

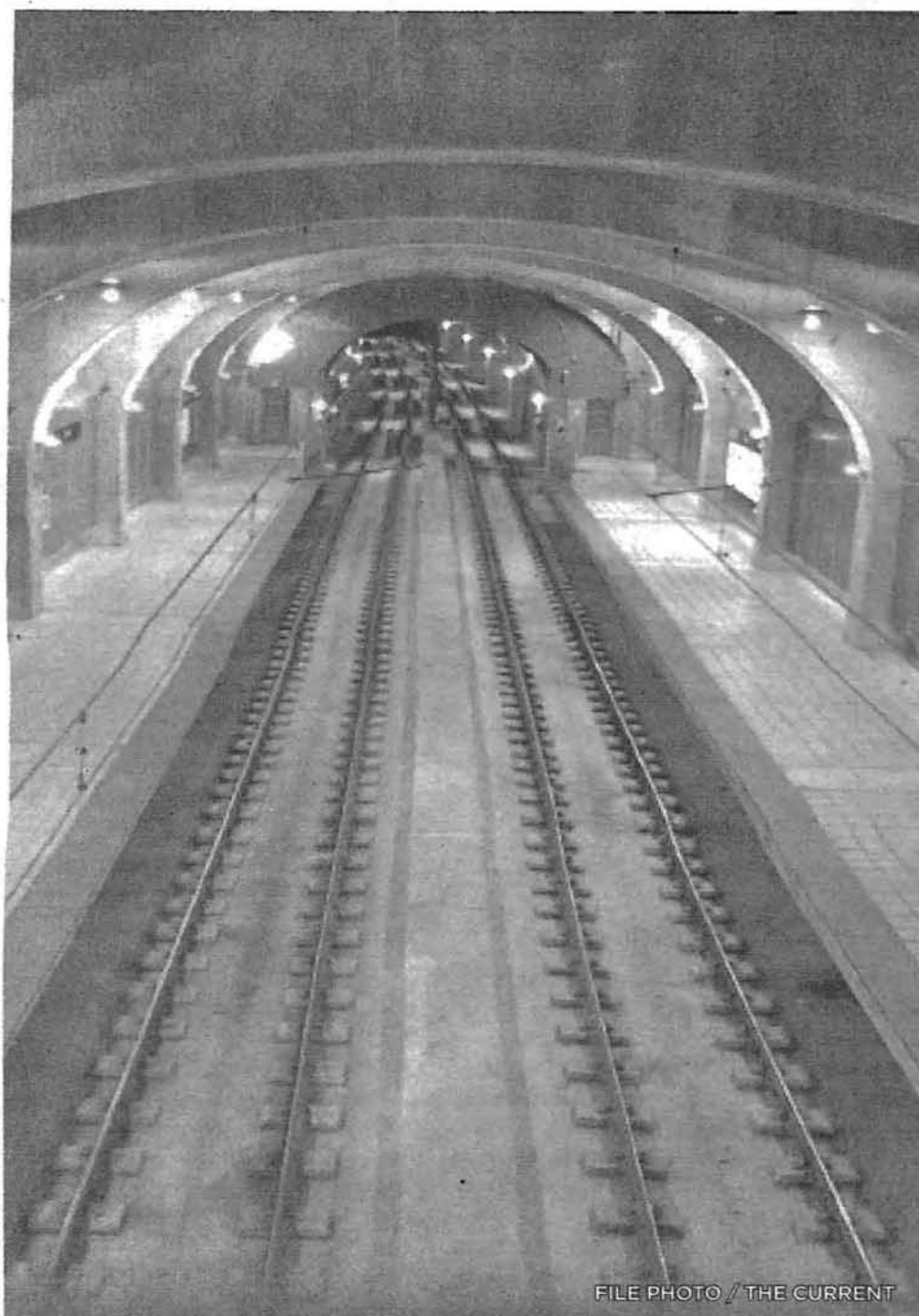
# The Current

WWW.THECURRENT-ONLINE.COM

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FILE PHOTO / THE CURRENT

## A NEW DAWN FOR THE METROLINK

BY PATRICK W. CANOY

Metrolink has served the greater St. Louis area since it first opened back in 1993. Students have arguably played an integral role in the Metrolink's history, contributing a large amount to its overall rider-ship.

"Metrolink has realized that a good percentage of the riders during the day are students at Washington University and UMSL," Tyler Hicks, sophomore, sociology, said. "Plus there is a large number of foreign students who have no vehicle. Also, college kids are broke and it's the cheapest way to travel."

According to [moremetrolink.com](http://moremetrolink.com), the average public transit commuter saves \$2,000 per year versus driving. Also, students can save even more money through student discounts that Metro offers. A student ID will get many college students a discount through Metro, and some colleges such as Southwestern Illinois University, Washington University and the University of Missouri-St. Louis have even better deals where the college pays for the passes and gives them to students at a cheaper price.

Metrolink recently began a new advertising campaign targeting students.

"The basic concept of the commercial is to show what life would be like without Metro," Director Bob Miano from Technisonic Studios, the studio hired to film the commercials, said. "It shows shots of students, local businessmen, sports fans, disabled people and the elderly being forced to hitchhike because there is no Metro."

The commercial was shot on Friday, January 29, and will be released in the next few months. It will show people standing on the side of the road hitchhiking and receiving no sympathy from passersby. Some of the locations that have been shot for the commercial include the area around Union Station and parts of Clayton, although it has not been decided which area would be used in the commercial.

"The commercials will help to generate the younger crowd to come ride Metrolink," Carlos Hagene, 28-year-old actor in the commercial and Vatterott College Computer Technology major, said. Hagene is no stranger to Metrolink commercials having acted in one previous commercial for them, along with a few of the other students.

The new advertising campaign comes in the wake of a failed transit proposition for St. Louis County. The proposed half-cent sales tax increase in the county would have cost the average county family an extra \$4 per month. This proposition failed by a slim margin and resulted in Metrobus routes being cut back, fares increasing and Missouri state legislature stepping in to grant a one-year \$12 million appropriation to restore some of the bus routes.

On April 6, the proposition will resurface to give county voters another chance to vote and either secure or seal the fate of transit in St. Louis County. Metro hopes its commercial might send some college student votes its way.

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# UM System to help out Missouri economy

## New Enterprise program will help provide more jobs

► ANNA MARIE CURRAN  
News Editor

Thursday, Jan. 21, 2010, the University of Missouri System announced in a press release posted to the website that the System intended to spend up to \$5 million to create an Enterprise Investment Program.

The program will create startup companies across Missouri that will help to increase the number of jobs available for Missouri citizens.

President of the UM System, Gary Forsee, announced in his annual "State of the University" speech that the System planned to begin to be "part of the solution" to improve the state's current economy. In his speech, Forsee stressed the importance of the new program by pointing out the various ways in which it would aid the citizens of Missouri. Forsee said that not only would the new program help commercialize the products and discoveries of the UM System faculty, but it would also help to create jobs for Missourians, as well as help to increase the university's expertise in new areas including the life sciences, nano science, information technology, engineering, medicine/medical devices and energy.

"It is imperative that we transform our Missouri economy so we are em-

bracing the high-tech industries of the 21st century," David Kerr, director of the Missouri Department of Economic Development, was quoted as saying in a press release posted on the website by the System. "An initiative such as the Enterprise investment program will merge the best minds in the University System with entrepreneurs at start-up companies across our state, which will create quality jobs for Missourians in the cutting-edge industries of the future."

The System plans to begin work on the program this summer, beginning with an outside advisory panel that will be implemented to go over applications for funding and suggest which should receive funding. Right now, the System plans to give funding to the first eligible companies in the fall of 2010.

In order for a company to be considered eligible for funding, there are certain requirements—although some are still going through the process of becoming finalized—that the company will have to fulfill. Some of the key minimum requirements are that the business must be licensed to practice business in the state as well as all employees and assets must be "maintained" in Missouri, and the companies must agree to supplement the university with quarterly progress reports. The companies must also

be aware that they will receive funding installments "based on achievement of agreed-upon milestones."

President Forsee also expressed his opinion that, despite the economic challenges facing the state, the System should continue to invest in "moving innovation into the marketplace."

"As the state's largest public research university, we believe we are an engine for growth in Missouri," Forsee said. "We are committed to investing in our economic development program across the state."

Vice President of Economic Development, Michael F. Nichols, said that the UM System will be one of the first to create a program like this. Nichols said that because it is such a new program, the university wants to make sure everything is done right, even if it takes longer and is consulting with some other institutions that have put similar programs into place.

"[It's] a new program, no one else has done this in the state, so we are taking our time to make sure we are getting [all] our factors considered," Nichols said.

Nichols explained that one of the goals of the program is to make it self-sustaining, and he urged private individuals to think about supporting and investing in the projects.

# Professor Jean-Germain Gros speaks on Haiti

► SAMUEL ABRAHA  
Special to The Current

Dr. Jean-Germain Gros, Associate Professor of Political Science and Public Policy Administration at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, is also a Haitian-American and will be a guest speaker at a discussion hosted by the political science academy titled "The destruction of Haiti: A look into the country's history and future," on Feb. 10.

Gros said that he has been personally affected by the earthquake that has ravaged Haiti. Gros explained that he lost a second cousin along with three family houses that were destroyed in the

earthquake. Gros said he has plans to visit Haiti as soon as commercial flights resume.

"What happened in Haiti has been a great tragedy, many people lost their lives," Gros said.

Gros expressed that although he feels there is great hardship ahead for Haitians, Gros believes the Haitians are a strong-willed people who will overcome.

"We have known it all: hurricanes, dictatorships, revolutions and now earthquakes," Gros said.

He also envisions ways the UM System as a whole can help in the reconstruction efforts.

"One possibility is to send down a

team of engineers, structural engineers, civil engineers to see how best Haiti may be reconstructed," Gros said.

Haiti's infrastructure was not meant to withstand such a powerful earthquake and does not meet many building standards found in the west. "There should be more relief and assistance from other nations," Luke Rundle, freshman, said. Haiti is also exposed to two major fault lines which make the nation more vulnerable to future earthquakes. "So the question becomes, for a country with limited resources, how best to rebuild and withstand earthquakes," Gros said.

See HAITI, page 3

WEATHER

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23	21	11	25	27	27	25

# Optimism for housing market

*Business, breakfast, and an optimistic outlook*

▶ **AARON HOLDMEYER**  
Staff Writer

As the stream of coffee poured out into the eager hands of business students and alumni, the University of Missouri-St. Louis Breakfast and Business Seminar kicked off.

Meeting at the West County campus last Thursday, the morning was a cacophony of networking, bagels and that all important black beverage—coffee.

The topic for the morning was the housing market. Throughout the past year, this sector has seen a massive downturn.

From productivity to revenue, the housing market has not been the place for much growth. However, on Thursday, two seasoned veterans of the real estate industry presented a relatively optimistic picture for both potential home buyers and the housing market itself.

The presenters were Jim Brennan, president of McKelvey Homes, and Ken Kruse, president of Payne Family Homes, both UM-St. Louis alumni. For about an hour, both of these men presented their perspectives on the housing market and fielded

questions from the audience. Their presentation was titled “The Housing Roller Coaster.”

While Kruse offered a more conservative and cautious outlook for the national housing market, he also said, “Housing is here to stay ... Housing is a stage of life decision ... I feel very good about our industry in the long run.”

During his presentation, Kruse also admitted that now is a very scary time to be working in real estate. However, Brennan found this downturn to be another unique challenge.

“If you’ve been around as long as I have ... you see ups and downs. You can’t judge anything by just a day or a month or even a year,” Brennan said. “You have to look at longer periods of time and say, ‘How do you measure success?’ I’ve owned McKelvey homes for 10 years. I’ve had nine great years and one year that maybe is a little more challenging, but on average its been pretty great.”

The second portion of the presentation, which was given by Brennan, focused on the regional market and gave a much more optimistic outlook. He claimed that the St. Louis market, while

hit less hard than other areas, should have bottomed out by now and that according to his record sales in December, it should be starting to slowly rise.

Mr. Brennan agreed with Kruse that the market today is very unique and tilted to benefit the buyer. With federal stimulus tax credits and low mortgage rates, both find this a perfect time to buy a house. When asked whether a college student graduating in May should rent or buy, Kruse said, “Based on where we are today ... with the first-time home buyer tax credit, where we are with housing pricing being at or near bottom, I would absolutely recommend buying.”

Along with the more statistical approach, Brennan offered up some anecdotal advice about dealing with apprehensive buyers. He told a story of returning a down payment to buyers with cold feet even though a legally binding contract existed.

“I’m happy to say [because of] the education I got from UM-St. Louis, I’m able to take the business ethics, the experience of theoretical, and evaluate [a tough situation] because [the answer] is not always clear,” Brennan said.

## HAITI, from page 2

It was on Tuesday, January 12, when the 7.0 magnitude earthquake struck just 15 miles away from the capital Port-AU-Prince. The earthquake claimed close to 200,000 deaths according to the European Commission and left 1 million homeless. Many buildings collapsed including the presidential palace. This has created a huge humanitarian crisis in a country where poverty was rife even before the earthquake. Haiti is considered the poorest nation in the western hemisphere. Gros explained a number of internal and exter-

nal factors that have caused this.

“After Haiti became independent, major powers including the United States and France had an embargo on Haiti,” Gros said.

Gros explained that in 1825, Haiti’s former colonizer France had threatened to re-invade unless reparations were paid of 160 million gold francs, which would have been equal to \$20 billion today. Gros explained that it took Haiti until 1947 to “pay off the so called debt.”

Historical divisions among Haitians and corrupt dicta-

torships have also added to the nation’s poverty level.

UM-St. Louis has taken notice of the need in Haiti and plans a benefit concert titled, “Finding Hope for Haiti Concert,” on Thursday Feb 11 from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. at the MSC Pilot House. All donations will profit the American Red Cross Haiti Relief and Development.

“We plan to attend the concert and we are looking for other ways to help Haiti,” Ibrahim Nigo, senior, media studies, Pan African association member, said.

# loveline

with dr. drew

February 10, 2010, 7:30pm

Touhill Performing Arts Center

Students: \$5 w/valid UMSL

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General Admission: \$18

Tickets Available @ the Touhill Ticket Office (314) 516-4949 [www.touhill.org](http://www.touhill.org)

For more information contact the University Program Board (314) 516-5531 or the Office of Student Life (314) 516-5291



# Statshot

## UNDERCURRENT by Riki Tanaka

The cost of parking at UM-St. Louis continues to rise each semester. What do you think of the cost of parking on campus?



