

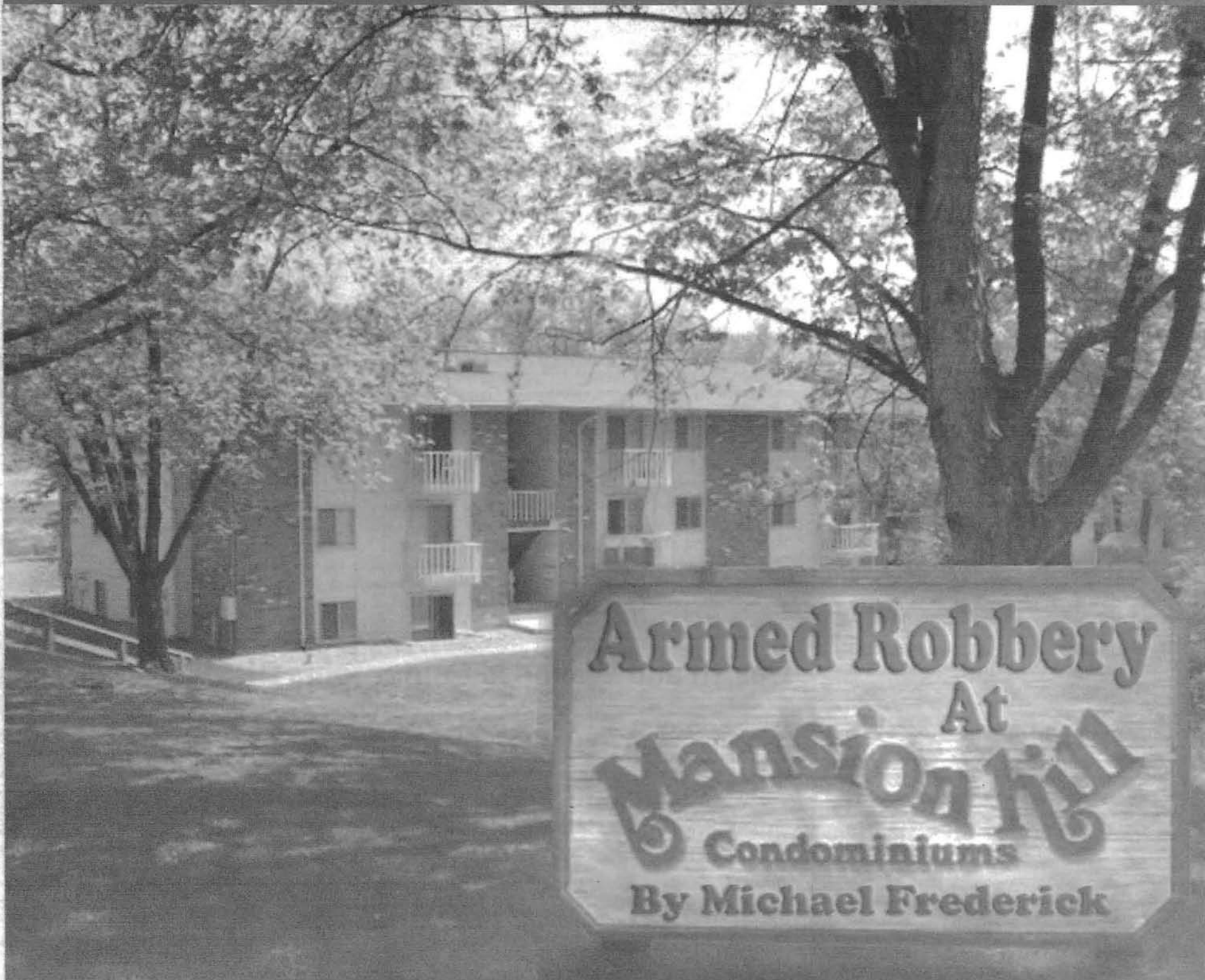
# The Current

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# The Current

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## ABOUT The Current

The Current is the student newspaper at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, printing weekly through the fall and spring semesters on Mondays. Advertising rates are available upon request; terms, conditions and restrictions apply. The Current, financed in part by student activities fees, is not an official publication of UM-St. Louis.

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The Current accepts letters to the editor. All letters should be brief, and those not exceeding 250 words will be given preference. The Current edits letters for clarity and length, not for dialect, correctness, intent or grammar. All letters must be signed and must include a daytime phone number and, where applicable, student number. The Editor-in-Chief reserves the right to respond to and to deny any letters.

## AFFILIATIONS



# News

## Armed robbery at Mansion Hills

**MICHAEL FREDERICK**  
Sports Editor

A student and his mother were robbed at gun point at Mansion Hills apartments near I-70 and New Florissant Road. According to a campus wide Clery Release e-mail by the University of Missouri-St. Louis police department, the robbery took place at about 1:11 a.m. on Thursday, November 4. Several members of the UM-St. Louis baseball team witnessed the aftermath. The victims' names were not reported.

Jonathan Lidgus, residential life director at UM-St. Louis, said that the campus is relatively safe. But also mentioned how often the police patrol areas. "They usually go up to Mansion Hills and the Provincial House once or twice a day," Lidgus said.

Kurt Driemeyer, senior, business major and resident of Mansion Hills, was among those present after the robbery. "They stole her purse, wallet, laptop and everything in her car," Driemeyer said. "[The mother] just came from Houston, Texas." The UM-St. Louis student was scheduled to have arm surgery on Thursday and his mother flew in to be with him. Spencer Ammons, junior, biology, was coming back to his apartment from

studying at the Social Science Building. "I saw guys walking up from the curbed hill headed to Mansion," Ammons, who is a Tritons baseball player and lives in Mansion Hills, said. "I saw they had big dark jackets and you could tell they might have had something with them." According to the Clery Release, one suspect is a male with gold front teeth.

Coach Jim Brady, UM-St. Louis head baseball coach, spoke to the UM-St. Louis student and his mother. According to Coach Brady, the assailants accosted the UM-St. Louis student before his mother arrived and the robbery took place. "They went up to him and asked if his name was Kevin," Coach Brady said. "He said 'no' and went back into his apartment to call his mother to tell her to stay in her car."

Once the student's mother pulled up to the Mansion Hills parking lot in an airport rental Cadillac she, according to Coach Brady, noticed that the assailants had a gun to her son's head. "He gave them the keys and said 'take the car'." If he did not do that who knows what would have happened," Coach Brady said.

Amanda Seib, senior, finance, expressed concern for her safety at Mansion Hills. "It kind of freaks me out," Seib said. "We all heard about it at soft-

ball practice the next morning." According to Seib, Coach Brian Levin, Tritons head softball coach, gave advice to keep his student-athletes safe. "Coach told us to carry a side purse with monopoly money and fake keys to make it look real," Seib said. "Basically anything to make it look real to throw at them and run."

A former Mansion Hills resident mentioned that while the event was upsetting and unfortunate it was not surprising. "I lived there for 2 and a half years and now I live with my parents," Adie Bennett, senior, liberal studies, said. "UMSL police go through in like 5 seconds and never get out of their cars." According to Bennett, resident assistants at Mansion Hills patrol the facility, even after dark.

The Current attempted to speak with several different resident assistants, but was informed that they were not allowed to speak to media outlets regarding Mansion Hills. The UM-St. Louis student and his mother returned to their home in Houston. It is unknown if he will return.

## Health and Wellness Center joins Disability Services

**MANUEL WYNN**  
Staff Writer

The health center at the University of Missouri-St. Louis is undergoing change, consolidation and renovation. The health center is located on the ground floor of the Millennium Student Center tucked next to The Nosh. For years the health center stood divided between Health Wellness/Counseling Services and Disability Access Services. Now, students and faculty can look forward to some major changes at a time when patients flood the health center for various services. Construction on the

health center started on the first week of school, according to school health sources. Two separate entranceways divided these two entities, but not even walls could break their strong ties. The walls that stood between the two were knocked down to combine them for one favorable partnership.

Nancy Magnuson, assistant vice provost for Student Affairs and acting associate dean for Advanced Nursing Education in the College of Nursing, oversees the expanding center. "Our primary mission is to assist students in maintaining their optimum level of wellness so that they are able to achieve their maxi-

mum academic potential," Magnuson said. "We are excited to have disability access services join our area. The renovation allows for more collaboration among our providers and convenience for students in accessing services. It also allows for sharing of staff and resources, which is important for the university in tight budget times."

Health services is responsible for having well-noted procedures to keep UM-St. Louis' community in good health. Among these services provided are vaccinations, immunizations and screenings.

See HEALTH page 4

## WEATHER

MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.	SUN.
62	68	71	74	74	73	68
39	39	42	42	46	51	44



# St. Louis public radio hits it big

**DEMARKO TIMMONS**  
Staff Writer

Thanks to a successful fall fundraising drive St. Louis Public Radio will remain a fixture in local broadcasting. KWMU will stay on the University of Missouri-St. Louis campus, continuing to inform public life and enriching the St. Louis culture as well as its listeners' daily lives.

KWMU's mission is to help people achieve a more thoughtful and useful life with programs and services that give citizens in the St. Louis region information they need to understand.

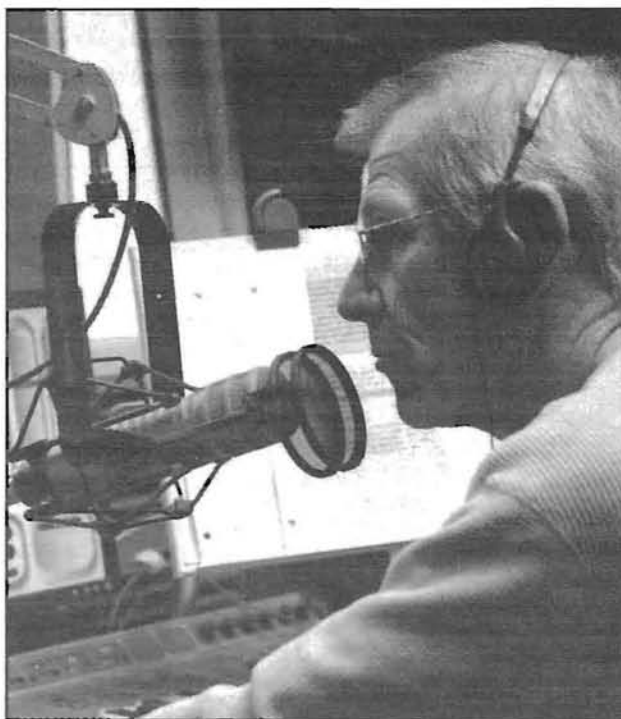
KWMU has a full-time staff of 33 professionals who handle all aspects of the station's operation. This would include everything from hosting and producing news and programs for the station, to fundraising, marketing, programming, technical operations and fiscal operations.

