

# The Current

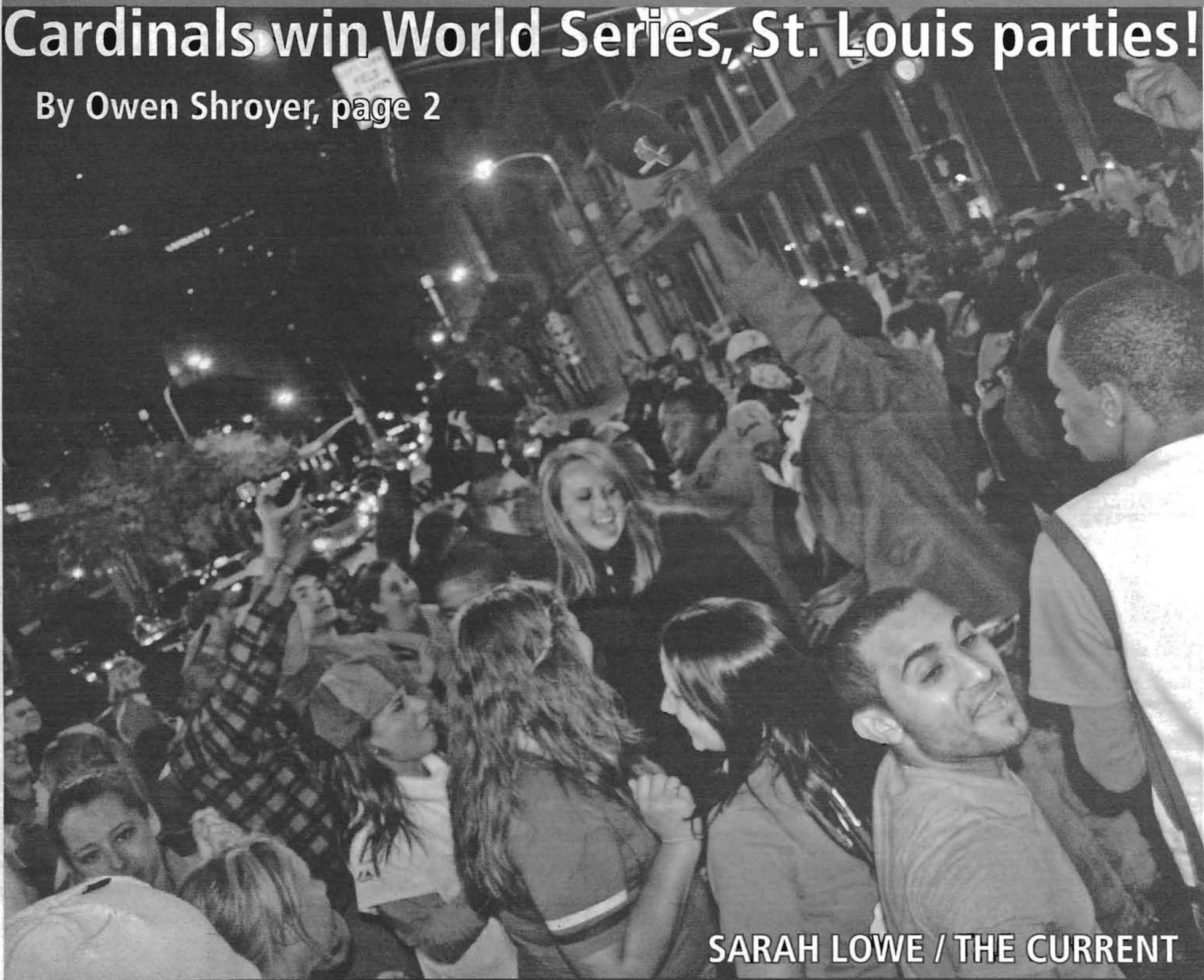
WWW.THECURRENT-ONLINE.COM

OCTOBER 31,  
2011

VOL. 45;  
ISSUE 1359

## Cardinals win World Series, St. Louis parties!

By Owen Shroyer, page 2



SARAH LOWE / THE CURRENT

ALSO INSIDE

**7** Rum Diaries review  
Worthy adaptation of Hunter S. Thompson

**12** Harry Potter celebration  
UPB provides showing of final film

**14** Men's soccer ends strong  
UMSL takes game 5-2

# The Current

VOL. 45, ISSUE 1359  
WWW.THECURRENT-ONLINE.COM

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## ABOUT The Current

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

## AFFILIATIONS



# News

## Cardinals craze sweeps over the University of Missouri and St. Louis

**OWEN SHROYER**  
Sports Editor

There has been a sea of red on campus lately, and with good reason as the St. Louis Cardinals just won their 11th World Series title. Cardinals hats and jerseys have been a common sight for students walking around campus, and surely now they will be seeing World Champions hats and shirts.

The excitement is all over St. Louis, and the city was dancing in the streets until the wee hours of the morning. "It was a party in the streets until 4 a.m. I'm just grateful to be a part of something special that could bring so many people together. One of the best World Series ever," Andy Hercules, junior, business, said.

How could you not be excited after this playoff run? The team was more than ten games back with a month left in the season, and looked to be done for. Talent and experience led the Cardinals to 18 wins in the final month, and set the pace for what will be remembered as one of the greatest runs of all time. Chock full of exciting moments, the final home game of the regular season featured late home runs by Yadier Molina and Rafael Furcal, lifting the Cards over the Cubs and capping off an exciting weekend of baseball. The entire series had the same drama, leading to an eight

to nil drumming of the Astros in the season's final game, highlighted by Chris Carpenter's complete game shutout, and wild card clinched after the Phillies came back in the ninth inning to beat the Braves in extra innings.

But that was just the beginning of the excitement as the Cards faced off against the league's best, the Philadelphia Phillies. This was a series that would need every pitch to decide the winner. Carpenter threw a complete game shutout in Philadelphia to get the Cardinals to the National League Championship Series in what could be the best outing of his career.

Still, the tension was increased for this series, as it was a faceoff between the Cards and division rival, the Milwaukee Brewers, who stood in the way of destiny. How could it possibly get any better? It was not even a month earlier that trash talking off the field was done by Brewers players Nyjer Morgan and Zack Grienke, who both choked in the series. The Cardinals outclassed the Brewers in this series, and cruised for their 18th National League pennant.

The Texas Rangers came into this series heavily favored, like the Detroit Tigers in 2006, and the

Rangers' hot bats had been crushing opponent pitching. After going down three games to two, the Cardinals came home to try to bring the title back to St. Louis.

Game 6 of the 2011 World Series will go down as one of the greatest games ever. Game 6 embodied the entire Cardinals season in a nutshell. The Cardinals made three costly errors early in the game, including two dropped routine fly balls. Just like at times in the regular season, the team looked bad and played poorly. And just like all season, the team found themselves with their backs against the wall with no room for error and in desperate need of a hero. The Cardinals were down to their final strike twice, down by two runs, but just like they had all season, the team rallied when all odds were against them. It was the hometown kid, David Freese, who stepped up that night. A two run triple tied the game in the ninth inning. Then a World Series walk-off home run sent the series to seven games. Game 7 and again the Cards were down. Two runs by the Rangers in the first inning would not be enough to defeat the Cardinals though, and on Friday, October 28, 2011, the

St. Louis Cardinals won their 11th World Series championship.

In a season with a perfect ending, the Cardinals gave fans so many great memories: Albert Pujols' three home run game in the World Series, the new players David Freese and Nick Punto, the Rally Squirrel, and even Allen Craig's deceased pet turtle Torty. All of these things helped give the Cardinals an edge on their opponents.

"I am not the biggest fan of the Rally Squirrel, but it brought another kind of energy into Busch Stadium, and I'm all for that. I'll look at squirrels in a whole different light now, they're World Champions," Cannon Huge, junior, business administration, said.

"I think the rally squirrel is kind of funny and cute," Rachel Fick, communications professor, University of Missouri - St. Louis, said. Given the explosion of Rally Squirrel merchandise, this may be a view shared by others.

The Rally Squirrel has even found his way onto campus with multiple t-shirts featuring him which are for sale in the campus book store.

Cardinals' spirit has always shown at UMSL and is sure to continue to after they have given this city a new liveliness.

Cardinals fans celebrated in the streets on Friday night after the victory against the Rangers in game 7 of the World Series.

## WEATHER

MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.	SUN.
64 44	73 49	70 49	55 48	61 52	69 46	59 41



# Health program is approved for the goal of a smoke-free campus

**MINHO JUNG**  
News Editor

University Health, Wellness, Counseling and Disability Access Services at the University of Missouri - St. Louis now offers a variety of aids in order to help students and faculty members quit smoking. This new program was recently granted by "Communities Putting Prevention to Work."

This program has been designed to encourage the smoking ban policy on campus, which has taken effect since July 1 of this year. Many problems and suggestions concerning the new smoking policy have arisen since the policy was adopted. This new program is expected to help students who are struggling with their smoking habits.

"The first semester of the policy should always be an education," Katie Moore, health educator and tobacco specialist at Communities Putting

Prevention to Work, said. "The problem is tobacco is just as addictive as heroin. It is very hard to quit. You get addicted to not only the chemicals and nicotine but also get addicted to the habit."

The program offers a wide range of aids from nicotine replacement therapy to patches and gums. There are also counseling services available for those who want to quit smoking through the program.

"[Problem] number one, I don't think that everyone knows we have free resources on campus available to them. Two, they just don't want to quit," Moore said. "If you're thinking of quitting, I would use something to help you; I would not just go cold turkey; I would distract yourself [by using straws or candies instead]."

According to the American Lung Association, over 392,000 people die

of tobacco-caused diseases every year, making it the leading cause of preventable death. Furthermore, approximately 50,000 people die from the exposure to secondhand smoke.

"Of course, it hurts your lungs. Basically, when you smoke a cigarette, first nicotine goes straight to your heart; so, it causes heart problems and diseases; and then, it goes to your brain to make your brain heavy. High blood pressure is, of course, another problem it can cause. The list goes on and on. "Poor circulation is also a huge one. If you hurt, it is less likely to get healed properly because you don't get enough blood flow [due to the negative effects of smoking]," Moore said.

Moore's grant-funded education program, "Communities Putting Prevention to Work," will use a part of its grant to promote tobacco prevention

and cessation in St. Louis County. The program is expected to contribute not only to the health of the UMSL campus but also that of the entire community.

The smoking ban policy on campus has been adopted and tested by many schools across the nation. Some schools have been more successful than others in terms of the results of the policy. The first semester of the policy is usually regarded as a "testing-period," which is used to investigate problems with the policy in the long run. According to the Missouri College Health Behavior Survey (MCHBS) administered in the spring of 2011, only 21.1 percent of UMSL students have smoked cigarettes in the last year. The ultimate goal of the education program is to see a drastic decrease of that percentage all the way down to zero.



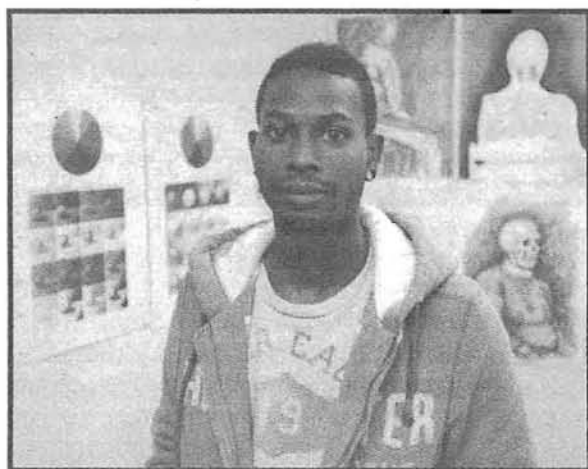
A student smoking outside the MSC.

JARRED GASTREICH / THE CURRENT

## The UNDERCURRENT

by Jarred Gastreich

"What's your favorite Halloween memory?"



"Last Halloween I scared my sister and brother. I dressed up in a costume and ran in on them in the dark as they watched a movie. They were scared."

**Marco Cheatham**  
Studio Art - Graphic Design  
Junior



"When I was five or six, my sister and I walked in our town's Halloween parade as mermaids. My mom made the costumes and we won 1st place ribbons."

**Hayley Devore**  
Accounting  
Senior



"When I was younger, I would always go trick-or-treating with my family. I loved all the candy I received, and dressing up was fun."

**Brianna Hearn**  
Graphic Designer  
Freshman

# A plethora of Halloween events brings liveliness and excitement to international students at the University of Missouri-St. Louis

*A variety of student events took place around the UMSL campus, attracting many international students who are curious about American culture and what it means to celebrate Halloween*

## MAVIS HOLLIS

Staff Writer

Every year when Halloween appears around the corner at the University of Missouri - St. Louis campus, excitement instantaneously fills the air while students celebrate that last, long-awaited day of October, Halloween, which is actually inspired by All Hallows' Eve. This year, many international students from around the world celebrated their first Halloween here in the U.S., participating in the tradition of trick-or-treating, hosting parties, carving pumpkins, dressing up in all sorts of costumes and visiting attractions like ghost tours or haunted houses.

