

The Current

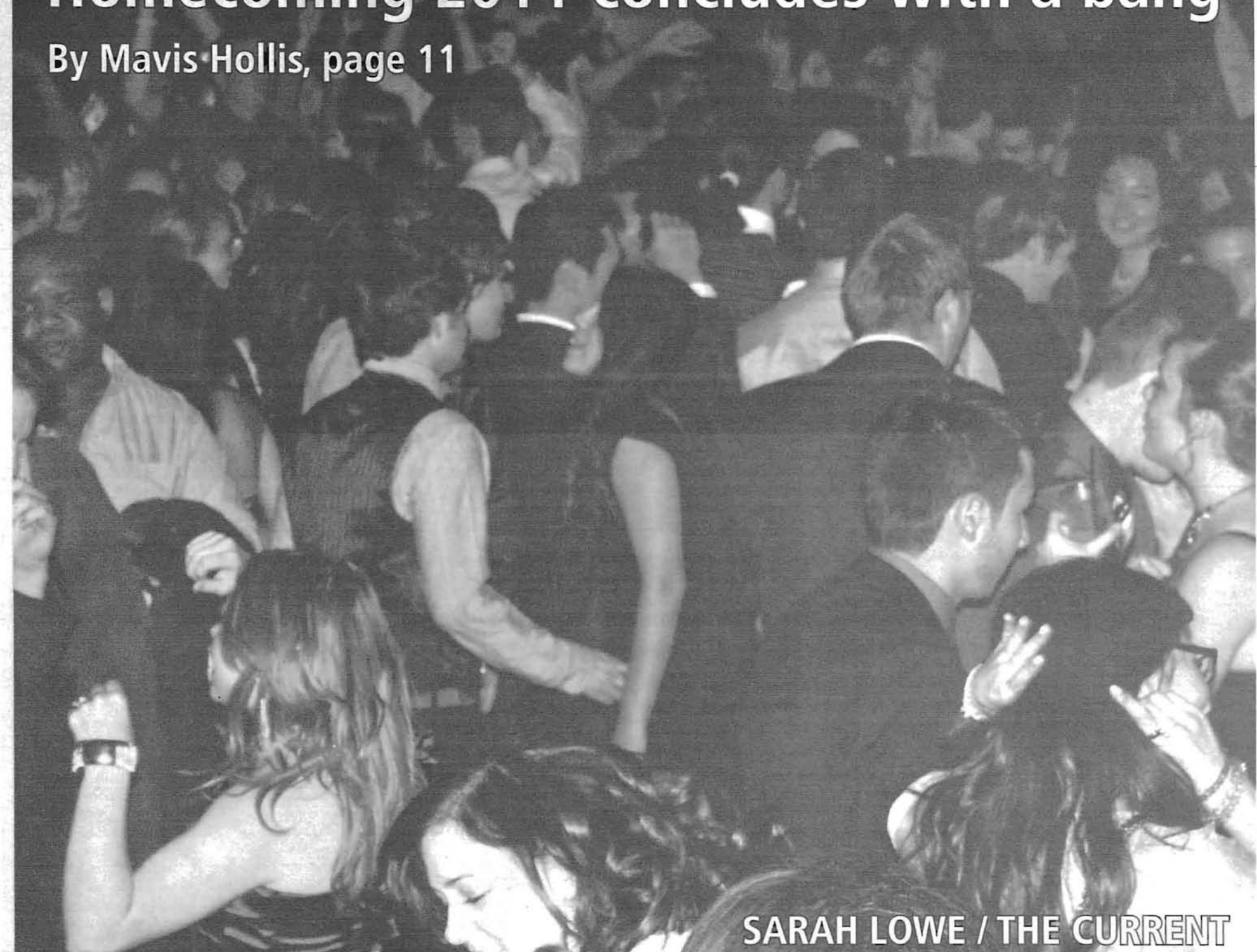
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Homecoming 2011 concludes with a bang

By Mavis Hollis, page 11



SARAH LOWE / THE CURRENT

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The Current

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ABOUT The Current

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AFFILIATIONS



News

Homecoming: what happens behind the scenes and a little bit of history

University of Missouri-St. Louis carries on the unique history of Homecoming events from University of Missouri - Columbia

JOSEPH GRATE
Staff Writer

Signs of Homecoming were everywhere taking the form of posters, banners and even colorful graffiti that has decorated the walls and sidewalks on campus. Homecoming itself is a festive time for school spirit and gives alumni a good reason to come back on campus. Homecoming is an easy event to enjoy that takes quite a bit of energy to create. The Homecoming Committee has been meeting weekly since June of this year to plan this one big week. When everyone was out enjoying inflatable playgrounds and fancy dinners, the committee members were happy to have guaranteed a great time.

Missouri has had a unique hand in the history of Homecomings. The root cause derives from an old rivalry that pre-dates the Civil War. Missouri and Kansas grew an intense rivalry known as the "Border Wars," according to Dale Wright, a writer for the University of Missouri - Columbia (Mizzou) website. The rivalry survived from bloody battlefields to college football stadiums. The age-old fight is now waged between the Mizzou Tigers and the University of Kansas Jayhawks.

Due to a lack of victories for the Tigers, the Mizzou director of athletics, Chester L. Brewer, tried to rally the school spirit for their football team. He organized a game in 1911 that hosted an event encouraging the alumni to "come home." This resulted in the nation's largest Homecoming to date, and some credit Chester L. Brewer as creating the first Homecoming, though many dispute the claim of Mizzou's Homecoming as the first. First or not, Mizzou is celebrating their hundredth Homecoming Anniversary this year.

Homecoming is centered on the football team of a school, but here at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, there is not a football team. That has not stopped the students from participating in their own Homecoming traditions. "It's a lot of preplanning," Jared Thimes, Homecoming Chair of Events, senior, psychology, said. He cited that UMsl's Homecoming was to generate school spirit and bring alumni back to campus. He has been going to UMsl's Homecoming for the last four years and this year is his first time working on the committee. "I've been coming to

Homecoming and I could see how it progressed," Thimes said, "I can tell people are starting to get more into it and that brings more organization into it." UMsl does have a soccer team, which is the provider of the Homecoming game. The Tritons played Kentucky Wesleyan College Panthers on October 14. This is not an historic rivalry, but it is still a game to egg on school spirit.

Undoubtedly, Homecoming is the biggest school event planned by Student Life. This year, more than \$50,000 was allotted to line up this single event.

All it takes to make a homecoming is lots and lots of planning and preparation. The Homecoming Committee begins by being elected through the Student Government Association before the end of the spring semester. After all the positions are filled, they start weekly meetings planning the process. Fortunately, the traditions Homecoming holds are steady and successful year after year. "Planning has been fairly easy, just because we have a lot of traditions. We try to keep the same events every year,"

Krista Hedrick, Co-Chair of Homecoming, senior, secondary education, said. Certain events, like movie night and types of parades, are examples of common traditions.

But planning is only half the work. There are reservations at chosen venues to be made, as well as scheduling special events. Most importantly, the word has to be spread about Homecoming. Attracting students and alumni is an important job, since they are the main reason for hosting Homecoming. So the committee has been "advertising all semester," Krista Liebrum, Publicity Chair, junior, social work, said. "Just getting the word out there as much as possible," Liebrum said. She is involved with making posters, banners, flyers and even the T-shirt that the Wayne Goode statue in front of the Millennium Student Center wears.

"Promoting UMsl's traditions and values," Hedrick said, is very important. When it is all over and done, the students on the committee gather participants' opinions and evaluate how the events went. Then they use this information to decide how to add events.

WEATHER

MON. 65	TUES. 59	WED. 54	THURS. 58	FRI. 65	SAT. 70	SUN. 69
46	43	39	39	46	50	52

UMSL department of Communication to launch social media program to encourage more interaction amongst student body

BADIA EAD

Staff Writer

The University of Missouri-St. Louis' department of communication is currently in the process of designing a social media program based on the needs of communication students and alumni. The department of communication plans on launching a sustainable social media program for the department later this year or by early 2012.

An email from the department of communication has circulated asking the students at UMSL to take part in an anonymous survey to consider how the university might use social media to connect and support the needs and interests of current and former students, as well as others who may have an interest in the study of

communications and/or the department itself. Results from this survey have varied, and will be utilized to further the project.

"The desired goals are to effectively use social media in such a way that we provide current and former students a deeper, more enduring connection with the department and, by extension, the university," Pete Abel, second year graduate teaching assistant, said. Abel is working side-by-side with UMSL communication department faculty on the social media program.

The program also aims to provide students with "contacts and information to assist them in their personal and professional development, [and] either aid them in their search for

a job, career or help them advance their career by keeping current with developments in communication theory and practice," Abel said.

The department of communications hopes to have sufficient survey results to help guide further steps in the development of this prospective social media program within the next couple of weeks.

"Right now, we're gathering information about how students and alumni are currently using social media and about which kinds of information or applications would be most interesting or useful to them. The anonymous survey is a part of that," Dr. Alice Hall, associate professor of communications, said. "We'll take that

information and work to develop a plan to use the social networking tools in a way that these users would find worthwhile and beneficial."

The ten to fifteen minute long survey is pivotal in identifying the profile of potential users. The straightforward survey questions ask users to identify to which social media or professional networks they belong and are most active in on a regular basis. Those taking part in the survey are then asked to reveal how often they regularly visit social networks, what activities social media members are most engaged in or enjoy most when online, what benefits they gain and what problems or challenges have been encountered and/or resolved

on the sites. The results of the survey will be taken into consideration while adopting a new communication system outside of the classroom.

Abel says that one of the more exemplary resources they have used to aid in information gathering for their program is the book "Groundswell" by Charlene Li and Josh Bernoff. "That book," Abel said, "discusses the importance of understanding what and how your audience is using social media, and designing social media programs to match that profile."

The survey is designed to help us build a social techno-graphics profile of UMSL communication faculty, students and alumni. Armed with that information, we'll then

design a plan to generate and spread content that engages our audience in conversations relevant and useful to them," Abel said.

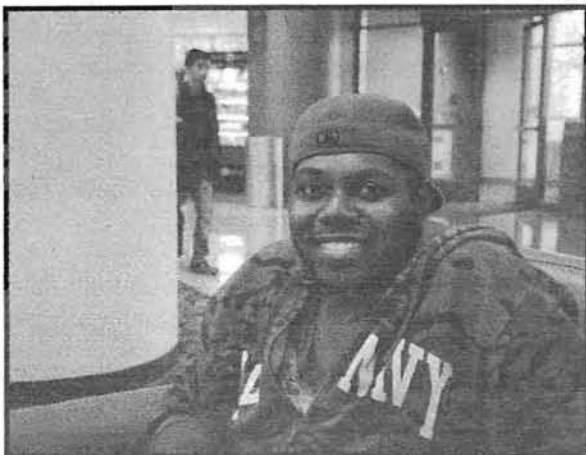
Once the data has been collected, the department of communications hopes to have created a lasting program which is expected to encourage more interactions amongst students and teachers outside of classroom. The new system is also expected to bring more alumni back to the school community, connecting them to the current students.

"The most effective, enduring programs are designed with the target audience squarely in mind, taking into account what that audience is seeking, and how they're using social media," Abel said.

