very little about the philosophy of humor and laughter, but I want to learn about it, and I thought that working through some of the material with Honors students would be rewarding."

Since Wiland's new course is only being offered at the Honors College on South Campus, just Honors students can register for the class.

A class Wiland describes as "The most fun D+ they will ever get at UMSL."

Hopefully, Wiland was kidding about the "D+" part and not the "fun" part. But of course he was. Wasn't he?

Honors college students should consider themselves lucky this fall

semester to not only have Wiland's Honors 3010.006 "On Humor and Laughter" course available to them for the first time, but also six others.

Other new courses to the Pierre Laclède Honors College include Honors 2010.003 "Viewing Difference through the Lens of Movies," 3010.005 "Feminism and Witchcraft," 3010.007 "The Linguistic Study of African American English," 3020.003 "Visualizing Race in the Modern Era," 3030.002 "Eastern Europe Since the Fall of the Soviet Union," and 3070.001 "Leading the Way: A Study of Theory and Personal Practice."

Technically, some of the "new" honors courses have been offered in the past, such as "Feminism and Witchcraft" taught by Dr. Kathleen Butterly Nigro, the Assistant Director in the Institute for Women's and Gender Studies.

See COURSES, page 8

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<http://www.umsl.edu/~socialwk/Gerontology/GerontologyIndexPage.html>

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Center for Student Success
UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-ST. LOUIS

Tuesday 14 October 2008 - 7:30 PM
IRISH MASTERS CONCERT TOUR
Cosponsored with St. Louis Irish Arts

Saturday 18 October 2008 - 7:30 PM
MUSICAL VOICES OF CHINA

Sunday 9 November 2008 - 2:00 PM
FROM EROKOTRITOS TO AXION ESTI:
GREECE'S GREATEST POETS AND COMPOSERS

Thursday 29 January 2009 - 7:30 PM
SARAH WOLFSON: AN EVENING OF CABARET

Tuesday 17 February 2009 - 7:30 PM
FIVE DAYS IN MARCH
Play by Toshiki Okada, 7-city North American Tour
Cosponsored with Japan Society and Japan Foundation

Saturday 21 February 2009 - 7:30 PM
DENIS CUNYOT: KLEZMER PIANO
Cosponsored with Alliance Française US,
Alliance Française de Saint Louis and
Saint Louis/Lyon Sister Cities

Saturday 28 February 2009 - 7:30 PM
CHERISH THE LADIES

Wednesday 6 May 2009 - 7:30 PM
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OUR OPINION



Benefits of involvement outweigh the complications

For many students, "getting involved" is a vague and elusive goal that is confined to the priority backburner. We have all found ourselves wallowing in the idea that after we have put in our time at work and in class, every leftover second must be spent in recreation.

Yet this only serves to widen the gap between personal time and school time; the part of life you enjoy and the part you go through to earn that enjoyment.

The question should not be why get involved on campus but rather why not?

While it will not cost you money to vie for an SGA position, DJ with The U, or volunteer with Colleges Against Cancer; it does take time and commitment.

Still, time is the one commodity we all have to offer. It is hard to argue against investing this resource in an activity that will pay off later.

In the long run, campus involvement is guaranteed to prove valuable when it comes to tending to that cruelest of mistresses: a resume.

One feeling you are guaranteed to regret is staring at a blank screen with nothing more than "four time-beer pong champion" to fill in the "Experience" section of a resume.

How much better to show that you, billionaire accounting firm CEO of the future, were treasurer of the Accounting Club? And what budding lawyer would not do well to put in time as Chief Justice of the Student Court?

In fact, most clubs, groups, events and activities will apply to both academic majors and personal interests. You can get experience in a chosen arena while honing your skills.

Plus there are the basic networking benefits of making connections in your field of choice.

You might even get paid, and there is a good chance you will find yourself getting in on the ground floor of a future career.

In light of these benefits, any qualms a student might have with giving up time to get involved

around campus are fairly lackluster.

Of course, for some students there are other aspects of life that require extra-curricular attention. Many students find their schedules filled with part-time-jobs and familial obligations.

In such a case, or in the case of limited free time; there are other options. Instead of applying for that editor's position with the paper, become a staff writer.

Volunteer positions are often very flexible, allowing interested students to help out whenever their schedule allows.

When it comes down to it, nearly any student in any circumstance can find numerous benefits to get involved in one of UM St. Louis' many organizations.

It is simply a matter of finding the right fit for you: an activity that is stimulating, productive, and academically pertinent.

The Office of Student Life provides a handy list of student organizations on their website. You never know what you might find.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Immerse yourself in campus life and truly be a Triton

You registered for classes, got your books and a stockpile of new school supplies. You are ready to read diligently, study hard and ace your tests. You will succeed at UMSL! Now, what else will you do with your time here? Are you ready to immerse yourself in Triton Life? When you are not studying, you can:

Laugh at a comedian. Jam to a band. Hear world-renowned speakers. Rock out at a concert. Eat snow cones. Join a student organization. Dance at Homecoming. Cheer at a soccer game. Cram into a photo booth. Warm up at the bonfire. Catch a Cardinals game. Elect your Student Government. Play at Mirthday. Enjoy EXPO. Work in a campus office. Build a house. Conduct research with a professor. Get an internship. Be the Big Man on Campus. Celebrate Black '68 Week. Have lunch with a Legislator. Plant a tree. Participate in Welcome Weeks. Go crazy at the Step Show. Become an Emerging Leader. Work out at Mark Twain. Write for the school paper. Connect with faculty. Pack the stands. Compete in Greek Week. Be a tutor. Live on campus. Present research. Be a DJ. Get a new t-shirt. Serve the community. Explore Saint Louis.



By MIRIAM HUFFMAN

Associate Director
Office of Student Life

Win an award. Develop your leadership skills. Attend a career fair. Make a difference. Be a Triton.

Getting involved in campus life provides you with opportunities to learn more about yourself and others, make lasting friendships, and connect to the University. During my first year of college, MANY years ago, I decided that it would be best if I laid low and focused on my classes. I did not join any clubs or organizations because I did not want to get too busy. Instead, I attended every free movie that was shown on campus, got a campus job, participated in intramural sports, laughed at every featured act of the campus comedy series, and played cards with friends until the wee hours of most morn-

ings.

The next year, I decided I was ready to balance a new commitment and joined Alpha Sigma Gamma, a local service sorority whose mission is service to the local community. Throughout my years as a member of this organization, I gained so much, personally, that has shaped who I am today. I helped publish a cookbook, baby-sat children, walked countless miles for a variety of causes, organized a 5K run/walk, danced at our formals, lost quickly in the Homecoming card tournament, raked leaves for the elderly and was able to connect my learning as a political science major with my involvement in Alpha Sigma Gamma by working to host campus-wide candidate forums during the local election season. Perhaps most importantly, I developed lasting friendships with several women who are still some of my very best friends and a good part of the reason I recently moved here to St. Louis.

My message to you is simple. There are countless ways to get connected to campus at UMSL and I would like you to choose at least one. Enjoy your UMSL Experience and make it your own.

Go Tritons!

EDITOR'S VIEWPOINT

Water, water everywhere and not a drop of courtesy

By MELISSA S. HAYDEN

Editor-in-Chief

I peeked cautiously out the front window of my home, and luckily, the coast was clear.

Quickly, I grabbed a leash for my dog, Belle, hooked it to her walking harness and we scurried a few feet from the door. As she sniffed around for the perfect place to take care of business, so to speak, I noticed a car pull near the driveway.

Maybe they are just looking for a place to turn around or they have a wrong address, I thought, I hoped, I prayed. I quietly told Belle to hurry up, but I knew it was too late.

Before she could even acknowledge I had said a word, I saw a camera phone launch out the driver's window.

The driver/photographer began snapping away while I stood there helpless to hide. Without makeup or a shower, wearing a ragged shirt, a dirty plaid skirt and mud-encrusted, giant rain boots.

No, I am not a celebrity you just have not heard about yet or the recently discovered illegitimate daughter of a rock star. I am just a normal, average Missouri gal, who just happened to be part of the flooding that began in June and is taking place still in some areas.

Without trying to help or show any kind of respect for privacy, people drove up and down the flooded road in front of my yard just to get a glimpse of how bad things were getting for my family and our neighbors.

Cell phone-wielding wannabe paparazzi snapped photos of my mom or me as we trudged through murky, muddy Mississippi yard water.

Strangers stared as my dog and I took walks around a small circle of dry land so she could get some much-needed exercise.

Men in pickup trucks with funny mustaches gawked as I hauled gro-

ceries which usually included heavy cases of water to the tiny boat we were privileged enough to borrow from a friend of my father. Then, I would paddle back home, fighting back tears of anger and hurt because I knew if I would turn around, they would still be there staring or splashing around happily in the river that was causing me such pain.

Not once did anyone ask me if I needed any help. Not once did a stranger ask me if everyone in my house was safe.

