

The Current

April 13,
2009

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INSIDE



From Scotland with love

UMSL's Fine Arts department of theatre, dance and media studies presented Shakespeare classic Macbeth at the Touhill.

See A&E, page 8



Not your momma's art

Parental Advisory showcases UMSL's own Bachelor of Fine Arts student's artwork at Gallery 210.

See A&E, page 9



Battle of the sexes

Women have shown the men up continuously this year in Tritons sports, including DeFosset's all-star numbers.

See Sports, page 10

PIKE HOUSE RECONSTRUCTION

Pi Kappa Alpha rises from ashes



Matthew Hill • Photo Editor

Members of the Zeta Phi chapter of UM-St. Louis' Pi Kappa Alpha social fraternity stand on the front porch of their newly renovated house during an open house event celebrating its reopening. The house, located at 8826 Natural Bridge, was all but destroyed in 2006 during a fire where one member of the fraternity was tragically killed. The rebuilding was funded mainly by loans and donations.

By SARAH O'BRIEN
Editor-in-Chief

On Saturday, the University of Missouri St. Louis' Zeta Phi chapter of Pi Kappa Alpha opened the doors to their newly renovated fraternity house. The house, located at 8826 Natural Bridge Road has been under construction since October of 2007, about a year following the late-night fire on Nov 29 2006 that claimed the life of fraternity brother Brian Schlittler.

The fraternity managed to salvage the foundation of the house as well as the basement area, however demolished the rest to make way for rebuilding.

The Zeta Phi chapter received a \$90,000 loan from their national headquarters, \$40,000 in additional donations.

"What was spent outside of the donations was about \$90,000," Andrew Mulcheck, senior, business administration and current chapter president said.

Also a gift to the chapter is a sprinkler system that features five four hundred gallon water tanks which is located in the basement of the house. The system was donated fully by St. Louis Faire Sprinkler Alliance and Guardian Fire Protection.

The fraternity hired Skyline Custom Homes to create the main

structures of the new home, "mainly the construction of the shell of the house," Greg Meyer, junior, business administration said. While the frame of the house only took around a month and a half to rebuild, the finer details of the house took longer.

The fraternity received many donations including donations from Skyline Custom Homes, John Byron plumbing as well as the flooring throughout the house.

Heat and air was done by Bermuda Heating and Cooling, and Topy Plumbing did most of the plumbing in the new house.

According to Meyer, before the fire, the chapter's housing corpora-

tion, or the unit that oversees the fraternity's house and leases, had been non-existent. The old house had been behind on fire inspections and had been cited for having fire alarms without batteries as well as not having fire extinguishers. The chapter's housing corporation took charge soon after the fire.

"About two weeks later the housing corp formed again to take care of the current house as well as expansion projects," Meyer said.

The new house currently is a full two floors plus a basement that houses the DJ booth and the sprinkler system.

See page 3

SCIENCE AWARDS

UM-St. Louis honors young scientists

By CATE MARQUIS
AGE Editor

The 36th annual Missouri Regional Junior Science, Engineering and Humanities Symposium took place on the UM-St. Louis campus on March 12-14. Winners of the scientific research competition were announced by the University to the general public on April 3.

The three-day symposium offered regional high school students an opportunity to present original scientific research projects, in fields ranging from biology to physics, to panels of judges.

The best projects in each of six categories were awarded prizes for the symposium's scientific research competition.

The categories were: behavior/education; chemistry/biochemistry; environmental science; general biology; microbiology and medicine; and physics, engineering, mathematics and computer science. All this year's winners are students at Missouri high schools.

Projects often had a practical bend and applied sciences were a big focus. "Face Recollection: Developing a Novel Training Program to Increase Recollection Rates in Eyewitness Identification" took the first place prize in the Behavior/Education category. The research was the work of Lori Schlatter, a junior at Camdenton High School. Daniel Alexander Duncan, a senior at St. Charles West High School, took second place for "Possible Variance in Scores on the Missouri Assessment Program Communication Arts Test Based on English Dialect Spoken."

In the Physics, Engineering, Mathematics and Computer Science category, first place went to "Influence of Varying Salt Concentrations on Extraction of Oil from Limestone," the project of Caitlyn M. Schottel, a junior at Mid-Buchanan High School in Faucett, Mo. Second place went to "Application of Networking Protocols to Swarm Robotics," which was the work of Stewart Boling, a senior at Jefferson City High School.

Students everywhere might be interested in the results of "A Comparison of Caffeine Content between Energy Drinks and Their Nutritional Labels Utilizing an HPLC," the first place winner in Chemistry/Biochemistry, from Kaila Swain, a senior at Pleasant Hope High School.

Second place went to Eryn Blake Swain, also a senior at Pleasant Hope High School, for her project "A Comparison of the Calorie Values of Snack Foods and Their Nutritional Labels Utilizing the Atwater System."

Agriculture was in the spotlight for the winners of the Environmental Science category. First place went to Alex Heeb, a home-schooled senior in Chaffee, Mo., for "Health Impacts of Burning Agricultural Crop Stubble." Second place went to Kayla Elizabeth Foulk, a junior from Camdenton High School, for "Identifying the Role of Glyphosate-Containing Herbicides on Honeybee Mortality Rates and Colony Collapse Disorder."

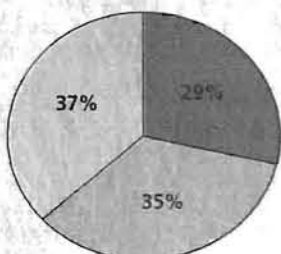
The General Biology and Microbiology and Medicine category winning projects were pure science research. The General Biology first place was taken by Randall S. Ray II, a senior at Wentzville High School, for his "Transforming Ipomea batatas via Direct Inoculation with Agrobacterium rhizogenes."

See SCIENCE page 14

ON THE WEB



Web poll results:
Are you bothered by the recent tax increase on tobacco?



■ Yes, very much so
■ No, not at all
■ Yes, but only because it should have been a larger increase

This week's question:
Should Tom George have taken a pay cut?

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ENERGY SUMMIT



UM-System addresses energy concerns

By AFTON ANDERSON
Proofreader

The University of Missouri system will be sponsoring The Missouri Energy Summit, which will be the University's first-ever comprehensive discussion of research in the fields of energy management, development, and consumption.

This event will take place April 22-23 on the University of Missouri-Columbia campus. The summit will entail showcases of research and development efforts in energy, alternative fuel sources, energy storage, and other enabling technologies that have taken place in the state of Missouri.

The program was designed to foster enhanced collaboration in public and private sectors as well as to enable the economic workforce development. The transition of energy technologies to commercialized products is also one of the key goals of this summit. The keynote speaker of the event will be T. Boone Pickens, who is also the founder and chairman of BP Capital Management. BP Capital Management is one of the nation's most successful renewable resource investment funds. His keynote address is an anticipated event at the summit. The event will begin on Wednesday, April 22 with a 9 a.m. poster exhibit. The registration for everyone who has not pre-registered will commence at 10:00 a.m. and end at 11:45 a.m. John F. Carney, III, the chancellor of the Missouri University of Science and Technology will give a speech, followed by the keynote address by T. Boone Pickens at 12:15 p.m. Attendance for this event is complimentary. The University of Missouri Chief Research Officers, which consists of Nasser Arshadi of the UM-St. Louis, Robert V. Duncan of the University of Missouri-Columbia, K. Krishnamurthy of the Missouri University of Science and

Technology, and William T. Morgan of the University of Missouri-Kansas City, will also accompany this address. This event will take place in Jesse Auditorium. The UM system has also invited a host of speakers to attend the event. The speakers include Dale Klein, chairman of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory commission, Karen Harbert, president and CEO of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Institute for 21st Century Energy, and Bob Dixon, senior vice president and global head of efficiency and sustainability at Siemens Building Technologies.

See ENERGY, page 14

Stay Current with this week's weather	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Weather predictions taken from www.weather.com
	Hi/Low: 59/44 Precip: 50%	Hi/Low: 50/43 Precip: 30%	Hi/Low: 67/48 Precip: 20%	Hi/Low: 63/50 Precip: 10%	Hi/Low: 66/43 Precip: 30%	Hi/Low: 58/44 Precip: 20%	Hi/Low: 58/48 Precip: 0%	

CAMPUS CRIMELINE

SATURDAY, APRIL 4

PROPERTY DAMAGE SOFTBALL FIELD

About 5:00 pm the UMSL Police were notified that some male subjects were throwing softballs at the scoreboard and breaking the light bulbs. Upon arrival the suspects were gone. Several light bulbs and sockets were damaged in the incident. The police officers observed that a large container of softballs had apparently been left out on the field after the last game, and was used to do the damage. There are no suspects in this incident.

PROPERTY DAMAGE NORMANDY CONFERENCE CENTER

A vehicle pursuit from another Police jurisdiction ended in the area of Normandy Conference Center. During the pursuit, the suspect's vehicle drove off the roadway and onto the grassy area in front of the building. The suspect vehicle caused damage to the grassy area, leaving ruts from the tires for approximately 150 feet.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8

LEAVING THE SCENE OF A VEHICLE ACCIDENT-SOUTH CAMPUS GARAGE

The victim reported that her car was struck in the South Campus Garage sometime during the day. The UMSL Police used the video from the cameras in the garage to locate and identify the suspect's vehicle and driver. Items of evidence left at the scene from the suspect's vehicle were analyzed and used to determine the type of vehicle. The suspect vehicle was located and the driver identified. The driver was given one state summons for Leaving the Scene of a Motor Vehicle Accident, and released. All information was gathered to complete the report. There were no injuries in this accident.

FRIDAY, APRIL 10

STEALING UNDER \$500.00 UNIVERSITY MEADOWS

Sometime around 4:30 am., the victim discovered two lawn chairs stolen from the patio area of the apartment. There are no suspects in this incident.

Remember that crime prevention is a community effort, and anyone having information concerning these or any other incidents should contact the Campus Police. It is very necessary for everyone to lock their doors when they are out. Even if it is only for a minute or two, a simple locking of the door will prevent most thefts from occurring. As a reminder, please report any suspicious people or activity to the UMSL Campus Police immediately by calling 911 if it is an emergency, or the main number of 314-516-5155.

CORRECTIONS

On page 8 in the story "Novelist Goldberg discusses her unique writing" Natalie Goldberg wrote 11 books, not 10.

On page 6 the story "Sarah Moses: A Holocaust survivor's Testimony" has a few inaccurate statements and the wording implies ideas that the author did not mean it to. Anyone seeking more information about Sarah Moses or her story can contact her through Facebook.

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 a correction, please contact *The Current* at 314-516-5174 or by e-mail at thecurrent@umsl.edu

FABULOUS ART AT GALLERY FAB



Matthew Hill • Photo Editor

Guests attending the opening for this year's exhibit for senior thesis in photography at Gallery FAB on Thursday viewed work by Teresa Miller. Miller is one of nine students receiving a BFA in photography this year.

What's Current

Your weekly calendar of campus events

"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. Listings may be edited in regards to space availability and style. Email event listings to thecurrent@umsl.edu with the subject "What's Current." Only e-mailed submissions will be accepted. For more information, call 5174.

All listings use 516 prefixes unless otherwise indicated.

MONDAY, APRIL 13

What are Employers Saying? Workshop

Gain a competitive edge by discovering attributes that might set two equally qualified candidates apart. Visit <http://careers.umsl.edu> and click on "Workshops" for more information and to register.

April 13, 11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., 278 MSC. For Info: Career Services at 5111.

Enforcing Environmental Justice

Elizabeth Yeampierre, executive director of UPROSE, a Latino community organization in Brooklyn, N.Y., and president of New York City's Environmental Justice Alliance, describes some of the struggles she and her fellow community organizers engage in to address local and regional inequities through education and activism.

April 13, 12:15 p.m. to 1:15 p.m., 222 J. C. Penney Bldg. For Info: Karen Lucas at 5699.

TUESDAY, APRIL 14

Breakfast and Business

Breakfast and Business sponsored by the College of Business Administration. Discussion leader: Jim Cloar, President and CEO of the Partnership for Downtown St. Louis. Topic: "Downtown Now! What's Next?"

April 14, 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., SGA Chambers MSC. For info: Jane Ferrell at 5883.

Online Courses: What you know might just get you an A

Are you thinking of enrolling in an online course, but you are not sure what an online course is and if it is right for you? Or, have you already enrolled in one and just want to learn how to succeed in it? In either case, you should check out this informative workshop. This workshop is intended to give you a comprehensive look at online learning. We hope that it not only answers some questions about online courses, but that it also provides you with the academic tools necessary to succeed in this relatively new, and excit-

ing, method of learning.

April 14, 5:30 p.m. to 6:15 p.m., 225 MSC. For Info: Chad Hoffer at 5300.

Reception and Lecture featuring Dr. James Bullard

Dr. Bullard is the president and CEO of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. Sponsored by the College of Business Administration Graduate Business Programs. Reservations are requested - call 5789.

April 14, 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Lee Theater, Touhill Performing Arts Center. For Info: Cindy Vantine at 5442.

Prayer Group

Join the Catholic Newman Center for prayer each week. Prayer alternates between the rosary and variety prayer (suggestions are always welcome!) Join anytime!

April 14, 6:30 p.m. to 7:15 p.m., Catholic Newman Center. For Info: Liz Detwiler at 314-358-3455.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15

Mirthday Volleyball & Pre-bought T-Shirts!

Mirthday volleyball is today! All participants win t-shirts in Campus Rec's annual, drop-in, non-competitive volleyball games held today, 11am-3pm on the south lawn of the MSC, among the other exciting Birthday activities. Event is free and open to all Birthday attendees! Teams may reserve a time-slot in advance by registering in the Campus Rec Office, 203 Mark Twain, 5326.

April 15, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., MSC (Birthday Grounds). For Info: Campus Rec at 5326.

How does your personality work?

Understand yourself and others better by learning how you prefer to focus your attention, take in information, make decisions, and manage your life. Identifying these preferences can help you get the most out of your college experience and out of life in general.

April 15, 3:30 p.m. to 4:15 p.m., 225 MSC. For Info: Chad Hoffer at 5300.

CPP Seminar: Building Community through Community Gardens

Join us for a conversation with staff from Gateway Greening and representatives from neighborhoods who have created successful community gardens to learn about the goals of community gardening and the impact it can have on the quality of life for surrounding neighborhoods.

April 15, 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m., 126 J. C. Penney Bldg. For Info: Holly Ingraham at 6775.

Mirthday 2009

Join the University Program Board for Birthday, UMSL's annual spring carnival. Enjoy free rides, free games, and food before heading over to the evening concert at the Touhill. Questions? Contact the University Program Board.

April 15, 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Parking Lot C. For Info: University Program Board at 5531.

Intensive Language Aptitude Testing

The Department of Anthropology and Languages will be offering Intensive French or Spanish language courses for the 2009 summer semester. Intensive study offers students the opportunity to be immersed in the language and culture while completing 15 credit hours in 10 weeks. Students will learn basic speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills at an accelerated pace. In order to be approved for registration in an intensive course, students must pass a language aptitude test. To register for the exam, contact the Languages Office.

April 15, 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., 554 Clark Hall. For Info: Jim Karslake at 6242.

Researching Employers Workshop: Know Before You Go

Tailor your job search & maximize your time by researching organizations before you interview. Discover resources for uncovering information & key areas to focus your research. Visit <http://careers.umsl.edu> and click on "Workshops" for more information and to register.

April 15, 2:00 p.m. to 2:30

p.m., 278 MSC, Career Services. For Info: Career Services at 5111.

International Studies Photo Contest

The Center for International Studies proudly presents the winners of the 2009 International Studies photo contest. The 23 finalists will be on display out of the 181 applicants. From 4 to 6 PM on April 15th, you are cordially invited to attend an opening reception for the exhibit. After the exhibit at Gallery Visio ends on April 30, the photographs will be displayed in the hallway of the Study Abroad/International Student and Scholar Services Office located in room 261 of the Millennium Student Center.

April 15, 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Gallery Visio (MSC 1st floor). For Info: Sara Arnold at 7922.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15

Youth Violence Prevention Conference

International experts on gangs and gang prevention and intervention strategies will provide state-of-the-art information about the causes of and strategies for responding to youth gangs at this conference that is open to everyone interested in the welfare of our youth. Cost: \$95.00

April 16, 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., University of Missouri St. Louis, J.C. Penny Bldg. For Info: Ashley Paterson at 5974.

Litmag Launch Party

Enjoy refreshments while listening to speakers Nancy Gleason, faculty advisor of Bellerive, and Andrew Altschul, UMSL's visiting author. Our contest winners Madison Baer and Matt Pachmayr will be reading from their works for us. We will also display the originals of the artwork published in the magazine. Come and admire the creativity of UMSL students and pick up your free copy of this year's Litmag.

April 16, 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Gallery Visio (MSC 1st floor). For Info: Sara Arnold at 7922.

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

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 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.

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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 UMSL.

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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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First copy is free; all subsequent copies are 25 cents and are available at the offices of *The Current*.

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All UMSL St. Louis students, alumni, faculty and staff are entitled to free classified advertisements of 40 words or less.

The Current also offers display advertisements at a rate of \$8.75 per column inch for off-campus advertisers and \$7.75 for on-campus organizations and departments. Various discounts may apply. To receive an advertising rate card, contact our advertising or business staff or download a rate card from our Web site at <http://www.thecurrentonline.com/adrates>.

