

NOV. 9, 2009 WWW.THECURRENTONLINE.COM

The Current

ROCK FOR DARFUR

PAGE 14-15



The fight for North St. Louis

► BRIDGET RYDER
Staff Writer

North St. Louis evokes a variety of images, from the malts and shakes of the ever-popular Crown Candy to the terror of abandoned buildings and gangs roaming the streets.

It was once a hub of business and employment inhabited by a culturally diverse community.

The areas comprising the neighborhoods just north of downtown St. Louis felt some of the worst effects of the "white flight" that decimated the city of St. Louis after World War II.

Having lost much of its housing stock and employment base, the area was officially declared blighted decades ago. However, the recent efforts

of one developer have been the subject of much city-wide discussion.

Paul McKee has bought some 900 properties in north St. Louis since 1999. Earlier this year, McKee revealed his intentions for not just his considerable amount of property, but over 1,000 acres of North St. Louis.

He calls it the "North Side Regeneration Project," a comprehensive redevelopment plan that includes new housing, parks, sewers, a power grid, and four "job centers" or large business complexes designed to attract large corporations to North St. Louis.

See DEVELOPER, page 5

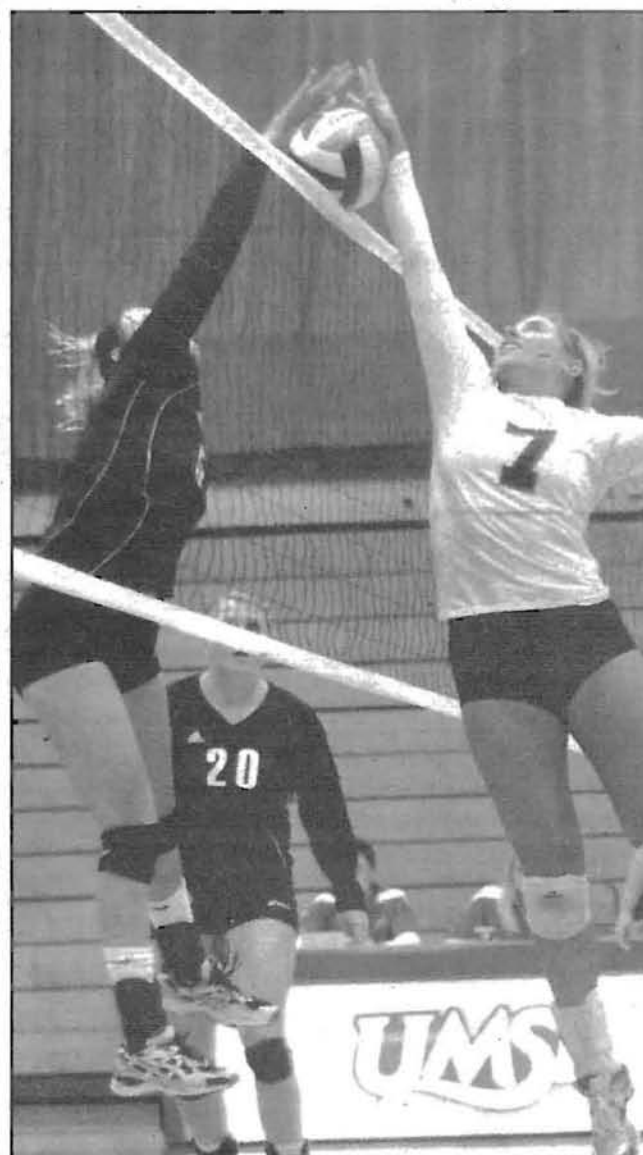
WHAT'S INSIDE



Confused 'Fourth Kind' tries to be innovative, but ultimately fails miserably See A&E, page 17

Drowning in debt?

The average college debt for a bachelor's degree is roughly \$12,000, according to the College Board. Read how students can avoid these debts. See News, page 3



Tritons triumph

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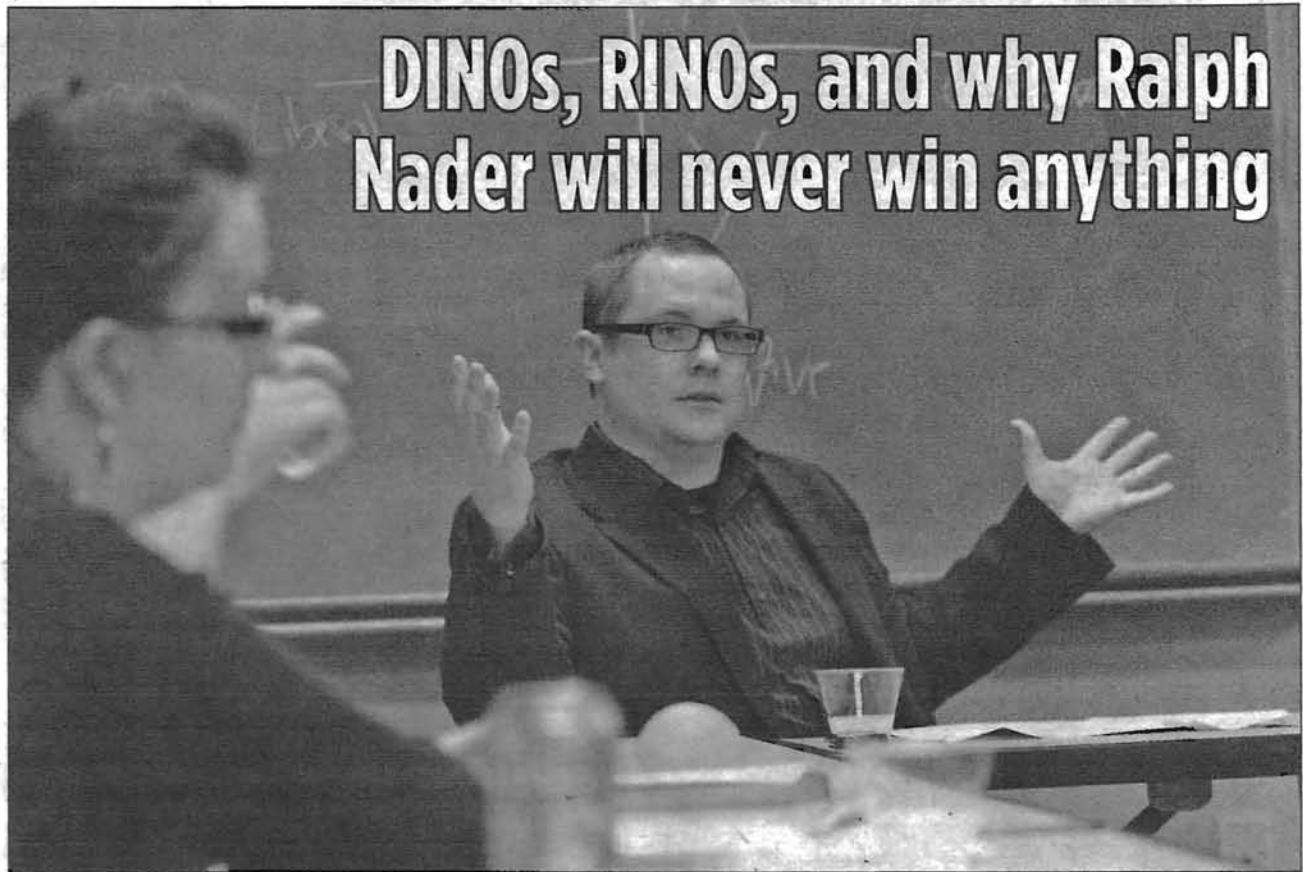


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SOFI SECK / THE CURRENT

Brian Fogarty, Professor of Political Science lead the debate over conservative democrats in converse in last Wednesday's News At Noon. He spoke of the "DINOs" (Democrats in name only) and "RINOs" (Republicans in name only).

'News at Noon' debates democratic strategies

► **CHRIS STEWART**
Asst. Design Editor

Political science professor Brian Fogarty must have a taste for danger. Two weeks ago the "News at Noon" event hosted by professor of economics Susan Feigenbaum proved that the debate over America's partisanship as revealed through the current proposed Health Care reform bill is as combustible as ever. That particular "News at Noon" event quickly condensed from a polite open forum to a breakneck paced one-on-one between Feigenbaum and Dr. Joyce Mushaben, a political science professor who sat in on the event.

The fact that the two powerhouses of knowledge dominated the debate did not seem to bother the rest of the participants; most seemed riveted. The following week saw the highest number of participants yet this semester, causing the event to move to a larger room. On Wednesday, the final "News at Noon" of the semester saw Professor Fogarty dar-

ing to return to topics of partisanship and even brushing on the health care debate.

"The Rise in DINOs (Democrats in Name Only): Conservative Democrats in Congress" was centered on a New York Times article (the corporation sponsors the weekly events, providing food and guest speakers among other things) that discussed the difficulties faced by the White House at the hands of conservative congressional democrats who have joined the voice of opposition to the health care bill.

"You would think that with the majority they have, the Democrats would be able to send through any bill they like" Fogarty said. Fogarty went on to explain how the party's desperate tactics in the last election cycle had them seeking out moderate candidates as they strove to take power back from the Bush era congress which was Republican.

These tactics got the Democrats in, but are now coming back to haunt them as they deal with a party with a much

wider range in terms of policy leanings among its members.

After his opening remarks, Fogarty opened the floor for discussion, prompting this with questions.

"What is a Democrat? What do you think of when you hear that word?" came the first discussion-starter, a hint at the kinds of fundamental topics being broached. Fogarty was clearly thinking big.

The Millennium Student Center's meeting room was the location once again for the event, which saw its usual participants—two or three representatives each from Student Life and *The Current*, and a handful of students, alumni and faculty members. There was a balance of participation as different attendees gave their thoughts on the success (or lack thereof) of the Democrats' strategy, and how it compared to the Republican Party's recent move in the opposite direction: trimming the fat and running out moderate members in favor of core conservatives.

WEATHER

MON. 73	TUES. 60	WED. 59	THURS. 57	FRI. 61	SAT. 54	SUN. 60
54	42	39	44	49	46	44

How to beat college debts

► BRIDGET RYDER
Staff Writer

College and scholarships are two words usually uttered together, but with the average college debt for a bachelor's degree at roughly \$12,000 according to the College Board, most students do not have enough scholarships to cover the cost of attending college.

Joe McPeak, senior, business administration, said he expects to graduate with about \$25,000 in school loans.

He originally started at the University of Missouri-St. Louis six years ago in the Honors College with a \$2,500 per semester scholarship. After two years at the Honors College, McPeak took a year off school.

When returned to UM-St. Louis he did not apply for scholarships because his grade point average had slipped below a 3.2, so he figured he would not qualify. Currently, his financial aid consists of a \$1,500 grant and student loans.

"I didn't know how to go about it. I have a friend who pays for college; he goes around and gets all these scholarships. I am the first person in my family to go to college, so I didn't really have a lot of guidance in that area," McPeak said.

He plans to pay off his student loans over the summer by his work for College Works Painting, an internship organization. Anthony

Georges, director of Student Financial Aid said that it is important for families to understand the financial aid process.

"No one can guarantee you that you will get a scholarship. But if I did all that, I would know when I put my head on my pillow at night that I had done all I could," Georges said.

However, due to the relatively lower tuition at public colleges compared with private colleges, attending a public university even without a scholarship can sometimes still be a feasible option. According to the College Board, the average annual cost of a private four year college is just over \$26,000 and \$7,000 for a public college.

Despite the higher cost of private colleges, Kelly Small, freshman, business, said that because she received scholarships from private colleges but did not receive a scholarship from UM-St. Louis, the cost of attendance was about the same.

"When other schools gave scholarships, it brought the tuition down to that of UMStL" Small said.

Missouri state public colleges and universities have also entered into an agreement with the Missouri Department of Higher Education not to raise tuition as long as state funding is frozen.

According to the UM-St. Louis website, in 2008 UM-St. Louis awarded \$36,119,972 in financial aid

HOW TO FIND FINANCIAL AID

1. Fill out the FAFSA by April 1 in order to be able to qualify for state aid
2. Begin looking for scholarships. The first place to start is the scholarship office of the college to find out how to apply for scholarships.
3. Ask the department of one's major what scholarships they offer.
4. Use scholarship search Web sites such as Fastweb.com.
5. Check free community newspapers such as the Suburban Journals, which usually have advertisements for scholarships from private organizations in the spring.
6. Ask all the organizations you belong to if they have give out a scholarship.

and scholarships.

Jason Bornhop, director of scholarships, said that he receives an estimated 4000-5000 scholarship applications a year, which is approximately 25-30 percent of the annual number of applicants to UM-St. Louis.

For those hoping to receive a scholarship, "Apply early and often," Bornhop said.

Winter Intersession

January 4-16, 2010

earn 3 credit hours
in 2 weeks



CORRECTIONS

The Current regrets that sometimes in the 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.

In the Nov. 3 issue of The Current, in the standalone on page 1, Christopher Schaefer's name was incorrectly spelled as "Christopher Shafur" and his academic level and major were incorrectly cited. Schaefer is a sophomore in international business.

Let us know of any corrections that need to be made. E-mail us at thecurrenttips@umsl.edu or drop by 388 MSC.

The Current. Better than that other weekly UMSL paper.

ce.umsl.edu/wi

Statshot

UNDERCURRENT by Michelle Kaufman

Chartwells is the local food provider here at UM-St. Louis.
What do you think of the prices at Chartwells in the Nosh?



"I think they're a little bit expensive. But I think they know we're gonna eat the food and so why not hike the prices up."

Kenyatia Eddy
 Communications Senior



"The prices are not good. Too high for the quality of food. The food is not delicious."

Guang yao Shan
 International Business Junior



"Some stuff have reasonable prices, but they should definitely consider lowering prices on certain items, we are all students on a budget here."

Francina Santana
 Social Work Sophomore

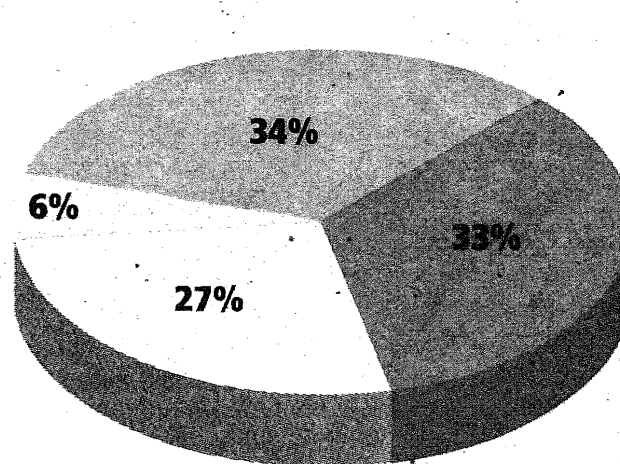


"They seem fair enough to me."

Nathan Haley
 Biochemistry/Biotechnology Senior

POLL

What are your thoughts on Mark McGwire returning to baseball?



- Big mac is back, great!
- Retired players should stay retired?
- I miss Tony Larussa!
- Why do i care?

This week:

What do you think of the smoking ban?

Answer at www.thecurrentonline.com

CRIMELINE

Stolen Auto - Kathy J. Weinman Parking Lot on South Campus

Sometime between 11:00 AM and 7:00 PM the victim's 1999 Jeep Cherokee blue in color with Ill License plates was stolen from the parking lot. There was no broken glass or items left at the scene. The victim indicates that she had secured the vehicle but forgot to use the club that she had. The vehicle was entered into the computer system as stolen, and as of this time the vehicle has not been recovered. 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.

VERBATIM

"I think Twitter should be banned from this universe. I don't really miss it."

-Miley Cyrus
 after quitting Twitter



"The Assistant Director would be going, 'Buildings are collapsing! And sewage is everywhere!'"

-John Cusack
 on 2012

"We're not going to sit by and watch the mastermind of 9/11 go into civilian court. If he goes to federal court, here's what awaits: a chaos zoo trial."

-Senator Lindsey Graham



"It's amazing that I was only there for 4 1/2 years and I was with Oakland for 11 years, and they remember me as a Cardinal."

-Mark McGwire

Guess what?
We need Assistant Editors!
 Apply at thecurrentjobs@umsl.edu

Business/Tech

Digitizing death: Immortalized on Facebook

► AARON HOLDMEYER
Staff Writer

In the past couple of years, Facebook and MySpace have taken the Internet and social networking to places never before thought of. From being able to access pictures from last night's party or casually perusing wall posts, these networking sites consume hours of our daily lives. Now they are digitizing another facet of life, or lack thereof: death.

So what happens to a user's page when they die? The official policy of Facebook states: "When a user passes away, we memorialize their account to protect their privacy. Memorializing an account removes certain sensitive information, sets privacy so that only confirmed friends can see the profile or locate it in search.

The Wall remains so that friends and family can leave posts in remembrance." MySpace takes a similar approach to Facebook in that both websites require a form to be filled out and a proof of death to be sent in order for either account to be shut down or memorialized.