**Naina Aijaz**  
Junior  
Biology

"The price of parking pass should be equal, not based off hours. I paid \$300! Not cool!"



**Matt Guempel**  
Senior  
Studio Art

"At Texas Tech, the price was \$70 for an entire year. At UMSL, I pay \$280 for one semester and the parking here is far less available and convenient!"



**Brett Evans**  
Sophomore  
Accounting

"After paying the \$2800 to live in the residence halls, I shouldn't have to pay \$280 for a parking pass. Plus, it takes like 20 minutes just to find a spot. Come on, now!"



**Melissa Godar**  
Senior  
Studio Art

"I definitely think it's expensive, but it seems logical to base it on credit hours."

## VERBATIM - SARAH PALIN EDITION

"How's that hopey-changey thing workin' out for you?"

-Sarah Palin on Obama



"Now that my focus has been enlarged, I sure as heck better be more astute on these current events, national issues."

-Sarah Palin on her focus

"It would be absurd to not consider what it is that I can potentially do to help our country."

-Sarah Palin on herself

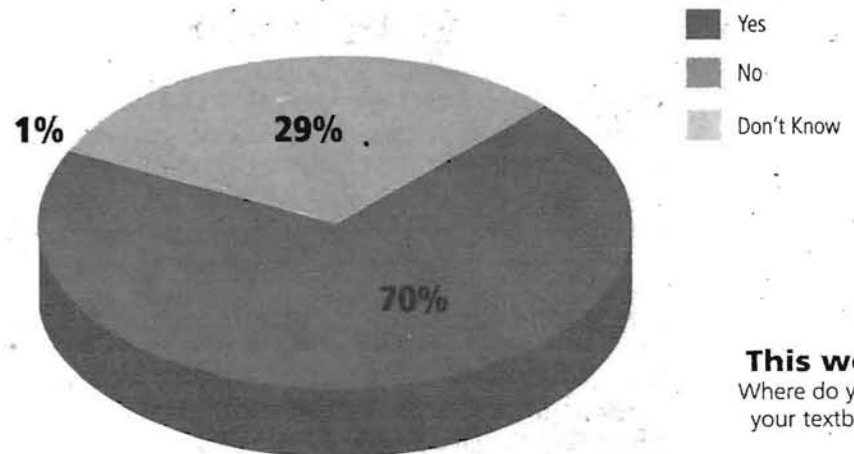


"This party that we call the Tea Party, this movement, as I say, is the future of politics in America."

-Sarah Palin on the Tea Party

## POLL

Do you feel well-rested?



■ Yes  
■ No  
■ Don't Know

### This week:

Where do you buy your textbooks?

Answer at [www.thecurrent-online.com](http://www.thecurrent-online.com)

Results taken from Gallup, Inc.

## CRIMELINE

### Sunday, Jan. 31

#### Assault Third Degree - University Meadows Apartments

A disagreement over living arrangements at the Meadows led to a disturbance between two female subjects. A new resident had moved in with her children and was allegedly disturbing the other roommate. The management at the University Meadows Apartment complex did not know or approve of the new resident having children in the apartment that was being shared by another resident. After a verbal argument, one party started to fight with the other and both exchanged punches, until a male subject was able to break up the fight. Neither party was injured in the altercation. One of the female roommates left the area with her male friend before the police arrived. This matter will be referred to the St. Louis County Prosecuting Attorneys Office for criminal charges and also to Student Affairs for review of possible violations of student code of conduct. Neither party in the assault was arrested.

### Wednesday, Feb. 3

#### February 3, 2010 Stealing Over \$500.00 - Millennium Student Center, Nosh

The victim, an UMSL faculty member, left her purse on the back of a chair in the Nosh area around 12:00 PM. She left for a few minutes to get something else, and when she returned her purse and all of her contents were gone. No one sitting in the area noticed the theft. 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.



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# Sports

## Men's basketball fades fast *Losing skid extends to eight*

► **CEDRIC WILLIAMS**  
*Sports Editor*

The University of Missouri-St. Louis men's basketball team saw its worst losing skid in several seasons extend to eight straight with two road losses last weekend at Southern Indiana and Kentucky Wesleyan.

The Tritons had not lost more than six games in a row since the season before head coach Chris Pilz took over in 2003. But to avoid claiming that dubious honor this season, the Tritons knew they were facing a mighty tough task and needed to win a game on the road against two of their toughest opponents of the season.

Southern Indiana came into Thursday's contest with a 19-0 record, and was ranked No. 2 in the country in last week's NCAA Division II national poll. Saturday's opponent, Kentucky Wesleyan, which was ranked No. 16 in

the national poll, had a 21-3 record when it hosted UM-St. Louis.

But it was the Tritons who controlled the action against both opponents, forcing them to play UM-St. Louis' slow down, grind-it-all style.

Against USI, the Tritons played about as well as could be expected in such a hostile environment, and trailed just 26-20 at the half.

But USI opened the second half with a 21-7 run that turned what had been a close game into a 47-27 blowout with just over 10 minutes left.

The Screamin' Eagles eventually led by as many as 23 points before finishing off a 59-44 win over the Tritons. USI standout guard and GLVC leading scorer Jamar Smith, a player many professional scouts believe might get selected in this summer's NBA Draft, led the Eagles with 14 points.

For UM-St. Louis, Nico Oestbye, freshman, unde-

ecided, had a career-high 14 points, including four three-pointers to lead the Tritons.

On Saturday against Kentucky Wesleyan, UM-St. Louis once again got off to a good start. Sam Buxton, sophomore, international business, made a layup off of a nifty pass from Beaumont Beasley, sophomore, undecided, to make the score 11-10 with just over 11 minutes left in the first half.

Unfortunately for the Tritons, that was the last field goal they would make for the entire half. UM-St. Louis missed their final seven shots and committed six turnovers in the final 11 minutes of the half, only managing to score on four free throws by Eddie White, junior, elementary education.

KWC led 29-14 at the half. UM-St. Louis managed to cut into the deficit slightly when Zach Redel, sophomore, undecided, made two free throws and a short jumper to make the score 32-20

with 16:04 left.

But the Tritons went the next 10 minutes making only one field goal—a jumper by Beasley—and saw their deficit grow to as many as 28 points before KWC began to pull its starters out of the game. The final score was 66-30, and UM-St. Louis' losing streak was now at eight games.

The Tritons now stand at 10-13 on the season, and will look to end the losing streak with two more road games this week. On Thursday, UM-St. Louis will play at Rockhurst before moving on to play at Drury on Saturday.

UM-St. Louis will close out its regular season with two home games next week against Missouri S&T on Thursday, Feb. 18, then against Maryville on Saturday, Feb. 20. Both those games will be played at the Mark Twain Building and will tip off at 7:30 p.m. and 3 p.m., respectively.



AHMAD ALJURYED / THE CURRENT

Men's basketball team practicing in Mark Twain last week.

## UMSL tennis getting into the swing of things

► **SAMUEL ABRAHA**  
*Special to The Current*

Head Coach Rick Gyllenborg, who is in his 15th season as men's coach and ninth season as women's coach, has coached a total of 22 all-conference players, three Freshmen of the Year and one Player of the Year selections. He has also coached 36 academic all-conference selections and UM-St. Louis' first ever GLVC Scholar Athlete of the Year. He also has recruited a number of valuable international players.

Gyllenborg has put to-

gether a strong women's team which will be able to step up to the competition this year.

"Increased scholarship dollars and quality players on the women's side has created one of the best, if not the best teams, I have had," Gyllenborg said.

Leading the Triton women's team back to the court this spring will be Pujitha Bandi, sophomore, business. Bandi is an international transfer from India and was an all conference player for the Tritons last season.

Upperclassmen Stephanie Thompson, senior, inter-

national business and Aya Gombo, junior, accounting, are two additional star players that will lead the talented women's team.

The women's teams have yet to make it to the tournament.

"We hope this is a breakthrough season," Gyllenborg said.

Other players expected to make an impact for the Triton women this year include: Annie Gonzalez, junior, business administration; Cassandra Maerz, junior, nursing; Yuki Takashima, junior, accounting; Leticia Garcia, sophomore, information

systems; Katie Rynkiewich, anthropology; and Kristiana Lazarova, freshman, nursing.

The men's team is coming off an unsuccessful previous season has made some changes and will strive to turn things around.

Andreas Hammas, freshman, undecided, is an international player from Sweden who showed some promising skills in a spring match at Saint Louis University.

A number of other newcomers hope to bring some fresh energy to the UM-St. Louis men's team. Those players include: Karl Antwi

Adjei, freshman, business; Felipe Naranjo, freshman, international business; and Jamie Lawlor, junior, civil engineering.

Returning for the Tritons this year are Daniel Anthony, junior, management information systems; Alex Cherman, junior, international business; and Tim Bryant, junior, accounting.

"The everyday goal is to make the conference tournament, but the higher goal and bigger prize is to make the national tournament," Coach Gyllenborg said.

With eyes focused on the

national tournament this season, the men's and women's teams are looking to be a threat in their conference and amongst teams of all divisions.

Both Triton tennis teams will begin spring play with neutral site events throughout the month of February.

Then in March, the women's team will play in match play events at Missouri Western on March 12, and at Northwest Missouri State on March 13, before competing in their first home match of the season on March 19 against Nebraska-Kearney.

# Sports facilities all ready to go

► **CEDRIC WILLIAMS**  
Sports Editor

As we approach the start of the spring sports season, it occurred to us that many students on campus, especially the new students, might not know much about the facilities our University of Missouri-St. Louis spring sports teams play their home games in.

Many of us have spent time at the Mark Twain Building for basketball and volleyball games, or at Don Dallas Field for soccer matches, but most of the student body might not know anything about where the baseball, softball and tennis teams call home.

## UMSL Baseball Field

UM-St. Louis' newest facility, the UMSL Baseball Field was completed in the spring of 2009 and is located on South campus. The facility features covered bleacher seating for up to 200 fans behind home plate, with ample room for lawn chairs on either side.

The baseball field also features an elevated press box with a modern sound system and scoreboard. The full-sized electronic scoreboard, which sits in left field, also features a digital display. Field level amenities include covered dugouts and bullpens for both teams, as well

as an infield tarp for field protection.

Although construction of the baseball field was completed last year, the UM-St. Louis baseball team never got to actually use the facility last season because drainage problems after a major storm prevented the field from being in usable condition.

But after extensive repairs during the fall and winter, the new field is set for its first official game, next Tuesday, Feb. 16, when the Tritons will open the 2010 season against Harris-Stowe.

## UMSL Softball Field

The UMSL Softball Field is technically located on North Campus but not exactly in an area most would see on their daily trips to campus. The softball facility is located a little further down University Blvd. than the regular part of North Campus, off Rosedale Dr., across from the Fine Arts Building.

The \$500,000 modern softball facility features its own parking lot, concession stands, restrooms, an enclosed press box and seating for up to 500 fans. At field level, the facility includes dugouts for each team, an equipment storage facility, outdoor batting cages near both dugouts and an infield tarp to protect against inclement weather.

The newest addition to the facility is a large, wooden gazebo for cookouts and gatherings, which was added prior to the 2001 season.

The Triton softball team will open its season on the road this year, but will return home to host the UMSL Invitational Softball Tournament, during the March 5-7 weekend, as well as 18 other home games this spring.

## UMSL Tennis Courts

The UMSL Tennis Courts are also located on North Campus, next to the Mark Twain Building, which provides easy access to locker room facilities and the training room.

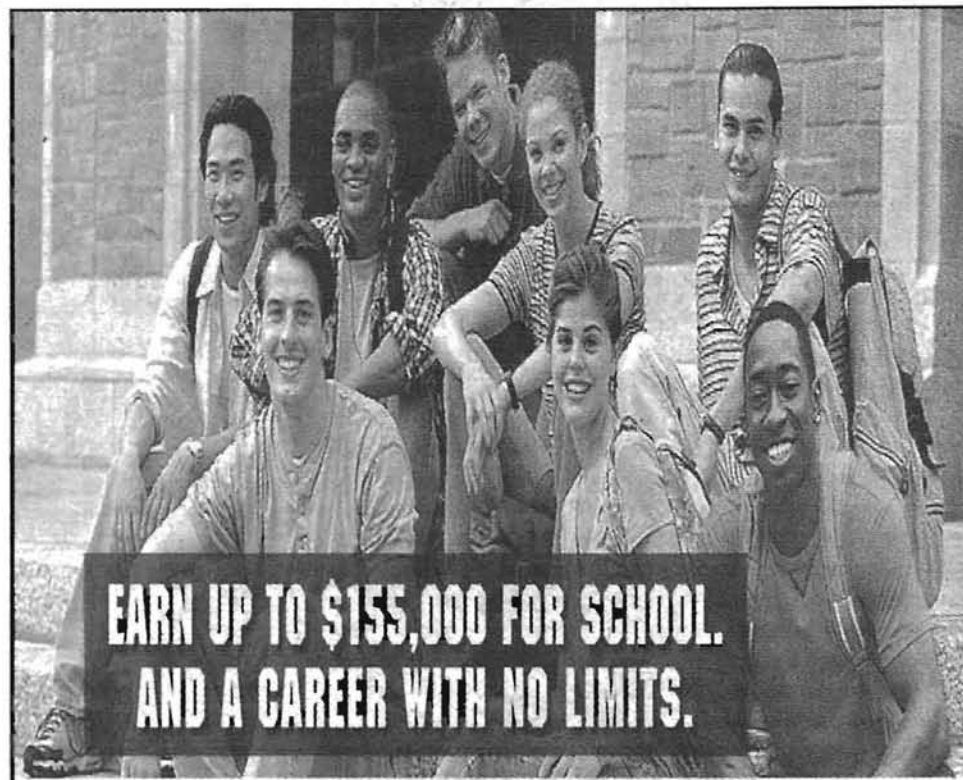
The tennis facility itself features six, full-size tennis courts in an enclosed area.

The courts were most recently renovated during the summer of 2005, which included a complete court resurfacing, new fences and wind screens.

One unique feature to the UMSL Tennis Courts is the playing surfaces are painted red to match the university's school colors.

The women's tennis team will host seven home dates this spring, while the men's team will host eight.

Both teams will begin the home seasons on March 19, against the University of Nebraska at Kearney.