AFFILIATIONS



Finally, a place to call home

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Capacity in the new house is currently at six people, with two double bedrooms and two singles.

Additional features of the new house include a full up-stairs kitchen, main floor speaker and projection systems, as well as multiple flat screen TVs, including a small one in the downstairs men's bathroom. The second floor has a balcony at the end of the hallway as well as laundry in the double bedrooms.

The basement is still being worked on. Chapter mem-

bers expressed a desire to build a wall around the sprinkler tanks, as well as plans to build a sound system.

The chapter is currently continuing fundraising for the house by selling engraved bricks that hang on the walls of the fraternity house. The bricks vary in size and cost, but proceeds go to the reconstruction fund to help the house pay off the loan they received from their national headquarters.

While reconstruction began in November of 2007, it took a few months to get the



The Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity held an open house on Saturday to showcase their newly renovated fraternity house. (CENTER) The house was damaged severely by a 2006 fire which claimed the life of fraternity member Brian Schlittler, for whom a tree is planted in the backyard along with some of his ashes. (TOP LEFT) The fraternity is selling engraved bricks that hang on the walls of the house in order to repay the loan they borrowed from their national headquarters. (BOTTOM LEFT) Additional upgrades to the house include completely refurbished and reconstructed top two floors, as well as (BOTTOM RIGHT) new furniture and a projection system in the living room that also has a speaker system.



loan from the national fraternity headquarters in order for the full remodeling process to begin. The shell of the house and roof was completed before the loan was approved in August 2008.

Plumbing was completed in February of this year, as well as drywall. Flooring was not finished until March.

The house finally began to come together mid-March, and the occupancy permit was approved on April 2.

The event, on Saturday invited alumni, the campus community, and all who helped in the reconstruction

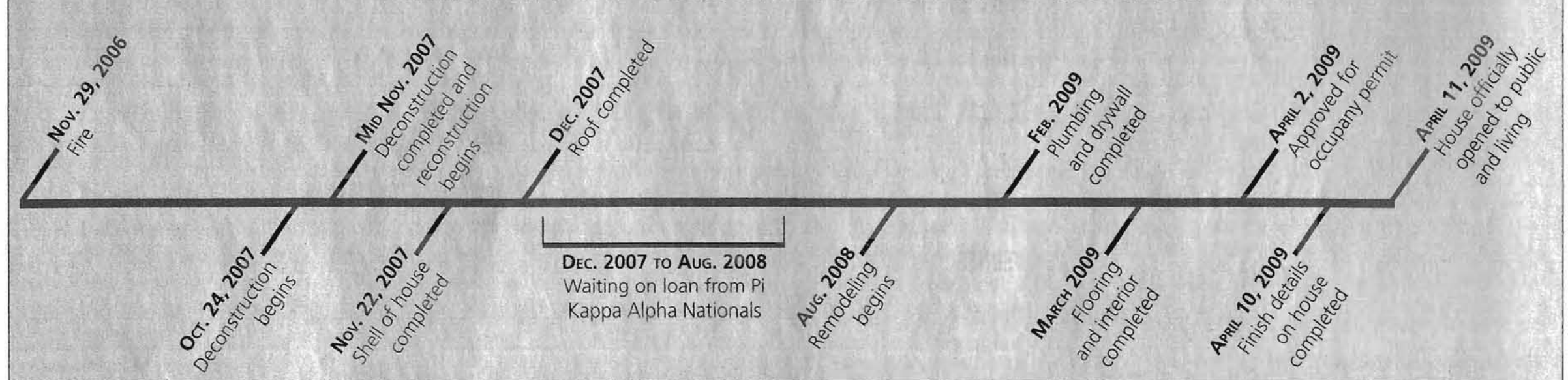
of the property to come out and celebrate the house's opening. There was a barbeque at the event as well as washers games and other events including a ribbon cutting ceremony.

"We all pitched in to help with the maintenance of the construction site," Meyer said about the work that the fraternity did on rebuilding the house.

"It's amazing to finally have a fraternity house," Meyer said, "A place I can finally call home. Even the guys who lived in the old house like the new one."



TIMELINE OF RECONSTRUCTION PROCESS



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OPINIONS

OUR OPINION

G-20 hype

One of the most important appearances our president has made so far was his appearance at London's Group of Twenty Summit (G-20). This is probably ringing a bell for most of you, so raise your hand if you know exactly what the G20 is and why they meet as often as twice a year.

Some background: The 20 in G-20 represents the twenty entities (nations except for the European Union, which is the 20th) who make approximately 85% of the world's Gross National Product, and who are home to approximately 66% of the world's population.

Basically, the heads of the largest and most powerful countries in the world, as well as the head of the most powerful banks in the world, all meet every now and then and essentially decide the fate of civilization. At least that is how some people see it. It does not take much of an imagination to agree considering that this is a secretive meeting, which is not broadcast in any way.

It includes incredibly powerful people who offer vague, über-ambitious titles for their goals like "Building and Sustaining Prosperity" and toss around phrases like "New World Order" in chillingly casual fashion.

Because of the clandestine and important nature of these summits (another of which is due in September in New York), there is always a fairly vocal public backlash. Traditionally, this means riots and marches and arrests in plentiful amount. Some years are worse than others, but in general, anarchy hits the fan.

What is curious about this year's London summit is not the fact that there were protests and riots so much as the media's handling of these events.

For the majority of past G-20 (or G-7, G-33, G-22, and other versions of the same meeting) summits, protests and riots have been expected. They have become routine and generally speaking, receive little or no coverage by mainstream media considering their newsworthy nature.

This year, however, there seemed to be an overwhelming desire in the media to highlight the public backlash in London. Much hubbub was made on major news networks of the riots, and reporters were said to be hungrily searching the London streets trying to find somebody who was going to smash a window. There are photographs of rioters breaking glass or throwing trashcans, and surrounding them are masses of journalists snapping photos.

There are several plausible reasons why this extra coverage has occurred. It is not because the riots were particularly bad. On the contrary, there were fewer rioters, less damage, and fewer arrests than in almost all previous summits in the past 20 years.

More likely, it is the fact that right now the public is unhappy and even angry with world leaders and particularly financial officials. Thus, the media shows the public something with which they can identify: angry citizens protesting a meeting of the most powerful bankers in the world.

Fox News in particular put effort into drumming up the violence of the protests, especially considering that a follow-up G20 summit is set to take place in New York City in September. "Is New York ready for this level of violence?" asked Fox, our ever-vigilant source of fairness and balance.

Regardless, the summits and their protests are a larger-than-life political tradition that we are better off being informed of.

STAFF VIEWPOINT

Eminent domain causes controversy

By ANNA MARIE CURRAN

Many times we hear about the abuse of "condemnation" of a parcel of land by the government. Condemnation is really Eminent Domain. The legal definition of Eminent Domain is "the power that the government



Anna Marie Curran

reserves to take private property from an individual for the public use by a state, municipality, private person or corporation authorized to exercise functions of public character, following the payment of just compensation to the owner of that property." Essentially the government takes private land and puts it to use for the good of the public. The landowner either agrees to the government's price or has a court of law determine the just price that the owner should be compensated for the forced sale of the property.

While many people are outraged to hear of a government condemning an individual's real estate, they are often unaware that this is how highways, schools, city halls, and other public services are created.

People generally tend to focus on the one individual who is losing his or her real estate rather than the society of people who benefit from a new sewer system, water system, road lay etc.

It is important to keep this concept of eminent domain and condemnation in perspective. According to MODOT, (Missouri Department of Transportation), only 8% of Missouri highways are paid for through the process of condemnation. It would be absurd for anyone to make the argument that these highways were not necessary to build, or that they have in some way not been beneficial to the public, who ensure they are constantly in use. Highways, especially, are key to nearly every citizen, because at some point or another, the majority of a city or municipality will utilize a highway. Highways are necessary in order for people to travel to hospitals, work, and institutions of education.

Take for example University of Missouri-St. Louis.

If 8% of the highways did not exist, many people would have a much longer commute to obtain a secondary education. Highways are a key and necessary aspect for connecting people with opportunities that may not have even been available to them before the highways had been constructed.

Another aspect of Eminent Domain that is constantly debated is whether the payment given is just. The Fifth Amendment states that, "no person [shall have] private property be taken for public use, without just compensation."

It is constantly debated as to whether or not, in eminent domain proceedings, people receive just compensation for their land. Missouri legislature made it clear on Dec 31 2006 that it was concerned about attempting to ensure that Missouri citizens receive "just compensation" when their land is taken. In order to ensure this, on Dec 31 2006 Missouri legislature passed HB1944.

HB1944 provides some pro landowner safeguards to ensure property owners receive their fair compensation promised by the constitution. One of the measures added in HB1944 is that any home that was taken by a condemning authority will be compensated 25% more than the home's actual value. Another is that if a piece of property has been in the same extended family for at least fifty years it will be compensated an additional 50% of the land's value. These new measures help to decrease the number of homes and pieces of property taken, because it increases the budget of each project. Because of HB1944 the number of properties taken from Eminent Domain did decrease greatly.

Another safeguard that every property owner possesses is the option to take his or her case to court if he or she feels that the compensation is not "just."

See DOMAIN, page 5

Metro cuts will influence next tax proposal

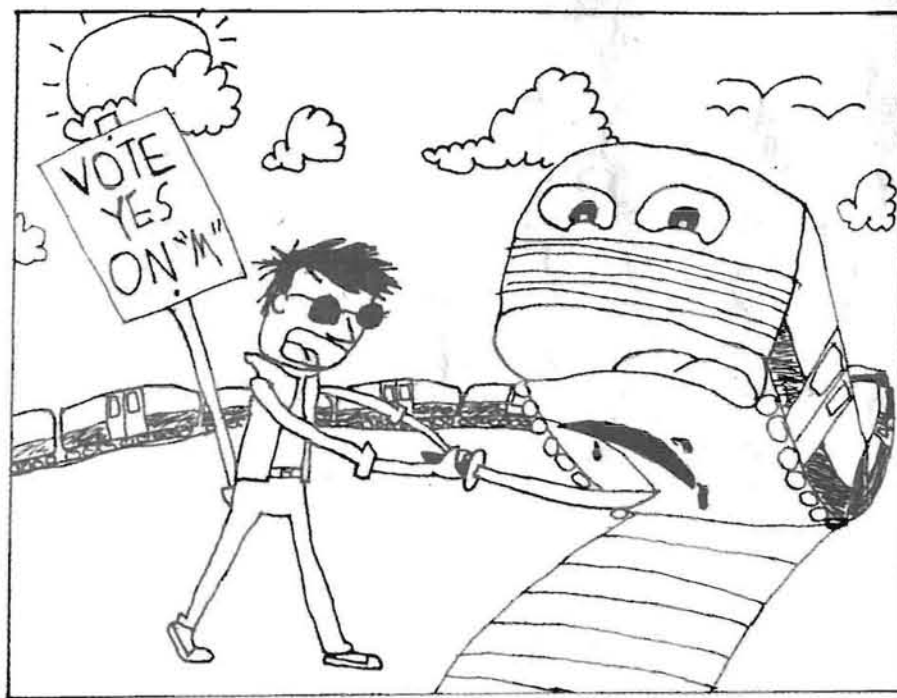


Illustration by Cody Perkins

As discussed last week, Metro most likely did not review all of their financial options. Now, we have a public that is left with hurting persons—some lacking transportation, some even lacking jobs. Businesses do not have their employees quite as readily available as they were before, and the county is scrambling a bit in order to pull some transit together for their city-dwelling workers.

Sure, cuts were necessary, but is it possible that Metro over-cut services in order to apply pressure on the county to expand?

The main point of Prop M in November was to tax St. Louis County and use the money to expand public transit farther west of St. Louis City. As mentioned last week, an added bonus to Metro would have been millions of dollars used to eliminate the \$46 million dollar deficit that hung over their heads.

In fact, many people think that the Metro was relying on the county tax to bail them out of their deficit. It was necessary in order to maintain service.

The big question is why did the city get hurt so badly by a decision made in the county?

The idea is that if Metro makes cuts that are detrimental to the county (a

haven of money), by cutting the transit of their city-dwelling workers, then the county will really feel a need for public transportation. In a moment of shock and awe, the county will respond by begging Metro for expansion.

In fact, Metro is already working with officials west of the city in order to reinstate bus routes that were eliminated. Parts of the county seem to be in dire need.

As a result of the major cuts, some think that Metro is making a strategic maneuver for the future. As it is, the vote for Metro expansion comes up every once in a while.

A major effect of the damage done to businesses, which lost employees this past month, will be a huge need for expansion.

So, why is the city hurting? Probably, but in order to get money from the county. Were the cuts necessary? Well, maybe, but not just to save money. Some think that Metro's cuts were used to pressure the county into voting 'Yes' next time public transit expansion is an option on the ballots.

Not to say that public transit expansion is bad, rather that Metro might be playing chess with the county in hopes to see trains travelling west—doing whatever it takes to improve metropolitan, transit efficiency.

A few changes that are catching on

Over the past few decades, the average citizen has enjoyed luxuries far beyond their individual earning. As a country, we acquired tons of material goods, charged billions in debt and took over as an entertainment nation.

Recently, though, we have been reassessing ourselves as a nation.

As the economy takes a dive in the United States (and around the globe for that matter), the citizens of our country are beginning to realize their follies. Thanks to the economic booms of the late 1990s cars are bigger, computers are smaller, and appliances are plastic-er. We have consumed and consumed, while incorporating economic ideas like planned obsolescence (when products are made to throw out after fewer uses) and training ourselves to feel entitled to whatever we fancy.

To the dismay of our luxurious existence, the U.S. is no longer the strongest, richest, freest, country. Sure, Capitalism helped make the average American wealthier, but it also made us reliant on those commodities. Since most of us were so short sighted, we never even saw this gigantic collapse coming. All of a sudden, we have to give up the TVs and cellphones that our Four Fathers and credit cards have earned for us.

Fortunately, there have been people working for the past few decades in anticipation of an unavoidable, lifestyle downsizing. Some of the predictions for the "American Way," that would have sounded preposterous to us ten years ago, seem like obvious changes we must undergo.

First, young adults are moving back 'home.' For a college student, or a

young person fresh out, expenses are difficult to pay. Plus, many people are losing their jobs. For a young person, reasons for moving in with his or her parent(s) are to (1) eliminate the hundreds of dollars of rent and utilities and (2) consolidate the small earnings of numerous people.

Along with this return to crowded, yet cheap living, people have been getting out into their cul-de-sacs and looking to the neighborhood to provide services and goods that were previously provided or met by businesses. Neighborhood potlucks are increasing, nannies are coming back and some people are even collaborating with those next door to have small, communal farms, growing crops and livestock.

And, yes, this is happening in St. Louis. This could lead even to the return of the primitive, small-scale neighborhood markets. At any rate, this and other forms of sharing are spreading in various parts of the U.S. and are predicted to continue spreading.

This, in turn, will make it less necessary to leave the neighborhood. Long distance commuting is a thing of the past for many people in the U.S. Nonetheless, we have been seeing smaller, more fuel-efficient cars, like the Smart Car Fortwo.

The Current believes that these changes are efficient in minimizing waste and needless spending and are an incredible improvement to the throw-away culture of earlier days.

These changes and many others are coming. Are you ready?

EDITORIAL BOARD

- Sarah O'Brien
- Elizabeth Swoboda
- Jessica Keil
- Cate Marquis
- Bryan Goers
- Gene Doyel
- Matthew Hill

"Our Opinion" reflects the majority opinion of the Editorial Board.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

As a forum for public expression on campus, The Current welcomes letters to the editor and guest commentaries from students, faculty, staff members and others concerned with issues relevant to the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

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 include a daytime phone number. Students must include their student ID numbers. The Editor-in-Chief reserves the right to respond to letters. The Current reserves the right to deny letters.

For information on writing a guest commentary, contact The Current's Editor-in-Chief.

UNDERCURRENT

By Sofi Seck • Staff Photographer

How has the economic downturn affected you?

What do you think? Send your own response to thecurrent@umsl.edu or talk about it in our online forums at thecurrentonline.com.



Lance Southwick Senior Finance

"Gas prices have affected me significantly. As they increase it makes it difficult to pay for food and bills since I drive so much."



Monica Tircult Sophomore Information System

"It has affected me personally because my mother was just laid-off recently so I will be on a job hunt to help pay for school."



Edgar Ramirez Freshman International Business

"As an international student, the recession has affected my family in a surprisingly not hard way. It's all the same."



Ethan Chou Senior CCJ

"Food prices everywhere have gone up. I'm still hungry, but now I have to pay more to eat less."



Yoojin Park Freshman Business Administration

"It's harder to pay the tuition fee."

FOREIGNER'S CORNER

One world, one currency

By Sofi Seck

About a week ago, a friend of mine mentioned that I should write about the issue of global currency. At first I was a bit hesitant to write on this subject, mostly because I did not really have an opinion on it either way, but after learning more on this subject, I think that having a single global currency is a great idea, in theory. A short time ago, Chinese leaders suggested having an alternate to the dollar—a new single international currency. Although my friend is absolutely terrified of this ever happening, I believe that many good things can come from this idea.

The first of these is that it would get rid of huge amounts of global currency trading and the significant costs connected with this. Currency speculation would become a thing of the past, and as a result, currency fluctuations would end. I believe that a global currency would bring greater stability to world trading conditions.