These memorials take on the same function as previous traditions surrounding death such as wakes and tombstones. Friends of the deceased can visit these pages and access pictures and comments left by other mourners.

Ann Steffen, University of Missouri-St. Louis professor of psychology, said that current mourning practices, such as memorials, function as a support system for those who sur-

vived. "This emphasis on memorials to help survivors is more common now than in the past," Steffen said. "However, many mourning practices also served a social function for those who survived, including ways for their support system, and larger society, to acknowledge the reality of the loss. That was the purpose of mourning dress and other practices that helped make death visible to society. As these public signs have disappeared, those who are actively grieving the loss of a loved one can feel that their grief is invisible to others. Thus, electronic mediums such as Facebook could also help with that."

However, as Kevin Aaron, senior, communications, pointed out, these digital memorials could be a source of negativity instead of mourning. "Being that it's over the Internet, you'd have to be cognizant of the consequences also," Aaron said. "You've got people who, on the other hand, are negative. So yeah, it will bring the community back and people will be able to pay homage and sort of distance and separate themselves from the whole physical experience of it. Yet doing it virtually ... you'll find that there are some negative people." Aaron says that he has witnessed such negativity take place on memorial sites before.

Yet Travis Hamilton, history, graduate student, finds the whole concept a bit "creepy," because it provides a cheap alternative to traditional methods of grieving.

FROM PAGE 1

Developer Paul McKee's vision for redeveloping at odds with residents

The same year McKee started buying properties in North St. Louis, Mike Baldwin moved into the neighborhood. Like McKee, Baldwin is a developer, though one of a different nature. Before moving to St. Louis, Baldwin had directed a non-profit development project for the Archdiocese of Baltimore. For most of his residence in North St. Louis, he was executive director of Pruitt-Igoe, a non-profit development company. Currently, Baldwin self-subsidizes a four family flat in the St. Louis Place neighborhood as low-income housing and runs a job force training program for teens.

Baldwin sees need in the area for the large scale development that McKee plans, but doubts that McKee understands the "systemic issues" that afflict the north side.

"I certainly didn't until I lived here," Baldwin said.

Plus, one of the four job centers in McKee's proposed North Side Restoration project is slated to back right up to Baldwin's house. While on paper they are safe for now, Baldwin knows that plans can change and McKee may ask for their property. At a private meeting with McKee, Baldwin laid out for McKee where he stood.

"If [you] really can bring jobs to neighborhood residents, not bring jobs that people commute to from Illinois and St. Charles County and West County (they have plenty of jobs out there that folks here can't get to, or aren't able to access for other reasons), if you really are serious and you find that you need the rest of my block, I'll be willing to talk," Baldwin said. "I have to be able either to buy or build within the neighborhood with the money you give me, because right now we're debt free."

However, at a community meeting, McKee admitted that he is unable to guarantee jobs for North St. Louis residents since he, as a developer, does not deal directly with the deep social issues, such as lack of education that affects employment. "This," McKee said, pointing to the audience, "is the responsibility of the community."

The city however, feels confident that McKee can do some good for the North Side. In September, the St. Louis Tax Increment Financing Commission recommended that the Board of Aldermen approve McKee's TIF request and recently, the Board of Aldermen granted McKee development rights. A bill passing TIF legislation is still pending.

"We are community builders," McKee said of his philosophy as a developer. Now he has the chance to prove it.

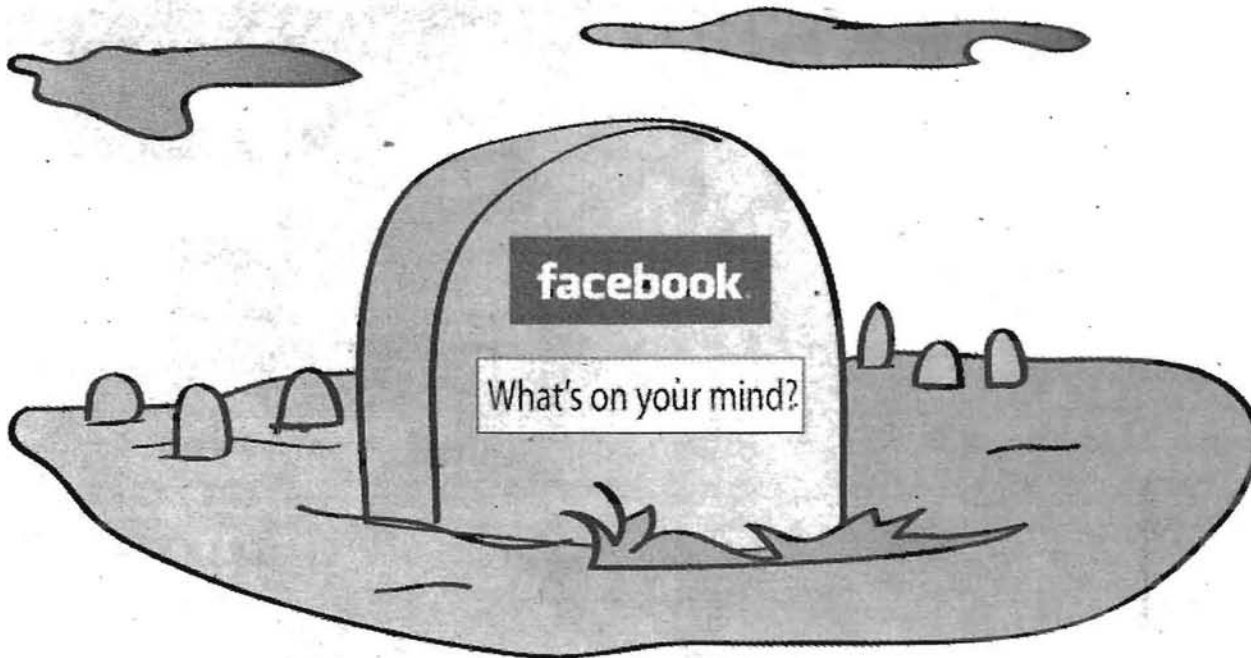


ILLUSTRATION BY ZACHARY JAMES KRAFT

Mad about something
we've said?
Tell us!

www.thecurrentonline.com

Women's labor and the fast food industry both work to have it their way

Research seminar discusses fast food's effects on women's labor

► **AARON HOLDMEYER**
Staff Writer

What do female labor-force participation have to do with fast food? On Friday, Ariel Belasen, assistant professor of Economics and Finance at SIU-Edwardsville, presented a paper he is currently working on titled "McFreedom: How Women Can Have it Their Way: An Income-Leisure Choice Model."

As the lights dimmed in room 401 of the SSB, Belasen explained his research. In his proposed economic model, he found that fast food restaurants are a positive stimulus on the participation of women in the labor force. These establishments typically increase the women's par-

ticipation by 0.01% in metropolitan areas and 0.58% in rural settings, while such things as employment rates and illiteracy rates create a negative force.

"My hope is to show that the growth of the fast food industry is actually a positive impetus," Belasen said. "As the number of fast food restaurants increase, we should see more women trying to get jobs as their famil[ies aren't] as dependent on them in the kitchen."

Belasen made it clear that his study does not focus on the possible hiring that could result from a fast food restaurant opening up, but rather how their presence expands the leisure time of women. However, as of now, his re-

search is only based off data from 2007-2008. He hopes that he can acquire the needed money to access additional

"My hope is to show that the growth of the fast food industry is actually a positive impetus."

—Ariel Belasen,
Asst. Professor of Economics and Finance
SIU-Edwardsville

data to expand his research.

Belasen's presentation was part of an ongoing research seminar series put on by the College of Business Administration at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. Dinesh Mirchandani, UM-St. Louis professor of information sys-

tems, conducts the events and says that it provides a good platform not only for faculty to present their work

but also for students to get a glimpse of the process that goes into research.

"We like faculty to come present work to get feedback on the paper that they are working on so they can collect any potential problems, see new areas they can de-

velop so they can publish it in journals, [and] create an impact off their work in society," Mirchandani said.

Mirchandani also stated that it often takes several years to get published in a peer-reviewed journal, and their seminar attempts to expedite feedback while also creating collaboration and friendships. After the presentation, Belasen received a handful of comments and suggestions from students and faculty alike.

Belasen said that the seminars benefit him. "As an assistant professor, I'm really trying to get a good grip on... what I want to focus my own learning on," Belasen said. "It's obviously important for students ... or even other

faculty to hear new ideas to keep current with the field to see where things are going. Otherwise you are still learning from your economic textbook that was probably written in the '70s and just been updated every year."

Mark Bacon, public policy and economics, senior, who attended Friday's event, agreed that these seminars are a good supplement to his education.

"It shows what professional academic professors actually do with their time," Bacon said. "This pin-points precise examples of what they are doing and not only is it educating the people they are presenting to, but also motivates people to do quality research."

G O T



CHILD CARE?

- Got kids?
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- Got 5 minutes? The UMSL Chancellor's Task Force on Gender Issues invites you to participate in a survey to help assess child care needs on campus.
- <http://CTLSilhouette.wsu.edu/surveys/ZS96318>

More than ok computer

Helps economic development in St. Louis Region

► **JOE SCHAFFNER**
Staff Writer

St. Louis already has an innovative biotech cluster. The region supports major companies like Monsanto and Danforth Plant Science. Science never rests, however, and IT Enterprises is looking to expand this industry by working closely with information technology and life science research entities.

ITe is a small business incubator, sponsored by the University of Missouri-St. Louis, located off of Koenig Drive near campus. A looming network of computer nodes and servers stands at the center of ITe's facility, attracting and reaching out to a bevy of companies looking to utilize its capabilities.

"The high performance computing center provides a lot of computing power, so calculations that once took weeks can be compressed into hours or even minutes in a cluster," William Lemon, director of scientific and computing services at ITe, said.

ITe also offers over 6,000 feet of office and laboratory space to its tenants. The ca-

capacity of ITe to allow such close proximity to the computer network is a convenience for businesses looking to utilize its computing capabilities.

Mogene, a genomics-based company, has been a tenant at ITe since May. "ITe gives us a space to fit our needs, the IT computer center helps us because we generate a lot of data, and it also gives us our own lab," Shaukat Rangwala, Vice President of Mogene Research Operations, said.

ITe also extends its state-of-the-art research facilities to UM-St. Louis students looking to research in various areas of study, including business, chemistry and biology.

ITe houses five entrepreneurial companies in these fields at this time, and while these companies may be placed under the umbrella terms of life science and IT, they remain diverse in their own right. Companies like IT Entrepreneur Network even emulate the work of ITe in more precise terms. ITEN, much like ITe, is trying to build small business and information technology.

This layering of business and business networking al-

lows ITe to encompass two newer goals of UM-St. Louis: outreach and economic development. By providing a convenient way for companies to do their technical work, ITe hopes to bring more and more companies to St. Louis.

"We're trying to build the ability of the St. Louis region to do high-tech work," Lemon said.

"IT Enterprises is really good for the economic development of the region. Two of the university's missions are accomplished here: economic development and outreach. We do both of these with an economic development posture. Outreach activities happen when companies ... want to meet with other companies, and the regional development council has a lot their meetings here," Lemon said.

ITe offers internship opportunities for graduate students and holds a computer enterprising course at the facility. ITe is trying to organize a way to hold more classes at the facility, which could provide students with a more hands-on experience with business and life science.

Welcome to the dark side

Reality bleeds into online life

► **ANDY PHIPPS**
Asst. Business/Tech Editor

As those of us who have grown up with the Internet have aged and matured, so too has the Internet. For the members of my generation, we have seen the Internet go from being a novelty to a useful tool, ultimately becoming the driving force behind the American economy. All of this while creating a virtual world that we gradually began to inhabit as extensions of ourselves.

But as we have come to enjoy the glowing advances that the Internet has given us over the years--everything from instant messaging to streaming video--we have also come

to see its dark side. For instance, the novelty of being able to look up information quickly became tainted early on when the pornography industry began using it to distribute their wares--which has added to exploitation of women and provided an anonymous breeding ground for deviants and stalkers.

The same can be said about the contribution of the Internet to our economy. While the dot com boom of the 1990s drove an already bull market even higher skyward, it did so on empty promises. By the turn of the century, the bubble had burst, turning nearly a decade's worth of economic growth into a recession.

As people who have grown

up with, seen and participated in the changes that the Internet has brought to our society, we have looked past this dark side and invested ourselves further into a rapidly growing digital world.

Social networking sites and the synergy they have created with services like YouTube and Flickr has allowed us to extend ourselves into this virtual world in an incredibly interactive way. Many of us now broadcast our lives online, sharing the moments of our day with friends through status updates and reading their responses to them. We share photos and videos of ourselves while critiquing those of others in real time.

See DARKSIDE, page 8

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WE WERE WARNED

2012

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Log on to thecurrentonline.com from Monday, November 9 – Thursday, November 12 for your chance to receive a screening pass for two.*

COLUMBIA PICTURES The Current

*NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. VOID WHERE PROHIBITED OR RESTRICTED BY LAW. One adult-free pass per person. 75 passes available. Employees of all promotional partners, their agencies and those who have received a pass within the last 30 days are not eligible. This film has been rated PG-13 by the MPAA for intense disaster sequences and some language. For complete rules, please visit www.thecurrentonline.com.

IN THEATERS NOVEMBER 13

Windows 7 may not be what was promised, but it's close enough

► **ANDY PHIPPS**
Asst. Business/Tech Editor

Almost every version of the Windows operating system Microsoft has ever released has had its issues out of the box, always to the bane of its users. For instance, early versions of windows actually wouldn't let you keep more than one program window open at a time.

Windows 95 and 98 had their notorious blue screen of death where the entire screen would turn blue and flash a meaningless error message; usually right when you were doing something utterly important and it would mean restarting the computer and losing everything.

But perhaps the most notoriously bug-prone version of Windows ever was Windows Vista.

Released in 2003 to replace the venerable Windows

XP, early adopters of Vista found that their computers ran much slower and hardware that worked perfectly fine under XP

in Vista while developing a replacement that would run faster, be more backwards compatible and completely modern. The result

234 percent more copies of the new operating system in its first week of availability than they did Vista.

But how is it really? One of *The Current* staffers bought Windows 7 with the intention of installing it on a fairly new computer that was running Windows XP perfectly. But the upgrade experience was not quite what Microsoft had advertised.

The computer Windows 7 was bought for was a newer Asus eeePC netbook with a 1.6ghz Intel Atom processor, 1 gigabyte of DDR2 RAM, a 160-gigabyte hard drive and Intel GMA 950 graphics. The initial installation prompts were very clean and user friendly, a great upgrade to begin with when compared with the archaic installation processes of earlier versions of Windows.

However, even on this fairly capable, modern computer hardware, the amount of time it took to install the operating system was stagger-

ing.

It took about one hour for Windows to install, but just as the process was about to wrap up, the entire project took a turn for the worse.

When the progress was at about 97 percent the computer froze, became unresponsive and displayed a cryptic error message on its screen—a scary thing to have happen when you are installing the operating system on your computer. After rebooting the computer, the error message repeated itself repeatedly and the system failed to boot into anything even remotely resembling a graphical interface.

A second attempt at installing Windows 7 was made and this time it went through without a hitch. However, once our test user was in the new version of Windows, they were immediately confronted with a glaring error. While the new operating system recognized the wi-fi card in the computer and even showed available wireless networks, the user was unable to connect to any of them.

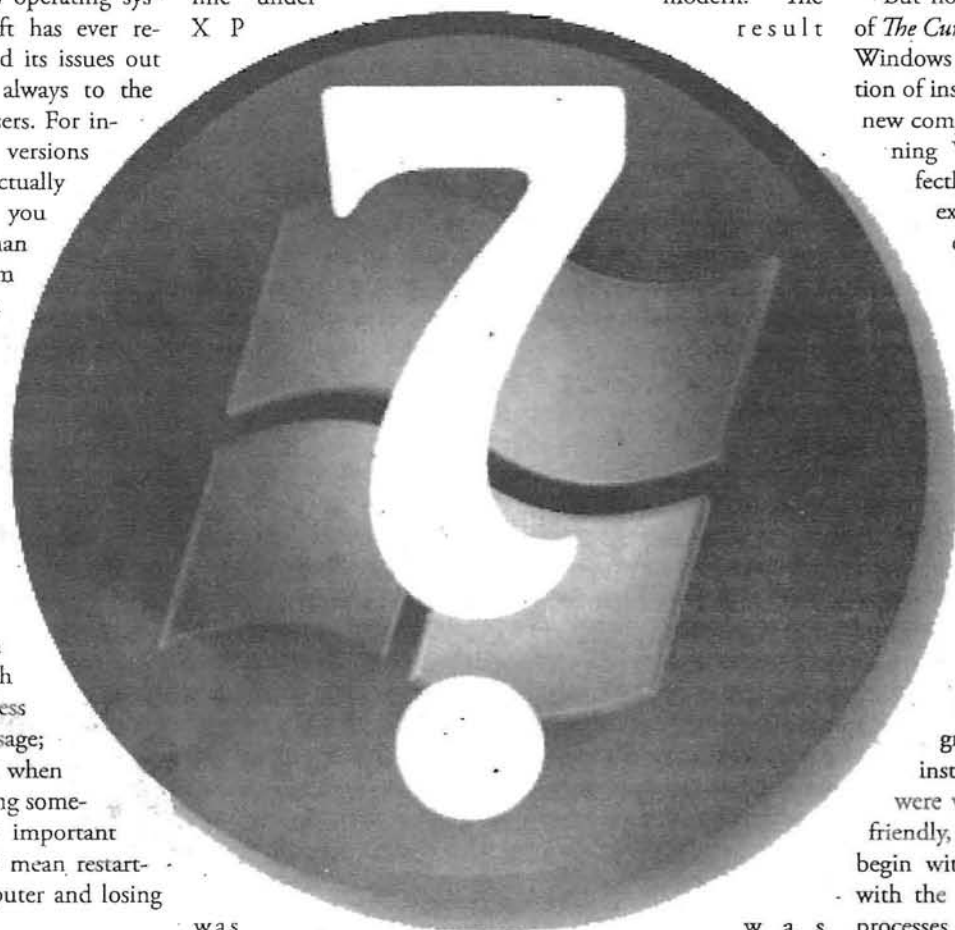
Phone calls to Microsoft's service and support line were unhelpful and ultimately, the user took their computer to Best Buy for diagnosis.