"This is my first Halloween in the U.S., so I want to attend a Halloween party to see how Americans celebrate Halloween. I am so excited about it," Jinhwa Kim, senior, international business, said. "[The] costume party is, of course, the most exciting part. I have never seen people who are wearing funny costumes in person."

Many countries do not even celebrate Halloween, which is considered more of a Western holiday. Interestingly enough, Halloween began with roots in Celtic tradition. Halloween is based on a holiday known as All Hallows' Eve, as aforementioned. All Hallows' Eve, in turn, emerged by from the Celtic holiday of Samhain, a week during which the spirits of the deceased were welcomed back into

the world of the living for the purpose of communing with and advising their living relatives.

Currently, UMSL hosts international students who come from 62 different countries. Halloween is a very unique part of American culture that they have never experienced.

"I'm thinking of attending a Halloween party with my American friends. I think we might watch a scary movie together," Kim said. "I'm excited to see my friends wearing scary and funny costumes. I can't wait [to see them]."

Since the beginning of October, many student organizations have been promoting their various Halloween events to attract those international students who want to explore this unique American tradition. The events took place in many different areas around the campus in various forms. Pumpkin carving and costume parties were the most popular events throughout the week.

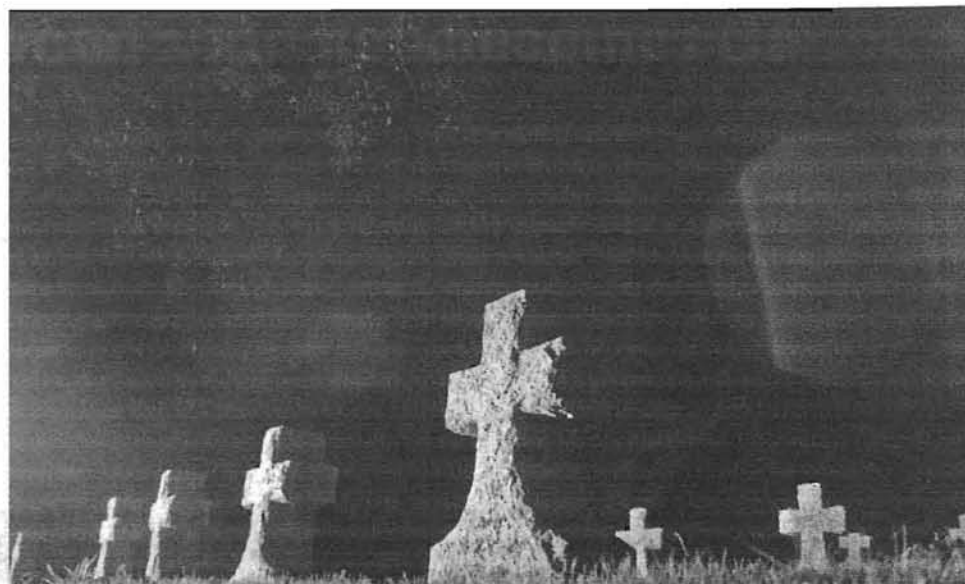
"Coming from Korea, there isn't an occasion like this. We usually don't do anything in particular and there aren't any decorations, pumpkins or candy so many of us don't even realize that it's Halloween," Hyejin Suk, senior, English education, said. "I plan to go to a friend's Halloween party where we all need to wear costumes, though I would have loved to go trick-or-treating with the kids."

Multiple countries

around the world either celebrate Halloween in their own unique ways or do not recognize the holiday at all. Halloween has achieved some impressive notoriety due to American culture and media spreading around the world. Students coming from a variety of countries now experience an American Halloween. Many students have now seen what exactly Halloween is to Americans through the various events during the Halloween weekend and seeing the immeasurable hype which annually accompanies Halloween.

"In Korea, some language institutions or schools have celebrated Halloween because a lot of people are curious about American culture. Actually, in Korea, we rarely dress up because we have no parties besides big family events such as Korean New Year's day or the Thanksgiving holiday. I have been wondering what Halloween is and how people celebrate it for a long time," Injeong Jeon, freshman, English, said. "Since I came to the U.S., I have been celebrating some special days. Halloween is definitely on the list."

The diversity of UMSL has been recognized by many students from around the world who are looking for not only academic achievements, but also the opportunity to learn about true American culture through their campus life. Halloween provides one such chance.



The cemetery located behind the Provincial House

SARAH LOWE / THE CURRENT

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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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# What's Current

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



Cardinals fans celebrated in the streets on Friday night after the victory against the Rangers in game 7 of the World Series.

SARAH LOWE / THE CURRENT

## Tuesday, November 1

### Black women and breast cancer

From 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Located in J.C. Penney Conference Center and open to all. Join us for the "Knowledge is Power" conference. Space is limited, so you must register in advance. Please register online or by calling Jennifer. For more information, call Jennifer Clemente at 314-516-5994.

## Wednesday, November 2

### Gender studies book fair

From 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Located in Clark 211 and open to students. Get free books and munchies, meet Gender Studies faculty and pick up a spring schedule of Gender Studies classes. For more information, call Sally Barr Ebest at 314-516-6383.

### Mythologies

From 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Located at Gallery Visio and open to all. This exhibition will feature Vanessa Woods, resident artist for the 2011 Women in the Arts International Conference. Vanessa creates collages that re-imagine myths and omens, exploring the evolution and distortion of sacred stories told and retold. For more information, call Stephanie Sivils at 314-516-7922.

## Thursday, November 3

### Leggos and Eggos

From 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Located in Oak Hall Lobby and open to all. The only thing better than late night breakfast is simple fun with lego building. Combine both on Thursday night with UPB's Leggos and Eggos event. Bring your friends out to Oak Hall lobby and enjoy complimentary Eggos and juice while playing with leggos! For more information, call Haley Cokle at 314-516-5531.

## Friday, November 4

### Brunch and learn about academic service-learning: next steps

From 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Located at J.C. Penney Conference Center and open to faculty. Everything you want to know about academic service-learning at UMSL. Join the Service-Learning Leadership Team for brunch and learn, a 90-minute mini-conference designed to help faculty plan, implement and assess the effectiveness of community-engaged learning. For more information, call Peggy Cohen at 314-516-4508.

## Monday, November 7

### Random acts of kindness week

From 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Located campus-wide and open to all. In order to celebrate world kindness week, UPB invites you to join our Random Acts of Kindness Week. Throughout the week, there will be various events on campus to get you in the spirit, so be prepared. For more information, call Marissa Steimel at 314-516-5531.





(l-r) Paul Kemp (Johnny Depp) and Sanderson (Aaron Eckhart) go for a drive in *The Rum Diary*.

PHOTO CREDIT: PETER MOUNTAIN. COURTESY OF FILM DISTRICT AND GK FILMS

## 'Rum Diary' is worthy effort, with Depp as pre-gonzo Thompson

**CATE MARQUIS**  
A&E Editor

"Rum Diary" is a worthy film adaptation of an early novel by Hunter S. Thompson, which describes the author's evolution into the gonzo journalist.

Johnny Depp plays the Hunter Thompson character, a young journalist named Paul Kemp, who travels to Puerto Rico in 1960 to take a job at a dying newspaper.

That Depp actually befriended Thompson doubtless added depth to his portrayal. Although Depp occasionally slips into a bit of Jack Sparrow persona, he gives a better performance in the more dramatic scenes and when called on to be deadpan as the more normal one in the room.

And there are some very colorful characters at this island newspaper. Richard

Jenkins plays the toupee-d Editor-in-Chief Lotterman. Lotterman cannot seem to see the near revolution happening under the paper's office window, but he is really focused on covering bowling. Jenkins' comments on keeping his struggling newspaper business sound strangely contemporary.

Lotterman's biggest concern is not to hire another drunken journalist, the type that seems to fill his newsroom. Kemp's new assignment: writing horoscopes, with the help of a little reference book.

Kemp looks a little dazed, although he is grateful to have a job. Michael Rispoli plays Sala, a photographer who becomes Kemp's companion and adviser on the inside scoop at the paper and island life. Like most of the paper's writers, he is just holding on for a payout when the paper eventually

goes under. Giovanni Ribisi plays drunken Moberg, more a rumor than a writer at the newspaper, unless it is payday. Ribisi's Moberg turns out to be the strangest guy in the room.

In this decaying world, the charming, affluent, wheeler-dealer Sanderson (Aaron Eckert) looks like an appealing option, as does his gorgeous girlfriend Chenault (Amber Heard).

This whole story is set against an island backdrop that is part paradise, part political powder keg and all Puerto Rico in the early 1960s. Director Bruce Robinson, who also adapted the screenplay from Thompson's novel, strikes just the right tone that balance the serious and comic. The film is a kind of love letter to Thompson, as he describes the forces that created the gonzo journalist.

Anyone expecting the

kind of hallucinatory outlandishness of the film version of "Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas" is in for a surprise. While there are tales of drunkenness and general craziness, the whole film is much more grounded in the real world, and therefore more human and believable. It is a tale of a youthful experience in a strange land.

Taking a more realistic cinematic approach actually makes the outrageousness much more so when it does happen. However, this is more a drama with humorous scenes and the film does not shy away from exploring ethics, corruption, friendship and journalism.

Depp plays Kemp as a young, serious journalist trying to find his place in the world. He may have a bit of a drinking problem, but nowhere in the same league with some his new

coworkers. The scruffy Sala takes Kemp in hand, tipping him off about not noticing Lotterman's bad toupee, steering him away from the stumbling Moberg, who has a stunning vocabulary despite being in last throws of alcoholism, and trying to clue him in about the charming yet treacherous Sanderson. On the other hand, Sala entices him into sharing his crumbling apartment, takes him on trips to cockfights and drunken outings in his tiny dilapidated car.

Depp is overall very good as Thompson stand-in Kemp, especially where he does not feel compelled to play the comedian. Kemp is the island of sanity in this strange place. Ribisi is brilliant as the weird Moberg, who stumbles around in a robe and yet spouting erudite verbiage as he debauches. Likeable,

overly confident Sala is the kind of guy who comes up with great ideas that step-by-step go very wrong.

But the island scenery is lovely, especially at Sanderson's beachside home. Sanderson lures Kemp with a lucrative job writing copy for a real estate scheme brochure and the loan of a red sports car. Kemp's behavior is impeccably polite, but the young writer cannot take his eyes off Sanderson's lively blonde girlfriend Chenault.

The film is full of good storytelling but has depth as well, touching on issues of the haves and have-nots, greed and responsibility and the duty of journalists to tell the truth.

Overall, "Rum Diary" is surprisingly involving film, a worthy adaptation of Hunter S. Thompson's novel.

**Grade: A-**

# Bear Hands' album 'Burning Bush Supper Club' offers tasty sample before concert

**ANGIE O'DELL**  
Staff Writer

Bear Hands is a band with an awesome mix of British new wave and alternative. Their new album, "Burning Bush Supper Club," is bound to be a success once released nationwide on November 2, 2011. Their recent single "What a Drag" is a pure hit in the UK and is bound to be a hit here.

These guys will rock the house while opening for We Were Promised Jetpacks on November 3 at The Old Rock house.

The band is Dylan Rau (vocals/guitar), Ted Feldman (guitar), Val Loper (bass) and TJ Orscher (drums). Another possible chart-topper is the first

song on their new album, "Crime Pays." These guys are upbeat and awesome, with great vocals that are definitely progressive. Seeming at first like a raw undertaking, these guys definitely have it together. They put everything together well to come off with an alternative album that's likely to become a fast hit with fans.

"Tablesaurus" has really good beats, while "Blood and Treasure" has harder beats that are more fast-paced. "Tall Trees," the last song on the album, has melodic tunes which are sure to take the listener into bliss and make them want to go ahead and play this album repeatedly.

There is a depth to these guys' music that is catchy and relaxing. Being slow

but gentle in certain songs, but still possessing enough variety for several listening preferences, this album does not let down overall.

Certain songs are bound to appeal to the new-age hipster or young college crowd. Up and coming, with fresh sound, and new on the horizon, these guys are somebody to really keep an eye on.

Detailed, clear musical beats with stories behind them make this album enjoyable all around. Expressive punk beats are clear in "Julien." This album delivers a fresh taste that is alternative and catchy.

Most songs on this album are retro-grade with jumpy beats. Some that really stand out are "Crime Pays," Tablesaurus,"

"What a Drag" and "High Society." More songs should be like these but they still have a good mix altogether. "Camel Convention" is a little slow, but the rest of the album makes up for it. Guitar riffs, although not as much like rock n' roll as We Were Promised Jetpacks, make these guys a good alternative and tour companion. Their music is really good for fans that like such bands as Van She and Faded Paper Figures.

This reviewer cannot wait to see what these guys do next. The Bear Hands' album "Burning Bush Supper Club" is definitely worth it and seeing the concert at the Old Rock House on November 3 might be too.