KWMU operates three services reaching, on average, nearly 250,000 listeners each week. Most of the budget comes from contributions from listeners, businesses and foundations throughout the region. Last month, KWMU finished their fall fund raising campaign.

"Our Fall Membership

Campaign last month was amazing. We surpassed our best previous campaign by 20 percent with more contributors and new donors than we've ever received in the station's 38 year history," General manager Tim Eby said. "It was a tremendous demonstration of support for the services the station provides the community."

They received more than \$560,000 in pledges from a record 4,055 contributors. Of the total pledges, 1,577 were from first-time donors to the station. The station was founded in 1972 and the studios are located in Lucas Hall. KWMU also have offices located in Clark Hall. Their future plans call for them moving their studios and offices to a new building to be constructed in the Grand Center Arts and Entertainment District in midtown St. Louis. They plan to occupy two-thirds of the building with UM-St. Louis academic programming, and meeting spaces taking up the other third of the space. They will also maintain a studio here on the campus, most likely in the Touhill. In last month's recent activities, they have been very focused on covering the 2010 elections that culminated in the cover-



Bob McCabe, Morning Host of St. Louis Public Radio sitting in studio

ZHENG ZHANG / THE CURRENT

age on election night and reporting on the results the day after the election. They have also had a number of interesting guests and topics on their local shows, St. Louis on the Air and Cityscape. This includes UM-St. Louis Chancellor Thomas George, actress Kathleen Turner, former Ambassador Joseph Wilson, the band Pokey LaFarge and the South City Three. Another significant addition to the station in the last several weeks has been broadcasting

the St. Louis Symphony concerts live on Saturday nights from Powell Hall. This started in September and they have received great response from the community for adding them to the schedule.

"I love listening to the symphony concerts and now that KWMU plays it on their broadcast it makes my day go by even better," Stephanie Landes, freshman, studio art, said.

## PRIZM lecturer talks gender heteronormalities

**ZACHARY JAMES KRAFT**  
Design Editor

What is gender? This was the question proposed this past Wednesday by Jac Stringer at a lecture sponsored by PRIZM, University of Missouri-St. Louis' LGBT organization. UM-St. Louis students came to listen and discuss the many varied aspects of what makes up gender and sexuality in modern times.

The lecture was followed by a conversation with students who gave their own thoughts on the subject on positions of gender and sex in society.

One of the topics included what people take for granted as roles society conventionally deems as "normal." What Jac Stringer, a traveling lecturer and gay rights advocate, had to say is that what seems weird or freaky to one individual might be perfectly normal to another.

"Freak is a word that is applied to anything that's weird or out of place. So our concept of freak is anything outside of our norm and concepts of normalcy don't actually exist," Jac said.

The discussion also covered parts of the history of assumed gender constructs along with a laundry list of behavioral and biological reasons for per-

sonal constructs of sexuality and gender.

These reasons also tied into a person's sense of belonging both in heteronormal and LGBT communities.

"When we are creating our own community we create our own aspects of identity," Jac said. As a corollary many students in the audience spoke of the struggle to stay within their own social groups while being labeled as one gender or sex or the other stating that within every social group there is a type of comfort zone of normal.

See PRIZM page 6

## The UNDERCURRENT

by Riki Tanaka

"What do you think people can do to persuade others to vote?"



"What I think that would help people go out and vote is if it is talked about more on campus with propaganda."

**JaMarius Jelks**  
Psychology  
Sophomore



"I think people can give out flyers on campus and talk about voting on UMSL radio so that 'going to vote' remains on everyone's mind."

**Yuki Takashima**  
Master of Accounting  
Graduate



"Make it a group event and take the trip to the polls together."

**Ashley Ward**  
Psychology  
Senior



"I don't think people can persuade other people to vote. It has to come down to the individual whether or not they are motivated in the first place."

**Colleen McGeoghegan**  
Psychology  
Freshman

on "University NRA group more like a ghost town" issue 1326

Since no gun law will stop the nut jobs from a shooting spree, how much sense does it make to render yourself defenseless?

-Jeff

What's really dangerous and dumb is when a nut job shows up and starts shooting there is no one around with the where with all to stop them.

-Linda G.

on "The Tea Party: Racism or conservatism?" issue 1327

Racism is a two way street and it applies to every race equally. Stopping racism in all it's forms and against all it's victims was one of the main reasons I proudly participate in and support my Tea Party. To be perfectly blunt, if you are a person hurling around the invective phrase of "Racism!", the first part of the solution is to look in the mirror. Those accusing others of racism are, in my experience, THE RACISTS.

Racism is not just another word for "visiting the sins of the father upon the son." I've never owned slaves. I've never treated someone differently based on their differences. I've committed only the crime of being born white, and for that indiscretion I will be labeled a racist for the rest of my life. No evidence, no trial, just automatic guilt. If THAT isn't racism, then I don't know what it is.

-Robert M.

COMMENTS FROM THE WEB

# Analysis of the elections from UMSL professors

**RYAN KRULL**  
News Editor

Just as analysts predicted, the midterm elections yielded big gains for the Republican Party both in Missouri and nationwide. Come January the GOP will take control of the House of Representatives in Washington D.C. as well as both Missouri's state senate and state house of representatives. Some pundits contend that the colossal number of ballots cast for the GOP symbolize a repudiation of the left policies that have thus far dominated President Obama's presidency. Others believe that the Republican gains are merely the result of voters punishing the party in charge for a bad economy.

J. Martin Rochester, a curators' distinguished teaching professor of political science at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, falls into the former camp.

"After the 2008 elections the Democrats

were well-positioned to bury the Republican Party as a serious competitor, given the widespread disenchantment with the Bush administration," Rochester said. "They made a colossal blunder and squandered that opportunity by moving too far toward the Pelosi-Reid left-wing base of the party on health care, immigration and other issues.

While most elections in Missouri did end in Republican victories, most notably Roy Blunt being named the state's next senator, a handful of local races bucked the trend. Incumbent Democratic Congressman Russ Carnahan managed to narrowly defeat Republican challenger Ed Martin in the 3rd Congressional District. Carnahan's margin of victory was razor thin with approximately 4,400 votes separating the two candidates. Martin has yet to concede. "Martin was a well known candidate with a lot of backing," David Robertson, distinguished teaching professor of political science at UM-St. Louis, said. "But in this district, Carnahan should have

won with a larger margin. This margin is going to be very significant to the people who redraw Missouri's U.S. House districts after the census and future Republican challengers, who will find the margin very encouraging."

In another narrow victory, ballot initiative Proposition B passed in Missouri with just 51.6 percent of the vote. The new law limits dog-breeding operations to no more than 50 breeding dogs and sets standards for veterinary care. Supporters of Prop B hope it will curb Missouri's reputation as America's "puppy mill capital." "Clearly, many farmers and others in rural parts of Missouri saw the puppy mill bill as taking the state down a slippery slope that would lead to greater government regulation of chicken farms and other farms. Whether this fear was justified or not, it reflected the anti-government mood of the electorate," Rochester said.

Voting on Prop B was not split along party lines, but along geographical ones. "Rural voters turned out in large percentages and

voted heavily against it while they voted for Republican candidates. Metropolitan area voters voted for it whether or not they voted for Republican candidates. For example, St. Charles County voted for Prop B even while they voted for Roy Blunt by a very large margin," Robertson said. Even though Democrats still have control of the United States Senate, a handful of Tea Party candidates have won election to that body. The effect that soon to be Senators like Rand Paul of Kentucky and Mike Lee of Utah will have on the nation as a whole remains to be seen. Both men have made staunch commitments to deficit reduction and fiscal responsibility.

"A key issue to watch will be the next time there is a vote in Congress to raise the debt limit. In the past, these votes always passed, but some of the more conservative Republicans may vote no as a way to force cuts in government spending," David Kimball, associate professor in political science, said.

## HEALTH, FROM PAGE 2

Flu shots, which are recommended daily by The Center for Disease Control, are available at a cost of \$20. Immunizations are provided for everything from Hepatitis A and B to tuberculosis skin testing. Screenings are available for HIV, diabetes, cardiac risks and many other health risks. Counseling Services has expanded its mental health services to include issues facing athletes and international students says Sharon Biegen, director of counseling services. "The expertise of two

replacement staff has provided the opportunity to enhance our services to underserved groups of students. We have two new psychologists - one who helps athletes look at non-drug ways of increasing performance. The other psychologist helps international students get through the culture shock and added anxiety of being away from home in a foreign country," Biegen said. Disability Access Service makes every effort to make sure that resources are provided to students with disabilities. Dis-

ability Access Services provides help integrating students with disabilities into the UM-St. Louis community, adapting to different environments and responsibilities is a challenge to any student but for disabled students this transition is not always easy. Students should have knowledge of these services that play a vital role in shaping everyday life for college students.