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## COACHES' CORNER

## Chris Pilz, Men's basketball coach

▶ CEDRIC WILLIAMS  
Sports Editor

Each week Sports Editor, Cedric Williams, will sit down with one of the UM-St. Louis coaches and have a conversation about all kinds of sports and life issues. This week, Cedric spoke with men's basketball coach Chris Pilz. Here's just a snippet of that conversation:

**Ceddie:** A couple weeks ago, you and I talked about Mark McGwire coming back to the Cardinals, which has been a very controversial issue in the pro sports world, but I was also curious what you thought about something most consider more pleasant news for the Cardinals, which is the re-signing of outfielder Matt Holliday.

**Coach Pilz:** I'm excited that we got Holliday signed, that's for sure. He's an unbelievable player. I think having him and (Albert) Pujols playing together for at least the next couple of years is gonna make summer and fall pretty exciting for Cardinal fans.

**Ceddie:** Although the last couple weeks proved to be a tough sledding for the Tritons, one recent highlight for the program was the really nice reception and ceremony UM-SL athlet-

ics threw for assistant coach Chico Jones on January 23, when he was being honored for 30 years of service to the university.

**Coach Pilz:** I thought what Ms. Flanagan did was great. This was a very special day for our program and for Coach Jones. He has had such a positive influence on so many UM-SL basketball players throughout the years, including me when I went through here. He's a great guy and a great ambassador to the university, and he deserves all the [love] he got out there today.

**Ceddie:** These next couple of weeks are going to be really big for the Tritons, as you guys head into what are probably the four toughest games of the year. This stretch will see UM-SL play road games at #2 ranked Southern Indiana; at #16 Kentucky Wesleyan; at #15 Drury; and finally at 14-7 Rockhurst, who beat you at home last Saturday. What are some things you guys can do to try to turn this thing around and pick up a couple of Ws in what might be the toughest stretch of games any team in the country has to play all season?

**Coach Pilz:** It's all about attitude and effort. That's a choice, not an ability. With

our guys, when the attitude and effort is good, we're a good basketball team, but when our attitude and effort is not where it needs to be, then we're not a very good basketball team. We've got to get out there and make a choice that our attitude and effort is going to be good today and everyday, that's when we'll start [to get more positive results].

**Ceddie:** Finally, along with playing some of the best teams in the country this week, you guys will also see what might be the best player in the country in Southern Indiana guard, Jamar Smith. The talk is, he might get selected in this summer's NBA Draft. I have my doubts, but you've seen him a lot.

What do you think of the young man's chances of playing in the NBA next year?

**Coach Pilz:** I tell you what, he is one terrific player. I bet Illinois wishes he was still there, because he's just a solid, solid player. He was Freshman of the Year in the Big 10 when he was there. So you can imagine how good he looks in the GLVC. I don't know if he's going to go in the first round, but I bet he gets taken in the second round. He really is that good.

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## Women's basketball needs win

▶ ANTHONY PADGETT  
Asst. Sports Editor

With the end of the basketball season less than two weeks away, eight of the 12 teams for the Great Lakes Valley Conference playoffs have already clinched a spot. The women's basketball team at the University of Missouri-St. Louis is still trying to clinch their own playoff spot and took to the road for the first two games of a four-game road trip.

On Thursday night, the Tritons took on Southern Indiana, who was trying to end a three-game losing streak with a 15-6 overall record and a 5-4 conference record.

The Tritons would take an early 13-5 lead after a Kelly Mitchell, junior, communications, had a successful three-pointer with a little under 14 minutes left to play, but Southern Indiana would retake the lead going into halftime by the score of 34-30.

In the second half, the game would be tied up nine times and have 10 other lead changes. After a hard fought game by both teams, with the lead going back and forth, the Tritons would lose by the score of 75-66.

The real killer for the Tritons was turnovers, of which

they had 25. Southern Indiana took advantage of this and made 30 points off the Tritons' 25 turnovers. The Tritons only scored eight points off Southern Indiana's 19 turnovers.

Two days later, the Tritons took on another conference rival, the Kentucky Wesleyan Panthers, who entered the game with an 11-11 overall record and a 4-9 conference record.

The Tritons would take an early lead of 10-4 with 16:38 left in the first half, but the Panthers would tie the game at 35-35 going into the second half. In the second half, the Tritons would take the lead at two different times, but both were early in the second half. The Tritons' last lead of the game was 47-46 with 14:57 left to play. After this point in the game, the Tritons would never tie the score back up.

The Tritons would trail by only two points with 4:40 left after Lindsey Ransome, senior, communications, made back-to-back three-pointers to make the score 68-66. But the Panthers would never let the Tritons get any closer as they would go on to win by the score of 83-74. With the loss, the Tritons' overall record is 10-13 with a 6-8 conference record.

A few positive notes for the Tritons in this game were they had less turnovers with 14 to the Panthers' 19, and in steals, UM-St. Louis had nine to Kentucky Wesleyan's five. The Tritons also fared better in second chance points with 19 to the Panthers' 13, and in points off the bench, with 29 to 24.

Hailee Deckard, sophomore, secondary education, led the Tritons in scoring in both games last week. She had a game-high 21 points against Southern Indiana, then duplicated the game-high feat with 17 points and seven rebounds against Kentucky Wesleyan.

Despite the two losses, the Tritons are still in an excellent position to make the playoffs. If the Tritons can win their next game, which is Thursday against Rockhurst, they will clinch a spot for the GLVC playoffs.

Rockhurst currently has a 6-16 overall record and a 2-12 conference record. The Tritons already beat Rockhurst earlier in the year at home by the score of 71-51.

Then the Tritons will play their final road game of the season when they travel to Springfield, Mo., to take on Drury, which currently has an overall record of 18-6 and a conference record of 10-3.

If you knew the news today, thank a journalist!

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RIKI TANAKA / THE CURRENT

UMSL Opera Theatre and the Department of Music present L'Amour' on Thursday and Friday night at Lee Theater Touhill Performing Arts Center. There will be an upcoming performance of University Singers and University Orchestra featuring Franz Schubert and Mass in G Major on April 20, 2010.

## UM-St. Louis Opera Theater hosts a night of opera, love and...humor?

► **CHRIS STEWART**  
Staff Writer

A quick word association game: make a mental list of all of the things that come to mind when you think of opera. Done? If the word "funny" did not make your list, you probably are not alone.

For many a casual observer, the broad expression, intense discipline and superb art of opera are often stereotypically associated with melodrama and tragedy. While these calamitous emotions made appearances during University of Missouri-St. Louis Opera Theater's "An Evening of L'Amour," the overall tone of the evening was one of levity, infatuation and the lighter side of love.

The Touhill's Lee Theater played host Thursday and Friday to student performers

in a creative intertwining of 20 pieces, spanning a range of operatic material from an 18th century composition by Mozart to a 20th century Stephen Sondheim piece.

Students sang in all vocal ranges, multiple languages and mixed ensembles. There were romantic pairings, comedic group pieces and a show-stopping group finale.

The show began with a lone violinist playing Guglielmi's "La Vie En Rose" while the stage slowly filled with the performers who would be trading spots throughout the evening. The first few pieces were brief and distinct—not disjointed, but clearly separated pieces of different tone and mood, though all fairly light-hearted. Ravi Raghuram's surprisingly funny, crowd-pleasing cupid exemplified this spirit, stealing

scenes even though that character did not sing.

Donizetti's "Only One Moment Adina," however, from "The Elixir of Love," proved a more in-depth piece that set itself apart from the previous performances. It was longer and had more time to sink in than the previous performance, and its casting allowed for perfect romantic and comedic timing, letting the duet weave its delights. A song from Verdi's well-known "La Traviata" rounded off the first half of the show, leading into what the program humorously listed as "Le Pause."

The second half of the evening saw longer, more individualized performances. The show found its pace and gave itself the kind of breathing room that truly allows opera to achieve what it is

capable of and what the first half hinted at, particularly through tenor Keith Boyer and sopranos Jennifer Brown and Audreia Norman.

Donizetti's "Lucia Sextet" drew the audience into the second half of the show's potential, featuring stand-out performances from all of its performers including mezzo-soprano Blair Brown, bass-baritone Bradley Hult and soprano Lauren Weber. Clever comedic performances of Stephen Sondheim's "Remember" and Arthur Sullivan's "Madrigal" rounded out the evening.

The entire evening's performance proved the diverse talents of the entire cast and the ability of our student performers and faculty directors to put on a splendid, moving, funny and overall first-rate show.

# A&E

## Troubadour Dali is a disappointing live act

The music industry is obviously suffering. The going hypothesis is that no one really buys CDs anymore.

Some have thought that vinyl will enjoy a grand return to prominence but the convenience of mp3s seems like it will continue to relegate collecting records to a habit of purists.

Regardless, it is not the best time to be producing records.

Most of all, it is a bad time for a record store to be producing records. No one mentioned that to Euclid Records, who is championing St. Louis band Troubadour Dali, who played at Off-Broadway on January 31, as the next U2 or something.

Euclid Records may have thought it could tap into the wealth of local talent, which is not that bad of an idea in theory (some record companies are thriving).

The unforgivable mistake they made is their choice of band.

Troubadour Dali's record may sound okay (thanks to Mates of States producer Bill Racine) but they are currently incapable of effectively translating it to their live show.

At Off-Broadway, Troubadour Dali sounded like they have been trying to lose a Brian Jonestown Massacre accent for half of their existence.

Maybe they realized that their riffs were just too blatantly ripped off from BJM that they decided to water-down and mumble some Jesus and Mary Chain styling to retain some artistic credibility. The effect is an uncertain act, overly concerned with imitating their influences than channeling anything new and organic into shoe gaze.

See TROUBADOUR, page 10

## Trailer Park

Movies reviewed based on their trailers.

**Dear John.** Channing "yummy" Tatum stars as some kind of boy and Amanda Seyfried is some sort of girl in this movie. When the steel mill shuts down, he's forced to rally survivors in a barren land where a virus has turned many into cannibals. All of this gets in the way of Tatum's dream of building rockets. Seyfried, meanwhile, just wants to dance. **D-**—Chris Stewart.

**From Paris With Love.** Bald man chase bad guy make boom boom with young hair-having man who also make a pow pow all over Paris. And who suffers in the end? The children, that's who. **C-**—Chris Stewart.

**Valentine's Day.** This year's romantic epic staring everyone revolves around the interlocking blah blahs of nine young blah blahs who all struggle with the joys and blah blahs of young love. Blah. **F**—Chris Stewart.



## FILM REVIEW



COURTESY / SONY PICTURES

Channing Tatum and Amanda Seyfried star in Sony Pictures' "Dear John." Rated PG-13 for some sensuality and violence.

## Sparks fail to ignite

Bestselling author Nicholas Sparks has yet another romance novel, "Dear John," transformed into a feature film, continuing his string of grown-up romance films, aside from his upcoming teen romance drama "The Last Song," starring Miley Cyrus, due out in March. The film is truly the chewed-up version of all of his movies combined into a yearning blockbuster.

Directed by Oscar-nominated Swedish filmmaker, Lasse Hallstrom, "Dear John" tells the story of the meeting between a young soldier and a laid-back college student in North Carolina during Spring Break before 9/11. They gradually fall in love, which develops into a six-year romance, communicated through various letters written back and forth between the two while he is off serving in the Iraq war. The longer he is off at war, the harder he finds it to hold on to her.

"Dear John" did make an effort to be a great romance drama with its opening scene showing John Tyree (Channing Tatum) spread on the ground in Germany narrating his last letter. It grabbed the attention of the audience

and people wanted to know more. The cinematography was captivating from the hovering helicopters during the war to the close-up shots of the waves at the beach.

But, this is a kickoff for one of the problems in the film. Sparks has the tendency to overuse the beach setting. Count them: at least five out of the six. Is there another place to go for entertainment besides the beach?

The drama fell short with its lack of emotional development. The courtship of John and Savannah Curtis (Amanda Seyfried) was shown in a series of back-to-back shots in a matter of minutes. Further into the movie, as John silently reads his letters from Savannah, the audience is left stumped, resorting to reading the lack of expression on his face. Well, what did she say? At one point, the audience is expected to sympathize with Savannah and it does not happen. Somewhere in the mix, there was difficulty translating their relationship through the screen. Another relationship the screenwriter, Jamié Linden, could have developed more was of John and his father (Richard Jenkins). While the audience is aware of his father's mental state, with the obsessive compulsive disorder and certain foods on certain days of the week, the film decides to wait

until the middle to uncover the real issues between father and son.

The film did do a good job at showcasing the American heroes which were the soldiers of the service on and off the battle field. The film showed their support for one another as well as their urge to suit up after the World Trade Center bombing. John's character seemed more comfortable in the army than in his own hometown which was another possible subject that could have been clearly expressed. Towards the beginning of the film, John's anger is showcased but no one really confronts the real issue. It is brushed off with jokes.

While the storyline struggled to hold itself up, the actors continued to thrive, knocking out each of their individual performances. Veteran actor and Oscar-nominee Richard Jenkins did a wonderful portrayal as the distant-minded father.

When this film was made, it was already up against the obstacle of existing as a novel, so it would not hurt to assume that the many questions left unanswered in the film are answered in the reading. "Dear John" has the aspirations of a lion but the lungs of a cub. Besides the war element, it is nothing that has not been done before.