**Grade: A**

# Viral videos showcase talent, odd and not

**BADIA EAD**  
Staff Writer

Sure, viral videos usually dole out mindless entertainment. But the viral video also readily serves as a platform for talent. Whether that talent is the creepy need to duet with an iPhone application, an English child's ability to give an award-worthy rap performance despite her apparent sugar high, or a cartoonist's humorous storytelling, viral videos do not discriminate in providing a stage.

Here are a just a few videos showcasing talent in the way most of us discover it these days: the world-wide web:

**YouTube Title: "A Duet with Siri (iPhone 4s Song)"**

What happens when an iPhone 4s owner experiences unrequited love? Meet Jonathan Mann and his inappropriate duet with Siri,

the iPhone 4s application that assists its users through artificial intelligence (which should terrify us all). Users can ask Siri to send text messages, tell them what direction to take or get answers to philosophical questions. Siri does not, however, want to have a relationship with users, as evidenced in the duet. When Jonathan sings, "Hey Siri, you're very beautiful," Siri responds with "Thanks. Can we get back to work now?" and "I don't really like these arbitrary categories, Jonathan." Ouch. Any chance Siri will be able to request a restraining order?

This video is for: Technology geeks, duet lovers, and Apple enthusiasts.

**YouTube Title: "Nicki Minaj Sings 'Super Bass' with Sophia Grace (Full Version)"**

Attention masses: Tiara? Pink, tutu dress? Talent? Check. Check. Check. This

is Sophia Grace's world and we are all just living in it. Ellen DeGeneres invited the eight-year-old and her "hype girl" cousin from across the pond and onto her daytime talk show after seeing Sophia's star-making turn on YouTube rapping to Nicki Minaj's Super Bass. The girls are surprised with a special appearance by their idol, Minaj, giving Sophia ample opportunities to exclaim adorable lines like "you're real!" at the one minute mark and gleefully scream, "I'm the second Nicki Minaj" at 2:48. She pretty much acts out the way we all would like to, except without any discernable ounce of inhibition. Sure she could use some Ritalin - actually, Sophia could use a lot of Ritalin - but that is no reason not to completely enjoy and be amazed at her wonderful, smile inducing performance of Super Bass.

**YouTube Title: "Simon's**

**Cat in 'Double Trouble'"**

If you have ever wondered where the amazing comic strip cartoonists have gone, look no further than YouTube. Simon Tofield has posted a series of "Simon's Cat..." cartoons reminiscent of the newspaper comic strip in its glory days. Averaging less than three minutes long, each black-and-white video narrates Simon's cat's habits, portrayed beautifully true-to-life and without the presence of any dialogue. Anyone with a pet will appreciate Tofield's illustrations, but cat owners will especially marvel at the uncanny similarities to their own feline friend. In "Simon's Cat in 'Double Trouble'," Tofield's cat humorously reacts to the presence of a new kitten. The cat fails to protect its food and kitty litter box but the joke is on Tofield, left to clean up the aftermath. Oh, if it were only an exaggeration.

## LATEST + GREATEST

### New Movies Calendar

Opening Friday, November 4 (subject to change)

#### ANONYMOUS (everywhere)

A clever, entertaining historical thriller, built around the theory that Shakespeare's timeless works were not written by him but actually were created by a nobleman. Stars Rhys Ifans, Vanessa Redgrave and David Thewlis. Directed by Roland Emmerich.

#### MARTHA MARCY MAY MARLENE (everywhere)

A Sundance hit, this drama focuses on a woman who escapes from a cult-like commune but continues to be haunted by her experience. Stars John Hawkes, Elizabeth Olsen and Sarah Paulson. Directed by Sean Durkin

#### TOWER HEIST (everywhere)

Ben Stiller, Eddie Murphy and Casey Affleck star in this caper action comedy, about victims of a Ponzi scheme taking revenge on a Bernie Madoff-like perpetrator, played by Alan Alda. Directed by Brett Ratner.

#### A VERY HAROLD & KUMAR 3D CHRISTMAS (everywhere)

Harold (John Cho) and Kumar (Kal Penn) continue their stoner comedy exploits. Also stars Neil Patrick Harris. Directed by Todd Strauss-Schulson.

### New Albums Calendar

October 31:

#### Marilyn Manson "Born Villain"

This record is the follow-up to Manson's 2009 album "The High End of Low," which was his last for longtime record label Interscope Records. He has since signed a new deal with Cooking Vinyl.

#### Florence + the Machine, "Ceremonials"

The British singer releases a pop-friendly album which features anthems such as "No Light, No Light" and "Breaking Down." Welch recently described her approach on the new record as "incorrigible maximalism."

November 1:

#### Wale "Ambition"

The upcoming second studio album by Hip Hop recording artist and the self-proclaimed "Ambassador of Rap for the Capital," is set to be released on November 1, via Maybach Music Group and Warner Music Group.

#### Justin Bieber "Under the Mistletoe"

Global phenomenon Justin Bieber begins his third year on the world stage with the November 1 release of his first Christmas album. The album is a seasonal mix of traditional Christmas standards and newly penned holiday music largely co-written by Justin Bieber.

#### Decemberists "Long Live the King"

The new six-track EP includes mostly acoustic cuts recorded around the same time as "The King Is Dead," along with a cover of Grateful Dead's "Row Jimmy."



## TV's 'Allen Gregory' not surprising

**YUSEF ROACH**  
Staff Writer

Fox TV's "Allen Gregory" is actor/comedian/writer Jonah Hill's foray into primetime animated network television.

Premiering Sunday, October 30, at 8:30 p.m., the show's pilot follows Allan Gregory de Longpre (played by Hill), a dapper, pretentious seven-year-old, as his nontraditional, wealthy family falls on hard financial times. He is forced from the sanctuary of homeschooling to the same public school his sarcastic, adopted sister attends. Naturally, Gregory's over-privileged, intellectual personality fails to impress his classmates or teacher. He decides to dropout, that is, until he meets the grotesque, geriatric Principal Gottlieb, with whom he promptly, weirdly falls head-over-heels in love.

Jonah Hill is great as the voice of the high-falutin' seven-year-old, particularly during his numerous random outbursts at his endearing stepfather Jeremy (Nat Faxon, who sounds indistinguishable from John Goodman). Former SNL castmember Will Forte has a guest spot as Stewart Rossmyle, the ethically questionable superintendent of Gregory's new school. Joy Osmanski is hilarious as Gregory's frequently overlooked adopted Cambodian sister. These are two characters presumably on the fast track to becoming recurring fan favorites. French Stewart straddles the line between annoying and absurdly funny in his role as Allen Gregory's manic, over-protective father.

The show is undeniably funny, littered with overt influences like "South Park" and "Family Guy." The writing, while overbearing at times, is sharp and fits the

tone of the show well. It has a clean, smart, polished look that couples well with its subject matter, a feel further amplified by Jonah Hill's inspired performance.

Animation is the perfect medium for this show, quite possibly the only form in which this show is deliverable. The pilot's reliance on sight gags, such as a dream-sequence of romantic encounters between a seven-year-old boy and a woman in her mid-sixties (the best laugh of the night), and hyper-intelligent children spouting non-sequiturs and one-liners does not lend itself well to live television.

The only real blatant problem with "Allen Gregory" is its protagonist. Inherent to its premise is an incredibly unlikable main character. And while Allen Gregory is shown in a sympathetic light towards the episode's end, otherwise he comes off as far too selfish, self-absorbed and dismissive for most viewers to really root for him. There are definitely extremely unappealing main characters in contemporary mainstream media, it seems to be a noticeable trend in modern comedy particularly (like "American Dad"), but Gregory's particular brand might prove too off-putting for some.

"Allen Gregory" is a welcome addition to Fox TV's "Animation Domination" Sunday night block. Sandwiched between the semi-worshipped "The Simpsons" and Seth MacFarlane's foremost, "Family Guy," "Allen Gregory" will undoubtedly find a willing audience. Question is, however, will the show's experimental style, tone and snarky blowhard of a protagonist, turn off viewers?

**Grade: B**

## Selam restaurant is a hidden U City gem

**ALADEEN KLONOWSKI**  
Staff Writer

Do you like to try what everyone else at your table ordered or, heaven forbid, eat with your hands? If so then Selam Ethiopian Restaurant might become your new favorite place. Located at 549 Rosedale Avenue, one block off Delmar, Selam is a foodie's hidden treasure, nestled nearby The Loop. The restaurant was small but not busy and the waiter was friendly and eagerly explained the food and customs. In fact the only downside to the restaurant was that it is located on a dead-end street and easy to miss. You had to know where you were going.

The aroma in Selam was spicy - ginger and turmeric spicy. The atmosphere was relaxed and friendly. The decor made for interesting conversation. There were exotic names on the menu like Alcha Wat and Tikle Gomen beneath which

things were explained in English.

Selam has a variety of food and drink to choose from including lamb, beef, chicken and vegetarian. After perusing the menu for about five minutes, our table of diners decided on two combination plates, one beef and one vegetarian. It was a great way to try a little bit of a lot of different dishes. The waiter asked if we would like our food served together or separately and the collective curiosity was perked.

Ethiopian food is served on a communal plate atop Injera, an Ethiopian sourdough flat bread.

One of the many customs one can expect to encounter at Selam is sharing. Everyone takes a role of Injera and tears a piece off to function as their utensil. With the combination platters there was plenty to try. The food came in an array of colors in the warm palette and it smelled even more strongly of the spices.

One of the dishes, Key Wat, a kind of beef stew cooked in berbere spice mix, was especially tasty and was the first to run out. The Shiro, which was mixed legumes prepared with ginger root, rue seed, bishops weed and garlic, was the second. There was also Ethiopian coffee, served in a family-sized, ornate pot. The cups and saucers that arrived with it were reminiscent in size to tea party play sets but the coffee was delicious and strong.

Selam was rather quiet during this reviewer's visit. There were not many other patrons on that Thursday evening, which was a shame because, firstly, it would have been nice to scope-out dishes on other tables and, secondly, because the place deserves a packed house.

As it was, the setting was great for a group of raucous college students. It can be an uphill battle for restaurants in a flooded market to promote the kind

of atmosphere where people enjoy their own company and do not think about when the food is coming or when drinks will be refilled. For customers to know that the food will come and it will be delicious is an asset that not many restaurants have. Plus, while only two entrees were ordered for four people, there was still enough left over to take home. Tip included, the bill for a table of four was less than \$40.

Now for some diners, the idea of spice is intimidating. That should not stop one from trying Selam. If it is hot spice you are not fond of, then mention it to the waiter and allowances will be made. That fact, paired with a glass of ice water, will get you through and it is well worth the sinus-clearing quality that some of the spices have. All in all, Selam is one of the best restaurants in town, yet sadly, hardly anyone has heard of it. Spread the word.

## Ambrosius brings real R&B to the Pageant

**ENDEA WILBERT**  
Staff Writer

The Pageant's seats were filled last Wednesday with people anticipating the arrival of Marsha Ambrosius. Those not able to get tickets stood in the general admission section, not wanting to miss out on the experience.

The "Late Nights, Early Mornings" tour was opened by R&B/pop artist Miguel. Along with his band, Miguel put on a performance that somewhat reminded one of a Prince concert. Miguel rocked out to up-beat tempos with his microphone in hand, while his background lights spiraled throughout the venue. When it came time to slow things down with love ballads, the lights dimmed as Miguel connected with the audience. Miguel interacted with the

audience as he presented them with chants to repeat.

The opening act set the mood for the awesome experience ahead. An M-shaped piano was brought out, as a 30-pound-lighter Marsha Ambrosius pranced onstage wearing a man's button-up shirt.

Marsha graced the stage without back-up dancers or singers, but accompanying her was her DJ. As Marsha began her first piece she became personal with the audience, letting them in on the motivation behind writing each piece.

When Marsha began singing, her voice was surreal. It gave a feeling of the old days, when real music was made. Marsha changed ranges, notes and tempos, using her voice as a musical instrument. Her voice was a reminder of what

rhythm and blues should be.

The audience sat in awe during her tribute to Michael Jackson. During this tribute Marsha performed the hit single "Butterflies" which she personally wrote for Michael Jackson. The live experience gave the audience insight into Marsha's personality. Her sense of humor surprised the audience as she explained her motivation behind writing the song "I Hope She Cheats On You." Afterwards, the crowd cheered and rose to its feet as the beat for the song began.

Another moment where the crowd got to know a little more about Marsha was when she had the DJ play a few of her favorite songs. The majority of the songs were songs from the late eighties and early nineties. Marsha showed off her dance

skills as she did a few of the dances that were relevant during the era of each song. The crowd laughed, cheered and even joined in on the dances.

Marsha took a small break from singing to tell the audience that she had been on Twitter before the concert and had two requests she wanted to honor. One of them wanted Marsha to shout-out his girlfriend and tell her he loved her. The other wanted the singer to wish his girlfriend a happy birthday.