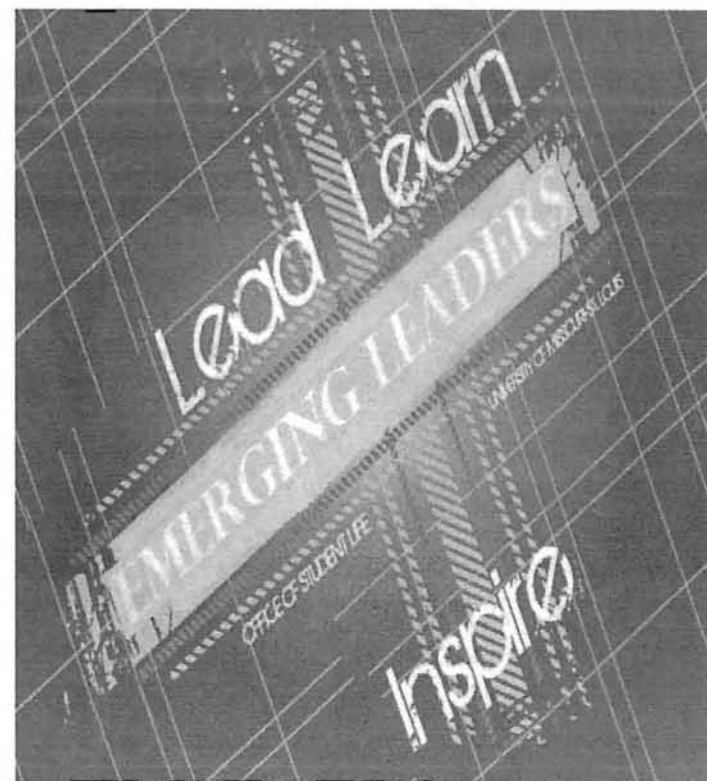
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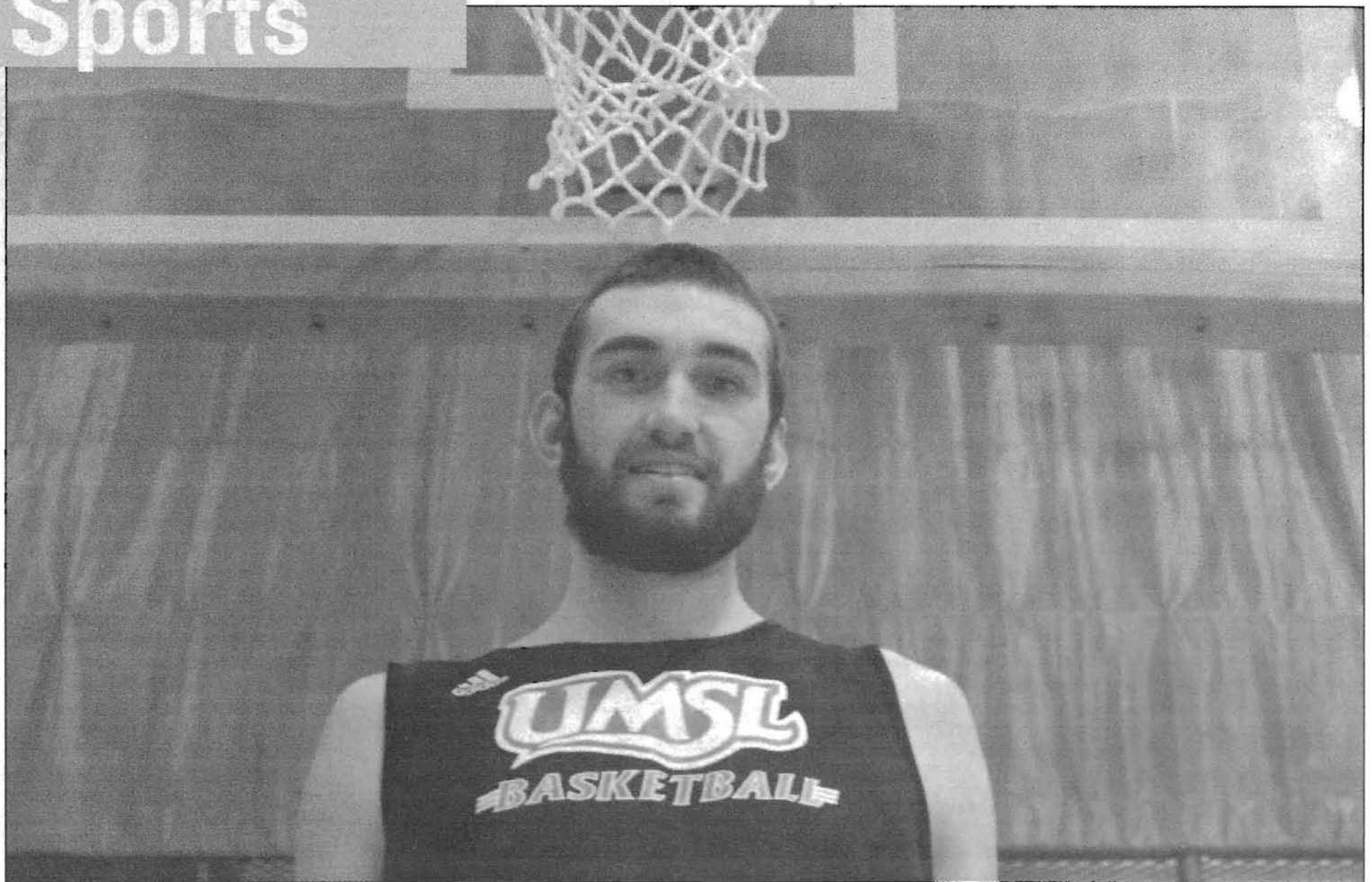
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## Sports



Zach Redel stands in basketball court, ready for a practice, Friday.

CHENHAO LI / THE CURRENT

# Zach Redel lives for competition

**ASHLEY ATKINS**  
Staff Writer

Zach Redel, junior, business administration, referred to as "Z man" by his closer friends, plays center for the University of Missouri-St. Louis men's basketball team. He intends on helping the Tritons make it to the National Collegiate Athletic Association tournament this year.

Consumed by the sport since Hoopster basketball in grade school, he says he thrives for the competition of the game. Redel attended Webster Groves High School where he played center for the school along with an Amateur Athletics Union team outside of school, sponsored by Nike.

"I played for the St. Louis Eagles while I was in high school," Redel said. "We traveled across the United States and played against

some of the top players in the country," Redel said.

But, he still refers to his most memorable moment in basketball happening senior year in high school when his team won the state championship at the University of Missouri-Columbia's Arena while Fox Sports was at the game.

From high school he went on to play for one semester at Central Missouri State University where he started 28 out of 35 games, won an MIAA conference title and made an NCAA Elite Eight semifinal appearance. He then made the decision to transfer to UM-St. Louis.

"UM-St. Louis was one of the schools that recruited me the most," Redel said.

At UM-St. Louis he plays under Coach Steve Tappmeyer who has been inducted into the Missouri Basketball Coaches Association

Hall of Fame. Tappmeyer replaced previous Triton coach, Chris Pilz.

"I really enjoy the group of players that we are working with at UM-St. Louis," Tappmeyer said. "We laid the groundwork for what expectations would be to each one of them individually and to this point I have been pleased with how they have gone about their business."

"His biggest emphasis this year is communication," Redel said.

Coach Tappmeyer mentioned how Redel is an easy person to coach due to his readiness to compete at a high level and how his high basketball IQ is valuable to the teammates around him.

Roommate and Triton guard, Vinnie Raimondo, sophomore, middle school education, has played basketball with Redel since high school recollected an unexpected back-

up from Redel during a missed layup on a fast break.

"I thought for sure the other team would get the rebound because all of my teammates would still be back court assuming I would make it; however, Z Man was right there to tip it in," Raimondo said. "He never stops hustling."

The foundation goal of the Tritons men's basketball team is to represent themselves as a team that makes positive progress throughout the season and to play the best basketball that they can. It is believed that Redel can help achieve this through not only his coach, but his family who have been coming out to his games since high school.

"For as long as I can remember, he has always dedicated his time to the sport and getting better at it," Sara Redel, Zach Redel's sister, said. "I always looked up to him for that."

## SPORTS COLUMN

## The Blues winning ways are back

Davis Payne has brought the St. Louis Blues back from oblivion. After winning on Thursday, November 4 against the San Jose Sharks at the Scottrade Center the Blues have seven wins and only three losses to start the 2010-2011 season.

The Blues did more than just beat the Sharks, 2-0, in every aspect of hockey, but they also showed a kind of toughness and grittiness that St. Louis sports fans are drawn towards.

Late in the first period the Blues took the lead on a goal by right winger Matt D'Agostini. Before play restarted at center ice following the goal, Blues left winger Brad Winchester got into a fight at center ice with former St. Louis player Jamal Mayers. As with many National Hockey League games fights are common, but the Blues seemed to rally around Winchester and Mayer going to fisticuffs.

In the second period, Blues forward David Perron took an elbow to the head from Sharks defenseman and enforcer Joe Thornton. According to ESPN and the NHL's website Thornton was kicked out of the game and will be fined and suspended by the NHL. But before the game misconduct, Blues enforcer Alex Pietrangolo sent a message to the Sharks by going after defenseman Logan Couture. The officials eventually restored order, but not before the Blues gave San Jose and the NHL a clear message: they will not be out muscled by any team in professional hockey.

By the third period, with the game well in doubt for San Jose, the Scottrade Center was once again chanting, "Let's go Blues," rather than, "Let's not lose," as fans did last season. The sellout



Michael Frederick

crowd, which was also Student night for all college students with a valid campus ID, were so boisterous for the Blues to finally start out their first 10 games with a winning record that the entire arena shook. Last season the Blues were dismal under head coach Andy Murray. Payne, who has been through the Blues farm system and has coached many of the young players on the team, has instilled in the team a sense of dignity and comradeship the likes of which St. Louis Blues fans have not seen in three seasons. Payne has brought a culture of not just winning hockey games, but winning the Blues way. He has made this young team into a formidable adversary for rivalries such as the Stanley Cup Champion Chicago Blackhawks and Detroit Red Wings.

University of Missouri-St. Louis students should consider taking advantage of next Thursday's home game against the Nashville Predators. It is college night again with \$15 tickets. For those who are still unconvinced of this team's tenacity and grit, take advantage of every opportunity to watch the St. Louis Blues in person. They are full of surprises this season.

*Michael Frederick is Sports Editor for The Current.*

## Tritons give Bilikins a scare up hill sprint season

**MATTHEW B. POPOSKY**

Staff Writer

Despite the Tritons being division II and Billikens being division I, the exhibition match last Thursday exploded with passion and excitement. The Tritons faced off in their first exhibition game against St. Louis University Billikens at Chaefitz Arena.

"This is considered preseason. Our actual season will start next week, in a tournament at Lincoln University in Jefferson City," Lisa Taylor, University of Missouri-St. Louis head women's basketball coach, said.

Taylor also stated that the second game was to take place on Sunday, November 7 at Indiana State University in Terra Haute, Indiana.

As the players began warming up on both sides, Coach Taylor expressed her concerns for the night. "It's going to be tough tonight. SLU is a division I team, whereas we're a division II. They're pretty talented in lots of areas, and we're using this to prepare for our season," Coach Taylor said.

As for her specific goals for the evening, Taylor was strictly focused. "I'm looking to see how our chemistry is to-

night. I want us to be aggressive, run the floor and rebound pretty well. If we do that, I think we'll be in good shape," she said.

At tipoff, Tritons took the ball for a strong start down the court. The ball changed hands several times within the first minute, leading to a layup by the Billikens early.

This was generally the course of the first half of the game. Timeouts usually saw the Billikens ahead by a basket or two but the two teams remained steadfast at each other's feet and neither could gain too much ground.

The Tritons began making massive strides toward half-time. Within the four minutes, the Tritons managed to pull ahead by several baskets. Although the Billikens managed to regain a bit of ground, the Tritons held a solid two score lead at the buzzer.

This success only seemed to incite the Billikens. Their foot-speed and defense tightened up in the second half, as did their offensive fervor. The Billikens managed to even the score and pull ahead by nearly 10 points soon after the second half fired up.

The final two minutes of the game saw massive bursts of energy by both teams. Timeouts were called on both sides for

last-minute strategic discussions and the back-and-forth pattern of scoring, consistent throughout the game, remained.