It was like my family and I were on display and all we wanted to do was get our things in order and try to continue our daily lives as best as we could with a river in our yard and half of our home.

None of us signed up to be part of some twisted freak show for overly curious people with nothing better to do and no water in their yards. Nothing was destroying their belongings. Nothing was making their lives more difficult than life can be.

Im not trying to preach about the long-gone days of chivalry because no one offered to help me with my grocery bags; I manage just fine even when I am not in a flood.

I am also not upset that people want to know what is going on near their own homes.

It just upset me when I saw people treating other people in a foul situation like they were simply having a bad time purely as a source of their entertainment and amusement.

There are less invasive and safer ways to satisfy your curiosity.

Turn on the television if you want to know what flood victims are going through or if you must find out what a flooded street looks like.

Leave the actual flood to those who want nothing to do with it, and let the people stuck in them keep the dignity they own so they can endure.

Anyone struggling in a flood deserves to be allowed to keep their head held high, preferably up and over the water.

STAFF VIEWPOINT

Do you want change? Endorse third party candidates

As a student who considers herself somewhat politically knowledgeable, relatively grounded and typically progressively-minded there is a single syllable word that I have become increasingly tired of hearing thrown about in this year's political calamity: change.

Everyone who has not been living under a rock this election season has heard the word tossed like a beach ball between candidates. Each surely afraid of letting it hit the ground, metaphorically speaking.

Both Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama declared the need for change.

John McCain has discussed the need for more fiscal responsibility and economic change, politicians and lobbyists have been crying for a change from America's fuel addiction.

Both economic and ecological responsibility fall into the value systems that are represented by at least one of the parties—but why should we have to sacrifice one initiative for the other when no legitimate candidate represents sound financial responsibility and extraordinary global warming policies?

Third party independents and even candidates with truly progressive change-oriented platforms were beat out of the running this year. Just like they have been in past years by the overwhelming bi-party conformity.

The truth about the battle cry of change is that it is a complete contradiction.

How can any of the two party candidates endorse change while begging for votes for themselves and knocking out smaller third party candidates as has been done for years?

Actual change, for both Obama and McCain would become a politically suicidal move.

It would knock out the long-lived

tradition of the two-party system, and opening the minds of Americans to a candidate that actually matches their values, not just their voting records.

It is not false that Americans want a change.

The disaster that has become George W. Bush's second term as president has left even the most committed war hawks, white collar capitalists and pro-life fanatics with the feeling that the president did not have their values in line with his policies.

He will leave them ready to elect a leader who will better represent them to the world.

Americans have shown that this presidential election will be monumental in changing the destructive path set upon by the former administration, but the call and need for change from the past four years is a much simpler request.

Much more simple than the call for change from the cycle of misrepresentation and the two-party-money-grubbing society that we call the United States of America—this is the type of change neither candidate will deliver.

I am not slamming down on the candidates. There are things that I respect about both John McCain and Barack Obama.

However, my values do not fit either of their agendas. I believe that yours do not match them one hundred percent, either.

Americans celebrate diversity and their right to be an individual and diversity does not mean fitting into two political value systems.

Pointedly, it seems that while we may be ready to throw out yesterday's political garbage, we remain unwilling to throw out the stockpile of trash that has been gathering every year only a republican or democrat has been in office.



By SARAH O'BRIEN

Opinions Editor

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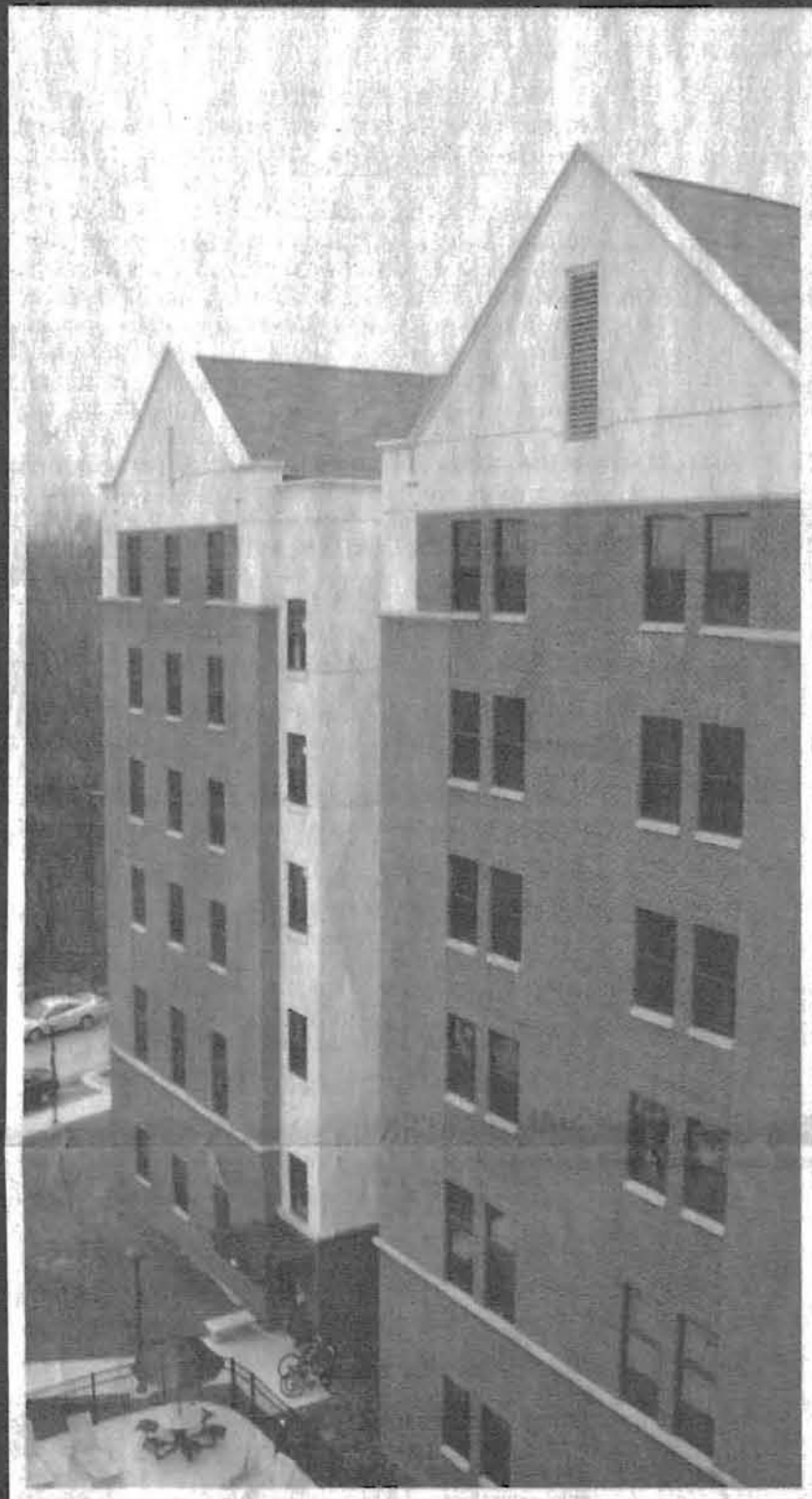
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From Cardinal tickets to STD fixes, UMSL has it all

By JESSICA KEIL
Features Editor

Students at UM-St. Louis pay their student fees as a part of their tuition, yet it remains to be seen whether they are aware of all the services that are provided in return.

In addition to the benefits that students receive for paying their student fees, UM-St. Louis provides a number of free or discounted services to its students.

In 2007, UM-St. Louis grossed \$86,221 in student fees. The university calls these fees the "Student Faculty Activity and Health Fee."

Included in the Student Faculty Activity and Health Fee is a wide range of specific fees. These include the infrastructure fee, the student service fee and the health services fee. These specific fees can range from \$10.50 for the university center fee to \$0.15 for the A.S.U.M fee.

Many students have groggily picked up a USA Today on their way to that dreaded 9:30 a.m. class. Such students may assume that doing so is free, but as any economics teacher will tell you, there is no such thing as a free lunch...or newspaper in this case.

According to the UM-St. Louis cashier's office, the USA Today readership fee costs students \$2.00 of the Student Faculty Activity and Health Fee.

Also at the Cashier's Office, which is located on the second floor of the Millennium Student Center, students can purchase Metro Passes.

Good news for metro riders: the Metro Pass cost for fall 2008 is not increasing. For a student to purchase a Metro Pass this fall, it will cost her or he \$60 for the semester.

The normal rate for a Metro Pass is \$60 a month, meaning that by pur-



File Photo • Matthew Hill

Homecoming is a yearly event that UM-St. Louis holds in October. The Homecoming committee, as part of SGA, plans events like a blood drive, parade, Big Man On Campus and then to wrap up the festivities, a dance. Last year over 880 people attended the dance. Both the men's and women's soccer teams play the day after the dance to round up a week full of Triton spirit.

chasing the Pass at the UM-St. Louis cashier's office, a Metro riding student can save around \$240 a semester. In order to qualify for the Metro Pass program, a student must be enrolled in at least nine credit hours for undergraduates and six credit hours for graduates.