Marsha Ambrosius not only sung her heart out but she also entertained and connected with the audience. The "Late Night, Early Morning" concert was a great experience. Even if the tickets had been more, it would have been worth every dime.



(l-r) Annette (Susan Louise O'Connor), Veronica (Eva Kaminsky), Alan (Anthony Marble) and Michael (Triney Sandoval), in "God of Carnage" at the Repertory Theater of St. Louis.

PHOTO BY SANDY UNDERWOOD

## Adults go schoolyard in hilarious "God of Carnage" at Rep

**CATE MARQUIS**  
A & E Editor

Four parents, all reasonable, successful adults, come together to discuss - rationally, calmly - an afterschool fight between two grade-school boys. You know this cannot end well.

That is the premise of the rapid-fire, hilarious Tony Award-winning comedy, "God of Carnage," now on stage at the Repertory Theater of St. Louis. A movie version, named "Carnage," of this Broadway hit is set to arrive here early next year. But this is our chance to see the real thing.

Veronica (Eva Kaminsky) and Michael Novak (Triney Sandoval) have invited Annette (Susan Louise O'Connor) and Alan Raleigh (Anthony Marble) to an afternoon visit in their very nice New York City apartment, to politely discuss what actions are needed to address the fight between

their sons. The Raleighs' son hit the Novaks' son with a stick, knocking out two teeth. Grateful that the Novaks are not going to sue, the Raleighs are contrite and willing to cover dental costs. For their part, the Novaks understand that boys do sometimes fight.

Baked goods are served, conversation is productive and everyone is exceedingly pleasant. Things are going so well that both couples feel as if they are bonding as friends.

Everything seems to be going so well - until they do not.

French playwright Yasmina Reza's play runs like a rock rolling down hill. But you never know which hilarious way the stones are going to bounce, only that it could be bad. "God of Carnage" reveals the basic nature of parents that, no matter, how reasonable they intend to be, reason often gives way when offspring are the subject. Ultimately, these adults

embrace their inner children who want to brawl in the schoolyard.

At first, the couples seem to have much in common - same income level, same private school, same neighborhood - but eventually cracks appear, revealing them all to be very different.

Veronica, a freelance writer who focuses on children in war-torn Africa, is a perfect hands-on mother. Reserved, shy Annette is more restrained, perhaps more comfortable at work in the orderly world of an investment advisor. The men are more blunt, they are alpha males but in different ways. Corporate attorney Alan is firmly attached to his phone and self-made-man Michael glad to explain the plumbing supply business to the patrician Alan. Yet is it Alan who uses the to phrase that serves as the plays title, describing man's natural inclinations to violence and

brutality.

Reza is known for her knowing and biting humor, on full display here. Edward Stern directs the Rep production from Christopher Hampton's translation.

Although the destination is no surprise, this is one funny trip. Mixing elements of farce with a kind of "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf" brinkmanship, each person eggs on the next. Sometimes it is men versus women; sometimes it is couple against couple and sometimes it is other permutations. And then there is that cell phone.

The play has no intermission and runs a mere 90 minutes. It runs so fast and leaves the audience so breathless with laughter that it feels shorter. There is a no way one could take a break and maintain this mayhem anyway.

The set is modern, spare but flexible enough to provide everything needed. The blond

wood and clean lines, modular furniture, vases of tulips and a backlit bar all provide a context of taste and restraint, on which the veil of adult sophistication can be dropped.

The acting is superb and characters fully alive: four players topping each other with outrageousness. Triney Sandoval, who was so riveting as the Inspector in the Rep's marvelous, pared-down "Crime and Punishment" last year, again dominates the stage as Michael Novak, a man of large ego and girth, glad to set aside the pretense of polite restraint and speak plainly once the door is opened. Anthony Marble, as Alan Raleigh, opens that door once he can no longer resist his cell phone's siren call. Marble's Alan oozes impatience and arrogance, in the same way Veronica Novak oozes self-righteousness and stubbornness. Susan Louise O'Connor may be the funniest as conflict-phobic

Annette, whose stomach churns every time voices are raised. It is like a day in kindergarten, but with rum and sexual politics.

While the shifting alliances and gamesmanship resembles "Virginia Woolf," here it is pure, intelligent comedy. No one couple was driving this train. In fact, no one is in charge, like a free-for-all on the playground. Secrets come out, unspoken resentments are voiced and egos expand, aided a bit by that rum. Despite our pretense at reason, we all embrace the god of carnage at some level.

"God of Carnage" is a rollicking good time, a breathless verbal barrage of humanity sure to leave your composure broken and bleeding on the floor. This delightful comedy runs through November 6 at the Rep, on the Webster University campus, at 130 Edgar Road, Webster Groves, Mo.



# Rep's 'Circle, Mirror, Transformation' is funny, touching

CATE MARQUIS  
A & E Editor

A creative drama class at a small-town community center is the setting for a sometimes funny, sometimes revealing drama about five ordinary people.

"Circle Mirror Transformation" is the current Studio Theater production of the Repertory Theater of St. Louis, running through November 13. The play takes its title from three exercises the class practices in the course of their creative drama class.

Lynne Wintersteller plays Marty, short for Martha, who teaches the creative drama class. Among her students are her husband James (John Ottavino), newly-divorced and slightly chubby Schultz (Danny McCarthy), budding actress Theresa (Kate Middleton) and teenaged Lauren (Charlotte Mae Jusino)

Creative drama is the kind of acting exercises intended to open one to expression and sensitivity. Which makes it both an inherently touchy-feely thing and a place where surprises are likely to take

place. Anyone who has taken an acting class has experienced some of these exercises, a standard of the theater world. People sit in circles, they mirror each other, they transform objects, actions and themselves.

The play by Annie Baker is directed by Stuart Carden. The simple yet evocative set, a dance studio in Shirley, Vermont, looks so much like any classroom, with wooden floor and a mirrored back wall that has a line of low cubbie holes for gear, that one can hardly shake the sense of being in class. Doors on either side of the back wall line of cubbies provide entrances and exits from the space.

There is something inherently funny in this kind of class, which the plays taps into. Otherwise ordinary adults engaged in sometimes awkward improvisational games which aim to bring out creativity and sensitivity but which look like a mix of childhood playtime and off-beat therapy. In fact, one of the characters, increasingly

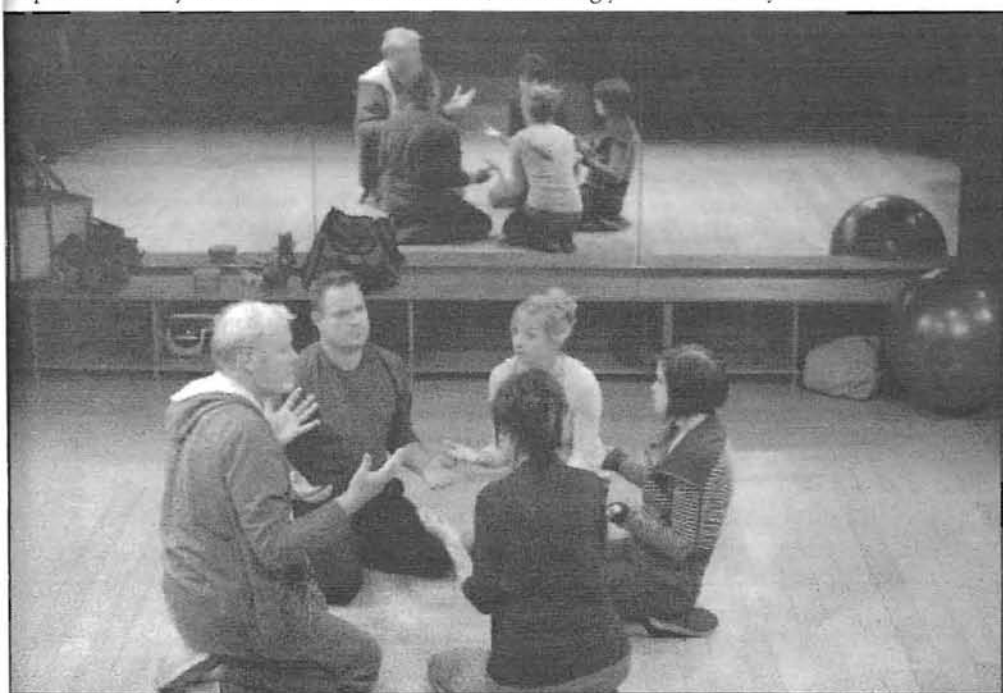
## THEATER

confused by seemingly random exercises, blurts out an observation along those lines.

At the same time, the characters come to life as they explore their creativity, get to know each other and experience emotional highs and lows. The humor gradually gives way to a touching human drama.

The setting brings the audience in very close to the action, almost making them members of the drama class. The audience is seated on three sides in the small downstairs studio space, along what would be three of the walls of the classroom space. Signs directing people to the performance space, as if a real class is being taught there, further heightens the sense of sitting in on a real class. However, the audience does not participate, and only observes, like the proverbial fly on the wall.

"Circle Mirror Transformation" both amuses and touches with its slice of ordinary life.



L-r: James (John Ottavino), Schultz (Danny McCarthy), Marty (Lynne Wintersteller), Theresa (Kate Middleton) and Lauren (Charlotte Mae Jusino) in "Circle, Mirror, Transformation" at the Repertory Theater of St. Louis.

PHOTO BY JERRY NAUNHEIM

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# UMSL

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# UPB gives UMSL a safe, dry, magical way to celebrate Halloween

**HALI FLINTROP**

Staff Writer

The University Program Board showed University of Missouri- St. Louis that they still love Harry Potter on the night of Saturday, October 29, when they hosted the event Harry Potter Fan Night in Provincial House's multipurpose room. Katie Green, junior, communications, member of UPB who conceptualized and planned Harry Potter Fan Night just wanted to give stressed out college students a fun, safe opportunity to relax and get away from school related stress as Halloween approaches. "A lot of my friends are Harry Potter fans, so I thought this event would get a lot of participation. The final movie was out this summer, and everyone was on a Harry Potter high," Green said. She added that Harry Potter movies and the Provincial House basement have the dark, creepy mood suitable for Halloween.

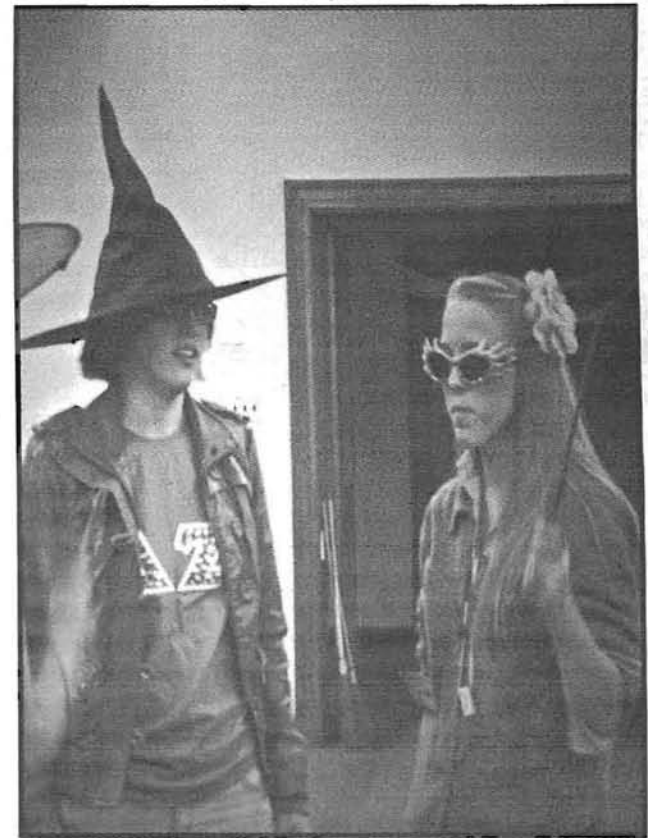
The tables in the multipurpose room were adorned with Styrofoam balls, skewers, silver and gold paint and feathers for the Golden Snitch making contest. The Potter fans in attendance each skewered their own ball and painted it before adding feathers for wings. "There will be two winners of the Snitch contest, one for most original or creative and one for most realistic," Marissa Steimel, sophomore, Nursing, UPB member, said. The maker of the most creative Snitch had crafted simply a golden Styrofoam ball on a skewer, which was literally the most original in the room because it was the only Snitch without feathers for wings. The most realistic Snitch, made by Maureen McCarthy, sophomore, anthropology, was painted gold with thin silver stripes and had two feathers for each wing, which were also paint-

ed gold. "I was just trying to be as creative as possible, and I'm having fun doing it. I was going for realistic," McCarthy said. "Maureen's Snitch is Quidditch World Cup worthy," Renee Cisar, freshman, education, said. "It has been touched by Victor Krum," Karlyne Killebrew, freshman, English and Spanish, said. Both Snitch winners received the prize of a Harry Potter cup.

