

UMSL'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWS

St. Louis International Film Festival brings screenings to UMSL campus

CATE MARQUIS
A&E EDITOR

University of Missouri-St. Louis plays a significant role in this year's St. Louis International Film Festival (SLIFF), with festival film screenings and three free campus events November 15-21. This is the first year that UMSL has been a major venue at the festival.

Events on November 15 and 16 at Gallery 210 kicked off the portion of SLIFF being held at UMSL, "Twenty Years Later - Films from the Former Yugoslavia." "Twenty Years Later - Films from the Former Yugoslavia" focuses on films from countries that were once part of Yugoslavia, exploring how these national cinemas have evolved and takes a look at film making in those nations now. It includes screenings of films from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, and Serbia.

The program is curated by Dr. Rita Csapo-Sweet, associate professor of media studies and fellow in the Center for International Studies at UMSL. It is co-sponsored by University of Missouri Research Board and the UMSL Office of International Studies and Programs, in conjunction with Cinema St. Louis, the presenter of SLIFF.

Films will be screened at Gallery 210 throughout the week. There is a panel discussion on November 20 at 4 p.m., in which the participating filmmakers discuss the state of cinema in the former Yugoslavia region and the influence of art on politics and national identity there. The discussion will follow a screening of the short "Only the Chimney Stays" (6 min.) by Zlatko Cosic, a former resident of Bosnia and Herzegovina who now lives in St. Louis.

On November 15, SLIFF presented its Contemporary Cinema Award to acclaimed Croatian director Arsen Anton Ostojic. On November 16, UMSL hosted the free Balkan Student Film Festival at Gallery 210.

The Balkan Student Film Festival



(1) Filmmakers gather at reception (2) Postcard advertising the festival (3) Rita Csapo-Sweet, Chancellor Thomas George, exchange student Hari Secic and film producer Almir Sahinovic

took place on November 16 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and included a reception after the screenings. It was the American premiere of these short films from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Croatia and Slovenia. One of the student filmmakers, Hari Secic, whose film "Variations" was shown, helped introduce the films. Secic is a Bosnian student who will be studying at UMSL as part of a new exchange program with University of Sarajevo. The event was attended by Chancellor Thomas George and his wife Barbara Harbach, Professor of Music, Music History, Music Composition and Harpsichord, and

Jean M.K. Miller, Dean College of Fine Arts and Communication.

SLIFF's Contemporary Cinema Award is considered one of its major awards and "honors filmmakers in mid-career doing challenging, innovative work," according to their website. The award was presented November 15 at 7 p.m. in the Gallery 210 auditorium along with a free screening of the director's first film "A Wonderful Night in Split," which played at the festival in 2005. Ostojic's latest film, "Halima's Path," is being shown as part of this year's festival. Ostojic's first feature film "A Wonderful Night in

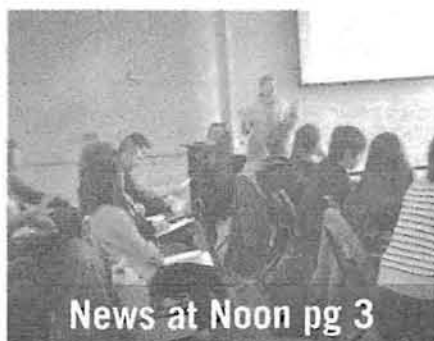
Split" won 24 film awards in 2004 and was the official Croatian entry in the Academy Awards' Foreign-Language Film Award category. "A Wonderful Night in Split" is a wild ride of a film which takes place around a New Year's Eve rock concert held in the medieval city of Split, not many years after the break-up of Yugoslavia.

Ostojic's new film, "Halima's Path" has earned 22 awards and screened at more than 20 film festivals. The drama focuses on a woman who was a victim of organized rape during the war. "Halima's Path" will be shown

November 19, at 2:15 p.m. and November 21 at 7 p.m. at Plaza Frontenac Cinema.

The other films in the series shown free at Gallery 210 include Serbian director Boris Mitic's dark comedy "Goodbye, How Are You?" (November 20, 3 p.m.), Serbian director Mila Turajlic's "Cinema Komunisto" (November 20, 7 p.m.), an examination of the films of the Tito era, and Bosnian director Adis Bakrac's "The Abandoned," a drama about a 13-year-old boy in an orphanage that explores the issues of children born of rape during the war.

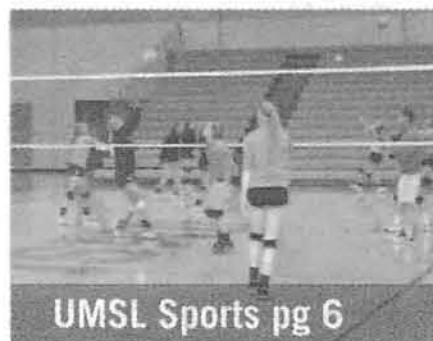
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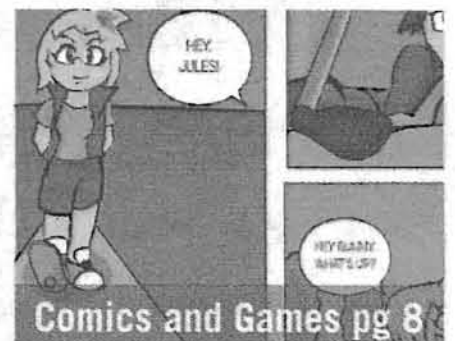
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This week:

- Coverage of UMSL's first Lock-In
- More A&E, Features, and Opinions

Jubilee Flashback by Albert Nall

The Current has been a part of UMSL since 1966. In honor of the campus' 50th anniversary, we are reprinting articles from years past. These photos originally ran on November 16, 1989. For more Jubilee Flashback, visit thecurrent-online.com.

When was the last time you heard of such terms in basketball as the "Run and Gun" and "Run and Shoot"? No, this has nothing to do with Michael Jordan or Kobe Bryant. This was actually a description of the 1989 University of Missouri—St. Louis Riverwomen basketball team under their new head coach Bobbi Morse. An article on the Riverwomen published in the November 16, 1989 issue of The Current predicted some great things for the UMSL women's basketball team.