The world trades about \$1.2 trillion worth of currencies a day. If that market vanishes, it would save us hundreds of billions of dollars a year in foreign exchange and other costs.

It is important to acknowledge that having a global currency might actually bring more problems for some countries, as countries in the European zone are learning.

While the first ten years of sharing a single currency (the Euro) went fairly well, problems have started showing up as the worldwide recession deepens.

Although they have been liberated from the influence of currency fluctuation, European countries now face a different (in some cases worst) impact from global investors. Borrowing expenses of deeply indebted countries like Spain and Portugal are much higher than of Germany, which has gotten the biggest savings.

But even with its problems, the Euro has provided a hint that a global currency can work. It has been very successful for the European Union.

Around the world, countries are moving towards merging currencies. Since 1981, the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank has provided the EC dollar to about a dozen island nations, including Antigua, Dominica, and St. Lucia.

I think that the emotional attachment that people have for their own currency might be the biggest obstacle when it comes to having a single world currency.

It might sound a bit silly, but can you imagine not having the "dollar" anymore? It has been a part of your life since the beginning and has played a role in everything you do. It is an emotional thing to have to lose.

That and the adaptation of a whole new system might be too much for people who are not that keen to change in the first place.

I do not think that people should spend their time worrying about this issue. To have a true global currency we would need true global banking standards and practices. I do not see this ever happening unless we actually form a world government to uphold standardized fiscal and financial policies. The fact is that every country has its differences. We all have different values, economics, religions, needs, and histories. Each of these on its own could prevent a single global currency from becoming a reality.

So, could it really happen? Would a single global currency really exist in this day and age? It is surely not going to happen overnight. It would take many years of planning to actually get the ball rolling, since rules and joining requirements would have to be written up first. It is hard to imagine every country in the world having a global currency, since the economics of each country are very different. Introducing one universal currency sounds easy enough, but in actuality, tremendously complicated to execute.

One thing is for sure; it will be interesting to see how things play out in this arena.

Sofi Seck is a staff photographer for The Current.

STAFF VIEWPOINT

Focus on real "bad words"

By Cate Marquis

The last week's O'Brien Factor, "Offended Today, Gone Tomorrow," responded to readers who objected to the use of a term generally known as the f-word. While that word would never appear in *The Current*, its use in the satiric parody issue, *The Stagnant*, is another matter, as O'Brien correctly pointed out.

But the column raised another issue, of a generational debate.

I believe that O'Brien is right. Like the earlier generation's revulsion at the use of words like "damn" and "hell" gave way to reduction in their power to outrage, and that the same is likely to happen to the f-word with this generation. Whereas the words "damn" and "hell" are linked to blasphemy, the f-word is linked to sex, a topic on which at-

titudes have changed greatly.

However, arguments on both sides that cast this as a generational debate are largely false. Consider the well-known quote in which Socrates rails against "modern" youth and declining civil society, a sentiment so universal to every generation that if not attributed to the ancient philosopher, it easily could be mistaken for something said today.

The irony is that the readers complaining to O'Brien about a decay in civil language are likely a generation younger than George Carlin, the author of the famous "Seven Words You Can Never Say" comic commentary routine. Carlin himself was at least half a generation younger than Lenny Bruce, whose use of that very f-word was to discuss the power that society gives to certain words. Those who

could not see past the word itself reviled Bruce for his intelligent commentary.

Likely, the same persons who complained about the use of the word as commentary in the satiric *Stagnant* also fail to note its use in a pointless entertainment context in countless movies and songs.

Does the use of the word only become objectionable if the intent is intelligent, comic or social commentary?

O'Brien is absolutely right to tout the current trend to diversity and tolerance as being more important than anger over this "bad word." It is worth noting that in the 1950s, the average white male would never use the f-word in general conversation in "mixed-company" (that is, men and women together). Such use would have been met by shock and social rejection.

At the same time, the same man using the "n-word" in the same context might have been met only with mild disapproval, if that. That ethnic slurs of any kind are now socially unacceptable in nearly any social circle is a far more important change than any use of other kinds of forbidden words.

Both parties are wrong to cast this as a debate between generations. It is about mindset. One generation, like Carlin's, leans to the more permissive while the following, the Reagan era generation, leaned more restrictive. This cycle still continues. That outrage over the sex-themed f-word will over time fade is nearly inevitable. Replacing that with outrage over real "bad words" is truly the triumph of this generation.

Cate Marquis is Arts and Entertainment Editor for The Current.

STAFF VIEWPOINT

Campus living isn't so bad

By Afton Anderson

There are plenty of people who complain about living on campus at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, and many who say that it is just too expensive for them to do so. While I definitely understand

that in the financial hardship of our country it is easier to rely on mom and dad, you may be surprised at how much more other students are paying at other universities to live on their campuses.

One of the great things about UM-St. Louis is the University does not even require incoming freshman to live on campus. At many universities including the University of Missouri-Columbia and Missouri S&T, they require incoming freshman students to get a waiver to not live on campus.

In fact, at the Columbia campus, you may not even be allowed to bring your car there your freshman year. At the cheapest, you may

get an extremely small 10ft by 10ft room to be shared by two people for 4000 dollars per academic year.

These buildings have communal bathrooms, showers, and washers and dryers that you may not be able to use depending on how many people are in there at the time. Here at UM-St. Louis, you can get a single room with a private half bath for around 4300 dollars. Our meal plans are half that of the Columbia campuses and some of the cheapest in the system as a whole.

Aside from the dorm life, we also have Mansion Hills Condos, University Park Apartments, and University Meadows. At University Park Apartments, you can get a one bedroom for 412 dollars a month. Not only would the total for an academic year at 3708 dollars be cheaper than any single unit price in the UM system, but it is also cheaper than about any one bedroom unit price in the area surrounding UM-St. Louis.

The price of a two-bedroom apartment is 494 dollars, so half the rent would be extremely inexpensive. The Mansion Hills Con-

dos prices are still economical. The price of a one bedroom at 5562 dollars for an academic year is still a bargain compared to the price of shared space you could be paying or more at our sister campuses.

We also have the luxury of not paying for parking the way you would on other metropolitan campuses, and these facilities have shuttles to take you to the nucleus of campus.

These options are not as accessible on our sister campuses.

Last but definitely not least, we have University Meadows. University Meadows is also privately owned, so it is not quite the same as the aforementioned places to live. However, it is gated and has plenty of parking spaces as well as the shuttle to take you anywhere you need to go on campus. The one bedroom in a four-bedroom apartment at 531 dollars per month is definitely comparable to the cost of living anywhere else in the UM system. The two-bedroom price of 648 dollars per bedroom is still reasonable.

I must admit that the price of the

efficiency at University Meadows is kind of steep compared to other accommodations on campus at \$950 dollars per month.

The total price of this living space, which offers a full kitchen and a refrigerator, totals to 8550 dollars per academic year.

At the Columbia campus, the cost of living in a comparable single suite where you may still have to share a shower and have no kitchen is just over 7000 dollars per year. Once you add in the meal plan you are required to have, at a minimum you will easily break 9000 dollars for the academic year to live there.

When you put everything in perspective, it is not so bad living on the UM-St. Louis campus. Our transportation is great.

We have the Metrolink at our fingertips and a wonderful shuttle bus system. It may seem expensive to live on campus, but really campus living at any University will cost you. We are lucky to have accommodations for all price ranges available to us.

Afton Anderson is Proofreader for The Current.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Editor:

Any newspaper should attempt as a first principle to raise the level of public discourse, not lower it. If you think using the "F" word repeatedly in print promotes discourse, along with civility and good taste and enlightenment, then I regret to say that you are a sorry excuse for an editor-in-chief. Your

defense of your behavior in the April 6 *Current* rings hollow. I am tempted to use an expletive to characterize your behavior, but I will refrain from such.

J. Martin Rochester
Curators' Distinguished
Teaching Professor of
Political Science

DOMAIN, from page 4

While it would be impossible for the property owner to be able to keep his or her land for private use, the property owner can at least be sure that the full, fair market value of the land is being paid. "Fair Market Value" is defined as what a "willing buyer" would pay to a "willing seller".

While many are unaware, many of the conveniences of the modern world have been provided for by Eminent Domain. While there are few property owners who willingly give up their land to the state for public purposes, the concept of Eminent Domain is necessary to properly provide services to our

society as a whole. If the state's power of Eminent Domain did not exist, the city's or municipality's ability to progress would be severely hindered. Aside from highways Eminent Domain provides countless other opportunities to improve the area in which an individual lives, such as improving the quality of infrastructure (ie. Sewer pipes, electricity etc.). While Eminent Domain can be unfavorable in the case of an individual, if one looks at the larger picture it is clear that the concept of condemnation, or Eminent Domain, is necessary for our society to progress and provide for the needs of the people.

SCIENCE COLUMN

Speech kicks off Earth Day

By Cate Marquis

Earth Day is officially April 22, but this week sees the start of a series of Earth-friendly, environmentally themed events in St. Louis, starting this Tuesday. Environmentalist Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. speaks on "Our Environmental Destiny" on Tuesday, April 14 at the Science Center's Exploradome at 7 p.m. Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. is the nephew of President John F. Kennedy, but this member of the Kennedy family has devoted his life to environmental work rather than politics.

The talk on April 14 is not free but tickets for college students are \$15, with a student ID at the Science Center box office. Other tickets range from \$25 for Science Center members, \$35 general public, to \$75 V.I.P. tickets, which include a reception with the speaker and preferred seating.

Although the presentation takes place at the Science Center, the event is actually part of the Missouri Botanical Gardens' two-day Eco Expo, which takes place April 18-19 at the garden. MO Bot, which is part of the UM-St. Louis based World Ecology Center collaboration, is well on its way to becoming a leader for green education and efforts in the area. The website for the Eco Expo, at <http://ecoexpostlouis.com/home.html>, notes that the event is carbon-neutral and also offers visitors the chance to calculate their own carbon footprint.

Missouri Botanical Garden is also offering an ongoing Global Garden Speaker Series. The speaker for April is Dr. May Berenbaum, the nation's leading expert on colony collapse disorder, who will speak on the threat this phenomenon poses to our food chain, on April 23 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. The event is \$10 but student discounts may be available.

While these April events are not specifically labeled Earth Day events, scheduling them shortly before the date that has been devoted for decades to thinking about the Earth is more than coincidence. April, the start of spring, is a good time to renew thoughts about caring for our environment.

Once, Earth Day events were merely a series of parades and face-painting, often sponsored by an assortment of corporations that have little to do with the environment beyond picking up trash and talk about recycling. Recent years have seen a reclaiming of the date by environmental groups and those concerned about the state of the planet.

Eco Expo events at Missouri Botanical Garden include more than the talk by Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. These folks are serious about grassroots environmental action. The schedule leads off a reference from the study "Moving Consumer from Green Interest to Green Action," from Insight Research Group in partnership with The Natural Resources Defense Council and HGTV. They noted "78 percent of Americans are willing to make a lifestyle change for the good of the environment, but most admit they can't distinguish between the reality and the hype, and ...it is hard to know what actions are truly good for the environment." The Eco Expo is geared to defining what really is "green" and offering practical ideas, services, and products for a more sustainable life.

With this practical theme in mind, Eco Expo offers events such as "green" cooking demonstrations, science demonstrations on carbon dioxide detection, a talk by the editor of "Green Car Journal," a presentation by Apple on green computing and a talk on "green" building from the construction manager of the Alberici Headquarters' Platinum LEED certified building, among others.

Students who drive to campus along Highway-170 have likely seen Alberici's wind turbine near the highway.

Other events focus on "green" cleaning products and fashions. More events are listed at the official Eco Expo website listed above.

The Current
is now accepting
applications for
Editor in Chief.

Do you have what it
takes?

email
thecurrent@umsl.edu
for more information.

FEATURES

One man versus an 'empire'

By **JESSICA KEIL**
Features Editor

On April 1st, a man with an oversized pack on his back and a stack of flyers in his hands could be found roaming the UM-St. Louis campus.

His name is Gustavo Rendon. Despite the jovial nature of the date on which he chose to protest, Rendon's message was no joke.

Two days later, he was arrested for setting up a tent near Express Scripts and camping out.

Much to his dismay, he was soon released and walked directly to the office of Bob Samples, director of media, creative and printing services at UM-St. Louis.

"There [used to be] a whole neighborhood around our home. A gas station, stores, there was a plant nursery, Mount Providence school, cemetery, chapel...[then] rich and greedy individuals decided to build what... looks to be an empire next to the University of Missouri-St. Louis," Gustavo Rendon wrote in a document to the Division 10 court of St. Louis County.

Rendon and his family (mother, father, four sons, sisters, and other extended relatives) moved from El Salvador to St. Louis to escape political oppression. Specifically, they found a community on 8511 Geiger Rd, St. Louis, MO 63121, land that is now buried underneath the buildings of Express Scripts.

"I was a victim of eminent domain," Rendon said, "anybody can take anybody's house, you just have to prove that the public or the community can benefit, and in my case the University used eminent domain to take my land and then leased it to a private company, Express Scripts."

Despite the fact that Rendon's home was taken in 2005 and in the years to come it would be bulldozed and developed, he has not stopped



Matthew Hill • Photo Editor

Gustavo Rendon and his son Armando in front of Express Scripts. Rendon and his family were made to move due to eminent domain so the the Express Scripts campus could be built next to UM-St. Louis.

telling his story and protesting "land theft," what he calls eminent domain.

The practice of utilizing eminent domain laws to obtain property is nothing new to the United States or St. Louis, according to Dr. Andrew Glassberg, associate professor in Political Science at UM-St. Louis.

"Taking of real estate for a public purpose is the original definition of [eminent domain] and it is actually

in the Bill of Rights," Glassberg explained.

"At the end of the Fifth Amendment it says, 'nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.' And in British history it was long standing prior to this... In England they call it 'compulsory purchase,' which may be a more accurate naming of it."

—Gustavo Rendon
Bob Samples worked directly with

the University around the time Rendon was asked to leave his property and has since been around to listen to his protests.

"Eminent domain is a legal process," Samples said. "We did three appraisals of [Rendon's] land and we actually offered his family more than the top appraisal said it was worth. The top appraisal was \$63,000; before we went to court we were offering \$200,000, and after the court procedure the amount came to \$213,000."

See **EMPIRE**, page 12

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Bob Bliss

By **ANNA MARIE CURRAN**

Staff Writer

Originally from Illinois, Robert Bliss, Dean of the Honors College has been all over the world. He and his wife, Paulette, have traveled to France, Scandinavia and Czechoslovakia. Aside from traveling, another of Bliss's favorite hobbies is reading. He said that because he is unable to travel everywhere, reading is "a way of finding out about parts of the world or parts of the imagination."



Bob Bliss
Dean,
Pierre Laclède
Honors College

Although his job as Dean of the Honors College does not offer much opportunity for travel, Bliss explained why he feels it is right for him.

"I like being closer to the students than I would be in a similar job at some other institution. I like the kind of work we do. I am a strong believer in general education. I am a strong believer of small group teaching. I like dealing with interesting students, and all of our students are interesting," he said.

He also spoke of the many things in St. Louis that he enjoys. Bliss lives near Forest Park and enjoys utilizing all of the institutions around the area. He said he considers St. Louis to be a great City.

"One of the things I don't like about it is the natives complain about it way too much," Bliss said.

Bliss also enjoys writing poetry and fishing, although he claims that his interest in fishing has declined over the years.

"I don't do as much of it as I used to, I'm not sure if that's because I don't any longer enjoy killing fish or that I don't have the time. I do however enjoy going out and pretending like I'm fishing."

Before coming to the Pierre Laclède Honors College, Bliss spent 28 years teaching in England, one year with an Oxford fellowship and 27 years at Lancaster University.

While at Lancaster, he spent some time helping with the Student Senate, at which time Nelson Mandela was in prison. The students at Lancaster proposed to name the library coffee bar after Mandela, which Bliss opposed.

Bliss explained that he felt Mandela was "far too great a man to have a coffee bar named after him."

The students then withdrew the proposal from the Senate, but wrote to the National Congress Office in London. The Congress Office somehow informed Mandela, who sent a message back saying that he would be honored to have a coffee bar named after him. With a laugh, Bliss explained that it is now called the "Nelson Mandela Coffee Bar."

"I was taught a lesson," he said "not to try to safeguard anyone else's dignity. It's a bad idea to try to safeguard your own but it's a terrible idea to try to safeguard someone else's."

Bliss went on to say that no matter how patriarchal it seemed, if he could sit down and have coffee with one person he would choose Daniel Kerr, his great grandfather, whose letters he has been transcribing. Bliss' Great Grandfather served in the Civil War as well as serving in Congress.