In the end, the final score was 82-78, Billikens. Although the Tritons lost, Taylor did not seem let down.

"We made good strides last year and won our first conference game. This year, we're expecting to grow on that," Taylor said.

St. Louis University's coach had her own opinions on the game as well.

"We got exposed tonight. We looked like a team who hasn't played competitively since last March and it was obvious to anybody watching. We were very rusty," Shimmy Gray-Miller, Saint Louis University's women's basketball head coach, said.

"UM-St. Louis' team played with a great deal of heart and passion. One team is always expected to win and one to lose. UM-St. Louis had the underdog advantage in this game," Gray-Miller said.

The Tritons may have had an "underdog advantage" in this game but their passion and teamwork was evident as well. With such strengths supporting this young team, the coming season is sure to show continued strides for Tritons women's basketball.

### PRIZM, from page 2

These reasons also tied into a person's sense of belonging both in heterosexual and LGBT communities.

"When we are creating our own community we create our own aspects of identity," Stringer said. As a corollary many students in the audience spoke of the struggle to stay within their own social groups while being labeled as one gender or sex or the other stating that within every social group there is a type of comfort zone of normal.

Mr. Stringer also spoke about the issue of fluidity within LGBT community or any social group that finds it difficult to adjust with people who make the deci-

sion to change one's sexuality or gender when he or she feels like it.

"We have a problem with the concept of normalcy and visibility of what we see as the fluidity of sexuality and gender identity. When you have someone who identifies as straight, but then starts dating a boy or someone who is gay for 15 years and then finds a partnership with a woman and people who identify as one gender for a long time then come out as transgender," Stringer said. So going through these different motions of self brings a concept of "I can't recognize what this is" and it is that concept of legitimacy that is placed on someone

for what is expected to be normal that causes invalid stereotypes."

The talk given by Stringer and the PRIZM organization spent more than two hours conversing on the topic of societal norms and preconceived constructs of gender and sexuality. The end of which resulted in giving students a more rounded idea of what can be considered a person's own personal term for what is normal. For more information about Jac Stringer or UM-St. Louis' LGTB community students can contact the PRIZM student office located in Student Life.

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The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis' production of "Next Fall".

JERRY NAUNHEIM JR./THE CURRENT

## Audiences will fall for funny, provocative play 'Next Fall'

**CATE MARQUIS**  
Assoc. A&E Editor

### THEATRE

"Next Fall," the Repertory Theater of St. Louis' latest production, is the rarest of things: a play about controversial social issues that really gives all sides a fair chance to speak. Better yet, it takes what could have been a grimly serious play and transforms it into something both witty and intelligent, thanks to its wonderfully sharp and honest dialog.

Funny, provocative and unpredictable all describe this intelligent, moving play. The story takes place mostly in flashback, while family and friends are gathered in a hospital after an accident that has left a loved one in a coma.

Playwright Geoffrey Nauffts' "Next Fall" began as an off-Broadway production that gained such popular support that it made it

to Broadway for a year-long run. Although this is one of the Rep's Studio Theater productions, it is not being staged in Webster Groves but instead at the Grandel Theater, near the Fox, at 3610 Grandel Square. The play runs until November 14.

The story begins in a hospital waiting room, where friends and family are gathered awaiting word from doctors after Luke (Colin Hanlon), a rising young New York actor, was in an accident. As they wait, they recall the past, setting up flashbacks to happier times. Luke's friends, Holly (Marnye Young) and Brandon (Ben Nordstrom), arrive first, followed by Luke's parents, Arlene (Susan Greenhill) and Butch (Keith Jochim). Although long divorced, Butch and Arlene remain friendly. Finally Adam (Jeffrey Kuhn) arrives, setting the stage for the flashbacks and an exploration of attitudes on gays, religion and the cultural divide.

A secret helps create the play's tension but in many ways the play is more about reli-

gion than being gay. Like his parents, Luke is Christian but while he lives an openly gay life in New York, he has never had the courage to share that fact with his family back in the South. His father Butch is a brash, successful man, a traditional man's man, whose personality does not encourage such a revelation. His mother Arlene is talkative, country, bubbly, but has a checkered past. Luke's middle-aged lover Adam, who was raised without religion and finds Luke's faith both exotic and intriguing, thinks Luke should tell them the truth.

The fearless, sparkling, sharp-witted dialog is the real key to this play's success. The actors create characters that are memorable and well-rounded under sure-handed direction by Seth Gordon. Luke, as played by Colin Hanlon, is sweet and appealingly well-grounded, a contrast to Jeffrey Kuhn's more meandering, less self-assured Adam. Marnye Young's Holly is sweet and accepting, much like best friend Luke. Brandon, played by Ben Nordstrom, is aloof and formal and a bit of a mystery. But

the scene-stealer is often Susan Greenhill's Arlene, who charms us with her unfiltered quirkiness. Larger-than-life Butch is played perfectly by Keith Jochim.

One of the most striking things about the production is the marvelous scenic design by Brian Sidney Bembridge. The stage is framed in large white slats, like giant vertical blinds and a similar, curved structure of vertical white slats slides in and out of the stage for scene changes, moving away to make room for a sliding backdrop of white walls and bookcase for scenes in their apartment. Simple modern furniture is re-purposed for different scenes but a yellow, cleanly-modern rectangular bench remains in every scene, tying things together. The sheer clever inventiveness of the sets is amazing.

"Next Fall" is the kind of fresh and original work that theatergoers relish. It may be the Rep's best production this season, well worth the trip to the Grandel off Grand.

# 'Force Unleashed II' will unleash players

## VIDEO GAMES

A little over two years ago, LucasArts shocked fans of the Star Wars saga when they released a title that, at the time, seemed rather controversial. Now, two years after the initial release of "Star Wars: The Force Unleashed," its sequel hit stores on October 26.

"The Force Unleashed" took players on an adventure covering what was the least discussed portion of the saga's history: the dark years between the end of "Episode III," and the beginning of "Episode IV." It possessed two brand new physics and artificial intelligence engines, to guarantee "realistic" behavior in enemies and believable movements due to throws, strikes, etc. The game had two potential endings, giving players a choice between joining the Light or Dark side.

"The Force Unleashed II" picks up six months after the ending of the first, officially canonizing the Light side ending from the first. Players once again take control of Darth Vader's Apprentice, Starkiller...or do they?

The whole premise of the game is that Darth Vader has somehow done the impossible: he has managed to clone Jedi. Those familiar with the series will likely scream, "That is not possible!" Take it up with George Lucas: this will not be a ranting forum.

All in all, the game is an impressive upgrade from the original. While the original was a beautiful game, with some incredible game play, there were still quirks in both. LucasArts seems to have listened to the fans (an all too rare occasion in the gaming industry), as they upgraded both. The in-game graphics are absolutely astounding. Those who have played marvels such as "Final Fantasy XIII" or the most recent installations of "God of War" or "Devil May Cry" will see similarities in quality, and for LucasArts, that is saying something. Game play seems to have received the greatest improvements of all, although quirks still exist. Dual-wielding lightsabers is stunning to say the least and Starkiller looks completely natural flowing from target to target. The enemies also seem more realistic in this one, as

they often times shoot while running from the player now, rather than sitting and waiting for players to slice and dice them. All of the Force Powers have been enhanced and the addition of Mind Trick will likely cause several players to laugh maniacally as armies of Stormtroopers leap to their doom, crying for mommy. Of course, there is a downside. Being able to lift several enemies and/or boxes at once to fling around is great. It also causes problems when players try stacking crates atop each other and find themselves unable to lift one at a time. This was likely the most time consuming event in the game, possibly barring the final boss.

Fans were crying for improved combat, better graphics and improved voice acting. All of this happened. However, the story seems to have been ignored. While it is an incredible addition to the previous game, it just seems far too short. Overall, the game receives an A-. Is it worth renting? Of course. Buying? Each gamer should probably decide that for his or herself.

**A-** -Matthew B. Poposky

# Deer Tick stirs up madness at Off Broadway

## MUSIC

Deer Tick from Providence, Rhode Island, offered St. Louis' Off Broadway a raucous and playful Halloween party, replete with fan-favorite originals and a stunning array of cover songs.

On October 31, guitarist and lead man, John J. McCauley III, sauntered on stage dressed as the construction worker from the Village People. Bassist, Christopher Dale Ryan, was the leather wearing biker; lead guitarist, Ian O'Neil was the cop; keyboardist/saxophone player, Rob Crowell, the Indian; and drummer, Dennis Ryan was, well, drummer, Dennis Ryan. Two other lucky, anonymous St. Louisans filled out the Village People lineup with a cowboy and a G.I.

After Deer Tick pantomimed Y.M.C.A. as it blasted over the house speakers, McCauley bared his gold incisor and slipped into an up tempo version of "Old Shoes," which clattered along like its featured lost lover. "Choir of Angels," the lead off track from 2010's "The Black Dirt Sessions," ebbed with subtle alt-surf rock. McCauley's nasally, booze-added vocals lulled the costumed crowd as the country chorus conjured dusty trails and lonely taverns. "Bury Deep,"

a new song, showcased lead guitarist Ian O'Neil on vocals and a catchy chorus that got the heads and hearts of the audience pumping.

During "Crying Shame," McCauley left the guitar duties to O'Neil, ventured with the microphone into the crowd, promptly picked the nose of a pretty young woman, slung his arms around two adoring dude-fans and high-fived anyone that issued a palm. The crowd huddled in and lifted their voices to the ceiling, "what a crying shame, a crying shame, what we became."

Deer Tick powered through piano and guitar plucking in "20 Miles" and on into "When She Comes Home," which featured a haunting church organ, searing, distorted guitar and McCauley's heart-broken, yet tongue-in-cheek, vocal delivery. The song exploded toward the end, as Dennis Ryan propelled the tempo into the stratosphere with epic drumming before McCauley leapt back in with the killer vocal line, "The whole world is wrong today!"

"Baltimore Blues No.1" offered Doors-esque guitar and sparse drums before the staccato organ and bass dropped. McCauley peered out from behind his fake Oakley's and gleamed a big, gold-tooth smile, as the hook

power-punched the crowd. McCauley screeched as the band traded much of the swing of "Spend the Night" for raucous, distorted power. "Smith Hill" and "Christ Jesus" spilled a ladle full of sorrow and introspection as McCauley's vocals transported the crowd to a cornfield under a lonely moon. McCauley dedicated the psychedelic, dreamy and "Freebird"-esque "Mange" to the crowd's Halloween acid-heads before encoring with a mini-set of cover songs. Included were "La Bamba" by Ritchie Valens, "Me, Me, Me" by MG&V and "Monster Mash" by Bobby Pickett. After their final cover song, "Macho Man" pumped over the house speakers and Deer Tick danced off stage. McCauley and crew leapt into the crowd, led a Conga line, shook up beers and sprayed each other and danced for a good 15 minutes with the wild, adoring crowd. With hilarious stage antics, irreverence, manic decibels, a free-wheeling spirit and much drinking, Deer Tick cast a Halloween spell on Off Broadway. Their set was boisterous and well rounded to include a score of original hits marched with a handful of cover songs. Deer Tick's show was one that every alt-country, whiskey-indie rock fan ought to witness.