The suggestion of the tech-

nicians there was to return the recently purchased computer and buy another comparable netbook with Windows 7 preinstalled on it, which they did. So far, tests done on this computer, which has the exact same specifications as their previous computer have shown Windows 7 to be a viable and dependable successor to Windows Vista. So far, no programs have inexplicitly crashed and actually they launch much faster than they had previously. The taskbar and interface has also been completely redesigned and cleaned up. For instance, the start menu not only shows recently used programs but what files they have opened recently. There is also a dedicated button at the bottom right end of the taskbar that minimizes all windows and lets the user see the desktop.

Overall, Windows 7 is a working replacement to XP or Vista. It does run faster and so far as we could tell from our usage it is more reliable. All of this while offering some new features in a glossier package.

But, if you are planning on upgrading an older computer to run the new Windows it might be wise to hold on tight as you may be in for a bumpy ride.



was not recognized and did not work. And then there were the crashes on top of that.

Since 2003, Microsoft has fought to fix the problems

which Microsoft promised would be all of these things: faster, better and more reliable. For their part, consumers answered back by buying

DARKSIDE, from page 7

However, we tend to give little thought to the dark side of all of this. More often than not, we are too caught up in the joys of living online to consider how much we are exploiting ourselves. The dark side of this new aspect of the internet can now be counted not in site hits or lost investment dollars but in human lives: a teenage girl hangs herself because of antagonizing wall posts, and killers stalk people online and murder them.

It seems fitting to me

that Facebook and MySpace have policies to deal with the remnants of their members' online lives once they have departed the physical realm. But the fact that they have had to do such a thing points out exactly where we are in our electronic evolution.

As we come to live more online, the online world becomes more and more a part of our actual reality. If this is the case, then the time is soon approaching when we will have to surrender the boundaries between our real lives

and our online lives for good.

We have seen the dark side of our society bleed over into this virtual world, and given time, along with our further personal investments into our online personas, the dark side of our day-to-day lives will come along with us into this world.

The Internet is no longer the playground it once was—it has become a part of our life. At this rate, it could very well become our life, and then we must be prepared to both live and die online.



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Sports

From India with love

Freshman Shweta Galande is ranked women's No. 3 in India

► **MATTHEW B. HENRY**
Staff Writer

Golf looks so easy until you pick up the club and take a swing. Then you find out how small not only that ball is, but also how small the club head is.

But Shweta Galande, freshman, psychology, has mastered that small dimpled object with those small clubs. She is the University of Missouri-St. Louis's women's golf player from New Delhi, India. There she was ranked No. 3 among women golfers in a country that has an estimated 1 billion people.

When asked how the ranking system in India is compiled, Galande said, "We have 10 tournaments of which you have to play in eight." Six are compulsory and are played in differ-

"Shweta's work ethic is second-to-none."

—James Earle, Women's Golf Head Coach

ent sections of the country. Then two more are chosen and after all eight of them have been played, the scores are averaged.

When asked if there was an age bracket to her ranking, Galande said, "No. It could include a woman who is 12 or 45. I'm 19."

"My dad was watching golf every day on TV and I didn't really know what it was. But I would say, 'Oh my god it is such a boring sport. You're hours behind a small ball trying to hit it. I can do that,'" Galande said.

"I found out it appears so simple, so why can't I hit it? I was a little motivated

by anger. I said I want to hit that ball just once," Galande said.

She started out being coached by her father for a year and a half. Then he got her a coach who Galande said, "Got me my first full swing. Before him I was only playing with a half swing."

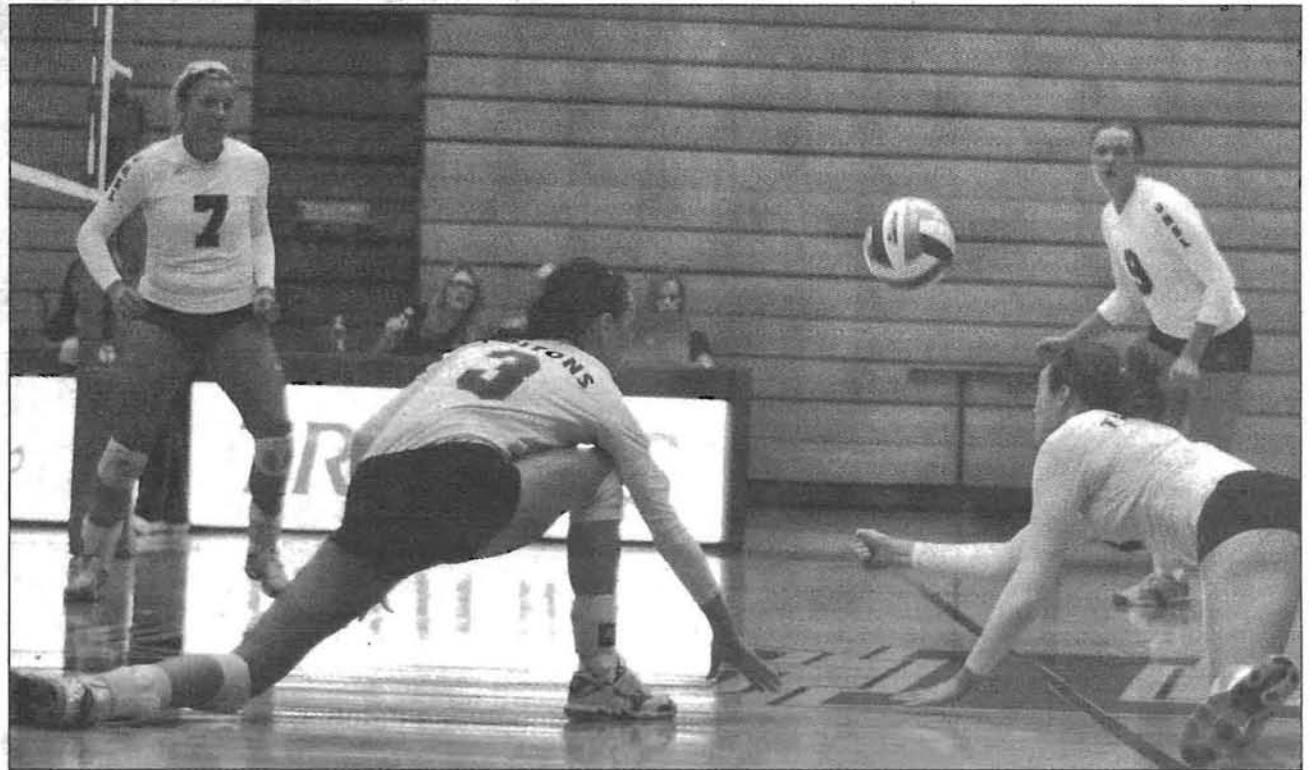
Galande has some very cool aspects to her game. First, she is ambidextrous. "I drive and play the fairways right-handed and putt left-handed," Galande said.

"Information and articles about some recent victories of Shweta's were forwarded to me by Leonard Trudeau of the International Students Admissions Office. It was a stroke of luck or faith, however you want to look at it. Regardless, there is not a happier coach in the nation than

I," UM-St. Louis women's golf coach James Earle said when asked how he found out about Galande, who was recently named the GLVC's October Women's Golfer of the Month.

As to why Galande ended up here, Earle said, "UM-St. Louis has an excellent psychology department and academics are a very important aspect of Shweta's decision to attend UM-St. Louis."

"Shweta's work ethic is second-to-none. She is only going to get better and it's my belief that her career in golf will not end with collegiate golf," Earle said.



AHMAD ALJURYED / THE CURRENT

Shelby Crawford, sophomore, biology and physical therapy, dives to keep the ball alive during the Tritons win over the Bellarmine Knights on Friday. Crawford finished with a total of 11 digs, a career-best, and six kills while teammate Liz Cook surpassed the 1,000 kill mark for her career.

Tritons triumph over Bellarmine, NKU

► **CEDRIC WILLIAMS**
Sports Editor

The University of Missouri-St. Louis women's volleyball team closed out its regular season in splendid fashion last weekend at the Mark Twain Building, with two spectacular wins over Great Lakes Valley Conference rivals Bellarmine and Northern Kentucky.

"I thought that's the best we've played in about two and a half weeks," UM-St. Louis head volleyball coach Trent Jones said. "We worked out some kinks and we played really well. I was really happy with the way things went."

The Tritons came into the weekend tied for third place in the GLVC with NKU with identical 19-10 overall and 9-3 conference records. That meant Saturday's contest would likely break the tie and allow one team to claim third place over the other.

But first, both teams needed to be victorious in their matches on Friday.

And they were. NKU defeated Missouri S&T three games to none, and UM-St. Louis bested Bellarmine by scores of 25-22, 25-14, 25-20.

That match was delayed nearly 20 minutes at the outset, as Bellarmine protested the use of strobe lighting by UM-St. Louis' sports photography staff. It seemed like a silly thing to protest,

but Bellarmine claimed to be distracted by the lights, and it took a while for the teams to settle on a solution.

Once they did, the Tritons made short work of the Knights, who may have been a little on edge. They came into Friday's contest needing a victory to give themselves any shot at making the postseason.

Unfortunately for Bellarmine, they were playing the wrong team on the wrong night.

UM-St. Louis grabbed the lead early in the first set and never relinquished it. From that point on, Bellarmine's only other lead came when they won the first point of the second set.

"We talked about how a lot of things were still undecided going into the weekend," Jones said. "That's why this was such a big weekend [for everybody]."

It was also a big weekend for Triton hitter Liz Cook, junior, education, whose last kill of the night gave her 1,000 kills for her career, making her only the fifth player in UM-St. Louis history to reach that mark.

"Wow, that's such a honor to be only the fifth player to do that," Cook said. "My mom's here tonight, and none of us knew anything about this. So she was so excited when they made the announcement. She was about to lose it. That made this really exciting for me."

On Saturday, Cook was one of three Triton players to finish with double-digit kills in a match UM-St. Louis won 25-17, 29-21, 25-23, 25-19. She had 12 kills.

But it was middle hitters Sarah Eisnaugle, senior, art history/graphic design, and Weslie Gaff, sophomore, accounting, who truly dominated play at the net.

Eisnaugle had 16 kills and six blocks, while Gaff added 15 kills and five blocks against an NKU team that is considered one of the best hitting teams in the conference.

"It was a really good day for both middles today," Jones said. "Sarah was just flawless. She did everything great, and Weslie has such great instincts and timing. They both played great today."

Being the No. 3 seed means the Tritons will face No. 6 seed Southern Indiana in the first round of the GLVC Championship Tournament on Friday afternoon.

The winner of that contest will advance to the Saturday's semifinals, with hopes of advancing to Sunday's championship game.

"We've got a good shot to win it," Jones said. "If we can build on what we've done these last two nights, I think we've got a real good shot to win next weekend."

Basketball opens with disappointments for Triton men, women

► CEDRIC WILLIAMS
Sports Editor

The University of Missouri-St. Louis men's basketball

uniforms, as Missouri State defeated UM-St. Louis, 86-48, in what was both teams' exhibition openers.

"What we're going to use this game for is some markers on what we need to work on," UM-St. Louis head basketball coach Chris Pilz said. "A big thing we can learn from tonight is when the Bears were guarding us, they were getting after us. We need to get where we've got eight, ten guys getting after it on

defense." Missouri State held UM-St. Louis to 34% shooting from the floor and forced 22 turnovers, as it pulled away early in the first half thanks to separate 14-2 and 17-2 scoring runs.

"This was just a lesson in toughness for us," Pilz said. "There were a lot of positives for us too. Our kids got to get on a Division I floor and play in that atmosphere, but I wish we would've competed a little better and been a little tougher."

UM-St. Louis newcomer Zach Redel, sophomore, undecided, and a transfer from Central Missouri State, was the one bright spot for the Tritons, as he scored a game-high 12 points and added five rebounds in his debut.

"I thought Redel was a bright spot too," Pilz said. "He gives us a presence down there, rebounding, scoring and defending that block that we haven't had, so that was good."

Other Tritons had solid efforts as well, including Ryan Lawrence, junior, criminology,

who had eight points and six rebounds, and Beaumont Beasley, sophomore, undecided, who had five points and six assists.

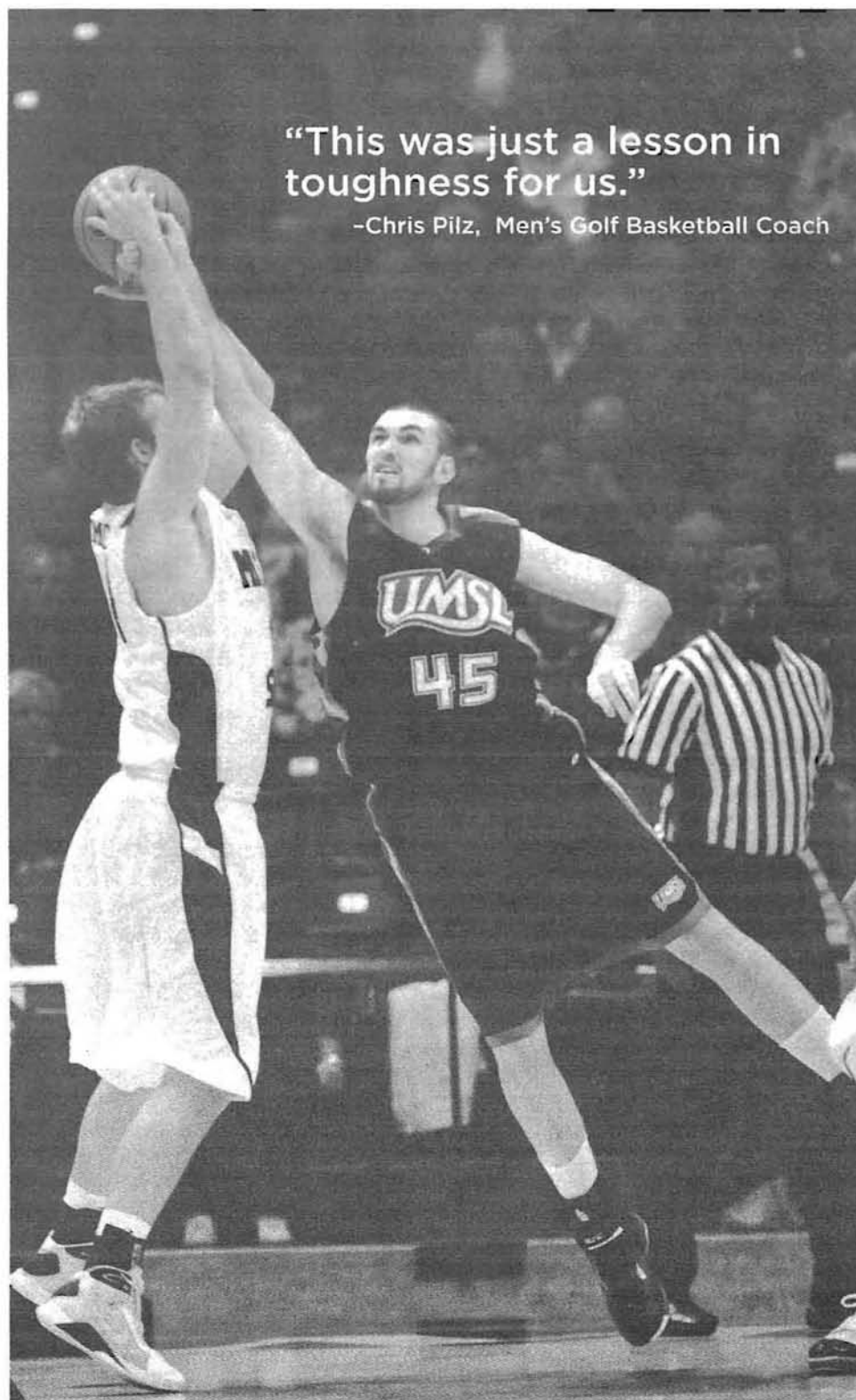
"I thought [Cody Kliethermes] was pretty good too," Pilz said. "He gave us a lot better play than he was able to give us a year ago."