See **BLISS**, page 12

Bob Bliss
Dean,
Pierre Laclède,
Honors College

Education
BA, University of Pennsylvania; MA and PhD, University of Wisconsin

Publications
"Revolution and Empire," an award-winning study of 17th century English and American politics

Hobbies
Reading, canoeing, fishing and cycling

TOP TEN

Biggest Billionaire Losers of 2008

- 10 Charles Ergen**
-Dish Network
-Lost \$6.1 billion
- 09 Steven Ballmer**
-Microsoft
-Lost \$6.5 billion
- 08 Larry Ellison**
-Oracle
-Lost \$8.2 billion
- 07 Sergey Brin**
-Google
-Lost \$11.7 billion
- 06 Larry Page**
-Google
-Lost \$11.9 billion
- 05 Kirk Kerkorian**
-MGM Mirage
-Lost \$11.9 billion
- 04 Bill Gates**
-Microsoft
-Lost \$12.3 billion
- 03 Warren Buffett**
-Berkshire Hath.
-Lost \$16.5 billion
- 02 Sheldon Adelson**
-Las Vegas Sands
-Lost \$24 billion
- 01 YOU! Congrats! The stock market lost \$11 trillion, the average investor lost the most money.**

Riverfront Times career fair XXXXXXXXXX

By **YOSHIMI TOMONO**
Staff Writer

Many people have recently lost their jobs due to the financial crisis, caused mainly by the practice of sub prime lending. Lehman Brothers, the biggest global investment bank, also in the business of financial service, went bankrupt in 2008. This news went all over the world and shocked many companies and employees.

However, we should not lose hope yet. On Friday, April 10, the Riverfront Times (RFT) held a spring job fair in the Century Room on the third floor in the Millennium Student Center at University of Missouri- St. Louis. This was open to UM-St. Louis students as well as the public. They were welcomed with no entrance fee and free parking in the North MSC garage.

Students can grab a RFT on the 1st floor in MSC for free or in the library. RFT issues consist of articles, restaurant advertisements, free coupons and job information.

"This event impressed with the variety of opportunities our employees had to offer. Great atmosphere. Good turnout by prospective employees," Brandi Unger, Career Fair Coordinator and RFT Classified Advertising Director said.

"Seeing such qualified applicants walk through the doors impressed me. Many of the applicants

seem very determined," she added.

Turnouts' age range was stark, as young and old came to the event. Some of them were international students without citizenship, and some had disabilities. There were those looking for a full-time job, others for a part-time job.

Attendees were to be dressed professionally, but there were many people who wore informal clothes.

"It was very useful and a friendly atmosphere." Haneen Musa, senior, finance said. Students were able to visit companies' booths while having a cup of coffee or water. Also, those who registered at the front desk got a Monster Hitman energy shooter.

In addition to this energy drink, each of the companies, businesses, or enterprises distributed their pamphlets to people visiting their booths. Some of companies gave people office supplies such as a pen, clip, bag, etc. White Castle even distributed to people who visited their booth a free White Castle hamburger coupon.

"We want to hire people who are enthusiastic, eager to learn, with great customer service skills, and enjoy people," Kurt Rose, General Manager of White Castle, said.

Other than private corporations such as Enterprise (rent a car company) and Lumiere Place (casino & Hotel), the U.S. Army and Missouri National Guard took part in this job fair to find people who

want to work for their country.

Gunnery Sergeant Garza, Marine Corps Officer Programs, Officer Selection Assistant said, "We want to hire currently enrolled college students planning to graduate. Our program does not pull them out of college. We are looking for people who want to lead, are determined, and want a challenge in life."

Attendees were able to get a job application at some booths. Four tables in the Century Rooms were for people to fill out a job application. These tables were always full, so some people went to outside to fill out their forms.

At the beginning of this fair at 9 am, there were 20 people.

The attendance peaked around 11 am with 50 people. Some had to wait in line to sign up at the front desk. Even at the end of the fair many people stayed around to get job information.

"Overall, it was a success! We believe we have matched many employers with qualified candidates," Unger said.

"I think it is well organized and gives a good variety of employment fields. The turn-out of employers [was good,] there were no empty booths. Employers were very friendly," Tammy Franks, Junior, media studies, said.

See **JOB FAIR**, page 12

Art show provides creative outlet for students

By **ANNA MARIE CURRAN**
Staff Writer

Friday was the submissions deadline for the annual Pierre Laclède Honors College Art show. For the last five years, the Honors College has held this event in the spring, displaying the art throughout the foyer of the Honors College common room and hallways.

Submission of artwork is open to everyone, and is not exclusive to the Honors College students.

The invitation to submit work even extends to every staff and faculty member working at the UM-St. Louis. Art pieces of any medium are welcome.

Dan Gerth, assistant teaching professor in the Honors College, explained that he feels campus participation is important. He also noted that even if it students do not want to contribute a submission, students should consider stopping by to view all of the artwork.

"The artist is a key component in any artistic equation," Gerth said.

Each visitor is also encouraged to take advantage of the opportunity to cast their vote for the "Best in Show."

The winning piece of artwork will be announced on April 24, will receive a gift basket, and win a one-year membership to the Saint Louis Art Museum.

"The show is a nice display of the work we receive, and we hope that as many people as possible will submit works, and then everyone on campus will stop by to see the lovely works of art," Nancy Gleason, associate Dean of the Honors College said.

There are currently five individuals collaborating on the show. There will be two Honors College faculty members: Geri Friedline and Gerth, two students: Jennifer Steff and Dan Diecker in addition to Gleason. The idea for the first Art Show came from Gleason and Li Shi, a former student of the Honors College. Gleason explained that they had both wanted to find a way to "celebrate the arts" in the Honors College and that an implementation of an Art Show seemed a perfect way to do it.

"We thought our students were so creative and that many of them were not art majors. They had a strong interest in the arts, so we began it," she said.

Gleason went on to explain how

Shi and she felt like the Honors College took measures to create "academic avenues" for the students, such as research projects, internships and independent study projects. Gleason said that they felt "that art was being overlooked a little [and] it seemed like a natural thing to do."

In the beginning, Gleason explained that the Art Show was more than just an "art show."

In its early years, the show was combined with an international potluck. However, "interest in the potluck decreased over the years," so the art became the sole focus of the event.

"I think it is so important for all majors to have a chance to display their art, and so many of them are very talented," Gleason said.

Kristen Franke, sophomore, art education explained why as an artist she feels that events such as the Art Show are important. She explained that for artists to paint or to use any art medium is a way to get down ideas that are in their head.

"For us it is important to [get] our ideas out there as well as the professional world, getting our art out there for possible sales, for someday getting

our name built up," Franke said.

She also explained that even at an art show it is impossible for the viewer to understand exactly what the artist was trying to get at when each piece was created.

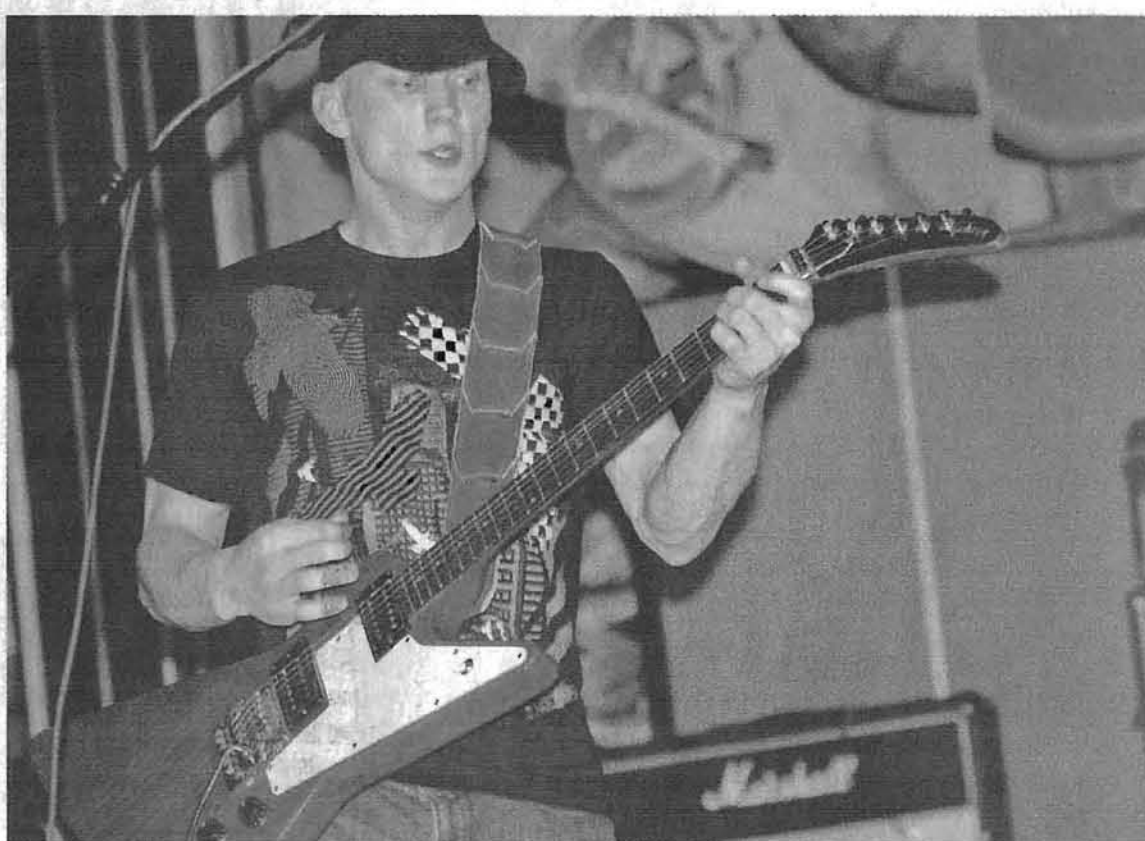
Franke explained that the decisions made in the process of creating each piece are just as important as the final product.

"It was the process that I went through to paint that piece, with the decisions that I made, and where it started and ended are two different places. It's interesting because [those] underlying layers of paint no one will ever see, [only] the artist gets to see that," Franke said.

She concluded by stressing her gratitude for the fact that the University affords students opportunities such as the Honors College Art Show. Franke explained similar events really help art majors "get out there" and gain experience.

This year, the artwork will be displayed from April 20-23 at the Honors College in Provincial House on the South Campus next to Oak Hall. The artwork will be displayed from 9 am to 4 pm Everyone is invited to stop by and view the artwork.

Rock For The Cause: Relay for Life



Photos by Sofi Seck • Staff Photographer

Alpha Phi Omega put on its second annual "Rock For The Cause" on Thursday in the Pilot House to raise money for Relay for Life. The event featured local rock bands Last Nights Vice and Nothing Still, as well as local rappers Rosewood (ABOVE LEFT) and Ol' Boi. The event raised over \$200 in a single night for the American Cancer Society.

By **KIMBERLY HUDSON**

Staff Writer

Rock 4 the Cause: Relay for Life is back! Last Thursday University of Missouri-St. Louis held its second annual fundraiser. University of Missouri-St. Louis students decided to support cancer survivors last Thursday night and held a Rock 4 The Cause: Relay for Life fundraiser for cancer survivors.

The fundraiser was sponsored by UM-St. Louis' own Alpha Phi Omega fraternity and was open to all students and faculty. Five bands were also sponsored to play and to help raise funds for cancer patients.

Rosewood, 75's, Nothing Still, Last Night's Vice and Ol' Boi were featured throughout the evening. Nothing Still, who has put out three albums and one album on iTunes, performs for causes and for

recognition. "We try to do as many [shows for causes] as we can as long as it's for a good cause," said lead singer Emilio of Nothing Still. Rock 4 the Cause was from 5:30 to 10:30 p.m. in the Pilot House.

UM-St. Louis students raised over two hundred dollars by participating.

Students who came were contestants in a raffle game and were able to win door prizes such as candles and were provided with nachos and dip, water and lemonade.

Alph Phi Omega raised \$210 and gave away door prizes. Fighting cancer has become an annual event and an experience for all UM-St. Louis students who want to rock!

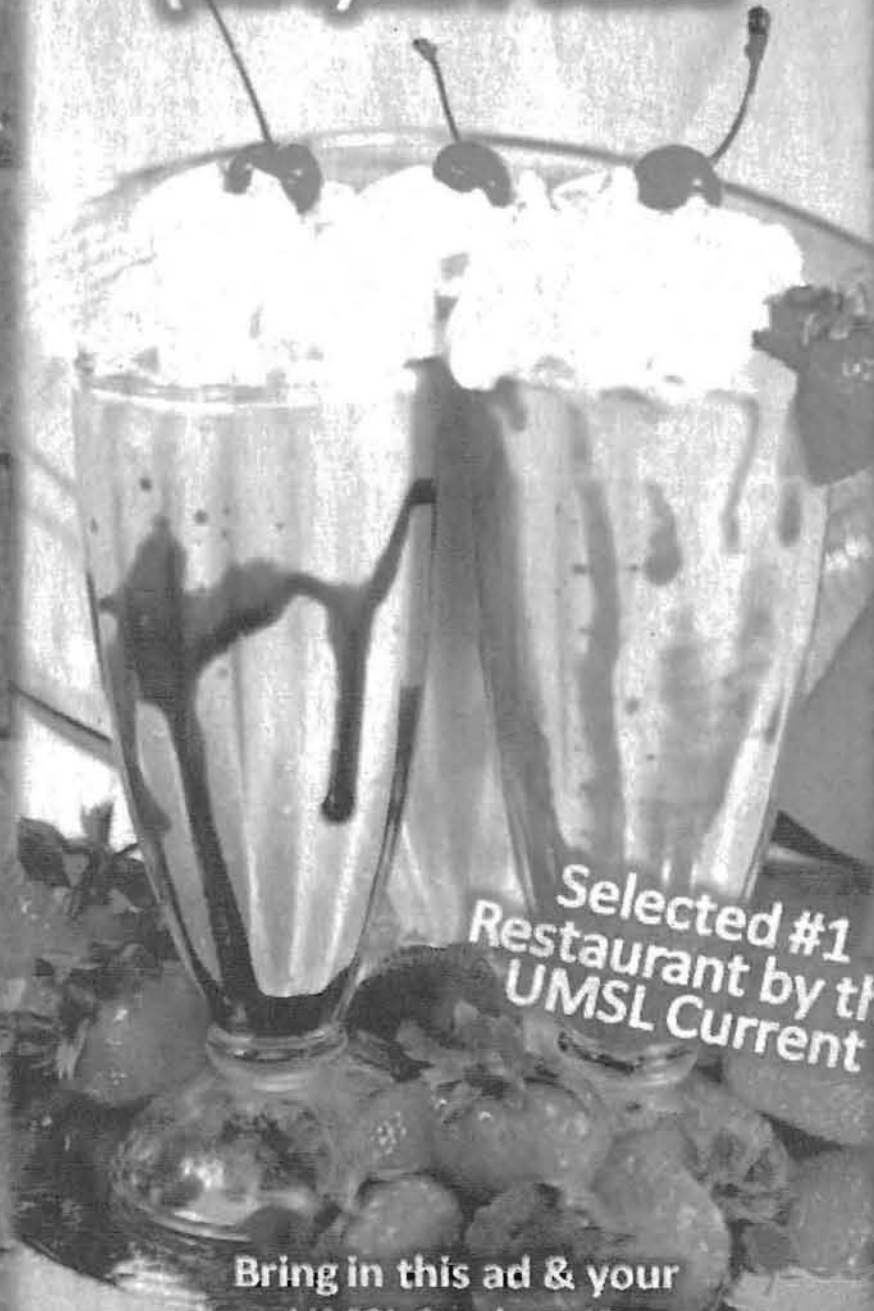
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A&E

MOVIE OPENINGS

STATE OF PLAY

90's style political thriller starring Russel Crowe as a plucky reporter (or something) who uncovers some seriously suspicious things happening in the office of a congressman/corporate exec/something. Determined to find the truth, Crowe teams up with Rachel McAdams while Ben Affleck also gets involved; possibly on the good guys' side, possibly with the baddies. At most theaters.

CRANK: HIGH VOLTAGE

Jason Statham stars as a man who is the equivalent of the bus in "Speed". After a Chinese mobster removes his heart and replaces it with one that requires electric shocks every so often to keep it running. This movie is not for children unless they plan on growing up to be profoundly badly adjusted. At most theaters.

17 AGAIN

Matthew Perry is a boring nearly-40ish guy who is granted a hearty boon indeed from the universe when somehow he is allowed to be...a superhero! Just kidding. Zac Efron also gets involved, because nobody would pay to see a movie based solely on Matthew Perry.

TOP TUNES DOWNLOADS



- 01 Boom Boom Pow
Black Eyed Peas
- 02 Poker Face
Lady GaGa
- 03 The Climb
Miley Cyrus
- 04 Right Round
Flo Rida
- 05 Day N' Nite
Kid Cudi
- 06 Kiss Me Thru The Phone
Soulja Boy Tell 'Em
- 07 You Found Me
The Fray
- 08 Blame it (feat. T-Pain)
Jamie Foxx
- 09 Gives You Hell
The All-American Rejects
- 10 Hoedown
Throwdown
Miley Cyrus

MOVIE REVIEW

Mobsters and a modern Italy give 'Gomorra' a twist

By CATE MARQUIS
A&E Editor

If you only go to mainstream movies, you will likely overlook one of the most high-profile films of last year. It has finally arrived in St. Louis. "Gomorra," a tale of organized crime in modern Italy, is a crime film that is both violent and intelligent. It does not feature any actors whose names you know and, yeah, you have to read subtitles.

It is worth the effort for those who like crime thrillers steeped in realism. The Italian "Gomorra" opens with a striking series of assassinations in a tanning center by one crime faction against a rival one, but this modern story is no period piece Mafia tale. Here, the crime is realistic, gritty, and straddles legal and illegal areas with a globalization twist. It is the

underworld of international deals. It is based in the world of petty crime in the projects, drugs on the street, and ruthless hits rather than a glam version of crime that syndicates and flashy wealth. No Sicilian family drama yet the echoes of classic Mafia tales reverberate throughout this well-crafted film.

