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UMSL Shuttle System Implements Changes

LORI DRESNER
NEWS EDITOR

This semester students who navigate campus via the shuttles should be aware of some major changes to the shuttle system at the University of Missouri—St. Louis. Changes were made to both the shuttle schedule and stops to make navigating campus easier for riders, and a new shuttle feature on the UMSL Mobile app now provides riders with real time tracking of the campus shuttles.

“The changes were made after more than a year was spent working with a committee of students on how to improve the shuttle service on campus,” said Miriam Rocca, assistant dean of students at UMSL. “The Shuttle Solutions Committee is comprised of students and representatives from Campus Life and Parking and Transportation. During the spring semester, the committee worked with the Student Government Association to administer a survey about shuttles, parking, and class schedules. The results of that survey helped to inform the changes that were made to the schedule. The committee focused on efficiency and reliability in the new route, taking out many left turns and maneuvers that would lead to time delays for the shuttles.”

One of the most notable changes to the shuttle system is the times that shuttles now drop off and pick up students at stops around campus. In the past, shuttles followed a set schedule of times in which they arrived at those stops. This semester, shuttles are arriving at stops on a continuous loop in accordance with the day and time. Monday through Thursday, shuttles are scheduled to arrive at stops every eight minutes during the daytime hours, which are effective 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Shuttles begin arriving at stops every 30 minutes during the evening hours, which begin at 4 p.m. and last until midnight.

On Fridays, shuttles arrive at stops

Continued on Page 3



Shuttle Stop outside Marillac Hall on UMSL South Campus

ERIC WYNEN/THE CURRENT

Serendipity Sendoff Celebrates Students

JESSIE EIKMANN
FEATURES EDITOR

On the evening of August 23, a crowd of current and new University of Missouri—St. Louis students, faculty, and alumni gathered around a podium outside the Thomas Jefferson Library. The group was there to witness the Serendipity Sendoff, an annual ceremony for symbolically welcoming the incoming class to UMSL. For the new students, the ceremony also capped off the Triton Take-Off weekend programs that helped the new students familiarize themselves with their peers and UMSL's campus.

At 4:30 p.m., the speeches began. First Briana Robertson, senior, biology, one of the Weeks of Welcome Student Coordinators, told the story of UMSL's founding and the “Committee of Twenty-Eight” who worked in the early 1960s to establish the junior college that eventually became UMSL. Just as the “Committee of Twenty-Eight” took a big chance in buying a country club to build a college, Robertson encour-



UMSL freshman and new transfers parading through quad

SARAH HAYES/THE CURRENT

aged the incoming students not to be afraid of taking chances in their own lives and careers.

The next speaker was Alesha Patterson. Patterson graduated from UMSL's

College of Fine Arts and Communication in 2012 and serves on the Alumni Association. Patterson had three tips to new students, one of which was to read

Continued on Page 4

INSIDE



Serendipity Sendoff pg 4



Touhill Preview pg 5



Tennis pg 6



E-Cigs pg 7

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NEWS BRIEFS

Change in the College of Business

KAT RIDDLER
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Two divisions in the University of Missouri - St. Louis College of Business have been reorganized to help students compete in a global market. The Department of Business Management and International Business Management has

become the Department of Global Leadership and Management as of August 1. There are over 27,000 UMSL business graduates and the International Business program has been ranked in the top 20 in the U.S. for the past 12 years by U.S. News and World Report.