Next, the UPB members passed around a Sorting Hat containing rings to represent the Hogwarts Houses. Fans reached into the hat and selected a ring which sorted them into their house. "[I would want to be in] Gryffindor. Who doesn't want to be in Gryffindor and do what Harry Potter does?" Melissa Schwartz, freshman, music performance, said.

The multipurpose room then darkened for the screening of "Harry Potter and the

Deathly Hallows: Part Two." Refreshments for Harry Potter Fan Night were movie night fare, including Pepsi products, popcorn, cookies and chocolate frogs. "The chocolate frogs were so good. I eat them headfirst, always headfirst," Lauren Kenney, junior, psychology, said. For Kenney, Harry Potter Fan Night served as a fun distraction from school work. "I have a lot of exams and papers to prepare for this week, and it was nice to be able to have fun," Kenney said. As the event wrapped up and the Potter Fans made to exit their Hogwarts fantasy into the UMSL reality, to the event coordinators, "You guys rock! This was cool," Annie Graham, sophomore, middle school education, said. Mischief managed: Harry Potter Fan Night allowed Potter Fans to meet and connect with each other this Halloween season.



Harry Potter fans enjoyed a night full of witchcraft and wizardry at the Provincial House on Saturday night.

SARAH LOWE / THE CURRENT

# "Dancing With Gravity" International book award winner

**ALADEEN KLONOWSKI**

Staff Writer

Anene Tressler-Hauschultz, Master's of Arts, University of Missouri - St. Louis alum, was awarded first prize for literary fiction in the 2011 International Book Awards for her debut novel "Dancing With Gravity." Currently, Tressler-Hauschultz is a free-lance writer specializing in corporate writing for print and film/video production. She is an adjunct professor at Webster University School of Communications.

*The Current:* First of all, congratulations on the International Book Award for Literary Fiction!

**Anene Tressler-Hauschultz:** Thank you very much for those kind words!

*TC:* How did winning the award feel, especially considering this is your first novel?

**ATH:** Winning the International Book Award for Literary Fiction was fantastic! I was and am delighted and honored to have received the award. It felt doubly gratifying since this is my first novel, but I so believe in my book. So it was wonderful to have feedback that supported me in that.

*TC:* In your novel, which character would you say that you most identify with? Why?

**ATH:** I have deep compassion for each of my characters even - no, especially - the ones whose flaws lead to their suffering. I identify with parts

of all of them, I think. But I suppose my favorite is Lillian. She loves her son deeply, but was not the mother he needed.

*TC:* Would you say that suffering is a key element of "Dancing With Gravity"?

**ATH:** I think that suffering is an integral part of all existence. Whether it be the suffering of physical ails, poverty, mental or emotional problems or simply living and encountering and enduring the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune we all will, to a greater or lesser degree, suffer.

*TC:* If you had to explain the plot of your book within six words or fewer, what would

they be?

**ATH:** Love always carries a cost.

*TC:* Will you explain a little about how the protagonist ends up ministering to a circus?

**ATH:** My protagonist, Father Whiting, is the head of Pastoral Care at a teaching hospital. The nuns who run the hospital receive a very large inheritance from one of their lay members, a woman who attached herself to the order, but was not a vowed religious. The circus is part of that inheritance. While the nuns try to sort out their inheritance and its implications, they ask Whiting, a natural choice given his job, to minister to the spiritual

needs of the performers.

*TC:* Did a lot of research go into the creation of this novel?

**ATH:** I did a great deal of research for my novel, especially regarding the circus and religious life.

*TC:* Would you like to talk a little about your company, Blackbird Creative?

**ATH:** My husband and I are partners in a small creative company. We specialize in corporate communications. We're both writers, but he also directs. Much of what I do is executive speech writing for large corporations. But we also do films and videos. We won an Emmy for a documentary we did on Women with HIV, and we're currently

completing another documentary on gun violence in St. Louis.

*TC:* You attended St. Louis University, Washington University and University of Missouri - St. Louis, would you say UMSL was your favorite?

**ATH:** I loved my time at UMSL...and I learned so much from my outstanding professors. To this day, I find myself quoting something or retelling an insight that one of them shared. I think UMSL is not only an excellent university, but a treasure for our community.

*TC:* Is there anyone you'd like to give a shout out to?

**ATH:** The Department of English, past and present.

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# Chicago actors of Murder Mystery Co. tease UMSL with their antics

**ASHLEY ATKINS**  
Features Editor

"Tonight is a night that is going to change your life... especially you, Victoria," The Great Scott, magician, said. These were some of the last profound words of The Great Scott before he fell to his death in front of a room full of spectators.

Tuesday, October 25, the University Program Board at the University of Missouri - St. Louis hosted a Murder Mystery Dinner in the Century Rooms of the Millennium Student Center, an event created to promote intermingling in a campus setting. UPB wanted to show the student body a good time without any additional expense. While UMSL has had a Murder Mystery Dinner in the past, this year, UPB Financial Chair, Erin Potts, junior, accounting,

decided to enlist the help of the Chicago based, Murder Mystery Co., to entertain the students. Several students had come out to the event based on their experience from the prior. "Last year it was so funny, I was literally on the floor laughing," Marissa Steimel, sophomore, nursing, said. "I hope it is the same this year."

Showcasing their talents to early arrivals, the actors of Murder Mystery Co. did their best to intrigue and stay in character for the students. Taylor Bibat, actress for Murder Mystery Co., expressed her reasoning behind her career choice and involvement in the company. "I love it so much that I do it despite it not being very lucrative. I love it so much that I starve for it," Bibat said. "This show may not be high

art, but it is completely joyful and gives people experiences that they will never forget."

But, when it was time for Bibat to transform into her character, she had no choice but to let her alter ego, the dirty seductress, Scarlett La Rue, take over the rest of the conversation. It had appeared that La Rue and Bibat had attended the event for two separate reasons. "This is a fundraiser and I am the assistant of the entertainment. People come to see me and then they give money to the children," La Rue (Bibat) said.

After the consumption of the awaited pasta bar, the show was opened by the character, Lancaster Doowie, attorney, Do We Cheat Them and How, who had welcomed the audience and justified the exchange

of fake money from character to student during dinner.

"Money is for buying things that you do not need. Money is for exploiting people," Doowie said. Apparently, during dinner, it was the job of the actors in the show to give a little information about themselves. This would explain the doctor in the dinner line who did not know how to use a stethoscope.

Doowie then proceeded to introduce his father, The Great Scott, whose death would occur during a scarf trick. "Wait... if he is dead, I think that it is very important to read the will right here, in front of everybody," Doowie said. The Great Scott had left his fortune to an individual that he had met in that same night, Dwayne Pipes, the mechanic with the pork chop side burns.

It was the job of the student body, with the assistance of their handy dandy notebooks, to put their minds together and evaluate characters and motives. And if that did not work, they always had the crazy assumptions of the Detective, played by Murder Mystery Co. actor, Clay Stamper. The Scottish detective, reminiscing an official from a bad 1990s cop drama, went from frequent false accusations to seeking out the owner of a pair of lingerie that he had in the pocket of his coat. But, as the student body slowly put the pieces together, they were able to come to a conclusion as far as who they thought had committed the crime. Team Awesomeness had won the game by accusing the fired assistant of The Great Scott. "It was the motive that

saved us because another team had the right answer. They should bring this back more often, like next semester," Tracy Cernicek, freshman, psychology, said. Even if the student body did not enjoy themselves, Stamper seemed to have a good time. Unbeknownst to his crowd, Stamper played the duel role of The Great Scott and the Detective.

"My favorite part about it [the show] is that you really do not know what you are going to get when you walk in to the room," Stamper said. Such as, Brandon Ming, Ranken College graduate, Team Phoenix, who rejoiced even after his team came in dead last during the game. According to Ming, the loss did not matter. What had mattered was the certificate of recognition.

## 'Rocky Horror Picture Show' teaches students to do the Time Warp

**JANACA SCHERER**  
Managing Editor

There is only one event that can successfully combine party favors, newspaper, rubber gloves, party hats, Christmas cards and toilet paper: "Rocky Horror Picture Show."

Sponsored by the Office of Student Life, Rocky Horror Picture Show was played for students on October 27 in the Pilot House at 8 p.m.

For those who have never been to see "Rocky Horror Picture Show" in real life before, it is something that can not truly be explained in words. "It's the people that create the experience," Alexandria Eckhoff, freshman, biology, said.

Which is more than true. Moviegoers are expected to yell comments at the screen and interact with the movie as much as possible. The two main characters, Brad

and Janet, are constantly called names. During dancing scenes, participants get up and dance. Other characters are constantly made fun of and anything even remotely dirty will be turned into a sexual innuendo.

The movie is a big Halloween hit due to everything it stands for: the weird and unusual. It features transvestites, scantily clad men and women and almost every sort of weird and awkward character imaginable. While the plot of the story may not always make sense, it only adds to the overall appeal of "Rocky Horror Picture Show." The movie is now a staple for almost any Halloween bash and all true Halloween fans know the premise.

"'Rocky' always has a cult following with col-

lege kids, especially around Halloween," Arron Winter, graduate, higher education, said. "The University of Missouri - St. Louis student population was well receptive to it."

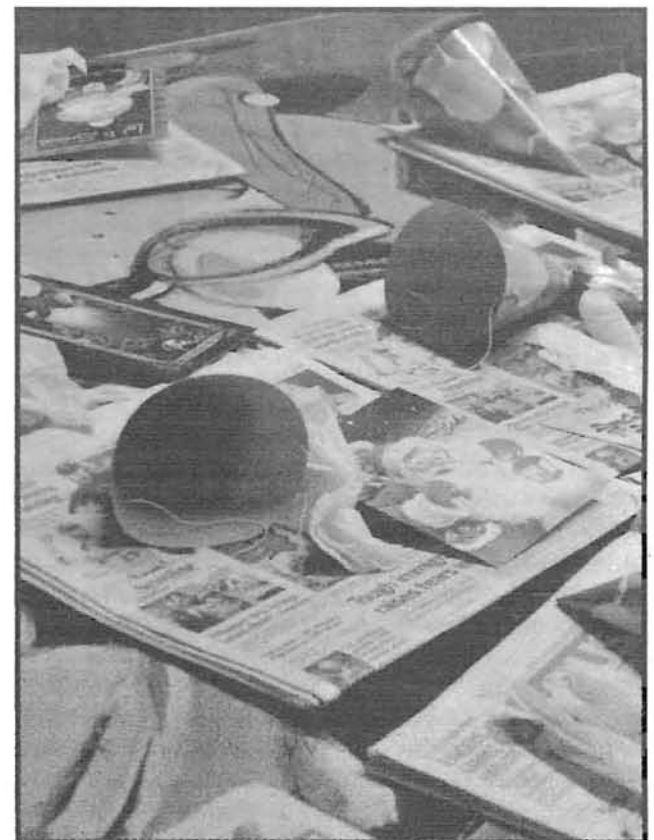
Patrons dressed up in drag. Corsets, fishnets and heavy makeup are always to be found in the seats. Prop bags handed out before the movie started, containing the aforementioned objects, are used throughout the movie to further enhance the experience. And once the "Time Warp" came on, everyone was out of their seat and dancing along.

But "Rocky Horror Picture Show" has developed one of the biggest cult followings ever attained by a movie. Made in 1975, the movie has surpassed the time gap by appealing to

students today while still creating fond memories for their parents. "I love the movie. Everything is better with transvestites," Erin Hedrick, junior, English and education, said.

While most may think it is not for them, the movie attracts all kinds of viewers. "I've only seen the play before," Nadia Elbreki, freshman, undecided, said. She quickly gained the knowledge that anything and everything goes and began yelling at the projection screen as well.

"It's great we drew a crowd despite the World Series game," Winter said during his introduction of the movie. With the crazy hijinks that followed, it would be hard to believe that anything else could possibly be going on.



A table of props for the Rocky Horror Picture Show.

NIKKI VAHLE / THE CURRENT

Read The Current

# Sports

## Men's soccer has strong showing in their final game

**OWEN SHROYER**  
Sports Editor

It was a tough stretch ahead for the University of Missouri-St. Louis men's soccer team as they tried to make a comeback run in their final three games to try and sneak into the Great Lakes Valley Conference Tournament. The team found themselves in a tough scenario, out of the post-season picture, with three road games remaining.

The first of the three remaining games was against the Northern Kentucky University Norse, ranked sixth nationally. Northern Kentucky is the reigning national champion, and conference leader. The last time the Tritons played a top ten team nationally, they were able to upset their opponent. This

matchup was not as exciting. The first half was all Northern Kentucky. They kept the ball in UMSL's defensive zone early and often and opened the scoring in the sixteenth minute. UMSL only had one shot in the first half, but Johnny O'Mara, senior, marketing, had his shot blocked by a defender. The Tritons were outshot by the Norse six to two in the first half.