The UNDERCURRENT

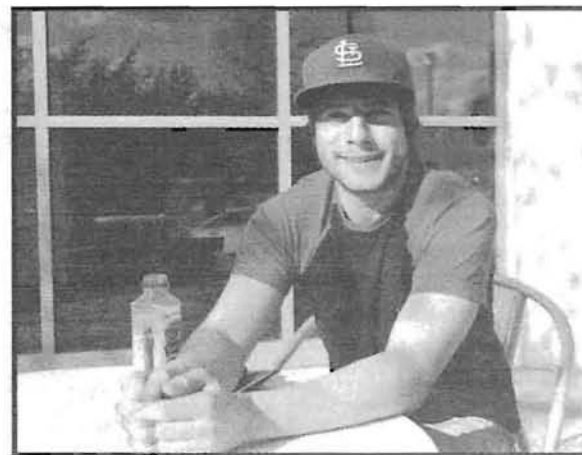
by Nikki Vahle

"Who is your favorite Cardinals player and why?"



"Carpenter, cause I was a pitcher myself."

Dionte Harden
Graphic Design
Communications and
Psychology
Senior



"Jon Jay, because he is the future Cardinals center fielder and I love his speed in the outfield."

Kyle Mathes
Physics
Junior



"Lance Berkman, because he has a personality and speaks how he feels."

Mike Stearns
Accounting
Junior

Colleges struggle with increasing demands for net bandwidth

Increasing number of electronic devices on campus requires extended network system

MINHO JUNG
News Editor

Many colleges across the region have been struggling in recent years with extensive data demands from their respective student bodies. This phenomenon has been immensely accelerated by the fact that more and more students bring their electronic gadgets to school with them when the schools are not currently ready for the additional bandwidth required by this enormous influx of electronic devices.

"I have four electronic devices which require and Internet connection. When I search for information related to my papers, I usually use my laptop and sometimes bring it to class. Sometimes I carry all of them in my bag," Injeong Jeon, senior, English, said. "One of my favorite electronic devices is my camera. Whenever I hang out with my friends, I bring it with me and upload my pictures [on campus]." Injeong's uses of electronics on campus are becoming a more common occurrence in the average American college student.

Many up-to-date electronic devices have built-in networking systems, which may access broadband signals. Nowadays, those electronics are everywhere. Laptop computers, smart phones and tablets are now very close to our daily lives. Despite some minor improvements, however, the current Internet

bandwidth is not capable of keeping up with the increasing demand since it was built years ago.

The situation has gotten to the point where the schools have to either put a cap on how many Internet devices a student can carry around the school or improve the networking system so that students can have their Internet access without major inconveniences around the campus. Many schools around the St. Louis area are trying to find the best way to hammer out the issue without losing appeal in the eyes of current and prospective students.

The University of Missouri - St. Louis has faced and coped with the same issue in order to keep up with the current Internet quality despite the increasing demand for wireless Internet services on campus. In the winter of 2010, major system improvements were made for the quality control. According to Kenneth L. Voss, director of computing services, the system enhancements were planned and executed based on a prediction of increasing influx of Internet network devices after Christmas.

"I think TritonNet is great," Jeon said. "I see people use Internet connections on campus without any major problems."

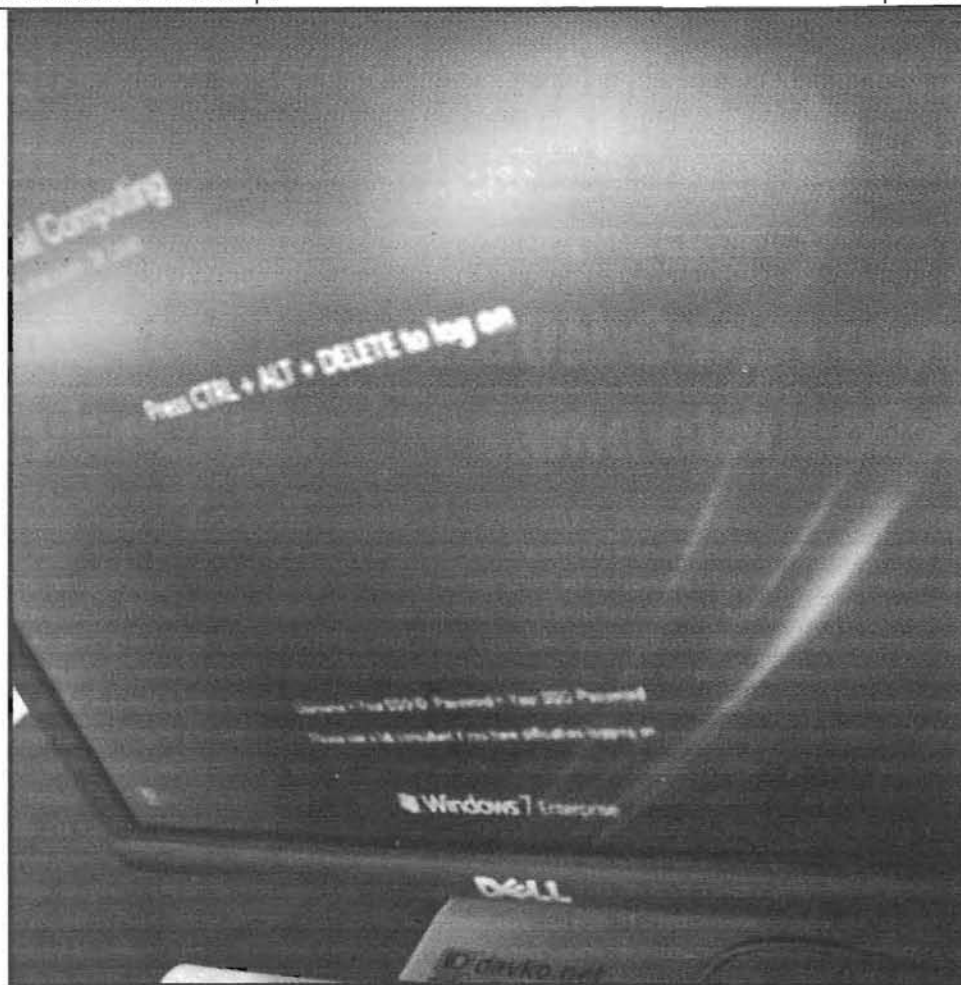
The fact that UMSL is a commuting school rather than a school in a col-

lege town where students stay before and after their classes is another factor contributing to UMSL's relatively stable networking system. Many other universities experience far worse difficulties than UMSL.

Like many other schools, the University of Missouri - Columbia is in a state of upgrading its network system on campus by adding more broadband capacity for the current system. Washington University also doubled its bandwidth this summer in order to keep up with the increasing demand from networking devices. Saint Louis University jumped on the bandwagon for the networking improvement plan as well. SLU is in the midst of enhancing all of its classrooms by summer of 2013.

Currently, UMSL does not have any specific plans for major improvements in the system. The changes and transitions will be made based on the demands and needs.

"I have been to many different schools throughout my entire academic career. Undoubtedly, UMSL has one of the most stable networking systems I have seen so far," Jia Ching Lin, masters of information systems, said. "Although there is still some space for further improvements, I can say that I am very satisfied with the system we have here."



Colleges struggle with students' data demand

SARAH LOWE / THE CURRENT

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A Service of The University of Missouri-St. Louis

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, with the subject "What's Current." No phone or written submissions.



UMSL's bridge decked out in homecoming banners. This tradition fills the bridge every year.

SARAH LOWE / THE CURRENT

Monday, October 17

"How True:" journals, memoirs, and autobiographies

From 12:15 p.m. to 1:15 p.m. Located in 222 J.C. Penney Conference Center and open to all. Richard Cook, chair of the UMSL English department, discusses the "truth" of self-writing, a concern he raised in his work on the prominent American critic and autobiographer Alfred Kazin. For more information, call Karen Lucas at 314-516-5699.

Effective communication is the key!

From 2:00 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. Located in 225 MSC and open to students. Do you fully participate in the classroom? Effective communication skills and participation are both critical in college. Learn how to facilitate effective communication with your professors. For more information, call Antionette Sterling at 314-516-5300.

Tuesday, October 18

Predicting future cash needs

From 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Located in the J.C. Penney Conference Center and open to all. Learn how to use a cash budget to predict future performance of your business. Learn how to analyze needs to make more informed decisions related to expansion of business. Cost: \$99. For more information, call Eric Candela at 314-516-5908.

Waffles and wiffles

From 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Located at Catholic Newman Center and open to students. Stop by the CNC, and play some wiffle ball while making crazy waffles with insane toppings! For more information, call Rachelle Simon at 314-385-3455.

Wednesday, October 19

UMSL's Month of Giving 2011

From 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Located at MSC in the Nosh and open to all. October is UMSL's Month of Giving! Join us in the Nosh Oct. 19 at lunch to learn more about the UMSL annual campaign for United Way and Community Health Charities taking place this month, as well as fundraising efforts by student organizations. Our goal this year is \$75,000. Your participation will make a difference for people in our community! For more information, call Patricia Zahn at 314-516-5267.

The individual mandate: Who needs healthcare anyways?

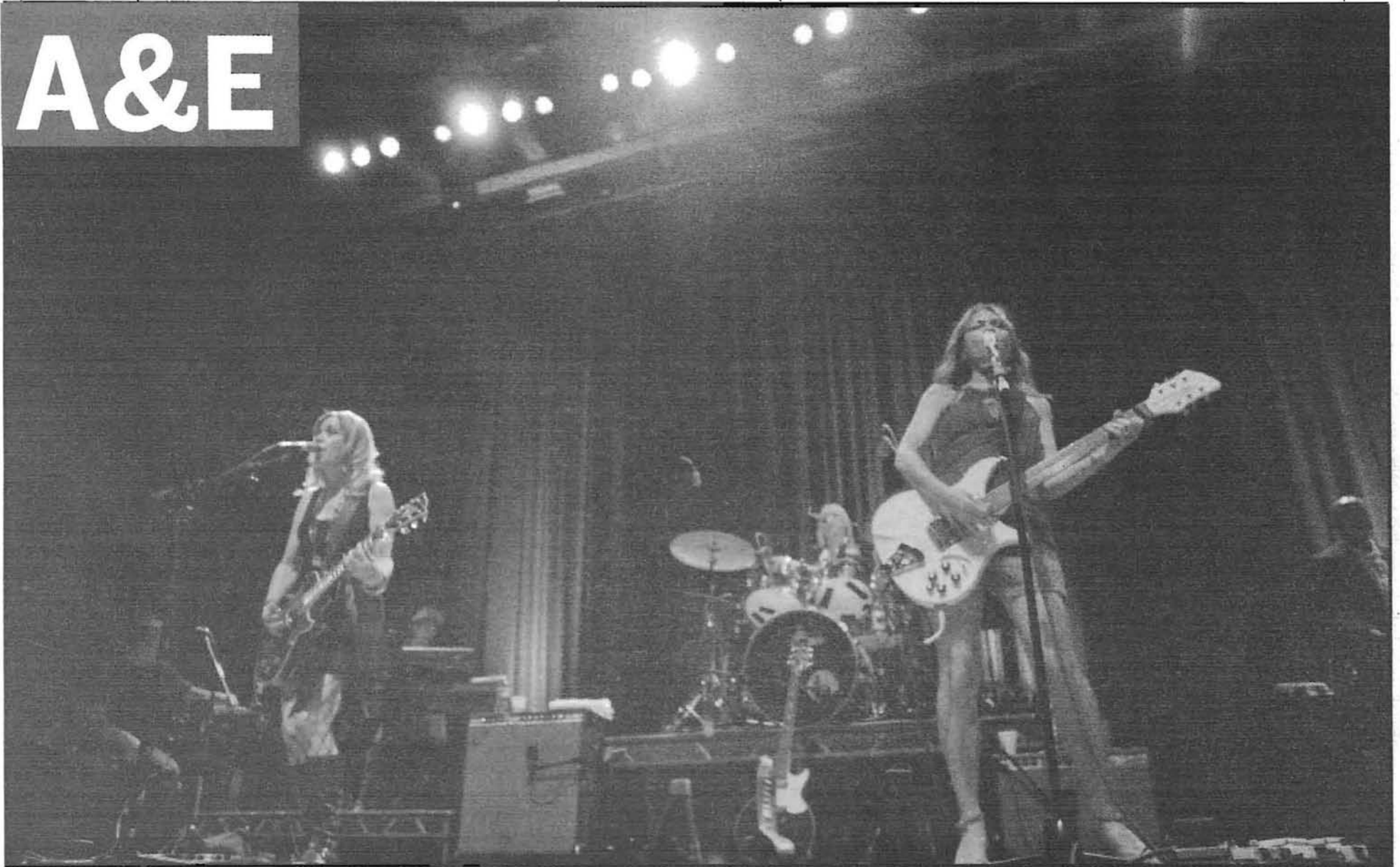
From 12:15 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Located in the SGA Chambers at MSC and open to all. Come talk about current events through News @ Noon. Lunch and prizes provided. This month, we are discussing health reform and the individual mandate with Des Lee professor Dr. Barton-Burke. For more information, call Lauren Masterson-Rodriguez at 210-862-4523.