One floor above the cashier's office, a student can find more great deals. In the Office of Student Life, a student can purchase discounted tickets throughout the year. Currently, Student Life is selling discounted Cardinals' tickets.

"We sell discount tickets to Cardi-

nal's games," said Nancy Percy of the Office Support Staff.

"They are so low it's almost free, she said.

When Percy says the tickets are low priced, she is not exaggerating. A Cardinal's ticket that would normally be priced at \$32 can be found at \$10 to \$12 in the Office of Student Life.

Throughout the year it is helpful to check back in at Student Life to see what other discounted tickets are being sold. Often the office sells theater tickets to the Fabulous Fox Theater at a fraction of their normal cost.

Also, the performing arts fee, in-

cluded in the Student Faculty Activity and Health Fee, allows UM-St. Louis students to have a 10 percent discount off all Touhill Performing Arts Center tickets.

The MSC is home to more than just national newspapers, tickets for events around town and the means to get there.

Health Services is two floors below the Office of Student Life on the main floor of the MSC. Health Services provides numerous services free of charge to students, as well as discounts on medicines and even free STD testing.

"We offer free Gonorrhea and Chlamydia testing for 18 to 24-year-old students," said Marie Mueller, a nurse practitioner at Health Services. "Soon we are to be doing HIV and Syphilis testing for free as well."

At Health Services it is free to meet with a nurse practitioner like Mueller, and to meet with a counselor for the first time.

"Counseling services are normally \$10 a visit, but if a student can't afford that we sometimes do a sliding scale according to what the student can afford," said Andrea Nichols, office supervisor at Health Services.

If sick students were to visit Health Services needing simple medication such as Amoxil for a sore throat, they would find the medicine discounted to \$8.00.

If a student should need a contraceptive, Health Services can provide that as well.

"Health Services provides medications and immunizations at the lowest cost possible," said Mueller. "And if you need any lab work done, you only pay what we pay to the lab."

Over on the UM-St. Louis South Campus, the Optometry Center also provides services and discounts to students, similar to Health Services. Both Health Services and the Optometry Center use money from the Health Services Fee, at \$3.15 a semester out of the Student Faculty Activity and Health Fee.

"We provide a free annual eye exam and discounts on eyewear and contact lenses to currently enrolled students at UMSL," stated Ralph Garzia, assistant dean for Clinical Programs at the Optometry Center.

If a student wishes to set up an appointment for their annual eye examination, she or he can do so simply by logging on to UM-St. Louis' website.

See TICKETS, page 10

Organizations go for the gold with help from office of Student Life

By JESSICA KEIL
Features Editor

UM-St. Louis has a variety of organizations in which students can get involved. These organizations cover a wide assortment of subjects and interests and range from A, for Accounting Club, to Z for Zeta Tau Alpha.

New students to campus, upon viewing a list of UM-St. Louis's student organizations, will not differentiate the latest additions from veteran organizations.

However, returning students, faculty, and alumni might notice when a new student organization becomes active at UM-St. Louis.

If that is the case, many people might have realized that the Protect Your Balls Dodgeball Tournament held last spring was hosted by Colleges Against Cancer, a student organization in its first year at UM-St. Louis looking to raise awareness on testicular cancer.

"Two years ago, a few students were passionate about bringing Relay for Life to the UMSL campus. Relay's first year was so successful that the students wanted to join other colleges in establishing Colleges Against Cancer here," said Colleges Against Cancer Advisor Leah Jones.

"The organization just had its first year on the UMSL campus and produced a second successful Relay for Life event," she said.

Colleges Against Cancer is one of a handful of student organizations that came into being between the fall of 2007 and the spring of 2008 at UM-St. Louis. Other new organizations include the Pre Dental Society, Hellenic Student Association, National Art Education Association, Peers

Advocating Smoke Free Solutions (PASS), Association for Psychological Sciences Club, Graduate Writers Association, American Association of University Women, Christ's Believers in Fellowship and Lambda Alpha.

All of these new organizations did not just randomly materialize on campus. To begin a new student organization a student must first start at the Office of Student Life.

"There are a variety of different requirements associated with becoming a recognized group," said Miriam Huffman, associate director in the Office of Student Life "and the process itself can be a long one."

When a student makes the decision to start an organization, she or he will receive a packet from Huffman called the recognition packet.

"The first step in the packet is to submit the intent to organize form," said Huffman. "From there, the next step is recruiting members."

A student, or group of students, might want to pick up a recognition packet in order to transform impromptu gatherings of similar minded students into actual UM-St. Louis recognized student organization meetings.

The organization that was started in the spring of 2008, Christ's Believers in Fellowship, began with students meeting to discuss The Bible.

"The group was started when a few students began to meet in the Nosh on their breaks for bible study and it kept growing," said Stan Holmes, Christ's Believers in Fellowship Advisor.

To become a recognized group at UM-St. Louis, students must recruit at least 10 currently enrolled students to turn into a red level organization, and at least 13 to turn into a gold level.

"Additional benefits come with

being at gold level," explained Huffman.

These benefits include eligibility for financial support from the Student Activities Budget Committee and a voting seat in the Student Government Association, a student organization itself.

Another new student organization, the Graduate Writers Association, recruited UM-St. Louis students like any other group, while also encouraging alumni involvement.

"You do not have to be a member of the [Graduate Writers Association] to attend our public events," explained Capuchina Taylor, former president of the group, and recent graduate of UM-St. Louis.

"You do need to be in the MFA program to be an official member of the organization; though we do encourage alumni to be active as well."

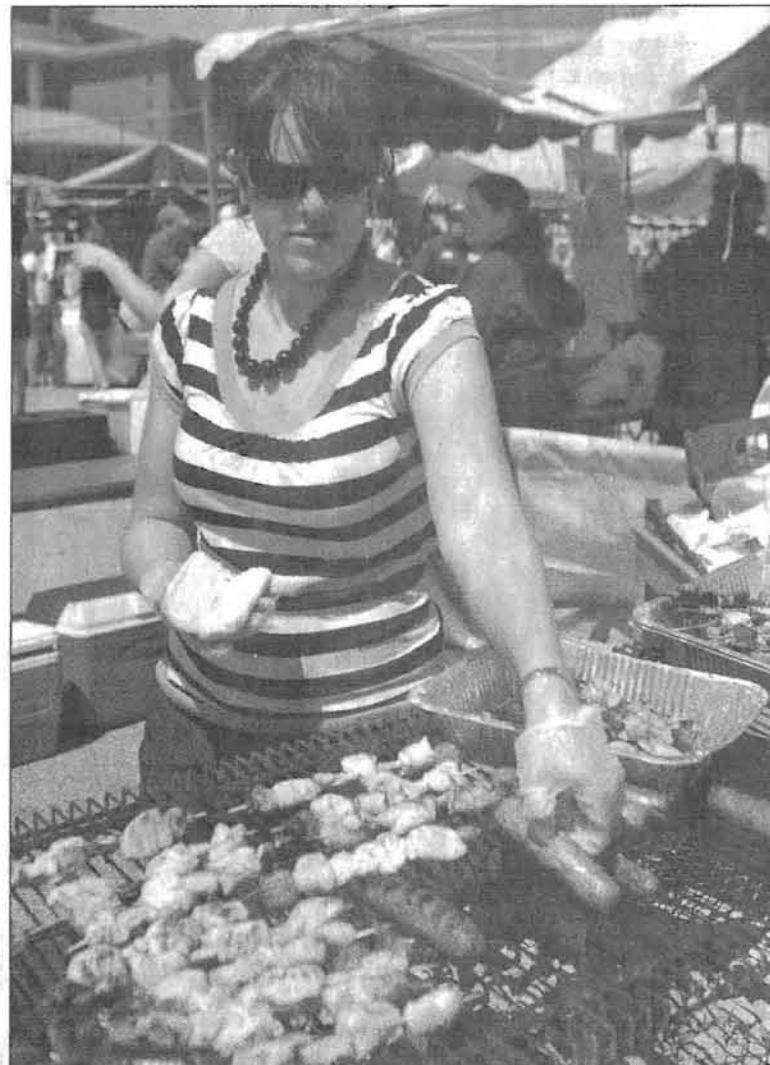
The Graduate Writers Association recently hosted a poetry-reading event this summer and featured Joseph Harrison, and hopes to continue similar events throughout the school year.

Sadly, it seems like some student organizations come and go before their catchy acronym can even stick to the minds of students or faculty alike.

Huffman understands the struggle of student organizations to stay active in the years following their original start.

"What's important is what you build in that first year," Huffman advised.

"The current leaders need to spend time developing those future leaders. When you are president or treasurer or vice president of an organization a good portion of your time should be spent on figuring out who is going to replace you," she said.