Business Office located in room 487 of SSB ERIC WYENEN/THE CURRENT

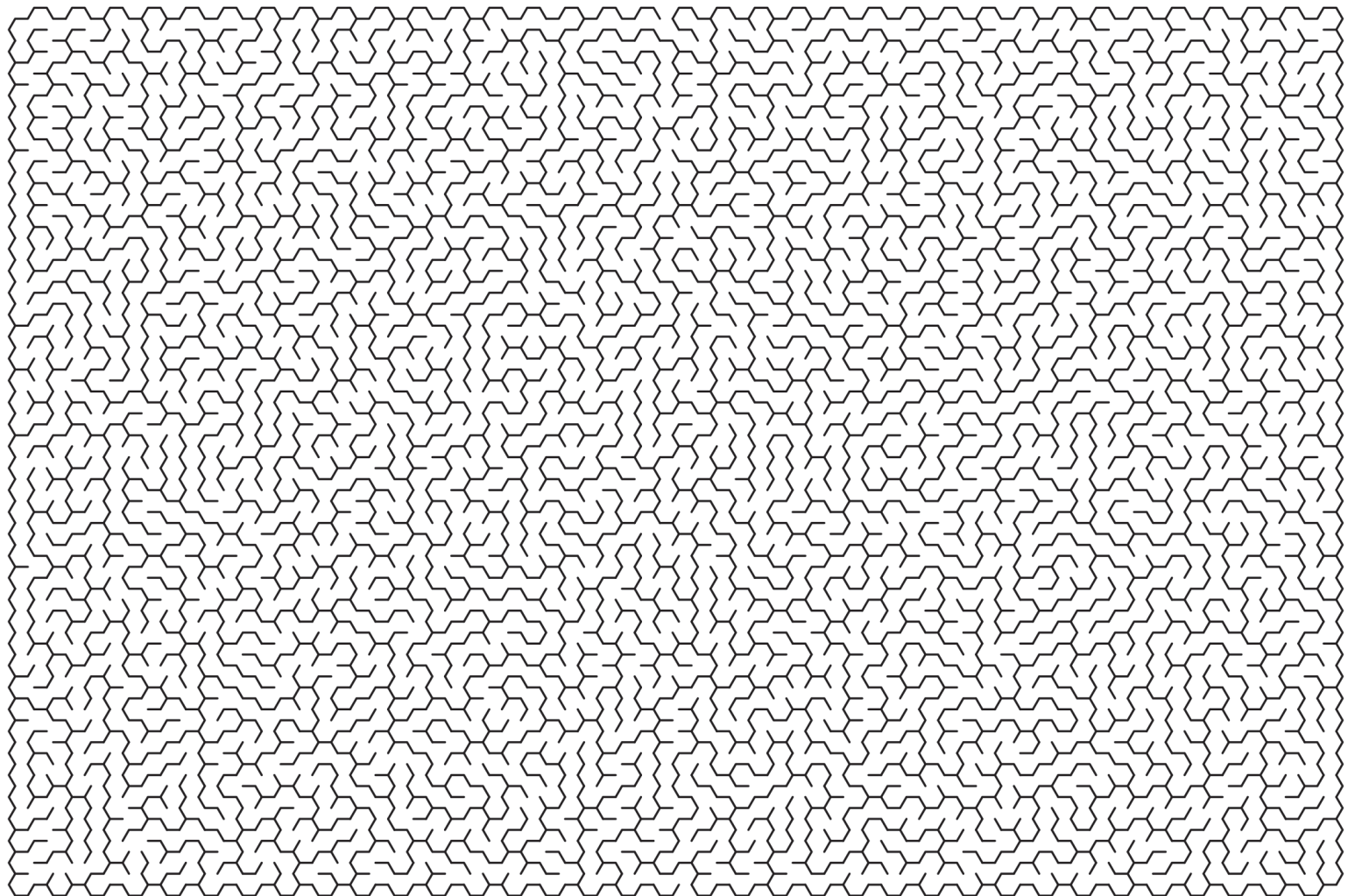
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Have you used UMSL Mobile app for the Shuttle?
Take the survey at http://goo.gl/forms/vmRFZacrv2

(requires login)



Game Corner
Difficulty: Brain Stew



THE UNDERCURRENT

By Rob Sifford

WHAT SERVICE OF THE NEW RWC APPEALS TO YOU THE MOST?



BLAKE HALSTEAD,
Sophomore, Nursing
'Indoor pool, it gives students a good place to hang out during the winter.'



ALAN-MYKEL,
Senior, Studio Art
'Personal Trainers allow for a personalized workout experience.'



MICHAEL DUNLAP,
Senior, Graphic Design
'Facility is the future of the UMSL community.'

MON 90
70

TUE 91
71

WED 92
72

THU 93
71

FRI 94
70

SAT 93
70

SUN 92
70

NEWS BRIEFS

Unscheduled Fire Alarm Sounds at MSC



Students gathering in Parking Lot E outside of MSC around 1 p.m. August 29

LORI DRESNER/THE CURRENT

LORI DRESNER
NEWS EDITOR

Just a little before 1 p.m. on August 29 an unscheduled fire alarm sounded in the Millennium Student Center (MSC), sending those who were in the building outside, and eventually to the lawn of the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center. The Northeast Fire Protection District was already on campus for a training session at the time, and went to investigate the cause of the alarm. According to the University of Missouri-

ri—St. Louis Police Department, it is believed that low water pressure in the boilers set off the alarm, possibly due to the construction around campus. As a safety precaution, the fire alarm went off. Other incidents of unscheduled fire alarms have also occurred recently. Approximately 100 people were sent outside, mostly those who had been participating in sorority recruitment in the MSC. After the fire department gave the all-clear, everyone was allowed back into the building and resumed normal activities.