Other new players that made their Triton debuts Monday evening were guards Alonzo Wickerson, junior, criminal justice; Nico Oestbye, freshman, business; Eddie White, junior, elementary education; and forward Lance Cannon, freshman, business. It seemed that each player had some moments of success, while others' play seemed a little frantic.

"It seemed like the game was a little quick for those guys," Pilz said.

"Doesn't do you any good to have a solid big guy if your guards can't settle in and get you in an offense, whether it's at the point spot or on the wing spots, but we'll be fine. This is not indicative of how we'll play the rest of the season."

Unfortunately, the final outcome didn't look as good as the Tritons did in their new



"This was just a lesson in toughness for us."

—Chris Pilz, Men's Golf Basketball Coach

Women lose to SIUE in first game 70-58

► ANTHONY PADGETT
Asst. Sports Editor

With fall coming to a close and winter on the horizon, the beginning of a new basketball season arrives.

On Saturday, the University of Missouri-St. Louis women's basketball team took to the road to Southern Illinois University of Edwardsville for its first of two exhibition games before the start of the season.

On November 13, the Tritons will finish their exhibition schedule at Southeast Missouri State.

SIUE was once a member of the Division II Great Lakes Valley Conference two years ago but has reclassified to Division I.

The Tritons are looking to bounce back from last season when the team went 7-21 with a 3-14 Great Lakes Valley Conference record finishing sixth in the league under the third-year head coach Lisa Curliss-Taylor. The series record between the two teams is 33-15 with SIUE leading.

It may have only been an exhibition game, but both teams played as if it was the

last game of the season.

Although the Cougars would score first with a two pointer, the Tritons would have a 10-6 lead three minutes into the game, but the Cougars would fight their way back, tying the game at 10.

Going into halftime, the Cougars would retake the lead 33-27 and never let it go. The Tritons would decrease the Cougar lead by six points with 6:20 left in the game, but the Cougars would win the game by a final of 70-58.

The Tritons made 30% of their field goals and 10% of their three-point attempts. The Cougars on the other hand, made 40.9% of their field goal shots and 28% of their three-point shots.

Lindsey Ransome, senior, communications, led the Tritons in points with 16 in 25 minutes of play.

Ransome also had seven blocks, which were all on defense, with only Kelcy Hulbert, junior, elementary education, having more rebounds for the team with four on offense and four on defense in 21 minutes of play.

Despite the loss for the Tritons, there are several positive notes.

UM-St. Louis showed superb movement of the ball on the offensive side from one side of the court to the other, and from outside the arc to inside the arc.

On some drives, the Tritons had as many as eight passes before shooting.

On the defensive side, the Tritons were just as well prepared and motivated keeping good cover on the Cougars.

The Tritons performed better in free throws with 20-29 (69%), while the Cougars made 9-16 (56.3%) of their free throws.

On Monday, Nov. 16, the season officially starts for the team when they will host Lindenwood at the Mark Twain Building.

The 2009-2010 season will introduce a new format for the 15-team GLVC, in which the league will be split into three divisions.

This allows for more teams to be eligible for the postseason GLVC playoffs.

See **WOMEN**, page 12

COURTESY / DANNY REISE / UMSL SPORTS INFORMATION
UM-St. Louis lost 86-48 at Missouri State in its 2009-10-exhibition opener Monday in Springfield. Zach Redel's (above), undecided, sophomore, debuted for the Tritons.

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Double overtime upset

Tritons men's soccer takes it to the limit

▶ **CEDRIC WILLIAMS**
Sports Editor

Springfield, Mo.- The University of Missouri-St. Louis men's soccer team's 2009 season ended last Sunday when the eighth-seeded Tritons lost 1-0 to top-seeded Drury in the first round of the Great Lakes Valley Conference Championship Tournament.

Despite being picked in August by the GLVC coaches' preseason poll to finish 10th in the conference, UM-St. Louis managed to get into the postseason this year by pulling off the upset of the season: a 2-1 win in the regular season finale at then 12th-ranked Northern Kentucky last month.

The Tritons were hoping to find the same kind of magic against an 18-1 Drury squad that was ranked No. 4 in the country in last week's NCAA Division II national poll.

For over 105 minutes, UM-St. Louis stayed right with Drury. The Tritons managed to keep the Panthers scoreless despite being

outshot 22-4, thanks to a brilliant effort by top defenders Justin Barwick, junior, business; Mike McCarthy, sophomore, engineering; Joe Randazzo, senior, media studies; and Ryan Vines, senior, business administration.

"Our four backs played outstanding," UM-St. Louis men's soccer coach Dan King said.

Triton goalkeeper Tim Boruff, sophomore, accounting, played all 105-plus minutes in goal and made five saves, including a couple of brilliant stops on back-to-back chances in the 71st minute against Drury stars Steve Wilczewski and Ben Hamilton.

It looked like Drury might finally break through and take the lead on the play, but Boruff somehow managed to get his hands on Wilczewski's blast and then stopped Hamilton's rebound shot, which looked like it was surely headed for the back of the net.

The flurry for Drury left them with several players out of position and opened the door for a UM-St. Louis

scoring chance.

The Tritons raced the ball up the field and were awarded a corner kick chance when a Drury defender intentionally kicked the ball out of play near his own net.

Andy Schaul, senior, biology, took the corner kick and found teammate McCarthy, who managed to put a good shot on net, but his scoring chance was stopped by Drury goalkeeper Stephen Conner.

That was UM-St. Louis' only real scoring chance in regulation play.

Neither team could get much done in the first overtime, but both the Tritons and the Panthers had golden opportunities to win the game in the second overtime.

In the 102nd minute, Drury's Jake Allison had a chance the home crowd thought he would bury, but Boruff once again made the stop.

Then in the 106th minute, UM-St. Louis's Paul Hummel, senior, liberal studies, got open and blasted a shot at the Drury net.

Unfortunately, Hummel's shot sailed high and wide. The

Tritons' season came crashing down moments later.

Drury's Micah Whorton took a pass from teammate Peter Higgins and slipped a shot past Boruff and into the UM-St. Louis net for his team-leading 14th goal of the season, ending the Tritons' season.

"We placed well, we dictated the game," King said. "We did what we wanted.

We were four minutes from penalty kicks with the number four team in the nation."

The Tritons finished the season with a 9-7-2 record, their best mark and first postseason appearance since 2006.

Although disappointed, King couldn't help but reflect on what really was a fantastic season for the Tritons.

"I thought we had a great season and we reached some of our goals," King said. "We reached the playoffs, and I feel we were a final four team. I'm so proud of the team."

The Current's Matthew B. Henry and the UM-St. Louis and Drury sports information departments contributed information for this story.

STAT BOX

MEN'S SOCCER

Team	GLVC (W-L-T)	Overall (W-L-T)
Drury	13-1-0	18-1-0
N. Kentucky	11-3-0	15-4-1
Lewis	10-3-0	13-3-1
UW-Parkside	8-4-2	13-5-2
Bellarmine	8-5-0	11-5-1
Quincy	7-5-1	9-8-2
Missouri S&T	7-5-1	7-7-1
UM-St. Louis	7-5-2	9-7-2
St. Joseph's	6-6-2	9-7-2
Indianapolis	6-7-1	8-7-2
Rockhurst	6-8	8-10
S. Indiana	5-9-0	6-10-1
Ky. Wesleyan	2-11-1	5-13-1
Maryville	1-12-1	1-15-1
Ill. Springfield	0-13-1	1-14-1

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Team	GLVC (W-L-T)	Overall (W-L-T)
N. Kentucky	12-2	16-2
Bellarmine	10-2-1	13-2-1
Quincy	10-2-1	13-4-1
Indianapolis	11-3	15-4
Drury	10-3	13-6
UW-Parkside	9-3-2	11-4-3
S. Indiana	7-5-2	9-8-3
Rockhurst	6-7-1	7-10-1
Missouri S&T	5-8-0	5-9-1
Lewis	4-8-1	5-9-2
Maryville	4-9-1	5-11-1
UM-St. Louis	4-9-1	4-11-1
Ky. Wesleyan	4-10-0	7-11-1
St. Joseph's	2-12	3-14
Ill. Springfield	0-14	2-14

VOLLEYBALL

Team	GLVC (W-L)	Overall (W-L)
Lewis	12-0	26-3
Indianapolis	11-1	30-1
UM-St. Louis	9-3	19-10
N. Kentucky	9-3	19-10
Rockhurst	8-4	19-12
S. Indiana	7-5	15-13
Drury	6-5	15-12
Bellarmine	6-6	13-8
St. Joseph's	5-7	12-17
UW-Parkside	5-7	21-10
Missouri S&T	3-9	10-24
Quincy	3-5	6-20
Ill. Springfield	1-11	9-19
Maryville	1-11	4-21
Ky. Wesleyan	0-12	2-20

MEN, from page 10

UM-St. Louis will play one more exhibition game, on Saturday, Nov. 14, at Murray State, before hosting its season opener at the Mark Twain Building, on Wednesday, Nov. 18, against Blackburn College. Tipoff that evening is at 7 p.m.

UM-St. Louis' only other November home game this year, will be on Tuesday, Nov. 24, when the Tritons will host Truman State. Tipoff that evening is 6 p.m.

"We'll be ready for [the two November home games]," Pilz said. "The best thing about tonight is now we've got some tape [of ourselves to review], and the tape machine don't lie. The thing I'm most positive about is we've got good kids that will listen to you, and work hard on what we say we need to work on."

WOMEN, from page 10

The Tritons will compete in the West Division along with Drury, Missouri S&T, Rockhurst and Maryville. Each team in their respective division will play the other teams in their division twice, and all other teams in the overall GLVC once for an 18 game schedule.

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Dr. Rita Csapo-Sweet

Professor brings Bosnian films from Cannes to St. Louis

► **CATE MARQUIS**
A&E Editor

Dr. Rita Csapo-Sweet, Associate Professor of Media Studies at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, has a particular interest in Eastern European cinema. She is curating a Bosnian Sidebar for the upcoming St. Louis International Film Festival between Nov. 12-22, which will include director Faruk Sabanovic on campus on Nov. 17.

The Current: What are the films in the Bosnian Sidebar at the St. Louis International Film Festival?

Rita Csapo-Sweet: This is the first time I am curating a Bosnian Sidebar for the St. Louis [International] Film Festival. I have done numerous other ones before—Hungarian, Australian, German—but this is the first Bosnian one. We have a really exciting line-up of films.

One is a film called "Grbavica" and the other is a film called "Snow." Both of these feature films won major awards: one in Cannes and one in Berlin. Then also I am going to be showing a short live-action film called "Ten Minutes," which is actually up on YouTube.

The other part is a director who used to work as a producer with "Nightline."

He went to Bosnia to work on a story on the Sarajevo Hagaddah, which is a priceless [Jewish religious] book that has existed since about the 14th century. It was hidden during the Second World War ... by Muslims.

Edward Serotta, who is the director, is showing that film and another film called "Surviving in Sarajevo," which shows how the Jewish community came together to feed and take care of Catholics, Muslims [and] Jews.

Then we are also going to be showing a film by Faruk Sabanovic (who is in a wheelchair due to the war). He got the whole Sarajevo University

to become wheelchair activists. And there are a lot of people in Bosnia who have these problems because of the war. Now there are wheelchair lifts at the university. And he went on the make sure the whole city of Sarajevo had those curbside [cuts]. He is a brilliant animator.

TC: What is your connection with Eastern Europe?

RC: I am from Hungarian parents, first-generation American. In fact, my first language was Hungarian. When I went back to study in Hungary in 1973, I was at the School of Fine Arts, and it completely changed my life. I got back my first language, and I realized why I was always an odd-one-out in America. And I kept my connection, both professionally and socially, with Eastern Europe and Hungary ever since.

TC: Why Bosnia?

RC: Because I already had this idea it would be a very good thing for children who had left Bosnia during the war. A lot of people who left were very traumatized, particularly children. Many of them, 50,000, settled in St. Louis. So there is a huge population of Bosnians in St. Louis.

TC: You also helped organize a student exchange between UM-St. Louis and universities in Bosnia. How did all of this come about?

RC: This is a project I have been working on for about four years. Joel Glassman [from] the Center for International Studies and I spent a lot of time in Eastern Europe. I have an apartment in Budapest and I work out of that. And about three years ago at the St. Louis [International] Film Festival, I met a director, Almir Sahinovic [who] said "you need to be in touch with ... Laila Parnetta," [professor of cinema at University of Tuzla.] We started working on a student-faculty exchange and cultural exchanges.



ROCK 4 DARFUR



STORY
JOE SCHAFFNER

PHOTOS
JENNIFER MEAHAN



Spiraling out of control. Rachele Kuhl, senior, political science, is the president of the University of Missouri-St. Louis chapter of Amnesty International. She both helped organize and spoke at "Rock for Darfur." Kuhl is not new to the conflict in Darfur, she helped organize last year's "Reggae for Darfur." Nevertheless, she saw the need to hold another event this year. "There are a lot of human rights abuses [in Darfur], and it's spiraling out of control," Kuhl told audience members on Saturday.



"Rhyme or Reason." The second band of the night to perform was "Rhyme or Reason" consisting of Andrew Stephan (keyboard), Marco Juehne (bass), Jared Cattour (guitar), Anthony Juehne (drums) and Matt Stephan.

The University of Missouri St. Louis chapter of Amnesty International, a non-governmental agency widely known for staging protests to end abuses of human rights throughout the globe, shook the walls of UM-St. Louis' Pilot House on Saturday with "Rock 4 Darfur."

Student activists associated with Amnesty International hosted the benefit concert for refugees in Darfur. About 40 students engaged in the event which provided cultural food, a speech by an advocate of Sudanese rights, and of course, music.

Volunteers collected five dollars at the door, and bands "Lucid in Obscurity" and "Rhyme or Reason" did their best to keep the mood light with uproarious anthems. However, the serious overtones of the night lingered through both sets.

Darfur is a region of Sudan. The Northern and Southern sections of Darfur have

been in a state of civil war for decades. According to BBC news, Darfur has never held a public election, but rather a series of military coups. The current government, headed by President Omar al-Bashir, rose to power by coup in 1993, and is still recognized as a military regime.

In 2003, violence flared up in Darfur. Black African rebel organizations, the Sudanese Liberation Army (SLA) and the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM), began attacking the government. BBC News reported complaints of discrimination and neglect by their largely Muslim government.

President Omar al-Bashir has overseen a bloody response with the deployment of "self-defense militias." The UN estimates since 2003, over 300,000 people in Darfur have died and 2.7 million have been displaced. Entire villages have been burnt to the ground. To this day, the conflict remains

A first-hand account. Eric Ndichu experienced the genocide in Darfur first-hand. Ndichu was attending the University of Nairobi when the Northern and Southern regions of Darfur were engaged in civil war. He mobilized a group of students to travel the region and provide relief. Ndichu spoke to the audience about why American citizens should care about what the Bush Administration termed a genocide, despite the fact that the violent conflicts are happening on a far-away continent.

"We are talking about 400,000 people. That's the entire population of St. Louis [City]. Just close your eyes and imagine that number of St. Louis being wiped out by a government b..."



"Lucid in Obscurity."
 Nick Purgahn is the main vocalist for the band "Lucid in Obscurity," he is seen here playing guitar. Purgahn played at the Pilot House to show his support for Amnesty International's fight to end and aid the victims of genocide in Darfur. "The Darfur issue is horrible," Purgahn said, "In the broader scope of who we are as human beings it's frightening, it could [transfer] to other countries and other continents." "Lucid in Obscurity" also includes Mark Winterowd, and UM-St. Louis alumnus Kris Johnson.