Based on the real-world Gomorra crime syndicate, "Gomorra" weaves together several threads to create one grim crime tale.

The crime syndicate has its fingers in several places including the usual drugs, high-fashion production, and toxic waste disposal.

In one thread, a young boy in the projects lives at the edge of the drug-dealing crime world, admiring their power, money, clothes, while helping him mother's grocery delivery business. Another is about an aging mob

employee who delivers payments, collects earrings, and counts earnings.

Two young would-be toughs, enamored of movie mobsters and quoting "Scarface," fancy themselves too good for the local crime bosses. A middle-aged tailor sends his son off to work as an assistant to a businessman in his international waste disposal business, but both their apparently legitimate jobs have crime syndicate connections.

The director uses a variety of visual cues to connect this story to the whole of gangster movies. Much of the action takes place in a run-down, crumbling apartment complex, amid dirty, trash-strewn streets and broken sidewalks. The setting could be for an American flick about ghetto drug lords, except they are speaking Italian.



Gangsters have an effect on everyone in Garrone's "Gomorra."

Yet, other scenes inside rooms with older Italians arguing are surrounded by modest antique furniture draped with lace and crucifixes on the wall.

They could come straight out of a "Godfather" movie. Russian gangster movies spring to mind in other scenes of marginalized poor people at the edge of society.

Gomorra

★★★★☆

Director: Matteo Garrone

Stars: Nicolo Manta, Gianfelice Imparato

Synopsis: 'Gomorra' intertwines five different plots about Italians touched by organized crime.

See GOMORRA, page 12

A&E ON CAMPUS

A triumphant attempt at Macbeth



Dario Musumeci (2ND FROM RIGHT), sophomore, theatre and dance, as the title character in the UM-St. Louis production of Macbeth.

By KIARA BRELAND
Staff Writer

UM-St. Louis theater students presented one of the most famous plays by who most consider to be the greatest playwright to ever have lived. William Shakespeare. "Macbeth" at the Touhill Performing Arts Center had a two-weekend run from April 2 to April 11. The play was a production of the university's theater department.

On Thursday night, April 9, many students, family, and other area residents filled the Touhill's Lee Theater to witness the University's own talent. The play, which ran for an hour and half without any intermission, was a great success.

At the start of the play, the audience was brought into the story with a descriptive telling of the battles fought during the Irish-Scot war that included King Duncan, Macbeth, and

Malcolm. Before delving completely into the story, Macbeth's famous line which ultimately sealed his fate are uttered. "They say blood will have blood," setting the dreary and revengeful tone of the whole play. After this brief introduction, the stage is set for the famous murder scene which Macbeth and his wife spends the remainder of the play suffering the consequences.

Dario Musumeci made it easy to see why he was cast as Macbeth, and he really stood out playing the power-hungry and limitless king. Rachel Ogborn did a wonderful job with her portrayal of the Lady Macbeth. Her excellent acting really showed her character's cunning and cold-heartedness. Macbeth really did seem like a pushover in the relationship because it was quite obvious that she wore the pants in the relationship. The play moved along pretty swiftly after this. After the innocent guards were

accused of the murder of King Duncan. Macbeth and his wife involved a role reversal which was definitely apparent in the last act.

All of the actors and actresses did a splendid job of portraying their characters, and this was obvious by the responses of the audience which included sitting on the edge of the seat during the battle scenes, shocked expressions during the murder of MacDuff's wife, innocent babe, and other people of his manor due to Macbeth's ruthlessness.

Along with the cast, the production of the play and technical deserve praise. The elaborate costumes, which were designed perfectly, although designed specifically of the play, really seemed to have come from a medieval museum and they further helped send the cast to the sixteenth century Scotland and England.

See MACBETH, page 12

CD REVIEW

'Mama, I'm Swollen' falls flat

By ANNA MARIE CURRAN
Staff Writer

Cursive's sixth album "Mama, I'm Swollen" was released on March 1, 2009 digitally and March 10 in CD form.

Cursive is a four-member independent rock band from Omaha, Nebraska.

Their newest released album was released as a follow up to their 2006 release of "Happy Hollow." The label it was released under is Saddle Creek Records, co-founded by Conor Oberst (currently singer for "Bright Eyes") and Justin Oberst, based in Omaha, Nebraska.

As a whole, Cursive's new album "Mama, I'm Swollen" brings nothing new or exciting to the music scene. Even though one can hear the evidence of interesting musical influences, the end result is a collection of tracks. The majority are unoriginal, lifeless, and filled with repetitive lyrics.

In general, most of the ten tracks on this album sounded similar. Track 1, "In the Now," was the only track that did not really seem to fit with the rest of the album. "In the Now" sounded more like a catchy independent hit rather than the emo, punk sort of feel the rest of the tracks held. Aside from the first track, the track order flowed well and the songs fit together in a good way.

The album began with the eerie and climactic beginning of "In the Now."

It was energetic start, but it seemed to wear off as one continues to listen. While the lyrics were poppy and catchy at first, the sheer repetitiveness of them begins to wear on one's nerves by the time the song is finished.

Overall, the musical variety throughout this track was very minimal and a lot of the lyrics seem to be sung in a monotonous voice.

The next song on the album, "From the Hips," had some promis-

ing new sounds, starting out with a sad and slow beginning that picked up by the second chorus.

The song could have been greatly improved with stronger lyrics. It is frustrating for the listener to hear "I'm at my best when I'm at my worst, I'm at my worst when I'm at my best" over and over throughout the same song. More meaningful lyrics would have been greatly appreciated.

One of the last songs on the album, "We're Going to Hell," began with a unique, nonetheless dull slow-paced rhythm while the listener sits and wonders for whom this music could possibly hold appeal. The lyrics for this song mainly consisted of the singer repeating over and over "We're going to hell, we're going to hell." Occasionally lyrics such as "you flash me that politician's smile, your image is squeaky clean. What a fetching smile, my what sharp teeth" hint that the singer is capable of writing lyrics that consist of more than just a phrase repeated over and over to fill the gaps of a song.

The most original song on the album was the album's namesake and the ninth track on the album "Mama, I'm Swollen." This track began in a more original manner and led the listener to believe it held more promise than the eight disappointments before.

As the song went on, it became apparent that "Mama, I'm Swollen" was really just more of the same repetitive and dull lyrics that wear the listener out with their at times, lack of creativity or pizzazz.

Sometimes, a band has more to offer in a live performance. Cursive got a TV debut on March 13 on the Late Show with David Letterman but you can make your own judgment on Cursive, as they will be performing here on April 24 at The Firebird, 2706 Olive Boulevard, in St. Louis. More information at the venue's website www.firebirdstl.com.

Cursive
"Mama, I'm Swollen"
★★★★☆

Sampling of classic sci-fi could start with Heinlein

By BEN GEMIGNANI
Staff Writer

If you are thinking about sampling a unique and thought-provoking style of fiction, classic science fiction has much to offer the intelligent reader. One of the greatest authors of science fiction's Golden Age was Robert Heinlein, a native Missourian.

Robert Anson Heinlein was born on 7 July 1907 in Butler, MO. to Rex Ivar and Bam Lyle Heinlein. After growing up in Kansas City, MO, he joined the Navy. He was discharged in 1934 with pulmonary tuberculosis. He dabbled in a number of professions before taking up writing, including real estate. Robert Heinlein died May 8th, 1988, after a long, resounding career as an author. His books would inspire millions across the generations.

Heinlein's novels, while being quite varied in scope, always tend to

include some core elements.

Parapsychology manages to find its way into quite a few of Heinlein's work. Hypnosis is often used to facilitate instruction in "Space Cadet" and a few others, for instance. Or the characters will be some variety of telepath.

"Time for the Stars" has a fleet of them sent out in relativistic ships to explore planets for human colonization, apparently running with Einstein's twin paradox. "Beyond This Horizon" does this as well. It is uncertain if the occasional character having a conversation with inanimate objects or the thoroughly deceased counts.

Longevity is another major recurring theme, ranging from the simple to the long-range to the ludicrous. In "The Moon is a Harsh Mistress," the low gravity causes less wear on the body, prolonging life, while "Beyond This Horizon" featured a massive eu-

genics program. The entire Lazarus Long series ends with a combination of good genes. Cloning and odd medical procedures keeps the titular Lazarus rolling well into the millenia. One novel even explores prolonged life through brain transplants.

Economics and politics can play heavily into Heinlein novels, and they rarely repeat. The man apparently had great faith in the United Nations and the general concept of a world government, because it crops up quite a bit. It certainly helps when it comes to dealing with other, similarly unified civilizations.

Futuristic economic setups range pretty widely. "The Door Into Summer" and "Beyond This Horizon" have an odd mixed system that basically involves the government making and distributing money every year based on some very peculiar and not-clearly-elaborated mechanisms. The moon, as a prison camp that pulled an

Australia and declared itself independent from the Earth's world government, develops a remarkably effective sort of anarchy, coupled with rampant free-market capitalism.

Heinlein's characters have been known to take up positions for or against some hot-button issues in relatively modern politics. For instance, there is a good chance that gun ownership will be seen as a good thing, although a notable exception can be found in "Tunnel in the Sky." The death penalty is shown to have its time and place.

Spaceflight and interplanetary travel seem possible in every single one of his books, and there is typically an effort to be very realistic about it. Faster-than-light travel is a novelty in the few places that it shows up. All ships are rocket-powered, though the sort of fuel can vary. Most rockets run on chemical or nuclear propellants but some of the more advanced ones can

burn anything, usually water. There is no artificial gravity, and acceleration, measured in terms of Earth gravity, must be kept within certain limits to keep from killing the passengers and crew. And Heinlein's "Tunnel In The Sky" was punching wormholes across the vast reaches of space long before "Stargate."

Even with all the survey of space, proper aliens are not particularly commonplace. "Methuselah's Children" had a handful of different species. "Between Planets" and the juvenile fiction novel "Space Cadet" had reptilian and amphibian life, respectively, on Venus. "Double Star" had Martians of improbable form. "Have Spacesuit, Will Travel" and introduced the young reader to a massive, interstellar government representing an unknown number of different races.

See HEINLEIN, page 12

A&E ON CAMPUS

Gal 210 offers 'Parental Advisory'

By KIARA BRELAND

Staff Writer

Parents, students, and professors braved the cold rain on Thursday, April 9 to attend the opening of Gallery 210's latest and newest art exhibit "Parental Advisory." The exhibit of works by UM-St. Louis BFA students arts is an annual event at Gallery 210, which is located on the UM-St. Louis' North campus next to the Metrolink.

The "Parental Advisory" art exhibit, in the venue's Gallery A, features various types of artwork that include oil on canvas, wood, iron, an image work. All of the artwork displayed was very creative and demonstrates the artists' talents, as was shown by the many gallery viewers' long fixed fascination stares at certain pieces.

There were a few pieces that elicited a response more than others. The first piece in this category, which is also arguably the best piece there, was Matt Duncan's "Not Fine," a work completed this year.

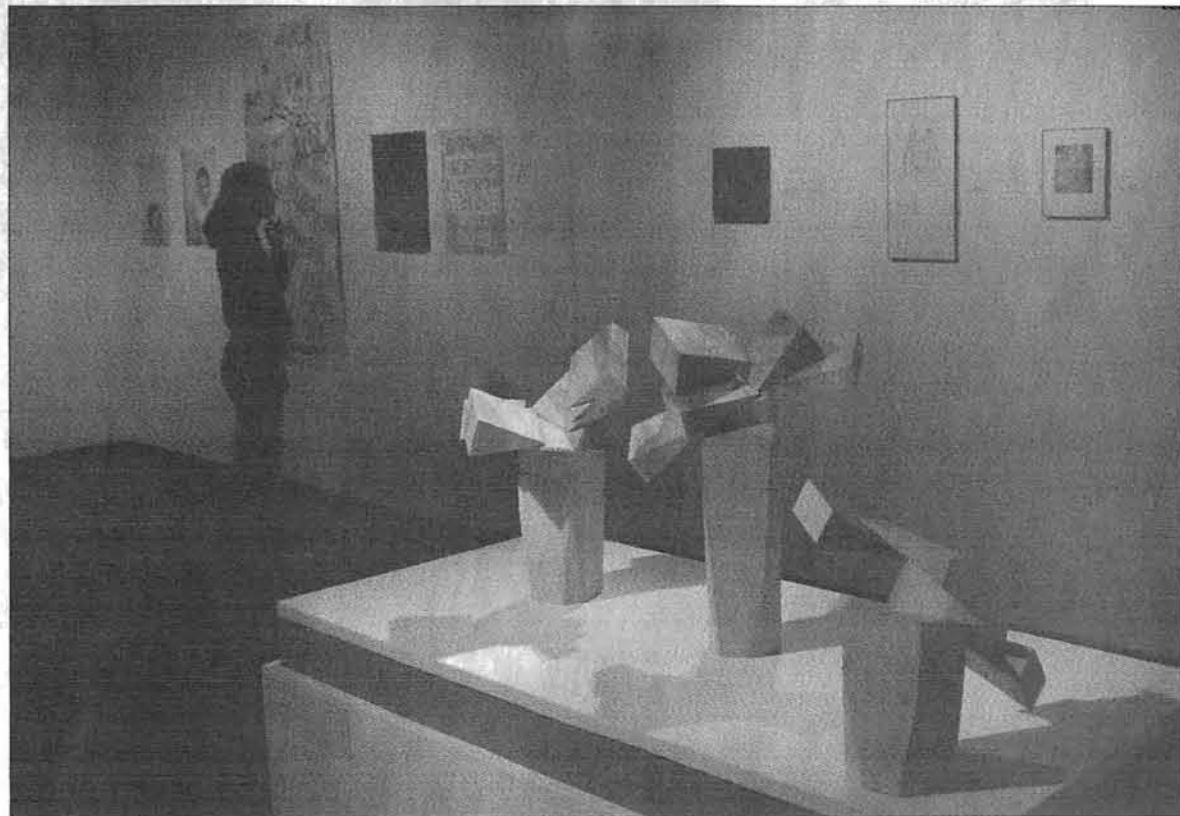
This beautiful and deep portrait was done in oil on canvas and showed a young couple in bed together. The male in the portrait whose face was half hidden, was asleep, while the woman lay wide awake facing her lover, but with her head turned slightly away and with an unhappy face. It was easy for all the viewers of the painting to see that she was "Not Fine."

Many female viewers stopped and lingered longer at this one because this situation is quite a common one, and easy to draw sympathy from because many people have been or still are in relationships where they were not alright while their partner was unaware of it and able to be at ease and sleep peacefully.

To further illuminate the woman's sadness, Duncan used black as the backdrop and dark colors for entire painting. This technique has been around for years and one of the best, famed exhibits of the use of dark dreary colors to show sadness is Van Gogh's "Starry Night."

The next piece of artwork in the exhibit that garnered much attention was Michael Simbeck's "Primal," which was also completed this year. The material used for this piece is wood, but the shape brings to mind Gumby, only bent in the form of a primitive animal, like a gorilla. This is quite amazing considering the fact that the artist manipulated wood into this form.

Corey Helling's "Untitled: Typeface Poster," done this year as well, received a good deal of attention, too. His poster, which had a bright blue and green backdrop, was quite an interesting piece in that he in-



Leia McFadden's "Pieces of Understanding" is one of the many pieces by students included in this year's edition of Parental Advisory at Gallery 210. The exhibit runs until April 25.

corporated words into it. At the top of the poster, the word "pack" was spelled out and in cubes in tan letters. The poster also had the alphabet and the numbers one through ten on it as well, carved out in the same tan letters, but the alphabet used multiple pieces of the material to make the letters.

At the bottom, there was a warning about Pack. The message warned against Pack because it was dangerous. The witty artist let viewers decide what "Pack" is because he never specified it.

All three of the most popular art works in the exhibit all could be considered forms of "Parental Advisory." The "Not Fine" poster could be considered the parental advisory of parents to a daughter to not talk to this particular guy because he would only make her unhappy. The "Primal" piece could be considered a warning of parents taking their children to the zoo to not feed the animal. The "Untitled: Typeface Poster," Pack character could be a like an allusion similar to that of the popular fairytale Little Red Hood.

Some of the others work might draw excitement from people because of their bright colors. One such painting is Jen Frederick's "Primary Wars."

This screen print had a background of a bold, bright red color. It had chaotic lines and dots on it, and the chaotic lines and blood red background made it easy to see where the title came from.

Thuy-Duong NgocPhan's painting "German Expression Still Life" also was an eye-grabber. Like many the stereotypical still-life painting,



"His Love" by Allen Savage is one of the many pieces by students included in this year's edition of Parental Advisory at Gallery 210. The exhibit runs until April 25.

it contained fruits, but his fruit of choice was watermelon. The painting was very colorful with reds, blues, and different greens in it. The palm trees seem to place the oil painting in a tropical place.

The "Parental Advisory" art exhibit at Gallery 210 runs until April 25, so you have plenty of time to come out and enjoy creative artwork right here at UM-St. Louis and also help to support fellow students.

BOOK REVIEW

'Handle With Care': just as good as pie

By JAKE SABOLO

Staff Writer

Everyone loves pie, or at least Jodi Picoult does. The New York Times bestselling author is at it again with her latest book, "Handle With Care." Her latest recipe is filled with drama, courtroom suspense, hot-button issues and vivid characters.