**A** -William Kyle

## LATEST + GREATEST

### MOVIES

#### Room and a Half



Easily one of the best films in this year's film festival, the whimsical, fantasy "Room and a Half" is a feast of inventiveness and visual delight, as it tells a partly-true tale about Nobel prize-winning, Jewish Russian exiled poet Joseph Brodsky. Although Brodsky never actually returned to the Soviet Union, the film has him returning in secret to the city of his childhood, St. Petersburg, to visit his parents' tiny apartment after their deaths. As he sails there from Finland, we are treated to fantastical scenes of childhood memories, using a mix of archival footage, animation and black and white and color sequences. There are equal measures of joyfulness in the beauty of his city and his parents' love of architecture, music and art and playful sarcasm toward the stern Communist government.

#### Welcome



A moving French-language drama about a Kurdish Iraqi teenaged boy trying to reach the girl he loves in Britain, after walking across Europe from Kurdistan. Caught up in the crowd of mostly Arab Muslim men trying to sneak into Britain but stuck in Calais, France, 17 year-old Bilal

finds only the English Channel separates him from his goal. An athlete in his native land, Bilal forges a connection with a French swimming instructor (Vincent Lindon), a retired Olympian still heartbroken over his recent divorce. The film features outstanding acting and an emotionally powerful but balanced and realistic story that explores the complex issues of immigration.

#### A Year Ago in Winter



A beautifully photographed and acted film about a wealthy family in Munich haunted by the death of their gifted college-aged son a year ago. Particularly crushed by the loss is his sister Lilli (Karoline Herfurth), a struggling but beautiful dancer. When her mother (Corina Harfouch) commissions a portrait of her daughter and her dead son, she finds a connection with the craggy, reclusive middle-aged painter (Josef Bierbichler). Director Caroline Link follows up her international hit "Nowhere in Africa" with an excellent exploration of family dynamics and coming of age, featuring strong acting and Herfurth's luminescent beauty along with thought-provoking twists.

#### Women Without Men

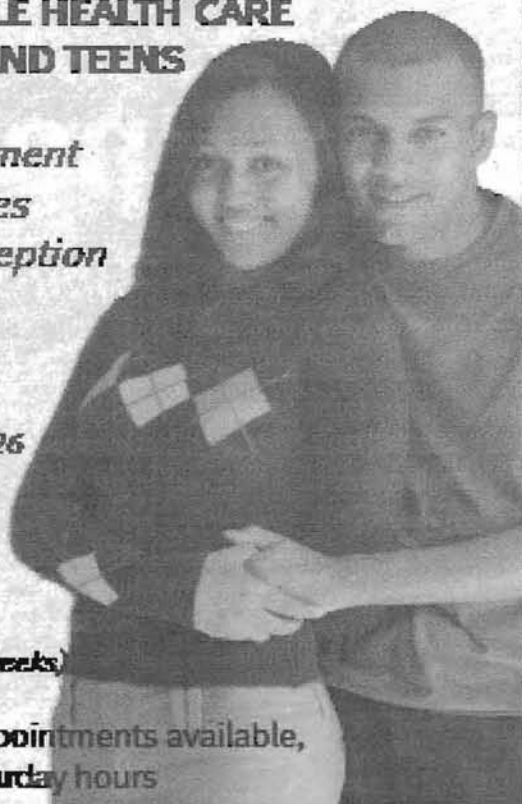


A breathtakingly beautiful, surreal movie that uses a kind of magical realism to describe the plight of women in 1950s Iran, as the democratically-elected government is overthrown by foreign powers. Scenes range from the bizarre and nightmarish to the dream-like but always symbolically present the powerlessness of various women caught in the male-dominated society - a single women forced by her brother to marry, an aging but influential beauty and a starving prostitute. All the women find themselves drawn to a lush suburban garden just outside the city, in an eerie but moving sequence. This film will be a strange and wonderful experience that also educates about the history of the country, with gorgeous photography and powerful acting.



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# Features

## Beauty upon request

*The Arianna String Quartet request concert gives audience what they desire*



The Arianna String Quartet performs at the "Arianna by Request" at the Touhill on Friday, October 29. JENNIFER MEAHAN / THE CURRENT

**JEN O'HARA**  
Features Editor

**T**hey say music speaks mountains and for those who are not fluent, the Arianna String Quartet gave some assistance in the matter. On October 29, the Arianna String Quartet graced the stage in the E. Des and Mary Ann Lee Theater for their first Arianna String Quartet by request performance. The entire theater was filled by 8 p.m. as dozens piled in to hear the sounds and style of classic string.

Prior to the performance, the quartet provided discussion as a part of Touhill's E3! Performances. E3! Performances stands for "Exploring, Experiencing, and Engaging" and promotes audience par-

Grosso makes it a point to others that classical music and those associated with it do not fall into its exceedingly "stuffy" reputation.

"We're actually pretty casual people. We don't really see that the expression of the music requires any sort of formality. The composers themselves were not [formal] people. They weren't stuffed shirts at all and classical music has gotten a reputation of being kind of snobby. Really, that's so weird because the composers themselves were most rebellious kind of rule breaking in your face kind of people. Even somebody like Mozart, was really very edgy for his time. That's why he died in poverty; he was just too edgy for the people around him. He was writing music that was too expressive," said McGrosso.

The 12 songs chosen were picked because they were diverse in their origins, coming from different places and times in classical history. Also, the quartet took it as an opportunity to

“  
It's really inspiring to see it happening live.  
”  
-Segura-Wong

ticipation before, during and after Touhill shows. The "Exploring" aspect involves those involved in the performance explaining what will take place during the show, while "Experiencing" is the actual performance. A reception follows as part of the "Engage" experience, where performers interact with their audience.

As a growing trend in the music scene, the Arianna String Quartet decided to perform a "request concert," a show in which Arianna fans were allowed to choose the songs they wanted to hear. Over a five month period, fans voted on their top song choices out of a list of 12. Among the song choices were classics such as Quartet in F minor by Beethoven and "Italian Serenade" by Wolf. The winners of the dozen were "Quartettsatz," by Franz Schubert, Quartet in F Major by Maurice Ravel, and Quartet in G minor by Edvard Grieg.

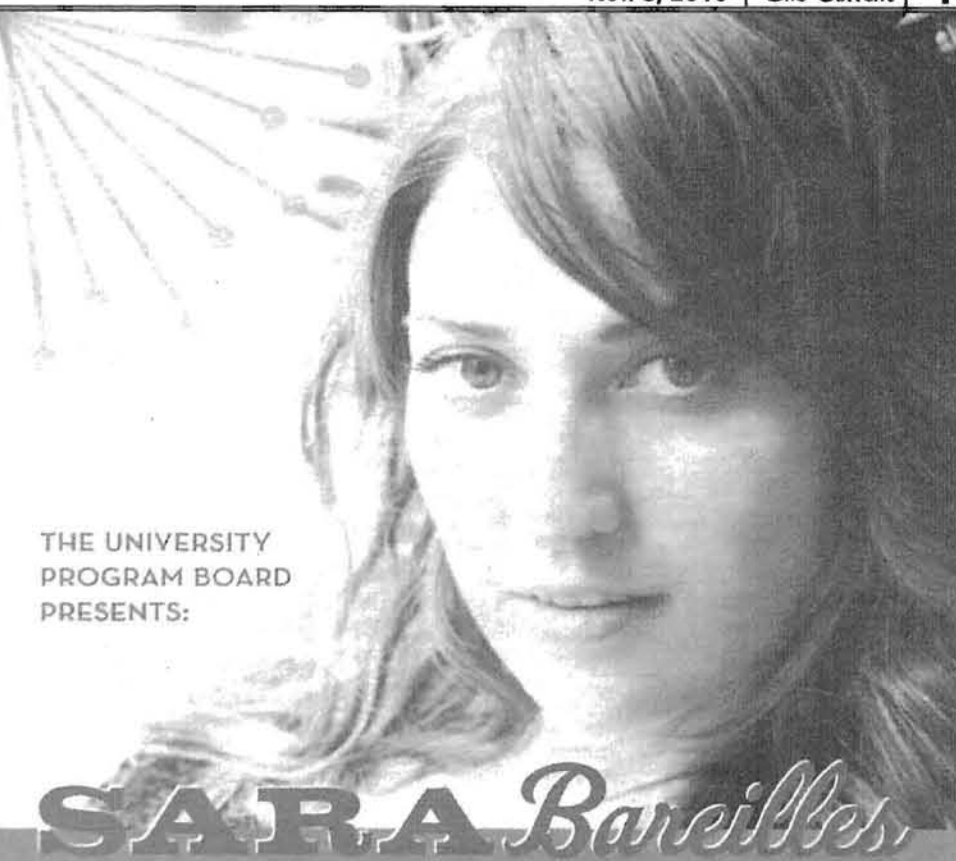
John McGrosso, associate professor in music, is a violinist in the quartet. Mc-

enrich themselves further. Audience members liked the style of the concert.

"I think concert by request is a really great opportunity to get the audience involved in the decision making that comes in the process of choosing their performances" Mei-Mey Segura-Wong, senior, music, said. "The performance was grade A. It was almost flawless. Although I see them on an everyday basis, every time I see them play they blow my mind. It's really inspiring to see it happening live," Segura-Wong said.

Although they are not sure if or when another request concert will take place, the overall outcome showed positive results.

"I loved the whole process. I thought it was great. I hope that we do it again. I think if we do it again, we'll try and make it even more clearly expressed concept and try to involve more people in it" McGrosso.