File Photo • Danny Reiss

Nicole Mestas of Chartwells cooked up hot dogs at last year's Mirthday celebration. Mirthday is a free carnival sponsored every year by the University Program Board. The days festivities include rides, student organization booths with games, a dunking booth and a concert held at the Touhill. Last year, Gym Class Heroes performed after Tyga, Kidz in the Hall, and I am Avalanche. Local bands play throughout the day outside of the MSC.

Campus art galleries offer refreshing break from class work

By CATE MARQUIS
A&E Editor

An "art break" can be a refreshing distraction from the stress of classes. Art can enlighten and delight, take you into another world or give you a new perspective on the one you are living. A quick tour of an art exhibit takes your mind off the pressures of life and allows you to return to your class work with a refreshed mind. Luckily, UM-St. Louis offers several art galleries, making it easy to take a break.

Art exhibits run year round and they are free. If you go to the openings, you can often hear the artist speak about the works and enjoy free refreshments, too.

Perhaps the top campus art gallery is Gallery 210. Located just west of the UM-St. Louis North Campus Metrolink station, next to the campus police station, Gallery 210 is near both the Millennium Student Center and the Touhill Performing Arts Cen-

ter, so it is easy to reach.

Gallery 210 was once located in room 210 of Lucas Hall, hence the name, but the long-running gallery has been home to wonderful exhibits that have delighted the St. Louis region, making it better known among area art aficionados than among students on campus.

Gallery 210 focuses on the world of professional art off-campus, although it also has a yearly exhibit of student works as well. It displays world-class art in a variety of art media, including painting, photography, sculpture and mixed media. Nationally and internationally noted artists are often featured.

The gallery has two exhibit halls, A and B, and frequently runs two exhibits at once. Exhibits change frequently throughout the year, and new exhibits generally open with a free reception.

Gallery 210 also offers a few permanent exhibits as well. It is the easiest way to get a quick fix of first-class art from around the world. Informa-

tion on Gallery 210 exhibits, hours and events is available at <http://www.umsu.edu/~gallery>.

Gallery Visio is the student-run art gallery on campus. Art by UM-St. Louis students and alumni are the focus of the gallery, which also give students experience as curators of art exhibits. First time visitors may be surprised at the level of artistic talent found on campus and displayed there. Gallery Visio is found in the lower level of the MSC, just off the Nosh dining area before you reach the Pilot House.

The convenient location makes it easy to drop in for a quick tour of the gallery's current exhibit. You can learn about upcoming Gallery Visio exhibits at <http://www.umsu.edu/~galvisio/events.html> or by calling 314-516-7922.

The exhibits are free and often open with a reception.

The Fine Arts Building is home to Gallery FAB.

See ART, page 12

TOP TEN

Fun Facts about UM-St. Louis

10. In 1963, the campus consisted of only the old Bellerive Country Club building.
9. In the 1970s, an Ozark Airline flight crashed just east of the Mark Twain Building.
8. More than 66 percent of students receive some form of financial aid or scholarships.
7. UM-St. Louis has 679 faculty members, including 11 Fulbright scholars.
6. Ninety-six percent of tenured professors have a Ph.D.
5. The student-faculty ratio is 20:1.
4. There are approximately 19,000 students in attendance.
3. Even though our nation's next president will not be Sen. Hillary Clinton, this year's SGA president will be a woman.

2. James Bugg was the chancellor from 1965-1969. The lake near Benton-Stadler Hall is named after him.

1. You will find many Branta canadensis on campus. They are commonly known as Canadian geese.

If you have an idea for a future Top Ten, please e-mail your idea to thecurrent@umsu.edu.



File Photo • Matthew Hill

Welcome to Stepford: Works by Brooke Center Wise was one of the featured exhibits on display at Gallery Visio. The gallery held its first exhibit and grand opening reception in February 2002. Some of the upcoming exhibits are imPOSTERS: Real Posters for Fake Bands (July 17-Aug 21) and Kevin McKoy (Aug. 28-Sept 19). Membership to the gallery is free and allows students of all majors the chance to apply, exhibit or curate a show. For more information, call 314-516-7922.

Two stages, all theatrics at the PAC

The Touhill presents both area-wide performances and campus events

By Cate Marquis
AGE Editor

The Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center is a beautiful venue located right here on the UM-St. Louis campus.

Designed by the firm of renowned architecture I.M. Pei, the elegant modern building is situated on a hillcrest, on North Campus, just north of the Millennium Student Center and just west of the UM-St. Louis North MetroLink station.

The Touhill's curving lines and delicate styling, with its marble floors, warm reddish and blonde wood and gleaming silver and glass detailing, create a comfortable and appealing venue for the performing arts.

Large glass windows wrap the building, providing sweeping vistas of the campus grounds, particularly beautiful at sunset. It is a visual joy to stroll its lobby.

Its large main performance space, the Anheuser-Busch Performance Hall, provides wonderful, clear sightlines from any seat. The Touhill also has a smaller, less formal performance space, the Lee Theater.

While just visiting the PAC for its architecture is worth the trip, you are more likely to visit it for a performance. This architectural gem straddles two worlds as a performance venue.

On one hand, the Touhill Performing Arts Center is a venue much like the Fox Theater in midtown St. Louis, hosting touring and area-wide performances and concerts.

On the other hand, the Touhill is the premier performance venue for campus concerts, plays and other performance arts.

The venue offers students discounts for events and there are many free events as well. The PAC was named for former Chancellor Blanche Touhill, who was instrumental in having it built.

One of the ironies when it was first constructed was that the campus had almost no performing arts program, beyond its strong music program. Since then, the picture has changed.

Not only has the music department continued to grow but also a whole new set of performing arts departments have sprung up and flourished.

The Touhill Performing Arts Center now hosts student plays and dance performances, along with concerts from the music department, in addition to its region-wide programs.

Among the area-wide performance programs regularly presented at the PAC are Dance St. Louis, including their newest, the annual Spring To Dance three-day festival of dance, in May.

The venue also hosts the St. Louis Symphony's Fusion Series, and the annual St. Louis Jazz Festival.

The Touhill recently announced its 2008-2009 season, its sixth season. This summer, All That Tap, a festival of tap dancing, is scheduled for July 26.

The new season debuts Sept. 12, with a concert by the campus' artists-in-residence, the acclaimed Arianna String Quartet, called "Folk Infusion."

Among the 2008-2009 programs are a series of four concerts by Arianna String Quartet and an eclectic collection of performances called Contemporary Concerts, which includes comedy, ballet, and popular

music ranging from Neil Sedaka to K.D. Lang.

The 2008-2009 season program also includes the Opera! Opera! Opera! and Symphony Sundays series.

The Touhill's Contemporary Concerts series features "Deface the Nation," a comedy performance by the Second City comedy troupe Sept. 17-20, and comedy by Brad Garret on Sept. 27.

The series also includes the ballet "Dracula," presented by BalletMet Columbus and Dance St. Louis, Oct. 23-26, just in time to put you in the Halloween mood.

Concerts by bluegrass music Ricky Skaggs and Bruce Hornsby on Oct. 4, Neil Sedaka on Oct. 11, and K.D. Lang on Oct. 18 are also part of the series.

The holiday season concerts include Big Bad Voodoo Daddy on Dec. 6 and Manhattan Transfer on Dec. 19. The concerts wrap up with the Duke Ellington Orchestra on March 22.

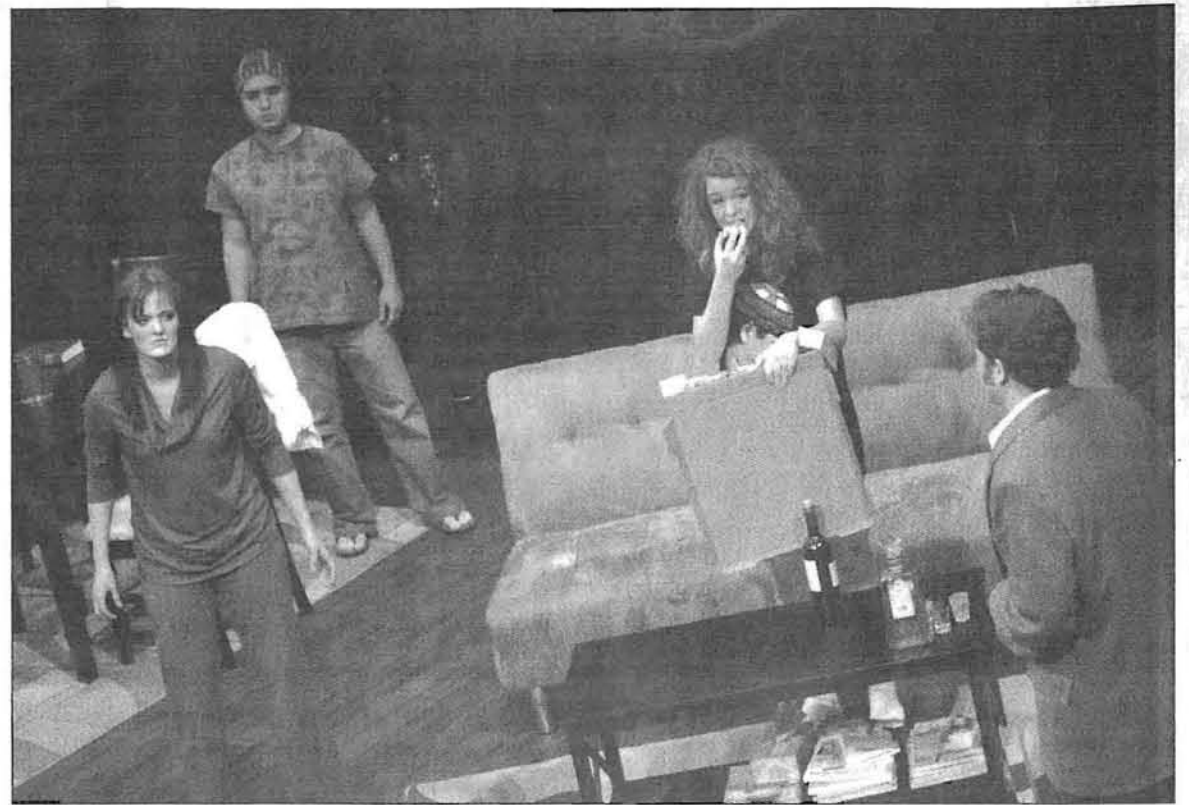
Arianna Expressions series of concerts offers the Arianna String Quartet in a series of themed concerts.