Picoult's 16th novel tells the story of a little girl named Willow who was born with Osteogenesis

Imperfecta, a bone disease that causes very brittle and easily breakable bones. Her mother, pastry chef Charlotte, and father, police officer Sean, de-

cide to sue Charlotte's obstetrician for not detecting the disease while Willow was in vitro. The only problem is that the obstetrician is Piper, Charlotte's best friend.

In addition, by suing for wrongful birth, Charlotte and Sean must admit that if they knew their baby would be born with the bone disease, Charlotte would have aborted Willow. Early in the novel, the reader will learn Willow's parents love her more than life itself, but intend to go to court for money: the family is virtually broke from amounting medical bills and credit card debt.

The situation may seem simple to some and complex to others. As the story progresses, the couple's decision to pursue the lawsuit places a heavy toll on their family, including their older daughter, Amelia. Not only does it tear the family apart, life as Charlotte and Sean know it will also shatter, much like Willow's fragile bones.

Known for her controversial subject matter, including topics

like child molestation, rape, school shootings, etc., Jodi Picoult delivers once again. "Handle With Care" deals with issues such as abortion, eating disorders and adoption. Another crucial ingredient to any Picoult novel is characterization. The author uses multiple character perspectives, from Charlotte, Sean, Amelia, Marin (Charlotte's lawyer) and Piper, to illustrate many of the novel's characters. While most of Picoult's previous characters are mostly likeable, she creates characters in this story that the reader must judge likeable or unjust. Specifically, Willow's mother Charlotte, who only seems concerned for Willow and

not the others around her. Fans of the author will be pleased with a new twist. For the first time, the characters tell their accounts to Willow. Their explanations and outlooks help define the characters and shape the story, told over the course of two years. Yet the reader will question if a six-year-old like Willow is really mature enough for some of the subject matter told to the child. Nonetheless, Picoult's new technique heavily contributes to the character development throughout the novel.

For instance, when finished, compare Charlotte and Amelia at the beginning of the story, to their characters at the end. If you are a fan of Jodi Picoult, you will enjoy every slice of her new book, and if you have never picked up one of her books, you will gobble this one up. Filled with twists and turns, deception and cliffhangers, Picoult's "Handle With Care" is a rare delicacy. And the twist at the end of the story will leave readers craving for more.

Handle with Care

by Jodi Picoult



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HEINLEIN, from page 8

"Starship Troopers" had a couple different races with which to contend. Most characters are humans and most aliens are at the "exotic pet" level.

Time travel is another Heinlein favorite. Sometimes it is a case of the subject being frozen, either cryogenically or actual space/time stasis. "Time For The Stars" dilates time and space so that a year to people exploring the galaxy adds up to several decades to everybody else. It's rare, but not unheard of, for a character to go backwards in time. And in the later books in the Lazarus Long series,

they invent inter-dimensional travel and times and spaces become free for the roaming.

Finally, there is Heinlein's tendency to build odd family structures. On more than one occasion, we meet couples that seem to be around the same age only to find that one or the other of them was actually born decades or even centuries before. They might also be related. One time-dilated protagonist ended up marrying his twin brother's great-great-grand-niece or some such. "The Moon Is a Harsh Mistress" institutionalizes polyandry,

on the grounds that there are considerably more males than females in the population. In "Beyond This Horizon," men and women are traditionally paired off by the eugenics experts.

Taken together, Robert Heinlein's works provide something for almost any lover of science fiction. It is recommend that the curious pay a visit to the Thomas Jefferson Library on the UM-St. Louis campus and ask the helpful library staff to direct them to the respectably large collection of Heinlein's works.

Tues: Karaoke

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SPORTS

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



Allyson DeFosset

Allyson DeFosset, senior, early childhood education, again tops the list of stand out performances by a Triton in a single week. This time she set a new all-time strikeout record in a game in which she struck out 10 batters.

On the season no pitcher in the GLVC has come anywhere close to her numbers. She has struck out 217 batters and allowed only 10 earned runs in 148 innings. Her ERA of 0.47 is unmatched as the next best in the GLVC is 1.38. The only question with the rest of the season is how many times will she be the Athlete of the Week?

UPCOMING GAMES

Baseball

April 14 at SIU-Edwardsville(dh) 7 p.m.

April 16 at Kentucky W. (dh) 1 p.m.

Softball

April 14 at Central Missouri (dh) 4 p.m.

April 18 at Quincy (dh) noon

Women's Tennis

April 17 at St. Joseph's 2 p.m.

April 18 at Lewis 10 a.m.

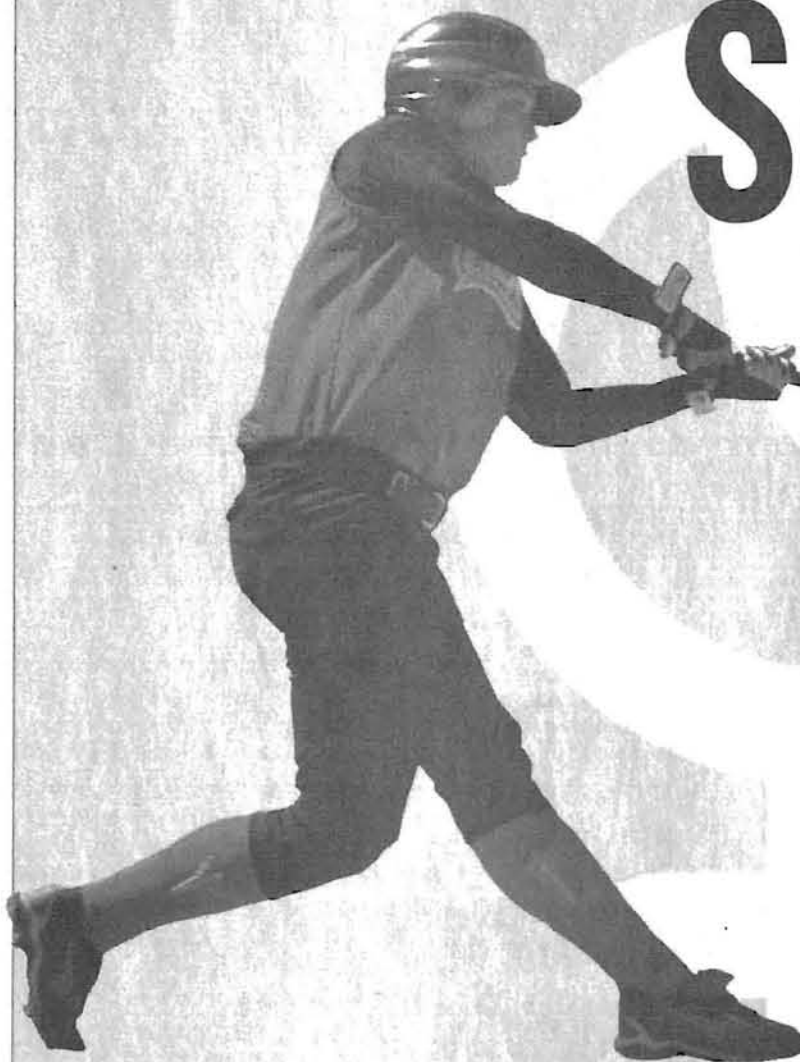
Men's Tennis

April 17 at St. Joseph's 2 p.m.

April 18 at Lewis 10 a.m.

STAFF VIEWPOINT

Battle of the Sexes



By **BRYAN GOERS**
Sports Editor

BY THE NUMBERS

Boys	vs.	Girls
9	Average rank in GLVC (spring sports)	3
9	Scoring average per round ranking in GLVC by golf teams	5
8	Homeruns hit in baseball vs. softball	22
57	Total number of wins by teams	69
.49	Win percentage of all sports	.53
9.27	Team ERA in baseball vs. softball	2.24

Photos: ABOVE LEFT: Carly Maddock, junior, criminal justice. Photo by Danny Reise-Distribution Manager.

ABOVE RIGHT: Steve Porter, senior, physical education. Photo Courtesy of UM-St. Louis Sports Information.

All stats used for this story and box current as of April 10 2009

Girls vs. boys is one of the oldest ways of dividing up teams for anything from sporting events to social occasions. Typically it is done by the boys who to try and get an advantage over the competition, the thinking is boys are superior to the girls. While most guys will try to argue that males are far superior athletes than girls the numbers from this spring seems to tell a different story.

This spring every women's team has outperformed their male counterpart, in some cases in staggering fashion. The baseball team has not been able to keep up with the success of the softball team and the women's tennis team has a much better record than the men's

tennis team. When it comes to golf there is no question that the women's team has had the better of the men's team.

Softball currently sits atop the GLVC as the best team in the conference with a 10-2 record. They are 26-13 overall on the season. Compare that with how the baseball team is doing and it is clear why softball is out-performing baseball. The baseball team is third from last in the conference, posting a record of 3-13. The other two teams that they are ahead of are 3-14 and 2-11. Overall the baseball team is 10-22. Softball has the third best pitching staff by ERA in the conference, while baseball has the lowest.

See **Sexes** page 11

Baseball

Miners take three out of four from Tritons

Still without a home field due to unexpected complications, the team is forced to play all games on the road.

By **CEDRIC WILLIAMS**
Staff Writer

The UM-St. Louis men's baseball team endured another rough week of play this week. The Tritons went 1-4 in five games this week, suffering losses to nationally ranked University of Central Missouri and Great Lakes Valley Conference rival Missouri S&T.

For the season, UM-St. Louis owns an 11-25 overall record and a 4-16 mark in conference play. The Tritons entered the week tied with Missouri S&T for fifth place in the GLVC West.

The Miners sent UM-St. Louis into the GLVC West cellar by taking three of four games in Rolla this past weekend.

Both the midweek game against the University of Central Missouri and the series against Missouri S&T

were supposed to be played at UM-St. Louis' new baseball stadium on south campus.

The rainy weather last week, forced the games to be moved the Tritons' opponents' home stadiums.

Last Wednesday, instead of hosting the University of Central Missouri, UM-St. Louis traveled to Warrensburg, MO, to take on the nation's No. 28th-ranked team. The Mules jumped all over Triton pitching that day to take home a 19-10 win.

Gurdine Acklin (2-4), junior, interdisciplinary business, took the loss on the mound, while teammate Erik Walk, junior, liberal studies, led the offense with three hits including his second homer of the season.

On Saturday, UM-St. Louis traveled to Rolla, MO, and was swept in a doubleheader by Missouri S&T, 9-2 and 13-8.

In game one, the Miners broke

open a close game with four tallies in the top of the sixth inning off starter and eventual losing pitcher Kenny Ford (0-2), junior, elementary education.

First baseman Mike Hoosen, junior, business management, was the lone bright spot for the Tritons, going three-for-three at the plate, including a 400-ft. blast in the bottom of the third, for his first home run of the season.

The game two was a seven-inning contest that had to be completed Sunday morning due to darkness of Saturday evening. In the game, UM-St. Louis rallied from a 6-1 deficit to tie the score 8-8.

Hoosen got the rally started with a two-run single in the bottom of the fourth.

The following inning was the big one for the Tritons. They sent 10 men to the plate, scoring five of them thanks to a Missouri S&T error, an

RBI hit by Ryan Davis, senior, exercise science, a bases-loaded walk by Dean Streed, junior, physical education, and a two-run single by Ryne Moleski, sophomore, media studies.

Acklin started the game, but it was Moleski (0-2) who took the mound when the game was completed Sunday morning.

The right-hander allowed five Missouri S&T runs in the final two innings to take the loss.

UM-St. Louis' season-long losing streak reached seven games when the Tritons lost game one on Sunday 8-2. Austin Schuler (0-4), freshman, media studies, went the distance, but gave up seven runs in the game's first three innings to suffer the loss.

The Tritons ended the seven-game losing streak in the final game of the weekend road trip with a 4-2 win over the Miners. Justin Rodgers, junior, physical education, gave a brilliant

effort, allowing just two runs on six hits. He struck out five in eight innings work.

Seth Cockrum, senior, accounting, pitched out of trouble in the ninth to earn his fourth save of the season.

The big blow in the game came in the bottom of the third, when designated hitter Colin O'Neal, junior, criminal justice, drilled a two-run single to right to score Steve Porter, senior, physical education, and Kenny Ford, junior, elementary education.

UM-St. Louis got its other two runs thanks to Missouri S&T fielding errors in the fourth and fifth innings.

The Tritons return to the field with three road games this week. On Tuesday, UM-St. Louis will travel to Edwardsville, to take on Division I foe Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville at the Simmons Sports Complex.

First pitch is at 7 p.m.

Do you bleed red and gold? Allyson DeFosset struck out ten batters in a game against Northern Kentucky and in doing so became UM-St. Louis' all-time strikeout leader.

Women's Tennis

Still in the race for GLVC berth

By Anna Marie Curran

Staff Writer

This weekend was an eventful one for the UM-St. Louis women's tennis team.

On Friday, the match was played inside the Sunset Tennis Center in St. Louis.

The UM-St. Louis tennis women's team, led by Pujitha Bandi, freshman, business, and Stephanie Thompson, sophomore, marketing, showed a great display of determination by winning all of their doubles matches.

In singles, Altanzul "Aya" Gombo, sophomore, accounting, took the fourth point by beating her opponent 6-2, 6-0, improving the girls' chances even further of winning the match.

Bandi and Thompson were playing their singles matches, but the Kentucky Wesleyan team would not back down and kept fighting to win.

Bandi did not finish her match, because UM-St. Louis had already won. She did take a first set win 7-5 coming back from a 2-5 score to win 5

straight games.

It was senior day Saturday for the tennis team. Both men and women teams faced an important match against Bellarmine University.

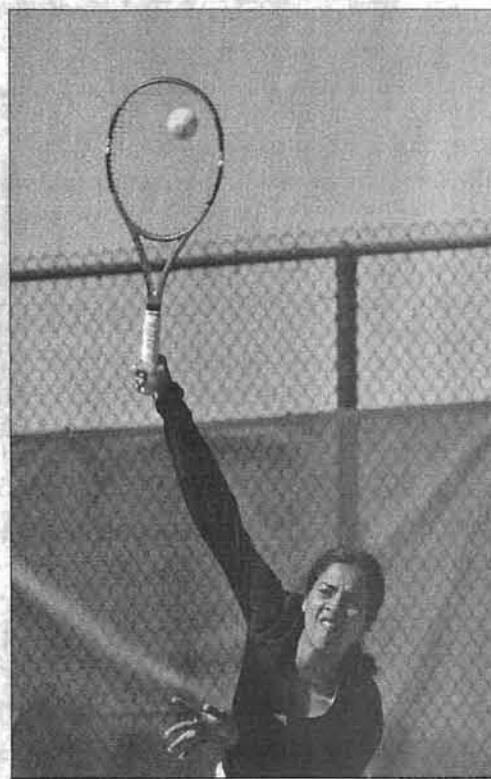
The men had a significant win while the women struggled against Bellarmine's women. Even though the women had a significant win the day before, they were unable to overcome Bellarmine's resilience on Saturday.

Doubles were played first and then followed by the singles matches. The women's team lost their first two doubles matches but the number 3 doubles, Katie Feldman, sophomore, international business, and Katie Rynkiewicz, freshman, anthropology, won 8-2.

In the singles matches, Bellarmine's women's team stayed focused on the win, and took four of the six singles matches, assuring Bellarmine's victory.

Stacy Goodman, junior, Spanish, and Adriana Garcia, senior, business marketing, both won their singles matches, contributing a point each for UM-St. Louis. The women in the top half of the team showed physical difficulties having played a tiring match just the day before.

Despite the split weekend, the UM-St. Louis women's tennis team is still in the running for a Great Lakes Valley Conference playoff berth, which will be played on April 24-25 in St. Louis. The top eight teams in the conference make the conference championship. The Tritons sit in sev-



Danny Reise • Distribution Manager

Pujitha Bandi, freshman, business, in action versus Quincy Tuesday afternoon. She went 2-1 over the previous week, her only loss coming against Bellarmine where the team lost 6-3. Bandi has been playing in the Tritons number one slot.

Men's Tennis

Dimke lifts Tritons to two game win streak

By Anthony Padgett

Staff Writer

The University of Missouri-St. Louis men's tennis had just lost a heartbreaker to Quincy University on April 3 by a score of 5-4.

The team was 1-9 overall and 0-5 in their conference, but the Tritons would not roll over and quit on the season this past week.

On Tuesday the Tritons hosted Quincy and would win their second match of the year by an impressive score of 8-1.

In doubles matches Andi Dimke, junior, international business/management, and Daniel Anthony, sophomore, management information systems, of the Tritons, won the first set 8-4.

Alex Cherman, sophomore, international business, and Peter Hantack, senior, education, of the Tritons, won the second set by a score of 8-1.

Tim Bryant, sophomore, accounting, and Maor Grinas, freshmen, international business, of the Tritons, lost the only set of the day for the

Tritons in a close set by a score of 9-7.

The Tritons would dominate the singles matches. All six Triton players, Dimke, Anthony, Hantack, Cherman, Bryant, and Grinas won their sets.

It was the first win of the season for the Tritons in the Great Lakes Valley Conference.

On Saturday, the Tritons hosted another Great Lakes Valley Conference match against Bellarmine. The Tritons continued to play outstanding tennis.

They swept all three doubles matches and won four of the six singles matches. The Tritons won the match and beat Bellarmine by a score of 7-2.

