



## Triton Volleyball wins big in final week at home

ERIC HARRIS  
SPORTS EDITOR

Tuesday, October 28, the University of Missouri – St. Louis volleyball team hosted their fourth annual ‘Dig for the Cure’ game, where they partner with local UMSL sororities to raise money to donate to breast cancer research. This year, the Tritons took on their in-town rivals, the Maryville University Saints. Earlier this season, the Saints beat UMSL with a stunning 1-3 loss. Needless to say, UMSL’s volleyball team was ready for retribution. On top of that, the Tritons had an extra reason to be excited going into this game. Allie Ewing, junior, liberal studies, said “We just got our regional rankings, and we are in the top 8 which is huge!” Along with being in front of a larger than normal home crowd, the special night helped in getting the Tritons pumped for the game.

On a quick 3 sets, the Tritons put down 48 kills against the Saints, while also scoring 6 aces. Outside hitter, captain Haley Brightwell, graduate, business administration, led the team getting 11 kills, bringing her season total to 169. Against Maryville, outside hitter Gina Pezze, freshman, nursing, followed with 9 kills and gave UMSL 2 of our 6 aces. The Triton’s libero Emily Bragaw, senior, liberal studies, contributed 20 digs in their effort against the Saints.



ERIC HARRIS/THECURRENT

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Senior Emily Bragaw serves against Maryville

## Elections break-down

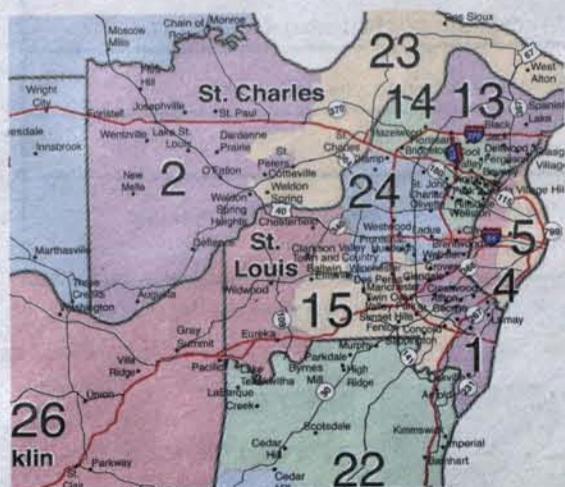
KAT RIDDLER  
NEWS EDITOR

Tuesday, November 4 is Election Day. Whether or not young voters will turn out

### State Auditor

- Thomas Schweich - Incumbent
- Sean O'Toole
- Rodney Farthing

### St. Louis region State Senate map and districts' candidates



- 2 ● Bob Onder
- 4 ● Joe Keaveny
- 14 ● Courtney Blunt
- 22 ● Maria Chappelle-Nadal
- 24 ● Jeff Roorda
- 24 ● Paul Wieland
- 26 ● Jill Schupp
- 26 ● Jay Ashcroft
- 26 ● Jim Higgins
- 26 ● Lloyd Klinedinst
- 26 ● Dave Schatz

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to exercise their right to vote continues to be an open question. To assist you in knowing more about what will be on the ballot here in Missouri, we are providing this simple voters guide. The ballot will change depending on the individual's residence. Here

are the four statewide propositions which will be on the ballot and some of the other St. Louis area candidates and races of note.

### CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 2

Amendment of Missouri Constitution to be permissible to allow relevant evidence of prior criminal acts to be admissible in prosecutions for crimes of a sexual nature involving a victim under eighteen years of age. This will have no impact on taxes.

### CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 3

Amendment of Missouri Constitution to require teachers to be evaluated by standard-based performance

evaluation system, or student end-of-year standardized tests. It will allow teachers to be dismissed, retained, demoted, promoted, and paid primarily using the results of the standardized tests. It will also limit teachers to contracts of three years or fewer in public school districts and prohibit teachers from organizing or collectively bargaining regarding the design and implementation of the teacher evaluation system.

### CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 6

Amendment of Missouri Constitution will extend the early voting period in person or by mail to six business days before Election Day,

including the Wednesday before the Election Day in general elections. It excludes voting on Saturday and Sunday. This measure will not affect taxes, but has an estimated startup cost of approximately \$2 million and costs to reimburse local election authorities of at least \$100,000 per election.

### CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 10

Amendment of Missouri Constitution that will change the requirements placed on the governor for proposing a state budget and for withholding money appropriated in the budget passed by the legislature. It prevents

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# Elections break-down

KAT RIDDLER  
NEWS EDITOR

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the governor from reducing funding passed by the general assembly without first getting legislative consent. It restricts the governor from increasing or decreasing line items in the budget.

**Candidates**

The Missouri State Auditor race is not as exciting as other races. Incumbent Republican Tom Schweich is running for the office again. There is no Democratic candidate filed for this office, but there is Constitution party Rod Farthing and Libertarian party Sean O'Toole running against Schweich. For more information visit [www.tomschweich.com](http://www.tomschweich.com) and [www.otoole4mo.com](http://www.otoole4mo.com).

U.S. Representative District 1 race is between Incumbent Democratic U.S. State Representative Lacy Clay, Republican Daniel J. Edler, and Libertarian Robb E. Cunningham. District 1 is North St. Louis County, most of central St. Louis County, and St. Louis City. For more information on the candidates visit [www.lacyclay.org](http://www.lacyclay.org), [www.electdanelder.com](http://www.electdanelder.com) and [www.ballotpedia.org/Robb\\_Cunningham](http://www.ballotpedia.org/Robb_Cunningham).

*U.S. Representative*

District 2 is South St. Louis County to Jefferson County line, West St. Louis County to Franklin County line, and a portion of St. Charles County. Incumbent Republican candidate Ann Wagner is running against Democrat Arthur Lieber for this office. For more information on the candidates visit [www.annwagner.com](http://www.annwagner.com) and [www.lieberforcongress.com](http://www.lieberforcongress.com).

Two of the most competitive State Senate races are in the greater St. Louis area this election season. Senate District 24 and Senate District 22 are both considered "toss up" elections at this point.

In Senate District 24, Democratic State Representative Jill Schupp faces off against Republican Jay Ashcroft, son of former U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft. Both sides have spent well over \$1 million for this open seat, which stretches from Maryland Heights south to Chesterfield. Additional information about each candidate can be found at [www.jillschupp.com](http://www.jillschupp.com) and [www.ashcrofforsenate.com](http://www.ashcrofforsenate.com).

In Senate District 22, Democratic State Representative Jeff Roorda is running against Republican State Representative Paul Wieland. Again, this is an open Senate District. Unlike the 24 District, which had been in Republican control, the 22 District was held by a Democrat. So both political parties are hoping to gain an additional senate seat, if they were to win both. Spending has been somewhat less than the other district, but is in the neighborhood of \$800,000 to \$900,000 each. Roorda is also the Executive Director of the Fraternal Order of Police and has received a great deal of publicity for his defense of Officer Darren Wilson in the Michael Brown shooting. For more information on both candidates visit [www.jeffroorda.org](http://www.jeffroorda.org) and [www.wielandnow.com](http://www.wielandnow.com).