Besides the Folk Infusion concert on Sept. 12, the series offers Epic Expressions on Nov. 21, Messages of Hope on Feb. 26-27 and Storytellers on May 1.

The Symphony Sundays series offers concerts by the world-famous St. Louis Symphony Orchestra.

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File Photo • Matthew Hill

"Recent Tragic Events", a drama about a blind date in the aftermath of 9/11, was staged by the College of Fine Arts and Communications at the Touhill PAC last March. From left to right are Brianna Brewer, Framooze Akhi, Lauren Mergenthaler and Joey Walsh.

Explosions Percussion Festival on Nov. 23, Opera Passions concert on Jan. 11, and Discover Beethoven concert on March 15.

The Touhill's Opera! Opera! Opera! Series features the return of the delights of Gilbert and Sullivan's comic operetta with Pirates of Penzance, presented by the New York Gilbert and Sullivan Players, on March 13.

The PAC's old standby, the Teatro Lirico d'Europa, is back as well, with its versions of Aida on Feb. 1, and Cavalleria Rusticana and Pagliacci on Oct. 15.

Additional events, and many campus events, are added to the schedule throughout the year.

More details on events, including prices, times and season ticket information are available at the Touhill website at www.touhill.org.

The Touhill offers great variety in its campus-connected events. Performances from the long-running International Performing Arts Series, presented by the campus Center For International Studies, are now frequently presented at the Touhill rather than off campus venues or the much smaller J.C. Penney Auditorium on campus.

In past seasons, the Series has offered Irish music concerts, Japa-



File Photo • Matthew Hill

The British comedy "Noises Off" was just one of the student productions held last year at the Lee Theater in the Touhill Performance Art Center. From left to right are Daniel Frumson, Courtney Gibson, Amy Jordan and Curran Bajwa.

nese comedy and plays featuring great Greek philosophers, all very entertaining and providing cultural insights.

International Performing Arts Series list of programs for this year can be found at semester's start at www.umsl.edu/services/cis/ipa.html.

Concerts, plays and dance performances from the university's College of Fine Arts and Communications performing arts departments can be found at <http://www.umsl.edu/~umslmusic> for music and

www.umsl.edu/~theater/theatre.html for theater and dance. Most of campus arts events are also posted on the Touhill website.

New this season, the Touhill is also offering pre-performance talks and post-performance parties with the performers, as part of a program called E3. The name stands for explore, experience and engage.

The E3 program is included with subscriptions to the Touhill but can also be bought for individual performances for \$5 each.

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STAFF VIEWPOINT

Is slowing down worth the frustration?

For a while, I was a fast driver. Recently, however, I have been driving slower to save gas. Since I have decided to "drive 55" I have noticed two things. One: I really am saving gas. Two: Other drivers hate my guts. Who likes a slow driver? Apparently some people do.

Recently, Sen. John Warner has asked Congress to consider imposing a national speed limit in order to reduce fuel consumption. This would not be the first request for a national speed limit.

In 1974, a national speed limit of 55 miles per hour was set because of the Arab Oil Embargo, which significantly raised the price of oil. In 1995, the speed limit was finally repealed.

The idea did not go over well with the general public. Most people were noncompliant.

A study by the Congressional Research Service says fuel savings during the obligatory national limit amounted to only two percent of the total highway fuel consumption.

With the conclusions drawn by the above study, it is safe to say that a national speed limit would only be a temporary solution to a permanent problem.

While there are other logical issues with setting a national speed limit, it is also a personal matter. Nobody likes being told how fast to drive, but everyone expects other people to



By ELIZABETH GEARHART
Managing Editor

drive at an acceptable speed. What is acceptable? Ask different people and you will get different answers.

For me, 75 miles per hour is more than fast enough, and if you drive slower than 55 miles per hour, you are just holding up traffic.

Someone out there is thinking I am insane for suggesting 55 miles per hour is tolerable, but that is my point. You cannot make other people drive how fast you want them to and neither can nor should the government.

Of course, in an ideal world, everyone would play nice and share the road. Slower drivers could stay in the right lane allowing faster drivers to keep to the left.

This is already standard practice on the German autobahn where there is often no speed limit and accident rates are fairly low. This is somewhat understood on American highways, too, but no matter where you

are, there will always be drivers who think they own the road.

Fast drivers will sometimes stay in right lanes, mercilessly tailgating the vehicle in front of them until that person lets them pass or until they give up and go around. Slow drivers can be seen in left lanes, disrupting the flow of traffic.

Both practices are dangerous and indicate that there are bigger problems than people simply driving the wrong speed. Improved driver education would help reduce accidents and be more beneficial overall.

Forcing everyone to drive slower will not stop people from speeding, either. Highway speed limits, some of which are already set to 55 miles per hour, tend to go ignored. Strict enforcement of these limits would only mean more tickets, not slower drivers.

It has been shown, however, that many cars operate efficiently at 55 to 60 miles per hour. Most people know this, but whether or not to make use of that efficiency should be up to the driver.

Driving slower is definitely not for everyone, but if you are looking to save some extra gas, have a little extra time each day and do not mind the angry drivers, you may find it is worth a shot to drive 55. Just do not expect the rest of the highway to slow down with you.

CHANCELLOR, from page 3

In this approaching year, UM-St. Louis has several major projects planned. The university will be going through re-accreditation in November, a process that takes place once every ten years.

For three days in November, the Higher Learning Commission will be on campus. Chancellor George spends a good deal of time making sure that everyone knows how they are involved, so that, if called upon to, they can explain to a member of the HLC.

"I'll speak to maintenance people about how the work they do affects students' learning environment- ab-

solutely everyone should know the part they play here".

Also approaching is a new strategic plan for UM-St. Louis. With the rolling out of the 2004-2008 plan, a new vision will be brought up for ratification. The new package will focus on five new strategic directions for UM-St. Louis' future. The new plan's unveiling comes with a unique aspect this time around: a name. Chancellor George has titled the new plan "Gateway For Greatness".

With new parking lots completed, a new science building underway, and a \$100 million fundraising campaign approaching, UM-St. Louis

has a full array of exciting developments that will be implemented under the Chancellor's "Gateway for Greatness" plan.

"Four-year strategic plans don't usually have titles, but I felt like it added life to it and summarized for everyone precisely what we are trying to do. We thought of calling it 'Gateway To Greatness' but that would seem to imply that greatness is something in the future, yet to be achieved here at UM St. Louis. So we made it 'Gateway For Greatness'."

The plan will be voted on in September at which time, Chancellor George expects, it will be ratified.