Morse came from Kaskaska Community College in Centralia, Illinois, with a record of 71–25 over a three-year period.

"Morse brings a very positive and upbeat attitude to the Riverwomen program that could see a lot of numbers on the scoreboard and some worried looks on opponent's faces," Mike Van Roo, Sports Editor of The Current in 1989, said.

Van Roo noted that junior guard Lisa Houska was leading the conference in assists with 171, and boldly predicted that she would break the school record by the time her career was over; he was right. Houska finished her career with a school record of 636 assists. Sophomore guard Tammy Putman was leading the team in rebounding averages with a 7.9 average per game. Putman would finish her basketball career as the all-time career leader in in rebounds with 1,028. Sophomore forward Kim Cooper had a 9.7 point average and 5.4 rebound average at the time and was a member of the All Freshman MIAA team in 1988 and 1989, along with sophomore guard Monica Steinhoff.

As a freshman, Steinhoff was second on the team in scoring in the previous season to Kris Wilmesher, a senior in 1989 and 1990. Steinhoff would go on to take the sophomore class record from Gina Gregory (1984–1985) with 660 points, upping the previous record of 472 points. Wilmesher was in third place with 390 points in 1986–1987 when she was a sophomore. With 2,019 points, Steinhoff stands as the all-time school leader among the women in career scoring. In second and third place respectively are Gregory, with 1,752 career points, and Wilmesher, with 1,497 points for her career. Of the other Riverwomen listed in the 1989 article, Cooper finished her career with 1,270 points for fourth place all-time, and Putnam secured sixth place with 1,157 points.

In the 1989 article, Coach Morse stated that this offense was capable of scoring 100 points on some nights. The Riverwomen made good on Morse's boasts in 1989–1990 by defeating McKendree 108–90 in their first game on December 17, and again on January 14, 1990 by a score of 109–90. The Riverwomen scored 100 points twice more against Concordia and Truman, with 100–40 against Concordia on January 6, 1990. Unfortunately, the Riverwomen lost to Truman 109–105 on January 12, 1990. During the 1989–1990 seasons, the Riverwomen set a school record in points with an 80.2 average per game. The following year in 1990–1991, the Riverwomen set a new record again with an 83.9 average per game. Both records still stand.



Lisa Houska, Kim Cooper, Tammy Putnam, Monica Steinhoff

THE UNDERCURRENT By Siyun Zhang

HOW ARE YOU GOING TO SPEND THANKSGIVING BREAK?



ANDREW HARTLEY
 Biochem/Biotech,
 Freshman
 "I have no idea."



GABBY RUPP
 Biochem/Biotech,
 Sophomore
 "I'm going to visit my boyfriend's family and then going Black Friday shopping."



NICK MORGAN
 Biochem/Biotech, Junior
 "I'm going to see my family."

MON 56 ^{HI} 37 ^{LOW}	TUE 57 ^{HI} 41 ^{LOW}	WED 57 ^{HI} 46 ^{LOW}	THU 52 ^{HI} 39 ^{LOW}	FRI 49 ^{HI} 37 ^{LOW}	SAT 44 ^{HI} 30 ^{LOW}	SUN 40 ^{HI} 32 ^{LOW}
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'News at Noon' discusses social media

SIMONNE KIMBLE
STAFF WRITER

Faculty and students participated in the November 13 "News at Noon" discussion titled "Social Media: Owing Your Identity" from 12:15 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Century Room C of the Millennium Student Center. News at Noon is co-sponsored by The Current and The New York Times, with support from The Center for Teaching and Learning. The discussion was led by Perry D. Drake, professor of social and digital media marketing at the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

Drake jumpstarted the discussion with the following question: "Do we need laws to protect teens from themselves?"

Younger and younger kids are joining online social networks such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, and others. Is it the government's right to step in and protect teenagers by giving them the option of permanently deleting content on social networking sites so that it can never be used against them? Or should this be left to the parents?

Some students and faculty participating in the discussion

believed that the government should have nothing to do with teenage situations on social networks unless there's a threat of harm to others.

Ali Lillie, senior, marketing, was one of many students who disagreed with any such law.

"I think it is something they should keep their noses out of," Lillie said.

Multiple students and faculty felt that if a teenager is not mature enough or if a parent does not trust their child to use social networking sites responsibly, then they should not have been allowed to have accounts on such sites. Other participants disagreed, citing the possibility that government involvement could help address issues on social networks that parents cannot control.

California legislators are the first in trying to put in place measures that would "give minors the legal right to scrub away their online indiscretions," as it says in Somini Sengupta's article, "Sharing With a Safety Net."

On Facebook last February,



Students and faculty share opinions at 'News at Noon'

teenager Justin Carter made a threatening school shooting post that got him a felony terrorism charge for about six months. His father likes the idea of what the California legislation is trying to do but still questions it.

"They should be allowed to delete it, but then again is it really deleted?" Carter said.

A situation at Biggy Coffee that Drake brought attention to turned heads. An employee of the company located in Livonia, Michigan was terminated because of an inappropriate tweet made about Trayvon Martin. The exact

tweet read "I want to thank god... for that bullet that killed Trayvon Martin." Was it appropriate for this teenager to get fired for voicing his opinion?

While the answers to that question proved to be a contentious topic, it led to a discussion on whether the way that people portray themselves on social media is a reflection of their employer. Many felt that if an employer feels that the individual reflects badly on their organization, it's their decision if they want to keep that employee or not.

Drake also noted that younger

teens are going to Twitter or Instagram, instead of Facebook, due to privacy reasons. He asked the participants whether they believed teenagers leaving Facebook was just a phase or if it would prove permanent. The majority of the participants believed that the migration is just a phase, as Facebook is an easy way for people to keep up with old friends from high school and past jobs.