C—Ashley Atkins

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TROUBADOUR, from page 8

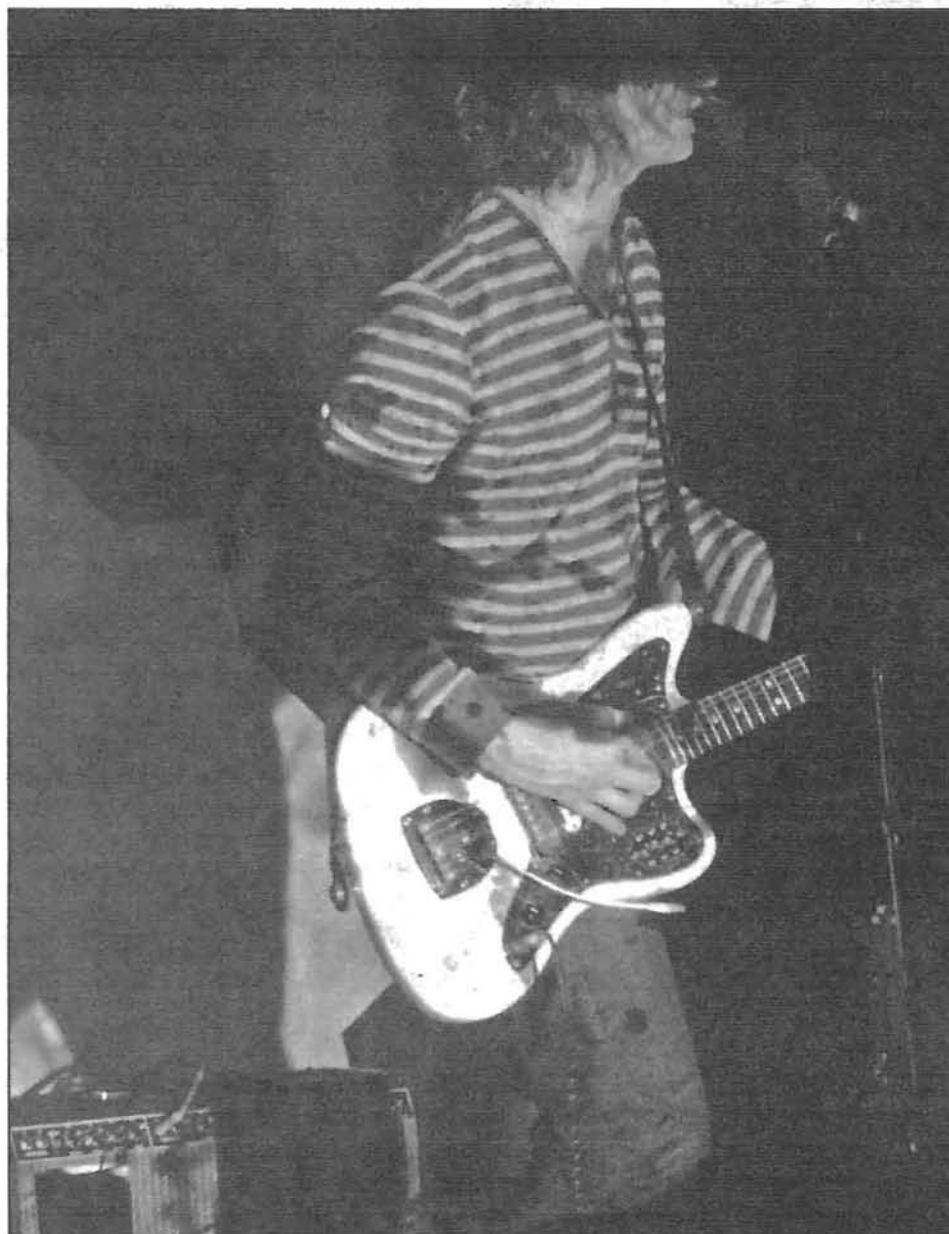
They look good enough. Their singer has long hair and a long torso, the bassist has mutton chops and stands on amplifiers, and the drummer is trying to bring back the soul-patch.

But appearances only go so far, and after watching the guitarist kneel down and fiddle with his pedals for half of three consecutive songs during their show, it was painfully obvious that the I'm-tenderly-expressing-my-virtuosity ideal he was going for was just disguising lack of talent. Vocals were an ephemeral textural device at best but consistently hesitant and unintelligible. Even during the good moments, Troubadour felt superficial, like they were asking for a blazon of their facial features, which were uniformly covered with long locks of love.

Maybe it is not their fault. Maybe the real blame lies with Euclid Records. After all, they handed out a record deal to these guys, and instead of showing some faith and sending them out on tour to broadcast "The Best of St. Louis" or whatever, they glued them into this epic seven-week residency at home. What self-respecting person would not get disheartened when a big break in advertising their creative career results in playing more shows in front of friends and family in the same crummy bars they grew up in? Consequently, the over-arching failing with Troubadour Dali's show is posturing because they are supposed to, not because they enjoy it.

This puts the finger on what may be a concern with St. Louis. When there is something really great going on here, St. Louis seems completely content to remain esoteric, to keep playing this inside-baseball stuff, forgetting that everywhere from Belleville to Cincinnati and Nashville would be really interested in seeing what is going on. Maybe if bands like Troubadour Dali were given a real chance rather than a half-hearted write-off, they would learn something on the road and bring St. Louis back some glory.

In the meantime, at least the shows are



RIKI TANAKA / THE CURRENT

Troubadour Dali, the feature band, plays at Off Broadway on Sunday night.

free. Troubadour Dali will be at the Halo Bar the next four Sunday nights, February 21, 28, and March 7. As always, bands improve as they play more shows, and they will probably be getting better every week. **C**—Joe Schaffner

## 'THIN' reveals pain of eating disorders

From now until March 20, the University of Missouri-St. Louis' Gallery 210 is showing "Lauren Greenfield: THIN," an exhibit of works by photographer/artist Lauren Greenfield that is a look into the lives of females ages 15 and over who

have eating disorders. The artist and her exhibit were also the subject of last week's Monday Noon Series.

The exhibit focuses on the residents at the Renfrew Center in Coconut Grove, Fla., where the artist visited.

Greenfield's photographs show the emotional hurt and the loss that these women have gone through as a result of anorexia, bulimia and/or compulsive eating. This exhibit shows that eating disorders are a very real and present problem in our society, and that society has had a hand in the creation of these

disorders.

The photos show women in different place around Renfrew, with unsmiling faces and with thin arms healing from self-inflicted cuts. Greenfield captures the pain that is inside as well as outside of these women and girls. Her photos draw the viewer in, forcing them to take a look at these females and, for just one moment, consider what life must be like for those with an eating disorder that not only affects the body but also the mind.

In the "THIN" exhibit, some of the subjects provided a back

story to their battles with their disorders, which were placed alongside the photos. The stories were very emotional and very moving, adding something to the photographs that cannot be adequately described. One subject wrote that she was raped twice and her mother got rid of the baby both times. There are many who cannot even imagine what this feels like, and that is just part of the story.


The women and girls talk of feelings of loneliness, worthlessness and ugliness.

See THIN, page 21

## SWEET JAMS


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

**1** 'Imma Be' Black Eyes Peas



The Black Eyed Peas originally wrote a catchy, silly, fun song as they have done many times before, but then they realized that no matter what they write, people will listen, and, in a fit of hubris wrote this godless, overlong mess.

**2** 'Need You Now' Lady Antebellum




Lady Antebellum manages to tap into pop and country sensibilities, romantic notion and human angst, all while still being utterly boring. For my part, it made me realize that I would rather hear something horrendously bad than horrendously bland.

**3** 'Tik Tok' Ke\$ha



Ke\$ha make music, music make money, money make Ke\$ha happy, money make producer give Ke\$ha more studio time, Ke\$ha make more song, never-ending cycle of horror continue forever.

**4** 'Hey, Soul Sister' Train



Train make music, music make money... oh wait, this seems familiar. Huh. Well while we're here, and neither of us feel like talking about Train, do you maybe want to play cards? Maybe we get a drink some time? I like your sweater.

**5** 'I Gotta Feeling' Black Eyed Peas



Wait, this song? Did somebody roll back the clock five months? Is this a remix? Why are you kids downloading this again! Ah!!!!!!!!!!!!

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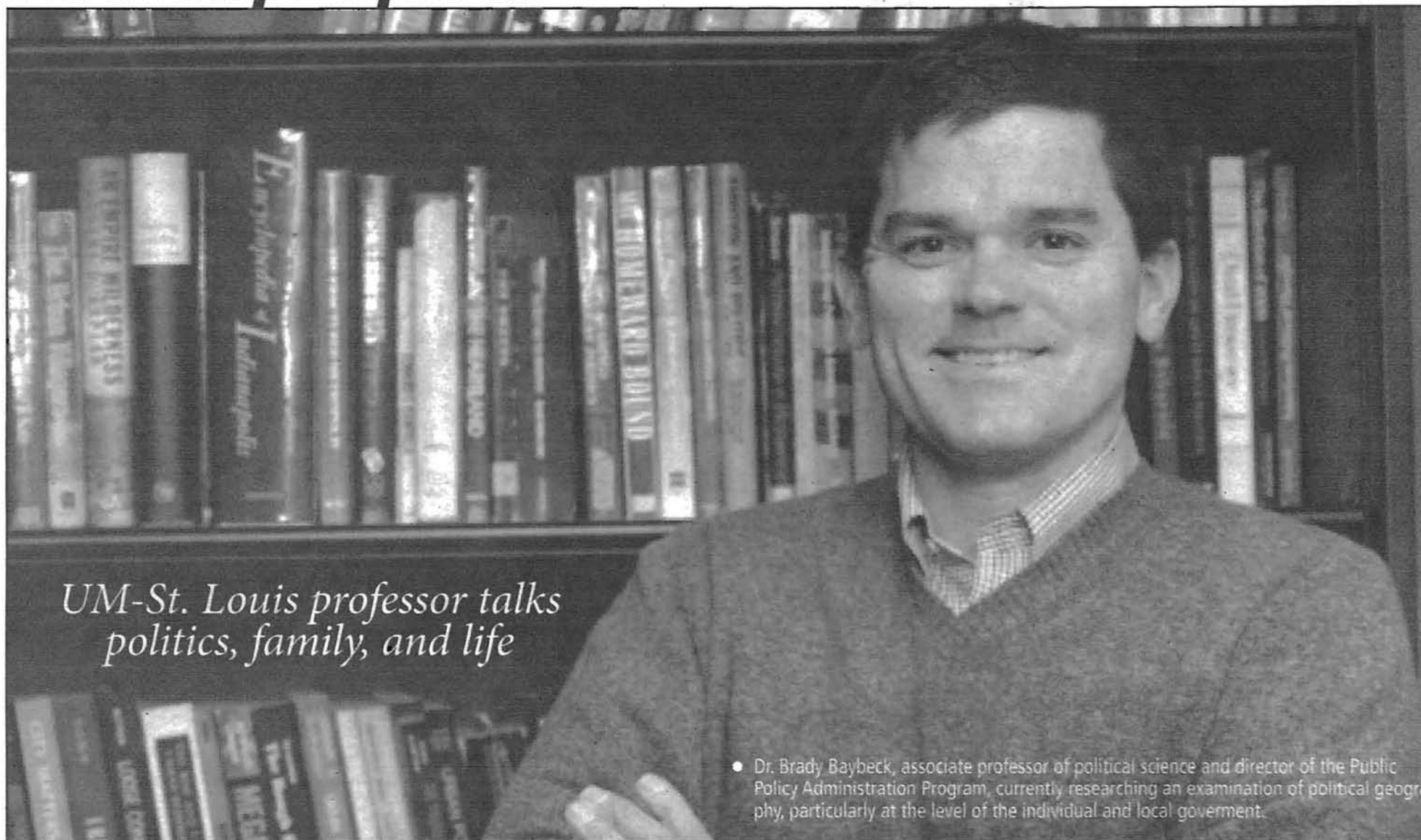
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FACULTY PROFILE

# Dr. Brady Baybeck

# Features



*UM-St. Louis professor talks politics, family, and life*

• Dr. Brady Baybeck, associate professor of political science and director of the Public Policy Administration Program, currently researching an examination of political geography, particularly at the level of the individual and local government.

SOFI SECK / THE CURRENT

► **TED THORNTON**  
*Special to The Current*

Dr. Brady Baybeck is an associate professor of political science and the director of the program in Public Policy Administration at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. His research has been published in several political journals including "The Journal of Politics," and "The American Political Science Review."

**The Current: What do you like most about teaching?**

Dr. Brady Baybeck: I teach primarily in the graduate program and I very much enjoy teaching. I love teaching data analysis because it allows people to better understand the world, and use interesting tools to answer questions that are important around them.

**TC: What does the program in public policy administration deal with?**

BB: The program focuses on the masters in public policy administration, and we also have certificate programs in non-profit and local government. The program trains graduate students to hold management positions in public service. It generally takes 40 credit hours for the master's degree, and 18 credit hours for the certificate, and it teaches life skills that

help better address issues of public concern, and help get careers in non-public sectors.

**TC: What led you to your career in political science—was it something you always wanted to do growing up, or was there a defining moment that inspired you to pursue that career choice?**

BB: I guess it wasn't something I always wanted to do, but the defining moment was when I realized I love doing research. That happened when I was an undergraduate, but when I graduated I worked in D.C. where I saw a strong need for people who were well-trained in social science. That's where I found my interest in political science.

**TC: When you are not busy working and writing what are some things that you do for entertainment? Are there any movies you have seen recently?**

BB: Well I have two young daughters ages four and six. They are my primary source of entertainment. They keep me very busy; that means the last movie I've seen was "Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel," which wasn't one of my favorite movies I have to admit.

**TC: I haven't seen that, but I was forced to watch the first movie.**

BB: Yeah, I was forced to watch both of them, if you can

avoid the second one please do.

**TC: Will do.**

BB: When I do get the time I like to keep up with the current events by reading the New York Times, and I'm pretty excited about "Lost" coming back for the fifth season.

**TC: What do you think about the plans the president outlined in the State of the Union address?**

BB: Well the president has a significant number of challenges, and he did his best to address them. His address was similar to other presidents' State of the Union addresses in that there were a lot of little things that he said he was going to do. I'm not sure if I understand the broad outline of what he was trying to accomplish, but with all the challenges we face as a country, I wish him the best.

**TC: For any students studying political science is there any advice you could share, that could help them further their goals?**

BB: The most important thing is to really focus on expressing your ideas clearly. If you are in political science or studying politics, virtually all the courses are designed to teach students to do so through writing, analysis, argumentation ... and being able to express your ideas clearly is one of the best things you can do in real life.

# Sue Shear Institute:

## Sharing political campaign skills to women

► **SAMUEL ABRAHA**  
*Special to The Current*

The push for more balanced representation of women in public policy has been moving ahead, but statistics show there is still room for progress. The Sue Shear Institute for Women in Public Life is working to be the forefront of the push for progress. The organization supports and educates women to run a successful campaign.

The institute held a two-evening campaign training program titled "Pipeline to Local Office" on Jan. 26 and Jan. 28 in the JC Penney Center at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. The workshop was designed for women interested in running for municipal offices and volunteering with a campaign. Topics included how to target likely voters, developing skills for successful speaking and learning how to fund-raise successfully. Speakers were present to share their experience and insights of the

political campaign process.

Manager of the Sue Shear Institute, Dayna Stocks explained the important role women play in public policy, and the need for more women to enter leadership positions and the campaign trails. "Women have a lot to offer to the political process, we need more women to run, we need them to bring their voices and their perspectives," Stocks said.

Sue Shear was a Clayton woman in her 50s when she decided to run for an open seat in the Missouri legislature in 1972. She is seen as a pioneer who defied the odds against her. The Missouri Board of Curators voted to name the institute after her in recognition of her service. "The goal of the institute is to make women's voices heard so the policy of which we live under is representative of everyone's ideas," Rhiannon Reynolds, administrative aid to the institute, said.