While State Senate District 4 is considered a

relatively safe Democratic seat, Republican Courtney Blunt is trying to unseat Democratic incumbent State Senator Joseph (Joe) Keaveny. District 4 includes portions of Brentwood and University City, as well as portions along the western edge of St. Louis City. For more information on the candidates visit [www.twitter.com/JoeKeaveny](http://www.twitter.com/JoeKeaveny) and [www.facebook.com/vote-blunt](http://www.facebook.com/vote-blunt).

There are a myriad number of State Representative races. While there are many contested races throughout the region, the most excitement seems to be centered on Jefferson County. How the State Representative races go in this area could well determine whether or not the Republicans in the Missouri House of Representatives will have a veto-proof majority with which to override vetoes by Governor Jay Nixon. The importance of these house races has been underscored by the high levels of campaign spending resulting in some of the most expensive State Representative races in Missouri.

These include the State Representative Districts 114, 113, 112 and 111.

One of the hottest races is for St. Louis County Executive. Democrat Steve Stenger, a current County Council member, defeated County Executive Charles Dooley in the Democratic Primary, August 5. He now faces Republican State Representative Rick Stream for this office. The University of Missouri-- St. Louis earlier hosted a debate at the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center on

October 14 for these two gentlemen. Information about these candidates can be found at [www.stevestenger.com](http://www.stevestenger.com) and [www.teamrickstream.com](http://www.teamrickstream.com).

One of the more interesting races in the City of St. Louis is for the office of Recorder of Deeds. Long time office holder Sharon Carpenter resigned earlier this year over charges of nepotism. The vacancy was filled by the appointment of Alderwoman Jennifer Florida by St. Louis Mayor Francis Slay. The twist to this race, however, is that Carpenter had her name on the August Primary ballot and won the Democratic nomination. Florida had to then file as an independent to try to retain the office she was appointed to. For more information on these candidates visit [www.carpenterforrecorder.com](http://www.carpenterforrecorder.com) and [www.jenniferflorida.com](http://www.jenniferflorida.com).

While there are so many races throughout the region where UMSL students may live, we can only offer the highlights here and encourage students to find out more about local races and local initiatives by visiting the Missouri Secretary of State website ([www.sos.mo.gov](http://www.sos.mo.gov)), St. Louis County Election Authority website ([www.stlouisco.com/YourGovernment/Elections](http://www.stlouisco.com/YourGovernment/Elections)), St. Charles County Election Authority ([www.sccmo.org/410/Election-Authority](http://www.sccmo.org/410/Election-Authority)), and Jefferson County Election Authority ([www.jeffcomo.org/CountyClerk.aspx?nodeID=CountyClerk](http://www.jeffcomo.org/CountyClerk.aspx?nodeID=CountyClerk)). For any students living in Illinois, visit the Illinois State Board of Elections website (<http://www.elections.il.gov/>).

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Statewide ballot measures

Type	Title	Subject	Description
LRCA	Amendment 2	Criminal Trials	Renders prior criminal acts admissible in court during child sexual abuse trials
CICA	Amendment 3	Labor	Implements performance evaluation for teachers tied to pay, raises, etc.
LRCA	Amendment 6	Elections	Establishes a six-day-long early voting period
LRCA	Amendment 10	Gov't Finances	Prohibits the governor from estimating available state revenues when making budget recommendations under certain legislative circumstances

**THE UNDERCURRENT**

By Ashlee Carlstrom

**DO YOU PREFER MAC OR PC AND WHY?**



**MEAGAN GALLUZZO,**  
 Sophomore, Nursing  
 "I like PC because more things seem to be compatible, like school programs."



**AAREON SMITH,**  
 Senior, Business Administration  
 "PC because I feel the Macs are over-priced and have different software."



**MANDY DAVIS,**  
 Junior, Political Science and Gender Studies  
 "I use a Mac because it's reliable. I found it to be a good investment and I've never had any problems with it and it's easy."

MON 68  
51

TUE 57  
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WED 61  
43

THU 49  
33

FRI 49  
37

SAT 54  
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SUN 52  
36

# UMSL considers purchasing Normandie Golf Club

DANIEL C. HODGES  
STAFF WRITER

The University of Missouri—St. Louis is considering purchasing the nearby Normandie Golf Club (NGC) to keep it from falling into the hands of anybody who would develop it without consideration for UMSL and the surrounding communities. Both the option to purchase and the funding are gifts from anonymous donors and will not affect students' tuition or fees.

"Friends of UMSL," as described by Chancellor Thomas George "acquired the option to purchase the property to stave off 'improper development of the course [which] could have dire consequences for the campus and other surrounding entities.'" These friends of the University passed that option on to UMSL during the week of October 26. Currently, UMSL is discussing the purchase with University of Missouri system personnel, the curators of UMSL, and the campus Budget and Planning Committee. If they agree that the option to purchase should be exercised, the ultimate decision lies with the UMSL curators. Chancellor George said that the decision is still uncertain, and will be discussed for a few weeks before

being made.

There will be absolutely no UMSL or state funds used to purchase the NGC. Instead, an anonymous donor has offered to gift the University the needed capital. This anonymous donor is part of a group that has donated to UMSL in the past. This means there will be no tuition increase, no fee increase, and no additional cost associated with the purchase. "We are cutting budgets right now," Chancellor George said to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. "You don't cut budgets and then go buy a golf course." Furthermore, though current plans are to keep the site as a golf course, the University has explained they "[have] no intention of using state or campus funds to operate or maintain the property as a golf course," said Chancellor George. If they go through with the purchase, the University plans to make the venture neither profitable nor an expense to the campus, instead sinking any profits back into the management of the golf club by a third-party management company.

On October 25, the University held a meeting with residents of Bel-Nor and Greendale

to discuss the NGC and their potential purchase. According to the Post-Dispatch, Chancellor George and University spokesman Bob Samples, associate vice chancellor of advancement for communications, were both on hand to assure residents that UMSL has no plans to disrupt the golf course. However, neither could promise the attendees that the NGC would remain unchanged for decades to come. Bel-Nor village Chairman Kevin Buchek told the Post-Dispatch that was his

biggest concern, "We'd rather hear them guarantee that it will stay a golf course for the next 20 or 30 years."

The NGC is 118 acres to the southwest of UMSL and was established in 1901, laying claim to being the oldest public golf course west of the Mississippi River. Prior to 1985, when the club opened to the public, the golf club was renowned as a venue for the rich and famous. Once called "the top gambling club in the nation" by Colliers, The River-

front Times highlighted local lore claiming that celebrities Babe Ruth, Bob Hope, and Frank Sinatra all gambled at Normandie. The family trust in control of the Normandie Golf Club has attempted several times in the past to sell the property. According to the St. Louis Business Journal, the appraised value of the golf club is \$1.2 million, and its property taxes in 2013 were \$30,458. St. Louis County tax records have an "Emerson W. Harold Trust-see" listed as the current owner.