Free pizza was provided for everyone in attendance. "News at Noon" discussions about current events will take place every month. For more information visit www.thecurrent-online.com

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Honors college course collects St. Louis history

HEATHER WELBORN
FEATURES EDITOR

Try turning an encyclopedia into a haiku. This is the challenge issued to students of Professor Robert Wilson's class, *Beyond the Buildings: Preserving St. Louis Neighborhoods*, in the Pierre Laclède Honors College. The service-learning course gives students an opportunity to interview St. Louis residents and share their stories with a broader public audience. The short student-produced video documentaries are an effort to preserve the diverse oral histories of St. Louis. *Beyond the Buildings* is made possible through community partnerships between the University of Missouri—St. Louis Honors College, KETC Channel 9, The Landmark Association and the Missouri History Museum.

Robert Wilson, PhD, is an Honors College Lecturer and uses his service-learning courses to incorporate history into the community.

"So much of history is memorizing names, dates and places, and we don't want to do that," Wilson said. "We want to actually give back to the community, and we're using history to do that."

Beyond the Buildings is an

extension of *Where We Live*, a service-learning course that took place during the spring. As part of the course, students worked with Normandy and Hazelwood residents to create different community projects for presentation to city council. For his *Beyond the Buildings* course, Wilson reached out to the Landmark Association, who provided the interview subjects. Students taking the course were each partnered up with a member of the community, and filmed hour-long interviews with participants who shared unique stories from their lives. KETC provided professional video cameras and tripods for student use, as well as training in interviewing, filming and editing. After filming the interviews, students selected the story they wanted to tell from their footage, editing everything down to a finished product of under three minutes. As the course progressed, editing proved itself to be the most challenging aspect of the documentary process.

"The biggest problem for the students in creating a 3-minute story is having to cut some wonderful quotes from the residents," Wilson said, noting

that much of the filming and editing process is parallel to writing an essay, complete with

"THE OVERARCHING GOAL OF 'BEYOND THE BUILDINGS' IS TO SHARE THE VOICES OF ALL MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY."

revision and reorganization.

Elizabeth Eikmann, senior, English, is a student facilitator and participant in *Beyond the Buildings*. Eikmann helped Wilson create the course after serving as a teaching assistant for the *Where We Live* course last semester. Eikmann shared that the Honors College partnership with the Landmark Association worked out perfectly for both parties, noting that the Landmark didn't have an oral history section in their archives until UMSL approached them with their service-learning ideas. The Missouri History Museum was also instrumental in student success, providing lessons

in what to ask participants and how to approach topics during an interview.

"We as a university have been able to connect with so many different institutions in St. Louis," Eikmann said.

Commenting on the difficulty of the student editing process, Eikmann noted that students become creatively attached to the stories captured during the interview. Eikmann described the interview that she conducted with her community partner as raw and emotional, adding that the interviewee told so many stories and let her into so many different parts of her life.

"How am I going to tell the great story of this wonderful person in under three minutes?" Eikmann said, and later found that the key to cutting so much footage down to fit such a short time frame was to present a story that would engage viewers the most.

The short oral histories will be presented as a cohesive collection on December 3 at 7 p.m. at the Missouri History Museum. Participants and students are each given a commemorative copy of the completed project, which will be presented to the Landmark

Association for their ongoing archives.

Eikmann expressed satisfaction with the service-learning course, describing the short films as gateways to learning about each individual topic, with each story touching on different backgrounds, neighborhoods, and periods of time in St. Louis.

Service-learning courses like these allow students to gain a better understanding of the city they reside in.

"[The project] is hopefully going to touch a lot of people [by showing] how rich the history is, how loud and great these peoples' stories speak."

The overarching goal of *Beyond the Buildings* is to share the voices of all members of the community.

"As a public historian, it is important to make sure that everyone is represented and that often the history books do not focus on minorities and other underrepresented groups. Public historians should include as many points of view as possible in reconstructing historical events," Wilson said.

NaNoWriMo encourages writers to get their stories out

KATHLEEN "KAT" RIDDLER
COPY EDITOR

Have you ever wanted to write a novel but never had the time? Why not test your resolve by participating in the National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo) contest? NaNoWriMo is a challenge that started in the San Francisco Bay area by Chris Baty in 1999 to encourage authors to write on a new novel every day over the course of a month. By November's end, authors should have 50,000 words completed, roughly 1700 words a day. The completed novels are then submitted electronically by November 30 to be approved by the NaNoWriMo team. Writers who complete the word requirement by month's end are deemed a winner.

NaNoWriMo aims to get people to write regularly. Writers of any genre focus on daily output over plot and work to establish a regular writing routine. Any topic is acceptable, and submitting multiple works is allowed for adventurous authors. Having a deadline to submit your work by

forces participants to commit to their work and put words down on paper.

Stacy Gorse, senior, English, joined NaNoWriMo in 2008. "I've been role playing for a long time, so when my characters started taking over my thoughts and trying to have stories written about them, I tried to make it into a novel or two," she said. "Every time I have made the NaNoWriMo attempt, it's been the same characters, but the story just keeps getting better and better."

Those eager to undertake the endeavor but nervous about the idea are not alone. There are official forums that connect participants to share advice, information, criticism, and overall online support. Most regions have Municipal Liaisons, volunteers who help organize local events. These meetings are used to create a positive work environment and keep participants on their goal by the end of the month. Gorse says NaNoWriMo is a social

experience. "You get to nerd out over your own writing and you don't have to feel weird about it because everyone else wants to do the same thing; they're going through the same struggle you are," she said. "You're all in the same race, and all you have to do is finish it to win. That motivation you didn't have in October? Yeah, you have that in November because now you have friends to do it with and a way to hold yourself accountable for getting it done."

The Liaisons encourage and coordinate a kickoff party and a "Thank god It's Over" party to celebrate successes and share the new novels. They also coordinate events like weekend meet-ups to get physical feedback and conduct overnight write-ins to help writers. These events aim to help make the writing experience easier by commenting with writers who share the same struggle. These events can also help with inspiration and the ever-frightening writer's block.

Mary Troy, professor of English and published author, commented on where inspiration can come from, "Writers must first interest themselves, so the best rule is to write about what confuses, bewilders, annoys, fascinates, frightens, or pleases them," she said. "I think the advice to write what you know is often taken too narrowly by beginning writers. The truth is most of us know quite a bit."

"YOU GET TO NERD OUT OVER YOUR OWN WRITING AND YOU DON'T HAVE TO FEEL WEIRD ABOUT IT..."