The Tritons may have started the season off with a nine game losing streak, but the last four games have been a different story, as they have won three of them.

For the season, the Tritons are 3-10 overall and 2-5 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference.

There are only four games left in the season for the Tritons, and two



Danny Reise • Distribution Manager

Peter Hantack, senior, education, seen here during Tuesdays match versus Quincy, had a good week last week as he won both singles and doubles matches that he played in.

of them are against teams in their division. There is no better time to be playing outstanding tennis than right now at the end of the season.

The Tritons will hope to continue their success when they play at the cross town opponent Washington University on Tuesday at 4:00.

SEXES, from page 10

The girls in this case also have scored the second most runs in the conference, versus the guys being near the bottom when it comes to offense.

Tennis does not quite have the same lopsided nature as baseball and softball, but the women's team is still seeing more success. The women are 4-5 in the conference and 5-7 overall.

Compare that to the men who are 1-5 in the conference and 2-10 overall and it is clear who is having the better season. The two teams have played nearly identical schedules and they are coached by the same person so the men have no excuses in this case.

While the women do not boast a player with the accomplishments of Andi Dimke, junior, international business & management, who is 19-2 this school year, they do have Pujitha Bandi, freshmen, business, who has put up an impressive 13-4 record. Advantage: Women.

Next up we have the links, which is golf terminology for golf course, for anyone unfamiliar with the term. While the men have completed their season except for the regional tournaments, the tournaments that decides who goes to nationals and who does not.

The women still have the bulk of their conference play ahead of them. That being said the best finish for the men's program was a third place finish at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside Invitational where there were six teams playing. The next best finish was the Triton's Invitational, hosted by UM-St. Louis, where the team finished fifth out of seven.

If one wants to look at the best finish by the number of teams beat, as opposed to what place the team finished they best finish would be in Springfield, MO where the Tritons finished sixth out of 12.

The women golfers on the other hand, found their stoke this spring with a first place finish and two second place finished.

The first place finish came at the Gate-

way Championship where they beat eight other schools for the top spot.

One of the second place finishes came during a head to head match but the other came out of 10 total teams. The women's team sits fifth in the conference for average round totals, compared to the men sitting in second to last.

On the individuals side no Triton golfers make the top 10 in scoring average on the men's side and two make the list on the women's side.

This spring has brought a lot of success to the women's sports here at UM-St. Louis.

When adding up all of the wins the women have 32 wins between three sports.

The men have 12 between three sports. (Wins also include first place finishes in golf.) The average place in the GLVC that the women's teams sit at is about third, versus the average place the men sit being about ninth.

The success that the women are hav-

Records by team

Women's Sports:

- Soccer (6-11-1)
Volleyball (23-8)
Basketball (7-21)
Softball (30-13)
Tennis (5-8)
Golf (2 1st place finishes)

Men's Sports:

- Soccer (6-10-2)
Basketball (14-13)
Baseball (11-25)
Tennis (3-10)
Golf (no 1st place finishes)
Hockey (25-5)

All records current as of 4/12/09

STATS CORNER

SOFTBALL

Table with 3 columns: Team, Conf. (W-L), Overall (W-L). Lists teams like UM - St. Louis, Quincy, Indianapolis, Lewis, St. Joseph's, UW-Parkside with their records.

Box Scores

Table with 4 columns: Date, Team, Runs, Hits, Errors. Shows scores for April 8 and April 11.

Table with 4 columns: Date, Team, Runs, Hits, Errors. Shows scores for April 11.

Table with 4 columns: Date, Team, Runs, Hits, Errors. Shows scores for April 11.

Table with 4 columns: Date, Team, Runs, Hits, Errors. Shows scores for April 11.

Table with 4 columns: Date, Team, Runs, Hits, Errors. Shows scores for April 12.

Table with 4 columns: Date, Team, Runs, Hits, Errors. Shows scores for April 12.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

Table with 3 columns: Team, Conf. (W-L), Overall (W-L). Lists teams like Drury, N Kentucky, Rockhurst, Bellarmine, Indianapolis, UM - St. Louis.

Box Scores

Table with 4 columns: Date, Team, Total. Shows scores for April 7.

- 1. Pujitha Bandi, won 6-2, 6-0
2. Stephanie Thompson, won 6-1, 6-1
3. Altanzul Gombo, won 6-1, 6-1
4. Leticia Garcia, lost 4-6, 2-6
5. Katie Rynkiewicz, lost 2-6, 6-7(4-10)
6. Stacy Goodman, won, 6-1, 6-4 (Doubles)
won, 8-2, won, 8-4, lost, 8-9(5-10)

Table with 4 columns: Date, Team, Total. Shows scores for April 10.

- 1. Pujitha Bandi, won 7-5, unfinished
2. Stephanie Thompson, won 6-1, 6-2
3. Altanzul Gombo, won 6-2, 6-0
4. Leticia Garcia, won 1-0, unfinished (Doubles)
won, 8-1, won, 8-4, won, 8-4

Table with 4 columns: Date, Team, Total. Shows scores for April 11.

- 1. Pujitha Bandi, lost 1-6, 0-6
2. Stephanie Thompson, lost 6-7(3-10), 3-6
3. Altanzul Gombo, lost 1-6, 5-7
4. Leticia Garcia, lost 1-6, 1-6
5. Adriana Garcia, won 6-2, 6-1
6. Stacy Goodman, won, 8-4 (Doubles)
lost, 3-8, lost, 1-8(3-7), won, 8-2

Current as of 4/12/09

BASEBALL

Table with 3 columns: Team, Conf. (W-L), Overall (W-L). Lists teams like Rockhurst, Southern Indiana, Missouri S&T, Quincy, Drury, UM - St. Louis.

Box Scores

Table with 4 columns: Date, Team, Runs, Hits, Errors. Shows scores for April 8.

Table with 4 columns: Date, Team, Runs, Hits, Errors. Shows scores for April 11.

Table with 4 columns: Date, Team, Runs, Hits, Errors. Shows scores for April 11.

Table with 4 columns: Date, Team, Runs, Hits, Errors. Shows scores for April 12.

Table with 4 columns: Date, Team, Runs, Hits, Errors. Shows scores for April 12.

Current as of 4/12/09

MEN'S TENNIS

Table with 3 columns: Team, Conf. (W-L), Overall (W-L). Lists teams like Drury, Rockhurst, N. Kentucky, Indianapolis, Bellarmine, UM - St. Louis.

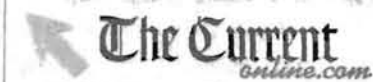
Box Scores

Table with 4 columns: Date, Team, Total. Shows scores for April 7.

- 1. Andi Dimke, won 6-0, 6-2
2. Daniel Anthony, won 6-0, 6-2
3. Peter Hantack, won 6-4, 6-4
4. Alex Cherman, won 6-1, 6-3
5. Tim Bryant, won 4-6, 6-4, 10-7
6. Maor Grinas, won, 6-5, 6-1 (Doubles)
won, 8-4, won, 8-1, lost, 7-9

Table with 4 columns: Date, Team, Total. Shows scores for April 11.

- 1. Andi Dimke, won 6-3, 6-2
2. Daniel Anthony, won 6-4, 6-3
3. Peter Hantack, won 6-2, 6-2
4. Alex Cherman, won 6-4, 6-3
5. Tim Bryant, lost 6-7, 4-6
6. Maor Grinas, lost, 3-6, 0-6 (Doubles)
won, 8-4, won, 8-6, won, 8-6



Check out all the stats from this season, more sports stories and more pictures online at www.thecurrentonline.com. Then click on sports. Also sign to get new sports stories sent to your email.

Current as of 4/12/09

SPORTS BRIEFS

Softball

The University of Missouri-St. Louis softball team went undefeated last week a nearly did not give up a run as well.

The Tritons played Missouri S&T early in the week and went into extra innings in the first game before pulling out a 4-3 victory. The second game against the Miners was hardly that as the Tritons won 6-0.

The team then faced off against Bellarmine on Saturday and won both games of the double header 3-0 and 3-0. The second game was suspended due to darkness and picked up on Sunday.

On Sunday the team also played Northern Kentucky twice and came away with two more wins: 2-0 and 2-0.

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Local universities establish Nanotech Institute

By **BEN GEMIGNANI**
Staff Writer

University of Missouri-St. Louis, Washington University, St. Louis University, and St. Louis Community College are pooling their efforts to form the St. Louis Institute of Nanomedicine. Their mission: to research potential medical uses for nanotechnology.

In a news release by the Washington University School of Medicine, Samuel Wickline, MD., the man in charge of the Siteman Center of Cancer Nanotechnology Excellence said, "The institute will assemble a broad base of regional expertise in nanotechnology, medicine, technology transfer and education to create novel solutions to complex health-care problems.

It will be an inclusive, open network that will cultivate research and improve the ability to translate scientific discoveries into practical applications."

The news release goes on to state that the institute's goals are "the development and evaluation of new nanotechnologies for health care, the facilitation of commercialization and testing in patients, and the education of a new workforce and of the public at large."

Each of the participating organizations has its representatives in the Institute. From UM-St. Louis: Jingyue Liu, Ph.D., professor of physics and chemistry and director of the Center for Nanoscience, Washington University: the aforementioned Wickline and Dong Qin, Ph.D. and associate dean for re-

search in the Department of Energy, Environment and Chemical Engineering, St. Louis University will be contributing Maulik R. Shah, M.D., Ph.D., assistant professor of pediatrics in the Division of Medical Genetics at Saint Louis University Cancer Center, and the St. Louis Community College system will be represented by Richard J. Norris, Ph.D., director of Plant and Life Sciences.

Funding for the Institute presently comes from the Missouri Life Sciences Research Fund, created as part of the 1998 state tobacco settlement. The Missouri General Assembly allocated \$13.4 million to the Fund in 2007 and 2008, of which \$1.5 million goes to the Institute. There are plans for securing other sources in the future, which were not disclosed. The Institute will be located on the campus of the Washington University School of Medicine in the Central West End, possibly in the building now entering its final stages of construction near the Central West End Metro-Link station.

Nanotechnology in a general sense is nothing particularly new, but it nevertheless remains a growing, developing field. The term derives from the Greek words meaning "dwarf", and "technology" and generally refers to the manipulation of matter on the nanometric (1/1,000,000,000th of a meter or 3.93700787 x 10⁻⁸ inches) scale; for comparison, a human hair is around 10,000 nanometers thick. The period at the end of this sentence is estimated to be large enough to cover

some thousands of nanostructures. Someone in orbit would have an easier time examining individual grains of sand on the beach than the zillions of nanoparticles literally under his nose.

The possibilities for the technology almost seem limitless, even after twenty years or so of fiction authors and screenwriters using them as plot devices (most famously Star Trek and its faction of cybernetically-enhanced, nanomachine-infested Borg). Speculation—some of it more plausible, some less, collected over the years from conversations and publications alike—charges these very, very, very small machines with tasks like tissue repair, monitoring, imaging, drug dispensing, precision surgery, and in the most exotic cases, even replacing neural tissue to attain a sort of technologically-assisted immortality.

Also in the public psyche are concerns about the possible side effects and implications of this technology, as well as ethical unease. Nanowerk.com, in an April 16, 2007 article, tells about fears of health complications, while some sci-fi plays up microscopic killing machines that may or may not convert the whole planet into indistinct grey goo with Von Neumann-esque programming (this last illustrated on a macroscopic level in the recent remake of *The Day The Earth Stood Still*), while the parties in charge are left unchecked. One interviewee expressed concern for the fate of those who are dependant on the technology, should we ever lose the energy to use it.

EMPIRE from page 6

As the Bill of Rights states, it is not illegal to take land for public use if the owner is compensated justly, but even Rendon is not protesting how much he was paid for the property.

"We did not want the money and we did not want to leave," Rendon said. "We just kept saying 'no' to all of the offers and then it went to the courts but our lawyer did not show up to argue that the taking of our land was for private profit and not for the public. Therefore, the case was awarded to [the University]."

Rendon's point is this: since the University used eminent domain to obtain his land and then leased it to a private company they were exploiting the law. He believes that taking his land to help a private company profit does not count as 'public good.'

"It all depends on your definition of what public good is," said Samples. "The University was already moving in that direction, and had been legally acquiring land since the early 1990's...by allowing [Express Scripts] to develop on University property (a project supported by the

Governor) we were able to keep a company in St. Louis that has been growing in a recession, that has created 2500 jobs, promotes diversity, donated money to the University, and creates internships for our students."

As Samples repeatedly pointed out, the process of obtaining Rendon's land was carried out legally according to the courts.

"But that property does not belong to all of us, to the public," said Rendon "when I was passing out flyers at Express Scripts a guard told me I couldn't because it was private property."

Glassberg shed some light on whether or not this is legal under eminent domain laws in the United States.

"A few years ago there was a major Supreme Court case, Kelo v. City of New London, CT, where the court decided 5-4 that it was legal to take private land for economic development under the Fifth Amendment clause," he said.

"The case really crystallized the issue and many states put modest restrictions on using eminent do-

main for economic development because the ruling caused a lot of controversy. In Missouri there are restrictions, but they don't prevent it from happening."

Rendon, Samples, and the University all have solid reasons for their beliefs, and may never be swayed in the opposite direction.

"It's a philosophical debate," said Samples. "Some people just don't believe in eminent domain, everyone has their own definition of a public good, and the University felt that Express Scripts was a public good."

As for Rendon, he plans to bring his son and possibly his mother on another Express Scripts camping trip soon. He hopes to get arrested as many times as it takes for him to be brought back to court and continue to argue for his rights as a U.S. citizen.

"There are many families in Missouri like mine," he wrote, "Families who have worked hard for what they have only to be told their homes are 'in the way of progress.' That method of development must end."

HEINLEIN from page 8

"Starship Troopers" had a couple different races with which to contend. Most characters are humans and most aliens are at the "exotic pet" level. Time travel is another Heinlein favorite. Sometimes it is a case of the subject being frozen, either cryogenically or actual space/time stasis.

"Time For The Stars" dilates time and space so that a year to people exploring the galaxy adds up to several decades to everybody else. It's rare, but not unheard of, for a character to go backwards in time. And in the later books in the Lazarus Long series, they invent

inter-dimensional travel and times and spaces become free for the roaming.

Finally, there is Heinlein's tendency to build odd family structures. On more than one occasion, we meet couples that seem to be around the same age only to find that one or the other of them was actually born decades or even centuries before. They might also be related.

One time-dilated protagonist ended up marrying his twin brother's great-great-grand-niece or some such. "The Moon Is a Harsh Mistress" institutionalizes

polyandry, on the grounds that there are considerably more males than females in the population. In "Beyond This Horizon," men and women are traditionally paired off by the eugenics experts.

Taken together, Robert Heinlein's works provide something for almost any lover of science fiction.

It is recommend that the curious pay a visit to the Thomas Jefferson Library on the UM-St. Louis campus and ask the helpful library staff to direct them to the respectably large collection of Heinlein's works.

MACBETH from page 8

To add dramatic effects, the crew had the stage covered in white, during the battle scenes, and then brightly colored tapestry which, with the skill of the lighting technicians, provided the perfect backdrops for the cast and seemed to enlarge their stage presence.

The highlights of the play included the final battle scene between MacDuff and Macbeth which had the perfect length, intensity, and action to make the scene exciting to watch and believable. Most of the crowd seemed to agree with this because most were perched on the edge of their seats waiting for the final blow. That final blow had clever execution behind the curtain, perfect lighting,

enlarged the shadows of Macbeth, and MacDuff. This made the scene more memorable.

Another highlight of the play was murder of Lady MacDuff and her young child. Her screams and pleas to be spared because of her and her child's innocence, and the brutal snapping of her child's neck could be heard throughout Lee Theater brought pitiful moans from the crowd.

The last highlight of the play, which was not the least by far, was the scene where Macduff learn of the death of his family. His agonizing cry while he was on bended knee scattered a silence throughout the theater. While the realization of his loss sank into his mind, his pain

sunk into the audience.

The production of the play did have a few shortcomings. One was when Banquo was murdered. Although he was taken by surprise, the quickness of the battle scene, and his overly dramatic death detracted from the scene as a whole.

Overall, the University theater department's production of "Macbeth" did something anyone in the industry would admit is quite hard to do: they did Shakespeare. In addition to that, they did one of his most famed plays justice by placing the audience directly into the acts of the play. It was an invitation to Europe and a chance to be brought into one of the most well known stories around the world.

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Are you a student?

I have a research project I need help with.

The project is this. I need a few carefree (you *must* be carefree), independent students to help me find one professor who will attempt to answer one question about a specific historical issue. The question is: "Can you provide, with proof, the name of one person killed in a gas chamber at Auschwitz?"

Will you help me find a professor on your campus who will attempt to answer this question? Will you keep me advised of your progress? I can be reached at bradley1930@yahoo.com

I understand that the question will be considered controversial by some academics and students alike. You may be charged with "challenging authority," but it is not illegal to challenge authority on a university campus in a free society. You may have been told that it is "morally wrong" to ask this question. Do you think it is? Tell me why.

If you can find the one professor I am looking for, I'll owe you a beer. At the very least.