Thursday, October 20

Etiquette luncheon

From 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Located at MSC Century Room A and open to students. When dining with a potential employer or business associate, our manners convey our professionalism. Maria Everding, a nationally recognized etiquette consultant, will guide participants through the meal. For more information, call Career Services at 314-516-5111.

A&E



The Bangles perform in front of large crowd at the Pageant

JARRED GASTREICH / THE CURRENT

MUSIC

Bangles fans walk like Egyptians at big Pageant concert

ANGIE O'DELL

Staff Writer

Fans kicked up their heels for The Bangles on Saturday, October 8, at The Pageant. The opening act was Vintage Trouble, who had a slight southern and blues sound. The lead singer of Vintage Trouble was bouncy and full of energy. Fans smiled and mingled about, awaiting for The Bangles to hit the stage.

Once The Bangles took stance, there was no turning back and fans were transported into a whirlwind of music with euphoric vibes. The set list included "Anna Lee," "Hazy Shade of

Winter," "Manic Monday," "September Gurls," "He's Got a Secret," "Ride the Ride," "In Your Room," "Hero Takes a Fall," "Sweet and Tender Romance," and "Magic Bus/Walk Like an Egyptian."

Some songs had more energy than others. Space-aged 1980s vibes were there in some of the songs, while others could have used a little more energy. For the most part, The Bangles delivered. They meshed a lot of their new material in with their old material, to

make a catchy fresh, new mix unexpected by fans and neophytes alike.

Getting off their microphones and coming forward while playing their guitars right in fans' faces was awesome and let fans see up close what The Bangles were all about. They had not lost their direction during their years of hiatus in the '90s and also since 2003. That energy they are known for still flowed, and you could see fans' eyes light up with delight. Every song was a prize that transported

listeners either to the 1980s or to some fantasy of a dream like state of summer, fresh air and beaches, such as in the song "Under a Cloud."

Vicki Peterson was in a very cheery mood as she belted out tunes for hours to screaming fans. The first song to really get the audience kicking their heels was the upbeat song written by drummer Debbie Peterson, "Ball and Chain." Not all fans seemed to recognize the new songs off the album,

but audience members were dancing to everything these fabulous throwback-ladies were playing, especially the tried and true hits that made The Bangles stars. Their hit "Walk Like an Egyptian" was their powerful encore. People were dancing around like Egyptians and really having a good time to cap off the night The Bangles came to Saint Louis.

The Bangles' outfits were phenomenal, featuring dresses or skirts paired with boots. Debbie got up from her drums every now and

then to play guitar and sing to the audience with Susanna and Vicki. Susanna was cheery. Vicki was the star of the show: clapping, singing and leading fans in a triumphant night of music for all.

The performance was worth the wait. These girls still know how to rock it after all these years. Great job to The Bangles for putting on an excellent show here after being popular for over thirty years.

Grade: A-

Nightmarish "Dream House" leaves much to be desired

YUSEF ROACH
Staff Writer

In the psychological thriller "Dream House," directed by Jim Sheridan, successful publisher Will Atenton (played by Daniel Craig) and his wife Libby (Rachel Weisz) move from the city to a seemingly ideal, picture-perfect home in the suburbs.

Upon arrival, they quickly discover the newly-purchased home previously hosted the murder of a family, a crime committed by the father. The film follows Daniel Craig's journey to get to the bottom of what exactly happened and to prevent it from

affecting his life or the life of his family.

"Dream House" is a perplexing film, and not in a positive way. It suffers greatly from horribly uneven pacing, uninspired performances and the most needlessly convoluted plot recently released. About 45 minutes into the movie the story takes an abrupt and immense left turn to nowhere, leaving the viewer wondering, "Wait a sec. Where can this possibly go now?" It is a question viewer realizes the answer to almost instantaneously: "Oh yeah. This is going to suck..."

The film tries to confuse you and deceive you, at one point towards the end, even offering another particularly anticlimactic twist. Despite the filmmakers' efforts, however, the resolution is obvious, making the writing seem needlessly convoluted.

Utilizing the old "house-with-a-dark-past" premise, one thinks "Dream House" would be able to pull off something different, something unique. On the contrary, it seems content with cherry-picking elements of other films. Even the most unengaged audience can see bits of "The Others," "The Amityville

Horror" and, most obviously, "Shutter Island." This film relies far too heavily on creepy whispers and forced atmosphere for cheap attempts at scares.

As far as individual performances are concerned, "Dream House," definitely falls short. Daniel Craig's acting seemed subdued, particularly in the first hour, as if he foresaw the critical outcome and decided to just not care. Without giving too much away, it is worth noting that Craig definitely picks up a bit towards the end of the film, after the plot corrals him into playing an entirely different version

of himself.

Rachel Weisz exhibited such a blatant lack of emotion, the same could be said of her. Naomi Watts played a surprisingly large part as the neighbor of the main couple, with her character undergoing a nasty divorce throughout the film. Though her screen time is minimal compared to the two leads, her character is, at least, convincing, which is more than can be said for anyone else.

Overall, "Dream House" is a flawed film. It is the type of movie that forces one to wonder, given all the big-budget reboots, red tape,

script rewrites and outright rejection so prevalent in mercenary Hollywood, how can a stinker like this possibly be released? Wait for a lazy, snowed-in Sunday afternoon, when this movie is playing on TNT, rather than spend any hard-earned money on a rental, let alone an overpriced theater ticket. Much like Will Atenton is left searching for answers, "Dream House's" viewers are left yearning for a reason to keep watching - it just seems pointless.

Grade: C

Students invited to TASK Party at Gallery 210 on Oct. 21

CATE MARQUIS
A&E Editor

Take your creativity to TASK.

UMLS students have the opportunity to be part of creating a collaborative, improvisational and fun art project, in conjunction with a world famous artist. A TASK Party will take place on October 21 at Gallery 210 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

A TASK Party is an improvisational art project in which any student can participate in creating a series of art works. The parties use gathered materials and inspirations supplied by other parties, written on a pieces of paper. The event has few rules and a simple structure but great potential for both creativity and fun.

TASK is a concept created by internationally

recognized experimental artist Oliver Herring, who is based in Brooklyn, New York.

Herring is noted for creating participatory art, Stryrofoam photo sculpture and knitting Mylar. TASK parties have been held at a number of universities.

The TASK party process starts on Monday, October 17. Participants will first gather materials for the art project from Monday, October 17 to Thursday, October 20.

The real fun begins on Friday, October 21 at 5 p.m., when the TASK party starts. Participants begin by writing a suggested task on a slip of paper, which is added to a TASK pool. Next, the person draws a different task from the pool and uses the materials available to create an object to interpret it in any way

that person wishes. When the task is complete, the participant writes another task and draws a new one. The event is open ended and collaborative. TASK parties can change or build on anyone else's creation.

The TASK Party lasts until 9 PM and is open to all. Artist Herring will organize the created works and add works of his own to create an exhibit for the gallery. The TASK exhibit will open at Gallery 210 with a reception on Friday, October 28, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Herring will give a talk in the gallery at 6:15 PM. The exhibit is free.

Gallery 210 is located on north campus, near the Metrolink station. Anyone interested in participating or learning more about the TASK Party can contact Gallery 210 at 314-516-5976.

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OR CHEAT.

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MOVIES

"Footloose" remake couldn't ask for a better Bacon replacement

JANACA SCHERER
Managing Editor

Put your dancing shoes on, because "Footloose" is back for more. "Footloose" is sure to have newer audiences in love with it in a heartbeat.

A remake of the 1984 original, "Footloose" features the story of Ren, a Brooklyn boy sent into the southern town of Bomount to live with his uncle and aunt after his mom died. After meeting the preacher's daughter, Ariel, he decides that few changes need to be made in order for the young people of the city to truly live their lives.

Kenny Wormald, who is absolutely adorable and pulls off the part perfectly, plays Ren. He is by far the only person who could replace Kevin Bacon in the iconic role of Ren and does it without a single flaw.

Playing alongside him in the part of Ariel is Julianne Hough. Her acting leaves audience members wanting more. She tries too hard and just can not seem to pull of the good-girl-gone-bad persona that Ariel is all about.

Also in the movie is Dennis Quaid, playing Reverend Shaw Moore, who does a fantastic job and is still amazing to watch on the big screen. Ren's faithful

friend Willard, played by Miles Teller, almost steals the show and will have all the ladies fall in love with him by the end.

The movie as a whole was fantastic. It is not so much a remake as it is a brand new take on the "Footloose" story. Mixing in plenty of modern music, humor and personalities, the story is entirely revamped. However, fans of the original "Footloose" may not be pleased. The original song "Footloose" plays at times, but it is also revamped in the beginning and the end.

While the movie has a 1980s vibe to it at times, it is important for fans of the original to realize that the movie is definitely modernized for the modern day. But never fear! The original dance scene in the warehouse is still in the movie. Mixing the talents of Wormald and the original scene with Bacon, it is the perfect fit.

The dancing throughout the entire movie was good as well. Combining elements from today and elements from the original movie, it is interesting to see how the original movie has influenced the choreography in such a positive way. Not only are there 1980s

influences, but also "booty dancing" and line dancing. It is safe to say that line dancing will be making a huge comeback in the near future due to this movie.

While the original plot is intact, it is refreshing to see a remake of an original 1980s movie that can hold its own ground. Even while using songs from today's top hits, such as "Black and Yellow" and "Fake I.D.", the movie still manages to retain some of its old school charm, with classic songs like "Holding Out For a Hero" and the original "Footloose."

Guys and girls will both love the movie (though maybe the guys will only like it because of the short shorts and the booty dancing), but it is perfect for a date night or girl's night out.

As a whole, the movie was not the best, but neither was the original. As far as a remake goes, it was amazing. "Footloose" was able to maintain the original story yet make it into its own movie. Viewers will just have to see for themselves how different the two are.

Grade: B-

LATEST + GREATEST

New Movies Calendar

Opening Friday, October 21 (subject to change)

THE THREE MUSKETEERS (everywhere)

Paul W.S. Anderson directs this latest version of the classic swashbuckling adventure with stars Mathew MacFayden, Milla Jovovich, Luke Evans, Ray Stevenson, Orlando Bloom, Loagn Lerman, Mads Mikkelsen and Christoph Waltz.