Troy also has advice for overcoming the dreaded writer's block. "I think writer's block comes from a fear of falling short of the writer's own delusions of

greatness. I believe the world is rich and stories are all around us. And yes, some are more interesting than others. But you have chosen one you think interesting, so revel in it."

University of Missouri—St. Louis offers several creative writing classes as well as a Creative Writing Certificate that can be added to any major. There are also creative writing clubs on and off campus. Troy offers looking into the St. Louis Writers Workshop, the St. Louis Writers Guild, and smaller breakout groups organized by region or genre. For more information and to sign up for the writing challenge, go to <http://nanowrimo.org/>.

"I definitely advise others to participate. NaNoWriMo offers you a lot of things, including resources for writing on the website, but what I think is most important is that it's there to motivate you," Gorse said.

International film festival brings the world to St. Louis

CATE MARQUIS
A&E EDITOR

Don't fear the subtitles. With films in English and a dazzling array of other languages, St. Louis International Film Festival 2013 gives film fans an early peek at Oscar contenders with big stars and directors, hit films from the festival circuit, excellent international films from around the world. Documentaries, animated films, and shorts are among the treats awaiting film fans. Comedies, dramas, thrillers and documentaries will also be screened, proving that no matter what your tastes are, there's sure to be a film to please you.

The St. Louis International Film Festival runs November 14-24 at various venues around town. This is the first year that University of Missouri-St. Louis has been one of the major venues, as it plays host to "Twenty Years Later - Films from the Former Yugoslavia" at Gallery 210. Most festival films will screen at the Tivoli Theater and Plaza Frontenac Cinema, with other screenings at Webster University, Washington University, KDHX and the Wildey Theater in Belleville, Illinois.

The festival kicked-off on November 14 with an opening night party and a screening of "We Always Lie To Strangers," a documentary about Branson, Missouri. Early highlights included Friday's screening of "Nebraska," which is getting Oscar buzz for Bruce Dern's performance and is directed by Alexander Payne ("The Descendants"). Other highlights included the Judi Dench Oscar-hopeful "Philomena" and drama "August: Osage County," starring Meryl Streep, Julia Roberts and Ewan MacGregor.

There are plenty more film fest to go this week. One high-profile film coming up is "Mandela: Long Walk To Freedom" (November 23, 6 p.m., Tivoli). This epic film about Nelson Mandela and South Africa's path to freedom stars Idris Elba, who audiences may recognize from "The Wire." It is directed by Justin Chadwick ("The Other Boleyn Girl") and is one of the hottest films on the film festival circuit.

Another film garnering high-praise at film festivals is "Invisible Woman" (November 24, 6:30 p.m., Plaza Frontenac). Ralph Fiennes

FILM FESTIVAL



Idris Elba and Naomie Harris star in *Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom*

stars in and directs this film about Charles Dickens and his later in life relationship with a younger woman (Felicity Jones).

"The Broken Circle Breakdown" (November 20, 6:45 p.m., Tivoli) is the official Oscar entry from the Netherlands, in Flemish and English. It tells the romantic and dramatic tale of a tattoo shop owner and banjo player who fall in love, despite their major differences.

The animated "Ernest and Celestine" (November 23, noon, Washington University's Brown Auditorium) is a charming French family film that is winning praise from audiences at festivals around

the globe.

A drama also getting lots of attention on the festival circuit is "The Past" (November 22, 8:15 p.m., Plaza Frontenac), a film in French and Farsi which is Iran's entree for the Oscars next year. It stars Berenice Bejo, who starred in Oscar-winner "The Artist," as the estranged French wife of an Iranian man.

SLIFF is a great place to catch Oscar nominees from other countries. Among them this year are "The Great Beauty" (Italy), "Halima's Path" (Croatia), "Ilo Ilo" (Singapore) and "The Missing Picture" (Cambodia). The festival

is also an official qualifying venue for Oscar nominated short films. Shorts programs include comedies, animated, documentaries and dramas.

Awards, panel discussions and parties are part of the festival fun. The event with director Oliver Stone, this year's Lifetime Achievement Award winner, and the screening of JFK are sold out but other special events are still open. The festival closes with award presentation and party on November 24 at 8 p.m. at the Contemporary Art Museum.

Information on films, times and tickets can be found at www.cinemastlouis.org.

SLIFF'S "TWENTY YEARS LATER - FILMS FROM THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA" CONTINUES THIS WEEK WITH THE FOLLOWING FILMS SHOWN FREE AT GALLERY 210:

"Goodbye, How Are You?"

Wednesday, November 20, 3 p.m.

Director Boris Mitic, Serbia, 2009, 61 min.

Director Boris Mitic wrote, shot, edited, and produced this darkly comic film. The SLIFF website says "(Mitic) uses his camera to dissect the corpse of Yugoslavia in this primer on Balkan intellectual thought, resistance, and history. The wittiest, blackest satirical aphorisms of the modern era are saluted in an entertaining Serbian travelogue that details how citizens use language to critique - and resist - the madness of politics." Mitic will be on hand to introduce his film.

"Cinema Komunista"

Wednesday, November 20, 7 p.m.

Director Mila Turajlic, Serbia, 2011, 101 min.

According to the SLIFF website, this documentary "examines the crumbling remains of Tito's film industry, exploring the rise and fall of the cinematic illusion called Yugoslavia. Using rare footage from dozens of forgotten Yugoslav films and a never-seen-before archive from film sets and Tito's private screenings, the documentary re-creates the narrative of a country - the stories told on screen and the ones hidden behind it." Boris Mitic, director of "Goodbye, How Are You?" will introduce the film.

"The Abandoned" (Ostavljjeni)

Thursday, Nov. 21, 2-45 p.m.

Director Adis Bakrac, Bosnia & Herzegovina, 2010, 85 min.

The SLIFF website describes this drama as exploring "the horrific problem of children born out of rape and often abandoned - a 13-year-old boy lives in an orphanage waiting for his mother to come for him." The film screens with the short "The Way We Played" (Samir Mehanovic, Bosnia & Herzegovina, 2006, 13 min.), "in which violence among children playing games escalates in an environment of increasing nationalism." Producer Almir Sahinovic will introduce the two films.