Normandie Golf Club, located just Southwest of UMSL South Campus

## Journalist Ian Johnson speaks about life in China

JACQUELINE IRIGOYEN  
STAFF WRITER

The University of Missouri—Saint Louis' International Studies and Programs brought journalist and Pulitzer Prize winning author, Ian Johnson, who held a discussion with students at 3 p.m., October 30 at the Social Sciences & Business Building about his time spent in China.

The Marketing Coordinator for International Studies & Programs Erica Fierro said, "Our Director, Joel Glassman, was contacted by the Pulitzer Center, a nonprofit that supports independent international journalism to increase interaction between journalists, scholars and universities." The organizer of the Pulitzer Center asked if the department would be willing to host a lecture by Johnson.

Johnson's interest in China began with the requirement of having to take a foreign language as a student. "I got interested by chance. I wanted to learn a different language in school and I thought Chinese would be fun," said Johnson. Becoming a journalist for Johnson was all about his "curiosity with how things worked in the

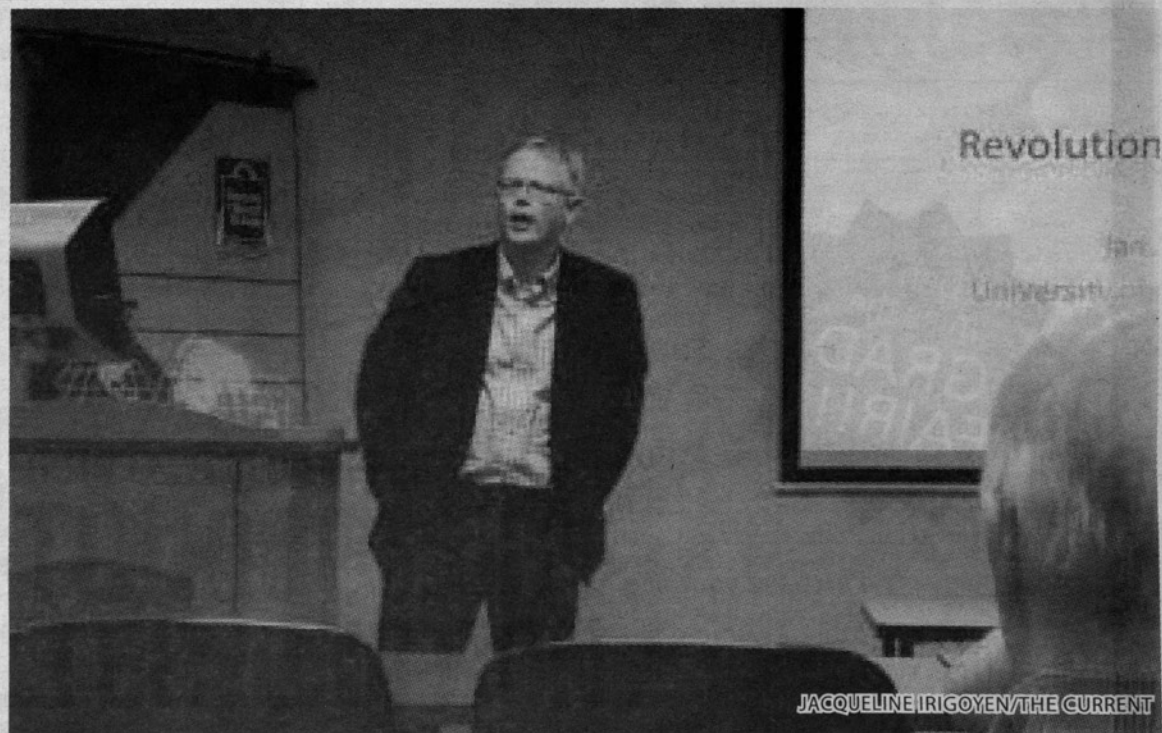
real world and how journalism affected that."

When thinking about China and watching news coverage on it, Johnson believes that people see it as darker and more negative place than what it actually is. "The media focuses more on the negative aspects and all they read is bad news, but the society is actually rising," said Johnson.

Johnson talked about the political movement and religious groups in China. He spoke about a few of the protests that have happened in China over the past decade which included the now well known 2011 Wukan protest.

Johnson explained that even with all the talk about the corruption and lack of trust in China, "China is actually freer than it was decades ago. The government is more tolerant of protests, if they don't challenge the system."

He also spoke about the five major religions in China. "There are five main religions starting with the biggest being Buddhism, then Christianity which is split into two sectors



Ian Johnson presenting slides while speaking about his experiences in China

protestant and polytheism, and then Islam and Daoism," said Johnson.

Keely Nelson, junior, marketing said "This is an important topic that all business students should be aware of." Nelson continues to say, "I hope to get a better understanding of China's economic market and globalization. We consider Chi-

na to be a big competitor, and it'd be interesting to see where we are at."

In Johnson's book "Wild Grass" he talks about the authoritarian government and its relationship with society. "I talk about the tension in a dynamic changing society and then the unchanging government. People are becoming more educated

and rising up, but the government is not moving along with the people," Johnson said.

Johnson is currently writing a new book about the spiritual aspects of China.

Johnson's goal for his event was to provide spiritual awakening and to explain how China is changing and striving for new values.

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

# UMSL

## 2014

# December

## Commencement

### DECEMBER 20

Each ceremony will be approximately  
1 1/2 hours long. **No tickets required.**

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20

### MARK TWAIN BUILDING

10 A.M. - College of Education

- College of Fine Arts and Communication
- School of Social Work
- Master of Public Policy Administration

2 P.M. - College of Arts and Sciences

- 6 P.M. - College of Business Administration
- College of Nursing
  - UMSL/WUSTL Undergraduate Joint Engineering Program