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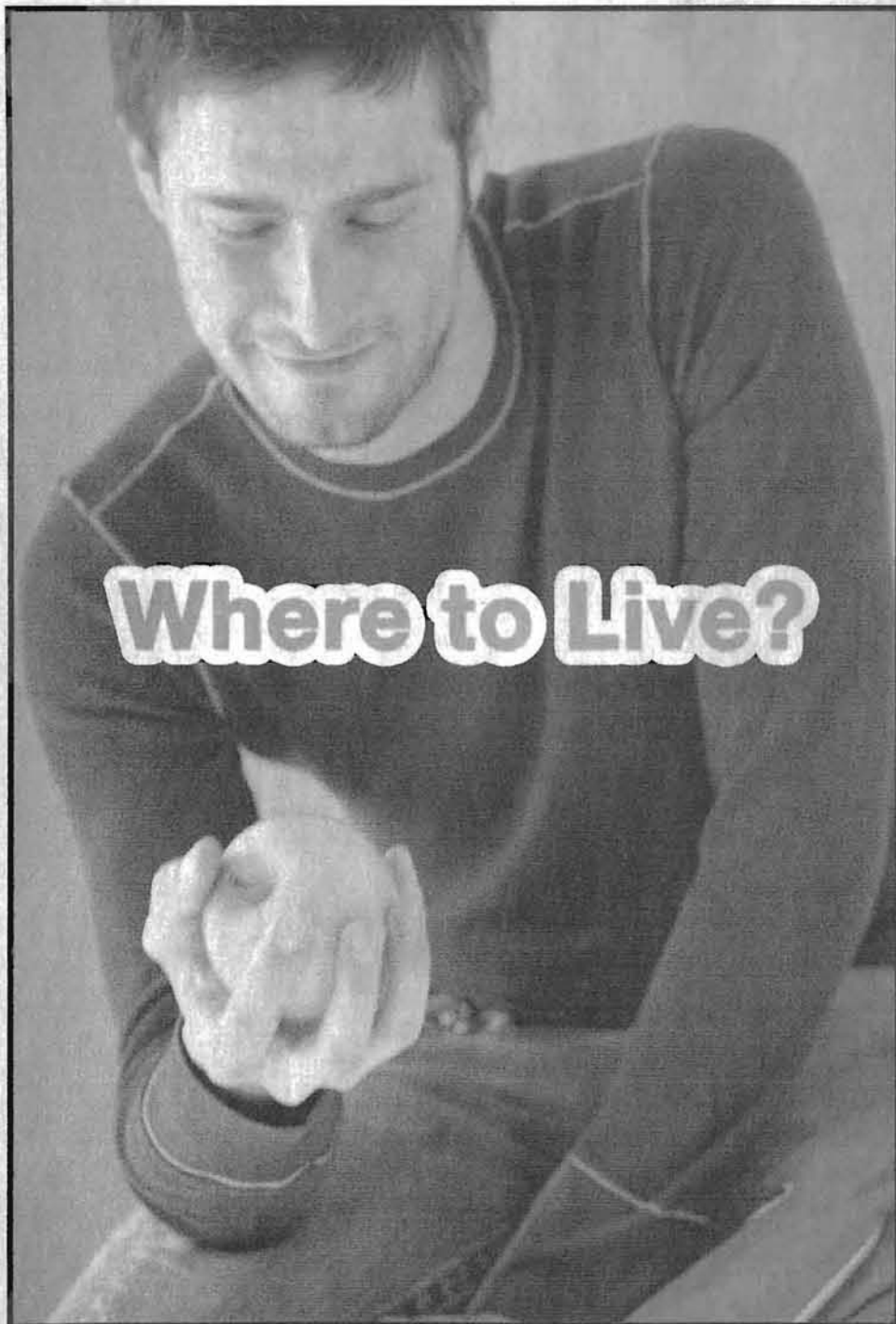
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is a weekly newspaper written and designed by dedicated UMSL students, named Best in State by the Missouri College Media Association two years running, and we're looking for staff members to fill the following positions for the 2008-2009 school year:

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COURSES, from page 3

"The course in an original curriculum; however, I have taught it twice at UMSL, the first time as "Women, Witches, and Literature," and the second time in 2004 as "Feminism and Witchcraft" to emphasize the theoretical and critical aspects of the class," said Nigro. "This will be the first time it is offered as an Honors class. [and] I have added a number of newer readings..."

Nigro's class promises to be unique, and it is not often a student has the opportunity to take a discussion based course on a topic such as witchcraft.

"I believe it is critical that we re-examine our cultural icons and historical events to include the contributions of everyone," explained Nigro on why a course like Feminism and Witchcraft should be offered at UM-St. Louis.

"Not only does this class explore the role of women of diverse backgrounds as healers, advisors, and spiritual leaders, it also examines why powerful and knowledgeable women were persecuted and isolated."

Another honors course that has already been introduced to the UM St. Louis campus albeit briefly, is called "Leading the Way: A Study of Theory and Personal Practice" and taught by Dr. Tom Hensley an Adjunct Professor/Advisor at the Pierre Laclède Honors College.

"I taught a version of the course in the winter semester of 2007," said

Hensley.

This time around Hensley detailed what his students can expect to gain from taking his course on leadership.

"The seminar will provide opportunities for students to explore the development of selected leadership theories and...to implement the theories in guided practice.

Through a series of mini-workshops, interviews of recognized leaders, and site visits the students will gain an understanding of how effective leadership can impact their personal and professional lives--especially if they choose to lead."

Although all of the new Honors courses offered in the fall assure many students fresh and poignant subject matter, as well as knowledgeable professorship, those students not enrolled in the Honors College are not to be left out.

The Faculty Senate and University Assembly approved four new course additions on North Campus in March of 2008.

These four courses are Art 2273 "Printmaking: Etching," Comm 3150 "Crisis, Disaster, and Risk Communication," Gero 5620 "Dying, Grief, and Death in Older Adulthood," and Soc 5361 "Advanced Social Gerontology."

Of these four newly approved UM- St. Louis classes, only one can be found in the fall 2008 course listings. The lone course is "Dying,

Grief, and Death in Older Adulthood" and is taught by not one but two different instructors.

The first, is a Director of Gerontology at UM-St. Louis, and the second a hospice social worker.

Dr. Tom Meuser is the Director of Gerontology as well as an Associate Professor of Social Work and Psychology. He developed the idea for the new course.

"The course is intended as a true gerontology course focusing on end of life issues. All of the content will focus on what older adults believe and experience, as opposed to other generic courses that cover the gamut of dying issues," said Meuser.

Meuser also explained why his course might be an important one for some UM-St. Louis students to consider taking.

"Students interested in working with older adults must understand and be comfortable with such concepts as death anxiety, in addition to knowing how to talk about illness and death in constructive, sensitive ways," he said.

He said the course will include discussion, guest speakers and video clips of older adults telling of death in their own words.

From an honors course discussing laughter, to a gerontology course focusing on grief and death, there will be no lack of variety in course material available this upcoming fall semester at UM-St. Louis.

UM-St. Louis students and its faculty and staff.

Alumni are offered a discounted rate along with Express Scripts employees and friends of Alumni.

The community price for membership to the Mark Twain Athletic/Fitness Center is \$200 a year.

Facilities within the Mark Twain Building include several basketball, volleyball, pickleball, badminton and racquetball courts.

The center also contains a seven screen fitness cinema with everything from treadmills to stairclimbers.

Students wanting to work on strength training should visit the Free Weight Room and those who like to run should visit the indoor track.

The Mark Twain Center also includes outdoor tennis courts, an indoor swimming pool, a multi use outdoor field, an aerobics room, sauna and even a table tennis room containing two championship tables.

Of all the services that UM-St. Louis provides to students, the Mark Twain Athletic/Fitness Center is definitely a favorite.

Overall it would be nearly impossible to list all of the benefits and services to students that UM-St. Louis has to offer.

One day it might just be beneficial to take the free student shuttle bus around campus and discover what else UM-St. Louis has in store for its hard working students.

TICKETS, from page 6

Just go to <http://www.umsl.edu> and then click on "Useful Links", "Center for Eyecare" and lastly "Request for Exam" and viola!


At the Optometry Center glasses are 50 percent off for students and contact lenses are 25 percent off.

The Student Faculty Activity and Health Fee covers more than just health, as seen by its descriptive name, it also covers activities.

As for activities, the Mark Twain Building provides a wide range for all interests.

The Center is actually covered by the Recreation Facility Fee which costs students \$2.73 a semester.

The Mark Twain Building is completely free to currently enrolled



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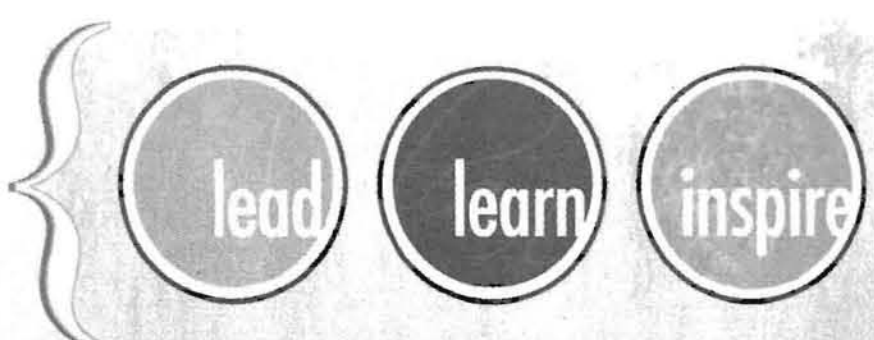
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Week 5: October 17, 2008 2-4 pm: Challenge the Process

Week 6: October 24, 2008 2-4 pm: Enable Others to Act

Week 7: October 31, 2008 2-4 pm: Encourage the Heart


Week 8: November 7, 2008 2-4 pm: ELS Reflection

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ART, from page 6

This is the place to see current works by campus art majors, with occasional exhibits of invited artists. The gallery is actually the hallway of the Fine Arts Building. The Gallery FAB exhibits often focus on new media or mixed media works, making them a little more edgy and experimental.