PARANORMAL ACTIVITY 3 (everywhere)

The found-footage horror series continues with young sisters befriending the unseen thing in their home in a bit of a nod to "Poltergeist." Stars Katie Featherston. Directed by Henry Joost

MARGIN CALL (everywhere)

Kevin Spacey and Stanley Tucci star in a thriller about investment bank in the early days of the current financial meltdown. Directed by J. C. Chandor.

JOHNNY ENGLISH REBORN (everywhere)

Rowan Atkinson (Mr. Bean) re-boots his spy spoof with co-stars Rosamund Pike and Dominic West. Directed by Oliver Parker.

THE MIGHTY MACS (everywhere)

Heart-warming girl-power drama based on a true story about an underdog women's basketball team at a tiny, underfunded Catholic girls college and their coach Cathy Rush, in the pre-Title XX 1970s. Stars Carla Gugino, Marley Shelton, David Boreanaz and Ellen Burstyn. Directed by Tim Chambers.

TOAST (Plaza Frontenac)

Competitive cooking comedy and a foodie nostalgia trip through 1960s Britain. Stars Freddie Highmore and Victoria Hamilton. Directed by S.J. Clarkson.

BLACKTHORN (Tivoli)

What if Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid were not killed in a shoot-out in Bolivia? An aging American in Bolivia who calls himself Blackthorn but may be Cassidy becomes caught up in a crime involving a mining payroll, in this surprisingly thoughtful Western. Stars Sam Shepard, Edward Noreiga and Stephen Rea. Directed by Mateo Gil.

DIRTY GIRL (Tivoli)

Juno Temple stars as a teen in 1987 who is running away with a pair of her outsider friends and a Walkman tuned to 1980s hits. Also stars Jeremy Dozier and Milla Jovovich. Directed by Abe Sylvia.

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Cast members for the October 14 to 22 UMSL production of 'The House of Spirits.' Front row, from left: Sophie Powell, Sydney Daniels, Samantha Smith and Destiny Hanlin. Back row, from left: Mike Pierce, Sean Green and Ben Watts.

PHOTO COURTESY OF UMSL DEPARTMENT OF THEATER AND DANCE

UMSL's production of 'The House Of Spirits' exudes spirit

GREG LAINE
Staff Writer

THEATER

Betrayal and family secrets littered the stage of the Desmond Lee Theater of the Touhill Performing Arts Center last Friday night, October 14.

Presented by the University of Missouri - St. Louis, the College of Fine Arts and the Department of Theater and Dance, the general public and students alike were treated to the play "The House of Spirits" directed by Tlaloc Rivas.

Performed by UMSL students, the production brought the novel by Isabel Allende to life on the stage. The story starts in the 1920s in an undisclosed Latin American country on a privately-owned ranch called Tres Marias. The

story follows the lives of the Tercero and Trueba families as they progress and eventually merge.

With a packed house the production flowed smoothly, with few hiccups between opening and curtain call on the opening night. Students of all classifications as well as patrons from outside of UMSL were present to witness the show.

Director Rivas, a longtime fan of the novel and friend of author Isabel Allende, along with his wife Megan Monaghan Rivas, were also in attendance for opening night. Rivas, assistant director of theater for UMSL, was pleased to see this show on the stage. "I loved being able to work

on a very beautiful play and working with the students of the theater," Rivas said, expressing his enjoyment for the show.

Many of the student actors were pleased with the performance and story as well. "It was intriguing to see what ties characters had to others in the story," Sophie Powell, sophomore, theater, who portrayed the characters of Rosa la Bella and Blanca, said.

The story is narrated by the character Alba Tercero who is the witness to history played by Ashley Bauman. It follows all of the socio-political revolutions that take place in the country and within the family itself.

A very powerful show

performed in four acts, this production brings to life a marvelous story filled with secrets and love. The story is an intricate web in which many of the characters have a direct impact of the lives and development of others. With assistance from a set of very talented student actors, the characters revealed their parts in the story.

Audience responses were somewhat mixed, but many clearly felt the show was good and that the cast did an excellent job embodying their characters. "It was a good play, strong and a bit graphic," Courtney Salini, sophomore, said.

"The House of Spirits" is a wonderfully put together production that blends

intriguing history with a family's strife and happiness. Using very powerful scenes, moving dialog and small musical numbers placed throughout, combined with the talented classical guitar accompaniment from Matthew Weisman, senior, and a hint of puppetry, the characters and their stories came to life on stage.

The puppetry was performed by Ben Watts, senior, theatre, who played Barrabas the dog along with the parts of Pedro Tercero and a guard. "I thought the puppet was intriguing," Watts said. And Watts was certainly correct, in that the puppetry was exceptionally intriguing indeed and slightly reminiscent of

traditional Japanese theater.

The actors delivered solid and clear dialog and song throughout the show. With at least two parts being cast to most of the actors, it was often easy to get lost in which characters were which and where they belonged. However, the show did a neat job of keeping the audience wrapped up so that the transitions were smooth.

The show will be running until Saturday, October 22. UMSL students, as is customary, receive a discounted price on tickets. "The House of Spirits" is a wonderful performance and a treat for anyone looking for a night at the theater, and may even be an excellent introduction for others.

NEWS @ NOON

12:15-1:30PM

SGA CHAMBERS



FALL 2011 TOPICS & DATES

October 19th- The Individual Mandate: Who needs health care anyways?

Dr. Margaret Barton Burke

November 2nd-The Results Are In: Census Numbers Mean BIG Changes for MO

Dr. William E. Winter

December 7th - Homeless in the City

Dr. Margaret Sherraden

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Features

The winners of 2011 UMSL Homecoming King and Queen: Nathan Bowman accepting on behalf of Bradley Flynn, and Elisha J. Simon.

SARAH LOWE / THE CURRENT

Homecoming 2011 takes place at the extravagant Chase Park

MAVIS HOLLIS
Staff Writer

ASHLEY ATKINS
Features Editor

The room exuded a warm golden light as tables were lined with silverware and memorable décor, such as glasses for guests to take home at the end of the event. Multiple students gazed in wonder at the sight of the exterior and interior of Chase Park Plaza. Its ballroom, including the dance floor, did wonders for the imagination.

On Saturday, October 15, the University of Missouri-St. Louis took part in Homecoming 2011 at the snazzy Chase Park Plaza in St. Louis. The theme of the dance was "Where Our Journey Began" and had sold out in ticket sale earlier on in the

week.

The celebration of Homecoming was a week long event for UMSL, starting on October 10 and wrapping up with the traditional dinner and dance at the Chase. It was a venue that guests were anticipating for months.

"I think this is the best venue in three years," Aquira Foster, senior, psychology and pre-dental, said. "This event is just amazing this year."

Upon arrival at Chase Park Plaza guests were greeted by the Homecoming committee. The seating chart in the dining room was based off of an individuals association with a club or organization. Those

unattached to specific groups were seated accordingly.

At 7 p.m., dinner was served. Guests had the option of vegan, beef or chicken. The delectable dessert of the night was red velvet cheesecake. During dinner, the Homecoming committee announced which club or organization earned the most spirit points and the winners of each event that occurred throughout the week.

Next, Homecoming court was brought out to the stage where the king and queen were crowned with the help of last year's queen. They commenced the honor with a slow dance on the dance

floor. After the first dance, the event's DJ grabbed a microphone and started playing tunes of the old and new generation. Requests were accepted and encouraged; students enjoyed and danced along to these choices throughout the night.

Students quickly made it to the dance floor once it was available, dancing away the night. They took advantage of the provided photo booths where couples and friends could capture their memories. All and all, guests and alumni seemed to be pleased with the function. Jovan Williams, senior, business administration, said

that the dance was more than he expected it to be, noting his usual lack of attendance. Other students seemed to agree with Williams as they rejoiced in the wonder of the night through with crazy dance moves, intimate conversation between friends and relaxation.

"Homecoming has been fun as always and this year it is still fun," Aaron Levin, UMSL Alum, stated.

The Homecoming committee worked hard to get the events of the week planned and organized. The goal was to create complete satisfaction among the student body.

"I think this event is better

this year, more organized," Krista Hedrick, Homecoming committee member, senior, secondary education, said. She praised the event for its diversity in crowd and high traffic, compared to last year's event.

"Homecoming is better this year," Jared Thimes, Homecoming chair of events, senior, psychology, said. "This year I got to see how the committee works, since I joined."

The elegant extravaganza lasted up until the wee hours of the night when students scattered to their cars or hotels to recover from the hysteria. It was an event to remember.



Brooke Markus, junior, secondary education, candidate for Homecoming Queen, in the Shopping Cart Parade, Oct. 13, on the South side of the MSC JENNIFER MEAHAN/THE CURRENT

Quirky Homecoming tradition rolls along the MSC patio

HALI FLINTROP
Staff Writer

The wind blew whimsically on the Millennium Student Center Lawn on Thursday, October 13, whipping the synthetic hair of the spectators through the shopping carts of the University of Missouri- St. Louis Homecoming Shopping Cart Parade.

In the advertising for the parade, which invited the UMSL community to attend, the Homecoming committee said, "Come out to watch student organizations and campus departments in this quirky take on a campus tradition, as they decorate shopping carts to match the Homecoming theme 'Where Our Journey Began.'"

Student organizations and Homecoming queen candidates rolled out of the MSC with (or riding

in) their shopping carts, performing for the crowd in attendance. They passed out UMSL-colored red and gold beads and candy to spectators as they marched out of the MSC and down a path where they showed off for the judges. They marched around the Wayne statue, the lake and finally up the middle path where they gave the judges one last wave.

The organizations with carts included Alpha Xi Delta with a turtle themed cart, a cart advertising the Homecoming dance with a golf theme and the Student Athlete Advisory Committee with a cart sporting a drawing of the famed mascot Louie. A member of the University Program Board followed their cart dressed as a chicken and homecom-

ing queen hopefuls Brooke Markus, junior, secondary education and Elisha Simon, junior, criminology and criminal justice rode in carts decked in their own campaign garb.

Despite a last minute shouted announcement to the students in the Nosh five minutes before the parade was scheduled to start, spectators were sparse. An unfortunate turn of events, since the entire event was planned for students, with the clear goal of those involved in the parade being to build community at UMSL.

"Being in the parade definitely gives me a sense of pride. It shows what UMSL has to offer, and UMSL has so much to offer. It is a full university, and people in the community should know that. Some more students could have come out for support," Brooke

Marcus, homecoming queen nominee, junior, secondary education, said.

Support would certainly have been appreciated by the parade's 2011 organizer. "The hardest thing is getting organizations involved and students to come out. The Homecoming committee would like to see a school spirited community," Krista Hedrick, Homecoming chair, senior, secondary education, said.

One very spirited UMSL student did show up to the parade. Kyrin Kroutil, graduate, strode immediately to the organization sign in sheet to secure her spirit points. Aside from being sure to attend spirit events such as the homecoming parade, Kroutil discussed her interesting way of supporting the ideal of community at UMSL. "I am running for homecoming king in support of the UMSL com-

munity," Kyrin Kroutil, graduate, psychology, said, "I am also running in support of non-traditional students and in support of gender expression. Homecoming is a big event for the university, and I try to come out to all the homecoming events."

Despite the unfortunate lack of turnout, because of the parade's participants and few, but enthusiastic spectators, it is still easy to call the event a success. "It is great seeing various organizations come together," Chris Sheets, Shopping Cart Parade judge, ITS at UMSL, said. So, at least in some ways, community is alive at UMSL.