UMSL Theatre to Hold Open Auditions

SARAH HAYES
A&E EDITOR

The University of Missouri—St. Louis' Department of Theatre will be holding open auditions for two upcoming plays, Euripides' "Medea" and Heather Raffo's "9 Parts Of Desire." Both audition periods are scheduled to take place in room 252 of the Arts Administration Building. The auditions for "Medea" will take place on September 4 from 2 to 7 p.m. and September 5 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Students are asked to prepare a one minute monologue. The "9 Parts Of Desire" audition schedule block will run on September 28 and 29 from 6 to 10 p.m. on both days.

With both play auditions, prospective actors are advised to be prepared for a cold reading and to bring a copy of their class schedule. They also need to bring up any conflicts that might keep them from attending all rehearsals leading up to the final performances. Jackie Thompson, assistant professor, department of theatre, can be contacted for additional information at thompsonjac@umsl.edu or 314-516-4850.

"Medea" will be performed October 15-18. The classic Greek tragedy follows the story of Medea, a vengeful wife of a heroic Argonaut warrior who takes bloody revenge against those she perceives as having wronged her. "9 Parts Of Desire" will be performed November 12-22. Raffo's play features the narratives of nine different Iraqi women whose diverse lives cross the socio-eco-

nomical lines of Middle Eastern society.

Both shows will be performed at the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center. For ticket and show information, visit touhill.org or call the ticket office at 314-516-4949.

Shuttle System Changes

LORI DRESNER
NEWS EDITOR

Continued from Page 1

every 15 minutes during the daytime hours, from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. No shuttles are available after 3:30 p.m. on Fridays.

Instead of using official shuttle schedules to know when shuttles are arriving, students can now utilize the new shuttle feature of the UMSL Mobile app to see the hours shuttles are running and view a live map and see exactly where shuttles currently are in the route.

"The shuttle feature in the UMSL Mobile app utilizes the map and tracking features of an app called DoubleMap," said Rocca. "Being embedded into the UMSL app simply makes it more user friendly, and allows UMSL to provide some additional features. IT has been working closely with the UMSL Parking and Transportation Office, St. Louis Transportation, and the Shuttle Solutions Committee to bring this service to campus."

In a few weeks, it is expected that the app will be able to provide riders with estimated wait times for shuttles. Both the UMSL Mobile app and DoubleMap are available to download for free from the Apple Store or Google Play Store. DoubleMap can also be accessed at umsl.doublemap.com/map/ without downloading the app.

A few modifications were also made to the official shuttle stops around campus with the addition of the Recreation and Wellness Center to the stop schedule, and the combining of a few

other stops. This semester the shuttle stop schedule is: Provincial House, Marillac Hall, University Meadows/Bellevue Hall, Natural Bridge South, Main Circle, Natural Bridge North, Social Sciences and Business Building (SSB), Mark Twain Athletic and Fitness Center, Post Office/Express Scripts Holding, Mansion Hill, Fine Arts Building/Softball Field, Recreation and Wellness Center/Millennium Student Center (MSC), and back to the Main Circle.

Aside from some minor time adjustments from last semester, very little changes were made to the Friday Grocery Shuttle, which transports students to and from grocery stores on Friday mornings and afternoons. The shuttle departs the Main Circle at 11:30 a.m., 12:15 p.m., 3:30 p.m., and 4 p.m. and departs Schnucks and Aldi at 12 p.m., 1 p.m., 3:45 p.m., 4:45 p.m., and 5:15 p.m.

More information on the shuttles is available at <http://www.umsl.edu/~transportation/campus-shuttle/index.html>. There, riders can view the UMSL DoubleMap, Fall 2015 shuttle schedule and route, and QR code for quick access to the shuttle feature of the UMSL Mobile app "to know when to show." Those with questions can also call UMSL Parking and Transportation Services at 314-516-4190.