Don't miss the  
**GRAD FAIR!!!**

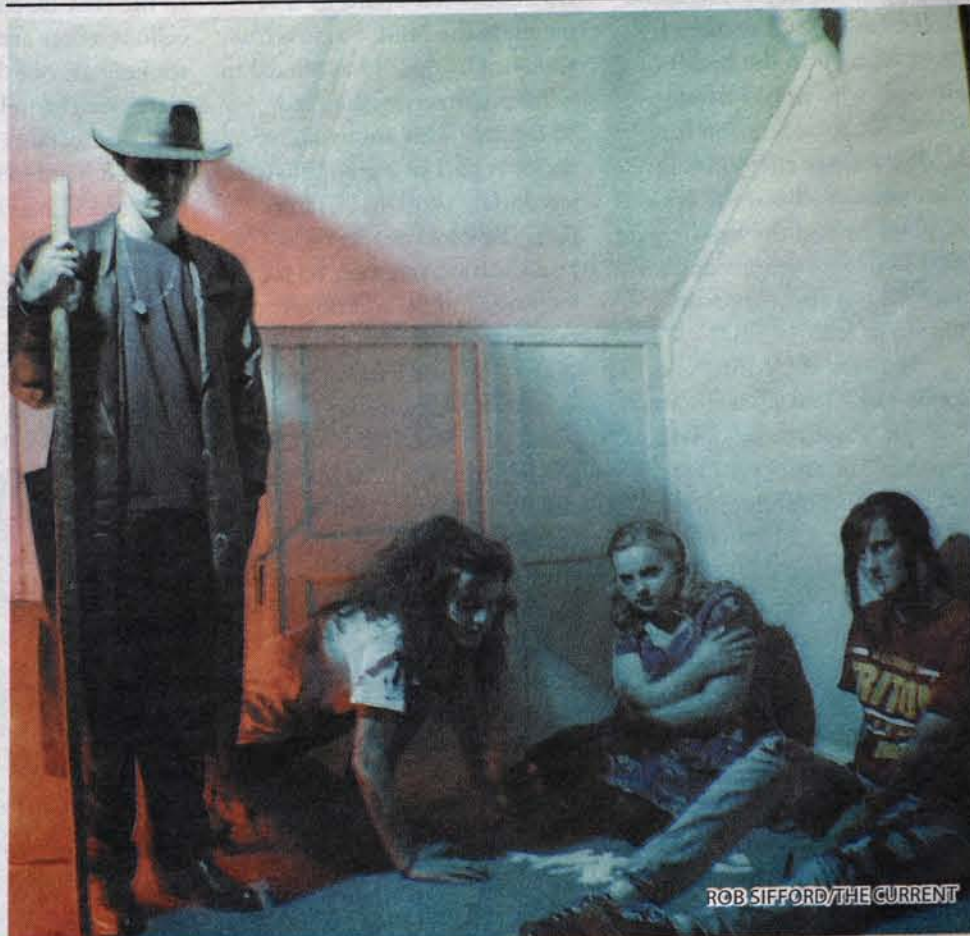
**Tuesday, November 4  
& Wednesday, November 5**  
**Triton Store, 209 MSC**  
**11 a.m. - 7 p.m.**

- Purchase your cap, gown, etc.
- Attire available at the Triton Store after these dates but a \$10 late fee will apply after Friday, December 5.

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

# Haunted Honors was a spooky treat

SEAN MARSHALL  
STAFF WRITER



ROB SIFFORD/THE CURRENT

From left to right, Ryan Brooks, Missa Bilbrey, Audrey Fischer, and Rachel Vaughn

Last Thursday, October 30, over 200 students, family and staff members packed into the Multipurpose Room of Provincial House's basement, biting their nails and nervously chatting as they waited for their turn to enter the haunted tour.

As the students reached the entrance, they were broken into groups of 10 and taken through the dimly lit corridors of the basement. The tour, which was arranged by members of the Pierre Laclède Honors College Student Association (PLHCSA), gave students a macabre "history lesson" as their guide disclosed the eerie folktale.

The building, which once housed a community of nuns, is said to be haunted by the ghosts of several spirits that still remain.

Eerily creeping down the hall to the Anthropology Lab, patrons made their way in to see a dismembered student laying on the ground, rumored to be the product of an experiment by researchers that were out for blood. As the group sidestepped their way to the next surprise, the guide urged the group to be careful where they looked.

"The thing" was the next obstacle of the tour. A red-eyed monster approached from under a table with the description of "an abomination, spawned from your most fearful thoughts."

After diving their hands into the bowl which housed the slips of paper needed to enter the common, cursed by the nuns to make students hunger for human flesh, zombies trickled out from behind drapes and groaned.

Escaping the zombies, the group huddled into a crowded elevator to go up to the Villa attic. They hesitantly approached a room with a blood-splattered film, and as they rounded the corner, were revealed to Derek, the dead nursing major, dissecting a corpse on his table, as he chased the

group out, surgical knife in hand.

As the next part of the tale unfolded, a hacking and sneezing sound crept out from the doors of the dark room. Sick fluids coated parts of the floors and sprayed on the group from the dying faculty members that had been poisoned in the kitchen.

As a finale, after barely escaping the presence of a demonic possession and a nun, who prayed for the release of her soul, was the horrifying room of Dr. Wendigo. The PLHCSA office was once said to have been the home for this deranged doctor, who would feast on the insides of his patients. After murdering hundreds, he decided to cut himself open and feast upon his own organs.

As the group hurried out, they let out a sigh of relief when they saw the light and were led back to the multipurpose room. All who completed the tour were given T-shirts and candy pieces as they were congratulated for surviving.

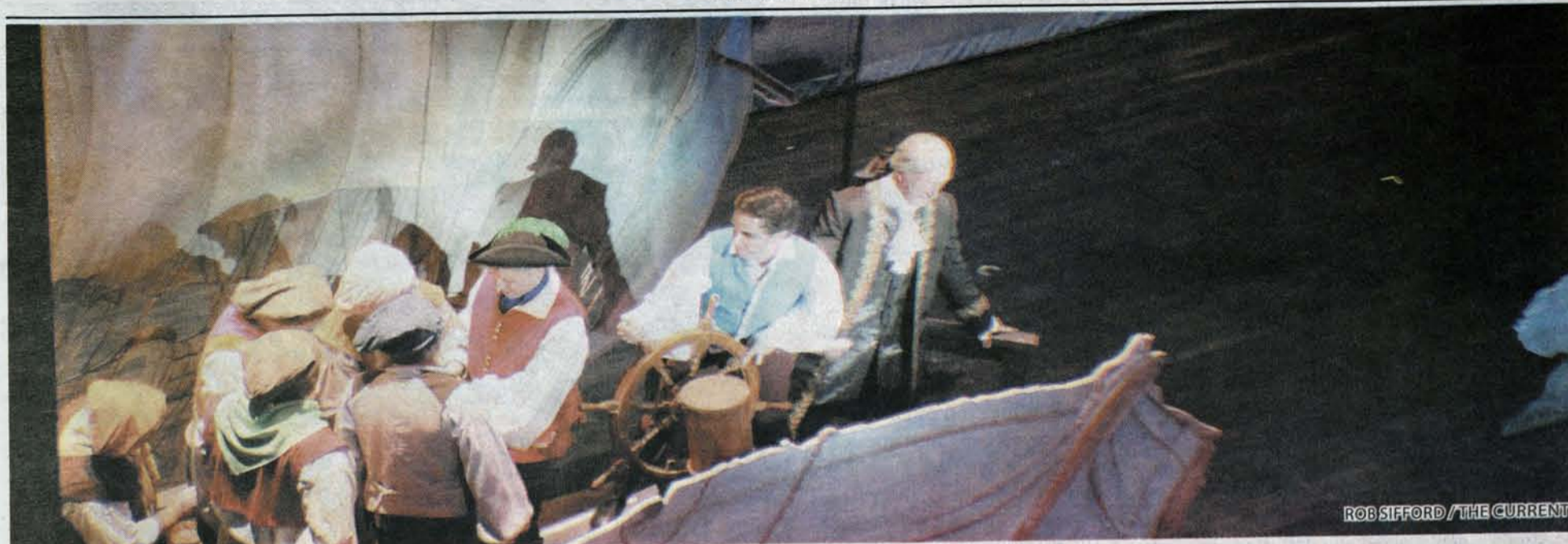
This three year tradition has been a staple of success for UMSL's PLHCSA members, winning the "Most Innovative Program" at the Student Leadership Awards its first year and "Most Outstanding Program" its second. All of the characters and decorators were staffed on a volunteer basis and wanted to make the event available for family and friends of UMSL students as well.