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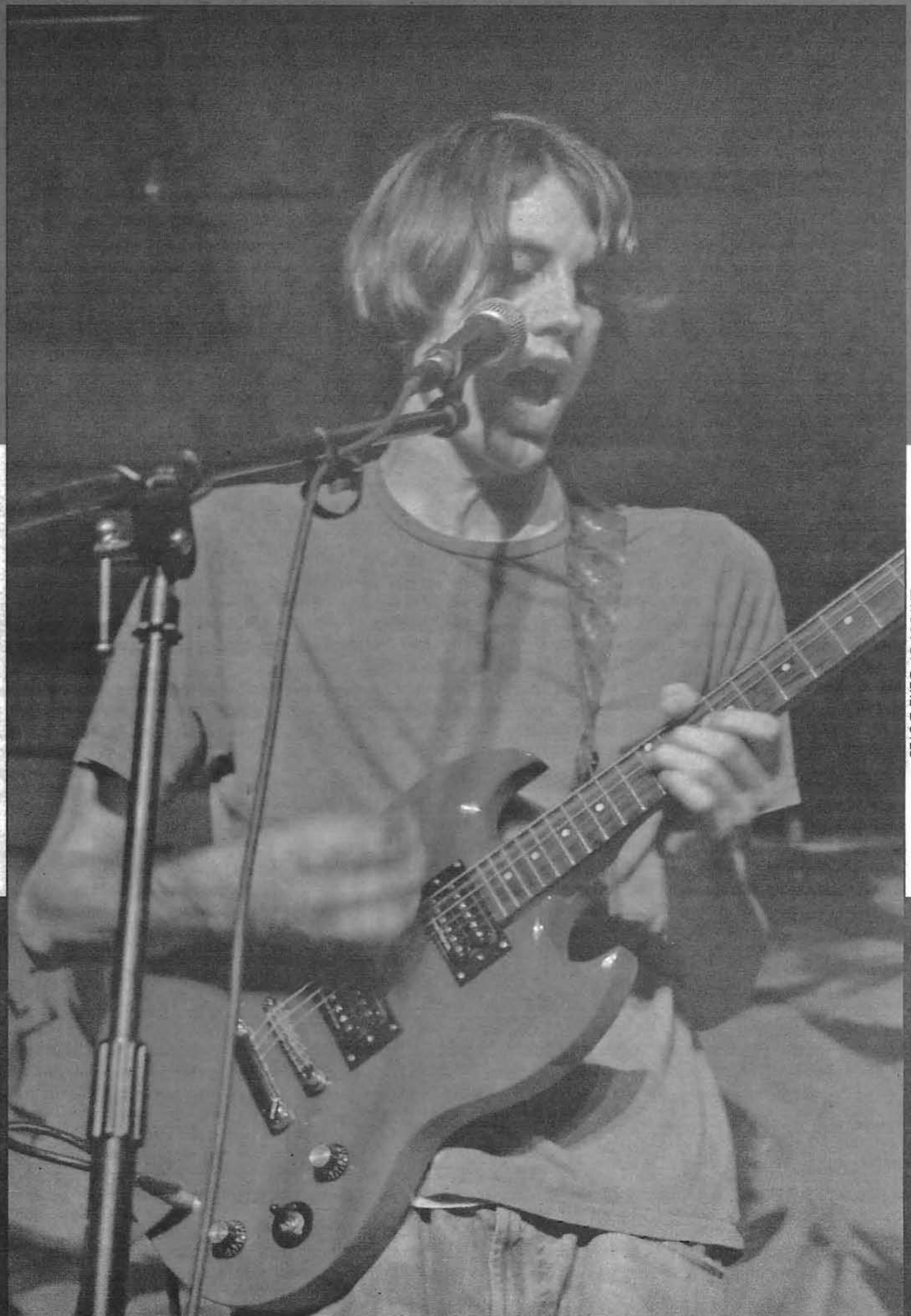
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sensitive and often explosive.
 "The issue in Darfur has been going on for too long, hundreds of thousands have died, millions of people have been displaced." Rachele Kuhl, senior, political science said. "We want to raise enough money to get more attention for the situation."
 Last year Kuhl, president of the UM-St. Louis chapter of Amnesty International, helped organize a similar event, "Reggae 4 Darfur." This year the event was renamed "Rock 4 Darfur" because the group could not bring back reggae groups to perform.
 Eric Ndichu, a Washington University graduate student who has had first-hand experience with the situation in Darfur, made a poignant connection to St. Louis during his speech on the matter.

See DAFUR, page 23

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 ...ment bomb."

-Eric Ndichu, activist



LAYOUT BY GENE DOYEL

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-ST. LOUIS
 COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS AND COMMUNICATION
 AND THE DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE, DANCE, AND MEDIA STUDIES
 PRESENTS

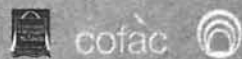
SUM OF MOTION 09

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JENNIFER MEAHAN / THE CURRENT

Bob Roesler (left) with acting police chief John Schupp, and Glen Cope, Provost.

▶ STACY BECKENHOLDT
Copy Editor

"The university is losing a very good chief and a very good friend. It's not going to be the same without him," UM-St. Louis patrolman Kevin Worthy said of his boss, Chief Bob Roesler.

At a gathering last Thursday night, family, friends and colleagues gathered to pay tribute to Roesler's 14-year career as chief of police at UM-St. Louis.

Over refreshments and conversation, stories and accolades of Roesler were traded as the outgoing chief was given a sendoff. For Roesler, looking back over his tenure as chief reminded him of the transformations he has seen UM-St. Louis go through.

"There was a whole lot of building that was taking place and there was a renewed sense of involvement within the university, a renewed commitment to the students that was enjoyable," Roesler said.

But perhaps the biggest change and greatest joy for the outgoing chief was being active in making the university police department a greater part of UM-St. Louis.

"Instead of just providing police services, [the officers became] part of the campus community, and that is what we always tried to accomplish," Roesler said.

Roesler was instrumental in overseeing many changes in the police department during his tenure.

Among them was making the department the first accredited university police department in the state.

Chief Roesler also put emphasis on community policing.

"That was one of the things that we really stressed to our officers. We knew that we couldn't operate independently," Roesler said.

"He has been a huge contribution to the campus, bigger than anybody could ever

and security of the campus, for the wellbeing of the faculty, staff and students," Provost Glen Cope said.

"It's been fabulous to work with him and I miss him already. But we all want to wish him well in his retirement and all the new adventures he will be getting into, the trouble the fun—whatever it is."

"These are going to be big shoes to fill," Schupp said.

Roesler also received several gifts including a retirement badge, an ID card, and a framed proclamation citing his service with a chief's badge and UM-St. Louis police department insignia, which Roesler designed. A group of students also presented him with gifts on behalf of the student body.

"I could not have done anything without just about everybody in this room. I've never had better bosses, I've never had better colleagues than I have right here and I've never worked with a group of people who cared so much about the students and the community than those in this room," Roesler said.

"I am very sorry to see him retiring," UM-St. Louis Chancellor Thomas George said. George said Roesler was the first person to greet him when he arrived in St. Louis.

"He greeted me, picked me up at the airport, it was like 105 degrees outside and he just laughed and said, 'Welcome to St. Louis!'" George said.

But others in attendance were looking forward to Roesler's retirement.

His brother, John Roesler, who had come down from Cincinnati, Ohio, with his wife and son just for the event, was looking forward to spending more time with his younger brother.

"I'm looking forward to the retirement because I'm ten years older than he is, so I retired ten years ago and now we can do things

A&E

The only real
abduction
is of your
money and
time



COURTESY / UNIVERSAL PICTURES

Milla Jovovich and Elias Koteas star in Olatunde Osunsami's 'The Fourth Kind.' Rated PG-13 for violent/disturbing images, some terror, thematic elements and brief sexuality.

Confused 'Fourth Kind' tries to be innovative, but ultimately fails miserably

"The Fourth Kind" is a mess of a film that is so absurd, if it had a less oppressively gloomy atmosphere and maybe a song or two it could have crossed the line into the so-bad-that-it's-good camp.

Paramount seems to be trying to market the alien abduction movie in the same non-traditional manner that has worked for other recent horror flicks. "The Fourth Kind" is, we are informed, based on "real case studies." The movie tells the "true" story of Abigail Tyler (Milla Jovovich), a psychologist in Nome, Ala., which is purportedly a hotbed of bizarre and unexplained activity.

Some silly figures regarding the number of times the FBI has been there are thrown around, as are numbers of disappearances and other such occurrences.

All of this supposedly true information is meant

to prepare us for Dr. Tyler's discovery: Nome is the site of widespread and constant alien abductions.

The film's formatting is strange. Unique and daring is what the filmmakers were going for, one might suppose. The first scene of the movie finds actress Milla Jovovich stating that she is actress Milla Jovovich, and that she will be playing Dr. Tyler. From here on the film proceeds to show scenes via a split-screen presentation with the "real" footage of Dr. Tyler and her patients on one side, and the acted version of the scene on the right, usually simultaneously. It is a neat idea and it works, but it ultimately becomes distracting as it sags under the leaden weight of the inflated, melodramatic and paranoid script. What we are left with is style over substance and a fundamental sleight felt when it slowly becomes clearer and clearer that

there is no way in hell that any of this footage is real.

As it stands, the film's most successful moments are the fleeting truths that Jovovich is, incredibly, able to access.

These truths are strictly dramatic, however, as the detailing of the plot becomes more and more ludicrous. There are moments of genuine surprise and successful jump scenes, but these seem to be simply frightening images used as an excuse to build an entire movie.

For instance, a person screaming and speaking in an ancient and dead Sumerian language is scary. So what does "The Fourth Kind" do? Run a super-click flash-cut reel of Sumerian tablets with a voiceover explaining how the tablets depict alien encounters that these ancestral humans had. The voice-over ends with, to paraphrase, "you can find all of this in museums."

After this we are soon given a scene in which hypnotized patients of Dr. Tyler levitate off of their beds, speak ancient Sumerian ("I am... God!"), break their backs, and do other such things. This film does not seem to know whether it wants to be an alien abduction story, a demonic possession story, or a "Chariot of The Gods" style D-grade History Channel production about extra-terrestrials building the pyramids.

Supporting performers also hold their own. Let us face it, it is hard to make Elias Koteas look bad.

Will Patton as the Sheriff gets extra points for delivering some of the film's most laughably absurd lines with utter jaw-clenched conviction. After all, in a film willing to sacrifice basic logic for the sake of drama and thrills, someone needs to throw in a little pizzazz. **D** —Chris Stewart

St. Louis Film Fest launches Nov. 12

► CATE MARQUIS
A&E Editor

Really serious cinema buffs, the kind not afraid of subtitles and curious about films beyond usual Hollywood fare, wait all year for the annual St. Louis International Film Festival.

SLIFF, which runs November 12-22, offers around 100 films from around the world, narrative features, documentaries and shorts, plus directors, actors, retrospectives, special events and parties.

The film festival debuts Hollywood Oscar-hopefuls, a chance to see them early, but also brings in outstanding, award-winning films popular at other film festivals around the world, like Cannes, Sundance and Toronto—many of which otherwise never make it to St. Louis.

SLIFF is also an official venue for short films to qualify for the Oscars.

A full list of the festival's program, along with descriptions of films, special events, venues and ticket information is available at presenting organization Cinema St. Louis' website www.cinemastlouis.org/fest.html, where you can find dates, times and venues for all these films and events.

The opening night film is an Oscar-hopeful, "An Education," a thought-provoking, first-rate coming-of-age tale about a 17-year-old girl, set in the "Mad Men" early '60s era, with actor Peter Saarsgaard, an area native.

Other big Hollywood films making local debuts this first weekend include the George Clooney film shot here earlier this year, "Up in the Air," which is getting strong Oscar buzz. Director Jason Reitman will attend for Q and A.

"Precious," a remarkable drama about an abused black teen mother, with Mo'Nique, Mariah Carey and Lenny Kravitz in supporting roles, was an audience choice winner at both Sundance and Toronto that will debut.

"Youth in Revolt," a comedy starring Michael Cera, Justin Long, Ray Liotta and a host other familiar names, also bows at the fest.

There are plenty of films with St. Louis connections. The St. Louis-shot feature "Edgar Allen Poe's Ligeia" will, at long last, get a local showing, and there is a very quirky documentary getting a lot of buzz at other festivals, called "Branson."

There are more fascinating documentaries on tap. "The Gigantic World of Epics" looks at epic movie-making.

A Merry Prankster is the subject of "Saint Misbehavin': The Wavy Gravy Movie," and a legendary lawyer is the subject of "William Kuntzler: Disturbing the Universe."

"Against the Tide" is an outstanding documentary on the untold history about a struggle over rescuing European Jews before and during WWII.

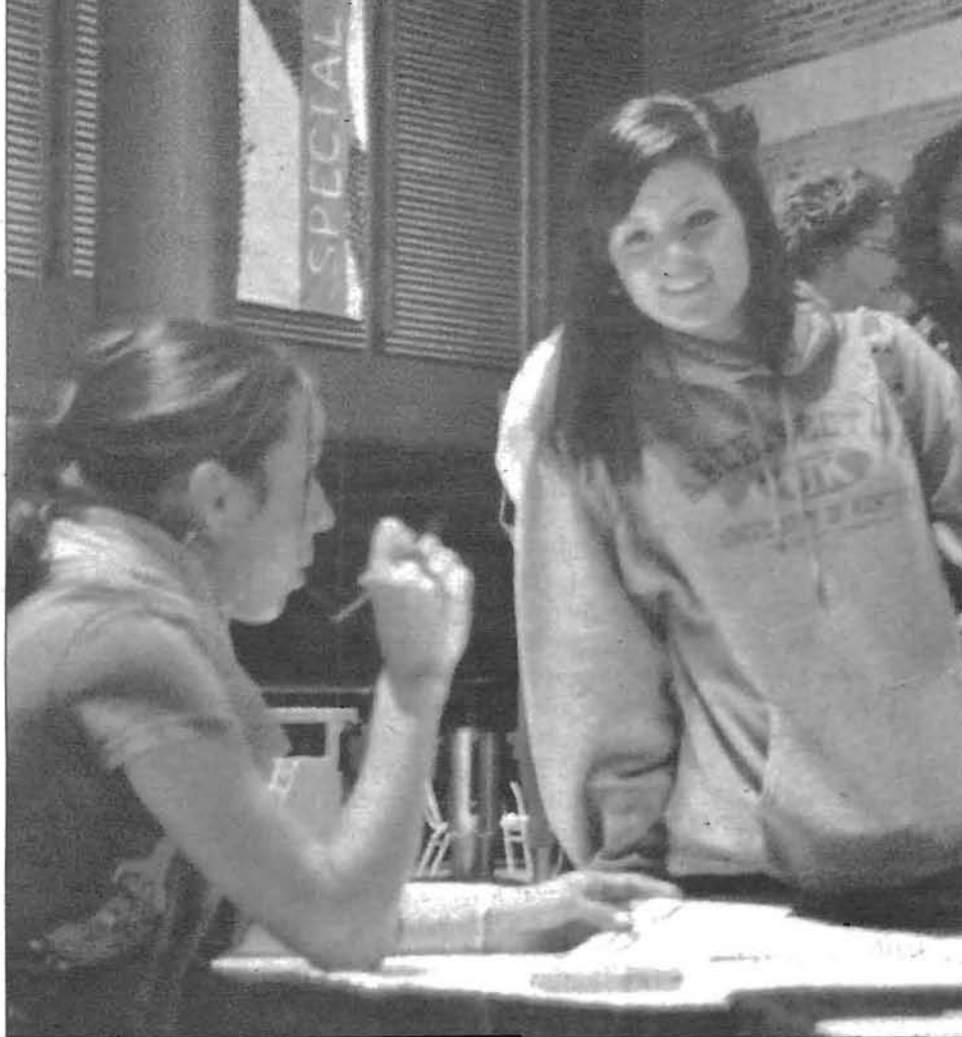
There are retrospectives and special events.

The legendary African American silent film director Oscar Michaux gets showcased, with a screening of "Within Our Gates," Michaux's answer to D.W. Griffith's racist "Birth of a Nation," with live musical accompaniment, followed by a discussion by Michaux biographer Patrick McGilligan on the Metropolis, Illinois-born director's work.

There will also be a concert written to honor Michaux that same evening at the Pageant's Halo Bar.

MAD TV Stars drive Touhill mad

Johnson and Lee stage free comedy show for students



CHERA MEYER / THE CURRENT

Rachael Perkins, nursing, junior (middle) and some of her Delta Zeta Sorority sisters, waited for nearly 45 minutes to meet and get an autograph from Anjelah Johnson last Wednesday at the Touhill Performing Arts Center.

► **STACY BECKENHOLDT**
Copy Editor

The wildness of his long, curly and dark hair paralleled comedian Lee Camp's energy as he moved around the Touhill Performing Arts Center stage like an ADHD child without medication, and his boisterous voice added fun and excitement to his performance.

Last Wednesday night, the University Program Board hosted a free night of laughter for University of Missouri-St. Louis students at the Touhill by welcoming comics Lee Camp and Anjelah Johnson.

While the enticement of free tickets was not enough to fill the house, those who took advantage of the break from academic reality were not disappointed.

The night began at 7:30 p.m. after a brief introduction welcoming Lee Camp to the stage. He opened by saying that "UMSL" was a fun name to say and that it could almost be disguised as a burp.

Unfortunately, in spite of his energy it seemed that Camp was either tired or still finding his stand-up sea legs. At times his delivery was lacking and unimpressive, and received only mild laughter from the audience. He acknowledged this each time by attempting to add to his routine by joking about the bombed joke.