INTERVIEW

Rita Csapo-Sweet shares her thoughts

CATE MARQUIS
A&E EDITOR

As part of the St. Louis International Film Festival, films will be shown at Gallery 210 on campus through November. The Current spoke recently with Rita Csapo-Sweet, PhD, assistant professor of communications and curator of "Twenty Years Later - Films From the Former Yugoslavia" and the Balkan Student Film Festival.

The Current: What prompted this look back at films of Yugoslavia 20 years on?

Rita Csapo-Sweet: 2012 was the twentieth anniversary of the start of the siege of Sarajevo. I worked with the Holocaust Museum and Learning Center [in St. Louis] and the Bosnian community on a number of events during that

year to commemorate the event. Through that I realized how much and yet how little has changed in 20 years. Because St. Louis is a "safe" or neutral environment, I wanted to explore some of these difficult issues here. And also see what role cinema can play.

TC: How did you select these films?

RC: I met Arsen [Ostojic, recipient of the Contemporary Cinema Award and director of "Halima's Path"] here when he showed "Split" and never forgot those images. I met Almir [Sahinovic, director of "The Abandoned"] here when he showed "Landscape Above the Horizon." Plus we have worked together on the exchange project with UMSL and UNSA [University of Sarajevo] since 2007. His partner is Lejla Panjeta. Boris [Mitic, director of "Goodbye, How Are You?"] and I met at the Mediawave Festival

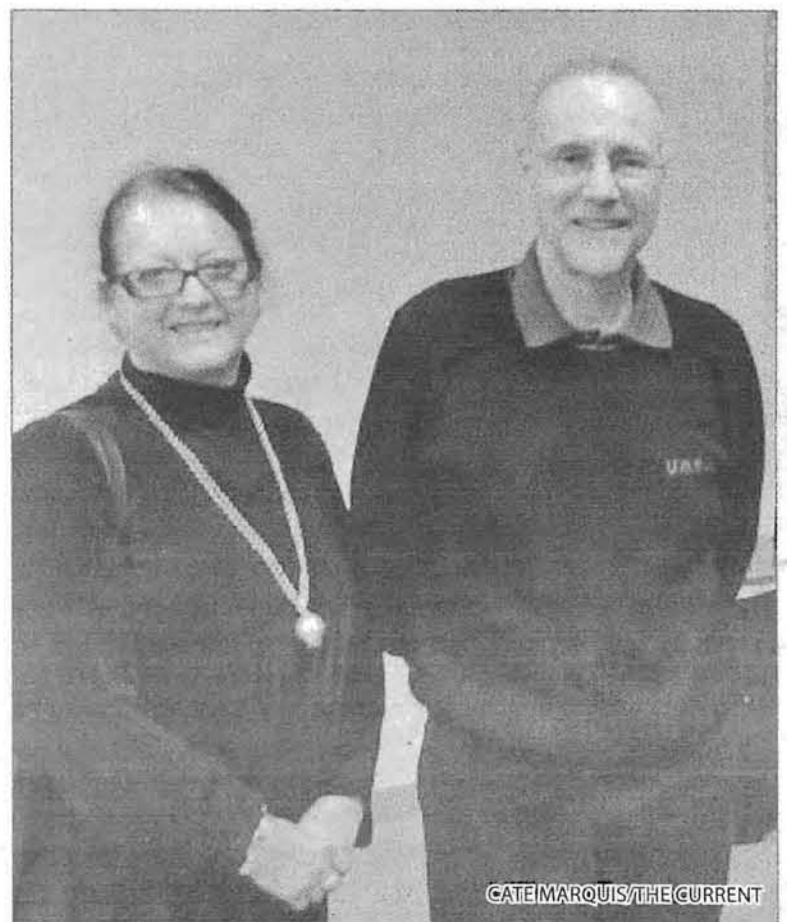
in Hungary in 2008, I think. I loved "Goodbye" and Boris is a lot of fun, so this became the perfect time. Hari [Secic, whose film "Variations" is part of the student festival] is the first student from UNSA to study here. I liked his film and was able to bring him out.

TC: What are some of the themes and styles that unite and divide the national cinemas of the former Yugoslavia?

RC: I don't really know. That's what should come out during this event. I want THEM to tell us.

TC: Tell me about the Bosnian Student Film Fest that is taking place at Gallery 210?

RC: Great films from all the different countries in former Yugoslavia. I saw them when I was in Sarajevo two years ago and wanted to bring them here. Hari knows all the details since he was one of the original curators.



Rita Csapo-Sweet and Chancellor Tom George

Women's basketball team ready for season

ADDY LAI
STAFF WRITER

The University of Missouri-St. Louis women's basketball team took on the Saint Louis University Billikens November 2, in their first exhibition game of the season. With the final score being a 59-52 win for the UMSL Tritons against the Division I Billikens at the Chaifetz Arena, it was hard not to walk away with an abundance of optimism about the team's upcoming season.

"I thought it went very well," Coach Katie Vaughn said. "Our returners are doing a great job with picking up where they left off last year and just catching onto things quicker so that we are able to move quicker ahead as far as offensively and defensively."

Turning the program around in her first season, Coach Vaughn led the Tritons to a winning season with a record of 15-12 last year. This season, she's wasted

no time preparing the team with drills, work-outs, and game films.

"We watch a lot of game film. We watch our film when we play and we also watch film on the other teams to kind of see what they do and their tendencies and things like that," Vaughn said.

Vaughn emphasized that games were another important learning tool and an "opportunity for [the team] to get better." With a squad of six newcomers, four freshman, two transfers, and nine returning players, it was a nice way to start the season and get their feet wet before the rigors of the regular season begin. Did they get a kick out of it?

They did," Vaughn said. "They had fun. Obviously, we won. So that always helps with morale of the team... the Exhibition was good for us."

In particular, Vaughn noted

the performance of guard Sydney Bloch, freshman, business. She "stepped up her game," as Vaughn puts it, during her first match with a Division I team.