"It was scary and interesting. I was surprised by the amount of community members. It's good to see they are reaching out to the whole community with this," said Dana Channel, freshman, anthropology. PLHCSA holds monthly events with the mission to promote social interactions and relationships between the faculty, staff, and students of the Honors College. Past events have included Painta-Palooza, Toss for Toiletries, and Trivia Night.

# 'Little Mermaid' swims into children's hearts at Touhill PAC

DONNA BRANDY  
STAFF WRITER

GRADE: A +



ROB SIFFORD/THE CURRENT

The cast of Variety's "Disney's The Little Mermaid" on the Touhill stage

The Variety Children's Theatre's performance of "Disney's The Little Mermaid" musical at the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center in the Anheuser-Busch Performance Hall at the University of Missouri - St. Louis was an amazing sight to see.

The play opened on October 24 with two shows, 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. and completed its final performance on October 26 at 1:30 p.m. Friday's evening performance was sign interpreted by J. Eric and Regina Driskill from St. Louis Community College at Florissant Valley.

Hundreds of children arrived excitedly for the occasion, anticipating the timeless story of Ariel's dream of visiting the human world. The 3-D design of the scenery gave the appearance

of actually being underwater, on the beach, and in the castle.

Variety Children's Theatre is a charitable organization that helps children with physical or mental disabilities through the staging of professional-level theater productions for children. The charity's mission is "to help local children with disabilities reach their full potential by providing services every time they need assistance." Their casts include children, adults and "Variety kids" who receive assistance from the organization.

The play's opening scene was filled with a virtual, colorful bubble filled underwater background as Ariel (Austen Bohmer) "swam" her way across the stage to watch Prince Eric (Ben Nordstrom) and his fellow seamen sailing in a ship.

Enchanted by the beautiful scenery and the lovely voice of Ariel, some audience members sang along word for word and note for note to the song "Part of Your World."

The transition from scene to scene was magnificent with colorful 'water plants' floating across the stage animatedly. This reviewer, along with the audience, felt like the 'water' was real by the way King Triton's servants stood still, yet ever so slightly, swayed from side to side as the Mersisters sang for their father during a celebration scene.

Joy Boland stunned the audience as Ursula, making an electrifying entrance with her minions, sparkling and glowing green with envy as they plotted revenge against King Triton

(Christopher Limber). The Mersisters (Cherlynn Alvarez, Abigail Isom, Lauren Lenke, Taylor Pietz, Jamey Jacobs Powell and Erica Stephan), entered under bright psychedelic circles of light, singing "She's in Love with the Mersisters." Flounder (Nicholas George, who is a Variety Child member) almost stole the show with his witty quips in response to Ariel falling for a human and not him. Shawn Bowers held his own, providing the walk and talk for Sebastian the sea crab. He and the ensemble of sea creatures got the audience moving and enthralled with the song "Kiss the Girl."

The show ended with a tag team of Flounder and Sebastian compelling the audience to donate \$10 to The Variety Children's Charity by texting

Mermaid to 80888.

Future shows planned by the charity organization include Champions for Children's Summit, November 12, and Bikes for Kids Giveaway, December 6. For additional information and donation options, please visit their website at [www.varietystl.org](http://www.varietystl.org). The organization is located at 2200 Westport Plaza Drive, Suite 306 in St. Louis, MO.

This reviewer has seen many plays at various local theaters. However, this has been the most captivating and impressive display of heart by the actors, stage and costume designs, musical scoring and singing, and overall expression of life that makes this reviewer want to become "part of their world."

## Jake Gyllenhaal is scary good in "Nightcrawlers"

CATE MARQUIS  
A&E EDITOR

Jake Gyllenhaal gives a chilling performance as a sociopath, who finds his niche as a freelance cameraman capturing gory accident and crime video footage for local TV news. "Nightcrawler" is one creepy film, but is so well done that it is worth seeing - even after Halloween.

"Nightcrawler" is at once a thrilling action film and a thought-provoking film. It is a grown-up kind of scary movie, with real-world frights, rather than ghosts and zombies.

Director Dan Gilroy has created the kind of film to make you stop and think, about just where that shocking accident and crime footage on TV news comes from, and whether the focus on those stories is giving people the most important news stories.

"If it bleeds, it leads" is familiar shorthand for news programs prioritizing stories, where people died or were hurt. TV's visual nature can turn that into a lurid, voyeuristic impulse, like slowing down when driving by an accident, which has little to do with journalism.

"Nightcrawler" spotlights this nasty side of TV crime and accident coverage through Lou Bloom, an unscrupulous young man desperate for a job in Los Angeles. Selling scrap metal of dubious origin to a recycler, Lou launches into an odd, wordy cover-letter like speech, as he asks for a job. The junk man tells him he doesn't hire thieves.

But Lou hits on a career that is a better fit for his unscrupulous nature, when he comes across an accident where he sees a freelance cameraman

(Bill Paxton) shooting video footage to sell to local TV. Lou buys a cheap video camera and a police scanner and joins the dangerous, competitive world of "nightcrawlers," freelance camera crews who race to be first at scenes of accidents, fires, murders, and other bloody mayhem, in order to sell their footage to the highest bidder.

Renee Russo plays Nina Romina, a TV news director and the enabler for Bloom's increasingly immoral tactics. Bloom uses his facility with "business-speak" in maneuvering a better deal with Nina, an aging TV anchor trying to stay in the game. Russo's character is more interested in ratings than in serving the public, and she likes Lou's eye for the lurid. Nina is not much interested in how he got that footage, despite

the reservations of some at the station. She understands what draws in her viewers. Gyllenhaal and Russo create creepy, amoral characters, but there is plenty of blame to go around for this tawdry situation, which should give us all pause.

Gyllenhaal is scary good in this role, perhaps his best yet. He lost weight, giving that gaunt, hungry appearance but as the film unfolds, Gyllenhaal develops a wild, bizarre look in his eyes. Gyllenhaal's skill with the terminology of the business boardroom and human resources departments adds a strangely chilling aspect to this intelligent, relentless sociopath.

Russo is excellent too, as an aging news director and anchor willing to do nearly anything to hold on to her career, despite trepidations expressed by her

more-ethically concerned staff. Their scenes together are as cold and horrifying as some of the accident scenes. Still, Gyllenhaal's Lou is so far out on the edge that even ethically-challenged Nina sometimes hesitates, vaguely aware of how insane he is.