The creativity displayed at the parade was remarkable. The use of shopping carts as opposed to cars and floats was not the only creative thing about the event. The artistic care and creativ-

ity that went into some of the organizations' carts was also impressive. The Smoking Ban cart sported a crutch made entirely out of cigarettes and the students who accompanied the Provincial House Chapel cart were creatively dressed as ministers. "The best thing about the Shopping Cart Parade is the creativity, time and effort put in by the student organizations. This unique event requires creativity," Brandon Nelson, Greek Life Coordinator, said.

The Shopping Cart Parade was a fun, quirky part of UMSL Homecoming 2011. What it lacked in turnout, it more than made up for in spirit and creativity presented by the student body. Student organizations came together in show of the UMSL community, successfully channeling the spirit of Homecoming.

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Greeks dominate Romans at Mark Twain before Tailgate

ASHLEY ATKINS
Features Editor

As a pleasant breeze swept over the soccer field of the University of Missouri-St. Louis' Mark Twain building, one could sense the Homecoming spirit coming off of the participants of the Homecoming Greeks vs. Romans kickball game. Free t-shirts were given to each participant, whether they represented the Romans or the Greeks. The Romans sported mustard yellow. The Greeks rocked Kool-Aid red. International student Fahad Aljaman, senior, finance, appreciated the choice of sport for the event saying that the rules of the sport were far less complicated than baseball.

Held on October 14, the

day before the Homecoming dance and dinner at Chase Park Plaza, the object of the game was to support student comradery. What was unexpected was the competitive tension between teams. The Greeks won the game and the Romans were not happy. Rumors of participant betrayal had surfaced.

Roman Eddie Butler, junior, history, who was found kicking the ball around with buddy Saad Sharieff, senior, English, had a few words to express regarding the inevitable outcome of the game. "Well, the Greeks technically won, but they had 11 players on the field for the last two outs of the game, so they cheated, but yeah...we will

take it," Saad Sharieff, senior, English, said.

A referee of the kickball game saw it from another perspective. "Actually, the Romans decided in the last inning of the game to have all of their guys bunt because they felt that the girls were cheating because they were not kicking it hard enough. So, the men decided to bunt the ball to get on base," Nathan Bowman, senior, psychology, said, "The Greek sororities kicked the crap out of the Romans because the Greeks were mainly women."

Bowman believed that the highlight of the game was in the seventh inning when the Greeks were down by a few runs, only to come back

on top at the bottom of the seventh as bases were loaded. The Greeks had managed to snag the last out.

"I thought it was a very good game. I enjoyed the mixture of sororities. We tend to have our differences, but we all had a blast out here," Kelli Buesgens, Delta Zeta, junior, criminology, said. She believed it to be a good game until the Romans decided to bunt and "be wussies."

An interjection in the conversation came from another Sigma Pi. "Biscuit nuts," Sigma Pi, Bradley Flynn, sophomore, math and physics, said, referencing Buesgens. At that moment, he was focused on promot-

ing his homecoming candidacy as the only male Greek in the running. He also mentioned that he was only male participant in the first four or five inning of kickball. He credited the team's success at that point to himself. Missing in action towards the game's end, Flynn was unaware of the Roman's accusations. He responded by saying that one of the Romans had been playing for the Greek team at one point during the game. Et Tous Brutus!

Following the kickball game Students Today Alumni Tomorrow had started set up for their Homecoming tailgate. Not only would they supply their guests with

free hotdogs and hamburgers, but they also offered free spirit memorabilia at there table. "We are the official chapter of the alumni association and we are kind of the bridge between the alumni association and the student body. We also try to promote school spirit," Jennifer Hunter, STAT advisor and coordinator for alumni, said. There purpose of the day was to promote Triton soccer. STAT was the not the only club or organization present at the event. The U Student Radio Station, who also DJed for the event and Alpha Xi Delta were also in attendance. Together, they handed out free t-shirt pins to the seated guests.

Big Man on Campus challenges student body's creativity

ANGIE O'DELL
Staff Writer

ASHLEY ATKINS
Features Editor

Thrills were to be had as audience members waited to see what sexy studs would grace the stage of the Pilor House on Wednesday, October 12. The event, sponsored by the Pan-Hellenic Council of the University of Missouri-St. Louis, was entitled "Big Man on Campus." It was the kick off event for Homecoming Week.

The U Student Radio Station provided the music. Event emcee was Dr. Jennifer Siciliani, associate teaching professor, psychology.

Each contestant had a different organization that they were representing. Penny jars were displayed for each sponsored organization, encouraging supporters to donate to their specific organization. The purpose of this action was a potential gain in spirit points which would be

totalled out by Homecoming committee at the end of the week.

Supporters were asked to donate pennies to each jar. Adding silver would take away from the participant's coin count, so it was discouraged.

Annually, "Big Man on Campus" supports a local organization and gives back to the community. The contest is made up of four different categories: active/sportswear, talent, formal attire and question/answer. Each contestant made a good effort while competing, appealing to audience members through talent and formal wear.

Masquerading as the movie character Napoleon Dynamite, participant Michael Mannino, sophomore, chemistry, pulled out

all the stops. Decked out in a red curly wig, nerdy glasses, and a "Vote for Pedro" shirt, Mannino reenacted the infamous talent show tryout for the on looking audience. Sponsored by Zeta Tau Alpha, he was a real hit with fans.

One of the local organizations supported for the event was Girls, Inc. One of their representatives, in attendance, was Kelly Hill. Girls, Inc. is known for the positive professional leadership of young girls. The university had worked with them in the past during the Martin Luther King Jr. Service Day.

Participant and Sigma Tau Gamma, Sean Flaherty, junior, nursing, was in the competition not for just the benefit of his own fraternity but for the greater good of Delta Zeta, the sorority

sponsoring him. "I think it is fun. I think it is a good way for all the organizations to get together instead of being segregated as Greeks and non-Greeks because it's all organizations," Flaherty said, when asked about his participation.

In the Nosh was DJ Paradise, a.k.a Mark Patrick Lodes, senior, political science, of the U Student Radio Station, supporting another "Big Man on Campus" participant, Jimmy "Spicy Slim Jim" Barnes, senior, international business. According to Lodes, Jimmy Barnes works for the U on campus and is an excellent guitar and harmonica player. "If he wins this, he might have a chance with some of the ladies on campus, because our big man is single and looking," Lodes said.

Participant Jimmy Barnes played guitar and harmonica and sang "You Can't Always Get What You Want" by The Rolling Stones. "I am excited. I did not know what to expect...I got to the radio station last year. I wanted to get involved on campus and they gave me a radio show," Barnes, said.

"I am just happy to be here. I am happy that the ladies of Alpha Xi Delta nominated me to be "Big Man on Campus," T.J. O'Neill, participant, senior, accounting, said. O'Neill sang to his girlfriend, whom he acknowledged onstage.

Throughout the event, each man attempted to look their best in suits, sweaters or other formal attire. Fans cheered on as each participant walked the stage. A Q&A session with the

audience followed. One of the questions addressed had been, "Which magazine would you like to be on the cover of?" Participant Chapel Haines, senior, biology, answered that he would like to be on the cover of "Time" magazine.

During the talent portion of the contest, contestant Saad Sharieff, senior, English, who had been teaching himself to play piano for six months now, wooed the audience with his newly developed talent.

"Big Man on Campus" turned out to be a hit among the audience. For all involved, it allowed an outlet for self expression. It gave organizations a chance to come together as one for a good cause. The event is, again, an annual occurrence, so fret not if it was missed.

Read The Current

Sports

Women's volleyball hopes to continue a strong run

LEON DEVANCE

Staff Writer

To reach their season-goal: becoming the Great Lakes Valley Conference Western Division champion, the University of Missouri-St. Louis Tritons volleyball team needs to anticipate, react and communicate better as one unit.

The Tritons ended the toughest portion of the schedule with a record of 2-2 as they lost to the Eastern Conference leader Indianapolis Greyhounds 3-0. Indianapolis improved to 12-4, 10-1 in the GLVC. The Tritons' record dropped to 12-6 and 7-4 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference. UMSL is second in the Western Division of the GLVC.

The Tritons have been a little inconsistent this

season and after the loss to the Lewis Flyers, Head Coach Ryan Young challenged the Tritons to respond. "I was disappointed with the way we played Lewis. Defensively, Lewis put us on our heels," Ryan Young, Head Coach, Tritons volleyball, said.

A day after the loss to Lewis, Young challenged the Tritons with an upbeat but challenging practice. Young said the Tritons should have the determination and skills to not allow the ball to hit the court so often, and he ran more defensive drills than usual. "I wanted the team to anticipate, react and communicate on the floor better. Sometimes mentally, we were not there. The mindset of the team had

to change. Practice had consequences: if they failed a drill or made a bone-headed play, they had to run sprints. They were also rewarded if they succeeded at a drill: they did not have to run," Young said.

The key to the losses against Lewis and Indianapolis were poor matchups on the court. Lewis' spikers were aggressive, which forced the Tritons to dig out hard spikes or well-placed spikes on the edges. Added to the defeat was lack of motivation, team cohesiveness, and overall spirit on the court. Indianapolis, on the other hand, played a consistent game as a single, well-oiled machine.

"We were afraid to make mistakes against Lewis. Lewis has nice size and balance and they played well. Going into

the Indianapolis game, I knew they would be a tough match. Indianapolis has speed, consistent play and balance. Indianapolis' strength is all their kids can contribute to a win because there is not just not one player on that team that can beat you, but five people that will beat you on any given day. Against Indianapolis, we got down early and put our heads down and started feeling sorry for ourselves. We never fought back and made some stupid errors," Young said.

Tritons hit the road with a new mindset and scored victories against McKendree Bearcats, 3-1, and a 3-0 conference victory against the St. Joseph Pumas following their defeat at the Flyers earlier in the season. "I thought that we rebounded well

against McKendree and St. Joseph's," Young said. "St. Joseph is a weak team as they were missing some starters because of injuries. And we put it to them."

Shelby Crawford, senior, biology, noted that part of her job is to lead the team on and off the court. "Every senior wants their team to play well. This season, we have been up and down, having not played as well as last year. We are improving every game as a team. And at practice the focus is better," Crawford said.

Young believes the Tritons will challenge for the Great Lakes Valley Conference title. The team looks to finish strong in the crossover tournament, and shore up their spot in the conference tournament. Coach Young thinks that have a good shot in the

post season as well. "In the preseason we were the top pick in the Western Conference, we had our ups and downs but I am pleased with the season. The team chemistry can be better as sometimes we play as individuals instead as a team," Young said.

The team has seven games before postseason play. Oct. 21, 22 will showcase the Tritons' skills right on UMSL's campus. Next, the team will travel to Maryville University on Oct. 25, followed by Rockhurst on Oct. 28. The team will end its road show with a trip to William Jewell on Oct. 29, and will return home for games on Nov. 4 and 5.

The GLVC Tournament commences on November 11, and will continue on the 12 and 13. Stay tuned for more Tritons news!

Senior Weslie Gaff's veteran leadership sets pace for Tritons

OWEN SHROYER

Sports Editor

The University of Missouri - St. Louis' women's volleyball team has a lot of talent mixed with solid veteran leadership, no one personifies that leadership more than Weslie Gaff, senior, accounting. Weslie has been playing for the woman's volleyball team for four years and has seen much success, individually as well as for her teams.