Bradley R. Smith, Founder
Committee for Open Debate on the Holocaust www.codoh.com

EARTH DAY from page 5

The official St. Louis Earth Day Festival takes place April 26 in Forest Park from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the grounds in front of the Muny. The festival, which is now the oldest in the Midwest, does feature parades and recycling events along with product booths, but also involves ongoing recycling programs. A symposium on local government and the environment does not take place until November. You can learn more about that the website <http://www.stlouisearthday.org>.

Other Earth Day linked events include a Forest Park clean up action, "Forest Park Operation Wild Lands Project," sponsored by the Open Space Council on April 26, Eco-Art Exhibit and Green Living Expo at St. Louis Community College opening April 18, the "Loyal Earth Fest" at the Old Rock House downtown,

a green living event with music, on April 16.

Specifics on St. Louis events on Earth Day itself, April 22, are still sparse, but an UM-St. Louis scholar is participating in the Missouri Energy Summit on April 22-23 in Columbia, MO.

Lea-Rachel Kosnik, assistant professor of economics, will give a talk titled "Small Hydropower's Potential in the Fight Against Global Warming," at 10 a.m. on April 23. The event's keynote speaker, T. Boone Pickens, an advocate of wind power, speaks on April 22 at 12:15. His talk will be webcast live. The Missouri Energy Summit website www.umssystem.edu/summits has more details.

What matters is that we take responsibility for the impact of our actions on Mother Earth.

GOMORRA from page 8

It takes a while for the different pieces in the story to connect. The film picks up steam with a vengeance, exploring the tentacles of power and violence it entails. A realistic approach makes the violence more chilling, while the whole film picks up elements from both "The Sopranos" and "The Godfather" movies. It makes perfect sense that Martin Scorsese is credited as a producer on

director Matteo Garrone's film. If you like mob and crime movies that offer realism over Hollywood high style and good story over formula, "Gomorra" is worth your time. It is as fascinating look at modern day organized crime in Italy beyond the Sicilian mob iconography. "Gomorra" is now showing exclusively at the Tivoli Theatre, at least through Thursday.

JOB FAIR from page 6

She added, "It gives me the opportunity to meet and greet employers before applying for the job. I am currently employed but I would like a change in careers."

At the RFT booth, people had a chance to get a prize such as a five-dollar Simply Thai restaurant coupon. Students could play a roulette game to get a prize as well as they received the RFT's information.

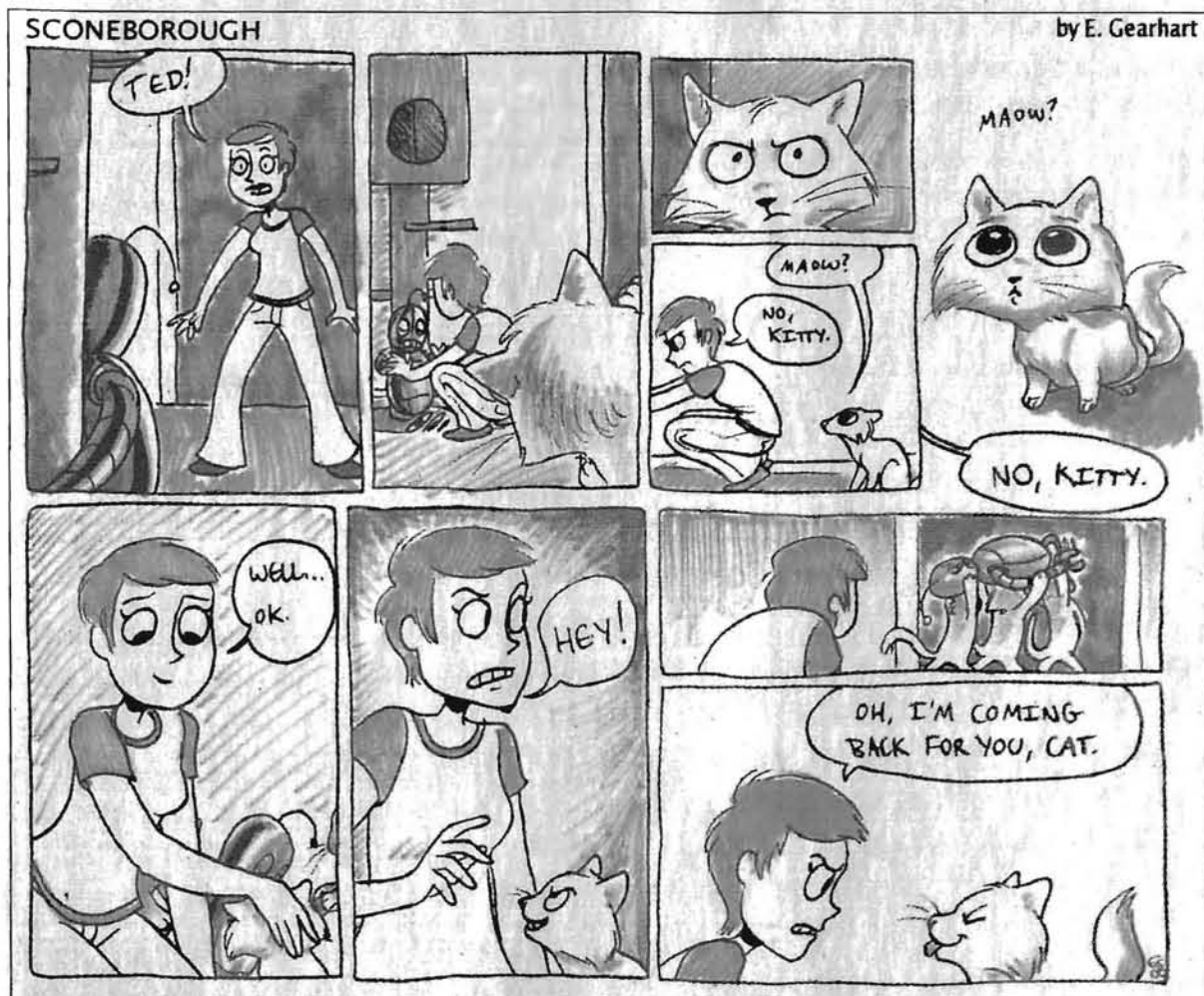
BASEBALL from page 11

Then on Thursday, the Tritons will travel to Owensboro, KY, to play a doubleheader against GLVC foe Kentucky Wesleyan.

UM-St. Louis' next home contest is scheduled for next Wednesday, April 22, when the Tritons host another GLVC rival Wisconsin-Parkside for a doubleheader. The game's are tentatively scheduled to be played at the new baseball stadium, but could be moved if weather and field condition problems persist.

Go online to thecurrentonline.com to comment on any story and read comments by others.

CURRENT CARTOONISTS



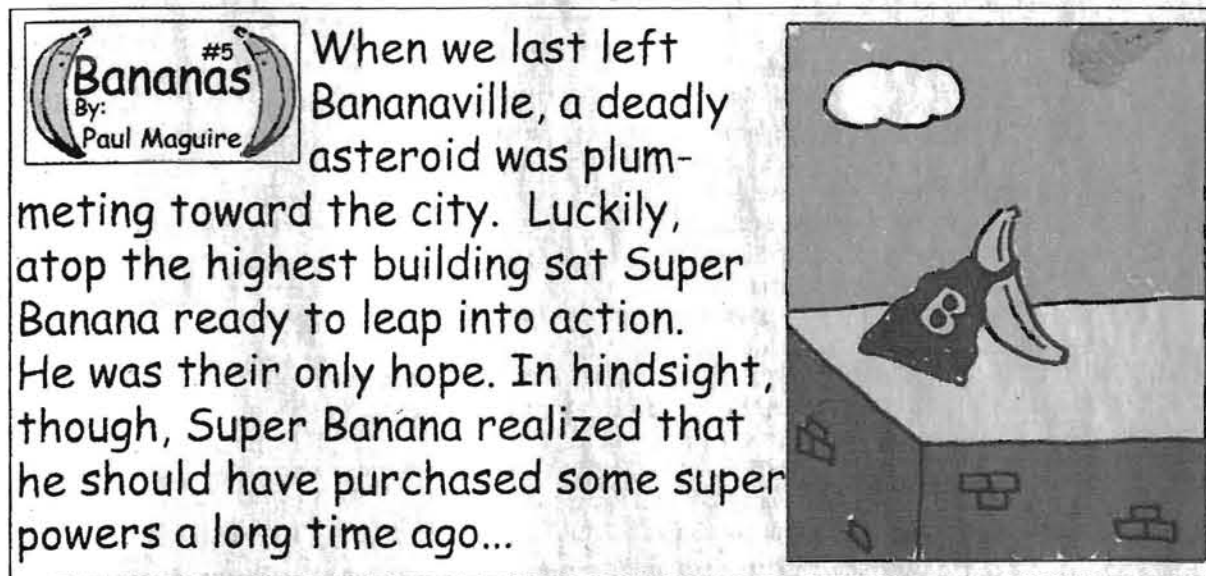
"Sconeborough" is drawn by Current cartoonist Elizabeth Gearhart



"Margaret & Hooray" is drawn by Current cartoonist Cody Perkins



"Perm Spawn" is drawn by Current cartoonist Caleb True

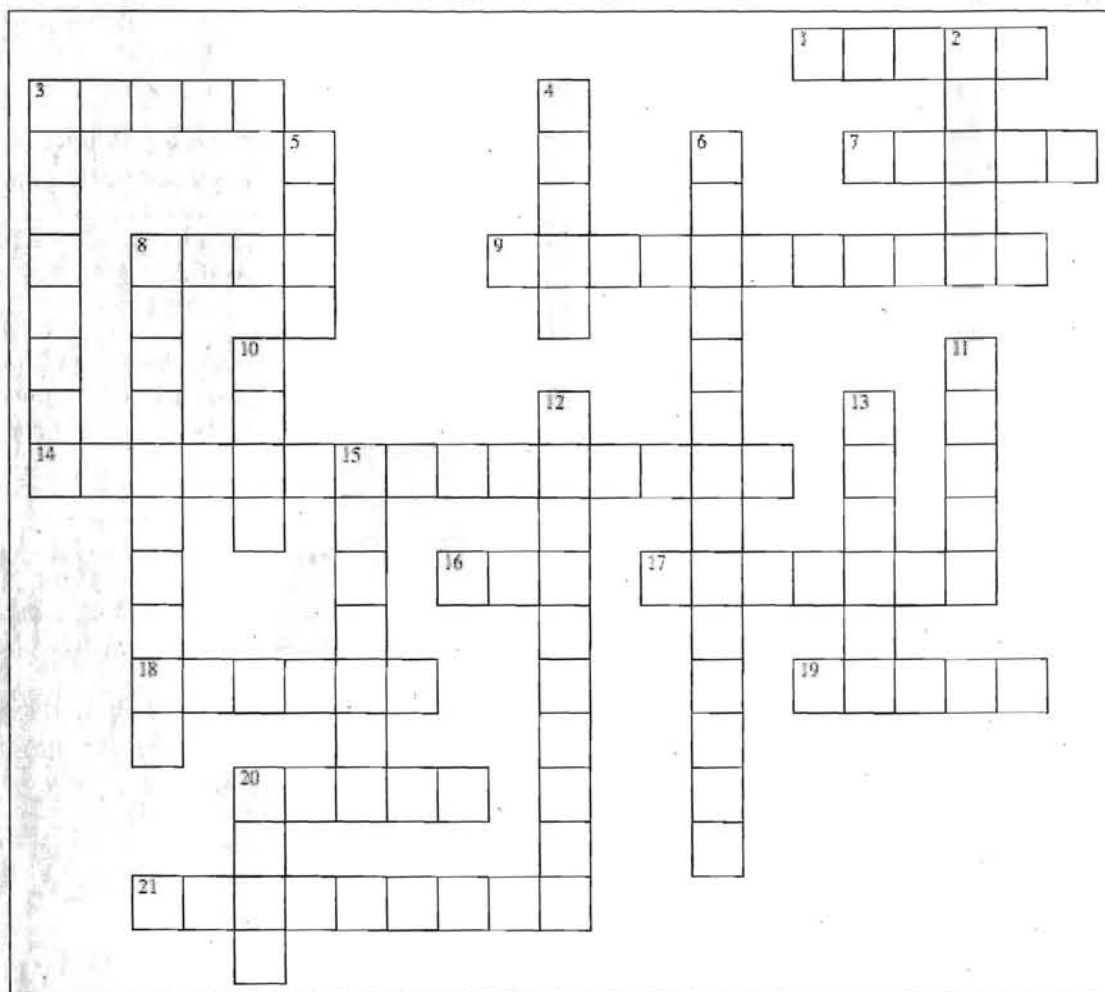


"Bananas" is drawn by Current cartoonist Paul Maguire

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CURRENT CROSSWORD

Easter / Passover



ACROSS

1. Traditional Jewish meal
3. Marshmallow-y treats one is likely to eat
7. Land Israelites escaped from in original passover
8. Catholic holiday preceding Easter
9. Location (city) of famous Easter Parade
14. Original ecclesiastic name for Easter
16. Favored jelly bean color according to polls
17. Country where 'Easter Bunny' legend first originated (hint: Europe)
18. Hebrew and biblical text that tells of first passover
19. Historical religious figure at center of Easter
20. Traditional passover dish
24. Original focus of worship of Spring rituals

DOWN

2. Country where origin of spring egg decorating originated long before Christianity (Hint: Africa)
3. Jewish holiday that leads up to Easter
4. Hebrew patriarch who carried out first Passover
5. Object seen in great number and variety at annual Easter parade
6. The ultimate Easter sweet (Hint: cocoa mammal)
8. Much discussed (and painted) biblical Passover meal
10. According to polls, preferred part of chocolate bunny to begin eating
11. Furry Easter symbol
12. Holy day three days before weekend
13. "Easter _____"; 1948 film with Fred Astaire and Judy Garland
15. Traditional Sunday game
23. First two people (they share a name) to see risen Jesus according to Biblical tradition

CURRENT CRYPTOGRAM

Find the original meaning of the message below. Each letter shown stands for another letter. Break the code for the letter A, you will have all of the As in the message, and so on.

DYGZGDFRZ, VHF
 DLZDUOEFVGDRE
 OGQR FYR OGV

The first student, faculty or staff member to bring the solution (along with who said it) to *The Current's* office will receive a free Current T-shirt!

CURRENT SUDOKU

		3		1	5			2
		7	4	3	2	5		6
							1	
					4			3
	4		9	5	3		7	
8			1					
	1							
6		8	3	4	1	9		
3			2	8		1		

Difficulty: ★★★ (Hard)

ENERGY, from page 1

On Thursday, the summit will begin with a speech from Robert K. Dixon, a leader of Climate Change and Chemicals team at the Global Environment Facility. UM System President Gary D. Forsee is also scheduled to introduce the governor followed by an address from Governor Jay Nixon. At 8:45 a.m., presenters are scheduled to preface the poster sessions and learning "tracks" designed to inform and instruct attendees on various subjects concerning energy. Richard Sayre, the director of Enterprise Rent-A-Car Institute for Renewable Fuels will be speaking on behalf of the Donald Danforth Center.

Robert Duncan, vice chancellor

for research and physics professor at the University of Missouri-Columbia will be speaking on Prospects for Discovery of New Energy Science

Following these speeches, the Concurrent Tracks series will begin to educate individuals on more specialized topics, including transportation fuels and materials for energy applications. Following the Concurrent Tracks series, discussions will include a faculty researcher, a state or federal agency representative, venture capitalist, and industry representative. These "breakout panels" will cover topics such as clean coal, nuclear energy, and infrastructure development. One of the features of this event will be a live web cast,

where individuals who cannot make the event but would still like to learn can watch the keynote addresses and speeches. There will also be podcasts for those who just want to listen in.

In order to have access to all the amenities of the program including the Thursday events and meals, a registration fee must be paid in advance. Student registrations have already reached maximum capacity. The registration fee for the two-day event is 25 dollars. After April 15, any fees paid will be non-refundable.

The abstracts and literature will also be available for purchase at 15 dollars. Any person interested in going can register at www.umsystem.edu/summits/energy2009.

SCIENCE, from page 1

"Hydrogen Gas Production from Immobilized Chlamydomonas reinhardtii," by John Wyatt Walls, a junior at South Pemiscot High School, in Steele, won second place.

Microbiology and Medicine first place went to Bridget Waller, a senior at Cor Jesu Academy in St. Louis County, for "Cloning and Expression of a Putative Non-Specific Phospholipase C in Arabidopsis (PLC523)."

Sonia Rao, another junior from Camdenton High School, took second place for "The Effect of Elevated Temperature on Quorum Sensing and Biofilm Formation in Pseudomonas aeruginosa."

The annual symposium gives in-

vited high school scientists a chance to tour the university, visit science and technology businesses in St. Louis and hear lectures from scientists, engineers and other professionals in the area.

Winners have the opportunity to advance to the national Junior Science, Engineering and Humanities Symposium competition April 29 to May 3 in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Although the symposium takes place on the UM-St. Louis campus, the University is one of several sponsoring organizations. Other sponsors include a number of local engineering and applied science entities and military government

agencies in the St. Louis. Among them are Academy of Applied Sciences, Genome Sequencing Center at Washington University in St. Louis and Missouri Department of Education.

Business and related sponsoring organizations include Alberici Corporation, Donald Danforth Plant Science Center, Missouri American Water Co., Monsanto Company & Foundation, Sigma-Aldrich Co. and Solutia Inc.

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hosted by

The Current

will take place on April 15 at 12:30.

The Debates will take place in The Current office: 388 MSC