"She was kind of a surprise for me," Vaughn said. Overall, the whole team got much out of the Exhibition Game.

"[They] are strides ahead of where we were last year at this time... It's definitely going to be a team of playing hard, playing together, and I'll think we'll have a lot of good outcomes," Vaughn said.

On November 16, the Tritons women's basketball team hosted the season opener against Lindenwood.

"We played them last year and it was a good match up, so it will be good to see them again this year. It'll be a good competition and an opportunity to get better,"

Vaughn said.

At 5:30 pm on game day, the stands of the Mark Twain Athletic & Fitness Center started to trickle in with fans ready to cheer for both the men's and women's basketball teams.

"Both programs are going in the right direction and athletics in general are going in the right direction and we need all the support we can get [so that we have] that advantage over our incoming teams that are coming from long travels," Vaughn said.

The Tritons went on to defeat Lindenwood 70-58 with a strong offensive showing, and proving that the previous win against Saint Louis University was no fluke.

"I have expectations of this team," Vaughn said. It definitely shows with her dedication to push her team toward their

limits to reach new heights and perhaps another winning season. The Tritons will attempt to keep their early win streak going this weekend when they travel to Nashville, Tennessee on November 22 and 23 to face Trevecca Nazarene and finish up against Grand Valley State on Saturday in the Pops Duncan Classic. The Tritons will return to the Mark Twain Athletic & Fitness Center on November 29 to face Harris Stowe, tipping off at 3 p.m.

UMSL students gain free admission for all home contests. For more information on UMSL athletes, games, live videos, or scores, visit the official website of the Department of Athletics at umsltritons.com. Current sports schedules, including that of the women's basketball team this season, are also available.

Volleyball, basketball teams excel this week

JOHN "SAMMY" LUDEMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

The University of Missouri-St. Louis women's volleyball team lost to the Southern Indiana Screaming Eagles 0-3 on November 10 in Evansville, Indiana. Through set scores of 25-14, 25-20, and 25-22, the Screaming Eagles offensively overpowered UMSL. Chelsea Burkle, senior, nursing, led the UMSL Tritons with 11 kills and 10 digs. Emily Bragaw, junior, elementary education, also contributed 10 digs and Anna McNulty, senior, communications, added 17 assists.

UMSL men's basketball defeated the Northwood University Timberwolves 78-66 on November 10 in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. The Tritons, now posting a 1-1 record, cruised to victory shooting 46.3 percent from the field and never losing their lead. Aereon Smith, junior, business, led the Tritons in scoring with 21 points going 8-12 from the field, as well as recording 5 assists and 2 steals.

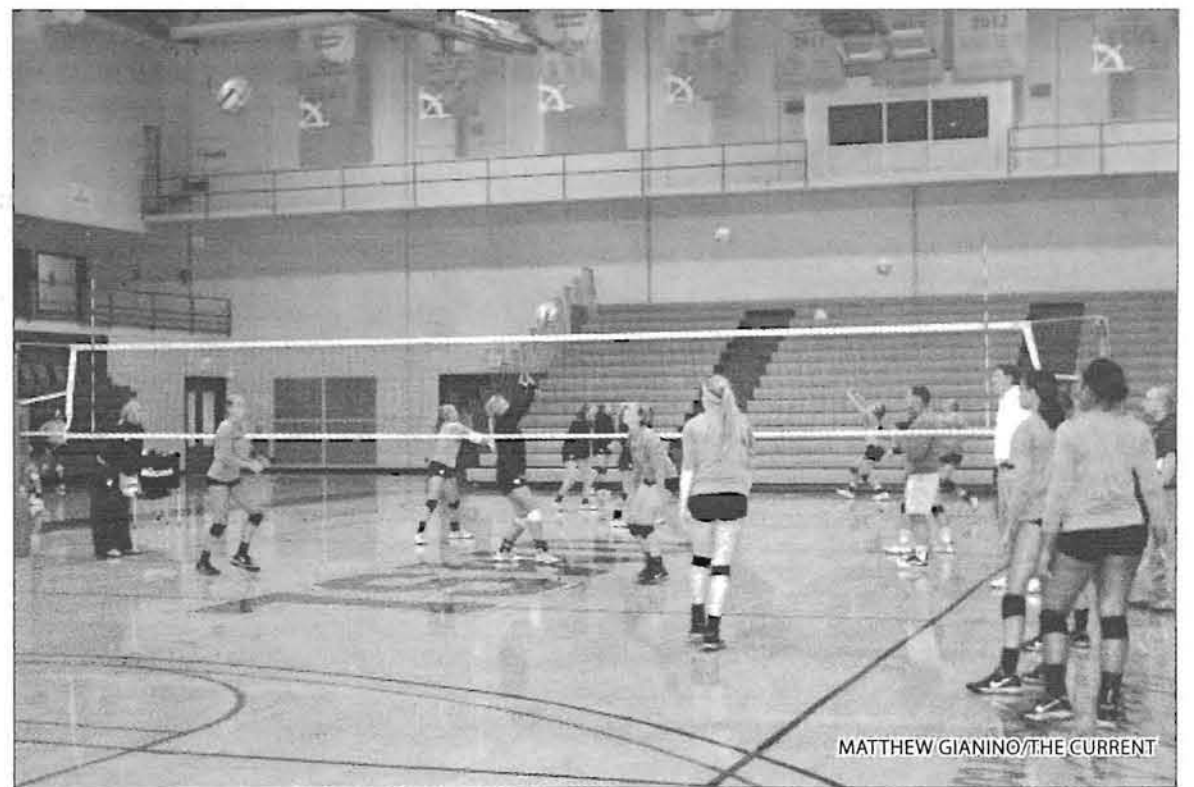
UMSL women's volleyball defeated the Maryville Saints 3-0 on November 12 in St. Louis, Missouri. Through set scores of 25-20, 25-18, and 25-12 the Tritons improve to 16-13 overall. Chelsea Burkle, senior, nursing, led the Tritons in kills with 14. Lindsay Meyer, sophomore,

business, added an impressive 37 assists and Emily Bragaw, junior, elementary education, contributed with 15 digs.