The Public Policy Research Center also has a gallery in its offices. PPRC gallery focuses almost exclusively on photography, and the exhibits often have a community or social issues theme, in step with the center itself.

The Mercantile Library, located in the Thomas Jefferson Library, is home to a fine collection of books on the art, architecture and history of St. Louis. The Mercantile also hosts art and photography exhibits throughout the year, often dealing with historical events. This is a great stop for students who are history buffs or interested in the unexplored history of St. Louis. The exhibits are often fascinating and fun.

Next time you are between classes, take that well deserved break. You may be surprised at how refreshed you will feel.



The Current

would like to say farewell
and good luck to
Angie Spencer

Thanks for all your hard work!
We'll miss you.

**The next issue of The Current
will be on racks
Monday, Aug. 18**

Want to work for the best college newspaper in the state?

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tions for this year:

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To work for *The Current* you must be an UMSL student and have at least a 2.0 GPA.

Send your resume with cover letter to thecurrent@umsl.edu.

We are also accepting for letters to the editor and guest commentaries from anyone interested!

Letters and commentaries must be approved by the Editor-in-Chief.

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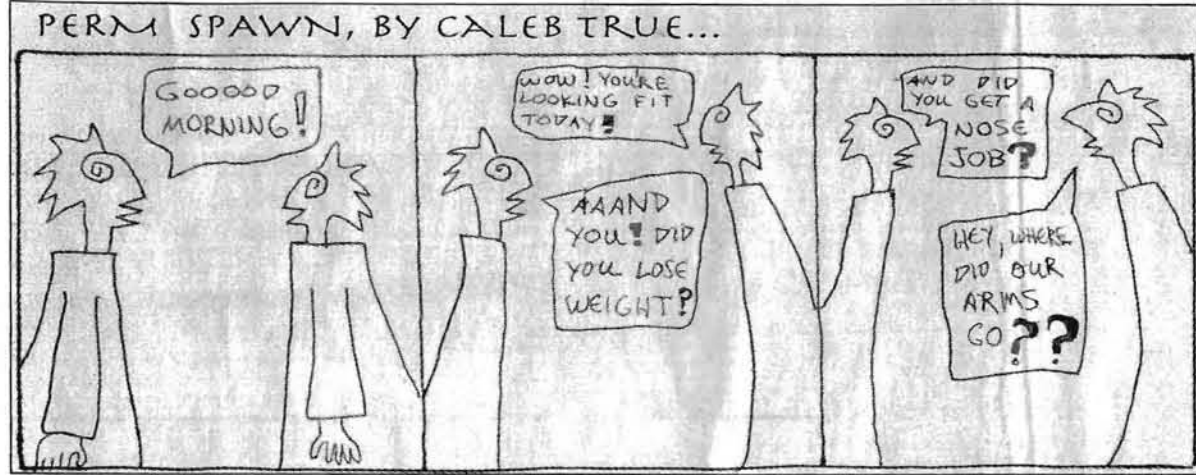
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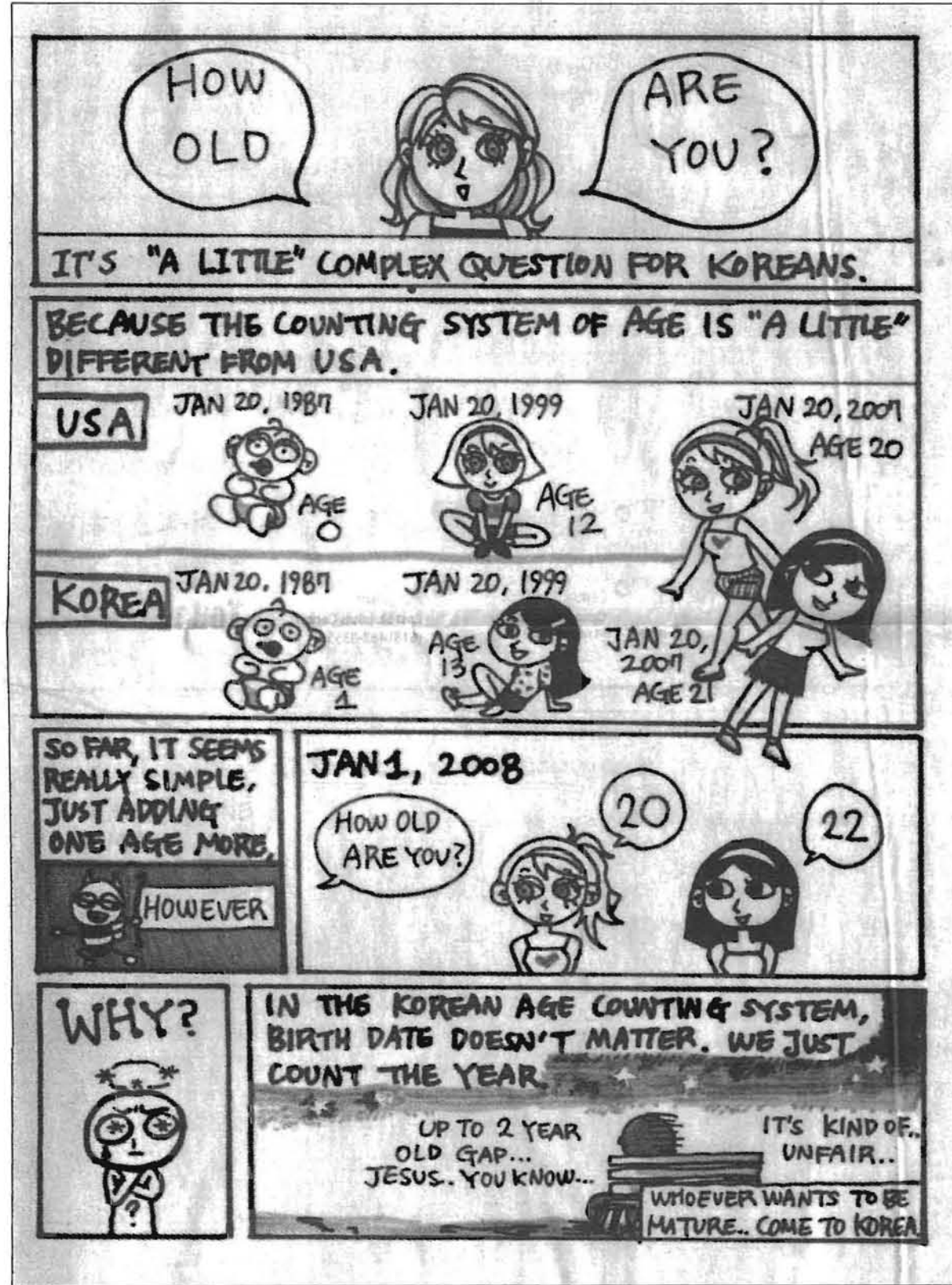
CURRENT CARTOONISTS