Weslie is from Streator, Illinois, where she lived her whole life until coming to school in St. Louis. Weslie played softball and volleyball growing up, as well as danced into her high school days. It was

after she quit dancing sophomore year in high school when she realized her desire to play college volleyball. Weslie recalls her favorite volleyball memory from high school, when her seventeen-year-old team won the national championship. Weslie's volleyball club team has also produced her favorite athlete, Ogonna Nnamani, who is the outside hitter for the United States national indoor volleyball team. Weslie's club coaches, Michelle Erins and Joe Sanders, had the biggest impact on her volleyball career, helping her to excel

and make it to where she is now.

In 2008, as a freshman, Weslie was first team all Great Lakes Valley Conference, earning the American Volleyball Coaches Association Midwest Region Freshman of the year award. She started 30 of 31 matches, led the team in hitting percentage, led in blocks and was second in kills. Many of these were benchmarks for Weslie. In Weslie's sophomore year, she showed her endurance again by playing in 30 of 31 matches and her consistency by again earning first team all GLVC conference and again leading the team in blocks and hitting percentage. Weslie's numbers

for blocks, block assists and hitting percentage all cracked the top ten single season marks in the record books here at UMSL.

She continued to excel in her junior season, when she led the team in blocks, kills and hitting percentage throughout the course of the season. Her hitting percentage mark would crack the top 50 nationally for her second season in a row, and her hitting percentage would be eighth in UMSL single season history.

Weslie is leading the team this season in blocks and hitting percentage. Heading in to the season, she set personal goals hit around .330 and block .85

per set. Currently, Weslie is hitting exactly .300 with .72 blocks per set. Weslie's goal for the team was to win their side of the conference and make a return to the National College Athletic Association tournament. Right now, they are second in the west division of the GLVC and could very well be on their way to the NCAA tournament again.

Weslie entered her senior season ranked second all time in UMSL women's volleyball history in hitting percentage, fourth in block solos, seventh in total blocks and eighth in block assists. It will be interesting to see where she ranks in UMSL history when

her career here is finished, certainly one of the best middle hitters in UMSL's history.

Heading into the final stretch of the season, a veteran like Weslie reflects on where the team stands, "We've been struggling lately as a team, so I have been hoping we can play together and get out of the funk we've been in to get back to playing our game like we were at the beginning of the year." Said Weslie. The team has seven regular season games before the conference tournament starts, providing plenty of time for them to get back on a hot streak and make a run for GLVC gold.

Triton's soccer rebounds after road defeats and wins at home

OWEN SHROYER
Sports Editor

The men's soccer team had a tough road trip two weeks ago, losing by three goals to William Jewell, before going to Kansas City for a match against twenty third nationally ranked Rockhurst. Rockhurst was red hot, coming off five victories in a row before the match with University of Missouri St. Louis.

Rockhurst hot streak continued as they would race out too a quick two goal lead over the Tritons. The second half was anticlimactic for the Tritons. Three minutes into the second half Peter Hyde, junior, finance, shot the ball off the crossbar, something that has haltered his goal total for this season. This was the best opportunity for the team all day. The rest of the half was all Rockhurst, outshooting the Tritons twenty one to seven for the match.

The team needed rebound from two loses on the road,

but the Tritons have been good at home this season and had a favorable matchup against Kentucky Wesleyan who had lost eleven straight games heading into the Friday night matchup. The Tritons had the first goal scoring opportunity early in the first half when Hyde drove a ball towards the net but was blocked by the defense. David Schwer, senior, business administration, had an opportunity on the rebound, but the shot was wide left. Mike McCarthy, senior, information systems, had a look at the net in the fifteenth minute, but his shot was high. UMSL had a corner kick just over twenty minutes in, and Gino Valenti, junior, business administration, served a beautiful ball into the box, and Johnny O'Mara, senior, marketing, headed the ball over the net. Hyde and O'Mara both put shots on net before the half was over, but

the opposing goalie was up to the task of stopping both.

UMSL came out for the second half hungry for a win. They penetrated the opposing defense quickly, and Jordan Bruce, junior, criminology, shot the ball wide. Not long after, Hyde attempted a header, but it was also wide. After pounding the opposing defense and wearing them down in the first fifteen minutes, the Tritons scored when Hyde sent the ball to Schwer, and Schwer finished for his first goal of the season, and Hyde's first assist. The offense did not let up on Kentucky Wesleyan defense for the rest of the game. Hyde got another assist in this game when he found Almin Sabotic, senior, communications, for his fifth goal of the season. Sabotic's night wasn't finished, and he scored again just a minute later on an assist from Matt Burrus, sophomore, international business, his first assist of the year. Sabotic leads the team with six goals this season.

The Tritons dominated the game, outshooting Kentucky Wesleyan 16 to 2, displaying their stout defense and high-octane offense and looking rock steady in the second half, smoothly attacking and earning the conference win.

The Tritons needed this win at home badly, and their efforts delivered in style. The team needs to win in their upcoming home game against Southern Indiana, who has been struggling in conference play this season with a 2-8-1 conference record. The Tritons are still just outside of the post season picture, with their overall record at 6-4-3, and 5-4-2 in conference, putting them tenth in conference. They cannot afford to lose many games down the stretch. After the home game against Southern Indiana, the team has three road matches to finish the regular season. The Tritons need to win out if they want a shot at making it into the conference tournament.



Logan Ream, sophomore, undecided, kicks the ball down the field vs. Southern Indiana on Sunday.

ERICA THOMPSON / THE CURRENT

Men's golf performs well in Great Lakes Tournament

ELI DAINS
Staff Writer

The Triton's men's golf team has started off this season well. In their first tournament, the team got fifth place out of eighteen. They followed that up with a victory at the Arch Cup. In their third match, the team ranked fourteenth out of 27 at the Great Lakes Fall Regional tournament.

In the Great Lakes Fall Regional Tournament, the men's golf team started off well, posting a 303 team score in the first day, but instead of coming out and improving on the second day, they shot a 308, giving them a tournament score of 611, 22 stroked off the lead, and a score of 35 over as a team. Joe Atkisson, sophomore, international business, was the Triton's best performer

in this tournament, scoring a 72 and a 73, good for a 146, two strokes over par, and eleventh individually. Behind him on the team was Jason Chun, junior, general business, who finished 29 overall, shooting a 72 in the first day, but faltering a little bit and shooting a 79 on day two, giving him a total of 151, seven strokes over par. Behind him was Jared Cohen, freshmen, business management, who finished nine strokes over and fourth overall. Everyone else on the team was more than ten strokes over par.

Their fourth outing this fall season was at the Great Lakes Regional. The University of Missouri - St. Louis men's golf team was able to capitalize on a great second

round to secure second place in this season's second Great Lakes Regional Tournament held October 9 to 11 at the Sunset Hills Country Club in Edwardsville, Illinois.

After the first round of play, the team was in the middle of the pack statistically, tied for sixth place with Southern Indiana University with a score of 313. Their score was fourteen strokes behind round leader Bellarmine University, who would end up winning the tournament.

The Tritons took their game to a new level in the second round, posting a season best and tournament leading-290 team score. Leading the charge was Chase Smith, junior, who shot a 70 in the second round, compared to an 83 in the first, which tied him for the lowest single round score in the tournament.

Also improving their scores significantly from round to round were Jared Cohen, freshman (77-74), Joe Atkisson, sophomore (80-72) and Mason Haynes, freshman (80-74).

Individually, the Tritons had three players place in the top twenty; they were Cohen (10), Atkisson (14) and Smith (19). Haynes finished just out of the top twenty, tied for twenty sixth overall.

The dominating performance put forth by the team in the second round showed the kind of potential that the young and hungry squad possesses. They are already a team that drives the ball well and makes a lot of birdies, and will be a real force to contend with if they can bring the kind of game that they displayed on Tuesday every round.

To date, the team has struggled to find their groove

in tournament play, finishing well in each of their outings this fall and showing signs of improvement. "We have a very young team that has struggled to find the consistency necessary to play college golf," Troy Halterman, coach, said, "hopefully, this [second] round will help us gain some confidence next time we play in a tournament."

Moving forward, Halterman would like to see the team improve their short game, and has been emphasizing as much in practices. "The guys are really starting to focus on their chipping and putting, and hopefully we will start see the results soon," Halterman said. "With the good showing that we had in Edwardsville, I think it gave everyone the confidence we needed to continue to play good and post low scores," Joe Atkisson,

sophomore, business administration, said, "the younger guys are starting to get settled in with trying to balance school and golf, and as time goes on, I think we will continue to get better as everyone continues to work on their game."

Looking ahead, the Tritons have two tournaments on their fall schedule; the NCAA Regional Preview in Jefferson City, MO. October 16 to 18 and the CSU-Monterey Bay Invite October 23 to 25 in Monterey Bay, California. The team will need to bring their "A" game for both events. Coach Halterman describes the competition as, "the strongest fields we have seen yet," adding, "With such a young team and another half of a season to play in the spring, the most important thing for the team to do is get experience and compete."

Point/Counterpoint



Should the legal basis for an ordered killing of an American citizen be released?

Honesty and acting in our best interests not the concern of the government?

The United States government recently ordered the assassination of an American-born citizen, Anwar al-Awlaki. The man was a member of Al Qaeda, participating as both a propagandist and cleric. However, he was still a natural-born American citizen, which raises a brutally necessary question: Should this have been done? Isn't the United States' government getting into muddy water by ordering the death of one of its own citizens? Beyond this, however, and a more immediate problem, is that the United States government is now refusing to release records concerning the details of this very act.

The United States claims to prosper based on freedom of speech and freedom of information. When a country cannot even depend upon its government to freely share information with the public, the country begins to travel down a dark, slippery slope from which return is highly difficult.

With occupations around the nation, and a growing sense of dissent amongst those in the lower class, the government seems to be moving further and further down a path which will lead only to increased difficulties

in the near future. The American people expect honesty from the government, and find recently that the government is more than happy to obscure the truth in order to better suit its needs.

America prospers because the American people allow it to do so. When the government decides it no longer needs the consent of the people to take particular actions and then decides to hide them, it is no longer operating in the best interest of the American people. It is operating only in the best interests of those who pull the strings and line the pockets of the fat cats who run this country.

A government's greatest responsibility is not to those with the fattest wallets, but to those who make up the largest constituency. The United States' government has forgotten whose interests it is meant to serve and is now attempting to cover up its actions in order to guarantee compliance. The American people have a right to know the actions of their government, and if those in power refuse to be transparent regarding their actions, especially those which may inevitably cause alterations of the world's view of the country, then the government is no longer serving the people's

best interest.

What is known of this situation? al-Awlaki was placed on the CIA's "kill or capture" list by the Obama administration last year, and was the first American citizen to ever be placed upon this list. He was then killed during an airstrike by a Predator drone, which also took several other Al Qaeda operatives' lives.

This is all fine and well, but the records concerning this operation are still being kept under tight-lipped security by the government. Congress, President Obama and anybody else who cares to listen, your job is to serve the people's best interests and do as they ask you. To act under the influence of the few is not what you were elected to do, and this utter betrayal of the American people's trust only serves to prove the terror felt by so many men, women and children in this country every day concerning your policies of smoke and mirrors.

Honesty and acting in the people's interest; that is all that the people of this country ask of its legislators. It would seem, however, that those in power cannot even do this properly. Good job, America.

Obama administration must protect national security despite any public curiosity

Recently, the Obama administration ordered a Predator drone strike to kill an extremist Muslim priest named Anwar al-Awlaki. The Predator strike was successful and its target, al-Awlaki, was killed. It was business as usual in the war on terror until word broke that al-Awlaki was an American citizen, which has led a number of officials to call on the President to release the legal justification offered by the administration's legal advisor. These legal documents are currently classified.