Men exceedingly outnumber women in all levels

of public policy, and this is a trend the institute is working to change. Women held 17 of the 100 seats in the U.S. Senate and 75 of the 435 seats in the U.S. House of Representatives in 2009. Stocks explained how the incumbency effect had made it more difficult for woman to take offices in Congress. "Historically, positions have been held by men and when someone is in office for several years it's unlikely for a woman to challenge and defeat the incumbent," Stocks said.

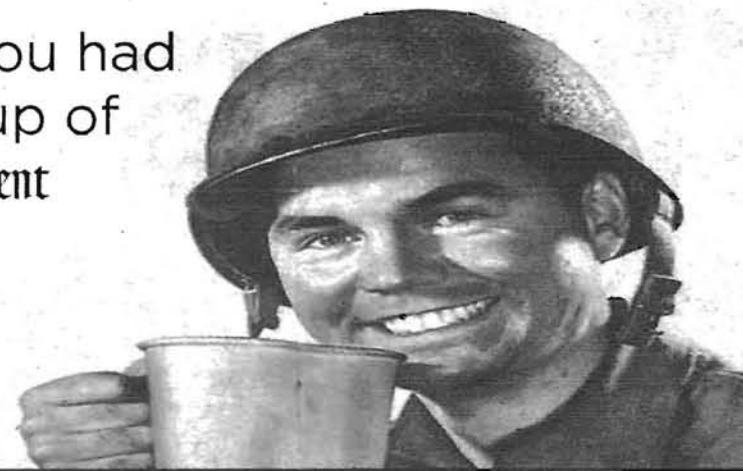
Founded in 1996, the Sue Shear Institute uses education to help women overcome inner and external barriers so that they can fully participate in public policy. "The institute is bi-partisan; we don't support democrats or republicans," Reynolds said. Past participants who went on to become elected officials include Stacey Newman, State Representative '09 and Donna Jones, St. Louis School Board '06 along with dozens of others.

The institute offers many opportunities for students to take advantage of. The 21st Century Leadership Training Academy is a week long program held at the Pierre Laclède Honors College on the UM-St. Louis campus. "Every single day I spent at the 21st Century Leadership academy made me stronger and wiser in so many ways," Lily Stomboly, former leadership academy participant, said. Scholarships are available from the institute and applications can be found by contacting the Sue Shear Institute or visiting their website at [www.umsl.edu/~iwpl](http://www.umsl.edu/~iwpl).

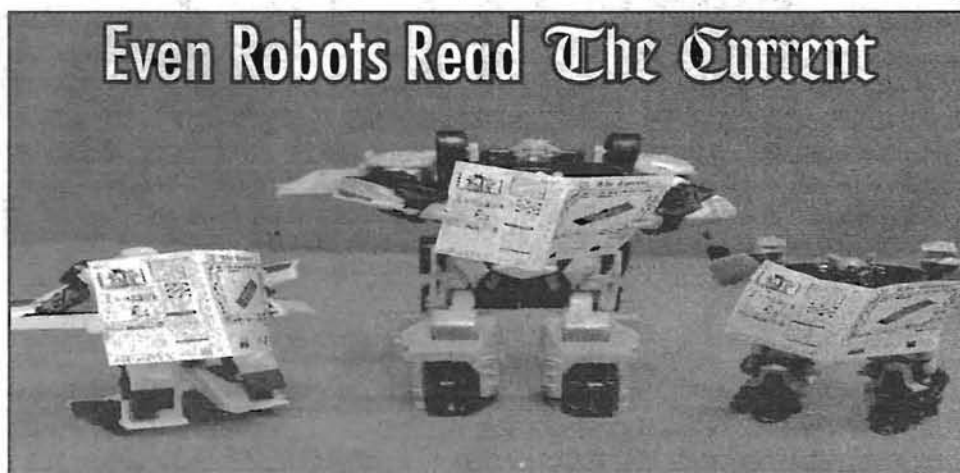
"Historically, positions have been held by men and when someone is in office for several years it's unlikely for a woman to challenge and defeat the incumbent,"

-Dayna Stocks

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# The Runway

## Lack of diversity in magazines poses an issue

Vanity Fair magazine is no stranger to controversial editorials. In 1999, the magazine came under fire when comedian Mike Meyers was photographed by David LaChapelle as a Hindu deity, and later in 2008 when then-15-year-old singer Miley Cyrus was photographed topless by famous fashion photographer Annie Leibovitz. But now, nearly one month after its explosive cover of disgraced golf phenomenon Tiger Woods hit newsstands, Vanity Fair is raising more eyebrows with their annual "Young Hollywood" issue.

It seems that to Vanity Fair, "Young Hollywood" only consists of the following: white, thin and female. The cover stars include actresses Kristen Stewart from "Twilight" fame, "Zombieland's" Emma Stone, "Dear John's" Amanda Seyfried, and "Up in the Air's" Anna Kendrick, to name a few. Many people are wondering of Vanity Fair: were there no Asian, Hispanic, Indian, Pacific Islander, black, male, plus-sized, gay, or lesbian actors and actresses to feature on this cover? What is up with the step backward?

In previous years, Honduran actress and "Ugly Betty" star America Ferrara graced the "Young Hollywood" cover, as well as curvy "That's So Raven" star Raven Symoné. Vanity Fair is not oblivious to the diversity these days, having featured "Precious" lead actress Gabourey Sidibe and "Star Trek" and "Avatar"

breakout starlet Zoë Saldana. Let us not forget about breakout actress Frida Pinto from "Slumdog Millionaire." As a matter of fact, once you open the March 2010 issue, those actresses are mentioned periodically throughout the first 20 pages.

I am actually surprised "Twilight's" Robert Pattinson and Taylor Lautner were not featured in this issue. Channing Tatum of "G.I. Joe" fame was nowhere in sight. And may I suggest cute little 15-year-old and openly gay "Ugly Betty" actor Mark Indelicato?

As usual, the media has had a field day with the incident—some are even calling the magazine racist (most of the criticisms I have read are mostly concerning the lack of Hispanics and blacks), but I think that is stretching it.

While it is annoying to me that there are not both actors and actresses of different ethnicities, sizes, genders and sexualities on the cover, I would hardly call the magazine racist. They are simply catering to their audience, and they believe this is what their audience considers "Young Hollywood." Every publication does it, and none of them are criticized for it.

No one is putting Ebony magazine under fire for featuring only black people on their covers for 65 years, nor Latina magazine for only featuring Hispanics, or Out magazine for only featuring homosexuals.



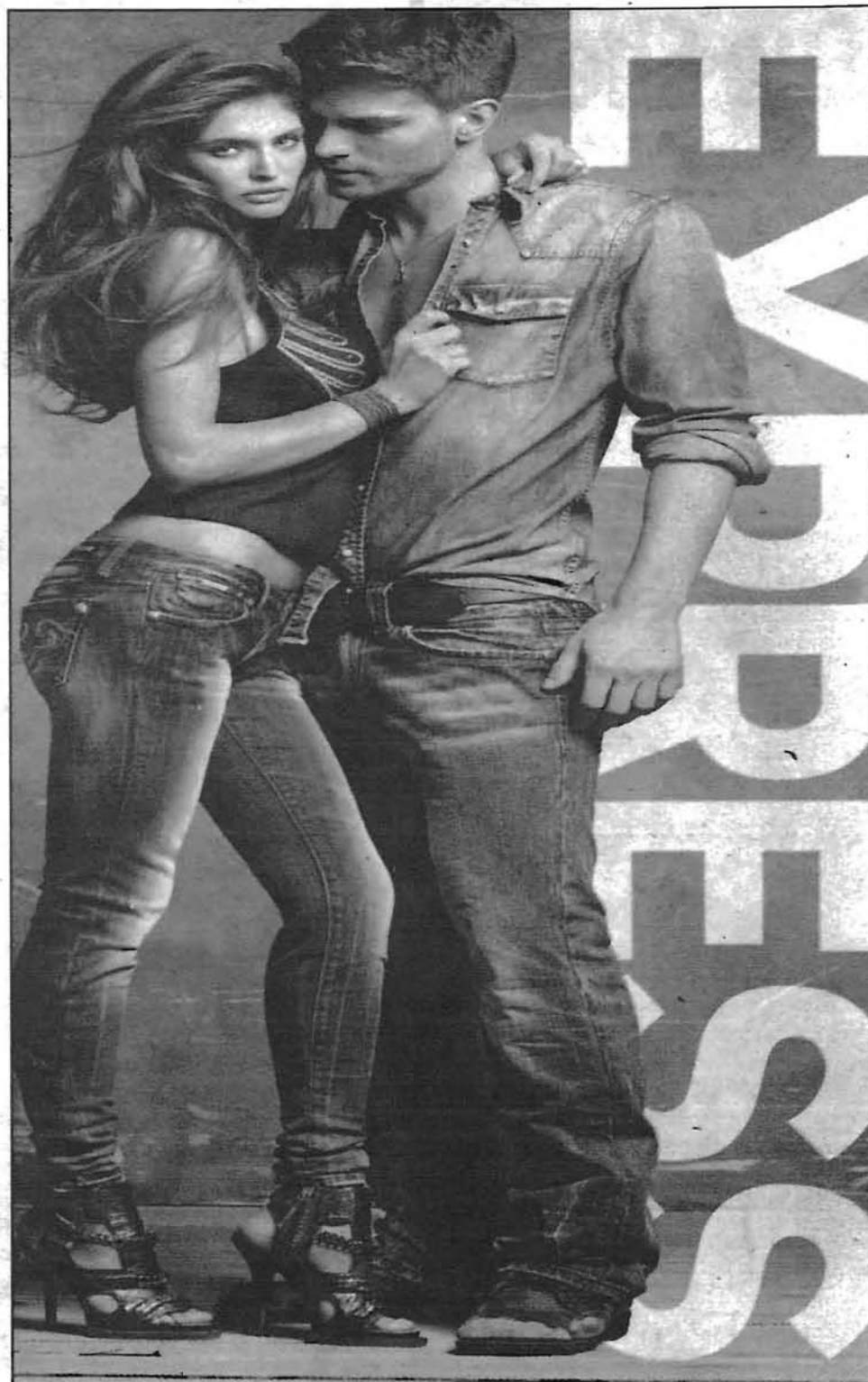
Sequita Bean

It is kind of like the pot calling the kettle black. I just so happen to know for a fact that Ebony magazine was started because there were no media publications that would feature blacks back then, and the same probably holds true for Latina and Out magazine.

Separating magazines based on interest is fine, but until we stop separating magazines based on ethnicity and sexuality, we will always have this problem. It is not fair to criticize Vanity Fair for their lack of diversity when no one does it to publications that are purposefully discriminative. It is no more right for majority-geared magazines to omit minorities than it is for minorities to do the same.

People can read into the Vanity Fair issue however they want, and I am with them on the fact that it is aggravating it has to be this way, but until every publication falls in line, no one can point the finger.

*Sequita Bean is a fashion columnist and Features Editor for The Current.*



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# Science/Health



This scale allows visitors to see how much it would cost to launch them into space.

This Gemini Spacecraft, on loan from the Smithsonian, was built in St. Louis.

## Space race connections on display at planetarium

► **ANDY PHIPPS**  
Science/Health Editor

Located in Forest Park, the James S. McDonnell Planetarium, with its space-age design, harkens back to the era when man first left Earth. It is also named after St. Louis' own aviation pioneer and founder of McDonnell Aircraft, which supplied the hardware that put Americans into space in the early 1960s.

The items on display there tell the story of this era. The planetarium is wrapping up a redesign of their exhibits aimed at showcasing St. Louis' connection to the space race. While providing a look back, the exhibits also provide a look into the future

of space exploration.

"There are a couple of reasons why we did this. One was that last year was the 40th anniversary of the Apollo moon landing ... And the other is that we have a really strong connection, through McDonnell/Douglas and Boeing, with the space program here in St. Louis," John Lahey, assistant director at the James S. McDonnell Planetarium, said.

Part of that connection is that the Mercury and Gemini spacecraft used in the early phases of the American space program were manufactured here. On display in the lobby of the planetarium is an example of each capsule.

See **SPACE**, page 23

• This spacesuit was used by astronaut Gus Grissom while training for his Mercury mission.

PHOTOS BY ERIN STURGUSS

# HOTWIRE

▶ **ANDY PHIPPS**  
Science/Health Editor

## 1) Shuttle launch delayed due to weather conditions

The early Sunday morning scheduled launch of the Space Shuttle Endeavour was canceled just nine minutes before it was scheduled to launch due to heavy cloud cover. Another attempt will be made Monday morning at 4:14 a.m. EST. The mission, which is one of five this year that will be the Shuttle's last before retirement, will carry the last major piece of the International Space Station into orbit.



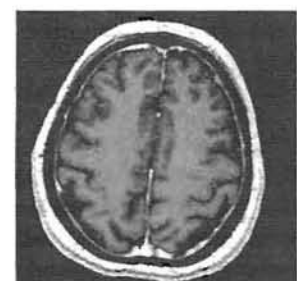
COURTESY NASA



COURTESY FDA

## 2) FDA to redefine serving sizes

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration is expected to redefine suggested serving sizes of some foods as part of their attempt to combat obesity in the United States. Currently, some cereals, cookies and chips have suggested serving sizes that do not accurately reflect caloric intake. The agency is also expected to mandate putting essential nutritional information on the front of food packaging.



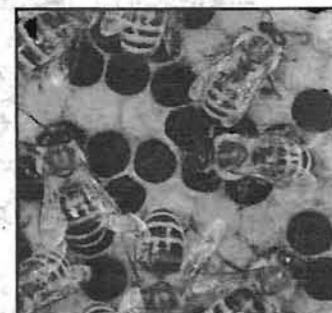
COURTESY AMA

## 4) Patient in vegetative state shows signs of consciousness

Doctors in Belgium working with a patient believed to be in a completely vegetative state following a car accident have discovered that in MRI scans, the individual's brain activity indicates "yes" or "no" answers to simple questions. The report, published this week in *The New England Journal of Medicine*, stands to possibly change the way head trauma cases are diagnosed.

## 4) Help! Bees!

A study published this week in the *Journal of Experimental Biology* reveals that common honeybees are capable of recognizing human facial features the same way that humans do. Bees and humans use a process known as configural processing to combine the shapes of the eyes, nose, ears and other facial features to form a recognizable pattern. Though the ability of bees to exhibit this human trait is consistent in short term studies, researchers are doubtful that the insect can remember a face over a long period of time.