Lou eventually hires a homeless guy named Rick (Riz Ahmed) as his assistant. Riz's more normal, if not-too-bright, character give us some measure of just how ruthless Lou becomes.

"Nightcrawler" is a worthy film, both thought-provoking and pulse-pounding, with an outstanding performance by Jake Gyllenhaal, making it a good pick if you really want to see something scary.

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@ [www.thecurrentumsl.com](http://www.thecurrentumsl.com)

# Triton Volleyball seniors reflect on time at UMSL

ERIC HARRIS  
SPORTS EDITOR

For every athlete, there comes a time when there is no next year. When this time comes, it should never be a time of sorrow, but a time of reflection and rejoicing the memories made while playing the sport one loves. Each sport has some sort of celebration for those who are graduating out of the team, generally at the final home game. This honoring of the seniors is called Senior Night. As the 2014 fall sports season begins to wrap up, many of our seniors are coming to the end of their journeys.

Sunday, November 2, the Triton Volleyball team had their senior game against Bellarmine. This year we honor three seniors: Haley Brightwell, graduate, business administration, Allie Ewing, senior, liberal studies, and Emily Bragaw, senior, liberal studies. They are all essential to the team and will definitely be missed next year.

Head Coach Ryan Young is happy they were part of the Triton tradition, "Our 3 Seniors, Emily Bragaw, Haley Brightwell, and Allie Ewing have done a lot of great things for our program. Their leadership on the court each day at practice has made our team a very tight-knit group. Their communication within our team is very noticeable and we will miss all 3 players next season," Coach Young said. "Emily's strengths on

defense and serve receive will be missed greatly. Haley's attacking and overall play will be missed, and Allie's powerful attacking and blocking will definitely be missed."

Ewing and Brightwell are not ready for their volleyball story to end, but they have learned a lot from the roads they traveled. Brightwell said, "One of the biggest things I'm going to take away is what I learned for when I become a coach. I've learned a lot about how the team functions and the coach/team relationship works, and I think I'm going to take a lot away from that. The thing about UMSL is that you can be good at Volleyball and you can invest yourself in so much more than that ... you'll be a much more well rounded person. That's what I did. I'm doing like ten different things, but I'm also doing volleyball, which it is hard for a lot of athletes to do more than their sport, but you can do that at UMSL."

Ewing felt she has grown a lot in her time at UMSL, "I feel like I'm not as hard on myself as hard as I used to be. Back at my Junior College, I was super hard on myself and it effected my play, and I feel like here I gained more confidence in myself and I don't sweat the small stuff anymore. I know that if I mess up it isn't the end of the world."



Senior Haley Brightwell getting a kill against Maryville

Seniors always have advice for those who will follow them in the years to come, Ewing said, "For next year's seniors, take advantage of the opportunity, definitely take it seriously and have fun at the same time. Sometimes it's hard not to dread practice or get down on yourself by the end of the day, but you have to realize that not everyone gets to do this, and it really is a wonderful opportunity that they should take advantage of and have fun with it!"

Brightwell feels that next year will have no shortage of leaders, "Several different people could step up as a leader on the team. They all have different things

that make a good leader, and I think they will be about to bring those together. Lindsay (Meyer) has her stuff together."

Doing any sport will give you experiences and friendships that will last. Ewing said, "One of the biggest things I'm going to take away is the close friendships. This year we are really together. I think these are a lot of girls I'll be friends with later on in life. Also, discipline and mental toughness. Just things that you learn from playing on any team and defiantly here at UMSL."

To all UMSL senior athletes, thank you for building a new Triton tradition and good luck in all future endeavors!

## Triton Volleyball wins big in final week at home

ERIC HARRIS  
SPORTS EDITOR

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In front of the packed stands, the Tritons blew past Maryville winning 3-0. Going 25-21, 25-17, and 25-20 in the three quick sets. At one point during the second set, UMSL was ahead ten points against Maryville, leading 19-9. Head Coach Ryan Young was very happy with the three set win, "I thought we played very consistent. We served very well and that helped our block and defense get set up to stop their offense. We did a good job of hitting smart shots and making good decisions when attacking."

Saturday, November 1, the Tritons took on the University of Southern Indiana. UMSL went a whole four sets with the Screaming Eagles, but came out with a tough loss of 3-1. UMSL took the first set 25-19, before falling in the three that followed. Jory Siebenmorgen, sophomore, studio art, led the team with an outstanding 19 kills followed by Brightwell's 12.

Jessica Ploss, junior, criminal justice, did not let this small setback get her down. Ploss said, "We need to re-focus and play hard against Bellarmine tomorrow. Each match is one step closer to our goal of making the NCAA tournament, so a big win tomorrow is key."

The Lady Tritons did not let that small loss get to them. The following Sunday, they took on Bellarmine Uni-

versity. The Tritons came out with a big win for their senior game, taking down the Knights in a hard fought 3-1 victory.

The first set of senior day ended with UMSL putting out an overpowering 25-16 win over Bellarmine. Ewing led the set with three kills. At one point, the Tritons took an eight point lead over their opponents. Set two ended with similarly exciting fashion. UMSL ending it with a score of 25-18. Carly Ochs, junior, accounting, put down an impressive 7 kills against the Knights.

In the third set, the moment shifted as Bellarmine put up 4 unanswered points against the Tritons coming out of the break. This put UMSL on the offense, making up the deficient, but falling short with a 25-20.

The Tritons were able to rally in the fourth set, coming back after Bellarmine took off with a quick 6-2 lead over UMSL. Pezze, coming off the bench, contributed 3 kills to this set. Two were scored consecutively, pushing the Tritons past a tie score of 12-12 to get UMSL in the lead. Poetically, Ewing scored the final kill of her senior game bringing the set score to a 25-19 win over the Knights.

UMSL volleyball team has just three more away games, before heading to the Great Lakes Valley Conference tournament and the post season. Go Tritons!



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# College students lack political involvement

CULLEN WILLIAMS  
STAFF WRITER

Over the past months, St. Louis and the surrounding area has been wrought with great tension. This week, those in our state will cast ballots in order to change, or at least attempt to bring change, to the political system. A new St. Louis County Executive will be elected, and others throughout the county and state either return to their political jobs or find themselves voted out of office. This is politics. This is democracy. Unfortunately, it does not seem to be prevalent on the University of Missouri – St. Louis campus.

I understand that many students do not care about politics. Outside of naming Barack

Obama as President, I am not sure they would be able to list their Congress persons, let alone pick them out of a line-up. This is something that, for the good of the state and country, needs to change.

Many of the issues facing the country today are being decided by individuals who will not be around later down the road. Health care, jobs, homosexual marriage, tax reform, and more are being decided by a majority of politicians who have been in office for decades, and who do not understand those they represent.

According to a study released by Tufts University

in Massachusetts, there are 46 million citizens ages 18 to 29 who are eligible to vote, but these numbers only make up a mere 20% of the voting population. To the credit of the youth, well over 50% of them voted in the last two presidential elections. However, voter turnout in these categories usually declines during mid-term elections.