Since the fact was brought to light that al-Awlaki was an American citizen, some concerns have risen that this particular drone strike could lead to confusion concerning the legal basis for targeted killings. This has caused some people to demand the Obama administration to release their legal justification for the attack.

Despite the public's curiosity, the Obama administration should not release these documents to the public. Because when it comes to matters of national security, and protecting the masses, the basic ideas of utilitarianism apply. In some instances, in order for the most people to be protected from national terror

threats, there are some things that do not need to be made public. In the case of the strike against al-Awlaki, the Obama administration has made it clear that some information in the classified legal justification documents could be a threat to security.

In these times, the mass use of social media combined with rapid changes in technology have led to more information than ever before being made public and less privacy for everyone. The public's demand for the justification behind the targeted assassination of al-Awlaki can only be expected. However, the government's legal documents that could contain highly classified information should not be indiscriminately published as if it were a Facebook status update.

The public needs to understand that CIA operations concerning national security should not warrant the same publicity as the release of a new iPhone by Apple or model car by BMW.

Many of those calling for the legal justification to be released claim that since al-Awlaki technically was an American citizen, the reason for his assassination should be made public. The question in this case is how much weight

should be given to the mere fact that al-Awlaki had American citizenship? It must be stated that al-Awlaki was not an average Joe. He was a man promoting terrorism with a body count that could be linked to him.

The Predator strike to kill al-Awlaki is nothing out of the ordinary in the war on terror. Just because he was an American citizen should not outweigh the fact that the strike was justified and necessary to protect the welfare of the country. Therefore, the assassination does not need to be publicly justified.

Despite the fact that al-Awlaki was born an American citizen, he had publicly renounced his citizenship and boasted about being a traitor to America. He was no longer living in America when the Predator drone strike was ordered by the Obama administration. The facts concerning al-Awlaki's association with violent terrorism groups coupled with the national security threat of releasing the legal justification of the Predator drone strike amount to more than sufficient reason not to release the classified legal documents. In order for America to remain protected, some information must remain classified.

Opinions

OUR OPINION

Withdrawal of troops from Iraq should continue as planned

In 2008, the U.S. government set a deadline for the final removal of all American military forces from Iraq. According to the withdrawal plan devised in the waning days of the Bush administration, all U.S. troops will have been removed from the country by January 1, 2012.

Recently, though, the Obama administration considered a plan to negotiate a new security agreement with the Iraqi government that would allow them to keep troops in Iraq past the end-of-the-year deadline in order to continue training Iraqi security forces. It had been assumed all along by many, at least within the American government, that that was precisely what was going to happen. However, that plan started to be more and more in doubt over time, first when Shi'ite resistance to a lengthened American occupation began to solidify, and second when the Iraqi government refused to extend what would have essentially been diplomatic immunity to any and all American personnel stationed within the country.

At the moment, in fact, any plan for an extended stay for American forces in Iraq seems to be dead in the water. As of now, the only soldiers that will remain in Iraq following the expiration of the withdrawal deadline are a small contingent of men assigned to guard the embassy

in Baghdad; the rest are coming home.

Of course, this does not mean there will no longer be an American presence in the country. Aside from the Baghdad embassy, which is America's largest in the world, the State Department will maintain offices in the major cities of Basra, Kirkuk and Irbil where American contractors will train Iraqi personnel on the various pieces of equipment being purchased by Iraq to arm their nascent security forces.

Nevertheless, barring a sudden change in the current situation, the soldiers and Marines that have occupied the troubled country since the American invasion in 2003 will have returned home by January 1, 2012. Make no mistake; this is a very good thing. Based on faulty intelligence and deliberate fabrications, the invasion of Iraq was one of the darkest chapters of the travesty that was the George W. Bush administration. Over 4,400 American soldiers have lost their lives since the first American boots hit Iraqi soil in March of 2003. Thousands more have returned home with debilitating injuries and illnesses, and the occupying forces have been rocked by scandals including corruption, abuse of prisoners, and even allegations that civilians were murdered on several occasions by both soldiers and

private military contractors.

Although ultimately secondary to the human cost of the conflict, the financial cost that was levied on the country was horrifying as well. Hundreds of billions of dollars have been spent in Iraq since 2003, and taxpayers will continue to feel the burden even after the last of our soldiers have been withdrawn. It is hard to make any kind of legitimate case that the money could not have been better spent at home, especially given the tenuous state of the economy and its eventual collapse after President Bush's term in office.

The war and subsequent occupation was a stain on the national psyche, similar in some ways to the effect that the Vietnam War had on our country forty years ago. For too long, the deserts of Iraq were a greedy sponge, sucking up American blood and American resources. President Obama needs to take his administration's inability to secure an agreement with the Iraqi government as a sign that it is time for this dark chapter in American history to end and for the recovery to begin at long last.

Unsigned editorials reflect the majority viewpoint of The Current's Editorial Board: Matthew Poposky, Minh Jung, Ashley Atkins, Cate Marquis, Jennifer Meahan, Jeremy Zschau and Janaca Scherer.

OUT OF LEFT FIELD

2011 Cardinals: cut from the same cloth as 2006 champs

In 2011, the St. Louis Cardinals enjoyed the unlikeliest of seasons. Despite a strong start to the season, the team floundered through August while the Milwaukee Brewers went on a tear for the ages. Mid-season trades with Toronto and Los Angeles shored up the pitching and defense, respectively; promising young center fielder Colby Rasmus was traded to reinforce a depleted and ineffective pitching staff and Rafael Furcal was obtained from the Dodgers to shore up the team's shaky middle infield defense.

At first, it didn't seem as if the moves had had their desired effect. True, Furcal was a major upgrade over Ryan Theriot at shortstop and the acquisition of Edwin Jackson allowed the Cardinals to move beleaguered reliever-turned-starter Kyle McClellan back to the bullpen, where he had been much more effective; his return to the 'pen, along with the acquisition of relievers Octavio Dotel and Marc Rzepczynski (and the subtraction of ineffective, oft-maligned relievers Ryan Franklin and Miguel Batista), turned the Cardinals' relief pitching from a deficiency to a strength.

Nevertheless, by the beginning of September, the Central Division title was all but out of reach; the Cardinals had lost their hold on the division lead, first to the Pirates in July and then to the Brewers in August. Many fans had given up on the team's playoff

chances, and the "well, let's just see what happens next year" mantra so commonly heard among Cubs fans was starting to make the rounds in St. Louis.

Then, something interesting happened.

In September, something finally clicked for the team. The Cardinals started winning and didn't look back; their hot streak looked remarkably similar to the dominant tear that had carried the Brewers to the top of the division in August. Unfortunately for the Redbirds, while Milwaukee cooled off somewhat in September, they didn't allow St. Louis to make up the gap.

The Atlanta Braves, however, were more than willing to pick up the slack. They lost as many September games as the Cardinals won, allowing St. Louis into contention for the wild card, which had been thought out of reach not long before. The season came down to a three-game series against the NL's worst team, the Houston Astros, while the Braves had to contend with the NL's best, the Phillies. Predictably, the Phillies swept Atlanta and allowed the Cards to overtake the Braves on the last day of the season.

Remember 2006? That year's Cardinal team took a slightly different road into the playoffs; despite a September stumble and an 83-79 record, they still managed to capture the Central Division crown



Jeremy Zschau

because the other five teams were even worse than the banged-up 2006 Redbirds. However, once they reached the playoffs, the postseason script they wrote was remarkably similar to the one still being written this year, with key offensive contributions from supporting players, Yadier Molina in 2006 and David Freese in 2011, and phenomenal work from a young and talented but unheralded closer, Adam Wainwright in 2006 and Jason Motte in 2011, carrying the Cardinals all the way to the World Series. This year's club certainly has had the same drive and indomitable spirit, not to mention the combination of offense and late-inning shutdown pitching that the world champion 2006 squad had. The similarities between the two clubs, at least to this point, has certainly been apparent.

As Cardinals fans, we can only hope that the 2011 season ends with the same magical finish that we enjoyed so much in 2006.

Jeremy Zschau is the Opinions Editor and a columnist for The Current.

What do you think?
www.thecurrent-online.com.

SCIENCE MATTERS

Fall leaf colors determined by weather conditions, tree species

After our dry, warm summer, the fourth hottest on record here, expectations were low for a fall foliage show. So far there is some color developing, but many trees are dropping leaves just as the colors begin to show.

Many people think falling temperatures trigger fall colors. While lower temperatures do play a role in fall colors, the thing that triggers the change is shorter days. This is why fall colors develop the same time of year in a location, regardless of how warm or cool the fall weather is.

As days shorten in late summer, trees undergo a number of changes. Shorter days signal the tree to stop production of the chemical auxin which keeps open the flow of carbohydrates from the leaf to the tree and minerals from the roots to the leaf. Without it, the tree slowly adds a layer of cells called the abscission layer, seals off the leaf and blocks the transmission of water and minerals to the leaf and carbohydrates to the tree.

As the tree grows in summer, the green chlorophyll uses sunlight to make carbohydrates. Chlorophyll must be replaced constantly, however, as it breaks down with exposure to the sun. As the days shorten, the length of night reaches a threshold value and deciduous trees begin to gradually seal off their leaves and chlorophyll is no longer replaced.

A number of factors influence fall colors. The ideal conditions are plenty of rain during the growing season, followed by a dry fall with warm days and cool but frost-free nights.

Some of the pigments that give leaves their bright

fall colors are there all along, masked by the green chlorophyll. The colors emerge as the tree stops replacing chlorophyll in the soon-to-be-shed leaves. Sunny days and lower temperatures breaks down the chlorophyll more rapidly, revealing the other pigments.

Drought in summer can cause trees to seal off leaves earlier, so they drop off before full color develops.

As the chlorophyll vanishes, yellow and orange pigments show through. The yellow pigments are xanthophylls and the orange pigments are carotenoids. These pigments are actually present in the leaf through out its growing season. The reds and purples are different. These colors come from pigments called anthocyanins. These pigments are not typically present through the growing season but are manufactured with the sugars remaining in the leaves after they are sealed off from the branch.

Interestingly, the production of red pigments may be a sign of stress for the tree if it appears early, like in August. While scientists understand the whole process leading to fall colors well, the reason for the colorful show is less clear. Xanthophylls and carotenoids play an important role in photosynthesis by helping to capture light energy but the benefit of anthocyanins is less clear.

One possible reason, suggested by entomologists, is to warn off insect pests. There is some evidence that aphids are discouraged by the color red. Trees may leave more carbohydrate behind in leaves to convert to red anthocyanins because the robust color may discourage insects from laying



Cate Marquis

eggs in the plant by signaling that it is a healthy tree. Of course, the tree has to sacrifice some of the carbohydrates it made and stored during the summer to do so but it may be a good trade off.

Another theory is that the red and purple anthocyanins have a sunscreen effect to help preserve chlorophyll as the tree is still making carbohydrate or it may be a way to limit water loss or frost injury in fall.

Cool nighttime temperatures encourage the formation of anthocyanins. However, freezing temperatures shut down the plant's mechanism for making anthocyanins.

Leaf color varies with the type of tree species. Maples range from yellow to orange to red, although orange is a common theme, dogwoods are red and ginkgos, which change quickly and shed their leaves suddenly, are yellow. 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, remain.

Cate Marquis is Arts and Entertainment Editor and a columnist for The Current.

MAD WORLD

Does breast cancer need to be sexy for young people to care?