COURTESY NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

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Volume B, Edited by Office of the State Council Academic Degrees Committee, Ministry of Education of People's Republic of China. July, 2008, p. 771



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# New Madrid fault could top Haiti quake

## Is a major local earthquake overdue?

► JEN O'HARA  
Staff Writer

The recent tragedy in Haiti has the world tuned in with their eyes and ears open, including those here in the Midwest. What most in mid-America do not realize, or often forget, is we live down the road from one of the most dangerous fault lines on earth.

The New Madrid fault line system runs approximately between Cairo, Ill. and northern Arkansas. It spreads into a large piece of southeastern Missouri and also parts of Kentucky and Tennessee.

The fault line remains relatively calm. Although approximately 200 episodes occur each year, not many are taken note by the general

public as most are 1.0 on the Richter scale.

So why the big deal?

From December 1811 to February 1812, the New Madrid fault line showed off in a series of massive earthquakes, ranging in magnitudes from 7.2-8.0. The earthquake was so pronounced, records show damage was caused miles away from its origins.

"These earthquakes were unique in the history of earthquakes," Michael Fix, associate teaching professor of geology, said. "No other earthquakes in recorded history have ever been felt over such an enormous area.

They were felt as far west as Denver, as far south as Florida, and as far north as Montreal, Canada—1,200 miles away. This is not nor-

mal for earthquakes this magnitude. There's something about the Midwest that it acts like the sounding

not felt. If it is, it is generally passed off as a passing truck. A 4.0 is felt by nearly everyone, with objects be-

"No other earthquakes in recorded history have ever been felt over such an enormous area. They were felt as far west as Denver, as far south as Florida, and as far north as Montreal, Canada—1,200 miles away."

-Michael Fix

board in a piano. It conducts seismic waves over great distance very efficiently."

As an idea, a 3.0 earthquake or less is generally

moving, although there is no significant damage in most cases. Beginning at 6.0 on the scale is when highly significant damage begins to

occur, especially in buildings and structures not properly constructed.

The great New Madrid earthquakes of the early 19th century did not cause an enormous amount of damage.

However, back in that time period there were fewer people populating the Midwest area. If the same earthquake that occurred then happened in today's world, the results would be catastrophic.

"There weren't many people living there in that area in 1811, 1812," Fix said. "If those same earthquakes were to happen today, there would be just devastation in places like Memphis, which is right there next to the fault zone.

Other cities that are fairly close by that are much smaller would be Cairo, Ill.; Sikeston, Poplar Bluff and so forth." The New Madrid fault system last let a tremor

release in 1895. According to Fix and various other geologists, the Midwest is long overdue for another one.

The American Red Cross, who have assisted with disasters—such as the earthquake in Haiti—for years, gives advice on how to stay safe when an earthquake hits.

"The best thing to do is duck, cover and hold on," Elena Sabin, community disaster education specialist, said. "Get under a table or desk, hold on to it so you stay under it, and then cover your head with your other hand to keep your head a little bit more protected"

After an earthquake occurs, campus safety at the University of Missouri-St. Louis advises to find the nearest safe exits, bringing all important belongings. Do not remain around buildings or use elevators. Also, report any damage, injuries or individuals trapped in buildings to campus police.

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# Opinions

## The War on (Cold) Drugs

For years, the use and production of methamphetamine has been steadily increasing in the U.S. In an attempt to combat this increase, some states have passed laws that restrict or help to track how much pseudoephedrine, a common ingredient in cold medicine, consumers can buy. Some states require a person to have identification so that their information can be entered into a database that will help to prevent them from exceeding the limit of 9 grams in 30 days.

However, many states are considering taking it one step further and requiring a prescription to buy cold and allergy medicine that contains pseudoephedrine to make it even more difficult for a person purchasing the drugs to obtain pseudoephedrine for the production of meth. In 2006, Oregon became the first state to pass a statewide law requiring a prescription for cold medicines containing pseudoephedrine. Two Missouri cities, Union and Washington, followed Oregon's example and passed laws requiring a prescription for the purchase of cold and allergy drugs with pseudoephedrine. Now, however, legislature has been introduced that would make it necessary across the entire state of Missouri, instead of only in Union and Washington. Similar state-wide legislation has been introduced in several other states including Mississippi,

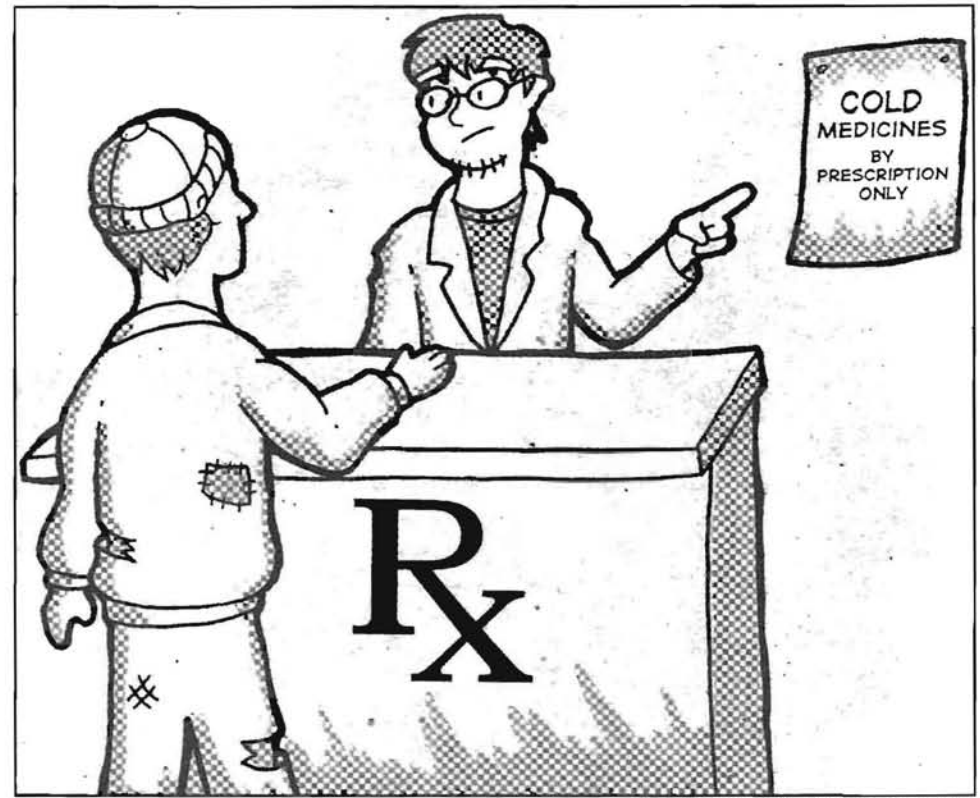
Georgia and Washington.

Not only will these laws be unsuccessful in lowering the levels of the drug in areas typically known to have a high population of addicts, but it would also take access to what should be an over the counter medicine away from low income families who cannot afford to go to the doctor for a simple cold. Over 740,000 Missourians are without health insurance and getting a prescription to combat a cold or allergies would be financially impossible. Why punish these Missourians? Most people use cold and allergy medicines for, you guessed it, colds and allergies. A small percentage of people use them to create meth and there are enough other ways to combat the use of meth without penalizing those with a runny nose.

The most troublesome aspect of implementing a law requiring a prescription to cure the common cold is that it would not fix the root of the problem. The real problem in Missouri is meth use, not meth labs. According to the Drug Enforcement Administration, there is still a great deal of meth in Oregon despite there being fewer labs to make it. Officials have said that it seems meth labs have cropped up in new places to replace the ones shut down in areas with laws requiring a prescription; the meth is just brought in.

Officials maintain that the levels of meth

Unsigned editorials reflect the majority opinion of the Editorial Board:  
Jessica Keil • Matthew Hill • Anna Marie Curran • Andy Phipps • Gene Doyel  
Anthony Padgett • Sequita Bean • Cate Marquis • Andrew Seal



PHIL FREEMAN / THE CURRENT

are still high in areas with these sorts of laws. Instead, the DEA said that it seems that the users have instead switched to a "more addictive and potent form of meth known as 'ice' or 'crystal.'" So not only are those harmlessly looking to purchase something to stop the

sneezing being punished, but those who are already using meth are basically being encouraged to convert to a more deadly and addictive variety. If Missouri imposes a law requiring a prescription for cold and allergy medicines, it is likely the same situation will occur.

## Health and Wellness Services could use a booster

General health and well being are essential factors for success, especially for a college student. However, for many students, these factors can sometimes be a struggle.

For those of us that work a job and go to school, fatigue often wears us down to the point that we are vulnerable to illness. In the meantime, we have to commute to and from campus, and for those of us who utilize public transit, we expose ourselves to all manners of germs and the elements as we stand outside waiting for that train or bus.

And when the inevitable illness or accident happens, some

of us are put further at risk when insurance comes into play. For those of us that are still covered under our parents' plans, this usually is not an issue. But for the many who do not have the luxury of insurance, a trip to the doctor is more often than not, something we are unable to afford.

For those of us who have been in this situation, the only places to turn to are free clinics, which often have long waiting lists, or the Health and Wellness Center here at University of Missouri-St. Louis.

But for those students who have utilized this resource, a painful truth has more than likely become evident.

Though UM-St. Louis' student health services are professional, they are far from complete or easy to access. For instance, in order to get an appointment at the Health and Wellness Center, one must call the office when it opens at 8 a.m. This is a hurdle, not just because of the hour but also because the Health and Wellness office only has one phone line, and calling the line when it is busy just gets you an answering machine.

If you are lucky enough to get an appointment, but are more than 10 minutes late for it—even if you call in ahead of time and tell the receptionist you will be late—your appointment will be canceled and you will be told to start the whole process over again at 8 a.m. the next morning.

Furthermore, while the care you receive in a visit to the

Health and Wellness Center is excellent, its limitations can be seen on the prescription you are given as you walk out the door, as you will notice that Health and Wellness has only two nurse practitioners on staff to handle a constant deluge of patients.

At this time of year, when many of us are contracting and passing along some kind of bug on a week-to-week basis, *The Current* believes that these services are far from adequate and are lacking overall.

While we realize that Health and Wellness is set up to serve as a triage clinic to serve students, we believe that its services could be more robust and easier for students to access. We do not know why there is such a lack of attention given to this vital resource, but we at *The Current* believe that, whatever the cost, it is high time for these services to be made better.

We believe that if funding is an issue, this is something we would be willing to pay. A minor increase in our student fees would be, in our opinion, welcomed if that money could be used to implement and provide more complete healthcare to our students.

Please know that we are not asking for a facility that can perform a kidney transplant, only an expanded Health and Wellness Center that can treat more patients more quickly effectively.

And please, at least add another phone line.

# Small breast ban misguided

Breasts are great. They come in all sorts of shapes and sizes, from large to small and soft to firm. They are the objects of obsession for many a teenage male (and female).

Indeed, our society as a whole seems to adore them—hence all the shots of celebrity women in their bikinis. Everyone loves breasts—deny it as much as you like, but it's true.

Well, almost everyone. Australia, apparently, has a problem with small breasts.

Apparently, because small-breasted women encourage pedophilia.

The Australian Classification Board has "started to ban depictions of small-breasted women in adult publications and films," according to news Web site theweek.com.

Now, Australia isn't exactly known for its openness regarding censorship and ratings, but this is going too far. While the idea behind the ban is a noble one, the way it has been implemented is misguided at best and completely absurd at worst.

The idea is that this ban helps discourage pedophilia and offers a way to curb child exploitation. Both of these goals are never a bad thing. However, there are a whole host of problems stemming from a ban on small breasts.

For starters, the law is incredibly, irrefutably sexist. The ban labels a perfectly normal female body type as an obscenity, which in turn essentially encourages wom-

en to get breast enhancements.

On top of that, it labels people who prefer smaller bust sizes as perverts and possible pedophiles.

Technically, small-chested women who take pictures of themselves could now be accused of creating simulated child porn. Nothing about this ban makes any sense at all—it's absurd.

Secondly, all this ban really does is make a subjective view on the ideal female form into a law. I guess that Australian Senators Barnaby Joyce and Guy Barnett prefer their women with larger breasts and decided that everyone should as well.

Also banned is any depiction of the female orgasm, a perfectly normal and healthy response to sexual stimulation in many women. Indeed, Australian "censors [have branded] it as 'abhorrent,'" according to the theweek.com article.

This aspect of the ban is confusing as well—there are plenty of filthier sexual acts the Aussies could have banned instead of a normal one.

Then again, the Australian Classification Board has never been a fountain of common sense and intelligence.

This is not the first time Australia has had problems with its government censors. There is a long and well-documented need in the country for an 18-years-old and up classification for video games. They have an 18+ classification for films,



Andrew Seal

but not one for video games for some reason.

Currently, the Australian ratings system for interactive video games only goes up to 15+. That means that violent games that get "M" (17+) ratings in the U.S.A, like Grand Theft Auto, Left 4 Dead 2, and Manhunt, end up either outright banned or severely censored.

Luckily, a multi-national company has just got involved in the fight for an 18+ classification: EB Games. Known in the U.S. as GameStop, EB Games Down Under has its customers filling out petitions and contacting their senators in order to rally support for an 18+ rating.

Truly, there is an easy solution to nearly all of Australia's ban and ratings problems: vote the politicians who voted in favor of the ban out of office.

Back on the topic of small-breasted women, there is an ultra-easy and really simple solution to check if a woman is too young: the time-honored practice of checking her birth date.

*Andrew Seal is Opinions Editor for The Current.*

# McDonald's needs a McLife

Most teens cannot look past a mirror to note the world around them. Nineteen-year-old Lauren McClusky has. She began a concert festival in 2007 where money from the event would be donated to the Special Olympics. In 2007 and 2008 she managed to raise \$30,000 for the cause.

McDonald's is now taking legal action against her. Why? Because she labeled the event as "McFest."

McDonald's is upset because they claim by placing the "Mc" in front of "fest" it is an infringement on their trademark. One might have more reason to raise an eyebrow if her last name was not McClusky. In addition, nowhere in McCluskys' program refers to McDonald's—no little M arches, no Big Mac or ultra salty fries selling, not even the McDonald's team colors of red and yellow. McDonald's should have no reason to feel threatened concerning this.

This story is upsetting for a few reasons. It seems McDonald's is trying to take advantage of an underdog of the world. While there were no qualms about "McFest" in 2007 or 2008, there is suddenly an issue as the event becomes bigger. McDonald's corporation claims they are not trying to discourage McClusky from performing altruistic activities, and that they just want a name change. The problem is a name change would cause a decrease in the events' participation. This has been a two- or three-year project that McClusky has spent trying to promote.