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January 1st, 2016

Serendipity Sendoff Celebrates New Students

JESSIE EIKMANN
FEATURES EDITOR

Continued from Page 1

Dr. Seuss' "Oh, The Places You'll Go" in their spare time. "When I was younger and I read the book I thought, 'Oh, the pictures are nice,' but Dr. Seuss was dropping some knowledge," Patterson said. Her final piece of advice was more sobering. She said, "Remember that not everyone you encounter here will get to the end of this journey with you...everyone can't ride the escalator with you." She then made her listeners repeat these words for special emphasis.

Next, the Weeks of Welcome Coordinators, Robertson and Kristin Wyninegar, senior, communications, led the incoming students in saying the Triton Pledge. The speakers on the podium took turns asking questions about whether the students were prepared to serve the school through their intellect, their creativity, their commitment to diversity, and their integrity. After each piece of the pledge, the onlookers enthusiastically replied "I am!" The pledge was followed by a singing of UMSL's

official song, "With Majesty."

Upon the conclusion of the ceremony, the new students were asked to form a long line in front of the library. All other attendees lined the sidewalk leading to the Honorable Senator Wayne Goode's statue. Then the new students paraded down the sidewalk, greeted all the way down by cheers and applause.

At the end of their congratulatory walk, the incoming Tritons got the chance to participate in one of the rituals of UMSL. One by one, the students rubbed Goode's notebook, in the hopes that good luck on tests would rub off on them, as UMSL legend dictates. They also got to autograph a symbolic trident. These ending ceremonies clearly made an impression on the new students. Transfer student Kayla Dulay, junior, marketing, said, "My favorite part was going down the walkway and getting high fives from everyone, and also getting to sign the trident. It is so encouraging to see that everyone here is so welcoming."

Immediately following the Serendipity Sendoff, the new students joined



Students enjoying free food and music in the MSC Rotunda SARAH HAYES/THE CURRENT

a large crowd of current students on the Millennium Student Center's lower level to celebrate at the annual Welcome Picnic. There students were able to sample a picnic-style barbeque buffet and mingle with other students. Incoming freshman Eric Stuckmeyer, undecided, said, "My favorite part was getting to talk to different people. I hope I can continue to make more contacts here."

The attractions at the picnic proved quite a draw for students as well. Transfer student Deontae Williams, sophomore, psychology, said, "I thought [the Welcome Picnic] was really interesting

because I was able to learn my way around campus somewhat, and they had some fun activities there." Some of these activities included a balloon artist, face painting, a shutter shades booth, a flip book booth, a reptile handler, and miniature golf in the Pilot House. In addition, the band My Friend Mike played on the stage next to the Nosh.

At 7 p.m., the picnic wound down, and students headed out of the MSC, leaving with a sense of camaraderie and maybe even some bits of wisdom for the upcoming semester.

UMSL TRITONS

2015 FALL SPORTS HOME SCHEDULES

VOLLEYBALL

Sept. 25	UW-Parkside	7 p.m.
Sept. 26	Lewis	3 p.m.
Sept. 29	Lindenwood	7 p.m.
Oct. 6	Maryville	7 p.m.
Oct. 23	William Jewell	7 p.m.
Oct. 24	Rockhurst	3 p.m.
Oct. 30	McKendree	7 p.m.
Oct. 31	Illinois Springfield	3 p.m.
Nov. 13	Missouri S&T	7 p.m.
Nov. 14	Drury	1 p.m.

** All games in the Mark Twain Building **

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Sept. 13	Truman State	12 p.m.
Sept. 18	Saint Joseph's	5 p.m.
Sept. 20	Indianapolis	12 p.m.
Oct. 2	Drury	5 p.m.
Oct. 4	Missouri S&T	12 p.m.
Oct. 23	Bellarmino	5 p.m.
Oct. 24	Southern Indiana	12 p.m.

** All games at Don Dallas Field **

MEN'S SOCCER

Sept. 13	Truman State	2:30 p.m.
Sept. 18	Saint Joseph's	7:30 p.m.
Sept. 20	Indianapolis	2:30 p.m.
Oct. 2	Drury	7:30 p.m.
Oct. 4	Missouri S&T	2:30 p.m.
Oct. 23	Bellarmino	7:30 p.m.
Oct. 24	Southern Indiana	2:30 p.m.