It seemed that Camp may have been attempting to find his signature style, which quickly became old. Switching gears from excited, active joke-telling, Camp would pull a small notebook from a back pocket of his jeans and "read" a short quip in a dull tone that sounded as if he was new to reading. The jokes were mostly clever, but after the second time it lost its luster. By the end of his 20-minute routine, the audience was reduced to polite laughs for his mini-notebook jokes.

A breath of humorous fresh air arrived

when headliner Anjelah Johnson took over the stage. In a gray T-shirt, jeans and green tennis shoes, she rarely stood still and used facial expressions, body language and ethnic accents to pull together cleverly written jokes. A tiny Latina with American-Indian heritage, the former Raiders cheerleading captain acted and sang her way through demonstrations of common daily occurrences. She showed the audience how men from different ethnic groups have signature ways of hitting on women: black men describe the woman ("Hey, blue shirt, whazup?"); Latinos call to women like their puppies (insert kissy noises here); and white men have their friends do it for them.

Clearly, there were serious Johnson fans in the audience, as cheers and wild clapping followed her announcement that she visits the nail salon every other week. YouTube features several clips of Johnson's standup, and a popular one is a typical visit to the nail salon. Even if they have never seen the routine, many female audience members are certain to identify with Johnson's struggles to understand her Korean manicurist's accent and high-pressure sales tactics, which ultimately lead her to pay more than intended.

Johnson's unexpected talent of bear-boxing garnered cheers from many impressed attendees. She rounded out her one-hour routine with (fabricated) examples of airline flight attendants making the preflight safety announcements. She started with the white flight attendant who thinks her own jokes are funny, and she followed with the no-nonsense black flight attendant who has a passenger removed by security for ignoring her presentation. Her final act was the Korean manicurist, who tries to up-sell the passengers to get manicures.

While not everyone was entertained—one man never laughed and another later said he disliked the urban jokes—the majority seemed to have a great time.

Saw VI: a kinder, gentler 'Saw'

Would you be able to sacrifice part of yourself to save the whole? What if you could save the life of someone who had inflicted great pain on you? These are the questions the characters in "Saw VI" must ask themselves.

Opening shortly before Halloween, die-hard fans agree that after some disappointments with the last three films, "Saw" has its punch back with "Saw VI."

Some may claim "Saw VI" is just more of the same, but the only similarity to the previous five films is Jigsaw's attempt to disinfect the filth

of human character through the use of ingeniously homemade contraptions and well thought-out games. "Saw VI" is edgy and gruesome, but different from the typical slasher film in that the victims are chosen for committing inhumane acts upon their innocent brethren.

This time, unwilling participants are connected to one another through a heartless health insurance company, an obvious finger-wag at America's current healthcare system. Employees, denied members and surviving relatives are forced to face one

another and the past or present choices that ultimately decide the others' fates.

Opening with the usual scene of trapped individuals who must fight themselves and one another for their own lives, most viewers will miss that the lone woman is the winner of "Scream Queen," the prize for which is an appearance in "Saw VI." There is no doubt as to why she won as she spends the first few minutes of the film screaming and shrieking in determined agony.

See **SAW**, page 25

Trailer Park

Movies reviewed based on their trailers.

This is It. There's a reason that we couldn't take our eyes off of him, and it goes far beyond the outward and the physical. What it is, I'm not sure of, but it's something, and this movie is full of it. It would have been good enough for the film to not be an awful, lifeless, exploitative mess, but for it to go far beyond that carving out a unique, fascinating, strangely moving place for itself in this world. Sound like anybody you know? (Hint: Michael Jackson) **A-** —Chris Stewart.

Astro Boy. Update of the 1950's animated series that was set in the far away future year of 2000 where, naturally, cars fly and dead boys can be replaced by little robot superchildren (voiced by Freddie "Who?" Highmore) who are capable of blah blah blah. Anyhow, this movie apparently sucks. **C-** —Chris Stewart.

Where the Wild Things Are. Maurice Sendak's beloved children's book gets the big-screen treatment by visual virtuoso director Spike Jonze. The film's success on several levels is undeniable and it's sure to transport you to a nostalgic dreamscape where anything is possible. That is, if you can bare to see a timeless book given a permanent "2009 hipster" stamp and an Arcade Fire soundtrack. **B-** —Chris Stewart.

Faculty shows how it's done

▶ CHRIS STEWART
Asst. Design Editor

It is a pleasure to see any performance at the Touhill Performing Arts Center, which draws the finest from all areas of the art world. It is a particular fascination to see faculty members performing, a combination of seeing them outside of the lecture hall environment and getting a peek into their expressive and artistic sides.

Chamber music pieces in classical music are sometimes thought of as the purest of arrangements. With a piano, a percussion instrument by category, at the core and strings (violins, cellos and any mixture of the two) fleshing out the sounds, chamber music is simple yet potent. A full orchestra may be able to achieve melodic mechanics far beyond this, but the simplicity of a chamber arrangement allows it to cut to the heart of the piece being performed.

Tuesday night, three music department faculty members performed four opuses by Felix Mendelssohn. Mendelssohn was a German composer who accomplished much for the romantic era of classical music in his brief thirty-eight years of life.

This accomplishment was matched by those of Yuly Ilyashov, Natasha Rubinstein and Alla Voskoboynikova on the violin, cello and piano respectively.



MICHELLE KAUFMAN / THE CURRENT

The Faculty Chamber Music Concert, presented by the UM-St. Louis Department of Music, at the Touhill Tuesday, November 3, in the Lee Theater. Here Yuly Ilyashov, violin, Natasha Rubinstein, violoncello, Alla Voskoboynikova, piano, perform the Piano Trio No. 1 in d minor, Op. 49.

Over the course of the evening, the three University of Missouri-St. Louis music instructors performed Mendelssohn's "Sonata in F Major," "Sonata 2 in D Major," "Songs without Words" and "Piano Trio No. 1 in D Minor."

See FACULTY, page 25

Films, art show help to remember fall of Berlin Wall

▶ CATE MARQUIS
A&E Editor

"It was twenty years ago today," begins the old Beatles song but in this case, it is the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, a symbol of the Cold War whose fall on Nov. 9, 1989, marked the end of that era.

University of Missouri-St. Louis' German Culture Center is hosting a free series of Berlin Wall 20th anniversary events on campus.

It started with a documentary film "Freedom Without Walls" and discussion on Oct. 29, and the opening on Nov. 1 of Gallery Visio's "Ikonen," or "Icons of a Border Installation," a photo exhibit on a search for traces of the

Berlin Wall, which runs through Nov. 19. There was a concert, "Berlin in Music," by artists-in-residence Arianna String Quartet on November 8 at the J.C. Penney Auditorium.

On Monday, Nov. 9, there is a whole series of events to mark the actual anniversary. There is another screening of "Freedom without Walls" with an opening program at 10 a.m. in the J.C. Penney Conference Center, and a "Symbolic Opening of the Wall" at noon near the State Senator Wayne Goode statue outside the Millennium Student Center.

At 7 p.m., the keynote talk "Be Careful What You Pray for: The Search for Unity to United Germany," will be given by Dr.

Joyce Mushaben, professor of political science at UM-St. Louis in Century Room C of the MSC.

Mushaben was one of the only experts on East Germany who was present in Washington D.C. when the Berlin Wall fell in 1989. Now she is a Professor of Comparative Politics, a Research Fellow in the Center for International Studies, and former Director of the Institute for Women's & Gender Studies at UM-St. Louis. She teaches European politics—among other topics—and research interests include new social movements and youth protest, German unification and identities as well as the European Union and public policy.

"Berlin in Film" is a film series that runs Nov. 12, 16 and 18 in

the Museum Room of the Honors College. All films will screen at 7 p.m.

The series starts with "Berlin Schönhauser Corner" (1957) on Nov. 12, one of the most significant films made in the German Democracy Republic or GDR, as East Germany was officially named. It focuses on disaffected youth in a once-fabled neighborhood. On Nov. 16, the 1998 film Sonnenallee (Sun Alley) takes a nostalgic look back at the former East Germany and its people and culture.

The last film, on Nov. 16, is "Rhythm Is It!" a 2004 film about the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra's educational outreach to some low-income kids in Berlin.

SWEET JAMS


This week's top 5 iTunes downloads as reviewed by The Current's Chris Stewart

1 'Firefly'
Owl City



Dear Mr. City, please refrain from using photos of our buildings, coastlines, or those of any country within ten thousand billion miles of us. Also we just bought you, and as your owner, ban you from music.
Sincerely,
Dubai.

2 'Replay'
Iyaz




Iyaz really loves his gal, and damnit, he's gonna tell us about it. Fortunately we are happy to hear anything not by Owl City. A harmless hip-pop tribute to the special love shared between a man and his shawty who, as it just so happens, is like a melody.

3 'Russian Roulette'
Rihanna




Like her or not, Rihanna usually doesn't do boring. Unfortunately "Russian Roulette"'s lifeless pacing makes Rihanna's less than enlightening lyrics stand out. Corny imagery that she managed to sell in better songs like "Disturbia" is overexposed here.

4 'Party in the USA'
Miley Cyrus



A sugar-fluff marshmallowy saccharine sticky icky bubblegum concoction doomed to be soon forgotten about until five years from now when you stumble upon that 3 a.m. commercial for a three-disk collection of "songs to nod your head like yeah to." \$19.99.

5 'Tik-Tok'
Ke\$ha



Here's what you can do with an autotune, a copy of "The Zen of GaGa" and a bottle of Jack- which she informs us she uses to brush her teeth (no lie). Ke\$ha (pronounced "daddy issues") has the moral compass of Charles Bukowski and the pop sensibility of a hyena.

'Ikonen' commemorates

Gallery Visio hosts exhibit on Berlin Wall

► ANTHONY PADGETT
Asst. Sports Editor

For over 40 years the Cold War dominated not only the U.S. foreign policy, but much of the world's as well. The threat of a nuclear war between the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. concerned the entire world. In 1989 the world joined together in a sigh of relief as the Berlin Wall began to come down.

Gallery Visio, located inside the MSC by the Pilot House, opened a new exhibit called "Ikonen Einer Grenzanlage" last Friday. The title is German for "Icons of a Border Installation." The exhibition will remain at Gallery Visio until Nov. 16. "Ikonen" commemorates the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall.

The photo exhibit is one of a host of events on campus to mark the anniversary on Nov. 9. A list of events is available at http://web.me.com/germanculturecenter/Berlin_Wall_Events/Home.html.

The wall was a symbol of the separation between east and west and with its fall came the first step toward the end of the Cold War.

The U.S.S.R. was under the new leadership of Mikhail Gorbachev, whose new policies of perestroika (reconstruction) and glasnost (openness) loosened the Soviet's grip on their satellite countries in eastern Europe just enough for them to break free. The U.S.S.R. would collapse in 1991 and bring an end to the Cold War.

In 1961 the Berlin Wall began construction due to over 2.6 million Eastern Germans fleeing to the west between the years of 1949 to 1961. For over 28 years the Berlin Wall separated East Germany from West Germany.

The exhibit has 15 separate panels with photo montages comparing the past and present of the Berlin Wall in Germany. The project came to fruition when 36 students at the University of Paderborn in Germany, under the guidance of the late Professor Barbara Becker and photographer Jurgen Spiler, set out to find remnants of the Berlin Wall.

The students looked at old photos of the Berlin Wall, retraced where the photos were taken and compared it to the modern day landscape. The contrast between the old photos and the modern landscape is quite surpris-



CHERA MEYER / THE CURRENT

Larry Marsh, Coordinator of The German Culture Center explains photographs taken before, during, and after the fall of the Berlin Wall. Many gathered last Friday to view the photographic art on display until Nov. 19 dedicated to the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall.

ing.

One panel of photos shows the Berlin Wall blocking all access between east and west, while the modern photo shows business as usual: The wall has been removed and busy traffic has replaced it. A different panel shows a young child walking past a remnant of the forbidding wall with no idea of the East and West German separation that existed during

the Cold War. Another panel lists over thirty adjectives for the wall with all the different materials used in making walls.

Several panels showed the effects of westernization. Artificially flavored donuts from an American chain of stores appear unappetizing and unnatural in one photo. A separate photo shows a giant Motorola cell phone advertisement on the side of a building.

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Illegalizing what's legal *Smoking ban is misguided*

While it's no big secret that smoking can harm your health, the ban that St. Louis County voted on and approved Tuesday is misguided.

Thanks to the voters of St. Louis County, it will become harder for smokers to light up in most public places in both the county and the city.

For a non-smoker, this means clearer, fresher air in their favorite public place. For a smoker, it means freezing outside in the wintertime, only to receive dirty looks and fake coughs from passersby. However, even non-smokers can agree that the way the ban, or Proposition N, is being executed is wrong.

First, less than 20 percent of eligible voters voted last Tuesday, and only two-thirds of those who did favored the smoking ban—that means

that greater than 80 percent of the population of eligible voters in St. Louis County and City had their smoking rights decided on by a minority of the population. Be that as it may, at least St. Louis County residents were able to vote on their smoking rights; although St. Louis City will have to adhere to the ban, city residents did not vote. Instead, the city's Board of Aldermen passed the ban contingent on the county results.

The reason? Smoking in public places causes a public health concern. Second-hand smoke kills right? Actually, there are studies, not well publicized by the government or anti-smoking campaigns, which show the effects of secondhand smoke to be statistically irrelevant. How-

ever, there are studies that say precisely the opposite. Either way, if the smoking ban was really brought to St. Louis to save the lives of non-smokers, why will it still allow people to smoke in some "drinking establishments" (those deriving less than 25 percent of their revenue from food) and most importantly, "casino gaming areas?"

We venture to guess one reason is because the Board of Aldermen, Mayor Francis Slay, and the rest of the St. Louis government, did not want to have to deal with the lucrative casino industry's steadfast lobbyists. Unfortunately that is not the case for smaller smoking establishments in St. Louis.

In these tough economic times, any measure that will harm small businesses such as



PHIL FREEMAN / THE CURRENT

tobacco shops and bowling allies is a poor decision. The almost-20 percent of voters who did vote were shortsighted, to say the least.

Instead of a blanket ban on bars and restaurants, the owner of each should be able to decide whether their establishment will be smoke-free or not in order to please their clientele. If you are a non-smoker who frequents a

bar where smoking is allowed and it bothers you, tough. Find a new place to go that does not allow smoking. If enough people stop frequenting a place because it allows smoking, the place will either ban smoking, or go bankrupt. That's capitalism.

No matter if you dislike the smell of smoke, it does not make the act of smoking illegal. Just because smokers

annoy you, is not enough reason to start taking away their rights.

Stopping the spread of second-hand smoke may seem noble at first glance, but the way St. Louis is doing it is limiting both personal freedoms and harming small business owners who cannot afford lobbyists to get them onto the elite "exemptions" portion of Proposition N.

Tragic shooting at Fort Hood: who watches the watchers?

Tragedy shook our nation once again last Thursday when a gunman opened fire on the Fort Hood military base in Texas. The alleged shooter has been identified as Major Nadal Malik Hasan, a licensed psychiatrist for the United States Army. Authorities say Hasan opened fire on the military processing center killing 13 and wounding 30 others.

Hasan, who was shot four times by police officer Kimberly Munley, survived the exchange, and is currently one of the two dozen hospitalized in Brooke Army Medical Center. Authorities described his condition as "stable," and investigators are

currently waiting to speak to the comatose alleged gunman who is under heavy guard.

In mass shootings like this, the gunman often commits suicide, or is shot dead by responding officers on the scene. Since Hasan survived the massacre, we may get an answer to the one question we always want to know after tragic events like this: Why?

Since FBI investigators raided the alleged gunman's home, they found out from neighbors that he passed out copies of the Quran just hours before the shooting. His family members have spoken up saying that he was a "calm" person and was taunted for his beliefs after the terror-

ist attacks of September 11, 2001. Colleagues who knew the American-born citizen of Palestinian descent say that he was often very vocal about his opposition of the war on terror. News commentators and bloggers alike have weighed in on possible motives for the shooting, often suggesting that the motives for the attacks mirrored those responsible for the September 11 attacks on the World Trade Center. Others have speculated that he had a mental breakdown.

At this point, no one knows anything. Hasan is still comatose, the story is still developing, and the only thing we have to go on is

speculation. Hasan, who has worked for the United States Military since 1997, was just promoted to major in May of this year. So why would a psychiatrist whose job is to evaluate soldiers with behavioral health problems open fire on his colleagues? We are not suggesting Hasan had a mental problem of his own, but his psychological state should be examined, especially since he was a psychiatrist.

Perhaps his rationality slowly began to slip after enduring the alleged "taunting" after the September 11 attacks, or maybe something else happened that caused him to "snap." Regardless of the case, we at The Cur-

rent believe that all therapists should have to be evaluated by other therapist in order to continue practicing. Who is watching the watchers? We are often under the impression that therapists are the "normal" ones in society and have all the answers, but we can only hope this tragic event sheds light on the need of mandatory therapy for the therapist.