The story of the second half was not as depressing, as UMSL made a much better effort. The Tritons got on the offensive early, and even had the Norse back on the defensive. David Schwer, senior, business administration, took a shot that went wide in the fiftieth minute. UMSL stayed on the attack, and Mike

McCarthy, senior, information systems, took a shot on goal but it was blocked by a defender. UMSL continued to pursue the goal, and Almin Sabotic, senior, communications, ripped one on goal for the first shot on goal for the day, but the keeper was ready and kept the ball out of the net. The team's best chance at scoring came in the seventieth minute. UMSL built up a nice attack, and O'Mara got a good look at the goal, but his shot would ring off the post, and the attack didn't produce a goal. Jordan Bruce, junior, criminology, had two shots late, but one was saved by the keeper, and the other missed high. The Tritons felt the pressure late, as they knew how badly they needed this win, and you could be seen pressing for victory in the

final minutes. The team had three shots in the final minute. The final play of the game was a shot from UMSL defenseman Logan Ream, sophomore, undecided, but the goalie saved it, kept his clean sheet, and handed the Tritons a heavy loss.

The Tritons were down, but not out. A huge game against Bellarmine University was next on the schedule. This would be another tough matchup, as Bellarmine was high in the conference standings. UMSL came out firing and put early pressure on the Bellarmine defense. Schwer had the game's first shot, but missed wide. O'Mara had the game's first shot on net, but his attempt could not beat the keeper. UMSL stayed on the offensive, and they would build an attack in

the twenty-fourth minute, and McCarthy had a look on goal, but his shot missed wide. Peter Hyde, junior, finance, worked his way into the offensive zone and had a shot that was blocked by a defender and earned the team a corner. The corner led to more offense, but Sabotic's attempt on goal was saved by the keeper. Another shot and corner kick in the end of the half still did not equal an UMSL goal.

The second half was less dominated by UMSL. The Knights controlled the tempo in the second half and outshoot the Tritons seven to three. Neither team was able to score in regulation, and the game went to overtime. Even the extra time was not enough for either team to score, and the game ended in a 0-0 draw.

This tie put the team in a must-win situation heading into the final game of the season versus Maryville, and the team would need a Missouri S&T loss to get into the post season.

UMSL helped their cause early, as Sabotic was able to net a goal just ten minutes into the game, on assists from Bruce and Hyde. This was Sabotic's seventh goal of the season. Maryville would tie the game soon after, but a desperate UMSL added three more goals in the half. UMSL and Maryville both scored a goal in the second half; UMSL eventually took the game by a score of five to two.

Although a strong and exciting finish to the season, the team will miss the conference tournament, falling one win short of the playoff picture.

## Women's soccer in playoffs after strong game at Maryville

**ELI DAINS**  
Staff Writer

The University of Missouri St. Louis women's soccer team finished out their 2011 regular season in striking form, beating Maryville University 4-0. The win was indicative of the potential of the squad, and propelled them into the Great Lakes Valley Conference playoff tournament. Before playing Maryville, the team had to travel to Kentucky for a rough weekend.

On Friday, October 21, the team played the Northern Kentucky Norse, losing a hard fought game 3-2. The Norse out-shot

the Tritons 16-11. The Norse got on the scoreboard first, notching a goal in the ninth minute. A second-half rally by the Tritons led to a tie game at 2-2 with under five minutes on the clock, but their momentum was stopped by a Norse goal in the eighty-sixth minute. "We didn't get the results that we were looking for, but we found that we can compete with them," said UMSL Head Coach Bobby Lessentine.

The Tritons' road-trip continued when the team played Bellarmine University. In the game, UMSL's

offense just couldn't find the net, and the team was beaten 2-0. Bellarmine's goals came in the seventeenth and eighty-third minute, and they out-shot the Tritons 19-6 in the contest.

Following their 0-2 road trip, the team was in must-win mode when they faced Maryville. If the team did not win the game, their season would end short of the GLVC tournament. With their backs against the wall, the team responded by shutting out Maryville 4-0. "We took control from kickoff and never looked back," said Coach Lessentine.

The Tritons first goal came in the twenty-eighth

minute when Samantha Faron, senior, psychology, put one in the net off of assists from Brittany Harbaugh, sophomore, nursing, and Kaylee Neutzling, senior, criminology. "Our greatest strength is working together as a team and having each others back on and off the field," said Neutzling, a trait that was evident in the Maryville game. Harbaugh would add an unassisted goal just over a minute later to put UMSL up 2-0 going into the half.

In the second half, the Tritons let loose, outshooting their opponents 10-1 and adding two more goals in the process. Bridget Belli, senior, physi-

cal education, scored in the seventy-first minute off a corner kick from Harbaugh. Harbaugh would finish out a strong game by scoring again in the eighty-eighth minute. She ended up with two goals and two assists. Kaitlyn Smugala, sophomore, secondary education, played the entire ninety minutes in goal, recording her sixth clean sheet of the season by stopping the two shots that came her way during the game.

For their efforts the Tritons received the eighth seed in the GLVC tournament and another trip to Highland Heights, Kentucky to play the number one ranked Northern Ken-

tucky Norse in the opening round. "We have a lot of confidence coming into the NKU game and our intention is to win," said Coach Lessentine before the game. "The girls are highly motivated and we like the match-up, it will be an exciting night."

The two teams played another hard fought game on Saturday, October 29, and unfortunately for the Tritons, they once again came out on the wrong end of a one goal game, losing 2-1. Next week's issue of The Current will feature more comprehensive coverage of the team's playoff game, as well as a recap of the entire 2011 season.



# Tritons volleyball stays hot, builds momentum late in season

**OWEN SHROYER**  
Sports Editor

With the regular season winding down, and the post season looming, the University of Missouri - St. Louis' women's volleyball team embarked on a three game road trip against conference rivals.

The first matchup was at Maryville, who the Tritons defeated three sets to none earlier in the season. They looked for similar success in hopes of extending their three-game winning streak. The Tritons got off to a quick start, opening the match with four straight points. Despite the Tritons dominating the match, Maryville made a very impressive comeback in the first set and tied the game at twenty two and twenty three after being down big the whole match. However, Maryville could not complete the comeback and UMSL would win the match after an attacking error by the opposition. The second set was polar

opposites with the first. The majority of the match was back and fourth, with multiple ties and lead changes. In this set though, UMSL finished strong and won the set twenty five to eighteen. In the third and final set it was UMSL who had to make an early comeback. After the early comeback, the brunt of the match was again back and fourth, with lead changes and ties. With the match tied at twenty a side, UMSL would rally off five straight points to take the set and sweep the match.

Next, the women went against Rockhurst. The first set featured each team battling back and fourth for the lead. After dropping seven straight points, the Tritons rallied back to tie the score at twenty one. It wouldn't be enough, and they dropped the set. The second UMSL dominating their opponent

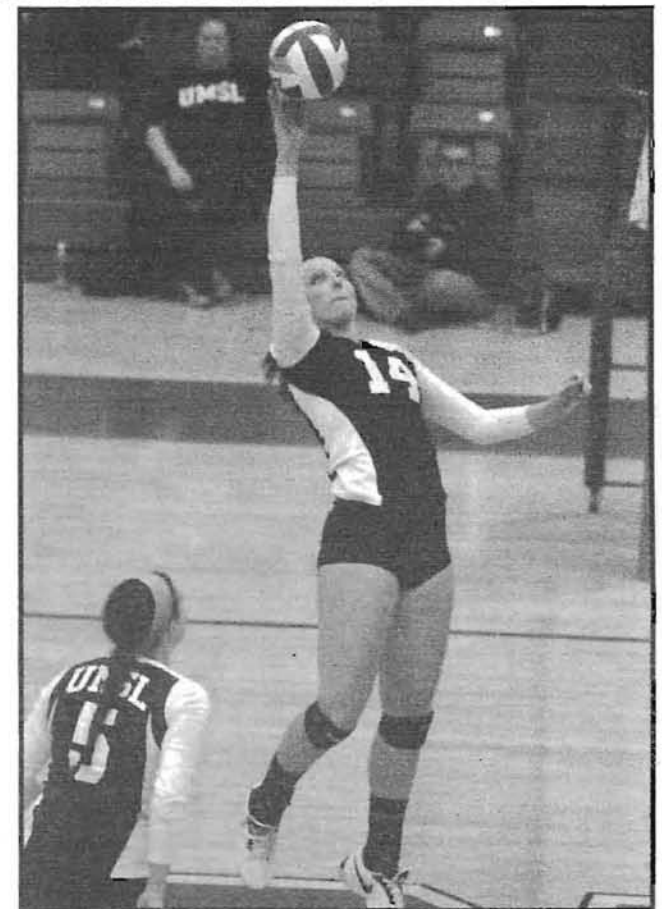
and winning the set twenty five to eleven. Rockhurst would turn the tables on the Tritons, winning the third set convincingly twenty five to sixteen. UMSL needed to dig deep in the fourth set if they wanted to leave with a victory. They started off hot, scoring the first three points. They continued to stay hot and built up a solid lead of thirteen to six. From that point on it was all Rockhurst as they outscored UMSL nineteen to seven and walked away with the set and match.

With a chip on their shoulder, the team went to William Jewell. The first set was the most competitive, and was a game of three runs. An early run by William Jewell, then a run by UMSL to get the lead, then a strong finishing run by William Jewell to take the set twenty five to twenty three. The loss put a fire into the Tritons. They started the second set off hot, and finished it strong

as well, leading them to a solid twenty five to sixteen win. Down early in and most of the third set, the Tritons never gave up. Down twenty to eighteen, the Tritons rallied, and were able to steal the match twenty five to twenty three. The win gave the team a burst of momentum, and they took advantage in the final set. The Tritons attacked early and often, jumping out to a quick ten point lead. The team was able to withstand a run by William Jewell, and took the set twenty five to sixteen. Erin Higgins, senior, early childhood education, led all scorers with twenty two points, including twenty kills, and even recorded her one thousandth kill on her career during the match.

The season thus far has been a success, and with the women coming home for their final two games of the season, they look to build momentum heading into the conference tournament.

Weslie Gaff, senior, accounting, jumps to hit the ball against Drury on October 22



Weslie Gaff, senior, accounting, jumps to hit the ball against Drury on October 22

ERICA THOMPSON / THE CURRENT

# Musenfechter's leadership leads to GLVC tournament bid

**LEON DEVANCE**  
Staff Writer

When the University of Missouri-St. Louis Tritons unleashed a 4-4-2 offensive formation, senior forward Kelly Musenfechter, senior, liberal arts study, went into offensive attack mode.

Kelly Musenfechter now has her biggest challenge this season in leading the Tritons into their first playoff game since 2008. Wednesday's four to nil victory over Maryville propelled the Tritons into the eighth seed in the playoffs, setting up a matchup against first-seed University of Northern Kentucky Norse, Saturday.

Musenfechter playing as the "attack" forward in the 4-4-2 alignment has led the Tritons to an 9-8

record. The Tritons have dominated at home with a 6-2 record but struggled on the road at 3-6. For the season, Musenfechter scored seven goals with one assist, as well as one game-winning goal throughout this season.

The 4-4-2 alignment increases opportunities for Musenfechter to score therefore allowing her to play at a higher level.

"I played my best under the 4-4-2 alignment in the two games against Northern Kentucky University and Bellermaine," Musenfechter said. "It was my personal best because I played hard and gave all the effort I had. We are going to get some wins

and gain a lot of respect because NKU and Bellermaine are the top two teams in the conference. People are going to be surprised, Kaylee [Neutzling] and I are going to get more opportunities in this alignment. We are starting to figure things out. The working formations allow more support and make Kaylee and I dangerous. It makes people defend us," Musenfechter said.

After a tough start to begin the season, the switch to the 4-4-2 alignment, made Musenfechter and the rest of the Tritons a well-oiled offensive machine.

"We had a rocky start to the season. We are now

ready to pick it up. The GLVC is a hard conference to play in. The best seed can lose to the worst seed anytime so it does not matter what your seed is," Said Musenfechter.

Because the GLVC is a tough conference, Musenfechter, Neutzling, and Bridget Belli lead by example so their Tritons teammates can see the work ethic that helped them win under coach Tim Rooney.

Musenfechter and Kaylee Neutzling, senior, criminal justice, nicknamed the Special K connection from their days at Lewis and Clark Community College, have played together for four years and the chemis-

try between the two works.

"Kelly and I have played together for four years together. We work with each other. Kelly is very good at creating plays. We are good friends on and off the field. And we know where the other one is on the field," Neutzling said.

Head coach Bobby Lessentine said that Musenfechter uses the alignment to her advantage.

"We like to free Kelly and Kaylee up top. [The alignment] allows them to be creative and the freedom to score. Kelly as the b one attacker is good because of her end line and crossing," Lessentine said.

A quick look at the UMSL women's soccer

record book finds Musenfechter on the all-time team roster. In two seasons, Musenfechter has scored thirteen goals, tallied seven assists totaling thirty three points and has taken sixty seven shots.

Father Dan, a former St. Louis Steamers forward, is a member of the UMSL sports Hall of Fame. Brother Danny and sister Krisie all played at UMSL. Musenfechter wants to keep the family tradition strong.