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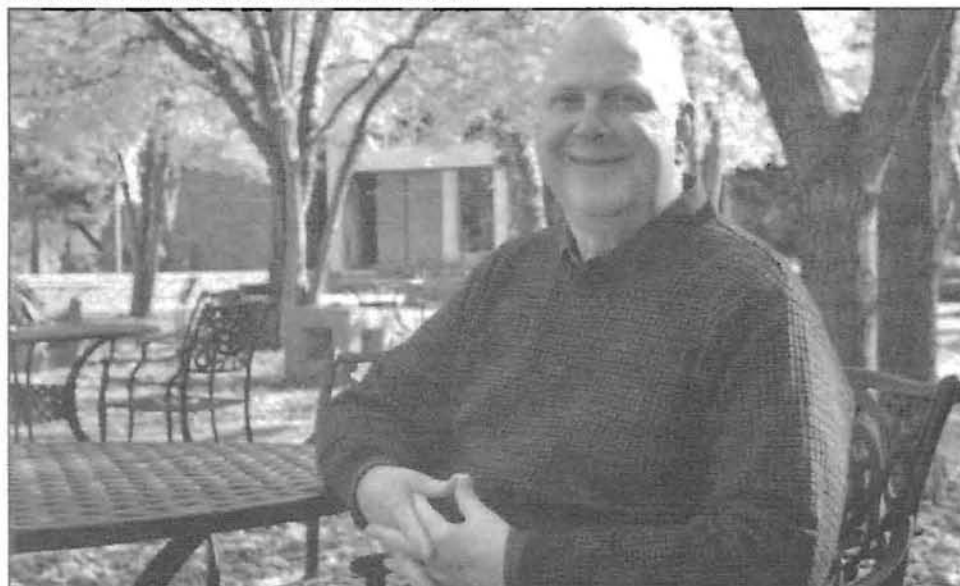
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## FACULTY PROFILE: DAVE R. GANZ



Dave Ganz, associate dean of the college of business, has been with UM-Saint Louis for over 40 years and was given the nickname "Mr. Umsl."

ABIGAIL GILLARDI / THE CURRENT

## Talking with "Mr. UMSL," Dave Ganz

**MINHO JUNG**  
Staff Writer

Dave R. Ganz's peers respectfully refer to him as "Mr. UMSL," which represents his profound influence on thousands of accounting students over the past 40 years since he began his teaching career at the University of Missouri-St. Louis in 1966.

*The Current:* When did you start your career here at UM-St. Louis?

**Dave R. Ganz:** I started working at UM-St. Louis in 1966. I came here as an instructor of accounting. There was only Benton Hall and we did not have a separate business department back then. Since UM-St. Louis started in 1963, we did not yet graduate our first class when I came here in 1966. See what we have now, we have over 75,000 alumni. It has been a very rewarding experience for me.

*TC:* Did you grow up in St. Louis? What kind of student were you?

**DG:** I am a native resident in St. Louis. I grew up here attending middle and high school in this area. When I was in college, I wasn't sure what I wanted to do. I ended up getting into business college in St. Louis University, not really sure if that is what I really wanted to be. Later I found an interest in accounting courses, which eventually led me to where I am now.

*TC:* Did you have a role model who greatly impacted on your life?

**DG:** Before I graduated from the college, I

did not have anything formally formulated on my mind. At that time, my professor, Charles Waulter, encouraged me to go to graduate school for [a] master's degree and eventually led me to teaching students in college. He is now deceased, but he was such a wonderful person who helped me to form my thoughts and what I want to do in my career.

*TC:* Do you still keep in touch with alumni? How are they doing?

**DG:** I believe that we have about 4,500 alumni in accounting. My responsibility is to get in touch with students from [the] College of Business. I have definitely stayed in touch with some of my students. They have been doing very well, putting their names on very responsible positions in major accounting companies. They are also very loyal. They appreciate the opportunities they had in UM-St. Louis, which provided them with tools and background they needed to make for [their] success.

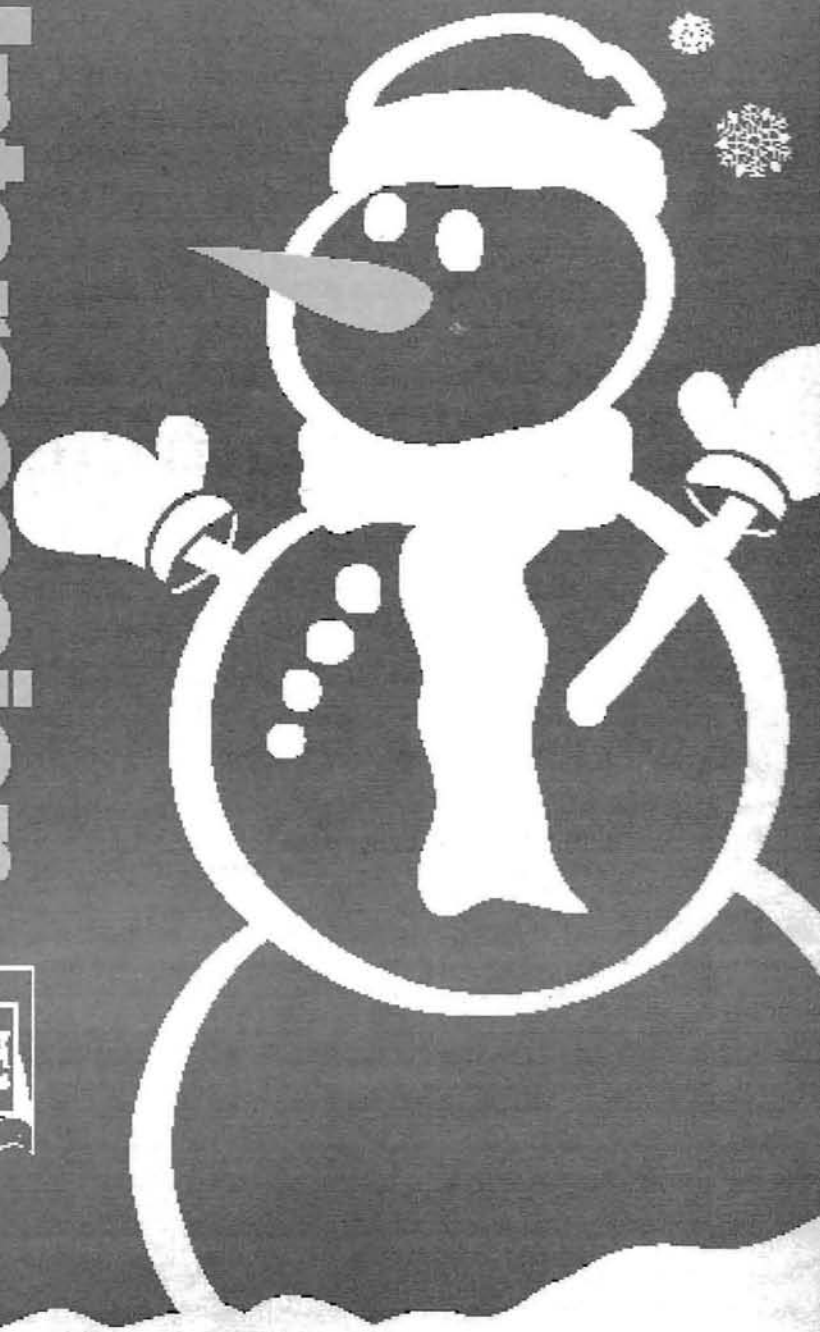
*TC:* How has the accounting field changed for the past 40 years and how has the accounting program at UM-St. Louis corresponded to it?

**DG:** Our program has changed pretty much [in response] to changes taking place in the profession. One of the challenges the accounting department faces is to keep it current because there have been a lot of changes. The biggest change is the role of technologies which have become a major part of discipline. In general, over the years the accounting field has evolved to meet users' needs. Also, globalization requires the world-wide standard in the accounting field. So there is work going on now to accomplish that currently.

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# Opinions

OUR OPINION

## George W. Bush still doesn't care about black people

This past week, former president George W. Bush appeared on the "Today" show to promote his new book, "Decision Points." During the interview with Matt Lauer, Bush recollected his feelings during the 2005 NBC telethon, "A Concert for Hurricane Relief" in which rap superstar Kanye West told millions of Americans that, "George Bush doesn't care about black people." The former president told Lauer that the incident was one of the worst moments in his presidency.

"It was one of the most disgusting moments in my presidency. He called me a racist. I didn't appreciate it then. I don't appreciate it now. It's one thing to say, 'I don't appreciate the way he [has] handled his business.' It's another thing to say, 'This man's a racist.' I resent it, it's not true."

Let's face it. No one likes being called something that they are not, especially something as vile as a racist. But to say that is one of the most disgusting moments in his presidency leaves everyone

wondering, "really?"

First and foremost, it has been 5 years. No one cares or remembers anymore. The president of the United States is arguably one of the most criticized human beings in the world. More than likely there have been way worse things said about him. Second, there were so many things that happened during the Bush administration that pale in comparison.

Terrorism attacks on September 11, 2001 killed over 3,000 people. Millions of lives were affected by the War on Terror that Bush instigated in 2003. Nearly 2,000 lives lost in Hurricane Katrina. Not to mention the Guantanamo Bay detention camp, war crimes in Afghanistan, the failure of "No Child Left Behind," the Saddam Hussein and al-Qaeda link allegations, a shoe was thrown at him in Iraq and last but not least, his vice-president nearly killed a man. For George Bush to single out an incident where a musician insinuated that he was a racist as one of the most disgusting moments in his presidency

really shows his egocentricity. Millions of lives ruined, lost and affected and the worst time is when someone indirectly called him a racist. Is that all he cares about?

Apparently so. George Bush has proven that during and even after his presidency, he only cares about himself. It is unclear what his motives were for publicizing his disgust for the 5-year-old incident, but he certainly did not make amends with the people who actually do think that he is a racist. Bush being "disgusted" by West's remarks does not make him any less convincing. Kanye West was wrong when he said that George Bush does not care about only black people, because it is apparent that George Bush does not care about anyone.

*Unsigned editorials reflect the majority viewpoint of The Current's Editorial Board: Sequita Bean, Ryan Krull, Andrew Seal, Jen O'Hara, William Kyle, Michael Frederick, Jennifer Meahan, Zachary Kraft.*

SEAL OF APPROVAL

## Supreme Court vs. Video games

The U.S. Supreme Court has finally got game.

Soon, the highest court in the land will offer a verdict that could forever affect the way video games are sold.

In many ways, it is the coming-of-age tale for a relatively young medium that other new mediums like comic books, film and television have all had to go through.

Schwarzenegger vs. EMA (Entertainment Merchants Association) is the Supreme Court case. "Two issues are at stake for the Court to decide," writes videogame politics blog gamepolitics.com. "Do violent games for minors fall within a category of speech unprotected by the First Amendment and does California's ban on the sale or rental of violent videogames to minors satisfy the strict scrutiny test applicable to content-based restrictions on speech?"

Lower courts have found in the EMA's favor and ruled that the law that Governor Schwarzenegger signed in 2005 is unconstitutional.

On the surface, the law does not seem that bad. Porn, alcohol and cigarettes are also not allowed to be marketed or sold to minors, so why not violent video games?

The problem with the law is twofold. First, the law is redundant and entirely unnecessary. The video game industry already regulates its own games through the Electronic Software Ratings Board.