Think about it; if "Point-fest" was suddenly changed to "Headbangerfest," not as

many people would go because they wouldn't recognize the name that has made the music world what it is.

McDonald's said they were willing to compromise the name, and I applaud McCluskys decision to deny their offer to call it "McDonald's presents McFest." How undermining is that of the corporation to attempt to weasel their way into free advertising? McDonald's had absolutely nothing to do with the creation of McFest, yet they want the credit?

This is all just another example of how corporate America seems to think they can do what they want and step on the little people on their way there. Sometimes, corporate America seems to forget that it all started with the "little people," and that it could very well end with them too.

Our first thought when thinking of McDonald's is not a "Mc." We think of two yellow arches. With this logic, there would be lawsuits left and right. Should O'Reillys auto parts be getting sued because O'Hare international airport in "known for their O apostrophe?" When we labeled miniskirts as "micro minis," should the creator of the first official micro minis have gotten a lawsuit from Bill Gates for using "micro?" Personally, I do not think this girl was in the wrong for using part of her name for an event she started. I would think it would be a little more suspicious if her last name had not been McClusky.

Putting all that aside, this is a 19-year-old girl raising money for the Special Olympics. Considering McDonald's is a supporter of the cause, you would figure



Jen O'Hara

they would show a little more compassion and do a lot less action. In McDonald's' defense, I do not think they are saying they hate the Special Olympics or any of their participants, but I think taking McClusky to court instead of letting her donate funds from the event says something.

In addition, she is raising money for other people. How many adults, or for that fact teenagers, create an event in support of other people? Or how many even stop to donate toward others? This society has a natural tendency to think about themselves; we have to pay the bills, have that 50" flat screen, have the new i-whatever.

McDonald's is slapping her wrist and sending her to corporate "time out" for helping others.

Not only does this have potential to discourage further self-created altruistic activities for McClusky, but now the rest of the world might be weary as well.

Maybe this is revenge for the great coffee spill of '94. Really, I think McDonald's has enough money and attention as is to worry about a charity fundraiser using "Mc" in the event name.

McShame, McDonald's, McShame.

*Jen O'Hara is a staff writer for The Current.*

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## SCIENCE MATTERS

# Campus science deserves spotlight

This is a plea for some love for the University of Missouri-St. Louis science programs.

Every semester, in addition to the seminars for students majoring in the various science departments, the UM-St. Louis science institutes and departments present an array of free, accessible, general-interest and thought-provoking educational events focused on science in society, business, medicine and the environment.

One of the ironies of the science programs at this university is that they are better known off-campus than on it. Attending some of these wonderful, informative talks, one may be struck by how few students there are, even when the room is filled with members of the general public.

Talk to any international graduate student majoring in biology here and you will quickly discover that our Whitney R. Harris World Ecology Center is world-renowned. Here in St. Louis, people in the sciences, and particularly people connected to its sister institutes, The Missouri Botanical Garden and St. Louis Zoo, know all about the World Ecology Center. But if you stop the average student on campus, odds are they are unaware of its world class reputation and may not even know it exists.

The same sad situation exists for the Center for Neurodynamics, which does not do public events but continues to do groundbreaking research, and for our newest science center, the Center for Nanoscience.

Let us see if we can help remedy that by taking a look at some upcoming events. The World Ecology Center, Center for Nanoscience and some science departments all sponsor public events

for an array of interests, on-campus or off. These events are often free and accessible by non-science majors and the general public, in addition to scientists.

Are you interested in learning about nanoscience, an area that overlaps with physics, biotech, medicine and a host of practical applications? Our Center for Nanoscience is co-sponsoring a multi-university event, the first annual St. Louis Institute of Nanomedicine Symposium, on Saturday, Feb. 13.

CNS also offers a series of monthly seminars that are co-sponsored by the Chemistry and Biochemistry Department on Mondays and by the Physics and Astronomy department on Fridays. Mike DuBois, legislative assistant to Senator Kit Bond, is the next speaker on April 12.

Whitney R. Harris World Ecology Center has two annual spring events. One is the Jane and Whitney Harris Lecture, a free, multimedia, general-audience presentation on conservation by a major figure in the field. The other is the World Ecology Award, given to recognize prominent individuals who have raised public awareness and made significant contributions in conservation. Past recipients include Dr. Jane Goodall, Harrison Ford and Conservation International, Richard Leakey, and Jacques Cousteau.

This year, the World Ecology Center is also marking its 20th anniversary by presenting a year-long series of seminars.

The next 20th Anniversary Seminar is on Wednesday, April 7, when Dr. David Inouye, professor and director of the CONS program at the department of biology at the University of Maryland, will speak on this question: "How does natural history



Cate Marquis

become science and what can it tell us about climate change?"

Inouye is also this year's speaker for the Jane and Whitney Harris Lecture on Thursday, April 8, at the Missouri Botanical Garden's Ridgway Center. The topic is "What is the future of Rocky Mountain wildflowers and their pollinators?"

The World Ecology Award will be presented to Dr. David Western, founding executive director of the African Conservation Centre in Kenya. The award will be presented at a gala dinner on May 7 at the Missouri Botanical Garden. The fancy-dress event also serves as a fundraiser for the Center.

If computer science or math is more your taste, there is the Mathematics and Computer Science department's seminar, "Actuarial Science: Applied Math for Fun and Profit," by Chris Clark of RGA Reinsurance Company on Wednesday, Feb. 10.

The Math and Computer Science department also sponsors the annual Spencer and Spencer talk in late April or early May, featuring a big name in the field presenting a broad-interest talk that can range from the future of the Internet to how math is taught in schools.

Now that you know, you should think about going.

Cate Marquis is A&E Editor and a columnist for The Current.

## THE PHIPPS PHACTOR

# What is it about politics that attracts scumbags?

Politics is a dirty business and it seems to attract a breed of human that I would describe as being scum. This past week, several of my favorite scumbags were back in the headlines, while yet another joined their ranks and managed to drag everything down to a new low.

I will start out by mentioning John Edwards, who you may remember as the one-time democratic vice presidential candidate and former presidential candidate. He was squeaky clean and Kennedy-esque, with a southern drawl and a lovable wife who, following his political defeats, beat cancer.

Of course, Edwards flushed his saintly image down the toilet after screwing around with his videographer, abandoning his ailing wife for this woman and fathering her child.

He denied paternity until he no longer could and paid his baby's mama hush money, possibly from his campaign funds.

As if everything else about John Edwards was not bad enough, it was revealed this week that his lover apparently forgot to turn off the camera.

Yes, Edwards has joined the likes of Carrie Prejan, Paris Hilton and Screech from "Saved by the Bell," as there is a John Edwards sex tape floating around out there.

I have had nightmares ever since I found out about this.

Such a sick tale in politics is not uncommon, and in Edward's case it is almost to be expected from somebody who seemed too good to be true in the first place. But it was a surprise—not just to us, but to his wife as well, I would assume.

The same cannot be said for South Carolina's Governor Mark Sanford, whose poor wife knew that it was coming all along. Sanford was caught in Buenos Aires cavorting with a model while he was supposed to be hiking the Appalachian Trail and being the chief executive of his state. His now-estranged wife has a book coming out in which she reveals that Sanford flat out refused to promise fidelity in their wedding vows.

Both Edwards and Sanford only caused vast emotional damage to their spouses.

These two women will have scars on their hearts for the rest of their lives, but at least their warped spouses were well enough behaved to not scar their bodies. In order to find that breed of scum, we must look eastward, across the river into Illinois.

In last week's primaries, Scott Lee Cohen, a Chicago pawnbroker, got the democratic nomination for Lieutenant Governor, though he had been asked to step down after revelations that charges had been filed against him for assaulting his girlfriend and that his ex-wife had com-



Andy Phipps

plained of physical threats and his prescription steroid abuse.

In Cohen's case, we have a man that has not even been elected to high office yet, but is already a scandal. With Edwards and Sanford, we have men who, at least outwardly, seemed to be prudent men who shocked the public when their dark inner selves became headlines.

With each of these men, we have personalities that we love; they each have some kind of likable nature that we identify with. This counters with the nature of their horrifying deeds, which have deeply hurt those that are closest to them.

When taken together, each of these men border on being sociopathic, but we put our trust in them.

And this makes me wonder whether this is a profession that attracts such people, or if it is us who refuse to look within them and see who they really are.

Andy Phipps is Science/Health Editor and a columnist for The Current.

**What do you think about this week's columns?**

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## 600 RENTALS

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## 700 MISCELLANEOUS

Your classified ad here! *The Current* is happy to offer classified ads for most anything at all. If your classified doesn't fit into the above categories, simply request an ad in the Miscellaneous Section. Some restrictions may apply. Call 314-516-5316 or e-mail [thecurrent@umsl.edu](mailto:thecurrent@umsl.edu) to place your ad today!

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Classified ads are free for students, faculty and staff. Other rates vary. To place an ad, please send your ad (40 words or less), your name, and student or employee number to [thecurrentads@umsl.edu](mailto:thecurrentads@umsl.edu), or call (314) 516-5316.

### THIN, from page 10

Some came from good backgrounds and some from awful ones, but similar demons brought them to Renfrew. Some of them describe feelings of hope, while others are not as positive and say they will go through the therapy only to get out of it and continue their lives the way they were before Renfrew.

"THIN" also contains a short video documentary about Renfrew.

This video shows the residents on their routines, such as early morning weigh-ins, therapy sessions and meal times. There is a particularly emotional scene in which a 15-year-old girl breaks down in a group therapy session and cries about her desperate desire to be thin and her pain at always being overweight. This

video is a more-than-gentle slap in the face of its viewer: it is a look into what some people with eating disorders are going through and how they have trouble doing the things that the "normal" woman might take for granted, such as eating or choosing an outfit for the day.

This exhibit is a real triumph for Greenfield. She has taken a serious problem that has been in the dark for a long time and dragged it into the light. "THIN" tells of a problem that is afflicting many women and girls in our society. The exhibit is touching, moving and very well done. Three cheers for Lauren Greenfield for an exhibit that is both affecting and informative. **A-** —Amanda Roach

Aww. You're reading *The Current*.  
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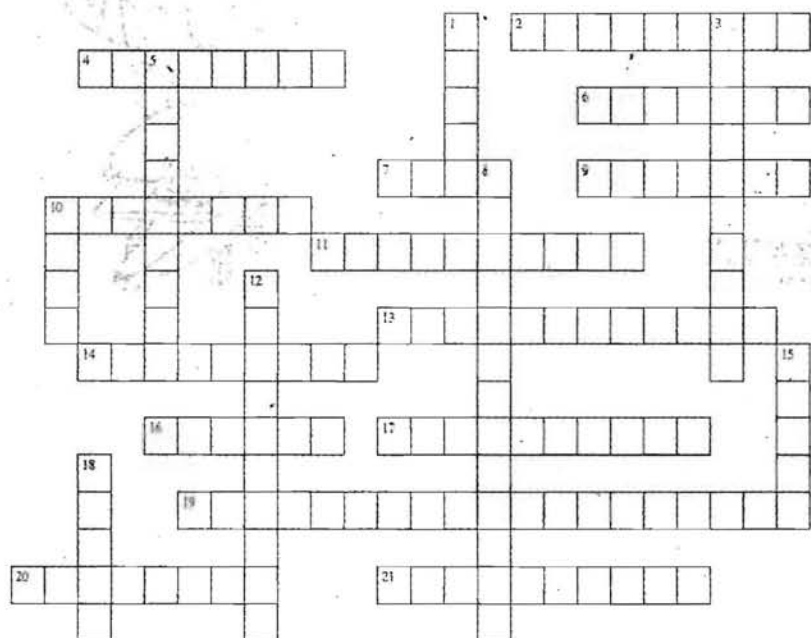
**Anthem**

**Langhorne Slim**  
Friday, Feb. 12 - 9:00  
**LIVE AT OFF BROADWAY**  
[offbroadwaysf1.com](http://offbroadwaysf1.com)

# Puzzles

## CURRENT CROSSWORD

### Super Bowl



**ACROSS**  
 2. Americans dip into 8 million pounds of this every Super Bowl.  
 4. Superbowl month.  
 6. Team that won the first two Super Bowls.  
 7. This year's Super Bowl number.  
 9. Last name of the only brothers to both lead teams to Super Bowl victories.  
 10. Team with the most Super Bowl wins.  
 11. Only player with 3 Super Bowl MVPs.  
 13. Singer who perpetrated "Nipplegate" in 2004.  
 14. Receiver with the most Super Bowl touchdowns.  
 16. Classic band playing this year's half time show.  
 17. The approximate amount of dollars every 10 seconds of ad time costs this year.  
 19. Explanation offered for "Nipplegate"

20. Where no Super Bowl has ever gone.  
 21. Budweiser's iconic four-legged Super Bowl ad stars.

**DOWN**  
 1. City who has hosted a record 10 times.  
 3. Worldwide audience of the last Super Bowl.  
 5. Exclusive beer advertiser during the Super Bowl for the past 13 years.  
 8. Name of the trophy given to the winning team.  
 10. This weather event has never sullied a game.  
 12. QB with the record for most passing yards in a single Super Bowl.  
 15. Record number of touchdowns scored by any one player in Super Bowl games.  
 18. Denny's snatched up this number of ads after last year's spot.

## HAVE AN IDEA FOR A CROSSWORD?

Let us know at [thecurrenttips@umsl.edu](mailto:thecurrenttips@umsl.edu)

## CURRENT SUDOKU by Gene Doyal

This week's rating:

★★★★

(Very hard)

Last week's answers

Last week's rating: Hard

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

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

## CURRENT HOROSCOPES

**ARIES**  
(MARCH 21 - APRIL 20)  
 Don't make any commitments this week without knowing exactly what you're getting into. A simple favor for a friend could quickly become a time-draining nuisance if you're not careful.

**TAURUS**  
(APRIL 21 - MAY 21)  
 You'll be feeling more interested than usual in the workings of the world around you this week, distracting you from difficulties and conflict with your significant other or a family member.

**GEMINI**  
(MAY 22 - JUNE 21)  
 An attention-seeking acquaintance may come to you with a "crisis" this week. Your best response is a sympathetic but firm refusal to become involved in their drama.

**CANCER**  
(JUNE 22 - JULY 22)  
 A project or responsibility dropped into your lap means a week of rushing around frantically, but keep in mind that your friends and family are just waiting for you to ask for help.

**LEO**  
(JULY 23 - AUG. 21)  
 Arguments or other clashes with a significant other will characterize this week. Keep a level head, and try to look for underlying reasons for the conflict rather than throwing fuel on the fire.