UMSL men's basketball defeated the Upper Iowa Peacocks 79-69 on November 14 in the Mark Twain Athletic & Fitness Center. The Tritons trailed 36-40 at the half, but used strong defense and a 13-2 run in the second half to out-muscle the Peacocks. Aereon Smith, junior, business, recorded team highs of 23 points and 2 blocks for the Tritons, also leading the team with three turnovers. Tylor Wimbish, junior, liberal arts, added 13 points, 2 assists, and 2 blocks.

UMSL women's volleyball defeated the Quincy Hawks 3-0 on November 15 in the Mark Twain Athletic & Fitness Center. The Tritons swept the Hawks through set scores of 25-18, 25-21, and 25-19. With the win, the Tritons advance to a 17-13 overall record, and secure a spot in the GLVC Tournament. Jory Siebenmorgen, freshman, studio art, led the Tritons with 11 kills. Emily Bragaw, junior, elementary education, contributed 16 digs and Anna McNulty, senior, communications, added 22 assists.

UMSL women's volleyball lost to the Truman State Bulldogs 2-3



MATTHEW GIANINO/THE CURRENT

The University of Missouri-St. Louis women's volleyball team gets prepared for gameplay in the Mark Twain Building. The team secured a spot in the GLVC tournament with a 3-0 win over Quincy on November 15.

on November 16 in the Mark Twain Athletic & Fitness Center. Truman State took the win with the first two sets through set scores of 25-23 and 25-21 before the Tritons surged back, winning the third and fourth sets through set scores of 25-23 and 25-14. However, the Bulldogs defense out-powered the Tritons in the fifth and final set, winning it 15-4. Chelsea Burkle, senior, nursing, and Jory Siebenmorgen, freshman,

studio art, led the Tritons in kills with 13 each. Anna McNulty, senior, communications, and Emily Bragaw, junior, elementary education, added 30 and 25 assists, respectively. Bragaw also contributed with a team leading 24 digs.

UMSL women's basketball defeated the Lindenwood Lions 70-58 on November 15 in the Mark Twain Athletic & Fitness Center. The

Tritons' excellent shooting, 41.4 percent from the field, ignited their offense, giving the Lions little chance to catch up from a 29-26 deficit at the half. Alyssa Like, senior, biology, led the lady Tritons with 18 points, also compiling 3 assists and 2 steals. Hazaria Washington, senior, communications, added 15 points and 3 steals.

POINT

COUNTERPOINT

SHOULD TEACHERS BE ARMED IN THE CLASSROOM?

POINT: Teachers should be able to protect

Teachers have a lot of responsibility on their hands. For eight hours a day, they are in charge of molding the minds of our youth and encouraging them to think creatively and independently. They are trusted with making sure their students are well taken care of. Why not provide those teachers with the necessary tools in order to insure that they can protect their charges in a life-or-death situation?

It's extremely easy to walk into any school, even if you don't belong there. While some schools are tightening security by keeping a closer eye on who enters the building and why, doing so will do nothing to defend against students who have every right to be in the building and choose to bring a weapon to class one day.

If all schools are outfitted with metal detectors and put policies into place that involve patting down every kid who walks through the front door, then perhaps arming teachers would not be a necessary measure. However, for many schools (particularly those who struggle to pay for basics like books and

equipment), that's an expense that's simply out of the question.

As difficult and unpleasant as it may be to think about, violence in educational settings is on the rise. Though it may not seem like it, teachers (particularly those who teach high school) put their lives on the line, however indirectly, and they should be equipped with the means to protect themselves and others in a dangerous situation. If your child was placed in a room with an armed gunman, other students, and their teacher, wouldn't you feel more comfortable knowing that the only rational adult in the room has the means to fight back, should they need to?

While I'm not suggesting that every teacher, grades K-12, be outfitted with an AK-47 and undergo weapons training during summer break, it's important that every institution evolves with the society it seeks to serve. Since it's easier than ever for students (and strangers) to bring weapons into schools, school policies need to evolve in order to address that new threat.

COUNTER: Guns are not the answer

While school violence is something that's occurring with frightening frequency, giving teachers the means to literally shoot back isn't the answer.

Requiring that teachers be armed only puts more pressure on those in a position that's already extremely stressful (and underpaid). Would they have to spend time undergoing weapons training, just to teach tenth-grade science?

By providing teachers with guns, we also risk putting weapons in the hands of people who can not be trusted. There are bad apples who manage to find teaching jobs, people who should not be trusted around children at all. Do we really want to run the risk of giving guns to anyone who's in charge of a classroom?

Arming teachers would also up the chances of tragic accidents occurring. There are not many parents who would be comfortable with their child's teacher having access to a loaded gun or any other weapon during class time. Accidents involving guns are common; it's likely

that the amount of accidents in a situation where someone has access to a weapon in a room full of hyperactive children who are difficult to keep track of would be even higher.

Education and tightened security can make our schools a safer place. Students and teachers alike should be taught how to identify a suspicious stranger and what to do if they see someone with a weapon. Learning what to do and what not to do in dangerous situations is what can save lives - not training our teachers to be soldiers. Security at schools should also be increased. If anyone is entering a school, they need to have a good reason to be there and should be checked for weapons.

Prevention, in the form of making sure all students have the means to maintain mental health and seek help if they feel something is wrong, is what administrators should focus on. The key to preventing violence is schools will never be providing more tools with which to engage in even more violence.

STAFF EDITORIAL

Advertising and the over-sexualization of young people have real-life consequences

ERICA ELLEBY
STAFF WRITER



Sex, sex and more sex! Sex is everywhere that we look these days, from ads and magazines to billboard signs and commercials that sell hamburgers. Sex is featured heavily in the media because, let's face it: sex sells. The sexier an ad is the more appeal it has for consumers. While I understand that Victoria's Secret is going to have some sexiness in their ads due to their target audience, what is not ok is that we tend to see a lot of kids in different modeling ads being over-sexualized. Kids are starting to model younger and younger these days. That is all fine and dandy. However, there is a line that should not be crossed when it comes to the message that is being sent by the ads that these teens model for. Do I think that looking sexy in a magazine is wrong in a magazine ad, or even in general? No, I do not, but I do feel like there should be an age limit for models when it comes to being featured in certain types of advertisements.