Every game that is published goes through ESRB certification and is awarded a rating ranging from E for

Everyone to M for Mature. Game retailers like GameStop already will not sell M-rated games to anyone below the age of 17, so a ban on the sale and rental of violent videogames to minors is already happening organically.

Ultimately, the decision for minors to have access to violent videogames falls in the hands of the parents who purchase the games for their children. Do not want your nine-year-old to play "Modern Warfare 2"? Do not buy it for him. Also, every console currently available has parental controls that can prevent M-rated games from being played.

The second issue is that the law restricts free speech. "Because the statute attempts to restrict free speech on the basis of content," gamepolitics writes, "the state must prove a compelling government interest that is addressed by the law and must also prove that the law provides the narrowest possible means of furthering that interest."

The state is arguing that the government interest is that violent video games harm minors and actually can turn them violent.

Luckily for gamers, the law fails on both counts. "As lower courts, including the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, repeatedly concluded, and as 82 social scientists with expertise in psychology, psychiatry, neuroscience, criminology, media studies and communications recently affirmed, no scientific evidence exists of a causal link between violent video games and real-life violence



Andrew Seal

or psychological harm," said Paul Smith, the chief lawyer for the EMA.

Smith has been the legal star of the trial, handily defeating opposing lawyer Supervising Deputy Attorney General Zackery Morazzini at every turn. Morazzini, god bless him, has a tough burden to prove on him, and thankfully, he appears to be failing so far to sway the Justices to the side of state-mandated and run censorship.

The law also fails in that it is not specific enough, which means that its legal precedent could possibly be interpreted to other mediums like "movies, television, books, music and even in the reporting of everyday news," according to gamepolitics.

Ultimately, both the EMA and gamers across the nation hope that the Supreme Court finds in their favor and keeps the videogame industry's free speech free and protected. After all, the sale of M-rated games to minors is already self-regulated. Why involve the government?

*Andrew Seal is a staff writer for The Current.*

What do you think?  
Let us know at  
[www.thecurrent-online.com](http://www.thecurrent-online.com).

## SCIENCE MATTERS

# The colors of fall foliage have many sources

One of the greatest delights of any fall season are trees in the full array of fall colors. Deciduous trees are painted in shades of red, orange, yellow, purple and brown as weather grows cooler and days shorter.

What determines those colors? Some of them are there all along, masked by the green chlorophyll. As the tree is making carbohydrates to store for growth the next year, it continually replaces the chlorophyll in its leaves and the pigment fades as it is exposed to light. The colors emerge as the tree stops replacing chlorophyll in the soon to be shed leaves.

Falling temperatures do play a role in fall colors but it is one of several factors. As days shorten in late summer, trees undergo a number of changes. One thing is that the tree adds a layer of cells, abscission layer, that begins to block the transmission of water and minerals to the leaf and limits the transmission of nutrients.

The yellow color comes from pigments called xanthophylls. These pigments act to supplement chlorophyll by collecting light energy to be used to make carbohydrates that the tree uses for energy for next fall.

The orange color comes from different pigments, carotenoids. A familiar carotenoid is carotene. Like the xanthophylls they supplement chlorophyll in harvesting energy from sunlight to make the plant's food.

Both carotenoids and xanthophylls are present in the

green leaf although their colors are hidden by the chlorophyll's green. Fall leaves red and purple color comes from pigments called anthocyanins, which are not hidden.

Why anthocyanins appear in fall leaves has been a bit of a mystery. Anthocyanins are red to blue pigments and are commonly found in flowers and fruit. In flowers, they attract pollinators but why trees should make them in soon to be shed leaves is less clear.

Different trees have different ranges of colors. Maples range from yellow to orange to red, although orange is a common theme. Dogwoods are red and ginkos, which change quickly and shed their leaves suddenly. Sweet gums are a vivid, dark maroon to brilliant red. Black walnut leaves are yellow, pin oak leaves are brilliant red but other oaks are dull red to brown.

In the end, all leaves brown, as the other pigments fade away and only the brown tannins, another pigment, remains.

In North American and East Asia, red is a common fall color but in Europe, yellow is the dominate color. The difference is the presence of red and purple anthocyanins in our leaves.

The amount of red in fall foliage varies year to year. Unlike the other pigments, anthocyanins are not present but masked in green leaves. The tree adds them in the fall, so they must serve a function for the plant.

One theory is that antho-



Cate Marquis

cyanins serve as sunscreens, shielding the leaves' photosynthetic tissues from too-bright sunlight as the tree re-absorbs their last nutrients. In 2007, researchers in North Carolina suggested a link between nutrient-poor soils and the production of red anthocyanins by trees in those locations. Others have suggested that anthocyanins discourage insects.

Several factors can affect fall colors. The ideal is plenty of rain during the growing season, followed by a dry fall with warm days and cool but frost-free nights. Sunny days and lower temperatures breaks down the chlorophyll more rapidly, revealing the other pigments. Cool nighttime temperatures encourage the formation of anthocyanins. However, freezing temperatures shut down the plant's mechanism for making anthocyanins. Drought in summer can cause trees to seal off leaves earlier, so they drop off before full color develops.

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

## STAFF VIEWPOINT

# When is a negative review okay?

During a stroll through Forest Park, there were joggers, golfers, beautiful women and hot air balloons, when, out of the air like some divine sword, an idea sunk into the stone of my partially pink grey matter.

A little boy stooped to pick up a rotting crab apple. He held it at arms length and tugged on his mother's billowing sundress. She frowned and said, "Don't eat that honey." The boy fussed, but eventually dropped the apple. His mother then opened her purse and gave him an actual apple, a big, glowing, red, succulent, Snow White apple—sans poison. The boy held it like a shiny prize, bared his teeth and chomped into the red-wonder with hunger and satisfaction. The crab apple remained on the ground, yellow, a little brown and riddled with wormholes.

Instead of running off with crab apple held high above his head and trumpeting to the entire park how disgusting the rotted old crab apple was, the boy was granted a real apple, a masterpiece of an apple and devoured it with extreme enjoyment.

This scenario is akin to writing critical art reviews for a blog, a paper, or a site such as Metacritic. Why

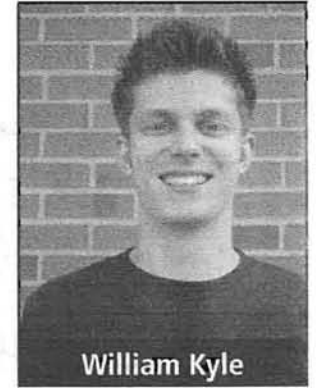
write a review about a crappy, under-worked piece of art, when there is blindingly good, well-made art out there in the world?

Why do humans get such satisfaction from trashing something that obviously is lacking? It seems too easy, redundant and a waste of time to issue a review on unworthy art.

Rather, it appears much more productive to review art that is doing something important and otherwise unknown. Reviews ought to work to get the message out that there is good art still available in our apocalyptic sphere, rather than smearing the trappings of poorly made art over the eyeballs and faces of readers like cheese whiz or caulk.

As writers and readers, let us work toward pushing good art, rather than bad. Let us let bad art drop off the radar rather than give it press, even if it well-worded, scathing, bad press, for it is press just the same, press that allows filthy, bad art to propagate its message.

This is not to say there is not a time and place for a negative review, or that all reviews must be glowing with white teeth and fake, Clockwork-ian, pin-back, pseudo-smiles. A negative review ought to be leveled



William Kyle

when it is a surprise that the art is in fact bad. Say, if it is a surprise that the newest, highly anticipated Ludo record is the biggest let down this side of Fallout: New Vegas, if it is a surprise that Franzen's newest book is an overblown, over wrought nightmare, when it was purported to be the bees knees.

Let us simply ignore bad art. Period. Turn a blind eye to it like the kid toward the crab apple and simply review something else. Something worth our time and energy, something people need to hear, see or experience. Let's represent good art in print and take the bad out back like putting Old Yeller down with a double barrel. Let's face it: there is much more weak art than there is good, we ought to give the good a chance.

*William Kyle is A&E Editor for The Current.*

**What do you think?**  
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**We think William Kyle is kick-ass.**

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# Point/Counterpoint



*Should Facebook be banned on campus computers?*

## Facebook has destroyed my education

Let's set up a scenario. For this subject matter we will refer to our main character as Tony. So, Tony almost over sleeps his alarm clock after working two jobs the previous night and pulling an all-nighter. He has a 10 page paper on baby pygmy marmosets due at the beginning of his first class and his printer just exploded.

So, he sits through the traffic jam on the highway, in order to get to the school library on time to print out his paper. When he arrives, every computer is occupied. As he walks out of the library in defeat, he passes a student at a computer, adding a wizard gnome to their FarmVille. It is because of unfortunate events such as this one that access to Facebook should be banned from all campus computers.

Of course, it would be easy to take the low road and simply blame Tony's lack of time management for his extreme misfortune. However,

Tony's story goes out to every student who has ever been kept from advancing in their educational career due to the other person updating their personal profile.

If a student spends their day in the school library, it is assumed that they are trying to get school work done, otherwise they would not be there in the first place. A student goes into the library with the intent of eventually being able to escape from it. Using the computers to visit Facebook does not help.

Banning access to social websites would also be beneficial for campus computer labs, such as the lab in the Social Science Building. Sit and observe one day and see how many people walk into that computer lab only to walk right back out when it is full, which is the majority of the time.

In the Millennium Student Center, the express computers which are convenient for checking email

on the go are constantly crowded; one's fate rests in the decision of a stranger to walk away. One is stuck until the computer users realize he or she is waiting. Or better yet, his or her class is about to start. Score.

One could argue that the banning of social websites, like Facebook, is a bit over the top and suggest that the school consider adding more computers to their labs, but let's be realistic about the odds of that happening anytime soon. If anything, the introduction of additional computers would only attract more Facebook junkies.

They would pour out of the woodwork that they have been hiding under. It is this reason alone that Facebook creator Mark Zuckerberg and his generation of spawn will be set financially for the rest of their natural born lives. By the way, has anyone seen "The Social Network" yet?

## Blame users, not the tool

There is a horrible secret behind the blue-and-white façade of Facebook.

Behind the innocent-looking homepage and painless login, beyond the link to pictures of your friend's Halloween party, lies a terrible truth.

Believe it or not, it is actually a useful and vital communication tool—especially to students.

Despite the fact that Facebook has a weight problem—far too much bloat, not enough ease-of-access—underneath the games, the incessant "places" check-ins and targeted ads, there is still the soul of a social network.

Facebook's ability to connect students is unrivaled by even its once-competitor MySpace. Banning it from on-campus computers would be a huge mistake.