**VIRGO**  
(AUG. 22 - SEPT. 23)  
 Your emotions run deep this week, disrupting your usual clear-headedness. Don't get too bogged down in your feelings, though, and stay as objective as possible at the end of the week.

**LIBRA**  
(SEPT. 24 - OCT. 23)  
 This should be an energetic week for you, with most of your focus placed on getting unpleasant work done. Once it's out of the way you'll be able to spend your weekend having fun.

**SCORPIO**  
(OCT. 24 - NOV. 22)  
 Don't take too many leaps this week. Stick to what you know and what you're comfortable with. Pushing yourself to try something new will only cause you trouble.

**SAGITTARIUS**  
(NOV. 23 - DEC. 22)  
 Harsh criticism from someone whose opinion you care about deeply will nag at you all week, but put it aside. They really didn't mean any harm; in fact, they thought they were helping.

**CAPRICORN**  
(DEC. 23 - JAN. 20)  
 You're set on being a good friend this week, but try to ensure that the recipient of all your good will really deserves it. If you're not sure they'll return the favor, it may be best to walk away.

**AQUARIUS**  
(JAN. 21 - FEB. 19)  
 Your intuition is strong this week; research and seek advice but ultimately go with your gut feeling on an important decision, regardless of objections from those around you.

**PISCES**  
(FEB. 20 - MARCH 20)  
 This is a week to make friends, as you'll be meeting plenty of new people and perhaps encountering some folks from your past. If an old acquaintance gets in touch with you, go with the flow.

## 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: L = I)

"LQ L YSFLSGS JNZJ JNZJ LM JNS OLPNJ  
 JNLBP JX UX QXO XIO WXIBJOA ZBU QXO  
 JNS TZFLB QZDLFA."

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 when we get more in.

# Comics

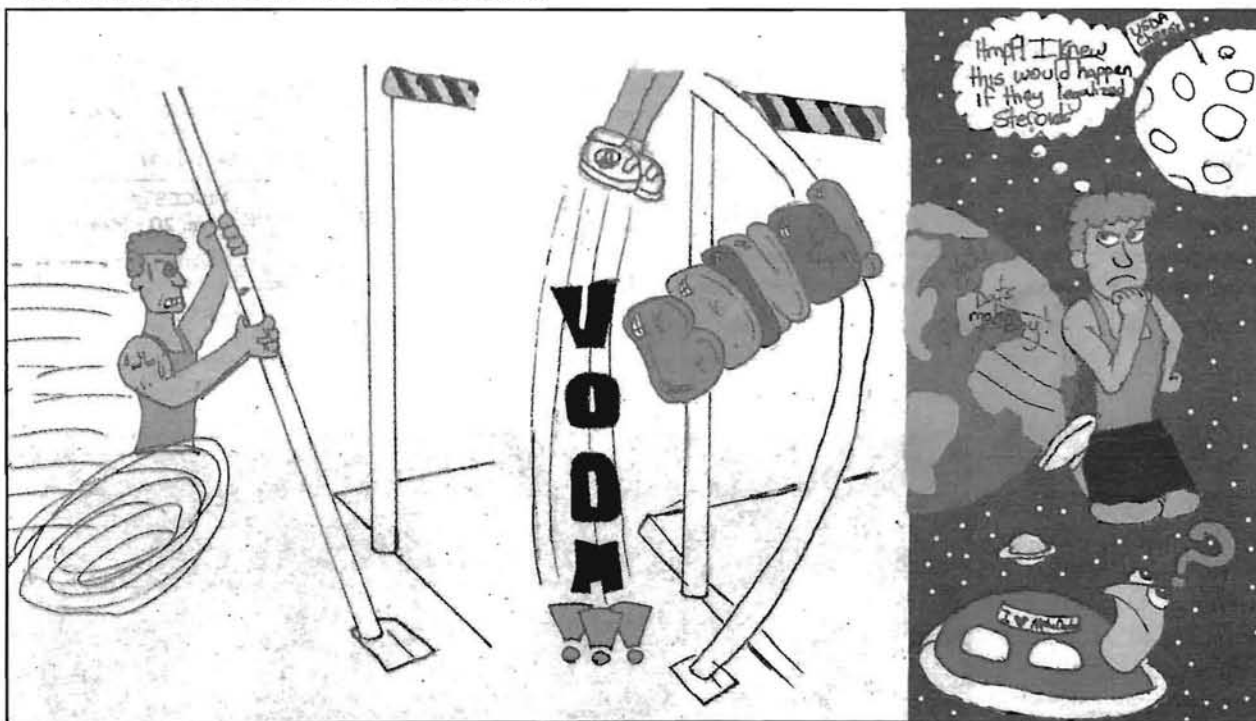
MARGARET & HOORAY BY CODY PERKINS



STARSHIP WHATEVER by Phil Freeman



RANDOM MINDS BY JEFFREY GROSSMAN



SPACE, from page 15

"It's awesome to have the actual, real spacecraft. Even though these two didn't fly, to have the real artifacts means a lot," Lakey said.

They are accompanied by one of astronaut Gus Grissom's Mercury space suits, a wide variety of space memorabilia and toys, and a video of President Kennedy visiting the St. Louis McDonnell plant.

Highlighting the local connection is an exhibit adjacent to the capsule display, which contains items on loan from the James S. McDonnell Prologue Room at Boeing's St. Louis headquarters. The Prologue room highlights the achievements of McDonnell Douglas, especially its part during the space race. "We kind of wanted to mirror that here in a smaller way, so we have a lot of collection items from the Boeing Corporation," Lakey said. The collection on display includes a number of items, such as a workbench used by designers at McDonnell while they were developing spacecraft. Beyond the planetarium's lobby there are other exhibits detailing the space race, from the Soviet Union's 1957 launch of Sputnik to the 1975 Apollo/Soyuz mission, during which Russian cosmonauts and American astronauts met in orbit for the first time. Continuing through takes one to a series of displays devoted to the Space Shuttle and private enterprise's first steps into space, which could be the future of space exploration.

Just as St. Louis was home to the first generation of space pioneers, it became the home to a new generation when the Ansari X-Prize was headquartered here. In the face of mounting budget concerns, NASA may have to turn to private enterprise to get astronauts into orbit.

"I personally think it is a good thing for private enterprise to develop space models, at least models to get into space," Lakey said. He also supported the use of unmanned probes in exploring the solar system.

"The unmanned missions can teach us a lot ... With stuff like that, it is just going to make it that much better for what we can learn about our own solar system," Lakey said.

Aside from the exhibits, the planetarium has more to offer visitors. Public telescope viewings are held on the first Friday of every month along with a show called "The Sky Tonight," in which visitors can see a projection of the night sky and have various objects pointed out to them. Guest lectures are also booked from time to time. For more information on upcoming events at the Planetarium, visit their Web site at slsc.org.

[WWW.THECURRENT-ONLINE.COM](http://WWW.THECURRENT-ONLINE.COM)

# 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](mailto:thecurrent@umsl.edu) with the subject "What's Current." No phone submissions. All listings use 516 prefixes unless noted.

## Monday, Feb. 8

**What's a Subject?** Laura Fowler, Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville professor of History, Libby Reuter, director of the Schmidt Art Center at Southernwestern Illinois College, and Jacquelyn Lewis-Harris, director of the UMSL Center for Human Origin and Cultural Diversity, describe their collaborative community history project on "objects-unique household objects that prompt the owners' stories about their history." Located in 222 J. C. Penney Conference Center from 12:15 PM to 1:15 PM. For more info contact Karen Lucas at 314-516-5699.

**School of Social Work Monday Brown Bag Research Series** Topic, "Recent Trends in Work and Family," Speaker, Anne Winkler, Professor of Economics & Public Policy Administration, UM-St. Louis. Beverages and desserts provided. Please RSVP to Brenda West Ammons on [ammons@umsl.edu](mailto:ammons@umsl.edu). Located in Chapel of Bellerive Hall located on South Campus from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM. For more information contact Brenda West Ammons at 314-516-5632.

## Tuesday, Feb. 9

**It's About Time! (Management)** Learn how to improve grades, improve your quality of life and divide time between work and recreation. This workshop will help you examine how you spend your time and how you might be able to become more efficient in your role as a student. Located in 225 MSC - Center For Student Success from 2:00 PM to 2:45 PM. For more info contact Chad Hoffer at 314-516-5300.

**3-on-3 Basketball Tournament** One-night with men's and women's divisions. Tournament champions win Campus Recreation t-shirts. Advance registration is necessary. Sign up in the Campus Recreation Office, 203MT. Entry deadline is Tuesday, Jan. 26. Located in Mark Twain Gym from 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM. For more information contact Campus Recreation at 516-5326. Located in 225 MSC from 3:30 PM to 4:15 PM. For more information contact Chad Hoffer at 314-516-5300.

## Wednesday, Feb. 10

**Political Science Academy** Dr. Jean-Germain Gros, Associate Professor of Political Science, a native of Haiti and a scholar who has written widely about the developing world will discuss the destruction in Haiti. 7:30 p.m. at Prof. Glassberg's House (733 Elkington Lane).

**Brown Bag Series: The Role of Congregations in Rebuilding** The Brown Bag Series is sponsored by the Community Partnership Project at the UM - St. Louis. These monthly gatherings are designed for students and community members and are part of the Community Building Fellowship Program at UMSL. Located in the JC Penny Conference Center from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM. For more information contact Holly Ingraham at 314-516-6775.

**Talk Sex with Dr. S** Visit us to talk about Sexual Responsibility Week. Free Prophylactics! Located in Lucas Hall 200 from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM.

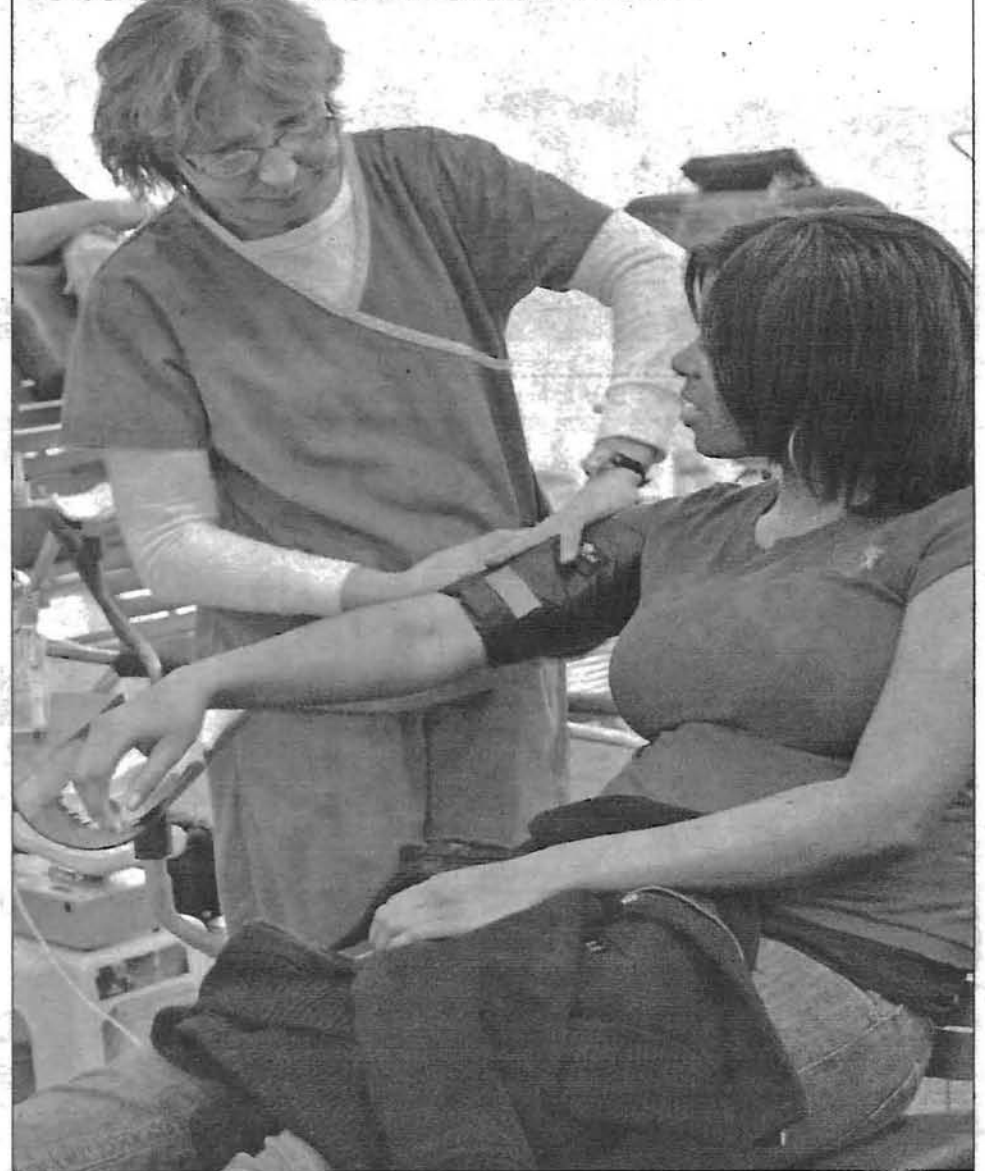
## Thursday, Feb. 11

**Trivia Night sponsored by Campus Recreation** Trivia teams can consist of 10 team members (maximum per table). Students, faculty, staff, family and friends are welcome. Great prizes and fun! Free pizza, snacks and soda provided. Gather your friends and come party on! Registration deadline is Tuesday, Feb. 9. Sign up today in the Campus Rec Office, 203 Mark Twain or call Susan at 5125. Located in Provincial House on South Campus from 7:00 PM to 10:00 AM. For more information contact Campus Recreation (203 Mark Twain) at 516-5326.

## Friday, Feb. 12

**College of Business Administration Research Seminar Series** Lea Rachel Kosnik, Asst. Professor of Economics, UMSL, "Cleaning Up a Spanish-American War Monument After the Pigeons Have Left: Water Regulation in the U.S." Located in 401 Social Science Building from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM. For more information contact Dr. Dinesh Mirchandani at 314-516-7654.

## Student Life Blood Drive



JENNIFER MEAHAN / THE CURRENT

Monet Mayo, media studies, junior, is prepped before being pricked in the MSC Century Rooms for the February Blood Drive on Monday.



AFTER ALL IS READ AND DONE,  
PLEASE RECYCLE!

-YOUR FRIENDS AT THE *The Current*