"Sconeborough" is drawn by Current cartoonist Elizabeth Gearheart

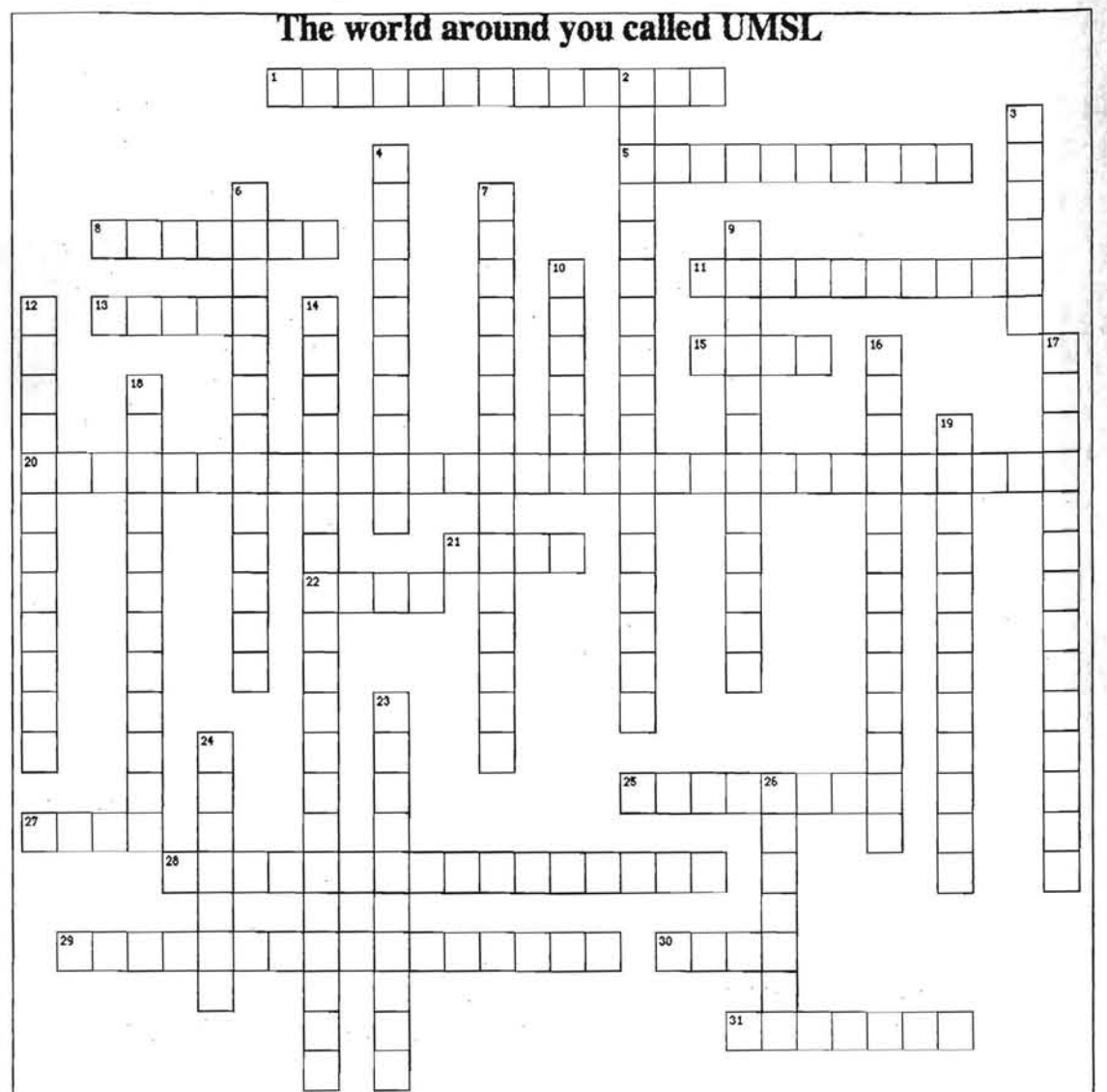


"Perm Spawn" is drawn by Current cartoonist Caleb True



"Korea University" is drawn by Current cartoonist Sinki Kim

CURRENT CROSSWORD



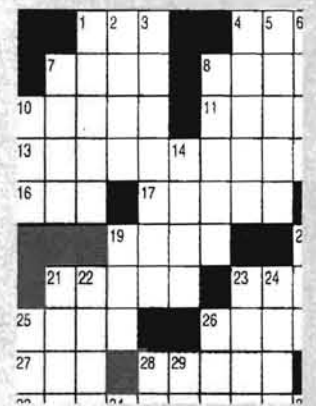
ACROSS

- 1. Associate Director of Student Life
- 5. University colors
- 8. Where the Lee Theater is
- 11. Founding father of UMSL
- 13. Birthplace of Harry S. Truman
- 15. Acronym of the conference in which UMSL sports play
- 20. UMSL has received \$1 million from the Small Business Administration to create this
- 21. Place to grab some grub
- 22. Name of UMSL's student radio station
- 25. Previous mascot
- 27. State animal of Missouri
- 28. Current SGA president
- 29. Notable alumni of UMSL
- 31. Man who shot Jesse James
- 2. Oldest library west of the Mississippi
- 3. New enrollment system at UMSL
- 4. Cocktail invented in St. Louis
- 6. Name of Honors College
- 7. Founder of St. Louis
- 9. Student-run gallery on campus
- 10. UMSL's current mascot
- 12. Current SGA Vice President
- 14. School which has joint engineering program with UMSL
- 16. More familiarly known as Mark Twain
- 17. Fortune 500 company on campus
- 18. The chancellor
- 19. The first successful parachute jump to be made from a moving airplane was made by this man in St. Louis in 1912
- 23. Current SGA Comptroller
- 24. Birthplace of outlaw Jesse James
- 26. Name of Karen's maid on Will and Grace

DOWN

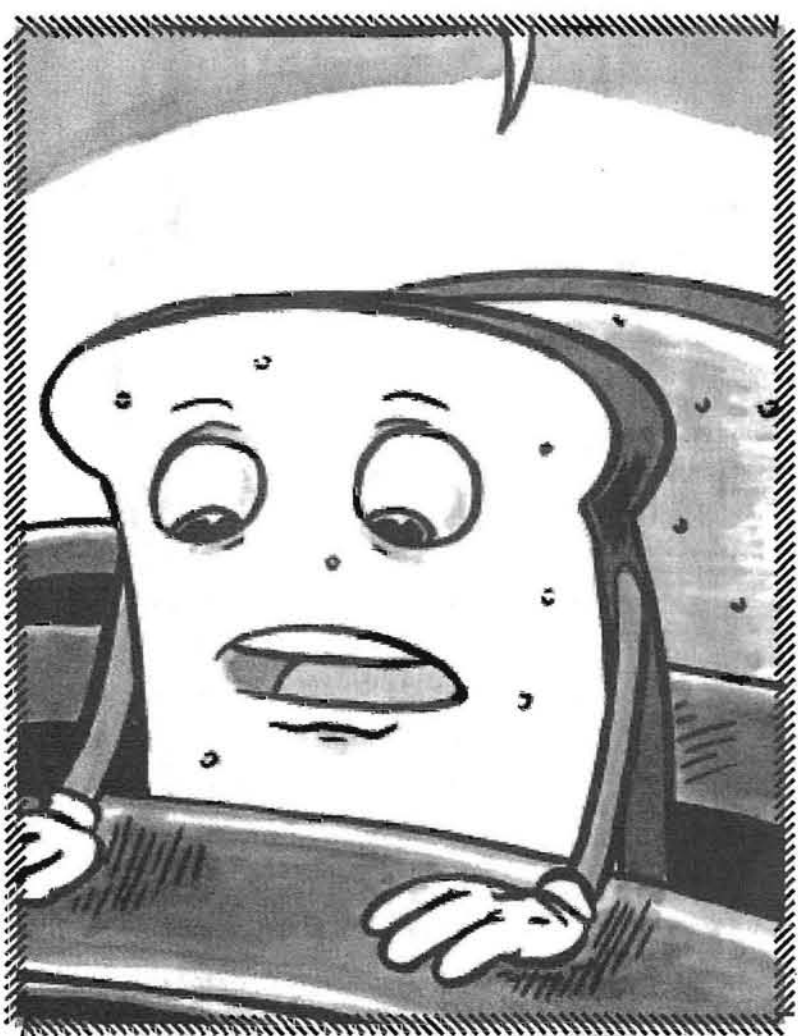
Find answers to this week's crossword at

The Current
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Your work may not make it into an art gallery.

However, *The Current* is looking for cartoonists. Send a resume, cover letter, and samples of your work to thecurrent@umsl.edu.



TRITON WELCOME



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WEEK 1

- 8/16 Legacy Lunch, UMSL Alumni Center
- 8/17 Welcome Picnic, MSC
- 8/18 Comedian and Ice Cream Social / Snack Attack: Welcome Center, MSC Bridge, Marillac
- 8/19 Drive-in Movie, Lot C, south of MSC / Snack Attack: Welcome Center, MSC Bridge, Marillac
- 8/20 Student Org EXPO, Quadrangle / Speaker: Kevin the Food Dude
- 8/21 Blood Drive / Diversity Roundtable Reception / BBQ and Musicfest
- 8/22 Service Day, Varied Locations / Beach Party, Oak Hall
- 8/23 Dive-in Movie, Oak Hall Pool
- 8/24 Experience St. Louis: Cardinals Game

WEEK 2

- 8/24 Yuck Wrestling, Oak Hall / Theme Dinner, Provincial House
- 8/25 Bingo, Bingo
- 8/26 Greek 101 / UPB Table Day / The Divided Blackness: Exploring the rift between Africans and African Americans
- 8/27 Career Services Open House
- 8/28 Gallery Visio Opening: RAW / UMSL Wear Fashion
- 8/29 Student Government Association Meeting

WEEK 3

- 9/3 UPB Theatre
- 9/5 Fall Leadership Workshop / UMSL Day at the Cards Game
- 9/8 Brooks Brothers
- 9/9 Triton Games, MSC Lakes
- 9/10 Hump Day Hoopla
- 9/10-9/13 Sorority Recruitment
- 9/12 Fall Internship and Job Fair

WEEK 4

- 9/16 Lunch and Learn: Effective Communication
- 9/17 Wednesday Nosh Live: Red, White, and You / Constitution Day
- 9/18 UMSL Scavenger Hunt
- 9/19 Balloon Glow, Forest Park

WEEK 5

- 9/21 Bonfire @ MSC
- 9/22 Blood Drive & Canned Food Drive / Karaoke Competition
- 9/23 Chili Dinner
- 9/24 Big Man on Campus
- 9/25 Homecoming Parade / Gallery Visio Opening / Step Show
- 9/26 Triton Soccer Games
- 9/27 Homecoming Dance

WELCOME