** All games at Don Dallas Field **

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Big-Name Shows Coming to Touhill This Season

JILL HARDY
STAFF WRITER

The 2015 fall line-up for the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center kicks off with the “Essential Arianna” on September 11, featuring the Arianna String Quartet performing from the canons of Mozart and Beethoven. The “Lure of Mongolian Music and Dance” will be featured September 26. These will be authentic Mongolian dances that will reflect the spirit of classic Mongolian culture. This group is nationally ranked in China and tours throughout both Asia and Europe.

On October 16, classic rock band Classic Albums Live (CAL) presents Pink Floyd’s classic LP, the 1973 album “Dark Side of The Moon.” The band is known for recreating on stage performances of some of the most well-known albums of the 60’s and 70’s. CAL’s reverence for the original music elevates an already highly respected work to the

level of classical music giants such as Bach.

“Disney’s Mary Poppins” pops into the Touhill during the weekend of October 23. This major production is based on the Disney film of the same name about a magical nanny who enriches the lives of her young wards and is geared toward an audience of children, so it is a perfect fit for the campus Tiny Tritons and their parents.

The Jim Widner Big Band, formerly known as the Saint Louis Jazz Orchestra, will be performing on October 25. This big band is made up of local jazz musicians who have a long history of performing within the jumping genre. Band leader Jim Widner is a music professor and director of jazz studies at the University of Missouri—St. Louis, from which he is also a graduate.

UMSL’s International Studies & Programs will be presenting band Jutta and the Hi-Dukes on November 6. The Jutta group represents the style and

aesthetic of a classical acoustic Greek dance band. They will perform songs like “Apo Tin Athena” and “Itia”, which will appeal to those whose ancestry is from the land of Hellas.

Four-time Grammy Award winner Stanley Clarke of the Stanley Clarke Band will be playing at the Touhill on November 21. Stanley Clarke is considered to be a living legend in the music world, with a career that spans the course of forty years.

For those who love comedy,

especially the art of improv, “Colin and Brad: Two Man Group” will be bringing the laughs on December 4. Colin Mochrie and Brad Sherwood are best known by their work on the ABC television show, “Whose Line Is It Anyway?” which is now airing on the CW with host Aisha Tyler.

The Touhill never disappoints and this season, with a healthy mixture of music, comedy, and other live entertainment, looks to be as spectacular as always.

Review: Dr. Dre Preserves Legacy with ‘Compton’