One way to make sure the youth stay involved, especially those on college campuses, is by getting involved in a campus club. Unfortunately, those are lacking on the UMSL campus. There are no UMSL College Republicans, UMSL College Democrats, and so on, down

the line of political parties. This is quite disheartening. In fact, one student tried to start an UMSL College Republicans group, but had no interest from the other students on campus.

A quick glimpse at the UMSL Student Life webpage shows that there are very few social and political clubs on campus. Besides PRIZM, the UMSL Students for Life, and the Young Activists United-UMSL, there is not much in the way of social and political organizations. It is this sort of complacency that will reap the legislation seen on the state and national level.

Though the situations

seen around St. Louis City and County are complex, the lack of political involvement from our youth is one factor in such a multi-dimensional arena. I urge my fellow students and citizens to get involved in the process by starting a campus political group, registering to vote, making their voices heard, and to really make a change, volunteering for a campaign. As an individual who has been involved with multiple political campaigns, it is a great privilege to know who helped shape the future of the state.

## UMSL is missing civic-spirit for elections

LOTTE JØNSSON  
STAFF WRITER

As a political scientist, there is nothing more exciting than an election, and the American elections are perceived as the Olympics, at least were I am from in Europe. Considering everything going on in St. Louis the last couple of months, I had no doubt that the election would be important. However, I must admit the election-spirit has been missing. No posters, no discussions, and no politicians have been present on campus. Where was the election?

According to Keena Lipsitz, who studied political campaigns

in the book "New Directions in American politics," there is a simple reason for that. The election is not competitive. Missouri is what is called a "safe state." Very few elected positions are up for grab. Very little of the local politics are competitive. For that reason, the political parties will not campaign in Missouri. They will instead spend time on the states "that matter."

However, this in my opinion, is a very big problem for the people on campus. According to Robert A. Dahl, who wrote in the famous book "De-

mocracy and its Critics," that people need some degree of knowledge to make a reasonable choice in a democracy. Where do most get their knowledge? The election.

Therefore, the election campaigns are very important. First, they give you that knowledge, either through direct discussion, ads, or pamphlets. These campaigns tell the voter about the candidates, and what they have voted for in Congress or in other legislative chambers. You ought to know these details if you are to go in and cast your

ballot.

Second, as Steve Frantzich said, elected officials make decisions that affect your life. The election is voter's opportunity to speak up about the choices politicians make, and politicians do not listen to those who do not vote. Yet it seems very hard to make that decision and to signal to your politicians, if the voters have not been given this information through campaigning.

I have heard the argument many times that people do not like elections, because there are

so many negative campaigns and that it is not important to vote. However, as for the negative campaigns, studies show, that negative election is actually positive. People gain more knowledge from these ads. For the question of importance, it is simple. By voting, you support the democracy and by voting you convey what you want.

It is too late to rectify the situation on campus now, but hopefully people will make that extra effort to read about the different elections and candidates before they cast their vote.

## Use of excessive force served and protected

CHERYL MITCHELL  
STAFF WRITER

Law enforcement's new motto should be "To protect, serve, and use excessive for from time to time." As you may know, Mike Brown, an unarmed African American teen who was killed by a law enforcement officer in Florissant, was not the first case of police brutality and definitely will not be the last. Law enforcement try to justify killings by police, but are they justifiable?

One statement that has to be made is that St. Louis, is one of the United States most dangerous cities due to violent crimes. Although East St. Louis

is ranked number one, St. Louis is not far behind at number 12, according to neighborhood-scout.com.

With that being said, do police have the right to defend their lives by using lethal or excessive force? That answer depends on the situation. A situation where a police officer should use lethal force is when there are no other options. If a police officer has tried using tear gas, tasers, rubber bullets, or other non-lethal weapons and the suspect does not surrender, lethal force may be viewed as more acceptable. If a suspect

begins to shoot at a law enforcement officer, lethal force may be more acceptable.

Although lives should not be taken, we live in violent times. A police officer has to deal with the sad truth that it is either the suspect's life, or his or her own.

With that being said, Mike Brown's death was a situation that could have been avoided. We, as UMSL students and residents of St. Louis may never know Officer Darren Wilson's mind frame, attitude, or if he is a prejudice man. We may never know what actually happened in

the moments of Mike Brown's untimely death, but we do know that this is an unfortunate incident. On the other hand, two months after Mike Brown's death and in the calming of police brutality protest, another police shooting occurred. Another African American teenager, Vonderrit Deondre Myers Jr. was shot several times by an off duty police officer in South St. Louis. Unlike Brown, Myers was armed with a gun and did initially shoot at the officer first, according to multiple news sources. According to Myers' family, he was unarmed.

Something that you should think about as a human being living in the United States, is what would you do to defend your life if it was being threatened? Through all of the violence, media influence and protest, if you were a part of law enforcement, would you defend your life with lethal force? Some of you may be shocked with your responses and may or may not be able to put yourself into the shoes of the victim or the officer, but at least you asked yourself these important questions.

## Information technology applied at UMSL

MARY CHICKOS  
STAFF WRITER

Technology has changed the way that we communicate with each other these days, as well as changing the way that we are taught in the classroom. Technology both shapes our everyday life and, as consumers, we use the advances in technology to shape our world. Most people are carrying their cell phones or iPhones with them in order to communicate with friends and family, take pictures, order tickets, text, or do a variety of other things.

As the use of technology grows, notably for educational purposes, it is important to explore the use of applications that are available to advance educational objectives. In class

the other day, a student was using Youtube to demonstrate an example of what he was trying to prove. Technology has effectively reduced paper and the costs associated with teaching the next generation of students. This makes education more effective and more accessible for many people. Technology is a tool that is ever-changing and improving communication in everyday life. It has changed the way we work and do our homework at school. Communication is faster and more efficient. Technology will shape the future and advance the way that work is done.

In education, homework can be done through MyGate-

way and Blackboard and submitted online to the professor. Therefore, the class does not have to meet all the time, and the students can submit their work online. This is convenient for working adults who have jobs and families, according to Hina Mahmood, nursing, graduate. There are some inconveniences when IT here on campus goes down, as it does from time to time. UMSL has adapted to changing technology to retain students, as they need programs that are state-of-the-art in their field.

Technology makes education more accessible, speeds up communication and provides a new device to use on a daily

basis. Many students use laptops, nooks, kindles or tablets to do their work. This saves the cost of multiple notebooks for class or work. E-books are used instead of regular textbooks. Many books, novels, poems and plays are put online and can be accessed there. We live in a Wi-Fi friendly environment, where we can plug in our laptops or tablets to take notes or do schoolwork at many places on campus or local businesses.