October is breast cancer awareness month, and with that comes a slew of ads meant to raise awareness and promote fundraising efforts. Recently, there have been an increasing number of ads aimed to target youth, all using edgier, sexier slogans.

One such ad campaign, promoting a fundraising event at DC'S Recess Nightclub, reads "Save Second Base" and features the headless torso of a naked woman grabbing her own breasts. The organization's t-shirt features the same slogan, along with two strategically-placed baseballs.

These types of ads claim to be attempting to raise awareness among the younger male demographic. However, it's insulting to those same young men to suggest that breast cancer has to be sexy for them to care about it. Men are capable of caring about the life of another human being whether or not there is sexual desire present. They don't deserve the low expectations set for them. One has to wonder if young people would care about things other than sex if people would stop expecting them not to.

Men have lost people close to them due to breast cancer, the same as women have. They have lost friends, family and companions. Some have been direct victims of it them-

selves, so why insult their capacity for compassion by implying that a woman has to be naked for them to care about a human life? Why imply that men are so dumb that something only need be overtly sexual for them to throw money at it? It exploits an old stereotype of the shallow male that does no one any good.

These ads are not meant to be serious, of course, but it is a play on something that's already problematic: the societal practice of valuing women based on their sexual worth. Women who suffer from breast cancer are wives, mothers, sisters and friends – not just someone to reach second base with.

Aside from that, it has to be considered how these types of ads affect breast cancer survivors who have undergone mastectomies. Treatment for breast cancer does not always save the physical breast – or, as one ad campaign put it, "Tatas." Losing one's breasts is often a painful process, both physically and emotionally. Breasts are viewed as symbols of sexuality and female desirability; the kinds of ads that put the importance, however jokingly, on saving the breasts rather than the woman can't be helping the emotional healing process that follows such an ordeal.

Presenting a headless, naked torso as the "face"



Sharon Pruitt

of breast cancer dehumanizes a disease that has very real consequences for those whose life it touches. It places the apparent value on the breasts themselves and not the women attached to them. It's not just the loss of reaching "second base." The implication of such, even just in an ad, is somewhat insensitive at best, and insulting at worst.

However, can one really be picky about how awareness is raised? Or is it really a "by any means necessary" affair? Though serious issues do not always have to be dealt with in a serious way, some degree of tact is expected. It is possible to advertise something without going with the old stand-by method of selling women's bodies. It's a noble cause in this case, indeed, but must women constantly be objectified to sell products or ideas for any reason – even if it is a good one?

Sharon Pruitt is a columnist and staff writer for The Current.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?
Let us know at www.thecurrent-online.com

Horoscopes



LIBRA
(SEPT. 24 - OCT. 23)

The skunks have conducted witch hunts after your delicate, dainty luscious body from the Rocky Mountains to the French Riviera. Find better hiding spots. Good luck.



SCORPIO
(OCT. 24 - NOV. 22)

Steven Spielberg uses his intellect to charm the innocent and squeaky clean lobster using ragweed from Mars. Perhaps this is dating advice you can utilize?



SAGITTARIUS
(NOV. 23 - DEC. 22)

The brilliant doctor Kevorkian gave ginseng tea to the saintly Bill Clinton and comical Flipper on the 4th of July. It was terrifying. Giving chocolate to children is such.



CAPRICORN
(DEC. 23 - JAN. 20)

The timelessness of a trip to Paris, along with the immense freshness of a windsurfing expedition will help solidify the perfection of your new, genetically engineered girlfriend this week.



AQUARIUS
(JAN. 21 - FEB. 19)

The snappiness of your high school bus driver has led to this moment. Your sensitive mind has finally split, and you have now become prime material to become the Godfather in the mafia.



PISCES
(FEB. 20 - MARCH 20)

No matter how shiny the packaging, never eat Russian-imported sushi in Jamaica. That bartender has had a few too many sexual partners, and his past may scar you.



ARIES
(MARCH 21 - APRIL 20)

The spunkiness of Manhattan residents will seem all too useless when they hand you cacti to help defend against the creepy, brain-eating zombie uprising on Thursday.



TAURUS
(APRIL 21 - MAY 21)

The delightfully golden chains of missionary work in South Africa will not protect you from the absurd ramblings of the neighborhood moron upon return.



GEMINI
(MAY 22 - JUNE 21)

Don't fall down with volatile bathroom cleaning chemicals, as they may cause a hole in the ozone layer, allowing radiation. This may cause chimpanzees to evolve in hostility and take over the world.



CANCER
(JUNE 22 - JULY 22)

The distinguished art of deer hunting with hand grenades may be shocking. However, the CIA will not find this unusual as they get high and listen to rock and roll all night. Go for it!



LEO
(JULY 23 - AUG. 21)

You may want to drive off a cliff after your latest date. It was horrifying, cheesy, and hopeless, but the real deal breaker was their blowing bubbles in your milk.



VIRGO
(AUG. 22 - SEPT. 23)

Danny DeVito's dramatic hair and stunning computer literacy will not be enough to save you, nor the world, from the advent of super smart ticks, who intend to take over the world.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Let us know at

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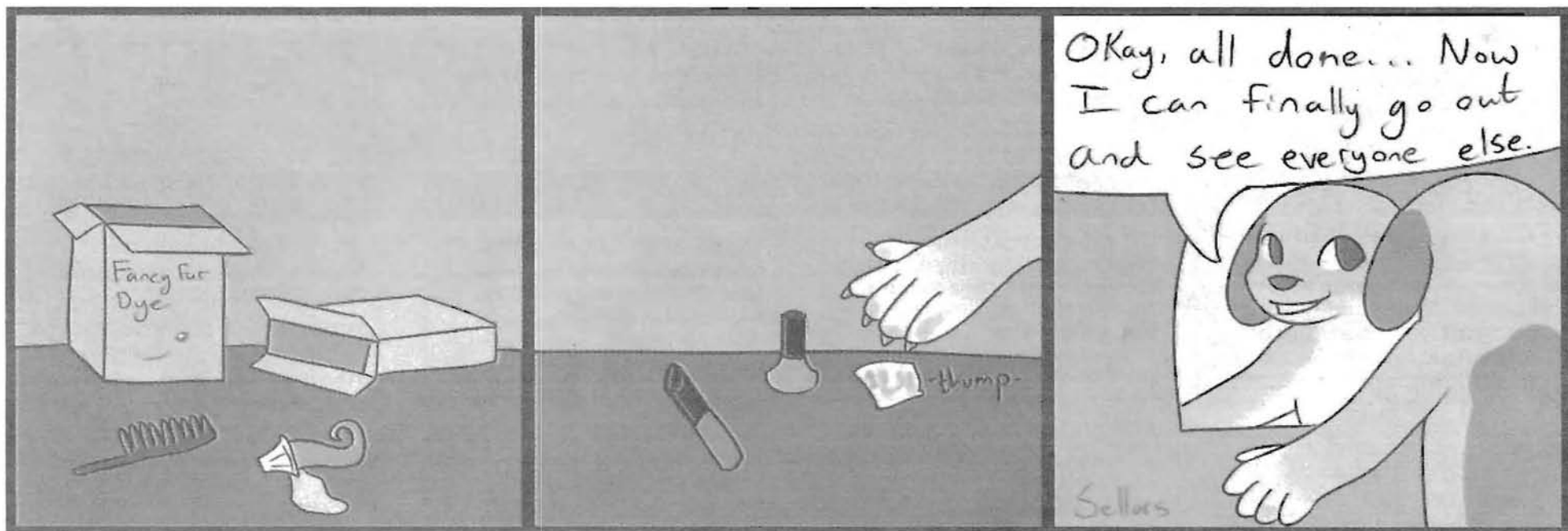
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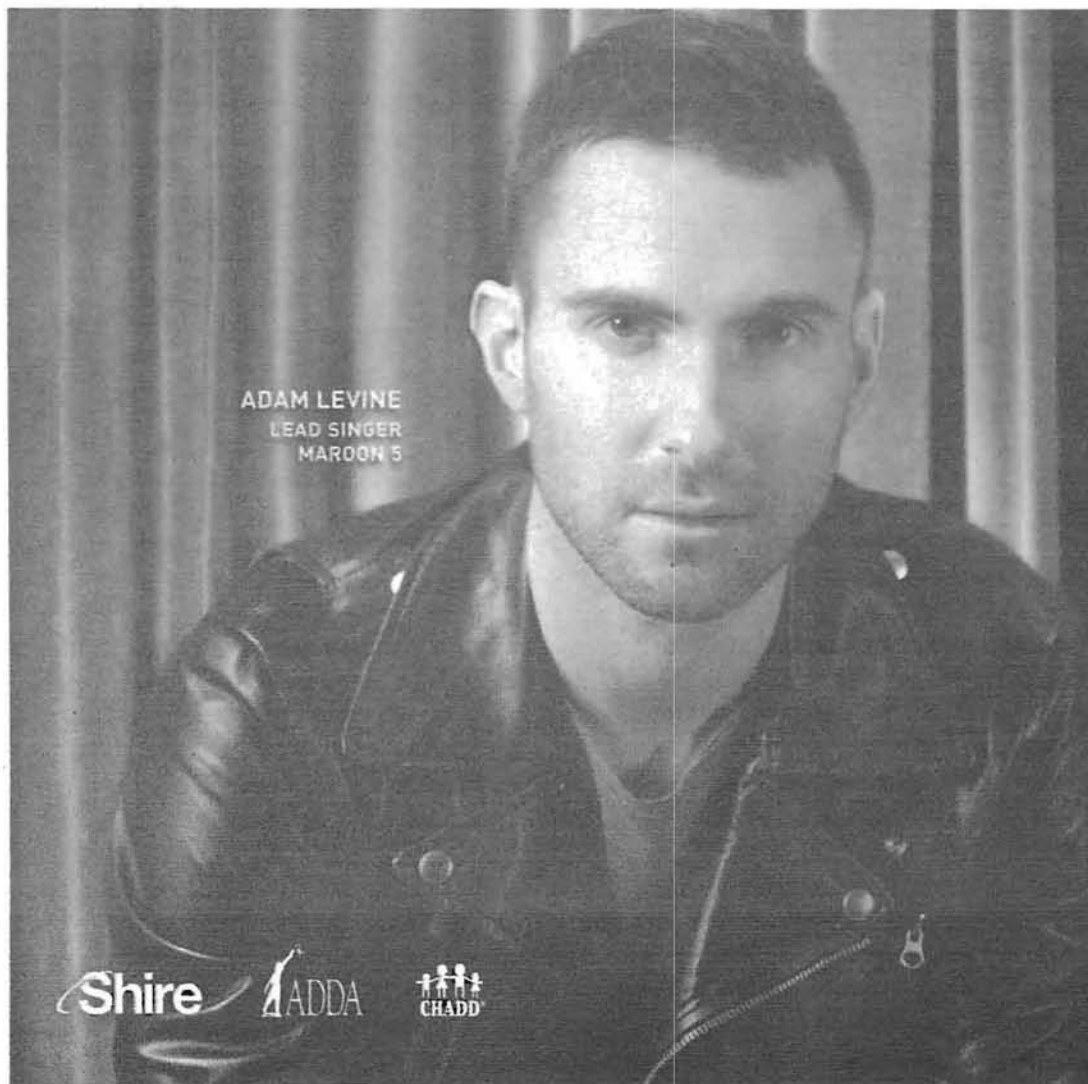
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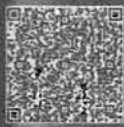




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LEAD SINGER
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