ALEX NEUPERT
SPORTS EDITOR

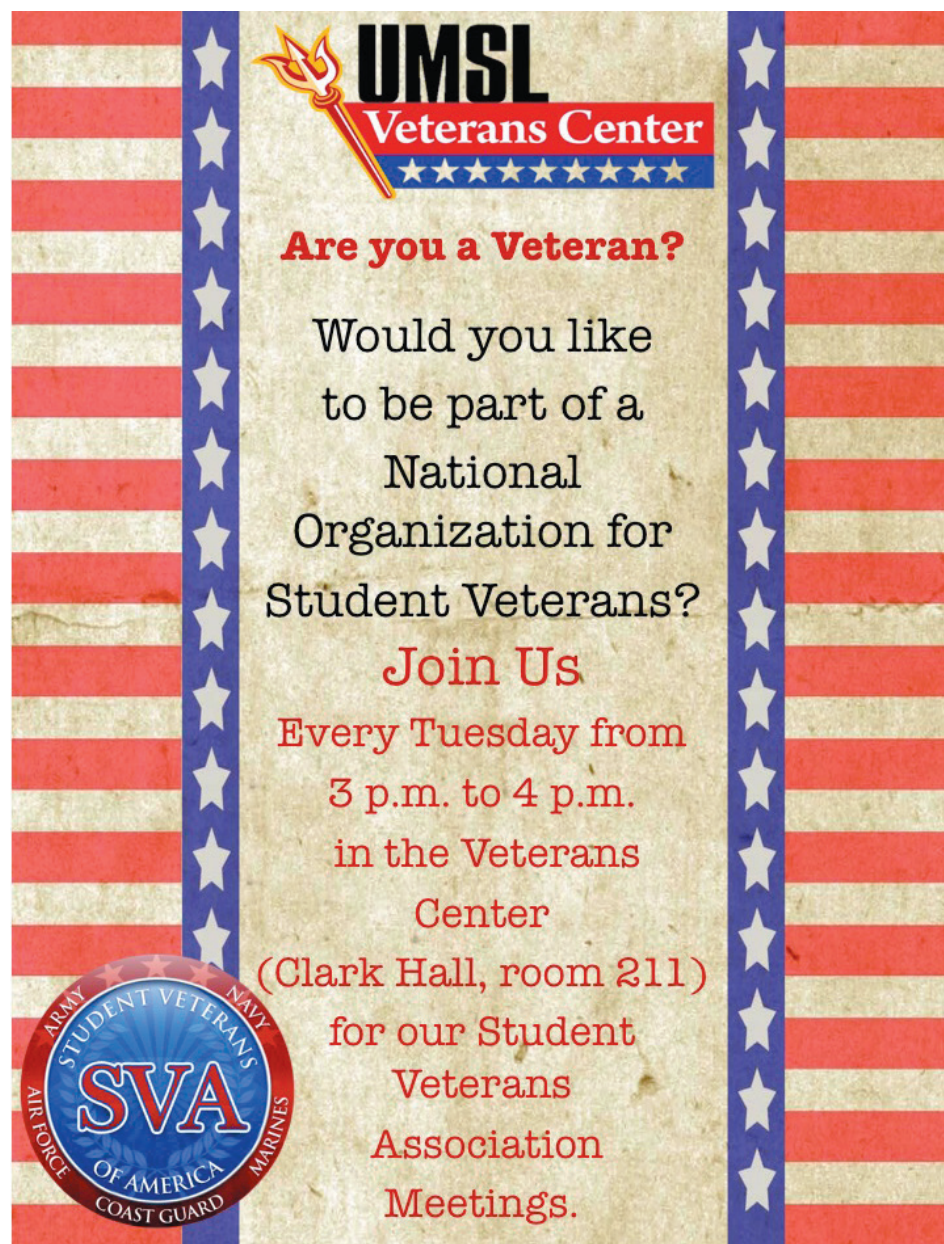
After more than 15 years of near-silence, Andre “Dr. Dre” Young, has scrapped the album he had supposedly been working on. However, in its place is something remarkably refreshing and probably a whole lot better in retrospect. While “Detox” was billed as a reimagined and reinvigorated Dre—and honestly, critics agree that the single “I Need a Doctor” showcased the now 50-year-old rapper trying to be something he clearly was not, outclassed in a genre he helped redefine—it is this new album, “Compton,” that truly shows the energy and life left in Dre as he chooses to leave the game for good with this final LP as his mic drop.

Unlike “Detox,” which was teased for many years as his current project, Compton came out of nowhere, announced on his Beats 1 Radio show “The Pharmacy” only six days before its release on August 7. The famed rapper claims he was inspired on set and during principle photography for the biopic about N.W.A., the 2015 film “Straight Outta Compton,” and took to the studio. The album is even marketed as a “soundtrack” to link the music with the film aesthetically as well as possibly downplay Dre’s comeback and lower expectations. Coupling the two together (at least by title) seems more of a business strategy than anything. “Compton” does not need the help, however, comprising a complete and satisfying story over the course of all sixteen tracks by itself.

The album succeeds primarily because it comes from so close to home, both emotionally and artistically. Dre does not try to do too much, but

instead relies on the same formula that has garnered him success over decades, collaborating with tons of other talent. Throughout all but two songs is a mixture of hungry, talented upcoming rappers and a team of grizzled veteran Dr. Dre collaborators. Artists like Anderson .Paak, King Mez, Candice Pillay, Justus, and Jon Connor impress in the generous time allotted them. Snoop, Ice Cube, the Game, Xzibit, Kendrick Lamar, and Eminem all lend their help with some of their best performances. The concoction of old and new could have ended in a mess, but Dre’s musical genius helps keep the ship afloat.

Continued online at
thecurrent-online.com



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UMSL Tennis Teams Set to Start the Season Strong

ALEX NEUPERT
SPORTS EDITOR

The University of Missouri-St. Louis men's and women's tennis teams took to the courts Friday and Saturday at the Billiken Classic, facing off against host Saint Louis University, Southeast Missouri State, and conference foe Quincy. The two day event marked the beginning of the season for both teams, and everyone looked forward to getting it started on the right foot.

Coach Rick Gyllenborg was very optimistic, especially behind the added depth of his two squads this year. With a new season comes new talent, and both the men's and women's teams have been injected with young blood. Seven freshman have joined the ranks, a few of which have already stood out in the early going.