"My dad played soccer so talking to him because he gives serious advice. Because my family played here, for my legacy I want to leave some big shoes to fill," Musenfechter said.

# Point/Counterpoint



*Should Puerto Rico join the Union as the 51st state?*

## The current status quo works for both sides; why shake things up needlessly?

The island of Puerto Rico, located about 1000 miles southeast of Florida, has been under the sovereignty of the United States of America for over a century, ever since Spain ceded control during the Spanish-American War. Officially incorporated as a commonwealth in 1952, there have been several calls for the culturally rich Caribbean society to be made into a state. While this may seem like a great idea on the surface, introducing Puerto Rico as a state, at least right now, is bad not only for the commonwealth and its populace, but also the Union as a whole.

First off, Puerto Ricans have outright rejected statehood three times now; votes were taken in 1967, 1993, and 1998. Democracy is the principle upon which the United States is founded, and while there is a sizable contingent interested in statehood, the majority of Puerto Ricans aren't interested in entering the union. Many feel justifiably that a full incorporation into the Union would inevitably lead to an assault on the rich Puerto Rican culture. In today's

constantly shrinking world, cultural imperialism, the dominance of an invading culture over a smaller, indigenous one, is an all too valid concern, especially considering the size and stature of the United States in global politics.

However, as Americanized as the island is already, one matter remains; according to census data, only about twenty percent of the island's residents are fluent in English. For comparison, California, the least English-proficient state in the Union, has a fluency rate of about eighty percent. Yes, using the barriers of language to justify exclusion has long been the tactic of the intolerant and xenophobic, but in this instance, it is a valid logistical concern. Should Puerto Rico undergo the transition to statehood, it would have to switch to the lingua franca, or working language, of the United States in order to conduct business and legislation successfully and transparently.

If Puerto Rico is granted statehood, the legislative branch of U.S. Government would be forced to undergo drastic, irreversible changes

that have a severe effect on the entire political system. In the House of Representatives, a number of already established states would be forced to lose seats in order to accommodate Puerto Rico's new representatives under the fixed limit of 435. Furthermore, Puerto Rico tends to lean towards the Democratic Party with regard to policy. In a nation so fiercely bipartisan and reliant on balance, an inclusion of Puerto Rico into the statehood could prove to tip the scales too favorably towards the left, perhaps even permanently.

The people of Puerto Rico are already U.S. citizens, free to enter and exit the continental United States and all of its territories on a whim. Were they not, and still contributing to the U.S.A. to the extent that they do, then statehood would be a more pressing concern, worthy of hasty, yet serious consideration; however the issue is of little consequence at this point, as no one's rights are being infringed upon.

The Puerto Ricans have already made their voice heard several times; by and large, they are uninterested in statehood.

## Statehood would offer new opportunities for both America and Puerto Rico

Puerto Rico should seriously consider becoming the United States of America's 51st state. Puerto Rico has been a part of American territory since the Spanish-American War over a century ago, and has been a U.S. commonwealth for decades. In fact, Puerto Ricans already hold American citizenship and are allowed to serve in the American military. Adding them to the United States would fully integrate them into our government, beyond the purely observatory role they currently play. Though they would also be required to pay federal income taxes, they would also enjoy the right to vote in national elections and send representatives and senators to Congress.

Spanish is the primary language of Puerto Rico, which would admittedly cause a problem if it became a state. Though the U.S. has no official language, Puerto Ricans would have to know English to fully integrate, but over time, the country could become like Hawaii, an island with a rich ancient

heritage that managed to keep its culture alive despite falling under American hegemony. Puerto Rico could have the same fate and become a full part of the nation, slowly morphing and forming into the 51st state of the Union.

It seems inevitable that one day, Puerto Rico's status will change; the island does not seem destined to remain an American commonwealth forever. Three votes on statehood have come in the last fifty years; though Puerto Ricans voted to remain a U.S. territory, the island still boasts a very strong and vocal pro-statehood faction. Alternatively, Puerto Rico could gain its independence, breaking from American authority completely to form its own nation. Independence could be problematic at first, as there would likely be Puerto Ricans with U.S. citizenship that would want to escape to be in America, depending on the circumstances of the split between Puerto Rico and the U.S., though this is an unlikely scenario.

Either way, the arrival of Puerto Rico would adjust the composition of the government; as both the Senate and House of Representatives are set at a certain number of members, other states would have to lose representation in order to fit Puerto Rican representatives into the U.S. Congress. Certainly, any change in Puerto Rico's status would mean big changes for our entire system of government, including presidential elections. The country has already elected its first black president; if Puerto Rico became a state, it is entirely possible that the country could see a Spanish-speaking Latino president one day. So many possibilities could happen with Puerto Rico becoming a state that would impact the U.S. for good, or turn it to the worse. For now, though, any questions of "what if" are moot, as the latest vote on the question of statehood, independence, or neither will not take place until late 2012. Only time will tell what lies in store for Puerto Rico.



# Opinions

## OUR OPINION

### No financial relief in sight for beleaguered Rockwood schools

Like many other school districts in the St. Louis area these days, the Rockwood School District has seen its share of tough times. With the economy still recovering slowly, many districts, including Rockwood, have to deal with ever-tightening purse strings while continuing to provide a quality education to its students. Naturally, this would be a challenge for most school districts, even the ones that don't have to deal with the other issues currently facing Rockwood.

Unfortunately, it appears that the Rockwood School District's financial situation isn't going to drastically improve any time soon, based on a recent decision by District Superintendent Bruce Borchers. Already racked by corruption scandals and a tenuous financial situation, Borchers and the Rockwood school board decided two weeks ago not to put a bond issue on the ballot to raise money for the district this November.

A Rockwood bond has appeared on local ballots eleven times since 1991; the district's typical practice was to put a bond issue before the voters every two years. It seemed initially that this year would be no different, but then the St. Louis Post-Dispatch released a report detailing the unusually close relationship between the school district and Glenn Construction Company, the firm that had won every single construction contract offered

by the Rockwood district in the past fourteen years.

Understandably, this provoked something of an outcry; even if the allegations proved untrue, even the suggestion of financial impropriety during a time of almost forced austerity was enough to provoke bad feelings among local residents, particularly parents of Rockwood students. A number of upset Rockwood residents started a petition, attempting to get enough signatures to convince the Missouri state auditor to conduct an audit of the district's books.

Knowing this, it is not too hard to see why Borchers ultimately decided to abandon his pursuit of a bond issue this year. Publically, of course, his story is a little different; a story on the Post-Dispatch's website said, "The superintendent said that everyone is looking at their budgets during this tough economic period and that he thought it best to postpone asking for more bond funds or a tax increase." While that was technically true, the fact is that, given the current attitudes of voters in his district, coupled with the economic situation, it is possible that any proposed bond issue might not even pass.

The superintendent is obviously not unaware of the politics that his position entails. But is he doing what is best for his district?

As mentioned, Rockwood is currently faced with a rather

grim financial situation. The district has already been forced to make serious budget cuts, and the lack of a bond issue certainly will not help matters. Both Borchers and Janet Strate, vice president of Rockwood's school board, have stated that the district's long-term sustainability will be at risk without a bond issue or a tax increase somewhere down the line.

This concern is shared, with good reason, by Rockwood's teachers. Additional cuts could affect various school programs that have resisted the budget axe so far, threatening the ability of Rockwood teachers to do their jobs well (those that still have jobs, at any rate). Some don't, and as teachers and school programs fall by the wayside, Rockwood students are paying the price.

There's no doubt that Superintendent Borchers is between a rock and a hard place right now. However, regardless of the politics involved or the district's financial situation, he does have certain responsibilities. He has a responsibility as an employer to the people that work for his district, and as an educator, he has a responsibility to the children who rely on Rockwood schools for an education.

*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

### With title in hand, Pujols' fate becomes Cards' chief concern

For the 11th time in their long and illustrious history, the St. Louis Cardinals have won the World Series. And what a World Series it was, filled with a sense of drama and excitement that will forever separate this Fall Classic from all the others, especially in the minds of Cards fans. From the tense finish in Game 1, to the offensive breakout in Game 3, to the historic performance of David Freese and the rest of the Cards lineup in the late innings of Game 6, this will long be a Series to remember.

That cloud of euphoria can not last forever, though. Yes, it's been a great year, but the year is unfortunately over. Sooner or later (preferably sooner), the team is going to have to start thinking about the future. Pitchers and catchers report to spring training for the 2012 season in four months. There are courses to be considered and decisions to be made, not only for the 2011 World Champions but for the other 29 also-rans, as well.

For the Cardinals, however, no question looms larger, no decision weighs heavier, than the problem of what to do with three-time National League Most Valuable Player and free-agent-to-be Albert Pujols.

Since breaking into the league as an unheralded rookie in 2001, Pujols has been an offensive force unlike anything the game has seen in decades. His list of accomplishments is as long as a person's arm, with more awards than one person could shake a stick at.

So, why is it a question whether or not the Cardinals should keep Pujols?

It comes down to money. The Cardinals knew this day was coming for years, and they

have done their best in the past to delay its arrival. Most players hit free agency after their initial six years of team control have passed; the Cardinals preempted this in Pujols' case in 2004, when they signed him to a contract for seven years at \$100 million.

That day has arrived, though, and Cardinals fans are right to be a little nervous. Many Cards fans have been hoping over the past couple seasons that the team and Pujols would be able to reach a new accord; none has been forthcoming, however, despite serious negotiations that took place before the year began.

Much of the blame for Pujols not being extended already has gone, fairly or unfairly, to Cardinals owner Bill DeWitt. DeWitt has a reputation among Cards faithful as something of a miser; while he's allowed the Cardinals' payroll to approach \$100 million for several years running, and he's generally allowed the team to add payroll if necessary when in contention, he's proven extremely reluctant to go above that figure. The Cardinals' 2011 payroll was in the neighborhood of \$110 million, the first time it's ever been above the century mark.

Some wonder if, given DeWitt's fiscal conservatism, the team can afford to give Pujols a mega-deal and still have enough money left over to field a competitive team over the life of his contract. Others wonder how long Pujols will be able to keep up the stratospheric levels of production that got him to this point. But over the past couple seasons, the Cardinals have turned a once-barren farm system into a pipeline of useful talent, adding talented, young and cheap players like Allen Craig, Jaime Garcia and World



**Jeremy Zschau**

Series MVP David Freese to the roster alongside big-money names like Pujols, Lance Berkman, and Chris Carpenter. The team has shown both in 2011 and 2006 that they can field championship teams on a mid-market budget with a few talented superstars and a handful of competent bit players around them; why couldn't that continue in the future?

The fact is that unless the price is exorbitant, the Cardinals can and should re-sign Pujols. Bill DeWitt went out on a limb this year when he increased payroll to an unprecedented level, a level that would only increase should the Cardinals re-sign Pujols. But with risk comes the potential for great reward, as DeWitt and the Cardinals found in 2011. Pujols is intimately connected with the city of St. Louis, and he lacks the emotional and behavioral baggage that so many other high-priced superstar athletes bring along with them. Normally, signing free agents to expensive contracts is a losing plan for a mid-market team like St. Louis, but in this case, losing Albert Pujols would cost the team far more than any albatross contract would.

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

**What do you think?**  
[www.thecurrent-online.com](http://www.thecurrent-online.com)

## SCIENCE MATTERS

## Nobel Prize brings together a tale of two women and radiation

Recently the Nobel Prize committee did something they have never done before: honored a scientist who was no longer living.

Nobel Prizes are awarded only to living scientists, the one exception being that it could be awarded to a scientist who died after being notified but before the award could be presented. The Nobel Foundation was attempting to contact Dr. Ralph M. Steinman to notify him he had won the Nobel Prize in Medicine for this work in immunology. Unable to reach him by phone, they left an email for him. They were unaware Steinman had died three days earlier, in fact, hours before the decision was made. When that email came to light, a decision was made to make an exception to the rule and award the Nobel posthumously.

That unusual event made me think of two women who were giants of science history: Marie Curie and Rosalind Franklin. Both women deserved Nobel Prizes but only one got hers.

As a biologist studying genetics, I learned about the discovery of the structure of DNA and the role Rosalind Franklin played in that. When grad students James Watson and Francis Crick were on the hunt for the structure of DNA, the molecule of inheritance, their attention was drawn to rumors about another researcher whose high-quality X-ray crystallography might provide the key to the puzzle. In fact, Rosalind Franklin's clear X-ray shadows of the molecular structure of DNA did provide the critical clue to the double helix.

Franklin had declined to cooperate with the brash Watson and his collaborator Crick, as she too was in the same hunt for DNA's structure. She knew she had quality data but did not see

enough merit in Watson's and Crick's model-making to justify sharing credit after her years of painstaking work. But Watson and Crick obtained her research anyway, allowing them to beat her to the finish. They always acknowledged her contributions, and when it came time for the Nobel Prize, Watson and Crick were prepared to share it with her. But Franklin did not get her Nobel, because she was already died, from cancer likely caused by radiation exposure accumulated during her research.