Here is a scenario: a professor assigns a class project. You do not necessarily know these classmates of yours, and you have been trying to set up a meeting to work on the project for weeks.

Naturally, no one has been responding to e-mails

and the project is due in two days.

As sad as it is to say, Facebook to the rescue! Facebook is not only more reliable than a certain school's e-mail system, but the ability to search by different parameters like workplace and education is amazing.

Try searching the UMS-St. Louis e-mail system sometime for the last name "Brown." Good luck finding your classmate, unless you know their first name and major too.

On the other hand, with Facebook, chances are good your classmate has a picture up of themselves, making themselves instantly recognizable. No more wondering if "Robert Brown" or "Bob Brown" is your classmate.

Contacting said classmate is as easy as clicking the "send a message" button to, well, send them a message.

Banning Facebook on campus would put an end to that kind of thing. While Facebook is not the end-all-be-all of communication tools, it is certainly extremely handy. Blocking it on cam-

pus computers just because a few people misuse it seems foolhardy.

Sure, Facebook has distractions aplenty. There are friends to comment back to and statuses to update, not to mention the time cesspool that is Facebook games.

And it is undeniable that there are few things more frustrating than venturing to a computer lab only to find it overcrowded and backed up—mostly thanks to the three people in the corner sharing crops and giving each other cows on Farmville.

Common courtesy seems a lost art these days, but at least asking the bidding e-farmers before going on the warpath seems like a decent idea.

Instead of causing a commotion and petitioning the university to block a useful tool, why not ask the Facebook/Farmville users if they can share their computer for the two minutes it takes to log into Gmail and print out that paper?

Chances are, they will let you.

# Comics

## Letters to the Editor by J. Putz

### They teach that? by Sam Kayser



### Simply Beagle by Karlee Sellars



### Question Marks by Stephen Peterson





# Puzzles

## CURRENT HOROSCOPES by Zachary Schwartz

**ARIES**  
(MARCH 21 - APRIL 20)

There's been a lot of trouble and turmoil on Wall Street lately, which is probably why they keep asking you if they can stay on your couch for November.

**LIBRA**  
(SEPT. 24 - OCT. 23)

You have a long, drunken conversation about time travel later this week. Things will go fine until the end when you make reference to the movie Butterfly Effect and you suddenly go cross-eyed.

**TAURUS**  
(APRIL 21 - MAY 21)

Sorry, ladies and gentlemen, no rainbow connection this week. Your girlfriend is always beating up you and your friends. They say you're in an abusive relationship. It's not easy being green.

**SCORPIO**  
(OCT. 24 - NOV. 22)

Things are going great for you and the rest of your species. Plenty of herbivores to feed on and the sun is shining, so you have plenty of energy. This party is gonna go on forever.

**GEMINI**  
(MAY 22 - JUNE 21)

Prop 19 didn't pass. Bummer. You moved to California and bought a house, some lamps and a lot of pots. I guess you'll have to do it the old fashioned way.

**SAGITTARIUS**  
(NOV. 23 - DEC. 22)

Program start. Robot make breakfast and clean smelly bathroom for stupid fat human. Human kick robot. Robot hate human. Robot depressed.

**CANCER**  
(JUNE 22 - JULY 22)

You're so jealous of those Comedy Central guys' rally. It was way better than yours. Best course of action? Trash them on the radio. Make sure to insert the word "Maoist" a lot.

**CAPRICORN**  
(DEC. 23 - JAN. 20)

Some damn kid in a life preserver knocks on your door and says he's from the future where the actor Ronald Reagan is president. Be sure to shoot him in the chest first thing.

**LEO**  
(JULY 23 - AUG. 21)

This week will be fabulous! You'll get a flat tire on the highway, you're boyfriend will dump you and you'll lose your job. Did I say fabulous? I meant terrible.

**AQUARIUS**  
(JAN. 21 - FEB. 19)

Try to stop counting the days down to Dec. 17, and concentrate on finishing your glowing costume. Side note: your friends say you talk about the new Tron movie way too much.

**VIRGO**  
(AUG. 22 - SEPT. 23)

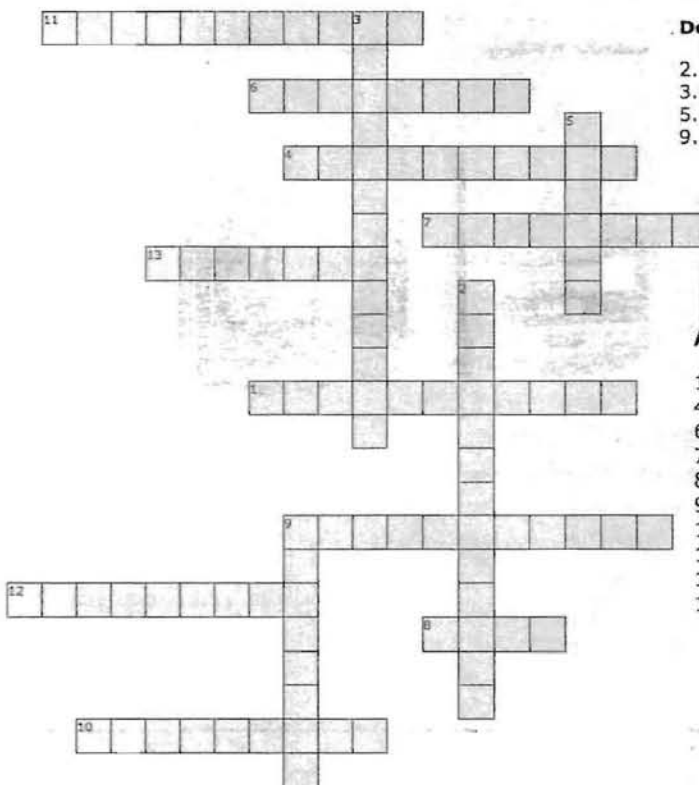
Tough loss in Delaware last week. You really thought the spell you cast over the state would work. Don't let it get to you. Just get back on that broom, and fly home with your head and oversized nose held high.

**PISCES**  
(FEB. 20 - MARCH 20)

In the news this week, North Korea opens its borders and the world is surprised to find democracy, a vibrant economy, and liberal civil rights. Further, Kim Jong Il turns out to be quite the prankster.

## CURRENT CROSSWORD

# DINOSAUR VOCAB



### Down:

2. TYRANT LIZARD
3. STUDY OF LIFE IN PAST GEOLOGICAL PERIODS
5. REMAINS EMBEDDED IN ROCK
9. CATCHES AND EATS OTHER ANIMALS

### Across:

1. REPTILE WITH BONY PLATES
4. FLYING REPTILE
6. FRAMEWORK OF BONES
7. EXTINCT REPTILE
8. THE OBJECT OF A HUNT
9. EXISTING BEFORE WRITTEN HISTORY
10. A FLESH EATING ANIMAL
11. THREE HORNED FACE
12. FEEDS ON PLANTS
13. NO LONGER EXISTING

## CURRENT WORDSEARCH

# DESERT

T Y B V K H F Y Q K N A U H A U H I H C • DESERT  
 I G K O G D B P L A N T S M R U O I Y F • SONORAN  
 Q P N O I T A T P A D A N K O B I Y V L • DEATHVALLEY  
 E S K E S U T C A C B L U N T T A E H C • ADAPTATION  
 K K A T R S P Y S I U Y W A A Q N L D E • DANGEROUS  
 D O E N T E U K S B M H D R D R D L V O • SUN  
 A S R X D A G O T Q M I D O E W I A J X • PREY  
 L D U U T G M A R R T Y A N R C J V F F • UNDERGROUND  
 J E T N H R K S Y E R P K O P O G H D C • GREATBASIN  
 U S S S D R E Q K A G B R S M T F T V D • CHIHUAHUAN  
 C E I N E E O M L V V N N U E X Y A F R • CACTUS  
 Y R O E I J R K E I R G A R I N P E Z B • PLANTS  
 F T M F W S A G R W F U V D J I U D T Q • DUNES  
 Y A G G H K A T R N L U A W K H C D S U • MOISTURE  
 E H U A I J Z B P O D M J Y L Z N U D A • EXTREME  
 I P S P V W V Z T B U R O M U Y L I S I • MOJAVE  
 D J F Q H C Z P L A O N Q V E P R M T E • NAVAJO  
 F Z G M K G T T W C E V D D R A C L R N • MEERKAT  
 N A Q U L Q O N M R V R G D Y F E M M S • ARID  
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# What's Current

**Your weekly calendar of campus events.** "What's Current" is a free service for student organizations. Submissions must be turned in by 5 p.m. the Thursday before publication; first-come, first-served. Listings may be edited for length and style. E-mail event listings to [thecurrentads@umsl.edu](mailto:thecurrentads@umsl.edu), with the subject "What's Current." No phone submissions.

## Monday, Nov. 8

### Research Paper Without Tears

From 12:30 p.m. to 1 p.m. a workshop on the basics in MLA and APA style will be held in. How to introduce quotes 308 Clark hall. For more info, contact Nancy Mayer at 314-516-5182.

## Wednesday, Nov. 10

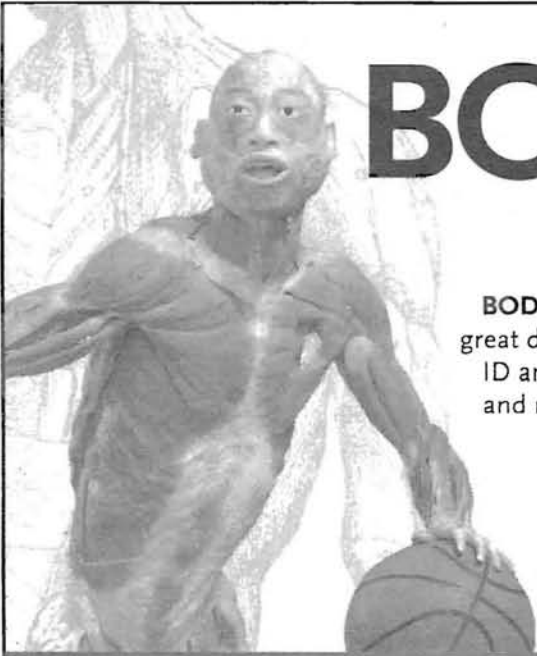
### News at Noon - Midterm Elections: The Tea Party Impact

From 12:15 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. David Kimball leads a discussion about current events regarding the impact of the Tea Party Movement which is open to faculty, staff and students in MSC 314. News at noon is co-sponsored by *The Current* and The New York Times. For more info, call 314-516-4508.

## Thursday, Nov. 11

### Hip-Hop Night

From 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., students can hear poetry and hip hop live in the Pilot House. For more info, contact Jaime Wacker at 314-516-5531.



# BODIES

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