For the men's team, Fabian Frank, freshman, and Max Heath, freshman, led the way, combining for five wins in their six singles matches. Behind a strong first serve and deep shots down the lines, Frank finished the weekend undefeated in singles. Heath also played a hard-fought three matches, losing a close one to SLU. Both young men seemed well-poised in their first look at collegiate tennis.

The women's team has their share of freshmen too. Newcomers Jennifer Hauer, freshman, and Patricia Maya, freshman, were hitting atop the lady Tritons, at first and second singles respectively. While they struggled a little in their first few matches, they showed

resolve in fighting back in the second sets of their respective losses.

In particular, Maya battled back several times when her SEMO counterpart came to the net to finish points, hitting well-aimed baseline shots to force small errors out of her opponent and vocalizing her pleasure afterwards. Hauer had her own moments, showing her excitement when she won well-fought rallies. Salome Bleuler, freshman, had a great showing herself, taking two of three singles matches. It was clear early on that these young women are already helping the team in a big way.

Former Triton tennis player and current sideline "cheerleader" Leanne Cantalupo, senior, civil engineering, said, "Three new freshmen and they're all strong players. It really helps the team get better and challenges everyone."

Renee Verboven, senior, civil engineering, one of Cantalupo's teammates for the last few years, agrees. "It's been the same team, mostly, for a while," she said after finishing her last singles match. In the 2013-2014 season the women's team got all the way to regionals in the NCAA tournament. As a senior, Verboven wants to get back to that tournament. "With this team, it might actually be possible."

Looking at the rest of the team, Verboven is not simply being optimistic. The ladies won ten singles matches, including eight against Quincy. They also split in their doubles bouts, attaining a 5-5 record on the weekend. Annie Hays, sophomore, undecided, had a

strong weekend in particular, winning two of her three singles matches as well as teaming up with Verboven for two wins in doubles.

Overall, both teams are looking forward to a good year. While the men's team struggled in the season opener, the talent is definitely in their young guns. They have plenty of time before conference play to develop into a stronger

team. As for the women, they already have the energy and the sort of squad that breeds competition and growth. All that is left for them to do is take a swing.

The men's tennis team returns to the courts September 18 through 20 at the ITA Regionals in Allendale, Michigan. The women's team will host Webster on September 12 at 10 a.m.



Jennifer Hauer at Billiken Classic August 29

ALEX NEUPERT/THE CURRENT



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Is Vaping Any Safer than Smoking?

CHRIS ZUVER
STAFF WRITER

More and more people are switching to an alternative to cigarettes for their nicotine cravings. Many have begun using electronic cigarettes. These battery-powered devices are filled with a liquid solution that contains the nicotine that smokers seek. The battery heats up the solution, which is then vaporized and inhaled. They are commonly used and many consider them safer than cigarettes. But are they?

Less than one month ago, I—myself a former cigarette smoker—made the jump to “vaping,” and I have to admit that I feel one hundred and ten percent more alive. My full energy has returned. I catch myself stopping at the top of a staircase, expecting a lung attack that does not come to me anymore.

Yes, it seems that life has improved for this guy right here. However, as many of

you have certainly heard lately, there have been a lot of rumors floating around about whether these e-cigarettes are truly safer than tobacco. If they are any safer, then the question remains: how much safer are they?

The most common argument against vaporizers is that no one can be certain of the long-term effects. Vaping has been around for a little more than a decade and was not embraced by the United States until recent years. The solution used in e-cigs includes water, nicotine, food flavoring, vegetable glycerin, and propylene glycol. The vegetable glycerin and propylene glycol are not always found together in solutions, though almost all solutions contain at least one of the two.

Now most of you are probably wondering about the last two ingredients. They are the type of scientific-sounding words which make the eyes glaze over when reading the

labels. They are also the type of words that people associate with health risks. They are both chemical compounds made up of combinations of oxygen, hydrogen, and carbon.

Vegetable glycerin (VG) is produced industrially and is also found in food, medications, and cosmetic products. It is made from vegetable oil, which comes from extracting the fatty acids from plants. This seems pretty harmless.

Propylene glycol (PG) on the other hand is a little more questionable. It is produced from its more basic form, propylene, which is a naturally occurring compound that is harvested from petroleum, natural gas, and sometimes coal. It is used in many food products and medications, just like VG. In vaporizer solutions, it is used to help the liquid vaporize more easily. However, some people are allergic to propylene glycol and must switch to solutions based entirely on vegetable glycerin. These people

need a more powerful battery for their vaporizer in order to reach the needed temperature to evaporate the solution.