I once took a class about how powerful advertising is and it's been proven that having sexual connotations in one's advertisement is a great way to increase sales. Why? Because the consumer will relate that sexual ad (and connotation) to that particular item, they are more likely to buy it because they want to feel sexy and feel that that item can help with that. Young kids being over-sexualized is a problem that I feel is not

addressed because the companies that these kids are working make a lot of money with over-sexualized ads.

While I get that companies want to appeal to their target audiences, at times they go too far. Too many young teens (especially girls) are portrayed as sexual objects in these ads in what they wear and how they pose. Many don't even know that they are being exploited. It's not just young teens who are the victims here, either; this happens to young girls as well. A prime example of this is the TLC reality show, "Toddlers and Tiaras." You have these little girls in full makeup and hair, parading around in skimpy outfits and sometimes doing performances that are too mature for their age. On the show, everyone seems to think that it's adorable. There is nothing wrong with beauty pageants, but having 6 year-olds wear low-cut sequined outfits is not the way to go about it.

Though most may think that pageants are harmless fun for their child, let's look at the bigger picture here. Like, hello! There are pedophiles out there who aroused by little girls and young women who dress in a way that makes them appear older than they really are. They lurk all over the internet. Some are so sick that they even seek out, kidnap, abuse, and often kill their young victims. Have we all forgotten about the JonBenet Ramsey case? A 6 year-old beauty queen was

sexually assaulted, murdered, and later found in her Colorado home. The case was never resolved but it was revealed that at the time, over one hundred break-ins occurred in her neighborhood. Among those who lived around her, a number of them were registered sex offenders. Ramsey was a very well known beauty pageant winner who was always in some type of pageant wearing as much make-up as an 18 year-old. We all have seen the show "To Catch A Predator." We, as a society, have to realize that these shows exist for a reason. There are many sick-minded people out there who prey on our children. By over-sexualizing our kids, companies add fuel to the fire. We need to protect our youth and make sure that they are not exploited for a profit.

Companies can still create great-looking ads without exploiting anyone. These young women and men are human beings and most don't really see the bigger picture of what's happening in those types of industries. However, from the outside looking in, what's going on is apparent.

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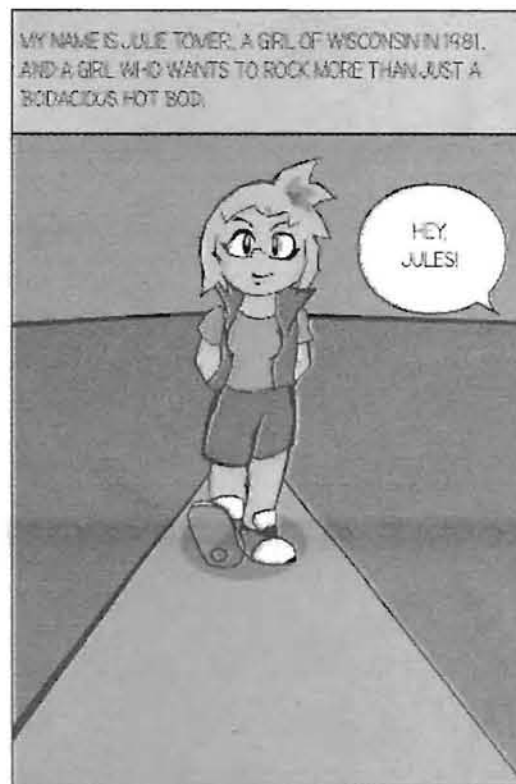
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— Oprah Winfrey

ANSWER: BE THANKFUL FOR WHAT YOU HAVE, YOU'LL END UP HAVING MORE. IF YOU CONCENTRATE ON WHAT YOU DON'T HAVE, YOU WILL NEVER EVER HAVE ENOUGH.



SPECIAL SNEEK PEAK



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Have something to say about the campus, The Current, or about topics relevant to students at UMSL? Write a letter to the editor: thecurrent@umsl.edu

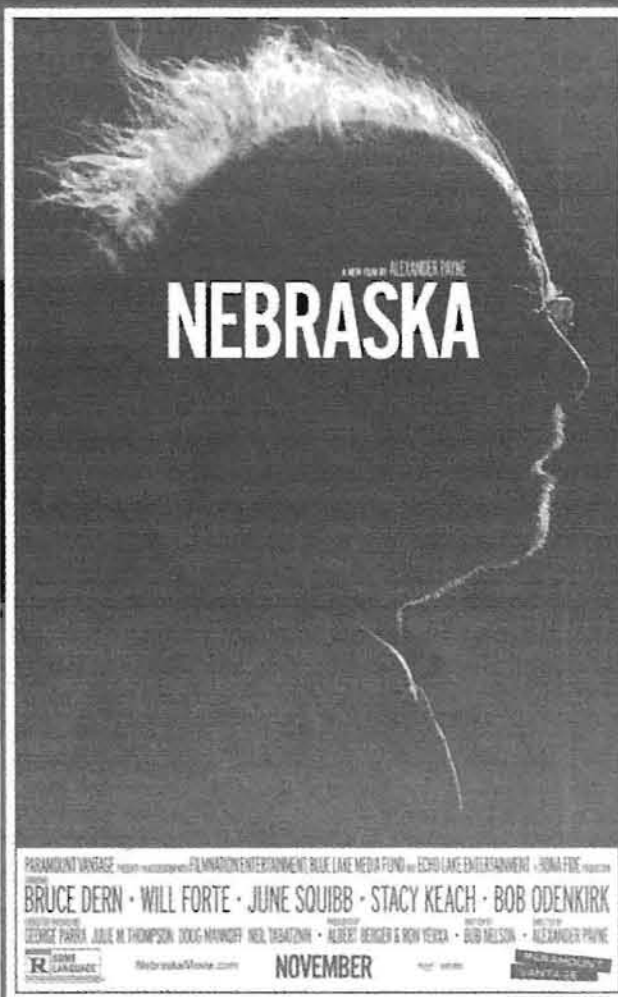
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