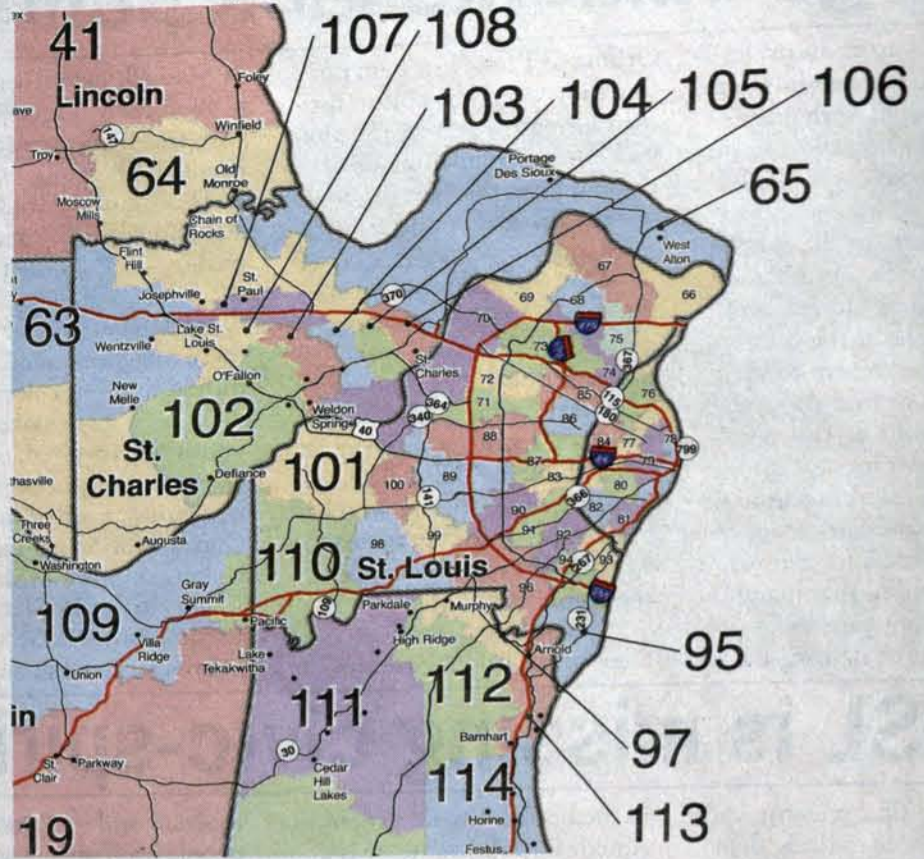
Today educators use social media to build connections and broaden the learning experience in the classroom. However, they need to safeguard student privacy and productivity. They need to be mindful that poor

judgment on a social network can result in professional consequences.

Technology is currently growing and expanding into new student programs, as well as helpful applications, such as UMSL Mobile Applications. According to Kristen Bass, education, graduate, this is helpful in getting to class and navigating the campus. However, technology does not take the place of human interaction in the classroom in order to learn. She does not want entire programs online. The computer is still a tool and does not replace interpersonal communication in the classroom setting.

St. Louis region State House map and districts' candidates

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| 64<br>● Laura Castaneda<br>● Robert Cornejo | 82<br>● Michele Kratky<br>● Jake Koehr | 99<br>● Bill Pinkston<br>● Andrew Koenig |
| 65<br>● Anne Zerr                           | 83<br>● Gina Mitten                    | 100<br>● Sue Allen                       |
| 66<br>● Thommie Pierson                     | 84<br>● Jeremy Buckingham              | 101<br>● Candace Farmer                  |
| 67<br>● John Saxton                         | 85<br>● Andrew Boiln                   | 102<br>● Don Gosen                       |
| 68<br>● Alan Green                          | 86<br>● Karla May                      | 103<br>● John Callahan                   |
| 69<br>● Dwayne Strickland                   | 87<br>● Clem Smith                     | 104<br>● Kurt Bahr                       |
| 70<br>● Keith English                       | 88<br>● Joe Adams                      | 105<br>● John Wiemann                    |
| 71<br>● Becky Sharma                        | 89<br>● Stacey Newman                  | 106<br>● Dean Hodge                      |
| 72<br>● Margo McNeil                        | 90<br>● Tracy McCreery                 | 107<br>● Terry Lesinski                  |
| 73<br>● John Vahey                          | 91<br>● Raymond Chandler               | 108<br>● Kathie Conway                   |
| 74<br>● Bill Otto                           | 92<br>● Al Gerber                      | 109<br>● Matt Judkins                    |
| 75<br>● Joe Corica                          | 93<br>● John Diehl                     | 110<br>● Mark A. Parkinson               |
| 76<br>● Sue Meredith                        | 94<br>● Deb Lavender                   | 111<br>● Ken Tucker                      |
| 77<br>● Jim Cain                            | 95<br>● Gina Jaksetic                  | 112<br>● Chrissy Sommer                  |
| 78<br>● Mary Nichols                        | 96<br>● Jeanne Kirkton                 | 113<br>● Ron Hicks                       |
| 79<br>● Paul Berry                          | 97<br>● Michael Peters                 | 114<br>● Marlon Williams                 |
| 80<br>● Courtney Curtis                     | 98<br>● Genise Montecillo              | 115<br>● Justin Hill                     |
| 81<br>● Sharon Pace                         | 99<br>● Al Faulstich                   | 116<br>● Bobbie Bollman                  |
| 82<br>● Rochelle Walton Gray                | 100<br>● Bob Burns                     | 117<br>● Paul Curtman                    |
| 83<br>● Joshua Peters                       | 101<br>● Garret Mees                   | 118<br>● Kirk Matthews                   |
| 84<br>● Kimberly Gardner                    | 102<br>● Vicki Englund                 | 119<br>● Michael Frame                   |
| 85<br>● Penny Hubbard                       | 103<br>● Cloria Brown                  | 120<br>● Shane Roden                     |
| 86<br>● John Hubb                           | 104<br>● Marsha Haefner                | 121<br>● Robert Butler                   |
| 87<br>● Michael Butler                      | 105<br>● Mike Leara                    | 122<br>● Rob Vescovo                     |
| 88<br>● Robert Vroman                       | 106<br>● Cindy Redburn                 | 123<br>● Sean Fauss                      |
| 89<br>● Mike Colona                         | 107<br>● Tom Dohack                    | 124<br>● Dan Shaul                       |
| 90<br>● Michael Huett                       | 108<br>● John McCaherty                | 125<br>● Donna Ivanovich                 |
| 91<br>● Jacob Hummel                        | 109<br>● Shamed Dogan                  | 126<br>● T.J. McKenna                    |
| 92<br>● Lisa Schaper                        |  | 127<br>● Becky Ruth                      |



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St. Louis region Congressional map and districts' candidates



COURTESY OF THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

- William Lacy Clay - Incumbent
- Daniel Elder
- Robb E. Cunningham
- Arthur Lieber
- Ann Wagner - Incumbent
- Bill Slantz
- Courtney Denton
- Blaine Luetkemeyer - Incumbent
- Steven Hedrick
- Harold Davis - write-in



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