Marie Curie coined that term - radiation. Curie was luckier in that radiation did not kill her. Of course, Curie is a much larger figure in science history; certainly a more famous one. In fact, she was the most decorated scientist of her time and the greatest scientist of her era, not just the greatest woman scientist.

This was in an era when women still could not vote and were regarded as intellectually inferior men. There were many attempts to dismiss her work or attributed it to her husband or assistants because it was such a shocking idea that a woman could be capable of such research. Suspicions of her ability was a widespread awe at her research. Although whispers about her husband's contributions faded after his death and her second prize, the attitudes of the time towards women made her a kind of curiosity to many people. Not only was Curie the first woman to win a Nobel Prize, a prize shared with her husband Pierre and fellow researcher, Henri Becquerel, but she won a second one. And her daughter, Irene, also a scientist, won one too, making them the only parent-child pair to do that. Only Nobel prize rules kept Franklin from her award after her death. But the rules exist for a reason. The prize is intended to



Cate Marquis

recognize and encourage living scientists. Over the years, the time between when the work is done and when it is recognized that researchers are often retired from the lab or have moved on to other research by the time their ground-breaking work is honored with a Nobel Prize.

The Nobel committee broke its long-standing rule this year, for Dr. Steinman, who died a few days before the winners were announced. Whether it will break the rule in the future or dispense with it altogether at some point is not clear.

There is a kind of sad link between these two great women scientists. Curie did not discover X-rays but she did coin the term "radiation" and discovered several elements including radium. Curie had a number of health issues while she was working with these radioactive substances, symptoms that now sound like radiation poisoning. Franklin pushed safety limits in her determination to get the best images, and the radiation exposure likely led to the cancer that took her life. Yet if not for early researchers like Curie, Franklin's ground-breaking research would not have been possible.

Much has changed for women in the sciences since Marie Curie won her first Nobel Prize.

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

## MAD WORLD

## With October comes the return of the sexy costume epidemic

The Lingerie Football League profits from the sexualization of female athletes – and there are now talks of starting a youth division.

The announcement, which features the header "Girls love football too," would be as positive for girls as it pretends to be if one ignored the notion that women have to be playing the sport in their underwear to be given any attention or notoriety. The LFL is claiming to have shattered the glass ceiling of women's tackle football, which is about as apt as saying a Playboy spread featuring women in office wear had a hand in ending sexist hiring practices on Wall Street.

Claims the LFL, "Women sports have always struggled to gain a mainstream following alongside major men's sports, especially women's tackle football. Leagues have come and gone with no fanfare, media attention or sustainability." The Women's Football Alliance is made up of over 60 teams across the country, all of which play fully clothed and rely on the love of the sport to flourish. While there is some truth to the assertion that female leagues don't have as much of a mainstream following as major men's sports, that does not mean the solution is to strip female athletes of their clothing in an attempt to appeal to the lowest common denominator.

What the LFL seems unable to grasp is the fact that, by the very nature of its existence, it promotes the idea that no

matter what it is they're doing, women need to be scantily clad to be worthy of attention or respect. Athletes of any gender should be respected for their talent, but with female athletes their looks are often given center stage rather than how they play. The LFL is only making an already challenging endeavor even more difficult by overtly making it about sex appeal rather than talent. It's been a long hard road for female athletes to gain equality and respect both on and off the field, and the LFL is part of the problem. No one expects a young man who's interested in playing rugby to participate in the sport wearing only a speedo, and he doesn't have to ever consider doing so if he wants to play the game on a large scale.

Legitimate female sports leagues don't get nearly the amount of attention many male leagues receive, even though they work just as hard. Judging from what the LFL represents, women have to be playing sports in their underwear to warrant being given any kind of mainstream attention. One could argue that there's a time and place for everything, even the blatantly sexist LFL, but it becomes much more of an issue when the prominent images society sees are of the fantasy rather than the reality. At present time, not many major cable networks are covering WFA games.

To put it lightly, there is something very, very wrong



Sharon Pruitt

about preparing girls from a young age to participate in a league that promotes a sexualized version of a sport. There are organizations, teams and leagues that are dedicated to offering opportunities for women to play football that do not operate based on the objectification of women. Ideally, these organizations would be the ones getting the mainstream attention that the LFL enjoys, and as a result girls who want to play male-dominated sports would know that there are opportunities out there for them to follow their passion, opportunities that in no way rely on their sexuality as a means of success.

An LFL youth division would make tackle football accessible to girls but it would be doing so in the worst possible way. It would be one half-step forward and two giant leaps back: the lesson to young girls would remain that women can do anything, as long as they remain as sexually attractive as possible while doing it.

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

**WHAT DO YOU THINK?**  
Let us know at [www.thecurrent-online.com](http://www.thecurrent-online.com)



# Horoscopes

## CURRENT HOROSCOPES by The Inane Collective

altered by:  
Digital Media Gaming the Intern

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

If you happen to find yourself transformed into into a short, blue-bodied android this week, make sure to remember: your goal is to steal the weapons of all your enemies.

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

If you're feeling short and pink this week, try inhaling your friends and spitting fire. Actually, depending on which friend you eat, you may find yourself using a variety of strange abilities.

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

Recently, while being bullied by a foreign exchange student, you received a note, saying "All your essay are belong to us." Trust the note: just make new copies. It's not worth the fight.

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

The ghost cars will come for you in your sleep this week. Just remember, cars which spawn in the middle of a forest are no more safe to jump in front of than those on the highway.

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

Remember this week that simply smacking a popular title on a piece of crap does not make it high-quality. Sea-weed induced death never won any fans three decades ago, and it won't now.

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

Are you a man, or a woman? What is the name of your rival, who also happens to be my grandchild? These are questions to be pondered on the road to being the very best, like no one ever was.

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

So, Aries tricked you into murdering your entire family? Your father has impaled you several times? Psh, who cares. Get over it, go cry a river and go on a massive, vengeful warpath to victory...and stuff.

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

Hey! Listen! Hey! Listen! Hey! Listen! Hey! Listen! Hey! Listen! Hey! Listen! Hey! Listen! Hey! Listen! Hey! Listen! Hey! Listen! Hey! Listen! Hey! Listen! Hey! Listen! Hey! Listen! Hey! Listen! Hey! Listen! Hey! Listen!

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

Remember to not get confused by how horribly realistic your digital reality is. Simply looking out the window at the birds passing overhead will not result in a killing spree for your neighbor.

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

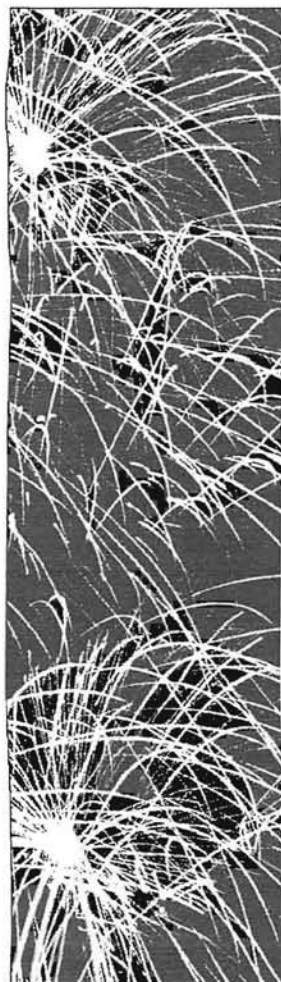
You have finally accomplished your lifelong goal. Your Paladin has reached level 99, something which is not even supposed to be possible. Now, put down the cheesy poofs, and go get some sun.

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

Spiky hair? Check. Mysterious past? Check. Excessively complicated outfit? Check. Sword which is clearly compensating for something? Check. You have now found your perfect man: follow him to the end.

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

Does punching trees give you wood? Do zombies come out at night, screech and self-destruct to destroy your house? Have you spent a lifetime creating a virtual reality? Yup, you're a miner.



Are you planning to graduate this semester?  
Have you applied for graduation?  
If not, visit your academic advisor today!!!

## 2011 DECEMBER Commencement

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17  
MARK TWAIN BUILDING

EACH CEREMONY WILL BE APPROXIMATELY 1½ HOURS IN LENGTH.  
No tickets required.

- 10 A.M. - College of Education  
- College of Nursing  
- College of Fine Arts & Communication  
- School of Social Work  
- BGS/BIS  
- Master of Public Policy Administration

2 P.M. - College of Arts and Sciences

- 6 P.M. - College of Business Administration  
- UMSL/WU Joint Undergraduate Engineering Program  
- Missouri University S&T-Engineering Education Center

### All Graduating Seniors

- Activate your Free Alumni Membership!
- Get a FREE cupcake and hot chocolate from S.T.A.T. November 1, 2, 3
- At the Grad Fair, MSC - Bookstore
- Stop by the UMSL Alumni Association Table

### Don't Miss the Grad Fair

November 1, 2, 3 at the UMSL Bookstore in the MSC • 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.  
Purchase your cap, gown and tassels, etc. Attire available in bookstore after these dates but a \$10 late fee will apply after Monday, November 28.

Visit the UMSL Commencement website at [umsl.edu/commencement](http://umsl.edu/commencement) for more information and to pre-register for your commencement photos with GradImages™.

**FOR \$10 OR LESS**

**KATHY MATTEA**  
NOVEMBER 4 / \$10

**THE IMPROVISED SHAKESPEARE COMPANY**  
NOVEMBER 5 / \$10

**UNIVERSITY SINGERS & VOCAL POINT CONCERT**  
NOVEMBER 9 / FREE

**SUM OF MOTION - UMSL DANCE**  
NOVEMBER 10-12 / \$5

**JOSHUA'S BOOTS**  
NOVEMBER 18 / FREE  
*Presented by Opera Theatre of Saint Louis*

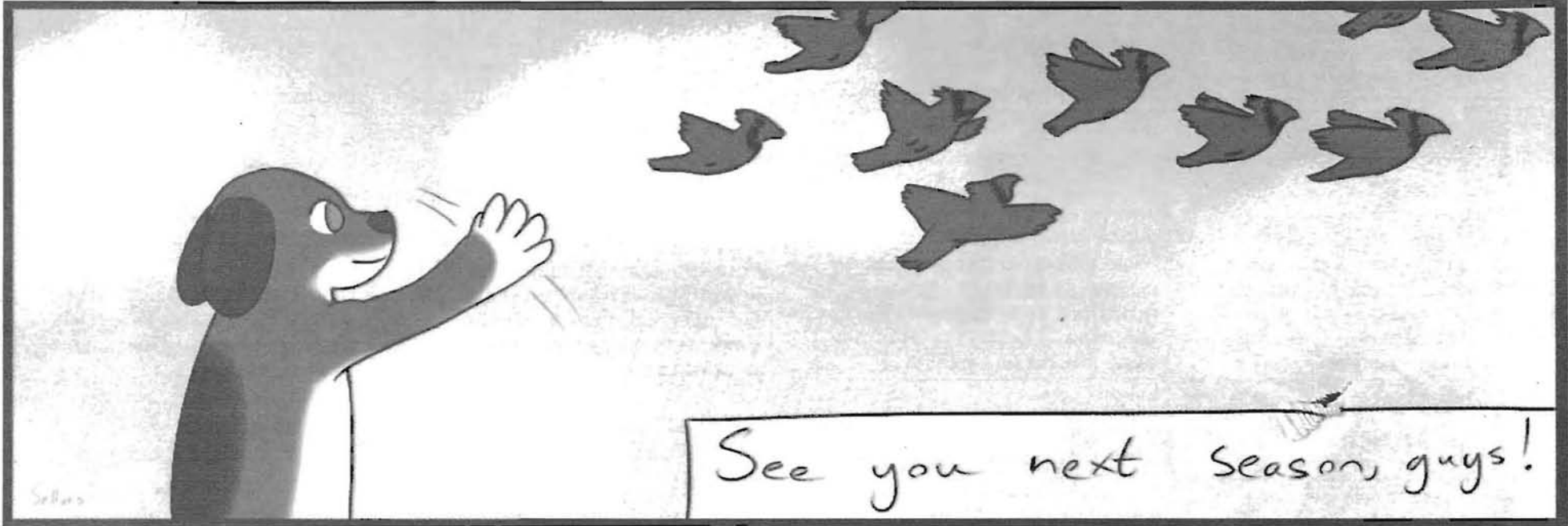
**JIM BRICKMAN**  
**A CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION**  
NOVEMBER 26 / \$10

AVAILABLE AT THE TOUHILL TICKET OFFICE  
with a valid UMSL Student ID  
*Quantities are limited.*

**FOR INFO VISIT**  
**TOUHILL.ORG/STUDENTTIX**

# Comics

## Simply Beagle by Karlee Sellars



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 BLACK. ADULT SIZES S-XXXL AND IN CHILD SIZES. ORDER YOURS TODAY

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THANK YOU!