While PG sounds riskier than vegetable glycerin, after doing the research, most would agree that it seems relatively safe, and certainly safer than all of the additives in tobacco cigarettes. I mean, if we have been ingesting these chemicals as medications or putting them on our faces in the form of cosmetics for so long, how could they hurt us?

Well, there is fact supporting fears: we have never inhaled these chemicals directly and for extended periods of time. E-cigarettes have been around for a little over ten years, and we cannot be confident that we know all of the long-term effects yet. Earlier this year, there was talk that scientists from Portland State University had discovered that when burned, the PG and VG solutions can release formaldehyde which is then inhaled. Formaldehyde is

a known carcinogenic agent. But hold on. What critics have been telling you is only part of the truth. The scientist's research found that formaldehyde could be released only if the battery was of a high enough voltage. A vast majority of e-cig users have batteries well below that voltage line, so for most of us, there is no risk from this particular problem.

All in all, while there may be possible long-term risks for e-cigs, only time and further research can tell. If the sounds of glycerin or glycol intimidate you, there are organic vapor solutions that are PG-free. However, I personally think the risk for vaping is low and certainly much lower than inhaling the sixty-plus toxic chemicals found in traditional cigarettes on the market.

Bottom line: if you want to play it completely safe, then try nicotine gum, patches, or just quit cold turkey.

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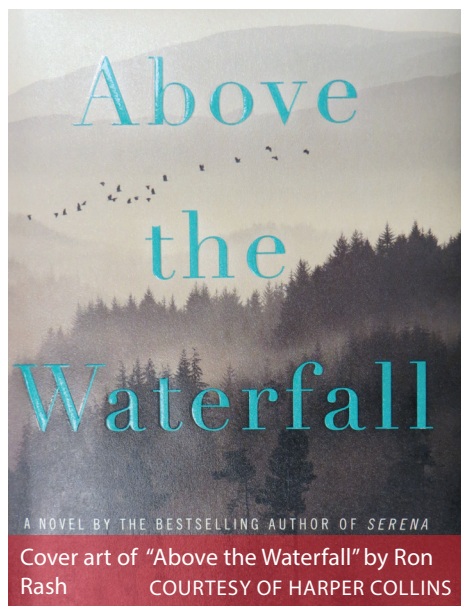
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Drugs, Trauma Run Deep in 'Waterfall'

SARAH HAYES
A&E EDITOR

Author Ron Rash's new novel "Above The Waterfall" takes place in a rural North Carolina town, where the rivers run freely with local fish, the forests are teeming with the beauty of nature, and the streets are filled with the hallmarks of poverty and drug abuse that have turned this bucolic landscape in the mountains a place to escape - for



some, it is towards the drugs and death, while for others, it is from the trauma that has chased them their entire lives. But the people in Rash's book are not the stereotypes of mountain-dwelling hillbillies from popular culture, but complex individuals caught up in an endless cycle of hurt and hurting.

The main plot of "Above The Waterfall" follows Sheriff Les, ready to retire in a town marked with memories of his own failures, and his complicated friendship with park ranger Becky, whose career choice is more therapeutic than anything else as she deals with her fractured childhood. Before Les can achieve his long deserved rest, he has to deal with the rising tensions between a resort owner who caters to tourists and a long time resident named Gerald, known for being combative and reclusive to all except for Becky.

The beauty of Ron Rash's novel lies in who tells the stories, particularly through Les and Becky, reflected in the shift between points of view with every chapter. "Above The Waterfall" opens from the point of view of Becky and is a gorgeously written rumination on nature and history and the power of what

has been left behind. This is very characteristic of Becky's chapters: her point of view is detail heavy, taking in every aspect of the natural world that she spends most of her waking and sleeping life in, and includes excerpts from the character's poems that are drawn from her personal observations.

By comparison, Les' chapters are more straightforward, although when he does have a poetic turn of phrase, it is usually when he finds himself in deep contemplation of where he has been

and what direction his life is going, and these surprising phrases burn across the page with characteristic directness, whereas Becky's thoughts blossom from line to line like a naturalist Gothic fairy tale in which she is the narrator of someone else's life.

"Above The Waterfall" is a Southern novel in the sense that it tackles many of the issues of Appalachian fiction—the crushing poverty, the physical isolation

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