Therapists deal with a lot. They have to work with clients of various mental states, and often have to witness first-hand accounts of their patients' experiences. It can be difficult to leave those heavy issues at work and return home every evening to

continue life normally. That is why we feel therapists should see other therapists to make sure they are effectively separating work from normal life.

Do we believe therapy is the only answer? No, but we can only speculate that this tragedy could have been prevented if Major Hasan had someone "in his head" who could have seen this coming and gotten him help.

Months before the shooting Hasan co-chaired a panel at the American Psychiatric Association's convention entitled "Medical Issues for Psychiatrists in Disasters." Perhaps that was his first cry for help.

Why gas costs \$\$

What you should know about OPEC, starting with what OPEC is



Patrick Canoy

The price of gas hit a new high point for 2009 last week.

According to the Department of Energy, the price is up nearly 30 cents from this time last year.

This is an outrage. It is November, and it is no secret that gas is supposed to be getting cheaper as we get further from summer in the calendar year.

Gas prices are maxing out because last month, the price of crude oil rose about \$10 per barrel in just two weeks, causing it to reach its peak for 2009.

The fluctuations in crude oil prices usually take a

couple of weeks to affect the consumer's wallet at the pump.

The price of crude oil is based on the total amount of world barrel production. The higher the production rate, the cheaper the cost. The other major factor of pricing crude oil is transportation costs:

The oil must be transported very carefully to avoid any spills or accidents. Therefore the closer the oil is to home, the cheaper the cost will be to transport it, and in turn the cheaper it will be at the pump.

The increased price of crude oil certainly explains why we are paying so much for gas at the moment, but it does not tell us why crude oil prices fluctuate so much. Some people think that it is the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) charging us whatever they want because they are greedy, money-hungry monsters.

However, this statement may have been truer in the

past than it is today.

In 1973, the Yom Kippur War began as an attack by Egypt and Syria on Israel. The war only lasted six days, but the effects would be felt for years to come.

The Arab Oil Embargo was imposed on countries that supported Israel during this time (the U.S. included), which resulted in a 400 percent price increase on barrels of oil.

The price remained relatively stable for the next decade and was the cause of the high gas prices and the global recession of the late 1970s.

This proved to the world just how much control OPEC had over the price of crude oil: All they have to do is slow production rates and the price skyrockets.

Consequently, the rest of the world began exploring new methods to reduce the dependence on crude oil. The global dependence was decreased by new technology, such as improved insulation in homes and cars

that could achieve higher miles per gallon, and by non-OPEC oil-producing nations increasing their production rates.

In addition, recent discoveries of large deposits of oil in places such as Alaska, the North Sea, Canada, and the Gulf of Mexico have helped to diminish OPEC's power to control the crude oil price.

Today OPEC still controls about 66 percent of the world's oil reserves, so when they decrease production we can still feel the economic damages here at home, though not quite as much as we did in the past.

The best way to reduce oil dependence is alternative energy, but until then here's to hoping we can discover more oil deposits and decrease OPEC's power over the crude oil market along with its percentage of oil reserves.

It is said that knowing is half the battle. If that is so, why does my wallet still hurt so much whenever I fill up?

The History Channel's worrisome sensationalism

There was a time when I would watch the History Channel and feel like I had learned something and like I had watched something with a little meat.

I counted on the channel as an antidote for the fluff and the opportunistic fads that were piggybacking off of other available television programming.

Sadly, suddenly and strangely, the History Channel is no longer an option. I first noticed it in 2003 when "Pirates of The Caribbean" hit theaters and became an enormous success.

While I doubt this was the first time such a thing had happened, it amused me to see the History Channel rush out a "Real Caribbean Pirates" special.

Not only did I find it distasteful to see the channel desperate to capitalize on the film's success, but the program was also shoddy, rushed and seemed to only be interested in sensationalism. Since then, there has been a stream of similar programs airing.

Among others, I recall a similarly sloppy "The Real 300 Spartans" airing soon after the film "300" was released. I wish that these few projects were my only complaint with the once venerable channel, but they are not.

My biggest issue with the channel's recent programming is that it has slipped into a weird obsession with the apocalypse, the Bermuda triangle, paranormal activity, and general sensationalism.

I cannot help but imagine a board room meeting in which the powers that be decided that specials on Winston Churchill's life or the exploits of the Dutch East India Company simply were not sexy enough. What people want are monsters, mysteries, intensity, and large scale destruction.

As a result, 10 of the last dozen or so times I have



Chris Stewart

watched the channel, I have seen specials on Nostradamus, the Mayan predictions for the year 2012, or The Devil's Triangle. Although they could all be argued worthy topics, the programming again feels rushed and trite.

Detailed research is pushed aside for shocks, which are conveniently saved for the end of the program and teased at commercial breaks, reminiscent of when an entertainment news program announces its "shocking new footage that you won't believe coming up later in the hour."

There is still quality programming on the channel. One recent example worth acknowledging is "Locked Up Abroad" which, although certainly revolved around somewhat exploitative material, is nonetheless very well put together, riveting and informative.

However, even a solid program like this is not the History Channel that I used to know: A World War II obsessed (which was okay, because it is true history, and was always in-depth) haven where a person could go without any reminder of the "edgy content" obsessed era we currently live in.

It is hard to escape into the endlessly fascinating and romantic expanses of history when all too often the channel is airing blatant attempts to capitalize on our taste for sensationalism and destruction.



Claims of victory from both sides of the aisle, as ground is gained and lost



Andy Phipps

It was a humorous sight to see Republican National Committee chairman Michael Steele impersonate a bronze football player. Steele almost always cuts a humorous figure on TV, but his appearance on MSNBC's "Morning Joe" after the November 3rd elections was incredible. While talking to

host Joe Scarborough, he struck the pose of the Heisman Trophy, an award given yearly to college football's most outstanding player.

Perhaps more humorous was the fact that Steele called GOP victories in New Jersey and Virginia "huge" after Republicans reclaimed two democratic governorships in states that President Obama had last year.

This, before going on to laud himself and his fresh leadership of the Republican party, and questioning whether Democratic dominance was coming to an end.

This was a fitting ending to what had been somewhat close scrutiny of these elections by the media. Many media outlets had said that these elections would serve as

a report card before the 2010 mid-term elections of whether or not President Obama and his party's electoral dominance was holding up.

When Republicans won the gubernatorial races, many in the media followed Steele's lead and began inferring that President Obama and the Democratic agenda were losing support among voters, but the media and Steele are missing the reality here.

For starters, Obama has a 52% job-approval rating nationwide. Though trepidations over health care reform, the escalating situation in Afghanistan—and the fragmentation these two issues in particular has caused among elected Democratic officials—could be seen as counterproductive to his executive agen-

da, he still has the support of a majority of Americans.

Republican victories in New Jersey and Virginia can actually be chalked up to lackluster Democratic candidates in those states. In New Jersey for instance, Democratic incumbent Jon Corzine provides a wonderful example. Corzine had approval rates 40% and lower almost the entire time he was governor.

His tenure was defined by failed leadership, such as when the New Jersey state government was shutdown after Corzine failed to work constructively with a Democratic-controlled state legislature. When a budget was not passed on deadline, the government of New Jersey was shut down. In Virginia,

Democratic gubernatorial candidate Creigh Deeds was a virtual unknown running for an open seat. In addition, his lackluster campaign was out-fundraised by his Republican opponent.

I think that, ultimately, the lesson of these elections is that if you are a bad public servant, or are perceived as being unfit for the office you are running for, voters will not vote for you—no matter what your party affiliation. But if there is a lesson to be found in the results of the November 3rd elections, it can be found in New York's 23rd Congressional district.

This was a three-way race between Democrat Bill Owens, Republican Diedre Scozzfava and Conservative Party candidate Doug Hoff-

man. Scozzfava, a moderate Republican who supported gay rights and the right to choose, actually dropped out of the race when the GOP decided to back the ultra-conservative Hoffman over her. Owens ultimately won the race with 49% of the vote and became the first Democrat to hold the seat since the 1850s.

What this race shows us may be the real lesson to be learned from last week's elections, one that Michael Steele should not be happy with. It shows us that the GOP is still fractured and that as long as it refuses to give more moderate leaders like Scozzfava a seat at the table, they will continue to marginalize themselves. And this, ultimately, may still be their downfall.

Dear politicians: the internet is not a series of tubes



Andrew Seal

We all know our country is in dire straits right now. However, I am not talking about the economy, or the wars, or any of those terrible and scary things you see on the news.

What is scary about the

future is that this great nation of ours is being led by the technological equivalent of cavemen.

The world is evolving, even as you read this. Social media like Facebook and Twitter are connecting greater and greater numbers of people every day. There is no question that social media technology is the future of interaction.

Unfortunately for America, politicians did not get the memo, or the "tweet" for that matter.

While the average teenager spends more time online than they do studying or reading books, America's politicians are stuck back in prehistoric times.

They might as well be sending smoke signals or scratching pictograms onto their office walls.

Take Republican (former) senator Ted Stevens, for example. This 86-year-old thinks the Internet is "not a big truck," but a "series of tubes."

Not only that, but he also said: "Ten movies streaming across that, that Internet, and what happens to your own personal Internet? Just the other day ... an Internet was sent by my staff at 10 o'clock in the morning on Friday. I got it yesterday [Tuesday]."

Someone on his staff sent him an Internet? No wonder it took so long to get there.

Best part of this story? The octogenarian used to be the chairman of the United States Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation—the committee in charge of regulating the Internet.

Next up, we have John McCain, a self-confessed technology moron. "I'm an illiterate who has to rely on my wife for all of the assistance that I can get," he said in a 2008 interview.

John McCain was 72 in 2008. His wife was 54. I do not think that it is too far of a stretch to say that there is a pretty good reason he is technologically illiterate.

I am not being ageist.

Older or younger, there are a great deal of politicians in our government who do not understand technology.

That is also not to say that all politicians are technologically backwards.

During the 2008 election, Obama was pretty much surgically attached to his BlackBerry. Go ahead, do a Google image search for "Obama" and "blackberry."

The point is, America, is that these men and women are dictating policy for the common Internet user.

For the most part, they have no idea how the Internet really works, no idea of the magnitude of what the Internet service providers are

trying to do by discouraging Net Neutrality, and they have no idea how the shortsightedness of their actions could impact the future.

These politicians are making groundbreaking decisions that will greatly affect the Internet for years and years to come. Take, for example, the issue of Net Neutrality: One day, if the ISPs have their way, you would have to pay to access certain websites.

It is not necessarily a politician's job to know about technology—but it is our job to call them on that lack of knowledge. We need more politicians who know technology, or are at least willing to learn.

DARFUR, from page 15

"People are being killed because they are Christians and they are black. We are talking about 400,000 people.

That's like the entire population of St. Louis.

Just close your eyes and imagine the entirety of St. Louis being wiped out by a government bomb," Ndichu

said.

Ndichu was attending the University of Nairobi when the Northern and Southern regions of the Sudan were engaged in heated civil war.

He mobilized a group of six students to travel through the Sudan and volunteer as teachers and help with war relief.

"Why bother? It is a country way out there. Why bother?" Ndichu said of the conflict.

This deals with a question echoed by some Americans. "Well, this is genocide. It has happened in 2008 and it is happening today."

The issue, as Ndichu described it, is a global concern.

Aside from the African Union, which hopes to bring peace to the Sudan region, the United States and China are key components to its resolution.

Both remain in opposition regarding the conflict.

"The U.S. has played a big role in relief efforts and organizing a peace agreement be-

tween the North and South, so there is a lot of hope," Ndichu said.

"But China remains a big player in the Sudan conflict.

It mines a lot of oil from the Sudan, and gives arms in exchange."

Events like "Rock 4 Darfur" are one way to raise money for awareness and

refugees in Sudan.

There are a number of organizations that help directly with Darfur as well.

The St. Louis Save Darfur Coalition and Amnesty International in particular are continuing to influence legislation, and appreciate any and all help to further their cause.

SCIENCE COLUMN

Conservation forum sheds light on local environmental issues

Every fall, the Whitney R. Harris World Ecology Center at University of Missouri-St. Louis presents the Conservation Forum, an annual conference built around a crucial topic for conservation, and usually one that has broad impact on our world. Past Conservation Forums have focused on the Missouri Ozark Forest Ecosystem Project (MOFEP), biofuels and ecological sustainability, floodplains in conservation and the development and preservation of the Galapagos Islands.

The topic this year is food, specifically sustainable agriculture, and it promises some delicious discussions.

The 2009 Conservation Forum "Sustainable Agriculture: From Field to Market" is set for Thursday, Nov. 12 at the St. Louis Zoo's Living World. Registration and viewing of exhibits begins at 5:30 p.m. and the program begins at 6 p.m.

The event is free and open to the public, but registration required. The Harris World Ecology Center has the details at <http://www.umsl.edu/~biology/hwec/about/events.html>, where you can also download a flyer for the event.

The Conservation Forum is one of four major public events the Harris World Ecology Center sponsors throughout the year.

The Harris World Ecology Center is a collaborative effort by UM-St. Louis, the Missouri Botanical Garden and the St. Louis Zoo to provide research support for graduate students in international ecology studies. The Center's executive director is Dr. Patrick Osborne.

Food is always an interesting topic, but agriculture has an enormous impact on conservation.

The "green revolution" that boosted production with high-yield crops, pesticides, chemical fertilizers and monoculture of crops has had an impact on the world that has expanded with growing populations and globalization.

Now there is an increasing interest in organic growing, with "locavores," "slow food" and local growers changing the trend from bigger farms to smaller ones. The Conservation Forum takes a practical approach to look at the multiple sides of the topic.

In past Conservation Forums, the program has broken down like this: The first half-hour is for registrations and viewing of exhibits. This is followed by concurrent workshops or breakout sections.

There is then followed by a light dinner, and another chance to view exhibits and posters. The event is capped by keynote speeches.

This year, the program opens with a choice of breakout sessions: Mark Lehenbauer, a farmer from Hannibal, Mo. speaking about "Environment, Conservation and Agriculture," or former St. Louis restaurateur turned local foods purveyor and advocate Andy Ayers, whose speech is titled "Local food = good politics and good eatin', too!"

There will be a dinner break, and a light dinner will be provided for pre-registrants within the space limits of the cafeteria. The main program begins at 7:30 p.m.

Speakers and topics in-



Cate Marquis

clude: Dr. Robert Marquis, scientific director of the Harris World Ecology Center, who will speak on "Agricultural sustainability: The complexity of the issues," Dr. Doug Landis, Department of Entomology at Michigan State University, who will speak on "Biodiversity and sustainable agriculture: Harvesting ecosystem services from agricultural landscapes," and Dr. Marty Matlock, associate professor of the Applied Sustainability Center at University of Arkansas, who will speak on "Measures, metrics and indices of sustainability."

The forum is capped off by a panel discussion "From Field to Market." Panelists are Fred Luckey, the executive vice president of Bunge North America, Dr. Marty Matlock, associate professor of the Applied Sustainability Center at University of Arkansas, and Rick Tolman, CEO of the National Corn Growers Association.

The Conservation Forum offers a tantalizing opportunity to learn about the many issues of growing food, including finding a sustainable balance between maintaining a healthy planet and growing enough healthy food.

Since everyone eats, we are all involved in this one.

FASHION COLUMN

Fashion!

St. Louis styles that you never knew

St. Louis is not typically the place where designers, models, photographers, and makeup artists run to "make it" in the fashion industry. That place has always been reserved for New York City, the fashion capital of the United States, and more recently Los Angeles.

We are tucked neatly in the center of the two fashion capitals, and we are overshadowed by Chicago, who is moving quickly up the fashion notoriety ladder, and disregarded next to the cool country fashion scene progressing in Memphis.

Nevertheless, that does not mean we cannot hold our own fashionable candle to our Midwestern and Southern counterparts.

Like them, we have a fashion week every fall and spring, and like them, we have hundreds of boutiques unique to our city.

However, what Chicago and Memphis do not have are bragging rights to four fashion heavyweights making moves around the globe.

I find it particularly cool that even after all of her success, 17-year-old Karlie Kloss still resides in St. Louis. She can be seen stomping the runways of Marc Jacobs, Chanel, Gucci, and Nina Ricci, just to name a few. She has also graced the cover of Teen Vogue and scored a modeling contract with NEXT Model Management last year.

Endorsement deals keep piling up for the teen, who is known for her swayed runway walk and stoic poses,

but she manages to do it all between classes at Webster Groves High School.

Another St. Louis native making waves in the industry is 16-year-old model, singer and actress Taylor Momsen.

She can be seen every Monday at 9 p.m. on "Gossip Girl," but this statuesque rocker is also signed with IMG Models and has a record deal with Interscope with her band The Pretty Reckless.

That is a far cry from her University City upbringing.

Next we have the model-turned-mogul's wife-turned-mogul Kimora Lee Simmons, who everyone loves to hate.

The hating started back at Lutheran North High (a stone's throw from University of Missouri-St. Louis) where kids teased the biracial teen, calling her a "chinky giraffe."

Her classmates even keyed her BMW, which she bought after returning to school from Paris fashion week during her senior year. Ouch! Simmons has had the last laugh though, raking in close to a billion dollars a year with her successful clothing line Baby Phat.

She also has her own Barbie doll, a reality show, a book, and is the creative director of Phat Fashion. Although some might consider her over-the-top and egotistical personality a bit much to handle, let's give her credit for being a fashion icon.

Those familiar with the



Sequita Bean

St. Louis fashion scene are no stranger to swimsuit designer Lori Coulter.

I first saw her work last March at St. Louis Fashion Week, and I remember being in awe when I saw her collection of bathing suits cascade down the runway. I thought, "Where did she come up with this?"

I was particularly blown away by her finale piece: a bathing suit that upon first glance resembled a ball gown, but the end part was removed to reveal a bathing suit.

Unlike her hometown counterparts, Coulter lives, works, and runs her business out of St. Louis, and is not planning on leaving any time soon.

Her flagship store is in the University City Loop, but you will also find Coulter's designs at department store giant Macy's.

Even though the aforementioned fashionistas wear St. Louis on their lapels, Coulter is living proof that fashion success can be achieved at home.

See St. Louis, we are fashionable after all.

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700 MISCELLANEOUS

Event: African Night

Host: African King of comedy Michael Blackson

Date: Wednesday, Nov. 11th 2009

Time: 7pm - 11pm

Venue: JcPenney Building

Admission Fee: Early ticket purchase \$8.00 per ticket & \$10.00 @ the door ...Children under 3 are FREE!!!!!!!!!!

Cultural diversity is perhaps the most important part of social understanding, the primary goal of Pan African Association is to enable students of African descent and otherwise, to interactively explore all aspects of African culture. Africa Night will include enlightening exchange of culturally relevant information and ideas, the night will also include a delicious array of ethnic food, an exciting display of African fashion, a thrilling showcase of music, dancers and much more. Come on out and celebrate with us.

Trivia Night to benefit the Sisters of the Good Shepherd,

Saturday, November 14th, 7 p.m. (doors open at 6 p.m.)

St. Ann Church, 7530 Natural Bridge (half mile east of UMSL)

\$15 per person or \$150 table of ten

Cash prizes, giveaways, beer, soda and snacks included

Contact: Pat Williams 314-381-0120

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FACULTY, from page 19

The opening F major opus was a triumphant piece indicative of the youthful Mendelssohn's romanticism and his love for the works of Johan Sebastian Bach. The final movement of the opus, a passage in assai vivace, was the evening's most resounding moment.

The Touhill's smaller Lee Theater was packed, uncharacteristically full for such an event. Chamber music is lovely but it tends not to

draw the same crowds as a student play or visiting comedian. The house, however, was full Tuesday night, and the crowd was appreciative and attentive.

Violinist Ilyashov is originally from Minsk, and pianist Voskoboinikova is native to Ukraine, while cellist Rubenstein hails from New Jersey. UM-St. Louis has a knack for drawing exceptional music-department members from other states

and countries. Most recently, a group of four siblings who also happen to form a string quartet transferred to our campus together.

It is difficult and even bittersweet to consider what Mendelssohn might have accomplished if he had lived longer, but with such talent-packed performances as the faculty chamber music concert, what he did accomplish in life will continue to be remembered and expressed.

SAW, from page 18

While some fans may watch to satisfy their twisted desires for all things disgusting, the heart of these movies is in forcing the characters and the audience to face their faults. One can argue that John (Tobin Bell), who is dubbed Jigsaw for the signature puzzle-piece cutout he leaves on the skin of some victims, is a serial killer, but he claims nothing less than emotional and/or physical torture will cure the evildoers

of their afflictions. Like Dexter in the popular television series of the same name, Jigsaw lives by a code and carefully selects his victims.

"Saw" has been creeping closer to blandness with a been-there-done-that-but-let's-do-it-bigger-and-bloodier goal, similar to far too many movies these days ("Hostel," "Hatchet," "Jason vs Freddie") but it has significantly pulled back (no five-minute-long brain sur-

geries here) to delve deeper into the lives of nearly everyone. About half of the movie is devoted to tying up loose ends between past and present while focusing on John's widow Jill (Betsy Russell) and Hoffman (Costas Mandylor), the forensic specialist.

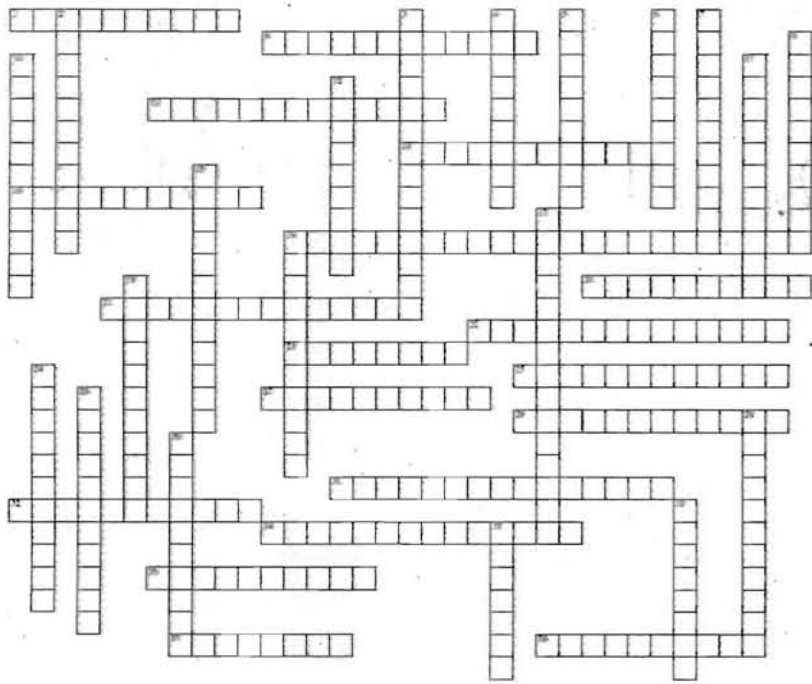
The director seems to have found a comfortable pace without sacrificing what makes the Saw series one of the best in its genre. B+ —*Stacy Beckenholdt*

If you know the news today, thank a journalist!

Puzzles

CURRENT CROSSWORD by Matthew Hill

House democrats that voted against the health care bill



ACROSS

1. Tennessee, District 8.
8. North Carolina, District 8.
- 13 Florida, District 23.
14. Tennessee, District 4.
16. Idaho, District 1.
18. South Dakota.
20. Georgia, District 12.
21. Minnesota, District 7.
22. Alabama, District 5.
23. Arkansas District 4.
25. Pennsylvania, District 7
27. Alabama, District 7
28. Ohio, District 16
31. Louisiana, District 3
32. New Mexico, District 2
34. Mississippi, District 1
36. Tennessee, District 6
37. Oklahoma, District 2
38. Mississippi, District 4

DOWN

2. North Carolina, District 11.
3. New York, District 13.
4. Florida, District 2.
5. Pennsylvania, District 7.
6. New York, District 29.
7. Utah, District 2.
9. Missouri District 4.
10. Texas, District 17
11. Kentucky District 6.
12. New Jersey, District 3.
15. North Carolina, District 7.
17. Maryland, District 1.
18. New York, District 20.
19. Alabama, District 2.
24. Colorado, District 4.
26. Georgia, District 8.
29. Virginia, District 9.
30. Washington, District 2.
33. Virginia, District 2.
35. Ohio, District 10.

CURRENT HOROSCOPES

ARIES
(MARCH 21 - APRIL 20)
The true nature of a relationship that has been troubling you lately will become clear this week. Even if the situation is not what you expected, given time and effort, things could turn out well.

TAURUS
(APRIL 21 - MAY 21)
You'll be presented with a much needed opportunity to reevaluate the things that you feel tied to in life. If anything seems unnecessary, now is the time to get rid of that clutter.

GEMINI
(MAY 22 - JUNE 21)
If you've been a bit isolated from friends and family lately, this week is a good time to change that. Make plans to do something fun with someone you haven't seen in a while.

CANCER
(JUNE 22 - JULY 22)
This week brings a few unpleasant but very necessary tasks that excuses won't get you out of. Luckily, once you've gotten those chores out of the way, you can spend the weekend relaxing.

LEO
(JULY 23 - AUG. 21)
You may find yourself holding some unpopular opinions this week. Don't be afraid to stand up for yourself. You've got more people on your side than you may think.

VIRGO
(AUG. 22 - SEPT. 23)
A friend or acquaintance may turn out not to be who you thought they were. Don't hesitate to end a relationship that doesn't seem to be in your interests. You'll thank yourself later.

LIBRA
(SEPT. 24 - OCT. 23)
If you're feeling stressed it may be a good idea to take a break from your everyday routine. Perhaps you could shake things up with a spontaneous day trip to somewhere you've never been.

SCORPIO
(OCT. 24 - NOV. 22)
Now is a good time to try and break a bad habit. If you make a commitment now you're more likely to stick to it. Ask friends or family for their support and inspiration.

SAGITTARIUS
(NOV. 23 - DEC. 22)
You may be feeling more restless than usual these days. Definitely follow your urge to change, but don't be rash or overzealous. You don't need to completely overhaul your life.

CAPRICORN
(DEC. 23 - JAN. 20)
Don't rely too much on a friend or family member to help you out this week. It's not that they don't care, but they have their own problems. See what you can do to make their life easier.

AQUARIUS
(JAN. 21 - FEB. 19)
Stop comparing yourself to those around you if it's making you miserable. Learn to be happy with what you have, and to improve yourself for your own sake, not to impress others.

PISCES
(FEB. 20 - MARCH 20)
Lately you've been worrying too much about little things. This week, instead of fretting over tiny details, try to appreciate the things in your life that are going just as you intended.

CURRENT SUDOKU by Gene Doyel

This week's rating:

★
(Easy)

Last week's answers

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

Last week's rating: Very hard

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

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 A's in the message, and so on. (Hint: Z=l)

...CE C RBOO GCJ, Z HCAO SBZLO ZJ
HXO QMBLE
"ZIX FZJ OZJ FOBDZJOB!"

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!

Check back next week for solutions to sudoku!

Comics

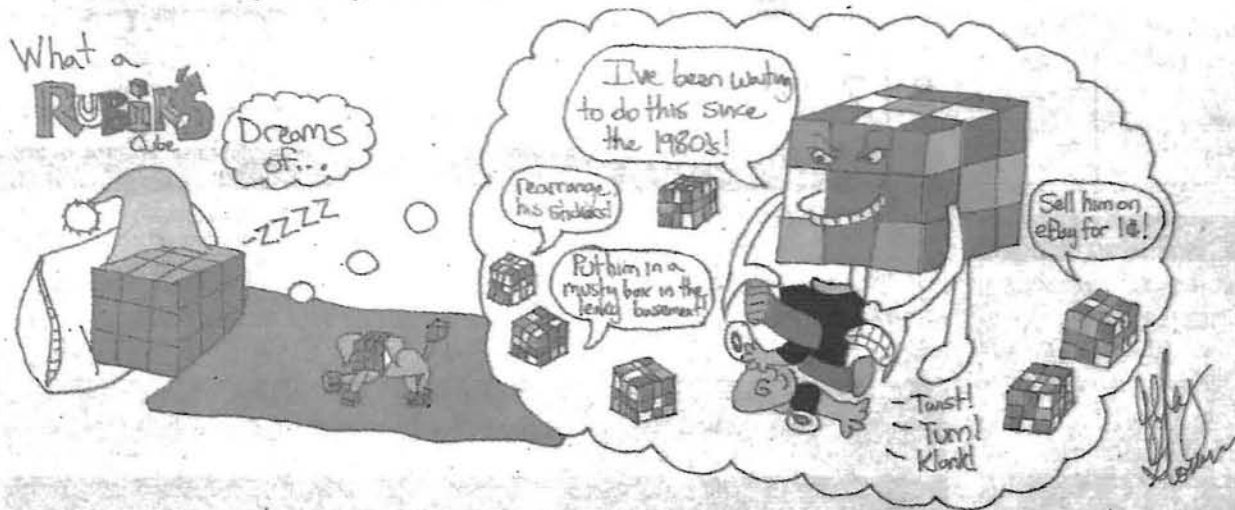
MARGARET & HOORAY BY CODY PERKINS



GOOD GUYS by Phil Freeman



RANDOM MINDS by Jeffrey Grossman



Bananas #19 by Paul Magire



CAN YOU DRAW THIS WELL?

(or better?)

Apply to be a Current cartoonist!

What's Current

Your weekly calendar of campus events. "What's Current" is a free service for student organizations. Deadline for submissions is 5 p.m. the Thursday before publication. First-come, first-served. Listings may be edited for length and style. E-mail event listings to thecurrent@umsl.edu with the subject "What's Current." No phone submissions. All listings use 516 prefixes unless noted.

Monday, Nov. 9

Making It Weird Matthew Eck, assistant professor of English at Central Missouri State University and author of *The Farther Shore*, reads from his new work and gives a lecture on craft. Located in 222 J.C. Penney Conference Center, from 12:15 PM to 1:15 PM. For more information contact Karen Lucas at 314-516-5699.

Research Papers without Tears What you need to know about citing sources, in your text and at the end of your paper. How to introduce quotes, when to do block quotes, etc. Located at SSB 215 from 12:30 PM to 1:00 PM. For more info contact David Linzee at (314) 516-5950.

Tuesday, Nov. 10

Employee Wellness Fair UMSL employees can receive health screenings, seasonal flu shots, and information from exhibitors. Located in the Century Rooms of the MSC, from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. For more information contact Jaime Capizzi at 314-516-4001.

UPB: Video Game Tour UPB is bringing you the Video Game tour. Come compete against your friends in Rock Band, DJ Hero, Halo and Madden. It's open to every one, so make sure to stop by when you get out of class! Located at the Benton Hall, Room 241, from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM. For more info contact Darren Nesbitt at 314-516-5531.

Wednesday, Nov. 11

US Army ROTC Informational Table Army ROTC cadets will be setting up a table in the MSC in order to give interested students information about the opportunities available to them in Army ROTC. These opportunities include, but are not limited to: scholarships, summer training events, and the ability to commission as an officer in the US Army upon graduation. The cadets will be there from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. For more info contact Michael Bruns at 636-577-0285.

Dancing Heads! Come create a music video anywhere and in any way through the amazing Dancing Heads. Come experience the fun special effects and go home with your very own music video on DVD. This is free and open to all students. Brought to you by the UPB. Located in the Nosh, from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. For more info contact Darren at 314-516-5531.

African Night This event will be hosted by Michael Blackson "The African King Of Comedy." It costs \$8 before the show and \$10 at the gate. Come and experience with us our culture, food, art, music and learn more about Africa as a whole. Brought to you by the Pan-African Association. Located in the JC Penney Building, from 7:00 PM to 11:00 PM. For more info contact Elizabeth Ayo-Vaughan at 314-420-3927.

Thursday, Nov. 12

UPB Theater: Transformers Revenge of the Fallen We are bringing the summer blockbuster right to you for free before it is released anywhere else! UPB will have popcorn available and we will be raffling off an Optimus Prime Talking Helmet to people who attend the movie. Come enjoy! Located in 222 J.C. Penney Conference Center, from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM. For more information contact Darren at 314-516-5531.

Friday, Nov. 13

Service Project Friday: Rake-A-Thon Help out some of our elderly friends in the neighborhood in the UMSL area clean up their lawns! Breakfast and lunch will be provided. Be sure to register in advance, so we have enough rakes! Located at the Newman Center on 8200 Natural Bridge, from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM. For more information contact Liz Detwiler at 314-385-3455.

Lunch and Learn about Academic Service-Learning Learn the nuts and bolts of integrating service-learning into a course and begin drafting a service-learning component you will use in a future course. Please register. Located in MSC- Century A, from 12:30 PM to 2:00 PM. For more information contact Peggy Cohen at 314-516-4508.

Orchestra performs classic concert



AHMAD ALJURYED / THE CURRENT

University Orchestra, with Conductor James Richards performed classic pieces such as Mozart's "Adagio and Fugue", Beethoven's "Symphony No. 3" at Touhill's Lee Theater Thursday, Nov. 5.

Saturday, Nov. 14

UPB Experience STL: Pyro Party The University Program Board wants to take YOU! on our 2nd trip to the University City loop for a pyro party. Come practice live art making through heat and metal. Create custom crafts, art work, and jewelry! Takes place at the Craft Alliance (U city Loop) from 7 PM - 10 PM Come up to the office or call 314-516-5531 to sign up!

Read more event listings online at www.thecurrentonline.com



AFTER ALL IS READ AND DONE,
PLEASE RECYCLE!

-YOUR FRIENDS AT THE The Current